



# Delamere Forest Riding Club

A British Riding Club affiliated to the British Horse Society

## NEWSLETTER

**January 2018**

Firstly the Committee of Delamere Forest Riding Club would like to wish all our members, friends and horses, a happy and successful 2018. We would also like to thank you for all the support you have given to us both in ensuring that our competitions and training sessions run with full and enthusiastic riders; and also for the inestimable help that you have given, through duty days, to ensure that we can run all our events.

We will endeavour to arrange a full calendar of activities in 2018 (some date confirmations and details will follow in this letter) but, as always, if there is anything that you'd like us to look at/include, please let us know.

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### **PAST EVENTS:**

#### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and PRIZE GIVING on 27 OCTOBER**

By way of a change this year, the AGM was held in Crowton Village hall and was lovely that so many members turned up for the evening. A buffet meal was provided which went down well and drinks were on a 'bring-your-own' which ensured that some very splendid cocktails were on offer – if you were on the right table !! As far as prize giving was concerned, Jenny German and Mouse scooped up such a selection of trophies that her departure for home was delayed by having to wait for Securicor !! A full list of all prize winners can be found on the web site.

#### **JUMP TRAINING (ASSESSMENT) on 26 NOVEMBER**

This year we trialled a starter 50cm course and this proved to be very popular with members and non members alike. It was a great confidence boost to riders and gave young horses a chance to pop round a course of show jumps. Richard was on fine form and gave everyone a good critique between rounds which ensured that the second round was seriously improved. An enthusiastic band of spectators learnt a lot from the lesson but had to work for the privilege by putting poles up between classes. Our members especially were looking really capable and ready to jump in summer qualifiers and competitions.

#### **CHRISTMAS SHOW JUMPING on 28 DECEMBER**

December weather proved difficult for a number of riders and the Christmas Show Jumping on the 28<sup>th</sup> was no exception as a couple of people had to withdraw as their yards were iced over. However those who braved the elements (including a hail storm during the first lesson) found Richard in fighting form as he refused to take prisoners (especially as far as the wavy plank was concerned). Despite the bonus of very excellent mulled wine (courtesy of Judith Childs), spectators found that their viewing time was slightly curtailed by the chilly weather. The first group came in festive garb and the horses seemed to really enjoy popping round the course. Steph Woodland and her recent acquisition, Beau, went really well and this was an indication that they could be the pair to watch in 2018. Sam Sansom and Leo treated the lesson as a speed class and motorbiked round every turn possible to shave seconds from a non existent time. Jo

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and Zed Bateson made up group, both going really well despite the air tuning blue (probably ice in the atmosphere) as Richard challenged Jo and her lovely grey (Star and I admit to being biased as I definitely want him !!) and the rider became ever more vocal as the fences went up.

We tackled the 50cm course which was successful and Richard was super tight up the heights. Everyone improved their jumping in the second round and we

## **AREA COMPETITIONS**

### **Intermediate Team Dressage**

This competition had to be postponed in October as the weather forecast was so dire so didn't actually run until December at Tushingham. Fortunately our original team, and our helper Elaine, were hopeful that they could be available on the revised competition date. In the event, though, neither Claire nor Steph were able to compete but that's horses for you ! We were therefore unable to enter as a team. Nevertheless our two remaining riders did compete as individuals but, as usual, competition was fierce. Sarah in the preliminary section was 24<sup>th</sup> in a big entry class and Madelaine was 8<sup>th</sup> in the novice. However Madelaine and Hi Mac did brilliantly in the medium and finished in a super 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

### **Novice Team Dressage**

This competition was held at Somerford in mid November and consisted of two preliminary and two novice tests. These were ridden by Jenny, Beatrice, Alison and Elaine and the team finished in 14<sup>th</sup> place. Individually Jenny was 13<sup>th</sup>; Bea 11<sup>th</sup>; Ali 15<sup>th</sup> and Elaine a very good 5<sup>th</sup>. Well done to all and thanks to Claire for helping on the day.

## **Area Show Jumping**

### **Novice Area Show Jumping Southview 5 November 2017**

We entered one senior team comprising Katie Holden, Alison Arden, Karen Jackson and Sarah Healing. The course had a couple of rather spooky fences but everyone managed to complete both rounds without too many faults and the team ended up a respectable 6th. Thanks to Steph Woodland who had the unenviable task of checking flu vacs and hats and to everyone who came on the day to support as there was real team spirit.



**Alison Arden and Indie**

## **FUTURE EVENTS AND DIARY DATES**

### **Clear Round Show Jumping (indoors) on 28 January 2018**

This proved very popular last year as a first outing for everyone starting the new season. It will be held at Forest Gate Farm Norley from 12.45pm.

Classes will start at 60cm, and will be raised, approximately every 45 minutes, to 70cm, 80cm, 90cm and 1m.

The cost is £5 per class and entries will be accepted on the day. Open to members and non-members. Smart casual dress. For any further details, please contact Holly on 07912020429

## **Indoor Hunter Trials on 18 February 2018 at Forest Gate Farm, Norley.**

Its time to dust off the Satnavs again. This is a fantastic annual event, jumping inside over a variety of jumps. The heights of the courses are 60cm, 70cm, 80cm and 90cm. The course will have an optimum time; refusals and knock downs will be penalised. The 60 & 70 classes will be over a shorter course.

The schedule and entry forms can be found on the web site and on HorseMonkey.

### **Dressage Competitions**

The winter season recommences in February and Mary Bradbury will be taking entries for the last of the winter series. Details are available, as always, on the web site:

11 February Intro A; P7; N28; E42; M63  
Entries open on 22 January

11 March Intro B; P12; N30; E44; M71  
Entries open on 19 February

Diary dates for the summer are as follows but full details, tests etc, will appear on the web page in due course :

11 March  
29 April  
27 May  
24 June  
29 July

### **Cross Country Training**

This item is hot off the press from last night's Committee meeting so full details have yet to be finalised but Sue Griffiths and Cathy London are looking to try and organise some cross country training at Kelsall on Good Friday (30 March). Further details will be put on the web site as soon as possible.

### **Visit to watch Liverpool Mounted Police Training**

Apologies that, due to unforeseen circumstance, I have not yet arranged this visit. Its on my list as something to be sorted as soon as pos and I will send further details when I have spoken to the Police and pencilled in some proposed dates.

### **DFRC Camp 2nd and 3rd June 2018**

All senior members are welcome (unfortunately we can only take adults due to safeguarding restrictions). Please could anyone who would like to come contact [cathylondon@sky.com](mailto:cathylondon@sky.com) or email for more information if you have not attended before.

Camp is an ideal opportunity to have a mini break away for the weekend at Somerford Park with fantastic facilities and lessons for all levels from nervous novices and beginners, to those who are ready for Badminton. We can provide all sorts of lessons and will match groups for ability and braveness! We have a variety of instructors from nice to nasty depending on how hard you need to be pushed - just joking, they are all brilliant. Any requests for particular instructors would also be welcome as camp is whatever the members want. Price this year will be £150 and friends and family are welcome to camp too. All food and stabling is included in the price.

## **ONE DAY EVENT**

For early information, this will take place at Smallwood on Sunday 9 September. Fingers will be tightly crossed this year for favourable weather conditions as opposed to the quagmire that valiant riders, horses and helpers encountered last September !

## **MISC :**

### **Reflect and Stay Safe**

Some local drivers have made the point that, especially towards dusk, its not always easy to see horses and riders hacking round the lanes. If you have been out riding for a little while, your eyes become accustomed to the diminishing light but other road users are probably not as attuned. Can we remind everyone to check that you and your horse are well reflected and visible ..... and, most important, Stay Safe. The BHS advise on wearing high viz at all times as if you are involved in an accident your insurance may not be valid.

### **Charity Donations**

We had a really nice Christmas letter and brochure from the RDA team (which will be put up on the notice board) thanking us very much for last year's donation. As we haven't had any other suggestions, we thought we would continue to sponsor their work this coming year so will send them a cheque of £100 but if anyone does come across a horse related charity that would find £100 useful, please let us know.

### **Safety Rules**

Body Protectors - a reminder that if you intend to participate in Area qualifiers this year there is a change in Body protector rules this year. From the 1st January Body protectors with the purple label dated 2000 are no longer accepted by British Riding Clubs and British Eventing, only the purple label 2009 and above will be allowed.

Hats – British Riding Clubs, British Eventing and the Pony Club have come together this year and standardized the hat tag colour. Tags for all 3 disciplines will now be Aqua in colour, with each discipline having it's own logo on the tag. This means that once you have had your hat tagged for one discipline it is good for the other two. If you intend to do BRC qualifiers, or for that matter Pony Club and BE events and want your hat tagging to get it out of the way, present your hat to Peter Booth at any DFRC event you attend and he can do it for you.

Required Hat Standards;-

PAS 015 (1998 or 2011) AND MUST HAVE BSI Kitemark Or Inspec IC Mark

VG1 01.040 (2014-12) AND MUST HAVE BSI Kitemark Or Inspec IC Mark

ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards) AND MUST HAVE SEI Mark

SNELL E2001 or E2016 AND MUST HAVE Official SNELL label and number

AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards) AND MUST HAVE SAI Global mark

### **Area Qualifiers**

If you want to have a go at Area qualifiers, speak to Peter Booth for the Combined Training; Mary Bradbury for the Dressage; Sue Griffiths for the Show Jumping and Sam Sansom for the Cross Country events. Please be aware that if our teams/individuals qualify we are expected to attend the National Championships.

Dates for qualifiers as follows;-

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**Combined Training Qualifier**, at Forestgate Farm, Norley and which will be hosted by Delamere Forest RC on 2 April 2018 (Easter Monday), for Championships at Aston le Walls, on 19 – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018 . We would like to enter a team/teams on our “home event”. Teams are made up of 4 riders, two of whom will jump a 75cm course and the other two riders will jump an 85cm course. Dressage will be on grass (the hay field) and the jumping will be on the outdoor arena. At the moment we have some great horse/rider combinations in the Club and are confident that we can put together strong teams – so please don't be modest but contact Peter Booth if you wish to be considered for the teams. Email : booth\_peter@yahoo.co.uk

90/100/110cm Show Jumping at Coleg Cambria, Northop, 18/03/18, for Championships at Bury Farm Equestrian Village on the 27 – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Combined Training Qualifier, at Forestgate Farm, hosted by Delamere FRC, 02/04/18, for Championships at Aston le Walls, on 19 – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Horse Trials qualifier, at Radfords Equestrian Centre, Llanymynech, 24/06/18, for Championships at Swalcliffe Farm Equestrian, Nr Banbury, 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

Show & Style jumping qualifier, at Caerwys, Clwyd, 22/07/18, for Championships at Lincolnshire Showgrounds, 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018.

Dressage & Riding Test qualifier, at Rodbaston, 29/07/18, for Championships at Lincolnshire Showgrounds, 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018.

Dressage to Music qualifier, at Reaseheath, 18/08/18, for Championships at Bury Farm equestrian Village, 28 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Qualifiers are open to both Seniors and Juniors, Individuals and teams, If sufficient people are interested the club will organise the teams.