



MEON RIDING CLUB

1968 - 2008

NEWSLETTER

Hon Sec: Mrs Brenda King
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JANUARY 2008

FORTY YEARS ON

2008 marks the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the Meon Riding Club. What better excuse for a party! We have booked Soberton Village Hall for Friday 14 March, approximately 8.00 - 11.00p.m., so make sure you put this date in your diary. We propose to have a licensed bar, food and music, but would welcome suggestions from members, particularly the younger ones, to help the evening go with a swing. We also need a birthday cake. Our members have many unexpected talents, so if making celebratory cakes is your speciality, please get in touch. Lets make this a great evening to remember!

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A copy of our Events Calendar for 2008 is enclosed/on the website. The details are correct to the best of our knowledge at the current date, but please confirm with your Newsletter or the Club website, as things often change at this time of year.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AN AFTERNOON WITH SARA GREEN

SAT.26 JAN. 2-6P.M. CROFTON E.C

Sara Green is a Director of British Dressage, and has a real passion for Dressage to Music. She contributed the music element of Sam Seagrave's test, with which she won the Bailey's training day, and represented Meon at the BRC Dressage to Music Championships.

Sara is really keen to work again with Meon, and has put together an afternoon's demonstration with four riding club members. They will ride for about 30min. each, and Sara will show what music works for which horse, and how a test can be put together. The afternoon will end

with some demonstrations of 'finished' tests, to inspire us all to go home and start working on our own routines. Hot drinks will be available during the interval. Non-members are welcome so please tell all your friends. Tickets on the door: MRC members £3; non-members £5 - a real January bargain!

It is possible to slip in and out of the spectators' area at Crofton quite easily, so if you can only manage part of the afternoon that is not a problem. Obviously we would ask spectators who arrive late, or have to leave early, to choose their moment so as not to disturb the performance.

AREA 17 QUALIFIERS

We are currently looking for members to represent the Club in both the Novice Indoor Show Jumping Qualifier at Kingston Maurwood, Dorset, on 1 March, and the Cross-Country Qualifier at Rockbourne on 19 April. If you would like to be considered please complete the enclosed form, and return to the appropriate team manager(s). Please note the cross-country qualifier now includes

a pairs class, so if you have a regular partner you might like to have a go at this.

WINTER LEAGUE

The next leg of the Winter League will be Dressage on 20 Jan. Times are now on the Area 17 website or ring Peter Buist,(01794) 368061

We have entered two teams for the Winter Dressage Qualifier which is being held on the same day, and wish all our competitors the best of luck.

We have to supply two helpers for this event, one morning and one afternoon. If you can help, please let Dick King know; (01730) 264178, or email:rking@fsbdial.co.uk

The third leg of the Winter League will be Show Jumping on Sun. 23 February at Sparshot College. Your entry form is enclosed, and entries open on 21 January.

TRAINING

Details of show jumping and dressage courses are shown on the enclosed sheet. There is one space available for the 6.00p.m. session at Quob on Fridays, and vacancies for all times at Crofton. Rose Seagrave can nearly always accommodate extra riders for individual sessions at Fort Widley or Ashlands, providing you don't all want to come at the same time!

We have been invited by the Hambledon Hunt (North) branch of the Pony Club to share their cross-country schooling day at Lower Peake on 10 February. The instructor will be Irish international event rider, Eric Smiley, who is a charismatic teacher, whose lessons are both interesting and enjoyable. There will be two sessions for Riding Club members in the afternoon, approximately a pairs class, so if you have a regular partner you might like to have a go at this.

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on the cross-country course, ground conditions permitting. Cost £25 per rider; cheques payable to Hambledon Hunt North branch of the Pony Club. Bookings please to Barbara Wood, as on training sheet.

STOCKTON LOVELL CAMP, 18-22 SEPT.

There is just one place left on the Riding Club holiday. If you want to snap it up, please send your cheque for £60 for the deposit to Penny Briggs, Woolmer Lodge, 146 Forest Road, Liss Forest, GU33 7BU. First come, first served, but we will keep a waiting list in case anyone has to drop out later. The total cost will be £260 per horse.

NEW MEMBERS

Alice Geaves, Coombe Cross House, East Meon.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Enclosed is a list from the British Riding Clubs Office of national businesses which make special offers to BRC members. Many local businesses also offer discounts to Meon Riding Club members - ask around and see who will give you the best deal!

ACCESS

Tina Atkinson is collecting evidence for a claim at East Meon. If you have ever used the track which branched off the BOAT from Twentyways, latterly through a gate, and took you to the top of Butser (avoiding a steep rutted section of the BOAT), please get in touch with her. (01730) 823625; mobile:07767 294679; email: hallhometouch@aol.com.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL