

# Chobham and District Riding Club

August 2021

**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

***Stay Alert and Stay Safe!***



***Our August newsletter includes: Camp review, Area event results, August Bank Holiday Monday Show and more dates for your diary***

As horse riders we are always concerned about the weather and constantly asking ourselves, is it too cold, shall I pop another rug on, is it too hot, shall I get the fly rug out? Oh, the ground is too hard today to ride, oh no its raining, I'll ride another day. It is a never-ending battle against the elements. This year, we have seemed to have every possible season in 1 day. One minute soaring temperatures followed by torrential rain and floods. Not only is this an inconvenience for us, it also affects us in the long term with increasing prices of horse food due to the challenges in production. So it was no surprise that on the week we had nice weather farmers were out in force cutting, turning and bailing hay. Let's all hope that they managed to get it all under cover before the rain set in again.

This unsettled weather has been linked to global warming and is predicted to continue to warm unless we take radical action now to reduce the rate of this warming. Unfortunately, there is no single solution to reduce this warming however little things we can all do every day will collectively make a huge difference.

You can check your personal carbon impact using the following calculator and then try to reduce this over the next few months.

[WWF Footprint Calculator](#)

## **Members Fun day**

Attached is the entry form for the members fun day.

We are offering the following lessons:

- Dressage lesson (Pairs)
- Showjumping (Group)
- Trek (Group)

You can choose to enter only 1, 2 or all 3 activities. All lessons will be held on an arena surface.

Unfortunately, on this occasion we have had to drop the use of the gallops but will be looking to organise an activity using these in the near future.

In addition to this, we will be stopping all activities over lunch to stop and celebrate the riding club being in existence for 35 wonderful years. We invite everyone to come, bring a picnic with you and celebrate this remarkable achievement together.

## **Help at the show**

I am asking for volunteers to assist at the Bank Holiday Monday Show, 30<sup>th</sup> August. If you are able to spare even an hour or two it would be really useful. Jobs range from pole picking to judging assistant and scorers.

Please join me in welcoming our newest members -

Sam McLaren

Luke Garcia

Helen Francis

Don't forget to join our members only Facebook group to keep up to date on the latest news.



# CONGRATULATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

It has been a busy month for Area competitions. Well done to all those who entered any event. It isn't all about winning and we are always supportive of anyone who wants to represent the club at any area event.

However, we have done ourselves proud and here are some of the achievements

## 10 July Dressage

Huge thanks to Kate Arnold for being the club helper

### Prelim 18

1<sup>st</sup> place – Morgan Ripley

2<sup>nd</sup> place Sue Childs

4<sup>th</sup> place – Loga Rega

### Prelim 2

6<sup>th</sup> place – Marci Gough

8<sup>th</sup> place – Elizabeth Sharpe

### Novice 24

1<sup>st</sup> place – Morgan Ripley

5<sup>th</sup> place - Sue Childs

### Elementary

4<sup>th</sup> place – Gemma Murray

8<sup>th</sup> place – Alice Scott

## 18 July Show jumping

### 70cm

1<sup>st</sup> place – Elizabeth May-Heggie

4<sup>th</sup> place – Claudia Corner

### 80cm

6<sup>th</sup> place – Elizabeth Sharpe

Well done to Suzanne Holt and Richard Sharpe who also rode brilliant rounds but were not placed.

# CAMP 2021



What a great time we all had at R/C camp, held at Boomerang Equestrian Centre near Hungerford. Arrival was on Friday afternoon and, after settling the horses and setting up tents etc, we collected our camp T shirts and wonderful goody bags provided by Equine Xceed, and went for a hack around the XC course to stretch the horses legs. This gave us the opportunity to have a look at the variety of jumps we would be jumping on Sunday and to introduce the horses to the larger than life models of the elephant and camel!

The first camp activity was the stretches for horse riders taken by Ali Williamson. This was easier for some than others and provided some hilarious moments, particularly when we had to pair up. Supper on Friday evening set the scene for the rest of the weekend – heaps of fabulous food, with plenty of choice, cooked by Caroline’s wonderful parents Norman and Vange. Whilst on the subject of food, there was also plenty of gorgeous cake throughout the weekend, courtesy of all the wonderful entries in the “Camp Bake Off” competition, won by the Biscoff Blondies, baked by Lucy Kirkby.

Saturday saw the show jumping sessions, generally in groups of 3 or 4, taken by Gemma Sayers and flat work (mainly in pairs) with Suzanne Holt. The huge SJ arena at Boomerang is filled with lots of brightly coloured fillers and wings and there was plenty to work on, leading up to a jump round the whole course. The flat work sessions went exceedingly well with many “lightbulb moments” to take away to work on. Some of the horses were given an “extra spark” after spotting the wallabies that live in the enclosure opposite the dressage arena!

Simone Highmore of Allen & Page was there on Saturday to weigh the horses and provide individual nutritional advice and diet plans, even providing vouchers for free bags of feed.

Another great meal on Saturday night was followed by the alcohol fuelled, hotly contested quiz, whilst we sheltered from the torrential rain in “The Shack”. Given the original weather forecast we were very lucky, with the rain being mostly restricted to during the nights. There were just a few slightly soggy tents and the need for a quick repositioning of some to inside the lorries!

XC on Sunday was coached by Georgie Spence. Great fun was had by all, splashing through the two water complexes and tackling the huge variety of fences, ditches and banks. We worked on position, pace and confidence and learning to trust your horse.

Paul Tarling of TT Photography was there throughout the show-jumping and XC sessions and captured some great moments for the photo albums, although I did nearly take him out whilst almost falling off over the wall in the show-jumping!

It was great to see lots of new faces at camp as well as some of the “old timers”, and horses of all shapes, sizes, colours and levels of experience. Everyone had a fantastic time and all credit must go to Elizabeth Hillier-Sinclair and Caroline Shrubbs for organising such an action packed and fun filled weekend. We can’t wait till next year!



## RDA AT LARRIS FARM REQUIRE HELPERS

Message from RDA

Dear CDRC members,

We are currently looking to recruit some new volunteers and are particularly keen to find volunteers with experience of horses. Volunteers have to be over 13 years old but ideally, we are looking for adults.

Volunteers need to have a spare couple of hours each week to help us help children & adults with disabilities & special needs enjoy the many benefits of horse riding.

Volunteering with Quest is great fun and extremely rewarding. We are flexible if people can't commit each week, we just ask for volunteers to give us as much notice as possible to availability.

Quest is based at Laris Farm in Chobham, Surrey and our sessions run during school term time.

We are looking to recruit volunteers for the following days & times;

Monday 12-3.00pm

Tuesday 12.30-3.30pm

Thursday 1.00-3.30pm

Friday 12.30-3.15pm

Saturday 9.15-12 noon

If you are able to help, even if it once a month or more regularly, please get in touch via by emailing: [committee@questrda.org](mailto:committee@questrda.org)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

*To enter any training clinic please email us.*

**21 August 2021**

Dressage Clinic with Suzanne Holt in Chobham (Waitlist only)

**Friday 27 August 2021**

Groundwork clinic with Ella-Louise Mayhead - BHS Performance Coach (BHSI), HT, UKCC L3 BE  
(1 space available)

**30 August 2021**

Bank Holiday Monday Show at Dunstall Green

**05 September 2021**

Indoor Dressage at Merrist Wood

**Saturday 25 September 2021**

**Dressage lesson with Andrew Gould**

Andrew Gould is one of Great Britain's leading Dressage riders and he is noted and respected by some of the most prominent figures within the sport as well as being in great demand as a trainer. Andrew's sights are now on World and Olympic level and with the right horse, no one will argue that he is definitely heading in that direction.

Lesson will cost £40 per person for a 45minute shared/pair lesson

**02 October 2021**

Members only Fun Day and 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
To be held at Twelve Oaks, Windlesham



## **CDRC Committee**

Chair – Sara Green

Secretary – Amelia James

Treasurer – Nick Valvona

Membership – Claire Valvona

Teams & Training – Liz Hillier-Sinclair

Area Liaison – Caroline Shrub

Website & Communications - Paul Broadest-Dixon

Committee Member - Malcolm Hunt

*Contact us:*

*[ChobhamRC@gmail.com](mailto:ChobhamRC@gmail.com)*

*[WWW.Chobhamridingclub.co.uk](http://WWW.Chobhamridingclub.co.uk)*