



The winter wet weather is by now becoming a bit tedious for most of us, so roll on spring! It is already growing lighter each afternoon by a few minutes. We can't wait for the disappearance of the dreadful slippery mud and the enjoyment of those summer evening hacks.

A few of our members have still not renewed their December subscription to HHRA. If your membership has lapsed, and you renew your

membership this February we will amend your subscription to run from February 2016 to February 2017. Effectively you will get 2 months free! We understand that December is often an expensive month and it is easy to forget things like paying subs. Please do help us by talking about HHRA to your horsey friends. Encourage lapsed members to renew, and new members to join us so that we can continue to carry out the important work we do to keep horses and riders safe in Headley.

COMMITTEE PROFILE – LIZ GILL

Horses have been a very large part of my life. I was born in London and had a 10 mile bike ride to the riding school where I spent many happy hours. When I left school I became a working pupil earning £2 per week and quickly passed my BHSAl. My wages increased to £6, which seemed like a fortune, especially as food, lodging and training was included! Next I became Head Girl at a small riding school, but I wanted to move into competition horses. My next stop was Nottingham, working with top eventing horses that hunted with Quorn and Belvoir in the winter.

After two seasons I decided to try show jumpers which was great fun travelling the circuit home and abroad. My lady then started to buy and sell a few youngsters and we were based at Stocklands, which is just next to Liphook hospital.

Being me, I now thought I would like to work with the vets at Liphook, this was 41 years ago. However I realized that this change in vocation wasn't for me as Liphook was the last chance for many horses. I'd been helping Jackie Matlock and Charlie Frances with their show jumpers and when over a cup of tea I said that I was thinking of a move, Jackie mentioned a client of hers who needed a temporary groom. That client was Count Colonna. My 'temporary position' lasted 39 years, in which time we competed eventing, showing and dressage. My main job was hunting with Quorn, Fernie and Cottesmore, living in Leicestershire in winter and coming back to Saddlecombe for the summer.

When I got married I stayed at Saddlecombe and we hunted with Surrey Union and Chiddingfold, Cowdry and Leconfield. When the Count was hunting he had 9 horses including a few babies, the old boys and the hunting competition horses. When I had a family the Count didn't hunt as much, so we had a few spare boxes. My first paying guest was his niece and gradually the number of guests increased to a full yard as it is now. The rest, as they say, is history.



Liz Gill

IN HONOUR OF COUNT COLONNA

24th February 1921 – 17th October 2015 – *Liz Gill*

“KC, as he was known to most of us, had a very full life. He settled in England after the war. The Russians had taken his family’s lands. He was in a Russian prisoner of war camp at the age of 18 and was released when Hitler attacked the Russians. He then joined the Polish forces and commanded a tank regiment till the end of the war.

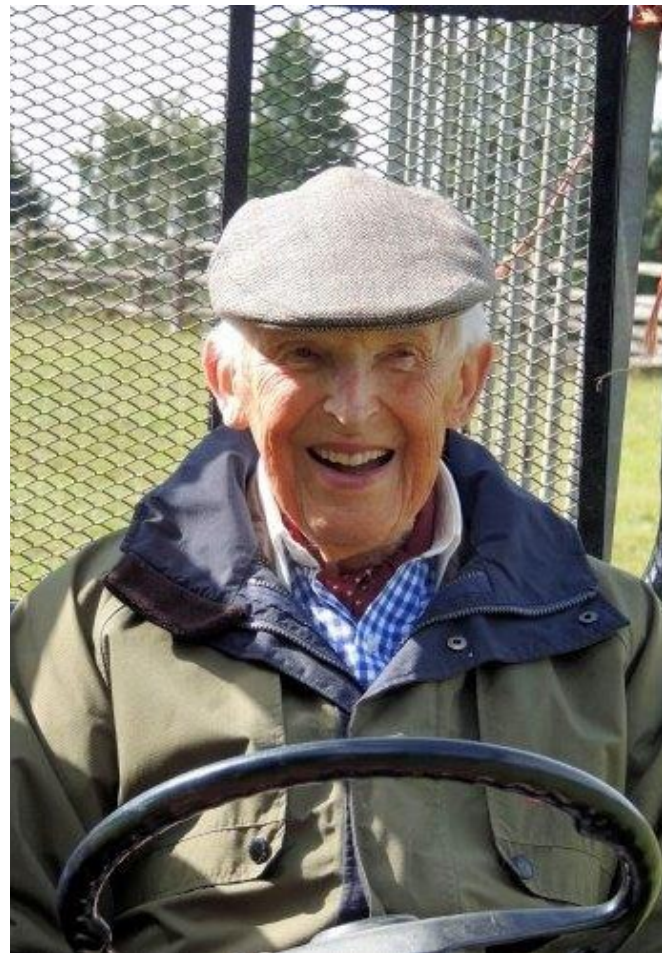
KC’s father had always dreamt of hunting in England, so after many years of building up his steel business he realised his dream. He hunted in Leicestershire with the Quorn, Fernie and Cottesmore, driving up in the morning in his red Ferrari, hunting all day and then getting home ready for a busy day in London.

KC bought Saddlecombe in the late 70s and moved in in 1980. It was a mess. Everything was falling down, the horses were downstairs and the staff lived in a

flat above them. He had great plans and set about designing and building a new stable and home. When Saddlecombe was finished the stable next door, Headley Park Farm, came up for sale. He bought and transformed it. After running it for a few years Maggie and Jim Parker bought it from him and improved it even more.

KC loved his horses and rode until he was 92 – hunting, eventing and dressage – and was always seen out hacking. When he met a rider he liked he would ask them to compete his horses. Tony Whipps rode several of them. We had many happy hours at competitions drinking hot chocolate and eating bacon rolls.

KC supported HHRA from the very start and allowed Saddlecombe facilities to be used by all local riders and clubs. We miss him.”



DRESSAGE



DRESSAGE RESULTS 29TH NOV 2015 & WINTER SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP:

Well done to everyone that braved the 'breeze' and to those that ran the gauntlet past the pesky ostriches on Hurst Lane. Another great day, we hope you enjoyed. The rosettes were beautiful, the schooling whips for prizes went down very well and the trophies were lovely.

Congratulations to all our winners:

Intro: Chavaunne Thorpe & Betsy

Prelim: Fi Prophet & Jimbo

Novice: Lea-Anne Baily & Merlyn (highest score of the day!)

PYO: Zoë Golding & Enzo

A very big thank you to:

Helen Turk: one amazing lady, does everything & more, thanks Helen.

Our judges: Allie Philpin & Jackie Selway

Stand-in super stewards: Becky & Glynis (they're after your job Karen)

Writers: Helen (see above) & the multi-tasking Julie

Scorers: Miranda & Fi, thanks to both & for helping me find my glasses.

Photographer: Janet Figg, you're fabulous, competes, leaves & gets back to take great photos. Photos are available to view and purchase on the HHRA Website.

The Winners of the Autumn Championship Series, awarded the lovely (to keep) trophies were:

Intro: Chavaunne Thorpe & Betsy

Prelim: Fiona Prophet & Patrick's Jimbo

Novice: Fiona Prophet & Patrick's Jimbo (double bubble, well done girl)

PYO: Sally Bluck & Brian

As I'm sure most people are aware, sadly Mr Colonna passed away (17th October 2015). Mr Colonna supported HHRA from its inception and we are truly grateful. For 2016, we will be combining our series for the winner of the 'Karol Colonna Memorial Trophy'. Thanks for supporting HHRA. Very best,

Tracey & Liz

Our spring dressage series will once again be held at Saddlecombe Stud. Dates will be: Sundays 20th March, 1st May and 29th May. Schedules will be available shortly.

HHRA continue to thanks Bowles and Co. Solicitors for their ongoing sponsorship support

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HEADLEY CLAY PIGEON SHOOT

The Headley Clay Pigeon Shoot is held alongside one of the Bridleways which joins Headley Village and Walton on the Hill. Access to the shoot is via the bridleway which is only one car width. Due to the lack of passing places on the bridleway and the noise from the shoot we would not recommend riding along this bridleway during the times when the shoot is in progress.

Listed here are the dates when the shoot is on and the times are always 10am – 3pm. Should you happen to ride along this path during the shoot, or before it has begun and encounter any difficulty passing cars who do not give way to you, please contact Mr

Philippou who runs the events on his mobile telephone 07831 879200 and he will endeavor to assist you.

2016 Shoot Dates

- 9th January, 23rd January
- 6th February, 20th February
- 5th March, 19th March
- 2nd April, 16th April, 30th April
- 14th May, 28th May
- 11th June, 25th June
- 9th July, 23rd July
- 6th August, 20th August
- 3rd September, 17th September
- 1st October, 15th October, 29th October
- 12th November, 26th November
- 10th December, 24th December

HORSIN' AROUND FOR A SMILE

Q: What kind of bread does a horse eat?

A: Thoroughbred!

NEWS

- We are thrilled to announce that Janet Figg has joined the HHRA Committee.
- HHRA are arranging the much needed resurfacing "June's path" - the HHRA little path that keeps us off the busy bit of road on the bend in between the Cock Inn and Slough Lane.
- The committee are busy planning events for this year. Any ideas for events or offers to run (or help run) an event for us welcomed.

EVENTS

- **Monday 7th March**
Evening Vet Talk on First Aid for Horses at Headley Village Hall (Priory Vets)
- **Weds 16th March**
Quiz Night Headley Village Hall starts 7.30pm Teams of up to 6 people, Includes Fish & Chip supper. Tickets £12 per person. Entries close 11th March or when full. Bring your own Alcohol but soft drinks available. First drink free for members. Entry forms available on our website.