

9-2-13 enews - Hello all, Sara here, fed up with the weather? Well you are not alone I haven't met one person that hasn't moaned about the state of their fields, the mud on their horses and many were trying to recollect what riding actually is.

It was very apparent at the recent area 12 dressage competition at Pontispool that lots of the horses had not been out in a paddock, let alone ridden as so many of them were exploding in the warm up arena and finding it difficult to control themselves in the actual dressage arenas!

We had four members compete at the area 12 winter dressage competition. We did have 2 teams until the week before when we got the news from the organizers that due to an unprecedented number of entries. ALL non-qualifying teams had been balloted out. That meant BHRC could only send one team. Many thanks to all of those of you who put your names forward; we will regroup for the summer qualifiers. Many thanks to Joy, Sara and Victoria, who came and gave the team moral support. And thanks to Pat Etherington and Amanda Champion who wrote dressage comments on sheets and stewarded for the afternoon. We are still waiting confirmation of the final places as when we left at 5.00 pm they were still being verified, as soon as we have confirmation Tricia will put it on the web site.

Prelim. 13 - Laura Pring on Ragtime Cleo and Sally Street on Thunder,

Novice 28 - Kathy Card on Otto and Trish Budd on Just Gem

Winter Dressage League - Sadly we had to cancel our first dressage competition in the winter league, due to weather conditions. The next one is due to take place at the Paddocks on February 24th. We are quite low on entries at present – so don't forget to enter – the schedule is on the website. Come on you 'Blackdowners' fight back against the weather – you are made of strong stuff – drag your nags screaming and kicking, muddy from their fields and come along and have a go.

Please read the R C rules on dress and tack as there have been some changes. Look up on the RC Area 12 website you will find all that you need to know.

TRAINING – Laura Pring has organized flatwork training at Paddocks on February 10th and 17th with Karen Cameron. More details are on the web site but these rallies come highly recommended.

Kathryn Smith has organized evening SJ training at Heazle with Sue Marshall. The first one was well oversubscribed and the next 2 are on a strictly "first come, first served" basis. Again, further details are on the web site.

CALLING ALL JUNIORS, a message from our junior coordinator, Liz

I'm Liz Williams and my interest in horses began with my pony called Limit, with the East Hertfordshire Pony Club enjoying some success in Hunter Trials, and continued into adult life as an instructor and riding school and RDA Centre manager. Now I'm mum to Pip and her pony 'Jack', taking a back seat as far as competitive riding is concerned but totally absorbed in helping others to develop their skills and to get maximum enjoyment from this wonderful sport. Junior membership of the BHRC is growing and, in my role as Junior Coordinator, I want to ensure that we put on the kind of events that appeal to you - these could be special training sessions in any discipline during half-terms, fun rides or horsey social evenings, or perhaps preparation for joining a BHRC Team in local competitions. Everyone is, of course, made very welcome at any of the BHRC events, but if you have

some ideas that might appeal specifically to other junior riders, please let me know at lizandpip@hotmail.co.uk or come over and chat when you see Pip and I at any local shows.

PRE - EASTER EGG RIDE – SATURDAY March 16th. (Note change of date)

This year it will be a traditional fun ride, open to all and not an escorted ride as in previous years. Starting from Paddocks, Capland. Departing between 10.00 am and 12 noon. You will be issued with a map and sent off in small groups to collect “treasure” along the way! An Easter egg and a rosette for all, refreshments afterwards plus prizes for the most treasure collected in the shortest time. Help would be greatly appreciated on the day, either marshaling or serving refreshments. Contact Tricia, Sara or Deana.

BADMINTON HORSE TRIALS X COUNTRY DAY

As we had so much fun at the Horse of the Year Show, the committee has decided to organize a trip up to Badminton this year, on X country day. This will be open to members and their friends. Members will have the cost of the transport subsidized so reducing the cost of the day (more money to spend at the stalls). If we have enough interest we will be able to cut the cost on entry as well, as group bookings have cheaper rates. A 29 seater coach or 16 seater minibus has been booked **for Sun 5th May (XC Day)** – Cost per person is £24.00, children – 12 and under are free.

These are all pre-booked prices. If you pay on the day it is more go to www.badminton-horse.co.uk if you want to check it out. We need you to register an interest so we can make a decision on coach or mini bus. If you are at all interested then please contact Kathryn Smith – ktscanalside@yahoo.co.uk asap.

QUIZ NIGHT - Friday March 15th at the Catherine Wheel Pub, Hemyock - Prizes!

7.30 start – open to members and friends. Teams of 4 - subjects will include a little local knowledge, music and a few equestrian questions – a little something for everyone young and experienced. Buffet will be provided and included in entry fee of **£16 per team of 4, or £4 each**. Most importantly it will be a fun evening with lots of laughs a little light entertainment to help us forget about the mud for a few hours. *Please will you email Sara with the name of you team, as we have to work out how many we are catering for. If you are not part of a team, you can turn up on the night and either **join** in with others, form your own team, or just come for the buffet!*

We have a new team coordinator. Laura Pring who does a lot of organizing of training sessions has agreed to coordinate BHRC teams. She is looking for team members for the Combined Training at Pontispool on the 3rd March. Please contact her if you would like to be included, we can have senior and junior teams, or a mixture of both. Schedule on the Area 12 web site.

DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORMS AND SEND THEM IN

We have had a few entries for events from lapsed members who think they are still members and we are unable to process their entries, sooooooo

Please look out for the new more user friendly 2013 membership forms on the website for you to fill out and send in. Don't forget to join – your 2012 membership has run its course now.

Team Endurance Event - This year Endurance GB (EGB) is once again offering a Team Endurance Event to affiliated Riding Clubs on a national scale. The competition is now in its fourth year and is growing rapidly. Riding Clubs are invited to form endurance teams of three to six riders. A Riding Club can have as many teams as they have interested horse and rider combinations. Each Riding Club can then enter their teams into any number of qualifying rides of 30 to 35km (about 20 miles). The qualifying rides can be chosen from over seventy EGB events throughout the country.

Potential riders do not need any special equipment, particular breed or type of horse to get started. Only the rider, their horse and normal riding tack is required. Riders do not have to be members of Endurance GB in order to compete, but they must be current members of their affiliated Riding Club. The Riding Clubs must declare each horse and rider combination with the national organizers before they enter any qualifying ride.

A team who completes a qualifying ride successfully will have its team score entered into a League Table for the Region in which the Club is based. A squad can then, if it chooses, enter a second or subsequent qualifying ride. The team score achieved at the second or subsequent qualifier will replace the existing score in the League Table if it is higher than the existing score. The team scores are calculated from the speed achieved over the course and the horse's pulse at the final veterinary inspection.

The top team in each League Table for the ten Regions and the top ten teams on a national basis excluding the top ten from the League Tables will be offered a place in the Team Endurance Final at The British Horse Feeds Red Dragon Festival of Endurance on Sunday 6th October 2013. Some wild card places may also be offered at the discretion of the national organizers. Stabling, corralling, camping, lorry parking and refreshments will be available at the venue. Up-to-date Influenza Vaccination Certificates will be required for the final, as specified by British Riding Club rules.

If you are interested in being part of this please contact Tricia, who in turn will contact our very own Karen Jones!

29-1-13 - 2013 Hat Tagging rules - [General-BRC-Hat-Tagging-Guidelines-for-Competitors-2013](#)

28/1/13 - a plea from one of our junior members - Laura - who has just become an auntie to this adorable foal. the foal really could not have chosen a worst time to be born and if anyone has some foal things that Laura could use during this foul weather please will you contact her on 07774574712

20-1-13 - The first enews of 2013 from your Roving Reporter **Sara Llewellyn**. Happy New Year to you all,

It's probably a bit late for the above message but the committee wish it anyway. What a strange place we live in, I really felt we were in spring about a week ago we had such beautiful mild weather which

allowed us out and about on our equines and now I find myself grounded, as we have been plummeted into the depths of winter. It is beautiful though.

So what do we have in store for you? Well I have actually made the most of the snow (apart from tobogganing that is) I have managed to get all the quiz questions completed for the Quiz night that we have coming up in March. We have yet to have confirmation of venue and date, as our first choice was flooded out and hasn't quite been sorted. Keep your eyes out for updates and I hope you will all come along as I have put a lot of work into this and it should be a fun evening. It will be open to members and their friends and will be for teams of 4. You have plenty of time to find your teams and think up some great names – there will be a section on local knowledge – so keep your eyes open whilst you are out riding or driving. I'm looking forward to the evening, I hope you will too. Sara

Winter Dressage League - This is due to start next weekend (we hope)The Venue is the Paddocks, as last year. We did promise an all weather working in area and Kate has tried her very best to get this sorted, however the weather has been so bad that the ground was too waterlogged to enable any large vehicles onto the land. They are all on standby and a suitable area will be put in place. In the mean time there is the Herepath and although you cannot go round and round in circles there is enough space to get the 'gees' warm. Please bear with us and we hope it doesn't put you off. The dates are as follows and the schedule is on the website, we hope we will see lots of you there. **Please read the R C rules on dress and tack as there have been some changes. Look up on the RC Area 12 website you will find all that you need to know.**

January 27th. – February 24th. March – 24th. April 28th.

PRE - EASTER EGG RIDE – March 17th. From the Paddocks, Capland. (pre? – actually before Easter, so not to clash with other events, as far as we can) Look out for more details nearer the time.

OPEN SPRING SHOWING SHOW - Details being finalised look out for details.

We are currently looking for someone who could help us co-ordinate the Area 12 summer teams, there are only three, but they are quite close together. You don't have to be a committee member and will have support and plenty of advice if required. We have our lovely treasurer who will sort all the money side, we just need a willing soul who could chivy up a few members to take part and fill out the forms online. Each of our committee members have so much to do already. If you are that lovely person/s you may have a friend that could do it with you. (Perhaps you already compete at area level – which would be ideal) then please contact Tricia Budd. Thank you.

MEMBERSHIP - Please look out for the new more user friendly 2013 membership forms on the website for you to fill out and send in. Don't forget to join – your 2012 membership has run its course now.

Evening Training Sessions with Sue Marshall @ HEAZLE. On Fridays 1st & 15th February and 1st March Three Evenings – 2 or more Sessions Starting at 6.00 pm £15 per session (Remember members with vouchers - can use them!) Please send me your booking form (available on the website) so I can ensure each rider/horse or pony is grouped with others of similar ability and requirements.

Kathryn Smith ktscanalside@yahoo.co.uk

Also 2 provisional flatwork dates for your diary. Sundays in February; 10th & 17th. At Paddocks. Contact Laura Pring for more details.

Lastly we have to say goodbye to **Mandy Summers**, who is unable to remain on the committee. She will remain as a member and we will hopefully see her at many an event. We thank her for all her hard work to date and wish her well in her new house.

Following on from that, we are very glad to welcome **Jane Palfrey** to the committee. Jane can usually be found holding her daughters horse or organizing outfits for the quadrille! Luckily for us, she has agreed to become our cross country coordinator. She will be putting training in place for all club members so contact her with any requests and she will do her best to oblige. BHRC are organizing the XC part of the Area horse trials this year (June 30th) Jane will be organizing sessions leading up to this event.

“Has it stopped snowing yet?”

9-1-13 - Hello to you all, just a quick update.

Many thanks to those of you who contacted me so quickly regarding the Area dressage; we have **2 teams** representing our club on the 3rd February, and a reserve rider! I have listed the teams for you below, we would love to see some BHRC faces on the day, so please feel free to come and cheer us on.

Blackdown Hills Red team - Victoria Pitcher, Kathy Card, Tricia Budd, & Sophie Mcollum

Blackdown Hills Blue team - Emma Bryant, Steve Smith, Laura Pring & Sally Street

Reserve rider - Cordet Smart

We also have to provide a helper for the day; Pat Etherington has already kindly offered to do the afternoon, would someone be happy to do the morning?

Helpers vouchers can be claimed for this event (but make sure I know you have attended as I may miss you on the day) typical jobs will be stewarding or writing.

Rising Stars – this popular event is to be held on Wednesday 14th February at Conquest. It is for combinations that would like to represent their club, but as yet are still a little unsure. It is professionally run with a tack check, but a much more relaxed atmosphere than the Area's. If you would like to enter, please check the schedule to find out which class/classes you are eligible for, and let me know by the 27th January (our dressage league day) and let me have £10 per class. Again, any BHRC

members who would like to cheer on their club would be most welcome.
This day also has a SWD&D qualifier, more in the schedule.

We have over 50 members on our BRC data base, the cut off point for this month is 14th so if I get your membership before then you should get your cards at the end of January.

Joy is still taking entries for the **Dressage League**. Unfortunately, due to the persistent rain that we have experienced, the new warm-up arena will not be ready, but the Walk & Trot test can be entered H/C if you would like to warm-up in the arena or you can join Gem and I on the drove!

The evenings are beginning to draw out, bulbs are poking their noses out of the ground and Gem has had her second clip of the winter, Spring is on its way! Happy riding, *Tricia x*

Unofficial BHRC survey; is a covered roasting pan the most romantic Christmas gift a wife could receive? (Or did your partner/spouse surpass mine!)

December 2012 - Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all, Just a quick e-news to wish you seasons greetings and a quick up date on the AGM

The AGM was held on 6th December at the Catherine Wheel Inn, Hemyock. We had a good turn out, well done to all that attended. Due to the terrible floods in Hemyock our normal room, having been totally flooded was out of bounds, but not to be put out Geoff the landlord very kindly allowed us to take over his pub and so the meeting and presentation of awards went ahead much to the amusement of some of the locals.

The evening was a lovely social and gave many of us an opportunity to have a good chat. The committee remains the same this year but we did have a couple of spaces and so Jane Palfry kindly volunteered to come on to the committee to help. I'm sure you would, with us, like to thank her and welcome her to the committee and hope that she finds the position not too arduous a job.

After all the official stuff was completed and all the many trophies given out a beautiful bouquet of flowers was presented to Trish who has done a fantastic job this year in stepping in for Vicky when Vicky was unable to attend.

I'm a little embarrassed to say but Joy Brown and myself were made **honorary members** of the riding club. This was a great surprise to us both on the night, so far we haven't had anyone curtsy or bow to us he he. We think it's a ploy to hang on to us. Joy and I have worked out that we have been active members for at least 17 years.

We have lots of ideas for 2013 and hope you all will join in at some point during the year. Keep you eye on the website, keep reading the e-news, please renew your membership and keep enjoying your horses and ponies even though it is difficult in this dreadful weather.

Area 12 winter dressage at Pontispool on 3rd Feb, entries in by the start of January, schedule to follow, or will be put on the website.

Rising Stars dressage 14th Feb, schedule to follow or on the website. Trisha Budd can take entries for both so please contact her if you fancy giving it a go.