



Chobham and District News Brief – September 2019



Welcome to the September CDRC news brief, updating you on what is coming up and our past events. If you do not wish to receive these emails, please contact us via Chobhamrc@gmail.com so you can be removed from the mailing list.

You can also use that email address to send us feedback or to contact any member of the committee with questions or suggestions.

Welcome to new members

We would like to welcome Jessica Shanks, Leah Lelliott, Julia Thomas, Hannah Belcher, Sophie Judd, Nikki and Mollie Fardyga, Joanne Lewis and Anya Morbey to CDRC. We hope to see you at many of our upcoming events.

CDRC members Sue and Sandra put on their dancing shoes!

On Friday 12th July, after a jaunt down the M4, a few over excited Proseccos and a hack round a field dodging elephants and camels, Sue, Caroline and I entered the smart outdoor arena at Boomerang at CDRC Camp. We three and our equines had been offered up as victims for a dressage to music demonstration put together by our esteemed Chairperson Sara Green.

There was a description of the session in the last newsletter, but the main thing I took from the session was how much of a difference the right music for the horse made to the overall picture. We have pretty different horses, Caroline an Iberian mare, Enriquetta, myself a cob x sports horse, Casey, and Sue's Ruby is a British Bred Warmblood mare. Enriquetta as the lightest horse, suited a 'tinklier' lighter music and Ruby a more powerful orchestra type.

Most importantly Sara stressed that the rider must love their music, this was something that became apparent to Sue and me during the next few weeks!

We all enjoyed the session immensely and soon discovered that conveniently there was soon to be a freestyle to music at Merrist Wood. I bit the bullet and entered at Novice level and Sue entered the Elementary. Sara had worked with Sue on her floorplan so she just needed to select the music. I needed both floorplan and music, so Sara sorted some music that I liked and Gary, my instructor worked on the floorplan - though Sara did shorten my canter as I was dying by the end of it! Sue was also on holiday a week before the competition so there's nothing like a last-minute rush! Sara came to watch our dress rehearsals and gave us a tweak and tips where necessary, she was incredibly supportive throughout.

The day dawned and I think it's safe to say Sue and I were indeed nervous, but excited. I tried to remember Sara's instruction of 'enjoy it' and also that my music had personal significance to me. It was another hot day so I was happy to be early in the morning and also relieved to be the only bronze rider (winner, winner, chicken dinner). We survived! We started and finished in the right places, Casey had started to anticipate a couple of moves, but all in all happy with the result, and buzzing for the next one!

Nearer lunchtime when the temperature had gone up considerably, Sue was boiling in the warm up, her time came and in she went. The strains of the Cirque du Soleil music began and off they danced, all went according to plan, nerves held together and Sue exited with a regional qualifying score, a great result for a first outing.

Having watched back our videos, we're both aware of improvements that need to be made and polish applied! Having notched up the first one, we're both looking forward to getting out dancing again. We were both delighted with the judge's comments regarding the suitability of our music and choreography, this had a major impact on our scores. Huge thanks to Sara for her assistance with this, it was a thoroughly enjoyable few weeks.

There are several of people in the area that can help put music together for you, once it's done, it's done! Just remember Sara's advice and make sure you love it - you'll be hearing it in your dreams!

August Bank Holiday show

This show is usually our main fund raiser for the club with all profits going to help subsidise the clubs training and other events which are non-profit. We would like to thank the RDA volunteers for their support of the show who, without their support, we would not be able to run the event at all. We would also like to thank Mrs Jean Shipp and the Bisley and Sandown Chase Pony Club for the use of the pony club field to run the event.

The bank holiday was a scorcher! Despite the ground conditions being the best we have seen them in recent years I think the sunshine and heat put some competitors off and the show didn't draw the numbers of competitors we have seen in recent years.

Our thanks to our wonderful judges, Kimberley Haslam Collister, Libby Straver, Martine Cooper, Tracy Martin and Nikki Thompson who without their support we would not be able to run the show. We would also like to thank Marci Gough and Sarah Leno for organising and running the handy pony course all day and to Charlotte Knight, Liz May-Heggie, Jodie Shaw and Sandra Hewitt for helping on the day. Your support is much appreciated.

Well done to club members Sue Childs, Charlotte Knight and James Parker who all won their respective classes.

Despite the low attendance we still managed to cover the costs of running the event mainly thanks to our wonderful sponsors, Kings Ranch, Kimberley Haslam Collister and Chobham Tree and Landscapes. The schedules were kindly supplied by the Print Consultancy.

As a committee we have agreed to donate a further £150 to the RDA for their support at this show.

Dressage at Merrist Wood

Our September dressage is becoming an annual event after the huge success of our first event last September. This year was no exception with 110 entries across the day. Before we go into the riders I wanted to say a huge thank you to those who helped on the day. Firstly, to Malcolm who was on his feet the whole day making sure everything ran to clockwork and everyone had enough to eat. Amelia did an amazing job as show secretary and as always our very own Carole Vorderman (aka Sara) completed the scores. Other members who helped on the day include Katie Hughes, Marci Gough, Jess Long, Siobhan James and Charlotte Knight.

We were also helped by a lot of non-members who support our club including Claire, Megan Grobler, Eve and Tegan Fifer, Karen Long, Sheila Steele and Wendy Smart. Their support is essential to enable the event to run so smoothly.

We were also privileged to have 7 sponsors including:

- The Dog Grooming Studio
- Buglear Bate & co solicitors
- Larkenshaw Farm
- Gary Humphries, Longcross Development
- Equine Water treadmill, Headley
- The Print Consultancy (who made the fabulous programmes for us)
- Maddie Hewitt, Equine and Canine Physiotherapist
- Equus Photography

The event was also attended by Equilens Photography. Please go to their website www.equilensphotography.co.uk to see all pictures of the dressage and our August show. There are some fabulous pictures to purchase.

Now to the riding club winners. The highest placed CDRC team were the Maybe it's Neighbourlines' coming in second place. Well done to Katie Hawker, Caroline Shrubbs and Sophie Judd.

Both Caroline and Sophie were the highest scorers from CDRC in the Intro tests.

Siobhan James won the Prelim 14 class with an outstanding 70.77% beating fellow CDRC member Marci Gough who scored 70.00% exactly.

Elizabeth May-Heggie won the Prelim 18 with another high score of 70.38%, knocking Siobhan into 3rd place with 69.62%.

In the novice 27, Sue Childs was our highest scoring member in 3rd place with 68.39%

A huge congratulations to all who competed. Looks like CDRC are going to have a strong dressage team for the winter and next year.

Other training we have completed

We have continued to have regular training sessions available to both members and non-members. These are all at subsidised rates for members and as well as being enjoyable, we are seeing so much progression of both horses and riders.

Training this month included

- Sunday 11 August 2019 – Flatwork with Malcolm Hunt
- Saturday 17 August 2019 – X-country with Jade Hyatt
- Sunday 15 September – Show jumping with James Emblem

Upcoming events

To book any of the lessons, please email Chobhamrc@gmail.com with '(date) lesson' in the subject line (i.e. 03 March lesson). Please note that payment for lessons may be taken in advance to secure your place.

Sunday 22 September 2019 – TREC lesson at Westrcroft Park Polo Club, Windlesham Road, Chobham, GU24 8SN.

TREC is a fun, inclusive sport that all types of horse/pony and rider can enjoy. TREC training can add a new dimension to your schooling and it's fun for both horse and rider.

At the clinic you will learn how to tackle a variety of TREC obstacles successfully, for example Corridor, Low Branches, Neck Rein, Bridge, S bend. Some obstacles are done lead as well! Suitable for all horses, ponies and riders, including newcomers to the sport.

Coaching by a TREC GB TD/judge/experienced competitor.

Improves your partnership with your horse as well as fun & beneficial for horse & rider whether you plan to compete or not

This event is now full with a waitlist. *We are looking to run another session in November.*

Saturday 28 September – Polework with Jade Hyatt in Knaphill

Individual lessons £15 for 45 minutes. £20 for non-members

Sunday 29 September – Dressage with discussion – Suzanne Holt in Knaphill

A 45-minute individual session with Suzanne Holt. Cost £25 members (£30 non-members)

Arrive prepared with a dressage test (you need to bring the test with you). Complete the test and Suzanne will make comments like a normal test judge. She will then go through a breakdown of the test with you, giving you pointers and instructional before riding through the test again.

Sunday 20 October – Beach Ride

A very early morning start, meeting at Hayling Island at 07:30am for up to two hours on the beach.

Cost £5. (please book this event otherwise we will cancel)

Saturday 12 October - LAW Bitting Solutions - Knaphill

An opportunity to understand what bit suits your horse's conformation. Bring your horse along and have a 1 on 1 appointment to check your horse's bit with no obligation to buy.

Charges are £55 per horse. The bits in stock are Informed Designs bits and the snaffles range from £70 to £85 and the training/jumping/Weymouths are £85 to £100. Laura will also work with Myler bits and Bomber bits.

All the bits are designed to improve comfort, welfare and performance. A session can take up to an hour per horse. We look at the horse on the ground checking conformation and how the bridle fits, we check your current bit collection. We then see the horse ridden in its original bit then discuss what is happening and make any changes that are best for you and the horse.

If you would like to come and watch, please let us know so we can manage attendance.

To book please contact Liz on the riding club email.

Sunday 13 October – Orienteering on Chobham Common – cost £8

Starting from Langshot Equestrian Centre

To book please email us

Sunday 27 October – Flatwork lesson – Suzanne Holt in Knaphill

Individual lessons £25 for 45 minutes. £30 for non-members

Sunday 17 November -Flatwork lesson – Malcolm Hunt in Knaphill

Individual lessons £25 for 45 minutes. £30 for non-members

Sunday 08 December- Flatwork lesson – Malcolm Hunt in Knaphill

Individual lessons £25 for 45 minutes. £30 for non-members

Area Events

2019 Area team events are as follows – if interested please contact Liz via the club email.

- 13 October 2019 – Festival of the Horse qualifier at Munstead - Combined Training.
- The cost is £25 per member and entries including payment must be made by Wednesday 18 September (sorry for short notice)

This is a team of 4 event with each member competing a different test.

- 1) BE90 Dressage 91 (2009) and 75cm Show jumping
- 2) BE90 Dressage 95 (2012) and 75cm Show jumping
- 3) BE100 Dressage 101 (2009) and 85cm Show jumping
- 4) BE100 Dressage 102 (2010) and 85cm Show jumping

Your horse must be vaccinated to compete at this area event.

There are also individual classes

- A) BE100 Dressage 106 and 75m Show jumping
- B) BE90 Dressage 96 and 85cm Show jumping

Finally, we have added a few more events to our 2020 plan which include, a polo lesson, ride in the New Forest and a 'ride and BBQ', so lots more to look forward to. Other ideas are always welcome.

Other Team events coming up

If you are interested please email our wonderful team manager Liz (if you are interested in becoming a team manager please also let us know)

Intro Dressage – 19 October at Priory: This is for Intro and Prelim tests as individuals

Novice Dressage – 23 November at Sands Farm: This is a team or individual competition, Prelim or Novice tests

Intermediate Dressage – 08 February at Sands Farm: This is a team or individual competition, Prelim, Novice and Elementary

Novice Show Jumping – 09 February at Sands Farm: This is a team or individual competition with fences at 70cm and 80cm

Intermediate Show Jumping - 07 March at Berkshire College of Agriculture: This is a team or individual competition with fences at 80cm, 90cm or 100cm

CDRC Committee

Chair – Sara Green

Treasurer – Nick Valvona

Teams & Training – Liz Hillier-Sinclair

Website & Communications - Paul Broadest-Dixon

Secretary – Amelia James

Membership – Claire Valvona

Area Liaison – Caroline Shrubbs

Ordinary member - Malcolm Hunt

Sarah Leno is the Club Safeguarding Officer.