

Stevenage and District Riding Club
Newsletter Summer 2010

Word from the Chair

Dear Members,

It has been a long, hard Winter but at last Spring is here. On the 1ST February we held our Annual General Meeting. Our guest speaker was eventer, Piggy French, who gave an inspiring talk encouraging us all to kick on for the new competitive year. However, the AGM gave the committee the opportunity to highlight to the membership how much the club was struggling with running events and that we were in dire need for people to come forward and help us save the club. I am pleased to say that a number of new committee members have been brave enough to step forward and grasp the nettle! A warm welcome to them all.

So far this year we have held the Dressage Championships, Show Jumping and a pub quiz for our members. The dressage was well received and well done to the winners of our classes. The show jumping was very poorly attended and we propose to run more show jumping training events to encourage our members to have a go later at competitive events. The pub quiz was great fun and attended by twelve teams who slugged it out during the evening! Congratulations and thanks go to Kay Sheppard, Rachel and Steph Christie and their friends who won the quiz and then promptly donated their winnings to club funds. Our junior committee members also raised money by selling cakes they had made in the break.

We were due to follow this event up with a cross country training event at Waresley Park with Nick Turner but due to the rain we had to cancel this event. I will try to sort out a new date with Nick but in the mean time there are many more training opportunities available in the coming months. Good luck for the season and I hope you all have a lot of fun over the summer and stay safe.

Our new look website has also been launched and is now easier to navigate and download schedules. To get the latest club news go on www.stevenageridingclub.com and there will soon be a mailing list that you can sign up to, so that all riding club news, schedules and training opportunities will be sent directly to you. Please let us know what you think of this new look website and if any more improvements, could be made. We're open to suggestions!

Good luck for the season and I hope you all have a lot of fun over the summer and stay safe, wishing you a successful and satisfying year!

Regards
Faye Streeter

Past Events

Frostbite dressage championships- 14th February 2010

The frostbite championships certainly did live up to its name, with a chilly but sunny day and a good turnout. Congratulations to the champions who received £40 worth of training vouchers. Next season, it is definitely worth having a go at, with big prizes like that on offer.

Congratulations to everyone who competed at our dressage championships on Sunday 14 Feb. The standard was high and the championship awards were all very close run. Thanks as always to our judges, writers and other helpers without whom these events could not go ahead.

Warm Up Class- P 13 1st - Sam Turner and Holly. =2nd Georgi Makin and Look Again and Sheena Lashko and Alfie (M) 4th Elaine Bracey and Rose. N32 Eleanor Kent and Kurt. Class 2 - P 14 1st Rachel Christie and James (HPM) 2nd Amanda Saban and Miss Molly 3rd Sheena Lashko and Alfie (M) 4th Louise Hepburn and Banadl Hippo (M) 5th Kelly Johnson and Urbane Hero (M) =6th Tracey Skinner and Sandells Marmalade - Vee Taheri-Sinfield and Nessie. Class 3 - Nov 27 1st Kelly Johnson and Urbane Hero (HPM) 2nd Hannah Gilbert and Cresta Bay (M) 3rd Hannah Grey and Sid 4th Hayley Ward and Secret Dream 5th Eleanor Kent and Kurt 6th Eleanor Kent and Pippa. Class 4 - Ele 44 1st Dawn Thomson and Maytime 2nd Hannah Gilbert and Cresta Bay (HPM). Open Section 1st Anne Palmer and Outburst 2nd Hayley Ward and Secret Dream 3rd Charlotte Cooper and Faeroe (M).

The Championship placings were decided by using a combination of the best qualifying score and the score on the day and the winners were. Prelim Champs Rachel Christie and James Reserve Louise Hepburn and Banadl Hippo. Novice Champs Hannah Gilbert and Cresta Bay Reserve Kelly Johnson and Urbane Hero Elementary Champs Dawn Thomson and Maytime Reserve Hannah Gilbert and Cresta Bay.

Show-jumping winter championships- 7th March 2010

There was a poor turnout for this event despite the sunny weather. The beginners class was won by Jane Isherwood and her horse Dexter. Second place was taken by Clodagh Murphy and third by Katie Ball riding her young cob. The only other member competing in this class was Kelly Johnson with Max

- 1st - Jane Isher - Senior - Non- member
- 2nd Clodagh Murphy - Junior - Non -Member
- 3rd Katie Ball - Non-member

The novice class was won by member Lashara Clements riding Star. This looks like a good partnership who are looking forward to the Summer. Lashara was closely followed by Abbey Jackson and her very cute pony Lottie. These pairings were the only combinations to complete two clear rounds. Other members in this class were Ellie Georgio and Rebecca Miles.

- 1st - Lashara Clements - Junior - Member
- 2nd - Abbi Jackson - Junior - Member

The fun class was top score. The smallest and youngest competitor namely Abbi Jackson and her pony Lottie showed us all how to do it and they just jumped everything in sight as fast as they could winning first place! Rachel Christie and James followed swiftly on their heels to win second place. Ellie Georgio secured third place despite Connor taking an immediate and lasting dislike to our flame jump! Rachel and Ellie were the only members in this class.

- 1st - Abbi Jackson - Junior - Non-member
- 2nd - Rachel Christie - Junior - Member
- 3rd - Ellie Georgio - Junior - Member

The intermediate class first place was secured with two lovely clear rounds from Georgi Makin riding Look Again. This lovely mare has recovered from surgery and shows a return to form. Eleanor Robin secured second place was seasoned campaigner Millboy. Third place was taken by a flying round by Ellie Kent and Kurt. Fourth place went to Rachel Christie riding James.

- 1st Georgi Makin - Junior - Non-member
- 2nd - Eleanor Robin - Senior - Member
- 3rd - Ellie Kent - Senior - Non - Member
- 4th - Rachel Christie - Member

No other members rode in this class.

The last class of the day was the open. This was won by Rachel Christie and her lovely pony James closely followed by Ellie Kent and Kurt in second place.

The junior championship trophy and sash were won by Rachel Christie was 98 points totalled over the three shows. The reserve champion was Clodagh Murphy with Sky with a total of 51 points.

The senior championship trophy and sash went to Ellie Kent with Kurt with 61 points. The reserve champion was Gabrielle Jones with a total of 34 points.

Cross-Country Schooling

Sue Allen will be running Cross Country Schooling on the evening of **Thursday 29th April 2010** at Chesfield Park to enable you to get in some practice. Please contact Faye Streeter for more details. Great opportunity to brush up your skills, read for the hunter trial on the 2nd May.

I have also secured six places on two Cross Country Clinics at Hillhouse Cross Country Course. There are three places available for our members on the **8th May** with Nick Turner and on **31st May** with Caroline Moore. Again, please contact Faye Streeter for more details.

To contact Faye Streeter to reserve your place call her on 07818 066 022 or e-mail on faye.streeter@ntlworld.com. These places will be allocated on first come first served basis.

Hunter Trial-2nd May

Our next competitive event will be the Hunter trial at bent Meadow on the **2nd May**. Classes will range from a clear round (2ft) to an open (2ft6-2ft9). This competiton is also in assocaiation with the Essex Rider magazine league. Please come and put your

skills to the test over a lovely small course designed to kick your season off in a gentle way and prepare you for bigger events! A schedule is attached.

Show-jumping schooling

Sue Allen will be running show-jumping schooling over the summer, in her arena, at Chesfield, Graveley. This is a great opportunity to improve your skills, and a great practice if you are wishing to participate in the teams this summer. These classes will all be held on a surface.

Saturday 12th June- Improve your balance and confidence (Gridwork)

Saturday 17th July- Improve your show-jumping course technique

£15 to members, £20 to non-members (max 4 people per session)

For more details, queries or cancellations, please contact Kelly Johnson, NOT Sue Allen.

Teams

The riding club would like to send teams out the **Area Seven Team Qualifiers** this year for Dressage, Show jumping and the Hunter Trial. Riding club members who wish to take part in events should contact me for an informal chat to understand what is involved in being part of a team. These events are fun and are well within the capabilities of all of our members so if you want to represent you club then please speak to Faye Streeter by the 5th May.

Dates for qualifiers:

13th June- Hunter Trial at Milton Keynes

18th July-Show-jumping at Earls Barton

Dressage-tbc

The committee

Since the AGM, the committee has been greatly extended and now we have a reasonable sized committee to allow more events to be held and for the work to be spread more evenly. Below is a list of all the committee members, their email addresses can be found on the website for your queries and questions.

- Faye Streeter (Chair)
- Barbara Slater (Vice-Chair & Treasurer)
- Kelly Johnson (Membership secretary & Trainee treasurer)
- Kay Sheppard (Secretary)
- Gabrielle Jones (Marketing & publicity officer)
- Debbie Cooper (Training officer)
- Zena Miles (Awards secretary)
- Paul Kenealy (Website technician)
- Christie (Child welfare officer)
- Rachel Christie, Lashara Clements & Rebecca Miles (Junior committee representatives)
- Louise Hepburn

