

1. Programme Report

(a) Out and About

Visits to the Shalbourne Manor Stud are always memorable - regardless of the weather - and our outing on 1st June was no exception. The atmosphere of mutual trust and respect between horses and humans crated and maintained by Miss de Beaumont is so pervasive that one small foal remained lying down in her box to be stroked and admired by several young visitors while her fond mother stood proudly by them. The atmosphere in the 'maternity ward' which forms part of the huge and lovely old Elizabethan barn, was equally calm and happy with some enchanting foals on view and only one heavily expectant mare still waiting to foal. It is always a great surprise to newcomers to see the calm and controlled behaviour of the resident stallions who do not even need to be haltered for grooming, etc. And it was interesting to learn that the only reason stallions learn to bite is in order to maintain a grip on a mare during servicing.

The Midsummer Revels at Lock's Drove on 21st June evidently involved more revelry than wood clearing, although Jackie Dibden was pleased to have the large jump 'Foxcotte Towers' cleared from her grazing area. (The promised lungeing ring still needs to be made....) Shirley Myall laid on a delicious barbecue meal with the help of Polly Llewellyn, consisting of chicken, coleslaw, sausages, barbecue sauce, French bread and red and white wine, for which the fire was ceremoniously lit by Dave Packman. At a cost of only 75p a head, the evening can only be regarded as good value for money and was obviously very enjoyable, as singing and dancing round the camp fire - led by Sam Hart - continued until the early hours. It was just a pity that attendance was limited to approximately 25, especially as it has been reported that several would-be participants vanished when they learned that the festive fare actually had to be paid for!

While on this somewhat delicate subject it should be pointed out that every club of every type needs to make a charge to members for all occasions which involve expense of one kind or another. It may not be generally known that from each individual subscription £1.00 is immediately 'swallowed up' by the B.H.S. Riding Club Headquarters as part of our official affiliation fee. You will appreciate, therefore, that what is left has to stretch a very long way even to meet the most modest running expenses and maintain a small bank balance. Many of us give up hours of our own time, for nothing, for the benefit of the Club as a whole, not to mention lending and giving equipment and materials... So perhaps in future those few who have been slow to respond, will be more co-operative when a 'cap' is charged or a collection is made, now that the circumstances have been clarified.

Mrs. Mackie's demonstration on breaking and training a young horse on 6th July was very well attended with at least 30 present. First, a young horse was lunged; then a roller was put on and Mrs. Mackie's daughter demonstrated the actual backing. It was explained that this is usually done initially in the box but because of the large audience, it had to be effected outside which meant that everyone had a very good view. As the horse being used as a model had only been there for 2 to 3 weeks, it was amazing to see how much had been achieved in such a short time. The evening was rounded off with delicious refreshments on the veranda, kindly provided by the Mackies and everybody enjoyed sitting about, indulging in horse chat and obviously in no rush to go home.

(b) Mounted Events

The Prix Caprilli and Dressage Competition on Sunday 12th June in two outdoor arenas

at Tidworth, was a great success in spite of teeming rain. The two Judges to whom we are most grateful, were Trish Gray and Cathy Hart; each competitor rode twice, holders of Grade III were handicapped by 10 penalty points and the results were as follows:

Prix Caprilli Competition

1st	Lindsey Toeman	176
2nd	" "	174
3rd	Diane Richards	162
4th	Tom Olliver	154
5th	Ann Spencer	146
6th	Jenny Bowman	145

Dressage Test No. 12

1st	Lindsey Toeman	87
2nd	Sandra Olliver	78
3rd	Sue Bennett	71
4th	Lindsey Toeman	69
5th	Ann Spencer	64
6th	M. Colebroker	59

Area Prix Caprilli and Dressage

How do our riding standards compare with other clubs in our area ?

At Brockenhurst we had a chance to find out and were placed a very creditable 3rd behind two Ringwood R.C. teams, but ahead of Hampshire Rural, Meon, Purbeck and Isle of Wight. Ann Spencer, a member of the winning team in 1972, was first overall with a score of over 90 and was ably backed up by Tom Olliver Diane Richards and Jenny Bowman.

Two of our Dressage competitors, Ann Spencer and Sue Bennett, were satisfied with their young horses' performances, but Lindsey Toeman, who has, for two years running, missed the National Championship by one mark. was disappointed with her test although she had some consolation in being placed 2nd in the Open Dressage competition.

Perhaps the intensive instruction some members have been having for their Grade II and III exams will bear fruit next year.

Grade Examinations

The Examination for Grades I and II is taking place on Sunday, 28th August (Examiner, Mrs. Peace) and Grade III Examination is on Monday 5th September (Examiner, Mrs. Biart). Owing to 'circumstances beyond their control' several candidates have had to drop out, but we are still left with 6 for the 1st Exam and 3 for the 2nd and should like to wish them all every success. Several other members have already expressed a wish to start work for various levels of Grade Examinations. (We even have some aspirants already for Grade IV...) So would all those interested please contact me as soon as possible, so that we can plan an Instruction programme and book Examiners for next year.

Jubilee Gymkhana

We apologise for postponing our Jubilee Gymkhana until September 11th. This is entirely due to the fact that there are so many other local fixtures on Sunday 21st of this month that we felt there might be some divided loyalties and we really want a

good turn out for what we hope is going to be a memorable and enjoyable Jubilee event at Kimpton on 11th September. A schedule is enclosed but if you require more, please contact Jenny Patterson or Nixie Taverner. Do publicise the occasion as much as possible among your friends and please remember that we could do with some HELP on the day. Stewards, Jump Judges and Timekeepers will all be required, so please rally round especially if you are non-riding and let me know what you are willing to do.

(c) News from Headquarters

Riding Clubs' Jubilee Year (From the Riding Clubs' Summer Newsletter)

As you are all, no doubt, already aware, this is the 25th Anniversary of the Riding Club Affiliation Scheme. The Horse of the Year Show Committee has most generously made a donation to Riding Club Funds of £1,000. After much discussion your Committee has decided that as this is Jubilee Year, we would like every Club to benefit. We have, therefore, sent each Liaison Committee Chairman the sum of £50 in the hope that this will help subsidise some activity in which all Clubs within the Area may share.

(It was decided by our Area Liaison Committee that members would probably benefit most from a really good demonstration of the standards required for Grade Examinations. As you will see in the programme this is planned for 12th October, but details of venue and time will be announced later).

Jubilee Draw

The programmes for the Spanish Riding School exhibition at Wembley in October went to Hursley, Southwich and Winchester. However, Club members who bought tickets contributed £24 to the Riding Clubs' Silver Jubilee fund, the grand total of which is to be presented at the Horse of the Year Show.

Other Liaison News

Mrs. Marjorie Hance is retiring from the position of chairwoman in October and a new chairman will be elected at the liaison meeting on 14th October. Two days before that, on 12th October, there is to be a demonstration and lecture on standards of horsemanship to be expected from Grade 2 and 3 examinations.

(d) Autumn Programme

You will see from the enclosed programme that your Committee has arranged a varied mixture of activities which we hope will provide something of interest for everyone.

It is our intention to hold our Christmas Social well before Christmas this year, to issue tickets early and ensure that money is collected before you've spent it all on Christmas shopping! Unless anyone has a brighter idea, we feel that it would be hard to find a better place for our gathering than Tedworth House, with a buffet supper, disco etc. as before.

(e) Personal News

Our congratulations to Christine Spizick and her husband on the recent birth of a baby boy.

Although words are inadequate at times of desolation and bereavement, we should like Polly Llewellyn and her family to know how much they are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Christmas Dunhill International Horse Show

I am quite willing to arrange for another pre-Christmas outing to the Dunhill International Horse Show which we enjoyed so much last year, provided that a coach party can be made up and tickets paid for in advance. The cost per head is likely to be about £6.00. If you are interested, please complete the slip below and return it to me without delay so that I can make a firm booking.

I should like to go to the Dunhill Christmas Show, am willing to pay in advance the sum required and will probably want _____ ticket(s).

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Nixie Taverne