

From the Horse's Mouth



A Newsletter for the Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC

February 2009

Stable Notes

Hello to everyone and a warm welcome to our new Supporting Riders.

First, Caroline asked me to print the following message to all the Supporting Riders who donated to the Staff Christmas Fund:

"Kerri, Lou and I would like to say a BIG thank you to all of you that gave to the staff Christmas fund. We are very grateful and it made a big difference to us. Once again THANK YOU!!"

Also we would like to welcome back Paul Allison who provides military riding instruction on a Thursday evening. When Paul is not teaching at Flemish Farm he works as a saddler. If anybody needs any work done he can be contacted on : 07855 729467

Fiona Charman has put in sterling work organising two courses on Monday nights which will be taken by Clare Russell. Full details are on page 4. These are open to all riders—so please sign up if you are able to get to Flemish Farm on Monday nights.

Jon Starinck has produced DVD's of the Christmas Show - one of the Clear round and a second of the Top Score. The price is £5 each (the proceeds go to the care of our horses) and are available from the office. There are also some copies of the Lord Mayor's show and Annual Inspection still available.

We are also changing the cancellation policy for weekend bookings. From the beginning of February we will now require **48hrs notice of cancellation** for a lesson or a hack for rides booked on Saturday or Sunday. If you do cancel with less than 48hrs notice you will be charged the cost of your booking. This is because the weekends are now very busy and this extra notice should give us more time to fill slots that have been cancelled. It will also allow people who have less flexible schedules to call on Friday to see if there are any cancelled slots that they can take up.

Finally, calling all competitors! Not only are there to be two competitions this Spring at Flemish Farm, but also other competitions are held by the Windsor Park Equestrian Club at Smiths Lawn (within hacking distance). Full details of the Flemish Farm competitions are found on page 3 and full details of the WPEC competitions can be found at www.wpec.org.uk. The cost of hiring a Flemish Farm horse for the day to compete at WPEC is £65—this must be agreed with Caroline before entering a WPEC competition.

Contact Details : Flemish Farm

Manager and Chief Instructor
Caroline Quested
Email : hac1c@aol.com

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

Tel: 01753 622291

Website: 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

April

24/25/26th Military Camp : the horses will not be available for lessons or rides to Supporting Riders on these days

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

A Kindly Elephant Has Crushed My Blinking Foot!

(A way to remember your dressage markers in a 20 x 40 meter arena)



Rusty



This month we said goodbye to the wonderful Rusty. He was put down mid month as he was no longer thriving in his state of semi-retirement. His last duty was parading in last year's (2008) Lord Mayor's Show when he carried Reg Howe, Officer Commanding Light Cavalry HAC and led the parade.

I'm sure many readers who had the pleasure of riding such a kind and willing horse will want to pass on their condolences to Caroline. He will be sadly missed.

The Competitions at Flemish Farm:

During the Spring the HAC Saddle Club hold two competitions at Flemish Farm; on **March 22nd** we have the Combined Training Day, this is followed by the John Palmer and Pyramid Trophy held on **May 10th**. The Combined Training Day is designed to act as preparation for the big event held in early May! All Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry are most welcome to enter the competition. Please be aware that the John Palmer Cup and the Pyramid Trophy themselves, can only be won by (the highest scoring) HAC Saddle Club member.

Both competitions follow broadly the same format:

Prelim Dressage (Prelim 12, 2002)
Novice Dressage (Novice 32, 2002)

Lunch (and a break for the horses)

Show Jumping over 2' course
Show Jumping over a 3' course

There is no need to compete in both dressage and jumping unless you want to —and you can choose at which level you wish to compete. So hopefully there will be a class for everyone! All Supporting Riders are encouraged to “give it a go” - our lovely judges are always very kind to us!

We tend to dress up ourselves (riding jacket, boots, stock or tie) and give our horses a good grooming (plaiting has been known!) and although this is not mandatory, it's a nice thing to do if you want to. If you do compete, you will be responsible for grooming, tacking up your horse, and returning it to the stable after your competition and making sure it is un-tacked and has enough rugs on. You will be given some time before competing to warm your horse up in the school. For the jumping rounds, you are encouraged to wear a body protector. The editor would advise that you take some time to learn the dressage test. If you wish you may have the course read out to you as you do the test. Booking some lessons with Caroline or the other teachers who visit Flemish Farm to work through some of the trickier transitions would obviously be a good way to prepare and practice.

To enter, place your name on the form which will be on the notice board in the office. Nearer the day, Caroline will allocate horses to riders and produce a running order. On the day the running order is pinned to one of the doors of the riding school. Keep an eye on it and the time so that you are not rushed!

We encourage you to invite friends and family to come to watch and to bring along some food and drink. We usually lay out a table and fill the large hot water urn so that all can share in tea and coffee and other food that people may bring along to share. If you would like to bring some food to share please contact Fiona Charman who is co-ordinating this on charmanfma@aol.com. She is planning to have bacon and sausage rolls available to buy at the event as usual. There is no cost to come and watch!

At the Christmas Show, various people offered prizes for the raffle. Please contact me on mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to offer a prize at either of the competitions. (Any money raised goes to the upkeep of our horses).

**Finally may I wish everyone a fun and safe day—
and of course, the very best of luck!**



New Riding Courses at Flemish Farm on Monday Nights

ANNOUNCEMENT, ANNOUNCEMENT!! BANISH THOSE MONDAY NIGHT BLUES AND GET FIT IN FEBRUARY!! NEW LESSONS ON MONDAY NIGHTS!

The Light Cavalry have offered the HAC Saddle Club, two hours for lessons on a Monday night but **ANYONE** is welcome to join the lessons or courses. Book as usual through Flemish Farm.

Instructor: Clare Russell (HACSC Assistant Riding Master)

Clare is an inspirational and enthusiastic instructor and many of you will already know her from her previous lessons and courses.

19.30 - 20.30 Novice Lesson*

20.30 - 21.30 Intermediate/ Advanced ** lesson (unless a course is going on)

‘Fitness through Riding’ course

From 9th February the 20.30 lesson will be a 4 week course. Tone the Christmas flab and improve your riding balance and co-ordination! Suitable for **all levels** of rider it will be a progressive course of muscle exercises on horseback using flatwork, poles, riding without stirrups and possibly gymnastic jumping.

Rough guide to riding abilities:

*Novice: Able to walk and trot independently and progressing to canter

Intermediate: Riding independently at walk, trot and canter, trot poles, progression to lateral work and jumping

Advanced: Experienced at all of above and confident at lateral work, jumping.
