

# *Cambridge and District Riding Club*

*August 2007*

*Autumn Newsletter*

## **Ramblings from the Chair....**

Amid the un-seasonal weather the numerous enforced cancellations of events both equestrian and other, the riding club calendar has managed to go ahead remarkably unscathed.

Despite last minute venue change for the dressage and a sea of mud at Hickstead fierce inter-ranch competition has taken place. CDRC's most spectacular achievement came in the show jumping qualifier where our teams won every Team class that day! Truly a result for the record books!

The club ran the dressage to music qualifier at the end of July and with this came a new impetus to bring music to the masses. The response was tremendous resulting in a full afternoon of music classes and great entertainment for all. We are hoping to generate a quadrille team from this and a trip to watch this contest at Addington is being arranged. To stimulate ideas.

I myself have had good Summer on the horse front. This may well be related to the discovery of flapjack as a sustaining oat based fuel for riders! In glorious sunshine I joined the event teams at Milton Keynes where 'Chief' my coloured horse stormed around the XC to gain me comments about my high speed from the PA system. 'Rose' returned to me temporarily for the two dressage qualifiers where she won the novice music class. Then 'Daffodil' gave birth to an embryo transfer foal from the Burghley bound 'Frostie' Taylor. And if feistiness is a sign of ability then "Don't Stop Me Now" should be a winner...

I hope that you have all been recording your Summer activities on video to share at the AGM? Do let me know what you have so that we can have a grand display at the Autumn party after the business is over. Photograph displays are also welcome.

See you there,  
Karen Froud

## **AGM 2007**

The AGM will be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm at Rampton Village Hall.

## **WHITE HORSE CUP**

Please send details of your competition successes over the past year to Nettie if you wish to be considered for the White Horse Cup (Seniors) or the Red Baron Cup (Juniors). Placings in all kinds of competitions count towards your total points.

Don't forget the website  
**[www.canddrc.org.uk](http://www.canddrc.org.uk)**

### **Beach Holiday - July 2007**

With the heavy rain of early Summer it looked like the seaside holiday was going to be a bit of a wash out, especially after last year's tropical weather. Luckily, Mother Nature was smiling upon us and the weather for July started to improve with the weekend prior to the holiday being glorious, as was Monday our first day.

I left home with Barney later than anticipated due to being slow at packing. It's amazing how much stuff you need to take with you! I had a trouble free journey all the way with no traffic queues to hold us up.

On the way down I noticed I was being followed and when the trailer turned off to Ringstead I knew it must be another "holiday goer". Sure enough Suzie and her horse 'Toby', newcomers to the seaside holiday, pulled into the field behind me. A little later Mary and 'Amory' arrived and we all went out for ride around the farm tracks.

Doris and John arrived the following day, more rides around the farm tracks and a lovely evening was spent outside relaxing and drinking wine. By Wednesday the weather had become unsettled but Doris and Suzie managed to get to the beach with the horses, John took all the dogs!

Thursday was Cross Country day but only Suzie made it this year as Doris' horse 'Phil' injured himself by getting tangled in his lunge line. Kerry and 'Bella' arrived whilst the others were at the cross country course. They decided to go straight out riding down to the beach even though it was raining! Mary and I decided to wait a while before heading down to the beach. On our way out we met Kerry and 'Bella' on their way back. They hadn't made it because they got soaked through to their pants! We made it down there and had a lovely canter through the surf as the beach was nearly deserted due to the heavy rain that Kerry and 'Bella' had been out in.

Friday saw a very wet day but we all got out for a ride in the morning before it got too heavy. Kerry and 'Bella' did get to the beach on this final day.

Some of us are heading back in September for another holiday. Hopefully we will get a full week of sunshine. There will be some old faces and some new ones going but there are still a few spaces so if you would like to come along contact Mary Owen (see contacts page) and she will give you all the details. There are many rides to enjoy, most are off road and suitable for fast work as well as the beach for a gallop or paddle.

Hope to see some new faces in September.

Rebecca Seymour

## Olympia

If anyone is interested in going to Olympia in December, possibly on Quadrille day  
Please contact Karen Froud  
(see contacts list for details)

### Meet the.... Treasurer

**Full Name:** Rachel Anne Keaveney

**Age:** 32

**Family:** Adam (partner) - totally non-horsey  
Mum - who I share 'Kali' with  
Dad - that sometimes helps out  
Brother (Nigel) - hasn't ridden since he was about

5

**Pets Owned:** 'Daisy' a Tabby cat aged 6



### Horses Owned/Loaned:

Owned - 'Kali' (Calerux Sara Jayne) a Welsh Section D pony for nearly two weeks! She is our first mare after owning 6 geldings. I had always sworn that I was never going to get another horse but after losing Joshua who I had owned for fourteen years I seem to have changed my mind. I also ride 'Quincey' my friends lovely horse a couple of times a week.

**Favourite Horsey Discipline:**

Sponsored rides (when the going is soft enough)

**Most Hated Horsey Activity:**

Cleaning tack - only gets cleaned when I got out. I really ought to look after it better!

**Favourite piece of Horsey gear:**

Toggi breeches - I don't seem to find it easy to get jods to fit me but I really like this brand.

**Greatest horsey moment?**

Galloping in the all-weather gallops on the Newmarket sponsored ride.

**Advice for a novice?**

Despite having horses for over 20 years I am still pretty novice myself so would say make sure you have someone knowledgeable that you trust that can give you advice

**What do you do in your spare time?**

Renovate Victorian houses - just finishing the second one. Although after living in a

Building site for 6 months I am saying never again (at the moment - are you getting the theme

here!). Oh and I have a bit of a bad shopping habit, not helped by living 5 minutes bike ride

from town!

**How long have you been a member of CDRC?**

First knew about CDRC through the Winter Dressage league at Milton - not sure how many years this goes back but probably 7 or 8 years.

## Area Dressage

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of July three dressage teams travelled to Welwyn for the area qualifiers which were organised by Holly Hill. As the hay had not yet been cut from the designated competition field there was a last minute change of venue. Arriving at the new field however, proved to be the most nerve wracking part of the day!

Detailed map were provided by the organisers but they did not convey the narrowness of the banked and winding lanes. At the point where the trees touched both sides of the lorry and the roof at the same time there was no turning back... but thankfully the field duly appeared. Although it was got and humid the forecast rain held off. The teams were:

Novice; Eleanor Taylor 1<sup>st</sup>; Michelle Palmer 5<sup>th</sup>; Cindy Wells; Karen Froud - Team 6<sup>th</sup>

Open; Sandra Baker 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sara Murfitt 5<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>; Jayne Harris; Karen Froud 4<sup>th</sup> - Team 4<sup>th</sup>

Riding Test; Michelle Palmer; Eleanor Taylor 2<sup>nd</sup>, Cindy Wells 2<sup>nd</sup> - Team 2<sup>nd</sup>

I rashly agreed to take Chief "I don't do dressage" to make up the numbers for the novice team, but was delighted to finish several places above the bottom slot! And someone has to be the discard score! Sandra on 'Sooty Bear' and Eleanor on 'Charlie' won their sections and qualified. Cindy on 'Cornelius Fudge' and the Riding Test team got 2<sup>nd</sup>. All the teams gained places!

But best of all was that we did not have to organise it this year! It was a great t enjoy the day as just a competitor.

Karen Froud

## **New Training/Competition Yard in Little Downham**

We have limited spaces for full livery as well as backing schooling, sales preparation, competition and holiday. Private tuition available for all levels.

We will also be hosting CDRC clinics throughout the Autumn

Call Gill on 07876 770840

or

Barry on 07985 202205

Email: [mail@ldequestrian.co.uk](mailto:mail@ldequestrian.co.uk)

Website: [www.ldequestrian.co.uk](http://www.ldequestrian.co.uk)

## **CDRC Autumn Party and AGM**

Friday 26th October 2007

At Rampton Village Hall

7.30 for 8pm meeting

Video of Frostie Taylor at Badminton  
and other Riding Club events

then party!!!

All welcome

## **PLEASE ...**

- ....bring a plate of food and something to drink.
- ....bring some photos or a video of your Riding Club summer to share.
- ....bring back your cups from last year.
- ....send in nominations for White Horse and Red Baron points cups,  
...and suggestions for other cup winners.
- ...return any club saddlecloths!!

Please let Karen or Nettie know if you would like to stand for committee for the next 2 years. Meetings are held every 2 months and are friendly!. if you want something new for the riding club this year, join us and make it happen.

## HICKSTEAD - 29<sup>th</sup> July 2007

'Hickstead in the Mud' is what we had, although I am only talking about the stable field, which was horrendous.

We arrived on the Saturday in brilliant sunshine, due to the incessant rain all week we were directed to park in the International stable field that still had mostly grass and not mud. Ski-ing through mud to manoeuvre our horses to their stable was perfected and after another night of rain, we rose to a warm and dry morning.

We had two teams competing this year, Trinity, being the winners from last year and the St Johns team. This comprised of members who had never competed at Hickstead before and both teams had a really good chance of doing well.

Due to the bad weather the Riding Club Team Challenge was to be held in the new all-weather warm up arena, much to the appreciation of all the competitors. The course proved to be very tricky with each round up to maximum height. This year only three teams completed the competition on zero scores and it was the 'newcomers' who came out the better of the two CDRC teams, finishing in 6<sup>th</sup> place on 4 faults with Trinity riders each finishing on 4 faults.

As usual there was great excitement and team spirit with everyone willing each other to do well. After the presentations and photographs we all headed for that last minute shopping spree, even catching the end of the King George V Cup in the main International Arena.

With all the events finished for the day and the likelihood of a long wait for the tractor to pull everyone off the stable field, we packed up to leave. Some quick thinking from Sarah & Kirsty who at lunchtime had parked down the road meant for a quick getaway. The less unfortunate having to wait for hours for the tractor, even a flirtatious gesture from a CDRC rider was not enough to get their attention!!!

All in all, everyone enjoyed the weekend. Congratulations go to the St Johns team and a big thank you to our supporters, Sharron, Rachel, Sarah, James, Sasha and Linda. This really is a fantastic opportunity to jump at such a prestigious event and next year, lets hope we can send more teams.

Cambridge St Johns

Cambridge Trinity

Kirsty Human  
'Twentyfourve'

'Mobile Phone'

Sarah Simmons

Debbie Roberts  
'Earl Grey'

'Tinker'

Nicola Shaw

Jo Harris  
Tiggywinkle'

'Lowmoor Abigail' Lauren Sapsed

'Little

## Quadrille Qualifier

### Quadrille Qualifier

It is now several years since we had a Quadrille team, and after the enthusiasm for Dressage to Music this year in the Club it seems like a good idea to suggest that we might like to participate again next year. It is very time consuming but very worthwhile and gives one a tremendous buzz to actually compete at the qualifier.

The Riding Club Quadrille Qualifier is to be held at Addington on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2007. It is a really interesting day out.

In the morning each team is allocated a slot in the indoor school to practice their routine to their music. In the afternoon each team is inspected for cleanliness of horse and tack and their costumes. This is then followed by the actual performance of each team. The atmosphere and tension from the audience is electric, and the costumes, make-up and glitz seem to increase each year. There is then an interminable break, whilst the judges make their minds up which four teams should go forward to Olympia.

If you would like to see what is involved, or hopefully gain inspiration for next year please contact Mary Owen by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September who will try to arrange cars, mini bus etc depending on the numbers interested.

Mary Owen

## Dressage to Music Qualifier and Equitech Software Fun Freestyle Challenge

CDRC organised the Dressage to Music Qualifier and the Equitech Freestyle Challenge at Manor Farm EC on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

The DTM training evening given by Rebecca Jackson and Janet Betterman had fired-up enthusiasm amongst members. We had twelve members competing in the Novice Class and six in the Elementary with very good results. Sandra Baker and Karen Froud won their respective sections of the Novice with Rebecca Jarvis and Rebecca Jackson second.

Aspley Guise won the Elementary with Karen second.

Rebecca Seymour and Mary Owen won the pairs, so we have four members qualified for the Championships at Addington on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> October.

The Equitech Challenge was only taken up by one other club. The CDRC Emmanuel team of Sandra Baker, Cindy Wells and Rebecca Jarvis won, with Aspley Guise second and Cambridge Trinity in third place. The first team have qualified for the

Championships as well as Rebecca Jackson who was the first individual, but as yet we do not know where the Championships will be held.

The committee and riders are very grateful to all the members who helped on the day, taking entries, scoring, writing, gate opening, clapping and videoing etc. I am promised that the video will be available for the AGM.

The full results can be seen on the website and photos on [www.BigTimeMedia.co.uk](http://www.BigTimeMedia.co.uk)

Mary Owen

## Team Competition at Royal Norfolk Show 07



Buster, Angus and Blue strutting their stuff at the Royal Norfolk Show

Some time during the early months of 2007 while sitting in the conservatory drinking tea and dreaming of warm summer sunshine, Sarah Bellow suggested we could have a go at the team competition at Norfolk Show.

We needed three ponies and three riders to walk, trot, canter, jump three fences and gallop while remaining in tight three abreast formation. Points are awarded for turnout, how well each team matches as well as performance and how well you stay together.

Sarah has three Dales ponies, Buster, Blue (my mount) and Angus (the old faithful, been there, done that, got loads of t-shirts). Sarah's friend Mandy agreed to ride Angus and so our training began!

We rode out, three abreast, we walked, trotted and cantered, three abreast, we decided we needed some help!

We visited Fran Berry for some flat and jumping lessons and continued to do everything else three abreast whenever we could.

The competition drew near and it was time to put things together and have a go at jumping three abreast. All three ponies all side by side in one 20 x 40 arena (Dales

ponies are by nature a sturdy sort and quite wide) is a bit of a squeeze, but we managed it and did some good jumping together. The comment from Fran was that she would rather jump Intermediate Eventing and that she did not know who was more mad, us for doing it or her for teaching us!

One last final practise then off to Norfolk. We were the only breed team, the others were made up of pony clubs, riding clubs and hunts.

We did well! We were placed at the top in the turnout and matching part. Next came the flat ridden. The commentator introduced the ponies as we set off saying that "Dales ponies were bred to carry great weights" (how rude!). The ridden went well and we stuck together like glue! but unfortunately we came apart during the jumping. We did however manage to stop laughing enough to pull up after the gallop and halt smartly in front of the judges box.

For the presentation all the teams go back into the arena , even though we were not placed, every one has a final gallop round, this year to the sound of the hunting horn. It really was great fun, roll on next year.

Anna Cook

## **Area 7 Show Jumping Qualifiers - Seniors Report Earls Barton, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2007**

After a month of torrential rain and events being cancelled due to flooding, the Area 7 show jumping qualifiers went ahead on a lovely sunny day with the ground in near perfect condition.

This year we sent 5 teams, spread over the three classes. We had a Novice team, Intermediate team and an Open team all winning their class and therefore qualifying for the National finals to be held at Lincoln in September.

We had two teams in the Novice section with three of their riders in the top four individual placings. In the Intermediate section we also had two teams, and three riders in the top six individual placings. The Open team qualified, as they were the only team entered but all managed to get placed as individuals too.

Roll on Lincoln, Cambridge Blue will be the colour of the weekend.

### **NOVICE**

#### ***Cambridge Trinity***

Polly Taylor	Jelly Bean	Team 1 <sup>st</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> individual
Jane Hector	Tropical Touch		
Debbie Roberts	Tinker		2 <sup>nd</sup> individual
Nicola Shaw	Earl Grey		1 <sup>st</sup> individual

#### ***Cambridge St Johns***

Claire Elbrow	Jumanji
Sonia Hansen	Prime Act
Dan Peacock	Boycott St George
Judi Shaw	Oki Doki

## INTERMEDIATE

### **Cambridge Downing**

Michelle Seward	Quality Gold	Team 1 <sup>st</sup>	
Harriet Morris	Master Bailey	2 <sup>nd</sup> individual	
Emma Lloyd	Gaelic Charmer		
Sarah Simmons	Twentyfourve		6 <sup>th</sup>

### **Cambridge Westminster**

Siobhan Pryke	Asterix		
Holly Hall	The Master Cutler	5 <sup>th</sup> individual	
Wendy Beal	Honey Bee		

## OPEN

Polly Taylor	Charlie	Team 1 <sup>st</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> individual
Alison Leonard	Casey Jones		4 <sup>th</sup> individual
Rosie Groombridge	Quigley Heartthrob	5 <sup>th</sup> individual	
Kerry Simpson	Shylock		2 <sup>nd</sup>

JUDI SHAW

## **Happy Hackers**

For all you happy hackers out there we are trying to organise a group hack. We are hoping to do this on a regular basis and will schedule them all over the Cambridge District.

Our first hack will be in Witcham/Mepal area and will be on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. Meeting place will be in Mepal plenty of room for lorries and trailers. Meeting at 9.30am to set off at 10.00am.

Everyone is welcome no matter what age so long as you have control of your horse or pony and they are good at riding in a group.

If you are interested then please email me, text or call me so I can coordinate everyone.

Faye Low

## **FOR SALE**

### **Ideal Riding Club Horse**

Jelly Bean is an 8 year old, 15hh bay mare. Competed successfully in all Riding Club disciplines - always placed in dressage and show jumping and is part of the CDRC team qualified for the 2007 National Riding Club Championship Novice Showjumping. Going well at British Eventing Intro - has completed 4 events. Easy to handle and a good doer! A calm confident rider who can give her regular work will go far and have a lot of fun. She will be sorely missed - she is only for sale as we

haven't the time to do her justice. £3,500. Please call Polly on 07711 670058 or Barry on 07985 202205

**1991 Leyland coachbuilt 7.5T horsebox**

Fitted living inc. sink, hob, fridge, hot/cold running water, cupboards, internal/external lockers. Partitioned for three with fully padded horse area. Clean, smart, reliable lorry. £13,500  
Call Gill on 07876 770840

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## WANTED

A 15-16hh horse, mainly for hacking, suitable for a Novice rider. Good farm home. Please contact Jenny Shakespeare Tel: 01945 774164 or 07887 810053 or [jshakespeare@supanet.com](mailto:jshakespeare@supanet.com)

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## NEW TRAINING

### Flatwork Training with Gill Mennigen

There will be two sessions starting at 10am with up to four people per group. Cost will be £12.50 per person.

Please can you send me your details and cheque to hold your place. I also need details of what level your horse is working at. The places will be filled on a first come first served basis and your cheque will secure your place.

This can be returned if you cancel and your place is filled by a substitute but not otherwise.

See diary for dates.

### Novice Showjumping with Tina Ure

We are still awaiting confirmation from Tina of dates for the Novice Jumping training. All being well we will start up again in November and then run each month as before with 2 to 3 groups each day depending on interest. However, I have had very positive feedback about her training so advise people to book early.

Cost for Tina is £15 per person and places allocated as above.

Alison Leonard

## WHAT ABOUT A RIDING HOLIDAY?

Have you ever thought about going on a riding holiday? If you are looking for a holiday with a difference this could be for you. In recent times the number of riding holidays has exploded and there are now hundreds available for all budgets and levels of rider. They are all very individual and as long as you are happy to get on a horse and spend some time outdoors there will be the right one for you out there. Things to consider are:

#### **Riding Experience:**

Riders from beginner level onwards can be accommodated on some riding holidays. Groups are usually separated so more experienced riders can enjoy riding at their own pace. Holidays such as safaris with big game are only suitable for more experienced riders, while some are ideal for beginners or mixed groups, such as western ranches. All the rides have excellent horses, varying from schoolmasters to fit and responsive, but none have any vices such as bucking or bolting and all are easy to ride and familiar with their home terrain. Remember that a ride may not be technically difficult but may require riding fitness if the hours in the saddle are long.

#### **When you want to go? :**

It is always a good reason to ride somewhere in the world, take advice on which rides are at their best when you would like to travel. Consider the length of the holiday and ease of getting to your destination - consider a short break close to home for a weekend, a ride in Australia for 2+ weeks.

#### **Level of adventure:**

This varies from leisurely riding on a guest ranch with full service and comfortable accommodation, through wilderness pack trips in the Yukon where you could come face to face with a grizzly bear, to fast riding along the beach with a nice B&B afterwards. Specialist tuition in all disciplines from side saddle or western riding, Portuguese dressage to polo is also available on a holiday. Check what you're in the mood for!

#### **Who is coming with you:**

Non riders and children are often catered for on riding holidays. There may be plenty of other activities available on site, separate children's programs are offered on some rides while others are suitable for anyone to join the riding.

#### **Budget:**

Again there is something for everyone. Prices for week long holidays vary from £450 - £3000 for a week including everything except flights. They usually depend on the level of accommodation and service offered. Riding holidays are generally good value and it is often impossible to find anywhere to spend money once in a remote scenic location off the beaten track.

The last but probably most important item is to make sure you get good advice before paying up front for a holiday. Be aware that the internet has made it easy to make claims that are hard to verify. Book through a reputable agency which visits and selects destinations and can understand your needs. They can match you to a suitable quality holiday with horses in good condition. Try to speak to someone who has been to your chosen destination recently.

For more information on horse riding holidays that would suit you visit:

[www.unicorntrails.com](http://www.unicorntrails.com) or call the office on: 01767 600606 for specialist, independent and honest advice.

