

Dear All

As I sit here writing this it looks remarkable like snow!!!! Maybe I should be going down to the field to put another rug on the ponies, but then again it will probably be 15C tomorrow. There really is no wonder the poor ponies are confused about when to change their coats. The Winter Champs certainly suffered with the most appalling weather. However I thought that the organisers, stewards, JCB staff and anyone else who had the misfortune of being there coped fantastically. Thank you for making a difficult time more bearable. Competitors were on the whole upbeat about the whole situation and hopefully the weather will be a little kinder to us in the summer. I had a lovely e-mail from Sue Farrow asking me to thank the JCB staff in particular for the way they dealt with the whole situation especially retrieving lorries from the field.

We had a wonderful training day at Laughton Manor with Katie Jerram. Luckily the weather was very kind to us and the facilities were as ever excellent. We thank Katie very much for her hard work and tireless enthusiasm with the children. The day was fun and educational with those who attended benefiting a great deal from Katie's experience. Sue Williams must not go unmentioned. She works very hard for the area and again organised a wonderful day so thank you Sue. Our next training day is with Katie Carter at Arena UK later in the month. Let's pray for good weather.

### **News from members**

Laura Watson has had the most fantastic end to the Winter season winning the Winter Heritage Restricted Open 138cms WHP, then being Champion and to top it all standing Winter Heritage Novice/Restricted \*\*\***SUPREME CHAMPION**\*\*\*. The same pair were also 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Winter Open Heritage 138cms WHP. Well done Laura some fantastic results.

Phoebe and Olivia Rocks also had a successful winter champs. Olivia was 6<sup>th</sup> in the Winter restricted 128cm SP and 9<sup>th</sup> in the Pretty Polly mixed height SP riding Jimmy (Kouros Sapphire). Phoebe finished a brilliant 6<sup>th</sup> in the Winter Restricted Heritage Lead Rein class. Well done girls hope to get some more news like this soon.

Isabel White riding the delightful Coombehill Othena finished a fantastic 4<sup>th</sup> in the Tiny Tots Cradle Stakes and 10<sup>th</sup> in the RIHS PP SHP. Brilliant results Isabel keep sending me your news.

Oliver and William went to Area 17 where they finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the RIHS Nursery Stakes it was very nice to receive rosettes below 6<sup>th</sup>. At Area 4A they were 5<sup>th</sup> in the RIHS Nursery Stakes. We are off to Wales this weekend to the Cricklands winter league show jumping finals. Oliver and Harry are looking forward to the parties!!!!!!!

Happy Birthday to:-

William Tysterman

Lucy Glover

Eleanor Hutchinson

And anyone else who has a birthday in May.

Well I think that is all the news for now.

Bye for now

Julia X