

From the Horse's Mouth

A Newsletter for the Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC

November 2010



Stable Notes : By Charles Gillow

After a busy and successful Summer season and a well deserved rest in August, the horses and riders are now busy training for the British Military Tournament. As many of you will know, we have been asked to participate, alongside the Company of Pikemen and Musketeers, in a re-enactment of a civil war battle at the tournament. The Light Cavalry will be on the Royalist side and we will be facing a thankfully small detachment from the Household Cavalry acting as Roundheads. The battle begins with a volley from the musketeers and our first challenge has been settling the horses to gunfire. This has involved firing the same black powder blanks used by the (modern) musketeers from shotguns in the manege. At our last practice we were joined by musketeers and the horses did very well given the noise, blast, flame and smoke! We then ride forward, engage the opposition in a short melee with swords and pursue them out of the arena. So far, so good!

We have also been tasked with playing a small part in a display of mounted skills with a tent pegging run by four horses against a real tent. Again, we have been practicing in the manege the simultaneous removal of four pegs by horses crossing at 90 degrees. Closer to our normal role, we will be escorting a carriage with "Queen Victoria" as part of a story about the 4 o'clock inspection of the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards. To add to the challenge, we will be following a bagpipe band! All in all, a big ask for horses and riders alike. However, we will give it our best shot! Do come and watch.

We are very sad to be saying farewell this month to Bleu who leaves us after 6 years stalwart service to return to Bristol. He has been a star performer and now deserves a long and gentle retirement. Shirley has been gifted to his long term loaner, Fiona, and has moved to another yard making room for new arrivals as we continue to lower the average age of our horses and inject new blood such as Vincent's Benson who has already settled in well to the military work and is showing great promise.

On 13 November, we will be participating in the Lord Mayor's Show and hopefully we will have a dry day; a big thank you in advance to all the supporting riders who make this day possible. We are also looking ahead to next year which promises to be another busy one not least because we will be celebrating 150 years since the Light Cavalry was established. All ideas for how to mark this important occasion are welcome!

Lord Mayor's Show : Would you let Caroline know by email if you are available to help at the Lord Mayor's Show (13th November) as a volunteer.

Email : hac1c@aol.com

Forthcoming Events: 2010

November

13th Lord Mayor's Show

December

4th –5th British Military Tournament : www.britishmilitarytournament.com at Earls Court

11th Light Cavalry HAC Christmas Party

19th Christmas Show, featuring the Hattie Trophy

Bleu

As many of you will know Bleu has been in and out of work since 2008. After an inspection from our vet a decision was made to retire Bleu. He will be returning to Horseworld in Bristol to live his days out in a huge field as the muddy scruffy pony that we all know is the real Bleu.

Bleu has been with the Light Cavalry for 6yrs. During this time he has taught many people to ride, tent-peg, jump, learn side saddle and ride in parades. He has been the cheekiest horse we have had but that is the Bleu we love. His favourite test for any new groom was to drag them to the haycart on their first day!! He will leave a big gap on the yard and will be missed by many. Bleu will be leaving us on the 30th October.

We salute you one of our favourite equine troopers!



Side Saddles For Sale

Supporting Riders may recall Sara Evans who was a supporting rider some years ago and she rode Apollo. He was retired in 2004 and Sara took him on and he was stabled near Maidenhead. When she moved Apollo from Flemish Farm she took his tack including a side saddle. She has just had to have Apollo put down and wishes to sell two side saddles. Descriptions are:

1) **Brand new 15"**

Medium fit. For a 16hh to 16.2hh middleweight horse; suede seat, brown leather. Made by Roger Philpot in 2005; with stirrup, integral girth and balance strap. Cost £2500. Will accept £2000.

2) **Victorian side saddle dated to 1830 17"**

With doeskin seat and quilted safe. Had over £1000 restoration work carried out in 1996. Fits 16.2hh to 16.2hh middleweight horse. Girth and balance strap included. £750.

Sara would accept £2600 for both. Contact number: 01628.824779

Uniformed Services Show— Saturday 16th October

This was the 33rd competition of the Uniformed Services Show. The King's Troop made 36 horses available which meant that 11 teams competed this year (some people brought their own horses). We were proud to see the cadet riders at the event and congratulate them on their excellent riding. The Light Cavalry team did not fare so well But we are happy to announce that the Commanding Officer of the King's Troop has undertaken to allow one last competition at St John's Wood School next year (even though the King's Troop are due to leave the Barracks in the Autumn of 2011).



Photography provided by Ivory Images.

Photographs may be viewed on the Light Cavalry HAC website: www.lchac.org.uk under the "Photo Galleries" tab.

Please contact Ivory Images on +44 (0)1737 763708 – E-mail ivoryimages@aol.com to purchase photographs.

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Uniformed Services Show Dinner Saturday 16th October



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Shirley

In September, the Light Cavalry HAC kindly gifted Shirley to Fiona Charman. Shirley came to Flemish Farm in 2006 and it soon became clear that Shirley had had some bad experiences in his life which had left him terrified of whips, and sticks. Fiona spend many hours restoring Shirley's confidence in human beings and there is a strong bond between them that is heart-warming to see. While his fear of sticks and consequently swords meant that Shirley did not parade with the Light Cavalry he was a wonderful hacker and one of our best show-jumping horses.

However, Fiona decided to move Shirley to Tile Place Stables where he can enjoy life in full livery. Fiona tells me he has settled in well and has already made new horse friends. Tile Place is an easy hack away so we will still be seeing them in the Park, at Light Cavalry events and the Windsor Park Equestrian Club. At this stage I would mention what a loyal supporter Fiona has been to the Light Cavalry, volunteering, cooking cakes, producing the Light Cavalry Calendar and co-editing the Horse's Mouth, but since she hates praise of any kind she will probably murder me just for acknowledging her contribution over 17 years! We wish them both well in their new situation.



Results of the Uniformed Services Show Jumping

Team Competition:

- 1) French Reserve Forces (best non UK team on King's Troop horses)
- 2) Royal Engineers (best UK team on King's Troop horses)
- 3) Combined Cadet Team (cadets from Radley, Heathfield/ Bearwood and Bedford & Cambridge Air Training Corps)
- 4) Dutch Reserve Forces
- 5) Adjutant General's Corps

Individual Winners:

- 1) Cpl Krisof Verlinden, Belgian Reserve Forces
- 2) Captain Alex Harvey RA, Royal Engineers Combined Team
- 3) Captain Alexandre Arjalies, French Reserve Forces
- 4) L/ Bombardier Joe Sutcliffe, King's Troop
- 5) Sgt George Bingham, Radley College CCF

Fault & Out:

- 1) L/ Cpl Martin Catterall, RAF
- 2) Cpl Krisof Verlinden, Belgian Reserve Forces
- 3) Gunner Sharon Stockwell, King's Troop
- 4) SAC Kimberley Lawson, RAF
- 5) Captain Alexandre Arjalies, French Reserve Forces

Light Cavalry Christmas Party : Bisley Hut : 11th December

For those who have not attended a Christmas Party at the Bisley Hut perhaps some background would be helpful. Bisley in Surrey is the "premier shooting centre" in the UK. A number of rifle associations are based there and, as a consequence, the army uses the facilities extensively. The Honourable Artillery Company's shooting pavilion or clubhouse at Bisley Camp near Brookwood in Surrey is familiarly known to members of the Company as 'The Bisley Hut'. The pavilion was built in 1928 on land leased from the National Rifle Association. Replacing a far less grand building that had been purchased by the HAC in 1904, it was designed by the architect Burrough De Carle Jackson (1889-1968), who had served with the Company during the First World War. The HAC pavilion is considered by many to be one of the finest buildings at Bisley Camp. The Christmas Party starts with mulled wine, is followed by a traditional Christmas dinner, which in turn is followed by toasts and sometimes the odd song or recitation. It is a wonderful opportunity to dress up and meet riding friends in a convivial atmosphere. The cost is £38 per person and an application form is below.

Dress : Mess Kit or Dinner Jacket, commensurate for ladies.

DIRECTIONS:

By Car

The Post Code is : GU24 0NY

a map can be printed from the HAC website :

<http://www.hac.org.uk/html/corporate-private-events-venue/venues-at-the-hac/hac-shooting-lodge-bisley/getting-to-the-hac-shooting-lodge/>

From London take the M3 south (or the M25 to the M3), take exit 3 towards Guildford (A322) and follow signs to Bisley. Turn right onto Queens Road and then right into Kingsway at the National Rifle Association (NRA) ground. Once on the grounds, turn left into Elcho Road and follow road to the HAC Shooting Lodge on the left. There is plentiful free parking at the Lodge

By Rail

The closest station is Brookwood Station which is on London Waterloo main line Taxis are generally available at the station.

Application form: Christmas Party : Bisley Hut

To be held at the Bisley Hut on Saturday 11th December, from 7.30pm onwards

I, Telephone no

Email

Wish to attend the Light Cavalry Christmas Party on Saturday 11th December 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 £.....(£38 per head)

Dietary Restrictions

NB Please send your application and cheque to Tpr J. Tunesi, 53 Hitchin Street, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 6AQ
[Tel: 01462 892062 E-mail: liongam@supanet.com]

Light Cavalry Calendars 2011

Ideal Christmas pressies!

The professionally produced, full colour
2011 Light Cavalry calendar is now available!

You can purchase the calendars in a variety of ways.

1. At Flemish Farm from the Light Cavalry office (please ask the Light Cavalry staff)
2. At Lord Mayor's Show from the Light Cavalry
3. At the Light Cavalry Christmas Dinner at Bisley Hut on 11th December.

By post. Please make cheques payable to Fiona Charman and send it with the order form to the address below. Please add £1.00 for one calendar or £1.50 for two calendars to cover postage and packing. (Please allow 7-10 days for delivery). If you require more than 2 calendars, please add further £0.50 per calendar.

All proceeds go to the Light Cavalry.

If you have any queries please contact Fiona Charman on 07970 176411

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To: Ms Fiona Charman, 4 Garrick Court, 31 Theatre Street, London, SW11 5ND

Please send me _____ calendar(s) at £10 each and add £0.75 for one calendar or £1.00 for two calendars to cover postage and packing (p&p). If you require more than 2 please add a further £0.50 per calendar.

I enclose a cheque made payable to Fiona Charman for total £ _____

From:

Name _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____



Flemish Farm : Group Classes Information

We have organised a number of guest teachers for Supporting Riders. Lessons take place on Saturdays. Below a brief resume of each teacher and the dates when they will be teaching.

Jan Glen – Jan has a lot of experience with three day eventing horses. The lessons will be based on jumping and bringing in cross country elements too. There will be a 9.00am novice group (you must be able to walk, trot and canter) 10.00am intermediate group and 11.00am advance group available. Cost £30 per rider

Lesley Wilson – Lesley is a physiotherapist by day and will be bringing elements of this into the lessons. This is perfect for those of you that have issues with your positions that are based around old injuries. Lesley is also very good with nervous riders. There will be a 9.00am private lesson, 10.00am novice group and 11.00am intermediate group available. Cost £30 per rider and £42 for private.

Gary Hoult – Gary is an established dressage rider and has been teaching a few of our riders already. These lessons are ideal for those of you that want to learn more about what is going on underneath you and improve your flat work skills. The lessons will only have two riders in so places will be very limited. There will be a 1.00pm Introduction to dressage lesson. 2.00pm Introduction to lateral work lesson and 3.00pm intermediate dressage lesson. Cost £45 per rider

I will still be teaching on the weekends that we do not have these guest instructors. We have our regular instructors Clare Russell on a Monday night and Rebecca Friend on a Tuesday night and if any of you fancy giving military riding a go then we also have Danny Kendal on Thursday nights.

Dates for 2010

Jan Glen	6 th Nov
Lesley Wilson	21 st Nov
Gary Hoult	20 th Nov/11 th Dec
Clare Russell	20 th Nov

Contact Caroline On 01753 622291 or haclc@aol.com to book in

Contact Details : Flemish Farm

Manager and Chief Instructor

Caroline Qusted

Email : haclc@aol.com

Lauren Elms

Kelly Smart

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

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