



Willow Farm Newsletter

November 2007

October was a busy month, full of holiday activities for our younger riders. The jumping and dressage clinics were well attended as were the pony fun mornings. Several children took part in the Halloween Fancy Dress day – and their costumes were amazing. Thistle was wearing a red Dracula cape – Dumpling had a black cloak covered in cobwebs and her own hat complete with ear holes! Thistle didn't recognise Dumpling and was a little taken aback by her outfit! Little Rosie won the competition as she proudly sported her bat deely boppers. Most of the ponies and riders were covered in cobwebs and fake blood (as were the staff by the end of it)

Colette's Dressage was a great success and will be back at Willow Farm on November 24th, horses can be hired out for the afternoon if you wish to compete. The competition is very friendly and a great place to start your dressage career. The indoor jumping competition on October 14th was really well attended for our first event and the staff enjoyed it so much they have organised another one on Sunday November 18th, starting at 9am with Clear Round jumping. Details and entry forms are available on our web site or from the shop. We are developing a range of gift vouchers for the Riding School – offering short courses in riding for the lucky recipient, gift vouchers of £5 and up are also available for the shop or the Riding School. This Saturday we have musical dressage at 2pm until 3.15, its great fun so if you haven't booked then do so! Check with your teacher if you are not sure if you are at a suitable level to take part.

We have said goodbye to our old Head Girl Jodie, who has left to have a baby, she is replaced by Samantha who has taken up the challenge well. We wish her all the best in her new position. Finally we have found our weigh carrier, his name is Edward and he is a 16.3 shire, he was rescued by his previous owner and has a wonderful temperament. I rode him yesterday for the first time, after a fruitless search for a nose band that would fit. He is great to ride – if a little wide! He is being gently introduced to work and should be appearing in a lesson near you soon.

We have been holding a blue spot sale in October in the saddlery shop, there are still lots of bargains to be snapped up all at 50% off their original RRP, why not do a bit of Christmas shopping now for your horsey friends or just for a nice warm winter coat? Remember if you can't get to the shop you can buy saddlery from us at www.ridewithwillow.co.uk, the on-line shop is up and running!

RIDING SCHOOL EVENTS NOVEMBER

- Indoor Jumping Show – Sunday November 18th, for a schedule please call 01795 533669
- Colette's Dressage – Saturday November 24th for details see <http://www.cbequine.co.uk>
- Musical Dressage – Saturday 10th November - £25 from 2pm to 3.15pm
- The University team we sponsor have started training on Willow Farm horses

SHOP EVENTS NOVEMBER

- Blue Spot sale – 50% of RRP on many lines of stock
- It's December really but the first weekend in December there will be 5% off all items in the shop, along with mulled wine and mince pies! Tickets available for the Grand Christmas Raffle.

Willow Farm Rescue Work

You may not be aware that most of the horses at Willow Farm were rescued from neglect or abuse. In an attempt to publicise this work we are planning to create a DVD telling their stories. Working with Hayes Media Arts School in Bromley, we are planning to record the details of each horse's life before they arrived at Willow Farm and what they are up to now. Those who are safe and healthy enough work in the Riding School, so they are supporting their field mates who may be too young or too old to earn their keep. So, next time you buy something in the shop or have a riding lesson, pat yourself on the back, because you are helping support these horses, some of whom were destined for slaughter. Well Done & thank you!!

Christmas - Chilli 'n Chips

We are planning an informal gathering on Saturday 22nd December for a staff and customers Christmas Party! There will be a three course meal - including Chilli and chips for main, all at a bargain price of £6. If you would like to attend please let us know so we can start to assess the numbers. It will be a great night and there are rumours that a Karaoke machine may appear. We will draw the Christmas raffle at this event. (Please bring your own drinks)

To write a review about Willow Farm please visit www.touchlocal.com and search for Riding Schools in Faversham or use the links page of our Web site.