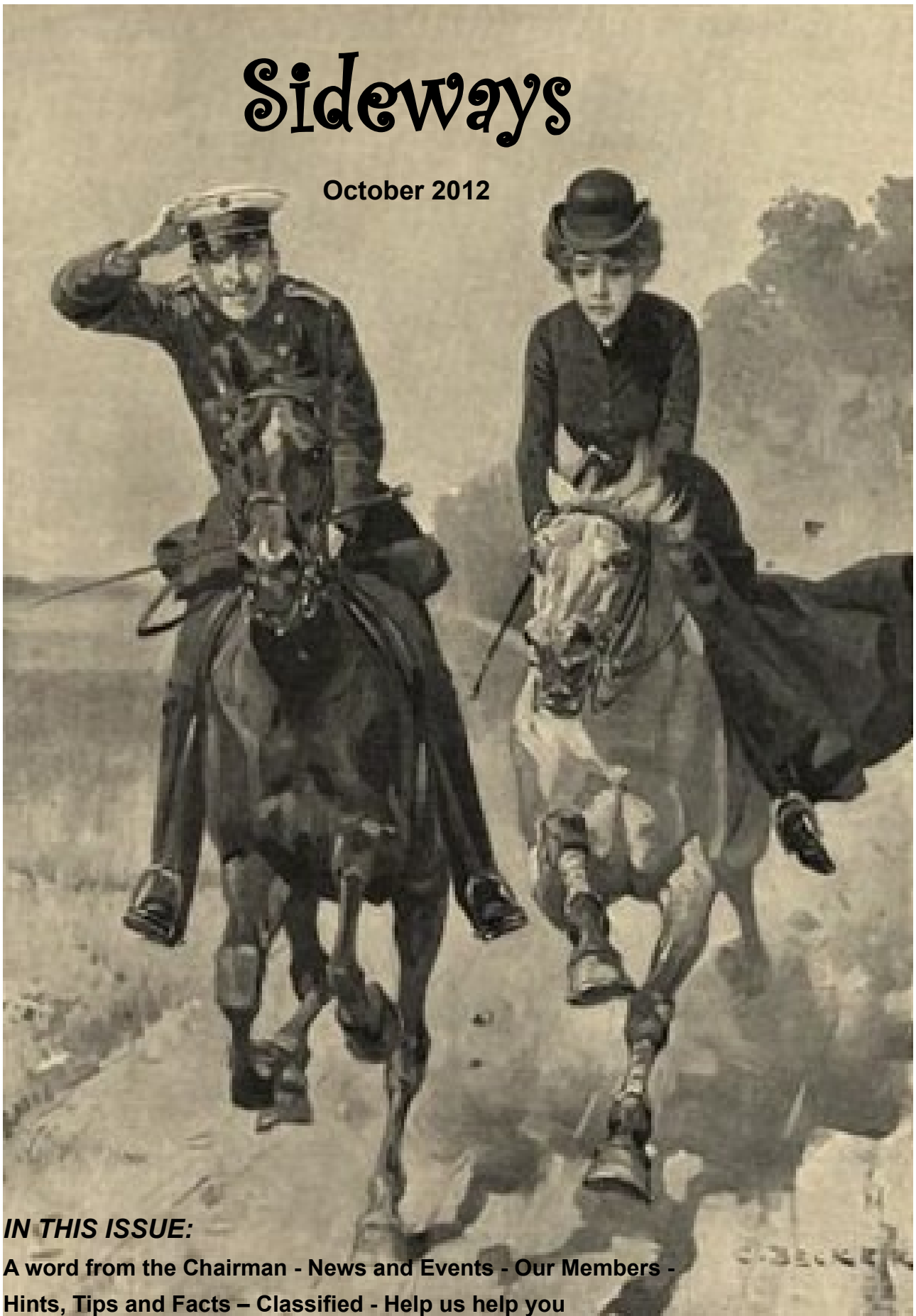


# Sideways

October 2012



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## *EDITORIAL*

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Welcome to the fourth edition of Sideways, the SSA Area 9 Newsletter.

The show season is coming to an end and winter is just round the corner: time to put away our pretty outfits and get the wellies out, time for a big clean up and tidy up, time to reflect on the year that has gone past and plan 2013. And we are hoping to do just that this winter: get together for a number of mounted and dismounted events so that our members get to know each other, give us their views and improve their skills.

I hope that you will enjoy reading Sideways as much as I enjoy writing it!

Céline.

## *A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN*

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Dear members,

This is the end of another side saddle showing season, and what a season it has been weather-wise. Wind, rain, rain and even more rain and it has not stopped yet! The Area 9 Autumn Show went ahead on Saturday 6th October at Whitfield Farm Horse Livery in West Linton and was judged by Lorraine Hanna from Yorkshire. Due to the lack of entries the show ran at a loss but all the riders there enjoyed the event and did very well.

The Area 9 grade tests and instructor examinations day took place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September and all candidates were successful, with Heather Carstairs and Mandy Law respectively attaining their 'A' and 'C' instructor status and Céline Moyes passing her grades I and II+. My congratulations to all of you, and many thanks to the 2 guinea pigs on the day.

Finally, please remember that our AGM will take place on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November. The nominations form is enclosed – please make sure that you complete it and return it to Céline before the start of the AGM. I look forward to seeing you then.

Fiona.

## *NEWS AND EVENTS*

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### **AREA 9 REPRESENTED AT THE NATIONALS**

Three of our members competed at the National Side Saddle Show in Addington this year, and all were very successful.

Sophie Lane was competing with Conspiracy Theory and got placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the Sir Lancelot Trophy and 6<sup>th</sup> in the Ladies Hunter HOYS qualifier.

Her mother Rosamund Lane was competing with Dream in Colour and got placed first and champion in the Cob class as well as first and reserve champion in the Gracious Ladies class.

Laura Halil was competing with Karate Z and got placed first in the Novice Jumping Equitation and Champion in Novice Equitation.

Both Sophie and Laura were also very successful competing in the Ladies Hunter circuit around the country this summer.

Well done ladies!

## **SUCCESS FOR OUR MEMBERS AT THE AREA 9 GRADE TESTS AND INSTRUCTOR EXAMS**

The Area's grade tests and instructors exams day was a great success, with all candidates passing all their exams. Heather Carstairs qualified as a SSA 'A' instructor, Mandy Law passed her grades I, II and III and qualified as a SSA 'C' instructor, and Céline Moyes passed her grades I and II+.

A big thank you is owed to the volunteers who acted as guinea pigs during the instructor exams: Samantha Wilson, Susannah Hutchison, Violet Warwick and Céline Moyes all received a Special rosette from Area 9 for their help. Thank you to the examiners too: Vivien Hogg and Janet Senior where very friendly and supportive to all the candidates. Last but not least, all the candidates would like to thank Fiona Young for organising everything, spending so much time and effort both on the day and during the weeks coming up to the event. You made it happen Fiona!



### **VAULTING LADIES**

In September, Ann Stark and her mother Helen Rogerson kindly invited the side saddle ladies of Area 9 to give vaulting a go. Ann used to compete at international level, Helen is a very experience lungier and instructor, and the horses Gaby an Ziggy are experts too. A little bit of warm up and stretching followed by a fair amount of work on the barrels and we were ready to try vaulting on a real horse. Sitting, kneeling and even standing on a cantering horse, we all had great fun and thouroughly enjoyed the day. Thank you Ann and Helen!



### **WHEN WE INSPIRE FASHION**

The latest trends in haute couture look vaguely familiar: a cut away jacket here, a pair of tall boots there, a a mid-calf skirt, topper or bowler, the odd tie or stock and the compulsory veil. Yes, you guessed it, side saddle is back in fashion, even on the catwalks of Paris and London. Christian Dior started the trend a couple of years ago and it is still going strong. So, if you didn't know what to wear at your next office party... just wear you habit! Who would have thought that we were such a trendy bunch?

## **SSA AREA 9 AUTUMN SHOW RESULTS**

### Class 1 - Concours d'élégance

- 1st - Sophie Lane with Conspiracy Theory
- 2nd - Carol Rogerson with Pebbly Penni Farthing
- 3rd - Jacqueline Copland with Woody

### Class 2 - Classical Ladies

- 1st - Carol Rogerson with Pebbly Penni Farthing
- 2nd - Sophie Lane with Conspiracy Theory

### Class 3 - Novice Equitation

- 1st - Rosamund Lane with Dream in Colour
- 2nd - Samantha Wilson with Nirvana Tywysog
- 3rd - Jacqueline Copland with Woody

### Class 4 - Open Equitation

- 1st - Sophie Lane with Conspiracy Theory
- 2nd - Carol Rogerson with Pebbly Penni Farthing

### Class 5 - Novice Horse/Pony

- 1st - Rosamund Lane with Dream in Colour
- 2nd - Samantha Wilson with Nirvana Tywysog
- 3rd - Jacqueline Copland with Woody

### Class 6 - Best Horse/Pony

- 1st - Sophie Lane with Conspiracy Theory
- 2nd - Carol Rogerson with Pebbly Penni Farthing
- 3rd - Samantha Wilson with Nirvana Tywysog

### Class 7 - Riding Club Horse/Pony

- 1st - Samantha Wilson with Nirvana Tywysog

### Class 8 - Historical Costume

- 1st - Samantha Wilson with Nirvana Tywysog

### Harlequin Quaich:

- 1st - Sophie Lane with Conspiracy Theory
- 2nd - Carol Rogerson with Pebbly Penni Farthing
- 3rd - Samantha Wilson with Nirvana Tywysog
- 4th - Jacqueline Copland with Woody
- 5th - Rosamund Lane with Dream in Colour





If you have some photos, please send them to Céline who will add them to the Area website (<http://sidesaddlearea9.weebly.com/>) and to our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/SSAarea9](http://www.facebook.com/SSAarea9)).

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November – SSA Area 9 AGM

@ Burnpark, Cleugh Brae, West Calder, West Lothian, EH55 8NA.

The AGM will start at 2pm prompt. Please attend if you can.

The Agenda and Nomination Form are enclosed in this envelop.

### December (date to be confirmed) – SSA Area 9 Christmas get together

@ Venue to be confirmed

All members and their partners welcome to our Christmas lunch.

### Over the winter (dates to be confirmed) – Display team practices

@ Venue to be confirmed

Please let Céline or Fiona know if you would like to join the 2013 display team and they'll tell you more about it.

Please note that if you want to be part of the display team you will have to attend all the practices.

### Over the winter (dates to be confirmed) – Jumping practice

@ Venue to be confirmed

Let's get Area 9 jumping! If you would like to attend our informal jumping practices, please let Céline or Fiona know.

### February (date to be confirmed) – Social gathering and tack sale

@ Burnpark, Cleugh Brae, West Calder, West Lothian, EH55 8NA.

Come and have a chat with fellow members, bring any side saddle related items that you would like to sell or hire out and bring you habit and/or tack if you would like expert tips and advice.

Please, let Céline or Fiona know if you intend to come along.



In each issue we will introduce you to a few of our members, so that we get to know each other a bit better. This quarter, we introduce two of the four SSA instructors based in Area 9.

### **HEATHER CARSTAIRS, BHSII & SSA 'A' INSTRUCTOR**



Having found a side saddle in the basement at Gask, Auchterarder, I started riding side saddle in the early 1970s on Jupiter, a lovely bay hunter. I then schooled and did some competing with Effie Sinclair in Perth, where I sat and passed my grade tests and my 'B' instructor exam.

I this stage, I bought my own saddle (a super Mayhew) and used it at the Gleneagles Equestrian Centre when I became their Side Saddle Coach. There, competing on the school horses which I had trained myself, I won 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Strathearn Riding Club Show Jumping Show with Boxer, a Clydesdale cross. I also rode Mrs Lumsden's "Hopelaws Mr Finch" very successfully for a season (see photo).

My pupils include Marjorie Grant (our current Treasurer) and one of the Coopers sisters from a successful showing family based in England. I now teach side saddle at Ann and Peter Hunt's Easterton Farm (Gleneagles) who, as well as having lovely school horses, provide B&B accommodation and horse livery if needed.

I have recently passed my 'A' instructor exam, making me Scotland's only practising coach at this level.

### **MANDY LAW, SSA 'C' INSTRUCTOR**

I started riding as a child and played on ponies several times a week. At this time I used to ride side saddle bareback and fell off most of the time! I first got a proper feeling for the sport when I got to sit on a friend's side saddle when I was about 12. It was a one off, but it got me interested.

After leaving school, I worked with horses almost until I had my two children. At this time, I had my own horse and was eventing and I carried on competing after my children were born. Strangely enough, the horse I had at that time had been ridden side saddle previously but I have to say that he would be the last horse I would have wanted to ride side saddle.

I first had a real go at side saddle riding on Marjorie Grant's Highland mare Morven. She was a real delight and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I was lucky enough to have a lesson from Roger Philpot on Morven and decided that my gelding would have to do this job as well as what he already did. I was lucky enough to come across a saddle which I took on a training course to Roger's and with the benefit of his knowledge, I rebuilt the panels, replaced all the straps and came home with a side saddle that fitted my horse.

With more guidance from Roger, I decided that my horse and I were ready start. Unfortunately my horse had different ideas and on our first outing he showed me how well he could bounce off the ground. Not to be deterred, I took him to riding club lessons all that summer and rode him in the side saddle. All the dressage that winter we did side saddle too. He was a star and hardly put a foot wrong, so the eventual aim with him is to show him side saddle in a calm, relaxed manner. I have ridden other horses side saddle but had the best fun entering Blair on a horse belonging to a friend who had only had the saddle on four times but calmly showed off and won the class.

I started teaching somewhere around that time and have built up a small client base of enthusiastic riders who wanted to get started and the others just needed pointers to keep them on track. My driving pony Lance and Violet Warwick have to be my star pupils as Lance had never had a side saddle on and has taken to it like a duck to water with Violet improving all the time .

*There are two other qualified SSA instructors in Area 9: Anne Comrie in West Lothian and Shirley Justice-Vose in Ayrshire.*

## ***HINTS, TIPS AND FACTS***

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Linen panels on a saddle are handy and pretty but they tend to get dirty very easily. Here are a few ways to keep the linen panels of your side saddle all nice and white:

Before applying any of the products described below, make sure to brush out all dirt and dust from your linens, give them a light wipe with a damp cloth and let them dry naturally.

### **WHITE SHOE POLISH**

A classic, what most modern side saddle riders use. Simply apply the polish to the parts of the linens that are visible when mounted and leave to dry naturally. It will give your linens a very white finish with a slight shine and will be shower proof.

Advantages: It is easy and quick to use, reasonably cheap to buy and it will last a while.

Disadvantages: It does not always look natural, it covers the dirt rather than remove it, it gets flaky with age.

### **BICARBONATE OF SODA**

It can be used on its own (diluted in a little water to make a paste) or combined with lemon

juice. It is particularly good to whiten linens that have become yellow with age. Simply apply the paste with an old toothbrush, giving the linens a good scrub and leave to dry naturally.

Advantages: This will actually remove the stains rather than cover them, it is reasonably cheap and easy to get and it gives a natural finish.

Disadvantages: It takes longer to prepare and apply and it needs time to dry. You might also have to repeat the procedure several times to get perfect results.

## **LAUNDRY WHITENER (VANISH OXI-ACTION, ETC.)**

It is used on its own, diluted into a little water to turn it into a paste. Simply apply the paste with an old toothbrush, giving the linens a good scrub and leave to dry naturally.

Advantages: It removes stains and leaves a thin white covering and protective layer. It leaves a natural look.

Disadvantages: It takes longer to prepare and apply and it needs time to dry. Results. It is also more expensive to buy.

## ***CLASSIFIED***

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### **FOR SALE**

#### Side Saddle

Wicks, 14", leather seat with reversible pommels, good general condition. Fitted 11hh - 13.2hh show ponies and may fit up to 14hh show pony. Sold with stirrup leather and balance girth. £2000.

Contact Jane Readhead on 01779 812 872 (Peterhead)

#### Side Saddle

Champion & Wilton, 17", wide fitting, complete with leather, iron and girths.

Photos available on the Area website. Very good condition. £2000 ono.

Contact Ronnie Young at [ronnie\\_lorraine@btinternet.com](mailto:ronnie_lorraine@btinternet.com)

#### Side Saddle Habit

Navy barathea, older cut, no makers label. Size 10-12, fit smaller lady up to 5'6". In very good condition and with lovely weight to apron. £275 ono. Can be viewed/tried near Milnathort, Perthshire, Scotland. Postage extra, if required.

Contact Mrs Dorothy Thomson - 07736892857 or email [john-lawrie@btinternet.com](mailto:john-lawrie@btinternet.com)

#### Tall Leather Brown Boots:

- One pair size 6 in good condition, with elastic gussets in the foot area - £70

- One pair size 7, left leg in good condition but right leg burst in the ankle area – offers

Contact Fiona Young - 01506 873 177

### **WANTED**

#### Size 16/18 Habit

Contact Marjorie Grant - [marjorie.grant@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:marjorie.grant@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

#### Size 8/10 Habit for Junior Rider

Contact Claire Newlands - [cnewlands@talisman-energy.com](mailto:cnewlands@talisman-energy.com)



## 16.5" to 17" Medium Saddle

*Wide seat, long pommels, good condition*

Contact Contact Claire Newlands - cnewlands@talisman-energy.com

*If you would like to advertise 'for sale' and 'wanted' items in this section and/or on the Area website, please get in touch with Céline.*

## ***HELP US HELP YOU***

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### **PERFORMANCE CARDS**

If you have a performance card for the year 2012 and if you would like to be entered in the Area 9 performance points award, please return your completed card no later than Monday 29th October to the following address:

Marjorie Grant  
24 Thriepland Wynd  
Perth  
PH1 1RH

All competitors returning their performance card will receive a rosette.

### **REMEMBER THE AREA WEBSITE**

Please, if you have internet access, remember to check the Area website regularly at: <http://sidesaddlearea9.weebly.com/>. You will find all the latest information, as well as an up-to-date list of items for sale and wanted, lots useful links and plenty of photos there. Any last minute changes to planned events will also be displayed on the website first, so remember to check it out!

### **WE ARE NOW ON FACEBOOK**

Those with internet access can also now find the Area on Facebook at the following address: [www.facebook.com/SSAarea9](http://www.facebook.com/SSAarea9) . All the latest news, lots of photos and plenty of informal chat between side saddle enthusiasts. This is a public page, so you will be able to have a look even if you are not on Facebook yourself.

### **CONTRIBUTIONS TO SIDEWAYS**

If you would like to contribute to further issues of the newsletter, please get in touch with Céline. We can't promise that we will be able to publish every article submitted, but we will certainly do our best!

### **KEEP IN TOUCH**

Remember to keep in touch with your committee. If your details have changed, please let Céline know as soon as possible so that she can update the lists and keep you in the loop.

***THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!***

## ***CONTACTS***

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## **SSA AREA 9 CHAIRMAN**

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## **SSA AREA 9 VICE-CHAIRMAN**

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Cover picture: Illustration by Schimmel Holzstich.