



Braintree Riding Club

Newsletter No. 15

We are three quarters of the way through the 2010 season! Can you believe it? We still have a lot of things planned and are hoping to continue up to at least Christmas. This depends very much on the weather and Bluegates accommodating us out of their season!

The winter venue we used last year, Blackbrook Stud at Colchester, has unfortunately closed its doors and is relocating to Glemsford, the other side of Sudbury, but has to develop its equestrian facilities when the move finally takes place.

We certainly hope to run our mini one day event at Bluegates in September, but it does mean that we will have to get busy building some portable cross country mini fences. Does any one know of any real handy men who may be prepared to come and offer a few hours at a weekend or the odd evening helping us do this? They have all got to be small enough and light enough for us to move to and from Bluegates.

Those of you who know Bluegates may feel there is not enough room to run a traditional one day event and you would be correct, but you can rely on us to cross those sort of obstacles and run an event that you will all enjoy, and an event that Braintree Riding Club is renowned for in encouraging the nervous or the young horse!

We also plan to run the winter woollies show again this in the early part of December. so keep your eyes on the website for the confirmed date and venue (hopefully Bluegates).

Our move back to Bluegates in May has seen us run two combined showing and show jumping shows. The first attracted a huge turnout for so early in the year. Mandy, our caterer, had to call for refills for her catering stocks which were rushed to her by special delivery!! Thank you all for supporting this event. The second was right in the middle of the very hot weather we had and we suffered from the heat, hard ground and lack of entries. We don't blame you at all for not turning out under such conditions, but we are pleased that, for those of you who did come, we all had a great time.

Our dressage at Bluegates continues to be well supported although the entries were down a little for the event when we had tests in the long arena!! You are all going to have to get used to using the long arena, as it seems that the short arena tests are being phased out. We are planning a clinic where we will explain the long arena so that it won't be such a frightening thing; so keep your eyes open for this.

It's about time some of you had a go at doing a Novice test too!! Just have a go for the fun of it in the safety of our club environment where there is no pressure. You may be surprised at just how well your horse goes!

Don't forget to get your entries in early for the August show, where we have show jumping, in hand and ridden showing and dressage. Fennes Animal Feeds of Bocking will be giving every entry a lovely rosette to take home. The Supreme and Reserve Supreme Champions will each receive a rug donated by Bardfield Saddlery. There will be rosettes in plenty and trophies also.

Do please continue to support our programme or we may lose the venue. Remember that we do have to hire these facilities, and keep our equipment, jumps etc up to standard. It would help us if you could enter events before the day. It is far less work for us that way and you can do it by email and pay by cash on the day. Don't forget though that if you don't let us know you will not be coming, you will still be liable to pay for your entry fees. Also I don't want to sit around in the middle of a field just in case someone may turn up!!

If there are any members out there who would like to help at any event, stewarding, writing for our judges or whatever, please email me and let me know. We particularly require help for the setting up and breakdown of shows. (Incentives are in operation!)

Jacqui & Linda
Braintree Riding Club
21 July 2010