

# From the Horse's Mouth



A Newsletter for the Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC

November 2009

## Stable Notes

Hello again and welcome to our new Supporting Riders! Last month was a tough one at Flemish Farm. We had an extreme shortage of horses and so we must apologise to anyone who could not book a ride or lesson over the last month. Oz, Fritz, Guinness, and Lady Cara have all been out of action with various ailments. Caroline has also been most anxious to spare the horses so that they are fit for their main event of the year the Lord Mayor's Show.

Last month also saw the HAC Uniformed Services Show take place at the Kings Troop RHA Barracks at St John's Wood. Charles Gillow and Christopher Robinson competed on Bob and Amos at the event. Although they did not come home smothered in glory, I believe that they both enjoyed the day! A full report can be found on page 3. On the day, the Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry were out in force manning the tea/coffee/mulled wine stand and the Light Cavalry HAC goods stall in the forge. The tea/coffee stall made a profit of £130 on the day and £210 of merchandise was sold. It was a great team effort and thank you all for your time and enthusiasm.

This month, on 1st November, annual membership subscriptions to ride as a Supporting Rider of the Light Cavalry HAC are due. Would those Supporting Riders who pay by cheque please send their monies to Caroline Qusted as soon as possible.

Also in November, we are excited to announce that during November, Graeme Innes, Equitation Instructor at the King's Troop RHA has agreed to teach a show-jumping clinic at Flemish Farm. Full details on page 6.

After the Lord Mayor's Show thoughts will naturally turn to Christmas and there are two events to look forward to. The Christmas Show, to be held on Sunday 20th December at Flemish Farm, is a fun show of jumping and pony club games for all levels of rider. Please do let Caroline know if you would like to take part. The Light Cavalry Christmas Party held at the Bisley Hut has a wonderful family atmosphere and should not be missed! If there is anyone who wishes to perform a party piece (a song or a poem) that would entertain the assembled throng they should let Lt. Rennie Simon know (when you send in your form) so that you can be scheduled into the running order.

Finally, as you draw up your Christmas present list—bear in mind that what most people are secretly wishing for is a 2010 HAC Light Cavalry calendar! Full details of how to obtain your copies are to be found on page 5.

## Contact Details : Flemish Farm

### Manager and Chief Instructor

Caroline Qusted

Email : [hac1@aol.com](mailto:hac1@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](mailto:mrsrw1h@yahoo.co.uk)

Tel: 01753 622291

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## Forthcoming Events: 2009/2010

### November

14th Lord Mayor's Show, London

### December

12th LC HAC Christmas Party, Bisley Hut

20th LC HAC Christmas Show, Flemish Farm

24th-27th Flemish Farm is closed

### 2010

#### June

13th Queen's Cup, Polo Guard, Smith's Lawn

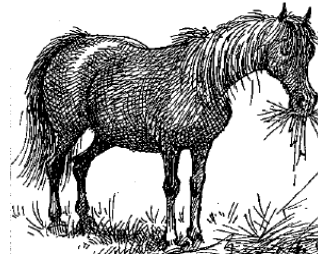
20th Royal Windsor, Polo Guard, Smith's Lawn

#### July

22nd Light Cavalry Annual Dinner at Armoury House

25th Cartier International, Polo Guard, Smith's Lawn

31st Skill at Arms Display, Chiltern Open Air Museum



## Richard

By Caroline Quested

Sadly Richard passed away on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

Since August he had not been very well and the vet diagnosed a neurological problem which meant he no longer had full control of his back legs. We were able to ease his pain slightly by having his back done which did relax him a lot so his last few weeks were a lot more comfortable for him.

He has been with us for over 4yrs and during that time has done all the parades, all be it Lord Mayors was done sideways!! He was loved by many: in the school he was a gentleman and he was also a good show jumper. He was always so shocked when anyone bounced off him, the last thing he ever wanted to do was hurt anyone and it was written all over his face when he looked at the rider on the floor. It wasn't his fault his trot was so bouncy!

We will miss him. He was fantastic honest horse. I would like to thank Richard Feldman who donated the money for us to buy him and even though his time with us was fairly short he certainly made an big impact on our hearts.



# The Uniformed Services Show: 17th October 2009

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2009 the Light Cavalry, Honourable Artillery Company hosted the 32nd Annual HAC Uniformed Services Show-jumping competition (USS). This international competition is held each year by kind permission of The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery.

The Show is held in the beautiful 19<sup>th</sup> Century indoor riding school at the St John's Wood Barracks of King's Troop RHA. This year the Equitation Instructor at the King's Troop RHA designed a fiendish course which required both riding skill and guts to negotiate. The King's Troop horses were a joy to behold, fit and full of fun and of course beautifully turned out for the occasion by their dedicated grooms. The competition was stiff but the atmosphere, as always, was cordial and, while not everyone can win the trophy it was a happy and safe day. There were no accidents or injuries for horses or competitors and the camaraderie developed over many years of friendly rivalry was much in evidence.

This year, The King's Troop RHA provided horses for twelve teams of servicemen and women. The competition attracts team entries from military units from the UK, The Netherlands, Belgium, France and other countries and over 50 competitors rode on the day. Teams are drawn from across regular and reserve Army, Navy and Air Force units, the Combined Cadet Forces and the Police Service.

The Show comprises two competitions:

**Competition One:** The 4 person team show jumping competition for the Captain Richard Edmondston-Low Challenge Cup which also generates the individual winner

## Competition Two

The Major Hugh Auger Fault and Out show jumping competition for individual riders

## Results

### Richard Edmondston-Low Challenge Cup

#### Winning Teams

1. King's Troop RHA
2. Royal Logistics Corp "A" team
3. Thames Valley Police
4. Dutch Reserve Forces
5. Royal Air Force

#### Winning individuals

1. Capt. Max Chenery (King's Troop RHA)
2. Lance Corporal Emma Emily (Royal Engineers)
3. Gnr. Joe Sutcliffe (King's Troop RHA)
4. Pte. Lucy Lloyd (Royal Logistics Corp "B")
5. Lt. Col Brian Hodgson (South Alberta Light Horse - Canada)

1st Lady rider: L/Cpl Emma Emily (winner of the Brigitte Van Loo Memorial Cup)  
1st Non UK rider: Capt. Marc Japiot (French Reserve Forces)  
1st HAC rider: Tpr Fred Southey (Riding with the AGC team) (winner of the Sir Rodney Moore tankard)

### The Major Hugh Auger Fault & Out Competition

1. SAC Mel Stoner (RAF), (winner of the Hugh Auger Memorial plate) 1st Lady rider SAC Mel Stoner (RAF)
2. Gnr Joe Sutcliffe (King's Troop)
3. Gnr Jade Walsh (King's Troop)
4. Lt Renee Bleeker (Dutch Reserve Forces)
5. Capt. Marc Japiot (French Reserve Forces)

A dinner for all competitors was held at Armoury House, the Regimental Headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company, after the event. The principal guest was Major Neil Cross, Commanding Officer of the King's Troop RHA.

**The organisers of the HAC Uniformed Services Show are very grateful to VIRBAC Ltd, leading suppliers of veterinary products, for their continued generosity in sponsoring this unique event.**



## The Uniformed Services Show



These photos are reproduced by the kind permission of Ivory Images. The full set may be viewed at <http://www.lchac.org.uk/gallery43.htm>

If you require copies of these photos please contact Graham Ivory, Ivory Images, 45 Garibaldi Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 6PB. Tel: 01737 763708 [ivoryimages@aol.com](mailto:ivoryimages@aol.com)

**The winning team: Kings Troop RHA**

**Familiar Faces!**  
**The Thames Valley Police team**  
**Yes, that is Bex 2nd from the left!**



**Bob back on his "home turf"**



**Fred Southey strikes a balletic pose!**



## Intuitive Communication with Animals

By Louise Mottola

In October, we had the privilege of attending a workshop with Marta Williams who was visiting Europe for a documentary filmed by French Television. Marta works full-time as an animal communicator, offering consultation for animals worldwide to help solve behaviour problems, find lost animals, assist animals during illness and death. She specialises in horses and is a proponent of natural training methods and holistic health care.

Marta has developed a unique training system for teaching others. She offers workshops, clinics, private consultations and lectures nationally and internationally and is firm believer in learning is by doing. She has taught thousands of people how to talk to their animals and trained many professional animal communicators. She can be contacted via <http://www.martawilliams.com/index.htm> . She has also written a few books, the ones I have read and enjoyed are: *Leaning Their Language* and *Ask your Animal*

The course ran over two days, but the 2nd afternoon was spent focussing on the Flemish Farm horses from a distance. This held a great surprise for me – Shirley was determined to have a chat! He wanted me to know that he has been mistreated earlier in his life which made him fearful. He was grateful to Fiona for having spent lots of time with him and shown him that life is still fun. He was very adamant that he is a good horse!

I then asked the workgroup to connect with Vivor and asked him a few questions.... he said that what he likes best is to go cross country because he likes to go as fast as the wind. He said he trusts me as his leader but thinks I am reckless when I ask him to go through water because it is his feet that are in danger and not mine. He finds flat work very very boring but will do it if it makes me happy. He said he sees himself as a teacher; he knows his job and does it safely so his rider can heal any fears. Lastly he said he likes nature finds it relaxing to be out and really likes warm sunny days.

## Light Cavalry HAC Calendars

**2010 Light Cavalry Calendars have arrived!!**  
**Still only £10!**  
**Great for Christmas pressies or just for yourself!**  
**All proceeds will go to the Light Cavalry!**



Winning cover photograph taken by Maurizio Cecchini of Malcolm Johnston and Guinness

You can purchase the calendars in a variety of ways.

1. At any time at Flemish Farm from the Light Cavalry office (please ask the Light Cavalry staff.)  
**Please leave payment in the plastic pocket and not in the cash box in the office.**
2. At Armoury House at the Lord Mayor's Parade on 14<sup>th</sup> November
3. At the Light Cavalry Christmas Dinner at Bisley Hut on 12<sup>th</sup> December
4. At the Christmas Show at Flemish Farm on 20<sup>th</sup> December (spectators welcome!)

Cash or Cheque accepted. (Made payable to Fiona Charman.) If you have any queries please contact Fiona Charman on 07970 176411 or e-mail [charmanfma@aol.com](mailto:charmanfma@aol.com)

# Show Jumping Clinic on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2009

## Show Jumping Clinic with Graeme Innes, Equestrian Instructor (EI) King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery

The Light Cavalry is kindly allowing the Supporting Riders to host a show jumping clinic at Flemish Farm. There will be four hour long group sessions for novices, (some jumping experience would be advantageous), up to more experienced riders, starting at 11.00 and finishing at 16.00 (with the usual lunch break between 12.00 and 13.00) . Each session will have no more than 4 riders with a maximum of 16 places. Riders will be matched with others of similar standard and confidence.

**Price: £35 (£25 for owners/ loaners)**

Some of you will already know Graeme from the HAC Saddle Club ride, the Uniformed Services Show or a lucky few, from private lessons arranged directly with him.

Graeme grew up in Musselburgh, Scotland and learnt to ride on a Shetland pony called Topsy, taking part in the Riding of the Marches aged 2! He spent many years taking part in many border festivals and common ridings!

Graeme had ponies and horses throughout his childhood before joining the Kings Troop in 1989. He qualified as an instructor in 1995 and has been the EI for 2 ½ years. He was the lead driver on the gun team that pulled Diana, Princess of Wales's coffin.

In 1995 and 1996, Graeme was a member of the British Army, three day event team, before concentrating on show jumping. He has represented the Army at show jumping at home, abroad and over the last couple of years in the Channel Islands and won visiting horse of the year at the Guernsey Horse of the Year Show, jumping 1.70m in the Puissance!

On a lighter but equally illustrious note, Graeme was a member of the team of instructors for the BBC celebrity "Only Fools on Horses" mentoring Matt Baker from Blue Peter and gained his Blue Peter badge! Graeme is married with three football mad sons!

To apply for a place, please contact Caroline Qusted at Flemish Farm on 01753 622291 or [haclc@aol.com](mailto:haclc@aol.com) Please include your level of experience and confidence.

If you have any other queries please contact Fiona Charman, on e-mail [charmanfma@aol.com](mailto:charmanfma@aol.com)

Spectators welcome. Tea, coffee and hot chocolate will be available!



# Light Cavalry Christmas Party : Bisley Hut : 12th 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 station.

## Application form: Christmas Party : Bisley Hut

To be held at the Bisley Hut on Saturday 12th December, from 7.30pm onwards

I, ..... Telephone no .....

Email .....

Wish to attend the Light Cavalry Christmas Party on Saturday 12th 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 reach Lt. Rennie Simon by the end of November. Send to Mr R. Simon, Coleman's Cottage, West Langdon, Kent CT15 5HQ or direct questions to [renniesimon@btconnect.com](mailto:renniesimon@btconnect.com)  
Tel: 01304 826883)