

## **MSRC Autumn Newsletter 2015**

Dear Member,

*As I write this we are having a wonderful Indian Summer which will help to make up for some of the dismal wet days in August that we endured. Horses have started to get woolly and I know a few of you are thinking about getting the clippers out already.*

*2015 has been a fairly quiet year for our teams at National Championships with neither dressage nor show jumping teams fielding qualifying teams at the Area competitions. We had qualified teams for the Festival of the Horse competitions but for one reason or another by the time of the Championships - we no longer had teams sound enough to participate. Our Horse Trials teams were the best of the bunch this year and the combinations who represented us at Swalecliffe after qualifying at Bicton in June did us proud and I understand enjoyed the experience as well. Gemma Sharpe won her section and Kathy Emery was 4th in hers, with the team finishing a really creditable 5th on a score that in some years would have had them first!! The other team members were Vicky Heal and Jo Gale - well done to them all. Our Team Managers work so hard to get teams together and once again we would stress that the onus is on YOU to contact the relevant Team Manager and tell them that you would like to be considered for a team. If you put yourself forward for a qualifying team, please be aware of when and where the Championship is due to take place and if your team qualify you will be expected to go to the Championship. Our Team Managers are: **Carol Plested - dressage on 07973 360 968, Mandie Bown - horse trials and combined training etc on 07968 146 209 and Sara Bartlett - show jumping on 07967 208 778. They would love to hear from you!!!!** The first qualifier will take place at Pontispool on January 30th 2016 for the Winter Dressage in which 2 members ride a Prelim test and two ride a Novice test. The final for this competition is at Keysoe on April 9-10th. All tests at the qualifier and championship are on a surface for this competition. A list of planned qualifiers and Championship dates and venues is given at the end of this newsletter. In 2012 Mid Somerset were Riding Club of the Year, for our performances at Championships and we would like to get back to this level!*

*The Summer programme of events and training went well but entries have not been good and indeed the last dressage competition at South Barrow had to be cancelled due to lack of support. If we are not providing the type of competition you want - please do let us know. Our thanks to our summer trainers - Amanda Edmonds, Gill Longhurst, Gaye Farquharson, Sue Petty and Ed Hobbs. These trainers will also be available to you, plus others, during the winter programme. Ed's jumping training will continue, as required, mid-week or weekends to fit in with the competition schedule - so please text Ed for more details.*

*So to the Winter competitions - we have dressage and jumping at King's Sedgemoor and dressage at Kingfisher. We need helpers for both competitions and training days and will be very glad to hear from you if you can spare a couple of hours on any of the dates. Please contact the organiser of the event or training - they will be delighted to hear from you! There is a test riding evening on December 7th which should be of interest to new combinations just starting to compete and more seasoned campaigners alike - Gill Longhurst is excellent in this role.*

The membership fee has been held at the 2014/15 level and membership is due for renewal on November 1st. **Please renew promptly!** We hope to see you at the AGM on November 12th at Long Sutton Village Hall – free supper – presentation of annual awards and for entertainment we have osteopath Tony Nevin talking about his work with exotic animals which should be very entertaining. World Horse Welfare will be there with Christmas Cards etc - so please do make use of this opportunity to buy cards and gifts from them. Do come along and tell us the things YOU would like to see the club putting on in future. The Supper Evening with leading NH jockey Richard Johnson is almost upon us - if you haven't yet booked - contact Margaret NOW!

We hope to see you out and about at our events this winter and we normally add -Safe Riding! However, three of our members have had horrible accidents recently while handling horses on the ground, so maybe Keep Safe is more appropriate. and remember~

If you are not riding - **please** offer to help at one of the events or training sessions.

Area Qualifiers 2016

Winter Novice Dressage Pontispool Jan 30th

Winter Novice SJ KSEC March 5th

FOTH Eventer's Challenge Pontispool Feb 14th

FOTH Combined training To be arranged

Dressage to Music 30th May Kingston Maurward

Horse Trials June 12th Bicton

Summer Dressage & SJ 16/17 July Chard

Championships 2016

Keysoe April 9-10th

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28/29 May TBC Aston-le-Walls

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Bury Farm Oct 1-2 TBC

Swalecliffe 5-7th August

Lincoln 10 -11 Sept

Intermediate Dressage & SJ at Bury Farm 30th April - 1st May but no confirmed qualifiers as yet.

**STOP PRESS: De-clutter your tack rooms and bring it to the TABLE TOP SALE - November 20th at Keinton Mandeville Village Hall. Contact Bev Hodges on 07880 704 716**

Main Club contacts: Margaret Peverley (01935 473 188) Marian Draper (07885 301 898) Julia Down (01373 461 807)