

Jeanne Yates pony story edit 2018

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Since May the eighth 1950, I worked in Salisbury in the theatres, theatre superintendent from 1960 to 1972. Starting in Salisbury was terrific because all sisters lived in. One had a boyfriend she went out every evening with him. But we lived in as you went in, it's now Entrance B. You turned left immediately. And it's the first building on the left opposite the two grass swards and the flagpole. I had some very interesting events must have been mid 60s, I should think there was a picture after the News of World Sunday. James Laing, the second plastic consultant, was a great man for outdoor pursuits and riding in fact, he had a horse. And he came to me one day of the week. And he said Hello, sis, can you help? I said, Well, I hope hope so what what do you want me to do? He said, make up a set of instruments for me to operate on a foal that's got a cleft palate. So I say well, yes. Where we can only say we're going to Lady something down the Wyllye Valley there's a big house with Lord and Lady so-and-so living there. And she'd heard about this foal and said, Okay, send it up to me. There's a plastic surgeon, I'm sure he'll help the operate. And so Jimmy Laing came with it came about six o'clock the next day, I had a tray full of instruments, like a thing for holding every single part, which would normally been an abdominal one would just go on a horse's mouth to keep it open. As I hoped, I got the right suture materials, gloves, guns, you name it. And Jimmy Laing told me that there was a prepared stable ready as an operating theatre had been washed down. What he's had on the floor was straw. And I think two bales of straw to sit on. So Jimmy came along and I said, here's, here's the instruments. And he just bought an E type Jaguar car he had just been invented, cost the earth that might mean possibly 5000 pounds. And so we said I'll pick you up but opposite the main entrance. So pulled up the back, loaded the trays in, gallons, all the bits and lotions. And I hoped I hadn't forgotten anything. So he said well get in, to sit down into this wonderful car with a nose going as far as you could see. And I mean, it would have done 160 miles

an hour if he'd been on a racetrack. Anyhow, we drove along the Wyley Valley and got to this place where Lady can't think of her surname, I'm sorry. So she's she said, this is his stable. And she then started to talk to Jimmy Lang and there was a man there and he said, Can I help? I said yes. Can you help me there's this Oh, we have another bale? This one's a bit low. Now the one on top would be good. And I said oh, I can't see a light anywhere could you go and find the light, I'll expect they'll have one in the main house, an angle-poise something like that we can aim in foals mouth. The vet had arrived and the mother and the foal were in the next stable so eventually all was ready and Jimmy Laing came back. I can't think how we washed our hands but we did in a bowl of water I expect, dried them, put on our gowns and gloves and I got somebody to pour out the stuff and open up the sutures and things and so eventually the chap came back with this light and he said just this okay and I said yes that's fine. If you stand it on those two bales. And then while we're operating perhaps you could move it as required because the foal's mouth is quite long and you probably need it's up like this, even though the foal was lying upside down. Anyhow, I later discovered he was Lord and I'd sent him on this errand to the house. They're sure to have a laugh. It's funny, I didn't apologise later, but I'd laughed and I'm blushing now. Anyhow, so we started on this operation. And he did light as we requested and it took best part of an hour. But before we had the foal in, the vet had to anaesthetise the foal partly so that they could carry it in, put it on the floor, be as quick as possible. And the whole thing was that the horse have was malnourished, because when it suckled from his mother, the milk ran out the side of his mouth. So it was very urgent. This was a special pedigree thing as well, not just any old foal. So once the operation was over, Jimmy Laing disappeared with Lady and Lord. And I was left with the vet to clear up the stuff, which I did, took me bit (?) they said, Oh, come along to the house when you've finished. I made a pile of all the stuff and hadn't got the key to put it in the e-type and I went not much as the house could hear talking. So went into this fantastic room with wonderful furniture. So this, how it got into News of the World I don't know, probably through the vet. And so that was that. And whether I was supposed to be assisting in an operation other than in at the hospital I don't know. It was a great experience.