



HOOFING  
AROUND



# Chairman's Report- Claire Knight

Hi Everyone

So dark evenings are here and for many of you that will mean less time spent riding your horses.

Through the winter we run our clinics at Kingfisher equestrian centre in Lovington Somerset, where you can enjoy a lovely indoor school out of the elements and excellent tuition in either show jumping, pure dressage or pole work. Details of these clinics are further on in the newsletter, on our Facebook page and on our website so please take a look.

2019 has been a great year for the club with many new and old members making fantastic memories and friendships and most importantly having fun with your horses.

Lets make 2020 even better so please re-join next year and come along to something that suits you even if you just come as a volunteer, its great fun!

Hope to see you at our Christmas meal and awards evening.

Stay safe, stay seen and stay with us in 2020!

**Love**

**Claire and Gucci**





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# A year in the life of a coblet - Liz Lukins

I became an accidental coblet owner when I went to view a chestnut gelding- my usual horse of choice- and came home with a feral, three year old, 14hh coloured cob mare!

First priority was sorting some ID for her. The lovely lady who saved her from a bad place was called Dawn and the pony was definitely a rough diamond so she became Diamond Dawn aka Rosie. This did make Dawn cry when I told her that the pony would always be linked to her, as thanks for her kindness at giving her the chance of a decent life.

With lots of gentle handling and kindness Rosie soon realised that humans could have good intentions and even tasty treats sometimes!

I have started many young horses but she quickly became the kindest, sweetest mare I have known.

We started doing little bits of ridden work and very short school sessions, and I do mean really short.

Some members may remember her first Kingfisher clinic when she stood in the corner and had a sleep after 20 minutes of quiet work!

I was advised to contact the Traditional Gypsy Cob Association (TGCA) who evaluated Rosie and accepted her into their studbook.

As we were now doing local intro dressage tests I started sending her result sheets in to the TGCA dressage league competition. To my amazement we came third and went to a super gala evening presentation at the national breed show in Rugby.



After a holiday Rosie has had huge fun learning to jump, many thanks to Kim Pitman, and loved popping cross country jumps at camp.

So my unexpected Coblet who was going to just stay for a year now has her forever home, having already refused many requests to sell her. We are looking forward to lots more fun with our many EMRC friends, both human and equine.



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# EMRC Camp 2019 - Julie Box

The day had arrived, CAMP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Lorry packed, horse ready and double checked I had packed enough pants and socks, and DON'T forget the BODY PROTECTOR!!!!

Off we set from the yard, sun shining on a beautiful September afternoon. Fingers crossed the weather stays like this for camp.

Arrived at Camp, the excitement building of what lay ahead, signs for the XC made me feel like an excited child with my Thelwell pony. Look out Piggy French it will be me tomorrow!!!! Located our leader for the weekend, Claire who greeted me with a massive smile and huge welcome.

Settled my new pony Nelly into a stable, right next door to the haylage, I am sure I saw a smile appear on her face.

Found my allocated cabin, which was great, clothes dumped, and off to find everyone.



### Day 1—Flat work!

My group met with our instructor Charlotte for a bit of drill riding. Such fun! Tested my left and right, I don't think I would have made a good solidier, more like Norman Wisdom on Parade, ha ha.( showing my age)  
What a fun session with Charlotte.

XC: This was going to be so exciting, the thrill of speed and accuracy over solid fences I told myself as we walked up to the XC course. Badders here I come, I looked more like Gladiator with my body protector on!

Met on course by Kim and her fabulous helpers. Discussed the plan of action, what our goals were and of course to practice the Pippa Funnell punch.

Hilarious..... this was going be fun!!

Off we went one by one, loved watching everyone's smiles as they jumped, logs, little houses, the owl hole and through the water. The groups confidence grew, lots of laughs and Pippa Funnell punches.

Kim was such a fun teacher, cracking sense of humour, who could give Dawn French a run for her money.





## Day 2—Show Jumping

Great lesson with Kim, I struggled to keep Nelly at a safe pace, as she was far happier charging round like a horse possessed. But as my nerves reduced, the pace became safer and with Kim excellent instruction we jumped fences which I never thought I would jump!

FAB, fab, fab.

I now want to buy white jodhpurs and a red jacket!!!!!! Ellen Whitaker eat your heart out.

### Show Jumping Accumulator

This was something totally alien to me, but was explained over lunch. The course was walked, a plan was in place, as I left the school scratching my head, thinking what the hell!!!

My time to shine had arrived, Anne Pearse showed us into the starting box, the hairs on the back of my neck stood up, or it could have been a tropical moment!!!

I was counted down and off Nelly and I went, at great speed, this felt amazing, over, over and over another jump, I could hear Anne count me down, ahh I can fit one more in, over we went, felt like 20 ft in the air. Back in the start box.

This was my first camp with EMRC, and it was so much fun.

Well organised, lovely members and their fabulous horses. The camaraderie was amazing, and I cant wait to do it all over again next year.

I look forward to the winter clinics and seeing friendly faces once again.

Thank you to all who made this camp possible, I know you all worked your socks off.

See you all soon

Julie Box and Nelly.





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# EMRC Merchandise

## Great News!

We have lots of lovely merchandise available with the Club logo on for sale via a company called G G Gear.



It's really easy to order – just go to [www.gggear](http://www.gggear) - select Clubs – find EMRC and order!

It takes around 4 working days for the clothing to be printed and then postage on top. The prices are very reasonable and you can have a logo printed on the back of the clothing as well as the logo on the top left-hand breast.

**Get writing your Christmas List!!**

And don't forget we have our very own insulated mugs for sale! **£5.00 each.**

The committee wanted to do our bit for the environment and get rid of as many of the paper cups we use as possible – so by you using your mug at the clinics you will be doing your bit to help us! There will be mugs available from your hostesses each clinic so please do buy one and do your bit for the environment.





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# Endurance - Ella

Welcome to endurance, maybe some of you didn't know that our fabulous riding club did have an endurance team, but yes here we are! We are Ella Hooper riding Leela (quarter horse x appaloosa), Max Golledge, riding Ellie (Arab), Ellie Byrne riding Cicero (Arab) and Jill White riding Minky (Irish Draught).

Let us fill you in how we got to the National Riding Club Championships at the Royal Welsh Show ground in Builth Wells. Qualification takes place between April and September and to do this we had to have a minimum of three in a team with a maximum of six and in this period of time there are qualifying rides throughout the different endurance regions. The aim is to obtain the most points within your region to be asked to compete at the National Championships. The best three scores of the team were the ones that counted. A score for each rider at a qualifying ride is calculated based on the speed at which the class is completed and the final pulse of the horse. A team score is calculated by adding up the best three individual scores in the team.

For a period of time we were second in our region, almost until the very end when we unfortunately dropped to third. We thought we may not have done enough, however Team Manager Max Golledge received the email that we were all hoping for, inviting us to the National Championship. Hurrah!

The team arrived on the Saturday, unfortunately minus one horse as poor Max was unable to travel her horse. We were now a team of three, with Max very kindly becoming Chef d'Equipe and keeping us all in line.

I had already been there since the day before helping another lady which was riding on the England squad. This meant that Ella had time to survey the surroundings and figure out where everything was. Once the horses were settled the team went out for a meal with other fellow endurance competitors.

Sunday morning arrived and we were all nervous and excited. It was the first time that some of our horses were stabled away at competition and it was all quite exciting. There were lots of horses (160 riding on the Sunday alone) and lots going on. The whole team had to be ready to present to the vet at 9am.

Thankfully, we all passed the vetting and we were on our way. The first part of the ride was roadwork which then let us to the bottom of 'the hill'. This was a long climb which eventually took us up what can only be described as 'the top of the world'. It was magnificent and was a view that none of us would ever forget. The ride, all 36 kilometres was completed in 3 hours, 30 minutes and our average speed was 10.2 kilometres per hour. The only mishap was one lost pesky shoe, so Ella and Leela competed with three shoes and a hoof boot.

Once back, the horses were washed and made comfortable and then presented for the final vetting. Because we were only a team of three, we all had to complete, which thankfully we did and we had therefore all successfully completed the National Riding Club Endurance Championship.

There were a total of nine teams competing in the championship and all the other teams had 4 or more members so we felt that as only a team of three we had done exceedingly well to finish in 7<sup>th</sup> place.



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# Membership - Cathy

Well what a year its been for EMRC! From our teams winning rosettes for dressage, show jumping and endurance and (probably!) being the only Riding Club in BRC to hold a mounted murder mystery fun ride, our clinics, training and competitions, through to a totally fabulous and enjoyable camp, its been a great year. However, none of this would have been possible without the support of all of our members of course.

Its also been a fabulous year for our membership numbers as well. As I sit here typing the Membership Secretary's report I can happily confirm that we currently have 85 members, which is the largest we have been as a club. However, I'm sure you will all agree with me that although EMRC is possibly one of the smaller Riding Clubs in BRC, but we are definitely one of the most supportive, friendly and fun clubs.

So, it's coming up to that time of the year again - the renewing of your membership for the coming year. Our membership year runs from 1 January to 31st December and you will have received an email with the new membership form attached recently. Membership charges for the new membership year will be £24.00 per senior member, with a discount for two or more members at the same address at £44 and £15 for Junior members under the age of 18 or a non riding member.

Payment can be made via bank transfer to account no 63700298, sort code 60 08 31 or via cheque to me at 87 Chandag Road, Keynsham, Bristol BS31 1PS. If you are paying by bank transfer/cash please ensure that your name is used as the reference so we can trace each payment.

Please don't forget to send me your **fully completed and signed membership form** as well. Your membership won't be renewed until a signed form is received and this means you won't be able to attend any of the clubs events. Alternatively you can scan or photograph all of the pages of your membership form and email it to me at [cathy.provenzano@outlook.com](mailto:cathy.provenzano@outlook.com), **not forgetting to sign it of course!**

Membership cards are usually dispatched twice a month, although the first batch won't be sent out until mid January.

If you have any queries regarding your membership renewal/subscription, please don't hesitate to contact me on [cathy.provenzano@outlook.com](mailto:cathy.provenzano@outlook.com) or on 07711 821831, and I will do my best to help you out.

**So here's to next year's membership - what will we all be doing as EMRC members during next year? The only way to find out is to renew your membership !**



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# Other Potential Team Events

Those of you who attended the AGM will recall that two of our lovely members made suggestions for other potential team or “team like” events we could do.

## **TREC GB – Karen Butt**

Karen Butt is an insured trainer and TREC GB judge. She can offer training in tackling TREC obstacles. Although there are no Team Trec competitions as such, they are usually run for individuals or pairs, there is no reason why several members can't enter a competition and generally support each other.

There will be events this summer in the south west and Wessex TREC run really great events just over the border! The closest winter events are Taunton, Bicton and Blandford Forum.

We are working with Karen to offer a training clinic in the summer, but if you fancy having a go beforehand, email Jo and she will pass your details to Karen who will also be offering non EMRC training clinics locally.

## **Racehorse to Riding Horse (RoR)**

Alexandra Selle noted that if you own an ex racer you can register your horse with the RoR, organisation at <https://www.ror.org.uk/registration>. To register all you need is the horses race name and the Wetherbys passport number. The registration cost £10 and runs for one year. When they have done their check and you and the horse are approved you get a registration number.

If you want to compete under the RoR banner, you can download a competition registration form from their website. There are several arenas locally who offer the RoR option in the competitions, being Mendip Plains, Avon Riding Centre and Kingfisher.

On your competition sheet you fill in the competition date, the arena you are competing and the competition you took part in eg Prelim 12/ Show Jumping 80cm. If you get placed or reach a 60% dressage score, the arena secretary will sign your sheet to confirm the details. You keep your sheet and send it back to the RoR either when there is no space left on the sheet, or after six months. (There is a note on the sheet when RoR need it back by). RoR then compare all entries from that day with RoR horses and you will get rosettes or can even qualify for their championship!

Alex is keen to set up an ex racer team if anyone is interested. Let Jo know and she will pass on your details to Alex.

***Our teams have had an amazing year and have made East Mendip Riding Club really proud. We will be doing more teams next year and details will be released in due course. HOWEVER, EMRC was not set up to become a run of the mill riding club and if competing is not for you that is absolutely great - we hope you just enjoy being part of this amazing Club and we will be putting on lots of events just for fun as always!***

***Every Member Really Counts!***



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## Upcoming EMRC clinics.....

Jo's email : eastmendipridingclub@gmail.com

Karen's email : Karen.abrey@gmail.com

### **Flatwork – Gill Longhurst – Book with Jo**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

### **Flatwork – Charlotte Wake – Book with Karen**

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March—Lateral Work  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May—Yoga Part 2

### **Poles for Dressage – Julie Braddon – Book with Jo**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April

### **Show Jumping – Kim Pitman – Book with Karen**

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Arena XC

### **Hostess**

**As you all know we like to have two hostesses for each clinic, so if you don't want to ride a particular clinic but are happy to host please let the organiser know. This is still a great way to learn, you get to meet other members socially and eat cake and biscuits!**

**Your committee are a hardworking bunch for you—please give back and help where you can. Thank you!**



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## Clinic T's&C's.....

### Terms and Conditions for Clinics – Please Read

*Clinics are at a cost of £20 per rider unless indicated otherwise. We will endeavour to make sure there are no more than four in a class.*

***Please note that if you cancel five days or less before the clinic, you will still have to pay unless we can find someone else to take your place.***

*Please also clear up your mess before leaving the venue, taking all your rubbish and poo home.*

*Refreshments and biscuits will be available at each clinic - £1 per person for as many cups as you like.*

### To Book a Clinic

To book Poles and Gill's Flatwork sessions please email Jo at

[eastmendipridingclub@gmail.com](mailto:eastmendipridingclub@gmail.com)

To book Show Jumping and Charlotte's Flatwork sessions, please email Karen at

[Karen.abrey@gmail.com](mailto:Karen.abrey@gmail.com)

*Can we ask that when you book your training sessions you are kind enough to make sure it is in your own diary. Collating all these names and then allocating times really does take some time and to send a confirmation email round to which someone then replies "Oh I didn't realise I had booked on that clinic and I can't make it" is extremely frustrating and very time consuming for the organiser. Although we sometimes have reserves, if we don't, it then involves us having to put a call out on Facebook and fiddling around with everyone's times. Please have some thought to the volunteers who run your Club and "do your bit". Thanks.*

### Payment

We prefer payment directly into the bank. **Please do not bring cash to the clinic.**

NatWest, Frome, **Sort Code: 60 08 31, Account Number: 63700298.** Please put your name and the clinic date on the reference.

Alternatively, please pop a cheque made payable to **East Mendip Riding Club** in the post to **3 Avenue Road, Frome BA11 1RP. Please put the clinic date on the back**

Please note payment should be made **BEFORE** the clinic and not after!



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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!**

Noted below are the Events and Clinics we are looking to put on for our Members in 2020.

***Please note these events are NOT for booking—we are still in the process of arranging them. The format and cost will be released once all the arrangements have been completed. We simply want you to have the dates in your diaries for now!***

### **March 2020**

Tack Sale—Date TBC

Open Clear Round Show Jumping—Date TBC

### **April 2020**

4th—Dismounted Confidence Clinic with Caroline Andrews –Doulting Village Hall

### **May 2020**

17th—XC on Grass—Hill Farm

23rd—Have A Go Dressage—Thornhill House

### **June 2020**

7th—XC Clinic—Toomer Farm

13th—Mounted Murder Mystery—Hill Farm

21st—Combined Training Training—Kingfisher Equestrian

### **July 2020**

11th—Combined Training Competition—Hill Farm

18th—Camp in a Day—Downlands

26th—Karen Whiston Clinic—Kingfisher

### **August 2020**

23rd—Trec Fun Day—Hill Farm

### **September 2020**

18th—20th—Camp—Stockland Lovell

### **Other Dates:**

**February 22nd—MBBA Quiz—Royal British Legion Hall**

**April 3rd—MBBA Race Night—Royal British Legion Hall**