



MEON RIDING CLUB

1968 - 2011

SPRING 2011

NEWSLETTER

Hon Sec: Mrs Brenda King
Whealers Farm, Froxfield, Petersfield
01730 264178
www.meonrc.org

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

At the last Committee meeting Chrissie Hughes was co-opted to the vacant position. She has not as yet taken on a specific responsibility, but with a full summer programme coming up her help will be invaluable, and we are grateful to her for coming forward.

EQUINE SPECIFIC FIRST AID COURSE

Three members attended this course at Timsbury on 12 February. They were worked very hard, but in an enjoyable and light-hearted manner. The costs were covered largely by the Area 17 Training grant, with a small extra contribution from the Club - a good investment we hope, as we now have several members qualified to provide first aid cover at Club activities.

NOVICE INDOOR SHOW JUMPING REPORT

Entries were good for this year's qualifier at Crofton on 5 March, with 14 teams entered in the Senior class and 5 in the Junior. With RWHS Round 1 and Round 2 qualifiers also on the schedule this made for a full day's competition.

Team manager Penny Briggs reports:-

Meon RC ran this event and many thanks to Dick King for all his organisation and to his band of helpers who made it an excellently run and friendly day for the competitors. We fielded two teams for Meon - Meon Black were Sarah Jennings/The Rubicon, Laura Macarthy/Summersnight's Dream, Sarah Pook/Top Pride, Jackie Rixon/Colour Me Danny. The team ended on 16 faults so were just out of the ribbons. Laura was clear in the first round and looked to be heading that way in the second round but Bodger (aka Summersnight's Dream) decided he knew better than Laura and turned to the left after a fence while Laura's plan was to the right - irritatingly for her she parted company and was eliminated - a very unusual state of affairs. Top Pride was in for a busy day as he was competing for Solent in the afternoon with Ellie McGibbon but he was a good boy in the morning for Sarah and went clear in the second round. Our Meon Gold team was Chrissy Hughes/Harry, Daniel Searle/Shady Oaks Elizabeth, Keri Barnjum/Shady Lady IV and Jenny Naylor-Davis/Border First Light. Harry had not done much recently due to various circumstances but he stepped out of mothballs very well to achieve two clear rounds. Keri has had her horse for 3 weeks and did extremely well with her, while Jenny, who stepped

in at the last minute, rode her usual capable rounds. In spite of not being placed there was excellent team spirit and good riding from everyone so thank you all for taking part. Penny Briggs

None of our RWHS competitors made it through to the next round either. Full details and scores are shown on the Area website.

Our thanks to everyone who helped throughout the day to make sure everything ran smoothly, especially the officials who were there for the duration. These were organiser and secretary, Dick King, assistant judge and time-keeper, Janet Irving, announcer, Ewart Wood, and rosettes secretary Sue Francis-Stukings.

Sharon Ede ran a raffle in aid of the South Hants. Horse and Pony Protection group which raised over £100. Her powers of persuasion elicited an impressive range of prizes from local businesses so there was a good chance of buying a winning ticket! Well done to Sharon and her helpers.

PRE-SEASON SUPPER

Sharon Ede also organised this social event at The King's Restaurant, Botley on 12th March. More than 40 members enjoyed an excellent meal while chatting about their plans for the coming season; its encouraging to have so many of you supporting us, and and if our luck matches your enthusiasm it should be a season to remember! Our thanks to Sharon for her hard work in getting everyone together.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CROSS-COUNTRY SCHOOLING TWESELDOWN

19 MARCH

We need a couple more people for this session. Details were sent out last month/are on the Club website. If you would like to join in please contact Helen Vernon right away. If you are planning to go to the Festival of the Horse Challenge don't miss this schooling opportunity!

FESTIVAL OF THE HORSE CHALLENGE

SWALCLIFFE, 26 MARCH

We have entered a team for the Novice class, and two individuals for this qualifier. As far as I know we have enough helpers, though supporters are always welcome if you fancy a trip to Oxfordshire. Good luck to our representatives. The Championships at Aston-le-Walls on 4-5 June include a range of individual classes which any BRC member can enter on their own account. Details were given in the last edition of The Rider, or can be found on the BRC website.

DRESSAGE DAY, MAYHILL, 10 APRIL

Details of this were sent out last month and entries are coming in. If you are intending to enter, please get your entry in early - if things go wrong you can withdraw before the closing date without penalty so you have nothing to lose! Entries will be limited as we are only using one arena, so if you leave it too late you risk disappointment. Volunteers are still needed for writers, stewards and scorers; if you can help please contact Andrea Bishop tel: 01489 894227; email: andrea@bishes.fsnet.co.uk

THREE DAY CLINIC LOWER PEAKE 16-18 MAY

This is now fully booked and a waiting list is in operation.

DRESSAGE TO MUSIC QUALIFIER

SPARSHOLT E.C. MON. 30 MAY

Two members have come forward to represent the Club so far, but the preliminary entries do not have to be in for another month so it's not too late to come forward. Please contact Laura Macarthy, tel: 078164; email: laura@mbmarine.co.uk If you don't want to make the trip to Aintree for the Championships there are non-qualifying classes which you can enter as an individual. Schedules are on the Area 17 website.

OTHER QUALIFIERS

We are looking for potential team members for the following Area 17 qualifiers this summer. If you wish to be considered, please contact the team managers as below. Expressing an interest does not commit you to anything at this stage, but just ensures you are not overlooked when teams are being selected.

19 June:- Show Jumping; Gillingham & Shaftesbury Showground. Penny Briggs, tel: 01730 892297; email: woolmerlodge@yahoo.co.uk

3 July:- Horse Trials; Larkhill. Andrea Bishop; 01489 894227; email: andrea@bishes.fsnet.co.uk We also need 3 volunteers to help with this event.

17 July:- Dressage, Broadlands, Romsey. Laura Macarthy, as above.

WELLINGTON CAMP 20-23 SEPT.

We had a brilliant time at Wellington riding at Heckfield in September 2010 and have decided to go there again this year. There was no doubt they gave us a very good deal with excellent facilities and instruction.

There are at least 4 first class arenas on a surface, 2 indoors, so hard ground is not a problem. They also have a full cross country course which is available for schooling – and they take good care of the ground. They have a number of very well qualified instructors, the food was good and there will be temporary stabling and facilities for our horses in their own area. This year we decided that although marginally more expensive we would go in slightly earlier (Tuesday lunchtime) and have a lesson on the Tuesday afternoon. As last time we would leave around tea-time on the Friday. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each rider will have 2 x 1.5 hour lessons and 1 x 1.5 hour lesson on the Tuesday afternoon (you can choose what you have, ie either a mix of 2 or 3 disciplines or all flatwork, sj or xc. There will also be one hour demonstrations or lectures – we have been promised another demo/lecture from the inspirational and charismatic Nereide Goodman on the Wednesday evening. Cost will be £350 per head with a £75 deposit to be sent by 1 May 2011 to Penny Briggs, Woolmer Lodge, Liss Forest, Hants GU33 7BU. The balance of the amount will be due by 20 August. We have booked up to 12 places and accommodation will be in a large cabin which has rooms with bunk beds and a sitting area. You can visit the Wellington website for more information on its facilities or ring or email penny - tel: 01730 892297 <woolmerlodge@yahoo.co.uk> the booking form is available from Penny.

TRAINING

Details of the next training sessions are enclosed and are also on the Club website.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Diane Kelly who lives in Southampton. Her interests are in showing and dressage.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

Your subscription for 2011 is due on 1 April. Your renewal form is enclosed. This shows the details for you which are held in our records. If anything is incorrect, please amend as appropriate, and return the form with your cheque made payable to the Meon R.C. If you are hoping to compete in any of the Area 17 qualifiers this summer it is important that you renew your subscription promptly, so don't leave it until later (i.e. put it down and lose it) but do it now.