



# Cambridge and District Riding Club

Newsletter October 2018

## Ramblings from the Chair

Well the weather is a little different from the last time I wrote my ramblings - with the nights down to 1 degree and the daytime temperature still occasionally reaching the low 20's. It seems like a constant battle to find 'the right rug'.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new members who have joined our club since the last newsletter... and to any non-members who are thinking about joining – At last count, we have 118 members.

Here are some of the benefits you'll get from joining as a member –

- Friendly activities for you and your horse
- High quality instruction at competitive rates
- Access to club competitions and events, many for BRC members only
- National competition structure, including Championships in all the major riding disciplines.
- Third party insurance - at all affiliated BRC held events
- Comprehensive examination system
- Rider® Magazine delivered to your door quarterly.
- National club network

Come on and join us!

At our recent committee meeting, we discussed the topic of **'Help Days' for members of Riding Club.**

It has come to our notice that some of our members do not understand why we are frequently asking members for help at the Area 7 Qualifiers. Under British Riding Club Area 7 Rules, each club has to provide two helpers, per team entered, in any of the qualifiers in the various disciplines. If the event contains a cross country section (ie Horse Trials, Eventer Trials), we have to assume that the volunteers may be required for a whole day of fence judging. If they are only required for a few hours, or for half a day, then that is a bonus. Going forward, the committee have agreed that maybe in future we could offer our club volunteers various perks such as subsidies on clinics or help towards team entries. This will be discussed further at our AGM. Your views would be appreciated.

Over recent weeks there have been several Facebook posts relating to yard/stable break-ins. Unfortunately, there are some pretty nasty people out there so keep an eye out and report anything suspicious to the police, especially vehicles that have no obvious reason to be there, take vehicle numbers if it is safe to do so but don't approach strangers especially if you are on your own. If you have any concerns but feel it is too trivial for the police, the local 'Cambridgeshire Countryside Watch' representatives are:

**Stefan Gidlow**

Fenland, Huntingdonshire & Peterborough  
Regional Officer  
Mobile: 07890455959  
[sgidlowccw@outlook.com](mailto:sgidlowccw@outlook.com)

**Ellen Muirhead**

East and South Cambridgeshire  
Regional Officer  
Mobile: 07952735158  
[skmob@hotmail.com](mailto:skmob@hotmail.com)

Cambridgeshire Police also have a Rural Crime Action Team and can be contacted on 101.

Overall our club has enjoyed a good year with most events running successfully and our training Clinics much enjoyed. Attendance has been good. Teams are thriving and we have several teams entered for the new Arena Eventing Qualifier on 10<sup>th</sup> November at Keysoe. Thank you to all involved. If anyone else is interested in joining a Team for future qualifiers, please don't be shy.

Please come along and support our Ceilidh on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November at Bluntisham Village Hall (Details on our website and Facebook page). It should be a great fun evening with lots of laughs and some delicious curries on offer.

*Best Wishes Sharron*

## Dates for your Diary

**Saturday 10th November** - Area 7 Arena Eventing Qualifier, The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe

**Saturday 24th November** - CDRC Ceilidh, Bluntisham Village Hall, Bluntisham

**Saturday 26th January 2019** - Area 7 Winter Showjumping Qualifier, The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe

**Friday 8th February 2019** - Club AGM, Rampton Village Hall

**Saturday 16th February 2019** - Area 7 Winter Dressage Qualifier, The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe

**23rd-24th February 2019** - Pre-season training camp

**9th-10th March 2019** - HorseQuest Arena Eventing Championships, Washbrook Farm, Aston-le-Walls

**30th-31st March 2019** - SEIB Insurance Brokers Novice Winter Championships, Arena UK

**26th-28th April 2019** - Equi-Theme Intermediate Winter Championships, Bury Farm, Bucks

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**Sunday 5th May 2019** - CDRC Annual Club Show, Cottenham Racecourse

**18th-19th May 2019** - Fibre-Beet Festival of the Horse Championships, Washbrook Farm, Aston-le-Walls

**2nd-4th August 2019** - NAF Five Star National Horse Trials Championships, Swalcliffe Park Equestrian

**31st Aug-1st September 2019** - NAF Five Star National Championships, Lincolnshire Showground

**28th-30th September 2019** - TopSpec Dressage to Music and SEIB Insurance Brokers Quadrille, Bury Farm

## Sunday 28th July - Area Dressage to Music Qualifier, The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe

*Karen Norman tells us about her day as our only representative!*

On the 28th July I represented CDRC doing Dressage To Music at Keysoe. Wow, an amazing way to spend my birthday - boogie-wooging with Chieftain Tank, aka Chieffy!

Although just short of the frillies with a respectable 65.28%, I was chuffed to bits with Chieffy as it was our a third ever DTM, and our first attempt indoors.

It was a real confidence boost and gave me the courage to go back to do Affiliated BD DTM.

Many thanks for the opportunity to represent CDRC - I had a complete blast doing so!

Highly recommended, DTM - Kick on and enjoy!



## Changed your details? Please let Nettie know!

A small plea from our Club Secretary - please, if any of your personal details change, do let Nettie know so she can update British Riding Clubs. We can't send along your copy of Rider or your membership card to the right place if we don't have the correct details!

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# 3rd-5th August - NAF Five Star Horse Trials Championships, Swalcliffe Park Equestrian

The Area qualifier was held at Little Downham on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June.

We had teams in the 80 and 90cm classes and individuals in the 100 and 1.10cm. The day was well organised by the Area 7 committee and CDRC supplied helpers all day to run the show jumping ring. The 80 and 90 teams did very well with the 80 teams coming 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 90cm team (Charlotte Freeman, Stephen Plumb, Nuala Hemington, Kerry Simson) winning and qualifying for the championships at Swalcliffe in August. Abbi Kerridge also qualified as an Individual in the 100cm and Sandra Morgan came 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pretoria Lee came 4<sup>th</sup> in the 1.10cm. Sandra was invited to the championships as part of the 1.10 Area 7 team.

Between the qualifier and the championships we had very little rain and unbelievably hot temperatures so the BRC organising committee decided to pull the roads and tracks section. They did their utmost to provide as good a ground as you would get anywhere this summer and spent a fortune on watering the SJ and Dressage areas.

Stephen Plumb was unable to attend the championships and Lizz Plowright kindly stepped in to be the fourth team member. The 90 team (Charlotte Freeman, Nuala Hemington, Liz Plowright and Kerry Simson) all had placings in their individual arenas and the team came 9<sup>th</sup> overall. It was a great (if hot) weekend and nice to cheer on Sandra Morgan in the Area 7 1.10cm team which came 3<sup>rd</sup> with Sandra coming 9<sup>th</sup> individually, and Erin Braybrooke in the junior Area 7 90 team, who placed team fifth and tenth individually.



It's a great idea to make up Area 7 teams if we can't send a full team of our own as this gives members the chance to go to a championship and get to know other RC members in the Area. We hope to send lots of teams to the qualifier next year and will keep you posted on the date but think it will be at Little Downham again which is great being so close for CDRC.

However, we will need a few more helpers to run the SJ arena on the day as those kind people who did it this year (a massive thank you) were rushed off their feet and helped for long hours in baking hot sun. So if you are not able to ride at the Horse Trials perhaps you could consider helping out your club by volunteering instead.



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# Merchandise

Keep your eyes peeled for new merchandise, coming soon...

## 31st August 2018 - BRC NAF Five Star National Showjumping Championships, Lincoln

On the weekend of 31<sup>st</sup> August/1<sup>st</sup> September, we sent a senior 90 show jumping team to the British Riding Clubs NAF Five Star National Championships at Lincoln.

We did exceptionally well to qualify for these Championships, as our original team had had to compete at the Area Show Jumping back on the 8<sup>th</sup> July as a team of three following ligament injury to Rachel's horse. Sadly when the invitation to compete at the Championships came through, we then also lost original team member Elizabeth Plowright with her horse Maia. With Sarah Logan stepping in to take Liz's place, we were fortunate to be able to send a full team to the Championships. The team consisted of Sarah riding L-Jewel's Dream Girl, Claire Elbrow - Castleplunket Blaze, Ella Crook - Loughnatousa Kimberley and Rachel Dyke on Dun & Dusted.

During the course walk on Friday evening, it soon became apparent that Keith Dellar had built a tricky course with some very 'interesting' lines early on in the course. These went on to prove very influential in the results, with clear rounds being few.

Saturday dawned, and having been drawn to compete fairly near the end of the class, we watched several riders having difficulty with the course. Following a team discussion the girls agreed the best route to take.

Our first rider, Sarah, started off beautifully and her lovely mare Purdy was making nothing of the fences, however when she got to the most tricky line across the middle of the course, she appeared to get tangled in a back pole whilst putting in an enormous jump, which caused her to peck on the way down, unseating Sarah between the two fences, the second of which, Purdy jumped alone!. From a spectator point of view, this was a spectacular 'dismount'. Next to go was Claire riding her wonderful 'pocket rocket' pony, Blaze. At barely 13.2hh, it was a big ask for her to make the distances on a course primarily designed for horses, but she jumped her socks off and just had one very unlucky pole, to finish on 4 faults. Our third rider was Ella and the fabulous Kitty. They jumped a beautiful foot perfect clear round and made it all look so easy. Almost the last rider to go in the class was our 4<sup>th</sup> rider, Rachel Dyke on Rosie, who having just returned from injury had not had any opportunity to practice for this competition. As team manager, I had everything crossed for a clear round. Rosie willingly obliged, and despite looking very strong in places, she managed to keep the poles up. When the results for the first round

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were posted, we were delighted to see that there were only two teams on a zero score and several others, ourselves included, who had finished on a score of 4 faults.

This competition is a two round competition, so after a short break and a change of course, we were all set to ride again. Despite some initial reservations from Sarah, who was unsure whether to jump Purdy again after a fairly unnerving experience in the first round, after a lot of pleading and encouragement from us all, Sarah thankfully agreed to ride again. One by one our riders jumped clear around the second course and after the third rider had jumped it became apparent that the worst we could do was to finish on four faults. The second round proved even more tricky than the first round, and teams that had finished on a zero score in the first round had now accrued several faults.

When the results were announced, we were delighted and over the moon to find out that it was a win for our Cambridge girls and their team of lovely mares. Congratulations girls, you were a credit to our club, and very well done to Ella who jumped a double clear and made it to the third round jump off.



I would also like to say a special thank you to our club mascots, Arlo and Fleur, whose behaviour was impeccable for such young children, and to my husband Steve for mucking out all four of our team's stables whilst the girls were held up during the presentation and team photographs.

- Sharron

## Body protector guidelines

At BRC competitions, only body protectors with a BETA level 3 with the purple 2009 or blue 2018 labels will be accepted. If your body protector does not show the correct label, you will not be able to compete. The full rules are posted on the Area 7 Facebook page, so please consult these if you are unsure.

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# 1st September 2018 - BRC NAF Five Star National Dressage Championships, Lincoln

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September saw the senior dressage riders head to the BRC National Championships at Lincoln with some good results:

Riding Test: Individual Emma Tiley and Roger came 5<sup>th</sup> in their arena;

Open Dressage Team came 18<sup>th</sup> including (in their respective arenas):

Vicky Smith and C Rubertha R63 – 18<sup>th</sup>

Sandra Morgan and Stald Mejses Cordel – 8<sup>th</sup>

Catherine Monnington and Classic Chanel – 20<sup>th</sup>

Nuala Hemington and Kaeden Lucky Sixpence – 17<sup>th</sup>

Prelim Dressage Team came 14<sup>th</sup> including (in their respective arenas): Emma Tiley and Roger - 20<sup>th</sup>, Sandra Morgan and Stald Mejses Cordel – 5<sup>th</sup>, Nuala Hemington and Kaeden Lucky Sixpence – 11<sup>th</sup>, and Catherine Monnington and Classic Chanel – 14<sup>th</sup>.

Our junior member Alana Bailey (pictured) also attended, achieving individual 4<sup>th</sup> in the Prelim class.

Very well done all!



## Showjumping training with John Adams - 8th December

Don't let yourself get rusty over winter - book onto the club training with John Adams on 8th December - let John's infectious energy kick start your jumping!

*Contact Annunziata Desmond to book and for more information.*

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# Saturday 6th October - FOTH Eventer Trial Qualifier, The College Equestrian Centre, Keysoe

Despite the cold, miserable weather reminding us that winter is on its way, we still had seven teams brave the drizzle to compete for the club at 80, 90 and 100cms.

80 - 4th - Serena Allery, Julie Horne, Heather Mussett, and Sophie Morris.

90 - 1st, and going to the FOTH champs! - Samantha Bennett, Stephen Plumb, Nuala Hemington, and Claire Elbrow

2nd - Nuala Hemington, Polly Taylor, Ella Crook and Sarah Norman.

Our junior teams also did fantastically well, winning the 80 with individual 1st for Fionn Braybrooke with a double clear, 2nd for Ruby Leonard and 5th for Paige Dodman, and an individual 1st for Erin Braybrooke in the 100!



We'd like to give a massive thank you to Steevo, Angela Markham, Sharon MacLeod, Sue and Rachel Casbon, Carey Mussett, Karen Tyrell and all the competitors who volunteered to fence judge around their rounds so that the day could run. Without your help the day simply wouldn't have gone ahead, so please know we really appreciate your time.

Good luck to our teams going to the Festival of the Horse Championships next year!

## Team etiquette - a note from Kerry

I have been organising CDRC horse trials teams for many years now and was asked by the committee to write something about team etiquette for the newsletter. We have had a few incidents this year of members putting their names down and dropping out or failing to turn up at the competition or going home without telling anyone etc so we would like to clear up any confusion.

We want to encourage all of our members whatever level, to have a go at the wonderful range of team competitions open to our club members.

For each area competition all riding clubs have to pay a Prelim entry fee (for each team and individual) to British Riding Clubs (BRC) head office to fund the cost of rosettes and organising the National Championships etc.

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CDRC still very generously pay the Prelim entry to BRC on behalf of its members and the team manager pays this before they send in the details of the team entries to the Area organisers.

Many local clubs in the area now expect their members to pay the Prelim entry and the Area entry fee. CDRC raise funds at our Social events to help fund these prelim entries (and maybe you would like to buy a ticket for the Ceilidh on 24th November to help raise these funds!).

Once the Prelim entry has been paid we are committed to paying the entry fee to the Area organisers for this amount of teams. If you have to withdraw its up to you to contact the team manager asap to let them know. If your space can be filled by another member we may be able to give you a refund. However, if we have paid the Area entry fee and cannot find a replacement you will not get a refund. You are required to pay your entry fee by paypal on the website when you put your name down. You will not be included on the team if you have not paid as the team manager cross checks with the paypal account.

Be realistic about you and your horse's capabilities and don't over face yourself. Although at BRC events the jumps tend to be slightly less wide than BE events (for example) it's better to err on the side of caution and enter the level you are competent at unless you are ready to step up a level. You could always ask the team manager to put you in the B team.

It is your responsibility to check the BRC rule book on the BRC (BHS) website to make sure you are eligible (not the team managers). You are also in charge of making sure your horses Flu vaccinations comply with the rules (not the team manager). If you are "spun" at the Area competition because your Flu vacs are wrong you will be letting your teammates down and will have to run HC and still pay the entry fee.

Please read the newsletter for information about forthcoming team competitions and contact the team organisers for each discipline to put your name down. We are not telepathic, if you do not contact us, we will not know!

The committee spend a lot of time putting together the newsletter and it's frustrating when we get comments like: "I didn't know about the SJ teams - I never read the newsletter!"

At the competition we try to introduce team members to each other so you know who you are riding with. Please let the team manager know that you have arrived or if there are any problems and you cannot attend. We will need to inform the entries secretary.

We have pale blue team saddle cloths and hat silks etc if you would like to wear team colours and you can purchase your own from the CDRC website in advance. If you borrow any team kit please return it to the team manager on the day - we don't mind washing it! Please check whether you need to plait as you are representing your club. If you have a terrible first round and don't want to continue please let the team manager know. Don't just go home as we will need to inform the entries secretary you have withdrawn.

**We hope to see lots of you putting your names down for the Indoor Showjumping qualifier (Novice, Intermediate & Open) on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at Keysoe and for the Dressage teams on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2019 @ Keysoe.**

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## 26th-28th October - CDRC Ringstead Seaside Weekend

CDRC friends gathered at Courtyard Farm Ringstead 26-28 October for a weekend of charging about the countryside along the lovely tracks around the farm and (slightly drunken) revelry in the bunkhouse barn in the evenings and a sing song with Stephen and his guitar.



It was lovely to see good old Paddy- Andrew Coles' big grey horse at 23 yrs old enjoying his hack round the farm. We welcomed new members Stella and Paul Dobbie to the gang with Archie the coloured horse and managed to get Stephen Wright and Billy Monksfield back in the saddle for the weekend. Yee haa!

We are planning a 3 day ride

next June (21-23rd) from Thetford to Ringstead along the Peddars Way long distance path riding approx 20 miles per day & staying en route at B&B's. If you would like to join us please email [ksimson@cambsfarrier.co.uk](mailto:ksimson@cambsfarrier.co.uk) and ask to be included in the facebook msg group. We will be holding various planning meetings in the New year at local pubs.

We will also be organising weekends at our favourite haunts – Abbey Farm, East Walton and Whitehall Farm, Burnham Thorpe from Easter onwards and possibly a weekend at a new venue at a farm on the Oxborough Hall Estate if Margaret Coles pulls her finger out!

We have provisionally booked the bunkhouse at Ringstead for the weekend of **18-20<sup>th</sup> October 2019** so get this in your diary if you want to come along. The bunkhouse sleeps 12 and we can accommodate 10-14 horses plus people sleeping in caravans and lorries. See [www.courtyardfarm.co.uk](http://www.courtyardfarm.co.uk).



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*Cambridge and District Riding Club presents...*

# Ceilidh!

(a Scottish barn dance, with a caller)

Saturday 24th November, 2018

Bluntisham Village Hall, Bluntisham



Our authentic Ceilidh band will start at 7pm

Tickets £10 per person

Curry supper & bar

Raffle in support of Prince Fluffy Kareem - you could win:

\*Lessons with Owen Moore, Phoebe Buckley or Luke Prior

\*A pie dinner for four at the Duke in Willingham

\*AutoGlym products

\*Phoebe Buckley as your groom for the day

\*Vouchers, gifts, arena hires, a box from Say It With Brownies and much more!

Please pay on the website in advance:

[https://cambridgeridingclub.weebly.com/store/p113/CEILIDH-\\_24\\_NOVEMBER\\_2018.html](https://cambridgeridingclub.weebly.com/store/p113/CEILIDH-_24_NOVEMBER_2018.html).

## Bring your dancing shoes!

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