



NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** InterDressage ** AGM & Awards Ceremony **
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



Amber - flying high with a double win in this month's Interdressage

**HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?
GO TO www.malvernhillsridingclub.com and do it now!**

EDITOR'S BIT

Well, that's it - 2017 is now officially underway. The AGM is over, the dates for the Mercian events and the Area qualifiers are pretty much all confirmed, and we're even forming teams for the first of those qualifiers as we go to press. We also have also been sent confirmation that MHRC will be attending two of the BRC Championships—with our Eventer Challenge team off to the Festival of the Horse, and Laura Bennett getting an individual qualification place for the Novice Winter Championships. Well done everyone - let's see if we can add to that list in the next few months.

As I write this, the rain is beating against the window and the TV is talking about high winds again - yuck! A competition last month turned into a mud fest, with every pieces of clothing, footwear, plus me and the horse, looking like we'd been for a week long trek through an Indian monsoon. It probably wouldn't have bothered me if we'd been hunting or eventing - but this was an indoor dressage competition at quite a well known venue! It would make you cry if the fact that you were paying for the privilege of someone telling you where your riding skills are lacking, hadn't made life seem hilarious anyway!

So definitely roll on the spring

until next time, Caroline

MHRC

INTERDRESSAGE



Wet and stormy weather threatened to disrupt this month's filming session, but the Inter-dressage gods were shining down on us once more, as after a few half-hearted drops of rain, Saturday 28th turned into a lovely, sunny day.

There were bacon sandwiches and homemade

cookies to keep everyone going while tests were filmed.

A huge thank you to those members who filmed and made entries themselves.

Walk & Trot L.

1st = Sue Lidbetter & Rosie (Senior Intermediate)

4th = Rita Woolley & Lexy (Senior Restricted)

7th = Lin Harber & Toby (Senior Restricted)

Walk, Trot & Canter B

1st = Ethan Knott & Sammi (Junior)

1st = Wendy Robinson & Bailey (Senior)



British Riding Clubs D3

1st = Wendy Yates & Bella (Senior Restricted)

4th = Steph Woolley & Lexy (Senior Restricted)

3rd = Anne Price & Half A Guinness (Senior Open)



4th = Tina Price & Tom

Thumb (Senior Open)

1st = Amber Knott & Danny

(Junior Restricted)

Starter Plus E

2nd = Tina Price & Tom

Thumb

Freestyle Jumping

3rd = Wendy Robinson &

Bailey (Senior)

1st = Amber Knott & Danny (Junior)

2nd = Ethan Knott & Sammi (Junior)



The next filming session is on the 19th February, so if you want to take advantage of it, please contact Caroline ASAP for a place.

NEW YEAR - NEW CHALLENGE

Are you looking for something a bit different to work towards this year? Do you want to take advantage of being a member of British Riding Clubs?

Did you know that there are 4 different leagues you can take part in?

If you show jump at 60 or 70cm, or compete in Intro and Prelim Dressage, then the **BRC GRASSROOTS LEAGUE** is for you.

If you prefer style jumping or riding tests, then why not check out the **BRC RIDING TEST & STYLE JUMPING LEAGUE**.

For fans of combined training, with classes from 70cm to 1m, then as a BRC member you can enter the **BRITISH DRESSAGE COMBINED TRAINING** competitions.

And new for this year, BRC have teamed up with British Eventing to offer a new league for BRC members competing at Novice level.

Details of all these leagues, how to take part and log your points, can be found on the 'LEAGUES & TEAMS' page of our website.



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 mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk to confirm attendance





AGM & AWARDS CEREMONY

The club returned to the Hunter's Inn, Longdon for another night of celebrating our successes and planning for 2017. Despite a rather chilly night, 84 people made the effort to come along - probably our biggest AGM in the history of the club!

A two-course meal was served early on in the proceedings, so that rumbling tummies didn't drown out the speakers. Lin welcomed everyone, before Chris and Jodie followed with a round up of the Area and Mercian events. Caroline then updated the members on the Interdressage teams and also mentioned the new club website. There was also an update on the accounts, before Lin once again took to the floor for her Chair's report.

The Award's ceremony came next, with lots of lovely trophies and rosettes. The winners were:

- Progression Cup = Clare Gabriel
- Achiever's Cup = Sue Peckham
- Committee Cup = Rita Woolley
- Club Support Shield = The Knott Family
- Ben Roberts Progression Shield = Amber Knott
- Chairman's Cup = Caroline Bates

The Lofty Cup is awarded to any member and they decided who the cup will be passed onto. Last year's winner, Sarah Bowness, decided to award it to Liz Whitehead.

A new cup this year, the Golden King Memorial Cup, has been donated to the club by the Jones family, in memory of Midas. Rather than going to a rider in the club, this will be presented to a particular horse and this year, has been awarded to Just Jake, owned by Camilla Esling.

The Pepper Pot League was next, with fabulous rosettes awarded to the top 15 in both the Junior and

the Senior leagues. The trophy was awarded to the overall winner, who this year was Tina Price.

For a full list of winners and the reasons behind the awards, please check out the AGM minutes.

Then it was time to say goodbye to two long standing members of the committee, with both Iris Ellis and Clare Chapman stepping down, although both are remaining members of the club. A public thank you and presentation was made to both for all their years of hard work. The rest of the committee will be staying the same, with a few changes to roles and with the addition of Ann Bates as Honorary Treasurer.

Once the serious side of the night was over, it was time for Sue Peckham and Caroline Bates to honour their pledge to have their hair cut off in aid of The Princess Trust. With a few quick snips, Jo England gave them soon got rid of their pony tails. The generous members also rose to the challenge of an empty bucket, and filled it with £200 worth of donation for the charity.

The evening ended with the famous raffle, with lots of prizes generously donated by the members. A great evening, enjoyed by all.



ALSO THIS MONTH ...

Member's enjoyed show jump training with event rider, Tom Grant, on 19th and 26th at Hillview Arena. There were some challenging moments, but overall everyone seemed to have fun.

Keep an eye out for more dates coming soon ...

JUST FOR FUN

Of which member did Tom say, "I've never known someone think they are going so fast, when their horse is going so slow!"

(see page 4 for answer)



NEEDED THINGS

MERCIAN INTER-CLUB LEAGUE

MHRC will once again be competing in the Mercian Inter-Club league again in 2017 (and after winning it for the past two years, we're keen to make it the treble.

With lots of competitions aimed at grassroots, senior riders, why not come and have a go?

The league has changed a bit this year, so to check out how and see whether you are eligible to compete, see the new 2017 handbook, which can be downloaded from our website.

INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE

After the **DECEMBER** Competition

1st	Cherwell Valley RC	544 pts
2nd	Malvern Hills RC	369 pts
3rd	Crown RC	234 pts
4th	Solent RC	62 pts
5th	Kimblewick RC	23 pts



WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillside.com

February 2017

- 8th** = Horseless Clinic
"WHEN TO FEED SUPPLEMENTS" +
Wine and cheese tasting. At Castle-
morton Village Hall, WR13 6BE
- 19th** = Interdressage Filming Day. At
Hillview Arena, Malvern.
- 26th** = Area 18 Novice & Intermediate
Show Jumping Qualifier, Moores
Farm, Corse Lawn. Hosted by Crop-
thorne RC

PEPPER POT LEAGUES

AS OF 02.02.2017

SENIOR

1st	Wendy Robinson and Bailey	70pts
2nd	Tina Price and Tom Thumb	60pts
3rd	Wendy Yates and Bella	40pts
	Sue Lidbetter and Rosie	40pts
5th	Anne Price and Half A Guinness	30pts
6th	Steph Woolley and Lexy	25pts
	Rita Woolley and Lexy	25pts
8th	Lin Harber and Toby	5 pts

JUNIOR

1st	Amber Knott and Danny	80pts
2nd	Ethan Knott and Sammi	75pts

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT
www.malvernhillside.com

JUST FOR FUN ANSWER: Kelly Hudson

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NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** InterDressage ** Area 18 Show Jumping Qualifier ** Horseless Clinic **
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



GET WELL SOON LIN

EDITOR'S BIT

As most of you know, Lin Harber, our amazing chairman of so many years, was taken seriously ill a few weeks ago. As the newsletter goes to press, we sadly don't have a positive update for you. Lin is very, very poorly and is fighting a nasty kidney infection in Worcester's critical care unit. At this time, all the hopes and prayers of the club are with her, Mike, Sarah and the rest of the family. We'll keep you updated as soon as we hear anything - so please keep an eye on Facebook and your e-mails.

In the interim, if you have any queries or problems, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the committee, who will endeavour to help you out.

Lin would have been so proud of our riders at the first Area competition this month. A tight, twisty course in the indoor arena at Moores Farm, coupled with a long day and cold, showery weather, would have been enough to put most people off, but all our riders and their cheer squad, kept up the smiles and the laughter all day. A full report is on page 3.

until next time, Caroline



HORSELESS CLINIC

The first Horseless Clinic of 2017 was held on 7th February at Castle-morton Village Hall. The topic was 'Supplements- and when you should feed them'. The main body of the talk was by Clare MacLeod, an independent registered equine nutritionist who is passionate about providing advice to help people get the most out of what they are feeding their horses.

The key point that Clare wanted to make was that before you start feeding any supplement, you should make sure that your horse is on a correctly balanced diet. Vitamins and minerals are a hugely important part of good nutrition, but a horse may be deficient for a number of reasons, the main ones being that grass (and associated forage, chaff, etc), will naturally be low in minerals, while commercial feeds/supplements are only balanced if you are feeding the recommended dose. Therefore a good doer or spooky horse that may be on reduced rations, may be lacking. Many 'health' problems will actually sort themselves out once the balance of vitamins and minerals are increased.



Once you have identified a need to feed a supplement, there is then the choice of which one! In the UK, we have the choice of nearly 700 different supplements that we could feed, covering a wide variety of different complaints. The most important thing to consider is the

amount of active ingredient a supplement contains. There is no regulation and manufacturers can put in as much as they want, but sometimes this is only enough to support a human and not an animal as big as a horse.



However, you also need to consider that there isn't a huge amount of research on any supplement in horses, which are largely too expensive to do large scale experiments with. Horses also have a brilliant capacity to thrive on diets that on paper would flag up huge deficiencies if analysed scientifically. They are also hugely individual and what works well with one horse, won't effect the same condition in another. Therefore, the two takeaway messages are to buy the best supplement you can afford with the highest amount of active ingredient, and to not be scared of experimenting to find something that works for your horse.

The second part of the talk was by Didi Verdina, one of the co-founder's of Ready-Supp, a company dedicated to producing safe and effective supplements for horses. Their tag line is "Made for Horses, not hamsters", which ties in with the ethic of using enough active ingredient to support large animals. There was no hard sell and members were invited to discuss their own cases, either after the talk or by contacting the office. Discounts were also offered to everyone who was there on the night.

The talk was finished off with a Q&A session that grilled both Didi and Clare, as members discussed their horses and potential problems. There was also cheese and wine to finish off the night.

INTERDRESSAGE ROUND-UP



It was another great month for the club in the Interdressage BRC League. The club filming day on 19th February was very well attended and

once again a number of members made their own videos to enter on the site. Thank you.

Walk and Trot P

- 4th = (junior restricted) Abi Render-Garth and Charlie Bear
- 4th = (senior restricted) Suzanne Lidbetter and Midnight
- 6th = (senior restricted) Katy Spicer and Bo
- 2nd = (senior intermediate) Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie



4th = (senior intermediate) Lin Harber and Toby

Walk, Trot and Canter C

- 2nd = (junior) Ethan Knott and Sammi
- BRC Prelim D10**
- 1st = (senior Open) Tina Price and Tom Thumb
- 3rd = (senior Open)

Anne Price and Half a Guinness

- 1st = (Junior) Amber Knott and Danny
- 3rd = (senior restricted) Camilla Esling and Roland
- 5th = (senior restricted) Wendy Robinson and Bailey
- Intermediate 5**
- 4th = Wendy Robinson and Bailey

- 9th = Julie Jeffes and Billy Miller
- 9th = Katie Hawkesworth and Mathilda
- 11th = Katherine Jones and Redback Cappuchino

Freestyle Jumping

- 1st = (junior) Oliver Hooper and Pinto
- 3rd = (senior) Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer



With only two more months to go, it would be great to close the gap with Cherwell Valley RC, so if you've been meaning to have a go, now's your chance. The next two filming mornings are on 4th March and 16th April, at Hillview Arena. Depending on entries, we'll attempt to fit in jumping and 'Equi-skills' tests if they are wanted, as well as Dressage and Showing. Contact Caroline if you'd like to come along.



SHOW JUMPING AREA QUALIFIER



MHRC



Anna and I Believe I Can Fly

The first area qualifier of 2017 was held at Moores Farm. Corse Lawn, on 26th February. The organisers, Crothorne RC, were slightly surprised to have 70 more entries than last year, but rose to the challenge to present a well organised, quick running competition. With the first competitor underway at 8 o'clock and the last one more than 12 hours later, it was a long day for everyone involved.

The competition involved jumping two rounds, the second of which was higher and timed, with a jump-off for individual places in the 90cm section too. And with places at both the Novice and Intermediate Winter Championships up for grabs, everyone rode to win. The course was tight and twisty in places, and caused a few issues throughout the day, but in general seemed to ride well.

MHRC send an amazing five teams along to have a go, two in both senior sections and an Intermediate junior team. And it was the juniors that showed us how it was done, with a team win and qualification place, plus individual places for all three members of the team - Esme was 3rd, Sacha 4th and Amber 5th.

There were also individual senior places, with Liz 4th and Chloe 5th in the Intermediate section, and there was a team 6th for the Malvern Green's in the Novice section.

Runners and Riders

Novice 80cm = **Malvern Hills Yellow** Annie Robertson and Llwyngwilym Frankie / Clare Gabriel and Icy Blue / Tina Price and Buzz B **Malvern Hills**

Green Sue Peckham and Copper Kingdom / Wendy Robinson and Lady Cove / Julie Jeffes and Bedazzled / Liz Wise and Pumba. Intermediate 90cm = **Malvern Hills Blues** Sue Peckham and Mr Gangster / Jodie Powell and Blenagloos Black Diamond / Anna Robson and I Believe I Can Fly / Liz Wise and Showtime Jazz

Malvern Hills Red Jo Jaynes and Emily Jane / Chloe Neathway and Pollys Patches / Faye Weinard and Estoril Vant Schaaphof / Sarah Bowness and Our



Liz and Jazz

Bawn Lodger **Malvern Hills Juniors** Esme Ruff and Morning Flight / Sacha Willis and Narrow Blaze / Amber Knott and Pennal Zedan

Chloe said "I had a fab day with a lovely bunch of people. It was so nice to hear a cheer at the end of every round. My second competition with the riding club and I was made to feel so welcome!"

Julie 'really enjoyed the day (minus the miserable weather). I was jumping Ben, who I hadn't competed jumping for as long as I can remember—he was fab and despite pulling a

rail in the second round, behaved really well in what was a tight and spooky arena. The warm-up arena at Moores Farm is really good and the food in the warm café also much better than your average show venue. I was very relieved that I didn't have to wait until 9:30 to do my second round—I think we were all finished by 8ish, so not anywhere as bad as they thought."

Clare has 'a few words about representing the 'late shift' at Moores Farm. On arriving, it was great to hear that they were running ahead of time. The weather wasn't the kindest, with squally showers as we were warming up, but it built up camaraderie! Tina, Annie and I soon 'found each other' and warmed up together. It wasn't my finest hour as nerves got the better of me, and I rode like a wet lettuce in the first round. But the 2nd round was better and we just had an unlucky pole. It was a tight arena and the fences came pretty quick for a big cob! But a great course, testing even the most experienced.

The best thing - as ever - was the MHRC support team. Not one single club had whoops and cheers like we did for our good (and bad!) rounds. People who had ridden in the morning came back even after a hideous early start. Chris and Caroline had taken root they had been there so long, but they gave those of us arriving late such a warm welcome. It was wonderful! If you've not yet come out competing, give it a go, because you will be made so welcome, given a warm hug, often fed and you'll make some great friends who are always on hand to help."



Jo and Emily Jane



Our successful Junior team

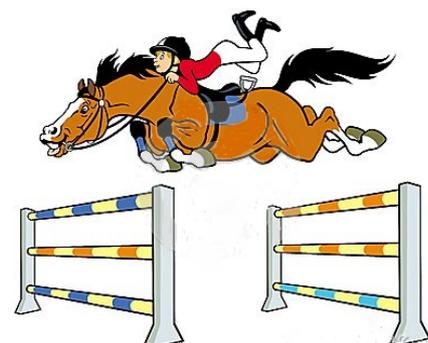
GYMNASTIC JUMPING CLINCS

With Plum Gregg at Marlbrook Farm, Welland, WR13 6LE
14th and 28th March / 11th and 18th April. £20 per session.

6pm to 7pm = for riders jumping 70 to 80cm.

7pm to 8pm and 8pm to 9pm for riders jumping 80cm plus.

Contact Julie to book a place.





NEEDFUL THINGS



IMPROVING YOUR CONFIDENCE IN THE SADDLE

With **Caroline Andrews**

DATE: 12th April 2017 **TIME:** 7:30 pm for 8:00 pm start
VENUE: Hunter's Inn, Longdon, nr Tewkesbury, GL20 6AR
COST: £5 per person, to include a chip supper.
 Non-members welcome. Please make sure you pay on the night.

INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE

After the **JANUARY** Competition

1st	Cherwell Valley RC	729 pts
2nd	Malvern Hills RC	429 pts
3rd	Crown RC	304 pts
4th	Solent RC	70 pts
5th	Cumbria	58 pts
6th	Kimblewick RC	23 pts



WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsideingclub.com

March 2017

2nd	Tom Grant Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena, Malvern.
4th	Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern
9th	Tom Grant Jumping Clinic, Hillview Arena, Malvern.
14th	Gymnastic Jumping Clinic, Marlbrook Farm, Welland
19th	Area Intermediate Dressage, Abbey Dressage, Fiddington, organised by Cheltenham RC
20th	Committee Meeting (send any issues or ideas for us to discuss to mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk)
28th	Gymnastic Jumping Clinic, Marlbrook Farm, Welland

PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 01.03.2017

SENIOR

1st	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	130
2nd	Tina Price & Tom Thumb	100
3rd	Sue Lidbetter & Rosie	75
4th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	60
5th	Wendy Yates & Sofia	40
6th	Camilla Esling & Roland	30
	Lin Harber & Toby	30
	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	30
9th	Elizabeth Wise & Showtime Jazz	25
	Rita Woolley & Lexy	25
	Steph Woolley & Lexy	25
	Sue Lidbetter & Midnight Express	25

JUNIOR

1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	175
2nd	Ethan Knott & Sammy	110
3rd	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	65
4th	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	60
5th	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	40
6th	Abi Pender-Garth & Charlie Bear	25

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT

www.malvernhillsideingclub.com

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NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** InterDressage ** Area 18 Dressage Qualifier ** BRC Novice Championships **
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



Congratulations Laura - 3rd at the BRC Novice Winter Championships

EDITOR'S BIT

They say that moving house and getting married are the two most stressful things in life to do ... having never done the latter and the former last happening a long time ago, I find that I probably have to disagree - my top of the list if moving horses to a new yard!

First off, how on earth do you manage to collect so much stuff? A trip with a car, trailer and the horse lorry were needed before we even moved horses (and we're talking two horses here, not a whole herd). Sorting it all back out was fun too and despite saying it was an excuse to get rid of stuff, I can't say that much has gone. A month on and my lorry still looks like the aftermath of a jumble sale!

And then there's trying to settle the horses into a new routine. Brave, calm and confident ponies when you do something together, but woe betide trying to separate them - screaming, psychotic, stress-heads would probably be the best description. Roll on whenever they finally decide to 'settle'.

Anyway, a fantastic month for the club, with more great results at Area qualifiers and at the first championship of the year. With the summer season just around the corner, we're already off to a flying start!

until next time, Caroline

MHRC

DRESSAGE QUALIFIER



Tina and Tom

The Area 18 Intermediate Winter Dressage qualifier was held on 19th March at Abbey Dressage, Tewkesbury, on another cold, blustery (but at least dry!) day. The competition involves a 4 person team, each doing a different test and this year, these were Prelim 7, Novice 30 and 34, and Elementary 49. A bit of arm-twisting by Chris, the team manager, persuaded a few extra members to have a go at the Elementary test, allowing us to send a fantastic four teams, plus a few individuals as well.

Junior Individuals (Prelim 7)

- ◇ Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles
- ◇ Ethan Knott & Samantha Spot
- ◇ Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze

Senior Individuals (Prelim 7)

- ◇ Shellee Harries & Master Maltstriker



Sophie and Minty

- ◇ Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove

- ◇ Danielle Lyons & Little Alfie

Malvern Hills Red

- ◇ Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster (P7)

- ◇ Wendy Yates & Bella (N30)

- ◇ Tina Price & Tom Thumb (N34)

- ◇ Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash (E49)

Malvern Hills Yellow

- ◇ Sarah Bowness & Our Bawn

- Lodger (P7)

- ◇ Nicky Mundy & Gerdinen Arrian (N30)

- ◇ Camilla Esling & Ted's Rainbow (N34)

- ◇ Julie Jeffes & Bedazzled (E49)

Malvern Hills Green

- ◇ Liz Whitehead & Raven Royale (P7)

- ◇ Liz Wise & Showtime Jazz (N30)

- ◇ Stef Bennet & Mr Buster (N34)

- ◇ Tina Price & Big Ted (E49)

Malvern Hills Blue

- ◇ Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane (P7)

- ◇ Anna Robson & Santa Fe (N30)

- ◇ Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond (N34)

- ◇ Kat Jones & Redback Cappuchino (E49)



Julie and Ash

Our juniors got the day off to a flying start, with Ethan and Sophie managing to tie for 4th place individually in the Prelim 7. The seniors then took a turn, with individual placings for Nicki (4th) in Novice 30, Stef (6th) in Novice 34 and Julie (4th) in Elementary. But Tina Price was the star of the day, winning the Novice 34 by a large margin with 79% - and hopefully gaining a place at the Championships at the end of April. In the team competition, the Malvern Yellows were 8th and the Malvern Reds were 4th.



Stef and Buster

MINI JUMPING CLINICS

DATES: 6th, 13th and 20th April 2017
WITH: Sophie Hooper
VENUE: Hillview Arena, Malvern
TIMES: 5pm (if enough interest)
 6pm and 7pm
HEIGHTS: 5pm - cross-poles
 6pm & 7pm - up to 65cm
COST: £20 per session

These are designed to get even the most nervous rider or novice horse jumping - small groups without any pressure.

Please contact Julie if you'd like a place.



IMPROVING YOUR CONFIDENCE IN THE SADDLE

With Caroline Andrews

DATE: 12th April 2017 **TIME:** 7:30 pm for 8:00 pm start

VENUE: Hunter's Inn, Longdon, nr Tewkesbury, GL20 6AR

COST: £5 per person, to include a chip supper.

Non-members welcome. Please make sure you pay on the night.

MHRC

BRC NOVICE CHAMPS

It seems a long time ago that Laura Bennett and Lematon Sunshine Surprise won an individual qualification to the KBIS BRC Winter Novice Championships, but on 1st April it was finally time for them to strut their stuff in the amazing arenas at Keysoe Equestrian Centre. With the usual dodgy weather forecast, we were lucky to have a beautiful sunny day for the competition itself, although a rainbow did make an appearance during the prize giving, but the rain stayed well

away.

As the sole representative of MHRC, there was a bit of pressure to do well, but they more than ably rose to the challenge. With an impressive score of 69%, they ended up in 3rd place, although it was hugely close at the top of the leader board. A fantastic start to the Championship season for the club - thank you.



INTERDRESSAGE

MHRC once sent a fantastic number of entries for the March Online Interdressage competition. Here is a round-up of the runners, riders and results.

Class: Walk and Trot M

- 4th = (junior restricted) Abi Render-Garth and Charlie Bear
 2nd = (senior restricted) Lisa Drinkwater and Frank's Grey
 4th = (senior restricted) Katy Spicer and Bo
 14th = (senior restricted) Abigail Hardy and Milly
 15th = (senior restricted) Suzanne Lidbetter and Midnight Express
 20th = (senior restricted) Alison Burton and Golly Miss Polly
 2nd = (senior intermediate) Suzanne Lidbetter & Rosie
 2nd = (senior open) Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe

Class: Walk, Trot and Canter D

- 1st = (junior) Amber Knott and Danny
 3rd = (junior) Ethan Knott and Sammi

2nd = (senior) Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe

Class: BRC Prelim D1

- 3rd = (senior restricted) Wendy Robinson and Bailey
 4th = (senior restricted) Camilla Esling and Roland
 6th = (senior restricted) Julie Jeffes and



Sophie and Barney



Amber and Danny

Smokey Joe

2nd = (senior open) Tina Price and Tom Thumb

Class: Intermediate Test 6

tbc = (senior) Katherine Jones and Redback Cappuchino
 tbc = (senior) Anne Price and Half a Guinness
 (still to be judged when going to press - results will be confirmed next issue)

Class: Freestyle Jumping

1st = (junior) Oliver Hooper and Pinto
 2nd = (junior) William Hooper and Rookery Fizz
 3rd = (junior) William Hooper and Leo
 1st = (senior) Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer
 2nd = (senior) Chris Esling and HalfnHalf



Kat and Dotty

The next organised filming day will be on 16th April - drop Caroline a line if you'd like to have a go. As its Easter, there'll also be hot cross buns and some chocolate goodies for supporters, grooms and riders too!



Chris and Arthur



NEEDED FULL THINGS

INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE

After the **FEBRUARY** Competition

1st	Cherwell Valley	851 pts
2nd	Malvern Hills	628 pts
3rd	Crown	383 pts
4th	Cumbria	123 pts
5th	Solent	77 pts
6th	Kimblewick	23 pts



PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 01.04.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Tina Price & Tom Thumb	195
2nd	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	165
3rd	Sue Lidbetter & Rosie	110
4th	Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe	70
	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	70
6th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	65
7th	Camilla Esling & Roland	60
8th	Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash	45
9th	Katy Spicer & Bo	40
	Wendy Yates & Sofia	40

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	215
2nd	Ethan Knott & Sammy	165
3rd	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	80
4th	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	65
	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	65
6th	Abi Pender-Garth & Charlie Bear	50
7th	William Hooper & Rookery Fizz	35
8th	William Hooper & Leo	30
9th	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	25

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT
www.malvernhillsriddingclub.com

MHRC BIG WEEKEND

27th to 29th May

WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsriddingclub.com

April 2017

- 1st - 2nd** BRC Novice Winter Championships, College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe, Beds.
- 6th** Mini Jumping Clinic with Sophie Hooper, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 11th** Gymnastic Jumping Clinic with Plum Gregg, Marlbrook Farm, Welland
- 12th** Horseless Clinic, Hunter's Inn, Longdon
- 13th** Mini Jumping Clinic with Sophie Hooper, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 15th** Area Combined Training, Dodderhill Equestrian, Droitwich, Worcester RC
- 16th** Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 18th** Gymnastic Jumping Clinic with Plum Gregg, Marlbrook Farm, Welland
- 20th** Mini Jumping Clinic with Sophie Hooper, Hillview Arena, Malvern
- 22nd** Mercian Eventer Challenge, Lincomb EC, Bewdley Bridle Club
- 28th - 30th** BRC Intermediate Winter Championships, Bury Farm, Slapton, Bucks.

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NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** InterDressage ** Area 18 Combined Training Qualifier ** Mercian Arena Eventing ** Horseless Clinic **
** BRC Intermediate Championships **
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



Sacha, Blaze and Chris at the BRC Intermediate Championships

EDITOR'S BIT

This has to be the busiest time of year for the club. Even as this goes to press, the committee's focus is on the Big Weekend at the end of next month - with everything booked, ordered and organised, it's now a final countdown with sorting entries and last minute flaps! Please keep an eye on your e-mails and on Facebook - as we get nearer the date, times will be finalised and then we'll have a better idea of when all our wonderful volunteers will be needed. And if you haven't yet volunteered, then please do drop me a line - the more help we get, the easier the weekend is for everyone.

And if that wasn't enough, we had two championships to attend this month too - a fantastic achievement and with the Festival of the Horse round the corner, the club is currently 3 for 3! No pressure for the summer qualifiers then, but wouldn't it be great to get a full house!

As you know, the horse trial qualifier on 4th June has been cancelled - you will still have an opportunity to qualify, but as we go to press we haven't heard any further details from the Area 18 group. As soon as we know, you will ☺.

until next time, Caroline



COMBINED TRAINING QUALIFIER

The Festival of the Horse Combined Training qualifier took place at Dodderhill Equestrian Centre on 15th April. MHRC sent along a fantastic four teams to compete, including a junior team.

In this competition, two members of the team ride a BD prelim test and jump a round at 75cm, while the other two do a BD Novice test and jump at 85cm. And with this being one of the first competitions on grass, a lot of the horses were enjoying the spring outing, despite the hard ground.

Runners and Riders

Malvern Hills Juniors

P/75 = Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan / Ethan Knott & Samantha Spot

N/85 = Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze / Esme Ruff & Morning Flight

Malvern Hills Orange

P/75 = Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe

N/85 = Steph Woolley & A Lot About Lexy / Sue Peckham & Copper Kingdom

Malvern Hills Purple

P/75 = Nicky Mundy & Hollyberry / Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue

N/85 = Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane

Malvern Hills Pink

P/75 = Stef Bennett & Mr Buster / Wendy Robinson & Lady Cover

N/85 = Leanne Bennet & Curra Pokey Joe / Alice Lowe & Bean

The juniors once again did us proud by winning the class, with Amber also overall winner of the Prelim section, and Esme the overall winner of the Novice section, with Sacha in a close second place. So it's another championship for the Juniors to enjoy.



Stef and Buster

In the Senior section, our highest placed team was the Malvern Hills Pink who came 3rd, with the 'Purples' 11th and the 'Oranges' 12th. Individually, Stef won the Prelim section, with Wendy in 2nd, while Steph was 4th in the Novice section with Jodie in 5th - a lovely collection of rosettes to take away for the club.



Caroline and Smokey

Sarah Homewood

said "I came along to support and cheer. I had a lovely day watching and cheering all the Malvern gang. It's so fab being part of such a supportive group." While Stef said, "I was just happy to get a clear round in the jumping, considering I haven't actually jumper Buster this year due to a recurring knee problem from when he threw me off in February!"

VACCINATION CHANGES

For those of you who have competed for the club at Area 18 in previous years, you will know that under BRC rules, your horse must have a full, complete and up-to-date flu vaccination record in order to compete.

For clubs in Area 18, this has previously meant uploading your details onto an online database, so that the officials can check your passport before the competition. However, the database wasn't always the easiest to use and not everyone could upload the necessary details.

***** WELL, GOOD NEWS, THIS HAS ALL CHANGED *****
***** BYE BYE DATABASE *****

Passports must be presented to the official steward at EVERY qualifier you compete at (NB. by law, you must carry your horse's passport while travelling).

A sticker will be added to your passport, which is dated 7 DAYS BEFORE THE NEXT BOOSTER IS DUE. This will be added to make it quicker for the steward to check at the next event. If you don't have a sticker, please leave extra time for your passport to be fully checked.

Horses without a complete record will be disqualified from competition - it is YOUR responsibility to make sure it is correct. If you are not sure, there is a handy checker on the Area 18 website - www.brcarea18.co.uk or speak to someone on the committee.

MHRC

HORSELESS CLINIC

On the 12th April, the club moved into the Hunter's Inn once more for the latest in our run of Horseless Clinics; 'Improving your Confidence in the Saddle' with Caroline Andrews. It was an exciting start to the evening, with leather clad men parading round the car-park - no, sadly not our new MHRC cheerleaders, but a motorbike rally to add some ambiance!

Caroline introduced herself with a bit of background. A one time speed-freak in the saddle, she ended up in an Italian hospital after a riding accident in 2001. Determined to find out why the horse threw her, she packed in her day job and went back to college to study horse behaviour. Determined not to give up riding, she ended up buying a 4 year old mare, Milly. Both were nervous and was looking to the other for leadership, which neither could give. Caroline realised that there was no-one to help her get her head back in the right place, so decided to study the problem herself, applying her horse behaviour skills and learning how the human ticks too. Using Neuro-linguistic programming (NLP), empathy and a genuine back-

ground fear of horses, she now helps others get over their own mental blocks.

FOCUS - the first major cause of confidence loss. We focus on what we can't do, programming the sub-conscious to never be able to do it. By changing our focus to what we want to achieve, or what we can already do, we shift the subconscious into a different framework. It's important to use positive words. Don't say, "I can't hack out", think "I'm not quite ready yet, but I will hack out soon." Everyone has some fear of falling off, but one trick is not to think "What if I fall off?", but to be positive and change it to think "I will not fall off today!"

LEADERSHIP - The horse is a prey animal that is genetically predisposed to outwit predators (ie. us!). Some horses will take this further than others. A calm, confident leader is what will keep the horse safe, so you need to become that leader or the horse will assume the role instead. You need to

(Continued on page 4)

INTERDRESSAGE



Oliver and Pinto

It was the last month of the BRC Inter-dressage league and once again we had a huge amount of entries. The club filming day on Easter Sunday was brilliant fun - not only did we have outstanding weather, but lots of cakes, sweets and chocolate to keep us going all morning.

OUTSTANDING MARCH RESULTS

Class: Intermediate Test 6

1st = (senior) Anne Price and Half a Guinness

5th = (senior) Katherine Jones and Redback Cappuchino

APRIL RESULTS

Class: Walk and Trot N

5th = (senior restricted) Danielle Lyons and Alfie

6th = (senior restricted) Rita Woolley and Lexy

8th = (senior restricted) Danielle Lyons and Capuchin

2nd = (junior restricted) Abi Pender-Garth and Charlie Bear



Sophie and Barney

1st = (senior intermediate) Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey
2nd = (senior intermediate) Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie
9th = (senior intermediate) Suzanne Lidbetter and Midnight Express
3rd = (senior open) Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe

Class: BRC Prelim D2

1st = (senior restricted)

Camilla Esling and Roland
2nd = (senior restricted)
Niki Padbury and Sumak
3rd = (senior open) Wendy Robinson and Bailey

Class: Starter B Plus

2nd = (senior) Anne Price and Half a Guinness

4th = (senior) Camilla Esling and Roland

5th = (senior) Katherine Jones and Redback Cappuchino

6th = (senior) Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe

Class: Freestyle Jumping

1st = (senior) Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer

2nd = (senior) Chris Esling and HalfNHalf

3rd = (senior) Wendy Robinson and Bailey

1st = (junior) Oliver Hooper and Pinto

Class: Pairs Dressage A

2nd = Katherine Jones and Redback Cappuchino & Niki Padbury and Sumak

Class: Working Hunter

1st = (senior) Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer

1st = (junior) William Hooper and Rookery Fizz

2nd = (junior) Oliver Hooper and Pinto

The final league results will be finalised soon and reported in the next newsletter. For the current league places, check out page 6.



Lisa and Frank's Grey



Camilla and Roland

MHRC

MERCIAN ARENA EVENTING

The first Mercian competition of 2017 was held on 22nd April at Lincomb Equestrian Centre. This is a hugely popular event, with everyone completing a round of show jumps, before starting out onto a round of cross-country fences on Lincomb's impressive all-weather track. And being so popular, it was a long old day, with the first rider heading out at 8:30 in the morning and the last one 10 hours later!

70cms

MALVERN LADYBIRDS

Jodie Powell & Mon Gris
Lydia Burrows & Hayeston Sam
Chris Esling & Hlaf N Half
Julie Jeffes & Billy Miller

MALVERN BUMBLEBEES

Gina Halford & Arte del Calico
Sara Stephenson & Liedi Susan
Wendy Robinson & Lady Grove
Anne Price & Half a Guinness

80cms

MALVERN BUTTERFLIES

Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue
Nicki Mundy & Holly
Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane
Liz Wise & Jazz

MALVERN DRAGONFLIES

Sue Peckham & Danny
Ali Park & Mr Gangster
Stefania Bennett & Mr Buster
Pam Render & Zena

In the 70cms, the Ladybirds were 6th, with Chris 4th individually. And in the 80cms, the Dragonflies were 5th and the Butterflies were 2nd, only beaten by 8 time penalties by Bewdley. Nicki was 6th individually.

It was Lydia's first time competing for MHRC. "I loved it! You are all so welcoming and friendly. Chris Esling was on my team too, and her & Arthur are just fab. She smiles the whole way around the course! People commented on how she was having so much fun. Can't wait for the combined training."

While Goo Price would have just liked a rider with a Sat Nav ☺

Team manager Jodie was "pleased to see that the day ran very well, with no hiccups. All the club members rode so well and made me proud. Lin would

have been proud of them all too. Well done Malvern, let's keep up the good work.

For a look at the full results, go to our website, and to see where we currently stand in the Mercian league, check out page 4.



Lydia and Sam

(Continued from page 3)

spend time with your horse and learn when he is genuinely scared of a situation or is just trying to distract you to get out of work that is too hard, too scary or just not something they are interested in doing. By forming a plan every time you interact with your horse, and by adapting the plan as things happen, you can stay in control of the situation.

MINDFULNESS - you need to anchor yourself in the moment, using all 5 senses. Split time into short moments (ie, don't think about riding all the way round the bride path, but just concentrating on the ride to the next telegraph pole or gate). Become aware of your thoughts and not become embarrassed or judgemental of yourself - it's ok to have thoughts, just don't overthink them. You need to acknowledge the anxiousness, as by ignoring it, it will just get worse. Use breathing exercises, singing, counting hoof beats to help control extraneous worries and fears creep into the moment.

Caroline led the group through some exercises to help focus the brain into the moment, which yielded some surprising results. With eyes closed and breathing deeply, just the thought of approaching a situation that would scare you, made most people drop their hands, lean back and sit deeper in their chairs. A perfect example to show that sub-consciously, we know how to deal with our own doubts!

The evening was finished off with a Q&A session and Caroline kindly gifted everyone in the room access to a 10 minute online workshop. Then it was time to relax with a plate off the Hunter's amazing fish and chips.

If you have any ideas for further Horseless Clinics, or know of anyone who would like to do a talk for the club, then please contact Karen Withers. Further dates and details of future clinics will be advertised as soon as they are confirmed.



NEW DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

13th August

MHRC Eventer Challenge & Blenheim Trial @ Hillview Arena

Schedule to follow - or keep an eye on the website

MHRC

BRC INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



Sacha and Blaze

despite lots of vocal encourage from Amber, naughty Danny took a dislike to one of the fillers and was sadly eliminated. With over three hours of waiting for the second round, there was plenty of time to enjoy some bacon butties, chips, a few glasses of wine and great company, before the girls were called to jump again.

The second round course looked big, but both Esme and Sacha made it look easy as they flew round to get a clear round apiece. There was more than a little excitement from the club

when Sacha was then called back for the jump-off, as there were a number of people on zero faults. The jumps were put up again and the course changed, but Blaze popped round. Hearts pounding, the whole cheer squad was on the edge of our seats as they came into the last double. A bit of a rub on the first pole made as gasp, but just as we thought she'd done it, the second fence wobbled ... and fell.

There was then more panic as one official had told Sacha it was unmounted prize-giving - which was wrong. So a quick scurry to get back on Blaze and into the arena ... just in time to receive her 9th place rosette and join in the lap of honour .

Amber and Danny

It was a fun day full of excitement and laughs. A special thank you Kirsty Knott, who went up even earlier in the morning to be our official volunteer of the day - a condition of entry that allows us to send teams off to any of the championships. For more photos, check out the album on Facebook.

The next championships is the Festival of the Horse in May, and once again we will be sending both Juniors and Seniors to compete in the Combined Training and Eventer Challenge events.

The BRC Winter Intermediate Championships were held from 28th to 30th April at Bury Farm Equestrian. It was exciting for the club, as it was the first time we had sent members to this championship.

On Friday, Tina Price and Tom Thumb contested the individual Novice dressage title, after qualifying at Abbey Dressage earlier in the year. Unfortunately, it wasn't their day and although they produced a fantastic test, they weren't in the final placings.

On the Sunday, it was the turn of our Junior jumping team, who qualified at Corse Lawn. With their first round just after 9 o'clock, it was very early starts for all three ponies and parties! It was a tight, twisty course and well up to height, with plenty to spook at. Esme and Poppy were the first to tackle the course, and had an unusual stop at the first fence, a big oxer off the corner,

which caught a few people out over the day. Sacha was next in and produced a lovely clear round, but



Esme and Poppy

whole cheer squad was on the edge of our seats as they came into the last double. A bit of a rub on the first pole made as gasp, but just as we thought she'd done it, the second fence wobbled ... and fell.

There was then more panic as one official had told Sacha it was unmounted prize-giving - which was wrong. So a quick scurry to get back on Blaze and into the arena ... just in time to receive her 9th place rosette and join in the lap of honour .



Tina and Tom



NEEDED FULL THINGS

INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE

After the **MARCH** Competition

1st	Cherwell Valley RC	1050pts
2nd	Malvern Hills RC	794 pts
3rd	Crown RC	480 pts
4th	Cumbria RC	165 pts
5th	Solent RC	77 pts
6th	Kimblewick RC	23 pts



PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 01.05.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	290
2nd	Tina Price & Tom Thumb	200
3rd	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	150
4th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	145
	Sue Lidbetter & Rosie	145
6th	Camilla Esling & Roland	125
7th	Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe	120
8th	Chris Esling & Arthur	105
9th	Stef Bennett & Mr Buster	100
10th	Katherine Jones & Redback Cappuchino	85

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	295
2nd	Ethan Knott & Sammy	205
3rd	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	155
4th	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	145
5th	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	140
6th	Abi Render-Garth & Charlie Bear	85
7th	William Hooper & Rookery Fizz	75
8th	William Hooper & Leo	30
9th	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	25

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT

CURRENT MERCIAN LEAGUE

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN RC	17
2nd	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	14
3rd	ALVECHURCH RC	13
4th (joint)	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB & BROMYARD RC	12
6th	WYVERN RC	10
7th	VALE OF ARROW RC	9
8th	FRAMPTON RC	8
9th	CHELTENHAM RC	3
10th (joint)	BROMSGROVE RC & WORCESTER RC	2
	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	2

WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsideingclub.com

May 2017

6th - Mercian Combined Training & Style Jumping, Dodderhill Court, Droitwich, Worcester RC

13th - Area 18 SJ & XC Training day, Wayfarer Eventing, Cheworth

14th - Mercian Show Jumping, Cleeve Prior, Crophorne RC

14th - BRC Grassroots XC & SJ Training, Deer Park Cross-country, Andoversford

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

28th = Area Show & Style Jumping, nr Three Counties Showground, Malvern, MHRC

29th = MHRC Open Show and Mercian Show-ing, nr Three Counties Showground, Malvern, MHRC

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NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** Mercian Combined Training ** Mercian Show & Style Jumping ** BRC Festival of the Horse **
** Interdressage Finals ** MHRC BIG WEEKEND **
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



**** OUR SENIOR CHALLENGE 90 TEAM AND TEAM MANAGER - RESERVE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS ****

EDITOR'S BIT

Wow, what a 'Big Weekend' we had this year. Even after spending months on the organisation, it still seems to arrive suddenly! And such up and down weather - the grime of set-up on Saturday was overlaid with sunburn on Sunday, then with rust on Monday! Still we had loads of great comments from competitors and everyone seemed to have fun, which is what it is all about. And it was gratifying to see so many MHRC members carrying off rosettes and prizes across the weekend.

And of course, before that, another fantastic championship result! Once again, it was very noticeable on the day that Malvern were one of the loudest clubs there (along with a club from Cornwall!), clapping and whooping as our riders galloped out onto the XC course or finished their dressage tests. It was even noticeable to the commentator, who started urging the other clubs to be as loud as us - as if!

June is a bit quiet for the club - a well earned break for us to all gather ourselves up before July arrives in force, with plenty more qualifiers and other club events. Keep an eye on your inbox for more info as we get it,

until next time, Caroline

MHRC

THE MERCIAN TRIPLE

May has been a great month for MHRC in the Mercian league. On 6th May, Worcester Riding Club hosted the Style Jumping and Combined Training at Dodderhill Equestrian Centre, and we sent along 4 teams.

In the Style, two members of the team had to jump 2'3 and two the 2'6 course. And there were plenty of rosettes all round. Sophie Hooper won the 2'3 section, with Sara Stephenson in 2nd and Lyndsey Bakewell in 4th, and Stefania Bennett was 3rd in the 2'6. Overall, the Malvern Eagles came 3rd and the Malvern Buzzards won the day.

In the Combined Training, the height was set for the whole team, but two members each rode a different test. Again, plenty of individual honours came our way. Jo Jaynes was 2nd in the Intro A section, with Lydia Burrows 5th. Lyndsey Bakewell was also 5th, but in the Prelim section, while both Sophie Hooper (Prelim 14) and Stefania Bennett (Novice 27) won their sections. This meant that both our 2'3 and our 2'6 team were placed 1st.

Style Jumping

- Malvern Buzzards : 2'3 Clare Gabriel and Icy Blue & Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer 2'6 Stefania Bennett and Mr Buster
- Malvern Eagles: 2'3 Sara Stephenson and Suzie & Lyndsey Bakewell and Jessie. 2'6 Jo Jaynes and Emily Jane & Wendy Robinson and Lady Grove

Combined Training

- 2'3 Malvern Hills Purple: Intro A Jo Jaynes and Emily Jane & Lydia Burrows and Hayestown Sam. Prelim 7 Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan & Lyndsey Bakewell and Jessy
- 2'6 Malvern Hills Pink: Prelim 14 Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer & Pam Render and Zena. Novice 27 Wendy Robinson and Lady Grove & Stefania Bennett and Mr Buster

Then it was off to Evesham for the Show Jumping competition on 14th May. We only sent two teams, one for each section, and it was the Malvern Purples in the 70cm class who brought home a 5th place rosette.



Show Jumping

- 70cm Malvern Purple: Sara Stephenson and Liedi Susan / Kay Chambers and Tigger / Lydia Burrows and Sam / Chris Esling and Bleanagloss Black Diamond
- 75cm Malvern Red: Jo Jaynes and Emily Jane / Nicki Mundy and Hollyberry / Wendy Robinson and Lady Cove / Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer

As Sophie said, "it was great to finally get out with Barney and represent the club away from home. It was a very cold day, but great team support as always. I also had Ollie with me and he proved to be a very lucky team mascot! The following week we went to the Crophorne Mercian Showjumping and although our team was not successful Barney tried his heart out, but his big fat legs could not move fast enough ☺"

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

Happy Birthday Lin



On 28th May, the day of our Area qualifier, it was Lin Harber's birthday. Knowing that she was devastated not to be part of the Big Weekend this year, a bunch of MHRC groupies visited her with pressies, cards and all our love.

Lin has very much kept up to date with all the club news and is thrilled at all the successes. Although progress is slow, she is making a good recovery and hopes to be back out supporting the teams soon.



MHRC

BRC FESTIVAL OF THE HORSE



Amber and Danny

split between two 'areas', with the combined training taking place on some truly fantastic arenas, while the Challenge classes were held on grass - first over a round of show-jumps with some tricky lines, and then round a shortened cross-country course.

The third BRC national championship of 2017 was the Festival of the Horse, held at Aston-le-Wells. We had a whole bevy of members heading that way to compete in both the Eventer Challenge and the Combined Training. It was a weekend of very contrasting weathers - and more than one heavy down-pour to make sure we were all awake. The beautiful venue is

into Pumba's qualifying shoes and it was our first run xc together. Pumba must have had a word as she flew and it felt amazing coming through finish. Made all the better by usual cheer squad and incredible support! Fabulous day!"

Sarah Homewood came along to support. "I didn't really do much apart from groom for Liz, but as always I have such a blast supporting the Malvern gang, feels like you're part of a family! Dotty the sausage dog would like to be considered for a mascot haha! For me the best thing is hearing the cheers of support, that's what it all about."



Sue and Gangster



Jodie and Trixi

The Junior Combined Training team of Ethan Knott on Samantha Spot, Amber Knott on Pennal Zedan, Esme Ruff on Morning Flight and Sacha Willis on Narrow Blaze, were 16th, with Amber winning a 10th place in the 75cm section. Sacha also competed in the Junior 90cm Challenge, where she came an impressive 16th from over 60 entrants.

We only had the one representative in the Senior Combined Training, Stef Bennett and Mr Buster, and they came 20th after a couple of naughty stops in the jumping.

Sue "had great fun at the Eventer Challenge champs at Aston Le Walls. Ali came as my groom and we had plenty of vocal and very supportive members of Malvern Hills to cheer us on! Gang was on top form and thoroughly enjoyed himself - he felt amazing! He is much better when he doesn't have to do stressage!"

Jodie thought it was an "amazing day with amazing support. Trixi was amazing too. The course was lovely and rode well. Although I did end up getting a shock when I visited the toilet and Liz and Chris came along and started banging on the sides of the loos ☺"



Liz and Jazz

Megan Harper on First Song, although qualifying last year as part of the now defunct Corse Lawn Riding Club, competed as part of the 'Area 18' team in the 100 Challenge. With only 1.2 time penalties, she was awarded 2nd place in the individual placings.

Megan "had a fab time at FOTH, first time back competing as a member of Malvern. The ground was perfect after a deluge of rain, and the course full up to height. It was a bit emotional going round the xc as 'Sexpot' was giving me such a good ride - he is 19 years old and I had considered retiring him."



Tina and Buzz

But it was our Senior 90 Challenge team who came top of the bunch. Sue Peckham on Mr. Gangster were 3rd individually, with only 0.8 of a time fault. Elizabeth Wise on Show-time Jazz, and Tina Price on Buzz-B were also clear jumping, with a handful of faults between them, while Jodie Powell on Bleanagloos Black Diamond ended the day on 12 faults. This meant that in the final reckoning, the team were placed 2nd, but also won the award for 'Best All Scores To Count'.

"I have never felt so nervous warming up," said Liz, "Jazzy had to step

Stef "was thrilled to qualify as an individual for the champs; it's just too bad it wasn't Buster's day. Great fun though. And so proud to be flying the flag for MHRC."



Sacha and Blaze



MHRC BIG WEEKEND



Our winning 70cm team - off to the National Champs!

The Big Weekend - how quickly it comes round each year! 2017 was a mixed bag, weather wise. With beautiful sunshine, shorts and sunglasses, the Area qualifier on the Sunday was an exciting day of jumping. It was rather different on Monday, with stormy, wet weather making us glad for waterproofs and hot drinks!

The new layout of the showground seemed to work well, with more space for people to warm up and vehicles kept away from the horses and pedestrians. Setting up the showground on Saturday was fantastic, with a huge amount of people arriving to help rope off arenas and set up the courses.

By 7:00 on Sunday, the first lorries started to arrive. The day involved 6 different classes, all qualifiers for the National Championships at Lincoln later in the year. MHRC had representatives in nearly all classes, but it was our Senior 70cm team and Junior Style team which won the day and qualification. Individually, Ollie Hooper also qualifies in the Junior 70cm by winning the class, and fingers crossed for Tina Price and Sophie Hooper, who should also qualify as the highest placed individuals not in the winning teams.

Area Show & Style Jumping Qualifier: Senior 70cm 2nd Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Ash 3rd Lydia Burrows and Hayestown Sam. Team 1st (Julie,

Lydia, Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove / Sara Stephenson & Lledi Susan) **Junior 70cm** 1st Oliver Hooper and Pinto. 2nd William Hooper and Gucci Guy **Senior 80cm** 2nd Malvern Hills Red (Sophie Hooper & The King's Archer / Stef Bennett & Mr Buster / Julie Jeffes & Bedazzled III / Pam Render & Zena) 2nd Tina Price and Buzz-B (not placed) Malvern Hills Blue (Jo



Sara and Suzy

Jeynes & Emily Jane / Sue Peckham & Copper Kingdom / Gina Hlaford & Arte De Calcio **Senior 90cm** 3rd Faye Weinand & Estoril Van Schaaphof 4th Alex Riches & Mr Darcy 5th Emma Horton-Smith & All About Albert 2nd Malvern Hills Team (Faye / Alex / Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Anna Robson & I Believe I Can Fly) **Junior 90cm** 3rd Esme Ruff and Morning Flight 6th Sacha Willis and Narrow Blaze **110cm** 2nd Anna Robson and Academy Award **Senior Style Jumping** 1st (75cm) Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer 3rd Team (Sophie / Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove / Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster / Tina Price & Buzz-B) **Junior Style Jumping** 1st (75cm) Amber Knott and Pennal Zedan 2nd (85cm) Esme Ruff and Blue Suede Shoes 4th (85cm) Sacha Willis and Narrow Blaze 1st Team (Amber / Sacha / Esme / Ethan Knott and Samantha Spot)

Sadly, we did not get a huge turnout to change the showground around on Sunday night, so a huge thank you to Steph Woolley, Anna Robson, Tina Price, Sarah Bowness and kids, Sara Stephenson, Linda Kemp, Chris & Camilla Esling, Sophie Hooper and Emlyn (with his fantastic truck!), who stayed on to help out.

The Mercian team showing in the morning had the best of the weather and with 17 people in each class, it was a hard job for the judges to sort out the order. Overall, MHRC won the day, with Anna Robson winning the Riding Club horse and plenty of other rosettes coming our way.

Mercian Showing:
Coloured Horse 2nd Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer 3rd Jo Jeynes and Emily Jane 5th Lydsey Bakewell & Jessy 7th Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue **Veteran** 5th Suzanne Lldbetter & Rosie 9th Megan Harper & Sexpot 12th Leanne Bennett & Magic 16th Sarah Homewood & Mildred **Riding Club Horse** 1st Anna Robson & Santa Fe 3rd Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove 7th Stef Bennett and Mr Buster 14th Katie Hawkesworth & Bedazzled **Working Hunter** 2nd Alex Harris & Ted 3rd Sara Stephenson & Lledi Susan 5th Natalie Smith & Brook 6th Tina Price & Buzz-B **Teams** 1st = Malvern Hills Pink (Sophie, Leanne, Anna & Alex) 3rd = Malvern Hills Purple (Jo, Megan, Stefanie & Sara) 5th = Malvern Hills Red (Clare, Sarah, Wendy & Natalie) 6th = Malvern Hills Blue (Lydsey, Suzanne, Katie & Tina)

And then it was on to the open classes. With 4 rings going on at once, there was plenty to watch and enjoy. MHRC members did amazingly well, carrying home plenty of rosettes. A special well-done has to go to Jo Jaynes and Emily Jane, who took the Reserve Showing Champion at the end of the day.

Open Show Results: Class 1: 2'0 Very Pre-Novice Jumping 6th Sacha Willis & Dinky **Class 2: 2'3 Pre-Novice Jumping** 4th Katie Hawkesworth & Bedazzled **Class 10: Best Ridden Pony** 1st (un-led) Abigail Garth & Charlie

(Continued on page 5)



Sophie & Barney

MHRC

INTERDRESSAGE FINALS

Over the winter months (October to April), MHRC competed in the Interdressage online leagues, and the final points were recently calculated. It was a fantastic season and we ended up in 2nd place in both the Winter Team League and the British Riding Club League.

In the final couple of months, we really closed the gap on Cherwell Valley - if there had been another month of competition, we may well have pipped them to the post! It was definitely quality over quantity that got us through, with many more higher places to our name - so well done everyone.

In total we had 33 Members competing in a variety of classes, from dressage of various levels, jumping, showing, working hunter, pairs dressage and, of course, who can forget the wonderful hobby horse competitors at Christmas? There were monthly filming sessions held at Hillview arena, but many members filmed at home and did their entries themselves.

For our 2nd place in the Winter League, every member who took part on behalf of the club receives a medal, which will be presented to everyone at the MHRC Summer BBQ.

2016/2017 Tadcaster Animal Physiotherapy Winter League

1st	Cherwell Valley	1128
2nd	Malvern Hills	942
3rd	Summerwood (USA)	660
4th	Crown	545
5th	Hidden Creek (USA)	411
6th	Irish Rovers (Ireland)	338
7th	Team Jones	252
8th	NHP (Japan)	181
9th	Corner House (USA)	169
10th	Cumbria	165
11th	Townfoot	109

12th	Swang Pony Centre	91
13th	Solent	59
14th	Plumtree	57
15th	County Lane	22
16th	Orchard Farm	19
17th	FatPony (South Africa)	19
18th	Cotteswold Mounted Archers	19
19th	TROTT (Canada)	18
20th	Kimblewick	12
21st	Team Canada (Canada)	12
22nd	Bracco	7

British Riding Club League

1st	Cherwell Valley	1177
2nd	Malvern Hills	1001
3rd	Crown	557
4th	Cumbria	183
5th	Solent	77
6th	Kimblewick	23

British Riding Club League Individuals

1st	Henri Senn & Bobby (Crown RC)	242
2nd	Camilla Haw & Merrion Lad (Cherwell RC)	202
3rd	Diana Theophilus & Magic (Cherwell RC)	154
4th	Cassie Senn & Cody Boy (Crown RC)	85
5th	Wendy Robinson & Bailey (MHRC)	84
6th	Suzanne Lidbetter & Rosie (MHRC)	70

A big thank you to everyone who took part ... keep an eye on your club communications as I'm sure we'll have another go next winter.

(Continued from page 4)



Anna Robson & Santa Fe

Bear **Class 11: In-hand M&M Large Breed** 1st Jess Staines & Foxglen Dawn

Class 12: In-hand M&M Small Breed 3rd Jane Downham and Midget

Class 14: Ridden M&M Small Breed 1st Abigail Garth & Charlie Bear

Class 15: In-hand Coloured 2nd Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane
3rd Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove
4th Lyndsey Bakewell & Lyndell Star Justice

Class 17: Ridden Coloured 1st Esme Ruff and Morning Flight 3rd Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane 4th Lyndsey Bakewell & Lyndell Star Justice 5th Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove **Class 19: Best Riding Club Horse** 1st Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane 6th Sara Stephenson & Suzy **Class 20: In-hand Racehorse to Riding Horse** 6th Nicky Esling & Royal Riviera **Class 21: In-hand Veteran** 2nd Jess Staines &

Foxglen Dawn **Class 23: Ridden Veteran** 1st Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan **Class 25: Ridden Hunter** 3rd Anna Robson & Santa Fe 4th Sue Peckham and Copper Kingdom 5th Martin Febery & Brook **Class 27: Novice Working Hunter** 2nd Sue Peckham and Copper Kingdom **Reserve Showing Champion** Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane. (NB. If I have missed out your result, please e-mail me ASAP so I can adjust the Points League ☺).

And so it is all over for another year! Thank you everyone who gave up their time to volunteer - this is our main fundraiser and without the help to run it, we would not have the funds to provide the subsidised training, the qualifier and championships entries or the basic day-to-day running of the club. We will be having a summer BBQ once again to say thank you properly - watch this space for news.

(For more photos, check out our website, Topshots Photography or our Facebook page).



Olly and Will Hooper



NEEDED FULL THINGS

CURRENT MERCIAN LEAGUE

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN HILLS RC	66
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	54
3rd	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	45
4th	BROMYARD RC	32
5th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	26
6th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	20
7th	WYVERN RC	19
8th	VALE OF ARROW RC	16
9th	BROMSGROVE RC	14
10th	WORCESTER RC	13
11th	FRAMPTON RC	11
12th	CHELTENHAM RC	7

Points correct following the Showing on 29th May

WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsriddingclub.com

June 2017

3rd = Mercian Dressage, venue tbc, Alvechurch RC

July 2017

2nd - Area Horse Trials Qualifier, West Wilts, Trowbridge, Area 18 Group

9th - Area DTM Qualifier, Kings Equestrian, Bromyard, Worcester RC

23rd - Area Dressage & Riding Test Qualifier, Hanbury Showground, Redditch, Wyvern RC

30th - Area Style Jumping Training, Radcot Equestrian, Faringdon, West Oxon RC

30th - Hickstead Teams of Three Jumping

August 2017

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

19th - Mercian Eventer Challenge (on grass), Longlands Livery, Tardebigge, Alvechurch RC

PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 01.06.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	525
2nd	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	475
3rd	Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane	310
4th	Stef Bennett & Mr Buster	305
5th	Sara Stephenson & Lliedi Susan	270
6th	Tina Price & Tom Thumb	200
7th	Lyndsey Bakewell & Lyndwll Star Justice	180
8th	Sue Lidbetter & Rosie	175
9th	Tina Price & Buzz-B	165
10th	Lydia Burrows & Hayeston Sam	155
	Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster	155

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	375
2nd	Ethan Knott & Sammy	250
3rd	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	220
	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	220
5th	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	195
6th	Abi Render-Garth & Charlie Bear	160
7th	William Hooper & Rookery Fizz	75
8th	William Hooper & Gucci Guy	35
9th	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	30
	William Hooper & Leo	30
11th	Sacha Willis & Dinky	15

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT www.malvernhillsriddingclub.com

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NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** Mercian Dressage ** Malvern Hills Council Sport Awards **
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



Lin and new nurse, Mathilda Shephard

EDITOR'S BIT

Well, it might have been a quite month for RC competitions, but it's been a busy one for the committee as we set out to plan the next few months of MHRC activities. There are lots of new dates for your diaries over the next couple of pages, whether you're after socials, clinics or competitions ☺

It's also been a hot month! I hope all our members, two and four footed, have managed ok in these high temperatures. Nice for sitting in a pub garden, but not so nice while trying to teach yobbo horse his medium trot! Hopefully, by the time this goes to press, the weather will have broken - of course then we'll be moaning whatever it chooses to do next.

Some good news about Lin - she has now been moved to a rehabilitation hospital, where they can really concentrate on getting her back on her feet. She is determined to be back home by Christmas and is so gutted to be missing out on all our fun. She has kept up with all the news and gossip, and also sends her personal THANKS to everyone who helped us make the Big Weekend go so well.

until next time, Caroline

MERCIAN DRESSAGE



Linda

well deserved 5th.

Malvern Ladybirds

IB = Sarah Bowness and Toby
 P12 = Clare Gabriel and Icy Blue
 P18 = Lyndsey Bakewell & Jessy
 N28 = Stefania Bennett & Mr Buster

Malvern Butterflies

IB = Anne Price & Half A Guinness
 P12 = Nicki Mundy & Holly

The only competition for the club this month, was the Mercian Dressage on the 3rd June, held at Longlands Livery and hosted by Alvechurch Riding Club.

In each team, a rider had to do Intro B, Prelm 12, Prelim 18 or Novice 28. The best three scores counted in the overall places, with the lowest prelim score dropped.

In the team places, the Dragonflies were 6th and the Butterflies 2nd. There were plenty of individual rossies too. In the Intro B, Anne was 4th and Sarah was 5th, while in the Prelim 12, Sara was 3rd and Liz 4th. Our only win of the day was won by Lyndsey in the Prelim 12, where Gina also came 6th, while Nicki was our only place in the Novice with a

P18 = Gina Halford & Trefeinon Six
 N28 = Lyndsey Bakewell & Amy

Malvern Bumblebees

IB = Lydia Burrows & Hayestown Sam
 P12 = Liz Whitehead & Raven Royale
 P18 = Pam Render & Zena
 N28 = Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove

Malvern Dragonflies

IB = Linda Kemp & Tanzanite Mist
 P12 = Sara Stephenson & Lliedi Susan
 P18 = Anna Robson & Santa Fe
 N28 = Nicki Mundy & Harry



Anne and Sara

“The weekend ran faultlessly,” said Gina, “Alvechurch did their best to get all results out as quickly as they could. Being fairly new to the club, I found the support from everyone outstanding! I have always been made to feel welcome and supported, especially by Chris and Jodie, who were there all day to collect results and lots of rosettes! For me, I was competing my mare that hadn’t been out for 7 or 8 months and I was very anxious about how she would behave (typical chestnut mare!). I was over the moon with her coming individually 6th, especially as I didn’t ride her to her full potential. The only criticism I would have is the telegraph pole in arena 3. They had plenty of room to place the arena, but decided to have the pole right next to ‘B’!”



Sarah, Sophie and Henry

For Stefania, it was a different story. “Unfortunately, Buster did not rise to the occasion and behaved like a 3 year old thoroughbred because of ‘something’ (I have no idea what!) that was spooking him far across the other side of the field. I guess you can’t win them all ☺”



Anna



SUMMER BBQ

SATURDAY 29th JULY 2017

Garden House, Queenhill, Upton-on-Severn, WR8 0QZ (signposted from the B4211 Upton to Longdon Road)



** GREAT FOOD ** FANTASTIC COMPANY **

** A FABULOUS EVENING CHILLING & CATCHING UP WITH RIDING CLUB FRIENDS **

From 16:00 - food served from 17:00

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & SOMETHING TO SIT ON

All tickets will be entered into a raffle for some fantastic prizes

£5 per ticket - Family and Friends welcome.

Tickets can be purchased using the form below, or via our website using paypal.

www.malvenhillsridingclub.com





Malvern Hills District Council Community Sport's Awards

2017 sees the 7th year of the District Council's community sports awards. These are awarded in a number of categories and highlight excellence in any field of sport taking place within the district.

We were extremely excited to find out that MHRC had made it to the shortlist in two of the categories.

'Club of the Year' highlights the achievements of the club over the past 12 months. With our fantastic successes at Area and Mercian level, in Interdressage and at the all the different BRC Championships, our nomination form was rather long. Also highlighted was the fantastic support we get from our cheer squad, as well as the inclusive nature of all club activities.

Even more exciting, and very poignant, was that Lin Harber,

nominated for the 'Unsung Hero Award' has also reached the final shortlist. It was quite emotional as we broke the news to her. As we all know, Lin comes along to all club events, is hugely supportive to every member and works hard behind the scenes making sure the committee get it all right!

The awards ceremony takes place in 13th July, where we'll find out if we've won. So everyone cross their fingers, toes, hooves and paws ☺



DRESSAGE CLINICS

With KAREN NICHOLAS BHSII.

12th, 20th and 27th July.

Hillview Arena, Malvern.

10 minutes warm-up followed by
30 minute private session.

£25

First session - 18:30

Last session - 20:30

Due to this new format, it is very important that riders turn up on time for their booking.

Once booked, refunds may not be able to be given.

Contact Julie to book your place.

MHRC EVENTER CHALLENGE

13th August 2017

Nr Three Counties Showground, Blackmore Park Road,
Malvern.

A mixture of XC & SJ in a grass arena.

SELECTION TRIAL FOR THE BLENHEIM INTERNATIONAL HORSE TRIALS RIDING CLUB CHALLENGE

If you are interested in representing the club at Blenheim, you will need to enter this competition.

Open classes 75cm to 105cm.

Schedule to be confirmed soon - please keep an eye on our website and our Facebook page.

ALSO PROGRESSIVE CLEAR ROUND.

A set course of show jumps - height starts at 60cm. A great opportunity to school your horse on grass.



NEEDED FULL THINGS

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PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 01.07.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	530
2nd	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	475
3rd	Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane	310
	Sara Stephenson & Lledi Susan	310
	Stef Bennett & Mr Buster	310
6th	Lyndsey Bakewell & Lyndwll Star Justice	220
7th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	200
	Tina Price & Tom Thumb	200
9th	Sue Lidbetter & Rosie	175
10th	Tina Price & Buzz-B	165

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	375
2nd	Ethan Knott & Sammy	250
3rd	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	220
	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	220
5th	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	195
6th	Abi Render-Garth & Charlie Bear	160
7th	William Hooper & Rookery Fizz	75
8th	William Hooper & Gucci Guy	65
9th	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	30
10th	Sacha Willis & Dinky	15

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July 2017

2nd - Area Horse Trials Qualifier, West Wilts, Trowbridge, Area 18 Group

9th - Area DTM Qualifier, Kings Equestrian, Bromyard, Worcester RC

12th - Karen Nicholas Flatwork Clinic, Hillview Arena

20th - Karen Nicholas Flatwork Clinic, Hillview Arena

23rd - Area Dressage & Riding Test Qualifier, Hanbury Showground, Redditch, Wyvern RC

27th - Karen Nicholas Flatwork Clinic, Hillview Arena

29th - MHRC Summer BBQ, The Garden House, Queenshill, Upton-on-Severn

30th - Area Style Jumping Training, Radcot Equestrian, Faringdon, West Oxon RC

30th - Teams of Three Jumping, All England Jumping Course, Hickstead, West Sussex

CURRENT MERCIAN LEAGUE

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN HILLS RC	68
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	58
3rd	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	45
4th	BROMYARD RC	32
5th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	26
6th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	25
7th	WYVERN RC	19
8th	VALE OF ARROW RC	16
9th	FRAMPTON RC	15
10th	BROMSGROVE RC	14
11th	WORCESTER RC	13
12th	CHELTENHAM RC	7



NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

** Area Horse Trials, Dressage and Dressage to Music Qualifiers ** Malvern Hills Council Sport Awards **

** Summer BBQ **

PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES



All dressed up at the Sport's Awards

EDITOR'S BIT

Well, this month really has started off with a bang. With our wins at the Horse Trials and Steph winning at the DTM qualifiers, that means that the club is 7 for 7 - yes, we've qualified for all **6 BRC championships, and the Regionals, in 2017**. We've come close before, but this is the first time in the history of the club that it has happened - so congratulations to everyone who has competed and made this happen.

It does feel odd to already be at the end of the Area Summer season - although I'm sure that Chris is more than glad for the break! But there are still a few more Mercian team competitions left to run and all being well, the Interdressage competitions will start up in October, so still plenty to look forward to this year.

As we go to press, we are busy with the preparations for the Eventer Challenge, which this year we hope will be bigger and better. The change of venue onto grass will hopefully make it feel more like a mini Blenheim, so please come along and have a go or support us in the new venture.

until next time, Caroline

AREA HORSE TRIALS



Esme & Poppy

On 2nd July, the club travelled the 90 minute journey down south to the West Wilts Equestrian centre for the Area Horse Trials qualifier. It was a warm, sunny day, perfect for a day out in the beautiful Wiltshire countryside.

The venue was great, with all three phases reasonably close to one another (which was even better for the spectators!) and, despite it also being an Area 9 qualifier and an unaffiliated event, it never seemed over crowded throughout the day.

MHRC sent a record number of representatives this year, with three teams and 3 individuals.

80 Senior Team

Victoria Gregg & Langson Governor / Camilla Esling & Teds Rainbow / Steph Woolley & A Lot About Lexy

90 Junior Individual

Esme Ruff & Morning Flight / Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze

90 Senior Teams

MALVERN HILLS BLUE

Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster / Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Tina Price & Buzz-B / Emma Horton-Smith & All About Albert

MALVERN HILLS GREEN

Abi Hardy & Oxview Mist / Lyndsey Bakewell & Lyndell Amadallas / Victoria Gregg & Rock Supreme / Sue Peckham & Copper Kingdom

100+ Senior Individual

Laura Bennett & Lematon Sunshine Sadie



Laura & Sadie

It was the 90cm competitor's who started the day - and an early start it was, with our first dressage test at 08:36! MHRC kind of dominated the senior section, with a team win for the Malvern Blues, and an individual win for Victoria and Rocky, with a hugely impressive final score of 19.8. Individual places also went to Emma in 3rd, Sue in 4th and Jodie in 6th. The juniors also did extremely well, with a 3rd for Sacha and a 4th for Esme. Laura was our sole representative in the 100+ class and had a fantastic day, coming 2nd overall. Things didn't quite go to plan for our 80cm team, but Victoria and Governor came home with an individual 4th place.

A massive thank you has to go to our official volunteers, who gave up the whole day to fence judge at the event so that all our competitors could take part - so thank you **Anna Robson, Linda Kemp, Linda Metcalf and Jo Jeynes**.

For a full list of results, check out the MHRC or the BRC 18 websites. Or for more photos check out our Facebook page.

UPDATE: Sadly, we were contacted by HQ to say that one of the horses in the 90cm team wasn't eligible to enter the event. Once that score was removed, our team dropped down to 2nd place and out of the qualification spot. This was a huge blow to Chris, the team manager, the rest of the team and the whole club. Please remember that YOU are responsible for checking eligibility. BRC does change the criteria from year to year, and if you compete in any affiliated events, then please double check before putting your name down for a particular qualifier. The BRC rulebook can be downloaded for free and can be found on the BRC, MHRC and Area 18 websites - committee members also have hard copies and will assist you if you're not 100% sure.

However, a bit of good news was that Laura Bennett has also qualified with her 2nd place in the 100 and will be joining Victoria at the championships.



Jodie & Trixie



Emma & Albert



Sacha & Blaze



Victoria & Rocky



Anna & Linda



Sue & Gangster

AREA DRESSAGE TO MUSIC



Julie and Ben

It was a bit warm and muggy on 9th July, when the club headed over to King's Equestrian, Bromyard, for the Area Dressage to Music qualifier... and once again we sent a record number of entries.

Steph and Freckles were the stars of the day, comprehensively winning the Senior Novice class with the Dolly Parton inspired routine and only narrowly missing out on winning the Elementary class with Despicable Me!

There was also a 2nd place for Amber, plus a 4th for Anne, and Julie came 3rd on Ben and 5th on Ash.

To watch all the club videos from the day, go to our website and follow the links to our YouTube Channel.

Junior Novice (no points)

- Amber Knott and Pennal Zedan

Senior Novice (no points)

- Tina Price and Tom Thumb
- Anne Price and Half a Guinness
- Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador

Senior Novice (with points)

- Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Ash
- Tina Price and Big Ted
- Julie Jeffes and Bedazzled III

Senior Elementary

- Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador



Steph and Freckles



MALVERN HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL SPORTS AWARDS

On 13th July, the committee were invited to attend the Sport's Awards Ceremony, organised by the District Council, at the Bank House, Bransford. The Sport's Awards were set up to recognise the people and organisations that are essential to keeping local sport alive. MHRC were immensely proud

to be shortlisted for two of the 13 categories - 'Club of the Year' and 'Unsung Hero of the Year'.

The night began with some a lovely buffet and a glass (or two!) of Pimms and then we were entertained by a children's modern dance troop. There

was also a hugely inspirational talk by Andy Lewis, one of GB's top Paralympic Tri-athletes,

while the night was hosted by Radio Hereford and Worcester's Andrew Easton, who kept us laughing all evening.

Sadly, we didn't win either category, but were second in both, which is a huge achievement. It was fantastic to represent the club in such a setting, albeit a bit unusual to be getting

(Continued on page 5)



Mike representing Lin on stage



The Committee (and guests) - looking a little different!

AREA DRESSAGE & RIDING TEST



Sara and Suzy

On the 23rd July, we sent a record number of entries to the Dressage and Riding Test qualifier at Hanbury. With the weather forecast looking a bit dire, we ended up having a fantastic day, with plenty of sunshine and not a raindrop in sight.

SENIOR NOVICE TEAMS

MHRC RED = Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane / Sophie Hooper and

The King's Archer / Sue Peckham & Copper Kingdom / Sara Stephenson & Lliedi Susan **MHRC GREEN** = Gina Halford & Treifenon Six / Pam Render & Zena / Lisa Drinkwater & Franks Greylad / Megan Harper & Imperial Moonlight **MHRC BLUE** = Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe / Clare Gabriel & Icy Blue / Liz Whitehead & Raven Royale / Sarah Bowness & Toby

SENIOR PAIRS

Liz Whitehead & Raven Royale / Jane Downham & Gleaming Dynamite



Sophie and Minty

SENIOR OPEN TEAMS

MHRC YELLOW = Julie Jeffes & Bedazzled / Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Camilla Esling & Teds Rainbow / Steph

Woolley & Freckleton Matador **MHRC PURPLE** = Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster / Tina Price & Tom Thumb /

Anna Robson & Santa Fe / Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash

SENIOR INDIVIDUALS

Tina Price & Buzz-B (Novice 27)

Megan Harper & Strawberry Hill (Novice 24)

SENIOR RIDING TEST TEAMS

MHRC ROSES = Karen Withers & The Kings Archer / Sarah Bowness & Toby / Tina Price & Buzz B / Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matador **MHRC DAISES** = Camilla Esling & Teds

Rainbow / Gina Halford & Treifenon Six / Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Julie Jeffes & Bedazzled **MHRC**

BLUEBELLS = Caroline Bates & Smokey Joe / Sue Peckham & Copper Kingdom / Tina Price & Tom Thumb / Julie Jeffes & Hederfield Ash

INDIVIDUAL RIDING TEST

Amber Knott & Average At Best

JUNIOR NOVICE TEAM

Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles / Ethan Knott & Pennal Zed-an / Amber Knott & Average at Best / Oliver Hooper & Pinto



Jane and Liz

It was the Juniors who came out on top once again, with the team winning their section. Sophie was 1st, with Oliver, Amber and Ethan all com-

ing 2nd in their respective sections. Also taking top spot were Liz and Jane in the Pairs class, the first time MHRC has entered this class.

In the Senior Prelim Team class, it was MHRC Blue who did the best, with a 3rd place. Individual rosettes went to Liz (5th) and Sara (6th). The Malvern Yellows came 6th in the Senior Open class, with an individual win for Steph and Julie was 5th.

In the Riding Test class, where two members of the team ride a Prelim test and two ride a Novice, we had more success, with the Roses coming 2nd and the Daises 3rd. Steph once again won her Novice class, with Tina 5th and Julie 4th, while in the Prelim section Karen was 6th and Camilla was 5th.

For a complete list of results, check out our website or the Area 18 website, and for more photos, go to



Steph and Freckles

SUMMER BBQ



British Summer time decided to give us a scare on the day of the Summer BBQ - but it ended up being a relatively nice evening for the festivities .

There was food a plenty and a chance to catch up with everyone, without the distraction of those pesky horses.

As a special surprise, Lin skyped in from her hospital bed so she could be part of the gathering. We also managed to surprise Mike, who had a birthday the next day, with a fantastic cricket themed cake by Camilla Esling.

There were 6 fantastic prizes on offer, with each ticket added to the draw. Anne Price won a free photo shoot with Jess Photography, Sophie Hooper won a £10 MHRC voucher, Abi Render-Garth won a Haygrazer bag, Amber Knott won some riding leggings and a hat silk from Hardy Clothing, Iris Ellis won a tub of Baileys horse treats and Pam Render won an hours free Arena Hire at Hillview. A huge thank you to every-



one who donated prizes - please support these people and companies - there are links on our website for all our fantastic sponsors.

There then followed a presentation of the medals we won by coming 2nd in the Interdressage Winter League. These were stunning medals and a lovely reward for everyone's hard work last year.

At which point, the rain, which had held off all evening, decided to arrive. So it was a quick tidy up and everyone off!

A huge thank you to Mike, for allowing us the use of his garden and house once again (although I think he'd had his instructions from Lin!). To Camilla for the wonderful cakes and

to Ann for the salads and sides. Also to Sarah, for being unexpectedly being left with the cooking - you did a fantastic job!

(Continued from page 3)

ready for a 'club' event in a dress and high heels, and there was more than one tear and a lot of laughs around our table - and you'll be pleased to know that we were still one of the loudest cheer squads in the room!

To read our nomination forms, head over to our website, or to see the official film and photographs of the night, head over to <https://www.malvernhills.gov.uk/sports-awards>





NEEDFUL THINGS

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PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 01.08.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	530
2nd	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	480
3rd	Sara Stephenson & Lliedi Susan	325
4th	Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane	315
5th	Stef Bennett & Mr Buster	310
6th	Tina Price & Buzz-B	260
7th	Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond	230
8th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	225
9th	Lyndsey Bakewell & Lyndwll Star Justice	220
	Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster	220

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	410
2nd	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	265
3rd	Ethan Knott & Sammy	250
	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	250
5th	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	245
6th	Abi Render-Garth & Charlie Bear	160
7th	Amber Knott & Average At Best	105
	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	105
9th	William Hooper & Rookery Fizz	75
10th	Ethan Knott & Pennal Zedan	70

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT
www.malvernhillside.com

WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillside.com

August 2017

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

13th MHRC Eventer Challenge, Clear Round & Blenheim Selection Trial, Nr Three Counties, Malvern

19th Mercian Eventer Challenge (on grass), Longlands Livery, Tardebigge, Alvechurch RC

19th South West and Wales Regional Championships, Hartpury College, Glos.

28th Mercian One-Day-Event, Ace XC, Tewkesbury Cheltenham RC and Frampton RC

September 2017

2nd - 3rd BRC National Championships, Lincolnshire Showground

14th - 15th International Horse Trials inc RC Challenge, Blenheim

17th Mercian Dressage to Music, Kings Equestrian Centre, Malvern

24th Mercian Hunter Trials, Frampton Court, Frampton Family Riding Club

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

CURRENT MERCIAN LEAGUE

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN HILLS RC	68
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	58
3rd	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	45
4th	BROMYARD RC	32
5th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	26
6th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	25
7th	WYVERN RC	19
8th	VALE OF ARROW RC	16
9th	FRAMPTON RC	15
10th	BROMSGROVE RC	14
11th	WORCESTER RC	13
12th	CHELTENHAM RC	7



NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** BRC Horse Trials Championships ** MHRC Eventer Challenge ** Mercian Eventer Challenge **
** BRC South West and Wales Regional Championships ** Mercian One-Day-Event **
PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES**



Nellie making sure that Anna doesn't get eaten by Tigger at our Eventer Challenge!

EDITOR'S BIT

Well, that's it folks ... no, don't panic, I mean that's the end of the Summer season - as we go to press, members are preparing for their trip to the National Championships at Lincoln, which means that officially, the BRC Summer is over.

Of course, that can only mean one thing - the Winter season is here ☺

You'll find this newsletter is crammed full of new dates for your diary - from fundraisers, new competitions and new events. There is a lot more in the pipeline too, so keep an eye on the website and your e-mails. As we confirm more activities, events and clinics, we'll let you know. Area Winter qualifiers are being planned by the clubs too, so remember to check out www.brcarea18.co.uk for those as well.

We're also looking for new speakers or topics for our Horseless Clinics this year, so if you know someone who would like to come along, or have a burning desire to learn about something specific, then please give us a shout.

So there's no excuses to get the Winter blues this year!

until next time, Caroline



BRC HORSE TRIALS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Horse Trials championships were once again held at Swalcliffe Equestrian at the beginning of the month. The club sent along two individuals - Victoria Gregg and Rock Supreme in the Senior 90, and Laura Bennett and Lematon Sunshine Sadie in the 100+.

The champs are run on a long format, including roads and tracks, for all sections. For Victoria, this meant a two day competition, with Dressage and Jumping on Saturday and Cross-country on Sunday. Whereas Laura had a three day competition.

It was Rocky's 2nd ever event, the first being the area qualifier, and Victoria was pleased with their result. And Laura had a cracking weekend, placed 4th individually.

We caught up with Laura to find out a bit more about her and Sadie:-

How long have you been a member of the club?

For two years.

And what's your day job?

I currently work in a school and am just about to go back to Uni to do a PGCE in primary.

What's your favourite horsey activity?

I love to go for a nice gallop around the farm and help my husband round up the sheep.

And your least favourite?

Probably poo picking in the winter, when the weather is wet, cold and the fields are muddy.

Have you competed at the BRC Horse Trials Championships before?

Yes, several times.



Victoria and Rocky, flying high.

Tell us about your horse?

Sadie is a warmblood x thoroughbred, 9 years old and 16.2hh.

How long have you owned her?

Since she was a very green five year old and had never seen a cross-country fence before.

What does Sadie like?

Sadie loves Effol horse treats! They are her absolute favourite and won't

eat any others. She waits for them at the side of the lorry.

And dislikes?

She really dislikes living out. She loves her stable and if she is out in the winter for too long, she will bring herself in - clean over a four foot fence!



Laura and Sadie - looking smart in the vet trot-up.

MALVERN HILLS RIDING CLUB TABLE TOP SALE

FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER 2017

**HUNTER'S INN, LONGDON, NR.
TEWKESBURY, GL20 6AR**



Doors open to public 19:00.

£1 entry.

£10 per table

Sellers arrive and set up from 18:00.

Call Karen on 07894 800 221 to book now.





MHRC EVENTER CHALLENGE



Victoria and Governor

We must have done something right, as the weather was fantastic for our Eventer Challenge on 13th August. This was a new venture for us, moving the competition onto grass and incorporating some solid fences in the cross-country section.

Despite the hard work in the weeks leading up to the competition, the course looked amazing, with some interesting dressing of fences including boats in the water tray and Eeyore in the dog kennels!



Sara and Suzy

This competition is always used to pick the team we send to the Riding Club Challenge at the Blenheim Horse Trials. After a close run class, the team ended up as Amber, Anna, Steph and Jodie, with Victoria and Alice as reserves.

Overall it was a fantastic, fun day. The committee received lots of really positive feedback so looks

like we'll be running it again next year in the same format.

MEMBER PLACINGS

75cm 1st = William Hooper and Gucci Guy / 3rd = Anna Robson and Santa Fe / 4th = Wendy Robinson and Oliver / 5th = Sara Stephenson and Suzy / 9th = Gill Young and Bod / 10th = Sacha Willis and Dinky

85cm 4th = Wendy Robinson and Oliver / 10th = Gill Young and Millie
95cm 1st = Amber Knott and Mr Gangster / 2nd = Anna Robson and I Believe I Can Fly / 3rd = Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador / 4th = Jodie Powell and Bleanagloos Black Diamond / 5th = Victoria Gregg and Rocky / 6th = Alice Lowe and Bean / 7th = Megan Harper and First Song / 8th = Sacha Willis and Narrow Blaze / 9th = Victoria Gregg and Governor / 10th = Genevieve Manning and Harry / **105cm** 2nd = Victoria Gregg and Brollie / 3rd = Anna Robson and Academy Award / 4th = Anna Robson and I Believe I Can Fly

A huge thank you must go to our two sponsors for the day. Pioneer Feeds, Ledbury, generously donated a £10 voucher for the winner of each class, while Jess Photography, gave each 2nd place a free print of their favourite photo from the day. Please support both companies - links can be found on our website.

Official photos of the day can be found at Jess Photography and 'unofficial' members photos can be found on our Facebook page. A complete list of results is on our website.



William and Leo



Wendy and Oliver



Our Blenheim Team (from left to right): Amber and Gangster, Anna and Nellie, Steph and Freckles, Jodie and Trixie





MERCIAN EVENTS



Lydia and Sam

After a bit of a break, the Mercian series ramped up again, with two events in August.

On 19th, we sent two teams to the Alvechurch Eventer Challenge: **2'3 Malvern Lions** Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan / Jo Jeynes and Emily Jane / Anna Robson and Santa Fe **2'6 Malvern Tigers** Lydia

Burrows and Hayestown Sam / Lyndsey Bakewell and Lyndell Amadallas / Shellee Harris and Master Maltstriker / Anna Robson and I Believe I

Can Fly

And it was a day of 5ths, with Sara winning an individual 5th in the 2'3 section and the 2'6 team coming 5th overall.

Shellee "had a good day on Saturday. The weather held for most of the day and the course, although basic, caused quite a few problems! Thankfully not for Billy! I liked the idea of having a style fence on the xc (especially as we received the highest Mark in our class...9/10. ☺). As I won't be

competing for a while now, it was a lovely day to finish on, and

it was also nice to spend the afternoon eating sausage sandwiches and chatting with team mates that I haven't really had the chance to get to know before."

"We had a great time," said Lydia, "Sam and I had a great day. We usually do 2ft3 but had our brave pants on to do the 2ft6. The ground was



Alex and Dollar

great. We had to do the SJ first (but my sat nav error picked us up 4 faults!) then a tack check and out onto the xc course including a style fence. Alvechurch had put on a great show. And the ground was good going. Had a lovely day competing for MHRC."



Shellee and Billy

Then on Bank Holiday Monday, it was the Mercian One-Day-Event, and we sent one team of Alex Harris on Dollar, Sara

Stephenson on Lliedi Susan, Jo Jeynes on Emily Jane and Stef Bennett on Mr Buster. In the glorious sunshine at Ace XC, it was lovely to have all three phases in such a compact area - easy on the cheer squad's feet! Cheltenham and Frampton RC had worked together to put on the event, which ran well and on time. The XC

course was varied and inviting, and, with no-one eliminated off the course, it provided a great opportunity for the true grass-roots rider and novice horse.

Our team did fantastically to come 2nd overall. Alex also won the Walk and Trot section with her 4 year old, home-bred mare, and Jo came 6th in the Prelim 7 section.

There's just three Mercian competitions left for the year - Dressage to Music, the Hunter Trial and the Quiz. Please contact Jodie ASAP if you'd like to represent the club.



Jo and Emily Jane



Stef and Buster

MHRC SWW REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Stef, Buster and their collection of goodies

It was the second year that the South West and Wales Regional Championship was held, once again at Hartpury College. The event is for the teams that are placed 2nd (or in some cases 3rd) at

the Summer qualifiers held all over the south of the country.

MHRC were in a strong position, gaining 5 qualification places across all four classes. **PRELIM RIDING TEST TEAM 1** = Jodie Powell and Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Julie Jeffes and Bedazzled/ Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador / Sarah Bowness and Toby **TEAM 2** = Tina Price and Buzz-B / Karen Withers and The Kings Archer / Camilla Esling and Teds Rainbow / Gina Halford and Trefeinon Six **PRELIM DRESSAGE** Sarah Bowness and Toby / Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe / Wendy Robinson and Sonas Oliver **STYLE JUMPING** Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer / Tina Price and Buzz-B / Jodie Powell and Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Stefanie Bennett and Mr Buster **SHOW JUMPING** Sophie Hooper and The King's Archer / Stefanie Bennett and Mr Buster / Pam Render and

Zena

Our only team result was a well deserved 2nd place in the Style Jumping, with Stef placed 1st individually in her section. There were also individual places for Julie (3rd Riding Test), Steph (6th Riding Test), Wendy (6th Dressage), Sophie (4th Style Jumping) and Tina (4th Style Jumping).

Pam said "it was a fab venue and a lovely show jumping course, which rode fab. MHRC members were friendly and supportive as usual, however I didn't a chance to watch or catch up with anyone else apart from my jumping pals, but I'm sure you all looked and did great."

Stef was "absolutely chuffed to win our sectin of the style jumping and thrilled that the team came 2nd. Buster was a complete star, focusing on the job at hand despite being very scared of the large arena, spectators and their noise. Buster obviously felt he had done enough for the day with his win though, as we were then eliminated at the same fence in both rounds of the show jumping - the highs and lows of jumping! Although unfortunately, the day did not have the same championship atmosphere as the Festival of the Horse back in May, it was still great to take part amongst the great comradery of Team MHRC. Thanks as always to Chris and team for getting us there and organising us all!"

INTERDRESSAGE IS BACK!

MHRC is once again contesting the BRC Interdressage league. Take part in Dressage, Jumping, Showing and Fun classes. Film your entries at home or at one of the MHRC organised filming days at Hillview Arena.

8th October, 19th November and 17th December 2017

Win prize money, rosettes and medals - plus earn points for the club.

For more info, check out our website or Interdressage.com, or chat to Caroline.

Schedules and booking information will be sent out nearer the dates.

INTERDRESSAGE
...the World's Premier Online Dressage Competition

CARL HESTER YARD VISIT

Tuesday 26th September 2017

10:30 to 13:00

£60 per person



**** Yard Tour ** Demos **
** Meet your favourite dressage stars - human and equine ****

OPEN TO MEMBERS ONLY

Sorry, the group has to be limited to 35 people.

Therefore, places will be allocated on a strictly first come, first served basis.

Payment will have to be up front by paypal, cash or cheque - once the list of attendees is confirmed, we will be sending out details of how to pay.

A reserve list will be kept to replace any members who pull-out or don't pay by the deadline.

**E-mail Caroline at
mhrcnewsletter@hotmail.co.uk
if you would like to go.**



Places will be confirmed by 25th August.



NEEDED FULL THINGS

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PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 29.08.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	545
2nd	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	530
3rd	Stef Bennett & Mr Buster	420
4th	Sara Stephenson & Lledi Susan	405
5th	Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane	365
6th	Tina Price & Buzz-B	330
7th	Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond	295
8th	Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matador	250
9th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	225
10th	Lyndsey Bakewell & Lyndwll Star Justice	220
	Sue Peckham & Mr Gangster	220

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	410
2nd	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	275
3rd	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	255
4th	Ethan Knott & Sammy	250
5th	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	245
6th	Abi Render-Garth & Charlie Bear	160
7th	Amber Knott & Average At Best	110
	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	110
9th	William Hooper & Gucci Guy	105
10th	William Hooper & Rookery Fizz	75
	Ethan Knott & Pennal Zedan	75

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September 2017

2nd - 3rd BRC National Championships, Lincolnshire Showground

14th - 15th International Horse Trials inc RC Challenge, Blenheim

17th Mercian Dressage to Music, Kings Equestrian Centre, Malvern

24th Mercian Hunter Trials, Frampton Court, Frampton Family Riding Club

26th - Carl Hester Yard Visit

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

October 2017

8th - MHRC Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

10th - Mercian Quiz and Presentation Evening, The Talbot, Knightwick, Bromyard RC.

20th - MHRC Table Top Sale, Hunters Inn, Longdon

22nd - Area Novice Winter Dressage Qualifier, Hartpury College, Glos.

CURRENT MERCIAN LEAGUE

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN HILLS RC	68
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	66
3rd	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	45
4th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	43
5th	BROMYARD RC	32
6th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	26
7th	WORCESTER RC	21
8th	WYVERN RC	19
9th	VALE OF ARROW RC	16
10th	FRAMPTON RC	15
11th	BROMSGROVE RC	14
12th	CHELTENHAM RC	12



NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

- ** BRC National Championships ** Mercian Dressage to Music ** Carl Hester Yard Visit **
- ** Mercian Hunter Trial ** Blenheim RC Challenge ** XC @ Sapey **
- PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES



***** CELEBRATIONS ALL ROUND - MHRC SENIOR 70cm NATIONAL CHAMPIONS *****

EDITOR'S BIT

Wow, what an absolutely amazing month we have had - this year has been plenty amazing already, but it barely felt that we took a breath in the last few weeks. I sadly couldn't attend the National Championships this year, so the first I knew of the club's success was a flashing blue light on my mobile when I returned from a hack. I have to admit to being more than a bit perplexed (and rather worried), as I listened to a message made up of almost continuous sobbing! But once actual language started to come through, I found my own tears flowing just a little too freely!

And the month only got better, with great results at Blenheim and the Mercian events, a fun filled XC clinic at Sapey and a wonderful visit to Carl Hester's beautiful yard at Newent. I ran out of room to do a full report, but suffice to say it was a lovely morning. We got to see a lot of young and upcoming horses at various levels of training, plus a few already out at Grand Prix. And, of course, got a cuddle with Valegro, Utopia and Nip Tuck. The demos were informative and I think we all came away with things to mull over. So we're expecting big things from our dressage teams next season

until next time, Caroline



BRC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

It's been a fantastic year and somehow, sending a record number of members to the BRC National Championships on the 2nd and 3rd of September, was just the cheery on top of the icing on the cake.

And as you'll know from Facebook and the front of the newsletter, we had the most fabulous result. **Our Senior 70cm Show Jumping team ended up the day on 0 faults, making them the National Champions for 2017.**

There were also some fantastic individual results, with Amber Knott and Sophie Hooper both coming 4th in the Junior and Senior Style Jumping respectively. While Steph Woolley was 5th in the Senior Open Dressage and won the Senior Novice Riding Test.

SENIOR OPEN DRESSAGE Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador **SENIOR RIDING TEST** Karen Withers and The Kings Archer / Sarah Bowness and Toby / Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador / Tina Price and Buzz-B **SENIOR PAIRS DRESSAGE** Elizabeth Whitehead and Raven Royale / Jane Downham and Gleaming Dynamite **SENIOR STYLE JUMPING** Sophie Hooper and The Kings Archer **JUNIOR DRESSAGE** Sophie Bowness and Minty Bubbles / Ethan Knott and Pennal Zedan / Amber Knott and Average At Best / Oliver Hooper and Pinto **SENIOR 80 JUMPING** Tina Price and Buzz-B **SENIOR 70 JUMPING** Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Ash / Sarah Bowness and Toby / Lydia Burrows and Hayestown Sam / Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan **JUNIOR 70 JUMPING** Oliver Hooper and Pinto **JUNIOR STYLE JUMPING** Amber Knott and Pennal Zedan

Member Name	Lydia Burrows	Amber Knott	Oliver Hooper
How long have you been a member of MHRC?	This is my first year.	I've been a member of this fantastic club for 2 years	1 year
What's your day job?	Salon owner	Working on my A-levels so I can get a day job!	Still at school
Favourite Horsey Activity?	Riding club events, especially jumping	Eventing, especially cross-country.	Jumping and galloping
And least favourite?	Unpacking kit after a show	Poo-picking, although my amazing grandparents tend to do it for me.	Cleaning Tack
Is this your first time at a BRC Championship?	This was my first ever	Yes, doing combined training, dressage and show jumping.	No - first time
Your horse's Name?	Sam	Harvey, although we call him Bean.	Pinto
And details?	8 year old, 15.2hh, ISH	Rising 6, 16.2hh, something Irish!	17 year old, 13.2hh, unknown breeding
How long have you owned your horse?	4 years	Just over 2 months	1 year
What does your horse like?	A good scratch on the shoulder, anything for a treat, jumping	Plum Gregg, although she makes him work. Rolling and eating lying down.	Polos
And dislike?	Getting rained on or his feet muddy	Nothing - he's a happy horse.	Having a bath.

"Oliver and I really enjoyed our first RC Championships", said Sophie, "apart from the nightmare journey there that was nearly 6 hours! Barney and Pinto were both stars and I was very pleased with how he behaved for Karen. It was fantastic to see the 70cm SJ team win and so many members do so well. I was amazed Ollie remembered his Novice test and the whole event was a wonderful experience for him - he can't wait to go back again. Last, but definitely least, thank you to Chris for organising and to Kirsty for the very tasty lasagne."

Tina agreed that it was an "Absolutely brilliant weekend with fantastic people. And so much food! I was a little disappointed that I let Buzz down to have one pole, but 15th out of 90 I was chuffed with. So pleased with the 70 team and Steph doing amazing. I think we ought to go next year even if we don't qualify, just to party! We party true Malvern style."

"Wow, what an amazing weekend at the BRC National Championships," said Lydia, "Sam took it all in his stride, being away at our first ever overnight show. We were



Lydia and Sam



BRC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

clear in the 1st round and the 2nd round was going so well, until I had a sat nav error, jumping the wrong fence. But the rest were clear so they could discard me score. A big thanks to Chris for taking us in her lorry, and all the team for the help and support. It's so much appreciated. We had the best time - so many giggles, great company and so much lovely food. Thanks to the Knott family for the lasagne, BBQ and bacon butties! I want to do it all over again and loved every minute. I keep looking back at the photos, as it feels like a dream!"

Jodie went along as support and cheer squad, "It was weird being there without a horse, but lovely at the same time as I got to watch and support everyone. It was a tense moment watching Sara jump her second round on Suzy, as we knew that if she went clear, they would win. Well, to say the cheer was loud was an understatement and the tears came thick and fast between myself and Chris. Then, when I hugged Sarah and Toby, the tears started again, It was such a magical moment. And the weather was fair to us all too - a massive improvement on last year!"

"It was a brilliant weekend," said Julie, "no serious rain for a start and a large group of us. Winning the



Ollie and Pinto



Steph and Freckles

Member Name	Sara Stephenson	Sophie Hooper
How long have you been a member of MHRC?	8 years	5 years
What's your day job?	Grass Cutting	Mum and groom to Will and Ollie
Favourite Horsey Activity?	Team competitions	Working Hunter
And least favourite?	Tack Cleaning	Clipping
Is this your first time at a BRC Championship?	Yes, first time	No - first time.
Your horse's Stable name?	Suzy	Barney
And details?	19 year old, 15hh, Welsh Section D	9 year old, 16hh of unknown breeding
How long have you owned your horse?	8 years	3 years
What does your horse like?	Jumping and edible treats	FOOD!
And dislike?	Large groups of noisy rambles in brightly coloured jackets!	Being clipped

team jumping was obviously the best bit. It was slightly odd to be starting my round of show-jumping in the fog as I was the first on - it was quite poor visibility in the collecting ring, which was a new challenge. Ash managed to crash through the first jump, which was not a good start, but then got better and didn't have a fault thereafter - so earned her place by doing a clear second round. Lovely to finally get a rug after all these years of nearly being there. Hoping to be able to do it again next year. Still working on the optimum camping arrangement - maybe it includes a brand new Oakley!"

"I loved the champs and representing MHRC," said Ethan. The best bit was riding for the club. Nerves got the better of me, but hopefully next time I'll know what to expect. Danny knew what to do, but I didn't - I will next time. The worst bit of the weekend - Daddy and



Teatime for the Gang!

BRC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Rita at Base Camp

Fudge snoring in the lorry!"

Sara agreed, "It was an amazing weekend. Far bigger than I was expecting and run in a very professional manner. Being on the winning team was incredible - I still feel excited about it now, but having the support of such an enthusiastic club makes it extra special.

And the last word has to go to Chris, team manager extraordinaire, "We have had record numbers of members coming forward to compete in our Area Qualifiers this year, so it was no surprise that 24 of us members and supporters made the long and worthwhile trip to Lincoln. I had Lydia and her horse Sam for company in my lorry which made the trip go quicker. We all had base camp set up pretty quickly and soon got down to the important business of eating and drinking. The Friday night party was great fun, made all the better by Kirsty's lasagne and everyone went to sleep very happy, although a bit nervous about the competition to come. Saturday morning was an early start for everyone, but the sun was soon shining and everyone went off to do their various tests

and first Jumping rounds. I had to miss some of it as Rita and I had put our names down as volunteers, so we headed off to write for two of the dressage judges for the morning. It was very exciting to get back to base and find that the Show Jumping team had finished their first round on zero. The nerves really kicked in then (me included)! The second round was nerve wracking, as the first two members (Julie and Sarah) jumped beautiful clear rounds but Lydia then had a slight and very understandable Sat Nav issue and got eliminated. So it was down to Sara and Susie to jump clear as all the other teams were on 4 faults or more. I have never seen Sara ride so well and determinedly as she did that day. Of course she was clear and the whole support team erupted except me, who started blubbing knowing how much this win would mean to Lin. The mounted prize giving was great fun with all the team members receiving rosettes, sashes and rugs, followed by an out of control lap of honour! We also received a beautiful silver salver as a memento. So as the day came to an end, with some lovely tests ridden and Steph's win in the Riding Test Championship and Sophie's lovely Style jumping round (to finish 4th) we felt very justified in cracking open the Prosecco at 6 o'clock and the wonderful Knott family providing us with a great BBQ to finish the day.

Sunday was Juniors day and they didn't let us down with some great Dressage, Style Jumping and Show Jumping. I have so enjoyed seeing our juniors improve throughout this year and to see so many of them at Lincoln made me very proud of our amazing and supportive club. We all made the trip home on Sunday with next years Championships on the radar! Let's make 2018 another great year for the club."



Club Support Crew



NEW CLUB CLOTHING

Available to purchase now.

Only £24

Waterproof gilets in navy, with yellow club logo on front and name on back.

Available through our website or contact Linda.



BLENNHEIM RIDING CLUB CHALLENGE



The riding club headed off to the Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials on 14th September. We entered a team in the 90cm Challenge, where riders tackled a course of show jumps, then went on to a tight, twisty round of cross-country obstacles. The team was Steph Woolley on Freckleton Matador, Anna Robson on I Believe I Can Fly, Amber Knott on Mr Gangster and Jodie Powell on Bleanagloos Black Diamond.



The new format of the competition had the 100 and 90 rings running alongside each other, and this, coupled with the small arena, tight turns and slippery ground after intermittent rain, proved a challenge for some riders. But our team did fantastically, ending up on a very respectable 9.2 faults. This put them in 13th place out of 46 teams.



Top Right: Jodie and Trixie Bottom Right: Steph and Freckles Top Left: Amber and Gangster Bottom Left: Anna and Nellie

To raise extra money for club funds, we'll be having a 'PRODUCE' table.

We would be grateful for any donations of cakes, crafty items, garden produce, jams, chutneys, etc, etc, that we could sell. If you can't attend on the night, please pass any donations to a committee member in the week before the sale.

MALVERN HILLS RIDING CLUB TABLE TOP SALE

FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER 2017
HUNTER'S INN, LONGDON, NR. TEWKESBURY, GL20 6AR



Doors open to public 19:00.
 £1 entry.

£10 per table
 Sellers arrive and set up from 18:00.

Call Karen on 07894 800 221 to book now.



BRC AREA 18 TRAINING DAY
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4th 2017
LINCOMB EQUESTRIAN, STOURPORT, WORCESTERSHIRE, DY13 9RB



Dressage with international dressage rider Jai Bratton & Show Jumping and Arena XC with event rider Wayne Garrick



1 hour group session (max. 4 riders) with each
 £55 per person

Dressage Training with Jai Britton
 1 hour group (2 riders) £42.50 per person
 1 hour group (3 riders) £25 per person

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF AREA 18 RIDING CLUBS
 Please contact Octavia Walters to book.
 Please confirm club name and height of jump preferred.
 07810 375 363



MERCIAN DRESSAGE TO MUSIC

On 17th September, we sent one team to the Mercian Dressage to Music competition at Kings Equestrian, Bromyard. It was a great day of lovely routines, catchy music and great results. The team was made up of Jane Downham and Gleaming Dynamite in the Intro section, Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan in the Prelim and Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Joe in the Novice. They did brilliantly well, with Jane 6th, Sara 8th and Julie 9th, leaving the team in overall 6th place at the end of the day. Also well done to Jane and Katie Hawkesworth on Mathilda, who had a go at the open pairs class and came 2nd. To see videos of all the tests, visit our YouTube channel (links are on the results page of our website).



Top Right: Julie and Joe Bottom Right: Sara and Suzy
Top Left: Jane and Zonda Bottom Left: Jane and Zonda / Katie and Mathilda

IN PICTURES



Karen and Alison meet Nip Tuck during the club visit to Carl Hester's yard



Fun at Sapey on the XC clinic. Top: Julie and Sara take a well earned break. Middle:



Ethan and Danny have a sneaky canter through the water. Bottom: Sam and Lydia avoiding tigers in the ditch.



Valegro takes our visit in his stride



MERCIAN HUNTER TRIALS



Tina and Tom

It's hard to believe, but the last ridden Mercian event of 2017 took place on 24th September, the ever popular hunter trial at Frampton Court Estate. This is always a long course, through fields, woods and tracks, giving the riders an extra challenge.

After last year's heavy downpours, it was lovely to be bathed in sunshine for the majority of the day. It was an early start, with William and Oliver Hooper heading out in the open 70cm section. They both did brilliantly, especially as it was Oliver's very first hunter trial.

Then it was the turn of the 70cm teams, of which we had two. Despite one retirement in each class, the Malvern Poppies ended up on 0 faults and came 2nd, closely followed by the Malvern Roses in 3rd. Sarah took the individual 5th place, narrowly beaten by Anne in 4th.

Our 80cm team were next to compete and there were a few nerves regarding one jump in particular - the ditch palisade into the woods. So, of course, that's where the cheer squad had to stand to give moral support. Despite watching more than a few sticky moments there, all our members jumped it beautifully. And the end of the day, they were the only team on a zero score and took the winner's rosettes. There were also some individual prizes, with Abi in 8th, Sophie 5th and Jo 2nd.

The day ended with Camilla Esling bringing 23 year old Jake out of semi-retirement for a play in the open 80cm. After a lovely round, they came 3rd.

70cm: MALVERN POPPIES Sarah Bowness and Toby / Steph Woolley and Lexi / Lydia Burrows and Hayestown Sam / Sara Stephenson and Liedli Susan. MALVERN ROSES Clare Gabriel and Icy Blue / Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Ash / Tina Price and Tom Thumb / Anne Price and Half A Guinness

80cm: MALVERN DAFFODILS Sophie Hooper and The Kings Archer / Wendy Grimsby and Foxie / Jo Jeynes and Emily Jane / Abigail Hardy and Oxview Mist

For more photos, check out our Facebook page.



Sarah and Toby



Jo and Princess



Sophie and Barney



Ann and Goo



Wendy and Foxie



NEEDED FULL THINGS

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PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 29.08.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	620
2nd	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	530
3rd	Sara Stephenson & Lledi Susan	490
4th	Jo Jaynes & Emily Jane	435
5th	Stef Bennett & Mr Buster	420
6th	Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matador	340
7th	Tina Price & Buzz-B	330
8th	Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond	300
9th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	275
10th	Lydia Burrows & Hayeston Sam	260

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	435
2nd	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	275
3rd	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	255
4th	Ethan Knott & Sammy	250
5th	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	245
6th	Abi Render-Garth & Charlie Bear	160
7th	Amber Knott & Average At Best	110
	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	110
9th	William Hooper & Gucci Guy	105
10th	Ethan Knott & Pennal Zedan	75
	William Hooper & Rookery Fizz	75

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT
www.malvernhillsideclub.com

WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsideclub.com

October 2017

8th - MHRC Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

10th - Mercian Quiz and Presentation Evening, The Talbot, Knightwick, Bromyard RC.

20th - MHRC Table Top Sale, Hunters Inn, Longdon

22nd - Area Novice Winter Dressage Qualifier, Hartpury College, Glos.

November 2017

19th - MHRC Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

December 2017

17th - MHRC Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

30th - MHRC Xmas Fun Show, Hillview Arena, Malvern

CURRENT MERCIAN LEAGUE

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN HILLS RC	70
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	66
3rd	FRAMPTON RC	56
4th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	52 (4)
5th	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	52 (1)
6th	BROMYARD RC	48
7th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	45
8th	VALE OF ARROW RC	32
9th	CHELTENHAM RC	25 (6)
10th	WYVERN RC	25 (5)
11th	WORCESTER RC	21
12th	BROMSGROVE RC	15



NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

** BRC DTM Championships ** Mercian Quiz ** Table Top Fundraiser ** Interdressage **
** Area Dressage Qualifier **

PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES



***** STEPH AND FRECKLES - MORE MHRC CHAMPIONS! *****

EDITOR'S BIT

I usually enjoy this time of year. I don't mind the Autumnal change to the days, especially when winter nips in the air are still a long way away. But I have to admit to not enjoying this one. The very weekend that the clock's changed and it definitely started to feel like the end of the year, Smokey got colic. There is something utterly heartbreaking about 600 kilos of horse trying to throw themselves on the concrete to roll - it also takes a lot of human power to keep them on their feet. And have you noticed that the half an hour it takes the vet to arrive is the longest ever?

Touch wood, everything is ok now and he's back to his usually boisterous, obnoxious self, thoroughly enjoying the fact I've had to do early morning stables and he's getting fed warm mashes twice a day! We might never know what caused it (I have a theory the galloping around the school, bucking and squealing in delight because he'd gotten away from me again, might have had something to do with it), but at least it all seems to be over.

I hope you've had a better start to the dark season that I have ...

until next time, Caroline

BRC DRESSAGE TO MUSIC CHAMPIONSHIPS



On the 1st October, the club was represented by Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador, at the last of the 2017 championships. It was another trip to Bury Farm Equestrian centre in Buckinghamshire, which although a longish trek, is actually a fantastic venue.

Steph began the day in fine style by winning the Prelim warm-up test. Then it was into the amazing indoor arena for the main event. Steph's Novice routine, to Dolly Parton's '9 to 5', 'Islands in the Stream' and 'Here We Go Again', had everyone foot tapping along. There were huge rounds of applause afterwards and not just from the MHRC Cheer squad. After a short wait, the commentator came on to give an update to the scores - "You all thought it was a good one," he said, "and that's shown in the scores. Steph goes into the lead with **(260.5 workout p %)**".

There followed a rather tense couple of hours while the other competitors rode their tests. Although it was easy to get distracted in the wonderful café and shop! However, no-one came close to Steph's score and once the official announcement was made, there was just time for a quick groom over, an interview with Horse and Hound, wiping away some happy tears and then it was back into the arena for the prize-giving.

Freckles was a star, standing for the line-up and photos, but it all got rather exciting in the lap of honour. The reprise of the test was also rather 'forward-going', but it was great to clap and cheer along with



the music this time, cheering them on.

"I just wanted to say a big thank you to Caroline, Chris and Mum for travelling up to Bury Farm and supporting me that weekend," said Steph, "I was pleased with Freckles, as he's so easy to take away to events (even if he does only just fit in a temporary stable!) and despite being a bit tense at the start of his music test in the indoor school, settled down and went well. I didn't get much chance to watch the rest of the class but had a few people come up to me to say they'd watched and really enjoyed my test, which was lovely to hear. Will need to rethink my music as both judges commented they liked the music and thought it suited us but it had too many vocals. Prize giving got a little exciting and when we did the reprise of the test afterwards, I think its safe to say Freckles was a little more expressive than first time round. It's been great to see how the dressage to music has taken off in the club with so many people having a go and doing well at Mercian and Area level. Looking forward to doing more in 2018."

TABLE TOP FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our Table Top Sale at the Hunter's Inn on 20th October, whether it was by having a table, providing produce for the club table or by paying your £1 to come through the door.

It was a hugely successful day and raised over £300 for club funds.

We'll be doing another one in the New Year, so why not start that tack room clear out now!

AREA 18 WINTER DRESSAGE QUALIFIER



Julie and Ash - Novice 28 winners

The first qualifier of the 2017/2018 Winter Season took place on 22nd October at Hartpury college. We sent an amazing 4 teams, the most we have ever sent to this event. Each 'team' was split into 4

classes, with a Prelim and a Novice rider in each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

The morning got off to a great start, with Julie and Ash, who were last minute replacements, winning the Novice 28 class. Anne and Goo also secured the 4th place in the Prelim session. There were lots more rosettes in the afternoon session, with Laura and Sadie just beating Tina and Tom to the 2nd place in the Novice class. MHRC were also 2nd and 3rd in the Prelim class, with Julie and Joe just beating Liz and Jazz.

This put the club in a strong position for the team rosettes and although we didn't win, the Blues were 2nd, Reds were 3rd and Purples 4th, an absolutely fantastic

result. We are just waiting for confirmation from HQ, but the Blues may well have qualified for the Novice Championships in April next year, along with Julie and Ash as highest placed individuals - watch this space!



Laura and Sadie - Team and Individual 2nd

**** ROLL CALL ****

Malvern Hills Reds:

Wendy Robinson and Sonas Oliver / Kat Jones and Red-back Cappuchino / Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey / Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Joe

Malvern Hills Blues: Jodie Powell and Bleanagloos Black Diamond / Laura Bennett and Lematon Sunshine Sadie / Alex Riches and Mr Darcy / Liz Wise and Showtime Jazz

Malvern Hills Greens: Julie Jeffes and Hederfield Ash / Ann Brennan and Greylands Beaver Brook / Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan

Malvern Hills Purples:

Emma Horton-Smith and It's All About Albert / Tina Price and Big Ted / Anne Price and Half a Guinness / Jo Jeynes and Emily Jane



Alex and Darcy

HORSELESS CLINIC



RIDER BIOMECHANICS

With Ali Lane

Biomechanics Coach, Equipilates Instructor and UKCC Dressage Coach



DATE: 14th December 2017 **TIME:** 7:45pm prompt start (arrive from 7)

VENUE: Castlemorton Village Hall, WR13 6BE

COST: £5 per person, refreshments provided
Non-members welcome.

Please make sure you pay on the night.



MHRC

MERCIAN QUIZ

Thursday, 10th October and the last Mercian event of the year! We sent two teams along to the Quiz, held at The Talbot, Knightwick. It was a fun evening, testing out knowledge of American states, birds, food and drink, and every so often even a horsey question as well!

The Malvern Blues of Kat Jones, Jo Jaynes, Pam Render and Wendy Robinson managed to come dead last from the 17 teams, but the Malvern Reds of Luran Jones, Caroline Bates, Jane Osborne and Camilla Esling came 3rd.

This also meant that once again, we won the Mercian cup to hold for another year, and a presentation was made to Jodie,

our team manager. A fantastic end to the Mercian year.



Quizzers, Jodie and the Trophy!

Malvern Hills Trust Meeting

28th September 2017

The latest meeting of the Malvern Hills Trust (MHT) (the working name of the Malvern Hills Conservators) was held at the end of the last month, and there were a few items discussed that have an impact on horse riders.

HUNTING

No Hunting will take place on the hills and commons without prior written permission of the MHT. The agreed date and the area of the pre-laid trails over which the hounds will be working must be confirmed.

ROCK CLIMBING

Horse rider's to be aware that climbing is permitted in the area and no advance notice will be given, unless it is a major event. Ivy Scar Rock and Westminster Arms Quarry are very popular.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

There are now 3 bike trails on MHT land and they will be way-marked. Some of the trails will include bridleways. Information on where these are can be found on www.malvern hills.org.uk or phone MHT on 01684 892 002.

If you regularly ride on MHT land and have any issues you'd like to raise, please contact the club who regularly send a representative to the group meetings.

MHRC REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2017

HAVE YOU WON A CHAMPIONSHIP OR BEEN PLACED AT A MAJOR EVENT THIS YEAR?

HAVE YOU COMPETED FOR THE FIRST TIME OR STEPPED UP A LEVEL IN YOUR CHOSEN SPORT?

HAVE YOU GOT MARRIED, HAD A BABBIE, MOVED HOUSE OR JUST CHANGED YOUR WORLD IN SOME WAY?

It's not long now until the end of the year, and with that comes the Mega MHRC review. And we'd love to hear what 2017 has meant to you. We all have lives outside the club (well, some do!), and this is your chance to share with the members what you've been up to.

Check out last December's newsletter (available on the website) to see 2016's review.

If you'd like to be part of it this year, then please e-mail Caroline details and a photo, before **20th December 2017**.

MHRC

INTERDRESSAGE



We were blessed with beautiful weather on 8th October, the first Interdressage filming day of the 2017/2018 season. With the tests filmed on the day, plus all the entries made by individual members, we started off with a record number of entries:

Class: Walk and Trot H

7th (Restricted Senior) = Linda Kemp and Tanzanite Mist

4th (Open Senior) = Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe

Class: Walk, Trot and Canter A

3rd (Senior) = Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie

4th (Senior) = Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey

11th (Senior) = Sarah Smith and Bruno

3rd (Junior) = Ethan Knott and Pennal Zedan

Class: BRC D1

1st (Senior Restricted) = Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan

3rd (Senior Restricted) = Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe

1st (Junior Restricted) = Amber Knott and Average At Best

Class: Intermediate Test 9

4th (Senior) = Camilla Esling and Just Jake

Class: Intermediate Plus A

2nd (Senior) = Katherine Jones and Redback Cappuchino

Class: Freestyle Jumping

1st (Senior) = Sophie Hooper and The Kings Archer

3rd (Junior) = Oliver Hooper and Pinto

Class: Equi-Skills

4th (Senior) = Caroline Bates and Smokey Joe

5th (Senior) Alison Burton and Golly Miss Polly

Class: In-Hand Coloured

1st (Senior) = Sophie Hooper and The Kings Archer

1st (Junior) = Oliver Hooper and Pinto

Class: Ridden Coloured

1st (Senior) = Sophie Hooper and The Kings Archer

1st (Junior) = Oliver Hooper and Pinto



By my calculations, this puts us well in the lead with 170 points, with last year's winners Chervell Valley in 2nd place with 133.

The next club filming day is 19th November. If you'd like to take part, please contact Caroline. November's schedule is on our website.

PHOTOS: FROM TOP Sara and Suzy / Sarah and Bruno / Camilla and Jake / Alison and Polly / Kat and Dotty.



If you'd like to see the video entries, head to our website and follow the links on the Results page.



NEEDED FULL THINGS

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PEPPER POT LEAGUES

TOP TEN PLACES AS OF 29.08.2017

SENIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Sophie Hooper & The Kings Archer	740
2nd	Sara Stephenson & Lliedi Susan	535
3rd	Wendy Robinson & Lady Cove	530
4th	Jo Jeynes & Emily Jane	460
5th	Stef Bennett & Mr Buster	420
6th	Steph Woolley & Freckleton Matador	380
7th	Jodie Powell & Bleanagloos Black Diamond	335
8th	Tina Price & Buzz-B	330
9th	Anne Price & Half A Guinness	320
10th	Lydia Burrows & Hayeston Sam	260

JUNIOR

Place	Name	Pts
1st	Amber Knott & Pennal Zedan	435
2nd	Oliver Hooper & Pinto	385
3rd	Sacha Willis & Narrow Blaze	255
4th	Ethan Knott & Sammy	250
5th	Esme Ruff & Morning Flight	245
6th	Abi Render-Garth & Charlie Bear	160
7th	Amber Knott & Average At Best	150
8th	Sophie Bowness & Minty Bubbles	110
9th	Ethan Knott & Pennal Zedan	105
	William Hooper & Gucci Guy	105

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLE AT
www.malvernhillsideingclub.com

WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsideingclub.com

November 2017

- 2nd** - Polework Clinic, Hillview Arena, Malvern
4th - Area 18 Training Day, Lincomb Equestrian
19th - MHRC Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern
23rd - Area 18 AGM and Presentation Evening, The March Hare Inn, Broughton Hackett

December 2017

- 14th** - 'Rider Biomechanics', Horseless Clinic, Castlemorton Village Hall
17th - MHRC Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern
30th - MHRC Xmas Fun Show, Hillview Arena, Malvern

March 2018

- 4th** - Area 18 Intermediate Dressage Qualifier, Summerhouse Equestrian Centre, Gloucester

FINAL MERCIAN LEAGUE 2017

PLACE	CLUB	PTS
1st	MALVERN HILLS RC	70
2nd	ALVECHURCH RC	66
3rd	BEWDLEY BRIDLE CLUB	58
4th	BROMYARD RC	56 (4)
5th	FRAMPTON RC	56 (2)
6th	SOUTH SHROPSHIRE RC	52
7th	CROPTHORNE & EVESHAM RC	45
8th	VALE OF ARROW RC	34
9th	WYVERN RC	28
10th	CHELTENHAM RC	25
11th	WORCESTER RC	21
12th	BROMSGROVE RC	17



NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

**** Interdressage ** Area 18 AGM ****

PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES



MHRC - all about making new friends!

**EDITOR'S
BIT**

I don't know about you, but how hard is it to keep up the enthusiasm for riding at this time of year! Don't get me wrong, I still love it and love the time I spend at the yard, but there comes a point. When the ice is forming on the outdoor school or you can hear the traffic on the road swishing through standing water, when the bridleways seem to have turned to bogs and 'grooming' for a hack is more like scraping the mud flat that actually trying to remove it...this is when it's hard to remember what all the fun is about. After speaking to a few members, I know it's not me.

So hopefully MHRC can step in, with a couple of months of fun and frolics! December sees another horseless clinic, Xmas Interdressage and of course, our fun Rally at the very end of 2017. Then into January with some training to get you ready for the new season (details soon!), more Interdressage and our AGM. It's time to dust off those winter blues and embrace the season ☺

until next time, Caroline

MHRC

AREA 18 AGM

On 23rd November, it was the Area 18 AGM and MHRC sent along some representatives. It was a lovely evening, with an amazing carvery and a choice of scrumptious puddings to start off the night.

The Area Chairman, Noel, then ran through some of the highlights of the year. The Area has done amazingly well at National level, with team places for Worcester RC, Crothorne and Evesham Vale RC, Evenlode RC, Cheltenham RC and Bewdley Bridle Club, not forgetting our own contributions to the list 😊.

There was a fiendish quiz, which was won by Cheltenham RC, and also some serious stuff, with discussions about next year's qualifiers and some of the changes that BRC are looking to implement. The individual winners of the 2017 Horse Trials qualifier were also awarded their trophies, with Caroline accepting the Senior 90 trophy on behalf of Victoria Gregg.

Look out for the Area Newsletter for a full report.



British Riding Clubs Volunteer Leagues 2018



- Great Prizes and Rosettes
- Incentives & Rewards
- Meet New People
- Learn New Skills
- Have Some Fun!



BRC have launched new Volunteer Leagues, which will start on 1 January 2018. There will be separate Leagues for Club, Area and National activities. One point will be awarded per hour volunteered. If you would like to get involved, please visit the Volunteers page of the BRC website or call Jennie Pallett on: 02476 840593.



www.britishridingclubs.org.uk
Part of The British Horse Society
Tel: 02476 840518 • email: ridingclubs@bhs.org.uk
Abbey Park, Stareton, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2XZ



Ride Together • Train Together • Compete Together • Have Fun Together



BRC AREA 18 TRAINING

open to members of area 18 affiliated riding clubs

Show-jumping training with international event rider

Wayne Garrick



Thursday, December 28th 2017

at Lincomb Equestrian, nr Stourport, Worcestershire DY13 9RB
(where area winter novice and intermediate SJ is being held in March)

Groups of 4 riders will be arranged according to ability
20 places available - up to 2 places per club initially with extras held on a waiting list in case not all clubs fill their allocation

THIS TRAINING IS BEING SUBSIDISED BY AREA

Cost per rider: £10
Enquiries to: shirleyboraston@btinternet.com

Please note: Places confirmed by receipt of payment. Details will be sent when bookings made.
Cancellations: A waiting list will be held. If we fill your place you will be refunded

MHRC REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2017

HAVE YOU WON A CHAMPIONSHIP OR BEEN PLACED AT A MAJOR EVENT THIS YEAR?

HAVE YOU COMPETED FOR THE FIRST TIME OR STEPPED UP A LEVEL IN YOUR CHOSEN SPORT?

HAVE YOU GOT MARRIED, HAD A BABBIE, MOVED HOUSE OR JUST CHANGED YOUR WORLD IN SOME WAY?

It's not long now until the end of the year, and with that comes the Mega MHRC review. And we'd love to hear what 2017 has meant to you. We all have lives outside the club (well, some do!), and this is your chance to share with the members what you've been up to.

Check out last December's newsletter (available on the website) to see 2016's review.

If you'd like to be part of it this year, then please e-mail Caroline details and a photo, before **20th December 2017**.

MHRC

INTERDRESSAGE



Alex and Darcy

We had another lovely day filming the club entries for this months Interdressage competition. It was great to see some new faces having a go.

Class: Walk and Trot O

6th (Senior Restricted) =
Jodie Powell and Monty

Class: Walk, Trot and Canter

Level B

6th (Senior) = Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie

8th (Senior) = Suzanne Lidbetter and Midnight Express

Class: BRC D2

2nd (Senior Restricted) = Alex Riches and Mr Darcy

3rd (Senior Restricted) = Sara Stephenson and Lliedi Susan

4th (Senior Restricted) = Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey

4th (Senior Restricted) = Camilla Esling and Murphy

1st (Junior Restricted) = Ethan Knott and Pennal Zedan

Class: Intermediate Test 5

6th (Senior) = Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey

1st (Junior) = Amber Knott and Pennal Zedan

Class: Intermediate Plus B

2nd = Steph Woolley and Freckleton Matador

Class: Breed of The World: Part-Bred

1st = (In-hand) Oliver Hooper and



Steph and Freckles

Pinto

1st = (Ridden) Oliver Hooper and Pinto

Class: Living Out 24/7

1st = (In-hand) Oliver Hooper and Pinto

1st = (Ridden) Oliver Hooper and Pinto



Ethan and Danny

The next club filming days is

on 17th December for Dressage classes and on 30th December for the Hobby Horse Charity Dressage class. Interdressage also have a Fancy Dress class, so if you are entering the Fancy Dress class at our Xmas rally, and would like to double up and enter the same costume in the Interdressage class, speak to Caroline on the day.



Lisa and Frank

HORSELESS CLINIC



RIDER BIOMECHANICS

With Ali Lane

Biomechanics Coach, Equipilates

Instructor and UKCC Dressage Coach

DATE: 14th December 2017

TIME: 7:45pm prompt start (arrive from 7)

VENUE: Castlemorton Village Hall, WR13 6BE

COST: £5 per person, refreshments provided

Non-members welcome.

Please make sure you pay on the night.





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PEPPER POT LEAGUES

**NO LEAGUE UPDATES THIS MONTH -
THE FINAL WINNERS WILL BE
ANNOUNCED AT THE AGM ON 19th
JANUARY**

PLEASE NOTE

Pepper Pot Points earned at the **XMAS RALLY** and **DECEMBER INTERDRESSAGE** will be transferred to the 2018 league. This is to ensure that we have time to order and receive the rosettes in time for the AGM.

WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsideclub.com

December 2017

14th - 'Rider Biomechanics', Horseless Clinic, Castlemorton Village Hall

17th - MHRC Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

30th - MHRC Xmas Fun Rally, Hillview Arena, Malvern

January 2018

11th - Biomechanics Workshop, Welland Village Hall

19th - MHRC AGM, Welland Village Hall

25th - Biomechanics Workshop, Welland Village Hall

March 2018

4th - Area 18 Intermediate Dressage Qualifier, Summerhouse Equestrian Centre, Gloucester

10th - Area 18 Winter Jumping Qualifier, Lincomb Equestrian Centre, Worcestershire.

INTERDRESSAGE LEAGUES

INTERDRESSAGE BRC LEAGUE (October 2017)

1st	Malvern Hills Riding Club (UK)	170
2nd	Cherwell Valley (UK)	133
3rd	Crown (UK)	48

INTERDRESSAGE WINTER LEAGUE (October 2017)

1st	Malvern Hills Riding Club (UK)	155
2nd	Cherwell Valley (UK)	128
3rd	Summerwood (USA)	123
4th	Crown (UK)	47

For Full leagues, check out our website



NEWSLETTER

THIS MONTH:

** Interdressage ** Horseless Clinic ** Xmas Rally ** Review of the Year **

PLUS ALL YOUR LEAGUE UPDATES AND DIARY DATES



Sue and Linda - Xmas Pairings!

EDITOR'S BIT

So, as I write this, the festivities are over for another year, the decorations have been taken down and it's time to renew that subscription to Weight Watchers! The winter can always be a bit of a downer when you have ponies, but I personally find this bit the hardest. Once the Christmas tree has been stowed away in the loft, the balmy days of summer seem even further away.

But for me, it's not necessarily the atrocious weather, the constant mucking out of stables or even the idiocy of horses lacking exercise yet on a haylage diet that gets me down. It's the constant changing of clothes! Gone are those sweet days of grabbing a T-shirt and joddies ... half a minute later you're out the door. Now it's a twenty minute layering of thermal base-layers, fleece, knee-length socks and those all important top to toe waterproofs. And that's a least twice a day, one of which takes place at work and causes untold hilarity from my colleagues when I emerge looking like a cross between the Michelin man and an advert for Benetton ('cos no way are any of those clothes gonna match!).

And of course, only us horsey girls know why we suddenly start wearing dark coloured nail varnish at this time of the year. As a friend said, it's either that or a 'Country' Manicure, which is opposite to a French one in that it has wide, black tips to every nail!

Roll on the Summer ☺

until next time, Caroline

MHRC

HORSELESS CLINIC



It was off to Castlemorton Village Hall for a session on rider position and balance with Ali Lane. The evening started with a discussion about the three 'boxes' - the head box, chest box and pelvis box - all of which have to be stacked neatly on top of one another in order to achieve an effective riding position. Ali showed us some simple exercises to help determine whether each 'box' was centred correctly, which caused much hilarity as different parts of the body were thrust, pushed, pulled and twisted! Then we were asked to assess our four brave demo riders and discuss any issues they seemed to have. This was hugely interesting and came up with some surprises. Ali then worked on each rider, tweaking the angle of the body or asking the rider to move slightly - although in some cases more major changes were asked for using squishy balls. As most of the changes were quite subtle, it was surprising how much of difference it caused. The evening then broke up into smaller groups, with Ali available to address certain issues or answers query, while everyone enjoyed some mince pies, cake and mulled wine.

We have arranged for some more one-to-one sessions with Ali on 11th and 25th January. If you would like to take part, please contact Caroline to book a slot. More info on the website.

INTERDRESSAGE

Well done to everyone who took part in December's Interdressage competition. It was a rather wet and windy one at the club filming day, but everyone persevered to get some great tests in the can. And it was the chestnuts who triumphed, with Murphy and Tom bringing home the red rosettes for Camilla, Tina and Katy.

The Bouncing Baubles Walk and Trot P

3rd (Senior Restricted) Linda Medcalf and Midnight Express

8th (Junior Restricted) Amber Knott and Average at Best

1st (Senior Intermediate) Katy Spicer and Tom Thumb



Katy and Tom

The Frosty the Snowman Walk, Trot and Canter C

3rd (Senior) Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie

3rd (Junior) Ethan Knott and Pennal

Zedan

The Christmas Carol BRC D3

1st (Senior Restricted) Camilla Esling and Murphy

4th (Senior Restricted) Alex Riches and Mr Darcy

5th (Senior Restricted) Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey

1st (Senior Open) Tina Price and Tom Thumb

The Rudolf the Reindeer Pairs

2nd = (Senior) Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie / Linda Medcalf and Midnight

We have dropped to 2nd place in the league, so if you'd like to help us get back on top, check out the January schedule, where there is Dressage, Showing, Jumping and even Handy Pony type classes. The club filming day is 21st January at Hillview, or you can film your own entry at home.



Camilla and Murphy



Tina and Tom

MHRC

XMAS RALLY

MHRC ended the year with a fun, informal Xmas rally at Hillview Arena on 30th December. Sadly, numbers of riders were lacking, but there were plenty of dogs and supporters. The bring and share lunch was a great success as usual, with a veritable banquet of goodies on offer.

It was also a day of huge laughs. The canine 'free for all' that ensued at the beginning of the dog show could have kept us entertained all day. As well as George Bowness' 'invisible dog', which slipped it's harness half way round the obstacle course and he didn't notice. Oliver Hooper's slight miscalculation in not holding on to Pinto's reins at the fishing obstacle led to an impressive display of moves as he dodged around the arena, looked on by his very sympathetic Mum!

The day was good fun and it was great to catch up with members, whether they took part in the action in the arena or enjoyed the lovely food in the club house. Thank you to Sophie for letting us use her facilities, for Ann, Linda and Chris for helping in the classes and the canteen, and to Alison for judging the classes.

Fancy Dress

1st = Linda Medcalf and Midnight Express = 'The Christmas Knight'

2nd = Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie = 'Masquerade Ball'

Dog Show

1st = Stef Bennett

2nd = Jodie Powell

3rd = Stef Bennett

4th = Ann Bates

5th = Emma Cooper

Handy Pony

SENIORS

1st = Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie

2nd = Linda Medcalf and Midnight Express

JUNIORS

1st = William Hooper and Pinto

2nd = Luke and Unicorn Luke

3rd = Oliver Hooper and Pinto

4th = Maddie and Unicorn Luke

DOG HANDLERS

1st = Stef Bennett

2nd = Will Hooper

3rd = Oliver Hooper

4th = Anna Robson

5th = Sophie Bowness

6th = George and Henry Bowness





2017 REVIEW OF THE YEAR



2017 has been an amazing year - here is a few of my favourite highlights and pictures from the past 12 months.

February = Our Junior Jumping team of Amber Knott, Sacha Willis and Esme Knott win the Intermediate Winter Jumping Qualifier at Corse Lawn.

March = Tina Price and Tom Thumb win the Novice 34 Intermediate Winter Dressage Qualifier at Kings Equestrian.

April = **BRC NOVICE WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS**. MHRC was represented by Laura Bennett and Lematon Sunshine Sadie, who ended up in 3rd place. = Our Junior Combined Training Team

win the Area Qualifier, as does Stef Bennett in the Senior Individual Prelim section. = **BRC INTERMEDIATE WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS**. MHRC was represented by Tina Price and Tom Thumb in the Senior Dressage, and by Amber Knott, Esme Ruff and Sacha Willis in the Junior Jumping. = MHRC were 2nd place in the Interdressage BRC League and their Winter Team League.

May = **BIG WEEKEND** a game of two halves, weather wise, with sunshine on Area Day and torrential rain on Show day. Our 70cm senior show jumping team and Junior Style team, both triumphed to win the area qualifiers, with individuals Sophie Hooper, Oliver Hooper and Amber Knott, also winning classes. On Sunday, we won the Mercian Showing with Sophie Hooper, Leanne Bennett, Anna Robson and Alex Harris. = **BRC FESTIVAL OF THE HORSE CHAMPIONSHIP**. We were represented by our Junior Combined Training Team of Amber and Ethan Knott, Esme Ruff and Sacha Willis, Stef Bennett in the Senior Combined Training and our Senior 90 Challenge team of Jodie Powell, Sue Peckham, Liz Wise and Tina Price. They were the stars of the day, coming 2nd overall and winning the 'All Four Scores' trophy. = A brilliant day at the Mercian



an Combined Training, with both our 2'3 and our 2'6 teams winning their classes.

July = Our Juniors (Sophie Bowness, Ethan Knott, Amber Knott and Oliver Hooper) once again triumphed at the Area Dressage qualifier, as did our Pairs team of Liz Whitehead and Jane Downham. = MHRC were runners up in the Malvern Hills District Council 'Club of the Year' Award, as was Lin Harber in 'Unsung Hero of the Year' Award. = Our Senior 90cm team won at the Area Horse Trials and Victoria Gregg was the overall individual winner of the same class. = Steph Woolley triumphed at the Dressage to Music qualifier, winning the Novice section and only just missing out on the Elementary qualification too.

August = **BRC HORSE TRIALS CHAMPIONSHIPS** MHRC was represented by Laura Bennett and Sunsigne Sadie in the 100+ class, and Victoria Gregg and Rock Supreme in the Senior 90. = Our new format Eventer Challenge was a great success and our new cross-country jumps looked great. = **REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS** = Another great day, represented by a huge number of members. Stef Bennett won the Style Jumping and our Style team were 2nd.

September = The club had a fantastic **BRC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS** - our 70cm team of Julie Jeffes, Sara Stephenson, Lydia Burrows and Sara Bowness were crowned national champions and Steph Woolley won the Novice Riding Test. = Our 80cm team of Sophie Hooper, Wendy Grimsby, Jo Jeynes and Abigail Hardy triumphed at the Mercian Hunter Trials.

October = Steph Woolley is crowned National Novice Champion at the **BRC Dressage to Music Championships** = MHRC are crowned **Mercian Champions** for the third year running.





2017 REVIEW OF THE YEAR



2017 was a great riding club year for Buster and I - we qualified for championships in combined training, show jumping and style jumping, and were thrilled to win the style individually and get team 2nd. 2018 is likely to be a lot quieter for us (there's a new jockey on the way!), but I will be volunteering as a helper as often as possible to give something back to such a great club. Here's to 2018!

- Stef Bennett

THE TEAMQUEST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017 Pershore Plum Team - Guinness' View!

Hey up I thought - now here she comes
A-tramping cross my field.
She thinks I'm daft, all smiling sweet
The headcollar concealed!

But mints on offer always work
I wondered "what today"?
Not ponced or pouffed or plaited
Simply loaded and away!

Some two and a half hours later
We'd gone from door to door -
When I got out I recognised
Um - I'd been here before.

Stables - straw to eat - Oh yum
Noooo - don't spray the Jeyes - Oh mum!
Now you've spoilt the taste - okay
I'll have to stick to boring hay ®

Lots of mateys stabled near
Good view too of everything here -
A pick of grass and stretch my legs
All felt fine so off to bed!

At breakfast time - I dragged her off
More grass - I had a good ole scoff!
Then all the poncing/plaiting starts
Made me feel a right ole tart!

Into the "school" with all the rest
Trotting round - must look my best!
Then I did "A SMOKEY" Test (69.36% !!!)
Pointed toes and puffed out chest @

Phew that's over - minty time
Makes it all worthwhile, divine!
Back to my shed for just a while
But yet more grass restored my smile!

Then overnight, while warm and snuggly
The "shed-cum-prison" got to me!
I frog-marched her for early grass
Imprisoned once again - NO LAUGH!

By time the saddle had appeared
Steam was comin' out me ears!
I'll teach her to imprison me
Another test - REVENGE -you'll see!

Indoors eh! - OK -watch this
I had a little "practise fit"
But saved the real thing for the Judge
Oh boy I savoured up my grudge!

Stuck my ears right up her nose
Trotted round in huntin' mode
Shouted loudly to me mates
Dreaming up some varied "fates"!

Bell rang- Demon shining through
Eyes a flashin' - Bend -Woo Hoo!
Trot-walk-trot - not on your life
Motorbiking - head up high ©

Then it happened - prod with spur
RIGHT - YOU' RE OFFFF I did concur -
But blinkey blimey broncho style
Ole thing sat tight with teeth clenched smile!!

I gave up and charged onward bound
OK - I'll simply tow her round
My legs have rarely gone so fast
The centre line came up at last!

Halt - I did - with head held HIGH!
Well that's that done - Oh my Oh my
You should have seen spectators' faces
Rather stunned - made me elated!

Think our "team" were quite surprised
Such antics from the "cobby guy" !
My halo from the day before
Was well and truly on the floor. {Ha!}

So back to prison for a while
Mum hadn't even lost her smile -
No-one believes that I can be
A Stinkpot Monster Chops - Heee Heee !



So seems we'd finished- was I glad
Spouse I'd been a naughty lad©
No prizes for this Pershore Plum
lucky not to get smacked bum!

We journeyed home - made not a sound
(Well, thought I ought redeem my crown!)
Ah bliss - my paddock - free at last
An acre filled with lots of grass!

So finally I think I'd say
After three adventurous days
The Teamquest National Champs with MOM
Had been "Guinnessed" with APLOMB! ©
OR
The Teamquest National Champs with mum
Was "Guinnessed" by a Pershore Plum! ©

Addendum:

It seems we won a special prize
She couldn't quite believe her eyes!
Highest veteran rider score
(Praps not so "naughty" after all ©)
And PS. She has forgiven me of course !



NEEDED FULL THINGS

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PEPPER POT 2018 LEAGUES

Here are the top riders in each of the 2018 leagues as of 1st January 2018

SENIOR OVERALL

1st	Linda Medcalf and Midnight Express	130
	Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie	130
3rd	Camilla Esling and Murphy	40
	Katy Spicer and Tom Thumb	40
	Tina Price and Tom Thumb	40
6th	Alex Riches and Mr Darcy	25
7th	Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey	20

JUNIOR OVERALL

1st	William Hooper and Pinto	40
2nd	Ethan Knott and Pennal Zedan	30
	Oliver Hooper and Pinto	30
4th	Amber Knott and Average At Best	5

SENIOR DRESSAGE

1st	Linda Medcalf and Midnight Express	60
	Suzanne Lidbetter and Rosie	60
3rd	Camilla Esling and Murphy	40
	Katy Spicer and Tom Thumb	40
	Tina Price and Tom Thumb	40
6th	Alex Riches and Mr Darcy	25
7th	Lisa Drinkwater and Franks Grey	20

JUNIOR DRESSAGE

1st	Ethan Knott and Pennal Zedan	30
2nd	Amber Knott and Average At Best	5

SEE THE COMPLETE UPDATED LEAGUE TABLES
AT
www.malvernhillsideingclub.com

WHAT'S COMING UP NEXT?

For schedules, times and future events, please go to www.malvernhillsideingclub.com

January 2018

11th - Biomechanics Workshop, Welland Village Hall

19th - MHRC AGM, Welland Village Hall

21st - Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

25th - Biomechanics Workshop, Welland Village Hall

February 2018

18th - Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

March 2018

4th - Area 18 Intermediate Dressage Qualifier, Summerhouse Equestrian Centre, Gloucester

10th - Area 18 Winter Jumping Qualifier, Lincomb Equestrian Centre, Worcestershire.

18th - Interdressage Filming Day, Hillview Arena, Malvern

INTERDRESSAGE LEAGUES

BRC League (with December points added)

Place	Club	Points
1st	Cherwell Valley	403
2nd	Malvern Hills	390
3rd	Crown	147

Winter League (with December points added)
For Full leagues, check out our website

Place	Club	Points
1st	Cherwell Valley	357
2nd	Malvern Hills	354
3rd	Summerwood (USA)	335