



West Surrey Riding Club

BHS affiliated Riding Club

September 2017 (7)

Dear Members,

We hope you have had a great summer full of good times and great riding and have enjoyed attending our events. We are delighted to announce the return of our Winter Dressage Series, which will be held at Kilnhangar on 22 October and 26 November - further details are in this newsletter.

New Membership Secretary

In the New Year we will sadly bid adieu to Sarah Fisher, our wonderful Membership Secretary, who has done an amazing job in managing our membership for the last three years. On behalf of the WSRC Committee and our members, we would like to thank Sarah for all her dedication and amazing support in looking after our members so efficiently, and wish her well in her move to Somerset.

As a result, we would like to ask if anyone would like to take over the role of membership. The role is fairly straight forward and comprises in issuing and receiving completed membership forms, updating the membership spreadsheet and banking any monies. You need to be welcoming, organised and efficient, as it is often the first contact a member has with the Club. The busiest time is around renewals (from October to January), but otherwise it can take as little as an hour a month. It's totally flexible, you do it at your own time of choosing, and Sarah found it very rewarding.

Although Sarah will carry on until the New Year, it would make sense for someone to get involved now, to get familiar with the renewals process and answer any queries. If you are interested, please email sarah@christopherstreet.org

WSRC Annual General Meeting (AGM)

You are invited to join us at the WSRC AGM on **Wednesday, 8 November 2017** at 7:30pm at Arbuthnot Hall. If you have any trophies, please return them (cleaned) to Ro Major at least two weeks before the AGM. Ro can be contacted on ro@jhaconsult.co.uk.

WSRC Christmas Spirit

Please join us for some Christmas cheer, mince pies and mulled wine on **Sunday, 10 December 11am-1pm** at the Roman Temple Car Park – come for a catch up via horseback, shanks pony, car etc. Check Facebook for an on the day update regarding weather!

Happy riding and best wishes,

The WSRC Committee

P.S New WSRC riding jackets

If you're looking for a Christmas gift, you may like to check out our new purple WSRC shell jackets which are £32.00 and come in sizes 10 to 14 (they are windproof and shower proof). Please visit our website to make an order.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Dressage series 2017 – 2018

Announcing the return of our ever-popular Winter dressage series (+ chance to catch up with everybody). As before, we are planning four events through the Winter (weather permitting), with a championship show next Spring. This is a members-only series, so make sure you've rejoined (or joined us for the first time) in time to enter them. All events will be held at Kilnhangar, by kind permission of Lynn Roberts.

For the end of this year, the dates and tests planned are:

22 October Intro. A, Prelim. 2 and Novice 27

26 November Intro. B, Prelim. 12 and Novice 28

There are no sections again this time. Rosettes awarded as normal (no banding this year) to 8th place, so everyone will get one! The first three places from each test on each day qualify for the championship show. This will pass down to the next highest placed if one of these has qualified already.

Entries: £7 + £1.50 on-line (preferred) via www.westsurreyridingclub.co.uk or they can be posted to Julie Johnson on the entry form also available from the web-site. Cheques made payable to "West Surrey RC", please. Entries close on the Thursday before each competition and times will be available on the web-site from 6:00am on the Friday.

We will need the following helpers on each day to be able to run this series:

- A steward to make sure riders get the arena in the right order.
- A writer to sit in the judges car and fill out comments and marks on the test sheets.
- A scorer to add up said marks.
- And ideally another pair of hands to do the most important job, making coffee!

If you would like to help (remembering it's a condition of membership everyone has to help at least one Club event, so contact Cathy on cathy.hughes@apha.gsi.gov.uk and let her know what you can do and on which day.

Looking forward to meeting you all through the Winter!

Assisted Clear Round Showjumping – 2-4pm, Sunday 15 October 2017 at Mayor House Farm

We are running another assisted clear round show jumping session in the fabulous arena at Mayor House Farm, by kind permission of Karen and Roger Stone.

There will be no instruction on site, but the 'assistance' includes help on the ground to raise and lower poles, and offer general encouragement.

There will be two riders per 30 minute session, grouped according to approximate height of jumps. The 30 minute time window should allow enough time for you to warm up and jump the course several times.

You can either hack to the venue Mayor House Farm or park at the Roman Temple car park and hack from there (see venue map on website for more details).

The sessions will run as follows:

2:00-2:30pm 50cm +
2:30-3:00pm 60cm +
3:00-3:30pm 70cm +
3:30-4:00pm 80cm +

Cost is £10 per rider plus MRL booking fee.

Any questions on the day, please contact Claire Stratford [07979 606184](tel:07979606184).

REPORTS

DRESSAGE REPORT

by Julie Johnson



Combined Training - 3 September, 2017

Wow what a day! Despite the drizzling wet stuff that unexpectedly came from the sky we had a good turn out and a wonderful venue! When I put this event together with Jenny Tully and Cathy Hughes, I wanted to entice out our new members, friends and those members that we don't see often for whatever reason that may be, to have some fun and to push our own fears and limits in a friendly no pressure environment. I heard so much laughter and saw so many smiles and a lot of support demonstrated for other competitors, even when we didn't know each other!

People join Riding Clubs for many reasons but for me the roots of a Riding Club should be to continue learning, to make mistakes in a safe environment amongst friends and to enjoy our hobbies and I really hope everyone managed to fulfil their own goals today and enjoyed themselves too!

Special **congratulations** to Katie Forrest who had the highest dressage score of the entire day and won a lesson with Samantha Osborn. Massive thanks to the set up team from yesterday, Vikki Chuter and Lizzy Crossan and today's team of Annabel Rigby, Maya-Ann Heap, Jill Ryan and the wonderful Trec surviving Jacqui Peterson! My own personal special thanks to Jenny Tully for rocking and rolling with me on this one and to Cathy Hughes for being my stable rock and doing all things secretary and scoring.

Finally, we need to thank Lisa Fahy and her family for lending us her home. So many people commented on how wonderful and venue it was and the committee has to wholeheartedly agree – we look forward to coming back again soon. To Christopher Lee who took so many photos it will take him a week to edit them all!! In the words of our dressage judge 'I've had a great day – what a lovely competition' THANK YOU and well done!!

Pachesham Dressage Qualifier - 8 July, 2017

The RT team qualified at the Pachesham Dressage qualifier hosted by Chipstead on the 8 July. The team consisted of me (Julie), Caitlin Fahy, Lynn Roberts and Tina Pendle. Lynn also came 5th in the class overall. The prelim team of Vikki Chutter, Caitlin, Rebecca Attridge and Judith Dunne did a good solid performance and although didn't qualify on the day, we have subsequently qualified for the champs at Munstead due to another team pulling out. Good solid Dressage performances all day, including a picnic which didn't disappoint!

SHOWJUMPING REPORT

by Claire Stratford/Vicci Hogben

Coombelands Horse Trials 3 June 2017 – National and London and South East Championships Qualifier

WSRC fielded a team in the 80cm class at this horse trials qualifier. This is an annual event and always great fun. Our team comprised Sam Petri, Tanya Creaye-Griffin, Liz Schilling and Tina Pendle. Unusually most of their mounts were under 14hh, earning us the 'pony team' nickname.



Everyone achieved something fantastic. Tanya (a new member, representing WSRC for the first time) achieved an amazing dressage score of 24 and Sam jumped a great clear round on her emergency stand-in mount.

Tina and the tiny 'Thunder' (12hh) took on jumps almost as big as them and Liz came 2nd overall. It was a lovely day out in the sunshine with great team spirit.

Thank you to our very kind members (Ro Major, Judith Dunne, Cathy Hughes) who helped on the day and to Christopher Lee for the brilliant team photos.

Team member required - Horse Trials Championships at Munstead Sunday 24 September

The team have qualified for the London and South East Championships at Munstead on Sunday, 24 September 2017 and have an unexpected space left in our 80cm team at the championships. This is a great competition over a lovely course (likely to be similar to the BE80 course at Munstead). If anyone is interested, please email me: claire.stratford@yahoo.co.uk

We also need volunteers to help run the show jumping on the day (pole pickers, stewards etc.). If anyone is able to help on the day, please contact Claire as above.

INSTRUCTION

by Pam Wilson

Thank you to everyone who responded to the instruction desire survey (see feedback attached in the email). I will endeavour to work using this as we go forward into planning instruction for next year. But as you will see, feedback suggests a small number of people wanting quite a wide range of options – so I definitely will not be able to please all of the people all of the time!

The October to December programme is now pretty well organised, including Instructional dressage sessions with Catriona Moorwood to assist with preparation for the dressage series, jumping with Fiona Breach and a new addition with Sarah Jane Hornsby – Problem Busting or You & Your Horse MOTs. Hopefully, the weather won't get in the way!

My apologies that I did not get round to arranging a cross country clinic – various factors got in the way and it seems rather too late in the season now.

How to book instruction; Bookings to be made online via MyRidingLife on our [website](#) (preferred method) or by cheque/post. Payment is required at time of 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.

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).

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.

Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood

Date: Sunday, 1 October

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

Times: 11:00am Incorporating Intro A
12:00pm Incorporating Prelim 2
13:00pm Incorporating Prelim 2

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

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

An opportunity to prepare for the Dressage Series competition on Sunday, 22 October. 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 two. **No parking at the venue but it’s only a five minute hack from the Roman Temple car park.**

Group Show Jumping with Fiona Breach

Date: Saturday, 4 November

Location: Mayor House Farm Livery Stables, Farley Heath Road, Albury, GU5 0SR

Times: 11:00am Poles, cross poles, bottom hole to 50cm
12:00pm 50–70cm (as per group composition)
13:00pm 80cm –1m+ (as per group composition)

Cost: £15 per person. Max 3 per group.

Fiona’s sessions continue to prove very popular. This one will start with a session for beginners, as requested by members. The other two session will focus on technical aspects of show jumping – such as successfully negotiating a course.

Fiona Breach biography

Fiona started full time Eventing after finishing university in 2005. In 2007, she moved to Mayor House Farm where she runs a successful livery/event yard. She has spent the last 10 years building up a string of quality horses and now has some extremely exciting prospects for the future. She currently has four horses that are Advanced, one who was entered for Badminton but unfortunately injured himself a couple of weeks before, but will hopefully campaign 4* next year. The other two are entered for Blenheim 3* and the fourth is only 7, she is hoping he will be selected to go to the world breeding championships in Le Lion France in October. She also has some lovely youngsters coming up through the grades. Fiona has been Ranked in the top 100 riders for British Eventing for the last three consecutive years and is really hoping to make a name for herself.

Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood

Date: Sunday, 12 November

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

Times: 11:00am Incorporating Intro B
12:00pm Incorporating Prelim 12
13:00pm Incorporating Prelim 12

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, 19 November 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.

Problem Busting - You & Your horse MOT with Sara Jane Hornsby - Part 1

Date: Saturday, 18 November

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

Please note 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

Times: 11:00 am
12:00 pm
13:00 pm

Cost: £15 per person. Max 3 per group.

These session aim to provide practical advice and support with any particular issue you may be having with your horse or your riding – be it your confidence to do something, your knowledge about how to do something, or your frustration that your horse won't do something you ask it! Alternatively, the session provides an opportunity just to have you and your horse assessed together for a horsey ‘MOT’. **Please book on MRL and also email me, Pam Wilson, at wilsonpamela6@aol.com stating what issue you would like assistance with. Groups will be put together around similar issues.**

Sarah Jane Horsley biography

Sarah Jane is a very experienced instructor who specialises in problem horse 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 their riding.

***Problem Busting/You & Your horse MOT
with Sara Jane Hornsby - Part 2***

Date: Saturday, 16 December

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

Please note 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

Times: 11:00am
12:00pm
13:00pm

Cost: £15 per person. Max 3 per group.

These session aim to provide practical advice and support with any particular issue you may be having with your horse or your riding – be it your confidence to do something, your knowledge about how to do something, or your frustration that your horse won't do something you ask it! Alternatively, the session provides an opportunity just to have you and your horse assessed together for a horsey 'MOT'.

This second session aims to focus on review and progress chasing following the first session in November.

Please book on MRL and also email me, Pam Wilson, at wilsonpamela6@aol.com stating what issue you would like assistance with. Groups will be put together around similar issues.

We love hearing from you!

Here are a few testimonials from you, our valued members.

Side Saddle clinic - Paula Hynes

Based on feedback from our members to try side saddle on their own horses, a clinic was organised with expert Side Saddle Association Instructor, Jo Strange and Angela Winter, Area 8 Side Saddle Association Chairman and held at Westland Farm on 26 April by kind permission of Charlotte Williams.



My Antique Irish Bog Pony (Finn McCuil) and I shared our lesson with Jacqui Peters and her lovely TB, Raj, which just goes to show that Side Saddle(SS) can be for all. Jo had brought a large selection of SS's to fit all comers and she was careful to ensure that the horses were happy with the feel of the saddle and the balance strap before getting us on board. Jo taught us the basic side saddle position at halt, and then we actually had to move. It was strange riding with both legs on one side using my schooling whip as a right leg but I felt balanced and secure and Finn bless him, took it all in his stride and looked after me. With Jo's encouragement, we launched ourselves into a trot and by the end of the lesson, had cantered on both reins.

Jo and Angela were so encouraging, that I joined Area 8 SS Association, have bought a beautiful side saddle and navy habit, which dates from 1907. I attended some small shows, where everybody was so helpful and friendly. My advice would be to give SS a try, no matter what type of horse or pony you have.

I would like to thank WSRC, Jo and Angela for providing such a fun lesson and I look forward to attending some WSRC events in my new SS.

If anybody is interested in learning more about SS, please see the Area 8 Area 8 Side Saddle Association Website <http://www.sidesaddlearea8.co.uk/> or contact Angela on angela.wells.horses@gmail.com

More feedback from our members:

“Another vote for the teams, I would never have been brave enough to have competed on a team event if it hadn't been for all the support and encouragement I've had from the club, even when I've had a total meltdown on the day everyone has been so friendly and I've always come away feeling really positive. Oh and the picnics are fab too!!! Top club!!” 😊 **Helen French**

“I have to say ditto for the teams, the support is brilliant and I couldn't have done team stuff without such lovely encouraging people, but also the varied subsidised clinics for all disciplines with excellent instructors is well worth the membership along with lots of friendly members all with a common goal - to enjoy their horses.” **Judith Dunne**

“The teams are brilliant. Everyone is so supportive even when you and your ponio don't see eye to eye and have an off day! LOL 😂😂 I have achieved far more than I thought I would have the courage to do thanks to such a friendly and fun club. And the prosecco fuelled picnics are great fun! 😊😊 Thank you WSRC!” **Sarah Orchard**

“I enjoy sharing members interest in each other's horses. The mutual support and encouragement. Although only participate in dressage and hopefully more non ridden activities.” **Helen Kendall**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Sun 24 L&SE Horse Trials, Show Jumping, Dressage & Riding Test Championships at Munster

OCTOBER

Sun 1 Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood, Farley Green

Sun 8 L&SE Dressage to Music Championship at Sands Farm, Warnham

Sat 14 National Winter Dressage qualifier - Sands Farm

Sun 15 Assisted Clear Round Showjumping, Mayor House Farm

Sun 22 Winter Dressage Series, Kilnhangar Farm

NOVEMBER

Sat 4 Group Showjumping with Fiona Breach, Albury

Mon 6 Area team quiz - The Water-Mill, Dorking

Wed 8 WSRC AGM at 7:30pm at Arbuthnot Hall

Sat 11 Area friendly show-jumping, Elstead RC

Sun 12 Instructional Dressage with Catriona Moorwood, Farley Green

Sat 18 Part 1 - You & Your horse MOT, Lockner

Sun 26 Winter Dressage Series, Kilnhangar Farm

DECEMBER

Sun 10 WRSC Christmas Party at the Roman Temple Car Park

Sat 16 Part 2 - You & Your horse MOT, Lockner

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