



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

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• Secretary Report -

Sunday 1st October found Topaz and I at the BHRC Autumn show at Heazle. During the many hours I have spent gazing at Topaz in adoration, it had dawned on me that he needed to be plaited if he is going to a show. I last plaited 20 years ago when my daughter was showing ponies, so I thought I may be a bit rusty! Plaiting with bands is frowned upon in showing, so I had to use thread. None of the 'equine' thread was the right colour; Topaz is blue and cream, so I went to my local sewing shop and asked for strong thread. A much bemused shop assistant initially thought I wanted thread for a toy horse's mane.

Armed with colour co-ordinated thread, plaiting bands, plaiting mousse, scissors and a variety of needles, I set to work. Topaz was a star, he munched on his hay net as I stood on a step and did my first plait. 'Chunky' was the word Kate used for my first attempt! Each day I sectioned off parts of mane and practised. I dropped the needle, stabbed my fingers with the needle and kept losing my scissors. I learnt to under plait and Sunday morning at 6.30 saw me putting everything I had learnt into practise, yes, they were still a little chunky, but so much better than my first attempt. Suffice to say, I am hoping he metamorphosis into a cob before the spring show and I can hog him.



We had a great time at the show and Topaz was foot perfect. We were not placed in the youngstock class; I sometimes forget not everyone looks at him and sees perfection, but we came 3rd in the coloured class, so we got a

rosette to take home. More importantly, he was such a good boy, I couldn't ask any more of him, so I boxed him home, took out the dreaded plaits, turned him out with Sauber who gave him a half-hearted telling off and watched him roll!

We had lots of lovely helpers at the show; thank you so much to everyone who helped out, it is greatly appreciated.

The Just Gem Bursary was set up to thank and reward BHRC members who have helped at our events. It has been extremely popular this year and will continue next year. Everyone who has helped out at one of our events for a couple of hours this year, is welcome to take up any of the bursary training held next year, once your 2024 membership is paid. We will start in the spring at Conquest. Karen Court BHSII will be our instructor.

BRC Head Office has kindly informed us they are increasing our affiliation fees (again) we will have to pay £24 per member to them next year. We absorbed the increase last year, but membership will have to go up for 2024. Hopefully you will feel it is money well spent and join us again next year.

A couple of our members have said they would like to have a go at some of our competitions, but are unsure of the dress code. I have copied the most pertaining elements from the BRC handbook and put them below. Hopefully, that will give everyone the confidence to enter our competitions and look super smart for the photographer. This covers dressage and show jumping, BRC doesn't run showing classes. Therefore, check with the show secretary if you are unsure.

Hats

Hats which meet the current BRC standard must be worn with a harness properly adjusted and fastened. Skull caps must be worn with a silk.

Body Protectors

If worn, must meet the current BRC standard

Jodhpurs and Breeches

White, cream, beige, navy, or black breeches or jodhpurs may be worn.

Boots

Long riding boots designed for riding are to be worn. Short riding boots with gaiters of the same leather and colour may be worn. Suede half chaps may be worn providing they are of identical colour to the boots and have no decoration or tassels of any sort.

Jackets and Shirts

Jackets or smart fitted waistcoats must be worn including a tweed jacket with a coloured stock or collar and tie. White stocks, white American collar or white shirts with collar and tie may be worn.

Hair and Jewellery

Hair should be neatly secured and should not hang lower than the shoulder

Gloves

Gloves must be worn in ALL dressage competitions. Gloves are optional although they are recommended for show jumping.

The full BRC rule book can be viewed online - brc.co.uk

We also have had a delivery of BHRC saddle cloths. Priced at £45.00 they will enhance any photograph! Contact Deana.



Daresdown Tack Shop, owned and run by Committee member Vicky Henderson -

All BHRC members get a 15% discount at Daresdown Tack Shop, (excluding feed and 2nd hand) - Website www.daresdown-tackshop.co.uk - 07762247046

● Montes Diary -

Sunday 3rd Sept was our members only dressage day; the end of our dressage for the year and Montes' first season of dressage. The difference in the last 6 months has been considerable for Monte. He is now a horse that will go in a dressage arena, accept dressage boards and markers and a car parked where it isn't normally parked.

This year hasn't been about scores or placings although we have some lovely rosettes from Just Jem Rosettes and we did come 1st, 2nd and 3rd at the last outing; but we were also last in all of those classes too! Where were you all?! The judges' comments were as predicted - need to be more forward going but shows potential.

We also finished off the season with D2M, so Monte has learnt that sometimes we have music playing too and for now, he is dancing to Michael Jacksons' Bad - until he learns to behave! Those of you that have seen him in the warm up area know exactly what I am talking about!

He is now having a little holiday whilst I recover from knee injury once again, but we will be back again soon for training and then the new season of dressage.

Kate

● Members Only D2M -

Sunday 3rd September at Paddocks - BRC rules have changed, and we no longer have to be a BD member to compete at dressage to music, as long as competitors are current BRC members, so we are now able to hold D2M competitions.

We had a variety of routines to watch and enjoy. Les Miserables, Sister Act, Michael Jackson and The Shaddows. We intend running it again next year, if you are interested, I can organise some training and help you put your music together.

● Autumn Show -

Extremely busy with lots of entries. Results to follow.

● Mini Show jumping -

Extremely quiet with lovely competitors, its future is doubtful.

● Just Jem Rosettes -

I am happy to take any unwanted/spare rosettes you may have and I will transform them for club use. It doesn't matter how tatty they are, or that you don't want to part with all your firsts and seconds.

● Merchandise -

Gillet's £42.50

Polo t-shirts £17.50

Saddle cloths - £45.00

Long sleeve Polo's £22.50

Rugby shirt. £25.00

Hoodie £22.50

Bum bags £9.00

ALL ORDERS TO DEANA, PLEASE.

● Training -

Mini Cross Country Training at Pontispool with Nikki Lumb

Saturday, October 21, 2023

10:00 am 11:30 am AND 11.45 am - 1.15 pm

Pontispool Equestrian Centre

This is £38 per person for 1.5 hours. Maximum of 4 in the group. Body protectors must be worn and hats with no fixed peak. Please note this is mini cross country aiming at fence height from 50cm - 70cm. So great confidence building/low key training. Please contact Emma by email if you're interested.

Training cancellation policy will apply to this training.

Payment in full and must be received at least 10 days prior to event. Late entries accepted if space allows.

BE AWARE THAT BACK PROTECTORS MUST BE WORN, AND PONTISPOOL RULES STATE:

Garments bearing the now obsolete Level 5 or 7, Class 1, 2 or 3 labels and BETA 2000 Level 1, 2 or 3 will no longer be effective and should be replaced. You should be wearing a garment bearing the current BETA 2009 or 2018 Standard.

Organiser: Emma Pearce - 07903 952978 or email emmapearce1982@gmail.com

All details are on the 'events' page of our website - blackdownhillsrc.co.uk

Training Cancellation Policy
Full Payment is required to confirm your place, and must be received 1 week before the rally date please.
Later entries will be accepted if space allows.
Payments via BACS or cheque posted to organiser. Payment online - please quote your surname and date of the event/training you are paying for.
There will be NO refunds for withdrawals unless the space is filled from a waiting list or a late entry

● Membership -

Please allow 2 weeks for your details to be added to the BRC database as this is when the BRC insurance is activated. I usually do it within 48 hours of receiving your membership form and I try to acknowledge all members once I have processed their form, but mistakes do happen and I have been known to go on holiday the day before a membership form has reached me. I don't take the database with me on holiday!

The BHRC year runs from the 1st January - 31st December

● Dressage Restrictions

From September 2021, the following will be put in each BHRC dressage schedule -
"RESTRICTED: Combination of horse and rider not to have been placed 1st where there

were 1st - 3rd placings or more” (this only applies to Open competitions, not ‘members only’ competitions)

● Contact numbers

Chairwoman – Kate Hopper, Pleasant House, Clayhidon, Cullompton, Devon.
EX15 3TS. 07707815610 huskykate4@gmail.com

Secretary – Tricia Budd, 24, Newlands Grove, Ruishton, Taunton, Somerset.

TA3 5JJ. 01823 442597 triciabudd24@gmail.com

Treasurer – Deana Rowland, Coombe Hill House, Symonsburrow, Hemyock, Devon. EX16 3XA.
01823 680021 deanarowland2@aol.com

● Data Protection -

If you have ticked the box on your membership form - **‘I do not give consent’** - for your photo to be used on our Facebook page, website and newsletter, please can you introduce yourself to the organiser at each BHRC event you attend. Whilst every effort will be made by BHRC not to use your photo, images of members in backgrounds may at times be unavoidable and BHRC cannot take responsibility for third parties taking and using images.

● Making a BHRC payment -

It would help Deana, our treasurer, enormously if you included the following information on your BACs payments.

- ❖ If you are paying for flatwork training try to include ‘flat/date (of the event)/surname’
- ❖ If you are paying for jumping training it is ‘jump/date/surname’
- ❖ Lectures are ‘lecture/date/surname’
- ❖ Rallies - ‘rally/date (of the event)/surname
- ❖ Membership - member/surname

● Health and Safety -

If you travel alone to events with your horse, we suggest you download something like the form below and put it in a prominent position in your horsebox/car whilst you are riding. Due to data protection

laws, committee members cannot readily access your details from the BRC database. We also suggest you consider wearing a medical armband, especially for cross country training.

A rider wearing a ROYAL BLUE arm band is hard of hearing - BRC handbook

RED - Red ribbons signify a horse kicks.

GREEN - A green ribbon means that the horse is inexperienced.

BLUE - It is helpful for stallion handlers to put this colour ribbon in their horses' tail, especially if you have a mare as it warns you to stay away.

WHITE: White ribbons are helpful for letting others know that this horse is for sale