



BHS STAFFORDSHIRE

SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

Chairman's Report

Welcome to another edition of the Staffordshire British Horse Society newsletter. Firstly may I say a big thank you to my predecessor as Chairman, Marcus Clinton. It is quite daunting to follow in Marcus' footsteps, but I inherit a committee that has a number of willing and able volunteers together with an established programme of events, and I am looking forward to the challenge of serving our members in the county.

We have already held our first evening dressage event, and thanks to the excellent organisation by Laura Stubbs everyone had a great time.

Once again this year we intend to hold two pleasure rides and our Summer Show. We have moved the dates of our pleasure rides this year to avoid clashing with other events at Marquis Drive so they are now planned for Sunday 17 April 2011 and Sunday 9 October 2011.

The Summer Show will be held on Saturday 2 July 2011 and this year we are holding the event at Rodbaston, by kind permission of the South Staffordshire College.

We are re-introducing our trailer driving training and this will be held on Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 April 2011. Places are limited so early booking is advised as the course was over-subscribed the last time we held them. The instruction will be provided by Karen Squires and is an excellent way to improve your towing skills prior to taking your horse out in what I hope will be a long and hot summer.

Two new events for your diary are the Adult Mounted Games training and a Prix Caprilli competition. The Adult Mounted Games training event will be held under the guidance of Louise Thomas and is ideal for those who would like to participate in pony club games in a more mature environment. The intention is to make this an event combining fun with a bit of tuition, however should you be of a more competitive nature then our county is hosting the BHS West Midlands Regional Adult Mounted Games on Saturday 8 October 2011 and there are still a few places left in the Staffordshire team. Both these mounted games events will be held at Rodbaston.

The Prix Caprilli event is something we are introducing this year and if, like me, you are not familiar with this event, apparently it is aimed at the dressage rider with a very modest jump as part of the test. Our committee member Doug Smith provides a detailed description of the event below.

As always, with all Staffordshire BHS events, the emphasis will be on having fun in as safe an environment as our equine friends will permit.

Finally, we have produced this newsletter on-line to preserve the Society's funds for the good work it undertakes in Welfare, Access and Riding & Road Safety, However, should you have any horse mad friends who do not have access to the internet, we would be grateful if you would print them a copy of this newsletter and if they would like to get in touch with us then we are always happy to provide paper copies of future editions.

Wishing you a good and enjoyable year in all your equine activities.

David

Staffs BHS 2011 Pleasure Rides:

Spring – Sunday 17th April

Autumn – Sunday 9th October

Start at Marquis Drive, Cannock Chase (follow signs for the Visitor Centre, then look out for BHS signs)

Start times: 10am–12 noon. Route approx ten miles.

Ride Marshalls at regular intervals around the route.

Rosettes for all participants.

(For more details, contact: Lesley Simmons 01785 665670 lesley@csla.co.uk)

Prix Caprilli

Sunday 15th May 2011

**Watt Meadow, Cannock Road,
Shareshill, WV10 7JP**

Come along and try something different!

Prix Caprilli is a combination of dressage and jumping (see below for more info on Prix Caprilli). Unlike our combined training events, Prix Caprilli involves small jumps in the dressage arena itself.

For more details on this event,
contact Doug Smith on 07771 915020 or
riwm2@hotmail.com

Results from the BHS Winter Dressage Evening February 2011 (Rodbaston Campus)

Walk/Trot Intro A:

- 1st - Laura Harris and Ebony Rose
- 2nd - Anna Nicholls and Sylvia
- 3rd - Jo Minns and Casper
- 4th - Sarah Heath and Barwood Coadie
- 5th - Laura Strong and Whitley Village Mirage

Cadora Walk/Trot D:

- 1st - Frances Small and Cary's Mai
- 2nd - Amy Painter and Crown Harmony

Prelim 10:

- 1st - Laura Harris and Ebony Rose
- 2nd - Amy Painter and Crown Harmony
- 3rd - Jo Minns and Casper
- 4th - Frances Small and Cary's Mai

All About Prix Caprilli

The 'Prix Caprilli' competition is a test of the rider's ability not the horse, involving dressage and jumping. Small jumps are positioned within the dressage arena. The dressage test then incorporates them into the movements in a flowing manner.

'Prix Caprilli' is named after Captain Frederico Caprilli (1868 – 1907) an Italian cavalry officer. He revolutionized the jumping, or forward seat by studying horses free jumping and went on to develop a theory on the riders position over a jump, so the horses natural movement and mouth would not be interfered with. However as is often the case with innovators he lost his commission in the cavalry for challenging the 'establishment'. It was several years before a high ranking officer saw the 'forward seat' and reinstated Caprilli who then eventually rose to be chief riding instructor for the Italian cavalry.

The aim of the 'Prix Caprilli' is to have fun and improve your riding and empathy with your horse.

BHS STAFFS TRAILER SKILLS COURSE

Date: Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd April 2011

Venue: Rodbaston Campus, South Staffs College, Penkridge

Time: 8.00am – 4.30pm

Cost: £35.00

This includes a discount voucher towards the B+E test (car and trailer)

What you get: 1hr 15 mins made up of 45 mins tuition and 30 mins practice split: Tuition/practice/ tuition/practice/ tuition in 15 minute blocks.

You may choose to use the vehicles and trailers provided or, if you prefer, bring your own towing vehicle and trailer.

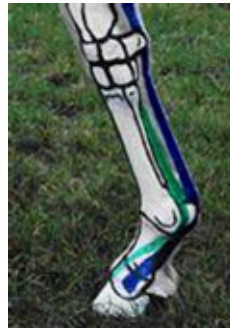
Your instructor is highly experienced, specialising in trailer skills instruction. She is also a very experienced horsewoman thus having an understanding of the problems we encounter when towing trailers that contain our equine partners.

For details contact: Doug Smith on 07771 915020 or riwm2@hotmail.com



West Midlands Region Presents

A Series of Video Based Evening Talks with Gillian Higgins from **Horses Inside Out**



28 March 2011 – Jumping from an Anatomical Approach

3 May 2011 – Maintaining a Pain Free and Mobile Back

14 June 2011 – Lower Leg Tendons and Ligaments

6 Sept 2011 – The Digestive System, Anatomy for Feeding

7pm for 7.30pm start at

**The Bell Inn, Bromsgrove Road, Belbroughton,
Stourbridge, West Midlands DY9 9XU**

Tickets £10 in advance only

Book for all 4 talks and receive a £5 discount!

**Please make cheques payable to 'The British Horse Society' and send to:
Andrea Jackman, West Midlands Development Officer, Nant Y Bwthyn,
Stepaside, Nr Newtown, Powys SY16 4JQ.**

Tel no: 01686 627050/07881 661429 Email: a.jackman@bhs.org.uk

*To find out more about Gillian and her work please visit www.horsesinsideout.com
Keep up to date with the BHS in the West Midlands at www.bhswm.org.uk*

Adult Mounted Games Training Event
Sunday 12th June 2011
Rodbaston Campus,
South Staffs College

Fun Training Event in preparation for regional final at Rodbaston on **Sat 8th October**

Individuals welcome to come along and try for the Staffs team!

BHS Staffs Summer Show
Saturday 2nd July 2011
Rodbaston Campus,
South Staffs College

Showing, Dressage, Jumping
Nervous and novice entries especially welcome!

Schedules will be in the BHS Staffs Summer Newsletter and posted on-line at **www.bhswm.org.uk**

Your BHS Staffs Committee for 2011

County Chairman: David Wheatley dwheatley@imgroup.co.uk ☎ 01543 502381

Secretary: Lisa Davis-Lindholm misslmb2000@aol.co.uk ☎ 01782 545711

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Committee Members:

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To read about the work of the local committees, visit www.bhswm.org.uk

Or look for Staffordshire BHS on *Facebook*

To find out more about the work of the BHS nationally, visit www.bhs.org.uk