



SOHAM AND DISTRICT

BRANCH OF THE PONY CLUB

District Commissioner

Mr Clem Tompsett
Willow Farm
Hasse Road
Soham
Ely CB7 5UN
01353 720219

Assistant District Commissioner

Mr Peter Jonason
Westfield Farm
Northfield Road
Soham
Ely CB7 5UF
01353 720348

Secretary

Mrs Lucy Tuck
27 The Causeway
Soham, Ely
CB7 5BB
01353 727829
07724 241598

Membership Secretary

Mrs Tina Hall
32 Blackthorn Court
Soham, Ely
CB7 5DT
01353 624145
07751 597623

16th January 2012

Dear Members, Parents and Instructors

Welcome to another newsletter from the Soham and District Pony Club.

There have been a few changes, so we would like to update you with those and also review the last year, as well as look forward to some new and exciting events coming up.

We have had some changes on the committee, as well as a new secretary.

We would like to welcome Lucy Tuck as the new incoming secretary, and thank Lesley Murdoch, our previous secretary for all her hard work and commitment. Lesley is not getting away lightly! She is going to continue to instruct for us, as well as retaining event secretary for some of our up and coming events.

So a welcome back to our existing members (and don't forget to get those membership forms in – there are still a few not yet received who we know intend to renew.)

And welcome to all our new members, who we hope will enjoy their time with us, and find everyone helpful and friendly. If you aren't sure about anything, please do ask any of us, or any other members – there is a wealth of knowledge and experience within our pony club and lots of people willing to help.

So, just to update everyone on who's, who, and to help guide you in who to direct specific queries to, please see below.

Committee Members are :

Clem Tompsett (District Commissioner)

Peter Jonason (Assistant DC)

Mary Tompsett

Bryan Housden (Treasurer)

Lucy Tuck (Secretary)

Tina Hall (Membership Secretary)

Sue Cameron

Sue McGuinness

Lorraine Webster Ward

Belinda Drummond

Within the committee, and beyond there are specific areas of responsibility, and they include

Training and clinics – Sue Cameron and Kathy Stringer
Rally set up – Sue Cameron and Kathy Stringer
Rallies and instructors – Lucy Tuck
Membership queries and kit - Tina Hall
Team Manager Seniors – Jo Quinlan
Team Manager Juniors – Rachel McIlwraith
Pony Club Tests – Belinda Drummond
Events secretaries – every event will have a secretary designated, and this can be found on the schedule
Website / PR / Newsletters – Sue Cameron and Kristin Beynon
Tetrathlon – Sue Cameron
Achievement Badges – Jayne Martin

If you are in any doubt as to who to contact, then please contact Lucy Tuck in the first instance and she can point you in the right direction.

All contact details for those individuals can be found on the website.

Website

We are fortunate enough to have someone who manages our website for us, so if there is anything you think you'd like to see that isn't there, please contact Sue Cameron, who will liaise with Kristin, who does all the hard work!! It is currently being updated with all the new dates etc.

Review of the last year

What a great year we had! Lots to celebrate and some really good foundations to build on this year.

All of our events we held were a great success and pretty much all of them made a profit. This is good news for our members, as we are one of the very few pony clubs, where members do not have to pay for rallies. The money to cover the cost of these comes from the events we run, so we depend on them being successful. Because they were, this also allowed us to purchase new jumps, both for the cross country course (which is the envy of many pony clubs) and for showjumping. They were a success, largely from the organization and the volunteers who did everything from making tea, to jump judging, through to scoring...without you all helping, these events could not be run, so please do keep that support coming this year, as it is vital.

A big well done to all our teams who represented Soham this past year. We have been very fortunate to be able to send some of the very smallest of members to junior novice events, right through to the team who competed at Burghley in September. There are too many to mention by name, but we sent teams to Overa Farm, Peterborough (East of England Showground), Beccles, Milton, and we fared pretty well, with some good placings in many of the classes.

A big well done to the novice, intermediate and open teams who represented us at area level, in all 3 disciplines. We are investing well this year, with the areas in mind, to really be a force to be reckoned with in area competitions!

Also congratulations to all members who passed their C test and Road Rider Certificate.

Rallies

Thank you to everyone for completing the ability form with your membership forms.

This is the first year we have done this and hope it will make a real difference to the first few weeks at rallies, where sorting out the rides is often very difficult, as you will all appreciate. We are trying to take into account what members have been doing over the winter, changes of mount, as well as keeping everyone happy!

With reference to rallies, please make sure when rally forms are sent out they are returned promptly and you must let us know even if you are unable to make it. This can save us a lot of money in extra instructors. You can send them back by post, email or you can telephone Lucy.

It is very important to us that all members attending a rally have a parent with them or someone who is responsible for them.

Everyone is expected to help set up at least twice, and there is no rota for putting away, in the expectation that EVERYONE helps clear away. We do appreciate those parents with tiny tots at an evening rally need to get the little

ones to bed, so helping more at the end of a day rally is much appreciated.

Set up is designated by a rota, and it is your responsibility to swap if you cannot come. You need inform the person who sent out the rota, who is coming in your place, not just that you are unable to come. This is monitored, and sadly one individual who didn't help at all, was not invited back to our pony club this year.

Teams

We have been fortunate this year to provide opportunities for many of our members to compete in team competitions. Sometimes, however we aren't always able to offer places to all that express an interest, but please do let us know if you are keen, so we can give consideration to all those interested. Teams are selected according to latest competition results, and teams are put together of those who are considered most likely to go clear at a particular height, where they are confident and competent at that level. It is not appropriate to put children under pressure to do a team competition at a level where they may not be confident. We are also very clear to point out the pony club guidance on parental support in these situations.

Please see link below :

<http://www.sdpconline.co.uk/parentsinfo.html>

Important diary dates – events at Isleham

Sunday 25 th March	Open Hunter Trial
Sunday 13 th May	One Day Event
Saturday 9 th and 10th June	Inter-Club Team Show Jumping Competition
Sunday 1 st July	Mini One Day Event and Hunter Trial
Sunday 9 th September	Closed Show
Sunday 23 rd September	Wilkinson Sword Hunter Trial – No dogs please

Schedules can be downloaded from www.sdpconline.co.uk or www.horsedates.co.uk .

It is expected that all members' families help at a minimum of two of these events. Please let Tina Hall know which event you are able to help at.

We are also hosting the area tetrathlon cross country phase on the 29th July (Sunday after camp) so any additional help with jump judging would be very much appreciated - please contact Sue Cameron for this event.

Area Dates

For those that need advance notice, we have attached the area dates for your information.

Dengie Dressage Area Final	Cambridgeshire	3 March	Milton College
Dengie SJ Area Final	Thetford Chase	25 March	Overa Farm
DENGIE SJ CHAMPS	WARKS	31 MARCH	
DENGIE DRESSAGE CHAMPS	WARKS	1 APRIL	

Calvert Cup	Puckeridge Western	1 April	Graveley
INVITATION SHOW JUMPING	ROYAL WINDSOR	15 MAY	
MG ZONE FINALS	Onley, nr Rugby	31 JUNE/1 JULY	
Dressage	South Norfolk	8 July	Blackwater Farm
Show Jumping	Easton Harriers	15 July	Poplar Park
Eventing	Littleport & Thetford	21/22 July	Little Downham
Tetrathlon	Combined Branches	28/29 July	Isleham & Culford
Gosling Cup	Suffolk Hunt	12 Aug	Ickworth
NATIONAL CHAMPS	CESHIRE	16/19 AUG	
TETRATHLON CHAMPS	<i>HARTPURY</i>	<i>w/c 20 Aug</i>	
Novice ODE – Bloom Cup	Waveney Harriers	21 Aug	Geldeston
NOVICE CHAMPS	CESHIRE	25/26 AUG	

Changed date in BOLD

Items in italics are yet to be confirmed

Rally Dates

You should have these already, but they are as below...

Good Friday 6 th April	10.00 am – 1.00 pm
Friday 13 th April	10.00 am – 1.00 pm
Friday 18 th May	6.30 – 8.30 pm
Friday 25 th May	6.30 – 8.30 pm
Thursday 7 th June	10.00am – 4.00pm
Friday 15 th June	6.30 – 9.00 pm
Friday 22 nd June	6.30 – 9.00 pm
Friday 6 th July	6.30 – 9.00 pm
Friday 13 th July	6.30 – 9.00 pm
SUMMER CAMP 2011 23 rd July – 27 th July	10 – 4 pm
Thursday 23 rd August	10.00 am– 3.00 pm

We hope you find all this information useful

Best wishes

Sue Cameron

(On behalf of the SDPC Committee)