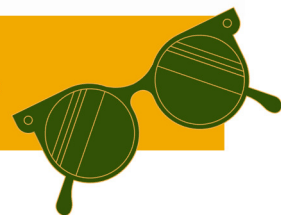




BERKELEY & DISTRICT

RIDING CLUB

Newsletter – Summer 2024



Chair update – Jill McFarland

Welcome to our summer newsletter. I think at last we are finally getting some summer weather - I hope you and your horses are enjoying it.

The club continues to go from strength to strength as you will see from the reports in the newsletter. I recently attended a meeting of all the Area 9 clubs and understand some have falling membership and struggle to get interest in rallies and events they organise so am delighted that we seem to be bucking the trend. Talking of which our next residential camp at Stockland Lovell in October is filling up so get your applications in asap. If you haven't been before you won't be disappointed, it's a lovely venue.



So far 2024 has been a bit quieter as far as qualifying for the Championships is concerned. But it looks like things are hotting up and we have members who have qualified for Lincoln, Hartpury and most recently the Horse Trials at Swalcliffe. There are several more Area Qualifiers to come including Dressage to Music and Intro dressage, Combined Challenge and Arena Eventing. If you are a new member (or one who needs a push to give it a go) please don't be shy as we love to get lots of members giving it a go and you will be made to feel very welcome.

As we are halfway through the year don't forget to do your 5 helper hours. There are several members who do way more than the 5 we ask for (BIG thanks xxx) but a few of you who have yet to do any - so please do step up - the club can't operate as it does without you.

I look forward to seeing you all out and about soon.

Day camp with Jason Ferguson – 13 April 2024

Six club members had a fantastic educational day camp with Jason Ferguson. The morning was spent working on techniques for mastering dressage test riding and the afternoon concentrated on riding a show jumping course.

As always Jason and Caroline were incredibly welcoming and hospitable, and the sun shone all day.



Residential Camp – Pontispool Equestrian Centre 24 – 27 April 2024

Another great well organised camp with thanks to **Shanice Hopkins**. The variety of activities and fun games kept us all engaged and entertained, while the time spent with our horses was truly priceless. Thank you for all your efforts in making this camp such a success.



First camp experience – Kara and Rupert



On the day of camp, it dawned on me that I didn't know anyone from the club! I was going on holiday with a bunch of strangers.... I started packing my lorry and found myself reminiscing of the days I used to compete and stay away with my pony. I remembered the joy of making new friends whilst away so excitedly loaded the lorry and set off.

Arriving at camp a friend that I had met at a stay away show years back met me and helped me unload, this is how the equine world works! She isn't even in the club!

From this point I was stopped by absolutely everyone who welcomed me to the club and introduced themselves.

My horse is a little bit of a head turner...blonde handsome and beach body ready, so it wasn't long before people were chatting away admiring his moves and asking for his hoofagraph!

I met my roommate who immediately gained my attention by reviling her past career...fire, clowns and dare devil moves. It reminded me of my day job. Needless to say, we hit it off!

Camp was so varied, we could choose galloping (I didn't join in for fear of death) show jumping, flat, hacking and poles.

My horse settled well in his stable with lots of friends nearby. He thought the lessons were amazing.

I realised I am not 21 anymore so took a different view to him at times.

The food was absolutely amazing. The evening entertainment was hilarious and well organised.

The best part of camp was meeting lots of lovely people.



Another highlight of camp was the auction night, where we raised £758 which was split between The Great Western Air Ambulance and the Club.





'Chip Chudleigh the Weather Man'
25yo, 14'3, coloured cob (now retired)

STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

by Susie Glatt

As our connection with the horse develops and our knowledge deepens, there are increasing schools of thought that promote a more natural, less transactional approach, believing that understanding things from the horse's point of view, literally 'speaking their language' will lead to an eager partner in a more cooperative relationship. Great huh!!

But I don't speak 'horse', it takes *years* to learn so, instead, I tried him with mine in a short Q&A, tackling the big stuff.....

What is your spirit animal?

The mighty walrus who, similarly, spends a lot of time chillin' and also gets fat on thin air



How would others describe you in 3 words?

A sweetheart
greedy and
funny

What was your least favourite discipline & your most?

that thing that involved the words 'bit & outline' was generally rubbish. Don't think you liked it either 'cos you got quite upset a lot of the time too.

Aah, fun-rides - they were the best! No rules about outlines, straight lines, circles, left, right, slow, go, stop. No restrictions, just charging across fields flat out in our gang. Oh, hang on, maybe that's not a discipline then.....

What has been your best or worst moment with me?

I like it now. I like it when you come into the field, don't ask me to do anything & we just hang out.



What do you wish you could do?

have my own home delivery account with Feedmark

What is your most annoying habit?

Backing up onto the horsebox's curved front panels (also now decimated) for a rub... oh & straddling the tow hitch to scratch my belly on the wheel-winder knob... oh & loading myself to eat the hay whilst you're loading the stropky mare...oh & nearly running through you to avoid the stropky mare... they all make your face go a funny colour

What song would you sing at karaoke?

Mr Lover-Lover
by Shaggy

If you cooked, what would your signature dish be?

I'm very much a foodie but why all that prep that you humans seem to relish??! For me, it would be quick! A Trebor XXX, crunchy mint & *kale sandwich on granary with apple custard (*should probably say sorry here, about breaking into your veg patch & devouring the entire kale crop this year, smashing the borders in the process)

To finish, is there anything you'd like to ask me?

Yes, finally!!! Why do you keep taking our poo? You take the dog's poo too. It's weird. You must have loads of it somewhere, WHyyyyyy???!!

Flat camp – Burrows Court – 17 May 2024



Alison Hawkins - Combined Training – West Wilts – 19 May 2024

A fabulous sunny day for the combined training competition at West Wilts. In the team it was **Sophie Bell's** first competition for the club, with a good dressage and clear SJ to place 2nd individually.

Alice Gay had an unlucky pole placing 8th.

Andrew Winterton also jumped clear and placed 6th individually.

Sarah Raymond rode the final test for the team and overall, the team placed 6th.

Emma Smith rode individually, did her first novice test and won her section!

Both Sophie and Emma qualified for the championships.



Shelley Snelson - Dressage – Rectory Farm 15 June 2024

The Area 9 Summer dressage qualifiers were on the 15 June. Our team of **Amy Lloyd, Samantha Savery** and **Shelley Snelson** and individual **Hannah Tuck** set off to do dressage on grass. Swindon Riding Club had organised a very well-run and friendly competition.

Although it was challenging, with wet and bleak conditions, we are delighted that the team qualified for the South West Wales and West of England Championships at Hartpury riding Prelim and **Hannah Tuck** qualified for the BRC NAF Five Star Championships at Lincoln riding Medium.

Results

Riding at the championships at Hartpury were Shelley Snelson, Amy Lloyd, Sian Barke and Gabrielle Challis with Shelley achieving 7th and coming home with a rosette
Well done to all of you



Sue Micklewright - Howick Horse Trials 30 June 2024

What a lovely day with some great people and their ponies. They all came away with rosettes as well.

The 80cm team had an early start with first dressage at 9.10am. The team comprised of **Laura Nelmes, Claire Williams** and **Sarah Lord**. The team was 4th and Sarah was individual 6th in the section. A talented bunch of ladies.

Our 70cm team only went and won so are off to the Championships at Swalcliffe. The team comprised of **Jill McFarland, Mel Tegg, Ali Hawkins** (riding Andrew Winterton's Bally who she had only sat on once before) and **Emma Bennett**.

Jill was individual 2nd, Ali 4th and Mel 5th.

A wonderful mix of new and familiar faces. But all very experienced. A great day for the club.



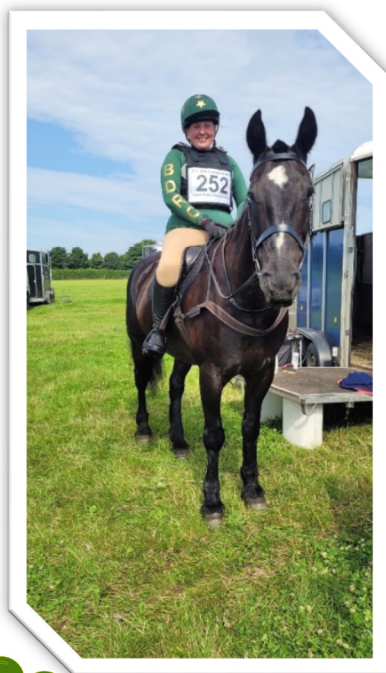
Results

Championships at Swalcliffe 2 August 2024

Well done to our team at Swalcliffe Horse trials Championships. After a few last minute changes we had a team of three competing, **Mel Tegg** and Porridge, **Jill McFarland** and Basil and our wild card entry **Emma Merrett** riding Andrew Winterton's Bally.

Jill had a really good day with Basil who thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were placed 7th, well done and thank you to all for representing the club.

Special thanks go to **Laura Nelmes** for fence judging and **Andrew Winterton** for letting Bally join in the fun.



Club clothing now available with new logo



You can select from:

- Hoodies - with front logo £19, front and back logo £22
- Fleece lined bomber jacket with new logo on front £27
- Softshell jacket with new logo on front £36
- Polo shirt or T shirt in green £15 approximately

Sizes range from XS to XL.

For more details please contact **Shanice Hopkins**
Shanice37@hotmail.com



Susie Glatt - Show Jumping - Rectory Farm – 6 July 2024

The area 9, summer qualifiers were held at Rectory Arena again this year and we had two teams - a 70cm and a 90cm - and 2 individual 70s flying the B&DRC flag.

The weather was extremely unkind but brave faces, steely spirits and intuitive riding won out in the end, with both teams winning 2nd place; the 90cm team qualified for Hartpury.

Team70: **Vicki Lee, Alice Gertrude Gay, Emma Merrett, Sam Savery**

Team90: **Kim Bird, Sarah Raymond, Andrew Winterton**

AND **Zoe Lang** winning 3rd place individual (with one of the only double clears) and therefore qualifying for the runner-up championships at Lincoln!!



The day was not without difficulty for most: Sam's lovely Rayton wasn't in the mood and refused his way out of the competition.

Emma's youngster was there for the experience and needed quite a lot of persuading. She's very persuasive it turns out and he is quite the acrobat, holding forelegs mid-air over the jump for a good few seconds whilst deciding whether to commit (he did). Impressive! A bit heavy on time faults but a star in the making for sure.

Alice rode Andrew's old pro, Bally, clearing things with ease, just a couple of time faults kept them out of the individual placings.

Victoria Lee also brought her youngster for the experience and despite some very well sat breakdancing moves by him in the first round, went on to waltz home – lovely rhythm - coming 5th individual.

Thank you to all of you for representing the Club.



Diary dates Upcoming events



When

What

Where

25 August 2024	Combined Challenge	West Wilts EC
19/20 September 2024	Blenheim Horse Trials	Blenheim
3 – 6 October 2024	Residential Camp	Stockland Lovell
13 October 2024	Arena Eventing	West Wilts EC
20 October 2024	Dressage to Music	Burrows Court
9 November 2024	Dress down Dressage	Burrows Court
10 November 2024	Intro Dressage Qualifier	CCR
12 January 2025	Winter Show Jumping Qualifier	West Wilts EC

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 —

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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