

Newton Hall News

Winter 2011

HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

If you are 14yrs and over and would like to help out at any time during the period from 23rd December to 3rd January, regular NH riders who are familiar with the rules of the yard are invited to help out in return for riding- please apply to the NH office.

THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

We shall as usual be continuing our regular programme of instruction, competition and leisure riding over the Christmas period but do include some fun events as well.

On 21st December, we have a singing/ reciting/ jumping competition; on the 23rd there is a Pairs Competition Day with rosettes for riders with the most points, as well as Xmas Fun Jumping. On December 27th, we are again holding a Family Riding day with the opportunity for Mums and Dads/ Brothers and Sisters/ Uncles and Aunts and Cousins to come and have a go- no experience is necessary. A 'Christmas Present Day' is scheduled for the penultimate day of the year when you are invited to choose your own programme which will include 2 hours riding plus dismounted activities.

INSTRUCTION AT NEWTON HALL

The details above mention some of the fun events taking place over the Christmas period but it is perhaps opportune to mention that the enhanced reputation of NH has been and still is based on the quality of the instruction available and the well prepared and schooled horses and ponies. BHS Stages 1-4 courses, PTT and Riding and Road Safety Tests are ongoing throughout the year and examinations held on site.

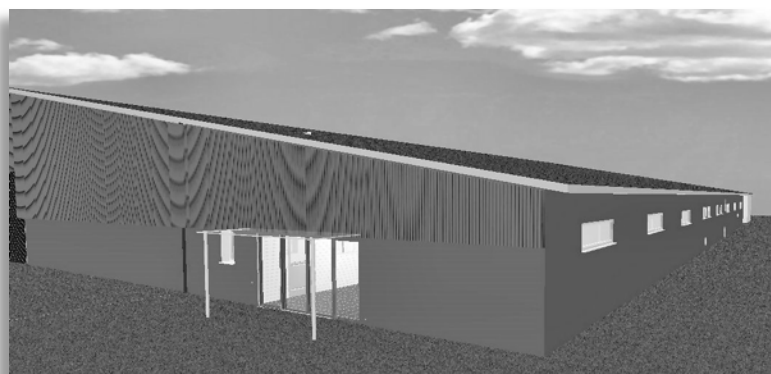
A Chief Assessor for BHS Exams not only judges each rider, but also assesses the riding centre on its suitability to hold exams at a stated level. The Chief is required to confirm that the centre has suitable facilities, horses, tack, jumps, and stable management. He/She also assesses the management on the day of the exam which includes preparation, staff, hospitality (to the external candidates and assessor) and Health and Safety issues.

At a recent assessment, the Chief's comment was that *'This experienced exam centre again provided facilities and horses for this level of exam.'*

EXTENSION TO NEWTON HALL ARENA

The upgrading of facilities at Newton Hall are due for completion in 2012 to ensure that NH remains one of the leading equitation centres in East Anglia for the foreseeable future.

See inside for more details of the new spectator gallery, cafeteria and lecture rooms as the building nears completion ready for fitting out.



QUALIFIERS/ COURSES/HIGHLIGHTS IN EARLY 2012.....

Winter Show Qualifying Classes for BSPS/PUK/ Equifest/ Royal London take place on 2nd January and M and M Qualifiers are held later in the month on 29th January.

The 4th of 4 UK Riders Dressage Qualifiers is on 9th February with Plaited Show Qualifiers for BSPS/PUK/ Equifest/ Royal London on the 12th of the month.

The current Trot Pole competition ends on 4th February with the Presentation of Championships whilst the popular Progressive and Novice Show Jumping kindly sponsored by Bosmere Gas Services is on the 2nd and 16th of February respectively and again on 1st March.

There are three BHS courses/clinics at Newton Hall commencing on 30th January from 2-5pm with a Child Protection Course with S Somers BHSI. Patrick Print FBHS will hold a BHS CPD Day on 15th March and Nick Turner FBHS will hold a BHS Any Horse Any Rider Clinic in March

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

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS IDEAS

We have several 'Own-a-Pony' days during the Christmas holidays. Post-Christmas, these days have been the ideal consolation for the youngster who had fondly imagined that Father Christmas would be bringing them a pony!

We sell gift vouchers from £23 which are available from the NH office.

A selection of NH horses/ ponies are available for short term loan over the Christmas holidays for £100 each per week to include a 1 hr lesson.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

WEAR HI-VIS JACKETS

During the winter months, the sun is low in the sky and glare on a dirty windscreen can reduce a driver's visibility.

Make sure that you always wear a hi-vis jacket particularly for road work so you are visible to other road users.

Don't let the absence of a hi-vis jacket cause an accident to yourself, to others or to your mount.

LADY JANE- By Melody Gordon

(Melody has kindly sent in an appreciation of Lady Jane who was at NH for some 10 years)

I first met Lady Jane in May 1997 and although I had ridden for several years, had never owned my own horse.

My husband was working at the time at RAF Northolt and they had a Saddle Club which I joined as a member and had a Polo Pony on loan for about 6 months.

I then learnt that there was a pony for sale at another yard and was advised that it would be perfect for me. This was Lady Jane and I saw her first on a Saturday, then took my instructor along for her opinion and on the following Monday I was able to buy her- a 14.2hh grey Connemara.

Her previous owner had bought her in Ireland and Lady Jane had done hunting and eventing and brought her over to this country. This owner sold her to buy a bigger horse but Lady Jane always remained her favourite horse- in fact I let her ride in one or two tests after she had sold her to me. I entered her in a dressage competition at the Saddle Club and scored a second and a third.

Although I live in London, I have a caravan in Felixstowe and have ridden at NH for several years as well as helping out at the Pony Rides in the Park. I brought Lady Jane to NH in 2001 for a holiday and enjoyed the competitions and hacking there. When Lady Jane returned to London away from the open spaces of Suffolk, it never seemed the same, so in 2002 I asked Rossie if I could bring her for a longer period from Easter to September. She soon settled down and was very popular with adults and children alike.

She was on working livery and over the years, several people had her on loan from me.



After a gap of 40 years, Lesley Dolphin of Radio Suffolk arranged for listener Wendy Allard to ride again- here is Wendy with Rossie and Lady Jane

But, she is now 25 years old and I retired her in October 2010- she has laminitis and kept getting lame. Lady Jane is in a private home in Bealings and is companion to a llama and some sheep. She is well looked after and when I go to see her, she will trot over to see me and

and get some carrots and then trot off quite happily when there are no more.

I still miss her being at NH and riding her but I do have some lovely memories.

'BEST OF IPSWICH' WEB SITE

This testimonial was posted on the web site by one of our visitors.

'I arranged a week-end away for my 13 year old daughter and myself to go riding together.

From the moment I contacted NH to when we left, I cannot compliment the staff more.

They did everything they could to ensure our stay was as enjoyable and informative as possible.

The owner of the business Rossie Theobald took my initial call and couldn't have been more helpful and accommodating. She even arranged bed and breakfast for us.

We were given a varied schedule throughout the day to include all aspects of riding, hacking and horse care.

I would recommend Newton Hall Equitation Centre to anyone who is looking to escape for a riding experience whether they want to ride for the first time, returning to riding or an experienced rider. Their wealth of knowledge and expertise is next to none and we had a thoroughly enjoyable time. We would both rate it 5 star'

A well deserved testimonial.

TOP TIPS

Just to put on record before I forget, I met Ben Jay earlier in the year just before the National. He was on a week's holiday from Newmarket- looked in good shape and enjoying his time at the trainer's yard riding out 3 times a day from 6am and meeting and seeing people like Frankie Dettori. I asked him for some 'inside' knowledge- his tip won the National and I had odds of 17-1.

I owe Ben a drink next time I see him- Ed.

EQUIQUIZ 2011- by Rachel Wilding

Once again Newton Hall Equitation Centre held their annual EquiQuiz. It was an fun evening of facts and figures including a picture quiz round - could you tell difference between John and Michael Whitaker when they are suited and booted? But amongst the laughter and entertainment it was a chance to raise funds for a charity which as horse riders is close to all our hearts, the Air Ambulance.

I am delighted to announce that this year we raised over £50 again for the Suffolk Air Ambulance- www.angliaone.org.uk

Congratulation to Lesley, Daniel and Karen who passed the winning post first.

There were definitely some lucky guessers and some hard core know-it-alls present - be sure not to miss the next evening in 2012 - maybe a round to celebrate the Olympics...

I would like to thank all those who turned out for the quiz and gave generously and to NHEC for letting us use their rooms.

(apologies from the editor for the late submission of this report)



The team to beat in 2012- the EquiQuiz winners 2011

ANNA CAREY- BY Rossie Theobald

Anna has been an assistant at Newton Hall for 10 years and this milestone was recently celebrated with an evening BBQ for over 25 trainees and staff.

The food was prepared and served by our farrier Stuart Rodd and livery owners the Dowding/Oakes family- our grateful thanks to them.

We have worked with Anna over the years -she was a pupil at Beacon Hill Special School and then spent a year at Otley College.

She had ridden since a child and her love of horses brought her to Newton Hall.

Whilst here, she has passed her BHS Stage 1 Riding and Care Certificates and her Riding and Road Safety. She is in fact a regular marshal for the road section of this test.

Anna competes with success in the NH Trot Pole competitions and unaffiliated shows.

She will not mind me saying that in the winter-time, Anna is 'notorious' for attracting the mud-sometimes even leaving a welly in the field or hosing down her waterproofs once she has brought the ponies into the yard.

It is clear to see that with Anna, horses and ponies always come first and we are pleased to have been involved with 10 years of her life and have watched her develop into the happy young lady that she is today.



NH ARENA UPGRADE OF FACILITIES

Peter Theobald has prepared some computer projections of the changes to the NH Arena which are approaching building completion prior to fitting out.

The facilities will incorporate a show office/ cafeteria/ seated gallery/ toilets and showers/ lecture rooms and storage for jumps.

Some of these projections are shown here



Entrance to cafeteria

BACK ISSUES OF NH NEWS

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

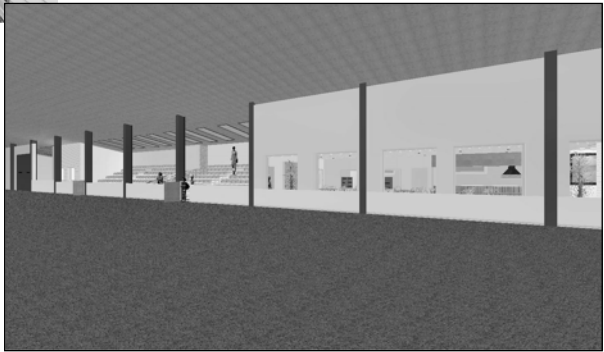
If you need to read a back issue, they can all be viewed on our web site at

www.nhec.co.uk

The Main Entrance



Lecture Room



View of Gallery and Cafeteria from the NH Arena