

From the Horse's Mouth

December 2011

A Newsletter for
The Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC



Stable Notes

Hello again and Merry Christmas to all the Supporting Riders!

It has been a busy year—but there are still two more Light Cavalry events before 2011 draws to a close. We have the Christmas Party on Saturday 10th December at Armoury House. At the time of going to press I understand you may still apply to attend. Full details on the back of this newsletter. Also on Sunday 18th December we have the Christmas Show at Flemish Farm. Please see Caroline for further details.

It has been quite a year, and I'm sure the horses are looking forward to their Christmas holiday in the fields while Caroline, Kells and Kelly take a well earned break. For those who would like to show their appreciation to the staff for all their efforts this year, there is a Christmas fund, please either give a cheque made out to the Light Cavalry HAC to Caroline in an envelope marked "Staff Fund".

The main news of the month is that we saw Larry retire from his duties at Flemish Farm. He is now going to live a quieter life at the deluxe equestrian facilities at Lakeside Farm. I understand from Vincent that he is settling in well. I'm sure this mild autumn, acres of turnout and new horsey friends are making the new experience enjoyable for him.

Over the Summer/Autumn we also welcomed two new horses to the yard. Boris (August) who is owned by Joy Montgomery and Woody (October) who owned by Julie Percival. Both horses are absolutely gorgeous and you can see a lovely of picture of Joy, John and Woody as they proudly do their first Lord Mayor's Show on page 3.

Dates for your Diary : 2011/2012

December 10 th	Christmas Party, Armoury House
December 18 th	Light Cavalry HAC Christmas Show, Flemish Farm
December 23 rd -27 th	Flemish Farm closed for Horse's Christmas Holiday. Re-opens for hacks and lessons on December 28 th
May 20 th OR 27 th	Annual Inspection
June 17 th	Cartier Queen's Cup
June 24 th	Al Habtoor Royal Windsor Cup
July 19 th	Light Cavalry HAC Annual Dinner

Voucher scheme to save you money!

Further to our notice in the last Horse's Mouth. We have now set up a pre paid riding scheme where supporting riders can pay monthly for their rides.

If you would like to purchase vouchers for your riding please ask one of the members of staff.

YOU MUST PURCHASE 4 WEEKS WORTH OF VOUCHERS WHICH WILL BE VALID FOR FOUR WEEKS.

RIDE TYPE PAY AS YOU GO PRICE VOUCHER PRICE

4X 1HR PRIVATE WEEK LESSON	£168	£126
4 X 1HR PRIVATE WEEKEND LESSON	£176	£132
4 X 1HR WEEK EVENING GROUP	£120	£90
4X 1HR WEEKEND SATURDAY GROUP	£128	£96
4 X 2HR PRIVATE WEEK HACK	£180	£135
4 X 2HR PRIVATE WEEKEND HACK	£200	£150

Pointers to keep your hacks safe and fun

- Do not split your ride; keep all the horses in your group together.
- If your horse is being strong, do not canter in large open spaces.
- Canter in single file, rather than abreast.
- Stay in a hand canter- This is a park rule and anyone found deliberately going faster than this, will no longer ride with us. The wardens do have CCTV covering the park. (A hand canter is a canter you would do in the school).
- When you start to head home, the horses will become more forward. This will happen wherever you are in the park. If your horse has been strong on the way out, then avoid cantering towards home.
- Do not turn your horse through 180 degrees to head home. Find a tree, a path, anything to go around rather than turning on the spot.
- Do not canter once you have passed Russell's Pond, it is too close to home.
- From the traffic lights back to the yard, walk only.
- Look on the ride sheet to see what else your horse is doing or has done that day and take this into account.
- Do plan your route so you do not have to rush home. Hacking to Blacknest Gate/ Smiths Lawn is NOT a 2hr hack if done at the correct pace.
- Please report back to the staff if you do have any issues with any of the horses.
- If you are unsure of anything please ask.

CONTACT US :

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Join us on Facebook : Flemish Farm

The Lord Mayor's Show : Saturday 12th November

First let us say a huge thank you to those people whose alarms went at 4am (or earlier) on Saturday morning and then made their way to Flemish Farm to get the horses onto the lorries in the dark. Although they were not to know it then—the weather for the day was unseasonably warm and remained dry all day. For those who have helped in previous years (and we have one helper who has been helping for the last 20 years) this was a huge bonus!

The day went smoothly and all the horses and riders had a good day. It was a sad day in one respect because it was Larry's last parade before leaving Flemish Farm to a life of retirement. However, the horses all looked super and I think it was a wonderful send off for one of our favourite horses.



Photos taken from the Flemish Light Cavalry Farm Facebook page—
from Vincent Savolainen, Kevin Revell and Lyndsey Reid

Supporting Riders take on Larkhill X-Country: By Caroline Qusted

On a very foggy day Dan and I went down to watch team Light Cavalry do some XC at Larkhill.

The first 3 to go, Charles on Leo, Claire on Bob and Vincent on Benson, had to do their course in very thick fog. We watched them go over the first two and then they vanished from view. After what seemed like a very long time we were pleased to see them heading for home. Bob and Leo went clear and Benson had a few run outs. We then had a break and thankfully for the next three riders the fog lifted. This time Lyndsey was on Leo, Victoria on Bob and our Kell was on Benson. Once again they all went round to us cheering them on. Bob had a cheeky run out at the double and Benson ran out at a couple, but Leo went clear.

I received an email from Victoria, which I think sums up the riders view!

Although I was absolutely petrified beforehand and over the first 3 jumps I had SO much fun and it really was one of the most enjoyable things I have ever done. What is really great is that I'd had an indoor XC lesson with Jan a few weeks before and we'd practised jumps like number 13 (the double on the angle) and it was superb to put training into use. During our car journey back we were all buzzing with excitement from the course, all having different experiences and comments and all with beaming smiles on our faces. I keep looking at the photos and can't believe I managed to get round!



Bye Bye Larry : By Vincent Savolainen

The Lord Mayors Show was Larry's last duty before retirement – or at least for a while. He is an old boy and has been quite stiff in his back and hind legs recently. With the lack of turnout in winter, we thought it was time for him to leave Flemish, and I found another heaven for him. He is now at Lakeside Farm, (where Vivor is too), just behind Windsor Forest.

He is now living in a big field with some new horsey friends. The plan is to ride him gently once or twice a week to keep him fit, so that he may visit Flemish again next year to take part in some of the summer parades. Apart from the stiffness, he's rarely looked so good, thanks to the wonderful attention of Caroline, Kelly, Kel and, before, Lauren – he will miss you all!



Uniformed Services Show : Cadet Qualifier

Julie Percival sent in some photos of the cadet qualifying competition. The photographs were taken by Cdt Revell's parents. This competition is held each year for that the cadets who ride at Flemish the top four riders then form a cadet team which competes at the Uniformed Services Show.



Light Cavalry HAC Christmas Dinner : Saturday 10th December

All Supporting Riders of the Light Cavalry HAC would be most welcome to join the Light Cavalry HAC at Armoury House to celebrate a wonderful year of horses, friendship and parading! Details as follows :

Date: Saturday 10th December 2011

Time: 7.15pm for 8.00 pm

Venue : Armoury House, City Road, City of London. The Regimental Headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company

Dress: Gentlemen: Mess Kit or Black Tie
Ladies: Mess Kit or Evening Dress

Cost £45 per head

Cheques payable to: Light Cavalry HAC

All applications and cheques to be sent to John Tunesi at:

53 Hitchin Street
Baldock
Hertfordshire
SG7 6AQ

Free Parking available