



Welcome to the Over and District Riding Club Newsletter for Autumn 2009

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Our summer show was a huge success and it was great to see so many people enjoying the day. ODRC will be attending the Inspirational Horse Day run by the BHS at Manor Farm, Houghton. We will be holding a prize draw with fantastic prizes (including a lesson with Phoebe Buckley!) so come along and say hi to the committee who will be on the stand for the day. Our AGM and Awards dinner dance are being held soon so please check the web site for more details. You could be up for an award as we have lots of fun presentations as well as those with the highest points. The recent spate of local yard burglaries is very worrying, so please report anything you see that may help to catch these thieves. Keep safe and happy riding.

Best wishes

Zoe Glover
ODRC Chairman



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12th September – Flatwork lessons with Virginia Brinton.

Held in the ODRC club field from 10am onwards. Cost is £15 for members and £20 for non members. Email odrcFlatwork@gmail.com or Pippa Corney on 01954 231221 to reserve a place, then print out the booking form on our website to send with payment.

12th September – Rampton Horse Show

42 classes including showjumping, working hunter, dressage, side saddle, ex-racehorses, gymkhana and general showing. If you require a schedule please email extracerscambs@yahoo.com

20th September – BHS Cambridgeshire Inspirational Horse Day

Full details below in newsletter. To be held at Manor Farm EC.

26th September – East of England BHS Bridleways and access training day.

Free training to be held at Wood Green Animal Shelter to help improve access and rights of way in your local area. Full details below in this newsletter.

27th September – Inter Riding Clubs team dressage competitions

Organised by Rutland RC, to be held at Sissons Farm EC, Peakirk, nr Peterborough. Prelim and Novice classes. Entries close 20th September. For more details please call Bella Craven 01733 263461

5th October – ODRC AGM

To be held at The Exhibition pub at Over, 7:30pm. Come along and give us your views. This is your chance to see what we have achieved as a club in 2009 and to hear all that we have planned for next year.

10th October – ODRC dressage competition

To be held at the club field. Walk and trot/prelim and novice tests. Please check the website for details and schedule. Award to highest placed Ex Racehorse (must be registered with Ex Racers Club to qualify.)

17th October – Flatwork lessons with Virginia Brinton.

Held in the ODRC club field from 10am onwards. Cost is £15 for members and £20 for non members.

17th October – Annual awards dinner

Come to the ODRC Annual Awards Dinner & Disco at Over Community Centre. Have a nice meal, maybe pick up an award or rosette or two, then boogie the night away to all your favourite tunes. Tickets are now on sale at just £10 per person including a fish and chip supper (vegetarian and other options such as a sausage/chicken available). Please contact a committee member to buy your ticket.

18th October – ODRC Jumping Competition and Equine car boot sale

To be held at the club field. Schedule available on the website nearer the time. Award to highest placed Ex Racehorse (must be registered with Ex Racers Club to qualify.)

Tack sale will be 10am – 2pm ODRC Club field, Longstanton Road, Over.

Empty your cupboards and tack rooms, fill your boot and make yourself some money.

Pitches – £4 for club members and £5 for non-members.

Contact 07960 977710 or 07845 815982 for further details or to reserve your pitch

ODRC SUMMER SHOW – REVIEW

Once again we were very fortunate to have such good weather for our last open show of the year. The day started with tack and turnout won by Val Espley and Abbie. All of the ridden showing classes were well supported, especially the mountain and moorland class which was won by M. Owen and Mac. The show jumping classes were very competitive as always. The Chase me Charlie provided edge of the seat entertainment for the spectators and was won by Caroline Howard on Tommy who also won the Novice and Intermediate classes.

Full results are available on the website, special congratulations go to our in hand champion Louise Bingham with Dyfed Pippin and our ridden champion Alicia Christmas with Master Pickwick. Congratulations are also in order to club member Kerrie Aschettino who won the points trophy with her exracehorse Diverse Forecast. Kerrie and Diverse Forecast had a very successful day at the show winning both the ridden Ex Racers Club class and the riding club mount and coming 4th in the performance horse class.

Photos are available to view and purchase on the website <http://www.bigtimemedia.co.uk/>

As always, we would like to say a big thank you to our wonderful judges, stewards and helpers who gave up their time and energy to make the day a success – and also those who helped to set up and pack away, your efforts are very much appreciated.

BHS INSPIRATIONAL HORSE DAY – Manor Farm EC, Sunday 20th September

ODRC will be attending the Inspirational Horse Day so come over to our stand and hear our latest news.

We will be running a raffle and prize draw with some excellent prizes on offer

1st prize – lesson with Phoebe Buckley

2nd prize – a years membership to ODRC

3rd prize – a full size saddlecloth (with thanks to Horsepoo saddlery)

MEMBER PROFILE

Each newsletter we will be featuring a member and their horse/s with a little information about their aims and

achievements. Our featured member for September is junior member Clara Bailey and her lovely ponies...

"I started riding when I was 3 years old on my cousins pony. My Auntie took me to local shows in the lead rein class. From then on I knew I wanted to ride. When I was 4, I started weekly riding lessons at a school in Tadlow.

About the age of seven, one of the riding school ponies came up for sale. I had ridden Rolo (an 11.2hh, bay New Forest x) a few times before and loved her! So then I soon became the proud owner of her.

Then I joined the ODRC in February 2008. Since then I have been participating with Rolo in various jumping clinics and Virginia Brinton's flatwork clinic. I entered the Spring Open show in 2008, which was Rolo's first ever show. I won the novice class with her and I also entered M&M and odd coloured on my cousin's pony Cascob Glow. A 12hh, Welsh section A palomino. At the end of the show, I was awarded the Hockey's Trophy for earning the most points of the day.

Now as an 11 year old, I am growing and have got too big for Rolo. So back in April 2009, we bought a lovely 13.2hh, dapple grey Connemara called Silver Sprite. With him I have carried on Virginia Brinton's flatwork clinics and had a go at Fran Berry's flatwork with poles. Mum is also enjoying riding Silver.

We entered Silver and Cascob Glow in the May 2009 and the August 2009 Open shows. My little sister Alana (aged 5) entered the Lead Rein on Cascob just like I had when I was 3. I really enjoy the ODRC because everyone is really friendly and helpful. There are loads of activities and the clinics have helped me improve my riding. Long may it continue."

TRIBUTE TO STUNTNEYS IONA by Christine Few

Everyone says their horse is pretty perfect but I have to admit Iona was one that really was. She wasn't particularly exceptional at anything but she was good at everything.

In May 1994 I was looking for a youngster and was told about a lovely three year old shire cross in Sawston. Unfortunately I fell in love with the foal which had just been born rather than the three year old. On the 3rd September I brought her home as her mother had stopped producing milk. It took four of us to lift her into the trailer. She was put in the stable next to my old mare who had just had an operation so she had company, but this is definitely how not to wean a foal! Dave made very heavy top slatted doors (which I still cannot remove to this day) and she was duly weaned.

From that day on my relationship with Iona was good. She was hard work to lead and spent most of the time with her hooves in the air but she was brilliant in traffic from six months old. She since became a very good confidence giver to others on the roads.

I took her to Tania Liddell at two and between us both we backed her in a week, brought her home and she immediately dumped me. From the age of 3 I tried to sell her but no-one was mad enough to buy her, she was horrible! When I realised no-one else wanted her I told myself to get over it and get on. The ODRC were brilliant, Sandra Baker taught lessons for the club every month and I was allowed to join in because something needed to be done with Iona as she was one that definitely needed work. Much bucking, rearing and messing about later I ended up with a horse that as soon as she was put on a circle she went into work mode.

When she was four my daughter started doing competitive long distance rides but as she was only 9 she had to be accompanied by an adult so, there I was on my four year old with Debbie much more under control than me and I escorting her! After a couple of years doing this I suddenly realised that I could be doing this competitively also. Thereafter I re-joined the Anglian Distance Riders and the EGB. My trips across the country began.

I have been to so many places either with Iona or Harry, the beach was my first expedition and this took one whole day to

get Iona into the water, after that it was a case of trying to keep her out. The LDRs became wider spread, including competing at Goodwood which was fantastic riding across the downs and looking at the Isle of Wight in the distance, Yorkshire, Nottingham then all over East Anglia. Unfortunately I never made it to the Red Dragon or the Golden Horseshoe as I felt that the very high hills would be just too much for her.

I have done dressage, jumping, hunter trailing, long distance riding and Polocross (but we don't talk about this too much) and until my accident in 07 I had a fantastic time. Unfortunately when I broke my collar bone I have to admit I lost a bit of confidence and then in May 09 getting attacked by greyhounds whilst out hacking in Rampton just about finished me off.

The advert for the Beach Weekend with the ODRC in July made me determined to get on with it. I had the best gallop and play in the sea that Saturday and had the biggest grin on my face which made me realise my confidence had returned. Unfortunately at 12.25 on the 11th July on the way back off the beach she dropped under me suffering a major heart attack. I am heartbroken because I have lost the best friend I think I've ever had but what a fantastic way to go doing something she thoroughly enjoyed. She gave me the best 15 years of my life, proved to me that I did actually know what I was doing and I have been to places and done things I never dreamed of. Big thanks to Diane, Karen, Kayleigh, Chris and Sarah for all your help that day, it was greatly appreciated.

Enjoy your horse, you don't know how long you may have them for.

BHS EAST OF ENGLAND BRIDLEWAYS AND ACCESS TRAINING

Care about safe off road hacking? Want more bridleways?

Do you look at a broken gate or blocked bridle way and think "Someone should do something about that" or do you think "I should do something about that." If it's the latter then the East of England BHS want to hear from you.

We want to work with you, to improve access and rights of way in your local area. We are holding a free training session on the 26th Sept at the Wood Green Animal Shelter, Godmanchester, Huntingdon, starting at 10am.

The days Training is free to BHS members, but we need a refundable deposit of £10, which will be returned to you after you have attended the training day. (Cheques should be made payable to The British Horse Society)." The day includes lunch.

To find out more please contact BHS Development officer Janet Pamment on 01945 467243 or j.pamment@bhs.org.uk

ODRC BEACH WEEKEND – By Diane Carey

For anyone who has been thinking about taking your horse or pony to the beach then the Holkham trip is a must! This was my second weekend away at the beach with my horse Tosca, but a first time for some that came. I know from experience that galloping along the beach seemed like 'just a dream', but actually doing it on my own horse was better than any expectations and it is something that I want to do again and again. There was much preparation to be done leading up to the weekend, packing of tack and tents, food and beverages etc. This was mixed with a little apprehension too, but this made the trip all the more exciting!

Once we arrived at Mill Farm in Wells-next-the-sea we quickly got the paddocks fenced off. We waited for others to arrive and by tea time we found ourselves tacking up for a quick ride to the beach, we just couldn't wait! After a lovely hour long ride we were back to camp with the horses settled and lighting the bbqs. The following morning after breakfast off we went for another ride along the beach together, galloping, paddling, talking, laughing and just relaxing with our steeds. As time passed everyone's confidence was rising and horses were settling. All that came have said that next year they will be coming again, and although we witnessed the very sad loss of Iona on the beach we all agreed that under different circumstances the experience would have been out of this world.

For all of us that went not knowing any of each other, I feel that we have formed a special bond that we will share forever. I do hope that everyone who came this year will come again next year, and encourage anyone else to come along too.

Whether it's to build confidence, meet new people or to fulfil a life long dream, the beach weekend is a great experience. I know for sure that I will be going again next year, and it would be extra special if more people could come and taste the experience of miles of sand and sea and go home not having to just dream about galloping along the beach.'

DON'T SIT BACK AND SAY "IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN TO US" – BECAUSE IT MAY!

As some of you may be aware there has been another spate of equestrian related thefts / yard break-ins around Cambridgeshire recently. Yards at Little Downham, Haddenham and Fen Ditton have been recent targets. So as the winter draws nearer and yards are left unattended for longer periods of time in the darkness hours here are some excellent tips from Horsewatch to help keep your horses and your equipment safe...

- Have your horse freezemarked and purchase a sign to display stating your home/stable has been security marked. Patches can also be purchased to sew onto your rugs.
- Lock all stable equipment (forks, brooms, shovels) away as they could be used as a weapon.
- Lock all wheelbarrows away so they cannot be used to carry away your equipment.
- Never leave baler twine around as it could be used to restrain your horse.
- Never leave head collars on at night as it makes horses easy to catch and handle by strangers.
- If your field is secure (gates/fencing) and your horse is easy to catch, do not leave a head collar on.
- Make sure your paddock gate is chained and padlocked.
- Reverse the top hinge on the gate to make it impossible to lift off.
- Purchase a grill for the top door if your horse does not like to be shut in completely. The grill can be taken down during the day. If your stable has door connectors, a grill will deter anyone from climbing over to bypass the alarm. Make sure the lower door is not too low, also allowing a bypass.
- Check your horse several times daily, but not at the same time everyday. If your horse(s) is at grass during the day, make sure you get them in before it gets dark, as inspecting them for injuries is difficult without daylight or electric light.
- If you stable on a DIY yard, start a night time check on a rota with other owners. Carry a torch and never go alone. A simple and cheap alarm to install can be run from a 12v battery, but remember it has to be heard. So if there is a house nearby, get to know the residents. Give them your telephone number in case of emergencies or anyone suspicious hanging around.
- Be aware of your surroundings so you quickly notice if things are wrong or missing.
- Purchase a hitchlock, wheel clamp and letters for the roof for your trailer/horsebox showing your postcode.

If you notice anyone or a vehicle around your stable or area acting suspiciously, take note of the registration number and description of the person. Then ensure that you inform Cambs police straight away on 0345 456 4564.

To find out more or to become a member visit www.horsewatch.co.uk or email horsewatch@cambs.pnn.police.uk

FOR SALE / WANTED

~ 5 unopened bags of Megazorb horse bedding. Perfect for use with rubber mats or in the trailer/lorry. Very absorbent! Surplus to our requirements. £5 per bag (RRP £6+)Tel. 07718900747

~ 6ft 3" Weatherbeeta Jasper Wave Lightweight stable rug in royal blue with silver binding. Excellent condition. Washed and ready to wear but just has some of the inevitable hairs stuck to the inside! Features wave quilted 420 denier outer, low cross surcingles, twin chest straps and fillet string. £28 (RRP £39.99)

FAL Godolphin stable rug, 5ft 6". Excellent condition. Standard neck. Professionally cleaned. Durable hard wearing and top quality rug. £50 no offers.

Please email yahneddy@yahoo.co.uk for photos etc.

CALEREUX WELSH COBS

3 lovely yearling fillies carrying the prize winning Calerux bloodline. Ready to start winning in the show ring, a future as ridden ponies or taking their place in the driving world, or simple being a beautiful, intelligent friend for a lucky private rider. Also available older Calerux stock including ponies broken to ride.

All quality animals capable of winning at high level while also being a pleasure to own.

Why not come and have a look?

Visitors very welcome!

Cliff Holland

Calerux Welsh Cobs

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Do you have any suggestions for future newsletter articles? Could you write a review of an event, competition or training session that you have recently attended? If you have anything you would like to see featured in our next newsletter or any items for sale please email the relevant details to yahneddy@yahoo.co.uk