



Delamere Forest Riding Club

A British Riding Club affiliated to the British Horse Society

NEWSLETTER

October 2018

All too quickly, the ODE has taken place and that always heralds the run up to the AGM. Its been a challenging year for riders weatherwise but, as always, you've risen to the challenge and competed, represented, supported and helped at all the various events and sessions that the Committee has arranged. A number of comments were heard at the ODE as regards how relaxed everyone was (despite our doing the swan imitation of paddling like mad under the water levels whilst sailing serenely onward !) and how friendly the club is – so thanks to everyone for continuing to make us a Club That's Nice to Know!

PAST EVENTS:

Area Show Jumping Team

It was good for the Club to be represented in the Area Show Jumping Competition on 22 July at Caerwys with a team of Caroline Brammer, Sarah Healing, Katherine Moore and Emma Billington. Against fierce competition from the other Area 20 Clubs, the team posted a superb result finishing in 5th place.

Dressage to Music

Once again, Clare Whitfield and Bob represented the Club at the Area Dressage to Music at Reaseheath. As always there is a lot of competition for places and we're so pleased to be able to report that Clare was 4th in this event.

One Day Event

We were pleased to be able to return to a dry Smallwood on Sunday 9 September after the rain fuelled event last year, although a team of brave volunteers did have to set up wearing suitable rain coats on Saturday afternoon. However the sun shone on Sunday on a full entry which commenced in the three dressage arenas. The show jumping course ensured that riders had to plan their turns as the drying ground had left a couple of greasy patches on the turns but there were no major issues. The cross country course was looking really good, with some new and challenging fences. Time proved to be testing, with a limited number of riders managing to get on or inside it. However, judging by the smiles from competitors (and horses) when they finished, all were enjoying the day. The Club was well represented with Amanda Keech, Kate Johnson and Rosie Ibbett in the Senior Beginners; Sue Lea, Catherine Moore, Jo Bateson and Sam Sansom in the Senior Novice; Emma Reading (3rd), Nicola Mann(4th) and Alison Arden in the Senior Intermediate. Emma and Nicola's results being especially impressive in a big field of riders. At the risk of becoming repetitive, a big thank you to all our members who were competing, supporting and (especially) helping to make this such a successful event in the Club year.

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Tile Farm Ride and Food

Our current year of events finished in style with the Farm Ride and Lunch that Alison Arden arranges at Tile Farm. As always, the event was popular, the weather wasn't too bad and around 43 riders took this opportunity to enjoy the scenery, ride and food at Guilden Sutton. The Tile Farm team did cakes and a raffle for Macmillan which raised over £200; then to show just how successful the afternoon had been, after costs they raised £302 from the ride – of which £152 is being sent to the Clatterbridge Cancer Centre and Alison has kindly given the remaining £150 to the Riding Club Charity. A lovely finale to the Club year and a big thank you to Alison and her team.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

A G M on Friday, 2 November at Crowton Village Hall

The AGM and Prize Giving will be run along similar lines to last year. The hall will open at 7.00pm for a **7.30pm** start. Food will be provided but please can you bring your own drinks (and glasses). There will also be a second hand tack table if anyone wants to bring things along for sale (... or purchase !). There will not be any charge for Club members. Members' family and friends are more than welcome, however we would be grateful if they would pay £5 towards the cost of the meal. Please can you confirm whether you would like to attend by email to Peter Booth.

Trophies If anyone still has a trophy from our 2017/8 season, please could you get it back to Steph Woodland (or any other member of the Committee) as soon as possible.

Photos As anyone who has been to one of our AGMs in the past will know, we try and run a slide show of photographs that have been taken during the year. To comply with data protection restrictions, if anyone would prefer their photograph not to be shown, please can you contact Holly Llewellyn.

Jump Training at Forest Gate on 28 October

This event is now a popular fixture in the DFRC calendar. For anyone new to the Club, the format is for a rider and horse to jump a course of fences, Richard Carruthers then gives a critique of the round and expert tuition as to how the round could be improved. Then, once all the pearls of wisdom are absorbed by the rider, the team has to opportunity to put them into practice by jumping a near perfect second round. That's definitely the theory. It is always an informative, fun event popular with both riders and spectators. Full details and an entry form are on the web site but the fence heights will be Starter 50cm with poles only; Beginners 60cm; Novice 75cm; Intermediate 90cm and Open 1m+. Cost to DFRC members is £14 per horse.

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, 21 October (please be aware that this competition will be run in the morning) : Intro A; P1; N24; E50 and M63

Sunday 18 November Intro B; P2; N34 (revised); E42 and M71

Sunday 9 December Intro C; P13; N30; E44 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.

Christmas Show Jumping with Richard Carruthers

The always fun Christmas Show Jumping with Richard (and hopefully mulled wine) will take place at Forest Gate Farm on Friday, 28 December. Full details will appear soon on the web site but this is prior notice so that you can all start thinking of a stunning fancy dress outfit for rider, horse or both.

Show Jump and XC Training

The Committee is looking to arrange some training over the Autumn/Winter season but details have yet to be finalised. As soon as something is in place, details will be on the web site.

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FOTH QUALIFIERS

Its really appreciated that members are volunteering to represent the Club at the various qualifiers that Area is running. We'd like to wish the following members best of luck in the competitions :

FOTH Challenge on 13 October – Caroline Brammer, Sue Pemberton, Georgie Critchley and Sarah Healing.

FOTH Combined Training on 13 October – Steph Woodland, Sarah Healing, Sam Sansom, Emma Billington and Jo Bateson

FOTH Arena Eventing on 27/28 October – Emma Reading, Alison Arden, Sarah Healing, Caroline Brammer, Emma Billington, Kate Johnson and Louisa Brammer.

Dressage on 3 November – Brent Sansom, Kevin Groom, Vicky Lowe and Elaine Reading. Apologies for omitting names of the second team but best of luck to all.

Charity

As you know, we give the proceeds of the tea/coffee tin to a charity. This year, we have sponsored the ponies used at New Barn for RDA. One proposal for the 2018/9 year, is that we make a donation to The Clwyd Special Riding Centre . If anyone has another cause they would like us to consider, please don't hesitate to mention it as nothing has been fully decided yet.

Membership of DFRC

As you may or not be aware, the Club year starts on 1 October so please can we ask that memberships are renewed or lodged as soon as possible . New membership numbers are given each year which reflect the numerical date of the year and this reference is lodged with HorseMonkey so that they can recognise members and either allocate the reduced members' entry fee rate or allow early entry if there is a restriction on non members (eg the dressage). As entries are open for the dressage on 1 October, we will run both the 2017/2018 references against this event but after that, the 2018/2019 reference will be the only one accepted by HM. Hopefully this is clear but if anyone has any queries, please don't hesitate to contact one of the committee.

Unfortunately It has not proved possible to set up a HorseMonkey link to accept membership renewals / requests because of issues over data protection. We are looking into both this link and also assessing whether it would be more beneficial to the club if we looked for an alternative supplier to HorseMonkey. Its in early stages of assessment but we'll obviously keep you advised if any changes are to be made.

Committee

The current Committee members have been press-ganged into offering to stand for the 2018/9 year. If anyone would like to join the Committee, there will always be a warm welcome. The meetings take place approximately every 5-6 weeks (depending on the level of organisation needed at various times of the year). Please forward your name to a member of the Committee.

Members' Achievements

And finally we would like to say a big well done to all our members who have gone out this year to compete at British Eventing, British Dressage, British Showjumping and even side saddle at the Grand National Meeting at Aintree. Some excellent competitive results have been posted and we look forward to seeing this trend continue in 2019 No pressure !!!

