

Nigel Broadhead
14th March 1943-2nd April 2020

It is with great sadness I write to let you know that our Guru, THE Nigel Broadhead, died earlier today in Chur Hospital, following complications having contracted Covid-19.

Nigel joined the Club in 1968, and won his Colours in 1972. After an absence of 13 years, he returned to the Club in 1997, and became a Life Member, and rode every subsequent season. While the record of his early riding is incomplete in the database, since 1997 he had 2,113 rides, with only 8 falls. As such an experienced and safe rider, he was more than qualified to act as a Guru to Beginners, and this he did with meticulous and scrupulous dedication, first as Assistant Guru and then as THE Guru since 2007. 3,256 Beginners have Nigel to thank for their introduction to the Cresta, and their safe arrival at the Charming Village. Last season he won the Fairchilds MacCarthy (with a lying start) and it was entirely apt that his wife, Judy, joined the happy celebrations as the Kisser at Prizegiving.

At the last Prizegiving Nigel retired as Guru, and was nominated "Guru Emeritus", with a special plaque and silver toboggan. The news was greeted by a well-deserved and prolonged standing ovation. He was an extremely important part of the warp and weft of the Club, looking after his Beginners in the freezing cold on Practice Days, rejoicing in success, commiserating with fallers, riding from Top (he was not that keen on Junction riding, despite his success in the Fairchilds last season), lunching in the Sunny Bar, and expostulating with transgressors who had the temerity to leave their car in the Guru's parking place. He loved the Club and had very decided opinions on all aspects of Club life and management. He was a stalwart, if unofficial, member of the Tower Team. The Cresta has a pantheon of much-loved characters. Nigel joins them.

I am sure that you will join the President, Committee and the Tower Team as our hearts go out to Judy, and to Piers and Lucy and their families in this intensely difficult and tragic time.



Nigel (the winner) and Judy (proud Kisser) at the Fairchilds MacCarthy in January.