



NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2017

From the Chair.....

Hi all

Where is this year going all ready? I hope that you are all enjoying the lighter nights, and getting plenty of riding in. Some of our members are out showing very successfully congrats to all of them especially Sue Fewes who has a lorry load qualified for RIHS.

To every one going out competing a big well done to you all, send us some stories of what you are getting up too.

We have our 10th camp this month and we will have a story to tell I'm sure when we return. This is a big step up for Coco and I so fingers crossed all goes well – eek me thinks a lot of toilet breaks will be needed and big pants lol.

Hopefully you all steer clear of the laminitis, but be on your guard for any signs. Enjoy your horses and stay safe.

Jane & Coco

VHPRC

Open show & VETERAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday 24th September 2017

@ Leyland Court

If you can help, or know someone who can, please get in touch

Sponsors still needed.

Contact: anyone on the Committee!!! ☺

We hold our meetings on the first Wednesday of the month

NEW VENUE FROM JUNE 2017

The Griffin

107 London Road, Bristol, BS30 5JN

SUNDAY APRIL 30TH DRESSAGE CHAMPS

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS. IT IS REALLY A PLEASURE TO WATCH SO MANY PEOPLE IMPROVING AND ENJOYING OUR WINTER DRESSAGE SERIES FULL RESULTS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE, BUT OUR CHAMPION OF THE DAY WERE AS FOLLOWS!!

- Ruby Thompson riding Cadno - Grassroots WGT
- Tila Winstone riding Chippolini - Res WGT
- Leah Woodward riding He`s Just Jack - Res Prelim
- Kathy Hooper riding Princetown Boy - Veteran Horse
- Kim Saunders riding Diesel - Mature Rider
- Charlotte Alford riding Josie - Open Prelim
- Charlotte Alford riding Izzy - Open Novice

HUGE CONGRATULATION TO OUR POINTS WINNER

KELLIE CLARE WELL DONE KELLIE

YOU ARE HAVING A GREAT YEAR!!

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW SEPT 24TH 2017

QUALIFIERS HELD AT THE FOLLOWING SHOWS!! GOOD LUCK EVERYONE X

24 th June	Stretcholt
25 th June	Berkeley show
2 nd July	Congresbury show
2 nd July	Trowbridge & District
8 th July	Mendip Plains
8 th July	Fairfield Farm
9 th July	SWPA
9 th July	Cadnam show
9 th July	Ashton Show
22 nd July	Stretcholt
23 rd July	Whitfield charity show
23 rd July	Avon Vale Hunt
5 th Aug	Eastington
6 th Aug	Cadnam
20 th Aug	Stretcholt
20 th Aug	Mendip Plains
20 th Aug	Avon & Borders
20 th Aug	Cadnam
3 rd Sept	Tumpy Green
3 rd Sept	Cadnam show

2018 DATES:

16 th Sept	Stretcholt
16 th Sept	Foxham
17 th Sept	Cadnam

Keep checking the website for more dates which have been added

We look forward to seeing you at the Championship show!!

Guest speaker: Terhi Ikenon

Wednesday 3rd MAY 2017

This really was a pleasure, and so beneficial to any dressage riders!!

Terhi came along with her daughter who did a great job on the laptop and assisting her Mother with the presentation. I can honestly say that members were glued to their seats and didn't want to miss one word!! Terhi is a grade 4 listed judge and told us how she herself likes to judge, and when judging most of her attention is on the horse itself. We could have listened to Terhi all night.

Terhi told us how she likes to see a horse or pony ridden in a dressage test, she really wants to see that the horse or pony is enjoying the job and moving forward freely with purpose. We picked up so many tips and pointers, and the best thing of all is Terhi teaches and is willing to hold clinics, so Jane is currently arranging dates.

A huge thank you to Terhi for coming, and a big thankyou to Jane Jones for providing us with another great guest speaker.

Forthcoming Guest speakers:

- Wednesday 5th July – Chris English – Alexander Technique
- **PLEASE KEEP CHECKING VHPRC WEBSITE FOR FUTURE GUEST SPEAKERS**

Who Am I??

This is a photo of one of our Committee members....can you guess who it is????



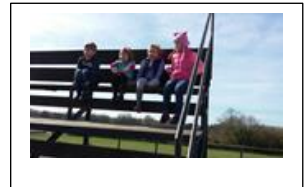
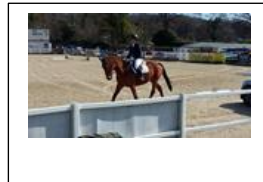
Cricklands Winter League Finals 2017

Having qualified at the eleventh hour, Jess and I travelled to Cricklands on Saturday morning.....but not together! Typically, having been perfectly behaved the previous weekend, I found that the lorry batteries were completely flat. So, Sue Fews kindly hitched up her trailer, Peach was loaded with all her gear and Jess went off to get there in time for her first class, while Mike and Ian managed to heroically buy new batteries and fit them, all by 10 o'clock. After fuelling up, I flew down the motorway (fastest the lorry has ever been), arrived at Cricklands, abandoned the lorry with the dogs still in the cab and legged it round to the warm up arena, literally as Jess was called, in time to call her warm up test for her!

After all that tension, rather than doing my marking which I had promised myself I would do, it seemed much more appropriate to relax with a glass, or two, of wine with Deb and Charlotte, Sam, and the children....who seemed intent on exhausting all the dogs by doing dog agility. Widget and Pickle, not being used to doing this, were only slightly traumatised. Deb decided to join in, but Poppy her collie got a little excited so Deb ended up wearing protective clothing!



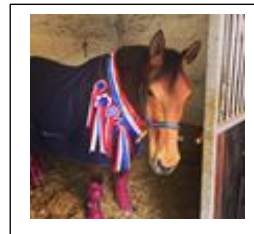
After a bit of a relax and laughter, Jess tacked up Peach and went down to warm up for her finals class. This went really well (she ended up with a 3rd and 7th), and as Charlotte had already done both her tests, we all decided to go up to the club house for something to eat. Sadly there wasn't a disco- however that didn't faze Daisy and Darcey who made the most of the space with all the other children. The food and drinks took their toll, and being the clubbers that we are, we wandered off back to the lorries and were in bed by half past 9!



The next morning brought a new trauma....Peach had come up in lumps all over her body! So Jess withdrew her from the warm up and we watched Charlotte do hers. Jess considered whether to go ahead with the finals class, but we decided to give it a go. Unfortunately, a mix up with times meant we were ready for 12.30, only to be told that her revised time was 2.15. So back in the box went lumpy Peach, and we hung around until the new time. The first half of the test was quite nice, walk and trot, but as soon as Jess asked for canter, it was obvious that Peach wasn't comfortable, so sensibly Jess came back to walk and withdrew from the test. A shame, as looking over the judge's shoulder when I explained why, I could see she had some pretty good marks- but that's the way it goes sometimes.

Charlotte did her finals test and Izzy looked fabulous....not as easy a ride as it appears, but they are a fabulous partnership and Charlotte rode her through her novice test really calmly. As Peach was under the weather, we decided to head home, but Deb stayed with Charlotte and all the family, and we were thrilled to hear that Charlotte had won gold! Kelly, also from the VHPRC, won bronze, so a brilliant weekend for the club.

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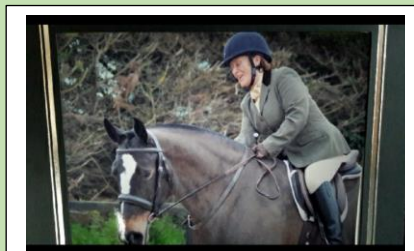
Peach was examined by the vet the following week- it's believed that she might have infected hair follicles which, when she gets hot, spreads the bacteria over her skin which then reacts badly. So she has been having special washes and we will have to see how quickly we can get rid of it 😞

UPDATE.....Peach has fully recovered from her strange lumps and is quite well 😊

Rabson Manor

Well done to our members who competed for the club at Rabson Manor for Area 9 dressage: *Jane Jones, Sue Hocking, Tess Bryer, Kathleen Griffiths, Charlotte Alford and Rebecca Jones.*

It was a long way to travel, and we weren't placed as a team but everyone had a really good day and some great individual scores.



Trooper - Out and About

I decided that it was time I started getting Trooper out and about to see what the big wide world was all about so chose the VHPRC dressage in February as our first outing and I had promised to take another horse from our yard so he would have some company. On the morning they both loaded happily and travelled the short distance to Woodfield stables without too much trouble – although his travel companion JJ did have some balance issues. We arrived and it was clear that the usual brave Trooper that hacks out past buses, lorries and cherry pickers without batting an eyelid was totally confused by this new situation. So much so that I wasn't even sure I would get on board!! JJ went off to warm up which upset Trooper even more but I did eventually tack him up and walk him about until he calmed down a little. The judge was late arriving so I had the opportunity to walk him round the arena past the mirrors. He was clearly unsettled still but I did get on board. Our time came and I walked him round the arena just once but my courage failed me as he felt like he would hare off at any moment. So not how I imagined he would be but he saw some new things and travelled well.

In May Jason Webb – Australian Horsemanship - came to our yard to work with Trooper and my friends horse Del for the day. We learnt lots and had a great day and I feel more confident in handling Trooper on the ground (or so I thought). I may write an article on that for the next newsletter.

With new handling skills I decided Trooper's next outing would be to a local show –DJL at Keynsham Rugby ground – travelling on his own. He was gleaming after his morning bath with the white bits very white. I was only going to do one class – Coloured In Hand –with the idea of getting him used to the environment. Once again he travelled well and seemed reasonably calm although it was a very busy show with lots of noise and things to see and take in. It was also clear that it was going to be a long wait for our class as there were lots of entries. My friend Jo had come with me for which I was very grateful as twice things got a little too much for him and blew his brains a little. So despite my new handling skills he twice got away from me and raced off 12ft line flapping behind him. He is however very easy to catch as he only runs off about 50m and then puts his head down to eat!

My class eventually started and thankfully now being amongst other horses he behaved impeccably even managing to stand still when required. The class was split into large and small and he was awarded a 5th rosette. That was enough for Trooper's first big show and we loaded him and travelled home and he was very pleased to be back.

For his next outing I chose a smaller local show at Springwater that we could hack to and would be quieter. Another bath and a clean Trooper and off we went with my friend Jo once again accompanying me riding Trooper while I rode Bertha as nurse maid – he managed to poo all down his clean feathers! This time he was a lot less stressed but it was a much quieter show. We did the 'Traditional Cob' in hand class and once again he was a very good boy and came 1st which I was very pleased with.

I am hoping to get him out and about to more shows this summer so he gets used to a show atmosphere and starts to settle more. Hopefully then we can progress to some ridden shows in the future.



I have purchased the above photo –thanks to Tanya Lansdown for the lovely photo – the other two are taken by Jo Dicken – many thanks.



New Arrival!!



It's a boy!!!!

Hooray, Laura has had her baby!! We all send love and congratulations to Laura and Tom on the birth of baby Ethan who was born on 22nd May, weighing 8.2oz, a gorgeous little brother for Kieran.

Laura you have been such a trooper, your hard work and hours spent with running the dressage series is so appreciated by all, please sit back and enjoy your time with your family, and we look forward to seeing you soon, and managing our Teams.





Member of the month for May 2017
TERESA GREEN!!



We heard you were amazing at a recent visit to
Mendip Plains, well done to you! xx

RALLIES WITH ANTHONY PERKINS ARE SO
QUICK TO FILL SO PLEASE SPEAK TO GILL TO
AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

STOP PRESS - KATHY IS ORGANISING A MINI CAMP AT
STONAR IN OCT. FULL DETAILS OUT VERY SOON OR FOR MORE
INFORMATION CONTACT KATHY ON 07981 865236

TACK SHOP CLUB MEMBERS DISCOUNT

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU COULD BE ENTITLED TO DISCOUNT AT LOCAL TACK SHOPS!!

Chris Puddys and Patrick Pinker are known to oblige but do note this can be selective and some items excluded such as saddles. It's worth asking at any other tack shop, and always remember to take your riding club card with you !!

If you have any information or photographs you would like published in the newsletter please forward them on to me.

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