

WYE VALLEY RIDING CLUB

WEBSITE: www.wyevalleyrc.org.uk

Volume 5 Issue 3

COMMITTEE FOR 2014/2015

Summer 2015

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RIDE & STRIDE CHEPSTOW

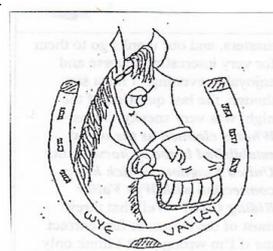
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Hi everyone, sorry this newsletter is very late but I have been up to my eyes with various Horse Trials, our dressage qualifier and racing. I still haven't caught up with housework etc. Tomorrow I'm at Area 10 Pony Club Horse Trials Qualifier.

Still that's enough excuses lets get on with this rag!!

The weather has been very good to us on the whole so I'm sure you have all been out and about with Dobbin and many of you have taken part in the competitions at Howick organised by Peter Buist for the club.

Thanks Peter you have done a splendid job and we all look forward to more competitions in the future. I would also like to thank all the members and friends who helped out at the competitions it was much appreciated..



FORTHCOMING MONTHLY MEETINGS

Friday 24th July

We will be at Howick from around 6.00 pm to set up the arenas for the Dressage Qualifier on Sunday the 26th. We would appreciate help with this so please contact Pam Davidson if you can spare some time even if it's only an hour.

There will be NO meeting on 5th August.

Sunday 16th August Guided fun ride in the Tintern area following part of the Trot and Tread Trail and returning through Panta Bridge (Tintern Hidden Histories) <http://www.treadandtrottrails.co.uk/trails.aspx>

Approx. 10 miles (2 hours) Parking at The Meads, Trellech Grange by kind permission of Sallie Prewitt

If interested please email karen@rideandstride.co.uk we will need to know numbers beforehand. We can look at having a picnic lunch at Sallie's on our return.

Wednesday 9th September

This will be a table top sale with cakes, more details later

QUOTES FROM A FRIEND

Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman

Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home,

even if you wish they were.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory

The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas!

You're never too old to learn something stupid

If you are supposed to learn from your mistakes, why do some people have more than one child

We never really grow up; we only learn how to act in public.

Monthly Meetings Cont:

Wednesday 7th October

Our October meeting will be 'Spook Busting for the Riding Club Horse' with Joanna and Roger Day. This will be held at Usk College on Wednesday 7th October and we are looking for volunteers to ride in the demo. If anyone with a sense of humour and a ordinarily sound and sane horse would be interested in taking part please contact Kathy Trigg - kathleentrigg@btinternet.com, for further details.

Wednesday 4th November

This will be our club's Annual General Meeting. The venue will be The Anchor in Tintern and will commence at 8.00pm. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible as this is where you can tell us how we are doing and what you would like us to arrange for you by way of instruction shows etc. for the coming year. It is also where we elect committee members for the coming year. We will also be electing an Auditor.

Wednesday 2nd December

This will be our Christmas Event. We haven't decided what we are going to do yet, so if you have any ideas please let one of the committee know, maybe a Christmas meal as we have done before or if we can agree on an artist possibly on of the Christmas Party Nights at Chepstow Racecourse, we would need to arrange that reasonably quickly as they are getting booked up already, so let us know your thoughts.

MEETING REPORTS

APRIL 8th MEETING

This was a talk on fire safety and prevention in stable yards and equine establishments. Unfortunately I was not able to attend but I understand that it was very successful and informative. Thank you Richard for your advice and information.

REPORT ON MAY MEETING (*Reporter: Diana Such*)

WVRC meeting at the Anchor, Tintern, May 2015

Probiotics, Protexin and Equine Premium .Our talk for May.

Our speaker Jonathan Nelson the vet research manager at Probiotics International (Protexin) in Somerset. Jonathan first joined Probiotics International in the 1990's and took up his present position in 2013.

In the 1990's soon after joining the company Jonathan gave our club a talk about probiotics and their beneficial uses in equine (and humans- from personal experience). At that time few people had heard of probiotics, today there are few who haven't come across them. Originally the full spectrum of good gut micro-organisms were used in the products, research has refined this and is ongoing. Jonathan told us that 94% of veterinary practices now use Protexin products and the company exports to many countries.

So why are these products beneficial to our equines? Jonathan's brief introduction to the Equine Gastro Intestinal Tract and the condition known as EGUS (equine gastric ulcer syndrome) provided some very good reasons. Horses developed to live off grass and other herbs, with the need for large numbers of microbes to help digest the fibre. He said the horse has a gut similar to being a giant rabbit.

The horse relies on a very large volume gut to allow this to happen, it holds about 35 gallons and is about 25% of the horses weight when full. This explains why they dump so much when nervous and the flight mechanism is initiated, they can lose 25-30 kg's very fast, allowing them to run faster. The hind guts capacity is 60% of the digestive system and digestion relies on microbial fermentation to break down the fibre cell walls. This provides the short chain fatty acids, the energy source of choice for the horse- providing up to 80% of the energy required. The gut flora provided B vitamins, vitamin C and Vitamin K, also protein when they break down. The immune system suffers if the gut micro flora is depleted, horses stabled for work will have a less efficient immune system after being in for several months. All probiotics

for use in animals have to be registered.

Jonathan spent quite a lot of time talking about EGUS, ulcers in horses in horses having been found in recent years to be a major reason for poor performance and poor health and some behavioural problems. Because of the shape of the horse's stomach, the upper part is very susceptible to ulcers. The sensation for the horse is considered to be similar to heartburn in humans. Some horses are very tolerant to ulcers, showing very little discomfort even when severe. Others are very sensitive, reacting badly when only slight.

Because the horses stomach produces acid continuously, they are very susceptible when the stomach is empty. They have developed as trickle feeders, so long periods without can cause considerable problems. Not allowing horses some food before exercise especially after overnight stabling means there is nothing to prevent acid splashing up when the stomach is squeezed and shaken during exercise. Problems with ulcers can result in reduced appetite, poor condition, dullness, colic, diarrhoea, poor performance and changes in attitude or behavioural problems. All efforts should be made to avoid the problem, but some horses are more prone so it is necessary to use medication to reduce the problem and prevent re-occurrence. 'Acid Ease' helps reduce ulcers and their severity.

To keep the rest of the gut healthy especially in times of stress, 'Gut Balancer' provided support.

Probiotics can help to maintain a healthy gut and so provide major benefits to the horse's whole wellbeing, but they need to get to the right place and become fully active. Protexin is a well coated product which makes it stable both in storage and gut transit, providing a very high viability. This is increased by adding a prebiotic which is a food source only available to the probiotic organisms, allowing them to become efficiently active.

Jonathan brought samples of the Equine Premium products for us to see, they come in a range of sizes to suit needs and have a good shelf life. There are quick fix options for stress situations, such as worming or travelling to competitions.

At the end of his talk Jonathan answered member's questions and advised which products could suit their needs.

Showing Demo 0n 3rd June (Reporter Julian Holmes)

The monthly meeting on 3rd June was an outdoor practical demonstration by Hilary Lindsay on the techniques of showing both in hand and in ridden showing classes. Hilary, who has over 30 years experience of show judging and who has judged at most of our major county shows explained how best to present the horse or pony and also what the judge would be expecting to see in a show routine.

Hilary explained about the importance of presenting what is actually asked for and that if there is a set show routine, additional credit will not be given for a more elaborate show if it deviates from the set routine. Also a point that Hilary impressed is that it is very important in ridden classes that the horse or pony is amenable to being ridden by the show judge!

Hilary also talked about Search for a Star which is where true amateurs and owners can aspire to compete at the prestigious Horse of the Year Show and where top class horses and ponies can be identified which may otherwise not be given the opportunity to compete; it was very interesting to understand how accessible it is for people to show at this level.

Given that the meeting was an outdoor event we were delighted to have pleasant weather in the wake of so much rain - the midges seemed to think so too as they were out in force!!

We are very grateful to Hilary for giving such an informative and fun talk on the art of showing and hope that it has inspired some of the attendees to have a go at Search for a Star.

MONTHLY MEETING REPORTS CONT:

30th JUNE MEETING AT CHEPSTOW RACECOURSE

Race night was very good and 27 people came. It was possibly the hottest night of the summer thus far and the meal was Chilli and Race and Rhubarb Crumble so I should imagine there were some red faces. Unfortunately I was down stairs in reception working so didn't get a chance to go upstairs to the box. I understand one or two had some good luck on the gee gees didn't they Kathy Trigg!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Still every one enjoyed themselves and hopefully we can arrange another night possibly when the National Hunt season starts in October

SHOW REPORTS

Dressage Show at Usk College, 24 May

In May, the club held a very successful dressage show in conjunction with Usk College. This was the first competition that the club had hosted for some time and it was great to get over 40 entries and see many club members out enjoying themselves. Many thanks go to our judges Gaye Nicholas and Vivien Clarke, stewards and writers Pam and Alison, scorers Marilyn and Elaine and Laura for organising and taking the entries. We covered tests from walk & trot all the way up to Medium, so there was something for everyone.

Results were:

Class 1 1 st Holly Preece & Blue 2 nd Julie Rees & Catalina 3 rd Holly Gorden & Tigers Charm 4 th Angela Strickland & Ricky 5 th Claire Nowicka-Price & Fresh Oscar 6 th Natalie Hammond & Seren Best WVRC Michelle Hatcher & Da Capri	Class 2 1 st Sophie Smith & Masquerade 2 nd Jacqui Gardner & Diva 3 rd & best WVRC Tim Peters & Allanagh Sprite 4 th Ffion Francombe & Shai 5 th Holly Preece & Blue 6 th Julie Rees & Matty
Class 3 1 st Charlotte Price & Mr Blue Sky 2 nd Sophie Smith & Masquerade 3 rd Jordan Whittaker & Chico Time 4 th Grace Gillies & Millhill Bouquet 5 th & best WVRC Lindsey Gaunt & Cassidy 6 th Tim Peters & Allanagh Sea Sprite	Class 4 (PYO) 1 st Cath Davies & Sister Act (E42) 2 nd = Kath Trigg & Haddon Colour Fast (best WVRC) (E42) 2 nd = Martha Dunphy & Vivaldyboy Biarritz (E42) 4 th Lindsay Gaunt & Cassidy (E42) 5 th Janet Peters & Boadicea (E42) 6 th Cath Davies & Sister Act (M71)

Points are being awarded to Wye Valley members, with the member with the highest number of points receiving a trophy at the end of the season. Currently tying in 1st place are Tim Peters and Lindsay Gaunt with Kath Trigg hot on their heels in 3rd. The next dressage show is on 15 July at Howick Farm.

SHOW JUMPING SHOW 17TH JUNE

The club held it's first show jumping competition of the year at Howick on a lovely summer evening on 17 June. We started off with a clear round jumping session and followed that with three classes at 70, 80 and 90 cm. The entries were very pleasing for a first show and we are now planning a further show jumping show later this year on Sunday 27 September.

Many thanks to the Jenkins family for the use of the venue. Thanks also to those who so willingly gave up there time to set up and help on the day. They were Pam, Ann, Elaine, Diana, Maddy, Marilyn and Sallie.

A trophy will be awarded to the WVRC member accumulating the most points over the season at our show jumping shows.

While our jumps were at Howick, we also ran a training clinic the following night with Sarah Spencer-

Williams, ably organised by Kath.

Class results were as follows:

<p>Class 1 (70cm)</p> <p>1st Alana Allsopp & Red 2nd Holly Preece & Maylands Tomboy 3rd Laura Jones-Griffiths & Banner (best WVRC) 4th Millie Edwards & Domino 5th Chris Sullivan & Ginger</p>	<p>Class 2 (80cm)</p> <p>1st Isobel Allot & Fudge 2nd Sam Parry & Ferdie 3rd Jane Smith & Solomon 4th Laura Jones-Griffiths & Banner (best WVRC) 5th Alana Allsopp & Red 6th Clive Andrews & Winnie</p>
<p>Class 3 (90cm)</p> <p>1st Kirsty Sullivan & Artorious (best WVRC) 2nd Jane Smith & Solomon 3rd Sam Parry & Ferdie 4th Isobel Allot & Fudge 5th Max Edwards & Rosie</p>	

Dressage show 15th July

Many thanks to the judges, volunteers and competitors for making the dressage show last night so successful. Thanks also to the Jenkins family for the use of the venue at Howick Farm. The results were:

Class 1 Riding Test

1st Alice Livesey & Beechfield Diamond
2nd Samantha Parry & Bang on Time
3rd Sarah Canning & Baldrick
4th Ellen Whittingham & Firefly of Runswick
5th Natalie Parsons & My Little Diamond
6th Caroline Barnes & Independent Rufus
Best WVRC member – Chris Brooks & Freddy

Class 2 BRC D2

1st Sarah Canning & Baldrick
2nd Eleanor Corney & Dunmore Dan
3rd Natalie Parsons & My Little Diamond
4th Caroline Barnes & Independent Rufus
5th Ellen Whittingham & Firefly of Runswick
6th Chris Brooks & Freddy (best WVRC member)

Class 3 Novice 30

1st Julia Zorab & Treliver Dilly (best WVRC member)
2nd Eleanor Corney & Dunmore Dan
3rd Judith Powell & Langarth Spect-Rum
4th Maddy Mouldsley & Cleo

Class 4 PYO

1st Judith Powell & Langarth Sagramor (E44)
2nd Martha Dunphy & Viv (E44) (best WVRC member)
3rd Martha Dunphy & Viv (M63)
4th Kath Trigg & Haddon Colour Fast (E44)

QUALIFIERS & CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR 2015

SUMMER QUALIFIERS

SUMMER DRESSAGE: Venue: Howick Farm, Itton, Chepstow.

Date: Sunday 26th July 2015. **Hosts:** Wye Valley RC.

SUMMER SHOW JUMPING: Date: 2nd August Hosts: Southerndown Riding Club and Riders 2000 Venue: Pencoed

DRESSAGE TO MUSIC: Venue: Kings E.C Bromyard Date: 23 August 2015

SOMETHING FOR YOU TO MULL OVER

Good example of a Brain Study: If you can read this OUT LOUD you have a strong mind.

And better than that: Alzheimer's is a long, long, ways down the road before it ever gets anywhere near you.

If you can read the following paragraph, forward it on to your friends Only great minds can read this!!! This is weird, but interesting!

7H15 M3554G3
 53RV35 7O PR0V3
 H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N
 D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!
 1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!
 1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG
 17 WA5 H4RD BU7
 N0W, 0N 7H15 LIN3
 Y0UR M1ND 1S
 R34D1NG 17
 4U70M471C4LLY
 W17H 0U7 3V3N
 7H1NK1NG 4B0U7 17,
 B3 PROUD! 0NLY
 C3R741N P30PL3 C4N
 R3AD 7H15.
 PL3453 F0RW4RD 1F
 U C4N R34D 7H15.

