

Kilmacolm and Kilallan Riding Club



Newsletter : July 2008

*“Only horsey people...
Insure their horses for more than their cars.
Know more about their horse's nutrition than their own.
Have less of a wardrobe than their horse.
Engage in a hobby that is more work than their day job!”*

Our membership, like most clubs, changes quite a bit from year to year. This year has seen many join , all with different interests. I hope you enjoy the club. If there is some expertise you require, please just ask!

Sometimes it is difficult to know how to begin the news letter. Last year so much was cancelled, the training seemed to no avail. This year a considerable number of us have come off, had health problems, or our equine partners have had more veterinary visits than normal! It is good to report the humans are back in the saddle. It is hope that time will be the great healer for the equines.

Thanks go to those who took part in the Area 1 Qualifiers.....many 'persuaded' at the last moment! Our Intermediate Show Jumpers (Nikki Underhill, Gayle Wallace , and Hilary Baxter)were 6th at Biggar. The Horse Trials were held at Barskimming. In the Novice section, fence 4 was the bogey fence, resulting in a considerable number of eliminations....glad to report no injuries, just considerable entertainment for the fence judges, and Ailsa Russell in the commentary box.! Our Novice team members were Desmond Cheyne, Kate McGhee, Elizabeth Campbell and Sheila Gillespie. We had two HC entries who completed, Emma McGuinness and Alexandra Mcleod. In the Intermediate section Gayle Wallace and Claire Shaw had good runs. Victoria Walker won the Open and is off to Offchurchbury for the National Championships. The Dressage was held at Drumclog .Our Novice Dressage Team representatives were Catherine Moody, Rhona Campbell, Agnes McMulkin and Gillian White. Rhona collected a fifth and Catherine two

sixths. The Open Team were 3rd out of 19 teams, a great result. The team consisted of Esther Knox, Cathy Lee, Victoria Walker and Trisch Liddell (despite dislocated fingers!) Esther Knox won her arena test and Cathy Lee won the Polnoon trophy for the highest score in the warm up tests. I would like to thank all those who helped at the Horse Trials. We have had many messages from happy competitors all saying it ran smoothly and was great fun....even if most of them were eliminated! The smooth running only comes about when there are enough helpers.

Many members are enjoying British Eventing and moving up the grades. Our dressage and show jumping competitors are heading for the Regional and Scottish Finals. We wish them well.

The Area 1 (2009) Hunter Trials will be held at Titwood, Ayrshire on the 4th October. We would like to send Novice and Open Teams. The Novice cross country jumps will be around 85cms, with the possibility of a few at 90cms, the Open ones will be approximately 1mtr. Please phone Catherine Moody on 01505 325757 if you are interested. Area 1 are running training at Titwood on the 30th August, with David Gatherer. The booking form is on the Scottish Equestrian web site, on the events page.

Over the summer we have been using the school at Gryfeside .It now has its rubber topping and is riding very well. We have had the use of the field to warm up in, this is greatly appreciated. We have a couple of competitions scheduled.....hope to see many attend!

Points are allocated at the club competitions. We have a beautiful silver Fox to present to the points winner this year.....dressage, show jumping and cross country. All three disciplines must be competed for. For the cross country part, submit a cross country run (minimum 75cms) which had an optimum time, this includes those who have competed at British Eventing. For those who missed the dressage competitions, we are running Combined Training at Ingliston on the 13th September. Please give your results to Evie Cumming....01505 87 3352.

It is not just club members who have challenges. Our invaluable show jumping trainer, Aileen Craig has accepted a challenge to complete a Pre Novice event next season...rest assured, we will let you all know which one that will be!

Winter dressage training will continue outdoors with Linda Penman, and Ailsa Gilchrist. Debbie Rodwell will instruct once a month, and, along with Sue Melady, will help out with the Prelim Group . Those based at Gryfeside will have their lessons there, when possible and we will use Clachers and my own school. As always we will do our best to accommodate, however the smooth running of the rallies is very

important .Aileen Craig will continue with the show jumping training. Andrew and Fiona Malcolm have given us the use of their indoor school again this winter. **I would remind you all that it is vital to leave ALL arenas clean and respect the privacy of those who lend a private facility.** We will continue with the BSJA training at Ingliston every month. This is a tremendous training opportunity and is very popular, so much so, it is very difficult to fit everyone in.....in suitable groups, suitable times etc! For those who have not been before, the jumps are set at whatever is necessary, so if you have a young horse or have not done much show jumping, do not be put off by the 'BSJA' title. We use the track set for the BSJA competition from the previous weekend. However, if you have not been before , please could you book into a general 'Aileen' lesson to ensure you go into the correct group. We start training just after lunch at Ingliston, if any of you can take the occasional half day for this training, it would help enormously. Aileen takes a lot of trouble ensuring everyone benefits from her lessons.....not just good spectator value for the restaurant!

A new dressage magazine has been launched. Anyone wishing a free copy of the first issue needs to e mail them at enquiries@just-dressage.co.uk, with contact details.

On the 11th August the Strathclyde Dressage Group are holding a lecture demo at Sandyflats, titled 'How not to ride a Dressage Test'. Tickets are £4.00 for members, non members, £5.00 in advance or £6.00 on the night. Anyone interested contact Jennifer on 01505 690563.

25th October is the date for our Autumn Dressage Competition at Ingliston. We will need the usual army of helpers, all offers accepted by Jennifer (01505 690563). Schedules will be available later.

1st November is the date for our Ceilidh. This will be held at the Houston Bowling Club.....apparently a well known venue! Tickets are £15.00 including a (famous!) Kilmacolm Riding Club supper and a glass of wine. Hopefully many will be able to come. Please send SAE to Rhona Campbell, 47 Hazelwood Avenue, Newton Mearns, Glasgow, G775QT. Earlier this year we invested in a new set of Safety System Show Jumps. Before and after each show jumping lesson these have to be put out, and away. I would particularly like to thank Mary McCreath's husband , Billy, for all his help.

Finally, on the 13th August we are hosting a BHS 'Search for a Star' at Gryfeside. This is a fun evening, built round a Handy Pony/Horse competition. £7.00 for the evening, it would be helpful if you could let Jennifer (01505 690563) know if you are coming.

I hope you all enjoy your horses this summer.....Jennifer

