

AGM

Thank you so much for entrusting me for another really wonderful year with your kids – my last on the job! Thank you for the support of your families and our fabulous committee, this pony club would not be able to function without the many hours you give us.

- 114 Members with many new faces and a vibrant rising stars
- General Fun is top of my agenda as I remember the fab events and fun rallies we have been able to put on for all of our ages and stages. We loved the Harvest Ride led by Holly Hudgell from Gorhambury across her parents' farm, the Halloween Party and Awards was a hoot, many of you captured some excellent prizes from our online auction and have been enjoying the experiences, kit and holidays throughout this year. This Spring we had the Easter Egg ride at Gorhambury, have taught some of you how to fall off properly and open to all clear rounds on the field are in the diary and camp is almost upon us...
- Competitors have been making us so proud in all areas – we had more competing than ever at the spring festival, great results in the winter triathlon with national qualifiers, national qualifiers from the Area Quiz in March and Blue Cross Quiz in May, regional championship qualifiers in eventing and show jumping. At the higher levels we were super proud of our 90cm, 100cms and 110cm sj teams who rode their socks off at Area Show Jumping. For the First time in 24 years we will see the Flamstead Pony Club on this cup, we will discover what the gap was for the 100cm show jumping team when the cup is delivered shortly. Earlier in the summer Josie Reid show-jumped at Windsor Horse Show at the same time as some of the greatest international Grand Prix riders. The next area competition we have coming up is dressage at all levels, from Prix Caprilli to Open, good luck to those competing next weekend. We have a huge number of members currently training for C and C+ tests. Holly Hudgell and Abigail Johnson are already halfway to achieving their full B test, Iz Morton is going for full B test and Josie Reid and Cassie Osman are training for the ride element.

Finance – Natalie Reynolds on behalf of Emma Thon

Flamstead PC has had an extraordinary year as whilst running the club as a non-profit organisation as always, it has benefitted massively from Rosie's amazing auction in October which raised an incredible £16K in profit. This, as well as very generous donations, has enabled the club to invest heavily in the field clearing and XC course this year. This will be of huge benefit to all and hopefully provide a future revenue stream through use by non-Flamstead riders.

The scrub, which covered a proportion of the field has been removed and the ground recultivated and seeded. New XC jumps have been purchased and the XC course has been redesigned with the help of a top course designer, Tina Ure. More jumps, purchased from Rockingham, are expected to be added in the near future and are included in the budget.

Rally pricing has been key on the agenda this year and will continue to be reviewed regularly. We aim to run rallies at cost although this is an ever-changing balancing act to ensure a variety of venues at different levels. A formulaic system is now used to provide fair pricing for all our rallies.

Discipline support has been strong at champs, areas and even the national champs quiz this year. It is an important investment in our member's success and supported, as the other general investments are, by the fundraising activities and subscriptions.

The new committee in September should be welcomed in with a strong bank balance and fantastic, upgraded asset – the pony club field!

Finally, if anyone would like to see copies of the 2023 branch return, please contact our treasurer, Emma.

Fun coming up:

Camp – plans progressing well. Please fill in your forms this week with your children to they are completed by July 1st. Thank you to those who have produced their passports already, if you haven't done so please send photocopies / photographs showing the ponies name, number and the vaccination page to: flamstead@pcuk.org. If you aren't booked on please still come to the BBQ. If you are new to camp and have any questions please do ask. We will also be in touch with you soon to ask for any help you can give – typically this is providing cakes, taking children to local swimming pools and overseeing their swims, covering an evening slot when the exhausted committee go home and the crème de la crème – staying up all night to allow us to fulfil our safeguarding obligations and have children to stay up here overnight.

Second Hand Clothing – Thank you to those of you who purchased on the evening. If you collected and have yet to pay please do pop your donations on via our booking page.

Rosie – Gemma and I are retiring in September – Katy Reid is taking over as DC and will be so awesome. She is a hugely experienced committee member and has been running Area 12's tetrathlon committee, she set up 2 businesses in covid and has been running our social media, website, Flamstead Flyer and tetrathlon for our branch whilst casually advising Head Office on the roll out of the new booking systems and website. She has 2 girls active in the club – Josie and Penny who I know are very proud of their Mum!

Camp Tackrooms! The list has already been circulated. Now is your chance to find each other and put faces to names. Please get plotting and planning, we look forward to seeing how creative you can be with your tackroom decorations and outfits.

Podium Painting! Anyone with parental approval in scruffy clothes please don a paintbrush and come and help us transform the old graffiti jumps...

