



Wittering Academy
Riding Club

"Achieve your equestrian dreams – one hoof at a time"

NEWS

Spring 2018

Hello every-one,

Lots to tell you about in the next few weeks and last few weeks.

What's been going on?

After the rubbish winter and early spring weather, we completed our Dressage series with the Championship over the weekend of 13th May. The sun even came out for us. Well done to every-one who qualified and some fiercely contested classes - a big well done to the champions.

I think a big shout out thank you to Janice Price for organising , a special thank you to Sue Gregg for being the best steward ever and every-one else who came out , helped put up and clear away our fabulous new dressage boards and heaved and struggled with separating the letters until we found the secret knack to break the seal, to those that had the comfort of the cars to do the writing, and the comfort of the gallery to score and secretarial duties and those that helped steward and call various tests in the sleet, the wind and the sunshine. And finally, thank you to the riders who came out and did some pretty nice tests for us to watch.



We also saw the conclusion of the Winter Trec series. Again lots of thank yous - firstly to Karen Barker and her husband Richard and Sara and Graham. The lovely husbands deserve an extra thank you for their continuous support. Again it was a real team effort with familiar faces coming out and setting up and clearing away. And it does take an awful lot of effort to plan and set up the training and competitions.

Wittering Academy Riding Club Trec League Winners 2018



The coldest qualifier award goes to the Combined Training at Ely Eventing Centre at the end of April. The organisers had clearly hoped for better weather and booked an ice-cream van who actually sold 2 ice creams all day!

Helen had the best job though - passport checking next to the hot baked potato oven.



A team 4th and individual 1st for
Debbie Robinson

Talking of championships, we were lucky to have 2 teams invited to the BRC Novice and Intermediate Show-jumping Championships, and individuals (including Debbie) to the Festival of the Horse. Another big thank you to our Chair - Tracey Matthews for poo picking and poo picking as the team's helper - without which they would have been eliminated.



So now we're into the BRC summer qualifiers - congratulations to our Dressage pair Jo Meikle and Nicki Webb for coming second, and Isobel Ippolito in qualifying in her Novice test for the Nationals. I did notice the ice-cream van did a disappearing act on the hottest day of the year but the Gin & Prosecco bar was doing a roaring trade. We are currently trying to re-arrange Burghley Horse Trials so it doesn't clash ;-)



So what's coming up?

Moving locally our next club competition is our [Bank Holiday Showjumping](#) on **Monday 28th May**. It's the start of a SJ series, and classes start at 60cm and are open to all. You'll no doubt have seen Tania's Facebook posts asking for help. But we also ask you to share the competition event with your friends.

We also have a Showing show on **Sun 15th July** - watch out for the schedule.

It's now too late to enter anyone else in the BRC Horse Trials qualifiers – we have teams and individuals taking part, but we're also looking for some fence judges. You will be needed for half or even the whole day. It will be held at Ely Eventing Centre on **Sun 10th June**. No experience needed, and you don't even have to get out of the car to pick up poles 😊 Our favourite quote is "you will be looked after both on the day and in heaven" so lunch refreshments all day. Please contact Helen - h.mcintosh@ntlworld.com if you can help at all.

Just a gentle reminder regarding qualifiers when you are representing the club – we pay your preliminary entry fee, you reimburse us for the actual competition entry fee and should you qualify for a championship – we cover your entry fee (stabling you would have to pay for). If however you have to pull out and we can't fill your spot, we do reserve the right to ask for the prelim and championship fee from you. We love seeing so many coming forward to compete and it is genuinely open to all BUT please do not underestimate the time it takes our team managers to put teams together, fill in paperwork, organize helpers etc etc

[Rutland Riding Club](#) are also hosting a number of competitions at Grange Farm in the next few months - have a look at [their calendar](#) for schedules.

But our club isn't just about competitions, we have an all day clear round showjumping on **Sun 1st July** with assistance if required. Come for a practice or have a go at a whole course.

After having to cancel 2 [Jumpcross training](#) sessions we have managed to get out on course once but there will be more - just need to organise some dates.

[Parelli taster](#) in the making.

Kate Knight will be making a welcome return for an [arena eventing training session](#) over August Bank Holiday weekend.

And regular mentoring sessions. Angela has done another fantastic job of organising the next batch of dates - please look and let her know whether or not you can come to your session.

We're taking a break from a whole weekend of camp and will be doing special interest days - probably one on dressage, one on jumping and something fun. Again watch this space.

Those of you who missed the BHS Leg Dissection evening held at Wittering – you missed a highly informative night - and that's someone who is rubbish with blood (Helen!!).

BHS East of England

**Series of Video Based Evening Talks
with GILLIAN HIGGINS**

and

HORSES INSIDE OUT

at The Great Stukeley Village Hall, Ermine Street, Huntingdon, PE28 4AL.
Doors open 6.30 pm, talks start 7.00pm

21st May 2018 - Dressage Dissected

21st June 2018 - Polework and Gymnastic Jumping for all Disciplines

10th October 2018 - Not Quite Right?

3 December 2018 - Pilates for Horses

£12 per evening, if booked online or £15 on the door

Members and non-members welcome.

Contact: janet.holmes@bhs.org.uk or 070808141076

Book online via the BHS website

Fun stuff

Looking to go out and about? Why not post on our Facebook group where you are going and when and see if any-one else want to meet up. It could be a pleasure ride or just a trip out to somewhere nice like Fineshade woods.

Serious stuff

Please remember we hire arenas from Grange Farm when we run training or competitions so please don't warm up in one of the lovely empty ones, and please do pick up the poo in the arena and the car park as its used for corporate events and horse poo on stilettos just isn't a good look.

Helen says, if she had a £1 every-time some-one mentioned GDPR she would be in Hawaii now, retired from work. But we are taking it seriously and members of the committee are doing some online training with BRC so look out for updates on our privacy policy and details on how to request your data etc.

Membership

Have you [renewed your membership](#)? It's a shorter year to align with the start of BRC's year. But on the plus side it's less dosh to join. Membership cards always take a little while to come through - we inform BRC a couple of times a month so can seem quite a long time before the cards actually hit the doormats. The good news is that you are insured at BRC and club events from the moment you paid and eligible to enter the BRC qualifiers.

So – keep an eye out on [Facebook](#), check the [WARC calendar](#) and hope to see you all at some point in the near future either riding or helping 😊

Love WARC Committee