

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 FEBRUARY 2008

WELCOME

Welcome to your brand new Goring and District Riding Club Newsletter.

With this new format we're hoping to provide our members with more information, more regularly, but using less paper! Much of the information here should also be on the new website too...

The new website address is:
gdrc.org.uk

Please save it to 'Favourites' on your computer so that it'll never be misplaced again and you'll know where to find us. As you can see, there's lots going on on the website and it's gradually being updated. We would like it to contain details of forthcoming events, appropriate forms and further useful information.



THIS ISSUE

- New 'Greener' Newsletter & Website Details
- Winter Dressage Series
- Recent Events - Fish & Chip Quiz Night
- Forthcoming Events
- Dates for your Diary
- New Newsletter Editor - contact details.

WINTER DRESSAGE SERIES



We're now well into our second successful Winter Dressage Series. The classes have been very well supported and the weather has been (mostly) kind to us.

Obviously, we're very grateful to Ferring Country Centre for the use of their facilities. Not only are we having a great time improving our Dressage but also getting to Prix St Georges Level of maneuvering our horseboxes and trailers!

We hope to have all the results available to view on the website and the next newsletter, so you can see how well you're doing. We must not forget the great judges we've had too. For me, I feel so much more relaxed and happy if the judge has a welcoming smile when we enter the 'arena'!

One of the best things about entering a Dressage Competition, as opposed to a Show Jumping Competition, is that you know what time you're doing your test in advance. This usually means there's no undue hanging around and the atmosphere is one of calm and tranquility (and a few jangling nerves) rather like a library. So, if you haven't had a try at Dressage yet, come along soon - Dates and test details are overleaf!

GDRC members receive a £2 discount for each Entry.



*Don't let this photo put you off
- it's was taken at
Badminton Horse Trials 2007,
not Ferring Country Centre!*

Don't join the Gym for the New Year, join Goring and District Riding Club instead! Only £17 per member (juniors & seniors) and includes a discount for most Classes throughout the year! Contact the Club Secretary, Janet Shears on 07988 502833 or ask for a form at any Club event.



GORING AND DISTRICT RIDING CLUB

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
GDRC.ORG.UK

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 11th May: In-hand Show
- 21st June: Team Show Jumping Show
- 22nd June: Show Jumping Show
- 20th July: Open Showing Show
- 17th August: Country Show
- 7th September: Hunter Trial
(BHS Qualifier)
- 28th September: Hunter Trial
- 12th October: Eventers' Challenge

(If you would like to help out at one of these events, please let Janet know.)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 15th February 2008, 7.30pm
Tack Sale at Clapham & Patching Hall

Have a rummage around for all those nice bits and (cheek) pieces, give them a clean* and make some money! Then spend said money on other people's items!

* Top Tip: Put bits, stirrup irons and spurs (without straps) in the dishwasher and they come up like new!

Sunday, 17th February, GDRC Team Show Jumping at Sands Farm, Warnham, West Sussex.

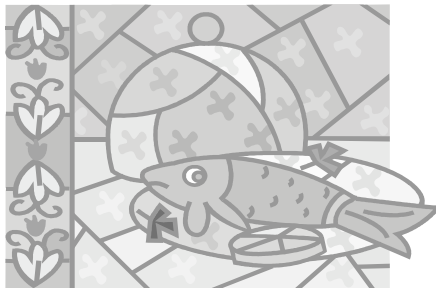
* Top Tip: Sands Farm host some excellent Show Jumping Clinics. I can recommend Tony Whipps' Clinic on Thursday 7th and 14th February at either 10am, 11am or 12pm at approximately 2'3, 2'6 and 2'9 respectively. Clinics cost £20 and are bookable by phoning 01403 252238. An ideal opportunity to get your horse used to their arena and jumps!

Sunday, 24th February 2008, From 1pm
Dressage Tests: Prelims 4 & 10, Novice 30

* Top Tip: Some of the members of the Riding Club are competing at Sands Farm for a Team Dressage Competition so some of the 'competition' won't be there!

MORE EVENTS FOR MARCH ON THE WEBSITE

FISH & CHIPS QUIZ NIGHT



No, not a quiz all about cod, but a horsey and general knowledge fun quiz for all!

Jim kindly went to pick-up the food and duly returns with cutlery and condiments, but if you would like tomato sauce and drinks (anything goes!), please bring your own. Some teams bought nibbles to keep them going whilst the other teams looked on enviously!

Robin researched and read the questions whilst Julie did a sterling job of keeping track of the scores after each round.

Now, if you couldn't make it on the night, here's a taster of some of the questions...

1. Why is the Cheetah the odd 'cat' out of the cat family?
2. Who is the Patron Saint of Horseriding?
3. Which mythical creature has the body of a horse at the back, but the body and head of a man at the front?
4. What is a Leaping Head?
5. Where did Rupert Bear live?



(Jointed Wilson Snaffle)

There was also a selection of horse bits which had to be identified. Some of them were quite tricky to name, but the most amazing thing about most of them was the sheer size of the older nickel bits.

No further quiz nights have been organised as yet, but we'll let you know as soon as we know.

1. The Cheetah is the only cat that can't retract its claws.
2. St Christopher.
3. Centaur.
4. Part of a side-saddle.
5. Nut Wood.



EDITOR'S NOTE... *This newsletter has been brought to you by me, Jennifer Cranford. I hope you find it enjoyable and informative. Please tell me about any item you would like included in further issues. We can do GDRC show reports, photos, results, events, news. Please feel free to contact me on 01903 267737 or 07905 370198 or email jennifer_cranford@hotmail.com.*