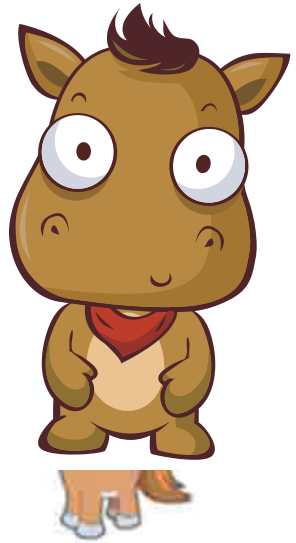




BRIDGEWATER RIDING CLUB

Junior Newsletter



Hello to all junior members,

Hope you all had a great show last month, and didn't get sun burned.

We have a questions and answers session with Ruth our great Chairperson this month, finding out what it's like to be head of a great riding club like Bridgewater.

We also have a quiz to do again this month, you can send your quiz entry to Carol with your show entries or bring it to the caravan on show day. Well done to Olivia Johnson who won last month's quiz. She also won the Fancy Dress class at Warrington Show in May, so well done from all of us here!

We had a great Fun Day on Saturday 19th June, with games, handy pony, clear round, dressage and clinics that covered working hunter, showing and show jumping. All who came had a great time, and we had loads of requests to run another, so watch this space!

We are hoping for good weather for the July show, maybe not as hot as the last one. Just one last thought, if you find yourself in a class with 30 others, keep smiling, even if it takes an hour to judge everyone.

Finally we would all like to congratulate Ruth & Dave on their wedding day.

See you all at the show!

Sophie, Jade, Matthew, Josh, Megan, Rebecca & Rachel



Interview with Ruth Clifton - Bridgewater RC Chairman

1. **How did you first get involved with Bridgewater riding club?**
In 2001 I went to the AGM to offer to set up the club's first website, and was voted onto committee.
2. **How long have you been chairperson?**
I'm now in my 4th year in 'the chair'. They must like me.....
3. **What is your favourite class?**
I would have to say Working Hunter, as it's what I did mostly when competing and I like the fact that it combines both jumping and showing.
4. **What is the best and worst thing about being Chairperson of Bridgewater RC?**
The worst thing... Well, it's not really worst as we have a great committee, but it's the fact that the responsibility for the success or failure of a club ultimately lies with the chairman. I take my role very seriously, and to me, it's a big deal! Sometimes I have to do unpleasant things like dealing with complaints (not many though!).
The best thing is that the committee are so good and work so hard they make my job so much easier! And that I get to see our members grow and learn and enjoy themselves so much. It's lovely to get to know you all, and see you at Presentation Night.
5. **How do you deal with competitors who have negative comments about the club?**
We bury them in the muckheap at the showground.
No, seriously, I encourage them to talk to me and find out why they feel the way they do. Sometimes people complain that they were placed lower than they thought they should be (this is the one we get every show!). My reply (and everyone would enjoy showing more if they learned this) is that someone has to come first, and someone has to come last. All judges have different opinions, and competitors need to respect that. You may be unplaced this time, but next time you may get a ribbon!
If someone does have a gripe, complaint or opinion, I would ask that they email me, and I will personally reply and address anything they bring up. Please don't just have a negative comment, come and discuss it!
6. **Where do you see Bridgewater Riding Club in 10 years time?**
I think we will continue to grow both in members and quality. We invest any money in equipment for the club. You have all seen our brilliant new jumps and HP equipment, and we will always update and improve.
Our NWSJC carries on getting bigger and better, and this year we add the Working Hunter version, so I'd love to see that get as popular as the show jumping!
I'd like to build teams up for both showing and show jumping, to represent the club at competitions around the country. We did some team jumping last year, and all had a great time.
Onwards and upwards is my motto for the club, and I'm proud to have made a contribution, however small, to a fantastic club that has more than 25 years of history.

