

SID AND OTTER VALLEY RIDING CLUB NEWSLETTER – OCT 2023

Once again, we are heading towards winter, which on the plus side means no flies and arena eventing season!

As always, our members have been busy representing the club at Area events.

**Area Qualifier Results**

**Area 12 Winter SJ qualifiers KSEC February 2023**

Millie Pring was our sole representative in the Winter SJ Qualifier – the only one brave enough to enter during the dire weather we’d been having! Millie rode a great double clear.

**Area 12 Winter Dressage qualifiers KSEC February 2023**

We didn’t have many coming forward for the dressage in the depths of winter, but a few members headed to KSEC as non-qualifying entries. Junior Cyrna Morris came 2nd in the Prelim & Cheryl Beer came 5th in the Senior Prelim.

**Area 12 Combined Training Chard March 2023**

We had several Junior & Senior members competing at Chard with some brilliant results.

Our Junior team of Sophie Parker, Ella Otto & Keira Parsons won and qualified for the championships at Aston le Walls, with Keira winning her class individually. Jess Coombes qualified individually in the 80.

Our Senior team of Cheryl Beer, Millie Pring, Jo Lee & Sophie Goodall came 3rd, with Millie & Cheryl placing 2nd in their classes. In the Non-Qualifying class Anne Stenning came 2nd in her first event representing SOVRC.

**Area 12 Horse Trials qualifiers Pontispool June 2023**

The Horse Trials originally fell foul to the prolonged wet winter, with the course too wet to ride in April. The date was changed to June, causing carnage on the organisational front as half the volunteers who had agreed to do April couldn’t make the new date, as well as half the team members being unable to make the new date. Poor secretary Ann Pollard was kept very busy with changes and substitutions right up to the eleventh hour!

Some fantastic results for the SOVRC riders:

The Senior 80 team of Caitlyn Astley-Jones, Natalie Eastwood, Janvrin Edbrooke and Kate Aston won and qualified for the championships at Swalcliffe, with Caitlyn coming 2nd individually in her section.

The Junior 80 team of Ellie Jackson, Millie Stoneman, Jess Coombes & Sophie Goodlall came 2nd. Jess won individually and so qualified for Swalcliffe.

The Senior 90 team of Hayley Foster, Sam Shaw, Cheryl Beer & Alice Monger came 4th, with Hayley & Alice coming 5th in their sections.

The 90 Junior team of Keira Parsons, Ella Otto, Jas Davey & Amelie Huntington -Whitely won and qualified for Swalcliffe. Amelie came 2nd, and Ella 3rd individually and Sophie Jackson who was competing as an individual came 4th and also qualified for the championships. Poor Jas had a nasty fall, but luckily both her and horse were ok.

Rachel Brown came 3rd in the 100.

**Blenheim Arena Eventing 13 Sept**

The SOVRC team of Hayley Foster, Cheryl Beer, Helen Buckland & Charlotte Radley were 10th out of 48 teams, and Hayley placing 10th out of 187 riders! Cheryl & Helen also jumped double clears but the competition was incredibly tight and every time fault counted.

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We are always looking for riders to represent the club at Area Qualifiers. These competitions are open to all members, and are a great way to meet other club members as well as compete within the comradery of a team. There are several coming up in the next few months so keep an eye on Facebook.

**Championship Results**

Rachel Brown, Helen Buckland & Ella Matravers headed to Aston le Walls in March for the 100 Arena Eventing championships in March, coming 10th as a team, with Ella winning overall!

Our Junior 80 team of Sophie Parker, Jess Coombes & Keira Parsons, along with Millie Pring in the 70, headed to Aston le Walls for the Combined Championships in May. Millie placed 8th overall after riding a double clear! The Juniors came 3rd as a team with Jess & Keira placing 2nd in their sections individually.

**Training**

There was plenty of training in the early months of 2023, with arena XC, SJ and flat training on offer.

Laraine Ryan’s February training was well supported with positive feedback.

Cameron Beer’s monthly show jumping training at Courtway was very popular and enjoyed by all.

Polly Schwerdt’s training at Courtway also proved popular during the winter months.

Laraine Ryan held training sessions at Bicton College which had great feedback from those who attended.

More recently in October, Mandy Frost at Courtway was very well attended with requests for repeat bookings so we will get on to that!

**Other News**

The February & March dressage at Bicton College was well supported, with fantastic cakes from Daph’s café available as always! I think they were sold out by lunchtime!

Our Quiz in March was great fun, with several teams competing to win the coveted title of Quiz Champions! It would be great to see even more of you next year – it’s a friendly and welcoming evening. In particular it would be good to see the juniors joining in with some of the unmounted events.

**Camp**

As always, our camp was a great mix of superb instruction, meeting new people, and catching up with old friends. Personal goals were made and challenges were met. All levels are welcome at camp, with some opting not to jump, and others making the most of the XC fences. This year we were challenged at times by the unseasonal monsoon-like weather, but we carried on regardless, and a great time was had by all, including several first-time attendees. Keep an eye out on facebook for camp dates for 2024.



**Future training dates:**

Keep an eye on our Facebook Group for further training updates – All can be booked via Equo

 Sat 14 Oct PM - Tyler Bradshaw dressage training @ Courtway

Fri 27 Oct - An Introduction to Coherent Connection with Ann Brown @ Colaton Raleigh village Hall

Sun 29 Oct - Andrew Lovell @ Courtway

Friday 24 Nov - AGM & Prize-giving - all members welcome

Wed 6 Dec PM - Cameron Beer Arena XC @ Bicton Arena

Sun Jan 14 - Andrew Lovell @ Bicton College

Sun Jan 28th - Winter Dressage @ Bicton College

Sun Feb 11th - Andrew Lovell @ Bicton College

Sun 25 Feb - Winter Dressage @ Bicton College

Sun March 10th - Ellen @ Bicton College

Sun March 31st - - Winter Dressage @ Bicton College

Arena Eventing dates at Bicton and Pontispool with Cameron Beer to be confirmed as soon as I can book the venues

**Upcoming Area 12 Qualifiers**

Saturday 21 October – Introductory dressage – Coxleigh Barton

Sunday 5 November – Novice Winter Dressage – KSEC

Saturday/Sunday 11/12 November - Arena Eventing – Bicton Arena

If you would like to represent the club contact your team co-ordinator – details of these will be on Facebook but are Nicola Morrison Nicola.morrison@rocketmail.com or Mercedes Pemberton-Finch mercedespf90@outlook.com (seniors) & Sarah Box-Adair sarahboxadair@icloud.com (juniors)

All events are open for everyone within our riding club to compete in - either as an individual or part of a team, qualifying or non-qualifying.

If you would like to compete, please let the team managers know (for both seniors and juniors). Sid and Otter love to field teams, and you do not have to do this as qualifier, it's just nice to take part with other club members.

Once your team manager has allocated your class/team, you will all need to individually enter the CORRECT class through Equo and ensure you put the name of your riding club in the notes section - if you are struggling with figuring this out, please let your team manager know and they can let you know what you need to do.

However, if you commit to taking part in a qualifying team or individual, you are committing yourself to going to the championships (if you are lucky enough to qualify!) If you have to withdraw for any reason (either for the qualifier or the championships) and your place cannot be filled, you will be asked to pay for your prelim entry. The riding club pays for all prelim entries, which are becoming increasingly expensive. Most clubs either only partly pay or expect the members to fund the prelims themselves, so we have been pleased to be in the position that we can currently offer this to all our qualifying teams.

**Other Important Dates**

Our Annual **AGM** is on **Friday 24th November** at Ottery Cricket Club, **7 for 7.30pm start**. This is an opportunity to meet other club members over nibbles and a glass of wine or cup of tea. All members are welcome, including juniors. Awards are also given out at this event, as well as a round- up of the years’ events, a treasury report, and it is also a great way to put forward any ideas or suggestions to be considered by the committee. Please will you let Jo Bollino know if you are attending so we have an idea of numbers for providing a buffet. (Either via facebook or joannalee83@hotmail.com).

This year, we will only be giving the trophies to those who attend the AGM. We have found over the years, that those who win an award but don’t attend in person are harder to track down and sadly some of our lovely trophies have been lost. If you won a trophy last year, please will you ensure it has been engraved and either returned to one of the committee members or bring it along with you on the night. There is nothing more disappointing to have been told you’ve won an award, only for your prize not to be there because someone forgot to return it!