

VYRNWY VALLEY RIDING CLUB



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2010 – JANUARY 2011 INCLUSIVE

Ragwort Awareness Campaign

There has been an enormous amount of publicity about the danger that Ragwort poses to horses (and other grazing animals), yet every year the BHS responds to dozens of calls reporting horses grazing in fields infested with the yellow flower. In some areas of the country it is only necessary to drive a short distance to find fields full of Ragwort, so it is clear there is still much work to be done.

For many years, The British Horse Society has campaigned on the issue of Ragwort and they continue to strive to educate horse and landowners of the dangers Ragwort poses to grazing animals. Among their notable successes was the instrumental and essential role that the BHS played in the instigation of the Control of Ragwort Act (2003).

There are Ragwort Awareness Weeks, where hundreds of enthusiastic volunteers have organised "Ragwort pulling parties" and cleared enormous areas of land. Although undoubtedly hard work, the camaraderie of pulling parties makes an onerous (but essential) task much more enjoyable. It is vital that plants are removed before they seed and result in the further spread of the weed. As part of Ragwort Awareness Weeks the BHS has given away hundreds of Rag Forks, targeted local authorities and held a successful conference to highlight landowners' responsibilities.

The BHS Welfare Department can provide free advice, advisory literature and posters on the control and dangers of Ragwort. Contact welfare@bhs.org.uk or call on 01926 707791/707807.

We are looking for helpers for a number of events.

We do need your help, (and it is a part of your membership that you help for 1/2 day per year)

The events are: Dressage comp at Oswestry Equestrian Centre 23rd October :Area Winter Dressage comp at Tushingham Arena 30th & 31st October: Area Indoor Show jumping at Southview 14th November We do still need 2 helpers for Sunday 3rd October for the Area Festival of the Horse at Radfords

The committee are looking for new people to join the team. It is an interesting and rewarding way to help your riding club. The meetings are only every 4 months where we get together to plan the next programme and discuss ideas. If you think that you may be interested please contact a committee member (names on the back of the newsletter)

TEAMS 2011

As you may be aware there are team competitions all through the year for British Riding Clubs. These start with friendlies between clubs and other organisations through to area level which culminate at championships. VVRC sends teams to these competitions and our aim is that our members have fun. Getting placed is a bonus! We think that it is a very good way to enjoy the excitement and camaraderie of a day out with your horse and other RC members, as well as representing the Club. Don't worry about not doing well and letting the side down, it is all good experience and everyone is very supportive. It does NOT matter what level you are at, only that you would like to have a go and take part. We usually end up having a picnic and some bevy's at the end of the day, while waiting for the results. As well as putting people into teams to send to these events, we will also send forward individuals who don't like the pressure of a team. Please contact a team organiser for more details. There are normally some training days available prior to competition, all we ask is that you give it some thought and put yourself forward.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE UP TO DATE VACCINATION CERTIFICATES TO ALL AREA EVENTS OR YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD: SEE PAGE 4 FOR FULL DETAILS

GONE AWAY

Fond Memories of Jean Gow

We were all very sad to hear of Jean's death and we will all miss her very much. Jean was such a character, so full of life, and she certainly lived life to the full. I always enjoyed being in Jean's company and she always made me laugh.



Jean was very supportive of Riding Club. In fact Jean was Chair of Riding Club when I first joined in the '70's. Jean was an excellent Chairperson and it was Jean who encouraged me to be in show jumping teams when I didn't think that I was good enough.

Jean was an accomplished horsewoman and excelled in all disciplines but her great interest was eventing. I admired her so much as she produced horse after horse to such a high standard. Her last horse, Corrib Blue Vinney was a credit to her and I was delighted when on one of his first outings, with Jean riding, the combination was placed 2nd at our Riding Club ODE.

Jean always took great interest in Riding Club and had its well being close to her heart. For many years she took the bookings for Bodynfoel Indoor School and looked after our show jumps in the school as well as organising any maintenance required.

Riding Club will be the poorer from losing such a good friend. We will all miss her very much and I will miss the phone calls which ended in fits of laughter.

It was a privilege to know such a great character.

Anne Roberts

Major Bonnor-Maurice

It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Major Bonnor-Maurice.

The Major has for many years been an enthusiastic supporter of Riding Club. His daughter, Emma, I believe was one of the founder members of Vyrnwy Valley Riding Club and in the early days, 1970's, Bodynfoel was always the venue for our activities. In fact Bodynfoel Indoor School was the only Indoor School in the area.

The Major also kindly allowed Riding Club members to use the Park for cross country, show jumping and dressage training and competitions. I can even remember having our annual show in the grounds of Bodynfoel. We all had an enormous amount of fun at Bodynfoel and most of the time his facilities were free of charge.

Riding Club members are greatly indebted to the Major for continuing to allow us to keep our show jumps at Bodynfoel and also for allowing members to use the Indoor School at the much reduced rate of £5.00 per hour.

Anne Roberts



New Year's Eve

You will see a poster for this event in the newsletter. The tables for the evening will be round and seat 10 people. So if you would like to make up part or whole of a table that would be great. The band is good and play good dancey numbers. The menu will be: pompadoms and chutneys, followed by starters of either onion bahgee or vegetable samosas, the main courses are lamb bhuna, chicken korma or vegetable curry. There will be a cheap bar selling wine, beer and soft drinks. Wine by the bottle will be about £8.

Julie (Phillips)

Tel: 01691 830688 or email: mike.phillips6@btopenworld.com



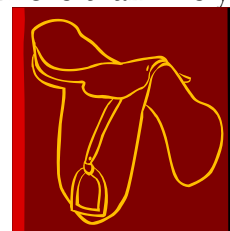
FREE SADDLE FIT CLINICS FOR BRITISH RIDING CLUBS

Everyone knows that a well-designed, correctly fitted saddle is paramount to the safety, comfort, well-being and performance of every horse and rider.

Barnsby were given a brief from BRC to design and bring to the market a true all-round performance saddle for the competitive BRC member. After extensive development and testing by riders, this saddle has finally been perfected and is available to all BRC members. Barnsby will also be making a donation to BRC for every new 'Competitor' saddle sold. They are available direct from Barnsby or through stockists priced at around £1,250.

Barnsby are also offering a free saddle health check for any BRC based in Shropshire by one of Barnsby's fully SMS-qualified expert saddle fitters. All they require is no fewer than four and no more than ten horses and riders and a safe area for riding. Every horse will receive a full saddle health check and any minor amends or adjustments can be made. You will also have the opportunity to test the BRC Competitor and any other Barnsby saddles with absolutely no obligation. To book a Saddle Fit Clinic please email BRC@barnsby.com with 'Saddle fit clinic' in subject box or call 08701 224388. They will more than likely extend this service to the Shropshire borders.

For full article, see page 8 of Summer Rider magazine.



BRC Rules on Vaccinations and Competitions.



Sorry to harp on about Vaccinations but we still have competitors being denied entry into area competitions which is a great shame with all the time and effort that goes into preparing for these events. People who check these on the gate are volunteers just like you and I. It is you who is responsible for your vaccination certs and nobody else!!

Each horse or pony competing in an area qualifier must have;

A valid vaccination certificate which undeniably relates to that horse, completed, signed and stamped on each line by a veterinary surgeon, who is not the owner of the animal.

It must state that;

The horse has had two injections for primary vaccination against equine influenza given no less than 21 days and no more than 92 days apart. (only these first two injections need to have been given before the horse may compete). A first booster must have been given no less than 150 days and no more than 215 days after the second injection of the primary vaccination. Subsequent booster injections must be given at intervals of not more than 1 year apart commencing after the first booster injection. None of these injections must have been given within the preceding 7 days of the competition, including the day of the competition or entry into the competition stables. The vaccination certificate must, under penalty of elimination, accompany the horse to all official competitions and the competitor is responsible for producing it on demand.

So why are the rules so strict ?

The point of having vaccination rules, is to minimise the risk of spreading serious horse infections by getting lots of horses in close proximity at competitions. The diseases that we vaccinate against are spread from horse to horse by being close to each other. The actual spread may be by direct contact, by droplets from breathing, coughing etc. or by indirect contact, eg. by hitting the same fence pole as another horse. It is not possible to have a horse at a competition without it getting close enough to other horses for disease to spread.

If these rules are rigidly adhered to, then every horse is as immune to the disease as it is possible for a vaccine to make it.

On the Maelor RC website, www.maelorridingclub.co.uk, there is a BRC Flu vaccination checker.

It is a small Excel file that you can download. It is legal and can be downloaded and saved on your PC but is not for sale.



REPORTS

Horse Trials Qualifier

The Horse Trials qualifier was held on June 26th at Kelsall Hill, and we had very keen members entering 4 teams! We represented Vyrnwy Valley with 2 novice teams, Lisa Lewis, Jo Phillips & Suzanne Younger, a second team Katie Ellis, Amanda Lewis, Vicky Robson & Sam Davies. The Intermediate team was Kat Morgan, Karen Rees, Charlotte Jones & Ian Coe, Katherine Pritchard as individual.

The open team James Dawson, Kat Morgan, Anna Jones & Sarah Roberts, Sarah also ran another horse individually.

It was an absolute boiler of a day, not the best ground conditions, but did we do well!!

The open team came a fantastic 1st with Anna individual 1st, Sarah 3rd, James 6th & Kat 8th.

The Intermediate team were 2nd with individual placings for Kat 2nd, Charlotte 6th & Karen 9th.

The novice team came 3rd, Amanda 4th, & Katie 7th & the 2nd novice team had individual results with Jo 6th & Suzanne 10th.

A big congratulations to the open & Intermediate teams who qualified for the championships at Aston le Walls from August 6th-8th. Good Luck!!

Also Many thanks to our volunteers who we cannot run events without!

Sam Davies

Horse Trials team manager

Riding Club Championships

We had one representative at area who did a fantastic job in qualifying herself for the Championships at the elementary level. Last weekend Suzanne Jenkins travelled the long journey to Lincoln and managed a superb 7th place on Camelot. This is the second consecutive year Suzanne has been to the champs and she has done extremely well on both occasions...always securing a place. A big well done to Suzanne!!

Vyrnwy Valley Riding Club Intermediate Horse Trials Team finish 5th at Riding Club National Championships

Two teams from our riding club competed at the National Riding Club Horse Trials Championships at Aston-le-Walls this weekend. The Intermediate Team of Ian Coe, Charlotte Jones, Kat Morgan and Karen Rees finished in overall 5th place, with Charlotte being 5th individually in her section. A brilliant and encouraging result for our club. The Open Team of Anna Jones, Kat Morgan and Sarah Roberts started well but unfortunately the cross country caused some problems for Anna and Sarah. However Kat went clear and inside the time. After the show jumping phase this afternoon she finished in a fantastic 8th place to complete a brilliant weekend for her. Jo and I went down to support our members and we were very impressed by the great team spirit amongst everyone with each team acting as support for the other when not competing. A truly great weekend for Vyrnwy Valley.

Julie Phillips

CLUB SHOWJUMPING COMPETITION 2010



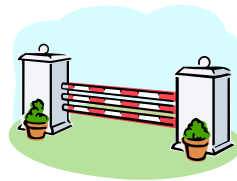
Well, another season has run its course, (pardon the pun)!! We have been pleased to see a number of new faces this year, as well as some well known ones. Many of the new faces have come by being recommended by James Dawson; so, many thanks James. I hope that coming to the show jumping competitions has helped those who have come at James' suggestion gain extra confidence and satisfaction.

Mostly, we have been blessed by reasonable weather. This has helped the attendance in general. However, we still started off with a large attendance in April and got gradually poorer in numbers as the season progressed. Indeed, the final event failed to make any money for the club's funds, because of the poor attendance.

Through the season, 23 members managed to score points to be considered for the championship. Louise Harrison managed the largest number of points for the seventh year in a row and so is our club competition champion yet again. In second and third places, we are pleased to have two new names – Amy Gregory and Karen Morley. Congratulations to them all.

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended our events for supporting us; this includes many children and adult non-members, who have helped to raise money for the club. Our thanks, too, to Hazel and Jonathan Radford for providing such a splendid arena and show jumps upgraded this year.

If you haven't joined us for any of the events so far, please give it a try next year – we always aim to make it fun. We'll be starting again in April, 2011.



***PLEASE REMEMBER- IF YOU
WISH TO TAKE PART IN ANY
AREA EVENT IT IS UP TO
YOU TO CONTACT THE
ORGANISER.***

Dressage Competitions

Brithdir Equestrian

Guilsfield

Sunday 10th October

Sunday 5th December

Contact:

Kathryn Davies

01938 500999

Could we remind members that if they are not already on our e-mail list and would like to be included in the "round robins" which we send out, they must send their e-mail address to Carol Kynaston on carol.kynaston@btopenworld.com and then they will be added to our list.

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Suzanne 01938 500 900 or

lottieandco@aol.com

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DSA TRAILER TOWING B+E (Car and Trailer) TEST

Due to changes in vehicle law, if you passed your driving test after the 1st January 1997 and you want to tow a trailer or caravan, then you will be required to take the B&E trailer towing test. If you do not have this entitlement, then your insurance will be invalid. Since April this year, you cannot drive with L plates accompanied by an experienced driver who passed their test prior to 1997. The test fee is £115 and full details can be found on www.dsa.gov.uk.

Training for the Future (2008) Ltd provides a choice of trailer-towing training using your own vehicle and trailer or ours. We also offer a wide range of Lantra courses such as

Emergency First Aid, 4x4, ATV & Chainsaw training.

80% Funding is now available through Farming Connect for eligible farming businesses, this includes B&E training.

For more details , please contact Suzanne on 01938 500 900 or email info@training4thefutureuk

Training One Day Event Review

The training day was held on Saturday 17th July, at Radfords.

Eventing can be expensive, entry fees, clothing etc. Also it can be disappointing if you are eliminated early on and you are not allowed to finish. All that effort for nothing; not even experience.

This was intended to be a low key affair; for those who maybe do not have a horse suitable for 'proper' eventing or have a youngster not yet ready for the real thing. The main concern was getting helpers. Even though this was a training day we needed dressage judges and writers, scorers, jump judges and all the usual people for a proper ODE. It was decided that the only way to do it was if the participants did most of it themselves. Providing help was an entry condition. Some entrants coerced family and friends into being helpers. The more the merrier!!

When we discovered that there was not a 2'3" cross country course available; our three classes were cut to two. Also it made the jump from Minimus to the next class quite big (if you will excuse the pun) However with some juggling it was sorted.

Helpers were busy on the Friday setting up. Saturday I was so nervous; not because I was riding but I wanted the day to be a success. Optimists have a cup half full, pessimists half empty.....some rotter has nicked my cup!! Dressage first, then we all trooped over the road for show jumping. As it was a training day, outside assistance was allowed and used by those who needed it. James Dawson had given us his time as his 'helper day' and offered tips.

Cross country next!! The Minimus class went first. It was relatively easy to jump judge the cross country as the course is all in one field. For the second class the Minimus competitors were sent out to cover the various cross country obstacles. As Freya and I jumped the corner fence under the trees there was a lot of whooping and hollering from the helpers (Heather and Julie I think).....gosh! Now I know what Mary King must feel like going around Badminton!

At the end of the day the scores were totted up and rosettes handed out. It was wonderful to see such smiley faces after the pictures of abject terror earlier in the day. So I think we might do it again. Remember we cannot run a day like this without everyone mucking in and helping. If you want to have a go you must be able to help out while others have their turn. So now it's time to say thank you to those individuals for doing their bit.

Jo Phillips, Dressage Judge	Rosemary Payne, Scorer
Nigel Woodcock, Writer	Jane Wilson
Karen Booth, Writer	Debbie Hunter
James Dawson, Instructor	Ellie Rhys Burgess
Julie Phillips, Scorer	Anne Roberts

There are others that are not named but a **BIG THANKYOU** to competitors and their friends and families that did help out. We couldn't have run the day without you!!

And finally.....the results

Class 1

1st Jenny Jones
2nd Julia Featherstone
3rd Louise Richards
4th Heather Jones
5th Carol Kynaston
6th Rose Richardson

Class 2

1st Charlotte Jones
2nd Debbie Hunter
3rd Sue Biltcliffe
4th Timonie Jones
5th Zoe Chamberlain
6th Patsy Pyke

Date	Event	With	Venue	Book with/ details
Sunday 3rd October	Flatwork	Kathryn Davies	Guilfield	Kathryn 01938 500999
Saturday 9th October	Flatwork/Show jumping	Alison Lewis	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Alison 07973154003
Sunday 10th October	Cross Country	Janet Green	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Sue Biltcliffe 01938 590431
Saturday 16th October	Flatwork	John Biggs	Oswestry Equestrian Centre 10 am start	Carol Kynaston 01691 831414
Sunday 17th October	Show jumping & Cross Country All day clinic	James Dawson	Hadley	Ellie Rhys-Burgess 01691 829136
Saturday 23rd October	DRESSAGE COMPETITION	See schedule Closing date 16th October	Oswestry Equestrian Centre	Carol Kynaston 01691 831414
Sunday 24th October	Flatwork	Joss Edwards	Oswestry Equestrian Centre 3 pm start	Sue Biltcliffe 01938 590431
30th & 31st October	AREA WINTER DRESSAGE QUALIFIER	Closing date 8th October	Tushingam Arena	Becky Warburton 01939 260141
Saturday 6th November	Flatwork	John Biggs	Oswestry Equestrian Centre 10 am start	Carol Kynaston 01691 831414
Sunday 7th November	Show jumping	Janet Green	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Sue Biltcliffe 01938 590431
Monday 8th November	Talk Equine Podiatrist	Tom Bowyer	Bradford Arms Llanymynech	Julie Phillips 01691 830688
Sunday 14th November	Flatwork	Kathryn Davies	Guilfield	Kathryn 01938 500999
Sunday 14th November	AREA INDOOR SHOWJUMPING QUALIFIER	Closing date 16th October	Southview	Julie Phillips 01691 830688
Saturday 20th November	Flatwork/Show jumping	Alison Lewis 3 pm start	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Alison 07973154003
Sunday 21st November	Show jumping	James Dawson	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Ellie Rhys Burgess 01691 829136
Saturday 27th November	Flatwork 10 am start	Joss Edwards	Oswestry Equestrian Centre	Sue Biltcliffe 01938 590431
Saturday 4th December	Flatwork 10 am start	John Biggs	Oswestry Equestrian Centre	Carol Kynaston 01691 831414
Saturday 11th December	Flatwork	Kathryn Davies	Guilfield	Kathryn 01938 500999

Date	Event	With	Venue	Book with/ further details
Sunday 12th December	Show jumping	James Dawson	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Ellie Rhys Burgess 01691 829136
Saturday 18th December	Flatwork	Joss Edwards	Oswestry Equestrian Centre 10 am start	Sue Biltcliffe 01938 590431
Friday 31st December	NEW YEARS EVE PARTY		Llanymynech Village Hall	Julie Phillips 01691 830688
Saturday 8th January	Flatwork	John Biggs	Oswestry Equestrian Centre 10 am start	Carol Kynaston 01691 831414
Saturday 15th January	Flatwork	Kathryn Davies	Guilsfield	Kathryn 01938 500999
Sunday 16th January	Show jumping	James Dawson	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Ellie Rhys Burgess 01691 829136
Monday 17th January	AGM & PRIZE GIVING		Bradford Arms Llanymynech	Julie Phillips 01691 830688
Saturday 22nd January	Flatwork	Joss Edwards	Oswestry Equestrian Centre 10 am start	Sue Biltcliffe 01938 590431
Saturday 29th January	Flatwork/Show jumping	Alison Lewis	Lower House Farm Llanymynech	Alison 07973154003
Friday 25th February	Members, family & friends get together		Sweeny Hall	Julie Phillips 01691 830688

THE RIDING DIARY

Comprehensive free listings of all equestrian activities throughout the UK.

County Shows, Dressage, Show jumping, Eventing, Fun rides, Lecture Demos, Hunter Trials, Riding Clubs etc

Also listed judges and a database of stewards available for your event.

www.ridingdiary.co.uk

Tom Bowyer Equine Podiatrist

Tom Bowyer has offered to do a talk for our riding club. For those like me who don't know he practises natural hooves for horses. He has slide shows and if enough members are interested at a later he will perform a dissection. The initial talk will take place on Monday 8th November at The Bradford Arms, Llanymynech. Cost to members will be £3. Anyone interested please contact Julie Phillips as soon as possible



Committee Members & Responsibilities

Message from the Ed:

Please let me have items, stories, adverts etc. for inclusion ideally by email to: lottieandco@aol.com

Many thanks...



Suzanne

Chairperson	Anne Roberts	01691 830666
Chairperson	Julie Phillips	01691 830688
Secretary	Julie Phillips	01691 830688
Treasurer	Linda Jackson	01938 590076
Membership Secretary	Carol Kynaston	01691 831414
Newsletter	Suzanne Jones	01938 500900
Dates co-ordinator	Carol Kynaston	01691 831414
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Committee	Terry Brown	01691 648598
	Karen Rees	01691 654754
	Sam Davies	01938 552859
	Rosemary Pyne.	01691 830740

ADVERTS

Will stay in for one edition only unless you contact Suzanne to extend to another edition

Official Helpers and Area Championship Team Organisers

Horse Trials	Sam Davies	01938 552859
Show Jumping	Julie Phillips	01691 830688
Dressage – Novice	Rebecca Warburton	07917024533/ 01939 260141
Dressage – Open		
Area 20 Representative	Nicky Stokes	01691 622404
Bodynfoel Indoor School Bookings	Rosemary Pyne	01691 830740