

MSRC New Year Newsletter 2016

Dear Member,

Happy New Year to you all!

Sadly on the very day that I am writing this , we have lost our first competition to the weather. The dressage at King's Sedgemoor has fallen victim to the wind and rain. Soggy fields and wet rugs seem to be the order of the day for this winter so far and yet the grass still continues to grow. At least the evenings are beginning to draw out already.

So -to round up our recent events~ I am sure those of you who came to the Richard Johnson evening will agree that it was a fantastic evening. We were able to send an amazing £2280 to the Injured Jockeys Fund as a result of this event, a magnificent effort. We have had pictures in the Mendip Times and also Horse & Rider magazine and a very appreciative letter of thanks from the IJF. Richard charged us nothing and would not even take travelling expenses and even felt guilty at accepting our gift of champagne - but as he had just ridden his 100th winner of the season at Wincanton that afternoon - we are sure he could find a use for this.

*Training sessions have been going well with Amanda Edmonds being as popular as ever, Nikki Stephens clinics busy on Monday nights and the Gaye Farquharson clinics being enjoyed and our thanks to Ed Hobbs who has stepped in while Gaye is sidelined having her knee made bionic! In the New Year we have **Sue Petty, Steve Hague** and also **Jane Holderness- Roddam**. **Please, please book early for these clinics**. All of these trainers will teach **ALL** abilities so don't think ' I am not good enough to do that' because you are!!*

*2015 was not one of the best years for our teams - but the Horse Trials teams kept the flag flying with Gemma Sharpe winning her arena at the Championships and Kathy Emery putting in a really good performance. Being a Team Manager is really hard and very often thankless work, these managers do not have time to ring everyone on the members list – so the onus is on **YOU** to contact them and **make yourself available!!!** We usually run at least one Area only team which will give you the taste of team participation without the stress of thinking you may face a National Championship before you really feel ready. So please pick up the phone and talk to the relevant team manager for whichever discipline suits you and have a chat to them - we need to get MSRC back at the top! Our SJ team manager is **Sara Bartlett (07967 208 778)** - she would love to hear from any of you jumpers - there is a new intermediate winter competition this year too. For the Dressage – **Carol Plested** is the team manager, we **know** we have talent in this discipline so please contact Carol on **07973 360 968)** For Horse Trials, CT, Hunter Trials etc. , **Mandie Bown** is again the Team Manager(**07968 146 209**).*

We have had some new organisers this winter - which is great news- but are always still looking for more and for helpers - so please if you can spare a couple of hours - please, please get in touch with us.

As yet all the Summer dates are not confirmed - the Annual Show is booked for June 12th at Wincanton Racecourse and there will also be Combined Training & Dressage there in September. At the Annual Show we will also be running the Badminton qualifiers again.

All our dressage and jumping competitions are now Cricklands qualifiers - so if you want to ride in a Championship at the David Broome Centre at Mount Ballan - now is your chance. All details can be found on the Cricklands website.

Mid Somerset will not be running the Area 12 Dressage to Music qualifier this year but it will run on May 30th at Kingston Maurward with SWDG taking on the organisation. So all you potential music stars - get your programmes together now! It takes longer than you think! A huge thank you to the Mid Som team who have run this event so well for the past eight years.

Over the years some of us have attended Quiz evenings run by SWDG and they have proved to be great fun - so we are planning a similar event at Long Sutton Village Hall on March 12th. It will be a fun evening and there will be a supper provided - so make up a team and come along.

Bev Hodges ran another successful Table Top Sale in November and we are very grateful to her for this initiative - but sad that not many members attended. Another new venture was a test riding evening with Gill Longhurst which proved popular.

*We hope to see lots of you out competing in the New Year. Just a reminder - **please, please** enter early and **please, please** if you change your e-mail address or mobile phone number don't forget to let Julia know!!!! Between them Alex and Julia are still having all kinds of nightmares with your contact details! If you receive your programmes electronically, **please** download them or pay the extra £5 and have hard copy by post. It is so disheartening to hear people say that they didn't know about a certain competition or training event because they hadn't printed the programme. **Hats!!!** Don't forget that apart from British Dressage- hats only compliant with standard EN1384 are no longer acceptable! Do check yours!*

Wishing you all sound and healthy horses and a Very Happy New Year

Your Committee

Main Club contacts: Margaret Peverley (01935 473 188) Marian Draper (01458 241 506 / 07885 301 898) Treasurer/ Membership: Julia Down (01373 461 807) Teams: Dressage & Riding Test – Carol Pleded (01935 850 248 / 07973 360 968) Horse Trials and Hunter Trials – Mandie Bown (07968 146 209) Show Jumping – Sara Bartlett (07967 208 778) Facebook items to Alex Green (07766 885 965)

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP??? IF NOT THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST COMMUNICATION FROM THE RIDING CLUB!!!!