

BENNACHIE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2024

In this Issue:

- ❖ Club News
- ❖ Member Accomplishments
- ❖ What's On in October & November

Club News

PLEASE SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY – WE'D LOVE TO WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND POSSIBLY EVEN FIND SPONSORSHIP FROM WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY

BLAIR HORSE TRIALS

The final ever Blair Castle International Horse Trials ran at the end of August. There was a strong Bennachie contingent there, both competing and supporting this iconic Scottish Equestrian Event!



Natasha Drysdale earned her stripes working about 38 hours over a 3 day period, completing 90,000 steps as part of the Main Arena's course building party! She was there until the bitter end on Sunday tidying away all the jumps! Brilliant job Natasha! These events simply can't run without the support of wonderful helpers like Natasha giving up their time. It is a wonderful way to watch our sport, make friends and enjoy the atmosphere!

Results from Bennachie members at Blair:

- Rosie Ellis & Merlin : 15th out of 33 in the 60cm BSPS Working Hunter Training Stakes. 9th in the NPS Scotland Open M&M Welsh A's and B's;
- Lucy Whiteford & Bertie : 3rd out of 33 in the 70cm BSPS Working Hunter Training Stakes. 3rd out of 11 in the NPS Scotland Open 122cm Working Hunter;
- Lucy Whiteford & Dubz: 3rd in the NPS Scotland Open Shetland & Exmoor. 3rd out of 30 in the NPS Scotland First Ridden;
- Evie Craigie & Henri : 2nd in the Amateur RoR class & 4th in the 80cm Arena Event;
- Mollie Green: 3rd in the 100 Arena Event, 1st pony club rider;
- Nicole Finch: Nicole Finch 9th in the BE 100;
- Kelly Grant & Whiskey : competed in the British Show Jumping 90cm and 1m classes;
- Isla Mardon: competed in the 100cm Arena Event and 90cm & 1m Show Jumping;
- Lachlan Milne: competed in the 80cm Arena Event.

It was fabulous to see so many familiar faces at Blair's Final Fling and to witness such a strong Bennachie presence.



Contact Us:

Liz Craigie : District Commissioner : dc.bennachie@pcuk.org
 Kirsten Douglas : Branch Secretary : bennachie@pcuk.org

Website: branches.pcuk.org/bennachie
 Event Bookings: <https://bennachiepc.entrymaster.online>

CAROLINE CUP : AREA 1 NORTH

The Caroline Cup was held at Dinnet this year and hosted by Deeside Pony Club. We had 3 teams and 1 individual rider represent our Club at the competition, which was a fabulous turnout.

Teeny Weeny Grassroots:

Bennachie Stars Team: Charlotte Adams, Isla MacLachlan, Olivia McGhie, Lucy Douglas

Bennachie Pony Powered Princesses: Anya Brown, Harley Littler, Pippa Lyon, Charlotte Sutherland

Combined Training:

Bennachie Blazers: Tess Delgarno, Carys Ryan, Brooke Tetley, Anna Mclean

Individual:

Rosie Ellis 70cm



The Caroline Cup is an annual competition where we compete in teams.

The Teeny Weeny Grassroots Competition consists of Turnout, Dressage, and a Handy Pony Round.

The Combined Training consists of a Dressage round and a Showjumping Round where each team member does a different test and jump height. If you ride as an Individual you ride a Dressage Test and your chosen SJ height.

We are very proud of our smartly turned out teams this year and of how well they represented our Club. We also had some amazing results:

Bennachie Stars: 1st for Turnout; 3rd Dressage; 3rd Handy Pony.

Bennachie Pony Powered Princesses: 2nd for Turnout; 1st Dressage; 2nd Handy Pony.

Teeny Weeny Grassroots Overall Results: 1st Bennachie Pony Powered Princesses; 3rd Bennachie Stars

Combined Training: 70cm Class: Dressage 4th Brooke Tetley; SJ 2nd Rosie Ellis;

Combined Result: 2nd Rosie Ellis; 6th Brooke Tetley.

80cm Class: Dressage 4th Anna Mclean; SJ 1st Anna Mclean; Combined Result: 1st Anna Mclean

CONGRATULATIONS! Those are excellent results, well done!



EFFICIENCY TESTS

As our members progress within Pony Club and develop their Pony Care and Riding knowledge they have the opportunity to do Efficiency Tests. These tests start with the E Test from 4 years old and progress right through until the A Test which they can take when they are at least 17.

The purpose of the tests is to ensure that members have an all round knowledge about how to care for their horses and ponies. They learn all about the different facets relating to their horses and ponies from the colours of horses; the points of the horse; everything there is no know about their tack and how to use it properly; how to make the right choices about their ponies' welfare, stabling, food. Completing efficiency tests is highly recommended when you are in Pony Club and it can also lead to lots of other fun within the Club including being part of the Quiz Teams.

We have just recently run our annual Efficiency Test Day and lots of members have taken part and worked very hard to pass their tests.

E Test: Anya Brown; Harley Littler; Elke Bo Witherspoon: Ilse Liv Witherspoon.

D Test: Emilie Anderson; Brook Henderson.

D+ Test: Katie Street; Sophie Street; Brooke Tetley; Lucy Whiteford; Charlotte Fuller.

C Test: Rosie Ellis; Charlotte Fuller; Lacey Leach; Anna Maclean; Lachlan Milne; Carys Ryan. We also had a guest from Deveron PC do their C Test with us and pass: Erin Reid.

A huge thank you to our trainers who have supported the C Test group in both Care (Julia Gourley) and Riding test preparation at our rallies throughout the year.



Let's all welcome our new members:

- ◆ Ava McIntosh
- ◆ Sophia Hardy
- ◆ Pippa Lyon-Low
- ◆ Harley Littler
- ◆ Brook Henderson
- ◆ Nevaeh Adams

WINTER STABLE MANAGEMENT

Stable Management is where we incorporate the unmounted learning into Pony Club life. It is where the members learn about Pony Care and develop the knowledge that they can use to pass efficiency tests and to join Quizzing teams.

Stable Management is also where members can hang out and have fun with their pony club pals and not worry about ponies while they're learning. It is great fun and they have the added bonus of earning lots of badges for their PC sweatshirts.

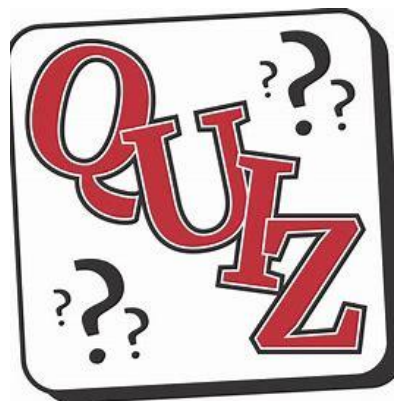
We'll be running Stable Management a little differently this winter. We'll run SM sessions alongside our other winter training, as follows:

- Flatwork Training – stable management will be about Tack. Members will learn all things related to Tack and the various kit you would use for your ponies;
- Jump Training – stable management will be about Feeding. Members will learn about feeding & fitness and related topics; and
- Games Practice – stable management will be about General Pony Knowledge, this will include topics like Points of the Horse; Colours and more.

You'll be able to book into Stable Management in conjunction with the training on that particular day or just the Stable Management class in that training event on Entry Master. We look forward to seeing our members learning lots this winter.



Area Quiz 2025 Horse & Pony Care Quiz



Exciting National Competitions

**Lots of fun while learning with pony club pals
Friendly quiz competitions leading up to Area
& National Competitions**

Area Quiz Rounds 2025:

D&H Quiz | The Pony Club UK (pcuk.org)

Anyone willing to help mentor and organise our Quiz teams please get in touch with Liz

Pony Club Vision:

"Lifelong Love of Horses through Fun, Friendship, Horsemanship and Sport"



#PonyClubVolunteers

It's time to celebrate Pony Club Volunteers!

As of the 1st of June, nominations for 2025 for the following awards were OPEN:

- Cubitt and Cubitt Bar Awards,
- Secretary of the Year,
- Volunteer of the Year Awards (Awarded by friends of DAKS),
- Cherry Award - Award nomination always open - Don't forget Centres, you can nominate for the Cherry Award too!

These awards will be presented in 2025 at a National Equestrian Event! 🎉

Do you have a story to share? Please contact Liz to arrange nominations.



Find out more about these awards on: [Awards | The Pony Club UK \(pcuk.org\)](#)

WHATSAPP INFORMATION GROUP

We would like to trial an information group on WhatsApp. The aim is to provide basic information and prompt members /parents/ volunteers to find out more.

Members must be 16+ to be approved to the group as per WhatsApp guidelines. Information will only flow out from the group. Discussions will be elsewhere.

We will highlight our own club activities and also local activities relevant to members such as qualifier competitions or open training.

Please join using the QR code or message Liz to get a direct invite.



Would you like to help out:

There are lots of opportunities to help out in our Branch.



Committee Roles:

- ❖ Field Manager;
- ❖ Health & Safety Officer.

We would also like to compile a list of potential club volunteers; of people who are currently in our club, their families, past members and their families as well as people you know who would love to get involved every now and then.

We are looking to host some bigger events in the next year and we won't be able to do this without a strong crew of volunteers.

Volunteering would include roles like general set-up & clean up as well as time keeping; stewarding and jump judging. We need all sorts of help so any willing volunteers would be welcome.

Please register your interest by email: bennachiepc@pcuk.org



The Pony Club Guidelines on the Use Of Spurs

Members wishing to ride with spurs at Pony Club activities must have achieved the C+ Riding Test or The Spurs Test, both of which are Area level tests.

It is important that spurs are only worn by riders who have a stable lower leg and who are able to use – or not use – the spur intentionally.

Follow the link for more details around The Spurs Test and the guidelines on the use of spurs.

[the-pony-club-guidelines-on-the-use-of-spurs.pdf](#) (pcuk.org)



Member Accomplishments

Congratulations to Holly Burgess

Huge congratulations to our incredible members selected for the 2025 PCIA Virtual Dressage Competition!

This is an amazing opportunity for our members to compete alongside Pony Club Members from other PCIA countries. A big thank you to the Hong Kong Pony Club and United States Pony Club for organising this competition! HKUS

There are six classes, with teams of four in each. To participate our members were carefully selected by the Dressage Committee based on eligibility and their performance in The Pony Club Championship tests 🏆 (via video submission).

The selected members will now ride an international dressage test, film it and submit it for judging. Stay tuned and follow all the action on the PCIA Dressage website: PCIA Dressage.

Good luck to all the competitors 🍀 🐾 #PCIA2025 #pciadressage

PCIA UK DRESSAGE TEAM ANNOUNCED!
SWIPE TO MEET THE TEAM...

KINDLY SUPPORTED BY
Agria

PONY CLUB

CLASS 2 - FIRST LEVEL

Danielle Ward (Old Berkeley Hunt North)
Harriet Boyd (Atherstone)
Holly Burgess (Bennachie)
May Mooney (Old Berkeley Hunt North)



Lexi Wilson was at Ladyleys showing with her youngster Seren. They were very proud to be placed 2nd in the ridden large M&M class. They also placed 5th in the novice ridden class. Well done, you 2 are looking great together.



Lachlan Milne placed 4th in The Pony Club Jumping, 90cm, at Turriff Show. Well done Lachlan, you and Mac are doing so well.

SPRING FESTIVAL QUALIFIERS

Arena Eventing:

- Maria Dougall PC70
- Brooke Tetley PC70
- Tiana Wainwright PC80
- Heidi Thomson PC80
- Lachlan Milne PC80
- Eilidh McCombie PC80
- Evie Craigie PC90
- Lachlan Milne PC90

Arena Eventing (cont):

- Natasha Drysdale PC90
- Isla Mardon PC100
- Kelly Grant PC100

Show Jumping:

- Lachlan Milne PC70
- Erin Ritchie PC90

Dressage:

- Holly Burgess : Novice

These are all the published results so far, we realise some of you have qualified but aren't listed. As soon as your names are published we will list you in the forthcoming newsletters.



REJOINING PONY CLUB THIS YEAR? Our events require a lot of planning and we need to book instructors in advance to ensure the best opportunities for our members. We therefore ask that you please consider rejoining the club promptly, this would really help with this planning process.

QUIZ / STABLE MANAGEMENT



MINI QUIZ & STABLE MANAGEMENT @ Caskieben
 7th, 14th & 21st November
 5th & 19th December
 9th & 23rd January
 6th & 20th February
 6th March

FUN FOR ALL
 23rd November
EAPC Friendly Quiz

 27th December
Christmas Beach Party @ Caskieben

 9th March
Area Quiz
 Venue TBC

JUNIOR/SENIOR QUIZ / HORSE & PONY CARE
 Planning in Progress

If any Parents / Friends / Seniors are able to help with Quiz & Stable Management please let us know

PONY CLUB VIRTUAL TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Pony Club provide training opportunities for committee members and volunteers. There is lots of information in the link provided. Most is free and can be done in your own time. Please let us know if you complete any. We need more Safeguarding trained parents in particular.

<https://pcuk.org/volunteers-training/>

What's On in October/November

what's on? OCTOBER

13th October
 Flatwork Training @ Caskieben
 Stable Management @ Caskieben

19th October
 Gallops & Racing Badge @ PC Field
 Jump Training
 Stable Management
 Field Clearance for Winter

PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

Please note that events close 1 week before to allow Organisers, Venues & Instructors to properly plan the event/rally.

what's on? November

Please note that events close 1 week before to allow Organisers, Venues & Instructors to properly plan the event/rally.

- 2nd November**
- Autumn Social TBC -
- 3rd November**
- Flatwork Training -
- Stable Management -
- 16th November**
- Jump Training -
- Stable Management -
- 24th November**
- Games Practice -
- Stable Management -

PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR DETAILS AND ENTER ON ENTRYMASTER