



MEON RIDING CLUB

1968 - 2009

NEWSLETTER

Hon Sec: Mrs Brenda King
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www.meonrc.fsnet.co.uk

APRIL 2009

PRE-SEASON PARTY

Thirty-two members and friends enjoyed a pleasant evening at Two for One, West Meon, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. After our meal, Chairman Penny Briggs presented our President, Barbara Wood, with a travelling case in appreciation of her many years as past Chairman of Meon. She particularly paid tribute to her hard work in establishing our very successful training programme - its easy to underestimate just how much effort it takes to keep these courses running until you try to do the job yourself! Barbara herself, in her response, said she didn't realise how much she was giving to the programme, until she relinquished the responsibility, and said how much she was now enjoying some well-deserved time for herself. We are lucky that other Committee members have now taken on the task of keeping the training running, and hope members appreciate their efforts, and help them as much as possible, as volunteers are not easy to find.

Away from their horses, our members display an amazing range of talents, and the evening was completed with an excellent musical entertainment by Natalie Baker and her friends.

NOVICE INDOOR SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS, HARTPURY

Our riders have been accustomed to the fantastic facilities at Crofton, where our Club and Area competitions were held, and found Hartpury somewhat lacking in comparison. Although there is a lovely new school on the site, the BRC Championships were relegated to the old school, which is dark and narrow, with a badly-compacted surface. Warm-up time in an adjacent school was also severely restricted. Although conditions were not to their liking, our team all jumped well in the first round, finishing on an aggregate of four faults. The second round was more demanding, with sharp turns and tricky combinations, which many of the novice horses found difficult to cope with. Our team all got round, but with a couple

of run-outs, which incurred time penalties, but many were less fortunate as there were numerous falls. Our final score put us roughly in the middle of the thirty starters. Our thanks to our team who were:- Chrissie Hughes (Harry); Tom Naylor-Davis (Dougal); Thea Gibbons (Bureau Bo) and Jenny Naylor-Davis (Red Alert).

Grateful thanks also to our new show jumping chef d'equipe, Keri Barnjum, who has made an impressive start with this team. She was accompanied to Hartpury by her husband, who also acted as our mandatory helper, picking up poles in the morning.

ROYAL WINDSOR HORSE SHOW QUALIFIERS

I have not received any results from these at present. If you took part and would like your achievements published, please contact the editor, 01730 264178; email wheelers.farm@btinternet.com.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FESTIVAL OF HUNTER CHALLENGE

19 APRIL, ROCKBOURNE

We have entered a Novice team, a Pair and an Open Individual for the qualifier, and wish them all the best of luck!

CLUB OPEN DRESSAGE DAY

CROFTON, 26 APRIL

Schedules for this were sent out last month, so if you haven't sent your entry in yet please do it now, as the closing date is fast approaching! We need lots of entries, so please encourage your friends to enter as well. Extra copies of the schedule are available on the Club website.

DRESSAGE TO MUSIC QUALIFIER

SPARSHOLT, 25 MAY

Schedules for this are available from www.hampshireruralridingclub.co.uk, or by sending an sae to The

Secretary, 40, Abbey Rd., Medstead, Alton GU34 5PB. If you would like to represent the Club in one of the qualifying classes please contact Carol Alford, tel: 01489 860114; email: calford@hotmail.co.uk. The closing date for preliminary entries is 27 April. Competitors will be expected to be available for the Championships at Addington on 3 October.

PLEASURE RIDE, ROUGHAY, 31 MAY

We are hoping to arrange a pleasure ride in the Owslebury area on 31 May - just a relaxing two-hour hack for a small group, followed by a picnic lunch. If you would like further details, please contact the Secretary, tel: 01730 264178, email: wheelers.farm@btinternet.com

NON-RESIDENTIAL CAMP

LOWER PEAKE, 2-4 JUNE

Response for this has been quite overwhelming! All places are now booked, but if you want to take your chance on a waiting list then contact Penny Briggs, tel: 01730 892297, email: woolmerlodge@yahoo.co.uk

AREA 17 SHOW JUMPING QUALIFIER

PINKMEAD, 21 JUNE

The schedule for this will be on the Area 17 website shortly, or by post from the Secretary, Leanne Lacey, The Grange, Chilcombe, Winchester, SO21 1HR. If you wish to represent the Club in any of the classes please contact Keri Barnjum. Preliminary entries are required by 29 May. Riders who compete in official teams will be expected to be available for the BRC National Championships in Lincoln on 12 September.

CLUB OPEN ONE DAY EVENT

FAIR OAK, 28 JUNE

Your schedule for this is enclosed. Copies are also available on the Club website, so please download one for a friend! ODEs are very expensive to run and we need all your support to do this successfully. We need a few more volunteers to help on the day. Even if you can only spare two or three hours it all helps, so please let the Event Secretary know what you can do.

AREA 17 HORSE TRIALS QUALIFIER

LARKHILL, 5 JULY

The schedule for this has not yet arrived, but will be put on the Area 17 website as soon as we have it. Members who wish to be considered for Club teams should contact Penny Briggs, as before. Riders who compete for the Club will be expected to be available for the Offchurch Bury Championships, 7-9 August.

TRAINING

Unfortunately we had to cancel the cross-country session at Hoplands, due to circumstances beyond our control. The programme continues at Coombelands on 25 April and Tweseldown on 17 May. If you want to book a place on either, or both, of these please contact Helen Vernon, mobile: 07801 425625; email: hv@commodity.eu.com.

Basic Training with Alec Miles at Lower Peake is going very well, and we have almost enough riders for two groups. If you would like to join in please contact Jan Desty, tel: 01489 877209; email: jandesty@btinternet.com.

Show Jumping training is continuing as shown on the sheet sent out last month. There are a few vacancies. For details of these contact Penny Briggs, as before.

NEW MEMBERS

Applications have been accepted from the following:-

Sarah Phillips, Hambledon Rd., Denmead
Lindsay Bidwell, Anns Hill Rd., Gosport.
Kate Latchem, Stanley Cottages, Binsted

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

Many thanks to all of you who have returned your subscription renewals. If you have not, this is definitely your final reminder! If your renewal is not received by the end of April your name will be removed from our membership list and from our mailing list, and, if you later decide to return to the fold you will be required to pay a rejoining fee of three pounds to be reinstated.