

# Ramblings from the Chair

*Spring is on the way! Well we all hope that it is, at least the weather has taken up somewhat from earlier on when we had to postpone the committee meeting due in February and Area 20 also had to postpone their meeting.*

*Welcome to all our new members I hope you enjoy your time in SDRC, we try to be a friendly and approachable club. If you are unsure of anything please remember to ask someone either a committee member or a clinic organiser and if they cannot give you the answer hopefully they will know who can.*

*The First Area Qualifier of 2009 has taken place with the indoor dressage being held at Maelor Equestrian Centre and run by the Flint and Denbigh Riding Club who managed to let all 24 teams that had entered run and consequently had a marathon of a day starting before 8 in the morning and not finishing until 8 at night. I have to admit that I did not stay there until the bitter end I brought the horse home and had every good intention of going back again once I done the work waiting for me at home, but the best laid plans of mice and men .....*

*SDRC are running a number of competitions during the next few months for those of you who like competing. There is a dressage competition in May and for the ones whose feet come off the floor there is the Show Jumping at the end of April. Clinics and Rallies abound both on the flat and over fences of various sizes. The Wednesday jumping rallies have tailed off slightly and a couple have been cancelled due to lack of riders. It is not really viable to run with less than 6 people which is 1½ hours by the time the jumps have all been taken in and then lugged back out again. If there is not more support for this it will fold and then it will be doubtful whether we will be able to get the venue back once we have let it go.*

*While on the subject of Wednesday jumping a new organiser is needed as I cannot carry on after March I am very happy to help anyone who would take it on I could even still take the names and sort out the rides but I cannot be at Walford to get it set up on every occasion.*

*There but for the Grace of God go I – it can happen at anytime to anyone but the RDA do a fantastic job and are putting on a Dancing with Horses at Walford on 5<sup>th</sup> April starting at 2 pm further information and tickets can be obtained from Jane Barker on 01939 261147 it promises to be a fantastic afternoon and I believe is to hosted by Ricky Balshaw who gained a silver medal in the Paralympics in 2008.*

*I am signing off now and please remember what SDRC is all about – it is in our constitution To encourage riding as a sport and recreation, to promote good fellowship amongst riders and to improve and maintain the standard of riding and horsemanship*

*Trish*

# ***FEEDING & FITTING YOUR HORSE***

***(-AND YOU!)***

**An evening with the Old Pound Veterinary Centre Vets**

**Tues 7th April 2009**

**RDA Cabin, BERRIEWOOD, CONDOVER**

**7.30pm prompt – Cost £3.00 including light refreshments**

**Contact Heather Oakley – 01743 718031**



## **FLATWORK RALLIES AT STONEYFORD WITH DEBBIE LEEKS**

Sunday daytime rallies at Stoneyford, Annscroft with Debbie Leeks who teaches in the classical style. The format consists of half hour individual lessons at a cost of £25 to include hire of the indoor school. We have the following dates on offer:-

19<sup>th</sup> April 2009

10<sup>th</sup> May 2009

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009

31<sup>st</sup> May 2009

Spectators are very welcome to join us for tea or coffee.

Please contact Libby on 01743 860441 or 07813 802165 or email me on [elizabethbreeze@btinternet.com](mailto:elizabethbreeze@btinternet.com) to book in or obtain further details.

# SDRC Easter Egg Show Jumping Open Competition

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2009

To be held at Walford.



## Classes

Class 1 will start at 10am promptly.

Class 1 Mini Egg class (max 2')

Class 2 Crème Egg stakes (2'3")

Help allowed in both classes 1 and 2

Class 3 Horse and egg and spoon relay race

Class 4 Chicken or the egg (2'6" - 2'9")

Class 5 Easter Eggstreme (3')

Class 6 Connie Wynn Open (this is a 2 round competition which in the event of double clears there will be a jump off)

Only paid up SDRC members are eligible for all trophies awarded at the this show including the Connie Wynn Trophy

For further details please contact Jemma Lewis on 07968977459 or 01694731357

Entry fees are: £6.00 per class. Normal RC rules apply.

Easter Bonnets are permitted but please remember that you must have a correctly fitted hat to the correct standard and you should also be wearing riding boots - safety comes first.

Refreshments will be available if you bring them!! Hot drinks on tap!! If you could provide something please ring Jemma so we don't all bring sausage rolls (or left over Easter eggs!!).

Please remember that all classes will run one after the other so be sure to get there in time, if you are likely to want to know how the show is running ring 07968977459 on the day.

# Shrewsbury and District Riding Club Entry Form

Competition \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Class No	Rider	Horse	Club	Entry Fee

Total Fee Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tel No \_\_\_\_\_

# Shrewsbury and District Riding Club Entry Form

Competition \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Class No	Rider	Horse	Club	Entry Fee

Total Fee Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tel No \_\_\_\_\_



## **Dressage Competition**

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2009

at Walford College  
Baschurch,  
Shrewsbury, SY4 2HL

### **Classes**

Class 1	Preliminary 13
Class 2	Novice 27
Class 3	Novice 30
Class 4	Elementary 48
Class 5	Medium 64

**Entries to:** Miss P M Bridge  
Stanwardine Hall  
Cockshutt  
Ellesmere  
Shropshire SY12 0JL  
(tel: 01939270505 for enquiries)

Entry fees are: £8.50 per class for SDRC Members

**Closing date** for entries is the 10th May 2009

***Remember there will be limited places so get your entries in early!!!***

**Dressage times** will be available on 15<sup>th</sup> May between **7.30 and 9.00 pm** on 01939 270505

Strictly Come Dancing with Horses

The Perry RDA Group  
Sunday 5th April 2009

Please contact Jane Barker on 01939 260318

For further details

## **Cross Country Clinic**

With William Blane FBHS  
BE Accredited Trainer

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009

At Llanymynech

*There are a variety of fences from 80cm upwards. If you are considering doing the Riding Club Area Horse Trials at Kelsall Hill on 27<sup>th</sup> June this will be a good opportunity to get some first rate xc instruction, even if you are not doing the area comp this is an opportunity not to miss.*

*Contact Liz Roberts on 07729910829 or 01743850402 for further information or to book in*

**BRC Area Horse Trials 27<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at Kelsall Hill**

If you wish to enter the above please fill in the form below and return to Mrs E Roberts 2Benthall Cottages, Ford, Shrewsbury SY5 9ND before 25<sup>th</sup> May (this is in order that teams can be sorted out and prelim entries can be sent to Stoneleigh as well as the entry to Area) Cheques must be sent with this form made payable to Shrewsbury & District Riding Club in the sum of £51.00 (team member or £59.00 if you wish to ride as an individual) We will try to put you into a team unless you state that you do not wish to and send the appropriate amount. Even if you are in a team there is no pressure on you and as a club we want you to enjoy yourselves.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

This must be the same as on the passport (valid flu vacs are essential)

Level you wish to enter either Open (1m10) Intermediate (1m)

Novice (85 – 90 cm) \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate what you have done both as a partnership and individually.

If you wish to know more then please contact either Liz Roberts on 07783310829 or Mandy Beddin on 07855477887

# **BHS Shropshire Presents**

An Evening Lecture Demonstration  
with

**Gillian Higgins**

BSc (Hons) Dip RM (MSM) ITEC (equine) MCAM

***At Walford and North Shropshire College  
Baschurch, Shrewsbury. SY4 2HL***

www.**HORSES INSIDE OUT**.com

'Training from an Anatomical Perspective'

**Wednesday 10th June 2009 6:30 pm**

Tickets: £17.50 in advance and £20.00 on the door

Parties of 10 - £10 discount in advance only

Students with student card £15.00

**ALL Ticket applications to: Heather Lucas,  
5 Holmer Lane, TELFORD, Shropshire. TF3 1QJ  
with sae please and cheques made payable to 'BHS  
Shropshire'**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

**For further information contact Heather 07779  
323665**

**email: heather.lucas@blueyonder.co.uk**

## IT'S GOOD TO BE GOING AGAIN!

I don't know about you but I usually think January and February are a dead loss with the horses. Still very short days and this year lots of ice and some snow meant no riding at all for a couple of weeks. But once it came dry we could even lunge in the field before work – a real sign spring is on the way, even if temporarily.



William Blane had been booked for a day of indoor cross-country training many months ago and I was still wondering if Taran would be fit enough to go. But yes, with a busy week dedicated to him beforehand we joined fourteen more old friends and new members for a brilliant session. William, as a true professional, has that easy way of instilling confidence in horse and rider by quickly assessing the abilities of the combinations with great accuracy.

The school at Walford seemed filled with all sorts of obstacles; a jumping lane, a line of related distances at an angle, a bounce, lots of skinnies and all at interesting angles. Concentrating on straightness and rhythm we tackled the poles in a straight line, increasing in height as we warmed up. Then came the skinnies, at right angles, and then adding a third element of V. From there the three angled fences, then an ascending skinny and a bounce. All objects were tackled individually to start with and gradually built up into a course. Height was not the issue; it was about the control and technical ability of both horse and rider. From the four rides, there was a wide range of ability and experience but everyone, including spectators, learned a lot.

Many thanks to Liz Roberts for organising the day and Trish Bridge and everyone else for the refreshments. It was good to see so many there and it is hoped to repeat some cross country training on grass in the not too distant future. Keep an eye on the Newsletters.

What will I remember most? William' enthusiasm, twinkle and his parting shot to us all – GO AND HAVE FUN! That is what SDRC is all about.

Heather Oakley (Tate)  
8<sup>th</sup> March 2009

### Show Jumping with Geoff Bicknell

Jumping clinic with Geoff Bicknell at Stoneyford, Annscroft on 4<sup>th</sup> April times to be arranged. Geoff likes to teach a group of riders for several hours where he concentrates on control of paces and approach to the jumps. He has suggestions to help each horse and rider combination and there is a break for a drink and chat in the middle of the session. He also has a great sense of humour and plenty of anecdotes from his extensive knowledge of course building

Please contact Linda on 01743 718409 to book in or for further details.

