Gorley Vale Riding Club Newsletter

April 2021

Hi all,

So, we had our first committee meeting for some time where we could actually see each other in real life, it was lovely!!

We have put together a few events to keep us going over the summer. If you get out and about with your equine friend and fancy writing a bit about it for the newsletter that would be smashing… just send it to me at sunshine.gardens@yahoo.co.uk

Stuff that’s happened…

One of our members, Zoe, has written this piece about her adventures at an Eventer Challenge –

*Last weekend I took Sue McCarthy's thoroughbred ‘Moss Park’ to an eventer challenge at New Park, Brockenhurst. The event was hosted by the New Forest Branch of the Pony Club. It was Moss' first ever jumping show (and only his second ever competition), we had to do a round of ten show jumps followed immediately by a cross country course.*

*I'd borrowed Tia McCarthy's hat as I knew my fixed peak hat wouldn't be suitable. On arrival I took the hat to be tagged and it turned out Tia's hat also wasn't suitable!*

*Sue frantically rang Tina to see if there was a hat at the yard I could borrow, and Tina very kindly offered hers. Sue then called her friend Jason to see if he would be our Knight in shining armour and bring us the hat- he agreed!*

*So, finally, with a correct hat I got on board and started warming up.*

*Sue and I had decided that show jumping just wasn't Moss' strong discipline. We had had a few lessons and he tended to take off from miles away (point to point style) and wasn't too careful with his legs, so often ended up having a pole down... or three!*

*Today, however, he couldn't have proved us more wrong! In the warmup he was a totally different horse, flying over the jumps and giving them plenty of room.*

*He carried on this exuberant jumping style for the entire show jumping round and we finished with a clear round!*

*Next, the cross-country phase. Again, he was giving the jumps around 2ft of air, often jumping me out of the saddle. At jump number six he really launched me out of the saddle, and I thought I was about to fall off. I managed to stay on, but had lost my nerve for jump seven, Moss could obviously sense this and backed off. Unfortunately, I wasn't quick enough to encourage him and he stopped, but we circled back around, and he jumped it beautifully!*

*We finished the rest of the cross country clear- even the ditch!*

*I'm so proud of Moss, he behaves so well when we take him out, standing next to the lorry munching his hay without any trouble. I can't wait to see how we do over the rest of the season.*

*A massive thank you to Sue for letting me ride him, driving me there and constantly supporting me. Thank you to Tia for all her help and support! Thank you, Tina, for lending me her hat at such short notice. Last, but definitely not least, thank you to Jason for delivering the hat to me!*

Wow!! Talk about a big jump… fantastic Zoe & Moss, what a great first outing 😊

18th April – Flatwork/Pole Clinic with Nikki

This was a popular event with each slot filled. Chica and I thoroughly enjoyed our session, and the feedback has been very good all round.

Our treasurer Debbie also enjoyed it – Here is her write-up.

*I was looking forward to the clinic as, like most of us, it was our first outing for a long time.*

*I rode Tonto to Folds Farm accompanied by a friend on her horse and Louise walking with her spaniel, Chester.*

*We bumped into Marie and Jacqui on Arthur and Semoto on the way. I was in the same group as them for the clinic, however, They went on ahead of us as they were faster than us (most people are!) and we met up with them again at Folds Farm.*

*When we went into the school there were several poles on one of the straight sides and a big grid near the middle which, to be honest, looked a bit complicated. Nikki started us off walking over the poles on the straight, progressing to trotting and raising one or two of the poles. It turned out Tonto was actually quite good at it.*

*Next up was the scary looking grid! Once Nikki explained it, we could in fact see that it was a union jack. Nikki walked over the poles in several different directions to show us what to do and then it was our turn.*

*Marie and Arthur were first while Jacqui and I watched and learned. Jacqui and Semoto were next followed by me and Tonto last. Our 3 horses were all quite different, but the union jack grid was very versatile and catered for everyone.*

*It was a really enjoyable clinic; Nikki was great and made sure we all did a bit of what we wanted and had a good time. Looking forward to the next one….*

Tina on Foggy & Brenda on Barney playing with the ‘union flag’ grid.

8th May – Poles/Jumping Clinic with Anna Noble

This was postponed due to the weather forecast… will let you know new date when has been re-booked.

16th May – Random Ride

This was cancelled as people were busy doing other things! Alex may re-organise for later in the year.

Stuff that’s happening…

12th June – XC at Tenantry

10am start, riding the long course, lovely riding over 7 miles or so of beautiful countryside with the chance to try 30 different X country jumps as you ride round! The jumps are optional so you can choose which you do and which you don’t.

Go round in groups of two to four. Bring a picnic and stay for a social afterwards.

Back protectors are required to ride.

£20 per person, Book by June 6th please bacs into the GVRC account with **Tenantry** as the reference

Contact Wendy to book your place – wtreble@btinternet.com

17th & 18th July – Fun Camp

Our annual weekend camp at Brenda’s fields. This year we are thinking maybe some working equitation, lessons with Nikki and Trudi and who knows what else, it is always fun and always popular so book your place ASAP.

£80.00 for the weekend including pizza on Saturday night.

Bring a tent and corral and stay or box over each day… up to you. If you would just like to come for the pizza and a chat it’s £10.00

Everyone to bring a cake so we can soak up the gin!! 😊

Bacs your hard-earned cash into the GVRC account using **Fun Camp** as the reference

8th August – date to be confirmed – Spider picnic ride to Hale Purlieu.

Ride from wherever you are, or box some of the way and ride the rest, over to Debbie and Louise’s fields on Hale Purlieu. To arrive about mid-day. Bring a picnic with you, or drop it off in the morning, Debbie is going to make some of her legendary cakes… worth the ride just for the cake! No cost for this one, just a lovely social event.

If you have the what3words app use the following *agenda.driftwood.surfer* to find the field. If not, it is near the Silver Horseshoe riding stable.

Contact Debbie to book in and get directions - debjcooke16@gmail.com

**Thoughts for events later…**

Not sure when – Evening visit to the Samson’s farm for a driving talk and demo.

October – Halloween Spider Ride

November – Shopping trip to Wadswick Equestrian store in Corsham for some much-missed retail therapy!

Any other ideas, just let us know.

That’s all folks!

Happy riding!

Tanya xx

sunshine.gardens@yahoo.co.uk

Bank details for payments below,

**Please make sure you put the appropriate reference otherwise it is exceedingly difficult for Debbie, our wonderful treasurer, to keep track of who has paid what for when!!!**

Sort code: 30-97-08 Account no: 01404126