



BRITISH
RIDING CLUBS

WEST SOMERSET RIDING CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2009

Chairman – Sue Rose

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Treasurer – Anne Hand

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Secretary – Maggie Robertson

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Well Done To The

Junior Novice Show Jumping Team

Our team comprising Bryony Richardson with Tequila Dante, Alex Howes with Molly, Clio Loxton with Banjo and Esther Freeman with Ice finished a creditable 11th at the British Riding Clubs' NAF Novice Indoor Show Jumping Championship on 29th March at Hartpury College, Gloucester.

Dressage, Show Jumping and Combined Training

Kindly sponsored by
**The Animal Feed Centre
and
The Leather Workshop and Saddlery**

Wednesday 20 May 2009 (5pm)
Saturday 27 June 2009 (2pm)
(including Western Somerset Dressage Championship
Qualifiers)
Wednesday 15 July 2009 (5pm)

Treborough Hill Cross Country, Brendon Hill

For schedule and W&T tests go to the Club's website or
contact Anne Hand

annehand@tiscali.co.uk Tel: 01984 641302

Fun Team Event

WSRC entered a team at the first Fun Event which was held by Quantock RC at their Horse Trials on 26th April at Stockland Lovell Manor.

Our team members were Bryony Richardson with Tequila Dante, Michelle Holyroyd with Summerfold Whisper Who Dares and Charlotte Thomas with Doughty.

With all three scores to count it was going to be tough and QRC had several teams entered, but the team competition was won by Taunton Tigers. Bryony was clear show jumping and X-Country but picked up a few time faults for being so fast! They finished 14th in their arena. Michelle and Whisper enjoyed their day and after the event Michelle said, "I really enjoyed the day even though it didn't go brilliantly! My dressage is never the best and on this occasion Whisper slipped in the middle of the test, which made matters worse. The SJ was good and the cross country was ok. I had a stop before the water, plus one other stop but apart from that it was fine".

Charlotte and her 13 year-old homebred Doughty ended the day on a high, being placed 3rd in their arena and finishing on a score of 30.5.

Michelle and Whisper (left) Charlotte and Doughty (right)



Training Subsidies

There has been a good take up of the training subsidies on offer, so good in fact that the committee has decided that it is necessary to put a cap on the amount of subsidy each member may have during the club year. This will protect some funding for members who have yet to use any training subsidy, and takes into account a likely reduction in Club income this year. The cap has been set at £20 per member for this club year.

The committee is looking into other ways of subsidising training, perhaps by subsidising group training sessions or offering vouchers in return for help at Club events. Please feel free to contact any committee member with any ideas you may have about the best way to proceed.

For further information please contact Anne Hand on 01984 641302 or annehand@tiscali.co.uk

Western Somerset Region Dressage Championship 2009

The series seems to be a really hit and the eight clubs that are participating all agree that there is great interest from their members.

At the moment we seem to have Witheridge and Taunton riding clubs fighting it out on who can get the most riders qualified for the championship which will be held at Stockland Lovell on **Sunday 11th October 2009**. All the eight clubs are running qualifiers at their shows so WSRC members have plenty of opportunity if they are unable to compete at our summer qualifier at Treborough on 27th June. The clubs are Taunton, Exeter, Witheridge, Polden & Bridgwater, West Somerset, Quantock, Sid & Otter Valley and Blackdown Hills.

The dates of the qualifying competitions are on our clubs' website along with a list of those riders who have already qualified and also the eligibility rules.

The championship will be a joint effort with all the participating clubs providing helpers and if any WSRC member would be willing to help on the day then please contact Maggie Robertson Tel: 01643 841833 or robertsonm@ranmorecommon.demon.co.uk

Photographs WANTED

Anne Hand is currently working on a new website for the club which we hope to launch in the summer. Anne needs some updated photographs of members, so if you have any digital photographs which you would like to share on the club's website, please can you email them to Anne with details of rider/horse/date/venue. They must be good quality with as many number of pixels as possible.

annehand@tiscali.co.uk.

*** STOP PRESS *** TREC ON BBC BREAKFAST

If any of you would like to see a bit about TREC on TV, then tune in this Saturday 16th May. Mike Bushell a BBC sports commentator went to Tilford BHS TREC in Surrey last weekend and took part.

The piece is to be aired on Breakfast TV from 6am – 9am on BBC1 during Mike's regular ½ hourly sports update. It will also be available on the BBC website.

Tales from The Leather Workshop and Saddlery (Sale NOW ON)

Our first customer today is Mrs. Jones with her saddle and bridle. The bridle has a broken cheek piece and one of the girth straps has snapped on the saddle. Both of these were good quality, but several years of neglect have now taken their toll. What a pity she didn't follow these simple guidelines.

Mrs. Jones should have oiled the saddle and bridle thoroughly when new. This helps to prevent the leather cracking and makes the leather supple. When in regular use they should both be cleaned after each ride with warm water and rubbed over with saddle soap. At least once a fortnight take the bridle apart and clean, taking care to check the stitching and fittings. When you've given it the once over, a thorough oiling followed by balsam or soap will prolong the life of your bridle.

The saddle also needs to be maintained with regular cleaning and oiling, especially the flaps and girth straps. Take care not to over oil the seat – it can come off on your jodhpurs. It is also important to check the stitching and metal work on your saddle.

If you are unsure or in any doubt about your tack, why not ask for advice at The Leather Workshop and Saddlery, they are always happy to help.

The Leather Workshop and Saddlery
3 Hawksworth Road
Minehead
TA24 5BZ
Tel: 01643 703033

www.theleatherworkshop.co.uk

FOR WSRC MEMBERS

Members of West Somerset Riding Club will be given a 5% discount in the shop when showing their current (2009) membership card.

**SHOW JUMPING
TEAM MANAGER**

Sarah Osborne

TELEPHONE

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Area 12 Qualifier Events

If you would like to represent the club and be in a show jumping team or ride as an individual at the Area 12 Show Jumping Qualifier which is to be held at Taunton Racecourse on 13/14 June, please would you contact NICOLA MOON nmoon00@aol.com ASAP. Please see http://www.brcaarea12.org.uk/THS_Qualifiers.pdf for details of the Classes

If you are interested in entering the Area 12 Riding Clubs Horse Trial at Pontispool on 28 June can you contact Maggie Robertson robertsonm@ranmorecommon.demon.co.uk

Will any member who is be willing to be a jump judge for half or the whole day at Pontispool contact Maggie. If members help at the event the club is paid a fee for each person, which is vital to help prop up our funds. There are also non-qualifying classes open to riding club members: juniors and seniors.

2009 WSRC Accumulator

An 'Accumulator' shield will be presented at the 2009 AGM, along with substantial voucher prizes for the top placings and special rosettes. The points system and the scores as they are collected will appear on the website, and in future newsletters (see below for recent points). Points in 2009 will be awarded at every WSRC competition, dressage, show jumping, TREC, cross country, eventers' challenge etc. The points will be awarded to the top placed WSRC riders in every class, according to the number of people in the class.

Rider	Horse	Cannington Dressage	Heazle TREC	Eventers Challenge	Points
Gwenda Bassett	Jester	21		9	30
Sarah Thresher	Tiger Lily	5		9	14
Charlotte Thomas	Doughty	13			13
Anne Hand	Bugsy	11			11
Nicola Moon	Derry	9			9
Cindy Cowling	Rosetta	8			8
Irene Farmer	Caprico		7		7
Jo Giblett	Fireman	7			7
Sarah Osborne	Merlin			7	7
Mel Julian	Slee			5	5
Charlotte Fricker	Madjhn			4	4
Anna Weatherlake	Treacle			3	3
Zoe Holroyd	Sorrel			2	2

More details from Anne Hand 01984 641302 or annehand@tiscali.co.uk

FOR ALL TRAINING

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DRESSAGE

TEAM MANAGER

Catherine Freeman

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Indoor BHS TREC at Heazle

WSRC ran their first BHS affiliated indoor TREC at Heazle EC, nr Wellington on Sunday 22nd March.

This was one of a series of winter indoor competitions organised by the BHS and Kelly Marks sponsored the rosettes and prizes. There were two Kelly Marks qualifying classes, the Newcomers for those riders who had little or no experience at TREC and the Open section.

The course was made up of 10 obstacles to negotiate, the type that you may find out on a hack, such as opening and shutting a gate. Other obstacles included bending poles and a small hedge to jump. Riders also had to negotiate a 50metre corridor around the edge of the school where they had to canter along it as slowly as possible and then walk as fast as possible.

Toni Carey from Bideford won the Newcomers class with her pony Smudge. Toni is a member of TREC South West and Hilary Barnard from Bristol with her pony Rhinefield Impulse won the Open class. Hilary represented Great Britain at the World TREC Championships in France in 2008 with her other pony Harvey. There were two other classes on the day, Novice and a Top-Score where riders had 6 minutes to complete as many obstacles as they could with only two attempts allowed at each, but there were double points to be had at the Immobility obstacle. The winner of this class was Lucy Thompson from South Brent on a score of 175 points with her horse Mr G. Lucy is also a member of TREC South West.

Well done to the one WSRC member who took part, Irene Farmer with Caprico who was placed 6th and 7th.

Qualifier for TREC CHAMPIONSHIPS of GREAT BRITAIN 2009

July 11-12th 2009, level Two, Three and Four with a non qualifier, easier *'intro'* class for newcomers to TREC. Vetting will not be required for the intro class

A two day Trec with fantastic facilities: Camping and corralling on site, permanent showers and toilets, on site stabling if required. An easy 15 minute drive from Exeter, M5 junction 30

Meal and social evening on Saturday night in the permanent on site catering marquee. A chance to meet competitors from all across the UK and find out more about this exciting sport.

The POR will take place on Woodbury Common, an area of heathland, forestry, and woodland with beautiful views to the south coast on Saturday. On Sunday the PTV and Control of Paces will be set on the new Bicton cross country course.

For information regarding this event contact
underhillsue@yahoo.com or Tel: 01364 72098
www.bictontrec.weebly.com

Eventers Challenge

The Eventers Challenge event was held at Treborough Cross Country on Sunday 5 April, a beautiful sunny spring day. The Challenge was to negotiate five show jumps, then to proceed round a course of six cross country fences with quite a bit of ground to cover between each, and finally to gather yourself and your horse or pony together to make another five show jumping efforts. The overall aim of the event was to get people out and having a go after the winter weather. The first class was set at 2 foot to encourage large and small people to have a go with smaller and/or novice horses and ponies. There was then a pairs class at the same height, a 2 foot 6 class and an intermediate class set at 2 foot 9 – 3 foot.

Turnout unfortunately was very low, but the twenty who came seemed to enjoy themselves and appreciate the stunning setting, the excellent going and lovely weather. Other venues seem to have agreed with us that it was a good weekend to get started and on the day there were a number of competing competitions. Practically everyone got round the course by hook or by crook, and the new style club rosettes were much admired. The length of the cross-country section was long enough to provide a bit of a challenge in itself, but the jumps rode very well. The WSRC members also clocked up some points for the Accumulator prize as well.

Huge thanks are due to the helpers who turned out to manage and judge the show jumping and the cross country fences, to marshal competitors, to take entries and do the scoring. And it would not have happened but for the hard work beforehand of Sarah and Mark Weatherlake, building the cross country course, putting up arenas and then providing a merry band of children to help and compete. Sarah Osborne and Alice Jobin rose to the challenge of building two show jumping courses in separate arenas using one set of show jumps.

Anne Hand