

Newsletter August 2007

Bourne Valley Riding Club

incorporating Woodhay District Riding Club
(Affiliated to the British Horse Society)



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Who would have thought we would experience a season of such extremes? February & March rains caused the postponement of the Hunter Trial Qualifier scheduled to take place at Rockbourne on 1st April. Essential work on the course could not be completed in time, but ground conditions on the 1st would have been perfect. April was dry and so hot, competitors found the temperature at our Dressage uncomfortable – and it was only mid April. Weather at camp was perfect, but already the ground was solidifying. Nobody wanted to jump at the April Novice Show & I got sunburnt, this first and last time this year.

Then came the rain. The Hunter Trial Qualifier re-schedule to 5th May ran in persistent drizzle. We were lucky to escape for the Combined Training (although we got very wet whilst setting up), for our One Day Event & Show Jumping, and for the Novice & Intermediate Horse Trials Qualifier. At the latter the ground verged on the hard side. We enjoyed the Area Show Jumping Qualifier in a succession of torrential downpours.

Then, the unheard of happened. The Open Horse Trials Qualifier at Larkhill was cancelled at the last minute. I always maintained that an event at Larkhill would only be cancelled if we couldn't get there due to snow blocking the roads or war if broke out. Despite gallons of rain, the going was actually perfect. Our July dressage was a casualty of the wet weather too.

The Area Dressage Qualifier was transferred from Brockenhurst Park (home to the subsequently cancelled BE Brockenhurst Horse Trials) to a drier location at Milford on Sea. A question mark hung over the National Horse Trials Championships at Offchurch Bury as the normal steeplechase course field was submerged in 4 feet of water & water crossing jumps were invisible. BRC officers were rewarded for their brave decision when a modified event, without steeplechase & only one phase of roads and tracks, ran very successfully, more of that later.

As always at this time of year, there is a lot of catching up to do. Best intentions of regular Newsletters go out of the window once the May, June & July programme starts. Every weekend from the third in May until the third in July had either a domestic or Area qualifier. We are providing plenty of bedtime reading of the summer's events and detailed plans for the autumn. **LKH.**

Forthcoming Events



Dressage & Show Jumping Show at Knighton Down, Larkhill on Sunday 2nd September 2007.

We resume after a short break with our annual show incorporating both dressage and show jumping disciplines at Knighton Down, Larkhill. Entries are still available in the Show Jumping classes. Sandra Groves Tel: 01264 396390.



BVRC Novice Show, Sunday 9th September 2007 at Amport Riding Centre at 10am.

A return trip will be made to Amport for the second Novice Show of the year. This is an ideal opportunity if you are nervous, haven't competed for a while or are intimidated by the 'big guns'. Come and have a go in a quiet relaxed atmosphere. There will be plenty of help around if you are not sure what to do or where to go. For more information call Pip Crosby (01264 889949).

Riding Club Horse Competition

The Riding Club Horse competition will run alongside the Novice Show. The competition consists of a dressage test followed by a showing class with four or five jumps not exceeding 2'6". This will demonstrate all round ability. The overall champion, with points apportioned from both parts of the competition, will be awarded the Blue Bell Cup.



BVRC Hunter Trial, Sunday 16th September 2007 at Knighton Down, Larkhill.

A marked improvement in the variety of fences and excellent going mean this is an event not to be missed. Course heights range from 2'6" and 2'9"-3' to 3'3". Against my better judgement there are classes for juniors for the first time. Pairs classes have been included in the schedule at the first two heights. We don't have gates or a timed section. In the event of equal jumping penalties, winners are decided by the best judgement of pace riding at an optimum speed over the whole course. It will be a good day. Please get you entries in early. We will do our utmost to run the event, but please support us by entering.

Needless to say, if you are not riding, we would welcome your help fence judging. Please fill in & return the attached reply slip, email or telephone Lindsay to offer your services.

PLEASE NOTE: Rule 4 on schedule should read 'Horse may be ridden once only PER CLASS'.



Physiotherapy Lecture-Demonstration – Castle Farm Indoor School, Sat 13 Oct 07 2-4pm

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY! Did you see the article "Inside Out" in the latest Rider magazine? If that wetted your appetite for learning and understanding your horse, your committee has already organised a lecture-demo including audience participation (!) on a similar topic of rider and horse influences and how you can help, by Elle Tisch Cat A ACPAT, BSc Phys, MCSP, from Amanda Sutton's Physiotherapy Practice. More details in the next Newsletter. PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY NOW!

Instruction

Instruction dates have been organised with Diana as follows.

Instructor	Instruction Type	Venue	Cost	Date	Time
Diana Burgess	General Instruction	Castle Farm, Over Wallop	£20	<i>Tuesday 4th September</i> <i>Wednesday 19th September</i> <i>Wednesday 3rd October</i> <i>Wednesday 17th October</i> <i>Wednesday 31st October</i>	all at 10.30am
Diana Burgess	Cross Country	Dene Farm	£30	<i>Wednesday 12th September</i>	10.30am

General instruction sessions consist of some flatwork and, time permitting, some optional gridwork or a small course of jumps at the end. Each session will last 1½ hours.

Cross Country Instruction Body protectors are compulsory. The sessions will last for two hours.

The instruction sessions are aimed at all levels of horse and rider – do come and have a go. If you wish to attend, please send the attached reply slip to Lindsay Hills **AT LEAST 3 DAYS BEFORE** the due date (separate cheques for each session with date marked on the back of the cheque please).

PLEASE TELEPHONE Lindsay 01264 772388 asap if you wish to attend 4th September session.

Hunting

Following the hunting ban in February 2005, the RA Hunt has been operating as a drag pack. It is hoped that the club will take out subscription to the RA Hunt again this year. This will enable club members to drag hunt up to 6 times during the season (from the end October to April) for a reduced cap (£15 per day (this is £50 for non-subscribers)).

The hunt will start Cubbing drag days on 15th September and thereafter will be out on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays until the Opening Meet on 3rd November.

Ring Nick Hornby (01380) 848117 for details of meets, times, parking, dress, protocol etc etc. Don't forget to take your membership card + £1 for the box watcher.

Hunt Secretary: Nick Hornby, Paddocks, The Cartway, Wedhampton, Nr Devizes, Wilts. Tel: 01380 848117

BVRC Combined Training Sunday 20th May 2007

Having never organised a combined training event before I was quite staggered when I sat down to work out how many volunteers would be needed. In the end I think there were near on 30 on the day, plus another dozen the day before to set up.

Thank you to all of you who contributed. It was nice to see some new faces and a special thanks to those of you who brought along family and friends to help out.

Setting up on Saturday proved to be quite a challenge as we arrived to find army exercise equipment sitting in the middle of our usual show jumping arena. We also did a lot of head scratching to get 3 dressage arenas in place which didn't feature tank / motorcycle tracks. All this and torrential rain downpours to contend with. Still, everything came together in the end and I think our slightly different layout made for a pleasant change.

We were not hopeful of great going at Larkhill following a prolonged period of extremely dry weather but with just over a week to go the weather changed rather dramatically in our favour with several days of substantial rain fall.

A wide range of preliminary and novice classes were on offer. Entries for the prelims were good but unfortunately we only had enough entries to run one out of the three novice classes.

Rosie Mathias

Results

Class 2 Prelim 10				
1st	Sarah Neville	Zach	145	*
2nd	Charlotte Opperman	Marble	141	*
3rd	Heather Howells	Forward Lady	138	*
4th	Hannah Gibbs	Rudi	137	
5th	Frances Hall	Trown Max	131	*
5th	Gina Howells	Dinan Spirit	131	
Class 6 Prelim 7				
1st	Charlotte Opperman	Marble	137	*
2nd	Toni Barbour	Zac	132	*
3rd	Charlotte Springall	Howden Ronnie	129	*
4th	Janet Burnett	Flashlight	128	*
4th	Sam Shepherd	Chilly Day	128	*

Class 6 Combined Training -Prelim 7/2'3"-2'6" Show Jumping				
1st	Charlotte Opperman	Marble	137	*
2nd	Toni Barbour	Zac	128	*
3rd	Sam Shepherd	Chilly Day	128	*
4th	Andrea Smith	Grand Sachern	127	
5th	Sophie Jeffrey	Safe Driver	126	*
6th	June Verity	Flame	125	*

Class 1 Prelim 13					
1st	Sue McCulloch	Buss Orpington	176		
2nd	Penny Dumelow	Fair Dinkham	169		
3rd	Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds	168	*	
4th	Heather Howells	Forward Lady	165	*	
5th	Zoe Gregory	Theodore	163		
6th	Sarah Neville	Zach	155	*	

Class 3 Novice 20					
1st	Ruth Jacobson	Just Joey	153	*	
2nd	Catherine James	Toby	150	*	
3rd	Zoe Cooper	Downtown Flyer	146	*	
4th	Penny Dumelow	Fair Dinkham	145		
5th	Karen Duggleby	Wispa Gold	143	*	
6th	Cathryn Petchey	Manningford Bay	139	*	

Class 10 2'3" - 2'6" Show Jumping					
1st	Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere	*		
2nd	Frances Hall	Fenrose Cara Bonni	*		
3rd	Sam Shepherd	Chilly Day	*		
4th	Laura Robinson	Louis	*		
5th	Sadie Barkwell	Rushington Rafiki			
5th	Beatrice Robinson	Tom Brown	*		

Class 11 2'9" Show Jumping					
1st	Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere	*		
2nd	Roy Southey	Oliver	*		
3rd	Heather Howells	Forward Lady	*		
4th	Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy	*		
5th	Gina Howells	Dinan Spirit			
6th	Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds	*		

Class 7 Combined Training - Prelim 13/2'9" Show Jumping					
1st	Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds	168	*	
2nd	Heather Howells	Forward Lady	165	*	
3rd	Zoe Gregory	Theodore	159		
4th	Roy Southey	Oliver	155	*	
4th	Hannah Cable	Millie	155	*	
6th	Ruth Jacobson	Just Joey	151	*	

Class 8 Combined Training - Novice 20/3'0" Show Jumping					
1st	Catherine James	Toby	150	*	
2nd	Penny Dumelow	Fair Dinkham	145		
3rd	Cathryn Petchey	Manningford Bay	139	*	
4th	Frances Smart	Scobie	138	*	
5th	Helen Keevil	Oliver	125		
6th	Cathryn Petchey	Manningford Lady	118	*	

Class 12 3'0" Show Jumping					
1st	Gina Howells	Dinan Spirit			
2nd	Helen Keevil	Ryan			
3rd	Cathryn Petchey	Manningford Lady	*		
4th	Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy	*		
5th	Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds	*		
6th	Cathryn Petchey	Manningford Bay	*		

Class 13 3'3" Show Jumping					
1st	Catherine James	Toby	*		
2nd	Tacita Rolls	Kilmarton Jimmy	*		
3rd	Penny Dumelow	Fair Dinkham			
4th	Sam Kinchett	Ranzo	*		
5th	Frances Smart	Scobie	*		

BVRC One Day Event at Knighton Down, Larkhill on Sunday 3rd June 2007

There are many worries leading up to an event of this size. Leaving aside the issues of sufficient entries to cover costs, there is always a concern that there won't be enough helpers.

Plan B tactics come into play. In the darkest moments, usually at 3 o'clock in the morning, wild thoughts surface. These include asking competitors to add up their own dressage scores, rebuild any show jumps they have dislodged or using only six fences on the cross country.

I am happy to report that it wasn't necessary to employ any of the above.

For reasons that I can't explain, entries were down this year on previous years. Some potential competitors, including a team from BVRC, were attending the National Hunter Trials Championships at Aston-le-Walls, but this probably only accounted for 10-12 lost entries. Nevertheless at 150 entries the classes were well filled, but it still allowed us a comfortable day.

Competitor times were posted on our website for the first time. The reduction of phone calls to one fifth of the norm made me wonder if I had got the wrong night.

We were blessed with brilliant weather all weekend. The downside was that we were bombarded by a plague of flying golden beetles, peculiar to Larkhill. Early on they could be seen hovering just above ground level, as the temperature rose, so did they. White top & cleavages & white horses were particularly attractive.

The day ran like clockwork after some early hiccups had been iron out and as is our custom, we finished the cross country bang on time.

It is always a great relief to get to the end of the day when all has gone well and there haven't been any major problems.

We need about one hundred helpers to stage a One Day Event. This is an occasion when it is all hands to the pump. Without the generosity of those giving up time to help we would not be able to undertake this. Our club has a reputation for running events efficiently but in a friendly manner. I receive many plaudits when we achieve this aim. In practice, it is a team effort. If any one area doesn't perform it has a knock on effect for the whole event. Everyone's job is important.

Please take this as a personal thank you to everyone who turned out to help in whatever capacity.

I am very proud that we consistently run our events to the highest standard. This is brought home even more when attending other events in the vicinity.

Class 1	Intermediate	Section A						
Place	Rider	Horse	BV	Dr	SJ	XCJ	XCT	TOTAL
1st	Frances Smart	Scobie	*	28.2	0	0	1.6	29.8
2nd	Clare Heald	Flromatic	*	31.8	0	0	0.0	31.8
3rd	Alex Goodall	Kind of Magic		35.0	0	0	0.0	35.0
4th	Minette Batters	Bereford Opposition	*	32.7	3	0	0.0	35.7
5th	Vanessa Martin	Dublin	*	34.6	4	0	0.0	38.6
6th	Louise Parr	Roman Rhythm	*	40.0	0	0	0.0	40.0
7th	Emma Mills	Tonto	*	39.1	0	0	1.6	40.7
8th	Tom Miller	Hector	*	40.5	0	0	0.4*	40.9
9th	Karen Grant	Kevin	*	41.8	0	0	0.0	41.8
10th	Gill Horton	Arthur		39.1	4	0	0.8	43.9

Class 1	Intermediate	Section B						
1st	Georgina Hussey	Mallow		30.0	0	0	0.0	30.0
2nd	Tina Bick	Woodfidley		34.6	0	0	0.0	34.6
3rd	Zoe Gregory	Theodore		34.6	0	0	0.0	34.6
4th	Stacey Blunn	Lilton du Rozel		36.8	0	0	0.0	36.8
5th	James Hussey	Mickey Express		38.6	0	0	3.2	41.8
6th	Rosanna Palmer	Frankie		42.7	1	0	0.0	43.7
7th	Rachel Drewitt	Half-Pint		44.6	0	0	0.0	44.6
8th	Mary Burnfield	Longstock Dazeda		41.8	0	0	5.2	47.0
9th	Becky Forsey	The Bouncer		38.6	1	0	12.4	52.0
10th	Simon Hall	Barrachello		37.3	15	0	0.4*	52.7
Class 1	Intermediate	Section C						
1st	Angela Tucker	Cotton King		20.9	0	0	3.8	24.7
2nd	Mark Ford	Bertie		25.5	2	0	3.2	30.7
3rd	Hannah Budd	Cartron Lodger		25.9	1	0	5.6	32.5
4th	Kate Lock	Daisy		30.5	4	0	3.6	38.1
5th	Jacquie Bowden	Zack		28.2	4	0	6.0	38.2
6th	Nick Daniel	Snowfire		44.1	0	0	6.0*	50.1
7th	Suzanne Drewett	Radar		41.8	4	0	6.4	52.2
8th	Kirstin Young	TopSpot		46.8	8	0	0.8*	55.6
9th	Angela Pooley	Kallary Harbour		34.6	0	20	18.4	73.0
10th	Katie Grist	Lish		42.3	4	20	12.4	78.7
Class 2	Novice	Section A						
1st	Laura Robinson	Louis	*	27.1	4	0	0.0	31.1
2nd	Alison Morgan	Anaura Bay	*	24.6	8	0	0.0	32.6
3rd	Elizabeth Butler	TJ	*	39.6	0	0	0.0	39.6
4th	Frances Hall	Fenrose Cara Bonni	*	41.3	0	0	1.6*	42.9
5th	Laura Saxon	Zeppy	*	38.8	4	0	1.2*	44.0
6th	Emily Fishenden	My Sam		38.3	9	0	0.0	47.3
7th	Alec Saxon	Glaisdale	*	50.4	0	0	2.8*	53.2
8th	Beatrice Robinson	Tom Brown	*	33.8	0	20	0.8	54.6
9th	Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy	*	36.7	0	20	0.4*	57.1
10th	Paul Sharp	Sooty	*	35.4	0	20	5.2*	60.6
Class 2	Novice	Section B						
1st	Alison Lamb	Impression		35.8	0	0	0.0	35.8
2nd	Carol Alford	Beejay Two		31.3	0	0	4.8	36.1
3rd	Carol Fishenden	Rachel's Rocker		38.3	0	0	0.0	38.3
4th	Gill Hussey	Mouse		38.3	0	0	0.0	38.3
5th	Andrea Smith	Grand Sachem		34.6	0	0	5.6	40.2
6th	Victoria Rickcord	Flashpoint		34.2	0	0	6.4*	40.6
7th	Megan Draper	Kinvara Castle		42.1	0	0	3.2*	45.3
8th	Kim Hawkins	Tina		47.5	0	0	4.0	51.5
9th	Sadie Barkwill	Rushington Rafiki		47.9	4	0	0.0	51.9
10th	Susie Blackburn	Holly Hobbie		41.3	4	0	7.6*	52.9
Class 2	Novice	Section C						
1st	Gemma Izod	Paddy		34.2	0	0	2.4*	36.6
2nd	Katie White	Comet		40.8	0	0	0.0	40.8
3rd	Jessica Collett	Miss Marley		39.2	0	0	4.8	44.0
4th	Andy Carter	Monty		36.7	0	0	11.6*	48.3
5th	Faine Jordan	Perry		40.0	0	0	12.8	52.8
6th	Kate Lock	Topsie		40.8	4	0	9.6*	54.4
7th	Claire Brand	Murphy		38.8	8	0	9.6*	56.4
8th	Rebecca Sheen	Handover		45.4	8	0	7.6*	61.0
9th	Amy Mawson	Thingamebob		42.1	4	20	1.6	67.7
10th	Teresa Candy	Harley Kinsky		35.8	0	20	13.6*	69.4
Class 3	Open							
1st	Caroline Park	Harry la Rouge		31.0	0	0	0.0	31.0
2nd	Julia Hussey	Dazzle Bazzle		35.0	0	0	0.0	35.0
3rd	Caroline Primose	Final Model	*	29.0	0	0	6.8	35.8
4th	Karen Baxter	Worth his Salt	*	31.0	5	0	0.0	36.0
5th	Mark Ford	Broomsgrove		31.5	0	0	9.2	40.7
6th	Vicky Brake	Rufus Stone		34.0	0	0	7.2	41.2
7th	Joseph Daborn	Mr Raj		33.5	12	0	2.4	47.9
8th	Tacita Rolls	Kilmartin Jimmy	*	38.5	0	0	12.8	51.3
9th	George Lippiatt	Rocky Horror		45.5	8	0	0.8	54.3
10th	Sarah Bainbridge	Candy Drum		38.0	8	0	10.0	56.0

BVRC June Show Jumping – Hoplands EC Kings Somborne 10th June 2007 by Jo Hibberd

What fantastic weather we had, with the look on some of the competitors' faces after completing the course maybe a little too hot. With the entries quite low we had a fairly relaxed day that ran with relative ease.

Andrew Thompsons commentary lived up to its reputation bringing big smiles to competitors and in Andrews words "the crowds on the Hickstead Bank".

Simon and Frances Wain the new owners of Hoplands made us feel very welcome. Frances competed in two of the classes and Simon volunteered for car park duty accompanied by their two year old little boy Hamish.

I would like to thank members, family and friends for their help which without them these events would not be able to take place. And a very big thank you to Pip Crosby who did a fabulous job in the weeks leading up to, during and after the show.

Results

Class 1 – 2'3"		BVRC
1 Vicky Wilson	Monty	
2 Roy Southey	Eric	*
3 Frances Hall	Dunlewey Seimi	*
4 Frances Hall	Fenrose Cara Bonnie	*
5 Philippa Thatcher	Mullein	*
6 Frances Hall	Coedywern Draendoun	*
Class 3 – 2'9"		
1 Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy	*
2 Fen Morris	Leggy	*
3 Roy Southey	Oliver	*
4 Jane Rowe	Charisma	
5 Roz Stockdale	Raffles	*
6 Elizabeth Peerless	Bo De'Hei	*
Class 5 – 3'3"		
1 Kerry Wilson	Fox Bay	
2 Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy	*
3 Louise Parr	Roman Rhythm	*
4 Carol Dunford	Chloe	*
5 Zoe Daniels	Chelsea	
6 Helen Keevil	Ryan	

Class 2 – 2'6"		BVRC
1 Fen Morris	Leggy	*
2 Roy Southey	Oliver	*
3 Frances Hall	Dunlewey Seimi	*
4 Caroline Sleep	Rossi	
5 Tom Starks	Zeppy	*
6 Kim Hawkins	Tina	
Class 4 – 3'		
1 Jenny Naylor-Davis	Red Alert	
2 Carol Dunford	Chloe	*
3 Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy	*
4 Sarah Peerless	Bo De'Hei	*
5 Helen Keevil	Ryan	
6 Kerry Wilson	Fox Bay	

TEAM NEWS

Area 17 Hunter Trial Qualifier– Mon 7 May 07 by Susie Pool, Chef d'Equipe.

Novice Blue Team

Laura Robinson	Wagner de Meia Lua
Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere
Karen Grant	Cavello
Emma Mills	Tonto

Penalties

19.6 slow
1.6 fast
18.4 fast
0.8 fast

Place

(7th – just missed a rosette)
3rd

Novice White Team

Martine Power	Whizz
Alison Morgan	Anaura Bay
Lizzie Butler	Capriole Tejo
Beatrice Robinson	Tom Brown

Penalties

8.4 fast
E
E
86.4 slow

Open Team

Charlotte Springall	Folds Cedar
Annabel Mead	Vital Spark
Claire Turner	Drakonan Rites
Lorraine Storer	Jordan Hill

Penalties

183.4
2.0 slow
2.0 slow
2.4 slow

Place

3rd
4th
5th

Individual

Fen Morris	Look Who's Talking Too	6.4 fast	(7 th)
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It was a very variable day both weather-wise and results-wise; good and bad in parts. It was windy occasionally wet, and sometimes very warm so we were either getting wet from the outside or the inside! This event was postponed from 1 April because they obviously knew that I would be away skiing and unable to do my "cheffing" duties! No, seriously, the course had been underwater in March so was postponed to May – by then the ground was really quite firm!! I had the usual last minute drop outs and I am very grateful to Lizzie and Beatrice for stepping into the slots at the last minute – in fact I was able to sort details out with Lizzie Butler in one of the trade-stands at Badminton just a couple of days before! In a nutshell we had a couple of eliminations, one faller (unhurt and went on to complete), 4 individual places (details above), an overall team win by the Open Team which qualified them for the Championships, and a Team 5th by the Novice Blue team. In the Novice class the winning team, where the best 3 scores are counted, was from the New Forest Pony Enthusiasts on 9.2 penalties, with S Wilts (Red), Chilworth and Meon (Gold) filling the next 3 places. The winning individual, who also qualified for the Championships was Geoff Davis from S Wilts, the only person to complete without any penalties at all – this is some feat as the only way to get zero penalties is to finish exactly on the optimum time, and stopwatches are not allowed!

Area 17 Dressage to Music Qualifier – Mon 28 May 07

This was my first attempt to compete in the Area Dressage to Music Qualifier and only my 2nd attempt at the sport. Armed with a stopwatch, CD player, computer with music editor, a willing horse, helpful friends and also a love of dressage to music, I thought, "yes" in three weeks I can put together a 4½ minute CD. Plenty of time so I thought!

The first week I spent designing the possible moves incorporating the required movements which would take 4½ minutes to ride. I needed to find the beats/minute for each pace using a stop watch. I thought this won't take too long in theory. I tried to do this myself but in the end my son offered to help after I lost count and my horse was getting a bit bored of endlessly trotting round in an even regular rhythm (very good for your riding!).

I used Dressage Divas Programme to help design my test and print it out. This took a further 2 weeks editing the music. Unfortunately the music saved on the Dressage Divas wouldn't save on my computer or any other one so I had to redo all the music editing on my own music editor programme all over again! You have to get a music license from British Dressage - not too costly £15 annually for BRC members (free for BD members) – but also send them the list of tracks and artists used on your CD and how long each clip lasts for.

Once you have managed all the hard work the fun begins. My horse was getting into the swing of it, her paces were much improved as they had to be very regular and smooth in order to achieve the same correct pace and time.

On the day of the competition all didn't quite go to plan as my music started slightly ahead and I thought it was a complete disaster! Thanks to the encouragement of Susie and the others competing I managed 5th which was quite a surprise. My horse "Wispa Gold" tried her best!

Dressage to Music is growing in popularity for the everyday rider so hopefully there will be an increase in competitions. It's really fun to watch from the smallest pony to the largest horse ride to the beat!

Karen Duggleby

The class was split into 2 sections, one for those with BD points (#), the other for those without (*)

Rider	Horse	Place
Karen Duggleby	Wispa Gold	5 th *
Bridget Storer	Luka	6 th #
Lorraine Storer	Jordan Hill	*
Liz Potter	Folkin Clarity	3 rd #

The New Forest Pony Enthusiasts were out in force and filled many of the higher places, including qualifying for the Championships.

Festival of the Hunter & Cross Country Championship – Sun 3 Jun 07 – Aston-le-Walls by Susie Pool, BVRC Chef d'Equipe

Open Team – 6th

Charlotte Springall	Folds Cedar
Annabel Mead	Vital Spark
Susie Pool	Sunjeeb
Lorraine Storer	Jordan Hill

Having got back into the riding mode at Residential Camp when Gill Young kindly insisted that I take her daughter's horse Jeebs, I rashly asked Lindsay if I could name myself as 2nd reserve for the Open Hunter Trials team. Lindsay kindly agreed but with a team of 4 and another reserve I didn't think I would have to prove myself. With one week to go my 1st reserve (Fen Morris) phoned to say the horse had a virus and couldn't be called on – now I'm 1st reserve! Several days passed and all the team horses were fit and well. However on the Friday I got the phone call! Very unfortunately for Claire Turner, who keeps her Drakon Rites at Hurstbourne, another horse on the yard got Strangles and the whole lot were quarantined and not allowed out. So I would have to ride!! Lorraine and I drove up on the Saturday and walked the course – thankfully there was nothing there that freaked me out. The course was fairly flat and PN level, the technical fences being combinations with a narrow 2nd part, plus one solitary corner that had an optional narrow chase fence. The instructions to the Team were that they were all to do fast clear rounds as I needed to be the discard score. They all rode perfectly to order with fast clear rounds with 2.0, 4.8 and 5.2 time penalties respectively. The difference between the Hunter Trial rules and Horse Trials is that there is no window in which you get no time penalties. If you are faster or slower than the optimum time then you are penalised. Only if you finish clear **on** the optimum time are you un-penalised – and of course you are not allowed a watch!

In spite of riding a 16.3hh TB, I couldn't find the accelerator - maybe I couldn't reach it with my short legs!! Anyway, watching the video afterwards we went embarrassingly slowly and when he spooked at something at the bottom of a rise, where the jump was at the top, we just ground to a halt. Anyway, that was our only problem on the course although having not really been going forward I opted for the alternative to the corner, about 3 from home. The rider behind was catching up so to avoid jumping into her path I circled away before presenting to the fence. It was nice to hear the commentator comment on my courtesy and really good when the rider came up to me afterwards and thanked me personally. Sometimes these days good manners go unnoticed, but I felt pleased with my round, delighted with the team and generally very happy. Thanks to their good work we finished 6th, in spite of only accruing 12.0 penalties as a team. The winning team finished on 3.2 penalties, ie a total of 8 seconds away from the optimum time for their 3 riders – amazing! Full results can be found on the BRC website.

Novice and Intermediate Horse Trials Qualifiers – Sun 17 Jun 07, Moreton by Elizabeth Butler

<u>Novice Team</u>		<u>Novice – Individual</u>	
Laura Saxon	Irish Magic	Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy
Elizabeth Butler	Capriole Tejo		
Alison Morgan	Anaura Bay		
Emma Mills	Tonto		

The Novice Area Horse Trials Qualifier was held at Moreton Equestrian Centre near Dorchester, over the Intro and Pre Novice courses. BVRC was represented by one novice team and one individual. With fine weather it was the perfect setting for an exciting day.

Both the show jumping and the cross country courses were challenging and it was evident that the day was going to be far from a dressage event. All the novices produced steady tests, although one horse, who shall remain nameless to save her rider's blushes, decided that the day was too exciting and after an eventful show jumping round it was decided that she should call it a day. The rest of the team carried on in a determined fashion. The cross country was up to height and technical and many questioned whether it was too big a question. Of our three remaining riders two managed to achieve clear rounds but with our third rider not having the most enjoyable of days our team dropped out of contention. All agreed that it had been an educational day and vowed to come out more determined than ever next time.

Chef d'Equipe's note. Running the Novice classes over the BE Intro course meant that instead of a XC at 2'9" with a few fences at 3', the course was more like 3' with a few at 2'9". If anyone has any comments on this, either Lindsay or Susie would be interested in your views. Emma and Tonto did well, but just out of the placings.

Show Jumping Qualifiers – Sat 23 Jun 07, Langford Farm

<u>Novice Team</u>		5 th	<u>Style Jumping Team – 6th</u>		7 th
Kay Pogson	Lady Guinevere		Ruth Jacobson	Just Joey	
Charlotte Springall	Folds Gretna Vow	Elizabeth Butler	Capriole Tejo		
Ruth Jacobson	Just Joey	Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy		
Elizabeth Butler	Capriole Tejo	Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds		

<u>Intermediates - Individuals</u>		<u>Open - Individuals</u>	
Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds	Charlotte Springall	Folds Cedar
Mardy Baird	Abercriban Tomboy	Holly Round	Look Who's Talking Too

In keeping with the rest of the summer, the day was a very wet one. The Novices were privileged to be using the main arena which meant that the other classes could all be held on the new all-weather arena where the warm-up used to be. This turned out to be a good decision by the organisers (Chilworth Riding Club) as both arenas held up for their classes. Having recently taken a bad fall I wasn't on my best and most alert form but the day wasn't helped by the complete lack of results on display. The Novice class usually has many teams entered and with all 4 riders doing 2 rounds each it usually goes on for about 5 hours. Unfortunately with no scoreboard, we had no idea which teams had what penalties. This also wasn't helped by the usually competent (BSJA) judge not seeing fences knocked down! However, Kay and Guinevere gave us a good start with their usual clear round but sadly Charlotte's Greta got "stage fright" again. There were some very scary fillers and neither Ruth nor Elizabeth managed a clear, so after the 2 rounds we were not in the running. The experienced partnership of Kay and Guinevere managed 5th place individually.

Having not taken part in the Style Jumping for a few years it was really a case of just having a go. It seemed that there were a few harsh marks awarded but having now seen the score sheets we should have a better idea of what is required next time but we still managed a team 6th! Carol Dunford did well but just missed out on a rosette. She went on to fly the flag in the Intermediate Jumping as Tomboy decided he was not feeling up to it on the day and did not want to perform. Unfortunately, in the second round, the scary wood adjacent to the arena, got the better of Carol's horse and she wasn't able to match her immaculate first round clear. Charlotte with Cedar and Holly with Danny probably had the worst of the day as it was really pouring by the time the class started at 5.45pm. Charlotte jumped the 1st round but after she left the arena was awarded 1 time penalty. Holly had a stop and also 1 time penalty – strange you may think! With two down apiece in the 2nd round neither were placed.

Open Horse Trials Qualifiers – Sun 1 Jul 07, Larkhill

<u>Blue - qualified</u>		<u>White</u>	
Sarah Butler	Annagh Trendy Velvet	Vanessa Martin	Dublin
Lorraine Storer	Jordan Hill	Cath Wheeler	Tango
Charlotte Springall	Folds Cedar	Annabel Mead	Vital Spark
Karen Baxter	Worth His Salt	Tacita Rolls	Kilmartin Jimmy

OK, so it had been raining a bit but Salisbury Plain is very free draining and the night before the qualifier, the going was perfect. Sadly, with the threat from English Nature that if the area was overly damaged when running a competition, NO further competitions would be allowed at Larkhill, the organisers made the decision on Saturday evening to cancel the event. Even more gutting was that Sunday was dry and breezy and it would have been superb. It was a Pony Club competition and we had been allowed to latch on a BRC Open Horse Trials Qualifier. Now the real problem was how we could get a team and individual from Area 17 qualified for the Championships in August with less than a month to go. As so many other events were being cancelled, Peter Buist came up with a solution by taking individual's most recent BE scores and adjusting them to take account of average dressage scores (same calculation used by BRC to come up with an overall champion across several arenas). Those with no BE form were given 1000

penalties. Luckily (or perhaps there was method in our team selection!) our Blue Team had 3 members with recent BE form. As the only team in this position, they "won"; our White team were allocated 4000 penalties and the Hampshire Rural team had a member disqualified as they had already competed in their Novice Horse Trials team! However, the latter did get the individual qualifier place. I think that Peter's reasoned selection was justified (better than the toss of a coin) judging by the team's performance at the championships but more of that later ...!!

Dressage Qualifiers – Sun 15 Jul 07, Lymington

<u>Novice Blue Team</u>		<u>Novice White Team – 2nd</u>		
Charlotte Springall	Folds Gretna Vow	Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds	5 th in A
Gill Young	Sunjeeb	Toni Barbour	Ishcol Chardyll	
Frances Hall	Trowan Max	Ruth Jacobson	Just Joey	4 th in B
Elizabeth Butler	Capriole Tejo	Charlotte Springall	Couleur H	
<u>Open Blue Team</u>		<u>Open White Team</u>		
Vanessa Martin	Dublin	N 21	Cathryn Petchey	Victor
Jane Ayre	Tobleroan	N 26	Laura Saxon	Jack in the Box II
Sally Lewis	Newbridge Mickey	N 30	Fen Hargreaves	Blue Grey Enchantment =5 th
			(nee Morris)	
Elizabeth Potter	Folkin Clarity	E 43	Charlotte Springall	Folds Cedar
<u>Pairs Dressage – =5th</u>		<u>Individual Medium</u>		
Carol Dunford	Sea of Diamonds	Elizabeth Peerless	Good as Gold	
Ruth Jacobson	Just Joey			

The response this year was even greater again, apparently across many Clubs much to the shock of the organising Club – New Forest RC. Again the bad weather was causing problems and with a few weeks to go, Brockenhurst was looking questionable as they had been unable to cut the hay off the land we usually use. Alison Russell and Peter Buist then set out to find an alternative. They came up with the fantastic location of Forest Farm, between Lymington and Barton-on-Sea, who could accommodate the qualifiers whatever the weather. The land was beautifully managed and the going quite superb. Our members produced some good tests although a distracted and cheeky Victor made Cathryn work much harder than she had expected to! Gill did exceptionally well to overcome her nerves and emotions, having lost her horse Bounty in a tragic accident a couple of weeks earlier, took up the reins of her daughter's event horse to ride a very reasonable test, which included an 8 for her entry. Carol and Ruth did a lovely pairs test, marred a little by Joey sticking his nose in the air at the first halt. Those watching thought they were in with a chance although possibly pipped by the pair of New Forest ponies. They woz robbed! Although the NF ponies did win the next 4 pairs finished on the same total and with technical scores being scrutinised next, Ruth and Carol ended up 5th! Definitely robbed! However, with this and others the club ended up with a good sprinkling of rosettes and the Novice White Team came 2nd. As there were 16 teams competing in this class the 1st and 2nd teams qualify for the Championships! So ... off we go again!!! (Shame Carol and Ruth can't do the Pairs as well while they are there!)

Afternote

The problems of the production and display of results have been raised at the Area 17 Liaison meeting. As a result some training will be laid on to enable all Clubs to share their "best practices". It also transpires that only Lindsay Hills feels capable of organising a ODE so we are endeavouring to pass on her knowledge and train others. It does mean that next year's horse trials qualifier will be an Area run event with Lindsay in the lead role but the key is that *others must learn*..

Susie Pool
BVRC Chef d'Equipe

Open Horse Trials Championships – Fri 3 – Sun 5 Aug 07, Offchurch Bury by Karen Baxter

<u>Open Team</u>	
Sarah Butler	Annagh Trendy Velvet
Lorraine Storer	Jordan Hill
Charlotte Springall	Folds Cedar
Karen Baxter	Worth His Salt

As said previously the road to the Championships was not a smooth one this year. We were thrilled to be going, but felt for the other teams and individuals who had not had their chance to try for qualification. Four weeks of increased training ensued, as the championship event is a long format three day event, requiring two phases of roads and tracks at trotting pace separated by a steeplechase course ridden as fast as you can. Then the ten minute box, where you dismount and let the horse cool down for a bit, before jumping back on to complete the cross country course. The difficulty of this course is set somewhere between a BE Novice and Intermediate course and the time is always very tight. I increased Salty's canter work and managed to fit in some flatwork and jumping lessons in the month before the off. However, the bad weather continued and ten days beforehand we were told that Offchurch was under water! Following that we heard that the steeplechase was cancelled as it was on the flood plain next to the river, but that the event should run without it. We had a team meeting at The Pheasant on the A30 and I met Lorraine Storer for the first time, Sarah Butler attended as well but Charlotte Springall couldn't make it as she was stuck at the New Forest show in all the mud! We planned what to take and that we would all travel up on the Thursday afternoon, the day before the event started, just to make sure we were organised for the all important trot up the next day, which you have to pass before you can compete.

I left the yard with Salty in a reasonably clean state, which is unusual as despite being a grey, he usually prefers to be brown and the rain this year has not helped me keep him clean. All our stuff for camping at the event filled the other half of the trailer. We thankfully had an uneventful trip up and arrived at about 5.30pm. Myself and my two helpers Steph and Lucy set up our camp and then I rode Salty in the lorry park. The girls had sorted Salty's stable by the time we had finished; he seemed quite pleased with his accommodation and started eating his hay in contentment.

A quiet night in camp followed with Susie, Sarah, Jane Butler, Steph and Lucy (although I did hear Steph and Lucy squabbling over the duvet in the middle of the night!). Sarah and I got up to feed our boys and Lorraine's Jordy at about 7am (Lorraine had made the probably wise decision to stay at a B&B). After a quick breakfast for us in camp we got the boys out of their stables to clean, plait and walk them to make sure they were loose for the trot up. All of the team passed the trot up with flying colours so the focus changed to the dressage test.

The tests were completed in 20 by 60m arenas on grass. The going was perfect. Each team member completed their test in a different arena. I was last to go and so managed to watch a couple of tests before getting Salty ready. He seemed quite chilled which was good as he only began to learn dressage a couple of years ago and can be quite strong in a snaffle. Lindsay had made the trip up for the day and watched all of the team members go. Salty warmed up quite well, but he can change as soon as he nears the dressage arena, pretending that he has never seen a marker before in his life! Luckily he behaved himself and despite being a bit tight in his neck through some of the movements, and not lengthening in trot as well as he can, I felt he did quite a nice test. We got 31.5 penalties which I was pleased with and were lying 8th in our section, but less than a show jump behind the leaders. Lorraine and Jordan Hill did the best dressage as she had around 32 penalties and was 3rd over night in her section. Charlotte was pleased with Folds Cedar's dressage (38.6 penalties) and Sarah achieved 41.5 penalties with Annagh Trendy Velvet. We were very pleased as the team were in about 6th place overnight and we knew the cross country was very influential.

Lorraine and I rode the roads and tracks in the evening to find our way for the next day, and Sarah cycled. The agreed format was to do phase A which was about 4km at a speed of 220 metres per minute and then come in to the 10 minute box before the cross country, to be ridden at 520 metres per minute. We all walked the cross country course about 3 times as it was quite technical in places and certainly up to height (1.10m). The fences that I felt needed most concentration from both horse and rider were: **number 5**, a hanging log with one stride to a step down into water, three strides in the water then a step up with three forward strides up a hill to a narrow but wide hedge; **number 9**, downhill to a very upright fence with two angled strides to an arrowhead; **number 12**, a hanging log on the top of an extremely steep bank (I'm talking almost Hickstead bank but taller!); **number 13**, a cube fence (narrow but wide); **number 15**, a downhill corner; **number 17**, a deep sunken road with one stride to a fence out; **number 18**, a wide but narrow hedge in the woods. Again, I was last to go for the team so I went off on the roads and tracks not knowing how we were doing. I had my plan for the cross country, it was to go fast and straight on all the options except fence 12, as no matter how many times I walked that fence, I could not picture myself riding it positively as I feared that Salty would not realise there was such a steep bank and we'd end up in a heap at the bottom of the hill! When I got to the 10 minute box, Susie met me and told me everyone in the team had gone clear so far. It was brilliant as it was not an easy course. I felt even more determined not to let them down and wanted a fast clear. Salty and I had completed the course clear last year with 32 time penalties, so I knew I needed to go faster this year. I remounted after the all clear from the vets and we were ready to go. Salty loves his cross country so the challenge is to time the entry to the start box just right as he does not like to wait in there. I walked in on the count of 2 and we were off! He flew the first few fences, I set him up for the water complex at 5 and he popped it like a pro. Then we sped up as we had a couple of breather fences before the complex at 9. He did that perfectly then popped the second water crossing and we were off up the hill towards my bogey fence number 12. I did the option fence and then rode him down the steep hill, which didn't ride as badly as I'd thought. He ballooned the trakhener at 13 and pinged over the cube fence. Then we turned for home. One more uphill stretch to the teddy bears picnic table, which was quite large. On to the downhill corner and then on to the sunken road where I could see Susie and Lindsay watching. There was a set up fence about 4 strides off the sunken road and I used this to steady Salty, apparently I gave Lindsay a worrying moment as we came in to that quite fast, but I knew Salty would set himself up after that fence. He popped the sunken road and then jumped the narrow hedge at 18 really neatly. Then we were off to the last two fences and then the finish. He finished with 9.5 time penalties which was brilliant, especially as we'd done the option at 12. Charlotte and Sarah had bravely gone direct over everything and had 13 and 22 time faults respectively. Lorraine had done the same option as me and gone straight everywhere else, finishing with 18 time faults. The time is very significant in the scoring at these championships and it certainly changed the ranking of the teams. We were lying 3rd as a team overnight which was amazing as it was such a challenging course.

We all had to pass the trot up the next morning to be able to continue on to the show jumping. This resulted in lots of walking the horses to loosen them up and some slightly nervous moments as you never know what the vets might notice that you haven't. Thankfully the whole team passed the trot up. We were to jump in reverse order of the overnight placings. The course was up to height in places and with most fences coming off a slight turn. The horses all jumped well but some fatigue or the result of jumping long and flat the day before came in to play. Charlotte, Sarah and Lorraine all had one fence down and Salty and I had two as we got a bit long and on the forehand down a hill. However, all the other teams were affected in a similar way, so incredibly we found out we had finished 2nd as a team! This was the best placing of a BVRC Open team ever! We were really pleased and got ready to attend the mounted prize giving. Salty also came third as an individual in our section which was great. I was so proud of him as he'd really tried. Lindsay and Susie were very pleased and stayed to watch the prize giving. We did our lap of honour as a team and then started to talk about doing it all again next year. The whole team had a fantastic time at the championships. Many thanks to Susie and Lindsay for all their help and support that enabled us to get to the championships and compete to the best of our abilities. Let's hope we can qualify to do it all again next year!

Diary Dates 2007

SEPTEMBER

- 2nd **BVRC Dressage & Show Jumping at Knighton Down, Larkhill**
4th **BVRC General Instruction, Diana Burgess, Castle Farm, Over Wallop, 10.30am**
8th **BRC National Championships, Lincoln Showground**
9th **BVRC Novice Show & Riding Club Horse Competition, Ampport Riding Centre, 10.30am**
12th **BVRC XC Instruction, Diana Burgess, Dene Farm, Nether Wallop, 10.30am**
16th **BVRC Hunter Trial at Knighton Down, Knighton Down, Larkhill**
16th Ampport Horse Show
19th **BVRC General Instruction, Diana Burgess, Castle Farm, Over Wallop, 10.30am**
30th Chilworth RC Hunter Trial at Dene Farm, Nether Wallop, Nr Stockbridge

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The Secretary, Oakbank, 96 Rolleston Road,
Holbury, Southampton, SO45 2GZ or
www.chilworth.fsworld.co.uk

OCTOBER

- 3rd **BVRC General Instruction, Diana Burgess, Castle Farm, Over Wallop, 10.30am**
7th The Army & Royal Artillery Hunter Trial, Knighton Down, Larkhill
13th **BVRC Physiotherapy Lecture-Demonstration – Castle Farm Indoor School, 2-4pm**
14th Wilton Hunt Hunter Trial at Tenantry Farm, Rockbourne
17th **BVRC General Instruction, Diana Burgess, Castle Farm, Over Wallop, 10.30am**
21st RA Hunt Ride – approx 10 miles with 20 jumps/obstacles in the east of Salisbury Plain
31st **BVRC General Instruction, Diana Burgess, Castle Farm, Over Wallop, 10.30am**

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NOVEMBER

- 3rd RA Hunt Opening Meet, The Royal Artillery Mess, Larkhill, 11am
9th **BVRC Annual General Meeting, Red Lion, Clanville, Nr Weyhill, 7.30 for 8pm.**
30th **BVRC Xmas Party, Jade Cottage Chinese Restaurant, Bridge St, Andover**
tbc **BVRC Xmas Ride**

Sandra Groves 01264 396390

Sandra Groves 01264 396390

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I enclose £20 for General Instruction with Diana Burgess at 10.30am on Tuesday 4th September at Castle Farm, Over Wallop.

Name Tel No

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Please reply by Thursday 13th September

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