

## **BHS Worcestershire News Update Spring 2014**

### **Chairman's Introduction**

Hallo and a belated Happy New Year to all Worcestershire BHS Members. Now that the excesses of Christmas have past and a new year has commenced let's hope it is going to be a lot drier than the last few months and that we get a decent summer!

To date we have still not finalised a definite format for Worcestershire newsletters or updates, although the future circulations will more than likely be similar to this one. I can say that the old style newsletter with adverts and so on will no longer be produced. The same applies to paper copies due to the costs involved. Please bear with us until we find the right style and format.

### **Committee Changes**

At the 2013 Annual Meeting which was held on 9 October, Bev Hudson decided that after some 9 years as Chair and Vice Chair it was time to leave the Committee and move on. I am saddened to lose her but I wish her well and thank her for her years of dedication and service to the county. I know this is echoed by my fellow committee members.

We have gained a new Access and Bridleways Officer in the shape of Wendy Harper, who was co-opted onto the Committee in August 2013 and formally elected during the Annual Meeting. Wendy, once she has completed her training, will be responsible for the Bromsgrove and Redditch area of the County and work in conjunction with Bobbie Matulja the Access & Bridleways Officer for the County.

As usual all Committee Members, together with contact details, are listed on the Worcestershire page of the BHS website. If anyone thinks that they would like to become more involved and would like to join the Committee, please contact myself or Andrea Jackman, the Regional Development Officer, to find out what is involved.

**Frank Randle**

**Worcestershire County Chairman**

## **Events for 2014**

As our Committee funds are quite healthy at the present time, we have decided to heavily subsidise some of the events this year, as well as introducing a pilot bursary initiative. As a result subsidised events and the bursary will only be open to Worcestershire BHS members. The planned events for the coming year are outlined below.

### **Worcestershire BHS Bursary System**

The Committee has decided to introduce a bursary system for 2014, the criteria of which is as follows:

1. Worcestershire BHS Committee to confer bursaries to individual members to progress their involvement and achievement in equestrian sport.
2. The bursary amount shall be up to £250 per individual and will be paid directly to the trainer or organisation with whom the bursary is to be spent.
3. Applicants must be members of the BHS and reside in Worcestershire.
4. Applicants will be required to complete an application form detailing how they would use the bursary amount (for example training towards achieving an equine related goal or to pay for a BHS examination) and why they think they deserve the award.
5. By applying applicants agree to associated publicity in relation to the award.
6. The number of bursaries awarded will be determined by the Worcestershire Committee dependent upon the number of applications.
7. The closing date for 2014 applications is 1 April 2014.

For application forms and further details please contact Lisa Randle at [lisa\\_randle@btinternet.com](mailto:lisa_randle@btinternet.com).

### **Starting March 2014: BHS Horse Owners Certificate Courses Levels 1 & 2**

Starting Wednesday 12 March 7pm - 9pm at Gainsborough House Hotel, Bewdley Hill, Kidderminster DY11 6BS for 13 weeks. Each level lasts approximately 6 weeks (including one week for the optional exam). We work as fast or as slow as the needs of the group dictate. Suitable for new owners, those thinking about buying a horse/pony or parents of horse mad children (minimum age 12 years). The syllabus can be viewed on the BHS website.

These courses are heavily subsidised and are available to Worcestershire BHS members for only £20 for each level (£40 for both) including the exam and exam moderation. Certificates will be issued by BHS HQ for presentation to successful candidates. Payment required on booking to secure your place at this very special price. For an application form and any further details please contact Lisa Randle at [lisa\\_randle@btinternet.com](mailto:lisa_randle@btinternet.com).

### **Saturday 12 April 2014: Horse Agility Day at New House Farm, Blakedown**

Back by popular demand after two enjoyable days in 2013, Sheila Reed will be on hand to put you through your paces in agility and obstacle negotiation training sessions on foot with your horse, followed by a competition in the afternoon. This is a great way to build up your relationship with your horse and learn new skills. Suitable for everyone. Cost is £35 per person and open to everyone to take part. For an application form and any further details please contact Frank Randle at [frankierandle@btinternet.com](mailto:frankierandle@btinternet.com) or call 07917 273338.

### **Saturday 17 May 2014: Heather Lucas Memorial Regional Adult Mounted Games**

The games will once again be held at Rodbaston College, nr Penkridge, South Staffs. The rules have been changed and the games themselves have been modified so that no rider has to dismount. This has been done for health and safety reasons and to make it a more 'level playing field' for those who ride horses as opposed to ponies.

Entries are limited to nine teams for this year, teams consisting of four mounted and one foot person. For rules, details of games and booking please contact Andrea Jackman, the Regional Development Officer [a.jackman@bhs.org.uk](mailto:a.jackman@bhs.org.uk) or call 02476 840790.

### **May, June & July 2014: Intermediate Teaching Test Course with Paul Ingram BHSI**

This is a series of 3 training mornings with Paul Ingram BHSI, specifically to assist registered instructors intending or considering undertaking the Intermediate Teaching Test. The sessions will be mainly practically based, covering the ITT syllabus and giving candidates the opportunity to learn and practice their skills in a safe and supportive teaching environment.

Sessions will be held at Oakley Farm, Pulley Lane, Droitwich, Worcs WR9 7JL by kind permission of Susanne and Ian Frank at the following times:

Session 1: 9.30am - 12.30pm, Saturday 10 May

Session 2: 9.30am - 12.30pm, Saturday 7 June

Session 3: 9.30am - 1pm, Sunday 6 July

This training course is heavily subsidised and costs just £30 per candidate to BHS Registered Instructors (BHSAI or PTT) residing in Worcestershire. Numbers are limited and early application is recommended. For an application form and any further details please contact Lisa Randle at [lisa\\_randle@btinternet.com](mailto:lisa_randle@btinternet.com).

### **May, June, July & August 2014: Dressage/Flatwork Training with Islay Auty FBHS**

Islay Auty is a nationally and internationally renowned dressage instructor/coach and she has agreed to teach a series of 4 sessions for grass roots riders in the Worcestershire area. *These lessons are intended to be progressive and therefore riders are encouraged to book for all four sessions in the series wherever possible.*

Riders will be grouped according to ability (walk and trot/prelim and prelim/novice) with four riders per group. Sessions will be held at Lincomb Equestrian, nr Stourport, Worcs DY13 9RB on the following dates (10am start each day):

Sunday 18 May, Saturday 21 June, Saturday 26 July and Saturday 30 August. These sessions are likely to be extremely popular therefore only bookings with payments can be accepted on a first come first served basis. This training is heavily subsidised costing just £15 per rider per one hour session to Worcestershire BHS members only. For an application form and any further details please contact Lisa Randle at [lisa\\_randle@btinternet.com](mailto:lisa_randle@btinternet.com).

### **Saturday 28 September 2014: Heavy Horse Experience Day, Lincolns Farm, Besford**

Back again by demand after last years' very popular event, this is your chance to see the amazing spectacle of the gentle giants of the horse world working the land and carrying out farming tasks as

they would have done before the advent of today's tractors and machinery. Learn about harness and the basic driving principles, try your hand at driving and have a go at harrowing and ploughing.

Places are limited so if you're interested book early. Cost is £25 per participant and £5 for spectators and is open to everyone. For bookings and further information contact Frank Randle on [frankierandle@btinternet.com](mailto:frankierandle@btinternet.com) or 07917 273338.