



Rearsby Lodge Riding Club

Ride Together - Train Together - Compete Together - Have Fun Together

Report to Annual General Meeting 2021

Anette Whitehouse, Chairman

This year it was the team managers and the training and other organisers, who reported to the AGM and to the club's members.

So...., it is my honour and privilege to do a *brief overview* of the RLRC achievements in 2021:

- A huge increase in membership from under 100 to over 180, including 17 juniors
- Countless successes of our teams, who capably venture out in all weathers to represent and to provide help on behalf of our club
- A completely new activity in the form of a residential senior camp - with a brief mention in the Rider Mag
- A move of some events to Pickering Grange Equestrian
- A huge array of well-attended club shows
- A significant expansion to our training
- An expansion to our regular trainers
- An inclusion of endurance riding
- A quadrille display and subsequent collaboration with another club
- A massive increase in income and in profits

We are by *any standards* an extremely successful..... and - I hope - happy club.

In order to accomplish such a breadth and depth of activities, a group of exceptional people is needed. Ladies and Gentlemen, would you please put your hands together for a keen, capable and amazingly hard working committee. Our huge thanks to them!

Also, in order to accomplish that, 'we' have completely revamped our website and our FB page, so that both now effectively support our work. 'We' is Kate! Our grateful thanks!!

In addition to the things that you see, dear members and friends, we undertake a massive amount of unseen 'beneath the surface work'. Clubs like ours are subject to legislation and regulations, such as Health and Safety at Work, the Children Acts in relation to Safeguarding/Child Protection and the General Data Protection Regulations. We are getting our heads round Risk Assessments and other essentials that British Riding Clubs require of their affiliated clubs. Again...., who does it? This wonderful committee!

Finally you, our members and friends - old as well as new - are the club's most treasured component. My grateful 'thank you' to you all for choosing Rearsby Lodge Riding Club!

Kate Hill, Honorary Secretary

If you haven't seen me around, you will have seen my name on emails letting you know what the club is doing during the year.

And what a fantastic year it's been, considering it was a bit of a slow start. I think it's safe to say we have more than caught up. We have had so many new members both juniors and seniors and made so many new friends... we have had some fabulous arena eventing, sj and dressage competitions as well as a record number of clinics & training in all disciplines. Our junior and senior teams and individuals representing the club have been incredibly successful this year and for the first time we have had an endurance team representing the club - more of that from Gilly shortly.

Another first has seen the committee venture into the wonderful world of camping! And what a fabulous few days it was for the camp21 attendees at Pickering Grange! I think it was probably the hottest three days of the year and with the showers not working, we all saw a few new hair styles and probably some of us smelt a bit strange but we didn't care, we had a great time and pretended we looked fabulous! We were lucky enough to have some of the best trainers in the area - Jane Wallace, Ginnie Turnbull who of course is here tonight with her husband will, Sam Hobbs and Wade Barley. Without fail we all came away from each of our sessions feeling a sense of achievement and more confidence and we thoroughly enjoyed listening to our instructors hilarious lunchtime 'not according to plan' talk.

The evening entertainment didn't disappoint either - we watched equine and human physio demonstrations and took part in a pub ride and a race night with super food supplied by Pickering Grange and alcohol supplied by ourselves!

The good news is we are doing the same next year - with a few changes...

- We will have showers!
- We will be using Pickering Grange's massive new outdoor arena as well as the indoors.
- We will have all our horses together in the new stable block near the new arena and our vehicles and camping will be there too.
- We will also be increasing numbers to possibly around 30
- With a bit of luck - fingers crossed - our trainers will be able to join us again!

The camp committee will be working on camp22 in the new year so information will be sent out to you as soon as we have it so you can get dates in your diary and book in.

Finally, we have a birthday in our midst! Our website has just turned one and like all things that get older it's time for a face lift! I know that feeling!! I will be looking for images to go on the tops of each page, so if you do have any that may be suitable and they do need to be in landscape please send them to me. My intention with the website has always been to have everything that members need on it and easy to find. So if you have trouble finding anything or have any suggestions for improvement please get in touch. The same with our social media platforms, please keep your photos coming so we can see what you are doing and I can use them on the website!

Claire Atkins, Honorary Treasurer

Income and Expenditure

Membership we had 182 members, with 17 Juniors, 156 Seniors, 3 Honorary & 6 Social.

Showjumping - this is showing we had made a profit on the show but unfortunately not. The income for the October Show was included in the accounts but not the expenditure which will show in next years accounts.

Arena Eventing made a good profit again this year. The June AE the 80 cm class was in memory of our dear friend Helen Birch which £603 from the entry fees from that class went to Rainbows Hospice for Children in memory of Helen.

Dressage - a good profit this year despite some of the shows being poorly attended.

Equine Affairs - every transaction not entered through My Riding Life whether cash, cheque or BACS add an additional booking fee of £1.50.

Camp - made a slight loss.

Equipment Sales - This year we have sold our showjumps for £2,500 and our dressage boards for £800.

Donations - As we got a rebate from BRC the Committee decided to split the £400 between Pablos Sanctuary, Riding for Disabled (Mount Group Somerby), Redwings Sanctuary & Air Ambulance. There was also the donation to the Air Ambulance from 2019.

Misc Expenses

PRS/PPL Licence

Folding Table

First Aid Kit Supplies

Committee Badges

Hilary overpayment

Teams

Members pay the Prelim and Area Fee for the Area Qualifiers and the Club pays for the Championship fees and a training session for the team/ind that qualify for the championships.

We have had a few queries why the area qualifier entry fee is so high. An entry fee is made up of a prelim fee and an area fee. The prelim fee is the fee paid to BRC for admin purposes and the area fee is paid to the area to run the qualifier. When we enter teams and individuals to BRC we cannot get the fee back if someone withdraws.

We are very lucky we have so many great equestrian venues in our area but obviously they come at a price.

Jacqui Ludlam, Dressage Training Organiser of Jane Peberdy Clinics

These popular clinics have suffered from Covid over last winter, but we were able to restart in April as soon as it was safe to do so. After lockdown we were unable to continue to train at Field Farm, due to the indoor school permanently being filled with jumps.

After the Committee spent a lot of time and effort searching for indoors schools that might accommodate us, we were able to secure bookings with Pickering Grange. Some have found this new venue nearer and other members including Jules and I are travelling a lot further.

We feel the journey is really worth it, as the Club is still so lucky to have Jane teaching us. She has cut right back on her workload, but seems to have soft spot for Rearsby Lodge.

These clinics always run on weekdays as Jane doesn't teach as she has judging commitments at weekends. Although many working people seem to manage to use time off or half days so that they can still join us.

Jane is happy to teach any level of rider and horse, so please don't think that you wouldn't be good enough to join us. She is so good at getting the basics right that suddenly the magic happens!

There have been about 24 club members having regular lessons with Jane over this year. Members can book a lesson once a month and then going on waiting lists for extra slots if they become available. Non-members can put their name down and will know if they have a place a few days before the clinic, once members have had their opportunity.

We have been able to keep our prices the same for a couple of years now, which whilst everything else is going up at such a rate we are very proud of.

Jules tries very hard to get to every clinic, whether she is riding or not to support you all and make sure things run smoothly. So a big thanks to her!

Keep checking the website for details and follow the booking instructions, contacting Jacqui to book your lessons.

Claire/Liz Atkins, Dressage Training Organiser of Jane Carruthers Clinics

Jane Carruthers has been running once a month at the great venue of Hazel Palmer's at South Croxton. Jane has been very popular with 5 hours of training been done each month.

She teaches all levels and abilities with many new members having a go this year. We have now moved indoors for the winter at Alan Robertson, Springfield Stud, Kirby Bellars. 29th January & 12th February still spaces available.

Thank you to Liz Atkins for organising the clinics, Hazel and Alan for the super venues and the first aiders for their help.

Jane Wood, Quadrille Team Manager

Why does our club do quadrille?

Quadrille is a way to have fun with our horses in the company of fellow riders. The activity makes us as riders sit up, look and ride, educating our horses to stay in line, pass each other obediently and establishing good balance and rhythm in all paces.

There is a sense of shared pride how everything comes beautifully together between horse and rider in a team, especially when doing a display for spectators to enjoy.

Our quadrille team has become a success due to a retired cavalry officer, David Boyd, who continues to train and command our different quadrille groups twice a month.

What has been achieved this year from training?

The pandemic meant that training started on 10th April this year. A total of 32 riders have participated, of which 17 were new to the quadrille team and a few of those were new to the riding club. There are now 8 of the 17 who have become regulars like the rest of us, hooked and in it for the long haul!

On Sunday 8th August 12 riders were selected to ride to music in a team. We had been invited to show a display at Wittering Academy Riding Club. The day was a complete success, with a foot perfect display by the RLRC Quadrille Display Team. This was followed by David Boyd training 12 riders from Wittering Academy, then all 24 riders rode in joint formation.

Saturday 24th August was also another fun day for the Quadrille Team. A bit of competition training in teams of 4, finishing off with a yummy picnic.

One team of 4 competed at the National Riding Club Championships at Lincolnshire the following weekend and was placed 4th.

Our Quadrille training takes place at Aylesford or at Pickering Grange. There are new dates on the club's website for the start of 2022 through to next April at both venues.

Plans for next year

- Continued training and taster sessions
- More displays to music
- Interacting with Wittering Grange and other clubs with teams for friendly competition
- Equifest, possibly taking 2 teams of 6 to music
- Dressage teams of 4 to National Championships

After a group of us recently went to see and to ride the beautiful Andalusian horses at the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art in Jerez in Spain and watching their amazing display team from the royal lodge just makes us want to bring their precision into our Quadrille Team. Watch this space!

Sue McGrath, Vice Chairman

Polework, Show Jumping, Arena Eventing and Cross Country Clinics

Following lockdown we hit the ground running! Our first clinic was planned to run indoors on Easter Saturday until the government decreed that groups of people couldn't ride together inside, so Peter and Louise Walker at Aylesford came to our rescue at the last minute and got their show jumps out on the grass arena for us. The going was perfect, and we had lots of very lively horses!

Over the spring, summer and autumn we have held clinics with Jo Holmes Cole ranging from polework to training team members at 1.10 metres. Jo has been amazing as she gives riders so much confidence and we have seen huge progression. She has also been there at Qualifiers and National Championships to coach and support team members all the way into the arena. In line with the club using two trainers for dressage, this year Sam Hobbs has joined us and also coached Rearsby members in SJ and XC. Sam is very knowledgeable and very popular, and we are very lucky to have her on board.

These clinics/training sessions have been held at Aylesford and in the indoor school at Springfield Stud. Cross country clinics have been at the amazing new venue at Barrowcliffe. We are focusing now on winter/spring training in preparation for next year's season.

Shows

We held 2 Arena Eventing shows at Aylesford in June and September, both being very well supported. Lockdown prevented us holding the planned show in March, where the first Helen Birch Memorial Trophy presentation to the winner of the 80 cm class was going to take place. This was postponed to June, where it was won by a non member. We have decided that in future, this trophy will be awarded to the highest placed RLRC member.

2 SJ shows were held at Pickering Grange, Spring and Halloween. Neither of these were well attended by members. A huge amount of hard work goes into the organisation beforehand and on the day, so we would like to hear from members why they don't come. Thanks to the Committee organisers and helpers.

Dressage shows were held at PG and Aylesford, usually well attended. Many thanks to Liz and Claire Atkins for organising. We've had comments that people don't like warming up on grass, especially when the ground is hard, so next year warm up will be on the all weather surface when at Aylesford.

Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help in different ways, writers, scorers, first aiders, stewards, judges, pole pickers. Without them, our shows cannot take place.

Claire Atkins, Dressage Team Manager

After the Novice Winter Championships being cancelled and the Intermediate Winter Qualifier not taking place in 2020, we had to ballot for the right to go through to the Virtual Intermediate Championships which we managed to gain places individually but not a team.

Alix Davis, Yasmin Thorpe, Di Poyser and Felicity Spencer and Junior Annie Krumins represented the club submitting their tests online.

Hannah Parr qualified as an individual for the Virtual Novice Winter 2021 Championships and Alix Davis also qualified as an individual for the Virtual Novice 2020 Championships - very confusing.

The Intermediate Championships they all did really great tests, Alix coming 10th and the rest just out of the top 10. Junior Annie Krumins came 5th.

In the Novice Championships Alix was 10th and Hannah came a fantastic 2nd.

Summer Qualifier at Arena UK

We had two senior teams and lots of individuals competing which all did well with Hannah Parr and Natalie Lisiewicz bagging a ticket to the Champs.

This year we managed to get a junior team together. Team of Oscar Pickering, Amber Hollingworth, Alice Coxsey and Annie Krumins and individual Imogen Machin. Imogen did really well as an individual and the team managed to win and go through to the National Championships at Lincoln.

National Champs

Unfortunately, Hannah Parr had to pull out but Claire Gough took her place and did a great test but unplaced. Natalie competed in the Riding Test again unplaced. Both enjoyed the experience.

The Junior team did really well with Amber 4th in her arena, the placings were really tight with the 4th riders score having to count and they were just out of the top 10.

We also had a Senior Pair of Jules Johnson and Dawn Muston who came a fantastic 2nd and the Team of 4 who came 4th.

Dressage to Music

We had 1 compete in the music this year - Katy Reddington who qualified for the Champs at Bury Farm. Did a good test to her lovely Showman music but unplaced this time.

Winter Qualifiers in November

The winter qualifiers took place at the start of the November with the Novice Qualifiers on the Saturday and the Intermediate on the Sunday.

We had a senior and junior team plus individuals competing on the Saturday. The senior team we had some new members in Samantha Lacey, Jess Steventon, Gillian Hasberry & Becca Smith with Dawn Muston as an indiv. Jess and Sam also did the intro and came 2nd & 3rd respectively with the team finishing out of the placings. Junior team of Alice Coxsey, Annie Krumins, Imogen Machin and Amber Hollingworth came 3rd. With Amber bagging a ticket to the Champs in March. Senior team on Sunday of Becca, Gillian, Sarah Varnam and Tish Jerabek. Came 4th. Special mention to Sarah switching from Saturday to Sunday and switching tests to fill the space in the team. Junior Annie Krumins winning her Novice class and bagging a ticket to the Champs at Bury Farm in April.

Thank you to all the members and parents supporting the teams this year.

Nicki Grayson, Horse Trials Team Manager

I have been the horse trials team manager for quite a few years now and I enjoy meeting new and existing members who want to have a go.

The horse trials consists of three phases - dressage, sj and xc. The horse trials qualifiers are held by each area from the month of March through to July with the championships being held in August. Each team consists of 4 riders but can also run as a 3 to count but the cost is per team so it makes the entry more expensive so it's better with 4 riders. Also if there are over 4 people who want to compete then individual entries can be made too. The levels are 80, 90 junior & senior, and the 1 metre and 1 metre plus can be junior and senior mixed. The Championships run the teams and individual classes together so there is an overall individual winner.

Usually the championships can take place over a few days but unfortunately because of covid the championships have been run in a different format with no roads and tracks and steeplechase but hopefully next year things will return to the norm.

This year we sent 3 teams to the area 16 qualifier - 80/90/1m. Both the 90 (Helen Garner, Molly Tarris, Hannah Parr and Natalie Gerard) and 1 metre teams (Nicki Grayson, Claire Lewis, Jo Payne and Beccy Binks) had a few senior moments and blips resulting in no team qualification this year but Claire Lewis in the metre team however won her overall class. so therefore qualified for the 100 championships as an individual.

Annie Kumins competed as an individual junior in the 90 and came third but with the first two being in the qualifying team she therefore qualified for the championships.

The 80 team of Celia Dyson, Gemma Lonsdale, Natasha Shelton and Sarah Manning were amazing and won and therefore qualified for the championships.

Unfortunately Celia couldn't go to the championships as she had an operation booked, so Jess Gray stood in for her and then Celia very kindly stood in for me as 80's team manager on the day as I had other commitments. A real team effort ensued and all the team members had a super fun day out at Swalcliffe. They all performed excellent dressage tests, and good showjumping rounds too. The xc was a full up championship course and caught a few of the team members out but overall they learned loads from this experience. Jess on Mr Reliable Shady who stood in for Celia came a very credible 5th place individually in her section.

Claire Lewis and Master Wickham who were competing in the 100 individually were on amazing form and finished in 4th position finishing on their dressage score. Annie Kumins on Rio had a fabulous day in the individual junior 90 and came 5th - what a season this pair have had and I'm sure 2022 will be as exciting.

Well done to all competitors for representing Rearsby so brilliantly and also a very big thank you to all the volunteers who have helped at the qualifiers and championships. As part of competing at any area qualifier or championships we have to provide helpers on the day. I can't express as a rider myself how grateful we riders are if people come forward to help as the riding club cannot compete at these competitions without volunteers and it can be really difficult to help when riding too so you really are very important to the club. Finding volunteers is the team managers job too so if you can help on foot at any qualifier, please get in touch with the relevant team manager when the schedule comes out as it makes life so much easier when you know you have volunteers lined up.

Also, can I say a big thank you to Rearsby and to Jo Holmes-Cole for all the extra training and encouragement provided by the club for the horse trials. The club really does want anyone to have a go at the qualifiers - it really does give you something to aim for and a great chance to meet new friends.

I presume I will be the team manager for 2022 but if anyone else wants to have a go then I'm fine with that too and will give anyone who wants to take over any help required - it's not difficult - and help is always at hand.

Rachel Frew, Show Jumping Team Manager

July SJ Qualifier at Arena UK - the 70cm team of Natasha, Samantha and Katie were 3rd with Katie picking up individual 6th place. 80cm senior team of Hannah, Sharon, Carole and Natasha were 2nd with Sharon picking up individual 6th Karen was unplaced. 90cm senior team of Helen, Sonia, Alice and Jo were 5th with Jo taking individual 4th. Annie was in the 90cm juniors and was 2nd but the highest placed rider not in the winning team and qualified for the championships. 100 team (Helen, Hannah and Annie) won and booked their championship spot with Annie winning the class overall. 110cm: Hannah jumped as an individual and took the top spot qualifying for the championships. Natasha won the 75cm style jumping, and Lorrie was 4th in the 85 cm style jumping.

National Championships at Lincoln - Natasha and Karen both jumped clears in the 75cm style jumping but were unplaced. The 100 sj team of Helen, Hannah, Lily and Annie jumped in two different rings with their 2nd rounds that took place in the main ring being shown live on horse and country TV. They finished on a total of 4 faults and came 2nd overall. Annie was 6th overall and the highest placed junior in the whole of the class. Hannah also jumped as part of the area 16 110 class. That team also finished 2nd with Hannah coming 5th overall. Annie also jumped on the Sunday in the junior 90 class and finished in 8th place.

Combined Challenge at Epworth - This is a new qualifier for this year and it replaced the FOTH qualifier. 80cm team of Sarah, Carole, Natalie and me. We were all to speedy and finished in 4th place. 100 riders of Sonia and Harriet finished in 4th and 5th.

Arena Eventing at Speetley - Thank you to my stand in team manager. It was a very tricky day for everyone that took part so you should all be very proud.

Carole, Megan and Charlotte were all unplaced in their relevant classes. 100 team of Helen, Claire, Sonia and Annie won and booked their championship spot. Sonia was 3rd overall and Annie was 5th. This championship takes place next year.

Sj at Arena UK - It was a very busy weekend with 31 combinations taking part. 70 team of Paula, Jessica, Stevie and Ruby were unplaced. 80 team of Jodi, Celia, Jemma and me were 2nd with Jodi taking 3rd individually. Carole was unplaced individually. 90 team of Helen, Molly, Celia and Felicity finished in 2nd place with Celia finishing 4th individually and Molly 2nd. Molly booked her place at the championships as she was part of the winning team. 100cm T1- Sonia, Frankie, Amber and Jess finished in 3rd - T2 - Helen, Hannah, Nicky and Annie finished in 2nd place. They were pipped to 1st place by 0.26 of a second. However, Amber was the overall winner. Nicky was 2nd and Helen was 6th. 110cm team - The first time we have had a 110 team - Sonia, Lily, Hannah and Amber were all fantastic and jumped double clear and booked their championship spot which will take place next year.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the jumping teams this year. I'm very proud of all of you. A huge Thank You goes out to the helpers that come and pole pick all day at these events so you can compete. I would love to see some new faces helping next year.

Next year I hope to see as many people taking part as we did this year. I do request that you enter as soon as you can. This makes my life a lot easier as I can sort teams out and see if there are spaces to fill. I do teams on a first come team spot basis so get your names and money in early and you're on the team.

Flu vacs - this year we have used an online tool on the area 16 website to submit them before the event. If this is going to carry on, which I hope it does. I am going to ask that you send yours across yourself. It's a time consuming task for me to do and once I go back to work I would rather be playing with my little boy when I'm at home than sending in flu vac details. Here's to next year. Hopefully we can improve on all those 2nd placings and get to more championships!

Gillian Hasberry, Endurance Member

Firstly I should introduce myself: my name is Gillian Hasberry. I was a member of Rearsby Lodge RC over 20 years ago and re-joined this year. In the interim I was a member of National Forest RC and manager of their endurance team. We were consistently successful in the team competition, coming second at the Championship a couple of times & winning once! I would love to be able to repeat that success with a team from Rearsby Lodge.

This year we ran a scratch team in a couple of qualifying rides and managed to take a team to the Championships in Cumbria. It proved to be a lovely ride and the team exceeded expectations by coming second.

Endurance is something that any age or type of horse and rider can participate in. It is open to juniors and seniors. We have had horses from 5 years to teenagers, 13hh to 17hh, heavy cobs to thoroughbreds. In spite of the sport being dominated by Arabs, my most successful team was almost entirely Connemara ponies. It is compatible with other disciplines: my own ponies do dressage, eventing and working equitation in addition to endurance. It is a relatively cheap discipline to try and there is prize money to be won at the Championship! Unlike the other BRC competitions, we can join forces with other clubs to make up a team whilst retaining the entitlement to compete for our own club in other competitions. Please get in touch if you would like to get involved gillyvet@hotmail.com

Jo Holmes-Cole, Reporting on the Juniors' Achievements

Wow!! What an amazing season for the RLRC juniors. Thank you to each and everyone who has pitched up and made the effort to look so smart and compete and represent the Rearsby Lodge. Thank you also to the parents who have managed to get them there.

The local comps have been supported well by the juniors with Alice Coxsey taking the win at 2 out of three eventer trials. We could definitely do with more juniors to spread the work or just have more teams!

The main competitions started with the area which sadly fell on the same weekend as the Pony club area show jumping so we lacked some members. We managed to send a dressage team on the Saturday consisting of Annie Krumins, Alice Coxsey, Oscar Pickering and Amber Hollingworth, with an individual slot for Imogen Machin. Wow, The team won and booked their place to the champs. Amber took the individual honours for 1st.

The following day we sent a team for showjumping in the 90 and 1m which was made up of two juniors Annie Krumins and Hannah Spray. Sadly Lily walker couldn't make the area but joined them at the champs as the team also won and qualified.

Annie Krumins had also qualified for the Eventing champs held at Swalcliffe . (Long drive). She rode a very consistent, accurate test but sadly the judge wasn't in favour. Anyway 4 faults to add for the sj but a super clear xc round a very testing track. Just a few time penalties to add but a fantastic 5th place.

Next was the Champs and what a marvellous experience for these young stars of the future. Sadly the dressage wasn't our day but we finished 12th as a team with Amber Hollingworth taking the highest placed team member for 4th. Again Oscar, Alice, Amber and Annie all showed great presence in their tests with lots of personal bests. Annie then went off to jump in the 90 where sadly just rolled a pole which moved her down the places.

The following day Annie, Lily Walker and Hannah Spray all jumped in the 100 and did not disappoint. They were joined by senior member Helen Garner. The team came 2nd and Annie went on to come 2nd individually but because the winner was in a team she became the National 100 junior champion. Hannah was also placed 5th in the 100 but went on to then jump in the 110 and represent area 16 where her team were place 2nd and again have was 2nd overall.

These results are just amazing and really show how the training pays off.

Well done juniors!