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Old Berkeley Riding Club



Editor: Diane Hunt



OBRC

Newsletter

Xmas 2025

Xmas Newsletter December 2025

The OBRC committee would like to wish members and friends a very happy Christmas and look forward to an exciting 2026. Thank you to everyone who supported the riding club by joining during 2025 and to those who were able to attend socials, events, competitions or give their time to volunteer at events.

OBRC Members Only Winter Online Dressage Series

We had a brilliant response to the first of our three online dressage series. October – November competition produced 22 video tests ridden by 16 club members. Thank you to Mylene Baxter for judging all the tests and writing really helpful comments to give members an idea of how to improve their marks.

This winter we are offering OBRC vouchers: 1st @ £3.00, 2nd place @ £2.00, 3rd place @ £1.00 in every class towards competition entries in the winter series.

Next competition is December – January with entries closing on Monday 12th January & last videos in by Monday 19th January. Schedule is on Competition page: www.obrc.org.uk

Winter dressage series points league championships

OBRC members all win points from the percentages gained in their tests.

Separate championship levels:

*class 1: Into * class 2: Prelim *class 3: Prelim
*class 4: Novice *class 5: PYO

Winter dressage championships rosettes kindly sponsored Sue Sawyer of Pednor Rug Clean, Chesham, HP5 2ST. Prizes sponsored by OBRC.

Membership for 2026

We have organised a variety of clinics, events and competitions during this year. Encouraging more members to make the step into competitions from starting out at grass root level to competing in the area qualifiers and for some riding at BRC championships.

With all these opportunities we hope members will continue to support the Old Berkeley RC by re- joining when their membership comes up for renewal. BRC office has decided to raise the affiliation and insurance fees for 2026.

Unfortunately we need to raise the club membership fee to £39.00 + sport80 transfer fee @ £1.90, this fee covers 12 months.

New members are welcome to join us at any time during the year and every membership is for a whole 12 months from whenever the starting date – Details on **How to join** or renew are on the Membership page with instructions.

Reports on recent Training Clinics

The two autumn training clinics were held at Cotton Spring Farm, Markyate with instructor Georgie Dalton these were well supported by members and friends.

Saturday 25th October was afternoon sessions with four members working to improve jumping skills.

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Sunday 16th November saw a full day of flatwork, pole exercises, jumping for nine members and finishing with three members having a XC lesson on the Flamstead Pony Club XC course.

For any OBRC clinics members can have an individual lesson or share a lesson with one other rider. This means everyone has the benefit of good instruction and the plenty of time to learn, improve or just have a fun lesson



Winter Social Evening

Friday 14th November we all met up at the King Charles Pub, Ashley Green.

There were 18 members and friends who enjoyed a relaxing evening and a chance to catch up with friends. We will organise another date in the spring.



AGM, Awards & Social Evening 2026

Wednesday evening 4th February at Bellingdon & Asheridge village hall, Chesham Road, Bellingdon, HP5 2XU.

Doors will open at 7.15pm and the meeting starts at 7.45pm. AGM with reports first, followed by the presentation of yearly awards. Exciting news is we will be presenting sixteen challenge trophies, two best team awards and 4 special awards.

With eight trophies being awarded to members and their horses for various reasons including: Improved or progressive improvement during the year.

Over -come riding challenges.

Helping with events or activities.

Joining in different club training or events.

Overall points at the summer evening dressage series.

Eight trophies awarded for successes & improvements at area 6 competitions or championships for both different dressage levels and disciplines with a jumping element.

The club will provide buffet style meal for everyone and there will be a raffle.

Plus sale table which members can bring good quality equestrian clothing & horse tack to sell. Items must be priced and named please if not sold take home.

OBRC will take a percentage of all sales.

Members and honorary members are very welcome to come and celebrate.



Reports on Recent Winter Area 6 Dressage Qualifiers

Eleven members travelled to Wellington equestrian, just south of Reading to compete and represent OBRC in the grassroots and open dressage qualifiers on Sunday 19th October. Everyone had a brilliant outing competing against riders from ten other riding clubs in Area 6.

Our **Grassroots team** finished in 3rd place with all three members being placed individually: Louise Bennett (6th intro test), Ellie Rose (3rd prelim test) and Julie Fleming (1st prelim test). Julie also won her individual prelim test with 75%.

We were able to put together two open dressage teams: **Blue team** finished in 1st place: Carol Fletcher (2nd prelim), Jane Bancroft (1st novice), Alison Dippenaar (8th novice), Tamsin Morris (2nd elementary).

Gold team finished in 5th place with Alex Iona-Smith (4th prelim), Janine Modder (16th novice), Kirsty Scott (1st elementary). PYO medium test: Tamsin Morris (4th) and Jillie Luff (5th).

Thank you to volunteer helpers: Teresa Carnt and Elaine Browne.



Upcoming Area 6 Competitions

Winter intermediate dressage competition qualifiers are coming up on Sunday 14th December at Wellington Equestrian. We have two teams and some individual tests entered. The teams are made up of one intro test, two prelim tests and one novice test.

Dressage to music competition qualifiers are on Saturday 31st January at Berkshire College, just south of High Wycombe. All tests are ridden indoors with warm up outside. Classes to qualify for the dressage championships at Arena UK in April are prelim, novice no BD points and novice with BD points, elementary, medium, advanced medium, open pairs.

Qualifiers for London & South East DTM championships are intro, novice test in fancy dress and pairs in fancy dress. Schedule with all the classes and eligibility rules is on the AREA 6 page of website: www.obrc.org.uk

Saturday 28th February – winter show Jumping competition qualifiers at Berkshire College, south of High Wycombe - open to RC teams and individuals. Classes from 60cm – 100cm.

The new BRC Club jumping classes will also be in this schedule.

For riders and horses or ponies only wanting to jump at 40cm, 50cm, 60cm. Schedule will be on the website in January.

Club Clothing & Merchandise

The old Berkeley riding club has a good selection clothing with embroidered logo with Stork work wear from near Buckingham. All the clothes are of good quality and there is a range of useful clothing with the OBRC embroidered emblem.

We also designed a nice sew-on logo for member's saddle cloths which are priced at £12.95 each. If enough members would like to make order – we can arrange collection to save on the

postage costs. Please take a look at their website: www.storkworkwear.co.uk click on Club and search OBRC.

Collection of orders please contact Diane Hunt: dianehunt@ymail.com



Easy Way to Fund-raise for OBRC

Christmas is coming and presents are being bought online – please join the 20 other club members, families and friends to help raise easy funds, so we can subsidise training and club competitions. Especially as it completely free, no cost to anyone to sign up and be part of this fundraising scheme – Just search Old Berkeley Riding Club easy funding and follow the instructions.



> Search “Old Berkeley Riding Club easyfundraising”
> Click the Mobile App
> Join our OBRC group > Enable the **Donation Reminder**, and when you shop on line (For just about anything) retailers donate a small percentage to our club.

You can sign in for reminders to come up on your phone, ipad or computer when you shop.

Facebooks

Our club has the Old Berkeley Riding Club Members only group – for just club members. Events, clinics and competitions are advertised. Plus times for clinics or dressage competitions and reports on recent events and results too. Photos and sometimes directions to venues. Open facebook pages for anyone to see.



Winter Online Dressage Dec - Jan
Area 6 DTM Q BCA 31st Jan
OBRC AGM – Bellingdon Hall Wed 4th Feb
Winter online dressage Feb – March
Area 6 winter show Jumping BCA 28th Feb
Area 6 Arena eventing Wellington 11th April
Area 6 summer show Jumping BCA May

See website: www.obrc.org.uk for details on clinics, competitions & Area 6 qualifiers.

Keep in Touch

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