

July 2014 -

Hi all, I hope you are all well and enjoying your horses. The school holidays are looming and this is good news for a certain BHRC secretary – more time with Gem and less time with children!

Those of you who were members last year will remember my Freelanders going BANG in March 2013. A new engine, clutch, battery and 2 tyres later we are back on the road. Fast forward 13 months, and on my way back from a school residential on Exmoor, my Freelanders went BANG! This time it was the Transfer Box!!! Towed to the garage in disgrace, I told my husband to scrap it as we only have it to pull my trailer to horse events so that I can ponce around. 3 weeks later I have a phone call from the garage telling me I can pick up my Freelanders; my husband had got the garage to fix it. So.... If anyone comes across T24 NAG sat at the side of the road possibly next to a RAC tow truck, come and give me a hug. It has been going for 1 week now, time for it to contract some sort of contagious disease and be put into isolation at my local garage. Alternatively, if someone would like to buy a red Freelanders, don't hesitate to get in touch with me. It has very low mileage as the sodding thing is always in the garage!

Gem is well and is still basking in her celebrity status of winning the pairs class at the clear round jumping! I went to Clippersharp and bought some new blades for my clippers so she has been trimmed to within an inch of her life. Our next competition is the Members Dressage on the 3rd August (prelim. 12)

- **Well done to Josh Llewellyn** - Josh did his three peaks challenge at the beginning of July. He did it with 7 others in 23.42.47 hrs. Josh is Sara's son and he was doing this challenge to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness. A full report to follow.
- **Well done also to my daughter, Charlotte** – she ran the Race4life today in 38 minutes despite spending most of Saturday at Newt Beer Fest, getting home at past midnight!
- **Area 12 dressage** – 2 reports, one from Sophie and the other from Kate. Also a lovely photo of the team on the web site.

What a great day for the club!! Being as the club's motto is "give it a go" - that's what we all set out to do. With the sun shining and everyone warmed up, our first team member Elysse, who's recently joined the club, started her test. Now bearing in mind this was the first canter test this pony had performed and first time they had represented the club, Elysse was a little nervous, but they tried their best and Elysse worked hard to keep the pony going! Hopefully she won't mind me putting this, but she said she would be the drop score and she said she would be last in the class. She managed to be the drop score (someone has to be), but was pleased to hear she wasn't last as at least one rider had fallen off and another eliminated!!

Our second member was Kate and after seeing Sauber enter the warm up arena like a 17hh warmblood, tail in the air snorting like mad, (he's only tiny) it was nice to see them perform a lovely relaxed test to score a brilliant just over 69% test and finishing in 6th place!

Now my turn with Rosie - after arriving early and working her for half an hour in the morning to try and wear her out, and working her again before my test I was hopeful she would stay relaxed. We normally event so she's fairly fit! I was also hoping she would cope as she has just been diagnosed with

arthritis of her hocks, but being treated with steroid injections has made so much difference, so much so she performed a PB of 70.8% finishing in 4th position. (I think the injections worked). I didn't think the test was that great, but goes to show what you're feeling and how it looks aren't always the same!

Our final member was Davina, another new member and her coloured cob (reminded me of Tricia's mare Gem). They did a lovely relaxed and consistent test and finished in 13th place.

So overall everyone did really well and to add to that, everyone got a rosette as the team finish up in 4th place in the Area!

You don't need to be perfect, just willing to enjoy yourselves. Just think next time it could be you getting that lovely rosette. Sophie x

Firstly, big thanks to Sophie for directions to the Area Dressage - they were perfect. Amazingly we all managed to find one another - or at least Trish, like a good teach, found us all, rounded us up, made sure we had numbers, hat tags & smiles & pointed us in the correct direction.

Apologies once again to those who had to endure my pony in the warm up area. I believe it is his tactic to put off the competition by snorting & prancing - fortunately he can only keep this up for 5 or 10 mins.

First up was Elysse & her lovely pony Gilt Edged who put in a great little test - I had to watch out of the corner of my eye as I was overlapping in the next arena with Sauber. Sauber was thrilled to be on grass so the canter sections were quite forward going!

Sophie & Rosie were soon in and did a beautiful test, coming a much deserved 4th. Then we had Davina & her very pretty coloured Little Miss Sunshine who also did us proud.

I hope Elysse & Davina - who were representing the club for the first time - enjoyed themselves & didn't feel under any pressure. I can honestly say I've never felt any pressure with this club & to hear we came 4th as a team was fantastic! So to those of you out there who think you aren't good enough or you can't handle the pressure come & give it a go.

Lastly, massive thanks to Trish for giving up her Sunday to guide, support & call tests once again.

Kate x

I however, had a bit of a senior moment. I called the tests for Elysse and Davina; Elysse started her test at the bell and half way through, a car horn sounded. I stopped calling and assumed I had called the test incorrectly. I expected Elysse to stop and the judge to get out of her car. They kept going! Then I realised the horn was for the competitor in the arena behind me to start - who happened to be Kate and Sauber - I then found my place on the test sheet and continued to call. It was only nano seconds but my life flashed before me! **Tricia x**

- **Camp** - anymore? We do not have to share with Paddocks liveries this year as we have our own stable yard with a tack room/kitchen included (de-cobwebbed by yours truly - there were spiders as big as cats in there, all now safely rehomed!) All horses will be on shavings and you will need to bring your own water bucket. If you want to attend camp but don't want to stay, there will be enough of us to do morning stables for you. Now would be a good time

to get in touch with me as I will sort out the rides this week. My mum has offered to help out over the week-end, can anyone else spare a few hours?

- **Rising stars** – we have 2 teams but I could do with people who have expressed an interest to get back to me so I can allocate tests.
- **Trophies** – from the Open Show are due back in August. I have your name on my list! They can be given to a committee member or left for me at Paddocks.
- **Breast Cancer Charity Day** – Sunday 21st September at Paddocks. Is it distasteful to put Gem in a pink tutu?
- **Autumn show** – Sunday 5th October at Heazle. Many thanks to Jill Perrior for organising this. It gives me a chance to ponce around on Gem again – assuming the Frelander hasn't gone into meltdown. Many thanks to my mum (**again!**) for offering to help out with entries – anyone else free that day?
- **WS&D Dressage Championships** – Saturday 18th October at KSEG, Greylake. We have another qualifier at our Breast Cancer Charity day. This is a lovely informal championship with nice organisers and a lovely friendly atmosphere. BHRC are offering several prizes, so try to get yourselves there. Gem and I plan to be poncing there also but the Frelander will have given up the will to live by October!
- **Events Listings** – I am doing a bit of research, which web site/s do you use to find out about events? Speaking personally, as an event organiser I use **Horseeventsuk** and **Riding Diary** as they are very user friendly and I can download a schedule. I also use **Web South West**, which is difficult to log on to and find things but usually gets there in the end. I used to use **Equine Tourism**; however, I must be doing something drastically wrong as I don't seem to be able to get a listing. Comments would be gratefully received as listing our details on to 4 web sites plus our own takes an entire evening! T x
- **Membership Cards** – you should all have them by now as BRC Head Office has caught up with their back log. Feel free to email me back if this is not the case.

Secretary – Mrs Tricia Budd. 24, Newlands Grove, Ruishton, Taunton, Somerset. TA3 5JJ. 01823 442597

Treasurer – Mrs Deana Rowland. Coombe Hill House, Symonsburrow, Hemyock, Devon, EX15 3XA. 01823 680021

- **Good luck to Georgina Palfrey and Fools Mate** (Billy) our sole representative at the Area 12 Horse Trials this week-end at Bicton.
- **Clear round SJ** – a lovely evening with lots of laughs and encouragement from the side-lines! Our junior members were out in force – **Megan Edwards and Dandy** being the first to set the ball rolling and they did a copybook round, showing the rest how it should be done! Other juniors were **Pheobe Mansfield, Pip Williams and Charlotte Gaskin**. Just out of juniors were **Georgina Palfrey and Deb Hutchings**. The evening ended with a pair's class and my darling Gem WON! (With a bit of help from Deb, Pip and Jack) 2nd in the pairs class were Georgina and Charlotte. This was Charlotte's first ever competition and she and Widget jumped 2 impressive clear rounds – well done Charlotte, it gets easier now. As always, these events are impossible to hold without the help of our "ground crew" many thanks yet again to **Kate Hopper, Liz Williams, Anna Edwards and Jane Palfrey** for all they did to help the evening run so smoothly - you are stars! So successful was the evening, a germ of an idea has formed. I have yet to consult with the committee but I have plans for a Summer Show Jumping League next year. Feel free to contact me with your thoughts.

- **Area dressage** – we have a team, good luck to **Sophie McCullom, Davina Hardiman, Elysse Gray and Kate Hopper**. This is the first time Davina and Elysse have represented the club and I will be there to mop fevered brows and call tests. Should anyone wish to come a long and cheer (quietly) you are very welcome. It is a Chard Showground on the 6th July,
- **Camp** – filling up nicely just a few spaces left. On the Sunday is Clear Round Jumping and Members Only Dressage (prelim. 12) you don't have to attend camp, these are open to all members and good experience for those wishing to do Rising Stars. Taught and judged by Karen Cameron you won't go far wrong!
- **Autumn show – change of date, now 5th October at Heazle**. Schedule as for the Spring Show with a tweak here and there.
 - **Inter Club Rising Stars Indoor Team Dressage Competition.**

I have several people show an interest in this, get your names to me ASAP. Camp and the member's only dressage will be fantastic practice for this event.

To be held at Conquest Equestrian Centre, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, TA2 6PN

www.conquestcentre.org.uk . on Sunday 17th August 2014 Commencing at 9.00 am

PRELIMINARY ENTRIES CLOSE Monday 4th August 2014 – can be emailed

Class 1 - Introductory -

Dressage Tests : - BD Introductory A 2008

BD Introductory B 2009

This class is aimed at young horses/novice riders/inexperienced combinations.

NO pony/horse may be BD/BE registered. Horse/pony must not have BD/BE points.

Horse/ pony/combination MUST NOT have represented their Riding Club at any level

Dressage or Horse Trials or Combined Training (including RWHS/ FOTH Qualifier) or

represented their PC at Area Dressage or HT or qualified for the second round of the PC

Dengie Winter League Dressage or scored 55% or above in BD Affiliated Prelim.

Class 2 - Pre Novice

Dressage Tests :- BD Preliminary 4 2002

BD Preliminary 14 2006

Combination MUST NOT have represented their Riding Club at any level Dressage or

Horse Trials or Combined Training (including FOTH Qualifier) or represented their PC at

Area Dressage or HT or qualified for the second round of the PC Dengie Winter League

Dressage or scored 58 % or above in BD Affiliated Prelim. Horse/Pony may be BD/BE

registered but MUST NOT have BD/BE points.

Each class will be open to Senior, Junior and Mixed Teams of 3 or 4 members from the same club (the best three scores will count).

Mixed Team entries will only be accepted from clubs unable to field complete Junior/Senior teams.

Junior/Senior/Mixed Teams will be judged together. There is NO individual competition. In Class 1, two competitors will ride Intro A and two will ride Intro B. In Class 2 , two competitors will ride Prelim 4 and two will ride Prelim 14. Teams of 3 must elect two riders for one test and one rider for the other.

Rosettes:- To first 6 teams in each class & to all in Class 1. Sashes to winning teams

Special rosettes – kindly donated by Leighton Ormerod Electrical Services (01984 – 624812) to the

“Highest placed individual not part of the winning team “in each section of Class 1 and Class 2.

X Factor Dressage-2-Music – Sunday 14th September. The quadrille are well into their routine with music flowing, turns, circles and complicated moves getting easier! The next practise is the 14th July at Conquest, spectators are welcome, noisy irritating children are particularly welcome!

Breast Cancer Dressage Day – a very good reason to wear as much PINK as possible!

OPEN UNAFFILIATED DRESSAGE COMPETITION

On September 21st 2014

Held by kind permission of Kate Baker at ‘The Paddocks’

Bickenhall. Nr Taunton TA3 6TS

Includes qualifiers for W.S & D Dressage Championships.

All proceeds to go to the **Breast Cancer Awareness Charity**

Tombola, cakes and light refreshments available.

Each class will be held in an outdoor arena, warm up on grass.

Late entries on the day will be taken at the discretion of the secretary.

Entries to : Mrs Joy Brown, Hidon Mead Cottage, Clayhidon, Cullompton, Devon EX15 3TJ. Tel: 01823 680012.

Postal entries close 14th September. £7 per class members, £8 per class non members

(Late entries – on the field £1 extra per class space permitting)

Times will be on the BHRC Home Page or telephone Joy 01823 680012 for your times – between 6 – 8pm on Friday 19th September

CLASSES:

Class 1 BD Intro. B (Entries restricted to horses and ponies not to have come first in a dressage competition)

Class 2 Prelim 4

***Class 3 Prelim. 14** (Qualifier)

***Class 4 Novice 28** (Qualifier)

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness, competitors are encouraged to wear pink; prizes will be awarded to the best pink outfit in each class.

Our very own Sara Llewellyn has battled breast cancer for the last year. Now fit and well and supporting a new hair style, she and the BHRC committee want to raise as much possible to thank Breast Cancer Awareness for all it has done for Sara and also the scores of women each year who have to face the horrible treatment needed to fight this condition.

RULES

THE COMPETITION WILL BE RUN UNDER BRC RULES FOR DRESSAGE

- All classes are open to adults and juniors
- Entry form should be sent to the Show Secretary (Joy Brown) together with the correct fees £7.00 per class BHRC members £8.00 per class non-members. Cheques to be made payable to The Blackdown Hills Riding Club.
- Late entries for classes will incur a £1 surcharge per class and are at the discretion of the secretary.
- Rosettes will be awarded to 6th place
- No responsibility can be taken by the organisers for any accident to competitors, horses, spectators or property. Competitors will be expected to abide by any Health and Safety rules on the day.
- At the digression of the judges, competitors may be allowed to ride without jackets in **excessively hot weather**, but a suitable shirt must that covers the arms must be worn.
- The judge's decision is final.

- All competitors will be expected to wear the current and correct riding hats.
- All horses will be expected to ridden in correct tack.
- No refund of fees after the closing date
- Please remove all droppings and leave the car park tidy

NB Classes 3 & 4 will incorporate qualifiers for eligible combinations for WSDD Championships at Stockland Lovell on 18th October 2014 . Top three eligible combinations from each class to qualify.

*** WS&DD QUALIFIERS***

Classes 3 and 4 are qualifiers for the **West Somerset and Devon Dressage Championships** to be held at Kings Sedgemoor E.C on Saturday 18th October 2014. Members of **Witheridge, North Devon, West Somerset, Exeter, Quantock, Sid & Otter and Blackdown Hills Riding Clubs** are eligible to enter, provided they meet the eligibility criteria.

Preliminary – no BD points, **Novice** – max. 49 BD points, *at the time of qualification*. Also, horses are ineligible to compete *at the same level or below* if they have been WSD Champion or Reserve Champion or placed 1st – 6th individually at any BRC National Dressage Championship *in any year*. For full details about the rules, eligibility, competition and other qualifiers please visit www.witheridgerc.org.uk

The top 2 eligible combinations from each qualifier will be invited to the Championships, plus the highest placed eligible Junior if not in the top 2 at Preliminary level. The option to invite the 3rd placed combination will be reserved to the organiser.

Training grants will be awarded to the overall Champions and Reserve Champions in each class. Warm up classes will be included plus an Elementary Championship. There is no need to qualify for this but combinations must have less than 100 BD points on the day of the event.

BHRC are giving an “oldest horse/pony rosette” in each class at the championship and a trophy to the highest placed member in each of the championship classes. Awarded at the AGM in December 2014.