

BOURNE VALLEYRIDING CLUB

incorporating Woodhay District Riding Club

(Affiliated to the British Horse Society)

Chairman: Lindsay Hills
The Ridings
Dauntsey Lane
Weyhill
Hants SP11 8EB
Tel: 01264 772388

Secretary: Sarah March
White Cottage
Wildhern
Andover
Hants SP11 0JE
Tel: 01264 735465

NEWSLETTER

December 96

♪♪♪♪ We wish you a merry Christmas, We wish you a merry Christmas ♪♪♪♪
♪♪♪♪ We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year ♪♪♪♪ !!!!

Ouch, ow!!, put those tomatoes down. It's not my fault that this is the last letter before Christmas. Yes, so its only three, no two weeks away. Anybody ready?? Quick, shoot that person. How dare you be so organised. Haven't you anything else to do???

By the way, thank you all very, very much for turning out to the AGM. The awfully ghastly meeting was pepped up by the tack sale. We were just overwhelmed with kit that people wanted to get rid of. It was absolutely splendiferous (yeah, so I can't spell). It was pointed out during the AGM that the next twelve months mark the club's 30th anniversary year. Not only that, but it looks as if membership at the end of the year was well over the 150 mark and steadily heading upwards. Absolutely amazing. Does this mean we are going to see more people coming to our socials?? Is there anything I can do to encourage, or bully even, to get you to try one of Bourne Valley social thingeys (its that spelling again). Just think, if just 50% of you turned up to our quiz we could have seven teams of ten people and run it like the busman's holiday program. You must by now have realised what a warped sense of humour I have. Well, guess who sets the questions???

We've got some new committee members this year (poor people). Yet more little gophers to work on your behalf. Somebody at the AGM mentioned to me how nice it was to have free membership. For a moment there, I thought they meant I got free membership for being on the committee. Nope!! But! you do get a free membership if you win the Caballine trophy, the one we give for the person who has spent the most time setting up at shows and helping at our competitions and things.

Oh, I nearly forgot. For all you new people, and in fact, for some of you old ones who may have minor memory lapses don't forget that you can buy Bourne Valley Riding Club Sweatshirts and Polo shirts. All available in medium, large and extra large at the most reasonable price that you can possible imagine. (Sweatshirts £12, Poloshirts £11.50).

Also, just as a general reminder, I thought I might just confab about the club rules, or the one's that seem to cause most problems anyway. BVRC membership is open to people 17 years old or older (with no upper age limit). 16 year olds may compete in horsey competitions and attend any riding event as a member's guest, but BVRC does not allow under 16's to ride at their events. They do however, welcome them at their socials.

When you do turn up to ride at any of our events, you **MUST** wear correct approved headgear. Currently the standards are still being finalised, but basically the hat must have a strap fixed at three points and which is done up at all times, and be at least to standard BS6473 or BS4472. This excludes old fashioned velvet caps for dressage. Bit unflattering perhaps, but we are not insured if we allow people to ride in incorrect headgear, so please be aware before you turn up and bring the right hat with you. Oh, and whilst on the subject of gear, anything that you come to it is sufficient to be "clean and tidy". What this really means is buy either a BVRC sweatshirt or polo shirt and nobody will complain. AND (don't you just love rules) NO earrings. You can't compete with the little bleeders in your ears. Not even studs. Again, I think this is an insurance problem as well as being against the club rules. Full details of the rules are shown in the club's constitution (sounds dreadfully painful doesn't it) which can be obtained from Lindsay 01264 772388.

Committee

Here is a list of the committee members for the year with telephone numbers if you want to speak to them.

Chairman:-	Lindsay Hills	01264 772388
Secretary:-	Sarah March	01264 736465
Treasurer:-	Brenda Harman	01264 772853
	Milly Brotherwood	01264 782242
	Sue Fentiman	01264 350236
	Shelagh Forder	01488 668664
	Clare Heald	01635 254737
	Jenny Jones	0378 892817
	Mary Menzies	01488 668279
	Sue McGrath	01264 392054 Vice Chairman
	Maggie Miller	01264 781633
	Caroline Stevens	01264 323729
	Di Symes	01980 652272
	Monica Tomkins	01264 366407
	Nicky Winham	01264 860138

Newsletter

It has been mentioned a few times that people like to read other peoples input in the newsletters. I think this is a rather jolly good idea as it means that I don't have to do so much thinking. The only thing is, getting it started. Now, there is over 150 people out there. There must be at least twelve of you, (that's one per month), who you can write just a little ditty to include in the newsletter. Perhaps a poem! perhaps how brilliant your horse is, perhaps a special moment, perhaps a special experience (now then get a grip I mean to do with the horse), perhaps a gripe (just remember I'm the editor, no picks at the quality of the newsletter thank you). Come on folks, how do you feel about the potential ban on hunting, how do you cope with nerves, anyone had first hand experience of 'miraculous' recoveries for horses, anyone got a special horse, anyone fed up with a horsey issue, the new cycleway being put in on current bridleways perhaps. People are interested in this type of stuff. If there is anything you want to write about, then either send it to me (that's Monica Tomkins) at 25 Shaw Close Andover Hants SP10 3BT, or if your not sure just give me a ring on 01264 366407 and we'll sort it out. Not that I'm being pushy, but if nobody will speak to me, we might just have to resort to drawing names out of a hat!!!

Subscriptions

Well done if you have already renewed your subscriptions, and if not **WHY NOT????**. This is good value at £15 Riding Members / £12 Non Riding Members. Please fill and return your membership form. There are lots of good things happening so do rejoin **NOW**.

UK Chasers Ride held at Inkpen

Thirteen people attended the scheduled UK Chasers ride at Inkpen. Yet again, a BVRC do got hit with torrential overnight rain, webbed feet is a definite requisite for attempting one of our do's, however, a dry day followed for the ride itself. Lindsay (our chairman) insists that it is the best UK Chasers for scenery and riding that there is. We'll do it again, so bear it in mind for next time.

BVRC Quiz/Tack sale to be held at the Red Lion, Clanville on Friday 7th February 1997 from 7pm

Now you can't say that you haven't been warned. We want bodies. Well, actually, it would help if you brought your mind as well. We are going to try for a combined Quiz evening and tack sale. The idea is to answer as many questions as you can, whilst you buy tack. They are not all horsey questions, in fact, 50% of them cover general knowledge type things, (these can be obtuse, I'm not sure what general knowledge really is) and the rest of them are sort of horsey or sporty. We cover all sports, footie, rugby, fishing, you name it I'll try and find a question on it. So bring your PA's (personal assistants camouflaged as other halves), your friends or anybody else that might be able to help win a prize. So, bring along your tack to sell, or money to buy.

Tack Sale starts at 7pm, Quiz starts at 8pm. Cost £2.50 per person for the Quiz.

Be Fair Cup and Caballine Trophy

The Be Fair Cup and Caballine Trophy points start from scratch again for the new year. The Be Fair points are awarded to Bourne Valley members who enter our competitions. Points are based on the placings in the event. These placings aren't necessarily 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc, but actually the first six BV members get points regardless of their overall placings. It has been decided to extend these points to members who compete in teams on behalf of the Bourne Valley. They will receive a flat five points for competing on the day.

The Caballine Trophy points are awarded on a point for each hour or part hour worked at a show or setting up the day before a show. Even though this means all of the committee members who organise the events beforehand only get points for the day before and the actual day, the top placings do seem to be filled by us. We have therefore decided to award a rose bowl to the highest placed non-committee member. So, two trophies up for grabs for the price of one.

Each Trophy winner is awarded free membership for the following year.

Grades

I mentioned the riding club grade tests in the last newsletter. We have had four replies to this, so I am hoping that some of the new members might be interested to help bump up the numbers. The tests follow to some degree the same pattern as the BHS exams. There are four grades, starting at Grade I, just a basic walk, trot and basic stable management to Grade IV, a pretty testing exam including jumping, flatwork and stable management. If anybody would be interested in more information, or being involved in training for these grades, then please contact Lindsay Hills on 01264 772388.

Bridleways

You've probably all seen the front page of last week's Andover Advertiser commenting on the councils decision to put a cycle route through from Andover to Romsey as part of the Millennium. As usual, with any plan for change, there are always people for and against the project. From the horsey point of view, the cycle route will be put along some current bridleways. Does anyone have any thoughts about potential problems with this, perhaps young horses meeting groups of cyclists on the same route? If you have strong feelings against this proposal, then you should get in contact with the local BHS bridleways officer. Maggie Miller can provide you with her name and telephone number. For bridleways in general, if any of you find a bridleway blocked or with access denied, please ring up the Bridleways officer and let them know. It appears that the amount of riding country that we have is declining and established rights of way can be reclaimed if they are not used for a period of time. So, if a farmer has ploughed the bridleway, or a tree has fallen down, please let the Bridleways officer know so that something can be done about it.

Instruction

The Tuesday instruction sessions with Diana Burgess (Fitzsimmons) have relocated to Virginia Chamber's outdoor school in Lower Chute. Parking is courtesy of the Chute Club, but please park towards the front of the car park and please ensure that the area is left tidy (no litter or droppings). Please ring Lindsay (01264 772388) if you would like more detailed directions.

The dates are as follows:

Tuesday 14th January	10.30 am	Cost £9	(one session only)
Tuesday 28th January	10.30 am	Cost £9	(one session only)
Tuesday 11th February	10.30 am	Cost £9	(one session only)
Tuesday 18th February	10.30 am	Cost £9	(one session only)

Two Instruction sessions have been organised at Bluebell Farm, Penton Grafton, Nr Weyhill, with Claire Mason.

Sunday 19th January	12 pm	Cost £10	(one session only)
Sunday 2nd February	12 pm	Cost £10	(one session only)

All of the instruction will be of a general nature some flatwork with some optional gridwork or a small course of jumps at the end, for groups of 4-6 people. Each session lasts 1 hour 30 minutes. The instruction is aimed at all levels of horse and rider - so do come and have a go.

If you wish to attend, please send the attached reply slip to Lindsay Hills at least 3 days before the due date.

Hunting

Lots of members are having lots of fun, so why don't you have a go? The RA Hunt meets every Wednesday and Saturday at 11am. The meet details are published weekly in the Horse and Hound. Alternatively, you can ring Sam Hart 01980 843378 and he will be able to provide you with details and help with protocol, parking etc, etc. Some meets require participants to have Pass cards to give access to certain parts of Salisbury Plain. Applications for these passes are available from the hunt secretary, Nick Hornby (address below) enclosing a stamped addressed envelope (Allow a few days).

Di Symes hunts most Saturdays and is very willing to give a helping hand, give her a call (01980 65572).

The hunting cap is £15.00 per day. (normally about £40.00.) You should make yourself known to the Hunt secretary on arrival, rather than waiting for them to find you and you will need to produce your BVRC membership card, so do not forget to take it. You will also need £1 for the chap who watches the horse boxes whilst you are out having fun.

There is a limit of six meets per person during the season, but this still gives plenty of opportunity for everyone.

Hunt Secretary: Nick Hornby, Paddocks, The Cartway, Wedhampton, Nr Devizes, Wilts. Tel: 01380 848117

Winter Dressage at Hoplands Equestrian Centre, King's Somborne on Sunday 16th February.

Here is your early warning notice for the Winter Dressage. The schedule is enclosed with this newsletter. There is plenty for everyone, so do come and have a go.

Novice Indoor Show Jumping Qualifier on Saturday 22nd February, 1997.

This is the first of the Area 17 qualifying competitions. This is a two round competition for teams of 4 horses/ponies and riders. The jumps are 2'6" in the first round and 2'9" in the second round. The best three scores in each round count towards a team total.

The competition is being held at Priory Equestrian Centre at Frensham, Nr Farnham. If you are interested in making up a team please ring Di Symes (01980 652272).

(You will need an up to date Flu Vaccination Certificate (for your horse)).

DIARY DATES

JANUARY

- 14.01.97** **BVRC General Instruction with Diana Burgess at Lower Chute, 10.30am.**
Send Reply Slip to Lindsay Hills.
- 19.01.97** **BVRC General Instruction with Claire Mason at Bluebell Farm, Penton Grafton, Nr Weyhill, 12pm .**
Send Reply Slip to Lindsay Hills.
- 28.01.97** **BVRC General Instruction with Diana Burgess at Lower Chute, 10.30am.**
Send Reply Slip to Lindsay Hills.

FEBRUARY

- 02.02.97** **BVRC General Instruction with Claire Mason at Bluebell Farm, Penton Grafton, Nr Weyhill.**
Send Reply Slip to Lindsay Hills.
- 07.02.97** **BVRC Quiz and Tack Sale at the Red Lion at Clanville, Nr Weyhill, 7pm.**
Organiser: Monica Tomkins 01264 366407.
- 11.02.97** **BVRC General Instruction with Diana Burgess at Lower Chute, 10.30am.**
Send Reply Slip to Lindsay Hills.
- 16.02.97** **BVRC Winter Dressage at Hoplands Equestrian Centre, King's Somborne.**
Organiser: Caroline Stevens (Schedules enclosed).
- 18.02.97** **BVRC General Instruction with Diana Burgess at Lower Chute, 10.30am.**
Send Reply Slip to Lindsay Hills.
- 22.02.97** **Area 17 Novice Indoor Show Jumping Qualifier at Priory EC, Frensham, Nr Farnham.**
Ring Di Symes 01980 652272.

ADVERTS

KESTANS JUMPING SADDLE, 17", medium width, very good condition. £350
Tel: Clare Farrington 01264 735226.

REPLY SLIP to be returned to Mrs L Hills, The Ridings, Dauntsey Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8EB.
I would like to attend the general instruction with Diana Fitzsimmons at 10.30am on Tuesday 18th February at Lower Chute,
and enclose a cheque for £9 (made payable to Bourne Valley Riding Club). Sessions 1 hour 30 mins based on 4-6 sharing.

Name Tel No

REPLY SLIP to be returned to Mrs L Hills, The Ridings, Dauntsey Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8EB.
I would like to attend the general instruction with Diana Fitzsimmons at 10.30am on Tuesday 11th February at Lower Chute,
and enclose a cheque for £9 (made payable to Bourne Valley Riding Club). Sessions 1 hour 30 mins based on 4-6 sharing.

Name Tel No

REPLY SLIP to be returned to Mrs L Hills, The Ridings, Dauntsey Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8EB.
I would like to attend the general instruction with Claire Mason at 12pm on Sunday 2nd February at Bluebell Farm, Penton Grafton
and enclose a cheque for £10 (made payable to Bourne Valley Riding Club). Sessions 1 hour 30 mins based on 4-6 sharing.

Name Tel No

REPLY SLIP to be returned to Mrs L Hills, The Ridings, Dauntsey Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8EB.
I would like to attend the general instruction with Diana Fitzsimmons at 10.30am on Tuesday 28th January at Lower Chute,
and enclose a cheque for £9 (made payable to Bourne Valley Riding Club). Sessions 1 hour 30 mins based on 4-6 sharing.

Name Tel No

REPLY SLIP to be returned to Mrs L Hills, The Ridings, Dauntsey Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8EB.
I would like to attend the general instruction with Claire Mason at 12pm on Sunday 19th January at Bluebell Farm, Penton Grafton
and enclose a cheque for £10 (made payable to Bourne Valley Riding Club). Sessions 1 hour 30 mins based on 4-6 sharing.

Name Tel No

REPLY SLIP to be returned to Mrs L Hills, The Ridings, Dauntsey Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8EB.
I would like to attend the general instruction with Diana Fitzsimmons at 10.30am on Tuesday 14th January at Lower Chute,
and enclose a cheque for £9 (made payable to Bourne Valley Riding Club). Sessions 1 hour 30 mins based on 4-6 sharing.

Name Tel No
