

HORSE WEEK



A weekly round-up of equestrian sport

Compiled by:
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IN BRIEF

Charity gymkhana

THE annual Tamniarn Perpetual Charity Gymkhana will take place on Saturday, June 27 at Hillhead Road, Castledawson, commencing at 10.30am.

There will be the usual Pony and Horse Jumping Classes, as well as High Jump, Top Score, Tiny Tots jumping, Games, Horse and Pony Showing and a cake stall.

All proceeds will go towards the Castle Hill Residents Fund. For further information, contact Hugh at 028 7946 8687 or 078601 47973.

Attention working hunter ponies

CONNELL Hill is holding a Pony Working Hunter Day on Sunday, June 28 with qualifiers for PUK, start time 10am.

For further details on this or any Connell Hill events contact Gillian on 07803 178009.

Boot sale at Burn

SATURDAY, June 27 will see a Car Boot Sale taking place at the Burn Equestrian Centre. The sale starts at 11am and is open to everyone - cars £5 and trailers £10.

For further information, contact the Burn Equestrian Centre on 028 9040 2384.

Midway challenge continues...

THE Midway Group Jump Challenge continues this weekend, with the fourth leg of this exciting league being held on Saturday, June 27 at Tullylish, Gilford, Co Down, starting at 9am sharp. Classes are 3'3", 2'9" and 2'6". The final of the league will be held the following Saturday, July 4, also at Tullylish.

For further information, please contact Marina Hope on 00 353 86 2553391 or email marina.hope@btinternet.com

Tullymurry reminder

TULLYMURRY Equestrian Centre, Clough, Downpatrick should see some good competition at the annual Cross-Country Derby on Sunday, July 5.

This was great 'cruc' last year, when a short cross-country course was interlaced with show jumps. Classes at 2'3", 2'9" and 3'3" will cater for all abilities. Entries close on Thursday, July 2.

Phone 028 4481 1880 or go to www.tullymurryequestrian.com for details.

Go As You Please for North Antrim

THE North Antrim Riding Club is holding a Go As You Please on Sunday, July 5 from 2 - 5pm at Drumsamney, Tobermore, by kind permission of John and Violet Johnson. This includes a round of show jumping and entrants MUST ring for start times and further details. Tel: 07845 840348.

Gransha dressage

GRANSHA Equestrian Centre would like to remind competitors that entries for the final date (July 5) of their 'Dressage 4 Everyone' competition, close on Sunday, June 28. Everyone is welcome. There will be league prizes for those who have competed in two out of the three shows.

Check out www.granshaequestrian.co.uk for more information.



■ **STAR IN THE MAKING:** Levana Regan won the family pony championship at Saintfield Show with 'Starburst'. (FW25-531AH)

PICTURE: Anne Hughes

Reports, results and more pics

>>>P82-

HSI announces eventing long list for European Championships

HORSE Sport Ireland (HSI)'s Eventing High Performance Manager Ginny Elliot has named a revised squad, from which she will select the Irish team for the European Championships in Fontainebleau, France in September.

The following is the squad in alphabetical order:

Declan Cullen, Glenhill Gold; Brian Curran Cournane, Rossbeigh and The Sally Rod; Geoff Curran, Kilkishen and The Jump Jet; Ciaran Glynn, Killosser Kruisita; Louise Lyons, Watership Down; Joseph Murphy, Sportsfield Othello; Austin O'Connor, Pocket Rocket; Sacha Pemble, I've been Dun; Elizabeth Power, Kilpatrick River; George Russell, Young Man; Michael Ryan, Old Road; Patricia Ryan, Fernhill Clover Mist; Sarah Wardell, Killeenduff Boy; Sam Watson, Horseware Bushman.

Declan Cullen and Sarah Wardell were not part of the original training squad of 19 riders selected at the start of the year, but have been brought into the squad based on their performances at Tattersalls and Bramham.

Ginny Elliot said that she was naming as many as 14 riders on the squad as it was still over three months from the

Championships and that a lot could happen between now and then.

"I believe in competition for places and this regard I have decided to keep 14 riders on board from which six will be selected to go to the Championships. If some riders who are not currently on the squad put in an impressive performance they could also come back into play," she said.

Ms Elliot pointed out that the riders had shown great commitment to the programme, with large number of riders having good results in the past two months and others showing real potential to step up to Championship level. However, she cautioned against increasing expectations.

"While we have made real progress, it is important that we keep things in perspective. Having a team with a medal chance at a championship is a very tall order and we have some way to go before we can count ourselves as genuine medal contenders. However, we are definitely going in the right direction and we are looking forward to working with the riders at upcoming competitions and training days to try and achieve further improvement," she explained.

Ms Elliot, who has been with Horse Sport Ireland for just over a year, having joined the new Governing Body in March 2008, highlighted the importance of the squad training days, which

had been put in place since the start of the year.

"At the start of the year, we had to make a choice between whether to concentrate our budget on training days or going to competitions and we made the choice to focus on training. The two squad trainers Ferdi Eilberg in Dressage and Michael Quirke in Show Jumping have made a real difference given that they have only been in place since the start of the year.

"We also spend time at the sessions examining DVDs of the riders' recent cross-country performances and I believe this is proving to be beneficial," she said.

Ms Elliot said that a number of the riders on the list would be competing at Barbury Castle Trials in early July, with Hartpury in August being another key target for the squad, while some will be going to Gatcombe. "Six riders can compete at the Championships with four of these being part of the team. I would hope to be in a position to name the squad of six after Hartpury in August.

"However, those who don't make the Championship squad will still be in the loop with some planning to go to the four star events in Burgley and Pau if they are not going to the Championships.

"We have also set Blenheim in September as the target for our development squad riders who are not eligible for under age championships," she said.

HORSE SCENE

It is always advisable to ring the venue before setting off, to ensure the event is taking place

equestrian events

THURSDAY, JUNE 25 - Show jumping league at Knockagh View Equestrian Centre, Greenisland, 6.30pm. Registered Horse and Pony League at Kernan's Equestrian Centre, Crossmaglen - horses 10am, ponies 5.30pm. Show jumping at Ballykeel Equestrian Sport, Ballymartin, 7pm - pre-novice, novice, open. Go As You Please at Lusk's, Carryduff / Lisburn, 1pm-8pm. Pony Training Show at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook, 7.30pm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 - Working Hunter at Moy Riding School Ltd, 7pm. CTG Equestrian 12-week horse and pony training league at Ecclesville Centre, Fintona, 6pm. Seven-week Show Jumping League (on grass, weather permitting) at Connell Hill, Randalstown, 6.30pm. Three-Day Summer Horse Festival at Cavan Equestrian Centre - entries on day. Pony Jumping Training Show at Portmore Equestrian Centre, Aghalee, 7.30pm. Mini League Show jumping at Mill Yard Equestrian Centre, Anahilt, Hillsborough, 6.30pm. R.D.S. Future Horse Performance Qualifier at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook, 2pm. Warrenpoint and District Riding Club show jumping at Moygannon showgrounds, located between Warrenpoint and Rostrevor, 7pm.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 - Newry Show - including Jump Cross hosted by Warrenpoint and District Riding Club (1pm). BDS Banbridge Show. Game Fair at Shanes Castle, Antrim. NPS N.I. Summer Show at Knockagh View Equestrian Centre, Greenisland, 9.30am. Midway Group Cross-Challenge at Tullylish, Gilford, Co Down, 9am sharp.

Three-Day Summer Horse Festival at Cavan Equestrian Centre - entries on day. Go As You Please over extended and improved cross-country course at Ravensdale Lodge, 10am. Beechgrove 'Go As You Please' 90-acre cross-country course between Dromore and Banbridge - open 10am - 4pm (weather permitting). Newcastle and District Riding Club Two-Phase at Norman Dodds, Tullybrannigan Road. Non-registered Horse and Pony Jumping at Portmore Equestrian Centre, Aghalee, 10am. Ards Riding Club Show Jumping Derby at Bairdstown Road, Ballywalter (70cm-1m). Tamniarn Perpetual Charity Gymkhana at Hillhead Road, Castledawson, 10.30am. Mossvale Riding Club Show Jumper of the Year Qualifier at Brookvale Farm, Lisbane Road, Saintfield, 1pm. Ulster Rural Riders Association Pleasure Ride at Woodburn Forest, near Carrickfergus, start time 11am - 2pm. Car Boot Sale at the Burn Equestrian Centre, Knockbracken, 11am.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28 - Game Fair at Shanes Castle. Dressage for everyone at Gransha Equestrian Centre, Bangor (pre-entry). Two-Phase event at Lisbane Farm, Saintfield. Go as You Please Cross-country at Laurel View Equestrian Centre, Templepatrick, 12 noon - 4pm. Jumping Derby at Knockagh View Equestrian Centre, Greenisland. Three-Day Summer Horse Festival at Cavan Equestrian Centre - entries on day. Go As You Please over extended and improved cross-country course at Ravensdale Lodge,

10am. Beechgrove 'Go As You Please' 90-acre cross-country course between Dromore and Banbridge - open 10am - 4pm (weather permitting). Pony Working Hunter Show (on grass, weather permitting), with qualifiers for Equifest & PUK at Connell Hill, Randalstown, 10am. Summer League at The Burn Equestrian Centre, Knockbracken, 11am. SJJ Jumping at Portmore Equestrian Centre, Aghalee - ponies 10am, horses 4pm approx. Dressage for All at Mill Yard Equestrian Centre, Anahilt, Hillsborough (pre-entry). ILDRA CTR's and Pleasure Rides at Baronscourt, start time 10.30am - 1pm. Danescroft Go As You Please cross-country, Lisburn, open from 10am to 4pm approx. (weather permitting). Registered Show Jumping at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook - Horses 9.30am sharp, Ponies 1pm.

MONDAY, JUNE 29 - Moy Riding Club Summer League Jumping at Moy Field, 6.30pm - Horses and Ponies. Maine Killyless Riding Club Summer Jumping League (horses and ponies, minimus to open) at Caherty Road, Broughshane, 6.30pm.

TUESDAY, JUNE 30 - Jump Cross at Lisbane Farm, Saintfield, 6pm. Riding and Road Safety four-week training course at Laurel View Equestrian Centre, Templepatrick, 7pm - pre-book. Horse Jumping Training Show at Portmore Equestrian Centre, Aghalee, 7.30pm. North Coast Riding Club six-week Jumping League at Coole Farm, Aghadowey, 6.30pm. Jump Cross training at The Beeches Equestrian Centre, Ballyclare.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1 - Registered Horse League on Olympic Standard All-Weather Grass Arenas at Ravensdale Lodge, classes 80cm 1.30m, start time 12 noon. Strule Valley Riding Club annual summer show jumping league at Ecclesville, Fintona, 6.30pm. Horse Training Show at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook, 7.30pm. NWAC of NIWA horse behaviour lecture demonstration at Moneydig Show Jumping centre (outside Killrea), 7.30pm.

THURSDAY, JULY 2 - Registered Horse and Pony League at Kernan's Equestrian Centre, Crossmaglen - horses 10am, ponies 5.30pm. Show jumping league at Knockagh View Equestrian Centre, Greenisland, 6.30pm. Dressage League at Carlingford Lough Equestrian Centre - pre-entry. Dressage competition (preliminary and novice levels) at Carlingford Lough Equestrian Centre, 6pm. Pony Training Show at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook, 7.30pm.

FRIDAY, JULY 3 - Warrenpoint and District Riding Club show jumping at Moygannon showgrounds, located between Warrenpoint and Rostrevor, 7pm. CTG Equestrian 12-week horse and pony training league at Ecclesville Centre, Fintona, 6pm. Seven-week Show Jumping League (on grass, weather permitting) at Connell Hill, Randalstown, 6.30pm. Mini League Show jumping at Mill Yard Equestrian Centre, Anahilt, Hillsborough, 6.30pm.

To include items in Horse Scene contact:

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26

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