

PROGRAMME REPORT

Our Club Gymkhana held at Kimpton on Sunday 27th August was a happy, relaxed and enjoyable occasion, thanks almost entirely to Jenny Patterson and her few helpers. The results of the Prix Caprilli Competition (always a popular class) were as follows:

1st Anna Willis	Pippalux	4th Tom Olliver	Spring Song
2nd Sandra Olliver	Flippant Fancy	5th Jill Vallis	Superstar
3rd Julia Bayley	Palomino's Pride	6th Jenny Bowman	Cottesmore Kelly

The results of the Mini Hunter Trial were:

1st Sandra Olliver	Flippant Fancy	3rd Linda Thompson	Folly's Fancy
2nd Julia Bayley	Palomino's Pride	4th Anna Willis	Pippalux

It is also very pleasing to record that our versatile Lindsay Toeman (who, with Sue Hollands as the other half of the Pairs Dressage was so successful at Stoneleigh) finished also as the 'Gymkhana Champion' at Kimpton. In spite of disappointing attendance, the Club nevertheless made a small profit.

We are grateful to the indefatigable Sue Hollands for being our Prix Caprilli Judge and also to her writer.

The Dressage and Jumping Day at Amport on Saturday 23rd September held - remarkably - on a sunny day, had several sets of inviting and well-constructed jumps, thanks to a labour force consisting of Norman Creese, Sue Bennett, Sue Hollands, Shirley Myall and Richard Rasey. The results were as follows:

Novice:

1st Mark Antrobus	Kastana (owned by Nixie T.)	4th Caroline Schwabe
2nd Pauline Ward		5th Shirley Myall "Springs"
3rd Jenny Bowman	Cottesmore Kelly	6th Elizabeth White Maranty

Open:

1st Sue Hollands	Kastana (owned by Nixie T.)
2nd Sandra Olliver	Satan
3rd Kim Newman	"Shine"

Our grateful thanks are extended to Lady Craddock who kindly judged our Dressage and to her writer. It was a great pity that attendance was so poor - possibly due to the fact that the event clashed with a number of other fixtures in the area. This is something we are going to avoid next year by planning our events so much in advance and giving them such wide publicity that people will be able to make diary entries for Bourne Valley fixtures well ahead.

Our Film Evening held in the newly decorated Penton Village Hall attracted approximately 30 members and friends,, proved an enjoyable evening and also increased club funds by a small amount.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

You will see from the accompanying Programme that our first fixture in November is a visit to Meriel Tufnell's establishment at Vernham Street. Those of you who have attended any of her courses will know how worthwhile this is likely to be and for those who haven't, it will be an opportunity for both seeing Meriel at work and being shown round her interesting premises. There is also a possibility that at this meeting arrangements may be made for Club members to take part in some Indoor Show Jumping during the Christmas holiday period. So for your own sakes, as well as the Club's, you are strongly urged to come along to Fowler's Farm on Saturday 18th November.

You will see that we are holding a Quiz on 27th February. Although it may be our first effort of this kind, experience shows the activity is a popular one (perhaps because its fun for the audience to

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observe the teams pitting their wits against each other). It is hoped that if the first one is a success, we'll run a series of inter-Club Quizzes for our Area. So do please make your diary entry now and don't forget to come along on the First Night!

At a recent Committee, it was decided that whenever possible, indoor Club meetings should be held on the same evening each month (in fact, the 4th Tuesday) so that even if you mislay this newsletter and programme one of your New Year Resolutions can be to make diary entries to this effect! Incidentally, as you will observe, since the closure of Tedworth House, we have had to alter our meeting venue to the Star and Garter Hotel in Andover. The hotel has the advantage of being central for practically everybody, the meeting room available to us is pleasant, able to hold up to 60 people for large gatherings and there is, of course, an inviting and comfortable bar close at hand.

We also decided that it would be a good idea to produce an outline programme well in advance so that all members can plan well ahead. It is hoped, too, that we can run three major Riding Events each year (apart from Sam Hart 'specials' such as the popular Mock Hunt on Good Friday and maybe a Prix Caprilli Competition or two.). These events will hopefully be:

Hunter Trials in the Spring

A Special Gymkhana (with additional attractions such as a Show Jumping Competition and some In Hand Showing Classes) in the Summer

Combined Training Competition or a One Day Event in the Autumn.

You will appreciate that such ambitious projects require a great deal of organisation, work and HELP. (The latter has been lamentably lacking recently and we, therefore, propose to form sub-committees for each occasion so that the work load can be more effectively spread and shared).

You will also appreciate that one of our most practical objectives is to possess a set of our very own jumps. Unfortunately the Club is not sufficiently solvent to buy them. Tom Olliver and a noble 'task force' planned and constructed a number of Cross Country jumps for our Hunter Trials at Lock's Drove and we hope these can be used again in situ. But we need a full set of show jumps. Sue and Rod Bennett have kindly offered the use of their facilities at Bluebell Farm, Penton, plus active help, assisted by Shirley and Eric Myall and Dawn and Graham Williams. Anyone who is willing to help and wants some slimming post-Christmas exercise is requested to contact Dawn for further details. (Dawn's number is Stockbridge 724).

### Annual Club Social

In view of the success of last year's Social at Penton, we are holding our Annual Social again there this year and hope for a really good turnout. Dancing to The Wrestlers Group, a well-known live band, is an added attraction. We are also in for some other surprises..... Admission will be by ticket only and you are requested to apply as soon as possible to Peta White whose address and telephone number are: The Haywain, 105 Cherry Orchard, Burbage, near Marlborough, Wilts. Tel: 810 559.

### Instruction for Grade Examinations I, II and III

So far only four people have responded to our recent request for the names of interested prospective candidates. We feel there are likely to be more and also that we should run an intensive course early in the New Year, leading to the Exam(s) in the Spring. Will all those interested in work leading to Grades I, II and III please send a stamped, addressed envelope to Peta White. A detailed schedule will then be sent to those concerned as soon as possible.

### Preparation for Area Championships Next Year

In view of our improved performance at this year's Area Championships, we think it would be a good idea if we started Team Training early in the New Year to aim for even better results next year. We therefore propose to enclose a form for riding members with the A.G.M. Agenda so that a programme of training can be arranged.

### Annual General Meeting

Everyone who has joined this year will be receiving shortly a Membership Card together with the Agenda for the A.G.M.

### Personal Tit-Bits

We should like to express our sincere condolences to June Bush whose mother died recently.

We also extend warm sympathy to Anna Willis for the loss of her horse Pippalux, who was in his prime as Club results indicate) but who recently broke a fetlock while they were out hacking.

Our congratulations to Sue Hollands on her recent success in the teaching part of her B.H.S.I. She is now fully qualified.

Good luck to Sue Bennett who is currently trying for her Intermediate. Our Instructors certainly set a good example in their efforts to continue 'up the scale' and indicate how much more there is always to learn about riding and instruction.

Poor Dawn Williams, our Treasurer, is now plated and plastered (or rather, only her right elbow), as a result of her parting company with Muffin over a Cross Country jump (thus stealing the thunder from your Vice-Chairman who has also been known to jump without her horse!)

Incidentally, my back condition, though accentuated by riding, according to the Surgeon, dates from a childhood injury, not attributable to horses. It has now been put right, thanks to a spinal fusion operation; with any luck I should be better than new and in the saddle again by about February. In the meantime I should like to thank all the kind people who sent me such encouraging 'get well' cards and also the Club for the lovely flowers I received as a welcome home present after 5 weeks stay in the Sarum Nursing Home.

Jay Herbert and her family have recently departed for Germany and will be away for 2 years. We shall miss her greatly but are delighted to hear she is continuing her membership so that she can keep in touch with us and we look forward to hearing news of her and Polly Llewellyn who will be a fairly close neighbour.

Finally, you may like to have the following information, supplied by Audrey Branchett, Dornville, Amesbury Road, Cholderton, (Tel: Cholderton 263). She has some loose boxes available together with a good lungeing area and 3 small paddocks in good riding country. Her charges are:

Full Livery £15.00 p.w.    Part Livery £11.00 p.w.    "D.I.Y. Livery" £2.50 p.w.

A Happy Christmas to you all and Best Wishes for Good Riding in 1979, from your Committee.

Nixie Taverner

