

# Finn Valley Riding Club

Affiliated to the British Horse Society

Newsletter - Spring/Summer 2019



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FVRC website is a great source for up-to-date information  
[www.finnvalleyridingclub.com](http://www.finnvalleyridingclub.com) You can also find us on Facebook

**Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2019 newsletter,  
with reports from our members representing  
Finn Valley Riding Club at local and regional events**

## Novice Championships – Arena UK

### **F**inn Valley are National Champions for 2019!

After a very early start we arrived at Arena UK, the newish home for the Novice Championships and what a good move BRC made by securing this venue. It really is very

well laid out, easy to get to and the surfaces for the horses are excellent. We had qualified our 80cm jumping team and two prelim and two novice dressage tests. Our qualifying team of show jumpers from the competition in November at Wix

## Dates for your Diary

*9th June - Area Dressage*  
*23rd June - Area One Day Event*  
*7th July - Area Show Jumping*  
*2-4th August -*  
*Horse Trials Championships*  
*31st August -1st September -*  
*National Championships*  
*19th September -*  
*Blenheim Palace Eventer Challenge*

Continued over...

**Winning team:**  
from left, Shirley  
Stagg, Emma Kelly,  
Jess Mace and  
Joe Mace.



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From previous page...

were Julia Sheppard, Shirley Stagg, Emma Kelly and Joe Mace. Unfortunately, Julia's horse has been very poorly and was unable to come, so Emma Sayer who had come second individually at the qualifier was due to fill her space. Sadly Emma's horse then became lame and so Jess Mace on Willow very kindly stepped in. Jess had her lovely baby boy, Lincoln, eight months ago and hasn't done much competing since then but she and Willow did a marvellous job.

## *"It was all down to the time"*

The course had 15 jumping efforts including a double and a treble and was really twisty. It was quite a task to actually remember the course! After the first round we ended up on a 0 score along with a few other teams. The second round was equally as twisty and was quite a bit bigger. We accumulated 8 faults in that round along with one other team and so both teams had to jump a third round, again over raised fences. Both teams finished on 4 faults and so it was all down to the time and after an excruciatingly long time, the judges worked out that our team had won!! It was SO exciting.



Shirley Stagg



Double trouble:  
Jess and Joe Mace

Right:  
Emma  
Kelly and  
Shirley  
Stagg



## Novice Winter Dressage

It was a nice bright morning for the Senior Novice Dressage which was run at Easton and Otley College, we had 3 teams entered and several individuals. The Red team with riders Emma Sayer Joe Mace, Emma Kelly and Natalie Flewitt all did good tests. In the Blue team we had Anne Chaplin, Joe Mace, Shirley and Isabella, again all had good results with Isabella and Joe

## *"Several coming home with rosettes"*

winning their tests. The third team the Pinks were down to three as Natalie had to withdraw her horse but Hannah Norris, Emma and Rosie all did good tests. The Individuals Joe on Carillion and

Emma Kelly on Greenwing Steptoe came first so we have three riders going to the Championships. Well done to Shannon Curtis our only junior to represent Finn Valley at the Winter Novice Dressage and for coming 3rd.

It was a good day unfortunately the teams did not get placed but all enjoyed themselves and with several coming home with rosettes.

## Intermediate Winter Dressage

This was held at Easton College on 2nd December. Rosie Stevens and Van Neolux scored an impressive 65.96 % to take 2nd place I the prelim 13 with Joe Mace and Carillion close behind in 3rd with 65% and then also taking 5th spot on Smartie. In the Novice 28 Maddy Girling scored 64% and Rosie 62% but were both juts out of the top 10 placings. Maddy then

went onto score an impressive 67% in the Novice 34 to finish 3rd, Sue Leggett and Sarah Rose scored 63% and Cheryl on 60% all finishing out of the top 10. In the last class; Elementary 42 Cheryl Turner scored 64% to take 5th place. Well done to everyone who competed. No qualifications this time but some impressive scores.

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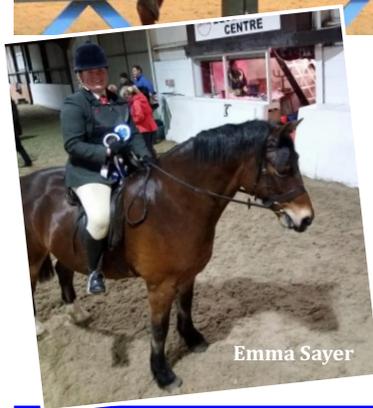
Shirley Stagg

## Novice Winter Show Jumping

It was a lovely cold bright sunny morning for the Novice Show Jumping qualifier at Wix. Unfortunately we had no junior team this year. We had four qualifying teams; the blue team of Shirley, Julia, Joe and Emma Kelly had a great day and had to compete in a very tense jump off to take the win and qualify again for the championships. The red team



Emma Kelly



Emma Sayer

consisted of Emma Sayer, Danielle, Jackie and Maddie all jumped very well with Emma taking individual 2nd place. Team pink also had a great day with Joe and Pip both jumping a double clear and Sarah and Hannah just rolling a few poles. The last team was the yellow team of Lisa, Becky, Jill and Abi on young and inexperienced horses had a fun day but were not in the running. It was a tense wait at the end of the competition with a hard fought jump off but it was finally announced we were in 1st place and off to the Championships again! Well done to all who represented the club.



Rosie Stevens

## Intermediate Winter Show Jumping

We had a busy day with 15 teams and several individuals fighting it out for qualification for the Championships at Bury Farm in April. The day started early with our 5 junior teams. The first round was close with just a fence between the top three. However, the second round mixed things up and it was Finn Valley's team of three that finished in top spot and took the qualification place. The team of Dulcie and Tabby Wade along with Andrew James were faultless and finished on a zero score and considering the two girls were riding borrowed horses this was a fantastic achievement. Individual top placing went to Imogen Sheldrake from Beccles and Bungay. The next qualification spot up for grabs was the senior 90cm. Again 5 teams battled things out over Sue Peasley's technical course. Nothing much separated the teams after the first round but the introduction of the water tray in the second caused a few issues for some. After the

second round it was High Fen and Brampton who were on level scores. A jump off decided the eventual winners and this time the winning team was High Fen with Brampton taking the qualification place as High Fen were only an area team.. Finn Valley had two teams entered with Jasmine Slater finishing 5th and the team 2nd (Jasmine, Jenny, Sarah and Danielle) and the other team of Bella, Charlotte, Sue and Chloe finishing 4th. In the 100cm team class the scores were tight and after the first round things were close. However, it was the consistent Brampton team of three that ran away with it in the second round finishing 12f ahead of the second team place. The Finn Valley team of just three Pip, Cheryl and Shannon just missed out on top spot coming 2nd. The last class of the day was the 110cm and this was more of a formality as we only had one team entered. This meant that all riders needed to complete to take the qualification place. They all

did this in great style. Well done to everyone who took part and special thanks to all our helpers, judges and stewards who made the day run so smoothly!



TEAMWORK:  
Shannon Curtis

## Combined Training

It was a little like turning up to the Marie Celeste on Saturday, as when we got there at 8.15am there was hardly anyone there and no show jumping course built. It transpired that Carlton were not building their course until the morning and then found out that a water hose had been left on in the indoor arena which resulted in it being flooded. They then had to work very hard in the increasing wind to move all the equipment, pole by pole to the outdoor arena. Everyone helped with that or in the placing of bricks around the two dressage arenas to hold the boards in place! The competition eventually commenced without mishap. Because of the wind, a number of members felt they were unable to travel and so a quick switch round for the teams was made.

Eleven teams competed and we provided two teams made up of Hannah Norris, Maddie Girling, Joe Mace and Shirley Stagg. They all competed very well and came 6th. The other team of Joe Mace, Shirley Stagg, Isabella Stagg and Jess Mace did very well and came 2nd but unfortunately only one team qualified. We missed out by one point. Joe and Bella did some lovely dressage tests with Joe getting a better score than Bella but unfortunately he had a pole in the jumping which meant Bella won the section and has qualified for the Championship at Aston-le-Walls. Sue Leggett rode as individual and although things didn't quite go to plan, I hope she still enjoyed the day. Thank you to the Maces for gathering up the rosettes and sheets at the end and to Julia Sheppard who worked extremely hard to organise our teams for us, not an easy task at the best of times but even more challenging when events are held during such difficult weather conditions.

## TRAINING:

### Poles & jumping with Jonathon Allinson

contact Lucy Stagg -  
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### Intermediate 90cm Winter Championships - Report by Sarah Rose

As I had the first jumping time of 8.30 on the Saturday we arrived on the Friday evening so that we could settle in and be ready for the morning. During the night the winds really picked up and by the morning we were glad to be warming up and jumping indoors. It was a nice course (although tight on time) and I was pleased with just a pole in the first round. My second round wasn't quite as smooth but with only a couple of



double clears in the whole day we were all pleased to find out the team had finished 8<sup>th</sup>! As usual all the Finn Valley team were there to support each other and make it another brilliant weekend away.

### Eventer Challenge

This was kindly organised by Area 8 and they invited us to join them for the Eventer Challenge at Poplar Park. It was a beautiful day for the event which started with the Junior 100 and we had Shannon Curtis riding for us, she did a lovely round on Martini and came 3rd. The Senior 100 was next and we had Cheryl Turner riding Be a Rebel who came 3rd and Milly Butters riding Derwins Dapple who came 2nd, well done to all.

*"The team all had lovely rounds"* ★

Next was the Senior 90 Challenge we had one team consisting of Pip Davis on Cathedral Rock, Dani Lawrence on Atlanta Roo, Isabella Stagg on Quite a Compliment and Joe Mace on Ash Hill Blossom, Pip, Danni and Joe had lovely clear rounds, unfortunately Bella had a fall so was eliminated but as we could drop her score that left us on zero and the team came 2nd. Pip Davis also rode Bownmore Boy as a individual. The last group to go were the 80 Challenge we had three teams. First team was Finn Valley Galaxies with

Chloe Fulcher riding Heritage Attica, Elodie Fonseca riding Sam's R Man, Hannah Norris riding Racha Darling and Jackie Streeting on Licaro's Pride. All rode great rounds and the team came 6th. Second team were Finn Valley Stars Sue Leggett riding Asjemenou, Becky West on Callin Beag Liath, Joe Mace riding Carillion and Rebecca Greenwell riding Pennfarthing Jasper again they all rode well and the team came 7th. The third team the Cornets were Shirley Stagg riding Timatia, Julia Hicks on Rachwood Miss Skalette, Emma Sayer riding Owain Brecon Boy and Joe Mace on Willow. The team all had lovely rounds with Shirley coming 1st and Joe 5th individually and the team coming 2nd.

It was nice to meet four new members and this was their first event representing Finn Valley Elodie Fonseca, Lauren Steel who rode as a non qualifier in the 80 Challenge on Keenleyside the Enchantress, Rebecca Greenwell and Kate Over riding the 80 Challenge.

It was a great day once again for Finn Valley Riding Club with lots of rosettes being awarded and several people hopefully will qualify and go to the Championships.

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## Long Distance Ride

It was a rather chilly start to the day for our Long Distance Ride in Rendlesham Forest. With it being Mothering Sunday we were not sure how many people would turn up but slowly they started to arrive and soon there were a few ready to start the ride just before 10am which had been marked out by our Chairman James, 12 miles round the forest. We had 27 riders pre enter but as the morning progressed more started to turn up the last ones to start the ride set off at 11.25. After a couple of hours riders started to return and said what a lovely ride it was, after untacking

their horses they were given a cup of soup, roll and a rosette and all said they could not wait for the next ride in October.

It was nice to see some Finn Valley members taking part, Julia Hicks, Rosie Stevens, Becky de Bree, Anne Corke and Luisa Edwardes. Thank you to all the helpers without them we could not run these events, Jacque & Colin at one check point, Anne Chaplin at another, Julia being the photographer for the day, Cress helping and James for marking the course.

Another very successful Long Distance Ride.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

**Elodie Fonseka - Lynne Owen**  
**Hannah Gillott - Libby Wilson-Smith**  
**Sarah Long - Rebecca Powell**  
**Julia Taylor - Andrew Taylor**  
**Philippa Taylor - Rebecca Greenwell**  
**Lauren Steel - Kate Over - Lily Myers**  
**Sue Westmore - Julia Barrell**



Left:  
Becky De Bree



Right:  
Rosie Stevens



Julia Hicks and Sue Westmore



Left:  
Anne Corke

Right:  
Becky De Bree and Luisa Edwardes



*"All said they could not wait for the next ride in October."*



## Intermediate Show Jumping Championships

The championships were well organised and had a good atmosphere, the nice thing about Riding clubs is that we are mostly just ordinary people who love their beasts and want to have a bit of fun and competition, despite our ages!!

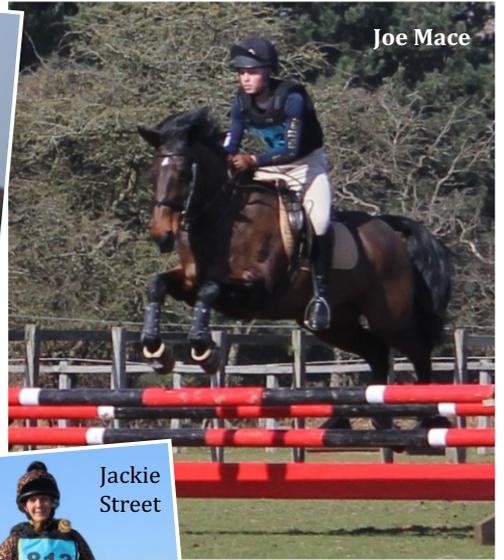
- Pip Davis

**Making it look easy:** Pip Davis riding Cathedral Rock (left), and Bawnmore Boy (right)



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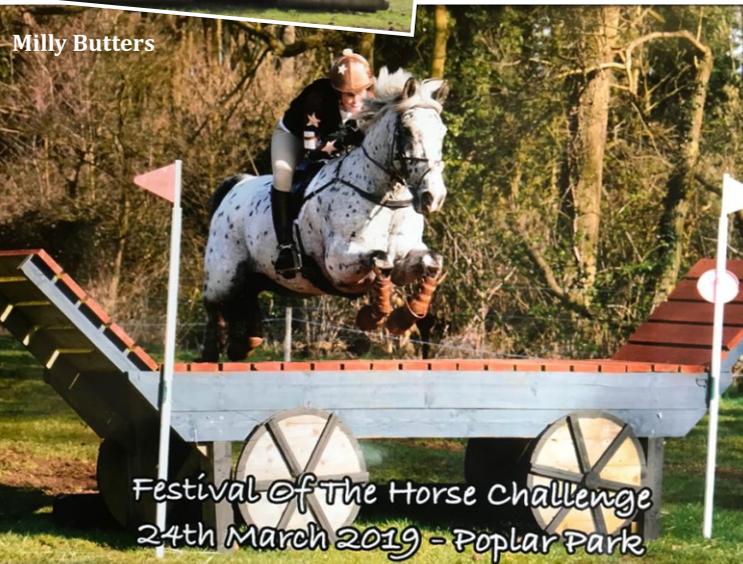


*“jumping a lovely double clear”*

## FOTH Championships - Report by Shirley Stagg

Fantastic day at the BRC FOTH championships. Tia was her usual brilliant self jumping a lovely double clear, just 26 seconds too fast so we ended up 65th individually! Thank you to the best groom ever Aaron Cook.

Danielle Lawrence finished 10th in the 90cm out of 101 entries!



Anything you would like to add to the newsletter?   
Contact Julia Sheppard:  
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