

The Cycle4Caroline charity event

The Cycle4Caroline charity event is making waves across Scotland, as equestrian stars tackle an epic 220km challenge to raise funds for the British Eventing Support Trust and Spinal Research. Led by renowned eventing rider Piggy March and her husband Thomas, the group of elite athletes and industry figures have already raised over £70,000 for the two important charities. The ultra-endurance cycle began on November 20 at Blair Castle, Perthshire, in snow and freezing conditions, setting the tone for an intense eleven-day journey that will take them across the Scottish landscape and beyond.



Among the first to join the team on day one was 2024 Defender Blair Castle CCI4*-L Champion Wills Oakden, who cycled alongside the group, despite admitting he had not trained for the ride. "I think it's for a fantastic cause," said Wills. "As professional sportspeople, we shouldn't ignore the risks,

and one day we might need something like this. It's important to support these charities and raise money for them." The route on day one took riders from Blair Castle to Lucinda Russell Racing's base in Kinross, where the team was warmly welcomed by the local community. Notably, the 2023 Grand National winner Corach Rambler was on hand to greet them, adding an extra touch of excitement to the event.

For horse racing fans, this event serves as a reminder of the importance of supporting the broader equestrian community. Following the latest [horse racing tips online](#) is one way to engage with the sport, and events like Cycle4Caroline showcase the real-life efforts to improve the lives of horses and humans alike, ensuring the well-being of all involved in the sport.

Day two saw the team continue their journey through the heart of Scotland, cycling through Edinburgh and the Scottish Borders. This leg of the ride included some of the toughest climbs of the challenge, pushing even the most seasoned riders to their limits. The team, including Ian Stark OBE, multi-medallist [Holly Woodhead](#), and spinal research supporter Catriona Williams, who was left tetraplegic following a 2002 riding accident, made their way to Ian Stark Equestrian, marking the end of another strenuous day. The participation of Catriona Williams, who founded The CatWalk Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Research Trust, adds a deeply personal element to the challenge, as she continues to raise awareness and funds for spinal cord injury research.

As the group nears the England border, the challenge intensifies, with day three set to take them over the highest point of their journey, leading them to Belsay Castle. This venue will host an afternoon reception to celebrate the riders' achievements and to encourage further donations. The Belsay Horse Trials team, which will host its first [four-star show event](#), the CCI4 international, in May 2025, will also be on hand to provide refreshments and support.

The Cycle4Caroline ride has already captured the attention of both the equestrian and racing communities. Lucinda Russell, a key supporter of the event, expressed her pride in hosting the team and highlighted the importance of the cause. "It's fabulous that they're cycling for such important charities," said Lucinda. "We know how much we rely on similar support in racing, and Spinal Research is vital for everyone. We're very proud of the team and this fantastic endeavour."