



# Over & District RC



Newsletter Issue 1/2008

## NEW COMMITTEE

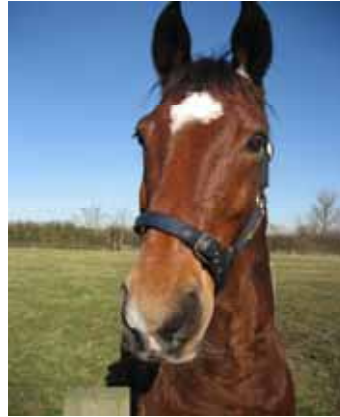
A new committee has been appointed for 2008 and it welcomes the opportunity for its members, new and old, to tell them what they want from the club in 2008.

## BHS AFFILIATION

The new committee had its first meeting in late January and agreed that the club should become affiliated to the BHS to offer added credibility to the club as well as enabling members to take part in competitions against other local riding clubs, and also to take advantage of having BHS riding club insurance cover for their events. The new committee promised to ensure that the club is run in much the same way as in previous years, holding regular training sessions and competitions in a relaxed and, of course, friendly, environment.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Everyone who completes the ODRC questionnaire will be entered into a free prize draw of which the lucky winner will receive a free class of their choice in any of the training dates or competitions to be held in 2008. To obtain your copy of the questionnaire, send an email to: [th10001@cam.ac.uk](mailto:th10001@cam.ac.uk)



Another friendly face of ODRC

## SUPPORTERS

We are always looking for supporters to help out on show days, steward events, and maybe even sponsor a class. Please feel free to send your details to our Newsletter editor at [LMC@murketts.com](mailto:LMC@murketts.com) and we will add your name to our "supporters' network" and send you your own copy of the club newsletter.

## SOCIAL/TACK SALE

The committee members thought a social event could be a good way to start off the year as its still too dark for many of us to ride in the evenings, so we have organised a 'table-top-tack-shop' for Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February in Fen Drayton. Please come along and meet the new committee members and have a complimentary glass of wine or juice. In return for a chat and perhaps a few bargains, we promise to listen to your thoughts and suggestions for the club. Further details are listed below.

## NON RIDDEN TRAINING

The club hopes to also be able to offer some non-ridden activities, such as parelli for example, and perhaps some BRS examination training – all feedback is gratefully received via a questionnaire designed to give a greater insight to the local riders and their needs and wants from the club.

## NEW GOALS

The club also hopes to raise awareness of equitation and to improve standards of riding, horsemanship as well as preserving and developing public riding facilities in the local area. Most of all they want the club to be a success and to run events that the members really want to take part in.

## MEMBERSHIP AND FUTURE EVENTS

While the club is waiting for its BHS affiliation to be confirmed (we are meeting with them on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb), it has drawn up a provisional fixtures list to give you an idea of what events are planned for 2008. We can't do any of this without your continued support, so please complete your membership form, and the questionnaire, and send them back as quickly as possible so that the committee can find out exactly what it is that you, the riders, really want from your club, then we can confirm the fixtures list and get on with organising events!

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.ODRC.ORG.UK](http://WWW.ODRC.ORG.UK)**



# Riding Diary



## FORTHCOMING DATES

The club aims to hold at least two clinics a month, as well as a range of rallies, shows, demos, outings, and social events. Once questionnaire information has been collected, and BHS affiliation has been approved, the fixtures list will be finalised according to members' requests. See the Provisional Fixtures list for further details.

### Confirmed Events

- 26<sup>th</sup> February Social/Tack Sale
- 8<sup>th</sup> March Monthly Show Jumping Clinic with Nat Dixon
- 15<sup>th</sup> March Monthly Flatwork Clinic with Virginia Brinton

A taste of things to come (in addition to clinics)

- Spring Showing Show  
Summer Beach Weekend  
Willingham Sausage Sizzler Pleasure Ride  
Gymkhana/Clear Round Jumping/Handy Pony  
Regular Dressage Competitions  
Regular Show Jumping Competitions  
Summer Camp  
Club outing to Burghley  
Champagne Breakfast Ride  
Riding and Road Safety Training  
Trec competitions  
Dressage to music  
Awards Dinner

## NOT TO BE MISSED!!! TABLE TOP TACK SHOP

The club will be holding a table top tack shop at the Fen Drayton Village Hall, Cootes Lane, Fen Drayton on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Doors open for sellers at 6.30pm and doors open for the eager shopper from 7pm until 9pm. Refreshments will be provided courtesy of the club. Tables are £5.00 each and can be reserved by either calling Sue on 01954 232758 or by cash on the door!

## 5<sup>th</sup> May – TREC CLINIC

Yvonne Duffy is running an unaffiliated trec open training day at Manor Farm. For further details contact Sue Rogers on 01954 232758.

\*\* PLEASE EMAIL US DETAILS OF ANY EVENTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEWSLETTER \*\*

All of our training sessions are suited to all levels and ability of rider. Sessions will be divided dependant on ability of horse and rider combination, so when booking please be honest about your **current** level of riding. If you are unsure, please contact the relevant session co-ordinator who will be happy to assist.

### SHOWJUMPING

Katherine Trezise  
07917 888380

Jo Payne  
07966319766

ODRCjumping@gmail.com

### DRESSAGE/FLATWORK

Mary James  
07702059805

Tamara Hug  
07799405394

ODRCflatwork@gmail.com

### GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Sue Rogers  
01954 232758

ODRCenquiries@gmail.com

### OTHER SESSIONS

The club endeavours to run a wide variety of classes and demonstrations throughout the year, if you have a particular interest or suggestion then please do not hesitate to contact Sue on 01954 232758.



# Rider Profile



We thought it would be great if each of our members wrote in and told us all about themselves, their horse or pony and their ambitions for the forthcoming year. This way we get to know a bit more about people within our club. To kick start we have Sue Rogers, Chairperson of the ODRC and Betty Ann Smart who is also on the committee. Please send your 'profile' and your favourite photo to Lorna MacPhail at [LMC@murketts.com](mailto:LMC@murketts.com) and we will be delighted to publish it to the club.

## Sue Rogers – Chair Person



As a child I made do with an imaginary pony and didn't sit on a horse until I was 14 and had some birthday money. So I got my horse fix by cycling to watch horse-shows or feed polo's to ponies I saw in fields. I learnt to ride when I was 23 at Snaresbrook Stables in East London in its twilight years. When it closed I found Patch, a 3-day share, quiet school mistress, in Epping Forest.

Moving House, changing jobs and getting married to Will, meant an interlude in horse-riding until we moved to Swavesey 11 years ago. After the wonderful off-road riding in Epping, I was aghast at how little safe off-road riding there is in the "real countryside" so I formed Swavesey and District Bridleways Association and have spent the years campaigning for safe inter-village links and for the guided bus way to include and bridleway with links from all the villages.



I started riding Peter, an opinionated, hairy, piebald cob who loved food and hated exercise. We joined ODRC as I wanted guidance with Peter, friends to ride with and activities to do on horseback. Peter remained unenthusiastic about the activities and I often wished he were more like my friends horse, Choccy.

One day I heard Choccy was for sale – he's been mine for six years now and we enjoy a bit of everything; hacking, endurance to open level (the Red Dragon Ride in Wales being our biggest achievement), lessons, prelim dressage, western, gymkhanas and trek. ODRC has given me the chance to live the Pony Club-Pullein Thompson stuff I could only read about as a child. As Chair of ODRC, I hope to build upon this basis to ensure the club retains its friendly character to all comers, while allowing its members to spread their wings within the support and activities of the BHS's BRC Environment.



# Rider Profile



Betty-Ann Smart



As you can see from the photo I was a very enthusiastic horse woman right from the start, I don't know where I got it from as none of my family were at all horsey but I had a passion for the creatures and couldn't keep my little hands off any of them from the small hairy and grumpy ones to the large powerful shiny ones! My riding really got started when my grandad relented and decided to fuel my obsession by getting Brandy (the dear old donkey) to live in the back garden. As you can see I thought my life was complete and I was the happiest little girl alive. Brandy became the centre of attention in the village and each morning and afternoon at school time would hang over the gate to receive all his regular callers with small gifts of food and tit bits. As I grew each year I searched for more contact and knowledge and soon progressed to riding school lessons, helping out for free on my days off for rides and then to riding other peoples horses and ponies for them.

It wasn't until I was 11 that I became the proud owner of a 14hh bay cob gelding who could buck like a bronco if the mood took him. He stayed with me for over 15 wonderful years and since then I have had the pleasure of owning and loaning a variety of these beautiful creatures all of who have been unique and very different but we have shared many adventures and experiences, most of which have created some treasured memories.

I will try my hand at most things that involve an equine and have ridden western and driven, trekked - in the UK and on holiday abroad. I have had a go at showing, dressage, jumping, pleasure rides/endurance and even mounted games but what I really love is being able to hack out either alone with my horse or in the company of good friends enjoying the beautiful countryside and the great outdoors to keep fit and healthy and as a great switch off to my busy work as Project Manager for an early years educational charity.