

LONG DISTANCE RIDE

24 September 2011



Anne asked me earlier this year if I would set the LDR/Pleasure Ride and start it from Beaulieu Road Station. The whole exercise was quite an education for me; first of all was learning my "rights" from my "lefts" which when I checked through my instruction, I clearly had no idea which was which!

The next thing I was shocked at, was actually how far I ride dear old Pablo when I take him out. I always thought he was quite fit now I know why, he is always doing quite a lot of miles. Anyway eventually the course was set having had a few minor changes to the course due to fallen trees and developing clay holes.

Everyone started to arrive at Beaulieu Road and Becky and Nev did a splendid job of organizing the parking, then flew to man the final check point. The other Check Point Stewards arrived, Brenda and Mike, Jacqui and Tina, Robbie and Jacky and Janet helped me assist Steph Nash with the Vetting.



The day promised us glorious weather and it didn't disappoint. We only had 5 entries in the Long Distance Ride in the end and the rest of our riders did the pleasure ride. We had entries from Chichester, Portsmouth, Alresford and Wimborne, as well as local riders and I hope that my instructions with corrected "rights" and "lefts" would not lead our visiting riders too far astray.

Good news was that nobody got lost, everybody had a lovely time even though a few were a little weary at the end.

The results of the Long Distance Ride were brilliant with the first three coming in just a minute over the optimum time - the only thing we had to divide them on was the vetting and even with that we had a joint 1st place. The results were as follows:

- 1st = Sue Randall - Lucky Lane Bell Boy (Sonny) (Member)
- 1st = Shona Simpson - Flight
- 3rd = Lisa Happer Kinneagen Diamond (Kissy) (Member)
- 4th = Abi Schoenmakers - Balleroy Delilah (Member)



A massive thanks to all the generous people who gave their time to steward on the day without their help events would not be able to run Anne Pearce should be mentioned in dispatches for all her paperwork and organization behind the scenes. I would like to thank all those who enjoyed the ride and to all those who made it possible. Since the competition we have had a lovely email of thanks from the Girls who came from Chichester saying how much they enjoyed the ride and our friendly Club. We are so lucky to live in the beautiful New Forest.

Dee Lee

