

The life and times of Tigger and Jezz – 2 [Article from Hoofbeat Magazine - May 2005](#)

A belated Happy New Year.

Lots have happened to our intrepid pair recently – Merrist Wood College is being good to Jezz and he is enjoying the course and the company - and he was really made up when he achieved distinctions for his first assignments. We are now on tenterhooks, as Jezz will soon get his marks for his later assignments and even more recent work is nearing the time to get handed in!

Keeping mum and the rest of the family busy driving around the countryside was our move to a new yard – Tigger took it mostly in her stride but Milly (lovingly owned and mollycoddled by Jezz's younger sister Jenny) was very put out by the move and showed her disgust in many a way that were not all enjoyable to witness.

You would all probably believe the immense amount of paraphernalia that we have accumulated over the years – it all had to move to our steeds' new abode. It now needs fixing, attaching, storing, sorting, hanging and generally putting away.

The first morning at the new yard displayed the horse's real feelings when Jezz and mum discovered two trashed stables – beds totally destroyed with not a single bedding side-bank visible at all. Tigger and Milly were totally grateful to be eventually let out into the introductory paddock. At least they can now get to know their new mates without getting into too much bother – we hope.

Day two was a little better – although it did appear from the condition of the 'easy-bed' that Milly was trying to bury herself this morning. As is usual, of course, for the New Year, Dad spent a relaxing Sunday afternoon fixing and adjusting all things equestrian down 'at the yard'.

And on the third day, it came to pass that that the horses were happier, more content, almost settled in and, lo, their beds were not such a mess.

Jezz and Tigger have been attending the 'B' Test rallies with the Garth South Pony Club and Jezz is now affiliated with British Eventing so great things are ahead for them during the 2005 season.

Jezz and Tigs have recently trained at Tweseldown with accredited instructor, Mark Corbett and they have competed at Indoor Hunter Trials at Merrist Wood and Medstead Grange.

Tigger's jump is getting bolder and improving almost daily – she is training at 3' 3" and Jezz is hoping to improve that to 3' 6" in the near future. To improve Tigger's fitness and endurance Jezz has instigated a training programme –

- Monday – pm – flat work
- Tuesday – am – Pessoa lunging
- Tuesday – pm – flat work
- Wednesday – am – free schooling
- Wednesday – pm – hacking
- Thursday – pm – hacking
- Friday – pm – jumping
- Saturday – am – Pessoa lunging
- Sunday – pm – hacking

As you can see this makes Jezz very busy at the moment as he attends Merrist Wood four days a week, works at Helen Jewell's yard on Thursday's for lessons in kind and at Argos on Saturday's and with his regular Sunday competitions you can see that his spare time is really at a premium at the moment.

This work has started to pay off as our heroes went to Heath Farm at Munstead last Thursday and Friday for a one day event – I know; it was two days because of the very high entry and the organisers had to hold the Dressage on Thursday and the Show Jumping and Cross Country on Friday.

Our class, the Intro, had 42 competitors who all seemed to be of a good high standard. Jezz achieved 40.5 at his Dressage and got one of only seven clear rounds at Show Jumping. Jezz and Tigger went clear in the Cross Country in 4m 33s with no time penalties – all in all a great result that gave the pair a well deserved sixth place with a large rosette and a useful prize. A good couple of days and an encouraging result, which we hope, will lead to greater things.