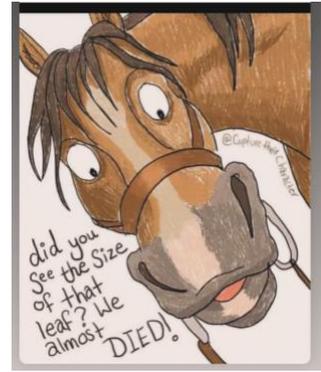


Gorley Vale Riding Club Newsletter

April 2024



Hi Everybody!! Well we have all survived (just!) the wettest winter ever and Spring has now sprung. We have got lots of events planned for you lovely people so we hope to see as many of you as possible throughout the year.

Stuff that's happened...

Thursday 15th February - Hoof Care Talk by Harry Spinks at The Horse & Groom

We enjoyed an evening with farrier, Harry Spinks, in the cosy marquee at The Horse & Groom. Harry was an excellent presenter and explained the anatomy of the hoof and how best to care for it, from a barefoot happy hacker to an Olympic level competitor. He also demonstrated how to cope with horses with special shoeing requirements, highlighting new shoes that are available and different shoeing methods. A very interesting evening for all.

Sunday 17th March - Flatwork/Pole Clinic at Folds Farm, Woodgreen

It was fantastic to have a fully booked clinic and to see some new members having a go. For a change, I asked our lovely instructor, Nikki Green, to write an article on her experience of the session:

"On Sunday 17th March I had great pleasure in teaching a polework clinic to a dedicated group of GVRC members with the added bonus of some new horse and rider combinations taking part. Cherie was also very much part of the team in helping me set up the poles, organising people as they arrived and being chief photographer and videographer. The weather managed to contain itself and on the whole the rain held off, which was a pleasant surprise.

All three groups duly warmed up and then started to get into the intricacies of the poles I had set up, first in walk and then in trot. It was great to see people starting off a little hesitant in trying new patterns and then gradually relaxing and allowing themselves and their horses to try out entirely new ways of using the poles. This included a little bit of lateral work using turn around the forehand round some of the poles as an additional and alternative exercise in asking their horses to step round the poles and not over them.



It was wonderful to see people really encouraging each other to try things out even if they weren't sure if they could achieve it, and we had several people have a go at some canter poles even when they thought it was beyond their capability. The power of positivity and "can do" attitude of the GVRC members never ceases to amaze me and I feel very proud and privileged to be asked to teach at such events."
Nikki

Saturday 23rd March - Random Ride from Abbotswell Car Park

A big thank you must go to Sarah Madgwick for organizing and leading this lovely ride. The intrepid 7 riders set off and were pleasantly surprised by how dry the route actually was and that they managed to dodge the rain! Everyone seemed to have a fantastic time - great fun and great company in our wonderful forest. What's not to like!!



Stuff that's happening...

Saturday 13th April - Pole/Jump Clinic at Wick Farm, Downton

A polework and jumping clinic with Anna Noble to suit all levels. The cost is £15 per person (Ref: Anna Clinic) and please contact Sandra (sandrapollard40@yahoo.co.uk) to book your place. **NB: This clinic is now FULLY BOOKED!**

Sunday 28th April - Random Ride from Godshill Cricket Ground

Our newest committee member, Alex, has kindly agreed to organize and lead this ride for us. Meet at 10.30am at Godshill Cricket Ground and have a great ride in a lovely part of the forest. This will be a 2 hour ride maximum and will cater for all levels/speeds. This is a **FREE** event, so come on guys - make the most of it and contact Alex to let her know numbers (alexataylor31@me.com). **Again this is FULLY BOOKED, but Alex is holding a list of reserves in case anyone can't make it at the last minute!**

Friday 3rd May - Trip to Royal Windsor Horse Show

The Trollope Transport minibus has been booked again, ready to take us to Windsor Horse Show. Come and join us with your friends or family for a packed day of international showjumping, showing, mounted games, international driving grand prix, the Kings Troop display, loads of shopping and much more... The minibus will pick up in Fordingbridge at 8am, with further pick-ups at Downton and Cadnam, and leave the show at 6pm. Total cost for entry ticket and transport is £67.00 (Ref: Windsor). If you are interested, please contact Jo (jo@thehouseoflawrence.com). **We need 16 people for this event to run and we need to confirm the minibus booking soon, so BOOK NOW!**

Friday 10th May - Visit to the New Forest Hunt Kennels, Lyndhurst

Join us at 6pm for this evening visit to meet the hounds and listen to an informative talk on hunting human quarry in the Forest with bloodhounds. It also includes a grooms talk on the care and turnout of the hunt horses. Although the hunt has kindly offered to do this free of charge, the committee has now decided to charge £5 per person (Ref: Hunt Visit), all of which will be donated to the hunt. Fairer for everybody! Please let Cherie (greencherry.68@btinternet.com) know if you plan to go.

Sat 18th May - Dressage Instruction/Test and Clear Round Jumping at Brenda's

This event proved popular last year, but we will keep fingers crossed for better weather this time! You'll ride the Prelim 12 test unmarked and then get individual instruction from Nikki Green, tailored to your specific needs. Then you get to ride the test again, which is marked so you receive that all important feedback and hopefully a rosette!. The cost is £20 per person (Ref: Dressage) and the contact is Cherie (greencherry.68@btinternet.com). Also, Wendy will be running Clear Round Jumping for £2 a go for all levels and cake and refreshments will be available

Friday 28th to Sunday 30th June - Summer Camp at Brenda's Fields, Burgate



Yes it's Summer Camp time again. If you are a new member, don't be daunted - just think of it as a relaxed social with your best friend in tow! Come and set up on Friday and bring your own grub or enjoy a takeaway (at own cost), washed down with a few bevies to relax you into the weekend.

We have a packed itinerary (or we will have by then ha ha!) with working equitation, training with Trudi and possibly a rider physio session and more . If you have any energy left, there will be food and games for the humans. Come and join us for only £80 per person (Ref: Camp). Just contact Brenda (pootlin@hotmail.com) to book your place.

Saturday 13th July - Breakfast Gathering at The High Corner Inn, Linwood

Enjoy a ride across the forest to meet at The High Corner Inn at 10.30am and then partake in delicious breakfast baps and steaming mugs of tea and coffee. Full details to follow... The contact for this one is me! (Sharon.rupertbear@hotmail.co.uk).

Future dates for your diary...

- Sunday 22nd September - Tack Sale
- Thursday 7th November - AGM
- Saturday 7th December - Xmas Ride

Hope to see you soon
Sharon x

Bank details for payments are as follows...

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

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