



SOHAM AND DISTRICT

BRANCH OF THE PONY CLUB

District Commissioner	Assistant District Commissioner	Secretary	Membership Secretary
Mr Clem Tompsett Willow Farm Hasse Road Soham Ely CB7 5UN 01353 720219	Mr Peter Jonason Westfield Farm Northfield Road Soham Ely CB7 5UF 01353 720348	Mrs Lucy Tuck 5 Croft Road Isleham, Ely CB7 5QR 01638 781024 07724 241598	Mrs Tina Hall 4 Frowd Close Fordham, Ely CB7 5NE 01638 720989 07751 597623

Jan 2014

Dear Members, Parents and Instructors

Welcome to the latest newsletter from the Soham and District Pony Club. We hope this will be useful, with relevant information and a roundup of a very busy year with our pony club.

Many of you know this already, but just a reminder of who is who and don't forget all this information is contained on our website www.sohamponyclub.co.uk

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
Kathy Stringer

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
Pony Club Tests - Laura Whitehouse
Events secretaries - every event will have a secretary designated, and this can be found on the schedule
Website / PR / Newsletters - Sue Cameron
Tetrathlon - Sue Cameron
Teams (Non Areas) - Sue Cameron
Area Teams - Peter Jonason and Lucy Tuck
Achievement Badges - Sam Huggan

If you are in any doubt as to who to contact, then please contact Lucy Tuck in the first instance. 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 .

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 the 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 Houghton Equestrian Centre, Peterborough (East of England Showground), Houghton International 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 !

Help to set up rallies and at events

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 swapping got very complicated this year, so if you cannot make the date given on the rota, can you let Sue Cameron know as soon as the rota comes out and then let her know what date you can do (all dates will be on the rota). A couple of people did not help at set up at all this year and therefore will not be sent renewal forms for their membership. If you do not communicate and don't turn up, unfortunately you will not be able to book in for future rallies.

It is also expected that members will help at events, again a minimum of twice during our calendar (the BE event doesn't count as this is not a pony club event). For those who have not had a go at jump judging, it's great fun and you get to see all the action and instruction on what to do is readily available .. so have a go....

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 able to offer places to all that express an interest, but please do let us know if you are keen, so we can consider you. Teams are selected according to latest competition results and 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 would also like to point out the pony club guidance on parental support in these situations.

Please see link below :

http://www.pcuk.org/index.php/parents_information/parents_pressure/

Important diary dates – events at Isleham

These are all up on the website and have been sent out.

http://www.sohamponyclub.co.uk/events_calendar.html

Schedules can be downloaded from www.sohamponyclub.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.

Rally dates are all up on the website too

<http://www.sohamponyclub.co.uk/rallies.html>

Area Dates

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

Area Dressage	6 th July	Cambridgeshire
Area Eventing	20 th July	Isleham
Area Showjumping	3 rd Aug	Ickworth
Calvert Cup	6th April	Gravelly
Bloom Cup	TBC	

So a very warm welcome to all our new members and welcome back to our existing ones.

We look forward to a fun and exciting year

Best wishes
Sue Cameron
(On behalf of the SDPC Committee)