



Delamere Forest Riding Club

A British Riding Club affiliated to the British Horse Society

NEWSLETTER

June 2019

Halfway through the year already Which just proves that "horse time" goes far more quickly than so called "real time". A lot of events have happened in this quarter and details are as follows:

PAST EVENTS:

Combined Training

The annual Combined Training competition took place at Cheshire Riding School on Bank Holiday Monday, 6 May. A good team of helpers turned out early that morning to set up the dressage and show jumping arenas for the 35 competitors. It was good to see riders taking advantage of the opportunity of competing outside as this year has been somewhat mixed weatherwise. The quieter atmosphere was also very conducive for horses having their first outings at a competitive level. DFRC members did well and results were as follows :

BE95/60cm

Wendy Burgess was 2nd

Susanne Leece was 3rd on a very game Honey who certainly had the backing of the crowd !

Pam McGuinness was 6th

Brent Sansom rode a really good dressage test and had a good sj round but was hc.

BE97/80cm

Catherine Moore was 3rd

Sam Sansom was 4th

Be108/90cm

Tor Cwiklinski was 3rd

Hunter Trial / Arena Event Sunday, 26 May

Weather conditions were a bit mixed on the 26th but that did not deter any of the enthusiastic riders at the Arena Event. Richard and Jane had designed and built an exceptionally good course that asked questions of both horse and rider. There were the usual Carruthers' additions of abundant foliage; flowers; picket fencing round a very attractive garden obstacle etc. It was not an easy course but fair one with one of the major problems being able to count the number of fences and navigate successfully round to take them in the correct order !! The slightly lower height classes were jumping both on the school arena and the grass bank round it. The larger heights went into the horse paddock and the xc field. The water tray was added in the latter class but did not seem to even merit a glance from the horses – though maybe they were more intrigued by the number and variety of obstacles in their path. As always, we were grateful to all our helpers both for help in setting up and on the day. We have been asked whether we could run another similar event later in the year. Given the time taken to arrange, take entries, find helpers etc, its maybe a little unlikely but "Never say never" Club members finished in good places as follows:

60cm

Cathy London was 1st

Wendy Burgess was 2nd

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Pam McGuinness was 4th
Brent Sansom was 5th

70cm

Kate Johnson on the wonderful Molly was 1st A real crowd pleaser !!
Susanne Leece was 2nd – another popular result

80cm

Janet Freeman was 3rd
Alison Arden was 4th
Karen Jackson was 6th

90cm

Catherine Moore and Sarah Healing were joint 2nd
Alison Arden was 4th

DFRC Horse Camp 2019

Another brilliant weekend : camp at Somerford Park was fabulous with great company, great food and drink and a chance to spend time with our horses!

The weather was cooler than last year and despite being threatened with wet weather we managed to stay mainly dry – a few spatters of rain didn't turn into the downpour experienced in other parts of the North West. That heat wave we were promised must have moved south...

We started off with a large waiting list however, due to a variety of reasons, all members were eventually accommodated and we welcomed a couple of non-members to make up a full camp of 26 horses and riders. Friends and family members are also welcome and many camped over and had their meals with us.

Top Nosh caterers provided the hot meals on Friday and Saturday evening with freshly baked, filled baguettes for lunch on both days. Breakfasts were cooked as usual by Brent and I – the only breakfast casualty was David Llewellyn's dog who reacted to the leftover sausages and deposited some little gifts on the landing carpet the next morning (I can report that all human campers were unaffected!) Brent's scrambled eggs are now legendary; made using fresh eggs from Stephanie Woodland's hens. Michelin starred indeed!

The trainers - David Llewellyn, Katie Holden and Sarah Johnson, provided a high standard of training and challenged all the riders whilst ensuring that everyone enjoyed their lessons and all horses and riders returned home safely!

Anna Revitt brought along her Theraplate for the weekend and horses and humans had taster sessions – some liked it better than others but generally the horses seem to enjoy the spa experience!

Somerford Park's camp facilities are superb and we have booked again for next year – Friday 29th May to Sunday 31st May 2020. All members are welcome to contact me and to put your names on the list early.

There are many lovely photos posted on Facebook but the star moment has to be
'What happened next?'



FUTURE EVENTS :

Dressage Competitions

The full schedule of dressage competitions is now available on the web site but the dates and tests are confirmed as follows : Please note that this is now the Summer Schedule so there is a change of organiser .

16 June - Intro B (2009); P13 (2006 rev 2016); N34 (2009 rev 2016); E49 (2009); M71 (2002)
Entries open 27 May

14 July - Intro C (2016); P18 (2002 rev 2016); N27 (2007); E50 (2007); M63 (2002)
Entries open 24 June

11 August - a new addition to the diary and tests are Intro A; P12; N28; E42 and M71
Entries open on 21 July

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To enter, please use either HorseMonkey or contact Sue Lea 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. Once the tests being used are confirmed, details will be posted on the web site.

Bolesworth International Horse Show

We are very pleased that we have two teams representing the Club at this year's Bolesworth Horse Show on Saturday, 15 June, taking part at 80cm and 90cm. Various team members took advantage of a show jumping lesson on the grass at Smallwood with Duncan Douglas in preparation for Bolesworth. All the horses were going really well at the end of the session. We would therefore like to wish the best of luck to our team members : Emma Billington, Georgie Critchley, Janet Freeman, Sarah Healing, Karen Jackson, Amanda Lyne, Catherine Moore and Jo Roper. For the early birds amongst you, if you are intending to go to Bolesworth, why not get there early and avoid the parking queue so that you can support the team who are competing in the Lake Arena at about 8.00am.

Area Horse Trials, 23 June

Teams have been entered for the Horse Trials on 23 June at Radford EC, Llanymynech (the Area 20 Horse Trials). No pressure ladies but we are really pleased to be represented by a very strong contingent and would like to wish everyone best of luck. The DFRC members taking part are :

Karen Jackson, Janet Freeman, Steph Woodland and Jo Roper – the 80cm team
Janet Freeman and Fiona Saxby – 80cm individuals
Alison Arden, Katie Holden, Sarah Healing and Georgie Critchley – the 90cm team
Nicola Mann and Emma Reading – 100cm individuals

Area Dressage 21 July

The Area dressage competition this year is to be held at Ty Ucha Fields, Caerwys, Mould, and is on Sunday 21st July. The preliminary entries have to be in by 30th of June.

There are some changes to the usual schedule this year: as usual there is a preliminary team event, where the four team members ride a different prelim. test and the three highest scores count. There is also an open competition, where three team members each ride a Novice test, and the fourth team member rides an Elementary. In addition this year there is an Intro. Competition, this is not a team competition and the test is Intro B. There is also the usual Medium and Advanced Medium competition for individual members. All tests are £17.50.

The standard is always high at area competitions and the general rule is that you would compete at one level lower in Area events than you usually do at a club competition. However this does not really work for those wanting to start out at Intro level, so I would suggest you have a word with me if you are not sure.

You will need to have an up to date flu vac and if you cannot provide a helper on the day, you must be willing to help at another area competition as we have to provide one helper per team or per three individuals. One final thing, please do consider that should you or your team be placed, you will be expected to compete at the finals which are held in September at Lincoln. If you are interested, or want to know more, please contact Mary Bradbury ASAP at marybradbury20@btinternet.com

Area Show Jumping 28 July

The Area Show Jumping will take place also at Caerwys on 27 July. If you would like to represent the Club in this team event, please can you contact Sue Griffiths by the end of June. Her email address is : susangriffiths@metronet.co.uk. The schedule should be available soon on the Area 20 web site <https://brc-area20.org.uk/>

Area Dressage to Music

The annual competition will take place on 18 August at Reaseheath College. If anyone would like to take part, the schedule will be posted on the Area 20 web site very soon (if not already there) and Steph Woodland will be taking entries.

One Day Event

This is early notification that the DFRC one day event will take place slightly earlier than usual. It is booked for Sunday, 1 September at Smallwood Equestrian Centre.

MISC

Vicky Lowe : we are very delighted that Vicky has passed her Instructor's exams and is now a BE accredited coach. Many congratulations.

As members of the Vicki Lowe appreciation society, we were also incredibly proud of her achievement in the Grassroots at Badminton. After the dressage and show jumping, she was in an amazing 3rd place when setting out on the cross country. Unfortunately a problem at the very last fence meant that she dropped out of the first ten but still maintained a place in the top twenty. A very positive result for Vicki and Ava who will now compete at the higher levels.

Mary Bradbury : Dressage competitors be warned there is a new Judge on the block !!! We are delighted to be able to tell you that Mary has passed her BD exams (no easy feat) and is now a List 6 Judge. Many congrats.

Helpers

As always we would like to thank everyone who has been helping at the events held so far this year. Without you, it would not be possible to stage any competitions at all, so you are all very much appreciated. As you can see from the above, we are putting on an extra dressage competition at Forest Gate farm in August. As a result, this was not included in the list sent out with membership forms so if anyone felt kind enough to give a hand on the 11th, we would be more than grateful. Please could you contact Cathy London to advise her that you are willing to help.

Intro Dressage Competition

Some members have queried the eligibility criteria for continuing to take part in the Intro dressage competitions. This matter was discussed in detail at the last Committee meeting and we will, with effect from the next AGM, amend the ruling for this introduction level event. Consequently, from the start of the winter season of competitions, points will be awarded to anyone finishing in first to sixth positions. These points accumulate and a trophy is awarded for the winter season rider with the highest number of points (similarly for the summer season). Following a trophy award to the winning horse and rider at the AGM, they will then be ineligible to compete at intro level in the next riding club year. However, if that rider does not want to progress to preliminary levels, they can continue to ride at intro level but in a non-competitive capacity.