Dear Member,

Happy New Year to you all!

Please now if you read this no further - please read the following three bullet points!!!

- THE LYNNE BALDWIN TEST RIDING CLINIC ON FEBRUARY 19th WILL NOW TAKE PLACE AT HALF MOON STUD, MOTCOMBE AND NOT WORLD HORSE WELFARE.
- THE SUE PETTY CLINIC ON MARCH 5TH WILL NOW TAKE PLACE AT KINGFISHER AND NOT WORLD HORSE WELFARE.
- THE JANE HOLDERNESS-RODDAM CLINIC IS BOOKING VERY SLOWLY AND WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE DECISION TO RUN OR CANCEL VERY SOON. JANE IS SUCH A BUSY PERSON AND WE ARE VERY LUCKY TO USE HER SO WE NEED TO GIVE HER FAIR WARNING OF CANCELLATION. THIS CLINIC IS ON JANUARY 28TH AT WORLD HORSE WELFARE. THE SESSIONS CATER FOR ALL ABILITIES - YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A TOP FLIGHT EVENTER!!!

So -to the round up our recent events~ I am sure those of you who came to the Mike Tucker evening will agree that it was a night to remember. Mike's insight into the Olympics and Rio in particular was fascinating and once again the food at the Northover was excellent. Huge congratulations to Margaret for all her hard work in arranging this event. With the amazing raffle and the fact that Mike not only donated his fee - he would not even take his travel expenses, we were able to send £1000 to his chosen charity, the Great Western Air Ambulance.

Training sessions have been going well with Amanda Edmonds being as popular as ever, Gill Longhurst is teaching packed clinics at World Horse Welfare and extra time is being booked for Ed Hobbs and his pole dancers!!! In the New Year we have **Sue Petty, Jane Holderness- Roddam,** test riding with Lynne Baldwin and another dressage to music clinic with Gaynor Colbourn. Please, please book early for these clinics. All of these trainers will teach ALL abilities so don't think ' I am not good enough to do that' because you are!! The people who came to Gaynor in November were thrilled with their sessions and the price is amazing for what you get - tailor made music, a floor plan on the day and then a video and a practise disk before your bespoke CD is sent to you. Start saving now and book in - there are only 6 places available.

2016 was again not the best of years for our teams - but we did have a stunning individual performance in the Dressage to Music Championships at Bury Farm, with Debra Fews winning the National Novice title on her homebred Mistress Zadorabelle by a significant margin from her nearest rivals. Well done Debra! The Horse Trials teams once again kept the flag flying with Lisa Sharpe and Sophie Hodges going to the Championships. The inaugural South Wales and West if England Championships took place at Hartpury and are planned again this year. Please remember that being a Team Manager is really hard and very often thankless work, these managers do not have time to ring everyone on the members list - so the onus is on **YOU** to contact them and make yourself available !!! We usually run at least one Area only team which will give you the taste of team participation without the stress of thinking you may face a National Championship before you really feel ready and now you could go to the regional championship at Hartpury. So please pick up the phone and talk to the relevant team manager for whichever discipline suits you and have a chat to them - we need to get MSRC back at the top! Our SJ team manager is Sara Bartlett (07967 208 778) - she would love to hear from any of you jumpers - there is a new intermediate winter competition this year too.

For the Dressage – Carol Plested is the team manager, we know we have talent in this discipline so please contact Carol on (07973 360 968) Mandie Bown has stepped down from her role as Horse Trials manager after a very successful tenure in the post - she has now been replaced by Martin Boreham (07813 132 949) and for the Combined Training our new manager is Lisa Sharpe (07725 657 363). Please contact these people and let them know your availability. Carol as many of you will know is on box rest herself at the moment but you can still pick up the phone and tell her you will be available when the dressage competitions come along!

We ran the Novice Winter Dressage qualifier for 2017 at KSEC last November and Mid Somerset teams came a really creditable 4th and 6th - no mean feat out of 26 teams!!

We have dipped our toes in the EQUO water this winter - huge thanks to Alex Green - which is great news- and this has really taken off with most of the entries now coming via Equo. We are always still looking for more and for helpers and organisers - so please if you can spare a couple of hours - please, please get in touch with us.

As yet all the Summer dates are not confirmed those we have are on a separate sheet -- the Annual Show is booked for June 11th at Wincanton Racecourse and there will also be Combined Training & Dressage there on September 17th. Sadly no Badminton qualifiers this year as Badminton could not secure a sponsor but hope to be back in 2018.

Our Quiz was so popular last year that we will run it again on Friday March 24th at Long Sutton Village Hall - with another fabulous supper prepared by Ed Hobbs! So get your teams together in good time.

We hope to see lots of you out competing in the New Year. Just a reminder - **please**, **please** enter early and **please**, **please** if you change your e-mail address or mobile phone number don't forget to let Julia and Alex know!!!! Between them Alex and Julia are still having all kinds of nightmares with your contact details! If you receive your programmes electronically, **please** download them or pay the extra £5 and have hard copy by post. Our website is now in the competent hands of Jade Forbes and she will post photos on there for you.

Wishing you all sound and healthy horses and a Very Happy New Year and best wishes for speedy recoveries to Carol, Sophie Hodges and any more of you who have been ill or injured recently.

Your Committee

<u>Main Club contacts:</u> Margaret Peverley (01935 473 188) Marian Draper (01458 241 506 / 07885 301 898) Treasurer/ Membership: Julia Down (01373 461 807) Facebook items to Alex Green (07766 885 965) Website: Jade Forbes (msridingclub@gmail.com)

DON'T FORGET! IF YOU HAVEN'T YET RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP THIS IS THE LAST COMMUNICATION YOU WILL RECEIVE!!