

LCRC NEWS

FREE NEWSLETTER FOR LAMBERTS CASTLE RIDING CLUB MEMBERS

New club platform

BRITISH Riding Clubs (BRC) has recently launched a new online membership platform which is now live for members.

BRC states that the new membership platform has been developed in response to clubs' feedback for a more streamlined process for joining and managing members' information and to ensure members' data is kept accurate and secure.

The new platform will replace a legacy system that was no longer fit for purpose and will reduce the administration burden for clubs as members will be able to join online and make amendments to their personal data. Other benefits include the ability to join at any time in the calendar year.

The online platform provision is not free and members will be charged a subsidised transaction fee of £1.50 when they join. As a current member of LCRC you should have already received an email from BRC inviting you to join the new membership platform run by Sport80.

The committee will keep members up-to-date with any information in relation to this change and would ask you to contact secretary Sarah Wharton at sarah.wharton64@gmail.com or membership secretary Fran Summers at fran.summers60@gmail.com with any queries.

Audience jumps for joy at Krissy's talk



DURING November club members were treated to an interesting talk from Krissy Spiller, a level 5 British Showjumping course builder after another delicious supper at The Ridgeway, Smallridge.

Krissy grew up in the Southwest and has spent much of her life riding and competing horses but at the age of 16, she started to train as a course builder. Today she is one of the

country's leading builders, with household names such as Horse of the Year show, on her CV.

Members were given plans from two of this year's HOYS championships classes and audience members were fascinated to learn how the courses were designed and laid out, and how distances, ground cover and fence placement are all considered. All this in a truly empathic way with the horses' interests at heart.

BRC body protector standards changing

HAVE you checked your body protectors lately?

Current standards for body protectors are changing from January 2024 for British Eventing, British Riding Club,

BHS and The Pony Club.

Visit the relevant body websites to check which are out and which are in – or see the images on the LCRC Facebook page.

Club chairs tells of summer fun shining in the show ring

I HAVE been extremely lucky to have had the most amazing season with both my horses, All Torque (Eric) and Brendonhill Tall Story (Tinker) in the show ring this summer.

It is most satisfying to do well, especially as my horses are real all-rounders who particularly enjoy riding club competitions! Off to a good start in May on Eric by winning at Devon County Show which qualified him for the BSHA championship show at Addington, near Milton Keynes, in September. Then, in mid-June, off to Stithians show in Cornwall, I had heard what a super show it was, and thought if I am going, let's take some horses, so I entered, then a few days before, I thought I should see where in Cornwall the showground was... I looked at the map and guess where? Nearly Penzance! Redruth and on and on quite a lot further, oh well that's an early start then!

I decided to take just Eric as the classes were likely to clash in different rings and I wanted to enjoy the show not rush around! It was well worth going, as Eric won his class and the working hunter championship, which was very exciting. Big ice creams to celebrate! Time to enjoy the show, which we did, before the long drive home!

Then off to Launceston, not so far into Cornwall, another new show for me! Eric jumped a super round in the open working hunter class, the only clear round and came second to a well-known local rider! That's showing for you, more ice creams and a look round the show!

Next it was Tinker's turn to shine, Honiton Show, where he won the local hunter class on a very wet day, he soon became



umbrella-proof with the ring next to walk way into the show and lots of friendly faces cheering us on we went on to be reserve champion which I was really pleased with, as he is still young and not very experienced, Tinker was also second in the novice working hunter class.

Melplash next for Tinker, he held his own against the very smart hunters to be placed fourth in the open hunter class. To finish the season, I took Eric to the National championship show, hoping I was not going to be totally out of my depth!

Luckily not quite, despite looking like the country cousin in my thick tweed jacket and then my blue hunt coat for the evening performance, all in the heatwave of early September, however, we held our own.

Eric jumped two super rounds which put him right up there, to be placed in both classes with the top-level horses and riders. Wow

what an incredible experience with five rings running for three days and evening performances which was such an honour to be part of. Huge thanks to Fran Summers for coming with me, Fran is not only a top groom and navigator, she is great fun and we have a brilliant time which is what it is all about. I would encourage members to have a go at showing, our local shows put classes on for everyone. It's a great day out and hopefully you win some prize money to fund the ice creams!

***Fiona Bengier
LCRC chair***





Ifor Williams trailer safety

LCRC would like to bring to the attention of its members a story posted on Facebook earlier this year regarding trailer safety.

Lorna Madden shared a post to her social media page after an extremely traumatic event with her two-year-old filly and her broodmare in her Ifor Williams trailer.

She said: "What a night. I'm sharing this as I would never want anyone to have this happen to them and not know what to do and which way your breast bars must be to release your horse safely and quickly like we did tonight.

"This evening, I loaded up my two-year-old filly and my old, well travelled and well competed broodmare to new grass.

I unloaded the two-year-old fine and put on her fly rug, shut the trailer and the car was taken forwards to leave the field to take the broodmare to her field.

"She was calling out and stomping (nothing unexpected when leaving a buddy) next thing she was perfectly quiet but I could hear her breathing had changed (I was out of the car

and ready to open the gate leaving the field) I looked in through the window to see she had jumped the breast bar and tipped herself up, hanging by her quick-release bungee – vital to have them in trailers/lorries!

This next bit and quick thinking is what saved her from breaking her neck or back.

A trailer's breast bars must have the flat "L" shaped hook to the road side not the hinge hooky side to the wall of your trailer as this would not be possible for quick release from the outside.

The trailers have an "O" ring screw on the outside firmly twist this to the left and keep going to release the wall fastening that is holding your breast bar in your trailer up this instantly drops your horse to the floor and to safety.

Please, please make sure your breast bars are on the same that mine are as it's a mistake I see so often and you wouldn't believe how quickly I was able to free my old girl today thanks to everything being on the correct way! Thank you someone for watching over us

today. Thank you Ifor Williams Trailers for safety at its finest."

Pictured is the mare, how she was whilst she was being freed and how Lorna's breast bars are attached for the external quick release to work.





SOME shots of a few of the fantastic club training during 2023, organised by Rachel Collins – she also takes the photos!

Images: Rachel Collins Photography

DIARY DATES...

Friday, December 29th, 10.30am

Christmas club ride – Golden Cap. Join us for a festive ride in the stunning Golden Cap area on the coast. The perfect way to blow away some mince pie and pudding cobwebs in that awkward week between parties! No charge, bring a plate of Christmas food to share. Names to Fran Summers please by Wednesday, December 27th – Fran.summers60@gmail.com.

Wednesday, January 10th, 7pm

LCRC AGM. Details to follow via email and on our Facebook page.

Friday, January 26th, 10.30am

Beach ride – Exmouth. Parking at Maer Road car park EX8 2DA. Fran Summers will lead this ride at low tide on Exmouth Beach around to Sandy Bay. This will be at a medium pace and will allow members to canter or gallop (as they prefer) on the sands. Members must be confident to ride in control at a fast pace in an open space, and be mindful of other beach users. It is recommended members have attended at least two club rides previously. Names to Fran by Tuesday, January 23rd – fran.summers@gmail.com

Friday, January 12th, 10am-1pm

Flatwork with Isobel Goodwin at Chard Equestrian. Open to all Area 12 riding clubs. Flatwork lessons with the immensely talented young Somerset rider, Isobel Goodwin. Isobel is a BD judge and BHS coach and is competing at the heady heights of inter level in dressage. These are paired, one-hour lessons. Cost £25 for LCRC Members / £30 for Area 12 members – must provide 2024 club membership number at time of booking. Please book directly with Rachel Collins at hello@rachelcollinsphotography.co.uk.

Thursday, February 1st, 10am-2pm

Arena eventing training with Jo Rimmer at Chard Equestrian. Open to Area 12 riding club members. A perfect way to set yourself up for arena eventing-based competitions this winter with 5* BE rider Jo Rimmer. Gain skills on lines, pace and more. Group lessons (no more than four). From 80cm upwards. Please let us know what level you are working at so we can put you in like-minded groups where possible. Cost TBC. Please submit your 2024 membership number and club name at the time of booking. Please book directly with Rachel Collins at hello@rachelcollinsphotography.co.uk.

Further training dates to be arranged starting in February

Dates are subject to change at the discretion of the club.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK PAGE AS TRAINING IS FREQUENTLY UPDATED