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NEWSLETTER JULY 2016



Area 5 Horse Trials and Dressage Qualifiers have taken place over the last few months with ORC fielding a small but successful entry. Felicity with Lesley Braun's Flopsey represented ORC in the 100cm Senior Class coming 13th in a large class. Emma and Crystal put in a great performance with a double clear in the 100cm Junior Class coming 4th and qualifying for the Championships, which take place in August at Swalcliff. Great that it is so close to home and for anyone wanting to go and cheer her on we will give further details closer to the time.



In the Dressage Qualifiers Sue Ruddock with Dennis and Anna Reynolds with Jamie put in strong performances coming 6th and 5th respectively in the Riding Tests and Anna coming first in the Prelim Class. It's lovely to see ORC doing so well for such a small club, if you would like to join in with the fun, there's no expectation other than to have fun with your horse.

Blue Bell Ride Social Ride 2016

Bernadette led the way once again on the Blue Bell ride in May. A small group of us enjoyed the lovely spring weather as we rode through the Kidington and Glympton Estates taking in the amazing scenery we are so lucky to have on our doorstep, as well as being joined for a few steps of the way a rather inquisitive calf. Many thanks to Bernadette for being our guide and supplying us with refreshments afterwards. The social rides are a great chance to meet up with members and enjoy hacking you may not usually get to experience. Our next social ride is our Late Summer Ride taking place on the 4th September 2016, for more details contact Katy Parsons - ktwill9@hotmail.com





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Summer Showing Jumping Qualifier

Off we went again to Solihull Riding Club for the Summer Show & Style Jumping Qualifier on Sunday 24th July. Some last minute with drawls meant we couldn't field a team but Libby Reeves with June Collier's Cello and Felicity with Jo Whitaker's Sky flew the ORC flag in the Novice Individual. Both having an unlucky pole in the second round meant they didn't finish in the rosettes but it was great experience for 2 young horses and good to see some new blood joining the ORC competitive band.

Dressage Clinic & Show

Our Dressage Test Clinic with Lynne Kerrison was well attended and although timings went a little out the window the feedback from members was positive. We will try and organise more clinics with Lynne in the near future, if any members have any specific areas they would like us to concentrate on please let us know as we can tailor the clinics to everyone's needs.

Our Summer Dressage Show is always a highlight of the ORC calendar, our thanks as always to Anne Ballard for allowing us to use the school and to everyone who gave up their time to help. A good turnout of entries from members and non members, results as follows;

Class 1. Walk/Trot Test

1st Megan Lockett & Dixy

2nd Holly Evans & Frodo

3rd Sarah Morgan-Harris & Morphens II

4th Hannah Whitaker & Sky

5th Alice Whitaker & Dixy

6th Libby Reeves & Cello

Class 2. Prelim 13

1st Holly Wallington & Waterford Dun

2nd Anna Reynolds & Jamie

3rd Jane Collier & Revel

4th Penny Evans & Frodo

5th Jo Poultney & Colly

6th Maddie Sinclair & Bertie

Class 3. Prelim 18

1st Holly Wallington & Waterford Dun

2nd Anna Reynolds & Jamie

3rd Jane Collier & Revel

4th Emma Stringer & Crystal 5

5th Sue Ruddock & Dennis

6th Victoria Mills & Pendine Pewter

Class 4. Novice 24

1st Holly Wallington & Waterford Dun

2nd Sue Ruddock & Dennis

3rd Emma Stringer & Crystal 5



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Getting To Know You - Janet Machin

I have been a member of ORC on and off for 20-30 years, originally we owned a small holding just outside Tackley, when possibly June Collier or Jill Cartwright recruited me. In those days I had a reliable family cob, a Welsh Section D called Minty, and I think June and I had a bad reputation for belting around the countryside, doing longish hacks. I also enjoyed hunter trials, sponsored rides, the odd flat lesson, and was generally a happy hacker, along with my then teenage daughters.

Now in my sixties I still love long hacks, but don't jump anymore - to preserve the body! So having taken a brief break whilst abroad, I came back and decided I could not exist without riding. I went to Rosie Wilson's yard where within a couple of years I bought my first arab to do endurance riding on. Claire Barry, another club member, and then Tackleyite introduced me to endurance - to the fact that it is just a regulated way of doing long hacks in various beautiful spots around the country.

I am now on my second Arab, Indi, and am bringing him on to do the level of endurance which we both feel happy with. I ride at the moment usually up 45 kms or so - in around 3-4 hours, depending on the terrain. We are vetted at the beginning and the end, and we get a grade according to how low our horses pulse is, and how sound the horse is, including levels of hydration, and how fast we go. The course is marked, but we carry maps with us, and often really need them. It's not a race, so our horses have to get used to others passing them as each horse has different capabilities on different terrains. Indi is very good uphill, but as yet, not so foot sure downhill.

Some of the areas we have ridden in include the Black Mountains, The Downs, South Downs, Bedfordshire, all over the Cotswolds, Forest of Dean, the New Forest, and last weekend we took them on the ferry to the Isle of Wight! Claire did brilliantly - she did a 3 day ride of 42kms each day, and came out with a Grade 1. I got horribly lost on the first day, ended up doing 65kms and was then vetted out - I have learned a few lessons from that!!

Nevertheless it was a brilliant fabulous ride - cantering over the top of the cliffs, overlooking the sea and sunny too!

Fellow member Claire Barry is an advanced endurance rider, and I will perhaps leave her to explain more if she writes an article. The picture I have included is one from last year's Long Mynd ride in Shropshire - what a back drop!

