



MEON RIDING CLUB

1968 - 2011

NEWSLETTER

Hon Sec: Mrs Brenda King
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www.meonrc.org

SEPTEMBER 2011

TEAMS OF THREE, HICKSTEAD, 31 JULY

Penny Briggs was really pleased to get six competitors to Hickstead for this competition, as there had been a high drop-out rate beforehand. As the name suggests, it is for teams of three riders and all three scores count, so if someone cannot go at the last minute then the whole team has to be withdrawn. Each member of the team jumps a different height, progressing from novice to intermediate to open. Our two teams listed in this order were:-

Meon Gold: Jackie Rixon	Colour me Danny;
Keri Barnjum	Emily;
Steffi Dampney	Atorea;
Meon Black: Rachel Chubb	Foldor Lover;
Katharine Hartington	Charlie;
Steve Readings	Faith.

They all rolled a pole or two, with the Gold team finishing on a total of 20 and the Black team on 28, so neither got into the jump-off.

Keri and Jackie travelled to Hickstead the night before, and were on hand to help the others who made the long trip there and back on the day. The format of the competition and the huge entry - our first member was 50th. to go! - makes it extremely difficult to establish any cohesion between team members. We are grateful to them all for going to represent Meon, and hope they enjoyed the experience of jumping at the All-England ground. For the future though we must ask whether the high cost of entry fees and parking, and the travelling expenses can be justified for a course of nine jumps.

NATIONAL HORSE TRIALS CHAMPIONSHIPS

ASTON-LE-WALLS 4-7 AUGUST

Our team members had mixed fortunes at the BRC Horse Trials Championship. As so often happens those who came in fresh as reserves fared as well as, or better than, those who had been in the placings at the qualifier. Again the time allowed seemed over generous, with riders who had a stop getting within the time, and those going clear getting penalties for going too fast! This was I think the first time we have had a team in the Intermediate section, and they all coped well, finishing 14th. out of 22 teams in a close competition.

Well done to Anne Evans (Kilcotty Jim), Helen Vernon (Monaco Finale), Becky Sporne (Moonshine) and Holly Budge (Hamberlyns Boy). In the Open section we made up half of the Area 17 team, with two riders from Bourne Valley, finishing 9th. in a slightly smaller field. Becky Sporne had an excellent round with Semillion, to take the individual 6th. in her arena. Steffi Dampney had a few problems, but came home safely.

Our representatives always enjoy this competition, and with 6 riders plus grooms, helpers and supporters there was a great team spirit, with everyone helping everyone else. Chef d'equipe Andrea Bishop as always did a fantastic job of making sure everyone was in the right place, at the right time with the right equipment, despite being raked in at the last minute to write for a Dressage judge. She'd never done this before and found it very informative! I'm sorry I don't know who all our other volunteers were, but would like to thank you en masse for your support. If you know any volunteer who put in a special effort on this occasion, please nominate him or her for our new trophy (see below).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EVENTERS CHALLENGE, BLENHEIM, 9 SEPT.

This is another competition which is popular with members, both competitors and supporters. I always hesitate to name riders before an event, as they so often change at the last minute! The names on our entry form are Steffi Dampney, Anne Evans, Holly Budge and Fiona Emery, with Helen Vernon in reserve. I hope they all get to the starting line, and am sure they will do us proud!

WELLINGTON RESIDENTIAL CAMP

20-23 SEPTEMBER

Everyone who went to the Wellington Camp last year seems to have found it quite inspirational, as well as being great fun. We are not restricted on the numbers we can take to Wellington, so if you

would like to make a last minute booking please contact Penny Briggs; tel:01730 892297; email: woolmerlodge@yahoo.co.uk

HUNTER TRIALS, IPING, 8 OCTOBER

Your schedule for this was sent out last month/is on the Club website. Please get your entry in as soon as you can; cheques are not paid in until after the closing date, and you can change your entries up until then, so it costs you nothing to enter early, but its helpful to the organisers in setting a timetable. If you are not riding, or are riding in an early class and are free later then please do something to help. If you are riding on the day, then we shall also need a few people to help on the morning of Fri. 7 Sept., from about 10.00a.m onwards. You can walk the course while you are there as well! Volunteers please to Penny Briggs as above.

DRESSAGE QUOB 14 OCTOBER

The newly-formed Riding Club Centre at Quob Stables, Durley is holding a small Dressage competition on 14 October, and has kindly invited Meon members to take part. Tests will be Intro B and Prelim. 10. For further details visit their website: www.quobstables.com

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WARNFORD VILLAGE HALL 27 OCTOBER

An agenda for this will be sent out next month, but there are some points we would like you to think about beforehand. If you would like to see changes in the way the Club is run then you must put them forward before the end of September, so that your ideas can be circulated to all members before being discussed on the night. We shall also, as always, be looking for nominations for new Committee members, so please consider whether you, or one of your friends could contribute to the running of the Club in any way.

The Committee has recently been looking at the trophies which are presented at the AGM. Many of these were donated by members, past and present, in commemoration of special horses, people and places. Sadly, after many years in circulation some of these have become so dilapidated that they are no longer fitting memorials, and we have decided they should be replaced, and their purposes redefined. We now have four trophies, for which we are inviting nominations from members; they are:-

Macarthy Salver:- to be awarded to a member who has recently started competing in Club competitions, in any discipline, either after a long break, or having started riding recently;

Novice Challenge:- for a member who has competed at Club level, and who has recently started competing at Area level, in the lower classes, in any discipline

Hawthorns Achievement - for a member who has moved up to a higher level of competition recently, both at Club and Area level; in any discipline.

Volunteers Award:-for a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the organisation and running of competitions, whether at Club, Area or National level.

We also have four trophies for outstanding performances in competitions - Dressage, Show Jumping, Cross-Country and Veteran- which are currently in circulation. We would be grateful if the holders would return these to the Committee by the end of September, so we can look at the state they are in before the AGM, and replace any which have deteriorated.

TRAINING

New programmes for Autumn sessions of show jumping and dressage are enclosed / on the Club website.

Nomination for Meon Club Trophies

Name of trophy:

Person nominated:

Why do you consider this person deserves the trophy?

Signature(s) of supporters of nomination:

**Send to: Chrissy Hughes, 23 Old Priory Close, Copse Lane, Hamble, SO31 4QP
or email to:avmh14@dsi.pipex.com**