



# South Wilts Riding Club

## Newsletter

[www.southwiltsridingclub.org.uk](http://www.southwiltsridingclub.org.uk)

January 2012

Dear All,

First of all let me wish you a very happy New Year. The Christmas excesses are past, the weather is unseasonably good, so I hope you're all out there getting your horses fit for the spring and planning what you're going to get up to during 2012. The Committee will do everything it can to ensure that there are a range of activities for members to join in and you'll find more information in this letter. So now read on .....

*Mads*

### MEMBERSHIP

The new membership year started on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 and we're hoping for a bumper year with old members rejoining and maybe finding some new members too. For those who don't know, we also have a junior section in the Club and are always looking for keen youngsters who would like to compete in Junior Qualifiers. The membership application form can be found on the SWRC website but anyone who hasn't got access to the web can order one over the phone to any of the committee members or just put a cheque in the post with a post-it note! We have held the membership fee to £20 again this year which makes South Wilts the cheapest club in the locality.

A special word for anyone who is thinking of volunteering for teams this year. A British Riding Clubs rule which is now being rigorously enforced is that any team member representing their club must have been on the BRC database as a current member of their Riding Club 3 weeks before the closing date for preliminary entries. This is normally 3 to 4 weeks before the actual competition so for the Indoor Novice Show Jumping which is on 4<sup>th</sup> March, prospective team members need to have rejoined by the end of January. Another change this year is that BRC have taken on responsibility for issuing membership cards centrally. Membership Secretaries for each club (in our case Sally Grant) will send details to Stoneleigh of members rejoining and BRC will issue membership cards on a periodic basis. Please don't mislay your cards because later in the year there is likelihood that membership cards will be checked at qualifiers and championships.

## SWRC WEBSITE

Although she is no longer on the Committee, Judy Nathan has kindly agreed to maintain the SWRC website and it is our intention to keep the site updated with all new information as we receive it so don't wait until you get a Newsletter to get up to date with what's going on. Judy will update the website every time she receives something new to add; You will find details of lessons and clinics, a list of area competitions and, later in the year, details of SWRC competitions – dressage and combined training. Committee members often get notification of talks, demonstrations and other events being held locally, so check the website for details regularly.

You can also follow us, receive updates, share photos and chat about events by joining our new facebook page – just type South Wilts Riding Club into your search box



## LESSONS/CLINICS

We intend to provide lessons and clinics during 2012 including the following:

**Di Burgess** will continue to provide general sessions at Manor Farm, Teffont. These will be organised by Judy Nathan. Please contact her if you wish to attend. Details of dates will be put on the website and updated regularly.

**Lisa Hayes** will continue with Jump for Fun sessions at Wishford Equestrian. These will cover gridwork and small courses, heights will be decided by those attending. As above, contact Lisa and check the website.

**Sally Drummond** will continue with her Young Horse clinics at Wishford and other specific sessions as required. For Young Horse clinics contact Mads. Sally Grant will organise ad hoc sessions with Sally which will be advertised on the website.

**Teresa Tanner** sessions will be organised if numbers are sufficient.

We also intend to organise cross-country schooling at different levels in the better weather. Watch the website for details

## CLUB COMPETITIONS

The Club will organise evening dressage and weekend combined training competitions in the summer. There will also be at least one Ride-a-Test session where a test will be ridden in front of a judge who will then give some pointers as to where it could be improved. Practice and then ride again, hopefully getting a better mark.

**NEW**  
**EVENT**

### JUNIOR SHOW

Sarah Mitchell-Sheppard has kindly volunteered to organise a Junior Show in the Summer so make sure that any sons, daughters, grandchildren, nephews, nieces or just any stray child you can lay hands on know all about it and come along with their ponies. Also I'm sure that Sarah would welcome any helping hands for the organisation and running of the show.

## AREA QUALIFIERS

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Date	Event	Venue
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Novice Indoor SJ	Crofton EC
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Festival of the Horse (What used to be called the Hunter Trial)	Fair Oak, Rogate
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Outdoor SJ	Gillingham & Shaftesbury Showground
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Dressage to Music	Sparsholt College
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Horse Trials	Stonar School
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Dressage	Broadlands, Romsey



## CHAMPIONSHIPS

Should South Wilts be lucky (no – not lucky, clever!) enough to qualify for the Championships, the dates are:

Date	Event	Venue
Sat/Sun 7-8 April	Novice Indoor SJ	Hartpury College
Sat/Sun 2-3 June	Festival of the Horse	Aston-le-Walls
Fri/Sun 3-5 Aug	Horse Trials	Aston-le-Walls
Sat/Sun 15-16 Sept	SJ and Dressage	Lincoln Showground

Anyone wanting to represent the club in any of the disciplines should get in touch with Mads (01980 621068 or [maddysouthey@aol.com](mailto:maddysouthey@aol.com)) and provide a photocopy of the identification and flu vac pages of the horse's passport.

### HELPERS

Running any competition is very labour intensive so understandably, the clubs who lay on the Area Qualifiers are keen for helpers from other clubs. The rule is that for any team entered the club will provide one helper all day or 2 helpers for a ½ day each. So just because you don't want to be in a team, it doesn't mean that you can't be involved. Jobs generally comprise collecting ring stewards, tack checkers, pole picker uppers, runners and so on. Helpers usually find that they get a good view of the action and get fed and watered regularly during the day.

The same thing applies to the Club competitions, so anyone not wishing to compete will be embraced with both arms if they volunteer to help!

### GOOD IDEAS

Finally, if anyone has any good ideas for fund raisers, social events (with or without horse) and so on, or anything they would like to see offered that isn't currently on the menu then please get in touch with a committee member and propose it.

**Committee 2011/2012**

***There have been a few changes to the membership of the committee and the new team with their particular responsibilities is shown below:***

<b>Chairman</b>	Mads Southey	01980 621068	<a href="mailto:maddysouthey@aol.com">maddysouthey@aol.com</a>
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	Janice Mitchell	01722 714342	<a href="mailto:jembobuk@aol.com">jembobuk@aol.com</a>
<b>Treasurer and Membership Secretary</b>	Sally Grant	01980 620320	<a href="mailto:sallygrant@fsmail.net">sallygrant@fsmail.net</a>
<b>First Aider and CPO</b>	Sarah Mitchell-Sheppard	07843 603147	<a href="mailto:sarahmitch66@aol.com">sarahmitch66@aol.com</a>
<b>Training Organiser</b>	Sally Drummond	07831 223222	<a href="mailto:sallydrummond@hotmail.com">sallydrummond@hotmail.com</a>