

## Chairmans Report and News Letter December 2011

The jumping season as usual went very quickly from show to show we had some good jumping during the year.

We were fortunate in having three UK based course designers during the year to build at our shows David Cole, Sam Pepperell and also Roger Hughes from Guernsey. The other shows and rallies were ably built by our resident course builders Dave Robinson Jane Sebire and George Renouard and their assistants. Thank you to all of them especially the local team (by which I mean Jersey and Guernsey) who give their time freely, unlike in the UK where they get paid. We are very grateful to them and without them we couldn't operate.

Anyone who has been to the showground recently will notice that the grass arena has been given a make over thanks to Richard Amy and Jeremy Philips who kindly gave up their time to do this for us. It has been rolled, all the holes filled in, top dressed with a lot of topsoil and re seeded. This will undoubtedly improve the conditions for next year We will probably vertidrain it in the Spring depending on how it is nearer the time. We had to buy a new traveller for the watering system to make sure we had plenty of water when the grass was growing and for next year of course when it is needed. One was broken beyond repair.

The new all weather surface has been laid thanks to some very generous donations and quite a few of you have already used it over the three weekends of practice jumping. It has been very much approved. The jumps for this were kindly lent by Helen Nolan but are looking to buy our own very shortly. The 10 ft poles are already in the pipeline from the BSJA jump store and the club will be purchasing some plastic

wings and fillers which will make life easier for instructors and the like who have to move them around.

The ground work and fencing for the all weather surface was done by James Barette, We initially planned to lay a Martin Collins surface but after further discussions and advice from others we decided to lay a Flexi fibre surface which would require less maintenance. BUT it is still important that everyone is responsible for picking up their horses droppings and putting into the skip provided. The surface was sourced by Douglas Pryce and both he and Richard Amy laid it free of charge. Our thanks to them. Thanks to the fund raisers and kind private individuals who made this all possible We do realise that if we are to hold events in it we now need a collecting ring so the fund raising goes on!! Various options are being discussed but we welcome your comments. If we were to lay a collecting ring constructed as the main sand arena the cost will be approximately £9,000. Sophies team raised £10,500 so far for the ground work aside from the money that paid for the surface.

I am sure that you have all noticed the granite pillars erected at the end of the entrance track .I should point out that this track is owned by the people who live in the house on the corner and legally we only have a 9ft right of way to our field. When the Colling contacted us to say that they were going to erect the pillars ( for the reason of bank erosion) the committee took legal advice and also contacted the emergency services, and it appears that we can do nothing to prevent them. After a few more phone calls they eventually conceded to put the pillars 16 ft apart which is a fair compromise. Any very large lorries who can't get in can park in the Amalgo field accessed from the Pony Club track which I know is feasible because the army parked there a few years ago.

We would like to say thank you to Margaret Pichler who is retiring this year as Registrations secretary and also Vice Chairman .She has done a stirling job over the last three years as it is time consuming job .Not just registrations but everything that goes with it such as horse /pony points ,keeping them up to date, results , and all the points for the sashes and points trophies etc .Her job is now being taken on by Karen Le Cornu who is also a committee member .Please be patient with her while she is getting used to it all.

I would also like to thank Jane Harwood and Wendy Barette for the hours they have put I pleading for money for the club from our sponsors They also have to liase with Tracy Myles who does the rosettes for us ,deciding what colour and style the sponsors want. Without the sponsors sub committee there would not be a club. Jane and Wendy are retiring this year after 8 years and their place will be taken by Ruth Maskell.

Helen Nolan, who is also a committee member is taking over the trophies from Julie Lidgett. Thank you to all. Once again we ask you to return your trophies on time to make Helens life easier. They all have to be catalogued labelled and prepared for the show and they CANNOT be returned on the day of the show. Fines or non competing may well be instigated this year and any serial offenders will not be allowed to receive trophies ( we already have one of those! )

Liberation Day show next year can be held over 5 consecutive days due to the bank holidays and David Cole has already agreed to build for us. He is well known for his very interesting working hunter courses as well as very good jumping tracks. In any other business tonight we are going to ask the members present to air their views as to the format of the show as the schedules committee need to make a start on the schedule in early January. As we now

have two arenas that we can use on site we need to discuss the best options and what you would like ?

Showing in the grass arena with jumping in the all weather or carry on with heights in the pony club field ?. We have to remember that all these have to be manned and you will need to do your stints. It may be that we have to reduce the pony showing to just half a day as the pony numbers have been declining fast over the last few years.

Sophie Bertram and her team did a scavenger hunt which was great fun and we hope it will be repeated. Cars chasing ALL over the island!!

The Hog Roast and Awards evening provided great entertainment and was huge success thanks to Sophie and Rebecca Pinel who did a great job once again with the presentations!!

Trinity Manor Show, organised by a separate sub committee was potentially a good one but unfortunately the weather was against us .A big thank you to Pam and Paul Bell for their kind sponsorship which included all the trophies, prize money and rosettes. It was good to see other clubs taking part in particular RDA who had a very wet slot but the children enjoyed it.

We are aware that there are quite a few children who don't come to BSJA so we hope that we can put on another couple of mini /novice shows next year to encourage them.

We now need to look forward to next years season which will start off in the all weather arena This by the way is still available to hire and the person to contact is Mary Hubert. All the details are on the web site.

A big thank you to all the members, competitors and helpers for with out them we wouldnt have a club. Angela