

## ABINGDON GROUP RDA SPONSORED RIDE

At

Blenheim Palace on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009

By kind permission of His Grace the Duke of Marlborough

### Entry for Horse Boxes

Through Bladon Gate, then follow the RDA signs.

### Parking

In a field. Refreshments will be available in the Horse Box Park. The Pleasure Gardens, Café & Shop, and toilets are just a short walk away.

### The Ride

Will start and finish at the Horse Box Park. It follows the track of the European Three Day Event course, which will have been held the previous weekend. Although no jumps are available, riding will be on the wonderful old turf of the park, past the Palace, with stunning views across the bridge at Bladon, and through some beautiful wooded areas right up to High Lodge. A small part of the ride will be on the private Park roads. His Grace requests that riders **DO NOT** ride on the mown verges in these areas but **DO** stick to the road. We must respect his wishes. A shorter course can be taken by NOT crossing the bridge, or by crossing the bridge and just following the event course, not continuing up the road to High Lodge. Led competitors might prefer one of these options.

### General Information

The Palace and Gardens are open to the public (last admission at 4.45 pm) and top up tickets can be purchased at the Palace front door. The small train does a shuttle service from the Pleasure Gardens up to the Palace and back. Otherwise it is a 10 minute walk. The Gardens are immaculate (and free). The Pleasure Gardens, Cafeteria, Butterfly House, Lavender Garden, Maze and Children's Adventure Playground are very near the Horse Box Park, so any 'Hangers On' can entertain themselves while you are riding.

Cars enter the usual way and head for the Pleasure Gardens. Competitors and Horse Vehicle Drivers will be admitted free (on production of their RDA Sponsored Ride Pass) but all spectators must pay the usual entry fee for Park and Gardens.

Group Rate	Adult	£4.50
	Senior	£3.50
	Children	£1.50
	Under 5	Free

Carers accompanying a disabled person enter free (the disabled person pays unless they have a competitors pass).