



NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2013

Editor's Bit

Normally the season would be well under way by the end of April but what a start – at least three cancellations in the north already due to the most incredibly cold weather!! It seems we can't win - either warm and wet or so cold the snow stands no chance of melting. Where there is no snow (we really haven't had anything here in Bury) the ground is like rock with a layer of dust that is blowing wildly in the strong winds and coating the horses with a fine film. I suppose on the positive side it makes a change from the thick mud over the winter and has allowed any mud rash to clear up! Surely after this start to the year we deserve a good warm and dryish summer.

The Lancashire Group National Competitive Ride at Ulnes Walton has now taken place and was very successful. I hope those of you who managed to attend enjoyed the day. There are also a number of Lancashire rides coming up in the next few weeks – I have included the schedule again for ease of reference so check to make sure you don't miss any.

As we are so early into the season I haven't received any ride reports as yet but do hope some of you will share your experiences with us – it's always fun to read what other people get up to!

I have included a couple of bits of information from the committee and just to get you thinking ahead – the date and menu for next year's Presentation Evening, which is already making my mouth water!

Well I hope you all got the season off to a good start and hope to see you out there.

Regards

Helen

PS This editor's bit was written for the April newsletter but for reasons beyond our control this did not happen – it has therefore become the June newsletter!

PPS Good to hear Judy is now back in action with her new horse.

From the Chair.....



Well the season has really got going hasn't it? Plenty of rides under our belts, both pleasure and competitive, and at long last the weather looks like improving. I can't believe the difference even between weekends. Those of you who did the Chipping Ride will know what I am talking about when you think how cold and wet it was (pouring the water out of our boots at the end!) and then a fortnight later when we rode around the Little Crosby Ride there was blazing sunshine and we rode in short sleeves and got sunburnt. No accounting for it is there?

Whilst on that note I must say how good both those rides were, and also congratulate the ride organisers (and their helpers) for all the hard work and effort they put in – so thanks Linda, Barbara, Glenda and Jean, in particular, it is much appreciated. The Chipping ride was actually my first 'outing' of the year, having been busy with work and also organising the Ulnes Walton rides etc, but I really was ready for it and thoroughly enjoyed both of them. I will hopefully be off to Wharnccliffe next week for Beavis's first competitive ride of the season, so will no doubt see quite a few of you there.

Again talking of rides I am pleased to report that The Ulnes Walton Wander was a success again and we had even more entries this year, so word must be getting around that it is one worth doing. It was quite good to see a lot of Pleasure ride entries particularly from non-members who enjoy the trip along the riverbank, and quite a few of these have now joined the group so our rides membership seems to be on the up and up! I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who came to help on the day, as this ride does require a lot of stewards both on and off the venue – so thanks to all of you who gave up your time. I have to say that there were a couple of worrying moments before the ride day itself. All ride organisers are aware of the nightmare situations which seem to have a habit of cropping up in the final few days before a ride. They seem designed specifically to give you sleepless nights as you worry if the ride can actually go ahead. I had a couple of these, but the main one was when I discovered the wooden river bridge we use regularly had been resurfaced with metal plate just a week before the ride. It was horrendous, looked scary and made an awful clattering noise when a human walked on it with wellies never mind when a horse walked on it with shoes. After much discussion with Health & Safety,

and Lancs County Council we decided it was safe to use and with the grateful assistance of Ken and Michelle Mee on duty at either side of the bridge, we managed to get everyone across safely and without incident – much to all of our relief. You can see a picture of the said bridge at the end of this article.

Well one thought leads to another so I will stay with ‘helpers’ for a moment. Unfortunately, most of our ride organisers feel that they are still very short of willing assistants to help at our rides, and those that do help are either non-members, or the same people who end up volunteering at several rides and so miss out on doing quite a few rides themselves, which is unfair; we should be able to spread the load a bit and if everyone volunteered to miss riding at just one ride in order to help, it would be much fairer. So please will you all have a think about this? Have a look at the Fixture List and see if there is a ride you could help at. This was particularly true at Little Crosby when we were so short we did not have stewards on the road crossings. As we found last year it was bad enough when we had to cancel rides because of the weather but it would be awful if we had to start cancelling because of insufficient help on health & safety grounds etc.

On the competitive front many of our members are doing well around the country. There have been a couple of disappointments at some of the major rides, but fortunately these are only minor setbacks and everyone is still fit sound and ready to face the next event, so good luck to all our members out there.

I’m afraid this newsletter may seem a little thin, as we are running out of articles again. I am sure those of you who were inspired to write something last year can manage another, or perhaps one of our newer members could write something about their first experiences in our sport.

We have had a couple of requests from members who are looking to share transport to rides. As the cost of transport is really becoming a problem to most of us, this idea may be worth thinking about! We are happy to put a notice page on the website where people either requiring lifts, or offering lifts could post their contact details and location. Similarly, some members would like to make contact with people who would like company riding at events, so this could also be included on the website. For those of you interested in this, our Facebook is also a good place to post this sort of request and if you are not sure how to do it, please contact Karen Corr who administers our Facebook page.

So plenty for you to think about here! If you have any questions about any of these points, or have any other suggestions please do not hesitate to contact one of the committee – we welcome any contributions or new ideas you may come up with.

Anyway I have gone on long enough, so will leave you there. Once again, I hope you are all enjoying the rides and are successful in what you are trying to achieve.

Sue Taylor-Green

EGB Lancs Group Chairman



The Said Bridge - don't worry though it will be changed by next year's ride!!!!!!

Ullswater Ride

In late December I bought a new horse, following my double mastectomy on Dec 7th. I had ridden my old pony Huggy Bear just one week after the operation and decided that in a couple of weeks I would be fighting fit and able to manage Tommy Piglet, whom I had actually viewed on Dec 6th. He is a traditional Welsh Section D called Thomas but I needed to change his name to Tommy Piglet because he grunts like a pig for 'food'! Tommy will never be as fast or as 'floating' as Orion but he appeared steady, safe and 'fun'; at my age that's all I needed.

So, after saying 'the mantra' a dozen or so times on the way up and imagining riding the fells in dry weather I was pleasantly surprised when I arrived at Ullswater - NO RAIN at the Venue. I'm always a little apprehensive riding a new horse on my own but off we went. To be honest all I really want to say is how absolutely wonderful the ride was. I had started with severe toothache for my sins but concentration, elation, and euphoria took my mind off the pain. The fells were beautiful, the marking was excellent, the route was amazing and enduring which added excitement to the ride for me. Tommy Piglet proved to be keen, powerful, yet so easy to control. He led, followed, and rode alone. He was so sure footed and listened to my every command. At one gate which kept swinging back he actually pushed it open with his nose to help me. We kept up with

the beautiful Arabs, he held his own amongst those experienced horses. He never switched off until we reached the Venue. In fact I enjoyed the ride so much that it was the best ride for well over 12 mths. Everyone at the venue, Ann Aldridge, Fiona I think her name was, or was that Penny, but also the lady photographer, were all so nice. I just wanted to cry with emotion I felt so thrilled. Tommy has only started doing Pleasure Rides this season yet he just appeared as suited as Orion and gave me as much enjoyment and fun, and at the end of the day.....isn't that what riding is all about!

Judy & Tommy Piglet



Just a reminder

Associate Members must pay the Temporary Day Membership fee (currently £8) as well as the entry fee if they wish to enter National Competitive Rides as a Pleasure Rider.

Committee News

Our two new committee members, Pat Kelly and Glenda Griffin have now taken on the role of Joint Rides Co-ordinator and Equipment Officers so any enquiries you have regarding these matters can be addressed to either of them and their contact details are listed at the back of the newsletter.

Remaining Rides for the Season

The Lancashire Group of Endurance GB

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME OF RIDE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>ORGANISER /CONTACT</u>
Sun 14 July	Coppull Ride	British Horse Society Charity Ride	Shelley Mee 01772 611652/07778113291 or mailto: luvhorse@aol.com
Sun 24 July	Little Tebay N.B. rearranged from 24th March	Lancs Group Social Ride	Carolyn Cummings 015396 24446 Street Farm Stables, Orton, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 3SE or mailto: streetfarmstables@hotmail.co.uk
Sat 10 August	Heapey Hack	National Competitive Ride – Lancashire Group	Sue Taylor-Green: 01772 436043or mailto: suetaylorgreen@hotmail.com
Sat 24 August	Waterside Parishes	Lancs Social & Charity Ride	Angela Leadbetter 01253 810305 mailto: angela.leadbetter@talktalk.net
Sun 8 Sept	Treales Ride	Lancs Social & Charity Ride	Lynne Jackson 01772 690454 or mail to: lynne.jackson56@btinternet.com
Sun 15 Sept	Seaba Ride	Stockport Bridleways	Helen Fox 07855 237260 or Debbi Hall 0161 285 6916 (mail to: stockportbridleways@gmail.com)
Sat 28 Sept	Formby Ride	Lancs Social & Charity Ride <u>NB. LIMITED ENTRIES DO NOT JUST TURN UP ON THE DAY!!!!</u>	Jenny Rand – 07729655634 entries to 41 Parkway, Greave, Rochdale OL115EE Or Glenda Griffin 07714753576, Jean Merchant 07814630999 g.g135lark@hotmail.com
Sun 27 Oct	Halloween Ride	Ulnes Walton Bridleways Association Ride	Sue Taylor-Green: 01772 436043or mailto: suetaylorgreen@hotmail.com or to website: www.ulneswaltonbridleways.co.uk

Postage for Ride Entries

Ride organisers are still concerned about the number of ride entries that are being stamped with incorrect postage rates so here is a reminder of what you should use if you want to be sure that the organiser receives your entry and that you receive the ride details in return.

	2nd Class	large letters	1st Class	large letters
0-100g	50p	69p	60p	90p
101-250g -		£1.10 -		£1.20
251-500g -		£1.40 -		£1.60
501-750g -		£1.90 -		£2.30

Letters measuring up to:
Length: 24cm Width: 16.5cm
Thickness up to and including: 0.5cm
Weight limit: 100g

Large Letters measuring up to:
Length: 35.3cm Width: 25cm
Thickness up to and including: 2.5cm
Weight limit 750g

**Lancashire Group Presentation Dinner
Saturday 25 January 2014
Ribby Hall**

Starter

Sweet Potato and Pepper Soup
Panache of Fruits, Vanilla Syrup
Wild Mushroom Feuillete, Basil Buerre Blanc
Chicken Liver & Cognac Parfait, Red Onion Jam, Homemade
Toasted Brioche

Main Course

Roast Chicken Breast, Thyme Fondant Potato, Vermouth Cream
Sauce, Tarragon Emulsion
Pave of Salmon, Honey & Orange Glaze, Beetroot Puree, Crushed
New Potato Cake
Ribble Valley Loin of Pork, Roast Potatoes, Crackling, Cider Jus
Slow Braised Lancashire Lamb Shank, Sweet Potato Mash, Roasted
Parsnip, Pan Juices

Vegetarian Option (details not yet available)

To Finish

Sticky Toffee Pudding, Butterscotch Ice Cream, Caramel Sauce
Triple Chocolate Cheesecake, Vanilla Anglaise
Passion Fruit Tart, Homemade Dark Chocolate Ice Cream
Light Toffee Apple Sponge Pudding, Calvados Custard

Freshly Brewed Tea or Coffee

Lancashire Merchandise

These are available in a range of colours & sizes and the range includes the following:

Sweatshirts

Polo Pique Ts

Fleece jackets

Fleece waistcoats

Jodhpurs

Caps

Day / Event Rugs



New merchandise now available - embroidered Lancs logo badges: Small £5 Large £8 ideal for sewing onto sweatshirts or special rugs etc.

Please call Lynne Jackson: 01772 690454 for details/prices, orders etc.

DISCLAIMER

ANY COMMENTS MADE IN LETTERS RECEIVED FOR INCLUSION IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE EDITOR OR MEMBERS OF THE EGB LANCASHIRE GROUP COMMITTEE

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You are welcome to contact any of the above but if your query is specific to a role above, then we suggest that you contact the appropriate Committee Member, in the first instance.

