



# MHRC NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2016



## MUSIC TO OUR EARS



Steph and Freckles having a go at Interdressage, with great results

It was standing room only at the first Horseless Clinic of 2016 on 7<sup>th</sup> January. The speaker was Steph Woolley, who has been a member of MHRC for over 10 years, and who last year was Novice (No Points) Dressage to Music Champion at the BRC finals. Despite

always a self-proclaimed 'jumping' child. However, watching Jane Bartle-Wilson riding Pinocchio at Goodward, to nursery rhyme inspired music, made her want to have a go too. Andreas Helgstrand on the great Blue Hors Matine was also a huge inspiration and she recommends everyone tracks down the video of their Freestyle test at WEG 2006 to see just what is possible on a dancing horse. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKQgTiqhPbw>) And then, of course, everyone's seen Charlotte and Valegro wow crowds at the Olympics and beyond.

After this brief introduction, Steph then showed the video that BRC had put together from the championships, showing clips of horses contending all classes from Novice to Advanced Medium, and the Pairs class. As well as showing a brief clip of Steph herself, this video was the perfect way to highlight just what varied horses, riders, floor plans and music

proclaiming that she is far from being an expert, Steph took the audience through the steps she went through on her journey to the championship.

Steph rode from an early age, but was

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## EDITOR'S BIT

I hate this time of year - head cold season! Why is it that as a rider, I'm used to getting on with life with the normal aches, pains and bruises from time spent in the saddle, yet somehow a cold feels ten times worse! And why is it my horse knows! With me having the lung capacity of a sparrow and having to stop every few seconds to shove a tissue up my nose, he managed to evade me in the field for a good twenty minutes and not once broke out of a jog trot - gotta love 'em!

Anyway, signs of spring are appearing, so it won't be long until the show season starts in earnest. To confirm, the next Area competition is the Intermediate Dressage on 13th March and if you haven't yet put your name down, please do contact Chris ASAP. For anyone competing at Mercian level, the competitions start in April this year. If not accompanying this edition, then then an updated list of events will be sent out to you soon.

And just to let you know, plans for our May Bank Holiday Big Weekend are already under way!

*until next time, Caroline*

## MUSIC TO OUR EARS ... cont...

*(Continued from page 1)*

can succeed at this level.

Then it was time for a more in depth look at the different aspects of entering DTM. Some of which are picked out below.

First, the **rules** – the length of the test depends on the level you're competing at, and is timed from the first halt to the last halt, and penalties are awarded if you are under or over time. You have to be a music member of British Dressage, which costs £30 per year, but covers all the licensing issues involved with you copying and playing music in public. Although the test you qualify with should essentially be the same at the championships, you are allowed to 'tweak' and this will become a huge part of your DTM journey.

A test is given two **scores** – a mark for the technical dressage movements and one for artistic interpretation. Each level has a list of compulsory movements and you would be penalised for not doing one of these. Likewise, marks are deducted if you do a prohibited movement (anything that would appear in a dressage test at a higher level than the one you are competing at).

The **floor plan** is up to you to design and although it must include the compulsory movements, you can tailor it to show off your horse's strengths ... and hide its weaknesses. You need to be interesting and as original as possible, but the judge needs to be able to clearly see what you are trying to achieve. However, you are the only one who knows where you are going, so errors of course can be hidden with some quick thinking. To get the best possible results, you need to ride your floor plan, time it, film it, then review and tweak where necessary, until everything fits together.

The **music** can be anything you want and needs to be something you like – you'll be listening to it a lot! However, you also need to remember that the judge probably needs to like it too, so something too avant-garde might not be the way to go. The music must fit the horse's paces and not the other way round – you shouldn't be trying to adjust your horse to match a piece of music you particularly like. At the end of the day, you need to remember that the aim is to be doing **dressage to music** – use phrases and changes in the music to change pace, direction or movement, rather than just riding your test while some music plays in the background. Music can be put together by professional companies, but this will cost. However, there are free software packages that will do the job for anyone with a bit of computer savvy and some patience.

After a short break for chips and a chat, Steph then showed her winning Novice qualifier test and the Elementary test, where she was placed 4th. The audience was then invited to discuss what they saw, make suggestions and try to spot the errors – everyone agreed that the handbrake turn at the end was the perfect example of what could happen when you got behind your music! Then everyone watched Steph's winning Championship test, which as well as being brilliant, also showed how the floor plan had evolved between the two competitions.

Steph finished off by describing her championship experience and the wonderful prizes she received, including a visit to Natasha Baker's yard. She also encouraged everyone to have a go.

In 2016, there will once again be a Mercian DTM competition, which goes from Intro to Elementary level, with teams consisting of three members, each doing an Intro, a Prelim and a Novice. The Area Qualifier is for Novice up to Advanced Medium individuals, with a Prelim pairs, and is for Junior and Senior members. Keep an eye out in upcoming newsletters and e-mails for more details.

# NEWS AND UPDATES FROM HEADQUARTERS

## 2016 RULEBOOK

The 2016 British Riding Club Rulebook is now available and is essential to have on hand if you want to compete at Area level this year. MHRC has copies for reference or you can download a copy for free at <http://www.bhs.org.uk/enjoy-riding/british-riding-clubs/brc-rulebook>

## HAT STANDARDS

Please also remember that the new hat rules come into force this year. If attending an area qualifier, you will need to take your hat to the attending officials to have it tagged with the new purple BRC tag. If you are unsure whether your hat meets the new guidelines, please check out the information on the same link as above.

## STYLE JUMPING AND RIDING TEST LEAGUES

British Riding Clubs have introduced a new initiative for 2016 for anyone who enjoys competing in Style Jumping and BRC Riding Test competitions. Now,

every time you compete, you will earn points in the new National League, with rosettes, trophies and training sessions with top coaches for the winners.

If you've never heard of either competition, then you check out more on the BRC website. Style jumping is like dressage over jumps, with a judge marking the rider out of 10 as they complete a simplified course plus show a canter on either rein at the end. While Riding Tests are just like a Dressage test, but the emphasis is more on how the rider sits and applies the aids, rather than on the way the horse goes.

To compete in the league, you can enter any 75cm or 85cm Style jumping competition, or any Prelim or Novice Riding test. This can be at club shows, area qualifiers or at BRC championships. You download

*(Continued on page 4)*

# INTERDRESSAGE ROUND UP

Results of December competition:

**Class 1a (Adult): Walk and Trot Freestyle Restricted**

9<sup>th</sup> Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe = 71.14%

**Class 3a (Adult): Starter Freestyle Restricted**

1<sup>st</sup> (and Best Fancy Dress) Anne Price and Half a Guinness = 75.19%

**Class 3b (Adult): Starter Freestyle Open**

1<sup>st</sup> Katherine Jones and Redbackcappuchino = 73.65%

**Class 4a (Adult): Pairs Test B**

1<sup>st</sup> (and Best Fancy Dress) Lin Harber and Toby & Anne Price and Half a Guinness = 80.00%

4<sup>th</sup> Sue Lidbetter and Rosie & Sara Stephenson and Suzy = 74.76%

The 2015 Interdressage Leagues came to an end in December and despite MHRC only showing our faces for a few competitions, Anne Price finished in joint 40<sup>th</sup> place, Kat Jones in joint 87<sup>th</sup>, Lin Harber in joint 104<sup>th</sup>, Sara Stephenson and Sue Lidbetter in joint 168<sup>th</sup> and Caroline Bates in joint 200<sup>th</sup> – not bad for an international league with over 300 participants!

Results of the January competition:

**Class 1a (Junior) Walk and Trot Restricted**

7<sup>th</sup> Sophie Bowness and Thistledown Vanilla Pod

= 63.16%

**Class 1b (Adult)**

**Walk and Trot Intermediate**

5<sup>th</sup> Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe = 72.37%

**Class 2b (Adult)**

**Dressage Development**

3<sup>rd</sup> Victoria Gregg and Lucky = 73.50%

5<sup>th</sup> Lin Harber and Toby = 71.83%

7<sup>th</sup> Niki Padbury and Fern = 70.33%

9<sup>th</sup> Sue Lidbetter and Rosie = 68.67%

**Class 3a (Adult) BRC Prelim D2**

1<sup>st</sup> Anne Price and Half a Guinness = 73.40%

4<sup>th</sup> Wendy Yates and Sofia = 70.60%

15<sup>th</sup> Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe = 67.60%

**Class 4a (Adult) Intermediate Test**

1<sup>st</sup> Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador = 76.67%



Junior Member Sophie Bowness and Victoria Gregg

For the latest club news see [www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk) or check out our **Facebook** page

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## PEPPER POT POINTS LEAGUE

After Jan InterDressage

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Anne Price	255
2nd	Steph Woolley	110
3rd	Jodie Powell	100
4th	Anna Millington	85
5th	Caroline Bates	80
	Lin Harber	80
7th	Julie Jeffes	75
	Sarah Bowness	75
9th	Sara Stephenson	70
10th	Deborah Lennard	65
	Victoria Gregg	65
12th	Sophie Hooper	55
13th	Kat Jones	50
14th	Camilla Esling	45
	Elizabeth Wise	45
	Tina Price	45
17th	Chris Esling	40
	Lauran Jones	40
	Will Milde	40
20th	Sue Peckham	35
21st	Emma Horton-Smith	30
22nd	Suzanne Lidbetter	30
23rd	Wendy Yates	20
24th	Anna Robson	5
	Helen Robson	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rachel Kilmister	5
	Sophie Bowness	5

## HORSELESS CLINICS 2016

### 15th March = My Olympic Journey with Eventer Vittoria Panizzon

A look at the rider's journey to the London Olympics and her plans for the future. £5 per person, Hunter's Inn, Longdon. Chip supper provided.

7:30 arrival for prompt 8:00 start.

## NEWS AND UPDATES FROM HEADQUARTERS

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an entry card from the BRC website and get the secretary of the show to sign confirmation of how well you did. The league ends on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, so you just need to post back the form to HQ by 14<sup>th</sup> January and wait to hear the results.

You can read the rules or download your competition card at <http://www.bhs.org.uk/enjoy-riding/british-riding-clubs/brc-assessments-and-training/brc-points-league> or e-mail mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk.

## INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE 2015/2016

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Cherwell Valley RC	259
2nd	Crown RC	197
3rd	Cumbria RC	136
4th	Malvern Hills RC	91
5th	Solent RC	40
6th	Atherstone and District RC	39

## INTERDRESSAGE WINTER LEAGUE 2015/2016

After December Competition

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Corner House (USA)	255
8th	Malvern Hills	90

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk or by check out the individual club websites for a copy. More details can be found on your Competition Guide.

### February 2016

- 4th Gymnastic Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 11th Gymnastic Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 14th Fun Team Show Jumping, Kings Equestrian (Wyre Forest Pony Club) **(S)**
- 18th Gymnastic Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 25th Gymnastic Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 28th Showing Clinic / Talent Spotting, Gracelands, Worcs (The Showing Register)

### March 2016

- 13th Area Intermediate Dressage, Lincomb Equestrian (Bromyard RC) **(S)**
- 15th Horseless Clinic, Hunters Inn, Longdon

## MERCIAN LEAGUE

The 2016 competition starts in April this year - keep an eye on the calendar for more details.





# MHRC NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2016



## Into Interdressage



Our InterDressage entries increased this month to an excellent 12 - the most we've ever had enter the monthly internet based competition. Although not confirmed at time of press, the excellent results below mean that we have moved up to 3rd place in the BRC

league.



### **Class 1a: Walk and Trot D Restricted**

9th Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie (69.32%)

18th Suzanne Lidbetter and Midnight Express (62.27%)

### **Class 2a: Walk and Trot D Open**

4th Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe (73.64%)

### **Class 2b: Walk, Trot and Canter**

1st Wendy Yates and Sofia (76.84%)

### **Class 3a: BRC D1 Restricted**

7th Danielle Lyons and Harry (70.00%)

9th Lin Harber and Toby (68.50%)

18th Sara Stephenson and Suzy

(64.25%)

### **Class 3b: BRC D1 Open**

5th Wendy Yates and Bella (67.50%)

6th Katherine Jones and Redback Cap-puchino (66.50%)

### **Class 4a: Starter Plus B / Intermediate Test 6**

1st Anne Price and Half a Guinness (76.05%)

3rd Steph Wolley and Freckleton Matador (73.42%)

10th Katherine Jones and Redback Cap-puchino (64.05%)

The BRC league ends after the April competition, so lets see if we can bump up those points even more. There are two filming days booked on the 20th March and 10th April at Hillview Arena (from 10 onwards), so if you'd like to have a go, please contact Caroline to book a place. Schedules and tests can be found at Interdressage.com.

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## EDITOR'S BIT

Only a short newsletter this month, but it's been a quiet one for the club. Although, with all the gymnastic jumping sessions being added to accommodate everyone who wanted to take part, it hadn't been that quiet for some! A huge thank you to Plum Gregg for the excellent sessions, and to Julie Jeffes for the patience in organizing them. Clinics will be taking a short break and then starting up again after Easter, so keep an eye on Facebook and e-mails for more details.

Plans for our Big Weekend in May are now well and truly underway—schedules will be circulated soon, but I hope you've all marked 28th to 30th May in the diary as BUSY! As you know, it takes a huge amount of manpower to put on the two day show, so we'll be looking for help as the time approaches—not long now!

*until next time, Caroline*

For the latest club news see [www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk) or check out our Facebook page

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## PEPPER POT POINTS LEAGUE

After Feb InterDressage

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Anne Price	295
2nd	Steph Woolley	140
3rd	Caroline Bates	105
4th	Jodie Powell	100
5th	Anna Millington	85
	Lin Harber	85
7th	Wendy Yates	80
8th	Julie Jeffes	75
	Sara Stephenson	75
	Sarah Bowness	75
11th	Kat Jones	70
12th	Deborah Lennard	65
	Victoria Gregg	65
14th	Sophie Hooper	55
15th	Camilla Esling	45
	Elizabeth Wise	45
	Tina Price	45
18th	Chris Esling	40
	Lauran Jones	40
	Suzanne Lidbetter	40
	Will Milde	40
22nd	Sue Peckham	35
23rd	Emma Horton-Smith	30
24th	Anna Robson	5
	Danielle Lyons	5
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	Niki Padbury	5
	Rachel Kilmister	5
	Sophie Bowness	5

## HORSELESS CLINICS 2016

### 15th March = My Olympic Journey with Eventer Vittoria Panizzon

A look at the rider's journey to the London Olympics and her plans for the future. £5 per person, Hunter's Inn, Longdon. Chip supper provided.

7:30 arrival for prompt 8:00 start.



I am looking for a temporary loan for Buster, in the run up to my wedding in June and for whilst I am on my honeymoon into July. Flexible on a share for before and afterwards. 16.2/3hh Irish Sports Horse, 15 this summer. Will suit a student back in Malvern for the summer. Currently stabled in Madresfield with great hacking although no menage. Will consider him moving temporarily to a family yard if appropriate. Financial contribution etc all negotiable.

He is a fab riding club horse but not a cuddly pony. Does a good Novice dressage test and is a fun jump, although he makes you work for both! Hacks alone or in company but a more pleasant hack with others. Can be spooky and stubborn so not for a novice. Not confident xc. Must be an experienced horse owner known locally (for good reasons!) Contact Stef Fulford on 07530 268 426 or stef\_fulford@hotmail.com



## INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE 2015/2016

After January Competition

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Cherwell Valley RC	353
2nd	Crown RC	238
3rd	Cumbria RC	165
4th	Malvern Hills RC	158
5th	Solent RC	76
6th	Atherstone and District RC	48

## INTERDRESSAGE WINTER LEAGUE 2015/2016

After January Competition

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Irish Rovers (Ireland)	363
7th	Malvern Hills	147

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail [mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) or by check out the individual club websites for a copy. More details can be found on your Competition Guide.

### March 2016

- 13th Area Intermediate Dressage, Lincomb Equestrian (Bromyard RC) **(S)**
- 15th Horseless Clinic, Hunters Inn, Longdon (MHRC)
- 20th InterDressage Filming, Hillview Arena, Malvern (MHRC)

### April 2016

- 9-10th Novice Winter Championships, The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe (BRC)
- 10th InterDressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern (MHRC)
- 17th Fun Team Show Jumping, Hartpury (Ledbury Pony Club)
- 23rd Mercian Spring Hunter Trial, New Hunt Farm, Glos. (Cheltenham RC)
- 24th Area Eventer Challenge, Swalcliffe Park (Crophorne RC)
- 30th Intermediate Winter Championships, Bury Farm Equestrian, Slapton (BRC)

## MERCIAN LEAGUE

The 2016 competition starts in April this year - keep an eye on the calendar for more details.





# MHRC NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2016



## BEHIND THE SCENES



Above: Tori at London 2012

On the 15th March, the club hosted the last Horseless Clinic of Winter 2016 at the Hunter's Inn, Longdon. The guest speaker was Event Rider

Vittoria Pannizon, who talked about what goes on behind the scenes in a Olympic Eventer's life.

Tori has been lucky enough to represent Italy from Ponies and Juniors, and now into her Senior career. She represents the Italian Air Force, which has a strong history of sponsoring and backing a number of people across a huge variety of

sports, and means that she is able to compete in uniform. And Navy is a much more suitable colour for competing in!

Tori then went on to show the audience an impressive number of behind the scenes photos from both the Beijing and the London Olympics. As the press were not allowed the same sort of access as the riders, it was interesting to see what the accommodation, stabling and general facilities were like. There were also photos from throughout Tori's career and of her new love, her brand new farm and stables at Redmarley, where the greatest asset is the hills. Although I think most of the audience would agree that we were more impressed by the log burner in the tack room.

Tori's philosophy is that all horses still

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## EDITOR'S BIT

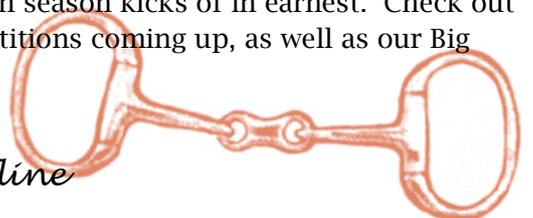
Another favourite time of year ... finally being able to wear short sleeved tops up the yard, even if you do shortly get covered in a layer of discarded hair like a woolly jumper. Having to put fly repellent on horses to stop the midges, yet rugging up to keep them dry. That careful scrutinising of the grass situation to see if it's time to start strip grazing or are they still a bit on the hungry side! Oh, choices, choices! And guaranteed to be wrong whatever I do!

But at least the clocks have changed and it's finally light enough after work to ride and not have to rely on a dying head torch to get through those evening chores (why can I never remember to buy spare batteries?). I don't know about you, but I always feel everything is so much easier when I can see what I'm doing!

And of course, the competition season kicks off in earnest. Check out page 3 for all the team competitions coming up, as well as our Big Weekend - only 8 weeks away!

Exciting .....

*until next time, Caroline*



# LINCOMB LADIES .... AREA DRESSAGE REPORT



Above: New Member Becky Gibbs



Above: Camilla and Jake

It was a dry and sunny, if chilly, day on 13<sup>th</sup> March as our two teams travelled up to Lincomb Equestrian centre for the first BRC qualifier of the year – the Intermediate Dressage championship. This was a new competition introduced by BRC for the winter season, with team and individual qualifiers for the new Intermediate Winter Championships being held later on in the year.

For the team competition, each member rode a different test – BRC D3, BRC D10, BD Novice 30 or BD Elementary 44, with the top three class places used to calculate the winning teams. And with so many teams in the running, it meant that both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place qualified for the championships.

MHRC had two teams entered, but, horses being horses, a sudden lameness brought about panic stations as everything had to be re-jigged the day before the competition. A huge thank you to Camilla and Kat, who effectively moved up a level

so that two full teams could be fielded on the day.

It was a busy day of competition and most of the horses seemed to be feeling the effects of the early spring grass, with some impressive airs above the ground being displayed by more than one club. One of our own horses also showed a remarkable turn of speed on having decided that she'd stood around enough chatting and was going back to the lorry – although nearly mowing down your faithful club photographer is just asking for trouble!

At the end of the day, there were no team places for MHRC, although the Malvern Hills Marvels ended up in a very respectable 10<sup>th</sup> place. Our new member, Becky Gibbs, was the proud recipient of our only rosette of the day, a 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Elementary 44 competition. The overall winners of the day were a team from Worcester RC, with a Cheltenham RC team in second place, and both of them will be off to the Championships at the end of April.

Right: Julie and Ash



## ROLL CALL

### MALVERN HILLS MONKEYS

BRC D10	Liz Wise	Blue Suede Shoes	18 <sup>th</sup>	59.4%
BRC D3	Leanne Bennet	Curra Pokey Jo	11 <sup>th</sup>	64.6%
NOV 30	Katherine Jones	Redback Cappuchino	18 <sup>th</sup>	53.5%
ELEM 44	Camilla Esling	Just Jake VII	16 <sup>th</sup>	63.2%

### MALVERN HILLS MARVELS = 10th

BRC D10	Jodie Powell	Bleanagloos Black Diamond	14 <sup>th</sup>	62.5%
BRC D3	Sarah Bowness	Our Bawn Lodger	14 <sup>th</sup>	62.0%
NOV 30	Julie Jeffes	Hederfield Ash	7 <sup>th</sup>	66.2%
ELEM 44	Becky Gibbs	Missile Express	5 <sup>th</sup>	66.0%

## TEAM CALL UP - APRIL / MAY

The competition season is really starting to hot up, so if you fancy representing MHRC at a team event, check out the next few opportunities!

### Mercian Hunter Trial

23rd April @ New Hunt Farm, nr Newent. Senior teams at 2'3 and 2'6. Schedule available.

### Area Eventer Challenge Qualifier

24th April @ Swalcliffe Equestrian, Junior and Senior Teams and Individuals - 90cm and 100cm. Junior and Senior Pairs - 90cm. Schedule available.

### Area Combined Training Qualifier

8th May @ Dodderhill Equestrian, Dodderhill. Junior and Senior Teams - two members to ride Prelim test/75cm and two to ride Novice test/85cm. Open to individuals as well.

### Mercian Dressage to Music

21st May @ Kings Equestrian, Bromyard.

Teams of three, one to do Intro, one Prelim and one Novice. Schedule available.

### Area Show and Style Jumping Qualifier

29th May nr Three Counties Showground, Malvern. Senior and Junior teams and Individuals Show Jumping - 85cm, 95cm and 105cm. Style Jumping - two teams members to jump 75cm and two members 85cm - also open to individuals.

### Mercian Showing

30th May nr Three Counties Showground, Malvern. Senior teams only - 4 per team, one each to enter Riding Club Horse, Veteran Horse, Coloured Horse and Working Hunter.

E-mail [mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) for schedules. Contact Jodie Powell if you'd be interested in the Mercian competitions or Chris Esling for Area Qualifiers (details on back page).

## INTERDRESSAGE ROUND UP

With only two months to go in the BRC Interdressage league, there were another keen bunch of entrants filming their this month and it was nice to see some new faces. Well done everyone.

### MARCH RESULTS

#### Class 2b: Walk, Trot and Canter Entry Level B

4th	Lin Harber and Toby	72.22%
5th	Sue Lidbetter and Midnight Express	68.89%
6th	Sue Lidbetter and Rosie	68.06%

#### Class 3a: BRC Preliminary Dressage Test D10 Restricted

3rd	Sara Stephenson and Suzy	69.79%
8th	Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Smokey Joe	67.71%
9th	Stef Fulford and Buster	67.08%

#### Class 3b: BRC Preliminary Dressage Test D10 Open

6th	Anne Price and Half a Guinness	68.75%
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#### Class 4a: Pick a Test - Intermediate 7 / Intermediate Plus C

1st	Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador	70.21%
3rd	Katherine Jones and Redbackcappuchino	67.73%

For the current league places, please see page 4.

Photos: Top - Stef and Buster. Middle - Sue and Midnight.  
Bottom - Steph and Freckles



For the latest club news see [www.malvernhillsideingclub.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillsideingclub.co.uk) or check out our Facebook page

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Chris Esling	(Area Teams)	chrisesling@yahoo.co.uk	07896 563 509
Linda Kemp	(Area Teams)	al_kemp@outlook.com	07727 826 336
Caroline Bates	(Club Secretary & Newsletter)	mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk	07900 376 272
7 Newton Close, Deer Park, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2XG			
Iris Ellis	(Membership Secretary)		01905 821 034
Gorse Cottage, Stonehall Common, Kempsey, Worcestershire, WR5 3QG			
Julie Jeffes	(Clinics and Training)	julie.jeffes@bluecross.org.uk	07769 671 969
Clare Chapman	(Treasurer)	clare_chapman79@hotmail.co.uk	07814 034 702
Sophie Hooper	(Welfare Officer / Junior Co-ordinator)	sophie@hillview.myzen.co.uk	07968 172 440
Jodie Powell	(Mercian Teams)	jodielouisepowell@yahoo.co.uk	07854 876 270
Camilla Esling	(Passport Guru /Social Media)	camillaesling@gmail.com	07875 364 658
Emma Cooper	(Website)	emmamorris42@hotmail.com	

## PEPPER POT POINTS LEAGUE

After March Interdressage

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Anne Price	310
2nd	Steph Woolley	180
3rd	Lin Harber	110
4th	Caroline Bates	105
	Jodie Powell	105
	Kat Jones	105
	Sara Stephenson	105
8th	Anna Millington	85
	Julie Jeffes	85
10th	Sarah Bowness	80
	Wendy Yates	80
12th	Suzanne Lidbetter	75
13th	Deborah Lennard	65
	Victoria Gregg	65
15th	Sophie Hooper	55
16th	Camilla Esling	50
	Elizabeth Wise	50
18th	Tina Price	45
19th	Chris Esling	40
	Lauran Jones	40
	Will Milde	40
22nd	Sue Peckham	35
23rd	Emma Horton-Smith	30
24th	Becky Gibbs	20
25th	Anna Robson	5
	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Leanne Bennett	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rachel Kilmister	5
	Sophie Bowness	5
	Stefania Fulford	5

## BEHIND THE SCENES

(Continued from page 1)

need a horse life and all hers live out as much as possible. They also hunt and hack, and the youngsters are taught to jump anything and everything that they might come across – a photo showing a horse jumping a thin branch sticking out from a tree limb proved that.

The session ended up with some questions from the floor and then an informal chat round the plates of chips!

The Horseless Clinics will return in the Autumn ... if you have something you'd particularly like us to cover, or if you know of someone that may be prepared to do a little talk for us, then please contact Karen Withers (details above).

ARE YOU GETTING THIS NEWS-  
LETTER BY POST?

IF YOU HAVE AN E-MAIL AD-  
DRESS, WE CAN SEND IT TO YOU  
ELECTRONICALLY INSTEAD.  
HELP SAVE THE CLUB MONEY,  
PLUS YOU'LL GET ALL TEAM  
SCHEDULES, CLUB SCHEDULES,  
BRC NEWS AND OTHER UP-  
DATES FIRST.

PLEASE E-MAIL  
mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk  
to swap mailing lists.

THANKS

## INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE 2015/2016

After February Competition

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Cherwell Valley RC	461
2nd	Crown RC	289
3rd	Malvern Hills RC	232
4th	Cumbria RC	191
5th	Solent RC	118
6th	Atherstone and District RC	44

## INTERDRESSAGE WINTER LEAGUE 2015/2016

After February Competition

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Irish Rovers (Ireland)	450
7th	Malvern Hills RC	208

## MERCIAN LEAGUE

The 2016 competition starts in April this year - keep an eye on the calendar for more details.



## COMING UP ....

Any events with a (S) at the end have schedules available. E-mail mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk or by check out the individual club websites for a copy. More details can be found on your Competition Guide.

### April 2016

- 9-10th Novice Winter Championships, The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe (BRC)
- 10th Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 17th Fun Team Show Jumping, Hartpury (Ledbury Pony Club)
- 23rd Mercian Hunter Trial, New Hunt Farm, Nr. Newent (Cheltenham RC) (S)
- 24th Area Eventer Challenge, Swalcliffe Park (Crophorne RC) (S)
- 30th Intermediate Winter Championships, Bury Farm Equestrian, Slapton (BRC)

### May 2016

- 1st Intermediate Winter Championships Bury Farm Equestrian, Slapton
- 8th Area Combined Training, Dodderhill Equestrian (Worcs RC)
- 29th Area Show & Style Jumping, Three Counties, Malvern (MHRC)
- 30th Mercian Showing & Open Show, Three Counties, Malvern (MHRC)



# MHRC NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2016

## TEAM TRIUMPHS AT SWALCLIFFE

It was fantastic news from the Area 18 Eventer Challenge qualifier on the 24th April, when the 90cm team beat all the competition. And are off to the Festival of the Horse Championships in June to contend the National title. Well done Ladies!

The team was Alex Riches on Mister Darcy (who also won the individual title), Anna Millington on Senderos, Jodie Powell on Just Jake VII and Leanne Bennett on Curra Pokey Joe

Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador stepped in last minute to take up our individual place in the 100cm class, and came 9th overall. We also had a senior pair go round, Anna and Jodie, who also brought back a 5th place for the club.

Also a huge thank you to Emma Monahan, Nicky Esling (and partner Ed), Chris Esling and Lin Harber, who volunteered on behalf of the club and without who the competition wouldn't have gone ahead.

Team Manager Chris said "Our team did us

proud by winning, as the show jumping in particular caused a lot of problems, especially when the odd shower made the ground slippery. Lots of horses on their toes as some were having their first outing on grass, so a few empty saddles throughout the day. Alex thought she was going to be one of them as her horse bucked his way round the warm up! Alex and Leanne went double clear, Anna and Jodie both rolled a pole. But they all steamed round the X country. I was very proud of my 21 year old Jake going round twice and still pulling Jodie's arms out! We also had a big thank you from the organisers for providing so many helpers. Nick, Ed and Emma were

*(Continued on page 3)*



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Team Triumphs at Swalcliffe, cont.	3
Brilliant Start to the Mercian Season	3
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## EDITOR'S BIT

I'm sure I'm not the only one who gets a bit jealous every time I see the Lloyds bank advert - no, not the current one with the horse cantering through the hospital - I think Smokey barging in to say hello while I'm on my sick bed might just finish me off! No, it was previous one showing a horse and rider galloping along a wooded path to a rousing soundtrack. Because I'm jealous that our woods don't look like that! For a start there's no overhanging branches to duck under, smack you in the face or get catapulted into when your horse spots a squirrel! There's no sudden boggy patch that until the last second even your horse doesn't know if he's going to stop and gingerly mince across, leap it as if it was actually the Vicarage Vee, or merrily plough straight through. And no Forester's having their lunch just far enough off the path that they could possibly be about to launch an attach. As you might have guessed, it's been a fun-filled spring so far.

On a different note, it's now less than a month until our Big Weekend. As you know, this takes a huge amount of work to put on and provides nearly all our funds for the rest of the year, so we will be looking for lots of volunteers to help set-up, be around on Sunday and Monday to run the competitions and then help tidy away Monday night. If you haven't done so already, please contact me to confirm what you'd like to do to help....

*until next time, Caroline*

# BRITISH RIDING CLUB NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS



Back in November, our Novice Show Jumping team won the qualifier at Kings Equestrian Centre in fine style, so at the beginning of the month, off they went Keysoe Equestrian Centre to compete for the National title. Unfortunately, Deborah Lennard was unable to go as her horse, Billy, was lame, but new member Leanne Bennett stepped in to make sure we fielded a full team, along with Julie Jeffes, Anna Millington and Liz Wise. A huge well done from the whole club for a job well done - here's their stories of the day.

Anna Millington "It wasn't a bad venue and the layout was great, but the arena was on the small side for a big horse, but Simba coped well. I had an early start - 4:45am and had to

jump two rounds of show jumps, which was quite big and technical for a Novice track. The best bit of the day was the team spirit and the fact that me and Simba have got this far (with thanks to Stella Bunn), as we have had our ups and downs for a while. There was some good competition, but I have a thing about turnout, and for a championships, a lot of the horses and riders could have done a lot better! As usual, the support form Malvern Hills RC was amazing and I just love representing them."

JULIE JEFFES "It was a really good venue, with good viewing inside and out, and the food was particularly good. I had a silly start - 3:45 and had along journey, as the Sat Nav took as straight to some bollards where the road was closed! But we were very lucky that it didn't rain on us. I was really pleased with Ash's rounds, as it was a looky and twisty course. I had Charlie on my support crew, but the whole team were very supportive."

PHOTOS:

Top = Julie and Ash taking one of the BRC fences.

Bottom = Leanne and Joey at the champs.

RIDER NAME		
ANNA MILLINGTON	LEANNE BENNETT	JULIE JEFFES
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF MALVERN HILLS RIDING CLUB?		
3 or 4 years	Since January this year	Not quite sure, a few years
WHAT'S YOUR DAY JOB		
Transport Manager and driver for family haulage company - John Cooper Transport	PE Teacher	I work for the Blue Cross and run the direct marketing there.
FAVOURITE HORSEY ACTIVITY?		
Eventing and Point to Pointing	Cross-country and Hunting	Eventing, but I don't do it much these days.
LEAST FAVOURITE HORSEY ACTIVITY?		
Dressage!!	Dressage! But we give it a go to be able to go eventing!	Hacking
HAVE TO COMPETED AT A BRC CHAMPIONSHIP BEFORE?		
Yes, I have been lucky enough to.	This was my first time on Joey, but I have been on my other pony, The Magician's Nephew.	I have been to Lincoln for the past three years, but this was the first time at a Winter Championship.
HORSE'S NAME		
Simba	Joey	Ash
AGE AND HEIGHT AND BREEDING?		
14, 16.2hh, (huge for me!) Thoroughbred	5, 14.2hh, Connemara	7, 14.3hh, Connemara x Trakehner
HOW LONG HAVE YOU OWNED YOUR HORSE?		
6 years - basically bought him as felt sorry for him, he had been neglected	6 months	I bred her
LIKES?		
Hunting and Food	His Shetland field companion, Lou Lou. And hunting, going fast and escaping from fields.	Jumping and doing big, show-off trots.
DISLIKES?		
There is not much that Simba doesn't like!	Standing still when being brushed!	Her bossy brother.

(Continued from page 1)

there for 8am and left at 6.30 but they really enjoyed it! All in all a great day!

While new member Alex said "Well what a day! It was many firsts for me...first competition with MHRC, first event of the season on grass and first run out cross country since before I became pregnant last year. I am not normally one to get nervous, but I really was. I kept worrying I had forgotten things, kept worrying if Darcy was fit enough, was I fit enough? What the course would be like? Anyway I arrived, walked the course and started to relax!

We headed over to the warm up and met Chris and the rest of the team, everyone seemed friendly! But things suddenly went downhill from there. The warm up was tight, manic, with lots of people walking around the outside in groups, people cantering around in all directions, plus being cold and windy. These are all things Darcy hates! Darcy lit up like a Christmas tree and started playing up, he was bucking and I could hardly get him to a practice fence. I could not blame him, the last 2 months I had been trying so hard to get him fit going up the hill that he saw the grass and he thought GO!!

They called my number and I wasn't ready. Anna saw I was struggling and very kindly offered to go first. I had more time but the situation wasn't improving and I was embarrassed and worrying about what our round will be like. We got in the ring and I cantered him around the outside of the ring to open him up and release the coiled up energy, I rode into the first fence and he listened... PHEW! I knew we would be OK from there. Darcy jumped well; I know he has a good pace across the country and I have time to set him up at fences and push on in between.

When we got back and I looked at the board and saw we

were just one second off the time (too fast) I knew things were looking promising and then looked at the teams results and saw we had an amazing team score. I knew things were looking great for the team! We started getting excited but we're trying to contain ourselves until we saw the official results confirmed!! What a wonderful first competition for me at MHRC! Very much looking forward to the festival in June and spending more time with the MHRC team and hoping for a much better warm-up!"

The Festival of the Horse Championship is on the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> June and in order to send our team to contend the national title, we will need to provide some helpers on the day. So if you think you could help support the club by volunteering, please contact Chris.

PHOTO: Anna & Jodie



Flatwork Clinics with Nick Lawson  
Hillview Arena, Malvern.

Dates: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>,  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Times: 5:30, 6:30 or 7:30 (3 riders per session)

Price: £20 per session

To book a place, please contact Julie Jeffes on 07769 671  
969 (evenings only) or e-mail [julie.jeffes@gmail.com](mailto:julie.jeffes@gmail.com)

## BRILLIANT START TO THE MERCIAN SEASON

The 2016 Mercian season started on 23rd April, with the Spring Hunter trials at New Hunt Farm, Newent. We had three teams in contention and it was great to meet some new members and some more familiar faces giving it a go.

Despite a few failures of the sat nav and the typical MHRC ability to get time faults for going too fast, everyone got round in fine style and there were rosettes a plenty. The Malvern Tigers were 5th in the 2'3 and Kelly Hudson came home with an individual 4th. In the 2'6 section, the Malvern Leopards were 2nd and individual 4th went to Chloe Neathway.

"What a great day. I think the event summed up the spirit of Riding Club perfectly. For those of us new members we were so supported and encouraged, and it was laughs all the way. Everyone rode brilliantly over a funny little course that actually did cause a fair few issues. For me a huge thanks to Jodie, who is an ace team boss! And all the 2'3 team members - we all got round!" - Clare Gabriel

"We had a fab day at our first competition with the riding club and were made to feel so welcome. Even came home with 2 rosettes. The weather was great and it was fab to come away with two teams getting placed. I can't wait for next time." - Chloe Neathway

"As a new member it was lovely to meet everyone, and to have such a warm welcome from Caroline and Lin. Apart from my psychotic horse demonstrating her ability to turn

herself inside out prior to the xc event starting, once on the course, it rode much better than anticipated and proved to be successful. Here's to the next competition!" - Pam Render

### ROLL CALL

#### 2'3 Malvern Tigers

Clare Gabriel and Icy Blue, Mary Bisco and Okay I Do It, Kelly Hudson and Halfkeyendeavour, Anne Price and Half a Guinness

#### 2'3 Malvern Lions

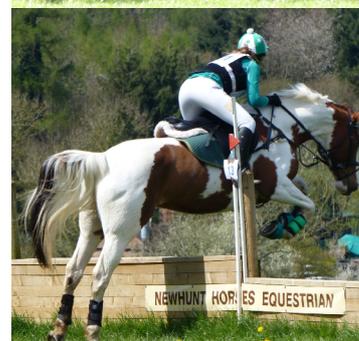
Sue Peckham and Danny, Jo Jeynes and Nimrod IV, Linda Kemp and Emily Jane, Anna Robson and Courtney's Lass

#### 2'6 Malvern Leopards

Pam Render and Zena, Jodie Powell and Just Jake VII, Anna Robson and Santa Fe, Chloe Neathway

PHOTOS: Top - Kelly, Middle - Chloe and Bottom - Pam

Check out page 4 to see where we are in the league after the first event....



For the latest club news see [www.malvernhillsideingclub.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillsideingclub.co.uk) or check out our Facebook page

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Linda Kemp	(Area Teams)	al_kemp@outlook.com	07727 826 336
Caroline Bates	(Club Secretary & Newsletter)	mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk	07900 376 272
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Iris Ellis	(Membership Secretary)		01905 821 034
Gorse Cottage, Stonehall Common, Kempsey, Worcestershire, WR5 3QG			
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Camilla Esling	(Passport Guru /Social Media)	camillaesling@gmail.com	07875 364 658
Emma Cooper	(Website)	emmamorris42@hotmail.com	

## MERCIAN LEAGUE

After Mercian HT

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN RC	15
2nd	BROMYARD RC	14
3rd	FRAMPTON RC	13
4th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	12
5th	ALVECHURCH RC	10
	BROMSGROVE RC	10
7th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	6
	WYVERN RC	6
8th	CHELTENHAM RC	2
	WORCESTER RC	2
10th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	1
11th	VALE OF ARROW RC	0

## NEW DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The **Mercian Show and Style Jumping** will be held at Lincomb Equestrian Centre on 25th September, hosted by the South Shropshire RC.

**Area 18 Dressage to Music Training**  
27th May, Dodderhill Equestrian, Dodderhill Court, Droitwich Spa, WR9 0BE. 18:30 for 19:00 start. Finish 21:30. £6 per person including chip shop supper. Kim Warren, with the help of demo riders, will show you how to design a floor plan and choose appropriate music for your horse. Charlotte Harris will demonstrate how to put together a CD of your music and what software she uses. Enquiries to [Alisonparkinson@mac.com](mailto:Alisonparkinson@mac.com) 01905 452 183.

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a (S) at the end have schedules available. E-mail [mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) or by check out the individual club websites for a copy. More details can be found on your Competition Guide.

### May 2016

- 1st Intermediate Winter Championships Bury Farm Equestrian, Slapton
- 5th Flatwork Clinic , Hillview Arena
- 8th Area Combined Training, Dodderhill Equestrian (Worcs RC) (S)
- 12th Flatwork Clinic , Hillview Arena
- 15th Mercian Arena Eventing, Cleeve Prior, Evesham (Crophorne RC) (S)
- 18th Flatwork Clinic , Hillview Arena
- 21st Mercian Dressage to Music, Kings Equestrian (South Shropshire RC) (S)
- 26th Flatwork Clinic , Hillview Arena
- 27th BRC XC Training, Sapey (British Riding Clubs)
- 27th Area 18 Dressage to Music Training, Dodderhill Equestrian, Droitwich
- 29th Area Show & Style Jumping, Three Counties, Malvern (MHRC) (S)
- 30th Mercian Showing & Open Show, Three Counties, Malvern (MHRC) (S)

### June 2016

- 4 - 5th Festival of the Horse, Aston-le-Wells, Northants (BRC)
- 8th Mercian Eventer Challenge, Lincomb Equestrian (Bewdley RC)



## PEPPER POT POINTS LEAGUE

After Area Eventer Challenge

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Anne Price	335
2nd	Jodie Powell	205
3rd	Steph Woolley	185
4th	Anna Millington	150
6th	Kat Jones	115
	Lin Harber	115
8th	Caroline Bates	110
9th	Sara Stephenson	105
10th	Julie Jeffes	90
11th	Suzanne Lidbetter	85
12th	Sarah Bowness	80
	Wendy Yates	80
14th	Alex Riches	75
15th	Deborah Lennard	65
	Victoria Gregg	65
17th	Chloe Neathway	55
	Elizabeth Wise	55
	Sophie Hooper	55
20th	Camilla Esling	50
21st	Anna Robson	45
	Leanne Bennett	45
	Tina Price	45
24th	Chris Esling	40
	Kelly Hudson	40
	Lauran Jones	40
	Sue Peckham	40
	Will Milde	40
29th	Pam Render	35
30th	Emma Horton-Smith	30
31st	Becky Gibbs	20
	Clare Gabriel	20
	Mary Bisco	20
34th	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Jo Jeynes	5
	Linda Kemp	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rachel Kilmister	5
	Sarah Smith	5
	Sophie Bowness (JNR)	5
	Stefania Fulford	5

## INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE 2015/2016

After March Competition

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Cherwell Valley RC	540
2nd	Crown RC	344
3rd	Malvern Hills RC	301
4th	Cumbria RC	234
5th	Solent RC	159
6th	Atherstone and District RC	44

## INTERDRESSAGE WINTER LEAGUE 2015/2016

After March Competition

PL	CLUB	PTS
1st	Irish Rovers	595
7th	Malvern Hills	279



# MHRC NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016



## INTERDRESSAGE FINALS

April saw the last competition in the Inter-dressage /BRC League. MHRC put forward 8 entries and as usual had a great time filming them. The results for April are below.

**CLASS 1A (Adult): Walk and Trot K (Restricted)** 8th Sue Lidbetter & Midnight Express (68.75%) **CLASS 1b (Adult): Walk and Trot K. (Intermediate)** 2nd Sue Lidbetter & Rosie (76.50%) **CLASS TWO A (Adult): Walk and Trot K (Open)** 4th Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe (76.00%) **CLASS TWO B (Adult): Walk, trot, canter entry level C** 6th Lin Harber & Toby (71.59%) **CLASS THREE A (Adult): BRC Prelim Dressage Test 3** 8th Sarah Smith & Ferdi (67.00%) **CLASS FOUR A (Adult): Pick a Test Starter Plus C or Intermediate Dressage Test 8** 1st Anne Price & Half a Guinness (SPC) (72.95%) 3rd Katherine Jones & Redbackcappuchin (SPC) (72.27%) 10th Katherine Jones & Redbackcappuchino (IDT8) (67.27%)



The final League places were also announced.

### TADCASTER EQUINE PHYSIOTHERAPY WINTER LEAGUE 2015/2016

1st	Irish Rovers (Ireland)	738 points
.....		
8th	Malvern Hills RC (UK)	334 points

### BRITISH RIDING CLUBS LEAGUE 2015/2016

1st	Cherwell Valley RC	610 points
2nd	Crown RC	407 points
3rd	Malvern Hills RC	366 points
4th	Cumbria RC	266 points
5th	Solent RC	237 points
6th	Atherstone & Dist. RC	44 points

Hopefully the BRC league will return in the autumn - keep an eye on the newsletter for more details as we get them.

Photo: Kat & Dotty - the final salute of our Interdressage season!

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## EDITOR'S BIT

In my life, the world of horse and the world of kids very rarely mix (in fact, I kind of tend to take the very sage advice from the Ariel Washing Up tabs advert - 'Keep Away From Children!'), so I'm always slightly on edge when Smokey comes into contact with young people. On a hack out round the lanes, his clip-clopping on the road brought the usual excited young faces to the garden fence to see the 'horsey' go past, but on this instance, the gravel drive made enough noise under little feet to make him spook slightly. Although nothing by normal horsey standards, this brought the father out to say to the two little boys 'be careful, don't scare him.' At which point, the two little monkeys bared their teeth, made claws of their hands and went 'BOO!' Luckily, Smokes just gave them one of his looks and I was more in danger from falling off from laughing than anything he did, but it was one of those little incidences that make life worthwhile!

You're not going mad - this edition of the newsletter doesn't have anything about the Big Weekend in and no, I'm not trying to ignore it ever happened. A special supplement will follow shortly with all the results, news and photos from the weekend.

*until next time, Caroline*

## COMBINED CRAZINESS



ABOVE: WINNERS  
SUE & GANGSTA

BELOW: KELLY



The hottest day of the year so far, 8<sup>th</sup> May, saw MHRC heading over to Dodderhill Equestrian Centre for the Area 18 Combined Qualifier. In each team, two people rode a BRC Prelim test and jumped 75cm, while two rode a BRC Novice test and jumped 85cm, with individuals able to choose whichever section they'd like.

We had two senior teams competing. The Malvern Madhatters of Caroline Bates on Smokey Joe, Clare Gabriel on Icy Blue, Jodie Powell on Just Jake VII and Leanne Bennet on Curra Pokey Joe came 9<sup>th</sup> overall, with the Malvern Miracles of Sue Peckham on Mr Gangster, Kelly Hudson on Halfkeyendeavour, Anna Millington on Senderos and Stef Fulford on Mr Buster just beat them to come 8<sup>th</sup>. There was also a couple of individual places, with Jodie coming 6<sup>th</sup> in the 85cm section, but Sue Peckham won the 75cm section, which means she's

qualified for the Festival of the Horse Championships in June.

We also had the clubs first Junior competitor taking part as an individual in the 75cm section. Amber Knott on Pennal Zedan did a lovely dressage test and a fantastic clear round to win the section, so she'll join Sue and our Eventer Challenge team at the Festival as well.

Amber said, "What a great day! I went to the show not really knowing anyone in MHRC and came away with new friends. I could not believe how supportive you all were and made me feel so welcome. I would like to say a big thank you to Chris Esling for introducing me to all the members and keeping my Mum calm, and of course Dad for being the usual taxi driver." While Stef wants to say a huge thank you to the other members of her team who helped her learn the *correct* dressage test just before she was due to ride!

## OUT OF THE ARENA

On the 15th May, we sent 4 teams over to Evesham to contend the Mercian Arena Eventing, hosted by the Crophorne & Evesham RC. The event involved jumping a round of show jumps, followed by a round of simulated cross-country obstacles, before heading back over some show jumps.

In the 70cm class, the Malvern Sapphires of Emma Monahan & Percy, Sara Stephenson & Liedi Susan, Jenny Barnes & Linhay Lane and Nicki Mundy & Molly, came 3<sup>rd</sup>, with Nicki also winning an individual 5<sup>th</sup>.

In the 75cm class, the Malvern Amethysts of Sue Peckham & Danny, Jo Jeynes & Bernie, Linda Kemp & Emily Jane and Mary Bisco & Okay I Do It sadly weren't placed. But the Malvern Rubies of Jodie Powell & Just Jake VII, Anne

Price & Half A Guinness, Kelly Hudson & Halfkeyendeavour and Tina Price & Buzz B, were 5<sup>th</sup> and the Malvern Emeralds of Pam Render & Zena, Chris Esling & Half and Half, Leanne Bennet & Curra Pokey Joe and Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue, beat everyone to take the red winners rosettes. Tina Price also won the individual class.

Kelly thought it was great that the classes were running a bit late "Plenty of time to learn the course and watch the other Malvern teams go round. Everyone was brilliant. The course gave a lot of people problems, especially number 4, but lucky enough for me, my horse is very brave, if a bit slow! Jodie gave me strict instructions to keep kicking and Clare said I was to ride him like I stole him. The encouragement was almost deafening! Unfortunately I got some time faults, but I was very pleased with a clear round as they were hard come by. Excellent riding by my team mates got us a rosette too, so happy days."



OVERALL WINNERS  
MALVERN  
EMERALDS

Thanks to new member, Nicki Mundy and her computer, we managed to put together two teams for the Mercian Dressage to Music competition at King's Equestrian Centre on 21st May. For each three person team, one had to ride a Freestyle Intro test, one a Prelim and one a Novice test.

For the Malvern Polka, Jane Downham & Gleaming Dynamite was 14th in the Intro, Nicki Mundy & Gerdinene Arrian was 7th in the Prelim and Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash was 3rd in the Novice section, leaving the team in 7th place overall.

For the Malvern Tango, Liz Whitehead & Raven Royale was 4th in the Intro, Anne

Price & Half a Guinness was also 4th in the Prelim and Nicki Mundy & Chief were 9th in the Novice section, earning them a 4th place overall in the team competition.

As Anne said, "the photo sums up both Goo and my music debut perfectly. We had a brilliant time, hit all the timings spot on and got a fab 76.66%. It was a great feeling riding to my lovely music and a Valegro style square halt to finish (ta Goo!). No wonder I had such a ridiculously euphoric grin at the end. Thanks for the team support and well done everyone.

PHOTOS: Top - Anne and Guinness. Bottom: Nicki and Harry.



## NEW CHAMPIONSHIPS

2016 sees the first of a new level of BRC Championships. Previously, Summer Qualifiers were run throughout the country, with the top one or two teams heading off to the National Championships at Lincoln, as well as highest placed individuals.

But for remote or small clubs, this meant lots of travelling and lots of expense. So from this year onwards, there will be a new Regional Championship.

Area 18 has been joined with 4 other areas that cover South Wales and the West of England, and this year our Regional will be held at Hartpury College on 20th August.

The Regionals are designed to provide a championship for lower level riders that have not qualified for Lincoln. Qualification for the new championships works within the current competition structure. At a qualifying competition, the first placed team will head off to Lincoln as normal (and 2nd place, etc, if enough entries). Then, the next 2 or 4 teams (depending on discipline), will

get to go the regionals. This includes Junior and Senior teams, with the highest placed across both sections getting the qualification. And there are no individual qualifications.

Most of the rules surrounding the present championships still apply (especially vaccinations!), but there are a few extra eligibility rules involved. However, if you are eligible for the qualifier, then you'll be ok for the championships. But if clubs substitute riders, there are stricter rules about who can go, making sure that truly Novice riders get to go the Regionals rather than more experienced 'ringers'.

So from the Show and Style jumping qualifier that we ran at the end of May, 4 teams from the Novice jumping and 2 teams from the Style jumping will be invited to the Hartpury Regional. And competitors at the Summer Dressage in June will also get the chance to qualify for Hartpury.

For the latest club news see [www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk) or check out our Facebook page

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## MERCIAN LEAGUE

After Showing on 30.05.2016

PLACE	CLUB	POINTS
1st	MALVERN RC	74
2nd	BROMYARD RC	45
3rd	ALVECHURCH RC	34
4th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	32
5th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	20
6th	CHELTENHAM RC	18
7th	WYVERN RC	17
8th	FRAMPTON RC	15
9th	WORCESTER RC	14
10th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	13
11th	BROMSGROVE RC	10
12th	VALE OF ARROW RC	2

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail [mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) or by check out the individual club websites for a copy. More details can be found on your Competition Guide.

### June 2016

- 4 - 5th Festival of the Horse, Aston-le-Wells, Northants (BRC)
- 19th Area Horse Trials Qualifier (100 & 100+), Sapey XC, Bromyard (Area 15) **(S)**
- 19th Area Dressage & Riding Test Qualifier, Crown Farm, Ascot-Under-Wychwood (West Oxon RC) **(S)**
- 28th Mercian Eventer Challenge, Lincomb Equestrian (Bewdley RC) **(S)**

### July 2016

- 9th Area Horse Trials Qualifier (80 & 90) West Wilts, (Area 9)
- 10th Mercian Dressage, Stoney Lane Farm, Bromsgrove (Alvechurch RC)
- 30th or 31st Mercian Combined Training, Park Farm, Hanbury (Worcester RC)

### August 2016

- 5-7th Horse Trials Championship, Swalcliffe Park Equestrian, Oxon (BRC)
- 14th MHRC Eventer Challenge and Blenheim Trial, Hillview Arena (MHRC)
- 20th South Wales & West of England RC Championships, Hartpurt (BRC)
- 21st Mercian Arena Eventing, Stourport EC (Bromsgrove RC)
- 27th Mercian One-Day Event, New Hunt Farm, Huntley (Cheltenham RC)

## NEW DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

MHRC will be holding our Eventer Challenge again on 14th August at Hillview Arena - a mixture of show jumps and cross-country type jumps, inside and out the arena. This will also be our selection day for the Blenheim Eventer Challenge, so keep it free if you want to compete there. Schedule will follow shortly.

## PEPPER POT POINTS LEAGUE

As of 21.05.2016

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Anne Price	365
2nd	Jodie Powell	245
3rd	Steph Woolley	185
4th	Anna Millington	155
5th	Sara Stephenson	135
6th	Caroline Bates	115
	Kat Jones	115
	Lin Harber	115
9th	Tina Price	105
10th	Julie Jeffes	95
11th	Leanne Bennett	90
12th	Sue Peckham	85
	Suzanne Lidbetter	85
14th	Chris Esling	80
	Sarah Bowness	80
	Wendy Yates	80
17th	Alex Riches	75
	Pam Render	75
19th	Kelly Hudson	70
20th	Clare Gabriel	65
	Deborah Lennard	65
	Victoria Gregg	65
23rd	Chloe Neathway	55
	Elizabeth Wise	55
	Nicki Mundy	55
	Sophie Hooper	55
27th	Camilla Esling	50
28th	Anna Robson	45
29th	Amber Knott (JNR)	40
	Lauran Jones	40
	Will Milde	40
	Emma Horton-Smith	30
	Emma Monahan	30
	Jenny Barnes	30
35th	Mary Bisco	25
36th	Becky Gibbs	20
37th	Jo Jaynes	10
	Linda Kemp	10
	Stefania Fulford	10
40th	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Downham	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Liz Whitehead	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rachel Kilmister	5
	Sarah Smith	5
	Sophie Bowness (JNR)	5



## ON FACEBOOK?

There is a new Facebook page for the Mercian Inter-Riding Club League. Results, League Updates, Schedule and News will be shared there for all members of a Mercian Club. Do a search or see the links from our own page.



# 28th to 30th May



# THE BIG WEEKEND 2016



It was a scorcher of a day and show ground looked great, shimmering in the heat haze as the lorries started to roll up.

In the Novice show jumping, riders completed two rounds at a maximum of 85cm. We had two teams in the Senior Novice section, plus a Junior individual. It was a tight competition and great to watch.

In the team competition, The Malvern Pop-

The Malvern Hills RC BIG Weekend was once again a resounding success. A huge thank you to everyone who came to help set-up, volunteered

your time to run the two show days, represented the team in one of the Area Jumping or Mercian Showing teams, or supported the club by entering an open class at the show.

The weekend kicked off at 11:00 on Saturday morning as an enthusiastic bunch of members turned up to start setting out the show ground. There is something hugely satisfying seeing an empty green space slowly becoming a fantastic venue. A special thank you to Pam Render and Clare Gabriel, and their little helpers, who trekked over to Allenshill Equestrian Centre earlier that morning to pick up the jumps we'd hired. There was also time for a sit down with tea and cake, courtesy of Camilla and Chris Esling, to celebrate our hardworking chairwoman's birthday - we all hope you had a good one, Lin ☺

## **SUNDAY 29th: AREA QUALIFIER**

Once again, we'd been tasked with running the Area 18 Show and Style jumping qualifier, and we had over 160 competitors arriving from across the region to contend the 7 different classes.

**AREA QUALIFIER: TEAM CALL**  
**NOVICE SENIOR JUMPING**  
**Malvern Poppies**  
 Anna Robson & I Believe I Can Fly  
 Tina Price & Buzz-B  
 Leanne Bennett & Curra Pokey Joe  
 Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash  
**Malvern Bluebells**  
 Mary Bisco & Okay I Do It  
 Rosie Clare & Blue Suede Shoes  
 Pam Render & Zena  
 Sarah Bowness & Our Bawn Lodger  
**NOVICE JUNIOR JUMPING**  
 Esme Ruff & Morning Flight (Individual)

pies came 2nd and are hopefully off to the new Regional championships at Hartpury. There were some individual

places as well, with Esme only just being beaten into 2nd place in the Jun-



ior competition, and Tina coming 5th in the Seniors. Julie also narrowly missed out on the top spot and also came 2nd in the Seniors, but as the highest placed individual we're just

waiting for the confirmation that she has qualified for the National Championships at Lincoln.

In the Intermediate and Open rings, MHRC also did well. A last minute drop out due to horse lameness, saw the team only going forward with three entries, but they managed to hold their own and came 6th overall. We had no teams in the open jumping, but Anna represented the club brilliantly take home a 6th rosette too.

**AREA QUALIFIER: TEAM CALL  
INTERMEDIATE SENIOR JUMPING**

Anna Robson & Santa Fe  
Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster  
Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond  
**OPEN SENIOR JUMPING**  
Anna Robson & Academy Award (Ind.)

The Style competition is always fun to watch - a mixture of dressage and jumping, with the rider marked on how they ride over the jumps and on the flat. We only had one team in the senior section, two members of which rode the 75cm course and two members the 85cm course. Overall, the team came 2nd, but it was hugely close. Even taking the fourth member score into account produced a



75cm, and Tina 3rd in the 85cm.

It was a great day all round, but some special mentions have to be made - to Camilla Esling, for the wonderful organisation that kept the Official



**AREA QUALIFIER: TEAM CALL  
SENIOR STYLE JUMPING**

75cm Leanne Bennett & Curra Pokey Joe  
75cm Anne Price & Half A Guinness  
85cm Tina Price & Buzz-B  
85cm Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash

Stewards so happy; for Sue Peckham, for the amazing recovery when we all thought she was going to take a di-



ve; to Kirsty Knott who stepped in to write for the style judge last minute and to Tony Knott, who then had to man the main gate for most of the day 😊.

**MONDAY 30th: OPEN  
SHOW & MERCIAN TEAM SHOWING**

The weather wasn't quite so kind on Monday, with a cold and foggy start to the day as once again we opened the gates and let the lorries start rolling in.

The Mercian Showing competition was the first event of the day, with each member of the team competing in a different showing class. MHRC had a record number of entries, with five teams, but in total there were 16 in each class to compete against. As the classes went on and the rosettes started to pile up, we were quietly confident of some great results.

The Coloured Horse or Pony class was our greatest success, with Sophie winning the class, Nicki in 3rd, Linda in 5th and Clare in 6th - a very smart and colourful bunch. The Riding Club Horse or Pony was also great for MHRC, with Sarah winning the class, Sue in 3rd and Anna in 4th. This class was to prove crucial in the team placings! The club completed the hattrick in the Working Hunter class, when Tina won it and Victoria was pulled in 2nd. Which only left the Veteran class, with Leanne our only placed member, coming 4th.





When it was time to tot up the scores, there were two teams on exactly the same points, so as per the

new Mercian rule, it was the highest placed in the Riding Club class that won the day. So the Malvern Madhatters took the red rosettes, with Malvern Cheshire Cats in 2nd and the Malvern Wonderlands in 4th place.

Once the team competition was out the way, it was over to the Open Show. With over 30 classes going on, across 5 rings, it was hard to keep up with all the action.

But with over 300 entries, MHRC members still stood out from the crowd and took home a selection of rosettes.

**Class 2: 2'3 Jumping**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Georgina Kilmister & Rwamyn Glamoring
- 5<sup>th</sup> Katie Hawkesworth & Liquorice



**MHRC**

**Dressage**

**Champion**

Victoria Gregg and Rupert

**Class 12: Best Turned Out**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Shellee Harris & Big George

**Class 19: Ridden Cob**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue

**Class 4: 2'9 Jumping**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Victoria Gregg & Rupert

**Class 20: Ridden Coloured**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Victoria Gregg & Texas

**Class 21: Ridden Cob**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue

**Class 24: In-Hand Veteran**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Diane Symonds & Doris

**Class 25: Ridden Racehorse to Riding Horse**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Chloe Probert & Exceed Policy

**Class 28: Ridden Hunter Pony**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nicki Mundy & Gerdinen



**Class 5: 3'0 Jumping**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Victoria Gregg & Rupert

**Class 8: 2'0 Novice Jumping**

- 1<sup>st</sup> William Hooper & Dragon

**Class 9: Intro A**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Clare Dando on King-du-Peyroux

**Class 10: Prelim 7**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Victoria Gregg on Rupert
- 5<sup>th</sup> Kelly Mawman on Kara

**Class 11: Prelim 12**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Victoria Gregg on Euro
- 5<sup>th</sup> Amber Knott on Danny



**Class 30: Working Hunter Pony**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Amber Knott & Pennal Zeclan

MERCIAN SHOWING: TEAM CALL

**Malvern Wonderlands**  
 C: Claire Gabriel & Icy Blue  
 V: Leanne Bennet & The Magicians Nephew  
 RC: Sarah Bowness & Our Bawn Lodger  
 WH: Ali Taylor & Zac

**Malvern Cheshire Cats**  
 C: Sophie Hooper & The King's Archer  
 V: Suzanne Lidebetter & Rosie  
 RC: Wendy Robinson & Lady Groove  
 WH: Tina Price & Buzz-B

**Malvern Mad Hatters**  
 C: Nicki Mundy & Harry  
 V: Katie Hawkesworth & Liquorice  
 RC: Anna Robson & Santa Fe  
 WH: Victoria Gregg & Euro

**Malvern White Rabbits**  
 C: Linda Kemp & Emily Jane  
 V: Kelly Mawman & Kara  
 RC: Stacie Slater & Rosie  
 WH: Sara Stephenson & Liedi Susan

**Malvern Caterpillars**  
 C: Ali Park & Gangster  
 V: Sarah Bradley & Mildred  
 RC: Sue Peckham & Danny  
 WH: Emma Monahan & Row Hill Percy



**Class 31: Novice Working Hunter**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sophie Hooper & Kings Archer
- 4<sup>th</sup> Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sara Stephenson & Lliedi Susan



If I've missed you out, please e-mail me on mhrnews-letter@hotmail.co.uk and let me know what else you won ☺

It was a long old day and once the Supreme Showing Champion had been crowned, it was time to pack everything up again for another day. Once again, a huge thank you has to go to Jodie Powell's Dad and Charlie Jeffes, who both agreed last minute to take the jump trailers all the way back to Allenshill; to Linda Medcalf who not only manned the main gate all day, but did an excellent job collecting money for the Air Ambulance; to the Knott family for the loan of their working hunter jumps (even if that was the only jump Danny stopped at!) and to everyone else who gave up their time to make it such a huge success. The weekend raised plenty of funds to keep the club afloat for another year (the exact amounts will be published at the AGM) and there were plenty of smiling faces as everyone left.

So once again, to say a huge THANK YOU to our volunteers, the committee will be hosting a BBQ at Queenshill, Upton-on-Severn, on 16th July. More details on the enclosed flyer. All volunteered will receive their free tickets shortly, but extra tickets can be purchased at £5 a head, so why not bring along friends or family too.

To see more pictures of the BIG WEEKEND 2016, check out our FaceBook Photo Album page.

A huge thank you to:

- Coach House Saddlery
- Top Shots Photography
- ESS Hire Sound System
- Prestige Toilet Hire
- Malvern Marquees
- Keith Sharman First Aid
- Area Judges: Jane Ogle, Val Danahar, Merran McClachlan
- Show Judges: Liz Langford, Louise Daly, Sue Hitchings and Alyson Sheppard
- Area Scorer: Linda Hunt



- Dressage Judge: Debbie Jones
- Richardson Rosettes
- Shrawley and the Catering Team

**AND TO YOU -  
THE MEMBERS .  
HERE'S TO THE BIG  
WEEKEND 2017 ☺**

**PEPPER POT POINTS  
LEAGUE**

After THE BIG WEEKEND

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Anne Price	415
2nd	Tina Price	285
3rd	Jodie Powell	260
	Victoria Gregg	260
5th	Leanne Bennett	215
6th	Julie Jeffes	200
7th	Steph Woolley	185
8th	Anna Robson	160
	Nicki Mundy	160
	Sara Stephenson	160
11th	Anna Millington	155
	Sophie Hooper	155
13th	Sarah Bowness	145
14th	Clare Gabriel	135
	Sue Peckham	135
16th	Suzanne Lidbetter	120
17th	Caroline Bates	115
	Kat Jones	115
	Lin Harber	115
20th	Chris Esling	80
	Pam Render	80
	Wendy Yates	80
23rd	Alex Riches	75
	Amber Knott (JNR)	75
25th	Kelly Hudson	70
26th	Deborah Lennard	65
27th	Chloe Neathway	55
	Elizabeth Wise	55
29th	Camilla Esling	50
30th	Lauran Jones	40
	Shellee Harris	40
	Will Milde	40
	William Hooper (JNR)	40
34th	Emma Monahan	35
	Esme Ruff (JNR)	35
	Jo Jaynes	35
	Linda Kemp	35
	Mary Bisco	35
39th	Ali Taylor	30
	Emma Horton-Smith	30
	Jenny Barnes	30
42nd	Clare Dando	25
43rd	Georgina Kilmister (JNR)	25
	Kelly Mawman	25
45th	Becky Gibbs	20
	Chloe Probert (JNR)	20
47th	Diane Symonds	15
48th	Ali Park	10
	Rachel Kilmister	10
	Stefania Fulford	10
51st	Carole Hubble	5
	Clare Chapman	5
	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Downham	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Katherine Beard (JNR)	5
	Liz Whitehead	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rosie Clare	5
	Sarah Bradley	5
	Sarah Smith	5
	Sophie Bowness (JNR)	5
	Stacie Slater	5



# MHRC NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2016

## DRESSAGE HAT-TRICK AT CROWN FARM



It was a great result for MHRC at the Summer Area Dressage Qualifier on 19th June - Go to page 5 to find out more!

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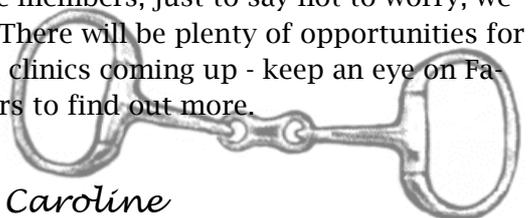
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## EDITOR'S BIT

Halfway through 2016 and what a year so far for MHRC? Do you realise that we have had representatives at every BRC championship so far (bar the Winter Intermediates!), and now have members qualified for two of the remaining Summer Championships? Not bad!! Something to celebrate for sure. The Area competition summer season is coming to an end, with only a couple more qualifiers, but remember, for our senior members, there are still plenty Mercian League events to come.

And for those non-competitive members, just to say not to worry, we haven't forgotten you either. There will be plenty of opportunities for club training, social event and clinics coming up - keep an eye on Facebook, e-mails and newsletters to find out more.

*until next time, Caroline*



# FANTASTIC FESTIVAL

Below: Amber and  
Danny



The first BRC Summer championship was the Festival of the Horse at Aston-le-Wells on the 4th and 5th of June. It turned into a busy weekend for MHRC, with members competing on both days of the weekend.

Our Senior 90cm Eventer Challenge team qualified back in April at Swalcliffe. Sadly, Anna Millington was unable to attend, so Sue Peckham and Mr Gangster stepped in last minute to join Alex Riches and Mr Darcy, Jodie Powell and Just Jake VII, and Leanne Bennett and Curra Pokey Joe. They put in an impressive performance over the mixed course of show jumps and cross-country obstacles, to come 8th overall.

Also competing on Saturday was Amber Knott and Pennal Zedan, who qualified for the Junior 75cm Combined Training back in May. Leading after the dressage, a couple of faults in the show jumping dropped her from top spot, but they still finished in an impressive 9th place.

Also competing in the Combined Training, but the Senior section on Sunday, was Sue Peckham on Mr Gangster. Another fantastic performance meant they finished off in 5th place.

Now over to Sue to tell you about her busy weekend.

"Perhaps the best thing is to give you Gangster's life history. He is now 10 years old and I've now had him 5 years, which as some of you will know is a long time for me, as I used to make horses and then sell them on. Gangster was bought with that in mind, as I had a buyer when I went to see him at his breeders in South Wales. He came from the same stud as another of my horses, Chewy, that some of you will remember. When I tried him we went for a hack and I followed the owner up a track alongside a dual carriage way, through a subway under the road and then up the high street, with a detour up the ramp and down the steps outside the library! He was a little slow, but he behaved impeccably and even though he was too green to sell on straight away, I knew he was coming home with me. And we've never

looked back!

Gangster has provided me with loads of fun, and I have to say I'm very glad that I kept him. He has done BE successfully at 90, hunted with the Ledbury (all be it very steadily), has done show jumping, dressage and even side saddle at the Three Counties Show. He has been placed at BRC Horse Trials Champs and now at the Festival of the Horse too. He has also given my friend, Ali, the chance to enjoy competing, and taught her a lot. Gangster has a few hobbies of his own, especially rolling, eating and, despite being generally very steady under saddle, he loves cantering around the field without my weight holding him down! I have the aim of getting to the Badminton Grassroots Championships, but he just wants to be a brown pony, so it would appear our ambitions are quite different.

As most of you will know last year, I had an accident and broke my back. I am so grateful to Gangster for getting me back in the saddle and out competing again. I am more nervous than I was, but he is great at helping me stay confident.

The last thing that Gangster wants to be is a dressage horse - he falls asleep well before the last halt as it is all SO boring. Why go round in circles in a field without either eating or jumping? So this year, when we did the Area Combined Training Qualifier at Dodderhill, the last thing I expected was to win. Luckily I was sat down when I was told! I believe that I had washed Gangster so well that day that he blinded the judge with his whiteness and hence the high marks.

So this weekend we went off to Aston-le-walls. As my dressage time was so early on Sunday I was planning to go on Saturday and stay with a friend of mine overnight. This was a good plan as we were called in as reserve for the eventer challenge team on Saturday as poor Simba was feeling his feet, and then just to prove that she made the right decision poor Anna got a bang on the head too. We had a great team of riders and supporters, and Rita was our volunteer at the event. The show jumping was a little confusing as you jumped fences 1 to 5 then chose to go left or right for fences 6 to 11 as there were 2 sets of each in the arena, a mirror image. Then straight off to the cross country - this was a full course of 15 fences, not a shortened course as we expected. Obviously, as it was the championship, the fences were full up to height and there were some combinations. Gangster went clear show jumping and was a little reluctant to keep going straight onto the XC as he quite

*(Continued on page 4)*

## CHAMPIONSHIP RIDER PROFILE

	Jodie Powell	Sue Peckham	Leanne Bennet	Alex Riches	Amber Knott
How long have you been a member of	3 years	Too long!! – probably over 15 years	Since January this year	7 months	6 months
What's your day job?	Work with Race-horses	Milk recorder and relief milker	PE Teacher	IT sales manager (but currently on maternity leave)	Student and part-time waitress
Favourite Horsey Activity?	Competing and picnics with MHRC	Cross-country	Cross-Country & Hunting	Riding XC in competition	when I school for a dressage test and it goes REALLY well and it feels like everything has clicked. It's just so satisfying.
Least Favourite Horsey Activity?	Walking the hills	Dressage – a necessary evil!	Dressage, but we give it a go for eventing!	Clipping	definitely mucking out and doing yard
Have you competed at a BRC championship before?	Never been to a championships before	Yes. I've been to the horse trials champs a few times and the Nationals once.	Me and Joey went to the Novice Winter Champs earlier in the year.	No, it was our first time. Really enjoyed it.	I've never competed at a BRC champs before – and it was only my 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Your Horse's Stable Name?	Jake	Gangster	Joey	Darcy (or if he is being silly, Rodney!)	He goes by many names, dependent on his attitude, but generally
Age?	21	10	5	10	10
Height?	16.1hh	16hh approx.	14.2hh	16hh	15.1hh
Breeding?	unknown	Coloured Sports Horse type	Connemara	7/8 TB and 1/8 Morgan horse	Very Welsh D – in every way!
How long have you owned your horse?	Owned by Chris & Camilla Esling for 8 years	5 years	8 months	7 years	Just over 2 years
Likes?	when not doing his favourite of XC he actually just like a cuddle in his stable..soppy I know but true (maybe its because I have polos in my pocket?)	Getting Dirty	His Shetland field companion, Lou Lou. And hunting, going fast and escaping from fields.	Jumping & massages	Food, jumping, attention, cross-country and having a good gallop
Dislikes?	prizegivings...too many flashy white boots and ribbons...namely at Lincoln when Tina and I were a danger to all spectators	Baths	Standing still when being brushed.	Busy warm-ups and strange noises	Not being the centre of attention, water jumps, puddles and walking through mud.

## Below: The Team



(Continued from page 2)

rightly thought he deserved a rest in between! I chivvied him along and he was jumping really well, actually keeping going himself between the fences for a change. Fence 5 was the water and there had been a lot of stops there, so I was determined that wasn't going to happen to us. I rode very positively at the house before and he popped that well, but then Gangster slowed down considerably as he doesn't like to canter through, but he does usually trot. However it would seem that he had been taking more notice of the radio that I leave on for him than I had thought and he wouldn't put a foot into the murky waters before he checked out that there wasn't a shark in there! Yes, the stories of the 5 metre killer shark were uppermost in his mind, so he hesitated and we got a stop. He has never had this happen before, but I can't be angry with him because the reason that we love Gangster so much is that he looks after me so well. Proof of that can be found in the video of us doing the area show jumping, were we nearly part company over a fence, but he stops, lets me get back from up his neck into the saddle and continues jumping the rest of the course in fine style, without even turning a circle. If gangster was worried then I must trust his intuition, but what is he like, think-

ing he's David Hasslehoff - Bay Watch wasn't filmed in Northamptonshire! The rest of the team were much better and managed to secure us 8th place, well done Jodie, Alex and Leanne!

We had a lovely evening visiting my friend and were ready bright and early for our dressage test on Sunday morning. The test went very well, and he had energy all the way through this time - thank goodness for being able to carry a whip in combined training unlike eventing. We then got warmed up for the show jumping and Gangster was jumping well. I didn't want to over jump him as he had done so well the day before, so I elected to go early. I was second to go and unfortunately the first rider was eliminated, which meant that I had no idea how tight the course was. Although we went clear jumping, we had 4 time penalties. I was very pleased as I felt that I had done as well as I could for Gangster and the team, making up for yesterday. When I saw others jumping there were hardly any clears, many having jumps down as well as time penalties. Had I gone later and known about the tight time I may have pushed on a bit more, but I was early and that wasn't to be.

I spent the rest of the day with my trusty spaniels while Gangster happily munched hay in the lorry. I did a little stint as arena party in the show jumping ring whilst I waited for the results, but as I'm so old, overweight and slow I didn't manage to beat any of the young enthusiastic members to the fallen poles. However, I got to wear a Hi-Viz jacket and look important for a while though!

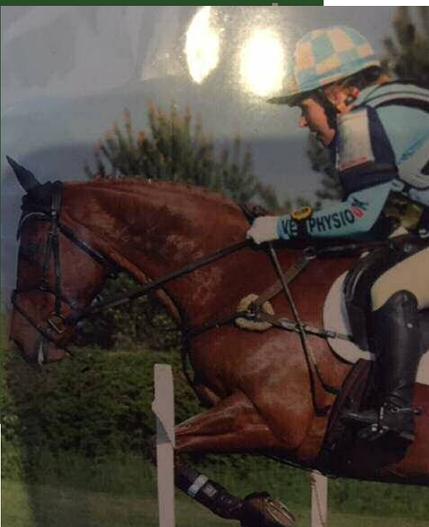
Finally we were presented with our 5th place rosette - not so bad for a slow, lazy horse and a far from dressage diva rider! Gangster is such a star, bless him. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the teams."

## ANOTHER QUALIFIER AT SAPEY

This year, the Horse Trials qualifiers have been split between venue, and on 19th June it was the turn of the 100 and 100+ sections to battle it out at Sapey. Our only representative was Laura Bennett on Lematon Sunshine Sadi, who rode in the 100+ section.

Laura said "Sapey was fabulous, all volunteers worked tirelessly to make sure the day ran smoothly and all credit to Alan and Audrey Thacker for making sure the ground was perfect for us to compete (not an easy task with all the rain we have had). Brilliant day had all round and thank you to the club for entering me and to Chris for filling in all the necessities to enable me to go."

A brilliant day saw them end up in 4th place. And even more exciting, a few days later it was confirmed that they were the highest placed individual not already in a team, so they have qualified for the BRC Horse Trials championships at the beginning of August.



## DRESSAGE HAT-TRICK AT CROWN FARM

The Summer Area Dressage at Qualifier was held on 19th June at Crown Farm and we sent 4 teams and one individual to contest the various titles.

Amber Knott on Pennal Zedan was our sole junior competitor and won the Prelim 7 section with an impressive 66.25%.

Our Senior Novice team of Jodie Powell & Icy Blue, Sarah Bowness & Our Bawn Lodger, Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster and Camilla Esling & Ted's Rainbow, had to all ride Prelim 14, but all pulled out some brilliant test to win as well. Sarah also was 6th individually, with Sue in 5th.

Our Senior Open Team all had to ride a different test. Camilla Esling & Just Jake were 2nd in the Novice 24 class, Tina Price & Buzz-B were 3rd in the

Novice 27, while both Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash in the Novice 28 and Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matorador in the Elementary 43, won their classes. This couldn't be beaten and the team also ended up in 1st place at the end of the day.

We had two teams in the Senior Riding Test class, where two members rode a Prelim test and two a Novice test. MHRC 1 of Jodie, Sarah, Camilla and Kat Jones on Redback Cappuchino, were 4th. But MHRC 2 of Tina, Sue, Steph and Julie won the class.

This means that we have three teams and a junior individual who, along with Julie Jeffes and Ash in the Novice Jumping, are off to the BRC National Championships at Lincoln in September.

## LINCOMB CHALLENGE

The latest Mercian Inter-club challenge was held on 28th June at Lincomb Equestrian centre. An Eventer Challenge, it saw riders negotiating a round of show jumps, followed by cross-country jumps that looped in and out of the arena.

In the 70cm section, our teams were both placed. The Malvern Lilies of Jenny Barnes & Linhay Lale, Debbie Lennard & Billybrack Bill, Sara Stephenson & Lliedi Susan and Kelly Hudson & Halk Key Endeavour were 5th, while the Malvern Poppies of Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe, Anne Price & Half A Guinness, Katie Hawkesworth & Liqourice and Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash were 4th. Katie was also the only rider no have no faults and no time penalties, so won the section out-

right.

In the 80cm section, the Malvern Orchids of Camilla Esling & Teds Rainbow, Sarah Bowness and Our Bawn Lodger, Tina Price & Buzz-B and Leanne Bennett & Joey were sadly not placed, but the Malvern Roses of Chris Esling & HalfnHalf, Nicki Mundy & Holly, Pam Render & Zena and Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane, were 6th, with Nicki 3rd overall.



## MHRC EVENTER CHALLENGE & BLENHEIM TRIAL 2016

On the 16th August, we are once again holding our Eventer Challenge at Hillview Arena. This is a timed competition over a mixture of show jumps and cross-country obstacles. New this year is a 60cm class, so there is something for everyone. As we did last year, this competition will also be used to select the team that will represent us in the Riding Club Challenge at the Blenheim Horse Trials on the 9th September. If you fancy going to Blenheim, then you will need to enter class 5b. Those placed 1st to 4th will form the Blenheim team, with 5th and 6th acting as reserves. For more information on the Challenge, visit [www.blenheimhorse.co.uk/RCPCEC](http://www.blenheimhorse.co.uk/RCPCEC). But for everyone else, why not come along and enter one of the other fund classes. With fantastic rosettes to 6th place and prizes for the first three, it's worth having a go. Check out Facebook, or e-mail Caroline for a schedule (or check out your local tack shop - you might just find one there!)

## MHRC SUMMER BBQ

### HAVE YOU GOT YOUR TICKETS?

Saturday 16th July = 6pm Start @ The Garden House, Queenhill, Upton-on-Severn (signposted from the B4211 Upton to Longdon Road).

£5 a ticket (friends and family welcome). Each ticket includes an entry to the prize draw.

Tickets: MHRC, c/o Caroline Bates, 7 Newton Close, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2XG  
mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk

For the latest club news see [www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillsideclub.co.uk) or check out our Facebook page

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Karen Wither	(Social Secretary)	karenwithers@me.com	07894 800 221
Chris Esling	(Area Teams)	chrisesling@yahoo.co.uk	07896 563 509
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	7 Newton Close, Deer Park, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2XG		
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Clare Chapman	(Treasurer)	clare_chapman79@hotmail.co.uk	07814 034 702
Sophie Hooper	(Welfare Officer / Junior Co-ordinator)	sophie@hillview.myzen.co.uk	07968 172 440
Jodie Powell	(Mercian Teams)	jodielouisepowell@yahoo.co.uk	07854 876 270
Camilla Esling	(Passport Guru /Social Media)	camillaesling@gmail.com	07875 364 658

## MERCIAN LEAGUE

After Eventer Challenge 28.06.2016

PLACE	CLUB	POINTS
1st	MALVERN RC	87
2nd	BROMYARD RC	66
3rd	ALVECHURCH RC	59
4th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	33
5th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	27
6th	WYVERN RC	26
7th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	25
8th	BROMSGROVE RC	20
9th	CHELTENHAM RC	18
10th	WORCESTER RC	17
11th	FRAMPTON RC	15
12th	VALE OF ARROW RC	3

## ERROR

Please note that Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Ash won the Novice Show Jumping Qualifier on 29th May, not second as reported in the newsletter.



## COMING UP ....

Any events with a (S) at the end have schedules available. E-mail [mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) or by check out the individual club websites for a copy. More details can be found on your Competition Guide.

### July 2016

- 2nd Hanbury Show, Hanbury, Worcestershire (S)
- 9th Area Horse Trials Qualifier (80 & 90) West Wilts, (Area 9) (S)
- 10th Mercian Dressage, Stoney Lane Farm, Bromsgrove (Alvechurch RC) (S)
- 14th **MHRC BBQ**
- 24th Area Dressage to Music Qualifier, Kings, Bromyard (Bromyard RC) (S)
- 31st Mercian Combined Training, Park Farm, Hanbury (Worcester RC) (S)

### August 2016

- 5-7th Horse Trials Championship, Swalcliffe Park Equestrian, Oxon (BRC) (S)
- 14th **MHRC Eventer Challenge and Blenheim Trial, Hillview Arena (MHRC) (S)**
- 20th South Wales & West of England RC Championships, Hartpury (BRC)
- 21st Mercian Arena Eventing, Stourport EC (Bromsgrove RC)
- 27th Mercian One-Day Event, New Hunt Farm, Huntley (Cheltenham RC) (S)

### September 2016

- 9th Blenheim Riding Club Challenge, Blenheim Palace
- 10-11th National Championships Lincolnshire Showground
- 25th Mercian Show & Style Jumping, Lincomb EC (Shropshire South RC)

## PEPPER POT POINTS LEAGUE

As of 1st July 2016

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Anne Price	440
2nd	Tina Price	415
3rd	Jodie Powell	365
	Julie Jeffes	365
5th	Steph Woolley	335
6th	Sue Peckham	280
7th	Victoria Gregg	260
8th	Sarah Bowness	225
9th	Leanne Bennett	220
10th	Camilla Esling	190
11th	Sara Stephenson	180
12th	Nicki Mundy	175
13th	Kat Jones	170
14th	Anna Robson	160
15th	Anna Millington	155
	Sophie Hooper	155
17th	Caroline Bates	140
18th	Clare Gabriel	135
19th	Amber Knott (JNR)	120
	Suzanne Lidbetter	120
21st	Lin Harber	115
22nd	Chris Esling	95
23rd	Kelly Hudson	90
24th	Deborah Lennard	85
25th	Alex Riches	80
	Pam Render	80
	Wendy Yates	80
28th	Chloe Neathway	55
	Elizabeth Wise	55
30th	Jenny Barnes	50
	Jo Jaynes	50
32nd	Lauran Jones	40
	Shellee Harris	40
	Will Milde	40
	William Hooper (JNR)	40
36th	Emma Monahan	35
	Esme Ruff (JNR)	35
	Linda Kemp	35
	Mary Bisco	35
40th	Ali Taylor	30
	Emma Horton-Smith	30
42nd	Clare Dando	25
	Georgina Kilmister (JNR)	25
	Kelly Mawman	25
	Laura Bennett	25
46th	Becky Gibbs	20
	Chloe Probert (JNR)	20
48th	Diane Symonds	15
49th	Ali Park	10
	Rachel Kilmister	10
	Stefania Fulford	10
52nd	Carole Hubble	5
	Clare Chapman	5
	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Downham	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Katherine Beard (JNR)	5
	Liz Whitehead	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rosie Clare	5
	Sarah Bradley	5
	Sarah Smith	5
	Sophie Bowness (JNR)	5
	Stacie Slater	5



# MHRC NEWSLETTER

JULY 2016



## BBQ BONANZA

Our now-to-be annual Summer BBQ was on the 16th July and what fantastic weather we had for it! It was great to see all our volunteers from this year's Big Weekend, plus friends and family.

Once again, the committee had put on a fantastic spread - only at a MHRC event could we miscalculate and bring too little

*(Continued on page 4)*



Tucking in - Our Chairwoman taking a well earned break at the Summer BBQ

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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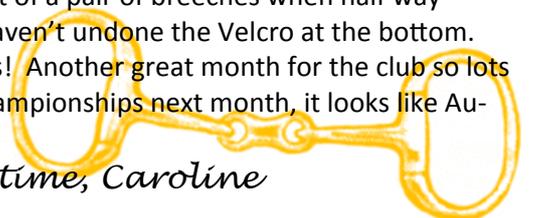
## EDITOR'S BIT

It's that time of year again – as end of year championships beckon, that summer diet (for me and horse!), takes on a new level of urgency. But have you ever noticed that guides on how many calories worked off while horse riding are just not very helpful, as it's usually lumped together as half hour walking (120) or half hour trotting (309) or half hour galloping (384). So, my ideal calorie burning guide should actually include:

- Resistance Training – three trips round the field at the end of a rope trying to bring him in.
- Weight Lifting – moving 600kg of dead weight from off my toes.
- Upper Body Workout – moving a 3.5 tonne lorry around a car park (including above said 600kg) when I don't have power steering and everyone else has lost the ability to park sensibly.
- Full Cardio – riding at a solid fence while horse is busy bucking and you know he hasn't seen it yet.
- Lower Body Workout – half hour at halt, kicking, because he's seen a crisp packet / squirrel / patch of slightly different green grass
- Step Aerobics – getting out of a pair of breeches when half way through you realise you haven't undone the Velcro at the bottom.

Anyway, enough of my problems! Another great month for the club so lots to report on .... And with two championships next month, it looks like August will be just as good.

*until next time, Caroline*



## Winners at West Wilts

After Laura Bennett's success at the 100+ qualifier last month, it was the turn of our 80 and 90cm riders to see if they could do the same. The qualifier was held at West Wilts Equestrian Centre on 9<sup>th</sup> August and although a bit of a trek, we managed to send a Senior 80 team, a Senior 90 team and two Junior 80cm individuals.

It was a close run thing for the 80cm team and at the end of the day, they were only beaten by 4.1 penalties by Cheltenham RC, but a 2<sup>nd</sup> place was a fantastic result. There were also some individual places, with Tina coming 4<sup>th</sup> and Julie 3<sup>rd</sup>. In the Junior section, both were placed, with a 4<sup>th</sup> for Mia and an overall win for Sacha and a place at the Horse Trials Champs in August.

In the 90cm class, it was close again, but the other way round, with our senior team just in front of Evenlode by 5 penalties, more than a little helped by Camilla's amazing individual win and Sue's 6<sup>th</sup> place. So a fantastic team win sends the off to the Champs as well.

Leanne said "It was my first time at West Wilts and it was a lovely venue (even though I had to sprint round the XC course in my wellies, dragged by the

dog, as I had not left enough time to walk it properly - you live and learn!). The XC course was very bold and our biggest test yet. The skinny corner at fence 6 over phased Joey and I had to take the alternative route, but I am really pleased with how he jumped the rest of the course. I am thrilled to qualify for the championships and excited to have a go at steeple chase, roads and tracks, and dressage in a 20x60m arena! Huge thanks to Clare Gabriel for entertaining me on the long journey and helping throughout the day.

### Senior 80 Team

Anna Robson & Santa Fe  
Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash  
Sarah Bowness & Our Bawn Lodger  
Tina Price & Buzz-B

### Senior 90 Team

Camilla Esling & Just Jake VII  
Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond  
Leanne Bennett & Curra Pokey Joe  
Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster

### Junior 80 Individuals

Mia Bannister & Alfie Red  
Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze

## Horses at Hanbury

It was off to Hanbury on 31st July for the last competition of the month – the Mercian Combined Training. The club sent four teams, two for each section, and all four ended up with a well-deserved team place.

In the mini section, two members rode Intro A and two rode Prelim 7, with all four jumping 2'3. The Malvern Saturns of Elizabeth Wise & Jasmine, Shellee Harries & Golden King, Jenny Barnes & Linhay Lale and Anna Robson & Santa Fe were 5<sup>th</sup>, but the Malvern Neptunes of Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe, Nicky Mundy & Holly, Ali Park & Mr Gangster and Wendy Robinson & Lady Grove were second, only just beaten into the top spot by Alvechurch RC.

In the midi section, the tests were Prelim 14 and Novice 27, with the jumps going up to 2'6. The Malvern Jupiters of Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane, Pam Render & Zena, Tina Price & Buzz-B and Jodie Powell & Black Diamond were 5th, and the the Malvern Mercuries of Kelly Hudson & Half Key Endeavour, Katie Hawksworth & Liquorice, Stefania Bennett & Mr Buster and Ali Taylor & Zac were 6th.

### STOP PRESS \* STOP PRESS \* STOP PRESS \* STOP PRESS

As the newsletter was going to press, the club were informed that there had been an error in the scoring on the day, due to some incorrect data entry onto the master spreadsheet. This effects the team places. In the 2'3, the Malvern Saturns were 4th and the Malvern Neptunes actually won the class, while in the 2'6 section, the Malvern Jupiters were 7th and the Malvern Mercuries were 2nd. The Pepper Pot League will be adjusted accordingly for next months newsletter.

Below:  
The Malvern  
Neptunes



# More Mercian Magic

On the 10<sup>th</sup> July, it was the turn of the Mercian Dressage Divas to strut their stuff at Alvechurch. We sent three teams and each member had to ride a different test – Intro B, Prelim 12, Prelim 14 or Novice 28, and there were plenty of rosettes all round.

In the team event, the Malvern Strawberries were 8<sup>th</sup>, the Malvern Blackberries 6<sup>th</sup> and the Malvern Raspberries 5<sup>th</sup>. Prelim 12 seemed to be our favoured test, with Anna in 4<sup>th</sup>, Anne 2<sup>nd</sup> and Jodie taking the winners rosette.

## Malvern Blackberries

IB Lin Harber & Toby Court  
P14 Stacie Williams & Rosie  
P12 Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond  
N28 Tina Price & Tom Thumb

## Malvern Raspberries

IB Kelly Hudson & Half Key Endeavour  
P14 Anna Millington & Senderos  
P12 Anna Robson & Santa Fe  
N28 Katherine Jones & Redbackcappuchino

## Malvern Strawberries

IB Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue  
P14 Camilla Esling & Ted's Rainbow  
P12 Anne Price & Half a Guinness  
N28 Tina Price & Buzz-B

Stacie wanted to say that "this was the second event I have done for the club and being a new member, on a horse I have only had two weeks, what a lovely sup-

portive gang you all are. I got to meet some really nice people that I hope to see again real soon.

Having not done dressage in about

10 years, I loved every minute of it and would like to do more with the club. A massive thank you to Chris Esling for saving me with her fly spray! Thank you for making me so welcome!"

While Lin said "I think my test in the Mercian competition was ridden in slow motion and I will be interested to read the judges comments. However, I must be thankful as my last dressage outing finished outside the arena in bronco fashion. So yes, I've made progression. Thank you for all the team support especially Chris Esling with the fly spray duties. Also thank you to Claire and Jodie for returning to the competition to collect the results at the end of the day."



Stacie and her new horse Rosie

Guinness Price just felt he had to wax lyrical about the day ....

## A day out with me Malvern Mates!

A hot and sunny afternoon  
All plaited spick and span -  
Into the lorry off we went  
Not dressage pleeease ... Oh Man!

Yep sure enough no jumps in sight  
Just loads of darn Arenas  
Ok I know the drill me dear  
Smile - turn Dressage Diva!

I tried real hard with pointed toes  
Chinny to me chest  
Could not resist a wink or two  
The Judges like that best! (Its the Irish in me!)

The clouds came out - the flies vamoosed  
Unhindered concentration!  
The trotting, cantering, all went well  
Praps not quite a sensation!

Down centre line – emergency stop  
All square – all done - that's that!  
I really needs a mint or two  
Huh – who you callin' fat!

With Dick on fly swat duty,  
I'm soon chillin with me hay  
So where's the flippin' picnic ...  
WHAT ... ONLY CAKE TODAY!

Eventually all loaded up  
The side door is flung wide  
Her grinning face peers in at me  
All glistening with such pride.

A lovely blue rosette she waved  
And fussed and flattered me,  
I must a done alright again  
I like to keep her happy!

Guinness (aka Goo-legro!)

## BRAVING BADMINTON



ABOVE: The MHRC Minstrels  
RIGHT: The MHRC Magics  
(thanks to Tina for photos)

On the 14<sup>th</sup> July, the club sent two teams to compete in the Badminton RC Dressage Championship. Each team of three rode the same test, with the highest scorer in each team going forward to the individual championship at the end of the day.

The MHRC Minstrels of Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan, Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash and Tina Price & Tom Thumb, were 7<sup>th</sup>, while the MHRC Magics of Katherine Jones & Redback Cappuchino, Tina Price & Mister Buzz and Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster were 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Team Manager Kat said of the day, "After 3 visits with the lovely Dotster to the Badminton Dressage Championships, I still get butterflies as I drive through Little Badminton, arriving on site driving past the massive cross country fences. It is a very special place and not that many riders will compete there. I think Dots would have been horrified if she had seen the jumps out of the lorry, but luckily she was there to be a dressage diva.

With several last minute changes to teams, we all made it to Badminton on a beautiful sunny day. It was going to be a very long day, but as usual food helped the teams through it, with some rather scrummy scones and cheese straws made by Sue's mum. Thank you. We finished the day with Ice creams too!



## BBQ BONANZA

(Continued from page 1)

salad, only for there to be a choice of over 20 puddings!

A huge extra thank you to Mike Harber, who did all the cooking and managed to get all the meat cooked to everyone's taste. And to Amber Knott and the Eslings, who did so much of the washing up and clearing away.

This year, there was the extra special Prize Draw, with every ticket being entered to win some fantastic prizes. Details of the people / companies who generously donated the prizes are on the next page - please support them to say thanks.

Everyone had some super scores. Tina and Julie qualified for the individual championships. They both did superbly with tired, hot horses and Tina just missed out on an individual rosette, which she said didn't want as it would have meant she went home with something the rest of us did not have. So kind of her to give up her rosette by missing 0.5 of a mark!

It was our most successful year to date as a team. There was a total of 32 teams from riding clubs across the country so this was a superb result. Well done everyone. To top it all the 3<sup>rd</sup> placed team received goodie bags and a lovely plaque to go on their stables, and we all had our photo taken at the prize giving with the Duchess of Beaufort. Roll on next year. "



The winners were:

- Private Lesson with Nick Lawson = Mike Harber (but I think Lin might have appropriated it instead!)
- Photo Shoot with Jess Photography = Sophie Hooper
- Schooling Hire at Ace XC = Caroline Bates
- Arena Hire at Hillview Arena = Jane Downham
- Trailer Hire from HayDays Horse Transport = Lance Jones
- Rug Clean & Reproof from Helen Robson = Katherine Jones
- Rug Clean & Reproof from Helen Robson = Suzanne Lidbetter
- Photo from Top Shots Photography = Jenny Barnes
- MHRC £10 voucher = Sara Stephenson



**HELEN ROBSON:** Rugs taken for cleaning and reproofing. Numnahs, boots, etc for washing. Based just outside Ledbury. Contact through facebook, on 01531 631 720 or fourways.farm@btinternet.com for latest price lists.



**Nick Lawson:** Dressage rider based nr. Tewkesbury. Available for individual or group training. Contact through Facebook.

**Hill View** has been an family enterprise for over 40 years. Situated alongside the Malvern Hills, it caters for many equestrian needs. We enjoy a beautiful setting, with all the attractions of Worcestershire and Herefordshire on our doorstep. The 60 x 35m Arena is available for private hire from £15 per hour for up to two horses, and is fully floodlit. Regular Dressage, Showing and Showing shows are held there, as well as clinics with a variety of riders. [www.hillview.myzen.co.uk](http://www.hillview.myzen.co.uk)



**TOP SHOTS PHOTOGRAPHY:** We are a small but dedicated photography team specialising in the areas of equine sports. We have an ever growing expertise in photographing horses and their riders in all aspects of equine sports. Be it hairy ponies at your local hunter trial, or top level Grand Prix dressage competitions, no job is too big or too small when you are perfecting your craft.



We strongly believe that it is vital not to forget the fundamentals of photography in this business. We therefore take pride in every photograph we take, and put all our efforts into capturing moments that you can love, and we can be proud of. [www.topshots.org.uk](http://www.topshots.org.uk)

**JESS PHOTOGRAPHY:** Jess offers a professional, friendly service combined with a relaxed style and has a great eye for detail. Specialising in equine, wedding, pet & family photography, Jess is hugely passionate about photography and horses and spends a lot of time perfecting her work; being able to combine the two makes it an amazing job! Jess has spent most of her life around horses & animals & in the past has competed in many disciplines, on a variety of horses with a real love for dressage & a soft spot for Welsh Cobs! Situated in rural Gloucestershire, Jess covers all neighbouring counties and beyond. [www.jess-photography.co.uk](http://www.jess-photography.co.uk)



**ACE XC:** Abbots Court Farm can be found just off Junction 1 of the M50, at Twynning, just north of Tewkesbury. We are a working arable farm and have been owned by the Williams family since the 1960s. We have had a DIY livery yard at the farm for many years and we are now developing the equestrian side of our business. We, along with our course builder, Simon Grundy, have designed and built a variety of jumps, ranging in size from tiddlers to 90cms. Our aim is to offer horses & riders of all abilities a fun, interesting and challenging cross country experience. We have a water complex with various entry/exit options. You can hop a simple log, tyre jump or head for the more complex arrowheads and corners. You can view the gallery and see most of our jumps or come along and see them for yourself. The majority of our jumps are portable so that we can vary the course and easily move them if ground conditions change. We simply want you to come and have a safe, fun learning adventure [www.acecrosscountry.co.uk](http://www.acecrosscountry.co.uk)

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For the latest club news see [www.malvernhillridingclub.co.uk](http://www.malvernhillridingclub.co.uk) or check out our Facebook page

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## MERCIAN LEAGUE

After Combined Training 31.07.2016

PLACE	CLUB	POINTS
1st	MALVERN RC	127
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	108
3rd	BROMYARD RC	69
4th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	60
5th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	34
6th	WYVERN RC	32
7th	CHELTENHAM RC	30
8th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	27
9th	WORCESTER RC	23
10th	BROMSGROVE RC	21
11th	FRAMPTON RC	15
12th	VALE OF ARROW RC	3



## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail [mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) or by check out the individual club websites for a copy.

### August 2016

- 2nd Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena
- 5-7th Horse Trials Championship, Swalcliffe Park Equestrian, Oxon (BRC) (S)
- 9th Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena
- 14th **MHRC Eventer Challenge and Blenheim Trial, Hillview Arena (MHRC) (S)**
- 16th Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena
- 20th South Wales & West of England RC Championships, Hartpury (BRC)
- 21st Mercian Arena Eventing, Stourport EC (Bromsgrove RC) (S)
- 23rd Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena
- 27th Mercian One-Day Event, New Hunt Farm, Huntley (Cheltenham RC) (S)

### September 2016

- 9th Blenheim Riding Club Challenge, Blenheim Palace
- 10-11th National Championships Lincolnshire Showground
- 25th Mercian Show & Style Jumping, Lincomb EC (Shropshire South RC)

### October 2016

- 1st-2nd DTM Champs & Quadrille Trial Bury Farm Equestrian, Bucks
- 7th Mercian Quiz and Presentation Evening, Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Worcester (Wyvern RC)
- 8th Area Eventer Challenge Qualifier, Sapey, Bromayrd (Bromyard RC)
- 22nd Area Novice Winter Dressage Qualifier, Hartpury College (Cheltenham RC)

## PEPPER POT POINTS LEAGUE

As of 1st August 2016

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Tina Price	530
2nd	Anne Price	475
	Jodie Powell	475
4th	Julie Jeffes	430
5th	Sue Peckham	360
6th	Steph Woolley	335
7th	Camilla Esling	270
8th	Leanne Bennett	260
	Sarah Bowness	260
	Victoria Gregg	260
9th	Anna Robson	255
10th	Nicki Mundy	235
11th	Kat Jones	220
12th	Sara Stephenson	180
13th	Anna Millington	175
	Caroline Bates	175
15th	Sophie Hooper	155
16th	Clare Gabriel	140
17th	Lin Harber	130
18th	Amber Knott (JNR)	125
	Kelly Hudson	125
20th	Suzanne Lidbetter	120
21st	Pam Render	115
22nd	Chris Esling	95
23rd	Deborah Lennard	85
24th	Alex Riches	80
	Wendy Yates	80
26th	Elizabeth Wise	75
27th	Jenny Barnes	70
	Jo Jaynes	70
29th	Shellee Harris	60
30th	Chloe Neathway	55
31st	Ali Park	45
	Ali Taylor	45
33rd	Lauran Jones	40
	Sacha Willis (JNR)	40
	Will Milde	40
	William Hooper (JNR)	40
37th	Emma Monahan	35
	Esme Ruff (JNR)	35
	Linda Kemp	35
	Mary Bisco	35
41st	Emma Horton-Smith	30
42nd	Clare Dando	25
	Georgina Kilmister (JNR)	25
	Kelly Mawman	25
	Laura Bennett	25
	Mia Bannister (JNR)	25
	Stefania Bennett	25
48th	Becky Gibbs	20
	Chloe Probert (JNR)	20
50th	Diane Symonds	15
51st	Rachel Kilmister	10
52nd	Carole Hubble	5
	Clare Chapman	5
	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Downham	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Katherine Beard (JNR)	5
	Liz Whitehead	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rosie Clare	5
	Sarah Bradley	5
	Sarah Smith	5
	Sophie Bowness (JNR)	5
	Stacie Slater	5



# NEWSLETTER

**THIS MONTH:**

**BRC Horse Trials Championship / MHRC Eventer Challenge & Blenheim Selection Trial / BRC South West Regional Championships / Mercian Eventing / Interdressage / New Club Clothing  
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



*How many Committee members does it take to put up a gazebo?*

*Fun and Laughter at the Horse Trials Champs ... see page 2 for full report.*

## EDITOR'S BIT



Going Commando at the Eventer Challenge!

For the first time in, oh, a while, I actually got to experience a MHRC event from the other side of the great divide, so to speak - yes, me and yobbo pony got to compete in the Eventer Challenge. We weren't placed and I don't think we'd have won a style jumping award, but I have to say it was fantastic fun (apart from the rather excitable bucking between fences - that wasn't fun at all!). The atmosphere was brilliant and it was great to see so many members having a go or lending a hand. Unfortunately, there wasn't a camera on hand to record the ~~anties~~ superb efforts of the committee clearing the cut grass on the evening before ... maybe next year. A full report on the competition is on page 3.

So, hands up - who's brave enough to own up to this month's guilty pleasure. Have you been watching Katie Price's Pony Club? It's one of things that I know I shouldn't be investing in, but like a car crash, you kind of feel like you can't take your eyes away from the screen. It's a little bit of 'how the other half live' coupled with profound sympathy for both ponies and kids - I haven't quite decided which I feel most sorry for. Shows can be scary enough, but entering your first proper jumping competition after only a week of instruction! The commentators are funny though - whoever wrote the script doesn't have a clue and it's worth watching just for that. But for me, it has to be the instructors that have been involved. They are so inspirational - I wish I could find that much patience and fortitude when everything starts to go wrong!

Oh, and I hope you like the new look newsletter ☺

*until next time, Caroline*

# BRC HORSE TRIALS CHAMPS 2016



*Laura and Sadie*

The British Riding Club Horse Trials Championships took place from 5th to the 7th August. This is a huge event, with clubs from across the country descending on Swalcliffe, Oxfordshire, to compete for the national titles.

MHRC were proud to send a bevy of competitors, certainly more than we have done in recent years.

In the 80cm section (which was run as a one-day event on the Friday) we had two individuals, both of who won their sections at the qualifier back in July. Julie Jeffes on Hederfield Ash represented us in the senior section, with Sacha Willis on Narrow Blaze in the Junior section.



*Sue and Gangster*

In the 90cm section were our Senior team of Jodie Powell and Bleanagloos Black Diamond, Camilla Esling on Just Jake VII, Leanne Bennett & Curra Pokey Joe and Sue Peckham on Mr Gangster. The competition was run as a two day event, with dressage and show jumping on Saturday, and roads & tracks, steeplechase and cross-country on Sunday.

Last, but by far not least, in the



*Jodie and Trixie*

100+ section, we had Laura Bennett on Lematon Sunshine Sadi, and this was run as a full three-day event across the long weekend.

"I had a fabulous time," said Laura, "and this wonderful club has restored my faith in teams. It was fantastic to be included in the club's celebrations and so nice to see such a fantastic atmosphere between everyone. I felt so honoured that people stayed to watch my show jumping and, to be honest, the



*Camilla and Jake*

cheer I got at the end meant so much - it didn't matter whether I won or not. A fab weekend with fantastic, genuine and supportive people. Roll on the next one."

When all the results were posted, everyone was over the moon to see that MHRC had scooped a few rosettes to bring home. Individual awards were given in each section of each class, and Sacha was 7th, Sue 10th and Laura 8th. Well done ladies.

A huge thank you to Chris Esling and Lin Harber, who fence judged all Friday on behalf of the club, meaning that we were able to send so many competitors over the weekend.



*Leanne and Joe*

# EVENTER CHALLENGE & BLENHEIM TRIAL

What a fantastic day we had on 14th August when MHRC descended on Hillview Arena for our Eventer Challenge? With 6 classes ranging from 60cms to 1m and over 70 competitors, the ring was kept busy from 10 o'clock in the morning all the way through to 6 o'clock in the evening.

The competition was held over two 'arenas', starting on the surface over a series of show jumps. Then it was a pop out onto the bank and onto the cross-country part of the course, with a twisty half a dozen fences to negotiate before jumping back into the arena. The final test was an upright of planks to make sure brakes were back in place! It certainly proved a challenge, with only a handful of clears throughout the day, but most people finished with a smile on their faces to big cheers from all the onlookers.

The last class of the day was the MHRC selection trial for the Blenheim Riding Club Challenge next month. After some nail-biting rounds, the team can now be confirmed as Steph & Freckles, Sue & Gangster, Plum & Boots and Alex & Darcy.

A huge thank you goes to our sponsors - Sophie for the 1st prize vouchers for free arena hire at Hillview, Pioneer Feeds, Ledbury, for the 2nd prizes of £10 vouchers to spend in the store, and Swallows Stables, Wellington Heath, for the 3rd prizes of tubs of treats.

Also thanks must go to Wendy Robinson

and the Knott family for lending us some jumps; to Ethan and Amber Knott, Sara Stephenson, Jodie Powell, Sophie Hooper, Lin Harber and everyone else who helped pole pick through the day; Chris Esling and Linda Kemp for keeping everything running on time; Jessi Staines for photographing the event; Karen Withers for the great job commentating; and Camilla Esling for the excellent course (and even more excellent cupcakes!).



### Wellington Heath Ledbury, HR8 1NA

\* Stabling for up to 12 horses \* Outdoor all weather menage \* Around 20 acres of paddocks \* Various Cross Country fences \* Hay barn, tack room and feed store \* Parking for cars and horseboxes \* Disabled access to Stables and Menage  
[www.ledburylivery.com](http://www.ledburylivery.com)



### RESULTS

#### CLASS 1: 60cms

1st Mia Coombes & Arizona  
2nd Lucy Straw & Half Head  
3rd (Best MHRC) Wendy Robinson & Bailey 4th Angela Williams & Birch 5th Emma Monahan & Percy 6th Anna Robson & I Believe I Can Fly

#### CLASS 2: 70cms

1st (Best MHRC) Sophie Hooper & King's Archer 2nd Anna Robson & I Believe I Can Fly 3rd Vicky Collett & French Park Lady 4th Leanne Beacham & Sir Robert 5th Lucy Straw & Half Head 6th Wendy Robinson & Bailey

#### CLASS 3: 80cms

1st Fae Armstrong & Fairlea Bob 2nd Lisa Illiffe & Cassein 3rd Verity Roberts & Icons Diamon 4th Francis Layton & Mr Todd 5th Sian Evans & Dawn 6th (Best MHRC) Tina Price & Buzz-B

#### CLASS 4: 90cms

1st Louise Price & Phoenix 2nd (Best MHRC) Sacha Willis & Blaze 3rd Francis Layton & Mr Todd 4th Rosie Blossett & L Marmaduke 5th Emily Hicks & Jack in a Box 6th Kim Schofield & Just Pinky

#### Class 5a: 100cms OPEN

1st Louise Price & Phoenix 2nd Georgie Toole & Midnight Magic 3rd Jo Kolind & Jasanni 4th Harriet Russell & Red Alert 5th Esther Christie & Zephy 6th Jordan Heard & Rambo

#### Class 5b: 100cms MHRC

1st (Best MHRC) Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matador 2nd Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster 3rd Victoria Gregg & Boots 4th Victoria Gregg & Rocky 5th Alex Riches & Mr Darcy 6th Victoria Gregg & Euro



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<http://www.pioneerfeedandcountrystore.co.uk>

# BRC SOUTH WEST REGIONAL CHAMPIPS

A rather wet and blustery day saw the club return to Hartpury College for the inaugural South West BRC Regional Championship on 20th August.

The Regionals have been added to the competition calendar by BRC to address the problems faced by many clubs in sending teams to the National Championships at Lincoln, where distance and expense become a deciding factor. Luckily, MHRC has never had this problem, but it was great to be invited to take part in the new championships as well.

Over the summer, teams that were placed 2nd to 6th in the Prelim riding test, prelim dressage, novice show jumping and the style jumping qualifiers, were in with a chance at being chosen to go to Hartpury. And for MHRC, it was our jumping teams that went along.

For the Novice Show Jumping, we were represented by Tina Price on Buzz-B, Julie Jeffes on Hederfield Ash, Kelly Hudson on Half Key Endeavour and Anna Robson on I Believe I Can Fly. And for the Style Jumping, it was Tina and Julie again, plus Esme Ruff on Blue Suede Shoes and Anne Price on Half a Guinness.

And it was the Style team that triumphed on the day, with a well deserved 5th place and an individual 3rd for Julie and Ash.

Kelly didn't have the best of days, but has managed to find the funny side, "Funny! I don't think I'd ever been so excited. All week I was ready. Saturday was the most awful weather. I had to work, so got to there a bit late and stressed. I raced up to let everyone know I was there and to learn the course. Only then did I think, oh no, Barneys never really been indoors! Never mind. Tina was fabulous in the warm up. She quickly realised I don't have a warm up plan. She found out when I was to ride and got me going really well. I'd never been more positive that it was going to be a good round. In I went. Good we got though the doors and I was off up to fence one. Suddenly Barney saw the crowd and

whipped round so fast I was on the deck! A nice guy ran in to help me back on only for me to be told I was Eliminated - gutted. I really wanted to do well for such a fabulous club. Sorry guys. And thank you all for being so kind."

## MY DAY OUT HARTPURY CHAMPIONSHIPS!! (Woooo)

By Guinness Price (aka Big Star!!!)

I've had a little holiday  
Missed you all a lot  
So imagine my delight  
When in the lorry we was off.  
All poned and poofed I travelled  
My Mantra on the way  
JUMPS not dressage - JUMPS not dressage

Well it made my day!  
Not only WAS it jumpin  
As the rain tipped down all soggy  
YIPPEEE it was indoors  
So spoilt me and jockey!  
Had a little warm up  
And popped a fence or two  
Next they was a calling  
My turn to go and do!  
Haven't been indoors  
For such a long ole while  
Lots of jumps - exciting  
Made me blinkin' smile!

Saluted to the Judge  
Then did some pretty canter,  
Next the bell and off we went  
Sit tight Ma - stop the banter!  
I really was enjoying  
My jumping round the course  
Then came her "Senior Moment"  
Confusion reigned - poor horse  
I think I heard a voice say  
Or praps it was my jockey  
The sat nav failed - I saved the day  
But found the first fence in the way!  
(Arghh)

Lucky she woke up and said  
NO - THAT'S NOT THE ONE  
Left hand down - its over here  
The course was finally done!  
Out I trotted puffin lots  
In unison with my jockey  
Little out of practise both  
Our fitness somewhat rocky!!!  
So with my haynet waiting  
For hours on end it seemed  
Had a little snoozy  
Then saw her face - it gleamed.  
An individual rossie ...  
9<sup>TH</sup> place but BEST OF ALL  
"CHAMPIONSHIPS" all big and bold  
Across it clearly sprawled!!!  
And then our team was also placed  
5<sup>th</sup> - so all were happy  
And home I came, out in my field  
Contented little chappy!



Below is a picture of the lovely rosette we received from British Riding clubs for comping 3rd in the Inter-dressage league. In total, 15 MHRC members competed in the online tests from October 2015 to April 2016, bringing home a bevy of fantastic rosettes each month. There were tests for everyone, whatever the level you're competing at, as well as showing and jumping classes.

The League begins again in October, so keep an eye on e-mails and the newsletter for more details of filming days organised by the club.





# MERCIAN EVENTING

It was a month for our Mercian riders to go eventing in August, with two different competitions to choose from.

On 21st, it was the Arena Eventing at Stourport Equestrian Centre. For this, all riders rode a dressage a test as normal, but then completed their show jumping and simulated cross-country rounds on a surface in the indoor arena.

Each club was only allowed to send one team for each height category, but even so, MHRC did fantastically well.

The Novice team of Kelly Mawmen & Kara, Shellee Harries & Midas, Rachel Kilmister & George and Jo Jaynes and Lady Jane, came 5th, with an individual 4th for Rachel and a 6th for Kelly.

But our Intermediate team of Stefania Bennet & Albert, Ali Park & Gangster, Anna Robson & Santa Fe and Nicki Mundy & Harry couldn't be beaten and won the class. Stefanie was 2nd, Anna was 3rd and Nicky was 5th.

Then on 27th, it was off to Huntley, Newent, for the One-Day-Event, with all three phases taking place on grass.

The Malvern Malteasers of Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue, Sarah Bradley & Mildred, Anna Robson & Santa Fe and Annie Robertson & Frankie, entered the 2'3 class. In the 2'6 class, we had the Malvern Minstrels of Leanne Bennett & Joey, Anna Millington & Senderos, Nicky Mundy & Holly and Jo Jaynes & Nimrod.

Sadly, the Malteasers weren't



*Nicki at Stourport*

placed, but Anna Robson won the class for an individual red rosette.

MHRC also headed the individual line-up of the 2'6 class, with Nicky Mundy taking the honours, closely followed by Leanne Bennett in 2nd place. An excellent result that saw the team taking the 2nd prize.

## CLOTHING MATTERS

Some of you may have seen the smart new club wear as sported by the committee at the MHRC Eventer Challenge. Well, now that we have fully tested it, we can offer it to everyone! All clothing is in the new club colours of navy with yellow gold logos and writing.



We will also have new XC colours and numnahs (white with navy logo for DR & Navy with yellow logo for XC/SJ) available to buy shortly. NB. Old style numnahs and clothing can still be worn for all club events - please don't feel that you HAVE to buy new.

All available from S (8) to XL (18)



**\*\* Soft-Shell Waterproof jacket £25 \*\***

(NB. Sizes come up a bit small, so if you prefer a looser fit, please order a size up from your normal one).

Order form included with the newsletter or contact Linda Kemp.



**\*\* POLO SHIRTS £15 \*\***  
(NB. Horse not included © )

**\*\* HOODY £22 \*\***





# NEEDFUL THINGS

## MERCIAN INTER-CLUB LEAGUE

	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN RC	154
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	112
3rd	BROMYARD RC	74
4th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	72
5th	WYVERN RC	48
6th	CHELTENHAM RC	47
7th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	46
8th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	28
9th	WORCESTER RC	23
10th	BROMSGROVE RC	21
11th	FRAMPTON RC	15
12th	VALE OF ARROW RC	3

(This includes points earned at the Ode, but not from the Arena Eventing, as the official results have not been published)

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk or by check out the individual club websites for a copy.

### September 2016

**8th** = Blenheim Riding Club Challenge, Blenheim Palace **(S)**

**10-11th** = National Championships, Lincolnshire Showground **(S)**

**25th** = Mercian Hunter Trial, Frampton Court (Frampton RC) **(S)**

### October 2016

**1st-2nd** = DTM Champs & Quadrille Trial, Bury Farm Equestrian, Bucks

**7th** = Mercian Quiz, Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Worcester (Wyvern RC)

**8th** = Area Eventer Challenge Qualifier, Sapey, Bromyard (Bromyard RC) **(S)**

**22nd** = Area Novice Winter Dressage Qualifier, Hartpury College (Cheltenham RC) **TBC**

### February 2017

**26th** = Area Novice & Intermediate Show Jumping, Moores Farm (Cropton RC)

**TBC** = Mercian Style & Show Jumping, Stourport EC (South Shropshire RC)

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Tina Price	550
2nd	Anne Price	495
3rd	Julie Jeffes	480
4th	Jodie Powell	465
5th	Anna Robson	415
6th	Sue Peckham	400
7th	Steph Woolley	375
8th	Nicki Mundy	365
9th	Leanne Bennett	335
10th	Victoria Gregg	320
11th	Camilla Esling	275
12th	Sarah Bowness	265
13th	Kat Jones	220
14th	Anna Millington	210
15th	Sophie Hooper	195
16th	Caroline Bates	185
17th	Sara Stephenson	180
18th	Clare Gabriel	150
	Kelly Hudson	150
20th	Lin Harber	130
21st	Amber Knott (JNR)	125
22nd	Suzanne Lidbetter	120
23rd	Stefania Bennett	115
24th	Jo Jeynes	110
25th	Alex Riches	100
	Pam Render	100
27th	Chris Esling	95
28th	Ali Park	90
29th	Deborah Lennard	85
	Shellee Harris	85
31st	Elizabeth Wise	80
	Sacha Willis (JNR)	80
	Wendy Yates	80
39th	Jenny Barnes	75
40th	Ali Taylor	70
41st	Emma Monahan	60
	Kelly Mawman	60
43rd	Chloe Neathway	55
	Esme Ruff (JNR)	55
45th	Rachel Kilmister	50
46th	Lauran Jones	40
	Will Milde	40
	William Hooper (JNR)	40
49th	Linda Kemp	35
	Mary Bisco	35
51st	Emma Horton-Smith	30
	Georgina Kilmister (JNR)	30
	Laura Bennett	30
54th	Chloe Probert (JNR)	25
	Clare Dando	25
	Mia Bannister (JNR)	25
57th	Becky Gibbs	20
58th	Diane Symonds	15
59th	Sarah Bradley	10
60th	Annie Robertson	5
	Carole Hubble	5
	Clare Chapman	5
	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Downham	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Katherine Beard (JNR)	5
	Liz Whitehead	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rosie Clare	5
	Sarah Smith	5
	Sophie Bowness (JNR)	5
	Stacie Slater	5

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# NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**\*\* BRC National Championships \*\* Blenheim Riding Club Challenge \*\* Mercian Hunter Trials \*\*  
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



*Smiles, Support and Some Sunshine at the BRC National Championships.*

## EDITOR'S BIT



Another first for me and yobbo pony this month. I was lucky enough to qualify for the British Dressage club Regionals, which meant having to coax my ageing lorry up three motorways and across some impressive Peak District hills, temporary stables not exactly built for a 600kg escape artist with bulldozer tendencies and camping - I hate camping! But I have to say that I was over the moon with how Smokey took it all in his stride, didn't destroy anything and even managed to do some dressage amongst all the stress.

However, what I wasn't prepared for was our return home. Someone thinks he's a bit special now (as in superior, rather than 'needs!') and is sooooo big-headed. It's like dealing with a teenage pop-star. Whoever suggested that animals can't show personalities or emotions, should come and watch Smokey pawing the ground for my attention in the field, because obviously he is far too good to walk to me, but I need to hustle to get to him.

Anyway, I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter ... some great results at all levels of RC competition once again. The Mercian competitions have finished for 2016, but we still have some area qualifiers to contest, and the Interdressage league starts again next month for anyone who's interested in taking part. An e-mail was sent out with the first schedule, but contact me if you want to know more. Keep an eye on your e-mails, Facebook and future issues, as the winter programme of training and clinics will be starting up soon.

I'll leave you to it - Mr Bieber wants his supper!

*until next time, Caroline*

# BRC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The biggest weekend of the British Riding Club calendar happened on the 10th and 11th September, with clubs from across the UK descending on Lincoln Showground for the National Championships. After a fantastic competition year, MHRC sent a record number of competitors to contend 6 different national titles.

## ROLL CALL

### Senior Open Dressage (TEAM)

- Camilla Esling & Just Jake VII (Novice 24)
- Tina Price & Buzz B (Novice 27)
- Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash (Novice 28)
- Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matador (Elementary 43)

### Senior Riding Test (TEAM)

- Tina Price & Buzz B (Prelim)
- Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster (Prelim)
- Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash (Novice)
- Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matador (Novice)

### Senior Riding Test (Individual)

- Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond (Prelim)

### Junior Dressage (Individual)

- Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan (Prelim 7)

### Senior Novice Show Jumping (Individual)

- Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash

### Senior Prelim Dressage (TEAM)

- Sarah Bowness & Our Bawn Lodger (Prelim 14)
- Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster (Prelim 14)
- Camilla Esling & Ted's Rainbow (Prelim 14)
- Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond (Prelim 14)

Saturday was a rather wet day for our seniors, but they still managed to bring home the rosettes for the club. The senior Prelim Dressage team were 6th, with an individual 3rd for Sue and 5th for Jodie. The Open Dressage team was 8th with Steph getting individual 3rd, and, even though the Riding Test Team were unplaced, Tina was 7th and Steph 6th. Sunday was a much brighter day for our one Junior representative, Amber, who came a fantastic 4th against some stiff competition.

Chris, Area Team Manager, thoroughly enjoyed the weekend, "We set off to Lincoln on the Friday morning in brilliant sunshine, hoping to avoid the worst of the traffic. I had my trusty co-pilot, Lin, with me, as Camilla travelled up with Jodie so that no one was going on their own. You will never get a speeding ticket when Lin is with you as she has an eye on the speed limit the whole time! We all arrived at Lincoln Showground to find that Steph had got there early in her car and kept plenty of spaces so that we could all be together. By 6 o'clock we were all there and horses settled after having passports, etc., checked. But little did we know that the biggest challenge of the weekend was not going to be producing the best dressage test, but helping to put up Julie and Charlie's enormous tent! Rita and I bravely hung on to either side in the very strong wind as Charlie battled away, until a very helpful Irishman, who had watched us for some time getting nowhere, offered his help. He announced that as a builder, he would know which bit of

(Continued on page 3)



# BRC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS CONT...



(Continued from page 2)

tent went where! We still haven't worked out how that would be, but he kept us amused anyway. Once this task was completed, Rita took off in her car and brought us all fish and chips so we had the first of our two parties.

The heavy rain that started on Friday night then continued throughout Saturday as our amazing teams battled to produce the best tests that they could. The results were fantastic with teams coming 6th and 8th and Sue and Steph individual 3rds so they were presented with their rosettes and sashes at the mounted prize giving.

Our one and only junior, Amber, then arrived on Saturday afternoon ready for her day on the Sunday. We all settled down that evening for another party with fantastic food that we had all brought, but it was Kirsty's lasagne that was the biggest hit of the evening. I had plenty of Prosecco left over from my recent BIG birthday, so that was soon demolished. A great fun evening with so much laughter!

The next morning we were treated to bacon butties from Tony and Kirsty, then we all went to watch Amber do her test. She came 4th in her section, which was an amazing result as the standard of the Juniors was very high.

We then packed up our stuff, and waved farewell to Julie and Charlie's tent, which went straight into a nearby skip as it had leaked so badly that they had magicked up their very own indoor swimming pool!

It was a fantastic, fun weekend spent with great friends. Thank you to everyone

for making it all such fun to organise and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. We are so lucky in our club that everyone supports each other no matter how good or bad things get. Let's look forward to another great year.

When asked about her weekend, Jodie replied, "Well what can I say? The whole weekend was great. The fish and chips collected by Rita on Friday evening were amazing....."

Not a great night's sleep at all, as kept waking up from the rain ... and rain it did. A very wet and soggy day had by all; I went through 2 coats and 2 pairs of breeches, including two sets of underwear and socks. I even had to buy a hat.

But there were lots of laughs, great memories, fantastic company and support ... and the usual amazing picnics."

Chairwoman Lin went along to support the teams. "Despite the heavy rain and strong winds, the spirits of the MHRC competitors and supporters at the Championships definitely did not dampen the enthusiasm,

comradeship, team spirit and appetites. Excellent food, company, entertainment and five star accommodation - a weekend to be remembered. Congratulations to everyone who qualified and competed at the Championships - an achievement indeed."

A huge thank you from the club goes to our official volunteers - Rita Woolley, Chris Esling and Charlie Jeffes, as without them we would have been unable to compete.

(Thanks to Steph, Jodie, Linda Kemp and Camilla for the photos).

## NATIONALS BY NUMBERS

- ◆ 1 Missing Bag of Fudge (Lin?)
- ◆ 2 Sashes
- ◆ 5 Lasagnes
- ◆ 7 Bottles of Prosecco
- ◆ 8 Riders
- ◆ 9 Horses
- ◆ 13 Soaking Wet Tea-Towels
- ◆ 14 Rosettes
- ◆ And a Whole Lot of Fun ☺





# MERCIAN HUNTER TRIAL



**Nicky and Holly**



**Leanne and Joe**



**Sarah and Barney**

The last ridden Mercian event was the Hunter Trial held at Frampton Court on 25th September. Despite being top of the league, MHRC wasn't going to rest on its laurels and sent 3 teams to compete.

In each team, two people rode the 2'3 course and two the 2'6 course. The course itself wended its way through Frampton Park, in front of the rather impressive house, giving the competition the feel of being a mini-Badminton. A section of woodland tracks and a quick trot through the estate's car-parks, meant it was also quite a test, but everyone got back safe and sound ... even if there were a few adventures along the way.

The weather stayed reasonably warm and dry for the most part, except one huge downpour as the cheer squad hung around at the end of the course for the 2'6 riders to return. But most of our riders were lucky enough to compete in the dry.



**Sophie and Barney**

And at the end of the day it was great news, with the Malvern Butterflies coming 6th and the Malvern Ladybirds declared the overall winners. In the 2'3 section, there was an individual win for Nicki and a 4th for Shellee. And in the 2'6 section Sophie was 6th, Sarah was 3rd and Leanne 2nd.

#### **MALVERN BUTTERFLIES**

2'3 Kelly Hudson & HalfKey Endeavour  
2'3 Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane  
2'6 Sarah Bowness & Our Bawn Lodger

2'6 Tina Price & Buzz-B

#### **MALVERN BUMBLEBEES**

2'3 Wendy Robinson & Lady Grove  
2'3 Shellee Harris & Golden King  
2'6 Leanne Bennett & Curra Pokey Joe

#### **MALVERN LADYBIRDS**

2'3 Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue  
2'3 Nicky Mundy & Holly  
2'6 Chris Esling & Half And Half  
2'6 Sophie Hooper & The King's Archer

Shellee came 4th "with a little help from Midas! I thought the course was one of the best I've seen at that level. Really well built and in beautiful surroundings. A good warm-up for Sapey in a couple of weeks!"

Chris says "Frampton Hunter Trial is one of my favourite Mercian competitions. My little horse loves cross-country, so he breezed round with me just sitting there! It's such a lovely, well built course, with lovely ground - it was so springy to ride on after the rain. It was great to be part of the winning team and I also managed to scrape an individual 8th place - could have been better if I hadn't got me whip tangled in my reins trying to do the gate! Great fun being part of a team, so thanks to everyone for the support and the usual laughter!"

New member Clare says "Frampton Hunter Trials is al  
(Continued on page 5)



**Shellee and Midas**



# BLENHEIM RC CHALLENGE



The Team: (from left): Sue, Victoria, Steph and Anna

The Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials took place on the 8th to 11th September, and little old MHRC was there on the Thursday, taking part in the Riding Club 100 Challenge.

Sadly, Alex Riches' horse went lame and she was unable to take part. But Anna Robson on Academy Award stepped in last minute, joining Steph Woolley on Freckleton Matador, Victoria Gregg on Rock Supreme and Sue Peckham on Mr Gangster.



The team performed brilliantly and ended up in 26th place out of 43 teams, with 44.4 total faults and a time of 423.21 seconds. The overall winners were Stansted and District Riding Club, who had 0 faults, and the Style Award was won by Jemma Baker and Brockley Star from Rother Valley Riding Club.

(Thanks to Steph for the photos)

# MERCIAN HUNTER TRIAL CONT.

(Continued from page 4)

ways a brilliant finish to the Mercian competition year. The location is just so beautiful. As ever, Malvern put out a great trio of teams. Everyone who came had a ball. The course was LONG - I think the biggest challenge was walking it, especially for those who walked it before competing.

I don't think there were any other teams there that had more foot supporters, whooped louder, hugged tighter or ate more cake! This is what Riding Clubs is all about. And Malvern epitomizes this like no other!

We had riders of all capabilities, and the more experienced riders were so encouraging the whole time to those of use who suffered with nerves.

My team did really well ... sadly I was the drop score with one silly stop, but 'no more' I said to Blue ... and there were no more! Nicki was super speedy and ended up with the best time of the day. We were delighted.

As ever, huge thanks to team manager Jodie, and all our wonderful supporters, in particular Lin for her hugs and lovely words of encouragement; Caroline for her wonderful pictures; Caroline's Mum, because she's



Clare and Blue

just lovely - and each and every person.

This is my first year at MHRC and it's a huge thank you. I'd lost my heart for competing and all the friends I have made this year, have given it back to me.

Here's to next year ...."



Chris and Arthur

## ERROR

In the last newsletter, it stated that Anna Millington and Senderos competed at the Mercian One-Day-Event on 27th August.

It was in fact Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer who took their place and helped the team to 2nd place.

The Pepper Pot League has been updated accordingly.





# NEEDFUL THINGS

## MERCIAN INTER-CLUB LEAGUE

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN RC	153
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	138
3rd	BROMYARD RC	82
4th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	73
5th	CHELTENHAM RC	52
6th	WYVERN RC	50
7th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	47
8th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	28
9th	FRAMPTON RC	26
10th	WORCESTER RC	23
11th	BROMSGROVE RC	21
12th	VALE OF ARROW RC	3

NB. Points for the Arena Eventing 21st Aug. are still to be added.

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk or by check out the individual club websites for a copy.

### October 2016

**1st-2nd** = DTM Champs & Quadrille Trial, Bury Farm Equestrian, Bucks

**6th** = DTM Clinic Session 2, Hillview Arena

**7th** = Mercian Quiz, Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Worcester (Wyvern RC)

**(S)**

**8th** = Area Eventer Challenge Qualifier, Sapey, Bromyard (Bromyard RC) **(S)**

**15th** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

**22nd** = Area Novice Winter Dressage Qualifier, Hartpury College (Cheltenham RC) **(S)**

### February 2017

**26th** = Area Novice & Intermediate Show Jumping, Moores Farm (Cropton RC)

**26th** = Mercian Style & Show Jumping, Stourport EC (South Shropshire RC)

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Tina Price	575
2nd	Jodie Powell	500
3rd	Anne Price	495
	Julie Jeffes	495
4th	Sue Peckham	450
5th	Nicki Mundy	440
6th	Steph Woolley	425
7th	Anna Robson	420
8th	Leanne Bennett	370
9th	Victoria Gregg	325
10th	Sarah Bowness	320
11th	Camilla Esling	295
12th	Sophie Hooper	280
13th	Kat Jones	220
14th	Clare Gabriel	190
15th	Caroline Bates	185
16th	Sara Stephenson	180
17th	Anna Millington	175
18th	Kelly Hudson	165
19th	Amber Knott (JNR)	150
20th	Katie Kawkesworth	140
21st	Chris Esling	135
22nd	Lin Harber	130
23rd	Jo Jaynes	125
24th	Suzanne Lidbetter	120
25th	Stefania Bennett	115
26th	Shellee Harris	110
27th	Alex Riches	100
	Pam Render	100
29th	Ali Park	90
30th	Deborah Lennard	85
31st	Elizabeth Wise	80
	Sacha Willis (JNR)	80
	Wendy Yates	80
34th	Jenny Barnes	75
35th	Ali Taylor	70
36th	Emma Monahan	60
	Kelly Mawman	60
38th	Chloe Neathway	55
	Esme Ruff (JNR)	55
40th	Rachel Kilmister	50
41st	Lauran Jones	40
	Will Milde	40
	William Hooper (JNR)	40
49th	Linda Kemp	35
	Mary Bisco	35
51st	Emma Horton-Smith	30
	Georgina Kilmister (JNR)	30
	Laura Bennett	30
54th	Chloe Probert (JNR)	25
	Clare Dando	25
	Mia Bannister (JNR)	25
57th	Becky Gibbs	20
58th	Diane Symonds	15
59th	Sarah Bradley	10

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE

60th	Annie Robertson	5
	Carole Hubble	5
	Clare Chapman	5
	Danielle Lyons	5
	Jane Downham	5
	Jane Osbourne	5
	Katherine Beard (JNR)	5
	Liz Whitehead	5
	Lyn Tilt	5
	Niki Padbury	5
	Rosie Clare	5
	Sarah Smith	5
	Sophie Bowness (JNR)	5
	Stacie Slater	5

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# NEWSLETTER

**THIS MONTH:**

**\*\* Area Eventer Challenge \*\* Mercian Quiz \*\* Interdressage \*\* Area Novice Dressage \*\*  
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



**\*\*\* SMILES ALL ROUND - MHRC = MERCIAN LEAGUE WINNERS FOR THE 3RD YEAR RUNNING \*\*\***

## EDITOR'S BIT



I came to the conclusion a long time ago, that horses work quite hard on embarrassing us. My previous horse's trick was to have a long, grunty pee whenever we hacked past a pub garden full of families enjoying a nice lunch! Smokey's endless tricks amaze me on occasion - and the latest one was no exception.

We have a footpath running through our field, which luckily is not used that often. But last week, a group of elderly ramblers happened to climb into the field at about the same time I did. Pride commeth before a fall, they say, and I felt quite gratified as I stood at the top of the hill, the horses cantering towards me as I called. Of course, Smokey can't let me get away with that for long! A quick change of direction and suddenly, the ramblers were a fun obstacle to play cat and mouse around! In the end, one lovely lady stood in front of him, patting his nose and making a fuss, while I caught up with him ... to say that butter wouldn't melt! But to cap it off, she then decided to give me some 'advice' and let me know that I shouldn't be worried - when I'm more experienced and my new horse is used to me, I'll have absolutely no trouble catching him ... as you can imagine, that went down really well.....

Anyway, October has been a busy month for the club - probably the last manic one of the year as the team competitions take a break. Keep an eye out on e-mails and Facebook for winter activities we'll be putting on ... the Horseless clinics start up again early November and the AGM will soon be fast approaching.

*until next time, Caroline*

MHRC

# AREA EVENTER CHALLENGE



*Sue and Gangster*

It came round fast, but the first Area qualifier of the 2016/2017 winter season was on 8th October. For the first time, Bromyard riding club took on the challenge of organising the event, and chose Sapey Cross-country as the venue.

The competition consists of a round of showjumps, followed straight away by a short course of cross-country obstacles,

where time and accuracy are the key to success.

MHRC sent along two teams and a smattering of individuals to compete in the various levels:

#### SENIOR 80cm TEAM

- Camilla Esling and Ted's Rainbow
- Shellee Harries and Golden King
- Annie Adams and Frankie
- Sarah Bowness and Our Bawn Lodger

#### SENIOR 90cm TEAM

- Tina Price and Buzz-B
- Jodie Powell and Bleanagloss Black Diamond
- Sue Peckham and Mr Gangster
- Liz Wise and Pumba

#### JUNIOR 90cm

- Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze
- Esme Ruff & Morning Flight

#### SENIOR 100cm

- Laura Bennett and Rosebud
- Laura Bennett and Lematon Sunshine

In the team events, both ours did fantastically against some stiff competition and were placed. The 80cm team came 4th, while our 90cm team won, which means they have qualified for the Festival of the Horse Championship 2017. Tina and Buzz also came 4th individually.

There were rosettes for our individual competitors too, with Laura coming 6th in the senior 100. Both our juniors were placed as well, with Esme in 4th and Sacha coming 2nd, making her the highest placed individual not on a team, so she has also qualified and will be off to the champs.



*Tina and Buzz*

## RINGING THE CHANGES

#### AGM AND CLUB MEMBERSHIP

As many of you know, a couple of years ago, we changed the membership to run from 1st Jan to 31st Dec, bringing it in line with headquarters. But, randomly, we continued to hold our AGM at the end of the year. So to make it easier for everyone, the AGM will now be held in January. Membership discounts will still be given on the night and your membership WILL still officially run from 1st January, even though paid at a later date. Please keep an eye on your e-mails and the newsletter for a confirmed date.

#### PEPPER POT LEAGUE

Partly to do with above and partly because it was time it was tweaked, the following changes will be implemented:

- Points will now be earned from 1st January to 31st December.
- For 2016 only, points earned November and December 2015 will also be included.
- There will be a separate league for Juniors and Seniors, with the Pepper Pot trophy awarded to the overall winner from both.
- Rosettes will now be awarded down to 15th place in each league, providing you have earned more than 5 points.
- From 2017, the league will be 'horse specific', so riders earning points on more than one horse will have more than one entry in the league.

**CHECK OUT THE BACK PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER TO SEE THE UP TO DATE LEAGUE.**



# MERCIAN QUIZ



Jane Osborne were narrowly pipped at the post to come 2nd.

Once the competition was over, it was time to award the Mercian cup to the overall winners ... and for the third year running MHRC were top of the leader board with quite an impressive lead. A quick calculation proved that Bromyard held it the longest at 5 consecutive years, so we have a way to go yet, but roll on 2017!

*Nothing to feel blue about - quizzers, cups and rosettes!*

The last Mercian event of the 2016 year was held on 7th October at Perdiswell Youth Centre, Worcester. No, the horses hadn't been trained in table tennis - it was time for the ever popular and very competitive quiz.

MHRC sent along two teams to have a go. Fuelled by wine, chocolate and the smell of chips, they battled through the rounds. The Malvern Oaks of Caroline Bates, Camilla Esling, Luran Jones and Will Milde couldn't quite repeat their winning performance from last year and came 7th. While the Malvern Willows of Chris Esling, Clare Gabriel, Julie Jeffes and



*Lin being presented the cup by Mercian Chair, Karen.*

## FINAL RESULTS

	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN RC	180
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	143
3rd	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	106
4th	BROMYARD RC	98
5th	WYVERN RC	63
6th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	55
7th	CHELTENHAM RC	52
8th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	35
9th	BROMSGROVE RC	33
10th	WORCESTER RC	27
11th	FRAMPTON RC	26
12th	VALE OF ARROW RC	3



### LAMENESS & TENDON INJURIES

With **MARK GEORGETTI, BVSC, MRCVS**

**DATE:** 8th November 2016    **TIME:** 7:30 pm for 8:00 pm start  
**VENUE:** The Reynard Room, Hunter's Inn, Longdon, GL20 6AR  
**COST:** £5 per person, to include a chip supper. Non-members welcome. Please make sure you pay on the night.

PART OF THE TONIGHT'S PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE MHRC 2016 CHOSEN CHARITY (to be confirmed at the AGM)



MHRC

# INTERDRESSAGE

The Interdressage BRC league started again in October and after coming a well-deserved 3rd last year, MHRC decided to come out swinging this year.

Interdressage is an online competition, where tests are videoed and then judged by BD listed judges each month. There are a variety of levels to choose from, with dressage ranging from Walk and Trot right up to Advanced (equivalent to elementary BD), plus showing classes, jumping and others.

On 15th October, the club held a filming day at Hillview Arena for anyone who wanted help with their tests. We were extremely lucky with the weather, as it stayed fine and sunny all morning, and everyone had a bit of a social while the tests were filmed. We also had some members film their entries in the comfort of familiar home schools, then making their entries themselves on behalf of the club, which greatly increased the number of entries... as you can see below.

Throughout the month, scores started to appear on the website and everyone did amazingly well. It was then an anxious wait to see whether anyone else could match our scores and take away the top spots. But at the end of the month, the results were up and a whole bevy of rosettes won by the club.

## **Class 1 A- Walk and Trot Q - RESTRICTED SENIOR**

2nd = Wendy Robinson & Bailey  
3rd = Danielle Lyons & Little Alfie  
4th = Lisa Drinkwater & Frank's Grey  
7th = Karen Withers & Ishandraz

## **JUNIOR**

2nd = Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles

## **Class 1 B - Walk and Trot Q - INTERMEDIATE**

8th = Suzanne Lidbetter & Midnight Express

## **Class 2 A- Walk and Trot Q - OPEN**

6th = Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe

## **Class 2 B- Walk, trot, canter entry level i**

1st = Wendy Robinson & Bailey

4th = Lin Harber & Toby

## **Class 3 A- BRC Prelim Dressage Test D1 - RESTRICTED**

2nd = Wendy Yates & Bella

3rd = Carole Hubball & Faberge

9th = Jane Osborne & Bisto

## **Class 3 B- BRC Prelim Dressage Test D1 - OPEN**

2nd = Anne Price & Half a Guinness

5th = Kat Jones and Redback Cappuchino

## **Class 4 A- PYO Intermediate Test 8 or Advanced Test 9**

5th = Kat Jones and Redback Cappuchino

## **Class 4 B - Freestyle Jumping**

2nd = Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe

If you would like to see any of the video entries, they will be on the Interdressage website for a short while. Or for any filmed by Caroline, go to YouTube, search for 'Caroline Bates' and check out the channel with the MHRC logo.

The next club filming day is on the 20th November at Hillview arena, for Dressage and Showing classes. If you would like to have a go, please contact Caroline for a timeslot and schedule. Or if you can't make that, feel free to have a go at filming and entering yourself - just remember to add the club name in so we can earn those precious points!

For the current league leader board, check out the back page of the newsletter.



*Karen and Joe*



*Kat and Dotty*



*Jane and Bisto*



# ARENA NOVICE DRESSAGE

On 22nd October, it was a return to Hartpury Arena for the Novice Dressage qualifiers. Having attended this show in previous years in sleet, rain and freezing wind, it was very pleasant to enjoy a sunny day, even if it was all indoors.

As well as sending three teams and three individuals, it was great to have such a dedicated cheer squad, many of who stayed for the whole of the very long, long day. And even if they had to be a bit more subdued than normal (being dressage and all!) it was nice to have a sea of grinning faces to welcome our riders into the arena.

In each team, two members rode Prelim 2 and two rode Novice 27, with one of each competing in the morning and one in the afternoon (with me so far?). With two horses in the International Arena at once, plus banners, flags and the sloping gallery of spectators, there were issues all day from all teams, as spooky horses took a dislike to the atmosphere. But on the whole, MHRC horses took it in their stride and we had some great tests.

#### Junior Individuals - Prelim

Fae Slater and Jess  
Amber Knott and Pernal Zedan

#### Senior Individuals - Novice

Tina Price and Buzz-B



*Sarah and Barney*

#### Malvern Hills Green

Anne Price and Half a Guinness  
Jo Jeynes and Nimrod IV  
Laura Bennett and Lematon Sunshine  
Sadie

Tina Price and Tom Thumb

#### Malvern Hills Blue

Sue Peckham and Mr Gangster  
Wendy Robinson and Bailey  
Tina Price and Ted  
Julie Jeffes and Bedazzled

#### Malvern Hills Red

Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe  
Sarah Bowness and Our Bawn Lodger  
Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Ash  
Kat Jones and Redback Cappuchino

Strangely, this is one qualifier that the club has never done really well at (the last (and first!) time a dressage team qualified for the Novice champs was 2013), and sadly this year was no exception. However, a freckling of rosettes did come our way, with Malvern Blue's bringing home our only team place, with a well deserved 4th.

In the prelim junior section, Fae was 2nd in her arena and 3rd overall, with Amber following closely behind with a 3rd in her arena and 4th overall. Not to be outdone, in the senior section, Sue was 3rd in her arena and 7th overall, with Sarah 4th in her arena and 5th overall.

In the Novice class, Laura was 2nd in her arena and 2nd overall, while Julie and Ash were 4th in their arena and 6th overall



*Julie and Ben*



*Amber and Danny*



# NEEDFUL THINGS

## INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE

1st	Cherwell Valley Riding Club	173
2nd	Malvern Hills Riding Club	119
3rd	Crown Riding Club	92
4th	Solent Riding Club	33
5th	York Riding Club	1

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail [mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) or by check out the individual club websites for a copy.

### November 2016

**3rd** = Flatwork Clinic, Hillview Arena

**8th** = Horseless Clinic, Hunter's Inn, London

**10th** = Flatwork Clinic, Hillview Arena

**15th** = Flatwork Clinic, Hillview Arena

**20th** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

**24th** = Flatwork Clinic, Hillview Arena

**24th** = Area 18 AGM, Willersley

### December 2016

**18th** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

### January 2017

**TBC** = MHRC AGM & MEAL

**TBC** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

### February 2017

**26th** = Area Novice & Intermediate Show Jumping, Moores Farm (Cropthorne RC)

**26th** = Mercian Style & Show Jumping, Stourport EC (South Shropshire RC)

**TBC** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

### April 2017

**1st - 2nd** BRC Novice Winter Championships, College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe, Beds.

**28th - 30th** BRC Intermediate Winter Championships, Bury Farm, Slapton, Bucks.

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Tina Price	670
2nd	Julie Jeffes	580
3rd	Jodie Powell	540
	Sue Peckham	540
5th	Anne Price	535
6th	Nicki Mundy	440
7th	Steph Woolley	425
8th	Anna Robson	420
9th	Leanne Bennett	390
10th	Sarah Bowness	370
	Camilla Esling & Victoria Gregg	325
11th		
13th	Sophie Hooper	280
14th	Kat Jones	265
15th	Caroline Bates	245
16th	Clare Gabriel	225
17th	Sara Stephenson	180
18th	Anna Millington	175
19th	Chris Esling	170
20th	Kelly Hudson	165
21st	Lin Harber	155
22nd	Katie Kawkesworth	140
23rd	Shellee Harris	135
24th	Jo Jaynes	130
25th	Suzanne Lidbetter	125
26th	Elizabeth Wise	120
	Stefania Bennett & Wendy Yates	115
27th		
29th	Alex Riches & Pam Render	100
31st	Ali Park	90
32nd	Deborah Lennard	85
33rd	Jenny Barnes	75
34th	Ali Taylor	70
35th	Laura Bennett	65
	Emma Monahan & Kelly Mawman	60
36th		
38th	Chloe Neathway	55
39th	Rachel Kilmister	50
	Jane Osborne & Luran Jones	45
40th		
43rd	Carole Hubble & Linda Kemp	35
	Danielle Lyons & Mary Bisco	35
47th	Annie Robertson	30
	Emma Horton-Smith	30
	Clare Dando & Lisa Drinkwater	25
49th		
51st	Becky Gibbs	20
52nd	Diane Symonds	15
53rd	Sarah Bradley	10
54th	Clare Chapman & Lyn Tilt	5
	Jane Downham & Rosie Clare & Sarah Smith	5
	Karen Withers & Stacie Slater	5
	Liz Whitehead	5

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE JUNIORS

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Amber Knott	180
2nd	Sacha Willis	115
3rd	Esme Ruff	80
4th	Sophie Bowness	40
	William Hooper	40
6th	Fae Slater	35
7th	Georgina Kilmister	30
8th	Chloe Probert	25
	Mia Bannister	25
10th	Katherine Beard	5

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# NEWSLETTER

**THIS MONTH:**

**\*\* Horseless Clinics \*\* Interdressage \*\***

**PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



## **FOOD AND FROLICS - NOVEMBER MHRC STYLE!**

### **EDITOR'S BIT**

As a horsey person, it's so easy to forget that the rest of the non-horsey world might not see things in quite the same light as we do. Case in point... Five o'clock and I'm skipping down the stairs from work, off to see ponio, when I'm slightly stopped in my tracks by the more than puzzled look on the receptionist's face. Her exact words were 'well, it's a loo alright!'. Now, on scanning myself, I couldn't really see her point. I mean, knee high green socks (with yellow horses on) over maroon joddies, a grey hoodie smeared in a mixture of mud and chaff, with a bright blue beanie hat. Well, ok, maybe I do see her point, but hey, at least I was warm and cosy while dragging Smokes in from the field.

So, a few new dates for your diary - check out details about our fun Christmas Bring-and-Share supper, with added Interdressage filming for those who are brave enough. Interdressage have chosen a great cause this year for their charity hobby horse class, so well worth having a go (plus we get points for the league!). Then January and our AGM. Once again we're having a sit down meal, as I think everyone will agree it was amazing last year. Dates for Area and Mercian team events are starting to be confirmed, so keep an eye on regular updates.

So, only one last thing to say - even if it is a bit scary ... **HAVE A FANTASTIC CHRISTMAS.**

*until next time, Caroline*

MHRC

# INTERDRESSAGE



Lisa and Frank

Despite the best efforts of Storm Angus, on the 20th November, the club held another filming day for anyone who wanted to take part in the Interdressage BRC league. And we managed to stay dry, even if it was rather chilly, while 13 members completed a brilliant 14 entries.

We also had some members filming their tests and doing their entries themselves, which pushed

up our total entries yet again.

Here are the entrants and results for the month:

### Class 1a: Walk and Trot D Restricted

9th = Lisa Drinkwater and Frank's Grey

10th = Karen Withers and Ishandrez

12th = Suzanne Lidbetter and Midnight

### Class 2b: Walk, Trot & Canter J

1st = Sara Stephenson and Suzy

### Class 3a: BRC Prelim D2 Restricted

2nd = Wendy Yates and Sofia

4th = Wendy Yates and Lucky

6th = Wendy Robinson and Bailey

7th = Katie Hawkesworth and Mathilda

9th = Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Smokey Joe

### Class 3b: BRC Prelim D2 Open

2nd = Tina Price and Tom Thumb

### Class 4a: PYO Starter Plus A or Intermediate Plus D

9th = Jane Osborne and

Bisto (S)

11th = Tina Price and Big

Ted (S)

2nd = Anne Price and Half A

Guinness (S)

5th = Sarah Smith and Ferdi

(I)

### Class 7b: Manners, Ability & Performance Showing SENIOR

1st = Sophie Hooper and

The King's Archer

7th = Wendy Robinson and

Bailey

### JUNIOR

1st = William Hooper and Rookery Fizz



William and Fizz

If you would like to see any of the video entries, they will be on the Interdressage website for a short while. Or for any filmed by Caroline, go to YouTube, search for 'Caroline Bates' and check out the channel with the MHRC logo.

The next club filming day is on the 18th December at Hillview arena, for Dressage and Showing classes, which this month includes Freestyle and Fancy Dress classes. If you would like to have a go, please contact Caroline for a timeslot and schedule. Or if you can't make that, feel free to have a go at filming and entering yourself - just remember to add the club name in so we can earn those precious points!

For the current league leader board, check out the back page of the newsletter.



Sarah and Ferdi



Tina and Tom

## WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO IN 2016?

It's hard to believe, but the next issue of the newsletter will be the last one for 2016. And that means it's time for our review of the year.

So, we'd love to know what you've been up to?

Whether you've qualified for something special, competed for the first time, got a new horse or just had amazingly good fun, we'd love to hear from you.

Drop a line or send any photos to [mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) before 28th December.

MHRC

# TENDON TROUBLES?



The first of the winter season Horseless clinics was held in November, at The Hunter's Inn on 8th November. The speaker was Mark Georgetti, a vet at the Three Counties Horse hospital, who discussed the diagnosis of lameness and tendon injuries.

The first points highlighted were the reasons why a vet would need an accurate diagnosis of what is causing a horse to present a lameness... the horse will get back into work earlier, has an overall better prognosis and it prevents further injury to the site.

Then the discussion covered how diagnosis was made, from

getting an accurate history, to trotting up or lunging, right through to imaging techniques such as MRI and good, old fashioned X-rays. This was followed by a series of videos of lame horses, where the audience got to participate by spotting where the problem was in each case.

Tendon injuries are quite common and Mark showed a series of anatomy slides and slow-motion videos of horses in high-impact sports, which showed exactly why they happen. They can take a huge amount of time to heal ... 12 months plus is common and horses brought back into work too early risk further damage.

This was followed by a Q&A session, with some interesting queries and case histories from members. The evening was rounded up with a lovely chip supper and a chance for a chat.



## Christmas Fun Evening

**\*\* 28th December 2016 \*\* Hanley Swan Village Hall \*\* 6:00 to 9:00 (food from 7:00)\*\***

**\*\* Bring and Share Buffet Supper \*\* Interdressage Fun Filming \*\***

This is a bit of fun - a chance to get together for a bit of a social, a fantastic feast and raise some money for charity by entering the Interdressage Hobby Horse class.

**Class 8 A-The 'Heap on More Wood the Wind is Chill' Hobby Horse Charity Spectacular. All proceeds (minus costs of rosettes) to be donated to Wilberry Wonder Pony Charity (Open to all Hobby Horses of the wooden variety only - to be ridden by anyone mad or brave enough to take part.)**

**This is a freestyle test BUT your performance must include:**

- |                                     |                                      |                            |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| = Walk, trot, canter on both reins. | = Extended trot and extended canter. | = Half pass.               |
| = Rein back.                        | = Demi pirouettes in walk or canter. | = One time flying changes. |
| = At least one movement of choice!  |                                      |                            |

Will NOT be split juniors and seniors.

Judge; Judges from the International Association of Hobby Horse Judges.

**Entry Fee; £5.00 (please pay cash on the night)**

**Please RSVP to [mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) and let me know what food you'll be bringing (so we don't all bring mince pies!) and whether you would like a filming spot!**

**Please bring your own drinks, cutlery and crockery.**

Bring your own hobby horse or use one of the 'pool' steeds! Fancy Dress optional but fun!





# NEEDFUL THINGS

## INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE

Place	Club	Pts
1st	Cherwell Valley RC	404
2nd	Malvern Hills RC	237
3rd	Crown RC	172
4th	Solent RC	43
5th	Kimblewick RC	11
6th	York RC	1

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail mhrnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk or by check out the individual club websites for a copy.

### December 2016

**18th** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

**28th** = Interdressage Charity Class filming and social, Hanley Swan Village Hall.

### January 2017

**20th** = MHRC AGM & MEAL

**TBC** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

### February 2017

**26th** = Area Novice & Intermediate Show Jumping, Moores Farm (Crophorne RC)

**26th** = Mercian Style & Show Jumping, Stourport EC (South Shropshire RC)

**TBC** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

### April 2017

**1st - 2nd** = BRC Novice Winter Championships, College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe, Beds.

**22nd** = Mercian Eventer Challenge, Lincomb EC, Bewdley Bridle Club

**28th - 30th** = BRC Intermediate Winter Championships, Bury Farm, Slapton, Bucks.

### May 2017

**20th - 21st** = BRC Festival of the Horse, Washbrook Farm, Aston-le-Wells, Northants.

**28th - 29th** = MHRC Big Weekend, nr Three Counties, Malvern, Worcs.

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Tina Price	710
2nd	Julie Jeffes	585
3rd	Anne Price	570
4th	Jodie Powell & Sue Peck-	540
6th	Nicki Mundy	440
7th	Steph Woolley	425
8th	Anna Robson	420
9th	Leanne Bennett	390
10th	Sarah Bowness	370
11th	Camilla Esling & Victoria Gregg	325
13th	Sophie Hooper	320
14th	Kat Jones	265
15th	Caroline Bates	245
16th	Clare Gabriel	225
17th	Sara Stephenson	220
18th	Anna Millington & Wendy Yates	175
20th	Chris Esling	170
21st	Kelly Hudson	165
22nd	Lin Harber	155
23rd	Katie Kawkesworth	145
24th	Shellee Harris	135
25th	Jo Jaynes & Sue Lidbetter	130
27th	Elizabeth Wise	120
28th	Stefania Bennett	115
29th	Alex Riches & Pam Render	100
31st	Ali Park	90
32nd	Deborah Lennard	85
33rd	Jenny Barnes	75
34th	Ali Taylor	70
35th	Laura Bennett	65
36th	Emma Monahan	60
	Kelly Mawman	60
38th	Chloe Neathway	55
39th	Jane Osborne	50
	Rachel Kilmister	50
41st	Lauran Jones & Will Milde	45
43rd	Carole Hubble	35
	Danielle Lyons	35
	Linda Kemp	35
	Mary Bisco	35
47th	Annie Robertson	30
	Emma Horton-Smith	30
	Lisa Drinkwater	30
50th	Clare Dando	25
	Sarah Smith	25
52nd	Becky Gibbs	20
53rd	Diane Symonds	15
54th	Karen Withers	10
	Sarah Bradley	10
56th	Clare Chapman & Lyn Tilt	5
	Jane Downham &	5
	Liz Whitehead & Niki Pad-	5
	Rosie Clare & Stacie Slater	5

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE JUNIORS

PL	NAME	PTS
1st	Amber Knott	180
2nd	Sacha Willis	115
3rd	Esme Ruff	80
	William Hooper	80
4th	Sophie Bowness	40
5th	Fae Slater	35
6th	Georgina Kilmister	30
7th	Chloe Probert	25
	Mia Bannister	25
10th	Katherine Beard	5

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# MHRC AGM

## FRIDAY 20th JANUARY 2017

### Hunter's Inn, Longdon

\*\* £5 per person \*\* Non-members, Friends and Family Welcome \*\*

\*\* Annual review \*\* Awards Ceremony \*\* Raffle \*\* Entertainment \*\*

\*\* Membership discount for anyone who joins/renews on the night \*\*

\*\*\*\* START AT 7:30 \*\*\*\*

#### MENU

Please tick your choices

#### MAINS

- Homemade Beef Lasagne, served with chips and salad
- Salmon, Spinach and Pancetta baked in puff pastry, served with vegetables
- Chicken and Vegetable Pie
- Wild Mushroom Risotto

#### PUDS

- Apple and Berry Crumble served with custard
- Lemon Meringue Pie served with ice cream

#### RSVP by 12th JANUARY 2017

- Pay by cheque (made out to Malvern Hills Riding Club) or cash. And send this form to MHRC, 7 Newton Close, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2XG. Or give it to a committee member before the RSVP date.
- Pay by paypal to [paypal.me/carolinebates](https://www.paypal.me/carolinebates) and e-mail menu choices to [mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk). Please make sure you state that you are paying a 'gift' so that paypal doesn't take any commission.



# NEWSLETTER

**THIS MONTH:**

**\*\* InterDressage \*\* 2016 REVIEW \*\***

**PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



*The Hobby Horse Heroes!*

## EDITOR'S BIT



Welcome to the 2016 Review of the year. I hope you enjoy reading what the club has been up to over the last 12 months ... and it's great to see what are members get up to 'outside' the club events - what a clever, diverse and fantastic bunch you are!

My own 2016, as many of you know, was tarnished by the loss of my father at the beginning of the year. But I just wanted to make a public thank you to the club for the support, kind wishes and for generally being there. And I don't just mean my fellow committee members (who I see far too often than is probably good for any of us!), but for every single one of you. Whether it's saying hello at a show, competing or hacking out together, helping out a fellow member, replying to an e-mail or adding a comment on Facebook, you all make the club a community. And I don't know about you, but it's a community that I feel pretty proud, excited and thrilled to be a part of.

2017 will inevitably bring challenges to us all - some of the good kind that will push us in new directions or show us something we never thought we could do before. And maybe a few of the not so nice kind (but fingers crossed there's not many of them!). There are a few changes for the club itself in the pipeline (definitely the good kind!), but after a hugely successful 2016, we can all rest assured that we can face whatever 2017 throws at us.

So raise a glass - here's to the next 12 months of fun, laughter, friends, competitors, rosettes, trophies and Championships!

*until next time, Caroline*



# Interdressage



It was a very Christmas themed month of Interdressage, with tinsel and Christmas jumpers galore at the club filming day on 18th December at Hillview arena. Despite a very foggy start to the morning, it cleared up for another bright and breezy day. It was great to see some new faces having a go - and seeing so many of our junior members.

#### The 'Walking in a Winter Wonder Land Walk & Trot

4th (Restricted) = Suzanne Lidbetter & Midnight

6th (Intermediate) = Suzanne Lidbetter & Rosie

#### The 'While Shepherd's Watched Their Flocks By Night' Walk, Trot & Canter

1st (Junior) = Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles

2nd (Junior) = Ethan Knott & Sammy

#### The 'Silent Night' Starter Freestyle

1st (Senior Restricted) = Wendy Yates & Lucky



5th (Senior Restricted) = Sara Stephenson & Suzy

1st (Senior Open) = Anne Price & Half A Guinness

1st (Junior Restricted) = Amber Knott & Danny

#### The 'Pretty Paper' PYO Starter Plus or Intermediate

1st (Senior) = Tina Price & Tom Thumb

3rd (Senior) = Tina Price &

Cheeky

#### The 'Frosty the Snowman' Freestyle Jumping

2nd (Junior) = Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles



#### The 'Must Be Santa' Manners, Ability & Performance

1st (Senior) = Sophie Hooper & The King's Archer

1st (Junior) = William Hooper & Rookery Fizz

Then, on 28th December, as part of our Xmas social supper, a number of brave souls had a go at the hobby horse class. This is a special class laid on by Interdressage to raise money for charity, this year for the Wilberry Wonder Pony charity. It was a fun and laughter filled evening, with lots of food too. Steph Woolley made some of her famous fudge and it was sold to raise an extra £52 for the charity.



#### The 'Heap on More Wood, the Wind is Chill' Hobby Horse Spectacular

7th = Caroline Bates & IAMAHORSE

7th = Katherine Jones & Nip Buck

10th = Gemma Price & Christmas Cracker

14th = Lin Harber &

BitsNPieces

The next filming day is on the 28th January and this month has a special beginners class. If you'd like to have a go, please contact Caroline to book a slot.



## WHEN TO FEED SUPPLEMENTS

### With Didi Verdina

**DATE:** 7th February 2017    **TIME:** 7:30 pm for 8:00 pm start  
**VENUE:** Castlemorton Village Hall, Castlemorton, Worcestershire, WR13 6BE  
**COST:** £5 per person, to include wine and cheese tasting.  
 Non-members welcome. Please make sure you pay on the night.

PART OF THE TONIGHT'S PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE MHRC 2017 CHOSEN CHARITY (to be confirmed at the AGM)  
 Please e-mail [mhcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) to confirm attendance



MHRC

# 2016



**MARCH** The BRC sponsored Interdressage League came to an end, and MHRC had done a fantastic job over the winter months, racking up enough points to come 3rd.



**APRIL** The first BRC Championship of the year was the **Novice Winter Champs**, held at Keysoe Equestrian Centre. MHRC sent a Senior jumping team along of **Julie Jeffes** and Hederfield Ash, **Anna Millington** and Simba, **Liz Wise** and Blue Suede Shoes, and **Leanne Bennett** and Curra Pokey Joe.

**APRIL** It was time to celebrate at the Area 18 Eventer Challenge Qualifier. The 90cm team of **Alex Riches** on Mr Darcy, **Anna Millington** on Senderos, **Jodie Powell** on Just Jake VII and **Leanne Bennett** on Curra Pokey Joe were the winners, with Alex also taking the individual title. Well done ladies - our first championship qualifier of the year.



**MAY** The Mercian Arena Eventing competition was a great success, with our 75cm team of **Pam Render** and Zena, **Chris Esling** and Half N Half, **Leanne Bennett** and Curra Pokey Joe, and **Clare Gabriel** and Sky Blue, winning the day.



**MAY** The Area 18 Combined Training qualifier at Dodderhill brought the club two more winners and two more qualifications for the Festival of the Horse Championships. Well done **Sue Peckham** and Mr Gangster, and **Amber Knott** and Pennal Zedan.



**MAY** The MHRC **BIG WEEKEND** was a fantastic success once again, with a record number of entries on both the Saturday Area 18 Show Jumping Qualifier and the Sunday open show. A huge number of members got involved - either helping to set up, helping out during either or both days, or competing in the varied classes. There were over 160 competitors in the Jumping qualifier, including plenty from MHRC. It was a '2nd' fest for the club, with the Senior Novice team of **Anna Robson**, **Tina Price**, **Leanna Bennett** and **Julie Jeffes**, and the Senior Style team of **Leanne Bennett**, **Anne Price**, **Tina Price** and **Julie Jeffes** both just missing out on the top spot. Our Intermediate team of **Anne Robson**, **Sue Peckham** and **Jodie Powell** did brilliantly too to come 6th. There were also some individual places ... **Julie** won the Senior Novice jumping, while **Esme Ruff** was second in the Junior Novice (both qualifying for the championships), while **Tina** was 5th in the Novice and 3rd in the Style, **Anna** was 6th in the Open, **Leanne** was 6th in the Style and **Anne** was 5th.



The open show on Sunday began with the Mercian Showing competition and we had some fantastic results, winning 3 of the 4 classes. **Sophie Hooper** topped the Coloured line-up, **Sarah Bowness** the Riding Club Horse and **Tina Price** the Working Hunter. This meant that the Malvern Wonderlands of **Clare Gabriel**, **Sarah Bowness**, **Leanne Bennett** and **Ali Taylor** were first, with the Malvern Cheshire Cats of **Sophie Hooper**, **Suzanne Lidbetter**, **Wendy Robinson** and **Tina Price** were second.



In the open classes, MHRC also did well, with plenty of red rosettes to take home. **Victoria Gregg** won the 2'9 and 3'0 jumping, and was crowned MHRC Dressage Champion on Rupert. **William Hooper** and Rookery Fizz won the 2'0 Novice jumping, **Shellee Harries** and Big George won the Best Turned Out and **Nicky Mundy** and Gerdinen won the Ridden Hunter Pony.





# \*\*\*2016\*\*\*

**JUNE** Our local 'big' show - the Royal Three Counties Show, took place in June and we had a couple of members in the ribbons. **Sophie Hooper** and The King's Archer were 5th in the Open Working Show Horse, while **Anna Millington** and Senderos were 2nd in the Novice Racehorse as Riding Horse.

**JUNE** Congratulations to **Laura Bennet** and Lematon Sunshine Sadie. They were only representative at the 100+ Area 18 Horse Trials Qualifier and came 4th, giving them a place at the Championships.



**JUNE** The Summer Dressage Area 18 qualifier saw even more success for the club, with both our Senior Open team of **Camilla Esling, Tina Price, Julie Jeffes** and **Steph Woolley** and our Senior Riding Test team of **Tina, Sue Peckham, Steph** and **Julie**, winning and qualifying..



**JULY**  
**YUM  
YUM!  
SUMMER  
BBQ TIME**



**JULY** New member **Clare Gabriel** had a fantastic day at **Hanbury Countryside Show**, with **Icy Blue**. They were crowned Coloured Champions, after winning the Novice ridden horse/pony class. "I went to Hanbury with no expectations," said Clare, "It was the biggest, busiest shows we had attended in the year I had Blue, so I wasn't sure how he would behave. I went with Leanne, and met lots of friends there, as well as Dai coming (unusually!). It's such a great, traditional, Agricultural show. To win the class and then to go on and win the Championship was very emotional. Blue behaved impeccably and I think he enjoyed showing off just a little bit. Having horses is very hard work - I keep mine with Leanne and it's very much a team effort. So every success we have is a team success!

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**JUNE** It was the **BRC Festival of the Horse** on the 4th and 5th. For the Eventer Challenge, MHRC qualified a senior 90cm team of **Sue Peckham, Alex Riches, Jodie Powell** and **Leanne Bennett**, which came 8th, and for the Combined Training we sent both a senior and junior individual. **Sue Peckham** came 5th and **Amber Knott** 9th.

**JULY** The Area 18 80 and 90 Horse Trials qualifier was a success for our 90cm Senior team of **Camilla Esling, Jodie Powell, Leanne Bennett** and **Sue Peckham**. And for **Sacha Willis** who won the Junior 80. So another championship to tick off the list!



**AUGUST** Members **Martin Febery** and **Natalie Smith** welcomed **Maddison Harley** into the world on 20th August at Gloucester hospital, weighing 7lb 8oz. Natalie wanted to thank **Nick Lawson** and **Sophie Hooper** for keeping Enzo fit and in work whilst she was out of action. "I am sure it won't be long before Maddie is telling us two how to ride though. First pony is already arranged!"

**JULY** The Mercian Combined Training was a bit of a mess and, despite being awarded the 2nd place on the day, the Malvern Neptunes of **Caroline Bates, Nicky Mundy, Ali Park** and **Wendy Robinson** actually won - we're still waiting for those red rosettes!



**AUGUST** The MHRC Eventer Challenge was a fantastic fun day, with lots of people having a go at the testing course. **Sophie Hooper** won the 70cm class and **Steph Woolley** the 100cm class. It was also used to pick our Blenheim team, with **Sue Peckham, Victoria Gregg** and **Alex Riches** joining Steph. Another big thank you to the members who gave up their time to help run this competition.





# \*\*\*2016\*\*\*

**AUGUST** Katherine Jones and her 11 year old TB Dotty, were top of the Wales and Severn **Retraining of Racehorses** Regional League in 2015, which meant they qualified for the **2016 National Championships** at Aintree. They finished 7th in the Novice Dressage championships, but in front of a crowd, Dotty pulled out all the stops to win the Elementary Dressage title. "It was an amazing experience," said Kat, "competing in the huge arena at night and having mounted presentations. Dot was a bit spooked by the clapping! She stayed in the original Aintree stables and had the same one in which 'Don't Push It' stayed before winning the National with AP McCoy, so that was exciting. I'm not sure who we are going to beat this experience!"



**AUGUST** It was the BRC Horse Trials Championship and MHRC once again qualified some riders. **Julie Jeffes** and **Sacha Willis** competed in the 80cm section, with Sacha coming 7th. We had a 90cm team of **Jodie Powell**, **Camilla Esling**, **Leanne Bennett** and **Sue Peckham**, who came 10th individually. And **Laura Bennett** came 10th in the 100+ section.

**AUGUST** Junior member **William Hooper**, aged 11, took his pony Rookery Fizz to the **National Pony Society Summer Championships** at the Three Counties Showground. After a brilliant day in the rosettes (and the prize money ☺), they ended up being crowned the Open Working Hunter Pony Champions. Mum Sophie said, "to watch Will in the Championship brought tears to my eyes - I was so proud!"



**SEPTEMBER** A big year for member, **Mary Bisco**, who got married at



Newent church. "I think the key parts for me," she said, "were the dog, the horse and the Landrover! It was really important for me to include my old boy, Scooter, and my dog, Otto, into the day itself. Otto attended the whole service and was actually the ring bearer in the church. I then went over to have photos taken with Scooter after the service. The wedding car was our old series 2 Landrover, recently refurbished for the occasion and a wedding present from my brother, Tom. It was the same vehicle that used to tow the ponies around when we were kids and was frequently seen towing

the Ledbury Pony Club jump trailer to events!"

**AUGUST** It was the first Regional BRC championship at Hartpury college and MHRC sent a Novice Senior and a Mixed Style Jumping team, which came 5th overall. Well done **Tina Price**, **Julie Jeffes**, **Kelly Hudson**, **Anna Robson**, **Esme Ruff** and **Anne Price**.



**SEPTEMBER** Another future MHRC member was born on the third; **Amber Elizabeth Horton-Smith**. "Becoming a mother is the most incredible experience of my life so far," said Emma, "sometimes tough, but very rewarding. Rory and I are so excited about watching Amber grow into a beautiful little girl. Whilst I was pregnant, Rory evented Albert for me, successfully upgrading him to pre-novice with a couple of regional final qualifications to ride next year, meaning I'm going to have to share the reins again next season! Having a C-section has put my riding back a bit, but I'm happily back in the saddle now and Amber loves coming down the yard to watch. We're already eyeing up future ponies for Amber!"



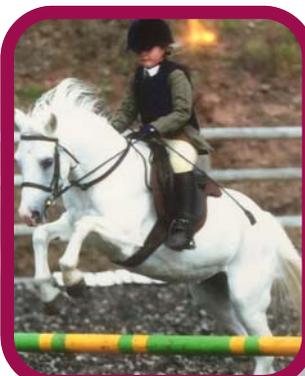
**SEPTEMBER** It was a win for the Malvern Ladybirds at the Mercian Hunter Trials. Congratulations **Clare Gabriel**, **Nicky Munday**, **Chris Esling** and **Sophie Hooper**.





# \*\*\*2016\*\*\*

**SEPTEMBER** For seven year old member **Sophie Bowness**, her first every showjumping competition was as part of her school team at the qualifier at **Luc-ton College**. It was a great day, with the team coming 2nd and Sophie winning an individual 5th place.



**OCTOBER** It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Midas, owned by Lance and Chris Jones. Midas (or Golden King), was a fantastic horse who did all club events with Lance, was a regular fixture on our Area teams with Cindie Bunce, and, more recently, on our Mercian teams with Shellee Harries.



Shellee & Midas, 2016

"There really are no words to describe how much love and appreciation I felt for Midas," says Shellee, "He was the kindest and most forgiving horse I have ever met. He carried me round xc courses, sj courses and dressage tests when I was literally shaking with nerves and NEVER let me down. He taught me to be brave enough to ride on grass and to enjoy hacking out on my own. In a nutshell Midas reminded me how to enjoy riding again and I can never thank Chris and Lance enough for letting me have him on loan. Everyone who knows me knows I am a little obsessed with my wonderful old boy George and I was constantly being told off for looking for another George as he wouldn't exist! But everyone was wrong! I found him just 2 miles up the road. Loyal, brave and kind. Golden King. Such a fitting name."

"When mum and dad first went to see him he was 4yrs old," said Cindie, "Dad got on rode round for a bit, got hot, stopped and flung his coat off and never Midas never battered an eye. From that day Mum knew he was the right horse. He won numerous classes with Dad and me, and he would always try his best. Even if you got totally wrong to a fence he would sort himself out; we always said he had a 5th leg. I think dad fell off him doing a lap of honour once! We knew if he ever stopped it was time to retire him, but he never did. He loved it to much but he did have his quirks. He loved SJ and XC but dressage? You couldn't warm him up as that would wind him up. You literally had to go straight into a test and he would go on the bit for 5 mins! That was it! But he would be grinding his teeth throughout the whole test. The fitter he got, the worse he got to catch. He would trot in circles just out of arms reach! But that was Midas and that's why we all loved him."

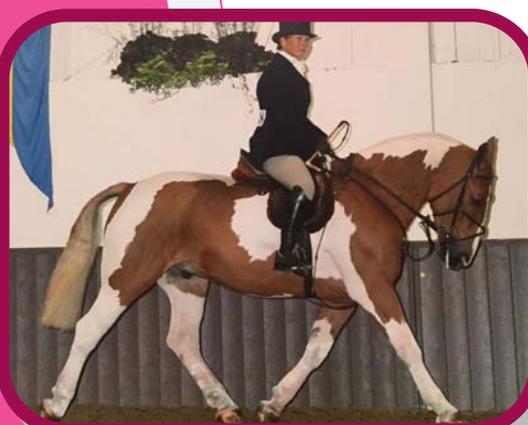


Cindie & Midas, with Steph & Cruise, Festival of the Horse, 2010



**OCTOBER** Congratulations to Junior member, **Amber Knott**, who passed her Pony Club C+ test.

**SEPTEMBER** Committee member, **Sophie Hooper**, qualified for the **SEIB Working Show Horse of the Year Championship**, held at Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, on The King's Archer. After a tense competition, the top 6 were invited back to the evening gala performance. And Sophie was awarded 4th place. "Barney's performance was foot perfect," said Sophie, "and I was delighted with him."



**SEPTEMBER** Congratulations to committee member, **Camilla Esling**, who started her new job at Hereford Racecourse ... we're expecting club discounts!

**OCTOBER** We had a final win of the year at the Area 18 Eventer Challenge Qualifier, with our Senior 90cm team of **Tina Price, Jodie Powell, Sue Peckham and Liz Wise** off to the Championships in 2017. **Esme Ruff** was second in the Junior 90, but has also qualified for the champs.





# NEEDFUL THINGS

**2016** The Pershore Plums, including members **Wendy Yates, Danielle Lyons, Anne Price, Sarah Bowness, Victoria Gregg** and **Magaret Boyd**, had another great season in the British Dressage Team Quest League. They qualified for the Regional Championship, coming 4th, and then went off to the National Finals. "It's been a fun year" said Wendy, "competing once or twice a month from February through to the end of August, all at local venues. The 2017 season has already started and we hope to get going on January 21st at Allenshill. A huge thank you to **Chris Esling** and **Lin Harber**, who travelled up to the Regionals to support us."



**NEW CLUB NUMNAHS**  
Available in white for DR or navy for XC/SJ = Only £20  
Contact Linda Kemp to order one.

## COMING UP ....

Any events with a **(S)** at the end have schedules available. E-mail [mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk) or by check out our website for a copy.

### January 2017

**20th** = MHRC AGM & MEAL

**28th** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

### February 2017

**8th** = Horseless Clinic, Castlemorton Village Hall

**26th** = Area Novice & Intermediate Show Jumping, Moores Farm (Crophorne RC)

**26th** = Mercian Style & Show Jumping, Stourport EC (South Shropshire RC) **CANCELLED**

**TBC** = Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena

### April 2017

**1st - 2nd** = BRC Novice Winter Championships, College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe, Beds.

**22nd** = Mercian Eventer Challenge, Lincomb EC, Bewdley Bridle Club

**28th - 30th** = BRC Intermediate Winter Championships, Bury Farm, Slapton, Bucks.

### May 2017

**20th - 21st** = BRC Festival of the Horse, Washbrook Farm, Aston-le-Wells, Northants.

**28th - 29th** = MHRC Big Weekend, nr Three Counties, Malvern, Worcs.

### August 2017

**4th - 6th** BRC National Horse Trials, Swalcliffe, Banbury, Oxon

### September 2017

**2nd - 3rd** BRC National Championships, Lincolnshire Showground

**29th - 1st Oct** BRC Dressage to Music Championships & Quadrille Selection

## PEPPER POT LEAGUE

No League updates this month ... the final placings will be announced at the AGM on 20th January.

Members can start earning points for the 2017 from next month ... either by representing MHRC at a Mercian, Area, Interdressage or other team event, or taking part in an event organised by MHRC!

Great rosettes and trophies on offer!



## INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE



After the December Competition

1st	Cherwell Valley RC	464
2nd	Malvern Hills RC	359
3rd	Crown RC	232
4th	Solent RC	59
5th	Kimblewick RC	19
6th	York RC	1

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# MHRC AGM

## FRIDAY 20th JANUARY 2017

### Hunter's Inn, Longdon

\*\* £5 per person \*\* Non-members, Friends and Family Welcome \*\*

\*\* Annual review \*\* Awards Ceremony \*\* Raffle \*\* Entertainment \*\*

\*\* Membership discount for anyone who joins/renews on the night \*\*

\*\*\*\* START AT 7:30 \*\*\*\*

#### MENU

Please tick your choices

#### MAINS

- Homemade Beef Lasagne, served with chips and salad
- Salmon, Spinach and Pancetta baked in puff pastry, served with vegetables
- Chicken and Vegetable Pie
- Wild Mushroom Risotto

#### PUDS

- Apple and Berry Crumble served with custard
- Lemon Meringue Pie served with ice cream

#### RSVP by 12th JANUARY 2017

- Pay by cheque (made out to Malvern Hills Riding Club) or cash. And send this form to MHRC, 7 Newton Close, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2XG. Or give it to a committee member before the RSVP date.
- Pay by paypal to [paypal.me/carolinebates](https://www.paypal.me/carolinebates) and e-mail menu choices to [mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk). Please make sure you state that you are paying a 'gift' so that paypal doesn't take any commission.