

Teams Roundup 2017

Bourne Valley Riding Club

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

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Winter Intermediate Dressage Qualifier, Crofton Manor EC – Saturday 28th January

We welcomed the first area qualifier in 2017 rather earlier than last year – January always gives a few concerns about the weather – wind/sleet/snow/ice or all of them! The preceding weeks had seen quite a lot of below freezing temperatures meaning many would have struggled to practice their tests before the day unless they had access to an indoor school. We were blessed that the weather turned milder the couple of days prior to the competition meaning it could run and that competitors could travel safely. The day itself could not have been better – cold at times it has to be said, but that is Crofton. The afternoon saw some beautiful sunny blue skies.

We had 3 teams and two individuals running, so a great response from Members. We do like to encourage Members to try the teams as it is a great experience. The teams consisted of four people riding different tests – Prelim 7, Novice 30, Novice 34 and Elementary 49. Several members were trying out a new level at this competition!

Everyone looked very smart and put their best hoof forwards. This was a competition where we enjoyed the experience – some did very well, and some, as is always the way with stressage, did not have their best day. This does not matter – it is the taking part that is the main thing. If we qualify for any Championships it is the icing on the cake! This is not easy given there were 27 Senior teams competing on the day.

It is always difficult to highlight any riders and horses, so I have selected a few notable individual achievements – Susie and Humphrey pulled out all the stops, the difference being clear since some treatment to his neck, with a great 67% in the Elementary 49 with a rhythmical, balanced accurate test finishing 10th in their arena. Alice Hobhouse and Harley were 3rd in their arena with just shy of 67% in Novice 30 – a hard scoring judge so this was a great result and pre-eventing season practice (a rare pure dressage outing!). Jane Winson and Murphy were putting their first hoof in the water at Novice level doing Novice 34 and they had a stunning 69% finishing 6th in their arena - no more prelims for them then!! Alison Coleman riding Ghillie as an individual were over the moon at their test result of just under 68% at one of his first dressage outings also finishing 3rd in their arena doing Prelim 7. The highest test mark of the day went to Philippa Thatcher and the beautiful plus 20 year old (don't tell him) Stanley. Previous National Winter Dressage Champion in 2014 they rocked it with 71% in Elementary 49 finishing 7th in their arena. Mention also has to go to Rae who at rising 5 was a joy to watch ridden by Katie Gould and scoring 68% in Prelim 7. A brilliant day.



Top turn out marks went to Becky Darke and Diva who were turned out in their Parade No 1 Dress (Blues).

The Blue team finished in 10th position, our highest team score. The team placings are decided on the best 3 out of 4 in the team based on their arena placings. Results as follows. The two qualifying teams for the Intermediate Winter Championships had very close scores with the winners being Chilworth White on a team total of 12, followed by New Forest Yellow with 13. Good luck to both these teams at the Championships!

Bourne Valley Blue Team						
Rider	Horse	Test	Result %	Result Arena placing	Team total	Team position
Katie Gould	Vanilla Rae	P7	68.4%	12	28	10th
Laura McAlister	Sportsfield Dusty	N30	62.1%	21		
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl	N34	69.0%	6		
Susie Pool	Folds Acacia	E49	67.2%	10		

Bourne Valley White Team						
Rider	Horse	Test	Result %	Result Arena placing	Team total	Team position
Briony Tarlton	Orions Jaffa	P7	68.4%	13	40	18th
Alice Hobhouse	Not for Diamonds	N30	66.92%	3		
Jenny Cox	Biscuit Man	N34	60.0%	24		
Fenella Hargreaves	Brit Pop	E49	60.8%	24		

Bourne Valley Yellow Team						
Rider	Horse	Test	Result %	Result Arena placing	Team total	Team position
Sandra Groves	Timmy	P7	63.18%	25	42	20th
Becky Darke	Nadisker	N30	61.73%	22		
Laura McAlister	Crown Court Jester	N34	66.9%	13		
Philippa Thatcher	Master Stanley II	E49	71.33%	7		

Bourne Valley Individuals				
Rider	Horse	Test	Result %	Result Arena placing
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	P7	62.27%	12
Alison Coleman	Graigue Hero	P7	67.95%	3

Thank you everyone for all chipping in with our helper duty as steward on the warm up, and for all your support on and after the day – I certainly was a little hoarse (no pun intended!) the next day after calling six tests – five of these on the bounce. It was a pleasure to help you all.

We now swiftly turn our attention to the next qualifier following close on the heels of this one - the Novice and Intermediate Winter Show Jumping Qualifier on 19 February at Moreton EC.

Lynn Mead



Winter Intermediate & Novice Show Jumping Qualifier, Moreton EC – Sunday 19th February

This is why Lynn and Susie enjoy organizing riders for the Qualifiers and Championships:

“I just wanted to say thank you so very much for reintroducing me to the concept of enjoying competing! It struck me on the way home that having had quite the cricket score I should be at the very least upset at the performance but I was still smiling all the way home..... That is all down to you all making competing with Bourne Valley fun no matter what! Thank you all! Bring on Redenham!! Becky D”.

“Hey everyone! I’ll second that! It was such a lovely atmosphere and I’m was very proud to be on the Bourne Valley team. We did sooo well today, and even if you have the odd pole- so what- it’s the experience and getting out there and competing and joining the team that matters! Anyway I’m sure we all accomplished some personal goals and it’s was really great seeing the supportive friendly faces, big massive thanks to Susie as ever and Lynn and Lindsay and Sandra! I promise I will be a helper at the next event you need me- fetch me my tabard and my poo skip! Lisa x “

“What a lovely email Becky. It has cheered me up. I was just berating myself for riding badly whilst ironing school uniform!!! But the fun of competing as part of a team is what it is all about. “ Annabel M.

“Absolutely, so true.. I was just daydreaming about how much better I could have ridden.. but there was a lot to like and a lot learnt .. and there was a time not so long ago when I could only imagine what it would be like to come home with a ribbon and today we came home with two teams ribbons.. and that's so cool!! Cheers BVRC.” Hani M.

It was an amazing day for BVRC although Lynn Mead had to work exceptionally hard to fill places when people kept having to drop out! Huge credit to her, Hani finding a 3rd horse to ride (!) and other team members responding to Facebook and making suggestions; we went to Moreton EC with 4 full teams and 2 individuals in the Intermediate.

Both Novice teams got into the jump-off against 3 other teams finishing 2nd and 4th. One of the Intermediate Teams also got into the jump-off and both teams were also placed, 3rd and 5th. Wow!!

BVRC Novice Blue Team

Rider	Horse	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total	Team Total	Jump-Off	JO Time	Team Total	Team Time	Team Place
Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere	4	0	4	0	0	27.88	8	91.13	2 nd
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	0	0	0		8	32.39			
Michelle Storer	Smartie	0	4	4		12	53.01			
Emma Palmer	Cottoncloud Colleen	0	0	0		0	30.86			

BVRC Novice White Team

Rider	Horse	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total	Team Total	Jump-Off	JO Time	Team Total	Team Time	Team Place
Hani Milstein	Sir Percy Blakeney	0	4	4	0	12	47.24	8	111.97	4 th
Claire Arnold	Sunjeeb	0	0	0		4	51.18			
Laura Saxon	Irish Magic	4	0	4		0	28.25			
Alison Coleman	Graigue Hero	0	0	0		4	32.54			

BVRC Intermediate White Team

Rider	Horse	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total	Team Total	Jump-Off	JO Time	Team Total	Team Time	Team Place
Lisa Pritchard	Eros Van De B	0	0	0	4	4	50.79	16	125.96	3 rd
Jane Winson	Widlake Magic Whirl	0	0	0		8	33.93			
Hani Milstein	Regent AS	0	4	4		4	41.24			
Becky Darke	Nadisker	4	16	20		16	44.05			

BVRC Intermediate Blue Team

Rider	Horse	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total	Team Total	Jump-Off	JO Time	Team Total	Team Time	Team Place
Karen Baxter	Milo IV	4	7	11	8					5 th
Katie Mortimore	Kerslake Moor	0	4	4						
Becky Morby	Penhill Limited Edition	4	0	4						
Annabel Mead	Wujiwoo	0	0	0						

BVRC Intermediate Individuals

Rider	Horse	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total
Annie Rae	Mrs Pickle	0	12	12
Hani Milstein	Flying Dutchman			E





Festival of the Horse Combined Training Qualifier, Redenham Park – Sunday 9th April

A huge thank you goes to Lindsay Hills for taking on the organization of this Qualifier run in conjunction with our Spring Dressage, in addition to the BVRC Horse Trials and Hunter Trials that she does for us every year.

We entered 2 teams and an individual and picked up 6 rosettes between us in a very close competition.

BVRC CT White Team – 3rd (12)		Dressage	D Pens	SJ Pens	Total Pens	Arena Place
Emma Palmer	Cottoncloud Colleen	90Q	25.5	0	25.5	3 rd
France Hall	Bellindene Magnum	90Q	44.3	4	48.3	11 th
Lynn Mead	Tiptoe Eldorado Sunset	100Q	28.2	0	28.2	5 th
Jenny Cox	Biscuit Man	100Q	31.6	0	31.6	4 th
BVRC CT Blue Team – 6th (16)		Dressage	D Pens	SJ Pens	Total Pens	Arena Place
Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere	90Q	48.5	0	48.5	10 th
Caroline Thompson	Millersford Dillon	90Q	42.3	0	42.3	7 th
Rebecca Darke	Nadisker	100Q	25.8	0	25.8	2 nd
Helen Vernon	That's Illogical	100Q	22.9	12	34.9	7 th
BVRC Combined Training Individual						
Karen Duggleby	Wispa Gold II	90Q	34.5	0	34.5	

Lynn Mead



Area 17 Festival of the Horse Challenge Qualifier, Rockbourne – Sunday 23rd April 2017

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. – Well that was last year. This year it had been so dry that 2 of our riders withdrew because the ground was so hard. You just can't win! In addition, Karen Duggleby and her horse that was due to do the 90 Challenge with her friend Amie Carling, went lame, so Amie was swapped onto Karen's youngster to do the 80 Challenge. Annabel Mead had entered the Open 100 Hunter Trial so I persuaded her to swap into the 90 Challenge to make up the Team. Due to the withdrawals for hard ground she and Michelle Bowe ended up riding as individuals but they both had days they would rather not dwell on, with Annabel falling foul of the "coffin" fence. This

caused major problems all day and was the downfall of Amie and Ruby in the 80 class too. There is something about that fence that lots of horses just don't like.

Kay Pogson and the evergreen Lady Guinevere were the best of the 80s and the only ones to jump double clear with time penalties only, though amazingly one was picked up in the show jumping – I don't recall Guinnie ever going slowly! Despite a number of faults and plenty of time penalties, the team achieved 5th place out of 10 teams which goes to show how many had problems. XC Time plays a huge part in this competition as 0.4 penalties are accrued for every second faster or slower than the exact optimum time, which isn't published and stopwatches may not be worn. It always depends on good judgement of pace and Roy Southey, riding for South Wilts RC, again proved his skill in this regard finishing in 6th place with only 3.2 time penalties. Meredith Baker riding as an individual on the inexperienced Jako was thrilled with her completion and his behaviour. Another classic example of rosettes not necessarily demonstrating good results.

Challenge 80 Team

1. Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum
2. Emma Palmer	Cottoncloud Colleen
3. Amie Carling	Ruby Rocket
4. Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere

Challenge 80 Individual

Meredith Baker	Vicarshill Jako
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Challenge 90 Team

1. Annabel Mead	Wujiwoo
2.	
3.	
4. Michelle Bowe	Fruitful Cruise

Well done everyone and particular thanks to those who gave up their time to officiate: Alec and Liz Saxon, and Ross Tully fence judging; Lynn Mead and Sarah Pook scoring; and Helen Nash-Steer, having had to pull out of riding, stood in at the last minute to steward the show jumping.

Susie Pool



Horse Trials Qualifier, Moreton EC – Sunday 18th June

HOT! This was one of the hottest days of the year, with riders competing in over 30°C. They were very grateful to not have to wear jackets for the dressage and SJ but body protectors are still compulsory for XC! Again the ground was on the firm side so we had a few withdrawals, however, I was still able to field teams at each of 80, 90 and 100cm.

Susie Pool

BVRC 80 Team – 5th (145.2)		Pens	Arena Place	BVRC 90 Team – 4th (110.5)		Pens	Arena Place
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	29.8	2 nd	Helen Vernon	That's Illogical	27.9	3 rd
Caroline Thompson	Millersford Dillon	60.9		Chica Herbert	Theo Ricardo	32.9	4 th
Emma Palmer	Cottoncloud Colleen	54.5		Michelle Bowe	Fruitful Cruise	49.7	
Jenny Allen	Redhill Corporal	68.3		Annie Rae	Mrs Pickle	84.3	
BVRC 80 Individual				BVRC 100 Team – 1st (81.5)			
Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere	WD	WD	Sophie Clotworthy	Bailey's Spirit	29.3	1 st
BVRC 90 Individual				Hani Milstein	Flying Dutchman	33.2	2 nd
Katie Mortimore	Kerslake Moor	50.9		Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	37.0	4 th



Style and Show Jumping Qualifier, Bovington Saddle Club – Sunday 9th July

We were back again to Bovington SC but this time with S Wilts RC running the Qualifiers and having to put on Senior and Junior 70, 80, 90, 100, 110 classes plus the 75 and 85 Style Jumping. To get through everything in one day, the 70cm SJ and all the Style classes were run on grass, but everything else was able to be held in the arena. With continuing firm ground, our 80 and 90 teams were very grateful to be jumping on a surface. Although the 80 team had 0 penalties after the 1st round, as we were able to discard Kay and Gwinnie's cricket score, only Emma managed to jump clear in the 2nd round and after a jump-off for first place, finished as the clear winner – well done Emma. Despite the bad start, Kay and Gwinnie only had one down over the bigger jumps, helping the team to a final penalty score of 12. Much to our surprise, other teams fared much worse and the Team won the Qualifier! There were shocked faces all round at the thought of going to Lincoln for the Championships. We always knew that Emma was not available, but Kay made the sensible decision that the trip to Lincoln was just too far for her lovely veteran and when the ever-reliable Frances had transport issues, we had to withdraw our qualification. There's always next time.

BVRC 80 Team – 1 st (12)		Rd 1	Rd 2	Total	Place
Frances Hall	Bellindene Magnum	0	8	8	
Jenny Allen	Redhill Corporal	0	8	8	
Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere	27	4	31	
Emma Palmer	Cottoncloud Colleen	0	0	0	1 st
BVRC 90 Team –					
Becky Darke	Nadisker	Results not recorded or published ☹			
Michelle Bowe	Fruitful Cruise				
Hani Milstein	Flying Dutchman				

Susie Pool



Summer Dressage & Riding Test Qualifier, Hurn Bridge EC – Sunday 23rd July

We returned to the lovely big, flat, open field of Hurn Bridge EC, where we have jumped previously, for E Dorset RC to run their first ever Qualifier. The dressage arenas looked great and the site was very well laid out, minimizing the need for hundreds of tack checking stewards. Very unfortunately, they underestimated the number of scorers required to keep up with 6 arenas running concurrently and individual and team scores to calculate. It was very, very sad that this marred an other-wise well run event.



For the first time in several years, BVRC didn't manage to field a team at all. In fact, the only person to apply was Frances Hall with 2 ponies doing both Prelim 18 and the Prelim RT on each of them. Having put that date aside in my diary, I thought that I may as well take a horse and get it exercised to keep Frances company rather than spending the day there and both my horses having the day off. I therefore took Dubai to have a go at Nov 24 and the Novice RT. A few days before, poor Frances suffered a major transport failure so had to withdraw. Amazingly, we managed to fill both places as Gill Young was brave enough to come forward to give her and her wonderful new horse an outing, and Becky Darke offered to fill the other place, despite us saying goodbye to her the previous weekend as she was being posted to Bicester. Although it was all rather last minute and half-hearted, we came away with 3 rosettes and 3 happy faces. I was thrilled with Dubai's behaviour as she was

fairly calm and mostly listening, especially in the 2nd (NRT) test. Oh My Goodness, we came 2nd and qualified for the Championships in Lincoln as the highest placed individual not in a winning team!!

Test	Individuals		Score	%	Arena Place
Prelim 18	Gill Young	Mr Greenspan	148.5	61.87	
Prelim 18	Becky Darke	Nadisker	164.0	68.33	6 th
Nov 24	Susie Pool	Dubai	153.5	66.74	4 th
PRT	Gill Young	Mr Greenspan	64.0	58.18	
PRT	Becky Darke	Nadisker	62.0	56.36	
SRT	Susie Pool	Dubai	79.5	72.27	2 nd

Susie Pool



Dressage to Music Qualifier, Moreton EC – Saturday 29th July

Lynn Mead with Tiptoe Eldorado Sunset aka Sunny aka Spotty Botty were the only Club members to enter the Dressage to Music Qualifier. It was more of a case of having a go for the fun of it, with music she already had prepared for her previous horse. She had no expectations but did manage to get some practice in and found another D2M competition to have a test run before the Qualifier. Although Sunny had only just progressed to Elementary, Lynn decided to enter both the Novice and Elementary Music Qualifiers to make the trip to Moreton EC more worthwhile. She reported that:

“We had a good day today - DTM is new to us so work in progress but we were 5th with 68.33% in the Novice and 6th with 65.38% in the Ele which he tried hard in but was tiring so lost some quality in the work. However I was chuffed with him and we are getting better at improvisation in the tests 😊😊”

Well done Lynn. I was interested to hear how it went at Moreton with the Music classes being run in the outdoor arenas. Despite my misgivings, it all worked perfectly well; BD have also run Music classes there.



Horse Trials Championships, Swalcliffe Park EC – Friday 4th – Sunday 6th August

Having won the 100 Horse Trials Team Area Qualifier on 18th June at Moreton with Hani Milstein, Sophie Clotworthy, and Nicki Strong, we were able to add a 4th member for the Championships so Helen Vernon stepped up from 90s to give us a full team. Devastatingly, Hani had a fall at Wilton BE ending up in plaster. Amazingly, with huge thanks to Fen Hargreaves, her working pupil, the talented young Laura McAlister, stepped in as a replacement with only a few days' notice. We had a fabulous start to the Championships. Dressage results by Arena; Laura 33.5 - 5th, Sophie 29 - 3rd, Nicki 33 - 8th, Helen 27 - 1st. The BVRC Team went into the lead!!!! However, the scores were very close and we expected some time penalties in the Speed & Endurance. The team orders were “to go and have fun and do the best you can with what you've got”. That afternoon, the team went out together for a hack round the roads and tracks sporting the new team colours, which received many positive comments.



Sophie Clotworthy & Bailey's Spirit, Helen Vernon & That's Illogical, Susie Pool (Chef d'Equipe) & Lucy (mascot), Laura McAlister & Sportsfield Dusty, Nicki Strong & Pha Mai Blue

The team maintained its overnight position to finish 7th despite a couple of blips in the show jumping from Sophie and Nicki. Helen just tipped the last fence after an immaculate round to move up to 3rd place in her Arena and Laura produced a professionally ridden clear round, despite her nerves, to stay in 3rd in her Arena. Rosettes and sashes were awarded in the prize giving and Dusty and Splodge thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the lap of honour! Well done to them all for representing the Club so brilliantly. Our adopted rider Louise Huxley from Shillingstone also had a great weekend finishing 3rd in her Arena too.

Overall it was a great weekend with excellent camaraderie, a couple of individual successes, a few disappointments for the original 2 team members but an eventual Team 6th. It was great that, having missed out on the Championships last year after qualifying with the team, Nicki Strong and Blue made it this time. They thoroughly enjoyed it and gained lots of experience. Our thanks go to Emma Palmer and her 2 girls for coming all the way to Swalcliffe to be one of our official helpers, stewarding dressage on Friday, and supporting the teams.

BVRC 100 Team – 6 th (140.9)		Total	Arena Place
Laura McAlister	Sportsfield Dusty	33.5	3 rd
Sophie Clotworthy	Bailey's Spirit	68.4	10 th
Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	77.4	12 th
Helen Vernon	That's Illogical	39.0	3 rd

Susie Pool



BRC National Championships, Lincoln Showground – Saturday 2nd September

Sadly, most of the 80 SJ Team were unable to go to the Championships so we had to withdraw. That left only me to represent BVRC this year. Having been lucky enough to qualify a couple of times before, it has only been as part of a Team or Pair. This year, having qualified myself, in my own right, I was determined to go, despite being the only one from BVRC travelling all that way. However, this did make my life easier as I only had to look after myself, my horse and my dog; and Sandra Groves came to help me do that so I could focus wholly on Dubai. Club member Grace Wilkinson had also qualified as an individual in Prelim 12 riding for Wessex RC, so we teamed up, arranged for next door stables and made a base camp together. That made things even more sociable.



Dubai started her warm up really well, and we were right beside the busy A15. Unfortunately, after a break and also in her test, she was not as settled as in the first half of her warm up. She got a bit of a bee in her bonnet about something and her head was going

down and up like a yo-yo. However, overall I'm very, very pleased with her and the way she coped with the whole Championship experience. We did manage to scrape a 10th rosette but I won't say out of how many 😊. Huge thanks to Sandra Groves for looking after us superbly all weekend and Lindsay Hills for driving up to support us for our test.



Blenheim International Horse Trials – Riding Club Eventers 100 Challenge – Thursday 8 September



Nicki Strong, Sarah Pook, Helen Vernon, Laura McAlister

Places for this prestigious competition are very oversubscribed and this year we wanted to enter the 90 Challenge but could only get a place in the 100 competition. Team places were offered to the successful

Horse Trials Champs Team initially, but when Sophie Clotworthy couldn't get time off work, Sarah Pook and Top Pride stepped into the gap to join Laura McAlister with Sportsfield Dusty, Helen Vernon with That's Illogical and Nicki Strong with Pha Mai Blue.

This year the 90 and 100 Arenas were placed side by side and certainly the space for the 100 course was distinctly smaller. At first the course looked fairly small from outside the arena but when we got a chance to walk it, the show jumps were up to height. The XC element wasn't big and the questions easier than previous years and the final bogey show jump was a plain upright jumped off a balancing turn uphill and didn't cause a problem all day. A great time was had by all round the very twisty complicated course where the optimum time was very difficult to achieve. It was interesting to see that 3 of our team all finished within 2 seconds of each other and I didn't think they were hanging around. Of great credit to the team, they all achieved high Style marks and were a great credit to BVRC. However, no rosettes this time, other than the Commemorative ones, and fabulous goody bags and buckets from the generous sponsor Dodson & Horrell.

Rider	Horse	Style	Jump Penalties	Time Penalties	Total	Team Score
Sarah Pook	Top Pride	72	4	2.4	6.4	20
Laura McAlister	Sportsfield Dusty	77	0	2.8	2.8	
Helen Vernon	That's Illogical	73	18	6.8	22.8	
Nicki Strong	Pha Mai Blue	71.5	8	2.8	10.8	

Susie Pool