



# Rearsby Lodge Riding Club

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

## **CHAIR'S REPORT 2023**

Sue McGrath thanked Anette for handing over a happy, compliant, successful club with an increased membership including 40 juniors. This is a great credit to Anette's leadership.

Sue sees the committee as a big wheel with each committee member being a cog in that wheel, and each having their own job to help the club to run smoothly. The committee meets every 4 – 6 weeks, and we have a WhatsApp group where we can discuss urgent issues between meetings. We also have an excellent website, built and managed by Kate. Please take a look at the website regularly as Kate is always updating it with events and information.

During 2023 we have had 8 dressage shows; 3 show jumping shows; and 3 arena eventing shows. There are already shows for 2024 advertised on the website.

We have also undertaken Quadrille displays wowing audiences around the country, and displays for 2024 are already in the diary.

We have held an abundance of clinics in flatwork, jumping, grids, poles and quadrille. We have introduced more unmounted social and educational events than in previous years, including a visit to Oakham Equine Vets; a talk from a vet about identifying types of lameness; motivational evenings with Dani Olding; and a visit to Saywell Equestrian Rehabilitation Centre to name a few.

We have held 2 camps: a one-day junior camp, followed by a 2-night residential senior camp in August at Aylesford Equine.

We have had lots of teams entering the Area 16 qualifiers in all disciplines. Our junior teams have done particularly well this year. Sue thanked the team managers for their hard work and support in getting the teams together. One of the hardest parts of being a team manager is getting enough volunteers to be stewards at these shows. The number of volunteers required depends on the number of teams entered, and we do very well, as a club, with our teams. Please, therefore, consider if you could volunteer to help.

We have put a few more members through the First Aid at Work qualification so we can provide our own First Aiders at club shows. We still need to have a paramedic at fixed fence shows (AE) but we can now support all our other shows, which saves a great deal of money.

In 2024, we will have a junior and senior camp; and we are looking at having a side saddle taster session. We have put questionnaires on the tables and ask that you fill them in with what you would like to see the club do in 2024.

The report was proposed by Celia Dyson and seconded by Anette Whitehouse as an accurate record.