



Sid and Otter Valley Riding Club

SID AND OTTER VALLEY RIDING CLUB NEWSLETTER Feb 2026

Welcome to the February Newsletter and welcome to any new members that have joined us since the last one. We hope you have found your way round the website and joined the members page on Facebook which is key for advertising upcoming training and competition dates.

Chair Person's Foreword

A belated Happy New Year to all our members! It seems a very long time ago that we were enjoying the dry, warm weather of last summer—I hope you're all surviving the rain and the mud! Despite the winter months seeming to drag on forever, there has been a hive of activity with our training. Well done to those who braved torrential conditions at the Arena Eventing training with Abbie in the middle of January. The weather was much kinder for the second session later in the week!

As you can see, our Newsletter has had a re-vamp! I hope you enjoy reading about the club's successes of last year and plan what you can join us with this year to make 2026 another great year for Sid and Otter Valley Riding Club!

AGM

Our AGM was held on Friday 21st November at the Ottery St Mary Cricket Club. It was well attended and as always lovely to catch up with other members and what's been happening over the last year. You can find the minutes on the SOVRC Facebook page if you fancy reading them.



2025 Competition Success!

We have had a very busy year and many of our members have headed out in to competitions with great success. You can read the full report in the AGM meeting minutes, however, here is a very quick summary.

Winter Dressage Qualifier KSEC: 6th place for our NQ Team of Sophie P (2nd overall), Helen B (7th overall) and Cheryl B.

Arena Eventing Qualifier Bicton: 1st 70cm & 80cm teams and 3rd for the 90cm team seniors (Q) and 1st for the juniors 90cm team (NQ) with many individual wins and placings for both team and non-team riders in all classes. A very successful day out!

Summer SJ Qualifier Bicton: 1st 70cm, 80cm & 90cm teams & a 2nd for the 100cm team (NQ) again with many individual wins and placings for both team and non-team riders in all classes. Another very successful day out!

Horse Trials Qualifier Pontispool: Charlotte Radley 90cm (11th), Hayley Foster 100cm (5th)

Arena Eventing Champs Aston: Sent a 70cm 9th overall

Combined Training Qualifier Stockland Lovell: Novice team 2nd, Open team (3rd) with several individual wins and placings

Summer Dressage Qualifiers Chard: Several placings for members across all classes

SWWRC Champs Hartpury: We had several placings in both the SJ and dressage classes

Combined Training Champs Aston: 2 teams went (open and novice) with mixed success most notably Maria C came 4th in a very large class

Winter Dressage KSEC: NQ placings for Sophie V in 2 classes

SJ Qualifiers KSEC: 70cm NQ team 4th, 80cm NQ team 1st, 90cm NQ team 4th with several individual wins and placings in all classes



HELP PLEASE!

We need helpers for the Arena Eventing.

Please contact Cheryl at cherylbeer@googlemail.com if you can come along and help for a few hours.



Alaya Jade PHOTOGRAPHY

Upcoming Competitions

- ◇ 8th February: Open Winter Dressage Qualifier KSEC
- ◇ 21st February: Grass Roots Dressage - Stretcholt Arena
- ◇ 15th March: Arena Eventing Qualifier – Bicton Arena (run by SOVRC)
- ◇ 2nd May: Summer Show Jumping Qualifier—Chard (run by SOVRC)
- ◇ 16-17th May: Horse Trials Qualifier - Pontispool
- ◇ 4th July: Dressage - Chard Equestrian Centre
- ◇ 12th July: Combined Training - Stockland Lovell
- ◇ Combined Challenge Qualifier TBC

2026 National Championships

- ◆ 28-29th March - Winter Show Jumping Champs - Arena UK
- ◆ 24-26th April - Winter Dressage Champs - Arena UK
- ◆ 29-31st May - Arena Eventing Champs - Aston-Le-Walls
- ◆ 1-2nd August - Horse Trials Champs - Swalcliffe
- ◆ 5-6th September - National Champs - Lincoln

If you would like to represent the club, contact your team managers – details of these will be on Facebook but are Mercedes Pemberton-Finch

mercedespf90@outlook.com (dressage) & Sarah Box-Adair sarahboxadair@icloud.com Kate Kerswell king.kate60@yahoo.co.uk and Jo Lee joannalee83@hotmail.com (everything else). As most competitions are now mixed, we no longer separate our team managers into Seniors and 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. 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. However, if you commit to taking part in a qualifying team or individual, you are committing yourself to going to the championships.

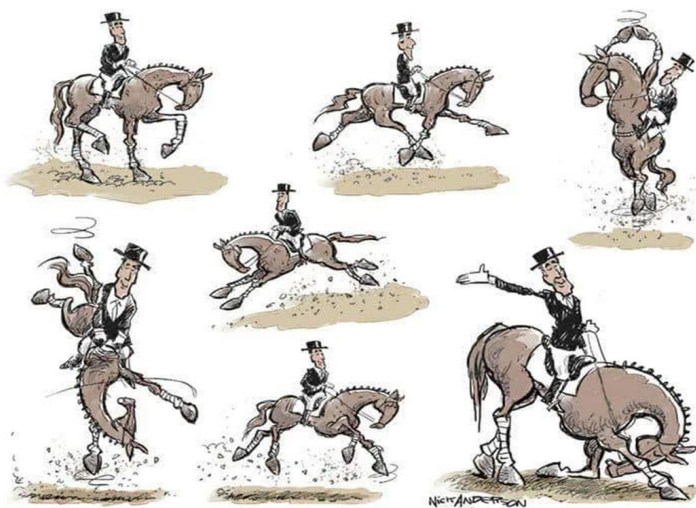
Upcoming Training

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

SOVRC has a shared i-calendar with all the SOVRC and BRC dates. If you send Sarah BA your email, she will add you so you can see all training and competition dates.

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- ◆ 8th Feb. Mat Baker. Bicton College. Flat
- ◆ 22nd Feb. Mark Boxall. Courtway. Jump
- ◆ 28th Feb. Andrew Lovell. Courtway. Flat/Jump
- ◆ 7th March. Theo Funnell. Rolleston. Jump
- ◆ 8th March. Mat Baker. Bicton College. Flat
- ◆ 28th March. Andrew Lovell. Venue TBC. Flat/Jump
- ◆ 29th March. Mark Boxall. Venue TBC. Jump
- ◆ 4th April. Theo Funnell. Rolleston. Jump
- ◆ 19th April. Mat Baker. Bicton College. Flat
- ◆ 29th April. Andrew Lovell. Venue TBC. Flat/Jump
- ◆ 3rd May. Mat Baker. Bicton College. Flat
- ◆ 9th May. Theo Funnell. Rolleston. Jump
- ◆ 24th May. Andrew Lovell. Venue TBC. Flat/Jump
- ◆ 21st June. Mat Baker. Bicton College. Flat



SOVRC CAMP 2026

Open to all BRC members
July 10 - 12 at Pontispool

- ~ 2 or 3 day options
- ~ Flat, Jump & XC training (a combination of any or all)
- ~ Upgrade to a lodge for extra comfort
- ~ Excellent trainers tbc shortly
- ~ Photographer
- ~ Pre-Loved Tack sale

More to be confirmed in the coming weeks, but for now, pop the date in your calendar!



If you want to start paying for camp at anytime to spread the costs, please just send payment to SOVRC account clearly stating CAMP in the details.

