

Newsletter December 2013

Bourne Valley Riding Club

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



Website: www.bvrc.co.uk

Vice President: June Bush

Chairman: Lindsay Hills
The Ridings
Dauntsey Lane
Weyhill
Hants SP11 8EB
01264 772388
email: nag@bvrc.co.uk

Secretary: Helen Mulingani
10, Manor Gardens
Burbage
Wilts
SN8 3FG
01672 811650

Wishing you all Happy Christmas & a healthy, prosperous and successful year in 2014.

Looking ahead to 2014, there are two important dates for your diary, 10th January Annual Quiz & 31st January Xmas meal. The Winter Dressage has been booked for 16th February. Further team, competition and social dates and camp details will be published in the New Year. LKH.

AGM

The occasion was significant for a couple of reasons. Closure of the Red Lion, Clanville necessitated a change of venue to the Holiday Inn at Solstice Park. This is the first time, in my tenure of over twenty years, that we haven't conducted the meeting at the Red Lion. After a very acceptable supper we convened to the Stonehenge meeting room. The provision of high backed meeting chairs made it slightly disconcerting from where Sandra & I were sitting. All we could see was an array of disembodied neckless heads. Even some of those disappeared as people in the back row dropped off!

After some lively discussion we moved to award presentations. Louise Parr, Helen Mulingani and Dee Hodson were Be Fair / Caballine Trophy winners and were awarded free membership for the year. Rosettes to tenth place were given out to other award recipients. Many thanks were passed on to everyone listed in the Caballine table who had generously given their time to help at club events. The total amounted to nearly 1000 hours and that doesn't include hours spent by unsuspecting family and friends who were roped in to help.

We were able to congratulate Susie & Marion on their BRC National Championships pairs dressage winning performance. They too were rewarded with a year's honorary membership.

After twelve years as secretary and a further two as a committee member prior to that, it was time to relinquish our demands on Sandra and let her enjoy the benefits of club life, without the hassle.

Sandra has become the keystone to the club and the font of all knowledge. Over the years the job has evolved to an all encompassing role. She has been instrumental in building the club into the success it is today, laying the foundation for us to continue in her absence. Sandra was always been available, supporting and helping other committee members, and particularly helping me in my role as Chairman, often above and beyond the call of duty. She will not escape completely, having volunteered for a behind the scenes job and I am sure she will be seen out and about with Timmy.

In addition to a gift, we have offered Sandra honorary life membership in recognition for all her hard work over many years. LKH.

Secretary

Helen Mulangani has taken over from Sandra as secretary.

Please do not phone or email Sandra on BVRC business – she will not be able to help.

Committee

After the changeover at 2012/2013's AGM, the committee is shown below.

Chairman	Lindsay Hills	01264 772388	Members	Fiona Webb	07783 421181
Secretary	Helen Mulingani	01672 811650		Helen Nash-Steer	07719 476576
Treasurer	David Matthews	01264 323478		Katie Mortimore	07813 075277
Teams	Susie Pool	01980 671523		Lindsay Devine	01722 712464
Membership	Kim Redgrave	01264 355625		Ros Kershaw	01264 730706
				Sarah Wearing	01264 771505
				Victoria Smith	07789 004364

Subscriptions were due for renewal on 1st November. Well done to those of you who have already rejoined.

Rates were increased to £30, for Riding Members, and stay at £12 for Non Riding Members.

This is the last chance to take advantage of a discount of £6 to reduce the cost to £24 for riding members, if the subs are paid before 31st December 2013.

We hope to encourage you to renew your subscriptions promptly.

A reduced rate of £24 will apply for second and each subsequent member of the same household. Please fill and return membership renewal form (supplied with the November Newsletter) to Kim Redgrave (address on the form).

You will need a new membership card to take advantage of the RA Hunt subscription (information below)

Forthcoming Events



Annual Quiz Night – Friday 10th January 2013 at the Boot Inn , Shipton Bellinger, 7.15-8pm.

Another casualty of the Red Lion Closure was the venue for the Annual Quiz.

We are relocating to function room at The Boot Inn, High Street, Shipton Bellinger, Nr Tidworth SP9 7UP. 01980 842279. The choice has been made in the hopes that the venue is easily accessible whichever direction you are travelling. (see below for directions)

Come to our popular annual quiz. It will include several rounds of questions each on a different topic i.e. General Knowledge, Sport, Entertainment, etc. with equestrian questions mixed in. A couple of 'beer rounds' will be included to allow us to keep topped up with food & drink. Four or five people can make up a team, or if you want to come on your own then just turn up and we can find a team for you to join. Come early, order a drink and some food, ready for the quiz to start at 8pm.

The Boot boasts the largest menu in the world which can be viewed www.bootinn.com.

If you know you intend to eat then please order in advance. This will help the pub to schedule food preparation & cooking.

To order food please call 01980 842279 or fax on 01980 844077.

NB. Orders cannot be made via email.

If you are planning to come, please let Lindsay know (01264 772388 email nag@bvrc.co.uk)

If you are unable to commit until the last minute, please don't let prevent you from coming.

You will be most welcome & food will still be available if you require it.

Quiz cost is £2.50 per person. Call Lindsay if you want more information.

Directions: Close to the A303, on the A338, approximately 12 miles west of Andover, The Boot Inn is situated in the village of Shipton Bellinger, on the High Street.

The village is just North of the A303, on the A338, just South of Tidworth.



Xmas Curry Evening – Friday 31st January 2014, 7.30pm at the Goa Balti Restaurant, Everleigh, Nr Upavon SN8 3EY

This is the closest we come to holding a Xmas party. We can resist returning to the Goa Balti Restaurant following the success of our previous visits. The food was delicious! Please come and join us for a curry evening at this very popular establishment. Friends and family (16 years & over) will be welcome.

Tickets, which cost £22 for members & £24 for non-members, includes a popadom with dips, a set menu with mixed starters and selection of main courses with rice & nan bread. Vegetarian dishes and non-Indian meals are available but we need to let the restaurant know in advance. Please indicate on the reply slip if you would like either of these. Drinks and desserts are not included, but may be ordered and paid for separately on the night. **We need to let the restaurant know how many people to expect.** Please fill in and send back the attached reply slip **with payment** no later than **FRIDAY 24th January**. For more information call Lindsay Hills (01264 772388) or email nag@bvrc.co.uk



Winter Dressage on Sunday 16th February, 2014 at Castle Farm, Over Wallop (schedules in New Year)

We are returning to Castle Farm for our Winter Dressage. The classes will be run indoors, with warm up outside on an all weather surface. The schedule includes two Prelims, one Novice & a choice of a Novice, an Elementary or Medium Dressage Tests.

We will be requesting help for Dressage writers, stewards or scorers to help out on the day and will welcome your calls.



BVRC Residential Camp at Stockland Lovell, Somerset 28th April –1st May 2014

The residential camp has been booked at Stockland Lovell. Arrival will be on Monday 28th April between 12-1pm and departure after lunch on Thursday 1st May.

Accommodation consists of furnished heated portacabins of various sizes, containing 2-6 bunk beds, divans, mirror, chairs and hooks for clothing. Residents will need to take their own bedding including pillows. Shower block, loos, dining room and lounge are available on the premises.

Full catering will be provided and includes English breakfast, cold lunch, afternoon cakes and 2 course evening meal.

Stabling will be in an American style barn with hay and straw included. Hard food will not be supplied, so we will need to take our own.

The facilities at Stockland Lovell include

- an extensive cross country course with in excess of 100 fences from 1'6" to 3'9",
- two all weather arenas (one for flatwork and one with show jumps),
- marked routes for hacking around the farm
- saddlery shop.

The plan is to have six riding sessions, Monday afternoon, 2 each on Tuesday and Wednesday and one on Thursday morning.

All horse must have a current flu vaccination certificate, which will be checked on arrival.

Put the dates in your diary and look out for the booking form which will be sent out in the New Year.



Instruction

Instruction dates will be published in the New Year.



Hunting

Following the hunting ban in February 2005, the RA Hunt has been operating as a drag pack. The club has taken out subscription to the RA Hunt again this year. This will enable club members to drag hunt up to 4 times during the season (from the end October to April) for a reduced cap of £20.

Ring Alison Wilson for details of meets, times, parking, dress, protocol etc etc.

Don't forget to take your membership card to claim the reduced cap.

Secretary: Ali Wilson 01264 773191 or alisonchesworth@yahoo.co.uk

Contact Ali if you would like to receive regular details of events run by the RA Hunt & RA Hunt Supporters Club.

TEAMS

Would you like to try Endurance Riding as part of a BVRC team?

The rides are around 20 miles and you don't need an Arab horse, special riding clothes or tack! Each team consists of between three and six members and as a team, there are two opportunities to qualify for the final held each year at the Red Dragon ride in Wales in October.

Over 70 qualifying rides are held throughout the country, with many in striking distance of the BVRC area.

If you're interested, drop an email to Sarah Wearing on sarah.wearing@horseology.net or call on 01264 771505.

Team News

Area 17 2014 Winter Dressage Qualifier, Woodington – Saturday 30 November & Sunday 1st December

<u>Blue Team – 3rd . 13 points</u>			<u>%</u>	<u>Place</u>
Philippa Thatcher	Master Stanley	Sat am: P7	69.0	=4 th
Susie Pool	Folds Acacia	Sun pm: P7	66.0	7 th
Ruth Allen	The Dun Deal	Sat pm: N30	69.61	2 nd
Alex Plank	Miss Doublet	Sun am: N30	62.69	18 th
<u>White Team – 1st . 6 points</u>				
Ros Kershaw	Catnap	Sat am: P7	70.5	2 nd
Frances Hall	Trowan Max	Sun pm: P7	71.0	3 rd
Fen Hargreaves	Brit Pop	Sat pm: N30	70.5	1 st
Marion Watt	Faerie Role	Sun am: N30	67.5	5 th
<u>Yellow Team – 6th . 18 points</u>				
Sandra Groves	Timmy	Sat am: P7	68.5	6 th
Karen Shearing	Top Cat VI	Sun pm: P7	67.5	6 th
Susie Pool	Jazz X	Sat pm: N30	66.15	9 th
Marion Watt	Old Speckled Hen II	Sun am: N30	67.31	6 th

What a fantastic weekend! Twenty two Senior teams competed for 2 qualifying places for the 2014 Winter Dressage Championships at Hartpury next March. BVRC entered 3 teams and to the credit of all riders all 3 teams finished in the top 6! The White team had so many good scores and high placings that even before Frances and Max, the 4th combination, had started warming up, it became apparent that the Team could not be beaten. However, they pulled the stops out and their 71% gave them a 3rd place in the Sunday afternoon Prelim so that Marion and Rolo's 5th place became the discard score. Second place went to NFPE Yellow on 12 points so up to the last minute there was a chance that the Blue team might even secure 2nd place and also qualify – but that would have been greedy! I felt very proud to be part of BVRC with the standard of riding and horses. Alex Plank should be given credit for keeping the ticking time bomb that was Miss Doublet from exploding. She produced some lovely movements between the slightly dodgy bits and note that less than 5% divided Marion's 6th place from Alex's 18th.

Having a team only competition does make my life as Chef d'Equip easier as we cannot enter every applicant if there is an odd number for 4 team places. This means that there are usually reserves in the pipeline and that was certainly the case this time, with spare people or 2nd horses wanting to do the Novice or the Prelim tests. This meant that when 2 Prelim horses had to drop out it just took a quick phone call each time to replace them, other than getting a passport out of packing boxes to get a copy. Just as well really as I was basing myself at Marion's yard to get prepared riding her Jazz as well as my own Humphrey. Well done everyone and thank you – it was good to see such team/Club spirit throughout the whole weekend.

Susie Pool, BVRC Chef d'Equip

Reports

New Forest Ride Sunday 17th November

We all met at Janespond on a dry but slightly dull day with thankfully no wind. In total there were 8 riders including Janet and Lindsay who had organised the ride. We set off across the road and onto some lovely soft going, but then had to have a wee stop, this was not the riders but the horses, one stopped and had a wee which seemed to have a chain reaction on at least four others my mare included, which I might add is something she doesn't normally do in public.

We set off at a brisk trot followed by a reasonably long canter, then back to a walk to pass donkeys, which a few of the horses had a good look at. We made our way through many tracks, roads, across areas of open ground, all of which was varied with many opportunities for a nice canter. The scenery was excellent, much of the forest you would not see if you were on foot, although I was surprised at how many walkers, dog walkers, etc venture into the forest off the beaten track. At least they knew where they were, which more than I did. Everyone had the opportunity to jump a few logs if they so wished, as well as jumping a small ditch. There was also the opportunity to cross a couple of streams, one slightly larger and deeper, this being an ideal opportunity for a photo.

Three quarters of the way round we stopped for soup and roles, duly handed out by Janet, Lindsay and my husband this being a welcome break. It was then back on and finish the last 20mins ride back to the parked lorries/trailers and our last chance for a nice steady canter, all spread out side by side, this must have been a grand sight from the road.

All the horses behaved impeccably, and I think they enjoyed it as much as the riders.

A big thank you to Janet and Lindsey and I think we will all be looking forward to the next one.

Ros Kershaw

BADMINTON HORSE FEEDS GRASS ROOTS CHAMPIONSHIP – BADMINTON MONDAY 15TH JULY. ROS KERSHAW & CATNAP (Cat)

For the third year running I entered the grass roots championship qualifying competition at Sparsholt College, and was delighted when I won the class with an amazing 75%. As you can imagine my entry for the championship was in the post asap. I decided to enter the warm up class as well, as it was the same test, thought it would be a good opportunity to have a run through first.

Test times were out on the Friday, only to find my first class time was 8am. A quick decision was made to book overnight stabling at a nearby yard.

So off Steve (husband) and I went to camp over night whilst Catnap had a nice comfy stable. We still had to get up early in enough time to feed Cat, muck out and get ready to go, but it was only a 20 min drive to Badminton.

We arrived in plenty of time to get ready and warm up I was the first in the ring, no pressure. At 8am it was already hot. Cat went well, a bit stiff on her corners. Last horse rode at 11.08. I was very pleased with my result, which was better than I thought it would be, I gained 66.67% and was placed 6th.

Our championship class was at 9.36 in the indoor school, although now it was very hot outside, it was cool and shady indoors. To get to the school it was a good 5+ minute ride, pedestrians had the opportunity of having a lift on a golf cart. When you arrived at the school there was hardly any shade whilst you waited, and no where to walk around, so you just had to stand and wait your turn, I managed to find a bit of shade underneath the archway.

Off I went into the school to ride my test, I was slightly nervous; I have never had two judges judging me before. My test went well and rode better than the first one. So all we had to do was wait for the results, the last horse was at 11am. Steve kept popping down to check results; I have never seen him so interested. He came back with a smile on his face, to tell me that I had come 4th out of 31 horses. I was 'over the moon'. My scores were from Judge at C – 70% and Judge at H – 69.2%. So for me and my horse this was our moment of glory. Catnap enjoyed a few polo's for being such a good girl.

What makes it even more special is that I have owned Catnap for 4 years and neither of us have ridden dressage before, she is an ex hunter, and I use to exercise my kids ponies/horses.

So a message to anyone who doesn't think they can do it, with plenty of practice and determination give it a go, you stand just as much chance as anyone else. You might surprise yourself, I did.

BASIC DRESSAGE EXPLAINED

Never done a test?

Then this day is perfect for you

Tuition, Tips and Test Riding Day

Walk and Trot & Prelim Test Riding Day

Open to Un-affiliated riders

Perfect for nervous riders or bringing a young horse out for the first time

11th January 2014 to be held at Fortune Centre, Riding for the Disabled, Bransgore, BH23 8EE

Join us for coffee first & chat through the tests & riding them, then have a group lesson working on movements from Walk Trot/Intro A/Prelim 1.

Ride through your test after your lesson and we will help you every step of the way.

Open to complete beginners or more experienced riders, the day is designed to build confidence and help you set your goals for 2014.

Ride a test at the level of your choice and get Feedback and help UKCC Level III Coach and British Dressage Judge

All ages welcome.

Claire Moir will coach you and judge you, shared lessons and loads of feedback time.

£30 per person

TO BOOK A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT: Amanda Heath or Claire Moir

Email: Claire Moir – clairemoir126@btinternet.com or phone 07771 507969

Email: Amanda.Heath@britishdressage.co.uk or phone 07894232355

For more information please contact : Rosudgeon, Brockhampton, Swindon Village, Cheltenham, Glos GL51 9RS

Diary Dates 2014

JANUARY

10th BVRC Quiz at The Boot Inn, Shipton Bellinger, Nr Tidworth 7.15-8pm.

Gill Young
Lindsay Hills 01264 772388

31st BVRC Xmas Meal, Goa Balti, Everleigh , 7.30pm

Lindsay Hills 01264 772388

FEBRUARY

16th BVRC Unaffiliated Dressage, Castle Farm, Over Wallop

23rd BRC Area 17 Novice Indoor Show Jumping Qualifier at Crofton Manor EC, Nr Fareham

Organiser: NFPE RC

MARCH

2nd BRC Area 17 Novice & Open FOTH Qualifier at Larkhill

Organiser: Swindon RC

29-30 BRC Novice Indoor Show Jumping & Winter Dressage Championships at Hartpury College EC, Nr Gloucester

BRC

APRIL

18th BVRC Hot Cross Bun Ride on Salisbury Plain

Lindsay Hills 01264 772388

APRIL/MAY

28-1 May BVRC Residential Camp at Stockland Lovell

Lindsay Hills 01264 772388

Reply Slip

PLEASE RETURN ATTACHED REPLY SLIP TO Lindsay Hills, The Ridings, Dauntsey Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8EB.
Please make cheques payable to Bourne Valley Riding Club.

BVRC Supper Evening – Friday 31st January. PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP BY **FRIDAY 24th January.**

I enclose a cheque for £..... as payment formembers @ £22 and non-members @ £24.

Indian Meal(s) required..... Vegetarian Meal(s)..... Non-Indian Meal(s).....

Name Tel No Email.....