

Old Berkeley Riding Club

www.obrc.org.uk



Editor: Diane Hunt

OBRC

Newsletter

February 2025

February Newsletter 2025

Welcome to the February newsletter.

Please visit our website: www.obrc.org.uk for details on upcoming events, clinics, competitions and results.

We also have an open facebook page and for current members; Old Berkeley Riding Club members only group facebook page.

To join the club – please visit the Membership page on the website for details, a guide and photos to help use the new sport: 80 system for new memberships and renewals.

Jumping Clinic Sunday 2nd February

Cotton Spring Farm, near Markyate.

This was the first clinic of the year and we were lucky to have a sunny day for eight members who enjoyed the jump training with instructor Georgie Dalton.

Next date is Saturday 22nd March

With instructor Phoebe Russell at her arena, Church Farm, Slapton, LU7 9BX

Phoebe is happy to teach riders on the flat, over pole exercises, low jumps or more technical jumping.

See the Training page – www.obrc.org.uk for details on booking a place.

For training clinics we offer members a shared lesson with just one other rider or individual session, so that everyone benefits from the lessons.



Winter Online Dressage Series

The second competition in the series was December – January

Thank you to the members for entering and supporting this competitions, we had 14 entries over the five classes.

Thank you to BD Judge Mylene Baxter for judging this competition. Full results are on the website.

Tests cover the new BD tests with intro, prelim, novice & PYO: elementary or medium and are ridden in 20m x 40m marked arenas.

Members can choose which tests they want enter, then ask someone to video the test.

All tests are judged by a BD judge who gives feedback on the score sheets to help riders improve on their test riding and marks.

Entry fee: £13 per test includes place rosette and score sheet posted.

Entry fee: £11 per test for just score sheet posted.

Third competition is February – March.

Schedule is on Competition page of www.obrc.org.uk

Winter Dressage Series Points League

All percentages gained from tests ridden are changed into points toward the winter online dressage championships.

The winter dressage series championships is kindly sponsored by Sue Sawyer of Pednor Equestrian and Rug clean, Wychelm Farm, Pednor Vale, Chesham, HP5 2ST. 01494 784040

Pednor Equestrian shop stock a good selection of rugs and equestrian supplies.

Also Simple System & Pure feeds horse.

Rug washing: the rugs are washed separately and repairs.



BRC Area 6 Competition Report

The dressage to music competition qualifiers were on Saturday 18th January at BRC. We had six members competing over three classes. Novice no BD points: Anka Taylor 3rd place and Elizabeth Etchells 2nd place.



Novice +BD points – Liz Rollinson 4th place, Carol Fletcher 3rd place & Kirsty Scott won with 74.00%. Louise Riley –Hunt was 1st in the PYO Advanced Medium.

BRC National Dressage Championships in April

Congratulations to our dressage riders who have qualified for BRC National championships in late April. We have a Novice team and one individual member. The Intermediate dressage team & four individuals. Plus three members for the dressage to music championships.

AGM Awards Presentation & Social Evening

Excellent evening on Wednesday 29th January at Bellingdon village hall, near Chesham. There were about 32 club members and honorary members attending who all came together to celebrate the riding club's members achievements and successes over 2024.

Membership secretary – Liz Rollinson gave an interesting report on the club's growth in membership over 2024 gaining fifty members by November. With members from Herts, Beds, Bucks, N London & Sussex areas.

Liz also announced the exciting news that our club will be featured in the next BRC Rider Magazine – With a two to three page article under heading “ In the Spotlight “

Anka Taylor and Jane Bancroft both gave brilliant team manager reports on the jumping related and dressage competitions at area 6 qualifiers and BRC

championships that members had competed at in teams or as individuals.

Members represented the Old Berkeley riding club at ten Area 6 competition qualifiers and seven championships during 2024.

Chairman Diane Hunt gave report on the training clinics and competitions organised by the club over the year.

With special mentions to thanked those members and friends that offered their time to help out at club competitions. The committee ladies who give up their time to organise clinics, team entries, juggle the accounts and oversee the memberships.

Thank you to Georgie Dalton, Natasha Pirie and Phoebe Russell for clinics at Markyate and Slapton. Special thank you to Deborah Sanders for allowing us to hire the excellent facilities at Fullers Hill Farm for our summer evening dressage competitions.

Presentations of Challenge Trophies and special awards



THE DEERHUNTER TROPHY –Area tests: Prelim, Novice

Winner: Jane Bancroft & Katie. Having qualified at the Novice dressage Q in December 2023. Jane competed at the National championship in April 2024 at Arena UK. Where the pair were placed 9th in the prelim and 3rd in the novice test championships.

Winter novice qualifier in October at Wellington Jane & Katie won the prelim test out 21 riders.

MAURICE ESSEX DRESSAGE CUP Area tests Elementary, Medium & Adv Med

Winner: Jillie Luff and Corby won the medium test at summer dressage Q's at BCA in June.

Qualified for the Summer National Championships at Lincoln..

Jillian and Corby finished in 5th place the medium test and were judged 5th overall for both medium & advanced medium tests.

IAN CRIPPEN SHIELD Area 6 winter & summer show Jumping 70 / 80cm.

Winner: Leah Upton and Fred.

Fred is a New Forest 14hh pony who lives out all the year round. The pair represent the club in most of the area jumping competitions and really help the teams by jumping double clears. Winter show Jumping 80cm team won & competed at the championships were Leah & Fred only had 4 faults over two rounds & finished 32nd out of 104 competitors!!

ROSSLARA SHOW JUMPING TROPHY – 90 / 100cm

Winner: Stephanie Brookfield and Maddie
Stephanie joined the club in February and jumped in the winter SJ Q in March at 90cm.

Summer SJ competition Steph competed as individual in the 90cm & 1m over two tricky courses finishing in 7th & 8th position.

GALWAY ROSE CUP -combinations starting out at intro dressage level

Winner: Katie Penn & Kai

Katie started competing in online winter dressage, progressing to summer evening competitions at Amersham which is perfect for novice horses.

We needed intro rider to make up the Gold team at the Novice area Q in October at Wellington Eq

which has a big atmosphere and Katie bravely took the place. The pair rode a brilliant test finishing in 4th place & helped the gold team to come 4th too.



CONEY SPURS TROPHY Dressage to music

Winner: Anna Smallwood & Bandmaster Melody

BRC in its wisdom decided to have an extra the DTM championship in March 24.

The area 6 organised a DTM online video qualifier in January!

Anna designed her own floorplan & put together her music for the novice music class

Which she won with 74 % qualifying for the championships at Bury Farm.

Anne came 7th in the Novice music championship out of 22 riders.

HEATHER EDWARDS TROPHY C T / Combined challenge / Arena Eventing

Winner: Anka Taylor & Ella

Anka enjoys competing her horse Ella and is great at encouraging other members to compete.

The pair rode as part of the 80cm CC team at Rosehill & compete at CC championships in September finishing with an individual 8th place out of 77 riders!

Anka competed in the Arena eventing Q at Wellington - winning the 90cm individual class.

ONE DAY EVENT CUP for the Horse Trials

Winner: Julie Fleming and Clover

This was Julie and Clover's first time competing in the Area 6 horse trials for the club. With Low score dressage, DC SJ & XC no time faults 2nd place & qualified for championships which were in August 2024

Best area dressage team award

Introductory qualifier & championships: intro & prelim tests

Area 6 qualifier at BCA. – 9 RC teams competing & our team won the team competition.

Julia Coney & Ruby, Paula Wynn & Puzzle, Elaine Browne & Jay, Julie Fleming & Clover.

The team was invited to compete at the championships in March at Bury Farm

Unfortunately between January & March we had some rider & horse injuries.

Elaine slipped off the mounting block – Paula slipped off Puzzle and Julia's Ruby was out of action.

But in true club spirit we juggled things around to make up the team

Julia rode Puzzle. Ellie Rose & Belle as substituted for Elaine & Julie rode Clover.

There were 31 teams at intro championships & we had 3 riders.

All rode brilliant tests and the team finished in 2nd place against other clubs from all over the UK

Best Area Jumping team 2024

Combined Challenge – one round of SJ onto XC course on grass.

Rosehill EQ, near HW in April the team won the competition & qualified for Championships

Team: Anka Taylor & Ella, Leah Upton & Fred, Stephanie Brookfield & Archie

Janie Modder & Toby

Championship were in late September at Aston – Le- Walls.

The course is much tougher with a bounce SJ fences, spooky fillers and solid XC fences.

Everyone jumped brilliant rounds and the team finished in 5th place in ribbons out 23 other teams.



Special awards and challenge trophies for members attending & supporting club events

Special All round Competition Horse Award

We only have a few horses who compete in both Area dressage and jumping competitions.

Maurice is a smart Highland and has competed at the HOYS and at lots of showing & WH competitions with Elizabeth.

In 2024 they competed in the area Q's for CC, winter SJ, summer dressage, CT intermediate Dr as part of teams & DTM.

Jumping improvement

Awarded to: Anna Collins & ICE

Anna has attended four of our jump training clinics at the various venues and is making a steady improvement in the jumping.

Newcomer's Awards for attending and supporting Club events

These awards are for two new members who joined in 2024

Louise Bennett & Jack

Came to some of jumping clinics to improve Jack's confidence over courses of fences.

Louise has been entering the winter online dressage series.

Tessa Holderness & her horse Flynn competed in Area 6 SJ, AE & intermediate dressage. She has been competing in the winter online dressage series too.

THE VALHALLA CUP – Overall Points won at Open evening dressage series.

Points are awarded on percentages gained in the dressage test classes

RC Award: Anne Jerney & Lilly with 65 points

Winner: Paula Wynn & Puzzle with 66 points



WINTER'S TALE TROPHY Progressive improvement

Winner: Ellie Rose and Belle

Ellie has been bringing Belle on slowly as she was a real novice.

They attended some of the jump clinics, evening dressage and rode at several area competitions DR, SJ, CT, CC. Improving with confidence through the summer to finish by jumping a double clear at the Arena Eventing Q at Wellington in September.

DANESBROOK DRAGONFLY TROPHY –

Improved combination over the year

Shared Trophy Awarded to Rebel - Elizabeth and Charlotte Rollinson

Liz bought a nice safe & sensible horse -Rebel in early January.

Having lost confidence on her other horse she started at intro test level in our online dressage and over the year has worked up to prelim at summer dressage on to novice including competing at the recent Area 6 DTM novice coming 4th.

Charlotte hadn't competed much for a while before and Rebel has given Charlotte the confidence to start off at prelim in the winter online dressage, move to novice tests at the summer evening competitions. Riding in two area qualifiers and now riding the elementary tests club's winter online competitions.

HORSE HEAD TROPHY+ - To the horse or pony who has joined events & clinics

Winner: Lilly and rider Anne Jerney

Lilly is 20 years old and approx. 13.2hh. She is a super pony who will have a go at all the club events and training. Including the winter online dressage and summer dressage competitions. Even bravely competed as part of Dressage Riding Test team at the BRC national championships in Lincoln.



PORTWIN CUP – For supporting the club by helping at the club at event etc.

Winner: Julia Coney

Unfortunately Julia wasn't able to ride her horse most of last year.

But still wanted to support the club by offering to be a volunteer at the competitions. She drove to Arena UK, Grantham to be club helper at the championships.

Volunteered at several area competitions and helped us at the evening dressage.

CHAIRMAN'S CUP

Winner: Gina Elliott

For the evening dressage competitions setting up arenas starts at 3pm.

This is very early for most people to come to help. The 1st date is early May organiser Diane had a very painful bent knee. Walking around was difficult. Gina kindly offered to come early especially to mark out & set up the boards then stayed to help during the evening.

THE PHIPPS TROPHY Awarded on points gained for attending training, club competitions, helping out at all types of OBRC events & activities.

Points gained on horse & rider combinations.

RC Award: Elizabeth Rollinson **28 points**

Winner: Leah Upton & Fred **30 points**

Easy Way to Fund-raise for OBRC

Old Berkeley RC now has an account for club members, families and friends to sign up to and join in raising extra funds for free for the club, without costing anything.

The money we raise will go towards subsidising training clinics and events.

Anyone interested in supporting the cause please follow the link to sign up to the app:

<https://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/old-berkeley-riding-club>



OBRC events, training & Area 6 dates:

OBRC online dressage: 1st February – 24th March

Area 6 winter show Jumping BCA 8th March

Mixed training clinic – Slapton 22nd March

Area 6 Combined challenge Q 29th March

Area 6 summer show Jumping BCA 11th May

Area 6 horse trials Munstead on 7th / 8th June

Area 6 summer dressage at BCA on 15th June

See training page on website for booking details.

All schedules for online dressage series will be on the competition page of website.

BRC Area 6 competition qualifiers for teams & individuals will be on the AREA 6 page.

Keep in Touch

Website: www.obrc.org.uk

Chair and dressage: Diane Hunt

dianehunt@ymail.com

Paula Wynn: Club Secretary

Whinny66@hotmail.com

Liz Rollinson – Membership Secretary

Liz.rollinson@btinternet.com

Jane Rickett – Treasurer

Jane.rickett@hertstraffic.co.uk

Jumping training clinics: Leah Upton

Leah.upton@hotmail.com

Area 6 jumping manager: Anka Taylor

ankataylor@hotmail.com

Area 6 dressage manager: Jane Bancroft

Jembancroft1972@gmail.com

