

# From the Horse's Mouth



A Newsletter for the Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC

January 2009

## Stable Notes

Happy New Year to everyone and a warm welcome to our new Supporting Riders.

The most important news of the last month is that we got an early Christmas present! On 17th December a new surface was laid in the indoor school. This is a Martin Collins surface that had been used at the Olympia horse show until the television companies asked for a lighter (as in paler) surface so that they could get a better television picture. Their loss is now our gain. I understand from the professionals that the new surface is bouncier than our old one, apparently you get an extra 1/2 inch over jumps—and of course it is much less dusty! Caroline and team have done an excellent job painting and sprucing up the old paintwork, so book a lesson and come and pretend you are riding at Olympia!

The Light Cavalry are launching an appeal for funds to help pay for the new surface. If any Supporting Riders feel moved to make a donation, their name will be recorded on a board alongside our 'corporate' contributors to be displayed in the riding school. Any cheques should be made payable to The Light Cavalry, HAC and marked 'Riding School Surface'.

During January we are going to have some guest teachers at Flemish Farm. Paul Allison, Troop Serjeant Major (Mounted Troop) and El (Equitation Instructor) in the Light Cavalry and Jenny Tully of the HAC Saddle Club will be teaching on 3 weekends. Paul on Saturdays and Jenny on Sunday. Also Monday evenings after 7pm have been offered to the HAC Saddle Club and Clare Russell has agreed to give lessons. In the past Clare has held some very successful courses at Flemish Farm both in jumping and flat work — as there may be some free slots, please advise Caroline if you would like/are able to sign up for a Monday night course.

A New Year means new dates for the calendar. On page 2 you will see the dates for the polo guards through to July. May I encourage all Supporting Riders to offer up some time and volunteer to help at these events. Last year we established a great camaraderie and had a lot of fun along the way. Not least, you feel so proud when you see your (perfectly groomed and gleaming) horse take the field. If you do not feel confident about getting a horse ready in military tack but are still keen—please let Caroline know so that we can arrange some training sessions.

We would like to put out a plea for your support at the Supporting Rider Drinks party on February 5th at Armoury House. If you have not been to Armoury House before—please try to grab the chance. It is a wonderful historic venue in the middle of the City of London. Henry Dallal is an exceptionally talented photographer and his enthusiasm for all things equine will inspire you. Please invite your family and friends for what should be a super evening.

Finally, Reg Howe, Officer Commanding would like to wish all Supporting Riders a Happy New Year!

## Contact Details : Flemish Farm

**Manager and Chief Instructor**  
Caroline Quested

Louise Brown  
Kerri Cox

**Military Instructors**  
Danny Kendall  
Paul Allison

**Newsletter Editors:**

Kate Robinson and Fiona Charman  
Newsletter contributions, comments and photos always welcome

to : [mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk)

**Tel:** 01753 622291

**Website:** [www.lchac.org.uk](http://www.lchac.org.uk)

## Forthcoming Events: 2009

### February

5th Supporting Riders' Drinks Party at Armoury House with a slide show given by photographer Henry Dallal

### March

22nd Combined Training Day at Flemish Farm

### May

10th John Palmer and Pyramid Trophy at Flemish Farm

### June

14th Queens Cup Polo, Smiths Lawn : Light Cavalry HAC on Parade

21st Royal Windsor Cup, Smiths Lawn : Light Cavalry HAC on Parade

### July

23rd Light Cavalry Annual Dinner

26th Cartier Polo, Smiths Lawn : Light Cavalry HAC on Parade

**There are not enough Indians in the world to defeat  
the Seventh Cavalry.**

George Armstrong Custer



## The Flemish Farm Christmas Show

Despite two of our key competitive jumping horses—Osaka and Bleu being *hors de combat*, the Show was well attended by both competitors and those who came just to cheer us on. For the first two rounds, jumping a course of 8 jumps at 2 foot and 3 foot, rosettes were awarded to any competitor who achieved a clear round. Special thanks must be given here to Louise and Su Burrows who spent the week before painting the jump stands and re-vamping the infamous pigs (painted on a board) which caused havoc with so many competitors (the editor included)! For the Top Score round there was some magnificent horsemanship which produced some outstanding scores. The final honour board reads :

1st Place	Nigel	Amos	700pts
2nd Place	Louise	Vivor	560 pts
3rd Place	Susie	Hattie	470 pts
4th Place	Fiona	Shirley	460pts
5th Place	Joy	Vivor	450pts
6th Place	Christopher	Amos	440 pts
7th Place	Graham	Denzil	240 pts
8th Place	Kate	Ebony	180 pts

CONGRATULATIONS Nigel for your exceptional performance!! and of course to all the competitors who "had a go" and challenged their own skill levels. Also a huge round of thanks to Caroline and her team for putting on such an excellent enjoyable event.

Finally the results for the Gymkhana Games

1st Place	Team Denzil	Comprising Fiona, Christopher, Nigel and Conrad
2nd Place	Team Larry	Comprising Louise, Bex and Joy
3rd Place	Team Ebony	Comprising Kate, Graham, Sharon and Catherine (we woz robbed!)

Thank you especially to Fiona Charman and to anyone who brought food or made a contribution to the Tombola. We managed to raise £110 which of course goes directly to the best cause on Earth—our horses!

# The Flemish Farm Christmas Show: December 2008

Thank you so much to Suzie, Jannie and Louise for taking the photographs on the day! If you would like to view them all please contact me at [mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk)



Winners All!



Our Favourite Australian



Hattie in her Santa Costume

Nigel—our Top Score Champion!



The experts confer!



Shirley— The Movie Star!



A tense moment for Vincent



Can we go on holiday now?

# The Light Cavalry HAC Christmas Party: December 2008

It was a dark and stormy night... and somewhere in the wilder recesses of Bisley, the Light Cavalry and their Supporting Riders gathered to celebrate Christmas. You may not understand what is going on below—but it was a great evening full of fun and silliness! Thank you Fiona Charman for the photographs

Bob does a Scots poem!



Kate and Fiona—a tribute to Betjemen!



The Singing German Spy  
aka Brian Read



Dad's Army Hams!



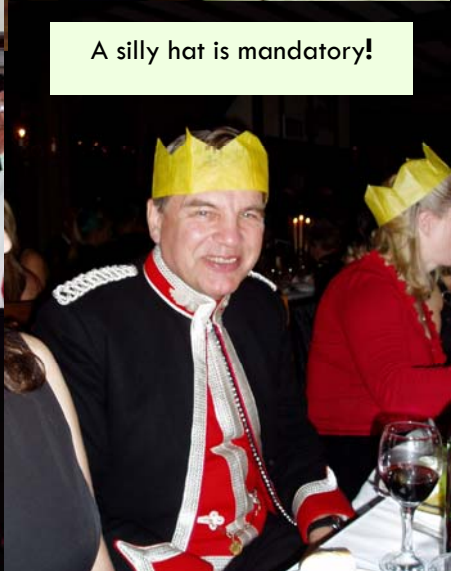
Put that light out!



The Dad's Army Cast!



A silly hat is mandatory!



## February 5th 2009 Supporting Rider's Drinks Party

We are delighted to announce that Henry Dallal has agreed to come and give us a private viewing of his photographs of India's 61st Cavalry at Armoury House, the Regimental Headquarters of the HAC, on February 5th 2009—and that seemed to us to be a good excuse for a drinks party !

Below some further information on Henry—and we hope that you will invite your friends and family to attend also. Full details over-leaf.

### Horsepower: Henry Dallal captures India's 61st Cavalry on patrol



#### **Henry Dallal: the galloping cameraman**

**He's faced down cavalymen at full charge and can capture a shot while riding flat out. And for the past three years, Henry Dallal, the Queen's favourite photographer, has been chronicling the Indian army's horsemen at work and play.** While adventurer is a term rarely used these days, Dallal fits the bill. With his weather-beaten, sun-tanned face - he is rarely in London long enough for his tan to fade before the next exotic location beckons - the 50-year-old certainly looks as though he has clocked up a few air miles. In the past year alone he's been shooting in Russia, Kenya, Japan, Qatar, Dubai and the Zaskar Valley in Kashmir.

But he first spotted the subject of his new book, India's 61st Cavalry Regiment, during the Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations at Windsor Castle in 2002. 'I was blown away by the riders, so splendid in their golden turbans and cummerbunds thundering past on parade, and the immense discipline and precision of the horses,' he says.

In *Horse Warriors: India's 61st Cavalry*, his photographs document the last active mounted horsed regiment in India. It was formed in 1953, after independence, at the request of the Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, who believed it was vital to maintain a horsed regiment as a link with India's past.

Based in Jaipur, with a squadron in Delhi, the cavalry combines the strict regimental disciplines of the days of the Raj with the majestic heritage of India. Dallal's pictures capture the cavalry in the deserts of Rajasthan, on the polo fields of Jaipur and on parade at the palaces of the maharajas, who once supplied the cavalry with horses from their private armies. The troops are also seen on traditional operational duties, including border patrols at dusk and patrolling the dusty streets of Delhi.

Reproduced in part, from the Daily Telegraph website.

# Supporting Rider's Drinks Party : February 5th 2009

The format for the party will be for all to gather between 6.30 and 7.00pm. The slideshow will start at approximately 7.15pm and will take about 30 minutes. We will then have time for a further glass of wine (or two) and a nibble (or two). There will be a chance to buy Henry's fantastic new book—and to get it signed by the author. The event will finish by 9.00pm.

## IMPORTANT:

Because Armoury House is a military establishment (indeed, it is the Regimental Headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company), we have to comply with security regulations. So, all attendees will have to report at the security booth at City Road before gaining entry to the Artillery grounds. Therefore, it is impossible to arrange for people to attend this event on the day. Please book and pay early to make it easy for us to comply with necessary security. Depending on the level of security, you and your guests may be asked for id.

## DRESS:

Gentlemen should wear a jacket and tie, ladies should be smartly dressed. Jeans are NOT acceptable for either sex.

## DIRECTIONS:

Armoury House is located within walking distance to Moorgate Tube Station, Liverpool Street Station, and Old Street Tube Station. The address is : Armoury House, City Road, London, EC1Y 2BQ. The House itself has a "castle" appearance and is situated directly next to 32-36 City Road. Full directions can be found at : <http://www.hac.org.uk/html/contact-us/location-map/>

## PARKING:

Parking is available at Armoury House. Please be sure to fill in the details below. NOTE: you will be refused entry if your details are not with the security gate. Please comply fully with the request of the security personnel.

## Application Form: Supporting Rider's Drinks Party

To be held at Armoury House on Thursday 5th February, from 6.30pm onwards

I, ..... Telephone no .....

Email .....

Wish to attend the Supporting Rider's Drinks Party on Thursday 5th February and I would like to bring the following guests:

Guests : ..... (please include rank and decorations)

.....

.....

I enclose a cheque made out to **Light Cavalry HAC** for £.....(£15 per head)

I will be bringing a car, Make ..... Model .....

Colour ..... Registration .....

NB your application with payment must be received by Monday 2nd February at the latest. Please send to Tpr Simon, Coleman's Cottage, West Langdon, Kent CT15 5HQ or [renniesimon@btconnect.com](mailto:renniesimon@btconnect.com) Tel: 01304 826883  
Refunds for cancellations cannot be given after this date.