



# BERKELEY & DISTRICT

## RIDING CLUB

### Newsletter – November 2023

#### Chair update – Jill McFarland

Hi everyone, hope you're all coping with this very wet November. I'm sure the clouds must be nearly empty now!

There are lots of changes to report on in this issue. I hope you have all seen our fantastic new website and new logo. I love the logo - it features the best elements of the old one but is cleaner and simpler, you will see examples of our new logo throughout this newsletter. The website has also got a fresh look and should be cheaper for us to run and easier to manage. Now many members use Facebook the website is mainly a promotional tool to advertise our club to potential new members, here is the link. <https://bdrc.org.uk/>.

Another change is the new way of joining the club that BRC are implementing. It will now be done online and will be for a rolling 12 month regardless of when you join. Full details will be sent out once we have them.

We have decided to create a "Friends" Membership which will be cheaper than the old non riding membership. It will be ideal for those who like to join in non-riding events and want to keep up to date with what the club is doing. Look out for the details coming soon.

You should have all received an email letting you know we are unfortunately going to have to increase membership fees next year largely because of the increasing British Riding Club fees. Full membership will now be £35 regardless of when you join.

**Diary date:**  
**AGM – 29 January 2024**  
**Jubilee Hall, Alveston**



In the last newsletter I reported that we had decided to enter the BRC Club of the Year competition. We were very disappointed to hear Newquay Riding club won. We weren't altogether surprised as Bath Riding Club won last year and we thought they might not want to award it to two Area 9 clubs in consecutive years. We are thinking of having another go next year because we KNOW our club is one of the most active and fun in the country.

Talking of which look out for some winter non riding activities we are planning to include a quiz and a winter talk with a Vet Physio looking at pain behaviours vs Lameness.



Finally, you will have heard that our former President Anne Brown passed away in September. Anne had been involved with the club for over 40 years and had taken on many Committee roles. I attended her funeral alongside several past and present members. I was moved to hear her daughter, Catherine, speaking about the important role the club had played in her life. I know many of us feel similarly about our lovely club.

I am delighted to be able to announce that Catherine has very kindly offered to donate a trophy to be awarded at the AGM in Anne's memory. It will go to a

person who goes above and beyond on the ground. What a fitting tribute as Anne was known for being the club's No.1 helper, rarely taking part in rallies or other ridden activities.

Talking of the AGM a reminder that it is planned for the evening of Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 at the Jubilee Hall, Alveston. It's nearly December so I think I can get away with wishing you all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.



Primary logo



# Swalcliffe for the BRC Horse Trials Championships 4 August 2023



Mel Tegg, Libby Horder and Marney Charles



Individual  
6th

## Dress Down Showjumping – Sarah Raymond 6 August 2023 – Tumpy Green

In early August we held our first Dress down Show Jumping on grass at Tumpy Green. It was a lovely, relaxed morning with classes from 50-90cm. The weather was perfect and to top it off Jill set up a fabulous refreshment area with scrumptious homemade cakes.

Thanks to Nai and Renee for the use of their lovely field and setting up a great course.



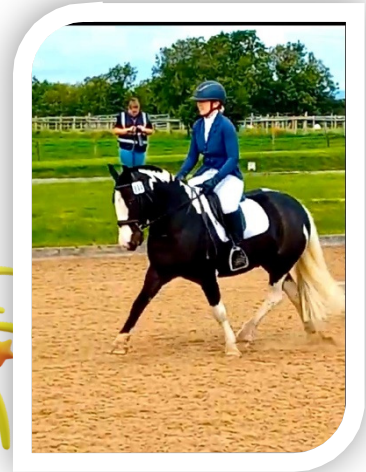
# Clear round showjumping at Ann Marshall's 16 August 2023

Gill Lawry's wish for sunshine came true! It was a lovely dry, bright evening and fun was had by all. A well organised event with lots of smiles 😊



**Blenheim Eventers Challenge – 14 September 2023**  
Sarah Raymond, Naomi Watkins,  
Victoria Stacey and Shanice Hopkins

# Dressage – Intro Qualifier Burrows Court - 20 August 2023



# Camp at Jason Ferguson's 20 August 2023 – Sarah Raymond

In mid-August we held a two-day minicamp with **Jason Ferguson** at Woodcock Farm.

The weekend included flat and jumping lessons, dressage tests, a show jump course, great discussions about horse confirmation, rider's psychological and even a yoga session.

The format was perfect, great instruction, great company, great food. We can't thank Jason enough for opening his home to us.

Mini was always the wrong word to describe this camp!



# Hayley Watson-Greaves Demo – Dressage to Music

## Burrows Court

### 28 August 2023 – Sarah Raymond



On 28 August the club held an amazing demonstration by **Hayley Watson-Greaves**. The event was open to club and non-club members and we had a great turnout on a beautiful afternoon.

Hayley used three riders to demonstrate dressage to music from prelim to PSG. The demo riders were **Sian Barke**, **Kate Nichols** and **Caroline Taylor**. They rode beautifully and were turned out immaculately.

It was a fabulous afternoon topped with gorgeous homemade cakes.



# Autumn Residential Camp 5 – 8 October 2023 Stockland Lovell



Another fabulous camp with thanks to **Shanice Hopkins** for her super organisation.

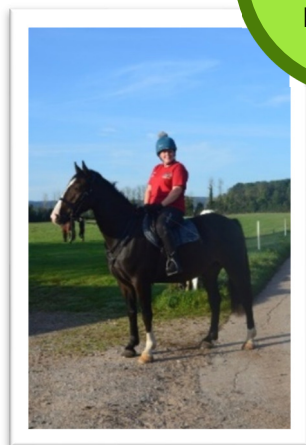
Thank you to **Sue Palfrey** with help from **Helen German** who raised **£800** from the auction.



Pontispool  
£784  
Cancer  
Research

Stockland  
Lovell  
£800  
50/50  
B&DRC  
GWAA

Total raised  
for the club  
and Charity  
this year  
**£1,584**



Great Western  
Air Ambulance Charity

GWAA say thank you.

Good morning Berkeley and District Riding Club,

I hope you're all keeping well and had a lovely weekend (in spite of the weather!).

I'm getting in touch today from Great Western Air Ambulance Charity to say a huge thank you for your recent donation of £400!

Your support keeps our helicopter flying, our cars on the road, and our epic critical care team trained for any eventuality. Thank you so much for your ongoing generous support over the years, and for giving residents in your local area their best chance on their worst day.

Since your first donation to GWAAC, you've fundraised over £3,900. With our average mission costing £2,000 – your support has potentially saved two lives. Words can't express how needed your support is, thank you.

If you'd ever like any more information from GWAAC, or need any additional support, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm the Supporter Engagement Coordinator for Bristol and South Glos here, and I'm always on hand to help with organising talks, supporting with events or anything you might need – just shout!

With my very best wishes, and thanks again,

Jenny

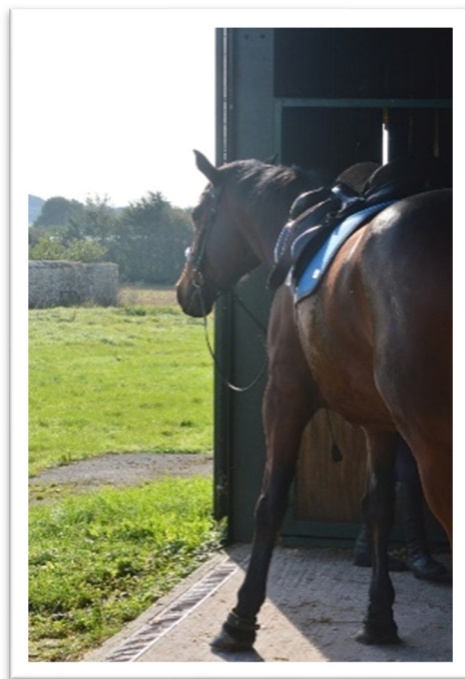




## Miranda Baker at Camp

I have just returned from my first camp with the Berkeley & District RC. We could choose which lessons we had or go for a nice hack. The instructors were very helpful and sorted out any problems. The food was really good and Sue Palfrey's evening entertainment was excellent!

Everyone was so helpful and friendly, and we had loads of fun!



# Caroline Campbell Hill and Laura Sargent at Camp



I was pleased to see Laura enjoying jumping Lennie and giving him a great time on the cross-country course. He had so much fun.

I enjoyed the flat work, and my confidence grew with the support of wonderful instructors and supportive fellow members.

Sharing Lennie at camp with Laura made for a great experience for Lennie and myself.

Both would like to say thank you to Jill McFarland for the lift!

Going away to camp had been a goal of mine since I was a child, so to have the opportunity to ride Caroline's beautiful horse Lennie at camp this year was just absolutely incredible. From the death-defying show jumping to our first proper blast around the cross-country course, I couldn't stop smiling from ear to ear as my confidence grew across the weekend.

The evening games were something to behold - never did I expect to be wrestling for hats or that I'd find my true calling in life: space hopper racing!

I'm so grateful for how welcome everyone made me feel and couldn't have wished to meet a kinder and more supportive group of people. I can't wait for the next one!



# Halloween Dress Down Dressage 29 October 2023 Burrows Court



A fantastic day with much fun at Halloween Dress Down Dressage. Great organisation with thanks to **Gill Lawry** and her team of helpers AND of course, our judges **Kate Nichols** and **Amanda Heimens**.



A big thank you to Simon Miskelly for the photos.



**2024 residential camp dates**  
**Pontispool EC 24 – 27 April 2024**  
**Stockland Lovell 3 – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024**



## WWW – upcoming events

### When

3 December 2023  
7 January 2024  
29 January 2024  
24 February 2024  
15 June 2024  
6 July 2024

### What

Dressage – Novice Winter Qualifier  
Winter Showjumping Qualifier  
AGM  
Senior Intermediate Dressage  
Dressage  
Showjumping

### Where

CCR  
West Wilts EC  
Jubilee Hall, Alveston  
Leyland Court  
Rectory Farm  
Rectory Farm

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:sally.thorne@blueyonder.co.uk)

# Committee members



**BERKELEY & DISTRICT**  
— RIDING CLUB —

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

## 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**