

Newton Hall News

Quarterly

Spring 2011

THE HORSE WALKER PROVES ITS WORTH DURING THE WINTER

During the wintry weather in December and January, our horsewalker- which accommodates up to 8 horses at a time- again was fully utilised and the large diameter means that no undue strain is placed on the horses as they are exercised.

ROSSIE THEOBALD GIVEN NATIONAL AWARD BY BRITISH HORSE SOCIETY

Rossie Theobald BHSI was one of five individuals presented in 2010 with a national Award of Merit given by the British Horse Society (BHS) at a presentation ceremony at Saddlers' Hall London. The Award is given for excellent service to the Society over many years

At the award ceremony, Rossie's citation read:

"Anyone going to Newton Hall to take BHS exams cannot fail to be impressed by her friendly approach and the invariably smooth running of the day. It has been interesting to watch the development of Newton Hall over many years, a school which, with the help of her daughters, has acquired an enviable reputation for the production of well-produced working hunter ponies and for encouraging younger riders to attain high standards in the showing ring. The school has always been a 'BHS Where to Train' establishment, to which many students have travelled from all over East Anglia in order to train for exams.

Rossie is Chairman of the East of England Region, an appointment to which she brings extensive knowledge and understanding of the industry.

To some is given the honour to occupy prominent positions where their work attracts public notice and popular acclaim; to a rather greater number fall duties which neither occupy the limelight nor attract the cheers of the crowd yet which are so necessary for the continuing success of the Society. It is to the second group that Rossie belongs and it is her quiet but solid achievements which earn her this high mark of our appreciation"

Many congratulations to Rossie in deservedly receiving this prestigious award.



Rossie receives her award from BHS President Desi Dillingham

READ INSIDE THE SPRING 2011 ISSUE

Including:

- a new feature in this edition- the spotlight on one of our sponsors- and a further contributed article from one of our readers.
- the photos on page 3 with competition news and results have kindly been sent to us by Nigel at Eastern Light Photography.
- there is exciting news on page 2 of the British Riding Clubs Centre Membership Scheme 2011.

Photos/ News/ Results/ Stories

We should like to publish more photos on our web site and in our newsletters from yourselves. If you have any items for the next edition of **Newton Hall News** or our web site, please email them to: crmdairy@btinternet.com

THREE TOP TIPS:

PRE-EXAM ASSESSMENTS RECOMMENDED FOR BHS EXAMS

You will notice that we continue to feature mock BHS exam stages in our programme. We also recommend an assessment session for potential candidates before they book their BHS exam to avoid any disappointment.

SPRING IS HERE- SAFETY FIRST

As the daylight hours lengthen and the ground becomes easier to ride, more riders will be hacking out. It is sensible practice to always wear a hi-vis jacket particularly for road work so you are visible to other road users.

Even in bright sunlight, a dark horse and a rider wearing dark clothing will not always be visible to other traffic, especially if in shadow. Don't let the absence of a hi-vis jacket cause an accident to yourself, to others or to your mount.

BODY PROTECTORS

We continue to recommend Racesafe body protectors for all cross-country riding as they flex with the rider's movement and are much more comfortable- further information from the office.

Nero/ Thimble and Libby

Followers of Newton Hall who have read some of the tributes on Facebook will already know that sadly, we lost Nero, Thimble and Libby over the winter.

BRC Centre Membership Scheme 2011

The British Riding Clubs (BRC) continued to expand their Centre Membership Scheme in 2010 and there are currently 24 affiliated BRC Centres located throughout the UK with a number awaiting approval.

The scheme was introduced to enable recreational horse riders who do not own a horse or pony, but ride at an Approved BHS Establishment, to enjoy some of the benefits available to BRC members.

These benefits include:

- access to a national BRC Interdressage League aimed at Centre members with top end of the year prizes.
- access to Centre competitions
- reduced admission at some major equestrian events
- *Rider* magazine, packed full of equestrian information, delivered quarterly to your home.

These Centre memberships are run by the riders themselves but the affiliated Centre appoints a member of staff as a co-ordinator to ensure the smooth running of the Centre and provide a regular programme of riding club events, both riding and social for its members.

The BRC Centre Membership Scheme is available with no set-up fee for the riding establishment and an individual membership fee of only **£10** paid by each centre member directly to BRC head office.

Rossie Theobald says that she will act as the 'co-ordinator' so it's over to our riders if they want Newton Hall to apply to become an affiliated centre.



David Peachey with 2 young riders
and judge Carole Edwards

NH Pony Club

News of their summer programme will appear in our next issue so just a reminder that you are welcome to come along to their Friday evening club (fortnightly 5.30-7.30) – excellent value at £3 for members and £4 non-members, to learn about and practice pony care and earn PC badges.

There is Fun Jumping in NH Arena at 2.30pm on 10th April and Dressage with Poles/ Jumping at 2pm on 15th April.

A full programme of events is on display on the the PC notice board in the barn, or in the NH office.

PRIZE QUIZ

As our quiz in the the last issue was perhaps overlooked during the wintry weather, we are repeating the ten questions set by Rossie in connection with our 50th anniversary last year.

Write your answers 1-10 on a slip of paper and post it in the quiz entries box in the NH office by the **closing date 14th April**.

Remember to add your name and telephone number.

The prize is a ½ private lesson for the entry with the most correct answers.

1. What date was the NH 50th anniversary party?
2. Approximately how many people attended the party?
3. What equine accessory was on each table?
4. Where was the party celebration held?
5. What was the colour scheme/ theme for the table decorations?
6. Name or occupation of two people who were unable to attend due to illness?
7. Where was the 45th anniversary celebration held?
8. Who were the two ladies who received bouquets in appreciation of their organisation of the event?
9. The 'morning after,' what happened on the yard at NHEC?
10. Who presented Rossie with a bouquet of flowers or from which organisation?

OUR SPONSORS

Over the years, Newton Hall has been fortunate to enjoy the support of many private sponsors and that still continues today- the Bosmere Gas novice and progressive championships have just in fact concluded for the winter season.

Our idea is to introduce you to our sponsors over the course of the next few issues and perhaps encourage new sponsors to come forward.

Our first profile is David Peachey who runs a very successful car sales business **Portman Cars** in Deben Road, Ipswich- both Kirsten and Petrina have purchased cars from David.

David says that he began riding some 10 years ago when he had bought an Arab mare for his wife. He thought then that all he had to do was to get up on the horse and the rest would follow quite easily.

A few cracked and broken bones later, he was advised by Jan Pennock for his safety's sake to get some proper instruction and that was how David arrived at Newton Hall.

Never one to do things by halves, David now rides 3 times a week at NH and also owns 3 ponies at Somersham.

Keen to encourage younger riders to take part in competitions, he currently sponsors the UK Riders/ Trailblazers Sunday League and David also owns some of the jumps in the NH Arena.

David says that he knows that he will never set the jumping world alight but he really enjoys not only his riding, but also the friendly verbal 'jibes' aimed at him by Rossie and we have heard that he can sometimes give as good as he gets !!

COMPETITION NEWS AND RESULTS

Although the wintry weather disrupted some of our events, the winter programme is almost completed and there has been keen competition and notable results.

Well done to the NH team who came first at the Inter College competition, maintaining our strong record over the years.

There were 2 very good performances at the PUK Winter Championships at Addington Manor. Hannah Moore on Pittybeck Peles Reflection came 3rd in the M & M WHP class and Cressida Bullough on Splash of Light came 2nd in the Downland Smuggler WHP class.

Alice Hallows was champion in the Bosmere Gas Progressive Class 1, Cressy Bullough was champion in Progressive Class 2 with Belle Rogers as reserve and Hannah Watts was champion in Progressive Class 3 with Julia Green as reserve. The Novice Class results will appear in the next issue of NH News



BSPS : Hannah Martin on North Star

There were 2 BSPS and PUK Winter Qualifying Shows at NH in February. The results in full are on our web site and horsedates.

Winners on 13th February were as follows:

BSPS Novice Intermediate W.H.
Dragoon Molly Morley
 BSPS Novice W.H.P.,
Kincon Valley Eleanor Hirst
 BSPS Novice W.H.P.
North Star Hannah Martin
 BSPS Novice W.H.P.
Landswell Peppercorn Jessica Dutton
 BSPS Novice Nursery Stakes
Weggs Saucy Sioux Alexa Regis
 BSPS Open (Restricted) Intermediate W.H
Kidside Ferguson Kendall Banks Browne
 B.S.P.S. Open (Restricted) W.H.P
Dragoon Molly Morley
 B.S.P.S. Open (Restricted) W.H.P
Mister Smea Sophie Plater
 B.S.P.S. Open (Restricted) W.H.P.
Trewithian Woodruff Isabella Regis
 B.S.P.S. Open (Restricted) Nursery Stakes.
Brookhall Consort Zara Lye
 The BSPS "Ruth Learns" Challenge for Novice Working Hunters
Spirit of Adventure Emma Lacey



Photos from the Inter Schools Trot Pole Competition

BSPS Mixed Height Class for Novice Show Hunter Pony
Huntroyd Destiny Charles Chadwick
 BSPS Novice Intermediate Show Hunter Type
Castanya Twilight Ellis Wilson
 BSPS Open (Restricted) Intermediate Show Hunter
Unlimited Sophie Hopkins
 BSPS Open (Restricted) Pony of Show Hunter Type
Anri Sandstorm Isabelle Hogarth
 P (UK) Apachee Ridden Piebald/Skewbald Horse/Pony Winter Championship
Chigwell High Flyer Lauren Johnson
 P(UK) Junior Apachee Ridden Piebald/Skewbald Horse/Pony
Chigwell High Flyer Lauren Johnson
 P(UK) Amateur Riders Ridden Horse/Hunter/Cob Type
Jays Revelation Andrea Pearman
 BSPS Mixed Height Class for Novice Show Ponies
Cortworth Jubilee Georgina Reik
 BSPS Open (Restricted) Show Ponies
Cortworth Jubilee Georgina Reik
 BSPS Open (Restricted) Show Ponies
Moorbank Phoebe Georgina Reik
 P(UK) Mimosa Confined Novice Intermediate Show Riding/Hunter Type
Castanya Twilight Ellis Wilson
 P(UK) Springfield Part Bred Ridden
Castanya Twilight Ellis Wilson

Winners on 27th February as follows

P(UK) Zenith Working Hunter Championship
Dreamboy Alida Tysterman
 BSPS Novice W.H.P
Ringling Galaxy Quest Sara Cottrell
 BSPS Novice W.H.P.
Northern Star Hannah Martin
 BSPS Open (Restricted) WHP/WH Mixed Height
Ringling Galaxy Quest Sara Cottrell



BSPS "Heritage" Mountain & Moorland Novice WHP
Daintys Discovery Abigail Hamber
 BSPS "Heritage" Mountain & Moorland Novice WHP
Oke Dene Red Ransom Ellie Eaton
 BSPS "Heritage" Mountain & Moorland Novice WHP
Moortown Beekeeper Debbie Harrison-Knights
 PUK Horselode M&M Working Hunter Pony
Washbank Star Appeal Emma Walker
 BSPS Mixed Height Class for Novice Show Hunter Pony
Gigman Bobby Dazzler Abigail Hamber
 BSPS Open (Restricted) Pony of Show Hunter Type
Gigman Bobby Dazzler Abigail Hamber
 P(UK) Sawtry Open Riding Horse/Cob
That's Me P Shirley-Ann Woodward
 P(UK) Amateur Riders Riding Horse/Hunter/Cob Type
Cool Spirit Faye Sadler
 BSPS Heritage M&M Novice Lead Rein
Thistledown Scotch Whiskey Abigail Hamber
 BSPS Heritage M&M Novice First Ridden
Thistledown Scotch Whiskey Abigail Hamber
 BSPS Heritage M&M Novice Ridden Mixed Breeds
Oakmill Lysander Ella Souster
 P(UK) Lianarth Open Ridden M&M Championship Small Breeds
Beltoy Rising Pride Debbie Harrison-Knights
 P(UK) Lianarth Open Ridden M&M Championship Large Breeds
 1.Mosstown Windy Jess Major



PUK: Krystle Thorby and Duke

BSPS: Stacey Webb and Hamlet

PROFILE OF FYNNLANDS DONOVAN (alias Mr Reliable)- BY ROSSIE THEOBALD

Mel Lawson and Donovan at Royal Windsor 2010

This 16.1hh bay gelding came to NH as a five year old from Ireland in 2002 via Mrs Lydia Harvey (now Mrs Freeman). He was very 'green' but willing and walked straight onto the NH horsebox when collected from Tannington Hall. Gordon Grover, Rossie's brother-in-law, was requiring a second horse at the time and so Gordon and NH went halves on the purchase.



Donovan really enjoys his hunting with Gordon and it gives him renewed enthusiasm for his daily work with novice riders and competitors.

Paul Adams BHSAI worked and competed Donovan in his early days- starting with clear rounds in Arena One (before the NH Arena was built) and progressing to unaffiliated classes up to 2'9"/ 85cms. When Paul moved on in his career, James Pratt partnered Donovan moving up to BSJA classes- British Novice and Discovery. This combination won over £80 in affiliated classes but Donovan reached his limits in the Discovery jump-off tracks due to his confirmation. Although with very powerful quarters and active hind limbs, he is very narrow in front and lacks the ability to reach forward with his forelegs which causes his limitations over spread fences. Donovan has given many riders fun and confidence both in competitions and exams.

Current staff member Mel Lawson BHSAI Regd Champs with NH trainee Jade Urry. competed Donovan at the BHS Instructors Challenge last year at Windsor Horse Show, Have you ridden Donovan? He's not always the having qualified at the Eastern Region competition at Huntingdon. most comfortable ride but just such a willing and likeable chap.

READER'S FEATURE- from Catherine Jones

This year, Donovan has recently qualified for the 2nd Round of the UK Riders Show Jumping. Thank you Gordon for sharing him with us for the last 9 years.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY!! DEDICATION, SHEER GRIT AND DETERMINATION DESERVES RECOGNITION

Sixty year old Julia Green works on a voluntary basis six days a week from 6.30am to 12.30pm at Newton Hall Equitation Centre. She is a quiet unassuming lady who never fails to turn up come thick snow, torrential rain or a summer heatwave.

She looks after 12 horses and ponies, mucking out, catching in, turning out, feeding, grooming and all the other million and one things that horse's need to keep them fit and healthy. She also rides for at least an hour every day helping to keep the riding school horses exercised and schooled. Not only that, she is not adverse to competing in cross country, show jumping and dressage competitions.

So what you may be thinking.

Well Julia has severe rheumatoid arthritis and although she rarely admits it, suffers the terrible aches and pains that this crippling disease causes. Her hands are swollen where her joints have enlarged and changed shape and she walks with a stoop because of the pain in her back and legs. Sometimes you can see her pain etched in her face, but she just keeps on going. As she says, "the day I can no longer work with the horses is the day they'll cart me off in a box". In fact she only doesn't work on a wednesday morning because she has to attend hospital for steroid and pain relief treatment.



Julia Green riding in the NH Arena

So when you next have back ache, or a cold or are a bit under the weather and don't fancy doing your horses, think of Julia and be inspired by this courageous lady. I know I am!!

BHS SUFFOLK COMMITTEE

Under the able chairmanship of Jean Lywood, this committee usually meets at Newton Hall every 2 months to discuss and arrange training opportunities, events and speakers for BHS members in Suffolk throughout the year.

At the end of March, Kenneth Clawson FBHS was booked at Newton Hall for a 'Any Horse Any Rider' clinic. A vaulting evening- a have a go evening- is pencilled in at Valley Farm for Friday 7th May at 7pm followed later in May by a visit to Rands and Wilson where it is hoped that a demonstration of horse logging will be given. Details of summer events will be given in our next issue but they are always posted on horsedates

BACK ISSUES OF NH NEWS

Our first **NH News** was published 6 years ago in Spring 2005.

If you need to read a back issue, they can all be viewed on our web site at

www.nhec.co.uk

ROSIE SPRAGG

It is with great regret that we learnt the sad news that Rosie Spragg passed away earlier in the year. She was a volunteer with the RDA and a respected judge at affiliated show jumping and indoor eventer trials. Our sincere condolences to her family and friends.