



News from Middleton Equestrian Centre

Title: Team Apollo News

Date: June 2009

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## APOLLO'S STATE SECRET – BUFFY



Buffy and I finally managed to compete at our first BE event of the year at Solihull in April. Following along lay off where I obeyed instructions (for a while) not to re-injure my back I was finally competing again at the end of April! We did our Dressage in the pouring, torrential rain and it wasn't pretty! However we saved the day with a double clear and it had put my mind at rest that we could still 'do it' and that was the main purpose of the day. However the bad news is that Buffy has been lame on and off ever since and the jury is still out on whether she will compete again, especially event wise !.....As I couldn't sell her I would be tempted to let her have babies in the future –for now we'll wait and see.

## APOLLO'S SECRET LIAISON – LEO





The naughty stallion, Leo, continues with his education and is still a pleasure to do – except for the biting for which he always receives punishment, but seems not to care. This is one laid back horse. He has been to one dressage competition, where he behaved impeccably and the Judge came over to speak to us at the end of the day and was full of praise and kind words for our wobbly baby, saying that he was ‘one to watch for the future’. He now continues with his jump schooling, for which he is bred, but shows the same laid back attitude as he does to his flat work – he almost needs to stop halfway through for a fag and a coffee!! This is the same horse whom the farrier checks for shoeing whilst he remains lying down, and the vet gives his flu and tetanus injection, whilst loose in the stable eating his hay.. I don’t know why I worried about having a young stallion at the Yard - we don’t know we’ve got him half of the time – he is stabled next to Buffy who is currently in season and the most he can do is manage a half hearted ‘whicker’ when she comes in from the field..... typical man – lazy and mainly uninterested in anything but eating !!!!!

## APOLLO’S STATESMAN – DAN



Dan is now on the mend and can continue to progress his work having been scanned for the final time this month. Sally is in Cuba at the moment but she will get cracking as soon as she is back.

## APOLLO’S DESTINY – DUKE

Duke is a miracle – yet again. He is sound and chasing around the field like a spring lamb and you would not have believe that he was at deaths door – and knocking it loudly – in January. Long may it continue. Just a quick note of thanks to my old friend Stephanie Bolton who sent me a video of Duke dating back to 1994 – I’d forgotten how cheeky he was going cross country and how beautiful he looked in his showing days. I as quite choked when I watched it and am grateful to Steph for taking the time to put the video together and sending it to me – nice people still exist !





# Middleton Equestrian Centre

Riding Lessons - Livery - Horse sales

*The Home of Team Apollo*

Tel. 0121 311 1601

## APOLLO'S SALVADORE – SALVADORE

Salvadore, our syndicate owned horse, has now qualified for the Badminton Young Dressage Horse Finals and the Shearwater Young Dressage Horse finals so he had already made a name for himself, being the top placed 4 year old at the qualifying event at Solihull Riding Club. More news of him after the Finals of each event.

## MEC FUN DAY



Don't forget to ask us about our Fun Day arranged for the August Bank Holiday on the 31<sup>st</sup>, we have many attractions and a provisional schedule can be downloaded from the homepage of the website.

## CYPRUS HOLIDAYS



We still have some weeks available to rent in our Apartment in Cyprus see the website for more information, 1 week's rental starts at as little as £250, ring me for details

More news once we have been out competing again .....