

Press Officer: Sarah Davis, Honeycroft, Romsey Road, Awbridge, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 0HG Tel: 07766 808161 E-mail: s-davis@hotmail.co.uk

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Hello everyone!

I hope everyone has survived the snow, then the rain – whatever next.... hopefully some sun! This is a very short review – it doesn't seem long since the last one was written and there has not been that much going on!

The teach in with Julia Ryde-Rogers will have taken place during the February half term, there is a second flat teach in planned for April 15th 2009 with Matthew Lawrence instructing. Please see your recent mailing or the website for further details.

For those junior members who are interested in judging and would like to attend judging training sessions, in preparation for being considered for the Young Judges Team, or just to learn more, please contact Mary Gray on 01722 331221 or 07761 002557. It is planned to visit several different yards, with the opportunity to join judges at our area shows.

The Summer Show is being held on 31st May 2009, at New Park, Brockenhurst, home of the New Forest Show. There will be RIHS qualifiers for many classes, along with other new classes. Schedules will be available shortly on the website. If there are any members or their friends who would be willing to help in any way – even the day before, please contact Lyn David.

Now to a little bit of news

Rebecca Hamilton-Fletcher has kindly emailed me:

Hi Sarah

This in response to your 'plea' for something for the newsletter – not that there's much in the way of 'news' at the moment, unless you want to hear about what Donut-the-dog did to Frosty-our-Snowman (he's not so white any more...!)

Anyway here's some 'news' – see you soon!

Towards the end of 2008 we were joined by the little black dartmoor mare Flossie (or Sherberton Blackchat) – formerly a ride of another Area 11 member, Arthur Woyka. She will help to lessen Rhian's considerable workload (Rhian also being a former ride of Arthur's – keep them coming this way please the Woyka clan!), and Bethany is looking forwards to doing lots of workers on her. The weather has

meant we've only be out once with Flossie so far, to a Pony Club SJ Competition - she behaved impeccably and they won their class. We are now dreading the impending moulting season - with one hairy white pony and one hairy black pony, it's going to be a sight!

Many thanks Rebecca, hope your hand is better soon - good luck with the big moult!!

TABITHA NOKES and Bejowan's Kittiwake (Kitty) have been to BSPS Area 14 winter show and jumped 3 clear rounds, qualifying for the winter championships - WELL DONE TABS!!!

Simone Yule has found the time to email me....

Hi Sarah,

Happy New Year to everyone in Area 11.

Firstly thank you so much to the committee for organising our points party, the girls really enjoyed it as did I, although I think I was still suffering with a hangover/cold from the Friday night before when we ventured south to Newquay for Area 13A's points party.....that's what I remember of it, it was great! Well done to the organiser's and thanks for inviting us to Cornwall, not sure they'll ever invite me back though!!! We spent New Year skiing in Austria. Scarily the children (21) outnumbered the adults (19)! But we survived and had a great time, both girls managed to ski down the mountain, and I think I got the record for the most number of gluvines consumed on a ski down the mountain. Back to reality with work being busy with lots of ill people-most inconvenient! I suddenly realise we have ponies to think about! We are very excited as we have a lovely 12.2hh Novice to bring out Chaseford Alicia - a relative of Aspen and Aloof, she behaved immaculately at her first show despite a 9 yr old jockey and qualified for all her classes at the winter champs so we are thrilled. Patrick (Little Briars Told You So) has had a very easy winter and looks rather well. We ventured out in the snow today and he was like a jack-in-the-box! He needs some form of wrap treatment though as he is looking a little large around the middle!!! We have sadly sold Rocksgreen Scarlet Pimpernel who has been a fab lead rein for both my girls - but we needed to finance a new lead rein/first ridden. We have found a beautiful pony but she's very green so watch this space! Well thanks to the recession, our first trip to Area 14 was another shared trip with Karen Brar. Polly was lucky enough to have another ride on Karen's fab dartmoor Whato - he's also qualified for the Winter Champs so Polly's happy. Karen is a great hostess with so much food, I clearly need to stock the drinks cabinet and make the season go with some fizz!

Thanks Simone, well done Imogen and Polly!

Don't forget the area's website, it is there for your use:

www.bspsarea11.com

Good luck at any shows, Sarah x