

This Newsletter will be a quarterly publication available online and via e-mail. It's aimed at all members of BD but also those keen to join British Dressage. For information on how to get involved with the sport go to [www.britishdressage.co.uk](http://www.britishdressage.co.uk)

**facebook**

Are you on Facebook? Keep up to date with what is happening in your region by becoming a member of the Official British Dressage Scottish Facebook page

follow us on  
**twitter**

Follow British Dressage Scotland on Twitter. @BDSScotland



Clare Molyneux after winning the Para Restricted title at Vale View in March 2011

## This issue

Christmas Festival Report  
Para rider Clare Molyneux tells us about her year  
Scottish Championship Rules 2012

## Hello and Welcome to our Regional Newsletter

Dear Members,

**HAPPY NEW YEAR.** 2012 promises to be an exciting year for British Dressage and the Scotland Region Committee look forward to your continued support. We are here for you and if you have any suggestions that you feel might help us promote our sport, please let me know. The Regional Committee are all volunteers and without them it would be impossible for me to do the job.

We have had some Committee changes and these are shown below. Special thanks must go to Allison Fellows who has stepped down as Rider Training Rep. Allison has worked hard within the Committee for the last 3 years and we wish Allison every success in the many activities she is now enthusiastically involved in.

Latest BD membership figures for Scotland at 31 December 2011 was 739, an all time high. When I took over the role of Regional Development Officer TEN years ago we only had just over 200 members. What a percentage increase! Thank you all for your support over the years. All of our volunteers have to be thanked, too numerous to mention and this includes all of our Judges. The sport could not operate without this wonderful band of people.

### *Cecilia*

#### **Regional Committee Members**

Regional Chairman	Les Smith (Berwickshire)	<a href="mailto:lessmith105@aol.com">lessmith105@aol.com</a>
Judges Rep	Lady Mary Hope (Edinburgh)	<a href="mailto:maryhope1@mac.com">maryhope1@mac.com</a>
BYRDS Rep	Mary McFarlane (Tayside)	<a href="mailto:marymcfarlane007@btinternet.com">marymcfarlane007@btinternet.com</a>
Para Rep	Erik McKechnie (Perthshire)	<a href="mailto:erikmac@aol.com">erikmac@aol.com</a>
Assistant Para Rep	Hannah Beckmann (Falkirk)	<a href="mailto:hannahbeckmann@aol.com">hannahbeckmann@aol.com</a>
Members Rep	Jackie Gray (Lothian)	<a href="mailto:jackiegray12@talktalk.net">jackiegray12@talktalk.net</a>
Rider Training Rep	Vacant	

#### **Regional Development Officer**

Cecilia Gladwyn (Aberdeenshire) 07584 147258 [ceciliagladwyn@britishdressage.co.uk](mailto:ceciliagladwyn@britishdressage.co.uk)

Newsletter Editor	Sam Turpitt (Aberdeenshire)	<a href="mailto:samturpitt@hotmail.com">samturpitt@hotmail.com</a>
Newsletter Advertising	Gillian Parker (Edinburgh)	<a href="mailto:gillian_p@live.co.uk">gillian_p@live.co.uk</a>

For booking information or more details of all Regional Activities go to:  
[www.britishdressage.co.uk/your\\_regions/scotland\\_region](http://www.britishdressage.co.uk/your_regions/scotland_region)

## AREA FESTIVALS

Scotland will have two area festivals in 2012 but the qualifiers for the Area Festival Championship will be split equally between the two venues, ie each venue will have half the qualifiers running at their respective venues.

Preliminary to Elementary – top 2 combinations from each venue with 62% and above

Medium to PSG – only 1 combination from each venue with 62% and above.

25/26 August  
Rowallan AC, Ayrshire

6/7 October Gordon  
Dressage Group at  
Fountain Equestrian,  
Aberdeen

## MYRTLE PIRIE

Myrtle trained as a vet at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, being only one of 4 women in her year and proved to be one of their top students. She moved to Aberdeen to work and there she met her husband Hugh who she married in 1958.



After having her daughter Victoria she returned to work at the Glasgow Vet school as a part time lecturer in 1960 and at the age of 50 did her PhD on the equine respiratory system. She retired in 1996 but did not finally hang up her lab coat until 2005.

Myrtle will be best known to you all as a list 4 Dressage Judge. For over 25 years Myrtle judged at competitions across Scotland and Northern England, always with Hugh by her side as her writer.

Our thoughts are with Hugh, Victoria and her family at this sad time and our heartfelt condolences are sent to them all.

## VACANCY ON BRITISH DRESSAGE SCOTLAND REGION COMMITTEE RIDER TRAINING REPRESENTATIVE

Scotland region currently has a vacancy for a Rider Training Rep. Do you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team promoting and fostering the sport of dressage in Scotland. Then this could be the job for you and I would like to hear from you today! This voluntary role requires a keen and enthusiastic person who has strong organisational skills and a keen interest in promoting Rider Training within the region.

The Rider Training Representative provides technical input to the Regional Development Officer and to the Regional Committee on senior training issues. This relates primarily to Regional Training. Any queries or questions they have on this policy should be directed to the Training Committee, either through the RDO, Chief Executive or through the relevant representative on the Training Committee. It is important that on-going evaluation takes place to enable the demands of members in the region to be taken in to account. Training Representatives are recommended by the Regional Committee, approved by the Training Committee and ratified by the Board.

The Rider Training Representative will be involved in the organisation of dates for test riding days, senior camps, selection day etc. They will have a strong involvement in both the Senior Inter Regional and Senior Home International competitions.

For further details and application form, email [cecilia.gladwyn@britishdressage.co.uk](mailto:cecilia.gladwyn@britishdressage.co.uk)  
Closing date for applications: 20 January 2012.

Got a passion for dressage?  
Want to be part of a team?  
Enjoy speaking to people?  
Why not become part of the Scottish region newsletter team!

We are looking for people in the following areas to write reports on competitions, riders and attention grabbing news.

Shetland  
Orkney  
Argyll & Bute  
Aberdeenshire & Moray  
Scottish Borders  
Glasgow,  
Dunbartonshire & Renfrew  
Tayside  
Fife

If you're interested in helping us please drop Cecelia an email at [CeciliaGladwyn@britishdressage.co.uk](mailto:CeciliaGladwyn@britishdressage.co.uk)

**BOOK ONLINE**

THE  
**BYZANTIUM**  
MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

**Lunch**  
1 Course £7.95 2 Courses £9.95  
Served from 12 noon - 3pm (Wed - Sat)

**Pre Theatre Dinner**  
2 Courses £15  
Served from 5pm - 6.30pm (Wed - Sun)

**Sunday Roast  
'Two Roast Sunday'**  
Family style dining where **kids eat free!**  
Choose from two delicious roasts served with a centre platter of potatoes and mixed vegetables. Served from 12 noon - 5pm

**2 Courses from £9.95**



**Call now to reserve your table on**  
DUNDEE 01382 221946 · PERTH 01738 443350  
or book online at [www.byzantiumrestaurant.com](http://www.byzantiumrestaurant.com)

**Competing in North East Aberdeenshire or travelling through the area?**

**Treat yourself to Horse and Rider Bed and Breakfast.**

**[www.monlettiecroft.co.uk/horses](http://www.monlettiecroft.co.uk/horses)**

Tel: 01651 806469 Email: [info@monlettiecroft.co.uk](mailto:info@monlettiecroft.co.uk)

Also Bed and Breakfast, Livery and Retirement Livery.



THIS NEWSLETTER IS AN IDEAL PLACE TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS OR SELL YOUR UNWANTED EQUESTRIAN ITEMS. GET THOSE UNWANTED RUGS, TACK OR EVEN HORSES AND LORRIES SOLD QUICKLY. CONTACT [gillian\\_p@live.co.uk](mailto:gillian_p@live.co.uk) for details and costs.

Letters to the Editor

Would you like to have your say on Dressage matters in the Scotland Region? If so please send your letters to Cecilia Gladwyn via email or post.



**Mindbuzzer**.Com

<http://shop.mindbuzzer.com>

Call: 01337870489 or 074041432526

The Stables, Aytounhill Estate, By Newburgh, KY14 6JH



Selling tack is one thing but improving the welfare and satisfaction out of the horse riding experience is MindBUZZler's goal achievement.



















**CHILDÉRIC**



Dressage is a discipline where movement, precision and contact make the difference.



The Childeric range of dressage saddles have been designed with that in mind.

To discover the difference and experience the improvement contact us on  
**0788 680 2553**  
[info@childericuk.com](mailto:info@childericuk.com)

For booking information or more details of all Regional Activities go to:  
[www.britishdressage.co.uk/your\\_regions/scotland\\_region](http://www.britishdressage.co.uk/your_regions/scotland_region)

In the event of any welfare procedures at BD competitions (including warm up arena) and/or training clinics please refer to the 2012 Rule Book – RULE 98 (Welfare Procedures). This details course of action in relation to all welfare issues.

## Dates

Paul Hayler Clinics :  
**13/14 March** Easter  
Rattray Farm,  
Blairgowrie  
**3 /4 April**  
Fountain Equestrian,  
Aberdeen  
**19/20 June**  
Lawside, East Kilbride,  
Glasgow



Mary McFarlane  
(Wodka) after winning the  
Elementary/Medium  
Championships  
At the Christmas  
Festival

## RULES FOR SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFIERS 2012

Qualifiers for the Scottish Championships will run from 1 August 2011 to 31 July 2012.

The qualifying period for the Scottish Championships has been extended to cover the period of one year.

The Championships will take place at Ingliston Equestrian Centre, Bishopton, Renfrewshire on 1/2 September 2012.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in each Scottish Championship Qualifying class will qualify. The qualifiers will be held via NON Qualifying Regional Championship classes **with the exception of Prelim which will only be run on qualifying sections which are open to Group 7 and 8 riders.** If there are no NON Q classes being run from Novice to Advanced Medium then the qualifiers will run in conjunction with the Regional Championship Qualifying classes.

Qualifying percentages for 2012 –

- Qualifying section at Prelim with 65% or above
- Open and Restricted section at Novice with 65% or above
- Open and Restricted section at Elementary with 63% or above
- Open and Restricted section at Medium with 60% or above
- Open and Restricted section at Advanced Medium with 60% or above
- PSG with 60% or above

In accordance with BD Championship rules, rosettes and prize money will be given to the Open and Restricted sections. Trophies will also be awarded to the winner of each Open and Restricted Section.

Every member will receive electronically a copy of the Qualification letter to be used in the event of them actually qualifying. The onus will be on the competitor to send in their qualification letter to Jackie Gray, The Kennels Cottage, Ormiston Farm Steading, Leyden Road, Kirknewton, EH27 8DQ within 14 days of the date of the competition.

Failure to correctly record your qualifications could mean that riders will be unable to take part in the championships.

As per British Dressage rules only group 7 and 8 riders competing on unregistered horses or horses with fewer than 49 points are eligible for Preliminary classes at the qualifiers. Unregistered horses will have to be registered to compete at the Scottish Championships.

As per Championship rules all entries will be drawn for starting times.

What was happening - I was surely in a dream – I need a reality check!!

These were some of the many thoughts that were racing through my head - I found it hard to take in. It was real - it was happening. I was being showered with rosettes, presented with a trophy and a gorgeous rug – the wonderful Teresa and I had just won the BD Winter Para (restricted) dressage Championship held at Vale View in Leicestershire. I truly was amazed at our success.

I need to rewind and tell you how this was achieved. Just a year ago, I had qualified at a regional dressage competition for the RDA Championship on my own home bred horse Peaches. It was a disappointment as shortly afterwards Peaches was retired from competition through injury. In order to go to the Championship I had to find another suitable horse. Added to this I had just been invited to ride as a member of the Scottish Para team in an inter-regional competition at Millfield in Somerset. The quest was on.

A colleague and one time pupil of mine, David Sheerin, Chief Instructor of the influential and highly respected BHS Riding/Training Centre at Wellington Riding in Hampshire came to the rescue. It seemed appropriate to contact him to see if he could find a suitable horse for me to compete. David not only found Palomino Teresa but she possessed the 'Wow' factor into the bargain. Although this 16hh blonde bombshell, of unknown pedigree, was quite young (6years old), she was very accommodating and she did not mind my 'sitting trot'. As a Para grade II rider, I do not have the ability to do rising trot nor have I sufficient balance to ride with elegance. She was not the easiest ride and had her moments but she did have a natural big walk and a trot that when balanced was soft and fluent. All the attributes required for Grade II classes. Being a female, she had her own agenda and it did not always coincide with mine. However as we all know, females always work things out for the better and so we progressed and I learnt to balance and understand her – she learnt to accept my way of riding and the two of us became one.

Wellington Riding had come up trumps, providing immeasurable support including trainer, transport and groom for the occasions. In August 2010, we successfully competed at Hartpury College, Gloucester in RDA Champs and a creditable 2<sup>nd</sup> on our first outing. Two weeks later we managed to do even better – the Scottish team won the BD Open Inter regional competition. A fantastic result and it had been a wonderful opportunity to compete, to feel that I could still ride and have a future in the saddle. Teresa had lit the flame that burns in my heart, the fire that is riding a horse in competition. I felt elated, happy and I wanted more. I was not sure how this would be possible given I did not have a horse of my own and financial resources were limited. However to my astonishment SportScotland had selected me as a member of the Scottish Performance Squad and this entitled me to a bursary for training during 2011. This was put to good use by training with Erik MacKechnie, the BD Scottish regional Para coach. In January David and I discussed plans for the coming season with Teresa as we needed goals to achieve along this competitive road. Long drives to Hampshire started all over again, with a couple of competition successes that resulted in a 'wild card' entry for the BD Winter Para (restricted) Championships.

David took my training very seriously indeed. I was not going to be allowed to let the side down, even though I knew there would be stiff competition. Teresa was given time out from her riding school duties, being ridden by staff to prepare her for this role. Living in the North of Scotland and 600+ miles from Wellington it was difficult for me to maintain any degree of consistency in our training programme. I only ever managed a couple of days prior to any competition and this one was no different. It was at this point I was introduced to Nereide Goodman a list 1 judge and coach who took me under her wing and added the polish required to my test riding.

At the end of March 2011, I drove to Vale View (Leicestershire) with Teresa and groom Sam who was cool, calm and collected and a great support – I was a jitter bug! There were 4 classes over 2 days. First a training class gaining 3<sup>rd</sup> place, then a qualifier for Hickstead – coming 1<sup>st</sup> with 70%. This was going far to well and so much better than I expected. Thinking that our best may be over, Sam and I had a wee celebration and said the next day would be a bonus, whatever happened and I would be going back to Wellington with my head held high. The following morning, Teresa was on her toes, very sprightly and more than a little tense, but somehow she knew she had to perform. She had worked it out that she was on stage each time we went inside the arena and she liked being there and definitely knew how to lift her game. She enjoyed the adulation and of course the Polo mints. She was good – she was better than good – she was awesome with a 73% in the warm-up test and a 69% in the Championship class so adding two more 1<sup>st</sup>'s to our haul. I was overwhelmed by the success. More amazing is the real connection that we had built up in such a short time and with limited amount of training. Teresa has that presence which is absolutely essential for these competitions.



Clare at Bishop Burton International

As a rider you have to believe in yourself and your horse, to have the confidence, fitness and ability to produce the best performance possible. I had not realised just how much all this meant to me until I had actually achieved this degree of success. I was on cloud nine, but Teresa had become a 'Princess' and she knew it. It is always a team effort and I had a good team behind me.

We then went on to the Hickstead Para (restricted) Championship in June with much anticipation and a degree of pressure to achieve success. I found it difficult to keep relaxed and focussed on the competition. Both tests being slightly below par, just making the odd mistake that cost us dearly. We were 2<sup>nd</sup> in each class, but still maintaining a good 69% in the Championship class. Only 2% down from the winning score. The day was not spoilt as BD World Class trainer David Hamer informed me that I had been selected to ride in the FEI International 2\* Para Dressage competition to be held at Bishop Burton College, near Hull, in two weeks time. Wow!

Despite the short time frame, I knew I had to go. This was a chance of a lifetime, even though it was a logistical nightmare as well as being a financial disaster. Once friends became aware of my selection they were extremely supportive, together with local businesses, SportScotland and BHS Scotland the financial burden of this mammoth trip was considerably eased. The total mileage came to 2,150 miles. I love living in the North of Scotland but at times like this, you have to be committed to your cause and goal to undertake such a journey.

The lead up to the competition was short, swift and full on. Between coaches David and Nereide they made sure that with only two days training available they would make use of the time and I rode three times each day. The music for the 'Kur' was created by Caroline Merrit, the floor plan by myself and amended by Nereide at the last minute. The finished article of test and music did not get an airing until the day of competition. Not to be recommended for the best results or for the nerves. However it turned out to be our best score over the three days by gaining 4<sup>th</sup> place. I thoroughly enjoyed riding to the music and Teresa followed the rhythm like a pro. Yes, there was room for improvement, but given the circumstances I felt it was brilliant, gaining 66%.

The whole occasion was one of awesome disbelief that we were competing alongside riders such as Gold medallist, Canadian Lauren Barwick and her beautifully moving and balanced horse, Off to Paris. There were seven countries represented and the formal but low key event was a tremendous introduction to International competition. Never did I believe I would reach this level. This golden opportunity has left a lasting impression that will live with me for the rest of my life. A pivotal moment was hearing the announcer say "Clare Molyneux riding Wellington Teresa for Great Britain". The lump in my throat rose, a tear came to my eye – I was so proud, what an honour surely nothing could ever beat that. It is worth remembering that the rider is not in her first flush of youth but of pensionable age and Teresa is not a dedicated dressage horse but a wonderful riding school work horse with a heart of gold, a sense of humour and knows when to flash her eye lashes at the judges!

My reaction to the past year is difficult to describe. I feel I have climbed a mountain to overcome a number of health issues to achieve this level of competency. It has lifted my self esteem which has recently taken a battering. It has made me realise that friends are very important. I am surrounded by many kind, enthusiastic and supportive people, North and South of the border for whom I will be forever grateful. I have been staggered at the willingness and effort given by David and his team at Wellington that has gone into producing Teresa, the 'Princess' as she is affectionately called by her fans, for me to ride. Lastly I thank my son Phillip who held the fort at home during all these sojourns south and looked after the menagerie that is ever present. Without his love and encouragement, all the above would still be a dream.

Clare Molyneux BHSII



sue carson  
■ saddles ■

LOOKING FOR  
THE RIGHT  
SADDLE OR WANT  
YOUR SADDLE  
RE-FITTING?

For a friendly, no  
obligation chat  
contact Sam Turpitt  
on 07801 428333  
or email  
sam@suecarsonsaddles.co.uk

visit our website at  
[www.suecarsonsaddles.co.uk](http://www.suecarsonsaddles.co.uk)

SIMPLY PERFECTION



This was the event of the century. The concept of a BD Scotland Christmas Festival was hailed by the majority as a brilliant idea although there was trepidation about the time of the year. Despite daily and sometimes hourly checks with the met office, the Festival did ultimately go ahead. Rain was forecast for Friday and Saturday – good!!

Paul, Bobby and Gill Hayler travelled up from Essex on the Thursday and had an overnight stay at Richmond in Yorkshire, then headed up to Gleneagles on Friday – a lovely dry day and in line with the weather predicted. Friday night saw a hard frost with a few showers of snow and it would appear that Gleneagles was not as affected as some of the other parts of the country. Borders and Edinburgh seemed to bear the brunt of the falling snow.

On Saturday morning, telephone calls from those in the Edinburgh/Borders area from judges and competitors threw the event into momentary panic – they were unable to get to Gleneagles due to the bad weather. The day went ahead and the Hayler team stepped into the breach and with some changes to the programme a full day of events went on in the main arena.

Competition from Novice to PSG, dressage to music displays with Paul and Bobby Hayler, Advanced Medium and PSG programmes from Joy McLean/Donnercrescendo and Jennifer Johnston/Donnergott, training demo with the Hayler team, choir singing with Auchterarder WRI and of course available all day was a great array of trade stands. Santa even called in for a visit.

The public attendance for the evening event was to say the least, very poor. However the very small number who attended received an entertaining evening of a lifetime. The evening started with riding demo from Paul and Bobby Hayler and this was followed by their classic candlelight pas de deux. The final act of the evening was Amanda Saville and her Chariots of Fire. Amanda did have a few extra “members” of her team. Galloway cow, various sheep and they were all trained to “pull the cart”. An exceptional evening.

Huge thanks to all our sponsors, trade stands, competitors, demonstrators (including Santa), judges, writers, volunteers and to Gleneagles (especially Jane Cepok) for their support in helping put this together. Grateful thanks to Tina and Sarah Boswell for all their help and input in putting the event together.

My lasting memory of the Festival will have to be Angela McKinna. Volunteer supremo who kept my spirits up when I thought everything was crashing down round me and did everything from stewarding to writing and generally keeping everyone in good spirits. Her fashion sense is second to none – the memory of the Cow hat and the baubles hanging from those bovine ears will last a lifetime.

Everyone worked together to make this a day to remember. What a pity so many of you missed out on it.

Fantastic raffle prizes were on offer. A golfing outing for 3 on any of the Gleneagles Golf Courses, courtesy of Ian Henderson of the Bell Group. The Tan family from Troon were the lucky winners of this prize. Other great prizes were £50 Meal vouchers from Trattoria Guidi, Airdrie and Byzantium Restaurant, Perth. Paul Hayler also donated a training voucher.

The golden raffle prize for the evening was a voucher for MEMBERSHIP TO THE LAND ROVER BURGHELEY HORSE TRIALS 30 August – 2 September. Admits 2 adults and one car for all four days. Annabel Firman was ever so slightly excited at getting this prize.



Prize giving after Advanced Medium and PSG (Joy McLean and Jennifer Johnston)



## Christmas Festival Results

NOVICE Qualifiers (sponsored by Tayside Dressage Group) Judge - Heather Carstairs

1	Marjorie Grant	Trailtrow Eriskay	67.2%
2	Alice Page	Trowan Monty	65.2%
3	Karen Dewar	Uspardie	64.1%
4	Sarah Krawczyk	Polska	60%

### NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP

(Sponsored by Heather McKay Vet Physio and Performance)

Judge – Paul Hayler

Winner Training Grant – Sponsored by Mayshade Garden Centre

Runner up Prize – VCG Equestrian Services

1	Karen Dewar	66.5%
2	Alice Page	65.4%
3	Marjorie Grant	65%



Sophia Morrison and Gillian Parker enjoying a seat on Santa's Knee ☺

ELEMENTARY Qualifiers (sponsored by Equikro.com)

Judge – Heather Carstairs

1	Mary McFarlane	Wodka	75.5%	Q
2	Gareth Watt	Purple Oscar	69.7%	Q

MEDIUM Qualifiers (sponsored by Equikro.com) Judge – Heather Carstairs

1	Carmen Gammie	Champagne Bubbles	75.2%	Q
2	Rhea Holmes	Rockhill Proud as Punch	70.3%	Q
3	Anne Johnstone	Affinity Grandeberg	69.3%	
4	Louise Richards	Hampton's Ace	64.8%	
5	Trisha Harvey	Javelot D'Or	60.7%	

### ELEMENTARY/MEDIUM CHAMPIONSHIP

Judge – Paul Hayler

(Sponsored by Heather McKay Vet Physio and Performance)

Winner Training Grant – Sponsored by Lady Hope

Runner up Prize – Equikro.com

1	Mary McFarlane	72.5%
2	Carmen Gammie	71.4%
3	Gareth Watt	68.4%
4	Rhea Holmes	64.8%



Bobby Hayler during one of the demonstrations.

### ADVANCED MEDIUM/PSG CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Sponsored by Neil Chalmers, Farrier)

Judge – Paul Hayler

Championship classes sponsored by Heather McKay Vet Physio and Performance)

Winner Training Grant – Equikro.com

Runner up Prize – Equikro.com

				Score	DTM Score	Combined
1	Jennifer Johnston	PSG	Donnergott	70.79%	67.75%	69.27%
2	Joy McLean	AM	Donnercrescendo	70%	68.5%	69.25%