 AUTUMN 2017

 SEVENOAKS RIDING CLUB

 NEWSLETTER

 [www.sevenoaksrc.co.uk](http://www.sevenoaksrc.co.uk)

Hoofprints

**DON’T FORGET TO FOLLOW OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL UPDATES AND COMPETITION RESULTS. YOU CAN ALSO NOW FIND US ON FACEBOOK FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND VIEWS.**

Welcome to all our new members and thank you to everyone who has helped at our events through the busy summer season. If anyone has suggestions for things that we could add to the schedule please let one of the committee know before Christmas as plans are already underway for next year.

**A.G.M**

**This year’s A.G.M will be on Wednesday 29th November at Weald Village hall. Please come along, the evening includes supper £5 and a chance for a chat.**

**TRAINING**

There are still trainings planned for this year, see the website for details. Sadly this year we have had to cancel some training clinics due to lack of interest or because people have left it too late to book. We try to organise sessions for all standards and interests and everyone is welcome to come along. If there is a trainer that you would like us to try and get to run a training please let us know.

Both Donald Kear and Simon Laurens have proved to be popular, running fun and rewarding sessions, all of the available places were taken for the test and re test days with Liz West and everyone who came said how much they enjoyed them. A fun day was had by all who came to the eventers challenge training day with Martine Weber.

**DRESSAGE**

This summer’s evening dressage competitions which were kindly sponsored by P.P. Broad Agricultural Contractors, were very popular, all of them being oversubscribed. It was great to see more people having a go at the Novice/Elementary class and lots of new people trying out dressage at intro level. The clear round that runs at the same time was also very busy this year. A big thank you to the Hosienes for running the clear round at nearly every show.

Competitors who have their tests read by SRC helpers at our evening shows donate £1 per class which we then donate to Grass sickness research, this year we raised £45.

The winners of the sashes for horse and rider combinations with the most points earned over the summer were Intro, Charlotte Payne, Prelim, Emma Whittington and Novice/Elementary Bryony Bunch.

Sevenoaks Riding club also ran the Area Dressage competition again this year. We had a lovely new venue, the Owlett family kindly let us use part of their farm in Underriver, everyone agreed that the going was excellent and the showground was a great place to hold the competition. Janice and her team worked hard to pull the event together and all agreed it was a great success. A donation from the takings has been sent to Horse Back UK the Owletts chosen charity.

**ANNUAL SHOW**

As ever this was a fun day with competitors aged 3 to 60+ and horses in all shapes and sizes. Vicky and her team work really hard to make sure that everyone has an enjoyable day, many thanks to them, the judges and our sponsors Fosse Bank school. Entries were slightly down this year so hopefully a few more people will come along next year, if there are any class you think we could add to the schedule let us know.

**CLEAR ROUND JUMPING**

At last years AGM we were asked to organise clear round jumping evenings at Redlands which we did. Only 6 people came along to the evening which was in the omnibus schedule so it was decided not to run any more sessions.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUNE**

Long-time committee member June Burgess celebrated her 80th birthday in June. Amazingly (because June always knows what is going on) a surprise party was held at the Little Brown Jug. It was a really nice social event and a great chance for people to get to know other club members.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Junes present, a pretty necklace and on a more practical note a backpack and other useful equipment for use when keeping track of SRC teams at the many events that June gets teams to.

**THANKS AND FAREWELL SHEILA**

Sheila Reynolds who had who had been a committee member for many years has relocated herself and her pony Archie to an idyllic new home on Dartmoor. We had a very pleasant evening at Redlands with a fish and chip supper to say thank you for all of the work that Sheila had done keeping local bridleways in order and making sure all was well at Redlands. It is only now that Sheila has gone that we have become aware of how much she did. We have spread the load between six committee members.

Briony Bunch has taken on the bridleways job, if you have any issues with paths in your area that the riding club might be able to help with, let her know. You can also report blocked or damaged paths to Kent County Council, your local parish council is often a good place to start with getting things cleared, if we don’t tell the authorities that things need doing there is no chance of them getting done.

**REDLANDS**

The new surface on the school seems to be riding nicely, it would be a great help if Redlands members who use the school could spare a few minutes at the end of their ride to rake in a part of the track, if everyone does a small section it doesn’t become a mammoth task. There is a rake hanging on the fence near A.

There have been several occasions over the summer when the gates at Redlands have been left unlocked, even if you are just parking and going for a hack please don’t leave Redlands unlocked. The perimeter fence by the main gate is being repaired this month as people had been using the gap in the fence to get in and use Redlands.

Please park on the hard standing by the main gate not on the grass near the school.

Plans are in hand to repair the cross country jumps and funds permitting put in a new fence and make some alterations to the existing fences allow more variety in the course. If anyone has any expertise in jump building and would be prepared to help with this please contact Martine.

As winter will soon be upon us the show jumps will soon be removed from the grass arena, a few will be left out for use in the school, if you put jumps in the school please remove them at the end of your ride.

We are investigating the options for improving the surface in the jumping lane, this may have to wait until the spring as it will involve large trucks which don’t work well on wet grass.

**BRC CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Congratulations to everyone who competed. The Senior Riding Test Team (Emma Whittington, Julie Hodgkinson, Anne Mills and Kristina Withers) came 6th. The

Senior Open Dressage Team (Anne Mills, Emma Whittington, Nicki Riddle and Julie Hodgkinson) came 12th.

Date for your diary.

SEVENOAKS RIDING CLUB

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 20th January 2018

7.00pm for 7.30pm

At Weald Village Hall

£10 per ticket including supper

This is a fun general knowledge quiz, teams of up to 8 people.

To book a table please contact Sue Williams 07732267121 or suewilliamspc@googlemail.com.

Please book in advance as we need to know numbers for the catering.

If you have any news or view that you would like to share in a future edition of Hoofprints please send it to suewilliamspc@googlemail.com

SRC COMMITTEE

Chair: Sharon Swain 07956 298908 Vice-Chair: Sue Williams 07732 267121

Treasurer: Janice Payne 07889 431474 Chef d’Equipe: June Burgess 01732 464293

Secretary: Denise Pollington 01892 514945 Members: Jo Donaldson 01732 824425

Training: Ronnie Comfort 01732 838191 & Sarah Crookenden 01892 870349

Bridleways: Briony Bunch 01732 761713 Website: Nicola Leroy 07816 849569

Vicky Grimshaw 01732 833486 Martine Weber 07909 966257

Nicky Featherstone 01732 353518