



BERKELEY & DISTRICT

RIDING CLUB

Newsletter – Spring 2024

Chair update – Jill McFarland

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024. It looks like this year is going to be another bumper one for the club with membership over the 100 mark. Welcome to all our new members, I hope to meet you at a RC event soon. If as a new member or an 'old faithful' you have any feedback on our activities or how the club is run, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Can you believe we are quarter of the way through 2024 already! It has been the most awfully wet and uninspiring winter but don't delay in planning what you are going to do with your horse – the year will fly by.

Your committee have been working hard to put on a wide range of activities for you to take part in from Pontispool camp in April (still some places available), a flat day camp in May, rallies of every description and a skittles evening to name but a few.

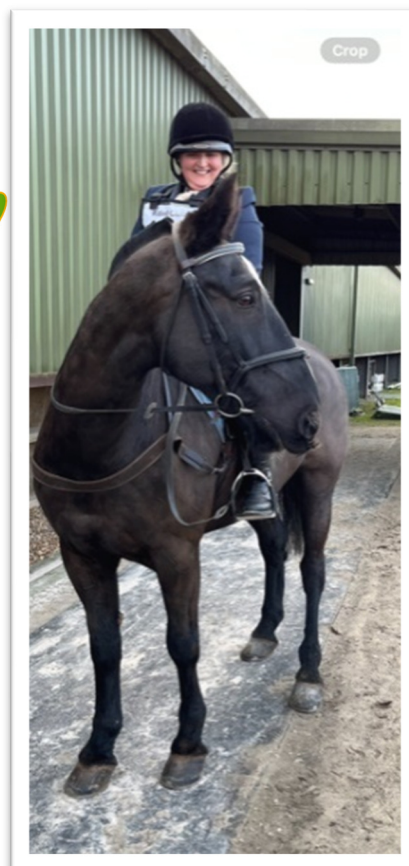


One of the strengths of our club I feel is the variety of what we do – pinching some figures from our recent AGM last year we organised 85 rallies with 13 different instructors at 14 different venues, phew - I doubt there are many other clubs nationally who do so much!

If you didn't attend our AGM in January you may have missed that we are trying to be a bit more streamlined in our approach to entering teams to the many Area Qualifiers. Inevitably we find that there is nearly always someone who had planned to compete but ends up having to pull out due to a lame horse or illness. If we can't get a replacement this means the club is losing the money it has spent on the Preliminary entry fees, we must pay to BRC for every competitor. In future we hope to always have a reserve or two who has kept the day free to allow us to field a full team. So, if you are asked to be a reserve please keep the day free it is very likely you will be asked to compete. Thank you.

Hope you all have a great 2024. If you are fit and your horse is fit (and the weather is decent!) don't delay in getting out there!

Winter Showjumping Qualifier – 7 January 2024 at West Wilts



70cms
Sam Savery
Jemma Harding
Keri Naylor
Alice Gay

80cms
Liv Gale
Alice Gay (supported by Emma Merrett)
Sian Barke

Winter Showjumping Qualifier – 7 January 2024 at West Wilts



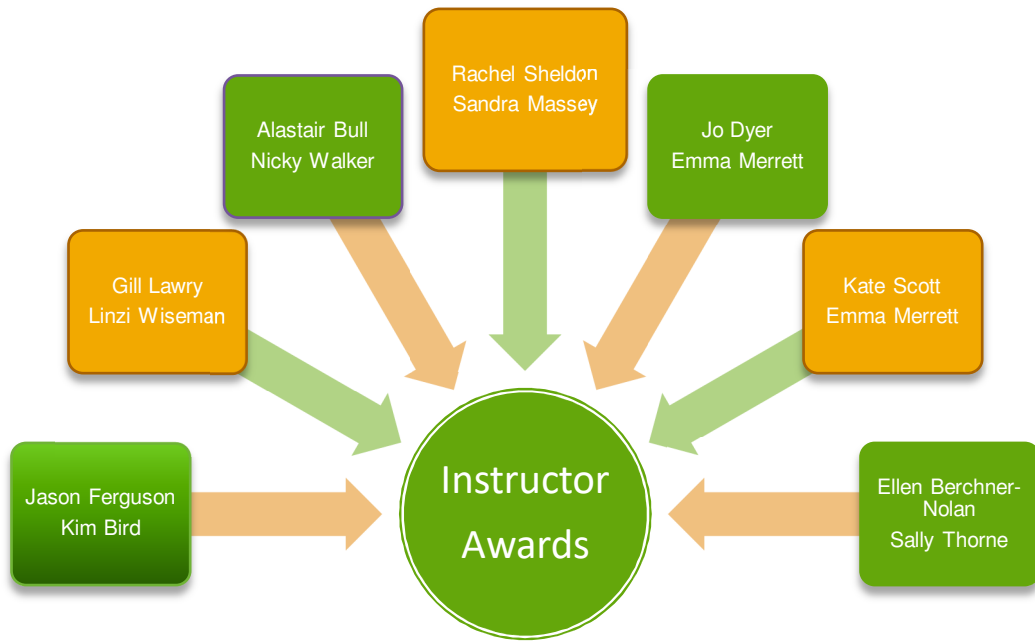
**Victoria Stacey
90cms**



**70cms
Sam Savery
Jemma Harding
Keri Naylor
Alice Gay**

**80cms
Liv Gale
Alice Gay (supported by Emma Merrett)
Sian Barke**

AGM Awards for 2023



29 January 2024 - AGM Awards for 2023

Club all-rounder – Sian Barke

At our AGM this year, not only was I fed fabulous home cooking and cake, but I also received the Club Allrounder award! How chuffed was I?!

A lot of you know my horse Bowman, who is hard to miss as he is huge (and very handsome!). I am a regular at competing in all teams with the riding club. Bowman is a fantastic horse although can be challenging at times, but we always get lots of support at competitions and we don't do too bad!



Allrounder sums us up for sure. We compete regularly in dressage, showjumping, arena eventing, ODEs, dressage to music and lastly our favourite, which is team chasing! He is especially good at jumping big silly hedges!



2023 was full of Area competitions and I even got to go to a few stay-away championships as an individual as well as part of a team. We loved every minute of it.

Our fantastic riding club has done wonders for mine and Bow's confidence and provides lots of opportunities to have a go at all disciplines whether it's at a rally or a competition.

Thank you, B&D!

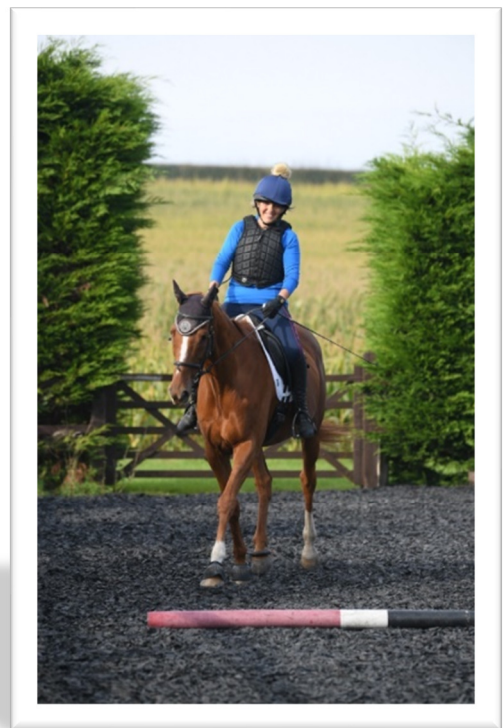
Members' member – Helen van de Loo



Thank you for all who nominated me for the Members' member award.

I could not believe what lovely things were said about me and why I should be nominated, I was truly overwhelmed!

I am just happy to belong to such a fantastic riding club. If I can help any of the members in any way, I try my best to do so. Here's to another great year in our Riding club.



The Anne Brown Award – Victoria Stacey

I always enjoy the AGM at the end of January. It is lovely to catch up with everyone after a long winter and it means that spring is just around the corner. The food is always yummy and this year the sausage pasta bake was particularly good, thank you to whoever cooked it.

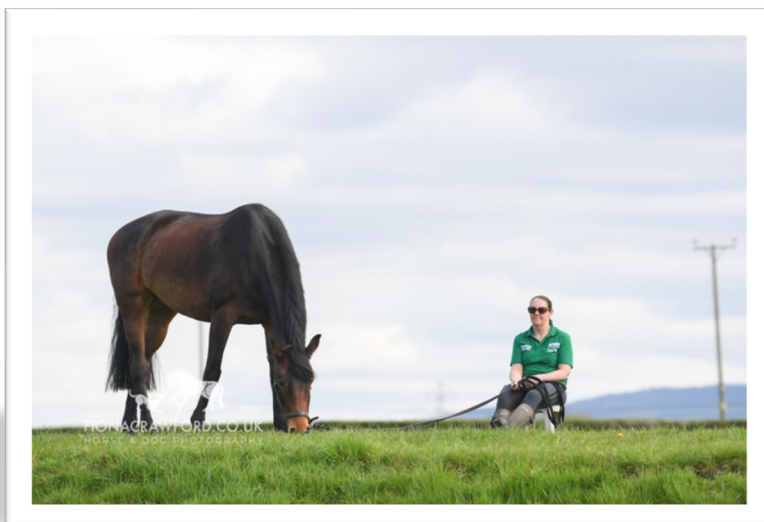
I was very fortunate and incredibly touched to be the inaugural winner of the Anne Brown award. I never knew Anne, but I

have subsequently chatted to Janet MacDonald and she sounded like a wonderful woman. Anne did a huge amount for the club, particularly helping on the ground.

We all bring our different skills from the 'real world' to the riding club and mine just happen to be being an A&E doctor. Unfortunately, if I am called to adopt the 'doctor hat' then it means that someone else's day has not gone to plan!

I do feel a bit bad to benefit from the inevitable unscheduled dismount or other horse-related accidents, that happen from time to time. That said I love being able to help and if my being there makes people feel a little bit safer, then I am delighted. The beautiful trophy is sitting proudly on display in the hallway, for all to see.

Having won one award I was really, not expecting a second, so was very surprised to win the Best Turned Out award. Generously donated by Mel and Carolyn Tegg, who set a very high bar for turn out, with Porridge always looking immaculate and Persil white.



Thankfully Autumn is bay with not a single white bit, making cleaning a whole lot easier for me. Although, I must confess to having caught the 'matchy, matchy' bug and spending more time than is probably appropriate ensuring I have matching saddle pads, hat silks and boots for camp!

I love my personalised toy Autumn, which now is my lorry mascot, and plaque that is proudly mounted at the stables. Many thanks Mel and Carolyn.



Intermediate Dressage Qualifier – 25 February 2024 at Leyland Court



1st for
Renee
Watkins
N30



Team Mamba = 6th
Emma Smith
Naomi Watkins
Renee Watkins
Victoria Stacey

3rd for
Sarah
Raymond
P18



Team Foxtrot = 7th
Sian Barke
Sarah Couzens
Sarah Raymond
Shanice Hopkins

Easter Dress Down Dressage 30 March 2024 at Burrows Court



A fantastic day with much fun at Easter Dress Down Dressage. Great organisation with thanks to **Gill Lawry** and her team of helpers AND of course, our judges **Kate Nichols** and **Bary Hayes**. A very special thank you also goes to **Jill McFarland** for some super photos capturing highlights of the morning.

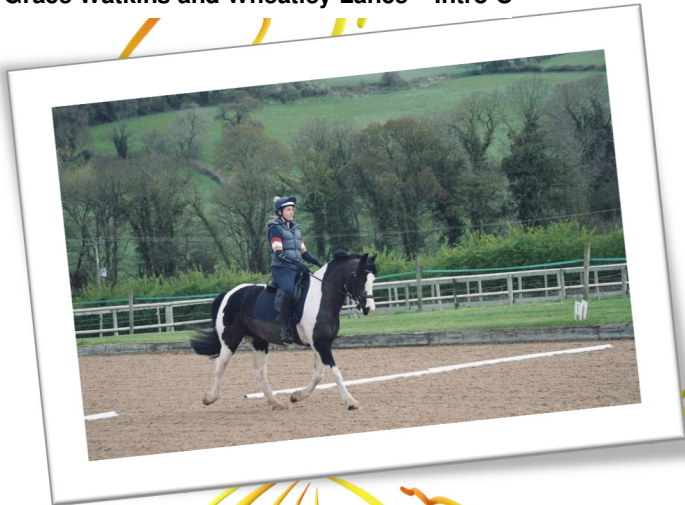
Thea Savery and Malli - Prelim 7



**Rebecca Lingham and Sam
Prelim 13 and Novice 30**



Grace Watkins and Wheatley Lance – Intro C



Sarah Jenkins and Sunny – Intro B

Sophie Bell and Cara



Claire Friend and Soli



Becky Rundle and Kahula



Diary dates Upcoming events



When	What	Where
18 April 2024	Club Social - Skittles	The Salutation, Ham
19 May 2024	Combined Training Qualifier	West Wilts
15 June 2024	Dressage	Rectory Farm
23 June 2024	Combined Challenge	West Wilts
29/30 June 2024	Horse Trials	Howick
6 July 2024	Showjumping	Rectory Farm
20 August 2024	Summer Intro Dressage Qualifier	Burrows Court
5 October 2024	Dressage to Music	Burrows Court
13 October 2024	Arena Eventing	West Wilts
12 January 2025	Winter Show Jumping Qualifier	West Wilts

Contributing to the club

As members of the club, you are required to provide help for five hours throughout the year (friends and family can do them on your behalf). Please let Sarah Raymond know as and when you complete your hours sarah.raymond@hotmail.co.uk

10% discount for B&DRC members

Pinkers – <https://patrickpinker.com/>

EvoEquine - <https://www.evoequine.co.uk/>

Gift Vouchers

You can purchase gift vouchers for rallies, membership, competitions, and camp. Please contact Sally Thorne who can organise this for you.

sally.thorne@blueyonder.co.uk

Committee members



BERKELEY & DISTRICT
— RIDING CLUB —

Who	Role	Contact
Jill McFarland	Chair	Tel: 07879 218944 Email: jill.geoff@btinternet.com
Sally Thorne	Treasurer	Tel: 07773 081303 Email: sally.thorne@blueyonder.co.uk
Julie Smith	Secretary Newsletter	Tel: 07484 821318 Email: julie526smith@btinternet.com
Shanice Walton	Camps Manager	Tel: 07860 292735 Email: shanice37@hotmail.com
Sarah Raymond	Membership Secretary	Tel: 07711 447591 Email: sarah.raymond@hotmail.co.uk
Gill Lawry	Teams Co-ordinator Safeguarding Officer	Tel: 07747 842853 Email: gilllawry@aol.com
Claire Friend	Rallies Manager	Tel: 07837 023190 Email: Claire.friend@hotmail.co.uk
Sue Micklewright	Committee Support Socials	Tel: 07854 123208 Email: sue_micklewright@hotmail.co.uk

Payments

When paying for rallies, camps etc. BACS is our preferred method details are:
Sort code 09-01-51
Acc. No. 84275504

Where possible please reference each BACS payment with date of rally/event