

Christmas Rally - 9.45am til 12.30 pm
BBQ & Presentation Awards – 3.30pm to 7.00 pm



President's report – November/December 2011

This year's Christmas Rally is to be held on Sunday 11th December and the theme is "Shrek's Christmas". So dress up yourself and your pony as any character from the Shrek movies (there's not just Shrek, Fiona and Donkey, remember all those nursery rhyme characters too). There will be plenty of ribbons handed out for the best costume, best dressed pony etc! The entire rally will be run by the Black Group, beginning with a fancy dress parade and continue in a Shrek theme with games and activities till lunch time. (See Rally Plan on our website). At 12.30 you can take your horses home and get ready to come back for the Christmas BBQ and yearly Presentation Awards (trophies) starting at 3.30 pm.

We want everyone to attend, unwind and relax at the BBQ. The Club will provide sausages, rissoles and veggie burgers. You just need to bring Drinks (alcohol is welcome for the adults), your own snacks to nibble on, chairs and either a dessert (surnames with A – M) or a salad (surnames with N – Z). It's always a great day!

Our One Day Event (ODE/Horse Trial) is set for Sunday 26th February at Wandin Park. Entry forms will soon be available on our website, and I stress, MAKE SURE YOU GET THEM IN EARLY please! It is a logistical nightmare trying to enter riders, horses, payments and formulate rider times at the last minute, so please help us out and enter as soon as the forms are out.

The ODE is our biggest event for the year, and we need lots of volunteers (over 200 in total) to run this event. There will be a list of jobs available on the notice board at this coming rally, mostly involving about 2 hours work on the day (although there is lots of preparation work involved in the week beforehand if you have the time). Please put your name down for a job that you would like to do, before a job is allocated. (Jenni Eggleston is the co-ordinator for any queries: 0409 204 984)

For those riders not competing at our ODE, a Twilight Rally will be held on Saturday 25th February at Wandin Park. Hours will be 3.00 to 5.30 pm. Please contact Tracey Kerford (0409 184 226) if you wish to be included.

Thank you to everyone for making the Dressage Day this year such a success. Many of you happily volunteered for jobs and as such, it all went smoothly. Some special thanks go to Brendan Kennedy for watering the arenas endlessly to keep dust down; Kevin Jones for resurfacing and smudging; Andrew Garland and Howard Brenchley (scoring), Sonya Cox, Bec Rosel, Jacqui Cain and Jeremy Buttolph, Jenni Eggleston, our fabulous sponsors, and the wonderful Committee members who as always did an amazing job of anything and everything! I hope all the riders enjoyed themselves too.

On Sunday 13th November, the first Seville Festival was held and our pony club was asked to participate by way of a showjumping display. Despite being a bit tired of pony club and still recovering from dressage day, a few of us dragged ourselves out, set up a showjumping course and ran two jumping lessons. A huge thank you to Eliza Fildes, who instructed. Also big thanks to Tracey Kerford, Andrew Garland, the other parents, and of course the riders. I must say, our riders presented themselves and their mounts beautifully and put on a great 'show' for the public.

Lastly, good luck to those riders who will be competing at the Dressage and Showjumping State Qualifiers and therefore can't be at our Rally.

See you soon - I look forward to seeing some fantastic costumes! (but don't forget you must still wear your safety helmet, boots and medical armband) Ria



Pictures from our Xmas Rally in 2009, theme: "The Circus"