



Club and Associated Dates

Sunday 6th November – Indoor Show Jumping Training - Milesfield
Wednesday 9th November – OBH RC AGM and Social Evening
Sunday 4th December – Indoor Show Jumping Training – Milesfield
Sunday 12th February – Indoor Show Jumping Training - Milesfield
Sunday 10th March – Indoor Show Jumping Training - Milesfield

NEWSLETTER October 2011

Dear Members,

Do come to the AGM – locally we have an amateur three day event rider who this year competed at both Badminton and Burghley with clear rounds at both - beating a number of professionals at their own game. We are pleased to welcome Joy Dawes to come and share her experiences with us.

On the horsey front, I hope you all enjoyed the last hurrah of summer and managed to get out and ride in the sunshine. It was unseasonably warm but none the less welcome for that, although the drop to more normal temperatures this week does make it seem very cold.

Congratulations to everyone who went to Mattingley for the London and South East Champs. We had a fun day with some very good performances. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Congratulations too, to Anna Streeter who became the National Dressage to Music Champion at Aintree last weekend. It was a fantastic result and testament to the amount of work she and Eve have done with Masai who is a little superstar. A brilliant result – well done.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Liz

OBH RIDING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2011

This year's AGM will be held on Wednesday 9th November at 7.30pm and Antonia Thoday has kindly organised for it to be at Chesham Grammar School again with much thanks to Philip Wayne the headmaster. We hope to see a large number of you there to have your say on how the club is run. An agenda for the AGM accompanies this newsletter but some of the items that will be covered are the club finances, changes to committee positions and awarding of trophies. You will also have the opportunity to renew your membership at the AGM.

In addition to the business side of the AGM there will also be a raffle, food and drink and a guest speaker. Our guest speaker will be the talented local rider Joy Dawes who will be talking us through her successful eventing season, predominantly focussing on her fantastic results at Badminton and Burghley.

We hope to see you all there and **please remember to bring any trophies** you might have been lucky enough to win last year (preferably polished and engraved with your name)!

OBH RC OPEN HORSE TRIALS REPORT

The OBH RC Open One Day Event on 28th August, held at Shire Lane (by kind permission of Jeff Bell and Linda Rogers), was a huge success; with the number of competitors going up from last year enabling us to run three arenas again. From the thankyou's received it seems that most competitors had a successful and enjoyable day. Thanks to Nick and Marion Wallbridge, for their organisation of this event, supported by Liz O'Donnell, Paula, Malcolm and Alison Angell, Jan Scott, Brian and John Popkin, The Chesham Grammar School Pony Club and many others, the day ran smoothly and the results were out quickly. Thank you to everyone who offered their help before or on the day, we cannot run a competition of this size without your support.

The club had three teams entered who were placed 4th, 6th and 8th. Two of which qualified for the London & South East Championships (report in Teams). Individual placings in the different arenas went to Janet Hammond (Moon Music) 5th, Susie MacTavish (Gaelic Rose) 7th and Zoe Gray (Bosley) 8th, with several others narrowly missing out on placings due to XC time faults.

TRAINING

Winter indoor show jumping training sessions with Bam Brasil have now been organised at Milesfield Farm, Near St Leonards. These sessions will be run in small groups (no more than 5) and will be organised according to ability. We can equally cater for those wanting to do cross poles or those wanting to practice larger fences.

The sessions will be on Sundays on the following dates: 6th Nov, 4th Dec, 12th Feb and 10th March. Start times will depend on uptake and how many groups are running but will normally be around lunchtime/early afternoon.

Please phone Ros Morris on 01494 864528 to book a place.

We are always open to suggestions for alternative venues, trainers or formats – any input from members is always useful so that you get the training that you want. Now is the time of year that the committee look at the overall club programme for 2012 so if you have any ideas please tell Lindsay or Ros preferably before the AGM.

Training - Cancellations

The OBH Riding Club has always tried to offer instruction at the lowest possible cost to members. However this does mean that unforeseen cancellations can result in the Club making a loss, as we still have to pay for the instructors, venues etc. Rather than increase the cost of lessons to everyone, or asking for money in advance, as some clubs do; it has been decided that members who cancel lessons with less than 24 hours notice, will be asked to contribute sufficient to ensure that the Club does not make a loss. This will be at the organiser's discretion, but does mean that we can keep the cost of lessons as low as possible for the benefit of all.

TEAM NEWS

Hickstead British Riding Clubs Teams of Three Show Jumping, Sunday 31st July

The club again sent two teams to Hickstead for the Riding Club Show Jumping Challenge. The ground was very slippery in the morning which caused a lot of problems. Several horses were eliminated as they fell on the corners, but both Jen Foster (Monito) and George Luff (Remy Martin) completed the course safely although with a couple down. Our intermediate pair also jumped well. Susie McTavish (Gaelic Rose) had two down and Lizzie Hough (Vigby) just had trouble with the double. Again the ground caused the problems with a slip on the corner taking away all impulsion so Vigby had to refuse. The open pair however jumped very well as the ground at last dried out and our congratulations go to Tanya Viol with Carrimba Lad and Nick Wallbridge and Olly who both jumped assured clear rounds.

Blenheim Eventer Challenge, Thursday 8th September

The Eventer Challenge team at Blenheim had a good day. The speed was a problem particularly early in the day when the ground was heavy with dew and slippery on the corners. Jumping at 9.30 was a disadvantage but Victoria Cutting (Phounzet) still had one of only 6 clear rounds within the time over the whole day. Alison Angell and the evergreen Bosley just clipped the last and Tanya Viol and Marion Wallbridge had an issue with the dog-leg from the table into the skinny – although at different fences. Dylan decided Marion's line into the table wasn't possible and Carrimba Lad was of the same opinion about Tanya's line into the skinny! Overall however the team did well and finished in the top ten for the third year running. Congratulations to them all.

London & South East Championships, Sunday 25th September, Mattingley

Following on from successful qualification of teams for Dressage, Show jumping and Horse Trials during the summer we sent 3 teams to Mattingley to compete at the London & South East Championships.

In the dressage we had individual placings for Antonia Thoday (Danesbrook Jubilee Flyby) 3rd, Jess Bradding (Twiggy) 3rd, Eve Chason (Masai) 7th and Alison Moody (Tangmere Camelia) 11th, putting the team in 3rd place overall.

In the show jumping, the team of Ellie Rose (Folly), Alison Moody (Tangmere Camelia), George Luff (Remy Martin) and Maria Sapwell (Irish Mist) got off to a great start with four clear rounds. The course was changed substantially for the second round however and started to cause many problems, with the bogey fence being the last fence – a rather innocuous looking rustic – causing many unexplained spooks, refusals and even falls. Our team fared reasonably well but ended up with 16 faults between them which put them joint 8th on faults however they missed out on a rosette because the other team were faster.

In the horse trials the advanced threat of an up-to-height cross country meant that only three of our qualifying team members were happy to compete. This meant that there was no margin for error as all three scores would have to count. The team, made up of Susie MacTavish (Gaelic Rose), Janet Hammond (Moon Music) and Katie Smith (Jilly) all completed the competition with good scores but unfortunately were not placed as a team, however Katie was 4th individually, which was a really great result.

All in all everyone had an enjoyable day and were please with their individual performances so well done.

British Riding Clubs Dressage to Music Championships, Aintree

Following a very successful qualifying campaign, three riders went all the way to Aintree to represent the club in the BRC Dressage To Music championships. In the Senior Pairs, Antonia Thoday (Danesbrook Jubilee Flyby) and Eve Chason (Masai) were placed a very respectable 10th, and in the Senior Novice Anna Streeter and Masai put in a fantastic performance to be crowned 2011 Champions with their routine set to a compilation of BBC sporting theme tunes. Well done to everyone!

For general team enquiries please contact Liz O'Donnell on 07799 3405004 or email her on philipandelizabeth.odonnell@btinternet.com.