

As you all know, at the Area 17 Show Jumping and Equitation Jumping competition hosted by Bourne Valley, our show jumping team qualified for the Riding Club Championships at Stoneleigh. The Championships were held on Saturday, 16th August and our team of Sue McGrath, Sandra Olliver, Brenda Donnelly and Lisa Capes travelled the day before to Warwick Racecourse, where the horses were stabled overnight. Our grateful thanks to Facombe Estate who kindly lent their horsebox which enabled all the horses to travel together and saved considerable expense. The team members were "stabled" in a girls' only dormitory but after an evening at the nearby pub the team mascot, Tom Olliver, thought the prospect of a night alone too dreary and managed to smuggle himself in with the girls! The following morning, the team were faced with the first round of the competition which consisted of jumps at a maximum height of 4 ft. Sandra Olliver and Lisa Capes jumped clear, Brenda Donnelly had 4 faults and Sue McGrath had the ort discard score. The jumps were raised to 4ft. 3ins. for the second round and Lisa Capes jumped another superb clear round. The rest of the team each had four faults (one score was again discarded) giving a total of 12 faults for the two rounds. Bourne Valley finished in fourth place overall out of 22 teams and had the distinction of being the best English team. This was a marvellous performance and one the Club can be proud of as the standard of the Show Jumping Championships is very high. Congratulations to Sandra, Sue, Brenda and Lisa and thank you for representing Bourne Valley in such splendid form. The team mascot was, I am told, very useful and kept the team fortified with food cooked on his barbecue! The full results are as follows:

1st Team - Fife

2nd Team - Vyrnwy Valley

3rd Team - S. W. Scotland

4th Team - Bourne Valley -	Mrs. S. Olliver	Flippant Fancy
	Miss L. Capes	The Examiner
	Mrs. S. McGrath	Morley Queensway
	Mrs. B. Donnelly	Rumba

5th Team - Aspley Guise

6th Team - Worlington

7th Team - West Wales

Purbeck & District R.C. who were the Area 17 Equitation Jumping qualifiers were placed 4th at the Championships and members from the Chilworth and Tadley teams were placed individually in the Dressage, Prix Caprilli and Horse Trials Championships so Area 17 certainly made their presence felt!

Very many thanks to our President, Sam Hart, for his excellent report on the Championships which the Andover Advertiser printed together with the super photographs taken by Pete Hills.

The Fun Ride held at Farley Mount on Sunday, 28th September was very successful and Wendy Straker has sent the following report:

'The weather was perfect, a beautiful sunny day, in lovely riding country. It was a close finish for the top four places and team captains had to answer a simple question to determine the placings, which after a 12 mile ride, tested the grey matter somewhat. All the teams enjoyed themselves and said the course was well signposted.

How then two teams went the wrong way missing out two checkpoints is still a mystery but it did account for the record time over the 12 mile course, in fact, they only did 9 miles! Never mind, better luck next year "the Doncinfree's" and "Yewtree Fellers".....! Many thanks to all the helpers, especially B.V. members June Bush, Melissa McKee and Peter Brotherwood.'

Results:

1st	H3	67
2nd	Rectory Reprobates	67
3rd	Fools and Horses	63
4th	The Cowgirls	63
5th	The Hare and the Tortoise	58
6th	Flagstaff Flyers	52
Booby Prize went to: Engham Artists		40

Our thanks to Wendy Straker for organising the event and we hope she will feel like repeating it next year.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Weyhill Fair on Tuesday, 21st October and was attended by 28 members. Sue Bennett, who has been Acting Chairman since March, reported that the Club had had another successful year both financially and event wise. An innovation to the programme had been the indoor show jumping competitions held at Cholderton in November, December and January. These had been quite successful in spite of problems with the surface in the indoor school which had caused several horses to fall. The three instruction days had proved very popular and the Combined Training and Riding Club Horse Competitions held at Penton were well attended by members. The big event of the year, held at Middle Wallop, had been the Area Show Jumping and Equitation Jumping Qualifiers run in conjunction with Combined Training and Novice Team Show Jumping. The day was very successful and there had been plenty of help with the preparation and clearing up of the show ground. The Chairman congratulated the Show Jumping team and said that the Club had been well represented in all the Area competitions. The horse trials team had been placed 6th at the qualifier held at Tweseldown and the Prix Caprilli team had missed qualifying by 1 mark. Our thanks to those members who represented us and, of course, Sue McGrath, team manager and organiser. The Chairman thanked the Committee for their hard work, all the members who supported the Club and our President, Sam Hart, for his work.

The treasurer presented the accounts for the year which showed a net surplus for the year of £397 and total club assets of £1822. At the end of the year there was £6 in the bank current account and £600 in the Building Society account. The £200 profit made on instruction was severely criticised by some members and Sue Bennett told the meeting that the Committee had not intentionally set out to make a profit and that the tremendous response to the instruction had been totally unexpected. She said the Committee intend that this profit be used to subsidise future instruction which would be especially necessary in the winter when an indoor school has to be hired. June Bush was elected as the new Chairman and Sandra Olliver, Wendy Williams, Brenda Donnelly and Peter Brotherwood were elected to fill the four vacancies on the Committee. The full committee is as follows:

Chairman	- Miss J. Bush, Dukes Wood, Amport, Andover, Hants. Tel: Weyhill 2474
Vice Chairman	- Mrs. Anne Sealey, Cross Way, Salisbury Lane, Middle Wallop, Stockbridge, Hants. Tel: Andover 781571

Hon. Secretary - Mrs. Carole Glover, Castle Farm, Over Wallop,
Stockbridge, Hants. Tel: Andover 781991

Hon. Treasurer - Mr. Ian Walker, 207 Pilgrims Way, Andover.
Tel: Andover 57110

Committee - Mrs. Pippa Sarsfield-Hall Tel: Whitchurch 2100
Mrs. Marti Johnson Tel: Stonehenge 46354
Mrs. Sue Bennett Tel: Weyhill 2341
Mrs. Sandra Olliver Tel: Weyhill 2984
Mrs. Sue McGrath Tel: Linkenholt 316
Mrs. Wendy Williams Tel: Salisbury 28432
Mrs. Brenda Donnelly Tel: Weyhill 2851
Mr. Peter Brotherwood Tel: Sparsholt 378

Sue McGrath will continue to organise instruction and be responsible for selecting the teams.

Sue Bennett is holding a course of instruction for members wanting to take Grades I & II so anyone wanting to take these tests please contact Sue as soon as possible and she will give you details of cost etc. Also, if enough members are interested, Sue will give instruction for Grade III.

The winner of the Be Fair Cup this year was Brenda Donnelly and our President, Sam Hart, presented the Cup to Brenda and the rosettes to sixth place as follows:

1st Brenda Donnelly	4th Lindsay Hills
2nd Sally Oliver	5th Pat Sarsfield-Hall
3rd Gill Sumner	6th Dawn Williams

Well done Brenda! (and Rumba)

The meeting ended with suggestions for next year's programme.

The first item on the programme is the Mary Chipperfield High School Dressage Demonstration at Croft Farm, Over Wallop. Unfortunately Mary is abroad for the winter but her equally talented sister Margaret has been persuaded to give the demonstration. It is to be held on Tuesday, 25th November and should be an interesting evening so I do hope you will give this your support and bring as many guests as you can. Cost of admission - £1 members £1.50 non members. Please give me a ring if you would like directions on how to find Croft Farm!

At the beginning of last year Questionnaires were sent to all members. Only 43 were returned but from these it appears that many members would like more information on various subjects. June Bush has compiled the attached information sheet which we hope will be helpful. It was also suggested that the newsletter should contain more personal news of members and articles, ideas, letters, anecdotes, comments etc. from members. I should be delighted to have help with writing the newsletter but it is up to members to let me know of any items they would like circulated or, better still, write a short paragraph yourself - emphasis on short because of the cost of paper, printing and postage. I shall look forward to hearing from you!

Finally, another reminder that subscriptions were due on 1st October. I should be grateful if those outstanding could be forwarded as soon as possible. Thank you.

Carole Glover.

INFORMATION AND REMINDER PAGE

Some members have asked for more information on the following:

GRADES

There are four Riding Club Grades, each of which is divided into three sections, Equitation, Stable/Horse Management and General Knowledge. The Tests, which are set by the British Horse Society, have been devised to encourage members to achieve a higher standard of horsemanship and must be taken in sequence. Costs are also set by the British Horse Society and the figures quoted are for 1986 and do not include costs of any instruction required in preparation for the examinations. A certificate is awarded to successful candidates. Examinations for Grades I, II and III are organised by the individual Riding Clubs but arrangements for examinations for Grade IV are made by the Riding Clubs Committee of the British Horse Society. Test Cards for all Grades are available from the Bourne Valley Hon. Secretary.

GRADE I - includes mounting, dismounting, sitting in a reasonably good position, holding the reins correctly, saddling up, brushing down and knowing the points of a horse. Cost - £4.60 for a pass result.

Exemptions - holders of Pony Club 'A' or 'B' certificates, BHSAI, BHSI, FBHS.

GRADE II - includes a good position in the saddle, recognise diagonals at the trot, correct aids, jumping low fence (max. 2 ft.), knowledge of grooming kit, care of saddlery. Cost - £4.60 for a pass result.

Exemptions - as for Grade I.

GRADE III - includes applying aids correctly, trotting on both diagonals, judgement of pace, jumping fence (max. 3 ft.), management in stable and at grass, clipping and trimming, feeding and watering, fitting saddlery, knowledge of Highway Code and Country Code.

Candidates must have passed the Road Safety Test before taking Grade III. Cost - £4.60 for a pass result.

Exemptions - holders of BHSI and FBHS.

GRADE IV - includes knowledge of correct position for riding on the flat and over fences, the stages of schooling up to Riding Club Horse Trials standard, the meaning of impulsion, riding a course of jumps up to 3' 6", practical knowledge of stable routine, feeding, bedding etc., treatment of common ailments. Candidates must have passed Grade III, the Road Safety Test and the Stable Management Test and have a written recommendation from a holder of BHSI or FBHS.

Cost - £35.

Exemptions - as for Grade III.

STABLE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE - The standard for this is somewhere between Grades III and IV. The aim is to show practical experience and not just theoretical knowledge of all aspects of horsemanship. Examinations are organised on an Area basis by the Area Liaison Chairman and Club secretaries within the Area are informed when and where the examination will take place. Cost - £25. Syllabus available from Bourne Valley Hon. Secretary.

ROAD SAFETY TEST

This is divided into three parts, field Test, Theory and Road Test. Each part of the test is awarded the same number of marks - the pass mark for each is 80% and all three parts must be passed at the same Test. The aim is to make members aware of the hazards of riding on modern roads; it is a test of the RIDER not the horse. Members of any riding standard may take the Test but it is now compulsory to have passed it before taking Grade III. Cost - not known. Details from Mrs. D. Williams (our local Road Safety Officer) Tel: Andover 810724.

LIBRARY

The Bourne Valley has a small library of books and leaflets at Blue Bell Farm, Penton Grafton, Nr. Andover which are aimed mainly at helping members who want to take any of the above Tests, although of course, any member may borrow them at any time - contact Sue Bennett at Blue Bell Farm, Tel: Weyhill 2341.

PRIX CAPRILLI

This is a good starting point for those members who say they are complete novices and have never competed in any event but would like to have a go at something.

The Test is ridden in a dressage arena (standard size 20m x 40m) but with the addition of two small jumps (1ft 6" and 2ft.) It is similar to a dressage test in that a series of movements are performed in a given order and the judge awards each movement a score of 0 - 10 but it differs from dressage in that it is judged as a test of competence of the rider and his/her influence on the horse and not on the ability of the horse to perform the movements. Test sheets for Prix Caprilli No. 10 (which is the latest one we have) are available from the Bourne Valley Hon. Secretary.

If enough people are interested, the Committee could probably arrange a demonstration at some time during the winter.

EQUITATION JUMPING

This is a comparatively new competition devised by the British Horse Society to encourage riders to adopt a correct jumping position and to ride with sufficient impulsion to maintain a balanced and rhythmical pace. The Course (max. height 3ft.) consists of six fences including one double. Marks 0 - 10 are awarded for each jump and judging is based on the rider's position, presentation of the horse to the fence and correct style of horse and rider over the fence and when landing; marks are deducted for knock downs and refusals. Competitors canter round the arena both before and after jumping the course and up to twenty additional marks can be awarded for the rider's position while riding on the flat.

ADVERTISEMENTS

New members may not be aware that 'For Sale and Wanted' adverts. may be put in the Club newsletter free of charge. Anything connected with horses is acceptable - tack, riding kit, horse transport, grazing, livery etc. (and, of course, horses!). Just write or telephone details to the Hon. Secretary.

BOURNE VALLEY SWEATSHIRTS & BADGES

The sweatshirts are of good quality in dark green with a white motif and the Club name. Sizes - small, medium, large and extra large. Cost (all sizes) £8.50.

The badges are standard B.H.S. bar type in dark blue and white with the Club name on the bar. They can be used as a brooch or stock/tie pin. Cost - £1.00.

Both the above are available from June Bush, Dukes Wood, Amport. Tel: Weyhill 2474.

The 'BE FAIR' CUP

A brief explanation of this cup for new members.

The cup was donated to the Club by Lucinda Green - hence its name. It is presented at the A.G.M. each year to the B.V. member who has gained the most points at B.V. competitions during the year. The points, which are awarded for the first 6 places in each class are 9,6,4,3,2,1. Only the highest place counts if a member is placed on two horses in one class. Team events and Area competitions do not count but 5 points are awarded to members who help at an event and do not compete during the day. The winner is not eligible for points during the following year.