



Chairman: Nicki Averill - orc@nickiaverilldesign.co.uk
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Newsletter October 2016

ORC AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at Ludwell Farm on Wednesday 30th November from 7pm. Our guest speaker will be Fiona Elliot talking about her experience as a horse owner at the Rio Olympics and we will as always be treated to a delightful supper. Make sure you save the date.

Due to family and work commitments Nicki Averill is stepping down as Chair so we are looking to fill the vacancy, as well as always looking for any new blood who would like to join the committee. If you would like to know more about what's involved or put yourself forward as Chair or Committee Member please contact Felicity or Katy.

Late Summer Ride

The 4th September was a lovely sunny Sunday afternoon and the perfect time for our Late Summer Ride. Led by Katy Parsons and Charles Landless we left Wattlehill Farm in Ledwell and headed cross country to Duns Tew and more importantly to The White Horse where we stopped for a well-deserved glass of something cold and a few snacks. Back on board we headed across Charles's



land to the bottom of Neather Worton before completing our circuit back at Ledwell where Katy provided tea and cake. It was great to see a good number of our non-competitive members joining in.



Our social rides are a great chance to enjoy time on our horses in surroundings and company we might not normally get, it would be great to see more members joining in. If you have any concerns about how fast or slow we go or how your horse will behave in a big group just let us know as these rides really are to suit everyone who wants to join in.



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ORC at The BRC Championships

I know I say it time and time again but ORC really does punch above its weight when it comes to qualifying for the BRC Championships and this year's representatives are two great examples of both ends of our ORC membership spectrum.

First up is Emma Stringer, a 15-year-old junior member who joined ORC for the first time this year. A keen rider, pony club member and aspiring eventer Emma has thrown herself into all BRC qualifiers. Her first outing was at the Winter



Dressage Qualifier which didn't go quite as planned when Crystal misunderstood it to be a rodeo demonstration. This was but a distant memory by the time they competed at the ODE in June, where all their hard work and training paid off with them finishing 4th with a double clear and qualifying for the Championships which took place in August at Swalcliff. This was the perfect opportunity for Emma to experience her first Three Day Event and she did fantastically well finishing 4th in her section, a great result and just rewards for all her effort.



Second is Anna Reynolds and Jamie, long serving members of ORC teams over the years Jamie came out of semi-retirement to compete in the Summer Dressage Qualifier. Using our Dressage Clinic and Summer Dressage Show for practise they headed off to the Qualifier with no expectation and were delighted when they won their class. So off to Lincoln Anna, Jamie and Alice as groom went, unfortunately it was a very wet day which is never helpful especially when it comes to dressage but they didn't disgrace themselves coming 8th in their class.



For such a small club it is lovely that we can mix it with the bigger clubs but it all starts with having fun with your horse. If you want to try your hand at any of the disciplines dates for qualifiers will be out shortly and we will start pestering people to join in with teams, so let 2017 be the year you give it a go, you never know where it might lead.



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Blenheim Horse Trials Eventer Challenge

This year's Blenheim Horse Trials Eventer Challenge Team comprised of Emma Stringer, Felicity Wilson and Libby Cooke, horse injury and rider illness meant we could only field a team of 3 so the pressure was on for all 3 riders to get round in one piece. The course was, as always, twisty and up to the full height of 1.05m and width of 1.55m but rode smoothly asking the right amount of questions. As is tradition we were one of the first teams to go but that didn't stop a gang of ORC members, other halves and Bassets from coming to give their support. The team put in a respectable performance, all getting round without too many faults and a great time was had by all, especially as we were finished in time to catch eventer Ben Hobday having a go at Side Saddle in aid of the Hannah Francis Willerby Wonder Pony Appeal.

Due to the struggle to find a full team of 4 plus possible reserve for the 100cm class, next year we are thinking of entering the 90cm class. So to all those members who would love to compete their horse at Blenheim, here's your chance. Preference as always will be given to those representing ORC at qualifiers throughout the year, so let ORC help you get there. BRC Qualifiers start in February so let's get a Novice Team together to do the 80cm then we can work our way up to 90cm with the Spring Eventer Challenge Qualifier at Swalcliff, the Summer Jumping Qualifier and ODE both at Solihull. I'll give out dates as soon as they are confirmed and we'll organise some training sessions for anyone interested, you just need to let me know that you are!





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Getting To Know You – Libby Reeves

I have been a current member of ORC for about 6 months but was a member when at school about 11 years ago. I have ridden since I was 4 and have owned a fell pony, Lofty, for 21 years, who at 25 is still happily pottering about Tackley. I had a bit of a riding break while at university and have started riding fellow ORC member June Collier's horses at around last Christmas.

June has three horses and I regularly ride all three. I have been having flat work and jumping lessons on Cello and we went to our first ORC Show Jumping Qualifier at Solihull in July. We had an amazing day, jumping indoors for the first time for both of us and finishing on 4 faults for both rounds. We were delighted for our first performance and hope to have another go next year. Next year Cello and I look forward to going to some more parties and really hope to do a One Day Event at some point in the future.





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A Fond Farewell – Colliers Bodecia (Bo)

Colliers Bodecia (Bo) was "My Horse in a Million". Not only talented, but very good looking, with the most wonderful kind eyes and a temperament the envy of all. I weaned her from her mother by taking her out of the field, putting her in my trailer and driving her home. Her dam was a shire horse and sire a TB. She did it all. Anyone could ride her, she taught so many people so much, including me. She would take people out for a ride and bring them home if they got lost! Make them jump fences if they were dubious. She had two wonderful foals. I competed her in all riding club disciplines, in teams and individually as well as team chasing her until I was an OAP and she had her last foal. XC was her forte and dressage her nemesis, probably due to the fact that I would rather ride round the fields instead of the school! Mrs. Ballard once wrote on my sheet "You and your horse would rather be hunting" which of course we would!! She hunted for approximately 20 seasons, never lame, only stopping in January this year because I had to have a new hip! There will never be another like her. The best horse ever.
J.C.

