

From the Horse's Mouth



A Newsletter for The Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC

Stable Notes

Hello again everyone and welcome to our new Supporting Riders!

The New Year brings with it some goodbyes, with Paul Allison leaving his job as Stable Manager to pursue his career as a saddler. However, Paul will continue teaching military equitation at Flemish Farm and of course will continue to ride with the Light Cavalry on their many engagements. James Watmore has also left for pastures new. He is now working in a livery yard close to Windsor.

We welcome as our new Stable Manager, Caroline Qusted and as trainee instructor/groom, Rachelle Olivier. On page 2 you'll find some biographical information about them. We are also pleased to announce that Bex Harris has been promoted to Assistant Yard Manager. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating Bex on her new appointment.

Although it's difficult to get motivated through these dark days of winter what could be better than to wrap up warm and get on a horse? To keep

you even warmer why not treat yourself to a woolly fleece or baseball cap available for sale at Flemish Farm? If that isn't enough then a quick peek at the new calendar certainly will warm the cockles of any girl's heart! For some fabulous horse holidays also check out the brochure "Ride World-Wide", that is available there too! (I can personally recommend the Huechahue Estancia in Argentina having just spent Christmas there).

This issue is just bursting with ideas about how to get involved and further your horse experiences in 2005.

I hope to meet you at the stables soon!

**My new horse was sold to me
as, "a real gentleman to ride".**

**He is,
when we have to go over a
fence he insists on
"Ladies First"!**

Forthcoming Events : 2005

18th & 25th February: "Introduction to Driving" course at Flemish Farm

23rd April: Guard at Windsor Castle in the presence of HM The Queen, the Captain General, for the 70th Anniversary of Aston Martin Cars

12th June: Guard at Smith's Lawn, Queen's Cup, polo match

19th June: Guard at Smith's Lawn Royal Windsor Cup, polo match

24th July: Guard at Smith's Lawn Car-tier Championship, polo match

13th & 14th August: Skill at Arms display Chertsey Agricultural Show

24th September: Annual Inspection at Flemish Farm

Become a regular volunteer for these parades (see page 2 for more details!)

January 2005

Issue Number 10

Inside this issue:

New Members 2
New Staff
Volunteer Programme

Side-saddle 3
Driving
Lord Mayors Show
the workers

A visit to the Tower 4
of London

New Price List 5
Lord Mayor's Show
pictures

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New Supporting Riders

A very warm welcome to our new riders who have joined since October :

Laura Belton
Peter Campbell
Lindsay Close
Camilla Gignoux
Russell Glead
Naomi Handford-Jones
Madeleine James
Simon Knowles
Shona McPherson

Christing O'Callaghan
Richard Sheehan
Ashish Singh
Chloe Spencer
Pamela Swift
Debbie Taylor
Paul Terry
Christine Tomkins
Henrietta von Stockhausen
Louise Warburton
Olivia Wodehouse
Emily Young



Welcome to New Staff at Flemish Farm

Caroline Quested our new Stable Manager, has spent all her life with horses and her career since the age of 18 has been single-minded in its horse focus! Caroline has her BHSAL qualifications and comes to us from the Royal Engineers Saddle Club, Chatham where she was in charge of 28 horses. There her activities were mainly civilian riding; dressage, show-jumping and cross-country etc. If that is not enough for anyone's energy levels she also organised competitive events and ran the pony club and the Riding for the Disabled Association activities.

Caroline's experience with the military also includes 3 years running the riding club at the Dekhelia military base on Cyprus which included putting on many competitive equestrian events. When I asked her about her most unusual horse experience she said it was working on a dealer's yard where the owner would drive in with a box full of unknown horses and would ask her to find out what the horses could do. She was expected to get on them with no knowledge of their temperament or abilities and find out if they could do flat-work, jump AND how steady they were in traffic! (YIKES!).

Rachelle Olivier our new Trainee Instructor/Groom is also a committed horsewoman. She was brought up in South Africa and has now moved to the United Kingdom. Rachelle is working through her BHS "stages" towards her teaching qualifications. She comes to us from a livery yard near Guildford (but is much more impressed with us at Flemish Farm!) Rachelle is an enthusiastic show jumper and really enjoys competing.

Volunteers for Parades

To build on the great success of the organisation of volunteers for the Lord Mayor's Show, Paul Allison, Su Burrows and Chloe Spencer have formed a core group together with Caroline, Bex and Rachelle to organise and train willing volunteers.

It is proposed that anyone who wishes to volunteer help for the Light Cavalry parades should attend training sessions at Flemish Farm. These would cover cleaning and fitting military tack, preparing the horses for a parade, boxing and un-boxing horses.

Attending an event with the Light Cavalry can be great fun and they are held at some wonderful venues such as Smith's Lawn polo, County Shows and Jumping Competitions. Often they parade in front of the Queen. In some cases you may be invited to walk in the parade to give support should it be required.

A notice of these training sessions will be posted at Flemish Farm and on the Light Cavalry website (www.haclc.org.uk) but also consider giving your e-mail address to Caroline so that communication can flow more efficiently.

Side-Saddle

At last we have a regular slot for all our keen side-saddlers! It started on January 28th and, depending on the demand will move to fortnightly sessions. Lessons are arranged from 6pm-9pm in half hour slots. During each lesson slot 2 people may sign up to ride. The cost of these lessons are £20 per person. There is a schedule pinned up in the Flemish Farm office and you may book yourself in when you visit or call the office. Our new side-saddle instructor, Ros Bowley, has been recommended to us by the Side-Saddle Association. Please note that as with all lessons, 24hrs notice is required to cancel or the riding fee is payable. Our next side-saddle evening is on Friday 11th February. For more details and to book your place contact Flemish Farm : 01753 622291

Driving Instruction

In the middle of February Jeremy Page has organised two days of driving instruction. Each day is divided into two sessions and eight people can participate at each session. Training will be given by Georgina Frith (see the picture opposite).

The information has already gone out to those who have previously indicated that they wish to learn driving skills. However, if you want to sign up please telephone Flemish Farm or if you have any questions please ring Jeremy Page on his mobile: 07768 977 392.

The first outing of Georgina Frith's team & coach at the Coaching Marathon at Royal Windsor 2003
Photo by Phyllis Barber



Lord Mayor's Show 2004—up the workers!

Well we had to put in some pictures to show who worked hardest that day.....Reg Howe asked me to pass on his sincere thanks to everyone who volunteered their help at the Lord Mayor's Show.

The Magnificent Volunteers at Armoury House.....and lets not forget long-suffering wives and girlfriends!



A Visit to the Tower of London

I would like to thank Su Burrows for submitting this piece. It's wonderful to read about the varied experiences of other Supporting Riders!

If anyone else feels inspired by this to put pen to paper or hands to keyboard to contribute to the next Horse's Mouth please send your contributions to me on: chrlondon@aol.com.

"The Ceremony of The Keys"

The Supporting Riders who assisted at the Lord Mayor's Show in November 2004, were invited to a very special event, The Ceremony of the The Keys at the Tower of London, as a thank you for all their help. This took place on Thursday 20th January 2005.

Every night the Tower is locked up by the Chief Yeoman Warder who makes his way to the gates from the Byward Tower at exactly 21:53 hrs. Once all the Tower gates are locked, the Last Post is sounded by a trumpeter and the ceremony is concluded. This Ceremony represents a 700 year-old tradition and lasts no more than 10 minutes.



At 1900 hrs. we gathered at the main entrance to the Tower of London to be met by our special guide, Simon, a Yeoman Warder. Simon took us in hand and shared with us many amazing historic details from the centuries that the Tower has been standing. It was one of..... no, THE best history lesson I have ever had!

One of the details we learned was that the Lantern carried by the Chief Yeoman Warder was presented to them by the Honourable Artillery Company in 1914, and has been used every night ever since!

At a few minutes to 10, and we were taken to the spectators' spot – right outside Traitor's Gate – to watch this great tradition which has been enacted every night without fail for approximately seven hundred years.

Although the Ceremony lasts only 7 minutes (and it is exactly 7 minutes – as the clock sounds its bell at 10pm on conclusion of the Ceremony!) it is a fascinating event to see! Historic details of the ceremony and how to obtain tickets can be found at this link: http://www.camelotintl.com/tower_site/traditions/keys.html ... however, as a member of the public, you will not have the extra hospitality we enjoyed as invited guests!

At the conclusion of the Ceremony, we were invited back to the Yeoman Warders' Mess where the HACLC presented Simon with a "Hoggit" decanter – a round bottomed decanter, designed so that as it passed around no one can "hogg it"! All agreed with Reg Howe's comment that Simon deserved an Oscar for being such a wonderfully entertaining and informative guide. We then all spent a short while sharing a bottle of port together, and buzzing over how fantastic the whole evening was.

Thankfully, we all made it out of the gate by 23.59 hrs – when the gate is locked and no one is allowed in or out (except on medical grounds) until the following day – when the gates are opened... to let the milkman in!!

The supporting riders who attended this special evening all went away feeling very privileged to have been a part of it. It never ceases to amaze me how each and every HACLC event – whether social or formal – is an event to remember. As one of those supporting riders, on behalf of the others, I would like to express our deepest thanks to Trooper Mark Baillie for arranging such a wonderful evening!

New Price List for 2005

LESSON TYPE	Supporting Riders	Visiting Riders
Private Lesson – ½ hour	£25	£30
Private Lesson – 1 hour	£37	£40
Private Lesson (own horse) – ½ hour	£13	£15
Private Lesson (own horse) – 1 hour	£25	£27
Semi Private Lesson – ½ hour	£23	£26
Semi Private Lesson – 1 hour	£31	£35
Semi Private Lesson (own horse) – ½ hr	£12	£14
Semi Private Lesson (own horse) – 1 hr	£19	£21
Group Lesson – 1 hour	£25	£30
Group Lesson (own horse) – 1 hour	£13	£15
Hacking – 1 hour	£25	£30
Hacking – 1 ½ hours	£31	£35
Hacking - 2 hours	£35	£40
Lectures	£25	£30
Group Lecture	£19	£24
Military	£22	N/A
Show Hire	£65	£70
Pass Hire	N/A	£10

THE FULL PRICE WILL BE CHARGED UNLESS 24HRS NOTICE OF CANCELLATION IS GIVEN.

CONCESSIONS:

Weekday: Additional group lesson – ½ price
 Additional private and semi-private lessons £2.00 discount
Weekend: £2.00 discount on second lesson

The Lord Mayor's Show 2004

This photograph was taken by Ian Freeman the official photographer of the HAC Light Cavalry. If you wish to see more of his pictures visit : www.lchac.org.uk

The Officers leading the Light Cavalry escorting the Lady Mayoress in the Lord Mayor's Show.

