

Chairpersons Report

Yet the end of another season, this one has been quite damp but enjoyable. Thanks go to all your committee members and helpers for the countless hours of work they have put in to make the events and the club run so well.

Area 5 riders with Val Malka as rep have yet again this year done us proud. Well done to all.

I hope you have found the web site beneficial, I know it has created a lot of interest to not only our members but has enabled outsiders to look inside the Rugby Riding Club. Thanks go to Dawn Webb.

We have arranged a firework display for Saturday 6th November. There will be a competition for the children to make the best Guy Fawkes. Food and drinks will be available at the clubhouse.

I would like along with the committee to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year. We hope to see you all next year and please let us know if you have any suggestions for shows and also if you can help before and on any show days.

Pat Flavell

Obituary

It was with sadness that we heard of the death of Mr Griffin. Mr & Mrs Griffin with their daughters Pam and Sheila have been involved with the club both riding, helping and supporting us for many years. Our thoughts go to the family and friends.



FIREWORKS *at Rugby Riding Club!!* *Please come and join us...!*

Saturday – November 6th

Gates open	6.30pm
Judging of 'Guys'	7.00pm
Bonfire lit	7.30pm
Fireworks	8.00pm

£2.00 per person
£6.00 per family of four

Bring a 'Guy'!!



Prize for best 'Guy' -
plus top spot on
bonfire!!!



Hot food and drinks
available – all
proceeds to RRC...

THANKYOU....

As many of you who were present at the Masters Championship Show will know a bouquet of flowers was presented to Wendy, who has served her last burger from the Rugby Riding Club kitchen!

We would all like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work over the seasons and wish her well for the future.

MEMBERSHIP

Do not forget to pay your membership fees before 1st April 2005

Membership forms are available on the website, at the AGM, or will be sent in January along with schedules for the new season.

Don't forget to check the website to see what is going on at the club

[Www.rugbyridingclub.co.uk](http://www.rugbyridingclub.co.uk)

or

Email info@rugbyridingclub.co.uk

National Riding Club Championships 2004

The Rugby junior team had a brilliant day at the qualifying event for the Championships this year, which resulted in teams for the Dressage, Riders' Test, Pairs dressage, Equitation jumping, Novice and Open show jumping all competing at Lincoln as well as several individuals.

I was lucky enough to be in the team for all except the Open show jumping, so we were taking Sunny, for his second year to Lincoln, and Golly, for his first. The journey there was very easy, so we arrived nice and early on a very windy day. We set up a dressage arena next to the trailer, and Gemma Cheney and myself went through our pairs dressage, for a final 'polish'.

On Sunday my first test was Preliminary 18 – dressage on Sunny and I was very pleased with him – he did a lovely test even though I am now really too big for him. It ended up that the Rugby team finished 7th, and a big 'Well done' and 'thank you' must go to Amy Pugh who was reserve, and had to step in at the last minute when Georgina Beasley's pony sadly went lame. We had an hour until the Riders' Test so we got Golly ready for his classes and then returned to the dressage arenas with him, me, and my nerves! As I was waiting to go into my arena, I was really nervous, because there was a lot of pressure on me to do well. What people didn't know was that Golly is a lot more difficult to ride than Bucky was, so I found it harder to 'look pretty'! The test went very well, but I didn't want to get my hopes up, as I had seen a lot of really good horses and ponies warming-up.

We then went straight over to the Equitation jumping ring, and jumped a nice clear round, but he was a bit sleepy, so it wasn't fantastic. In the end, the team came 2nd overall, which was great, and we had individual 4th and 10th, from Kellie Stokes and Alex Butler.

I then did my two rounds of the Novice show jumping, where Golly went brilliantly, but was unlucky to touch a pole and have it down in the second round, meaning that the Rugby team ended on a final score of 4 faults. However, Sophia Icke rode 3 perfect rounds to finish 3rd individually, and the team also came 3rd out of 27 teams.

Between my two rounds, I discovered that I had won the Rider's Test for my Arena, which I was over the moon about! At the championships they have a complicated system of averaging out the results from all the arenas to find an overall champion, so it isn't obvious straight away. We then found out that I had won the overall Riders' Test championship for the third year running! I was absolutely amazed and so pleased with Golly, who is such a wonderful little horse.

Gemma and I then got changed into our pairs clothes (with much help and hilarity from everyone – the glitter on our eyes was an essential part of the image!), and did our test. We were both thrilled with the horses, who work brilliantly together, and even more so when we discovered that we had won the whole Pairs Championships! We also got a 'perfect 10', which was really amazing!

After the pairs test, I rushed straight over to the presentation ring, where I received the silver salver, two sashes, rosettes, and a Derby House numnah for the Rider's Test! Soon afterwards followed the Pairs presentation, and Gemma and I trotted in together to receive our prizes. We were also in Horse and Hound magazine, a first for us, so we were thrilled! We all had a fantastic weekend, and we didn't get too wet either!

But we all have to remember who makes all of this possible- Val Malka! She is always there when there's something to be sorted out, and she supports and helps and encourages us tirelessly – whether or not the team does well. On behalf of all the Area 5 riders I can only say "THANK YOU VAL!"

GEMMA CARMAN

JUNIOR COMMITTEE NEWS

The junior committee have had a pretty good year but feel it is now time to make a few changes to both the shows and the help available from the juniors and their parents.

There will be a meeting on Friday 25th February at the Club house to allow junior committee members to decide which day or days they can help and see what area they would most like to channel their help towards.

Also 2005 will be Amy's last year as a junior and I feel that when Amy retires from the junior committee next Autumn that I should do the same.

So, if any of you Mums or Dads feel you would like to oversee the junior committee and run some shows there will be a vacancy at the end of 2005.

Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and I look forward to seeing you next year.

Lesley Pugh

If you should be interested in taking on the junior committee please contact Lesley on 02476 542131

HORSE TRIALS CHAMPIONSHIP

For the third year running Sophia Icke riding her pony Choc drop won the British Riding Clubs National Junior Horse Trials Championships held at Off Church Bury in the summer – a great achievement for them both.

The senior novice team also qualified for the championships where they competed in a two day event incorporating roads and tracks and a steeplechase section. The team consisting of Tracey Malka on Gristhills Slyfox, Cate Watson on Jacob, Susan Bullock on Celtic Cross and Suzi Holland on Jays Jolson all rode extremely well, with Tracey finishing in third place on her dressage score.

CONGRATULATIONS.....to

Michele Carman who attended a Riders Test and Equitation judges course organised by British Riding Clubs and has now passed her exams to judge at competitions. Well done.

If any members are interested in attending any of these courses please contact Val Malka on 02476 543040 or email info@rugbyridingclub.co.uk

TRAINING

Has been organised throughout the winter at the Ashford Arena, Moreton Morrell for anyone who is interested. Please contact MICHELE CARMAN on 01788 810755 for further details or pick up an application form at the AGM or from the website or email info@rugbyridingclub.co.uk.