

From the Horse's Mouth

A Newsletter for the Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC

January 2008



Stable Notes

Happy New Year to all the Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC. Caroline, Kerri, Louise and Kirsty would like to thank everyone for your generous contributions to the Flemish Farm Christmas Staff Fund.

The horses got a good break over Christmas and had a blissful 7 day field-based break coming back into work on Wednesday 2nd January. All the horses remain well, although we still have concerns over Denzil's soundness.

We are also pleased to announce that Kirsty has taken on the loan of Bleu and Susie Flook has loaned Hattie. If your life's ambition is horse ownership or indeed loaner-ship (and whose isn't?) please talk to Caroline about which horses might be available at your riding level.

Now that Christmas is over, a good way of banishing the January blues is to plan the horse related activities you want to participate in during the coming year and diarise preparation for the event. We expect there to be a number of jumping and dressage competitions this year and it is great to set yourself some goals. There are two group lessons held on Saturday, 11am dressage and 1pm jumping, which you may wish to join and of course the full round of private lessons in jumping, flat-work and military equitation are available. We also hope to be able to announce some dressage clinic dates shortly.

Clare has one three week course planned. This is Beginner's Jumping which starts this Saturday (12th January) at a cost of £75 for a course of 3 lessons. The last two courses were really enjoyed by the participants who all felt they had improved by the end.

Finally : SAVE THE DATE! We will be holding a drinks party and slide-show at Armoury House, the Regimental Headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company, in the City on 29th February. Please encourage all the Supporting Riders and friends and family to attend. Full details on page 4.

Contact Details : Flemish Farm

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Forthcoming Events: 2008

February

29th February : Drinks Party and slide show at Armoury House

March

2nd March : Combined Training Day

23rd March: Windsor Park Equestrian Club Training Day

April

17th-20th April: Annual Camp at Flemish Farm

May

4-5th May : Chiltern Museum Skill at Arms Display

8th-11th May: Royal Windsor Horse Show

11th May: Skill at Arms display Ampton Race course

20th May : HAC Open Day Armoury House

TBC John Palmer Cup and Pyramid Trophy (either May or June)

June

15th June Queens Cup at Smiths Lawn Polo

22nd June Royal Windsor Cup Polo Guard Smiths Lawn

July

27th July : Cartier Polo

Care, and not fine stables, makes a good horse.

- Danish Proverb



The Christmas Show 2007

The dreaded flu meant that the editor and her husband had to miss the Christmas Show. However the event was well attended with many people achieving clear round scores on the 2 ft and 3 ft jumping courses. Fiona Charman won the high score round on Shirley although she tells me that Dolly, on her pony Joe, also deserves honourable mention as they in fact got the top score! Dolly rode beautifully and Joe is only 12.2 h.h., so a really remarkable feat that puts us in our places!

The Pony club games comprised of 4 teams— and games included bobbing for apples in water and carrots in flour, stick in the cone, and fast-as-lightning. Team Oz comprising Ashish, Conrad, Fiona and Lesley took first place.

Alas I cannot offer any photographs so that you can enjoy the silliness but if anyone took them that day I will happily print them in the next issue. (please send to mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk)

The Christmas Party 2007

The Christmas Party in the Bisley Hut was extremely well attended this year. The official photographer, Sandy Rogers, dusted off his box-brownie and caught some key moments (see page 6). Major Roger Swift and his wife, Caroline provided excellent musical entertainment all evening.

Rennie Simon was our new master of ceremonies and the cabaret this year began with a sing-along of all the old favourites, (Roll out the Barrel, D'ye Ken John Peel etc). This was followed by a memorable rendition of 'The Owl and the PussyCat', by Reg and Copper Howe who also mentioned that they are celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary this year.

The Three Little Maids from (Flemish Farm Riding) School, Rosie Beels, Fiona Charman and Kate Robinson reprised their popular rendition of the Gillbert and Sullivan classic. The evening was rounded off with some excellent dance music with Annie and John Pinkerton showing us how it should be done!

A particular success this year was the Light Cavalry HAC calendar produced by Charles Gillow and Fiona Charman which were sold at the party for £10 each. The princely sum of £340 was raised with all money going to the benefit of our horses. Indeed, anyone who has visited Flemish Farm recently will see that each horse now has a new deep-padded, very smart numnah which were bought with the proceeds.

There are still copies of the calendar available to buy and these can be obtained from the office at Flemish Farm at a very reasonable £10 each.

(editor recommendation :Mr April!)

New Year Resolutions

Insurance

Riding is a dangerous sport and accidents can happen. The new year is a great time to review your insurance and to protect yourself should the worst happen. A good place to start, if you are a leisure rider, is the British Horse Society <http://www.bhs.org.uk>. Membership (Gold Membership) includes Personal Liability and Personal Accident insurance. However, this insurance only covers death, loss of a limb or sight and does not cover body injury or loss of earnings, which could be an important consideration if you run your own business. If this is the case, please check your existing insurance would cover any horse-related accidents. If a reader has found excellent coverage with an insurance firm please contact me and I will gladly pass on the advice in the next issue of The Horses's Mouth

Challenge

For those of you who love to feel the tension and excitement of competition this is a good time of year to consider joining the Windsor Park Equestrian Club. www.wpec.org.uk. From the end of March onwards they organise competitions in show jumping and dressage within hacking distance of Flemish Farm. The annual cost of membership is £50 and then an entry fee applies (plus of course the cost of renting a horse from Flemish Farm). I have convinced Fiona Charman that we will sign up for the Dressage training day on 23rd March so if you are interested in joining us please contact me on mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk We would particularly recommend spending a lot of time training and preparing and would welcome other people to join us for moral support!

Drinks Party at Armoury House: 29th February 2008

We have managed to secure the Long Room at Armoury House for a drinks party and would encourage everyone possible to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to familiarise yourself with the HAC and the Light Cavalry HAC (and who you represent when you ride their horses!)

On that night, Henry Dallal has agreed to present a slide show of his photos of the Indian Cavalry. Henry is a famous equestrian photographer and has completed many prestigious commissions including photographing HM the Queen, the Household Cavalry and the King's Troop. Members of the Light Cavalry will form a guard and with the back-drop of such a historic setting it promises to be a fun evening.

Please do invite family and friends to attend, however we must stress that because of security you must reserve your places ahead of time. Free Parking is also available, but again you will need to let us know the registration of your vehicle.

There is also a strict dress-code, men should wear a jacket and tie, and women should be dressed smartly. (The editor suggests wearing either business wear or a cocktail dress). Jeans or trainers are not acceptable. Please also remember to turn off your mobile.

The party will start at 7pm (and finish at about 10pm).

We have tried to keep the costs as low as possible, any profits made will go directly to our horses.

Please come and support this event—we need you!

Drinks Party Application

To : Rennie Simon Coleman's Cottage, West Langdon, Kent CT15 5HQ

To be held at Armoury House, City Road, London on Friday 29th January at 7.00pm.

Dress is Business Dress, men will wear a jacket and tie, ladies commensurate (please no jeans or t-shirts).

Please reserve (.. .) places at £25 per head for the Drinks Party and Slide Show

Guests :(please include rank and decorations)

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From: Tel No.....

I enclose a cheque made out to **Light Cavalry HAC** for £.....

My car registration is



The Lord Mayor's Show November 2007





**The Christmas Party
at Bisley Hut,
December 2007**

