



# West Surrey Riding Club

*BHS affiliated Riding Club*

December 2017 (8)

Dear Members,

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2017, and my first newsletter as your new Chair. I want to start by saying how delighted I am that the committee voted me in to step into the impressive shoes of our outgoing Chair, Claire Stratford. I can only say how honoured and excited I am to be taking up the reins (not literally, Silver is safe with you Claire!), from someone who has unselfishly given three years to the club on the committee and is a huge part of our small, perfectly formed club. Thank you Claire for everything you have done for us and will no doubt continue to contribute in the coming months and years.



To say that I am brimming with both excitement and nervousness is an understatement! We have so much to build on, so many new avenues to venture down and so much winning to do. I really hope you will join your new committee in this enthusiasm and for those that haven't yet renewed – please do so, we would hate you to miss out on the fun!



I couldn't be taking on this role at any more of a prosperous time – we had a great year with team success in dressage, hunter trials and show jumping and increased focus on grass roots instruction and training. Next year we are planning to expand on our social scene and on trying new instructors and events for club members and their friends. Those of you that know me know I am a little competitive and although I feel this has to be encased in any Riding Club I strongly believe that West Surrey has always been, and will continue to be, based

on learning together, having fun and getting the best from our hobby and I hope to enhance this alongside the other committee members for the new year and beyond.

Claire, isn't the only change to our committee for 2018 – Sarah Fisher is passing her role of membership secretary onto Rebecca Attridge but will still be a massive part of our club as she will manage the 2018 Good Friday dressage competition and will hopefully remain on teams until her big move to the West Country!

Charlotte Williams retains her Safety Officer role but has dispersed her social responsibilities to the rest of us – anyone wanting to organise events please do get in contact!

In addition, I am delighted to hand over the dressage series to Jo Stiles who will be Cathy's new partner in crime with immediate effect.

So what about the new year...well we are busy planning more training sessions, summer events including members dressage on grass and show jumping competitions. We may even venture back into combined training and Trec obstacles sessions. We cannot however, run anything without you guys and we continuously remind each of you that it is a condition of membership that you help at least once in the year– this does not include competing in teams! Without your support and help we cannot run this club so please bear this in mind when we start begging and hassling for volunteers! As always, we welcome any feedback, comments or ideas – please contact any of the committee directly.

As I sign off and let you enjoy the rest of this bumper newsletter (more info on the new look for 2018 below!!), I just want to wish you all, on behalf of the entire committee, a really lovely Christmas and New Year and hope that you all get to enjoy lots of galloping and pony time – see you all in 2018!

*Julie*

### **WSRC Christmas get together - 17 December**

Thank you to all those who joined in the fun at the WSRC Christmas get together at The Roman Temple - the mulled wine, chocolates and mince pies went down a treat!



### **WSRC AGM - 8 December**

We received a great turnout to the WSRC AGM including a rider pilates session run by Lottie Betchley. Everyone really enjoyed the session and it started the evening off energetically! We hope to be able to invite Lottie back to the club soon as we definitely thought her session was a hit. If you are interested in finding out more, please visit [www.chappspysio.co.uk](http://www.chappspysio.co.uk)

Team Managers and Committee members all gave reports on activity and the finances were presented.

The committee was re-elected with the following:

Jenny Tully	Show Jumping team manager
Julie Johnson	Chair/Dressage team manager
Cathy Hughes	Secretary/Area liaison
Pam Wilson	Instruction/Training
Rebecca Attridge	Membership
Ro Major	Treasurer
Katherine Manson	Bridleways
Jo Stiles	Newsletter/Comms
Charlotte Williams	Safety Officer

Thanks to those members who shared their experiences and ideas on the day. The evening was finished off with the presentation of awards and the list of winners and runners is as follows:



#### **Open Dressage Show**

Prelim 14	Christina Easton
Prelim 18	Caitlin Fahy
Novice 30	Caitlin Fahy

#### **Dressage Series**

Walk + Trot Champion	Jaquie Fabb
Prelim Champion	Sophie Tack

Walk + Trot Reserve Champion Vikki Chuter  
Prelim Reserve Champion Judith Dunne

#### **Achievement awards**

Contribution Member	Susan McKenzie
Most Improved	Becky Attridge
Committee Member	Julie Johnson

#### **Team awards**

Show Jumping Senior	Tina Pendle
Horse Trials	Tanya Craeye Griffin
Best Junior Dressage	Caitlin Fahy
Dressage Senior	Tina Pendle
Overall Points Champion	Caitlin Fahy
Overall Point Reserve	Sophie Tack
Overall 59ers point Champion	Judith Dunne

#### **Membership renewal**

Thank you to all those people who have already sent in their membership renewal. I am pleased to say that we have had more renewals to date than we had this time last year! For those that are yet to renew, please make sure that renewals reach us by **31 January, 2018** otherwise the new higher member rate will apply. Remember that you will need to be a fully paid up member to join in any of the clinics, the dressage series or any team competitions. We are looking forward to a fabulous year of horsey fun in 2018... don't miss out!!!



### **New Newsletter format**

From January 2018, we will no longer be producing a quarterly newsletter but instead will issue a bi monthly round up of important club information such as instruction reminders, volunteering information and requirements, team member requests, events and competition information and other committee news.

This new format will be easy to read and distributed via email, on FB and on the website. All team and event write ups will now just appear on the website and FB page. We hope you agree that this new look newsletter will be much more succinct, up to date and relevant and will improve our communication channels with current members appropriately. If you have any questions or suggestions on the newsletter or our website, please contact Jo Stiles ([jostiles7@gmail.com](mailto:jostiles7@gmail.com)) or Samantha Petri ([samanthajpetri@gmail.com](mailto:samanthajpetri@gmail.com)).

Happy riding and best wishes as we head into the New Year!

### **The WSRC Committee**

**Inside:**

- Upcoming events**
- Training/Instruction**
- Reports**
- Dates for your diary**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Saturday, 6 January 2018 - Area Team friendly Dressage (1)**

Priory Equestrian, Frensham (organised by Elstead RC). Contact [julielisajohnson@aol.com](mailto:julielisajohnson@aol.com) for more information.

### **Saturday, 3 February 2018 - Intermediate Winter Dressage Qualifiers**

Priory Equestrian, Frensham (organised by Elstead RC). Contact [julielisajohnson@aol.com](mailto:julielisajohnson@aol.com) for more information.

### **Sunday, 11 February 2018 - Novice (80) Winter Show Jumping Qualifier**

Sands Farm, Warnham (organised by Abinger Forest RC). Contact [jennytulley2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennytulley2000@yahoo.co.uk) for more information.

### **Saturday, 3 March 2018 - Intermediate (90, 100 & 110) Winter Show Jumping Qualifiers**

Berkshire College of Agriculture (organised by Area 6). Contact [jennytulley2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennytulley2000@yahoo.co.uk) for more information.

### **Friday, 30 March 2018 - Area Team friendly Dressage**

Merrist Wood (organised by West Surrey RC). For event information contact [sarah@christopherstreet.org](mailto:sarah@christopherstreet.org) or for team information contact [julielisajohnson@aol.com](mailto:julielisajohnson@aol.com)

## UPCOMING TRAINING/INSTRUCTION

We've organised a fairly light Instruction/Training sessions to see in the new year and accommodate for weather conditions. Watch out for the next quarter when we plan to have more in place as the weather hopefully improves.

***How to book training/instruction;*** Bookings to be made online via MyRidingLife on our [website](#) (preferred method) or by cheque/post. Payment is required at time of booking. **You will now be required to complete the emergency contact details section.**

For cheque/postal bookings, please download a booking form from the website and send to Susan Mackenzie – please contact Susan by email for her address ([susanchodgkiss@hotmail.com](mailto:susanchodgkiss@hotmail.com)). **Please note – we are now introducing a £1.50 fee for postal entries. This covers our administration costs, bringing the fee in line with MRL entries. Please add this to the total cost when booking.**

We regret we cannot issue refunds unless a doctor's or vet's certificate/letter is provided. If you are unable to attend your booked instruction, you are free to find a replacement (as long as it's a WSRC member and at an appropriate level for the instruction!) and organise reimbursement between yourselves. We recommend using the WSRC Facebook page for this.

If you are unsure of venue locations in the Albury/Farley Green/Blackheath area visit our website and search for 'Venue map' for a guide.

### **Group Show Jumping with Carl Belson**

**Date:** Saturday, 3 February

**Location:** Law Meadows Stud, Guildford Road, Pirbright Surrey GU24 0LW

**Times:** 11:00 up to 60cm  
12:00 around 70cm  
13:00 around 80cm

**Cost:** £25. Max 4 per session

An opportunity for team members to practice in advance of competing on 11 February, but open to all members, with up to 60 cm slot designed to encourage and support those 'not quite ready' for teams.

Carl is a BS UKCC level 3 excel coach, and has recently been appointed as BE under 18 coach for SE region. He trains event riders from grassroots to 3\* and show jumpers up to 1.5M. As well as his own competition success, for many years he ran and coached at BS Surrey academy.

## **Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood**

**Date:** Saturday, 10 February

**Location:** Heath Cottage, August Lane, Farley Green, Surrey, GU5 9DP

**Times:** 11:00 Intro C  
12:00 Prelim 18  
13:00 Prelim 18

An additional session may be added if there is sufficient demand – please watch Facebook and My Riding Life.

**Cost:** £20 per session. Only 2 per session

An opportunity to prepare for the Dressage Series competition in February, with popular local instructor and former three day event rider Catriona Moorwood. The flatwork session will provide a series of useful exercises, and incorporate the opportunity to ride your test, receive feedback, ride it again and ‘fine tune’ any dodgy bits. Hence the groups for this will be kept to just 2.

**No parking at the venue but it’s only a five minute hack from the Roman Temple car park.**

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## **Polework – with a twist – with Sarah Jane Hornsby**

**Date:** Saturday, 3 March (Note: the date is subject to final confirmation – the session will be added to MRL once it is confirmed)

**Location:** Lockner Livery Stables, Dorking Road, Chilworth, GU4 8RH

**Please note that there is no parking at Lockner, but spaces may be available at Sample Oak farm (by very kind permission of Mrs. Crittall).** Prior arrangement with Katherine Manson is required – contact [katherine.manson@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:katherine.manson@environment-agency.gov.uk)

**Times:** 11:00 – for horses up to 15hh  
12:00 – for horses 15.1hh – 16th  
13:00 – for horses over 16th

The sessions are divided by horse size as the twist is that Sarah Jane plans to focus on stride length/ distance. To do this, she needs groups to be fairly evenly matched with regard to natural stride length . Please book into the session to suit your horse’s stride – e.g., if you have a big horse which you know has a small stride then adjust accordingly!

**Cost:** £15 per session. Max 4 per session

Sarah Jane is a very experienced instructor who specialises in problem horses and in rider confidence building. She has competed in dressage, eventing, showing and carriage driving to a high level, as well as breaking and producing many horses. She particularly enjoys helping riders to overcome confidence and other issues which interfere with their enjoyment of riding.

## **Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood**

**Date:** Sunday, 11 March

**Location:** Heath Cottage, August Lane, Farley Green, Surrey, GU5 9DP

**Times:** 11:00 }  
12:00 } Tests to be advised nearer the time  
13:00 }

An additional session may be added if there is sufficient demand – please watch Facebook and My Riding Life.

**Cost:** £20 per session. Only 2 per session

An opportunity to prepare for the Dressage Series competition on Sunday, 18 March with popular local instructor and former three day event rider Catriona Moorwood. The flatwork session will provide a series of useful exercises, and incorporate the opportunity to ride your test, receive feedback, ride it again and ‘fine tune’ any dodgy bits. Hence the groups for this will be kept to just 2.

**No parking at the venue but it’s only a five minute hack from the Roman Temple car park.**

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### **We love hearing from you!**

“Yet again a brilliant clinic with Sarah-Jane at Lockner, the second one after the first a month ago. She was so encouraging and made sense of what we are asking our horses to do, and then got feedback from the riders as to what and why we are trying to achieve. Very informative and great fun. Roll on the next one. Oh and she does confidence training too!!” - Judith Dunne & Monty

## **REPORTS**

### **DRESSAGE REPORT**

by Julie Johnson

#### **Teams update**

#### **Dressage Intermediate Qualifier – Sands Farm 14 October**

Difficult day for the team in some tough competition – some really great improvements and as always stoic supporters who braved the changing seasons to be there on and off all day. Thanks to Rebecca Attridge, Lauren Spinks, Sarah Fisher and Tina Pendle for representing us. Full write up on the Facebook page and the website.

## Winter Dressage series 2017

### 26 November - Kilnhanger

We had another great turn out – old and new faces. Congratulations to Emma Lambourne for winning the Intro, Nicola Dolby for winning the prelim on her first ever outing with WSRC and to Pam Wilson for entering and winning the Novice. It was a bitterly cold day but everyone had huge smiles and there was lots of laughter and chatter! Big thanks to our judge, Sarah, Writer Kirsten and to Chris as always for the wonderful photo



album. This is a massively popular event and we cannot run it without the support of Lynn Roberts who this time wowed us with her new pony Beanie – she certainly now has a little WSRC fan club!



The next dressage series will be held on Sunday, 18 February subject to weather conditions!

## SHOWJUMPING REPORT

by Jenny Tully

### Area 11 Friendly Show Jumping

Saturday, 11 November 2017 Elstead RC field

The format was made up of teams of three, where one person jumps 75cms, one jumps 85cms and the third person jumps 95cms. We had two teams entered for this but unfortunately for various reasons, on the day only two team members made it to the venue so we were unable to enter any team. Tanya Creaye-Griffin rode Tom as an individual in the 85cms class and Pili Spiers rode in the 95cms class on My Boy Sonny and came a very respectable 4th! A huge thanks to both ladies for representing WSRC, and to Judith Dunne for her support on a cold and rainy day.

### Wanted - Team Members for the following competitions:

#### National Novice Winter Indoor Showjumping Qualifier Sands Farm

Sunday, 11 February 2018

Teams of four with three scores to count, with the 1<sup>st</sup> round a course of fences at 80cm and then a second round at 85cms. If you would like to enter, please contact me on [jennytully2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennytully2000@yahoo.co.uk)



**National Intermediate Winter Indoor Showjumping Qualifier Berks College of Agriculture**

Sunday, 3 March 2018

We need teams of four with the best of three scores to count. The first round is 95cms and the second is 1m. If you would like to enter, please contact me on [jennytully2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennytully2000@yahoo.co.uk)

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**BRIDLEWAYS REPORT**

by Katherine Manson

**DownsLink Crossing B2128 Road (Shalford – Womersley)**

This has been completed now but recent vegetation clearance work on the permissive part of this path had blocked the path to horse riders. I have had a chat with Waverley Countryside Group and hopefully in future they will try and open up paths at the weekend when contractors are not actively working. It was particularly important at this crossing as the road is so busy.

**Bridleway 315 Old Deer Farm Path (Woodhill Sandpit)**

The stretch just west of the sandpit that runs alongside the two barns is much narrowed by encroaching vegetation. Unfortunately this path is not a high enough priority to get cleared by Surrey County Council anytime soon. So I am in communication with the rights of way department about organising a work party.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### JANUARY

**Sat 6**                    **Area Team Friendly Dressage (1)**  
Priory Equestrian, Frensham (organised by Elstead RC)

### FEBRUARY

**Sat 3**                    **Group Show jumping clinic with Carl Belson** (Pirbright)

**Sat 3**                    **Intermediate Winter Dressage Qualifiers**  
Priory Equestrian, Frensham (organised by Elstead RC)

**Sat 10**                  **Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood**  
Heath Cottage, August Lane, Farley Green, Surrey, GU5 9DP

**Sun 11**                **Novice (80) Winter Show Jumping Qualifier**  
Sands Farm, Warnham (organised by Abinger Forest RC)

**Sun 18**                **WSRC Winter Dressage Series** (Kilnhanger)

**TBA**                   **Equine Nutrition talk with Fiona Watkins** (for more information visit  
[www.thehorsenutritionst.co.uk](http://www.thehorsenutritionst.co.uk)) at Lockner Stables

### MARCH

**Sat 3**                   **Intermediate (90, 100 & 110) Winter Show Jumping Qualifiers**  
Berkshire College of Agriculture (organised by Area 6)

**Sat 3**                   **Polework with a twist (Sarah Jane Hornsby) TBA**  
Lockner Livery Stables, Dorking Road, Chilworth, GU4 8RH

**Sun 11**                **Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood**  
Heath Cottage, August Lane, Farley Green, Surrey, GU5 9DP

**Fri 30**                **Area Team friendly Dressage**  
Merrist Wood (organised by West Surrey RC)

### About West Surrey Riding Club

West Surrey Riding Club (affiliated to the British Riding Club) is a small friendly club based in Area 11 in the Surrey Hills conservation area between Guildford and Cranleigh.

Our primary objective as a club is to help and encourage our members in all aspects of horsey life – from the increasingly popular Trec to interactive lecture demonstrations, instruction and team competitions. The emphasis we try to maintain in the club is to make owning and training your horse as enjoyable and sociable as possible while still being informative and safe. We know that the majority of our riders are keen to improve their skills and do the very best for their horses, so all the events we organise are aimed to promote these things. For more information visit our website

[westsurreyridingclub.co.uk](http://westsurreyridingclub.co.uk)