



TORFAEN RIDING CLUB NEWSLETTER

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The Mayor's Charity Show



Scene 1

The sun shone, (thanks to the Mayor's prayers) the stage was set (thanks to the early morning stage hands) - and the main players started to arrive. It was soon time for the action. In trotted the exquisitely presented equine parade for the Best Turned Out competition and the emerging show jumpers of the future took up the challenge of getting a clear round on leading reins.

Scene 2

A sleek ,black chauffeured limousine glided on to the site and out from the darkened windowed saloon emerged the striking figure of His worship The Mayor of Torfaen, The Mayoress and entourage. A flurry of excitement spread amongst the spectators, the riders, the organisers and even the equines present felt that something special was about to take place.

So the drama began and gathered momentum throughout the day with each event culminating in a special presentation of trophies and rosettes by the Mayor and Mayoress.

Throughout the day the Mayor had expressed his amazement at the standard of performance and admired many of the beautiful horses and the skill of the riders. *"I hadn't realised what a superb facility you have here on my doorstep"* he said. He was particularly impressed with the XCountry facility at the far end of the Field. It won't be the last we see of the Mayor, Councillor Robert Jones and his wife Margaret. They have both got the bug!

EVENT CALENDAR 2010

MAY

- 3rd **TRC** Open Show
8th-9th **Broome's** Two-day Weekend Show
26th **TRC** Show Jumping Rally
31st **TRC** Sponsored Showjumping Open Show

JUNE

- 5th/6th **BRC** Festival of the Hunter Challenge, Aston-le-Walls
13th **TRC** Show Jumping Rally
18th-20th **Broome's** Weekend Show
27th **TRC** Open Show

JULY

- 9th/10th/11th **Broome's** July Show
11th **BRC** Horse Trials, Howick Farm, Chepstow
14th July **TRC** Gymkhana Games Rally
17th/18th **Wye Valley Riding Club** Training Weekend. Howick Farm. Chepstow

AUGUST

- 15th **TRC** Open Show
11th **TRC** Dressage Rally
20th/22nd **Broome's** Junior Championships
27th **TRC** Summer camp
28th/30th **Broome's** Senior Championships

SEPTEMBER

- 4th/5th Welsh Festival of the Horse, Margam Park
11th/12th **BRC** National Championships, Lincolnshire
18th/19th **Broome's** Derby Show

OCTOBER

- 9th/10th **BRC** Quadrille Trials, Aintree, Liverpool

NOVEMBER

TRC Halloween Party

DECEMBER

- 11th **TRC** Presentation of Awards



**BRITISH
RIDING CLUB**

DATES

British Riding Club Dates Qualifiers:2010

Hunter Trials, 11th July, Howick Farm Chepstow.

Show Jumping. 20th June :Allensmore. Host, Hereford & District

Horse Trials, 11th July, Howick Farm, Chepstow.

Host Area 15 Liaison Group.

Volunteers needed to help at the Horse Trials Qualifier (above). Please get in touch with Vicky asap.

Championships

Festival of the Hunter Challenge, 5th, 6th June, Aston-le-Walls

Horse Trials, 6th, 8th August, Aston-le-Walls

National Championships, 11th, 12th September, Lincolnshire

Freestyle Dressage to Music & Quadrille Trials, 9th. 10th October, Aintree, Liverpool.

**Wye Valley Riding Club
Training Weekend
Howick Farm, Chepstow**

Contact Laura Jones-Griffiths
On 01633 420245/07929149918
laura@caerleon.orangehome.co.uk

Further details and application form can be downloaded off the trc website.

Horse/Pony Welfare

Ensure your pony/horse is fit enough to carry out the work you intend it to do and is in adequate condition. Horses carrying excessive weight / in poor condition / requiring attention of farrier are more likely to suffer certain health conditions and under perform.

All tack must fit your horse correctly as ill fitting saddles and bridles will obviously cause discomfort and may cause lack of performance from your horse.

Do not overwork your horse after competing your classes. It is unfair to carry on jumping practice fences all day.

Riders/handlers using an excessive amount of whip/spurs/over aggressive riding/abusive language will be addressed by committee members for obvious reasons of horse welfare and poor representation of Torfaen Riding Club. Please read relevant section from the BRC Rule Book which is also included in this newsletter.

After riding attend to the needs of your horse – cool down, sponge off, offer water – before you sort yourself out!

Specific Committee members are available to offer friendly advice on any of the above issues and will also approach members if a problem is highlighted: **Catherine Price, Sian Warman, Vicky Gillard, Ceri Thomas.**

Horse/Pony Welfare : Use of Whips and Spurs Extract from British Riding Club Rule Book

G23.3; Excessive use of Whip, Spurs & Bits

G23.3.1: Whips

The use of the whip must be for a good reason, at an appropriate time, in the right place and with the correct severity.

Good Reason: the whip must only be used either as an aid to encourage the pony/horse forward or as a reprimand. Thus it must never be used to vent a rider's temper, any use for such a reason is automatically excessive.

Appropriate time: as an aid, the appropriate time is when the pony/horse is reluctant to go forward under normal aids of seat and legs. As a reprimand, the only appropriate time is immediately when a pony/horse has been disobedient e.g. napping or refusing (but not after elimination). Its use, for instance, after a refusal when the pony/horse has turned away and is several metres from the fence, is excessive. Its use after elimination is always excessive.

Right Place: as an aid to go forward the whip may be used down the shoulder or behind the leg. As a reprimand, it must only be used behind the leg. The use of a whip on a pony/horse's head or neck is always excessive use.

Correct severity: as a reprimand only, a pony/horse may be hit hard. However it should never be hit more than three times for any incident and if the pony/horse is marked by the whip (Skin broken or weal) its use is excessive. (The rider is expected to know if the pony/horse has especially sensitive skin and must use the whip accordingly).

Misuse of the Whip: if in the opinion of the judge, a whip is misused the rider will be disqualified and reported to the Disciplinary Steward.

G23.3.2: Spurs

Spurs must not be used to reprimand a pony/horse. Such use is always excessive, as is any use that results in a pony/horse being marked by a spur. Misuse of spurs will render the rider liable to disqualification and further disciplinary action.

G23.3: Bits

The bit must never be used to reprimand a pony/horse. Such use is always excessive and will render the rider

Dressage Rally Wednesday 12th May

This was very well organised and also well supported with several members entering the best Turned Out Competition at the start. There were some stunning entries and the standard was high.

Well done to the winners and commiserations to those who didn't quite make the grade this time. Better Luck next time!

The standard of the performance in the Dressage test was however mixed with the seniors in particular needing to seriously improve. The juniors knocked spots off them.

The Walk/ Trot test had a record number of entries, many of whom were seniors. Well done to them and we hope to see some progression by the summer dressage rally in August. Time for us all to improve so come on – get practising! Our thanks to the judges for their expertise and objectivity, and their attention to detail on the result sheet which all competitors receive at the end. We are very fortunate to have this level of expertise in the Club. Their comments are most helpful and offer good pointers for us to work on to improve our riding. Thanks also to the judges' assistants and to all those who organised and acted as stewards for the event.



TORFAEN RIDING CLUB



Horse Challenge

Combination of Show Jumping
and Collapsible Cross Country
Jumps

Open Show

Bank Holiday Monday, 31st May
At The Club Field Chapel Lane,
Cwmbran NP44 1DE
9.30 a.m.

**Qualifier for the Championships
of GB**
David Broome's EC Aug 21010
Classes 1ft 6 to 3ft 3

The Mayor's Charity Show – After the Event

A cheque for £1300 was presented to The Mayor of Torfaen for his chosen charities – PROGRESS Prostrate Cancer Support. Breast Cancer Wales and the British Heart Foundation. As a token of his appreciation the committee were invited to the Civic Centre Pontypool to be received by the Mayor and Mayoress in the Mayor's Parlour where we were treated to a buffet tea.. Furthermore, we were informed that we would be able to hold all future committee meetings in the Civic Centre where we could also order tea/ coffee.

On Tuesday 18th May, our Chairman, Mr Mark Jones and another member of the Committee will receive an award in recognition of the contribution the Club has made during his term of office.

Our Chairman wishes to convey a heart felt thanks to all those who worked so hard to make the event a success and feels that it has raised the profile of the Club in the locality bringing recognition for the valuable work done in a voluntary capacity and making its contribution to the community.

Commendations from our Chairman

Our Chairman has been travelling to various shows and events recently with a view to keeping abreast of the achievements of some of our more adventurous club members. His commendations go to

Lydia Tattershall

competing in the under 10s at the British Championships,

Olivia Hall

progressing well with her new bay pony, Cariad

Ruth Sinclair

Making a good transition for pony to horse on her chestnut gelding

Lizzie Barber

For doing the X/Jump competition at Broome's
and

Eloise Rowles

Progressing to jumping bigger classes

Well done to all.

***Thank You to all Our
Sponsors who have con-
tributed to the Mayor's
charity Show on the
18th April and The
Horse Challenge, Open
Show on the 31st May.***

In no particular order they are:-

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