

Teams Roundup 2016

Bourne Valley Riding Club

incorporating Woodhay District Riding Club
(Affiliated to the British Horse Society)

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Area 17 Festival of the Horse Qualifier, Rockbourne – Sunday 17th April 2016

Unfortunately due to the heavy rain 2 days before the Qualifier, the disappointing decision had to be made to cancel this event after all the hard work had been completed to run it. Teams and individuals to go to the Championships were drawn out of a hat. The qualifying team was excellently chosen, as South Wilts (including BVRC member Roy Southey) went on to win the 90 Team Challenge at the Championships. Well done South Wilts.

Susie Pool



Winter Intermediate Championships – Saturday 30th April 2016

Fay Chivers and Wolf Whistle were our sole representatives at the Championships at Bury Farm EC competing as an individual in the Elementary. Doris had a spooky start at the judge's car coming up the first centre line, which Fay then had to contain during the rest of the test. They produced a good, polished and accurate performance, but perhaps not quite with their usual full level of flair, as Fay did not want a repeat of the big spook! They finished seventh in their arena. Well done Fay and Doris.



Festival of the Horse Combined Training Championships, Aston le Walls – Sunday 5th June 2016

The day beckoned with sunshine and some wind. The showground was well set out and a good competition unfolded. The dressage and show jumping arenas for the Combined Training were next to each other so it was relatively straightforward for Lindsay and myself to move between them and see all our team riders. We had one full team; two riders riding a 90 Horse Trials dressage test and 75cm jumping, and two riding the 100 Horse Trials dressage test and 85cm show jumping. We also had an individual in Michelle Griffiths in the 90/75cm class. All of our riders produced beautiful dressage tests with good marks. Susie had to contend with an enforced dismount prior to her test as all competitors had to be on the ground whilst an air ambulance landed in the neighbouring field – on the cross country course – until its departure. Living on Salisbury Plain this is not an uncommon occurrence at home, so whilst Humphrey was unfazed, Health and Safety requirements came in to force with all riders being ordered to dismount. Thankfully the junior rider involved proved to be OK at the end of the day.

The show jumping proved to be influential and a good test in the all-weather arena. There was a raised bank next to it so we had an excellent view. Everyone tried their best, with clear rounds hard to come by. Michelle, jumping in her first Championships for the Club having qualified at her first Area Qualifier, had a great day finishing as our highest placed rider in 10th place in her arena with her lovely black ex-racehorse Ego. Well done to all!

BVRC Combined Training Team – 23 rd (50)		Dressage	D Pens	SJ	SJ Pens	Arena Place
Sandra Groves	Timmy	90Q	33.8	75cm	4	15 th
Katie Gould	Farwinds Little Miss Sunshine	90Q	29.0	75cm	17	22 nd
Susie Pool	Folds Acacia	100Q	35.0	85cm	30	24 th
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl	100Q	30.5	85cm	8	13 th
			Team total (best 3 arena placings)			50 (23 rd)
BVRC Combined Training Individual						
Michelle Griffiths	Lord Ego	90Q	31.5	75cm	10	10 th

Lynn Mead



Area 17 2016 Horse Trials Qualifier, Moreton EC – Sunday 19th June 2016

We had a great day at the Area 17 Horse Trials excellently run by Moreton EC, spirits undampened by the developing rain. There were one or two individual disappointments, such as Lisa kicking herself for jumping a wrong fence in the combination 2 from home (so they did actually jump everything clear!). Louise was horrified at her dressage score, putting her near the bottom of her section after dressage on her beautifully moving warmblood. Thankfully this was short-lived as, after some polite questioning, it transpired that the a few scores had been put in the wrong line on the scoreboard so against the wrong riders. Phew! Sadly though, Willow had a little glitch at the water jump and accrued 20 penalties there. The XC time at Moreton is notoriously difficult to achieve and of our riders only Minette in the 80, and Becky and Chica in the 90 achieved it. Although Minette was our only rider to be placed in the top 6 individually in her arena (1st for the second year running), Lorraine and Annie also had great scores to put the team into 1st place and qualify for the Championships! The 90 Team came 3rd, with brand new member Becky Morby and Penhill Limited Edition individually 1st so she also qualified for the Championships. The 100 Team also won, with individual 2nd, 3rd and 4th places, so they qualified for the Championships too! We only had 3 in our 100 Team as poor Lisa's mount, a King's Troop horse, was

suddenly re-called to duty unexpectedly, but in fact all 3 participating 100 Teams only had 3 riders each. Individual 80 rider Jenny Allan, although unplaced, had a personal best, mostly requiring more speed cross country when they are sufficiently confident. That's what you call a good day at the office :-). Details about the Championships to follow



BVRC 80 Team – 1 st (91.8)		Pens	Arena Place	BVRC 90 Team – 3 rd (125.9)		Pens	Arena Place
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	39.4		Lisa Leighton	Kerslake Moor	E	
Minette Batters	Bereford Magic	21.5	1st	Becky Morby	Penhill Limited Edition	27.8	1st
Annie Rae	Mrs Pickle	33.1		Chica Herbert	Ballyell Nibbler	35.0	
Lorraine Storer	Pasodoble	37.2		Louise Wright	Wych Willow	63.1	
BVRC 80 Individual				BVRC 100 Team – 1 st (81.5)			
Jenny Allen	Redhill Corporal	52.7		Emma Mills	Creve Lad	21.5	2nd
				Hani Milstein	Regent AS	27.1	3rd
				Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	32.9	4th

Susie Pool



Area 17 2016 Style and Show Jumping Qualifier, Bovington Saddle Club – Sunday 3rd July 2016

Unusually we were holding the summer show and style jumping qualifier on an artificial surface at Bovington Equestrian Centre. Given that the ground was fairly firm I don't think any of us minded too much! It was a glorious sunny day, which always helps. There were not masses of teams entered so it was possible to run all the classes in the one arena.

First up was the team Style Jumping competition. Two riders do a 75cm course, and two jump at 85cm. You salute the judge and then ride two large canter circles with a change of rein through trot in the middle. When the bell is rung you start your normal jumping round but are judged on how you ride the course, present the horse to the fence, how you jump the fence and your equestrian feel and the tempo of the round. If you knock a fence down you lose 2 marks. Team BVRC were on fire in this class, I have to say – we did the Club proud with a team total of 7 to win and qualify for the National Championships!

The Novice show jumping team was next, and they had two clears in the first round, and then a few poles in the second round but these were unfortunate with well ridden rounds. Becky was the highest placed individual finishing 6th with just one pole down in the second round.

The Intermediate show jumping class only had three teams starting, and it turned out to be a competition between Bourne Valley and Chilworth. There was only one double clear from a Chilworth team member,



and time was a factor in the first round until everyone realised it was tight. Nicki Strong was our lowest score with just one pole rolled in the second round to finish in 3rd place. With the heat and having been a long day, I think there were some tired horses by the end of the second round, particularly those who had jumped in the Style competition as well.

It was a well-run competition by Shillingstone and District Riding Club and a really enjoyable day with lots of camaraderie between the Clubs.

Our victorious Style jumping team with Lindsay, Susie and team mascot Lucy.

BVRC Novice Team – 3 rd (of 6)			Place	BVRC Style Team – 1 st (of 4)		Height	Place
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum			Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	75cm	2 nd
Sandra Groves	Timmy			Sandra Groves	Timmy	75cm	3 rd
Becky Morby	Penhill Limited Edition	6 th		Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl	85cm	3 rd
				Lynn Mead	Tiptoe Eldorado Sunset	85cm	2 nd
BVRC Intermediate Team – 2 nd (of 3)			Place				
Lynn Mead	Tiptoe Eldorado Sunset	5 th					
Becky Darke	Nadisker						
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl						
Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	3 rd					

Lynn Mead



Area 17 2016 Summer Dressage Qualifier, Pinkmead Farm – Sunday 10th July 2016

We've been to Pinkmead Farm for a number of years either for the Area Dressage or Style and Show Jumping. The ground has always been on the firmer side previously but the conditions were very different this year. Several lorries had to get towed into position, or out at the end of the day. The scoreboard lorry was planned to be parked next to the arenas but only made it halfway! I had intended to ask my farrier for stud holes but forgot. As it happened I certainly didn't need them. There was one point going round my arena that I thought Humphrey had sort of spooked, but then realised that perhaps a hind foot had got a bit stuck. I was lucky with my 2 arenas, which were quite rideable and not slippery. One of the Prelim arenas was really bad and holding; one rider even withdrew part way through her test. That was the arena that Jane Winson competed in and Magic was, quite magic! He didn't seem to even notice the sticky going and held his frame and balance throughout. Although some of our Arena placings look rather low, the competitions were very tight. Both the Open and RT Teams were equal 6th and we only missed out on the rosettes by one point when 4th rider places were taken into account! Our thanks go to Sue Baker for driving down to fill our helper duty slot and Philippa Thatcher for also helping out after riding.

A few weeks later, I received a call from the BRC office inviting our Prelim Team to the Championships; as the IOW and Vectis teams placed 1st and 2nd above us had to decline their Championship places. As most of our Prelim Team were already going, having qualified for the Style Jumping, we accepted the offer! More later ...

Prelim 14 Team – 3 rd (16)			Arena Place	Open Team – 7 th (15)			Arena Place
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	16 th		Nov 24	Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	8 th
Sandra Groves	Timmy	4 th		Nov 27	Philippa Thatcher	Master Stanley	3 rd
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl	2 nd		Nov 28	Becky Darke	Nadisker	7 th
Fiona Scott	Freddie	10 th		Elem 43	Jenny Cox	Biscuit Man	5 th

Riding Test Team – 7 th (30)			Arena Place
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	RT(Prelim)	11 th
Sandra Groves	Timmy	RT(Prelim)	11 th
Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	RT (Nov)	17 th
Susie Pool	Folds Acacia	RT (Nov)	8 th
Individuals			
Susie Pool	Folds Acacia	N24	13 th
Becky Darke	Nadisker	RT (Nov)	20 th

Susie Pool



2016 Horse Trials Championships, Swalcliffe Park EC – Friday 5th – Sunday 7th August 2016

Overall it was a great weekend with good camaraderie, several successes, including the outstanding win by the 80 Team, and a few disappointments. Sadly, Nicki Strong had to withdraw a few days before and it is not possible to get a replacement fit enough to do a long-format 3 Day Event with only a few days notice. After a huge effort in preparing “Riley” to get him fit for the 100 3DE, Emma withdrew at the final trot-up as neither she nor the team were likely to get placed. Both she and Lisa had very unusual run-outs at the skinny after the water – you just never know quite how different your horse will be on the XC after 2 phases of roads & tracks and a steeplechase. Hani had a great time at her first 3DE, finishing 5th in her section – a fantastic result.

It was a great result from Becky, who was competing in the individual section, so all these competitors had been 1st/2nd at their Area Qualifiers, therefore the best in the country. There were only 9.7 penalties separating the top 10 riders. She completed a brilliantly judged steeplechase at her first attempt, saving sufficient petrol to complete the XC course clear inside the time.

The weekend started with the 80 team setting the standard on the Friday in their ODE. There were great rounds from pathfinder Lorraine, Annie, and anchorman Minette. Frances was disappointed with her XC round as she and Snoopy struggled with the undulating ground – so many of the jumps are sited either on an uphill or downhill slope. However, she couldn’t be sad for long as the results came in and the whole team could celebrate their win. It was a very close competition as there were only 4.3 penalties separating the top three teams.

Our thanks go to Jenny Cox for coming all the way to Swalcliffe to be one of our official helpers, stewarding on Friday afternoon, and supporting the teams. Well done also to Frances for fitting in a morning of dressage writing on Saturday morning before packing up and going home.



BVRC 80 Team – 1st (107.0)		Pens	Arena Place	BVRC 100 Team - E		Pens	Arena Place
Lorraine Storer	Pasodoble	31.9	1 st	Emma Mills	Creve Lad	W/D	
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	E		Hani Milstein	Regent AS	43.6	5 th
Annie Rae	Mrs Pickle	41.0	10 th	Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	W/D	
Minette Batters	Bereford Magic	34.1	4 th	Lisa Leighton	Kilrainey Solo Performer	70+	
BVRC 90 Individual							
Becky Morby	Penhill Limited Edition	33.8	10 th				

Susie Pool

Personal Story by Lorraine Storer:

I decided to go up on the Thursday night, although our event was only a one day event, to save the hassle of rushing on competition day. We had a good trip up arriving about 4.30pm. We then had to take the horses to the stabling area, along with the passports, back protectors, and any hats that needed tagging, not being allocated a stable until all had been checked. The stabling was on grass and being the first horse in the stable with no bedding in it, mine thought it was

great having a grass floor, and wasted no time tucking in. The stables were quite a long way from the lorry park and it was a hive of activity, people trekking to and from the stables with all the equipment that was required.

With the horses all bedded down for the night my husband Mark and I went off to the pub that we had booked into for the night, while others were busy putting up tents for their stay. In the morning we had a leisurely time as my dressage was not until 12.30pm, but again loads of activity as the 90 and 100 teams were doing their trot ups before they could compete; horses being washed, stains being removed and manes being plaited. It was a lovely morning with such a great atmosphere.

So our competition started; I was first to go in our team. Pasodoble warmed- up well for the dressage, and the test wasn't too bad. Shortly after, it was then off to the show jumping where Susie was on hand to assist with the practice fences, then into the arena we went. Unfortunately we had one fence down, but having watched a few go this seemed to be the norm. It was then back to the trailer to get ready for the cross country - the best bit! Susie had warned us it was a hilly course - she wasn't wrong! None the less, it was a very nice course, beautifully presented. Off we went on our way finishing with a clear, just one second over the time. On finishing the XC we went back to the stables to wash down Paso and cool her off. Then we went to see how everyone else was doing and look at the scoreboards. They seemed to be taking a long time to put up the scores so we didn't know where anyone had come.

Towards the end of the day I decided to go and sort my stable out as we had to be out by 5.30pm. As we were doing this, we overheard the cross country commentator start to give out the provisional scores. Starting from 10th place, they read out the Riding Clubs' names in ascending order. Much to our surprise they announced Bourne Valley as coming 1st. We dashed back to the lorry park to spread the joyous news, so everybody frantically started re-plaiting. Finally the news was confirmed so we made our way to the SJ arena for the prize giving. We were all given sashes first (that was a great excitement as I've never won a sash before) followed by our rosettes then off we went on our lap of honour to celebrate our win. After that, we were interviewed individually had our photos taken.

What a fantastic experience, shared with a really great team and with awesome back-up; Susie, Lynn and Lindsay who were always on hand. A BIG THANK YOU to everybody!



Blenheim International Horse Trials – Riding Club Eventers 90 Challenge – Thursday 8 September 2016

Rider	Horse	SJ time	SJ flts	XC time	XC flts	Total flts	Team best of 3 flts	Team best of 3 time
Hani Milstein	Regent AS	70.15	12	111.38	0	12	8	349.07
Becky Morby	Penhill Limited Edition	77.50	0	111.71	0	0		
Chica Herbert	Ballyell Nibbler	77.00	0	123.66	4	4		
Annabel Mead	Wujiwoo	65.50	4	113.70	0	4		

Places for this prestigious competition are very oversubscribed so Bourne Valley were lucky to again receive a place, this year it was in the Eventers 90 Challenge. In previous years the Club has received a place in the 100 competition. Competitors are invited by the Club based on performance in Club, Team and other competitions.

Our four riders all turned out with plaited manes and looked very smart. The course was walked thoroughly. It consisted of eight show jumps, immediately followed by eight cross country fences (including skinnies, drops and related lines on undulating ground) and finished with one show jump. The time proved tight with a few riders picking up time faults. Our team members were due on directly after the lunch break so had the advantage (or disadvantage depending on how you look at it!) of watching other riders. Some made it look easy, whilst others struggled a lot. The arena is placed near to fence 5 of the big CCI3* cross country fence, just before you enter into the shopping village. There is a lot of people-traffic and it is close to the lorry park so it is quite buzzy; with an atmosphere and a lot to look at for the horses.



Our four riders rode one after the other at our allotted time of 13:20. Each rider represented the Club beautifully with well presented and ridden rounds. All four looked smooth and very competent. Becky and Chica were in third and fourth place for Style, although only the first placed is awarded a rosette. Our team finished just outside the rosettes on 8 faults. Great job team BVRC well done!

It was a great day with a good team spirit and a lot of smiles. Good fun was had by all.



2016 BRC National Championships, Lincoln –Saturday 10th September 2016

Having qualified our Style Jumping Team, the 4 members agreed to enter the Team of Four Dressage to make the journey to Lincoln more worthwhile than two 5 hour journeys for a single 2 minute SJ round. The entries were made and stables booked, then our Prelim Team was invited to compete too as the 2 IOW teams had withdrawn. Three of the Dressage team (Frances, Sandra and Jane) were already there so

we accepted, thinking that if Fiona couldn't go that Lynn could take her place. Things started to go awry when Sandra's dependable Timmy got a virus and we discovered that with BD's change of rules for rider gradings, Lynn was no longer eligible to ride a Prelim test. This meant that although the Style Team could continue as a team of 3, the Prelim team was down to 2 and the Team of Four down to 3 ☹. Frances Hall to the rescue - she offered Sandra the ride on her experienced team pony Trowan Max for the dressage tests. Yay, all systems go again!

Susie Pool

So, 4 riders and 5 horses made their way up North to Lincoln for the National Championships. Three of the horses were Frances Hall's lovely ponies. As one of our regular team and Championship horses, it was sad that Timmy couldn't go. However, Max joined Sunny in my lorry for the trip to the Champs on Friday 9th September!

I was trying to recall the last time I had been to the BRC National Championships and, after digging around in my rosette collection, I found that it was 2002 in the Open Show Jumping with my first horse Wallace when the team finished seventh – so it has been a while since I have headed up to Lincoln and certainly the longest lorry journey I have driven!

About 10 days before the day of the competition the weather forecast looked like it was going to be lovely, however as the days passed, the weather slowly deteriorated. I am sure everyone can recall how very wet it was on Saturday 10 September! Indeed we were very, very wet all day – but we did not let that dampen our spirits!

Sandra and I arrived at 3.30 on the Friday and were able to reserve two slots next to us for Jane and Frances to park in, so we were all together. This really helps with team morale and spirit as we shared our experiences during the day. I was Chef for the competition as Susie unfortunately had a rather bad back so the 4 hours of travel each way in one day was not going to be feasible. She always does so much for the teams that it felt odd that she was not there, but we kept her up to date on our news. We settled our horses in to the temporary stables. Being the first horses in, they were quite happy to munch the grass floor for a while! Sunny felt like he was growing up – coping much better with the whole staying away business compared with our trip to Keysoe in April.

The Style competition was the first on the next day. I was first at 8:38 in the 75cm, then Frances doing the 75cm at 9:20 and Jane at 10:40 in the 85cm. I think it is fair to say we got the best of the wet weather – drizzly but OK. The ground had been well prepared and our horses had a lot of fun doing the jumping and all went well. Frances did a brilliant clear, I just let Sunny down on the last fence as he was jumping beautifully, and Jane just rolled one pole and had a slight navigation hitch for a fence that had a 270 degree turn back to it. We all received good riding and 'feel' marks, which was great. I think the highlight here was Frances' joy after her lovely clear with Snoopy finishing 7th in her arena. We were really pleased to all be able to take a Championship rosette home as the team came 9th.

BVRC Style Team – 9 th (of 23)		Height	Score	Place
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	75cm	70.00	7 th
Lynn Mead	Tiptoe Eldorado Sunset	85cm	67.50	14 th
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl	85cm	61.50	21 st
BVRC Dressage Team of Four – 12 th (of 23)		Score	Place	
Lynn Mead	Tiptoe Eldorado Sunset (No. 1 horse)	182.5	12 th	
Sandra Groves	Trowan Max (No. 2 horse)			
Frances Hall	Mallards Wood Corunna (No. 3 horse)			
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl (No. 4 horse)			
BVRC Prelim 14 Team – 21 st (of 23)		Score	Place	
Frances Hall	Mallards Wood Corunna	61.04	19 th	
Sandra Groves	Trowan Max	64.58	18 th	
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl	67.92	6 th	

Next up was the Dressage Team of Four. This doesn't have a qualifier but is a competition you can enter directly at the Championships. It requires all four riders to be in the arena at the same time. We had coordinated to be wearing the same colour jacket and hat, with white saddle cloths. The two 16.1hh horses were first and last with the two 13.3hh ponies in the middle. The challenge with this test is to keep the "dressing" so the spacing, tempo and impression is all kept consistent. Susie had been our guide in riding this. Sandra (riding Timmy at the time), Jane and myself had one practice a couple of weeks before the competition, but with a horse change as well, our only practice with all four of us was in the warm up for the competition. It was at this point that the heavens really opened and the rain was very heavy – we were all totally sodden!!

Sunny was lead horse. I have to say he was a superstar as he, and Murphy at the back, had to be ridden at 13.3hh pony trot speed throughout. They all tried brilliantly – we even got a few 8's! I have never done this before and it was a fun class to do. We were so narrowly out of the placings as 2.5 marks split 7th to 12th position. We all felt extremely happy with our test afterwards – and I think the horses enjoyed being in the ring together. We did think that in a future year that we qualify, we ought to have a full dressage team of four of Frances's ponies – she had three there this year!

In the Prelim Dressage Team, Sandra did a great test with Max given it was only the second time she had sat on him and got 64.58%. Bunny, who is six, was quite tired after all the excitement of the day but tried very hard, just getting a bit heavy in the hand. He is a beautiful New Forest Pony so lots to look forward to for Frances. Jane had a slight hiccup as she had learnt the wrong test, but the judge let her learn the right one and ride at the end of the class – Murphy producing a very nice test and finished 6th in his arena much to Jane's delight (and relief!).

The highlights were our team spirit, Frances' smile at the end of her Style round and Sandra's great achievement riding a horse really well that she had only sat on once before. A big thank you must go to Lindsay for travelling up and back from Wiltshire on the day to support us and command the Team of Four test at the last minute, in place of Susie; Jane's Mum who travelled up for the day to watch; and Tony's help with all Frances' ponies. Well done everyone – it was a (wet) delight of a Championships!!

Lynn Mead