

1. Programme Report

New Year Gatherings. One of the qualities intelligent humans share with intelligent horses is the sense not to make the same mistake twice! For example, we couldn't resist the temptation to celebrate the festive season by holding two functions soon after Christmas, Novelty Jumping at Tidworth on 9th Sunday and our Club Social at Tedworth House on Friday 14th January. The small attendance at the former indicated that we had probably coincided with some other horsey event in the district. (In fact, you may not appreciate the amount of date juggling that accompanies programme construction in an effort to ensure that horsey fixtures do not coincide.... The select few who did take part in the Novelty Jumping afternoon disported themselves with great agility and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The Club Social on January 14th was also voted a most enjoyable occasion by all who participated. The gracious and comfortable setting of Tedworth House, blazing log fires and the delectable buffet supper were greatly appreciated by all age groups, while the intrepid young took part in the pulsating basement Disco without affecting the hearing of the less initiated.... (Incidentally a sight worth recording was of a young Grade Exam candidate studying her revision notes in the midst of the Disco. What dedication!

This year, however, we plan to hold our social sometime before Christmas and to print and sell the tickets well in advance.

Our film "First Aid for Horses" on February 1st did not attract quite such a crowd as other films have, perhaps because of its more specialised interest. But all present agreed it was worth while, especially as we made a profit for Club funds.

Exam Success

We are delighted that the efforts of Instructors and Candidates were so well rewarded by the record number of passes in the Grade exams held at Tedworth on January 16th and also that the Andover Advertiser gave us such a good write-up. The results were as follows:

Grade I

Mrs. Lynette Gilbert, Mrs. Thelma Pointer and Mrs. Peta White.

Grade II

Mr. Bill Austin, Mrs. Polly Llewellyn, Mrs. Shirley Myall, Mr. and Mrs. Creese, Miss Susan Clark and Mrs. Diane Richards.

It is hoped that work along similar lines will continue and that further dates can be booked for Grade II and III Exams respectively.

Further Instruction

Unfortunately, there has been some uncertainty about instruction sessions and before finalising our programme in this respect and booking qualified Instructors, we need to know how many members are (a) serious in their intentions and (b) how much time they are prepared to devote to instruction and practice in the coming months.

All those interested are requested to fill in the appropriate cut-off slip at the end and return it to our Secretary Peta White without delay.

We also feel, however, that there may be some members who would like to improve both their riding and their horse's performance without the possible strain and trauma of examination preparation. We are quite prepared to arrange suitable instruction provided that we receive the required information as soon as possible.

Prix Caprilli Competition

This always popular competition, organised so well again by Sam Hart, took place eventually on 20th March. With the same framework as last year, Bourne Valley v. I.B.M., and no Bourne Valley member riding his or her own horse, our teams were made up as follows:

"Western Team"	Bill Austin on Kelly Shirley Myall on Blarney Polly Lewellyn on Fella Diane Richards on Trigger
"Eastern Team"	Jenny Bowman on Trigger Zeeta Knight on Minty Lynette Gilbert on Christmas Sue Clark on Blaze

The close finish, I.B.M. leading with a total of 206 and our Club, "Western" team only just behind with 203, showed that the riders were well matched. It was particularly interesting to see the change in a horse's performance with different riders; thus proving that the Prix Caprilli competition is indeed a test of riding ability rather than a horse's dressage experience.

Our thanks to Cathy Hart the Judge, whose remarks on the score sheets were constructive and helpful and to Peta White who went into action as her writer at very short notice.

Annual General Meeting

In his report at the A.G.M. held at Tedworth House on 17th February, the Chairman congratulated the committee for generating so much vitality and interest for running such a varied and full programme throughout the year. A special word of thanks was given to both Tina Bowyer and Sandra Olliver who resigned from the committee for domestic reasons.

The Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary were re-elected and new members elected to the committee were Shirley Myall, Polly Llewellyn and Lynette Gilbert.

Our Secretary, Peta White, has now moved and her new address and telephone number are: The Hay Wain, 105, Cherry Orchard, Burbage. Tel: Burbage 559.

The Treasurer reported that with steadily increasing membership and several lucrative functions, the Club is in a much better state financially. Nevertheless, rising costs necessitate an increase in the annual subscription which is now £2.50 for a riding member and £2.00 for a non-riding member. (Will all those from whom subscriptions are due, please send them direct to our Treasurer, Norman Creese, 21, Nursery Road, Salisbury).

Our President, David Packman, presented certificates to the members who passed their Grade I and II Riding Club Examinations. He and Gilly Facer were then thanked by the Chairman for the service they are giving the Club in running the Bulk Fodder Scheme. (Further details re: the scheme below).

The only discordant note of the meeting concerned criticism of the team selection for Club Competitions. To ensure that all eligible riding members are in the picture and have equal opportunities, a further tear-off slip is included with the programme. All those who would like to be considered as prospective members of our Club Teams are requested to complete the slip and return it to Peta White as soon as possible.

3. RemindersBulk Fodder Scheme

New members may like to know and all members are reminded that orders should be placed with David Packman by the third week in each month. Orders are normally ready for collection on the first Sunday in the following month or during an evening by arrangement. Stud nuts, sugar beet and crushed oats are all in plentiful supply at the moment and are excellent value. But, to keep the organiser of the scheme solvent, cheques for the exact amount must be tendered (made payable to Mr. Packman), when an order is collected.

Officers of the Committee

President David Packman, Lock's Drove, Upton. Hatherden 205

Chairman Sam Hart, 1 Sarum Close, Shipton Bellinger. Tidworth 3378

Vice Chairman Nixie Taverner, Wressle Cottage, Upper Clatford. Andover 2554

Secretary Peta White, The Hay Wain, 105 Cherry Orchard, Burbage. Burbage 559

Treasurer Norman Creese, 21 Nursery Road, Salisbury.

4. Notes on our forthcoming Programme

We have tried to maintain our reputation by providing a 'varied and interesting programme' for the next two months but, as always, the ultimate success of any Club function is determined by the attendance and attitude of the participants. For instance, we want to attract as many riders as possible - from within and outside the Club - to our special Jubilee Hunter Trials on May 1st. But we could do with some active help from both riding and non-riding members rather than over-burdening the faithful few. If you would like to help with administration, fence judging or in any other way, please contact Jenny Patterson or Marty Hoare as soon as possible.

You will see that Mr Kilpatrick of the Herridge Stud has kindly agreed to another visit, as promised, to see some of the young stock. I understand there should be at least 12 foals on view for our visit on Saturday 16th April. The attendance for our first visit was so spectacular, Mr Kilpatrick and his wife have been inspired to offer us tea next time! Naturally, they will need to know, in advance how many to cater for. So, would you please contact Peta White at least three days before, if you want to join the party.

(See over)

INSTRUCTION

I would like to have mounted Instruction, am willing to attend classes arranged regularly and punctually and will pay 50p for each session given by a qualified B.H.S. Instructor.

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Horse</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>Type of Class</u>	<u>Tick</u>
			General Improvement	
			Grades 1 and 11	
			Grade 111	
			Grade 1V	

Please complete and return to Peta White

The same proviso really applies for practical demonstrations such as the one on Plaiting and Pulling arranged for April 19th. Peta White and Marty Hoare (who are both experts), will be demonstrating and would like everyone to have the opportunity of practising. It would help therefore, if they can be told in advance of anticipated numbers so that 'models' and pupils can be suitably positioned and facilities arranged for 'Having a Go'.

Plans are afoot for practical demonstrations on Breaking and Schooling and Lungeing in June; for a Jubilee Ride and a grand Jubilee Gymkhana. We should welcome and ideas and suggestions you havw which can be discussed at our next Committee on April 20th.

Finally, the R.A. Pony Club has a few places left for their coach outing to Badminton on Saturday 23rd April (Cross Country day) at only £1.50 per head. If you are interested, Please contact Mrs Appleton at Weyhill 2439, quickly.

Personal Tit-Bits

You will be pleased to know that Tina Bowyer now has a new baby son and Sue Hobbins a new baby daughter.

Our warmest congratulations too, to Sue Way (nee Appleton) who won the Novice Cup at Crookham and is now an Intermediate.

Best Wishes for Easter and good going for your horses.

Nixie Taverner

TEAM SELECTION

I would like to be considered as a prospective member of a Riding Club Team and have indicated my interest(s) on this slip.

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Horse</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>Type of Team</u>	<u>Tick</u>
			Show Jumping	
			Cross Country	
			Prix Caprilli	
			Dressage	

Please complete and return to Peta White