



Maidstone & District Riding Club - Newsletter July 2010

M&DRC Website

Don't forget to keep checking our website www.maidstoneridingclub.co.uk for all the latest news, results, membership information, photos, contact details, diary pages and schedules.

Wendy Neath is currently responsible for updating and adding to the site - please email any items in either pdf or word format (photos should be in jpeg format) to wendy.neath@btinternet.com

A plea from BRC Head Office

Please can you make sure that Club members send us (and yourselves!) their new address should they move house. We have had a huge amount of Rider magazines returned recently due to being sent to the wrong address. If people ring to request a Rider magazine should they not have received one, we then have to pay the postage twice. New addresses can either be sent to e.baldwin@bhs.org.uk or Rhianne in membership r.pettifor@bhs.org.uk

Many Thanks
Emma Baldwin

NEWS/RESULTS

Third Show in the Series - Saturday 22nd May, Street Farm, Burham, Rochester ME1 3RL

The Club is grateful to Wendy Neath for hosting the third show in our Dressage Championships, our judges - Sarah Leggat, Carol Rennison and Sam Mabb and all those who helped before and on the day. The results were:-

BD intro test B (2009)

1 st	Gemma Swift	Pacer
2 nd	Dee Trustman	Blue
3 rd	Rebecca Kennedy	Leo
4 th	Viv Simmonds	Grays Alejandro
5 th	Sue Barnett	Magic
6 th	Teresa Snowden	Teddy

Prelim 4 (2002)

1 st	Bill Fox	Monty
2 nd	Diane Williams	Dun & Dusted
3 rd	Mel Honey	Hess
4 th	Roo King	Bernard
5 th	Sheila Bishop	Shannagh
6 th	Sarah Leggat	Patsy

Prelim 12 (2005)

1 st	Melanie Jones	Drifter
2 nd	Diane Williams	Dun & Dusted
3 rd	Kay Lockyer	Mattie
4 th	Caryn Barrington Vowles	Rivers Town Boy
5 th	Melissa Marien	Flynn
6 th	Bill Fox	Monty

Novice 27 (2007)

1 st	Melanie Jones	Drifter
2 nd	Sarah Wallace	Medley Michigan
3 rd	Martin Cotton	Mr Darcy
4 th	Jo Cottee	Premium Blonde
5 th	Caryn Barrington Vowles	Rivers Town Boy
6 th	Diana Ireland Blackburne	Milly

Novice 36 (2002)

1 st	Sarah Wallace	Medley Michigan
2 nd	Jo Cottee	Premium Blonde
3 rd	Diana Ireland Blackburne	Milly
4 th	Martin Cotton	Mr Darcy
5 th	Kay Lockyer	Mattie

We look forward to seeing you at the last two shows in the series at Manor Farm, East Sutton on the 4th July and the 4th September. Schedules can be downloaded from the Club website.

Karen Newman and Marion Bush

Horse Trials Team Qualifier, Borde Hill - 20th June

We sent three teams to this area qualifier event at Borde Hill's British Eventing course - the novice team of Mel Jones, Lizzie Burden, Michelle Yeo and Wendy Thomas all had good dressage results, a few poles in the show jumping here and there, and only one run out XC between them all. Everyone completed this testing course in style, and the team came 8th out of 18, in a tough competition.

Our Intermediate team were only three in number - Sally Sharp, Louise King and Jenny Hutchinson. Unfortunately Sally's horse lost a shoe which meant she did not go XC - despite valiant attempts to find a farrier nearby and get it put back on, so the team were unplaced. However, both Louise and Jenny had double clears, and Jenny's cracking fast round in the XC gave her an individual third.

Our Open team were also only three and won it! Well done to Sharon Polding (also individual 1st), Sophie Leaney (also individual 2nd) and Naomi Henderson (individual ... yes you've guessed it 3rd) - we couldn't have had a better result. There were four other competitors in the section - but they were no match for our ladies!

Finally - our junior novice individual - Jess Hawkes. This was the biggest course Jess and her young steed had attempted, a reasonable dressage and only one pole SJ and a clear XC coming (frustratingly) 7th - just outside the ribbons.

Well done to all our team competitors, and thank you for all your efforts to get there and provide Maidstone with very creditable results.

There were also some non-team classes and one of our members took part in the 80 cms class - Alex Taskin, who had a fair dressage, only one pole SJ and one fence penalty in the XC, but completed the course despite her nerves. I'm sure it was a great learning curve for things to come later!

We were lucky to have perfect weather for the day and everyone enjoyed the day - and all the horses and riders rose to the challenge in their respective classes. Well done all.

If anyone is thinking they might like to do the teams in a future year - the fundamental thing is to get some practice in. There is an unaffiliated one day event at Borde Hill over the weekend of the 2nd/3rd October - they are running classes from 80 cms upwards. This is a great opportunity to get some experience, and have a good look at the courses. See www.brcaarea10.org.uk for details.

Finally - thanks to all our helpers who came to assist the club running the show jumping arena - I'm sorry I haven't got all your names to hand, but your assistance was very much appreciated and everyone did a most professional job.

Wendy Thomas
Cross Country Teams Organiser

Area 10 Style and Show Jumping Qualifiers, Felbridge - Sunday 13th June 2010

The Club sent two teams to Felbridge, the Novice Team of Sarah Howe (Tomahawk), Karen Newman (Odin Af Valhalla), Michelle Yeo (Ringo) and Brenda Hawkes (Rolo) and the Intermediate Team of Jenny Hutchinson (Bailey), Melanie Jones (Drifter) and Elizabeth Burden (Spring Ed). Thank you to the team members for all their efforts, unfortunately neither team were placed - better luck next time!

Marion Bush
Show jumping Teams Organiser

M&DRC Weekend Camp, Coldblow Farm - 25th - 27th June 2010.

On Friday 25th June 10 ladies with an assortment of equines from cobs to warmbloods turned up at Cold Blow Farm for a weekend camp, we were fortunate to have lovely weather, maybe a bit too hot for intensive riding!

After settling in the horses on Friday we set off for a hack, which started out eventful but for those who continued proved to be successful and we all made it back safely.

Saturday morning we were split into two groups for a flatwork lesson with Zoe Colgate, during which we all received individual teaching with the chance to pick an area that we wanted to work on. Everyone found this session helpful particularly to relax your contact by just holding the reins with your ring fingers as this meant that other parts of your arm relaxed and helped our horses go better.

Saturday afternoon we had showjumping with John Smart, we did gridwork and progressed to jumping higher and more complicated grids. We found John

entertaining and also very informative. Most gained confidence from the saying that the entry into the grid was just a trot to canter transition and nothing more.

After a long hot day of riding we were provided with a Pilates session with Joy, this was much needed after all those lessons, we worked on a range of exercises and stretches, most were new to this but found this interesting and several people were hoping to take this up on a more permanent basis to help their riding.

Sunday morning was cross country with Wendy Neath, which proved popular particularly as a few of the horses had never seen cross country jumps. We started off jumping individual jumps, then put a couple together and eventually a mini course at the end. We found this a good confidence building schooling session.

Sunday lunchtime was a nice pub lunch at The Dirty Habit, which again was much needed after the Cross Country.

Our accommodation in the barn was good with us all having a bedroom each if we wanted! The kitchen and washing facilities were also nice as long as you remembered to take lots of 20 pences.

On behalf of everyone I would like to thank Zoe, John and Wendy for teaching us all as we all felt we had gained something from attending the camp.

I would particularly like to thank Kate Connell for her tireless hard work and months of preparation that went into organising the camp. The home made food was all lovely; definitely Kate's home-made white chocolate ice cream deserves a special mention!

As a newish member I thought the camp was a good opportunity to meet new people, I found everyone so nice, friendly and welcoming. I look forward to seeing some of the photos and hopefully doing it all again another time. Finally I would like to congratulate everyone on the fact that there were no falls over the weekend although there were several really well sat bucks.

Sarah Hall and Kalli

FORTHCOMING EVENTS/TRAINING

Kent County Show - Saturday 17th July 2010

If you are at the County Show on Saturday please lend your support to the M&DRC team. Hopefully, they will be in fine form and will return with the trophy again!

Marion Bush
Show jumping Teams Organiser

Riding Test Clinics

Some members may not have heard of these - some might have been put off by the idea of being judged on their riding. Let's face it - we have all come out of an arena at some point and blamed things on the horse!

But if you think of Riding Tests and the training that goes with it as a way of improving those dressage scores, you might see them in a different light. The new tests for 2010 encourage you to think about and prepare the movements. There are lots of transitions, unlike the older tests that just looked like dressage tests.

Our club has always done quite well at these competitions but there is always room to improve, so we are running training as below. We'd like to encourage you to enter the Riding Test Classes at our Manor Farm Show in September. As a guide if you are happy riding Prelim dressage then Novice RT is within your reach, and Adv RT corresponds to Novice/Elem dressage. Clinics will be at Street Farm.

Area 10 are subsidising some of this training for MDRC and other clubs, so you can have 1 session at the special rate of £10. Any further lessons will be £20 for an individual lesson or £15 each for a shared lesson - you can either find your own buddy or I might be able to match you up. I also have copies of the new tests - ask me when you see me or send an s.a.e.

Forthcoming clinics

Saturday 10th July - afternoon

Tuesday 13th July - afternoon/evening (to replace Thursday 15th July)

If none of these dates suit then other times can be arranged for at least 2 riders.

Please contact Wendy Neath (BRC List 2 Riding Test Judge). Tel. 07802 676896 or email

wendy.neath@btinternet.com

Important Notice!

Street Farm events and rallies

They may be called rallies but no need to rally drive!!

When you arrive at Street Farm PLEASE take great care as you drive in around the corner into the car park. Thank you

Neil Boorman Clinics

The Neil Boorman SJ Clinics are held at Duckhurst Farm, Staplehurst on Friday afternoons/evenings. Sessions at 4.00 pm, 5.30 pm and 7.00 pm. £18.00 per session.

Forthcoming clinics

16th July

20th August

For more information please contact Julie Offen 01233 770330.

Leanne Wall Clinics

Flatwork clinics are held every other Wednesday (late mornings) at Vane Farm, Smarden TN27 8PN. Contact Julie Offen 01233 770330 for more details or Leanne Wall 07711 287121 to book your place. Each session costs £14 for ½ hour and £21 for ¾ hour (individual lessons) or £14 each for a shared one hour session.

Polework/Jumping Rallies with Wendy Neath at Street Farm, Burham, Rochester ME1 3RL

Suitable for all levels, nervous / novice upwards. Usual format is 3 or more groups of up to 4 riders 1 hour each. Occasionally smaller/larger groups will have a shorter/longer session, and start/finish times will be adjusted. Sessions are not always held in order of height. The emphasis is on poles, grids and exercises to encourage athleticism and confidence, and both competitors and non competitive riders are welcome

Please note that Saturday sessions will run generally morning to early afternoon due to parking constraints. There may occasionally be early slots for 1 or 2 people sharing with my livery clients

Tuesday rallies are held most weeks at 12 noon. They have become known as 'The over 50's' but are for anyone young at heart who enjoys jumping and has a sense of humour!

Please contact Wendy if you want to know more.

Forthcoming clinics

Tuesdays at 12 noon. Tues afternoon/eve by arrangement

Saturday 10th July - morning

Saturday 24th July - morning

Saturday 7th August

Saturday 21st August

Parking at Street Farm is a poo free zone! Please pick up droppings - you can put them on our muck heap.

How to book your place on rallies/clinics.

If you are a first time participant, send a response form & cheque payable to Wendy Neath with the requested information plus an email address. Include any further relevant information such as any time preferences. Once you have attended a rally you can book by email and pay on the day.

For a weekend rally/clinic I will do times on Monday or Tuesday to email out but it would be very helpful if you would book in sooner rather than later.

Payment of £13 to Wendy Neath is now on the day (cash preferred but cheque if this is not possible). If you cancel after I have done times then you may be expected to pay if your place is not filled.

I will be adding more rallies - if you are not already receiving email updates (for rallies and quadrille practices) and would like them, please email me to be included.

Please contact Wendy Neath, Street Farm, Burham, Rochester ME1 3RL. Tel. 07802 676896 Email wendy.neath@btinternet.com

Style Jumping Clinics

will be incorporated in the usual club training at Street Farm. Please let me know when you book in if this is something you might be interested in.

Dressage Championships 2010

The Club holds a series of shows (five this year) at which Club members can gain points. Rosettes are awarded to 6th place in each class in the normal way but, in addition, the best 5 show results for each horse/rider combination will count towards the Championship.

A win earns 30 points, 2nd place 28 points and so on down the results order to 15th place earning 2 points. The points will be displayed at each show and on the website so that competitors can track their position throughout the show series.

For the Championship - a Challenge Trophy and Championship rosettes to 6th place will be presented. (kindly sponsored by Birchalls Riding Shop). Championship winners will be invited to the presentation at the 2010 AGM.

Birchalls Riding Shop will also award a show rug to the Most Improved Combination over the 2010 series. This award will be judged by panel consisting of Show Organisers, Dressage Judges and Vicki Thew (representative from Birchalls). The winner will be invited to receive this award at the AGM.

Championship Points So Far

Sarah Wallace	Medley Michigan	118
Kay Lockyer	Muschamps Malibu	110
Jo Cottee	Premium Blonde	104
Diana Ireland Blackburne	Milly	102
Caryn Barrington Vowles	Rivers Town Boy	100
MeI Honey	Hess	96
Martin Cotton	Mr Darcy	84
Ann Moon	As Time Goes By	84
Bill Fox	Monty	74
Hilary Moon	As Time Goes By	72

Final Show in the Series - Saturday 4th September 2010 at Manor Farm, East Sutton

This will be a combined show with clear round jumping and classes for pure dressage, dressage with show jumping and riding test classes including:-

- BD intro test B (2009)
- Prelim 4 (2002)
- Prelim 12 (2005)
- Novice Riding Test 14
- Novice Riding Test 24
- Novice 28 (2008)
- Elem 42 (2008)

Entry Fee for M&DRC members - £6.50 (£8.50 Non Members)

Schedules available to download from our website or email meryl.honey@mypostoffice.co.uk or telephone Meryl on 07840 542343 for a copy

ADVERTS

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