

CHESTON FARM

EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Cheston Farm, Wrangaton, Devon. TQ10 9HL

CHESTON FARM E.C NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2007 - No. 2

4 months already!!! Where did it go? Now it is time to give another update to customers present and future. Autumn is here and with it some good progress has been made (our livery base has doubled!) but plenty more is yet to come. Best wishes. Sophie and Andrew

The Livery

We are really pleased to welcome 5 new horses here on livery in the space of just one month: Bella joined us followed shortly by Mr G, and then buddies, Reg & Coffee came together (to christen the newly renovated front block) ; finally, Cherry came along. The renovated front stable block now has a warm terracotta exterior and a warmer and much dryer interior with automatic water, new door catches, front mats and natural lighting panels. All boxes are now taken! We have applied the makeover to the middle block of five boxes - all are currently occupied leaving us with only 2 boxes ready and waiting for occupants. The big barn will be made over next year and 12 boxes will then be available.

Lessons/Events

We are currently welcoming customers wanting lessons (on their own horses) and this is attracting both livery and local riders. The indoor arena is watered and harrowed and proving useful. Our fun little clear round competition attracted a few local riders and fences rose steadily from 18" to a respectable 2'6". Melissa Hardman on Bella proved consistent with 6 out of 6 clear rounds!

The Indoor arena also hosted a busy Trec South West training day as they rode over, under and through various obstacles. It was lovely to see the car park full of trailers and lorries. A few riders also were able to ride off to enjoy the moor.

Training Clinics : We are getting in two top class trainers to help Sophie and Solstice prepare for their 2008 event season. Both can teach any interested riders at any level. Sue Edwards is a British Eventing accredited trainer and Andy Lovell is a BHSI qualified instructor. Private lessons are £40 per hour (plus £5 arena hire). Contact Sophie for further details of dates.

The Big Plan - progress....

The Arena: As expected this is proving to be a little slow. An architect has been commissioned to design the café, meeting rooms and tack room part of the indoor school. He has not been frightened off - yet - and managed not to have any serious injuries after an old step-ladder he found collapsed under him! Wood Worm!! Both Jackson Arenas and Martin Collins Arenas have done site visits and confirmed the amount of work we guessed needed doing, does indeed need doing! Plans have been drawn up and we look forward to seeing the work start when Planning Permission has been gained. Watch this space!!!!

Pasture Renovation: This also desperately needed starting and has gotten off to a flying start. Fields have been pH tested, found to be far too acidic and 32 tonnes of lime have been applied. Several fields were so weed infested that they have been ploughed under and reseeded. Tiny grass shoots are just emerging now much to our excitement. Next summer they should be suitable for taking a cut of hay and then horses can be re-introduced. Our best 10 acres, which have been spared all summer, are now being grazed by happy horses which is a very satisfying sight. We will be watching the ponies closely for expanding waistlines!

Finally

A few new additions to our furry family include two abandoned kittens (now fine young cats) called Sid and Stripe - aimed at being mousers they actually spend all day playing and sleeping on the hay stack. A 3 year old filly, Spice, joined us in late summer and has been lunged, long reined and backed. To join in the canine chaos: Rusty, my Dad's Irish Setter, aka 'the Ginger Whinger', can also be found bounding around the yard as we play dog sitters for a few weeks.

Stay warm & happy riding
Sophie & Andrew

Contact us on

**IF YOU WISH TO CONTACT US PLEASE CALL:
01364 649 461 OR MOBILE 07977 588 754**