



MEON RIDING CLUB

1968 - 2008

NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 2008

WINTER DRESSAGE QUALIFIER RESULTS

(report from team manager Jan Desty)

Sixteen teams came forward to compete at the Qualifier, held at Sparsholt on 20th January, with one team to qualify for the Championships. After all the wet weather, it was a relief to have a dry, if a bit chilly, windy day.

Each team consisted of 4 members, 2 riding Prelim 12 and 2 riding Nov 27, with the best three placings to count.

Each of these classes was split into two sections, a & b.

Team placings were as follows

1st	4pts	NFPE GOLD
2nd	10pts	MEON STARS
3rd	14pts	SHILLINGSTONE
4th	15pts	MEON DIAMONDS

(full results on Area 17 website)

Our teams and any placings were:-

MEON STARS

Helen Vernon – Monaco Finale	P12a	3rd
Jenny Naylor-Davis – Red Alert	P12b	3rd
Kirsty Bright – Just In Case	N27a	5th
Carol Alford – Beejay Two	N27b	

MEON DIAMONDS

Anne Evans – Kilcotty Jim	P12a	
Debbie Dean – Chablis Z	P12b	5th
Sarah Pook – Balfours Bay	N27a	3rd
Jane McGibbon – Hayward Mac	N27b	

Although we did not qualify we did extremely well and were the only club to get 2 teams in the first 4. Our dressage performances seem to be improving; perhaps Rose has had a hand in some of our members' improved placings! Thank you to all of you for such a splendid effort. Also thank you to Dick King and Sarah Bright who were our volunteers for the day.

WINTER LEAGUE RESULTS

Placings in the team classes also counted towards our Winter League score. Members were also well-placed in the individual classes, enabling us to increase our lead to 5 points. Congratulation to:-

Jenny Naylor-Davis – Red Alert	P14	4th	5pts
Carol Alford – Beejay Two	N36	6th	3pts
Barbara Wood- Simply Seamus	E50	2nd	7pts

Carol Alford had a particularly good day, and is now lying in second place in the individual league table. The third leg of the Winter League is Show Jumping on 23 February, so I hope all our competitors have sent their entries in.

DRESSAGE TO MUSIC DEMONSTRATION

Sara Green of British Dressage gave us an interesting and informative afternoon at Crofton on 26 January, with the help of some 'guinea-pigs' from the Club. She started by going through the basics of measuring the tempo of your horse, and finding music to match his gaits. Then she went on to discuss how the music could express his personality, and enhance his performance. Its difficult to find, but the right music can transform an ordinary performance into a showstopper! Dressage to Music is freestyle, although you have to include a number of set movements. You can be inventive about where in the arena you do these, and how you link them together, and Sara gave us some ideas to try out. The afternoon finished with performances by Sam Seagrave, who represented us at the BRC Dressage to Music Championships last year, and by Dawn Vear on Kilncopse Eclipse and Mandy Pidgley on Longcopse Elton, from the New Forest Pony Enthusiasts, who were second in the Pairs class there. Our thanks to all our riders, and to Sarah Pook who organised this demonstration.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOVICE INDOOR SHOW JUMPING QUALIFIER,

SUN. 1 MARCH, KINGSTON MAURWARD.

Ten volunteers came forward for this event, so we have been able to enter two teams. There is no individual class on this schedule, so only eight riders will be able to compete. Its nice to have some reserves in case things go wrong, as they so often do with horses! The final selection won't be made until the last minute, and we hope to see all the 'possibles' in action at the Winter League Show Jumping to help with this difficult decision.

MRC 40TH. ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, SOBERTON VILLAGE HALL, FRI.14 MARCH

The pre-season dinner has been a popular addition to our programme in recent years, and this year we are combining it with a celebration to mark the Meon Riding Club's fortieth anniversary. We do hope as many members, old and new, will come to this special event, together with their partners (human), friends, relatives or anyone else who is good company! There will be a licensed bar, live music, a hot buffet supper, birthday cake, raffle, and the chance to meet new friends or catch up with old ones. Tickets are £15 per person to cover the cost of the food which is being provided by The White Lion, Soberton, which supplies excellent home-cooked food, mostly locally sourced. You will also have to buy your own drinks, but the Club is covering all other costs, so you can enjoy a good night out without breaking the bank. Obviously we need to know numbers for catering purposes, so please complete the slip overleaf, and return with your cheque made payable to Meon R.C. Prizes for raffle welcomed:- give to a Committee member, or bring on the night.

INTRODUCTION TO ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE, LOWER PEAKE, 1 APRIL 6.00-7.30P.M.

Mrs Gillian Cooke, an approved Alexander technique teacher, will give a practical demonstration, to help you improve your posture and performance. The venue is indoors but unheated, so please dress warmly. Admission £7, in advance only. To book, contact Mrs. A. Evans, Hinton Manor Cottage, Catherington, Waterlooville, PO80QW, email: rmwevans(at)aol.com; tel.023 92 595947.

BHS ACCESS TRAINING DAY, WARNFORD VILLAGE HALL, 6 APRIL 10.00A.M-4.00P.M.

Not enough places to ride near you? Come along and learn how you can help improve off-road access in your area. Refreshments will be provided, all completely free, so we need numbers for catering purposes. Names please to Brenda King, 01730 264178, email:wheelers.farm(at)tiscali.co.uk.

AREA CROSS-COUNTRY QUALIFIER,

ROCKBOURNE, 19 APRIL

The volunteer form for this was sent out last month. Apologies, but I put down the wrong team manager - it should have been Andrea Bishop, not Penny Briggs. Replies have been forwarded to Andrea, but prospective team members should keep in contact with her, email:andrea(at)bishes.fsnet.co.uk;tel:01489 894227.

MRC OPEN DRESSAGE DAY,

CROFTON, 27 APRIL

Your schedule for this is enclosed. We shall need a few helpers as writers, stewards etc. Volunteers please to the Secretary.

TRAINING

Show jumping classes are full for the current sessions. Individual Dressage lessons can be fitted in with Rose Seagrave at Widley on Mondays, or at Ashlands on Saturdays. Please contact Barbara Wood, email: barbara(at)ashlands.me.uk, or tel:01489 877398. Cross-country training is resuming soon; see enclosed sheet.

2008 AREA QUALIFIERS

The date of the Horse Trials qualifier has been confirmed as 13 July, for Novice and Intermediate levels only. No Open qualifier is yet available. Details of this and other qualifiers are shown on the enclosed sheet. If you are interested in representing the Club at any of these events, please complete and return.

MRC ANNUAL SHOW,

THORNEY ISLAND, 18 MAY

Please note change of venue. The schedule is now being prepared. More details next month.

NB Booking Form for our 40th Celebration evening is on next page >>>>

MRC Anniversary Celebration Booking Form Friday 14 March

Name

Contact details

No of Tickets @ £15

Any special dietary requirements:

I enclose chq for £

(made payable to Meon Riding Club)

Please send to R King, Wheelers Farm. Froxfield, Petersfield, GU32 1DR