



# Delamere Forest Riding Club

A British Riding Club affiliated to the British Horse Society

## NEWSLETTER

January 2019

Firstly, the DFRC Committee would like to wish all members (and horses) a very happy New Year and send best wishes for a fun and successful forthcoming equestrian season.

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### PAST EVENTS:

With Christmas intervening, the **AGM on Friday, 2 November at Crowton Village Hall** seems a long time ago. It was good to see so many members there and the evening appeared to go off really well. Fully deserved prizes were awarded to members, and in some cases, their horses (with various humorous comments being heard from the audience in some cases !!). We used the same caterers as in the previous year and they provided an excellent meal. Everyone seems to like the format of bringing their own drinks and there were some very interesting (and well received) concoctions on offer. The AGM, and all the other events that we run, are very specifically for the benefit of members so if anyone wants to make any suggestions as to how we can improve the programme of events we have on offer, please don't hesitate to email the Club.

### Jump Training at Forest Gate on 28 October

Richard Carruthers training lesson proved as popular as ever as riders of all abilities completed a first round, received a critique, and then rode copybook second rounds. Everyone taking part (if they were on a horse) had a fun lesson as Richard was on good tutorial form. However it was noticeable that the writer was drawing squiggles on the comments sheet – due to finger shake as hypothermia set in and words were getting more difficult to create. Thanks go to Mary and Holly for organising the session and valiantly remaining in place for the duration. Similarly to all the members who were there on a help day.

### Christmas Show Jumping with Richard Carruthers on 28 December

The annual fancy dress Christmas Show Jumping with Richard (and the obligatory mulled wine – needed medicinally as it did get chilly) took place at Forest Gate Farm. It was well worth obtaining a competitive fancy dress as the prize winners in each height section were awarded a bag of maltesers. Considering how close it was to Christmas (with all the other festivities going on), it was a really good turn out and the three groups each had an excellent hour's tuition with the horses seeming to enjoy stretching their legs over the fences on the outdoor arena. Though some jockeys were heard to say that perhaps they should have had the mulled wine before looking at the height of some of the fences.

### AREA QUALIFIERS

#### Arena Eventing in October

We were well represented at the Area Arena Eventing Qualifier in October. The DFRC riders were Caroline Brammer; Louisa Brammer (who came a well placed 8<sup>th</sup> in the 70cm class); Kate Johnson (again riding well to be 10<sup>th</sup> in the 70cm class); Sarah Healing (who had an excellent competition and finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the 100cm class). Show jumping standards in Area are extremely high so well done to these riders for achieving such good places.

**[www.delamereforestridingclub.co.uk](http://www.delamereforestridingclub.co.uk)**

### **Area Dressage on 3 November**

We were delighted to be in a position to send two teams to the Area Dressage Qualifier at Somerford in November. Once again, the general standard at these competitions is extremely high and we were very proud of the results that our teams achieved. The individuals taking part were Brent Sansom (a very good placing at 6<sup>th</sup>), Georgie Critchley, Amanda Lyne, Vicki Lowe, Jo Bateson, Elaine Reading (a really good test took her into 3<sup>rd</sup> place), Katie Holden and Hannah Hughes. The teams finished in 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> places and congratulations are sent to all team members.

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

### **Area 20 Novice Show Jumping Qualifier**

We feel we are sending a strong team to the Area 20 SJ Qualifier on 27 January at Southview, which is made up of Sam Sansom, Caroline Brammer, Jo Bateson and Amanda Lyne. No pressure Ladies but we are confident that you will go well. Good luck and have fun.

### **Area 20 Dressage Qualifier**

Again we are very lucky to be sending a strong team to represent DFRC at the dressage on 3 February at Fieldhouse. We would like to wish Jenny German, Elaine Reading, Vicki Lowe and Madelaine Davies best of luck and (again no pressure) will really look forward to hearing the results.

### **Clear Round Show Jumping**

The Clear Round Show Jumping Event has been arranged for Sunday, 27 January at Forest Gate Farm starting at 0930 with the 60cms class. Heights will be increased approximately every 50/60 minutes depending on numbers waiting to jump. All the jumping will be on a surface – possibly outside but this is obviously weather dependent. There will be small fillers in all courses but, if necessary, the arena party can be somewhat flexible regarding their inclusion at the lower heights. Forget the new year diet as chocolate bars will be awarded for a clear round. Hot drinks will be available for the usual donation to charity. This event is open to non members; the cost is £5 per round and there is a smart casual dress code. It will be a good warming up session in preparation for the Indoor Hunter Trials which is scheduled for 10 February.

### **Indoor Hunter Trials**

The famous (infamous ?) Indoor Hunter Trials will take place at Forest Gate Farm during the morning of 10 February. The Committee will undertake to try and rein in Richard's enthusiasm for fitting in excess of 20 fences in the indoor arena but those of you who have competed, supported and helped at this competition will know what fun it is. There will obviously be varying heights with those competing at 60cm and 70cm riding a slightly shortened course, and those entering the 80cm and 90cm will need the usual assistance of satnavs. The schedule should be available on the web site within the next few days. Early entry is recommended as a lot of people wanting to do BE this year, use it as a very good warm up for their forthcoming season so places are in demand.

## **AREA QUALIFIER**

### **FOTH Challenge**

This event fell victim to weather conditions last year but has been rescheduled to Saturday, 16 February at Llanymynech. As it was not possible to find a suitable cross country course so early in the year, this will be run under Arena Eventing conditions. If you would like to take part as a member of the DFRC team, please can you give your name to Peter Booth no later than 19 January.

### **Dressage Competitions**

The full schedule of dressage competitions is now available on the web site but the dates and tests are confirmed as follows :

Sunday 17 February : Intro A; P12; N27; E49 and M71  
Sunday 17 March : Intro B; P14; N28 ; E50 and M63

To enter, please use either HorseMonkey or contact Mary Bradbury to confirm a place and send a payment. As the organiser is not always present at the event, all entries have to be paid for in advance as it can be a problem if helpers also have to collect and forward the fees. These two competitions complete the Winter Dressage programme so please be aware that there will be a change of organiser for the Summer season.

The dates for the summer dressage are:

14 April

12 May

16 June

14 July

Once the tests which will be used are confirmed, details will be posted on the web site.

### **Combined Training**

This is an early diary date but we're pleased to confirm that the annual Combined Training competition will take place at Cheshire Riding School on Bank Holiday Monday, 6 May. Full details of heights, how to enter etc, will be posted on the web site in due course.

### **DFRC Horse Camp**

The now absolutely famous DFRC Horse Camp will be held over the weekend of Friday evening 31 May to Sunday 2 June at Somerford Park. Word of just how good the days are has meant that Cathy is currently being approached by non members wanting places. Obviously it's a weekend primarily for members and, as we don't want to disappoint any of you, if you are interested in taking one of the places, please can you contact Cathy London as soon as possible?

### **Hats / Body Protectors / Passports**

As you probably know, new regulations have been brought in to cover hats and body protectors. Details of the new codings are on the web site but if you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact Peter Booth.

If anyone wishes to take part in Area competitions, please can you make sure that Peter has up to date details of your horse's passport. Photocopies of the relevant pages from the passport can be forwarded to him on email.