



Hello and welcome!

It's been a truly inspiring year for everyone watching equestrian sport with the success of Nick Skelton, Mary King and Mark Todd as they've swept up the prizes, and that's before we turn to dressage where we've won gold at the Europeans and the first four places at the recent World Cup Qualifier on home ground at Olympia. These are exciting results as we look forward to the London Olympics. Our British team compatriots are not alone, as a club, we've been on the winner's podium with our junior and senior members and in 2012 we are looking forward to leading the way in the newly formed Area 9!

We would like to extend a tremendous thank you to all our members. Many of you have participated in our clinics, training sessions, camp and the new theory sessions over the last year. Thanks also to members who represented SDRC in teams and to all our team co-ordinators, the unsung heroes working behind the scenes. Beneath the swan-like appearance you see at squad training and area qualifiers, they are shuffling schedules, reading rules, priming prelim entries, and the list goes on.. needless to say, we couldn't run our teams without them.

As the New Year starts in earnest, we are planning lots of new activities for our members including a training event with an International Grand Prix dressage rider, Anna Ross-Davies. Attendance at this event will be free to SDRC members, as a thank you for all the hard work over the last year helping with our own ODE at Rabson and the area qualifier at Swaycliffe amongst others.

We are also running a free raffle for a £100 training bursary at our AGM for fully paid up members. Please do come along to the meeting if you can; you came up with some wonderful ideas at the last AGM and we want more of them. After all, it is your club and only you can tell us what you want!

In addition to our training sessions, camp and new theory sessions (which are proving very popular), we will once again be running our club ODE, but also the inaugural Area 9 National Championship Qualifier for the Open Dressage. Tam Thornton is co-ordinating this event and looks forward to hearing from volunteers to help her out in the run up to the event and on the day. Usual perks apply, so get on her list now!

SWINDON & DISTRICT RIDING CLUB

Affiliated to the British Horse Society

e-newsletter January 2012

Happy New Year!

From all at SDRC to our members, friends and supporters..



Look what you can do with us in 2012..

- WIN a £100 training bursary
- FREE demonstration and training with International Grand Prix Dressage Rider
- Inaugural Area 9 Dressage Qualifier on home ground
- SDRC One Day Event
- An evening with an Olympic gold medallist

Win a training bursary at our 7th AGM Monday 20th February 2012

Wanborough Village Hall, High Street, Wanborough, Swindon SN4 0AD at 7.15 for 7.30 start



All members are welcome!

This is your chance to voice your ideas about your club with each other and with the committee. The brilliant ideas from last year's AGM have contributed significantly to our success in 2011, including the running of our inaugural ODE. We know you have lots to say, so please do come along and earn yourself the chance to win £100 to go towards training with your horse.

For all paid up members there is a FREE raffle entry to win £100 training bursary, which may be spent with any trainer.

If you cannot make it, please convey your ideas or points to Angela, to include on the agenda.

Find attached the agenda for this meeting and minutes from the 2011 AGM.

Kindly let Angela know if you can attend as we do need to know numbers. Don't forget to bring a mug for tea/coffee. Contact: Angela Roberts, SDRC Treasurer, T 01793 785406 work 01793 826103 home 0771 3642453 mobile

Membership Renewal due now

Renew before the AGM to ensure you qualify for entry into our FREE raffle!



We are delighted to say that we have frozen the fees for membership to Swindon and District Riding Club once again. We hope you

Welcome to our new junior dressage team co-ordinator Nic Davis. Nic is a long standing member, famous for her cake making, but also mum to a very keen junior member!

Nic is looking forward to hearing from all our keen junior dressage riders. The winter teams are looming so get in touch with Nic now.

juniordressage@swindonridingclub.co.uk

As always with the New Year there are new rules and regulations. Do make sure you are fully aware of hat tagging and body protector standards, and the perennial, vaccinations for your horse. They can cause lots of upset when they are out by so much as a day, but ultimately, here in Britain we are relatively free of Equine Influenza so the regulations are there for the benefit of the equine community.

We have lots of dates for training. Our clinics are designed to provide groups for all levels - so give it a go!

As the New Year starts we wish you good health, much happiness and every success, from all at SDRC.

Keep up with our latest news as it happens online at www.swindonridingclub.co.uk

[>> SDRC Dates 2012](#)

[>>SDRC News Pages](#)

[>> SDRC Team Information](#)

[>> Other Events](#)

[>> Team Coordinators](#)

[>> Membership](#)

Email your news or any items for the newsletter or website to

wez@swindonridinbclub.co.uk

I look forward to hearing from you, Wes

Training & Dates2012

[more details..](#)

17 Jan - Gridwork with Helen Marsden

20 Jan - Hat tagging at Jude's

21 Jan - Pub night, The Vale, Minety

22 Jan - Show Jumping with Caron

26 Jan - Week Day Clinic with Caron

4 Feb - Arena Cross-Country with Caron



will continue to support the club and look forward to seeing you at our events in 2012.

Please send your cheque made payable to "Swindon and District Riding Club" to Kerry Alexander, Membership Secretary, The Ark, Uffcott, Wiltshire, SN4 9NB. Please write on the back of the cheque the names of the corresponding members.

The fees are due on 1st January 2012 and remain as follows:

Seniors £20.00

Juniors and non-riding members £15.00

Additional family members at the same address £15.00

Team riders must be fully paid up. A lapse in your membership beyond the end of February will incur a £3.50 joining fee.

Free Training Event with International Dressage Rider*

17th March at Cholderton Equestrian Centre, Wiltshire (date tbc)



With the excitement of the forthcoming London Olympics and as a thank you to all our members for their tremendous support, particularly at our inaugural one day event we are hosting a special training event with **Anna Ross-Davies**, an International Grand Prix dressage rider.

Anna has represented Great Britain at Grand Prix all over the world including the European Championships, Aachen CDIO, Saumur CDIO, World Cup, and has twice competed at the World Championships for Young Horses. In 2007 Anna was the highest placed British Team rider at the European Championships, helping team GB secure qualification for the Beijing Olympics and in 2008 she was reserve for Beijing.

The event will include a demonstration by Anna with her own horse and a chance for members to benefit from her training methods with their own horses. We will invite members to come forward as guinea pigs, so watch this space!

* This event will be free to fully paid-up members with priority given to those who helped at the SDRC ODE last year.

Area 9 Qualifier - Open Dressage

22nd July at Rabson Manor, Winterbourne Bassett, Wilts



As a club we will be hosting the inaugural Area 9 National Championship qualifier for open dressage on 22nd July at Rabson Manor.

It is a great honour for the club to be chosen to run

22 Feb - Drill riding with David Graham
16 Feb - Gridwork with Helen Marsden
17 Mar - Training day with Anna Ross-Davies (tbc)
22 Jul - Area 9 Qualifier - Open Dressage
19 Aug - SDRC ODE

Want to get on a team? Tell your team co-ordinator now!

Find Swindon Riding Club on Facebook



and keep up to date with the very latest news with SDRC Newsfeed on Facebook too!

Reminders & checks

- >> Flu vaccinations
- >> Hat tagging
- >> Body protectors
- >> Downgrading

Keep up to date with the Area 9 website!

Area 9 website

British Riding Clubs keeping you up to date

www.britishridingclubs.org.uk

BHS and BRC Website

It includes all the current BRC National Competitions and the latest offers available to all BRC Members. Plus a lot more information including latest news, the rule book, championship competitor times and results.

Other events & competitions

Caron Roberts Equestrian for dressage, show jumping and combined training competitions at Lanes Farm, Royal Wootton Bassett

Ridgeway Rider for local news and events.

Riding Diary for events around the country.



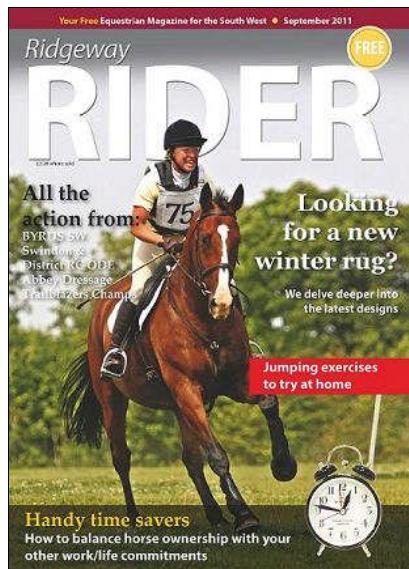
this qualifier and Tam Thornton has very gallantly stepped forward to co-ordinate this event.

We will be hosting team and individual riders from Area 9 clubs, and of course putting forward our own riders to compete for the qualifying places. Tests range from Novice to Medium and we are also hoping to have some teams to contest the Rural Riders team event.

Tam will be looking for volunteers to help her with this event, so please don't forget to put this date in your diary.

SDRC One Day Event

19th August at Rabson Manor, Winterbourne Bassett, Wilts



After the success of last year's fantastic event, we will again be running our own ODE at Rabson Manor by kind permission of Gill and George Horton.

As Tam is co-ordinating the area qualifier, she has delegated the job to four musketeers viz. Louise Cattermole (dressage), Eleanor Newman (SJ), Amanda Fitzgerald (XC) and Sally Humphries mum (catering).

This team will also be looking for your help, so please add this date to your diary too!

Hat Tagging!!

Friday 20 January at Jude Matthew's house

To save time and avoid stress at events Jude Matthews has kindly offered our members the opportunity to get their hats tagged at a VWH social event on Friday 20th January from 8pm at her home in Brinkworth. Gill Penberth the Area 9 BRC Official Representative will be checking hats are up to standard and tagging.

If you can't make it, you may give your hat, CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR NAME, to Caron Roberts who will be delivering a batch for inspection and tagging.

Please let Jude Matthews know if you are going in person on 07970 976063 or email judemathews@yahoo.co.uk

Team members must have their hats tagged before they ride at an area qualifier. Please visit our website and look at the BRC Rules page to check that your hat is up to standard. (or the BRC website). You will not be allowed to ride unless your hat is tagged, so this is as important as the dreaded vaccinations!

**Pub night venue:
Vale of the White Horse, Minety**

Our pub night on 21st January will be at The Vale of the White Horse, Minety, from 7.30pm onwards.

We'd love to see you all for a good old natter about times past, present and future. It's a lovely old inn renowned for fine wines and real ales!! It's just what we need to warm us up for the coming year!

If you fancy food, the specials listed below are just £5.50, lovely grub and excellent value!

Whitebait, Pigeon Salad, Curry, Pie of the day, Scampi, Ham Egg and Chips. Tam has asked for Sausage and Chips to be added as well.

You have received this email because you have

elected to receive your riding club newsletter electronically. If you feel you have been sent this email in error or would like to opt out of future email newsletters from us please unsubscribe by email: wez@swindonridingclub.co.uk.

Website: www.swindonridingclub.co.uk



Please RSVP to Caron via text 07870 673507 to let her know if you can come along (and your menu choice if eating).

An evening with Anne Dunham



Continuing the theme of Olympic dreams we have invited Anne Dunham to share her extraordinary achievements with us. Anne needs no introduction as Paralympics gold medal-winning rider named **The Sunday Times disabled sportswoman of the year**. However, many of you may not know that Anne is Amber's mum. Amber is regularly seen at clinics, sometimes riding her mum's gold medal winning horse Teddy.

In September, Anne was a member of the winning team at the European Para Equestrian Dressage Championships in Belgium, where she also won two individual golds. On receiving her award she said "It was a big shock and a great honour. But it's not just great for me, it's brilliant for para dressage and equestrianism as whole, especially when [equestrian] sport wasn't recognised in the recent BBC Sports Personality of the Year nominations."

Anne is an inspiration to us all and has very kindly agreed to talk to us about her experience as an elite rider and about her journey towards the 2012 Olympics. Watch this space for more details.

2012 BRC Rules

The Rulebook contains all the information you need to know to compete in official Riding Club competitions, including what you and your horse are allowed to wear, eligibility criteria and rules for all the BRC championships.

Please note the 2012 Rulebook has been published and is for sale in the BHS Bookshop. Future rule amendments enforced after the BRC rulebook has been printed will be indicated in red.

It is now available [here](#) (link to BRC website)

It is important to check your **hat** and **body protector** are up to standard for BRC activities. Note that a body protector is obligatory in all cross-country competitions and is strongly recommended in show jumping competitions. A BETA Level 3 (purple label) which has been manufactured in the year 2000 or after must be worn. Body protectors should be fitted and worn as per the manufacturer's instructions. The up to date BETA list of body protectors can be obtained from www.beta-uk.org. If a rider chooses to wear an airbag style body protector it must be worn over a permitted body protector and if activated, must be deflated or removed before continuing. Hybrid Air-jackets are permitted.

Riders wearing Exo Body Cage protectors must inform the secretary at all events.

The 2012 **Downgrading** form can be found [here](#). Please note if people wish to downgrade for a particular qualifier then the form must be with Jennie at j.pallett@bhs.org.uk no less than twenty one days before the qualifier to allow time for the form to be processed.

The online **Flu Vac Checker** can be found [here](#)