

LWSC February Newsletter 2017

LWSC Quiz

We'd like to thank each and every one of you who attended our quiz night on Saturday 4th February, it was a great evening, and lots of fun was had by all! We look forward to hosting our next one.



HKEF Inter-school Challenge

On Friday 24th February, we held the first lower division heat of the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation inter-school challenge. All the lower division heats will take place here, at LWSC and we will also host the final of both the higher and lower divisions, in April. We would like to say a big well done to all who came and competed, you all rode very well. We'd also like wish good luck to all riders who are going to be competing in the upcoming heats in March.



BREC Competitions

Dressage

On Sunday 5th February, LWSC attended the Dressage competition that was held at BREC. Although we didn't have many competitors, we had some great results. We would like to say a special well done to Luci Friend & Sirocco too (Rocky) who competed together for the first time at BREC and WON their preliminary test, excellent result! Also, well done to Elizabeth Leven & Sebastien who came 3rd in the same class. Both horses and riders completed with scores over 60%!

On Saturday 25th February, there was another Dressage competition held at BREC and again, we produced some very good results. Well done to everybody!

Prelim

Luci Friend & Sirocco Too (Rocky) - 1st

Becky Parkes & Black Star (Galaxy) - 2nd

Novice

Annabel Dyson & Koenigsberg - 1st

Christian Allderidge & Happy Eagle - 2nd

Becky Parkes & Black Star (Galaxy) - 3rd



Showjumping



On 18th & 19th February, BREC held a Show jumping competition which consisted of both local classes and also the FEI warm up competition. This class is to help prepare any horses and riders who are planning to compete in the 1st round of this year's FEI World Jumping Challenge that is going to be held on the weekend of the 4th & 5th March. We had 3 combinations of horses and riders competing in this class, Luci Friend & Macaroon, Nicolas Yu & Bentley and Gabby Thomas & Fun Faster. We'd like to wish the three of them, and also Christian Dyson and Koenigsberg, the best of luck!

We'd also like to congratulate all other riders who competed in the local classes; we had some very good results indeed!



Saturday

50cm

Natalie Lui & Solar Spirit – Clear

Seth Thomas & Blondie – Clear

Velvet Lung & Anneka – Clear

Carla Cousins & Happy Eagle – Clear

Isaac Wong & Young Supreme – Clear

Sammie Lam & Toby – Clear

Jamie Young & Blondie – Clear

Amelia Qvist & Jacob – Clear

Melanie Young & Anneka – Clear

70cm

Annabel Dyson & Koenigsberg – 2nd

Isaac Wong & Young Supreme – 3rd

Seth Thomas & Blondie – 4th

Velvet Lung & Anneka – 5th

80cm

Gabby Thomas & Jigsaw – 1st

Annabel Dyson & Koenigsberg – 3rd

Sunday

60cm

Eva Lohan & Anneka – Clear

80cm

Annabel Dyson & Koenigsberg – 1st

Isaac Wong & Young Supreme – 2nd

90cm (With Joker)

Luci Friend & Macaroon – 4th



Eventing

On Saturday 25th February, there was a One Day Event held at BREC. We would like to say a huge well done to Sammie Lam & Toby who finished second in the 50cm – 70cm class, brilliant result for them both! Also, well done to Christian Alderidge & Happy Eagle who finished 1st in both the 80cm Show Jumping class and the 50cm-70cm pure Cross Country Class. This was the penultimate event of the season and the Horse of the Year Eventing Show will be held on Saturday 18th March. Best of luck to all horses and riders that will be competing at that event.



Coming Up In March...

Hong Kong Equestrian Federation Interschool Challenge

We will be running all of the heats of the lower division interschool challenge, best of luck to all riders who will be competing; we look forward to seeing you again for the final in April

FEI World Jumping Challenge

Best of luck to all riders who will be competing in the first round of the FEI World Jumping Challenge that will be held on the weekend of the 4th&5th March

Dressage Horse of the Year Show warm up competition

This year's Dressage HOYS will be held over the first weekend of April. The warm up competition is to enable horses and riders to have a last minute practice and receive feedback to help them towards the HOYS competition.

Eventing Horse of the Year Show

The HOYS venting competition will be held on Saturday 18th March. Best of luck to all riders who will be competing.

A Day in the Life of Lulu & Lilly

Our day starts at 6am sharp. Our first assignment is to greet Deborah, Christian or Luci over the road as they leave the house. We are delighted to be the welcoming committee and escort them safely onto the premises for another magical day at Lo Wu. If only we could percolate coffee.....

As the sun rises, well rested after a good night's sleep on the comfortable sofas provided by Lo Wu, we're full of exuberance. One of our initial duties is to inspect the horses as they are hayed, swiftly followed by helping Howard build courses of poles. He's one of our favourite people, and not just because he unfailingly provides daily treats! To demonstrate our adoration, we remain in the arena with him as he rides, just in case he requires any tips or support.



Lulu arrived at Lo Wu as a little bundle of cuteness.



Thank you for the Lo Wu sofas!

Several livery owners ride early in the morning, and we demonstrate our excitement upon their arrival. We have two rather different personalities, and I'm (Lulu) very proud of the polite young lady (Lilly) I have raised, despite being such a rambunctious canine myself.

Between greetings, regular siestas are required to keep us fresh. Lilly rather likes the drain covers (clever girl - they're cool in the summer and warm in the winter), whereas I favour resting in the office, under Jackie and Aihua's feet, keeping a watchful eye on reception.

Occasionally, our territory is threatened, as people and dogs make the incorrect assumption that the path behind Lo Wu is public. I'll set the record straight - we consider it ours. The most direct route to the path is through the arenas. I learned a valuable lesson when I was about eight weeks old. Lying in camouflage amongst the sand surface, I wondered how long it would take for anyone to notice me. Well, as it happens, they didn't; not even the horse who came straight over the top of me! In fairness, he did his utmost not to actually step on me, but one ear did take a little longer to find its prickiness than the other. Lesson learned - I conduct a rapid reconnaissance for horses before sprinting through the sand now.



Resting in the shade.

Mondays are one of our favourite days of the week. The farriers are here. Yippee! This means we are allowed to chew - you've guessed it - horn. It's the part of the horse's hoof that is cut off during trimming. Now, don't you get a gurgly tummy thinking about this, but it's so darn tasty, and full of protein.

If we're really lucky, and Deborah is receptive to my fluttery, long, puppy-dog eyelashes, we are allowed to accompany her to her flat at lunchtime.

I strut across the road, tail raised, and pretend I'm a house dog for a couple of hours, lying on the cool tiles in the summer, and basking in front of the heater in the winter. Part of the 'house dog' role play includes receiving more treats (usually ham or cheese) and shedding my hair so that the flat reminds her of us when we're not there.

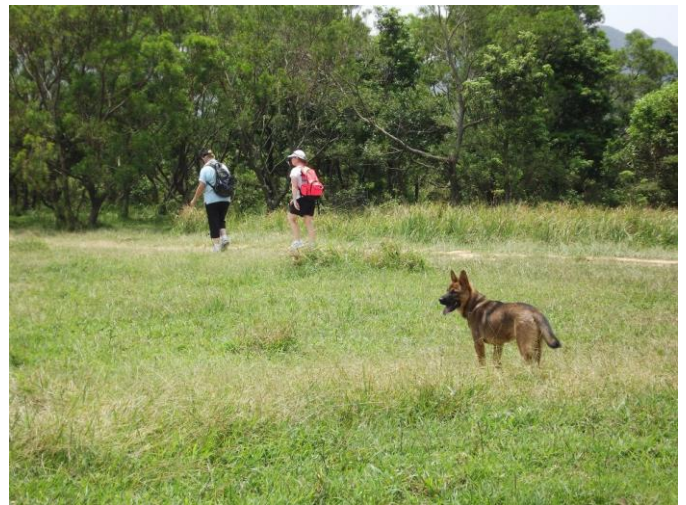
When we're not invited to Deborah's for lunch, we romp with Sebastian, who is turned out in the sand arena for a full two hours of playtime with us. He's great fun, and actually really gentle. We chase, he runs; he chases, and we bound like a T8!

After lunch, we recognise the sound of Angelina's car from a mile away. We're frenzied in the office when we hear that engine, frantic to exit and greet her. She's one of our favouritest people, and she has treats. Beginning to see a bit of a pattern here?



Mother and daughter with everlasting batteries, Lulu and Lilly always enjoy a game together.

What do we dislike? Hmm, not much really, although those arena sprinklers drive us crazy! All that whooshing and splashing. Makes us bark like maniacs. Interschools competitions are a bit overwhelming. I get the shakes. Too many people at once, and too much excitement. Maybe I'm an introvert?! Ooh, and I dislike car rides. I was invited to join a couple of hikes with Deborah and Melissa when I was young, until I developed car sickness. That put an end to those journeys.



Although she loved the walks, the car journeys made Lulu anxious.

'Cat Cat', or 'Meow Meow', or whatever her name is, has a special place in our hearts, but between you and me, she's a bit fickle. Sometimes she's up for a frolic, but occasionally I receive a swipe on the nose as I attempt to instigate a boisterous game. Never know where I am with that one. Difficult to read, cats, don't you think?

However, those not difficult to read are people. I'm not sure if I can share this with you, but we are part of the Dogs on Guard Squad (D.O.G.S.). It's an elite unit, only two of us in it, but our modus operandi is to recognise who is a Lo Wu rider, and who is not, and I tell you, we are awesome at it! If your name's not down (on a rider registration form), you're not coming in.



As the sun starts to lower, so Lulu and Lilly begin to settle after another fun day at Lo Wu.

As the sun lowers behind the hills and late afternoon arrives, the centre becomes quiet and relaxed. Elkie rides Roy regularly in the evenings, and she always brings us treats, ooh, and of course we share with 'Meow Meow'. Oh, how we love treats, and the people who bring them!

Edward, the lovely night guard, arrives and helps us to reflect upon the day and we begin to wind down, passing some of our patrol responsibilities over to him. The sofas are calling and it's time to for beauty sleep. I think I saw a stray, grey hair the other day. More rest required. Night night and sweet dreams.