

The 2015 season commenced with our training day on 29<sup>th</sup> March. It was organised a little differently as we had three Dressage trainers working at the same time so allowed for longer sessions than for the Cones and Obstacle training. Scheduling is always a problem as many people do not want to train in every discipline. It was a shame about the wet weather but most participants turned up.

Our first event, held on 11-12 April, went to plan thanks to Rowena Moyses and Dilys Gordon who stepped in to judge the Dressage as none of our normal judges could make it. I was also worried that the ground conditions would be too soft but in the end it was OK and the event was a reasonable success. Section A and the transfer were on hard roads and section B was mainly off road. We had a couple of problems caused by competitors ignoring our rules and upsetting the Park's management. We must remember that we are guests in the park and have to follow the rules set down by the Crown Estate who manages the Park.

Problem 1. People who use motor bikes, scooters and quads have to have them road legal, taxed and insured etc. This means that when driven on the road, riders must have road legal crash helmets not riding hats or such like.

Problem 2. A competitor entered the Park in their lorry via Bishops Gate, which has not been allowed since the beginning of 2014. They then proceeded along the road fairly briskly tooting their horn to inform pedestrians to get off the road. This is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated. If this sort of thing happens again the competitor will be banned from the Club.

Please make the time to read our rules and follow them. Remember that we are guests in the park and need to conduct ourselves to our best behaviour.

Due to the hassle late entries cause, we have decided to not accept any in the future. If you are going to leave sending your entries till the last moment, please e-mail or telephone us. Entries need to be received on the Monday before the event, apart from the Regional, which is two weeks, as British Carriage driving requires the list to ensure that everyone who is trying to qualify for the National Championships are legal to do so.

Our annual Charity Drive went ahead on 26<sup>th</sup> April and this year everyone behaved themselves and we had a congratulation from the Park's management. We made about £7000 for the Alexander Devine Hospice appeal, which is great.

You will notice on your next visit to the club we have had to alter the dressage a little. As the Park have decided to plough up part of the Cannon Ground to increase the game crop, to establish a partridge shoot, we have lost our dressage arena 3, the one used for practice. To enable us to still offer a practice arena, we intend to have this up on Smith's Lawn besides the lorry park. For the regional event we will have it in the driving lorry park as we will use the lorry park at the southern end because of having the two obstacles alongside.

Lastly a plea for help. As you know I was supposed to have retired as Driving Organiser at the end of last year after my "temporary" spell of seven years. Over this period I have found it increasingly more difficult to balance my time between organising the club, my employment, dealing with my ponies and running my home. I have put many things on hold but the time has come for things to change. I thought I could pull back from the club but I have found I am

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