

## Forthcoming Events:

- Sunday 27th September 2009 – Cannock Chase  
**BHS Staffs Autumn Pleasure Ride**  
Start times between 10 am and 12 noon  
Contact Lesley Simmons on 01785 665670 or at  
[simmons@simmons928.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:simmons@simmons928.fsnet.co.uk)
- Friday 2 October 2009 TBC – Endon Riding School  
**Introduction to dressage – 7.30pm**  
Contact Marcus Clinton at  
[marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk](mailto:marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk)
- Monday 5th October 2009 – Ingestre Stables  
**BHS Staffs Area Annual Meeting – 7.30pm**  
Plus demo – *“Improving the rider’s position”*  
– All welcome –  
Contact Marcus Clinton at  
[marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk](mailto:marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk)
- Monday 16 November 2009, Rodbaston Campus  
**First Aid evening “When to call the vet” – 7.30pm**  
Contact Marcus Clinton at  
[marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk](mailto:marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk)
- **Winter Dressage Evenings** – Rodbaston Campus  
Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009 –  
Walk/Trot A and Prelim 1  
  
Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 –  
Walk/Trot B and Prelim 13

Non-members welcome  
Contact Marcus Clinton at  
[marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk](mailto:marcus.clinton@southstaffs.ac.uk)

## CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – SUMMER 2009

It’s been a busy few months with a very successful pleasure ride in April with over 100 entries, enjoyed by all. This does allow us to support continued work on safety, welfare and access. In June we held an ‘introduction to showing’ evening with an entertaining talk by Andrew Collins which was well received and we are looking to do more in the ‘introduction to’ series later on.

Coming up is our annual summer show on Marquis Drive with plenty for everyone and there has been a lot of interest, so hopefully we will see lots of you there at that lovely venue for show jumping, dressage and showing.

This is our last hard copy newsletter so please make sure you have sent us your email address, or remember to keep a look out in future for links on the BHS West Midlands webpage. If you don’t have email or access to the internet and would still like paper copies in the future, please let us have your name and address. Switching to email and the web will enable us to send more regular updates at a fraction of the cost.

There’s plenty to look forward to in the winter with the annual meeting and demonstration at Ingestre, introduction to dressage, dressage evenings and a first aid and calling the vet evening. Many thanks as ever to the hard working committee who make it all possible.

Marcus Clinton  
BHS Staffs County Chairman

## **Riding & Road Safety**

Forthcoming exams

- Wood Farm House, Sedgley 01902677998  
27<sup>th</sup> June and 26<sup>th</sup> September
- Westley House Livery, Wheaton Aston  
01785 840165 July/Aug (ring for info)
- Rodbaston College 01785 712209  
11th April

Check website for updates, or telephone 07710749457  
Eileen Foy Regional Safety

## **Record Turnout at Spring Pleasure Ride**

Over a hundred people took part in our annual spring pleasure ride over Cannock Chase on the last Sunday in April. Maybe it was the beautiful weather, or maybe it was the publicity on our new Facebook page, but whatever the reason, a record number of riders joined in the fun.

Photos from the day (taken by the Staffs Committee's resident photographer, Paul Hodson) are available to view on our Facebook page, so if you took part and would like to see them, log on and take a look.

If you couldn't make this ride, but would like to take part in the next one, make a note in your diary: **Sunday 27 September**

## **Report on Showing Skills Demo**

Andrew Collins gave a fascinating talk on the secrets of success in the show ring on the evening of 21<sup>st</sup> May. Andrew provided tips on such aspects as standing the horse up for the judge, leading in hand, and applying quarter marks. He stressed the importance of the right attitude in the ring, and discussed ways of disguising some of the less than perfect points of your horse. Covering a whole range of topics, including preparation and training, and everyday stable routines, Andrew provided informative and often amusing insights into the world of showing.

