



MILLFIELD



EQUESTRIAN NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2010

JUMPING WITH STYLE at MILLFIELD



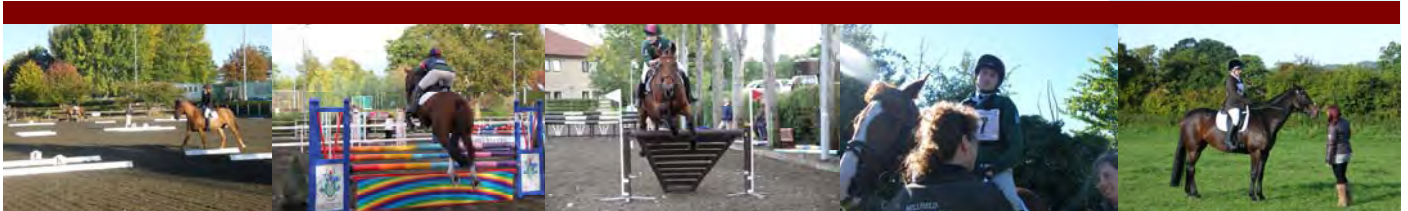
Teddy Stevens and Kanny

On a wet and windy Sunday in October Millfield held their annual 'Jumping with Style' competition. The competition consisted of a round of show jumps moving straight onto cross country fences, in the arena. The aim was to jump a double clear. The cross country had an optimum speed which was quite quick! However, alongside jumping clear, riders were marked on their style over both phases. A clear difference had to be shown between the show jumping and the cross country in the speed. As well as the

JwS competition there was also an indoor show jumping competition, however this was not a qualifier.

The day started off with the 90cm class, the Millfield teams were first up starting with Emma Cory-Wright, Fleur Marston, Jazmin Lewis and Ellie Robbins. Emma rode an excellent round, on her horse Will, with just 9 style penalties and picked up 8 time penalties.

[continued on p11]



DIRECTOR OF RIDING

In this manic age of i-pod, x-box, red button and fast food I think we horse folk are rather privileged to be involved in an activity that simply can't be fast-tracked.

The training of horses has evolved over thousands of years and the only significant changes are a gradual move away from the use of force (and even cruelty) and the surprisingly recent introduction (early 19th Century) of training for jumping.

What an ordeal it is for a young person growing up in the 21st Century to have to accept and adhere to a system of training that more or less precludes short cuts. As a coach teaching school age riders it is our greatest challenge to teach patience and empathy to a group of dynamic people most of whose influences in life are all about achieving results in the shortest possible time. Recently, I have noticed more and more riders resorting to 'quick fix methods'. I also witness and hear of trainers prescribing gadgets and stronger bits to force a solution to a horse's problems. What are we talking about here? Well, generally, it's the old favourites of draw reins and strong bits to force the horse's head and neck into an 'outline'. I am realistic, of course, and fully accept that in the right (experienced) hands these things can be of value to show a horse a certain direction. I would not be averse to employing such methods myself with a horse who has a history of poor training where the wrong habits have been established. These are the exceptions, though, and I must say, with increasing age and experience, I find it less and less necessary.

This short article is really a plea to riders, parents and other trainers to have faith in a system of training that involves a clear understanding of the horse's training requirements, how his mind and instincts work and endless patience.

Let us try to educate ourselves as riders and not to resort to the short cut. The draw rein is the equine equivalent of performance enhancing drugs. Why do you think it is not permitted in dressage rules? Why is only a snaffle permit-

these things to achieve a basic control in a less trained horse must be making a travesty of the fundamental aims of correct training which is to lighten the forehand by engaging the hind legs.

So, if you buy into training at Millfield, you buy into a clear system of training, which, if you stick with it, will bring out the best and most consistent performance that each horse is physically capable of. Bear with me, leave out the gadgets, go with the system and revel in the satisfaction of a calm, happy and successful horse.



With ever increasing numbers of new riders September at Millfield Equestrian seems busier each year. This year we had an unprecedented number of Lower Sixth new entries and I may say of a very high standard - both horses and riders.

Sarah Weaving was thrown in to her first term as Captain of Riding by being called upon to address the Whole School Assembly. Well done, Sarah - great kudos for Riding! The Riders' Forum was opened to all riders to attend, which has encouraged more folk to take an interest in the running of the Stables. Please feel free to come along to these meetings, just to listen in or to contribute, if you wish. Our BHS 'Where to Train' Inspection by Patrick Print FBHS, retiring Chairman of the BHS, was a resounding success. We are qualified to train up to BHSI level and the report is a glowing testament to our prowess as a training centre. We've been attending more competitions with pupils than ever: Three BSJA competitions in as many days (more than once this term) is not only a logistical triumph for Val and Jo in the office, but evidence of the numbers and enthusiasm of Millfield riders competing at affiliated level.

Next term we are looking forward to a visit from Jon Pitts, British Eventing team performance manager. On 4 February he'll be giving a presentation to all riders in the afternoon and he'll be



ted in dressage until Elementary level? Does a horse suddenly become stronger when he is trained to a higher level? No, his responses are more refined. So, using



Blaise Hawkins

the guest speaker at the Captain's Table in the evening. Keep that date free in your diaries - you will not be disappointed!

Also, we are really fortunate to have managed to secure a demonstration by Mary Bromily, the

ultimate authority on equine physio. That's on 12th January - absolutely not to be missed.

While you are looking at your diary, please note that the 4th August is Hickstead inter-schools show jumping. All competitive show jumpers and eventers must apply. I can see at least three potential winning teams amongst our riders this time, but, as it is in the summer holiday, you have to arrange it now. I have also just fixed the provi-

sional date for the American Exchange, which will begin right at the end of the summer term on 3rd July. The Americans are hosting our riders north of Boston, Massachusetts, so it is well worth the trip.



Kristina Karallieva & Danny

Have a wonderful Christmas, look after your horses and come back on 9th January refreshed and ready for the coming competition season.

Danny Anholt
Director of Riding

YARD MANAGER

Welcome to another new year at Millfield Equestrian Centre. A warm welcome to all new riders and livery owners. It has been a busy summer at Millfield, We had the international para-dressage competition here, in a new format. This proved to be hard work but was an exciting and enjoyable weekend. Our school horses did well again. Harry came first in both of his classes, Buster and Ben both got second place rosettes in their classes. Buster and Ben also went showjumping at Somerton Show in July, Buster was in second place after the jump off. Polo also went to Somerton show and got a rosette. All of this just goes to show that there is plenty of life in older horses. For those of you who do not know these horses Buster is 22, Polo is 19 and Ben is 17. In August some of us went to a show in Chard and had a good day, I took Polo where he won second place in the veteran class and first place in the ex racehorse class which earned him a place in the championship class at the end of the day. Lots of the stable staff have been out competing over the summer and have done well.

We said goodbye to Lucky this summer, she is now living in Exmouth with a police woman. She has settled in very well indeed at lovely yard and we wish her a long happy life there.

As you have probably noticed we are having a bit of work

done, We have four new stables being built with minimal disruption, and we are having new fencing around our fields. As a result of this some of our fields are out of action temporarily. We will do our best to get horses out as and when we can, so please bear with us and hopefully all the work will be finished soon.

Have a great break and I look forward to seeing you next term..

Sarah Richardson



Ellie Robins & Moss



Teddy Stevens



Blaise Hawkins

US EXCHANGE



nary Surgery. It was amazing to see the different work they do and the lovely facilities. It is great to have such a well-equipped centre so close to school, and to some of us, home.

However, there is no work without play, so of course we went shopping. We travelled to Bath, (our car journeys with Chris Watson were unforgettable!) and then had a boat trip down the river. We then had some serious retail therapy in Jack Wills and after we had 'shopped til we'd dropped' we all had a meal together in Pizza Hut.

We were staying in Warner house throughout the week and a lot of banter went on. There was a mad, chaotic rush to grab rooms and Ellie Griffiths, Honey Scott, Amelia James and I ended up in the infamous Warner attic. We wanted to make our American guests feel welcome so we tried to mingle with them at every opportunity. We watched several films, such as The Hangover and Friday the 13th (after being told it was the scariest film ever! Although Jaz Lewis and I found Chris Watson randomly jumping up at the window way more scary)

The week came to an end far too quickly and in no time at all we were waving goodbye to our American friends. The exchange filled us with memories which I imagine we will never forget. As well as making new American friends it also gave us a opportunity to get closer to some of the people we already know. I would encourage everyone to go on the exchange in 2011 it is an experience of a lifetime, especially with the Millfield Riding Club!

Chloe Locke

I think I speak on behalf of all the participating riders when I say the American Exchange was eagerly anticipated. We arrived at Millfield and were greeted by some of our American friends who had travelled to the UK earlier. It was great to see everyone again and conversation soon turned to what everybody had been getting up to during the time we had all been apart. Since I knew most of our American guests it was great to witness new friendships blossoming between the newcomers, both English and American.

Soon we got down to the point of the whole trip, the riding. Most of the horses used on the exchange are loaned from horse owners outside of school, so even I was set a new challenge. However, the English riders competing at Hickstead rode their own. After numerous assessment lessons and lots of chopping and changing of horses we soon all found a ride that we felt comfortable on. I would be riding Kelly for the rest of the week; she is a 7 year old, chestnut mare, who although green is incredibly loving and gentle.

The main focus of the lessons was obviously jumping, and its true to say I think the experience taught all the riders a lot. It was also nice for the American riders to see how the English ride and vice versa. The riders who didn't compete at Hickstead also had the opportunity to go cross country. I was told that it was the first time Kelly had gone cross country; she was brilliant! We left the cross country field with no broken bones and everyone was on their horses, which is always a good sign of a successful trip.

We went on some educational trips during the exchange. One really interesting one was the trip to Langford Veteri-



DRESSAGE: UK AND GERMANY COMPARED



to pass this “exam” if you want to compete in Germany. In England you do not need to do this to start competing. In England you can choose if you want to ride your horse on a kantar¹ or on a normal single bit. In higher classes in Germany you have to ride your horse with a kantar and you cannot choose between the different bits. Another difference is the scoring. If you are riding in a high class in Germany you get percentages like in England but for the first classes you just get a grade from 0, (which is really bad) up to 10 (which is incredibly good). In this aspect I prefer the English judging, because if you have a bad part in your test you always have the chance to get higher marks in the other bits, which is difficult Germany. These are all the differences I have discovered so far, but there are probably others.

Pia Niermann

I am from Germany and I came to Millfield in September this year. I competed a lot in Germany so I brought my dressage horse with me with the idea of competing in England as well. I did not think about any problems with feeding, turning out and language barriers for my horse and me. I did not think carefully enough about those things and had not realised that they could cause some problems. I took my horse home early this term as he was not feeling well. We decided to bring him home again to get him into his old routine. However, in these two months I have discovered some differences between dressage in England and in Germany. There are not so many differences in the daily flat work, this is very similar to Germany, but there are a lot of differences if you want to compete. In Germany you need a certificate if you want to compete. To get this certificate you must complete some show jumping exercises and a theoretical test. You have

¹ a double bridle



Millfield Equestrian Centre Staff Autumn Term 2010

Director Of Riding

Danny Anholt BHSI, HT

Assistant Director of Riding

Kirsty Fontaine-Henley BHSII

Yard Manager

Sarah Richardson

Senior Groom

Susan Jones

Admin Manager

Val Young

Admin Secretary

Jo Haley

Instructors

Steve Barker BHSAI
Clare Haste BHSAI
Jo Roper BHSAI
Holly Wells BHSAI
Ash Collins BHSPT

Kim Mussell BHSAI

Claire Wilkins BHSII (part time)

Hayley Gilmour BHSI (part time)

Grooms

Charlotte Allen
Kimberly Ambrose
Kirsty Barker
Sam Glover
Gemma Moss
Sophie Stones
Kim Wright

Millfield Prep Stables Chief Instructor

Chris Watson BHSII SC, SE

MPS Instructor

Jo Stirling BHSAI

MPS Groom

Danielle Thompson-Webb

Polo Coach

Roger Horne

Polo Groom

Ella Hooper

BHSPIC

After a long debate (and lots of encouragement from Danny) I decided to take BHSPIC as one of my A Levels for this year. I have had to start on Stage 1 as I have not done my B test (if you are in pony club, I would certainly urge you to complete your B test if you are thinking about BHSPIC as an A level!) However, I have found it really good to go back to basics. I have developed my knowledge of basic care of horses and yard safety. Kirsty Fontaine-Henley has been a great teacher and given Steph Tibbles, Alix Barbier and me loads of support with the first stage of the course. We could not have done it without the other staff, Sarah, Holly and Jo R.

Whilst writing this article I am anxiously waiting for my Stage 1 exam date to come around the corner. Equipped with my trusty Stage 1 book and lots of helpful notes I'm constantly revising and riding as much as I can. I have even had last minute lunge sessions to really improve my position. A great thing about doing the BHS course is that I have had the opportunity to ride a variety of different

horses. This is definitely an important skill that I believe is essential for riders to learn. After being constantly told I have a 'show jumper' leg and that my hands are sometimes too busy, I think I am making progress. Show jumping is a big part of my life (and my family's); however, I know that it's not the only discipline in the horse world. Therefore, I want to gain the knowledge that will help me in every sphere, not just a specific one. Also, as a sixth former I think it is important to set a good example for the younger years and encourage them to expand all areas of their riding and not solely concentrate on just their 'expert' area. Whilst at Millfield I am hoping to complete all the BHS Stage 1/2/3 and my PTT. So watch this space!

Chloe Locke

***** STOP PRESS—Results just in: Congratulations to Chloe, Steph and Alix on passing their Stage 1! *****

OLYMPIA



Last year, I had the amazing opportunity to groom for top show jumper Tim Stockdale at one of the most exciting UK International shows. The drive from his yard to London took longer than we expected because of the weather, but we managed to arrive in time for the vet check. It took a few hours getting everything neatly organized at our stables. Especially time consuming was putting

up all the banners in case any cameras went by, so that Tim's main sponsor got the media coverage they wanted. At least we had a spare stable to use as a tack room, so everything looked neat when you went past our stables. Everything was ready for the show for the next day; the tack was clean, the horses warm enough, numbers on numnahs and of course Tim's boots were polished.

Never having been part of such a big event before, it's needless to say I was excited the following morning when I had to be down at the stables at 7:30 in the morning. Even if there wasn't much going on yet, apart from Tim exercising the two horses he was to compete over the week. Tim's other groom was significantly less excited having had to sleep in the lorry the night before, and in the rush to get all the horses' things on the lorry, he'd forgotten to pack the portable heater. As you probably know, sleeping in a lorry without heating in December in England isn't much fun.

As a groom, Olympia is much busier than you would think

from just watching it. There is always tack to clean, stables to muck out, horses to groom and so on during the day, as well as keeping track of when exactly each horse has to be at the warm up for Tim and knowing if there have been any changes in the running order. It was definitely a long, tiring week with lots to do, but there was also plenty of time in between afternoon and evening performances to go to the shops, or watch classes we didn't have a horse in. To top it off, I got to meet the legendary Moorland Totilas and Oki Doki (RIP), who was stabled opposite us.

Tim had his ups and downs during the week, getting placed in some classes and not doing so well in others, but it was a good week overall. Despite the amount of work you need to put in, and the long hours (at the stables by 7:30 most days, back to the hotel at around 23:00), working at a show like this is an amazing experience, and if any of you ever get the chance to do something like this, whether you're volunteering at the show or working for a rider, it is not an opportunity to miss!

Kristina Karailieva



SPRING TERM DATES

This list is a guide only and competitions are subject to change. If you have any dates you would like added, please let Val know. Look for signups on the board between the barns, if you would like to take part. We will also be going to some evening unaffiliated dressage and jumping throughout the term. There are no Millfield staff available to take pupils to the events shown in square brackets.

January		Fri 11th	Half - term
Sun 9th	Boarders return	Sun 20th	Boarders return
Wed 12 th	Unaffiliated Evening Dressage - Conquest	Wed 23 rd	Pammy Hutton Dressage Clinic
	1:30 Mary Bromiley FCSP Reg HPC talk (Physio NZ Eq. Team)	Sat 26 th	BSJA Hand
Sat 15 th & Sun 16 th		Sun 27th	BYRDS Training at Millfield
	NSEA CHAMPIONSHIPS AT ADDINGTON	March	NSEA Qualifier for JwS at Prep
	JwS and SJ	Wed 2 nd	Claire Moir Dressage Clinic
Sun 16 th	[BSJA Badgworth J & AM]		BSJA Hand
Wed 19 th	Pammy Hutton Dressage Clinic	Sat 5 th	BE Moreton (1)
	BSJA Hand		BSJA Hand
Sat 22 nd	BYRDS Training at Millfield		Dorothy Marks 'Improve your horse's posture & balance' - Millfield
	BD - Badgworth Arena	Sun 6 th	BE Moreton (1)
	BSJA Jnr - Hand		BSJA Hand
Sun 23 rd	BD - Equisense	Wed 9 th	Stephen Hadley SJ Clinic
	BSJA Jnr - Hand		Peter Cook Dressage clinic
Mon 24 th	BHS Stage 3 Preparation Day		Unaffiliated Evening Dressage -
Wed 26 th	Clare Sansom FBHS SJ Clinic		Conquest Equestrian (ec 2/2)
Fri 28 th	Evening Champions Tour - Hand Eq.	Sat 12 th	BYRDS Training at Millfield
Sun 30 th	BSJA Badgworth J & Snr		BSJA Badgworth
	[BSJA Hand]		BD at Stretcholt
	BE JAS - Hartpury	Sun 13 th	BSJA Badgworth
February		Fri 18 th	BE Aldon (1)
Wed 2 nd	Stephen Hadley SJ Clinic	Sat 19 th	BE Aldon (1)
	Claire Moir Dressage clinic		BSJA Hand
	BSJA Hand	Sun 20 th	BE Aldon (1)
Friday 4 th	Jon Pitts talk, pm (Coach working with Equestrian GBR Team)		BSJA Hand
Sat 5 th	BSJA Hand	Wed 23 rd	Peter Cook Dressage Clinic
Sun 6th	NSEA Qualifier for Show Jumping at Millfield		BSJA Hand
	[BSJA Hand]	Sun 27 th	Junior BSJA - Stretcholt
Wed 9 th	Eric Smiley Eventing clinic	Wed 30 th	BSJA Hand
	Peter Cook Dressage clinic	April 1st	Break up for Easter
	BSJA Hand		

COMPETITIONS

MATTINGLY BE 80



On Thursday 27th June 2010 an inexperienced, long maned 15.2 bay mare called Zilona arrived on the yard. She was meant to be project to keep me entertained over the summer. Little did I know that a just over a month later she would win her first event. Little Mattingly took place on the 30th July 2010. We competed in a 80cm training class. A new class this year for British Eventing, aimed at inexperienced partnerships, horses or riders. They are designed to encourage both horse and rider and

introduce them into the world of eventing. The dressage tests are the same as BE 90 tests but the show jumping and cross country are a maximum height of 80cm and are less technical than BE 90. Classes are entered by a range of competitors varying from riding club amateurs to Olympic team professionals, on a range of horses from cobs to Irish sports horses. Two coaches did course walks with competitors throughout the day and offered advice to anyone who asked. They were also available to warm up anyone at the show jumping and cross country arenas and offer advice if needed.

Zilona started the day brilliantly getting the best dressage of the day with a score of 18. We finished the show jumping with 8 faults. Her cross country round was confident and calm and she was clear and inside the time. I was absolutely thrilled with her performance and would recommend anyone interested in starting eventing to use the BE 80 scheme as it was very encouraging for a young horse. It also helps having support from the instructors ring side when you may be unsure about something in the competition. And it can be used more as a training day reducing the pressure competitors may feel when participating.

Henrietta Hine

BLUNDELL'S

Blundell's was the first event of the new school year and my first ever time competing for Millfield. It was very exciting and, in my opinion, it went very well overall! There was a variety of results. The team consisted of Jess Boyce, Sylvia Chiu, Josh West and me. Katie House and Grace Bishop competed as individuals. The day started with some very pleasing dressage scores. Sylvia Chiu scored an amazing 27.60, which was one of the best

scores in her section after the dressage. She carried this forward to come 5th overall in her section. Josh West scored a very impressive 29.20 which was one of the best dressage scores in his section. I was really pleased with my results especially as it was my first time representing the school. We went double clear with a 33.20 dressage score and won our section overall. Well done, to everyone competing. It was an excellent event and everyone enjoyed it!

Lucy Quesnel



Hickstead

HICKSTEAD



Sarah Weaving

Wednesday 4th August saw Millfield arrive and set up camp at Hickstead. As usual Jo put on a brilliant barbeque and with entertainment from Chloe, Chris and Kirsty the evening was very pleasant, including a course walk and a team talk with Danny.



Sarah, Teddy and Heni

Despite having four teams and an American exchange team, unlike other years, none of Millfield's teams started terribly early the next morning, allowing the competitors time to sit and watch the class get under way.

Various strong performances were posted by many members of the Millfield teams throughout the day, and at the end of the first round there was much anxiety amongst the camp to see whether one of our teams had got through to the main arena. In the end, one member of the team made up of Heni Hine, Teddy Stevens and Sarah Weaving was required to jump off.

With 11 riders jumping off for four spaces we knew that posting a clear in a fast time would be essential, Sarah Weaving riding Raucous Applause stepped up to the challenge and finished second in the jump off confidently putting Millfield in the Final.

The course in the main arena was larger, the fences were more solid, spooky and wider than they had been before

and for the younger horses in the team it was important for the riders to ride at their very best.

Heni jumped first for the team posting just 4 faults and then Teddy (the youngest member) 8 faults and finally Sarah posted a solid clear. The team finished 3rd, but before a prize-giving could be done, Sarah completed the jump off for individual honours cheered on by the mass of Millfield supporters. Once again she posted a quick clear, but not quick enough to catch the Bunn sisters and so happily settled for 3rd individually.

The Prep school also achieved pleasing results with 2nd team and 2nd and 3rd individually in the Junior competition.

We would like to thank the parents, pupils, staff and horses for all their efforts and we hope you had a very enjoyable day. Congratulations to those competitors who were placed and hopefully next year we will be winning trophies as well as rugs and rosettes.

Sarah Weaving



Kristina Karailteva

DAUNTSEY BE



Walking the course on the morning of the competition it became clear that it was not the nicest of days, and that we would have to take the cross country steadily in order to complete it safely. Despite the weather not being great - torrential rain all day, Dauntsey Park was a successful day for all.

The areas around the horse box used to tie the horses up quickly became extremely muddy which made it very hard to tack and stud up, let alone keep anything clean! However, we struggled through and were rewarded with Charlotte Bonnar managing a brilliant 7th and Henni Hine an amazing 3rd in the BE100 Open Section! In the Novice section, Lucy Quesnell and I also had a reasonably successful event with us both achieving just 4 faults in the show jumping and a clear cross country.

After an extremely long, wet and tiring day we all got in the horse box, everything soaked through but all still happy about our efforts. Our moods were instantly lifted further however when we realised that Chris had stopped

outside McDonalds! We all excitedly rushed out to feast on the most well deserved hot meal ever.

Charlotte Primavesii



STONAR ISODE



Charlotte Bonnar

On the 25th and 26th September Millfield teams went to compete at Stonar's national schools' one day event. On the first day we had one team competing in the BE80 class and two teams competing in the BE90 class. The BE80 team consisting of Grace Bishop, Amelia Bovey, Ellie Robbins and Katie House did very well achieving 3rd place overall. Individually Amelia Bovey achieved a fantastic result winning her section with an incredible 22.5 dressage. Ellie Robbins also did very well achieving 5th place individually with a double clear. Both teams in the BE90 tried their hardest but narrowly missed out on the team placings. Catherina Timm and her lovely horse Ellison achieved a superb first place with a very good score, 32 dressage and a double clear.

On the second day Millfield had one team competing in the BE100 consisting of Henrietta Hine, Blaise Hawkins, Sarah Weaving and Jessica Boyce. We also took Charlotte Bonnar, Lucy Montgomery and Lucy Quesnal who were competing as individuals in the novice class. The BE100 team had a great day, finishing 2nd overall and missing 1st place by just one point. Individually Henrietta Hine did very well coming 4th in her section on a 36.5 dressage and double clear and Blaise Hawkins also came 4th in her section on a 35 dressage and double

clear. Both girls were very pleased as this was their first competition on their new horses. Sarah Weaving also came 4th in her section on a 39.5 dressage and a double clear. The team were very pleased with their results. Unfortunately, Jess Boyce just missed out on the placings coming 11th as she knocked a pole show jumping which was a shame as otherwise she rode a great round. The cross country course proved to everyone that the Millfield riders know how it should be done, as all of them flew round clear within the time in this class.

In the novice class Charlotte Bonnar was competing for the first time at this level, and was very happy with her result. She achieved a 39.5 dressage and double clear finishing in 10th place which is a fantastic achievement for her. Both Lucy's had a good day, but unfortunately fell outside of the placings.

I would like to say a special thank you for all the staff that took us as they were a great help and really supported us on what proved to be two very long days out. And finally congratulations to all Millfield competitors that took part, as overall it was a great success.

Blaise Hawkins



Jessica Boyce, Sarah Weaving, & Blaise Hawkins

[continued from p1] Fleur riding Teddy had a good round. Jazmin on a school horse, Finlay, got a good style score of 12 and clear show jumping, knocking just one pole in the cross country and another good time with just 5 penalties. Ellie rode her own William and did a great job finishing overall on 18. The team finished on a competitive 56 and did very well to complete in 2nd place. This means that they qualified for the championships which will be held at Addington in January.

The second 90cm team of Becky Parry, Pandora Yates, Josh West and Bea Mathews also did very well. Both Bea and Pandora were clear over the show jumping section and Pandora also went clear cross country, Bea had just one pole. Becky did very well on her new horse Kally and Josh West had a nice round but unfortunately made a course error. The team finished on a score of 85 and finished in a respectable 6th place.

In the 1.05m class Millfield had four teams. The first to go was Charlotte Bonnar, Steph Tibbles, Lucy Quesnel and

Heni Hine. All riders had good style scores but unfortunately all knocked poles, Charlotte however finished on 20 penalties coming 6th individually and the team came 4th overall, which was a good result. The second team was Jess Boyce, Kristina Karailieva and Freddie Tett. Again style marks were pretty good but poles came down in both phases and the time was tough. Kristina made a great effort as she rode a horse she hadn't sat on before, so well done to her! Grace Bishop, Nina Wallrock, Blaise Hawkins and Emma Cory-Wright made up the third team. Grace unfortunately made a course error but both Emma and Blaise had clear show jumping rounds with just a few penalties cross country. Nina also had a good round on her horse George. The team finished in 5th place which was very respectable! The final team was Lulu Mesquita, Teddy Stevens and Sylvia Chiu. Lulu had a good round, but was unlucky with some poles Sylvia had a clear show jumping but had a fence down cross country. But the team did very well overall.

Charlotte Bonnar

RIDERS' NEWS

In June 2010 I qualified my pony Wizard for the Fox-hunter final at Weston Lawns. Wizard and I were one of two combinations to get a treble clear. There are opportunities to qualify for Horse of the Year at various venues around the UK but only thirty of these ponies qualify out of hundreds of competitors.

My big day with Wizard at the NEC Birmingham for the Pony Fox Hunter final took place on the 6th October 2010. I walked into the International Arena to walk the course and the first bit of advice my trainer, Mark Finn, gave me was not to look at the audience!

Considering all the pressure and my nerves, I am delighted to have got round the course and to be placed 10th. A lovely way to finish my show jumping years on ponies, I can now move onto horses.

Emily Whiteside



This summer has been a busy one for me, yet a very successful one. I spent 3 weeks training and working at Tim Stockdale's yard. The days are long, but usually quite amusing, and most of the people are easy to get along with. I did several shows with my horses (known at Millfield as Sam and Miss Mo), and Mo did especially well at the Hickstead school championship and the Bicester & Finmere Show. However it wasn't all fun and games. Working at a professional yard is tough, and everything has to be done perfectly, as a little slip up such as putting an international horse's feed in a horse on medication's bucket could result in a failed drugs test at a show, which as you can guess, isn't something you'd be wanting to admit to your fuming boss. If any of you wonder what a typical day working at a show jumping yard goes like, although it varies from yard to yard, it goes something like this:

6:50am Alarm rings and is immediately snoozed

7:15am Actually get up, brush teeth & hair and get dressed

7:30am Out on the yard. Someone makes the horses breakfast and feeds, someone hays, everyone else gets a wheelbarrow and starts mucking out. If you're to finish in time for breakfast, you'll have to have mucked out about 6 stables, put new clean shavings in and sweep the whole yard until it's spotless. Then we work on the muckheap. Tim insists you can judge a yard by the state of its muckheap, so his is perfectly shaped into 3 large steps, and flattened so that every edge is straight and at right angles.

8:40am Breakfast - quick bowl of cereal or some toast is the usual

9:00am Back to the yard, the grooms start turning horses out and grooming horses that aren't going to be worked

that day, while the riders start riding. The number of horses per rider depends on who's there, but it's generally about 4-6 horses each if there's 3 of us riding. Horses are given a scoop of pony nuts for lunch & stables are skipped out.

1:30pm Lunch time. Half an hour to relax and have something to eat.

2:00pm Back onto the yard. The rest of the horses are groomed, any tack that's been used during the day is cleaned, until it's pristine. Horses in the fields are swapped around, and those that have worked go on the horse walker for 20 minutes. Tim teaches any lessons he may have, so someone has to put jumps up. This is usually the time that the farrier/physio/vet would come. The stables are mucked out again in the later afternoon, the horses are given their hay and the whole yard is swept again. The tack room and wash bay floors are cleaned.

5:30pm Horses are fed and those that need stable bandages on at night are bandaged. Any work that still needs to be done is done.

6:00pm This is when we *should* be finished, but sometimes, such as when Tim's leaving for a show early the next morning, we finish much later as the lorry needs to be packed etc.

After finishing, we're free to do whatever, and that's usually cooking dinner and watching TV.

8:00pm Late check, every horse is checked, and top rugs are put on for the night.

8:20pm Free for the night. We usually just watch a movie or sit in the living room and chat, or, if it's a Friday, it's off to the pub!

Kristina Karailieva