

Insurance for everything equestrian...

*with a little help
from your friends.*

HORSE INSURANCE

Whether you have a top competition horse or an old hack, they are precious.

We are horse owners too, so understand how you feel when they are sick or injured.

Talk to our friendly insurance experts to ensure you have the cover you need, and someone to hold your hand if you make a claim.

Remember - we're here to help.

Photography with thanks to
Team Ramsay Horton for
their kind assistance

HORSE & PONY · HORSEBOX & TRAILER · LIVERY YARDS · EQUESTRIAN HOME
BUSINESS · HOME · PETS · RIDING SCHOOL · & MUCH MORE...

Call 0345 450 0631 www.seib.co.uk   

THE SHOW GUIDE

'I FREELY ADMIT THAT THE BEST OF MY FUN
I OWE IT TO HORSE AND HOUND' - *Whyte Melville*

EVERY WEEK
27 FEBRUARY 2020

HORSE & HOUND

UK's
71 best
shows

Show guide

2020's top events
Plus where to go
to see your heroes

HUNTING

Behind the scenes
at Badminton with
the historic Beaufort

SHOWING OPINION

'We'd be better off
banning bad hands
than certain bits'



William Fox-Pitt

Training essentials for a competitive 2020



Outstanding Results

#FedonTopSpec

Feloetsghe VID Rhamdiahoeve, winning the Junior GP Tour 1.35 Final at the Norwegian Horse Festival, ridden by Thea Kultorp Gulliksen and owned by Kingsrød Trading AS



Photograph by HorseMultimedia

“Thea’s competition horses are thriving on their TopSpec feed and are looking great, they love it too!”
Jon Harald Gulliksen

Typical Feed Regime

for a 16.2hh (550kg) horse in medium to hard work:-

Ad lib good quality hay or haylage, plus grazing

Plus two feeds per day – each containing:

- 300g TopSpec Comprehensive Feed Balancer (for condition; muscle development and topline, performance; recovery; hoof quality; behaviour; digestion and utilisation)
- 300g TopChop Sport (combines British alfalfa with a blend of British grasses, lightly coated with linseed oil)
- 1.5kg TopSpec Performance Cubes (‘Non-Heating’ energy, quantity adjusted according to condition – which reflects work etc)
- Additives if required Electrolytes, 10:10 Joint Support, Calmer or Digestive Aid



TopSpec®

Multiple Award Winner for
‘Excellence in Nutritional
Advice and Customer
Service’

CREATED WITHOUT COMPROMISE
by experienced equine nutritionists

01845 565 030

(062) 85401

www.topspec.com



Collect **TopSpec** Tokens
for product and merchandise
Redeem your TopSpec tokens at
www.topspec.com/tokens



'I FREELY ADMIT THAT THE BEST OF MY FUN I OWE IT TO HORSE AND HOUND' - *Whyte Melville*

HORSE & HOUND

Valuing greatness



THE notion of Moroccans spiking the Qatari's shisha with cannabis, as alleged in a recent FEI Tribunal, reads like the stuff of

fiction. The build-up to these Olympic Games has certainly been fraught with strange goings on as teams go all-out to qualify, but whether this particular claim of very foul play is based in fact remains to be determined (news, p4).

I hope you enjoy our revamped show guide this year, a departure from previous iterations, reflecting reader feedback and modern behaviour when it comes to searching for shows. Do let me know what you think.

It was painfully difficult selecting the season's most unmissable events, and I daresay some will feel we've left out those which are most deserving. I'd love to hear those thoughts, too.

Despite many a grumble as to the systems over here and talk of things being "better" on the Continent — and they may well be — we are blessed with many wonderful, historic venues and events. It has always been a source of great pride that in equestrianism in Britain amateurs can compete against the very best in the world, which is not true in other sports.

Whether an amateur's ambition is to reach the pinnacle of their own level at a championship, or to take on their heroes on up-and-coming horses, there are myriad opportunities to do so. And at each of these events there will be professionals with the good grace to share wisdom with those of us who can only aspire to their greatness.

Wishing you all the very best for the season, whether competing, spectating or supporting, from all of us at *H&H*.

Sarah Jenkins
Editor-in-Chief

NEWS

- 4 Cannabis sabotage claims over lost Tokyo Olympic Games place
- 5 Hunts are thriving 15 years after the ban
- 6 Debate over gumshields in horse sport

SHOW GUIDE 2020

COVER STORY

- 29 **The best shows** A guide to the unmissable events
- 40 **Spotting the elite** Where you can expect to see the top riders in 2020
- 42 **Family fun** *H&H*'s pick of child-friendly shows
- 44 **William Fox-Pitt** The top eventer's masterclass of practical exercises
- 50 **Access all areas** We visit dressage star Lottie Fry at her Dutch base



Page 50: dressage star Lottie Fry talks to *H&H* at home



Page 20: champion trainer Paul Nicholls on his big-race hopes

REGULARS

- 16 **All in a day's work** International dressage judge Stephen Clark
- 18 **Vet clinic** How new techniques for racing emergencies could make equestrian sport safer
- 20 **H&H interview** Champion trainer Paul Nicholls talks about his big-race contenders
- 24 **Life lessons** Leading showing figure Stuart Hollings on being a judge, plus more
- 130 **Goodnight** Tessa Waugh's hunting diary

OPINION

- 14 **Letters of the week**
- 80 **Hunting** John Holliday
- 98 **Dressage** Pammy Hutton
- 102 **Showjumping** John Taylor

110 COVER STORY

- Showing** Simon Reynolds
- 114 Racing** Kim Bailey

HUNTING

- 76 **Pack of the week** The Haydon
- 81 **Hunt stalwart** Mike Mallard
- 82 **COVER STORY** **The Duke of Beaufort** We visit the hunt's immaculate kennels
- 86 **Hunter of a lifetime** "Inimitable" Kittymoon
- 88 **From the field** *H&H*'s hunting editor on promoting a positive, passionate spirit

REPORTS

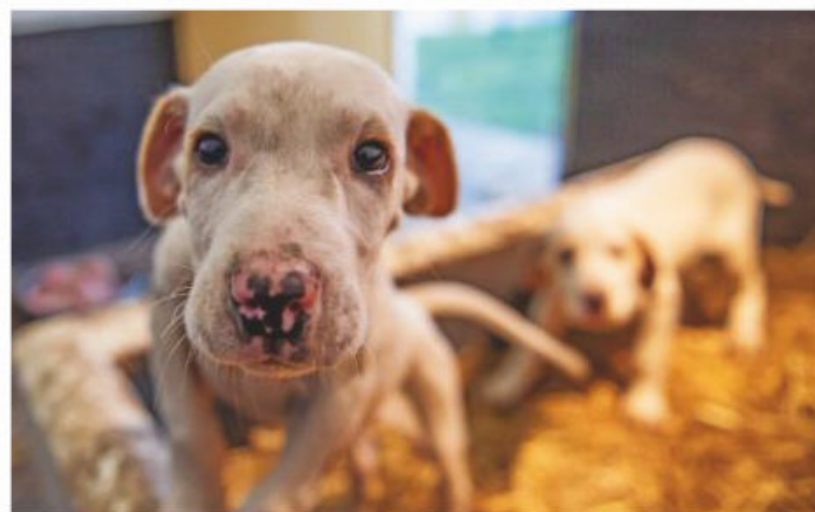
- 90 **Dressage** Easton College, Merrist Wood, Myerscough and highlights
- 100 **Showjumping** South View, Morris EC, international and highlights
- 108 **Showing** Winter highlights
- 112 **Racing** Kempton Park
- 115 **Point-to-point** Charing and Duncombe Park

CLASSIFIED ADS

- 61 **Show guide special**
- 117 **Horses for sale**
- 120 **Horseboxes for sale**

COVER James Sommerville riding Talent at Burghley in 2019. Credit: Benjamin Clarke.

Inset: William Fox-Pitt and Atlantic Vital Spark. Credit: Peter Nixon



Page 82: an inquisitive Duke of Beaufort hound puppy



Get more
of what
you love on
p75

LOVE HORSES?

WE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL...



Cannabis sabotage claim after Tokyo showjumping place lost

The riders say shisha must have been tampered with to cause failed dope tests

QATAR claims failed dope tests that led to the country losing its Tokyo jumping place were caused by the Moroccan team sabotaging Qatari shisha by adding cannabis.

Morocco takes the Olympic ticket lost by Qatar as a result of riders Sheikh Ali Al Thani, 37, and Bassem Mohammed, 32, both testing positive for a metabolite of cannabis, carboxy-THC, at an Olympic qualifier in October.

The case was heard by the FEI Tribunal, which released a partial decision on 15 February. It found the two riders' individual results must be disqualified as a result of the tests, so Qatar's team result cannot count. The FEI has reallocated the spot to Morocco.

The Tribunal heard both riders denied knowingly using cannabis in any form during the show, and

By ELEANOR JONES

are "convinced the only plausible explanation for the positive tests was that they were unknowingly exposed to cannabis [in] the hotel's shisha bar, which they visited daily during the event".

Smoking shisha is very popular in Qatar, the Tribunal heard, particularly for athletes to relax. And while shisha is also popular in Morocco, a substance called kif, Moroccan cannabis, is often used with or instead of tobacco.

'IMPLAUSIBLE'

IT was confirmed by witnesses that the team manager had overseen the riders to ensure only shisha tobacco was used, and it was "very implausible" the riders would knowingly put themselves in such a situation, as "to use a substance that did not even enhance performance at such an important event would be stupid".

The riders concluded the kif must have been added to their shisha, and have filed a criminal case in Morocco, their fiercest rival in the competition and the

one set to benefit from Qatar's disqualification. They believe this is a case of "sabotage of Qatari shisha by the Moroccan team which takes its Olympic place".

Qatar raised procedural complaints, such as querying the time they had to prepare for the Tribunal hearing, which was held sooner than would normally be the case owing to the approaching Games. But the Tribunal ruled they had enough time, that the results should be disqualified, and the fact an Olympic qualifier was involved was another reason to

automatic disqualification of individual results has been consistently followed by the Tribunal in positive doping cases... with the rationale of protecting horse welfare and to ensure a level playing field."

It adds: "For the avoidance of any doubt, the present decision is not a decision on the merits of these cases, and therefore it is not fully relevant — at this point in time — whether the explanations of sabotage might materialise over the course of the athletes' investigation. It is also to be noted

'To use a substance that did not even enhance performance would be stupid'

THE RIDERS' CASE

issue at least a partial decision, on the disqualification, at this point.

The Tribunal found a decision on the riders' fault or negligence did not need to be made, and had not been requested.

The report reads: "The

the cases at hand only concern anti-doping rule violations."

The riders had 21 days to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. A final decision, including on sanctions, will be made when the case concludes.

Hunts' relevance assured post-ban

Packs are thriving and adapting, 15 years since the Hunting Act came in

HUNTING is not only surviving but thriving 15 years after the ban — as packs ensure they are as relevant as ever in today's society.

The Hunting Act came into force in February 2005. In 2020, hundreds of hunts continue to operate within the law, with thousands of supporters.

And packs are taking action to spread positive messages by being more active on social media, to promote their community activities and help educate those who may not understand hunting.

"We are encouraging hunts and the hunting fraternity to embrace social media and promote the many aspects of hunting life," Countryside Alliance head of hunting Polly Portwin told *H&H*. "There are large numbers of the digital generation who want to share their hunting experiences online. Social media offers the perfect opportunity to do this while also providing an educational aspect for those who

By ELEANOR JONES

could mistakenly think hunting is just about people galloping about the countryside.

"Anybody with a social media account can play their part in the positive promotion of hunting by following hunt accounts and engaging with posts."

The Hunting Office has asked all registered hunts to appoint a social media representative, to ensure positive messages spread.

It said: "This is about positive social media. Posts should focus on hunts' [role] in the countryside and rural communities, and celebrate the hounds, horses and way of life we cherish."

Jo Wall, the South Shropshire's social media administrator, is active on Facebook and Instagram, sharing information to those who are "on the fence".

"What I feel very strongly we should be, and are, doing is

putting out positive stuff; if we don't, all they'll see is negativity about hunting," she told *H&H*.

"It's not people's fault if they don't know but we need to show them what it's about."

Jo said she has a great deal of positive feedback, alongside the occasional negative comment. She hopes the next step will be more people sharing hunts' positive posts, so more neutral observers can find out more.

"It's about hearts and minds," she said. "We're normalising what we do, getting out of our huddles. Showing it's 'normal' people who go hunting, not this antis' image of people who are all fantastically wealthy. That's the kind of thing we need to get the average member of the public to realise."

On the anniversary of the ban, Jo wrote: "The countryside community remains resolute; not one hunt has closed because of the Hunting Act, and we are determined that this will remain the case. We will continue to provide employment for thousands of people... We will continue to provide services to farmers, including collecting dead stock, fencing and gate repairs. We will continue to organise social events that knit our community together, and to raise money for charities close to our hearts. We will continue to resist the tide of false information and lies disseminated by our opponents."

Countryside Alliance CEO Tim Bonner added: "The intention of the Hunting Act was to frustrate rural communities, yet today, hundreds of registered hunts continue to operate, and enjoy support from a wide range of people. Registered hunts continue to work within the law and within their communities, contributing to charities and action projects."

"There were never any valid arguments for banning hunting and the Hunting Act is almost unique in that it brings no benefits. Not to the countryside, not to rural communities, not to wildlife and not even to those who spent so long promoting it."



Scam warning over fake online pages

EQUESTRIANS have been urged to be aware of fake social media pages after a major venue's page was copied by a group trying to obtain credit card details.

Arena UK, Lincolnshire, became aware a Facebook page posing as the venue was advertising events. The fake pages were advertising livestreaming of shows and asking users to input

card details in order to watch.

Arena UK co-owner Lauren Fogg, who reported the incident to Facebook, urged people to be vigilant online.

"I don't want people to think we've been targeted because we don't have good cyber security — we take a lot of time and money to make sure we're safe for everyone to visit our sites," she told *H&H*.

"Make sure it's the right page; it's so easy to get scammed. If anyone is worried, they can alert us then we can take it further."

A spokesman for Facebook, which uses automatic tools and human review to monitor fraudulent behaviour, told *H&H*: "We have removed this page, which violated our policies on fraud and deception." **BM**

HORSES IN THE NEWS



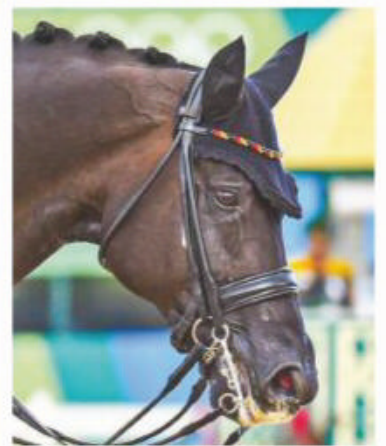
NATIVE RIVER

The Colin Tizzard-trained 2018 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner has been ruled out of the 2020 Festival and the Grand National after sustaining a tendon injury. The 10-year-old is out for the rest of the season.



DARK LEGEND

The 12-year-old ridden by Britain's Lottie Fry scored a senior freestyle personal best of 81.03% at the Gothenburg dressage World Cup leg. It was the first time the horse has broken 80% in a senior class.



DESPERADOS FRH

The Olympic gold medal-winning stallion, who bagged eight championship medals for Germany in his dressage career with Kristina Bröring-Sprehe, has died from an aortic rupture following his stud duties aged 19.

IN BRIEF

HORSES' TOES MAKE HEADLINE NEWS

HORSES still start life with five toes per foot, inherited from their distant ancestors, a new study has suggested.

Research on equine embryos undertaken by the University of Massachusetts demonstrated that for a brief phase, all five toes are present in the foetus.

Previous studies have concluded that the horse retains one central digit flanked by two "splint metapodials" — the remains of digits two and four.

The work, published by the Royal Society, indicated the two flanking toes are fusions of digits one and two and four and five — and that all five toes can be seen in the horse's early foetal development.

RIDING AFTER PREGNANCY STUDY

ISSUES and barriers faced by riders returning to the sport after pregnancy are being investigated in a new study.

Hartpury University is inviting female riders, who have had a child or children and who rode regularly before giving birth, to complete a questionnaire looking at issues including when and why women stop riding while pregnant, the type of birth they had, and issues faced when they were returning to the saddle.

● Visit: bit.ly/32tPpU0

FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON RIDING TRAILS

RIDERS are being asked for feedback to help produce a guide to trails in the South Downs National Park.

The park authority is working with the British Horse Society to develop downloadable guides, featuring some of the best circular routes in Sussex and Hampshire.

It is seeking information from riders on what their favourite routes are, ideally those between five and 10 miles in length.

● Email Allison Thorpe on access@southdowns.gov.uk with the ride's starting point (ideally with horsebox parking), the length of ride, a short description of the route and a simple map.

Debate over mouth guards in equestrian disciplines

Some riders feel gumshields should be mandatory in sport



Gumshields can help protect teeth in a fall. Library image

DEBATE on wearing gumshields in equestrian sport has resurfaced following a call from a jockey and discussion at the International Eventing Forum.

The 20-time Grade One winner Paddy Brennan called for "every jump jockey to be wearing" a gumshield, adding that his "saved his head" in a recent fall.

While talking about the best way to fall at the International Eventing Forum at Hartpury (3 February), orthopaedic surgeon Michael Eames said wearing a gumshield can help dissipate the energy in your jaw and neck, reducing the risk of a head injury.

There is no conclusive evidence that gumshields reduce risk of concussion. But some swear by them, and dental injuries are painful and expensive.

Cheltenham Gold Cup-winning amateur Sam Waley-Cohen offers cost-price mouthguards to jockeys through his business Portman Dental Care.

"We can't categorically say to jockeys if they wear gumshields, they'll have less chance of concussion," said British Horseracing Authority (BHA) chief medical adviser Jerry Hill, adding that he does encourage jockeys to wear them, especially ones that are custom-made.

"We're commissioning a new medical records system, which will allow us to gather much more useful data and do more analysis.

By LUCY ELDER

That will give us sport-specific data for racing and then we can give sensible advice," he said.

H&H has been contacted by dozens of riders across disciplines who opt to wear gumshields. All use a professionally fitted type, over the "boil and bite" version.

Abigail Lewis told H&H she is a convert after cracking teeth in a pointing fall last season.

"It was the most painful thing I've ever done," she said, adding she wears it for tooth protection and concussion prevention.

"It was £120 compared to

tweak, even if it is a very small chance [that it will help]."

Billy Aprahamian, amateur jockey and assistant to National Hunt trainer Nicky Henderson, told H&H: "It is becoming more and more common now compared to five years ago in point-to-pointing and is much more common in jump racing, where a lot of the jockeys wear them — anything to protect themselves."

Dr Anthony Lovat, dentist and founder of pioneering mouthguard company Opro, told H&H the company does not collect data on which sports customers take part in, so could not say if it has had increased demand from equestrians.

"I can say, on the whole, the use of mouthguards is on the rise globally," he said.

He added that impression-fitted mouthguards offer greater protection because they result in a better fit and the thickness is greater than that of the boil and bite version. This is because the process and machines used to create them are stronger than a human hand or bite can achieve.

"That's not to say all boil and bites are bad, but the ultimate is the custom fit," he added.

The company is working with Sports & Wellbeing Analytics on a mouthguard with technology to monitor head impact data.

Mouthguards work by absorbing energy, so the force is dissipated, reducing or eliminating dental injuries.

One rider told H&H she

'My gumshield saved my head in a fall'

PADDY BRENNAN

£800 for [the work I had]."

Aurora Eastwood, who wears a gumshield to play polo, for the same reasons, believes they should be mandatory for all fast equestrian sports.

Amateur eventer Alysén Miller told H&H research she found on mouthguards, concussion and even spinal damage prevention "didn't seem baseless".

"Absence of evidence doesn't mean evidence of absence," she said. "It does seem a very small

looked into them after a nasty fall but was advised against it by her treatment team owing to the forces riders can experience in a fall and the question whether that could result in greater damage.

Dr Lovat said in 20-plus years of Opro, he has never known a mouthguard to cause harm.

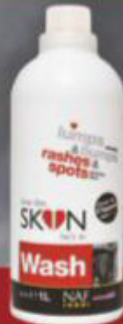
British Equestrian Federation chief medical officer Pippa Bennett told H&H there is no conclusive evidence mouthguards protect from concussion.

TIME FOR A TRUE LOVE STORY

LOVE IS ...



LOVE IS...
TARGETING MUD
CHALLENGED
SKIN



LOVE IS...
NOURISHING
WEATHER
BEATEN **SKIN**



LOVE IS...
SUPPORTING
SKIN
FROM THE INSIDE OUT



LOVE IS... PROTECTING
**EXPOSED
LEGS & HEELS**



LOVE IS... getting ready for all weather conditions
with NAF's range of products specifically formulated
to support horse's skin both inside and out.
Love the SKIN he's in is ideal for every horse, including those
with sensitive skin, or those prone to skin irritations.

love the
SKIN
he's in



FIVE STAR FOR THE BEST
PERFORMANCE WORLDWIDE

NAF
★★★★★
SUPPORT
CLEAN SPORT

TEAM
GBR
OFFICIAL
SUPPLIER

For more details please call our Nutritional Advice Line:
0800 373 106 or email info@naf-uk.com

naf-equine.eu/uk

Protecting horse welfare throughout their lives

A new five-year welfare strategy for racing in Britain will have an impact throughout the equestrian world

PROMOTING and protecting the fact racehorses enjoy “a life well lived” is the key message in British racing’s new welfare strategy.

While horse welfare is undeniably at the heart of British racing and equestrian sport, this five-year plan is the first time racing has had a single, overarching welfare strategy that covers thoroughbreds not just in racing, but from birth to death.

The Horse Welfare Board (HWB), comprising a cross-section of the industry, put forward 20 recommendations on areas from euthanasia to the ethics of using horses in sport, whip rules, more data collection and improved traceability.

Its aims are: best possible quality of life, best possible safety, lifetime responsibility and growth and maintenance of trust.

The overarching message was on accountability — that this is not a policy that has been dictated by the sport’s decision-makers, but the responsibility of everyone who deals with thoroughbreds bred for racing.

“The welfare of the racehorse is without doubt the most challenging debate affecting racehorses in this country or anywhere in the world,” said independent chairman Barry Johnson.

“It is important to emphasise



The Horse Welfare Board’s five-year strategy aims to make British racing a world-leader in equine welfare

By LUCY ELDER

the Horse Welfare Board isn’t starting from scratch, but building on an impressive body of work from within the sport.

“British racing must be a world-leader in equine welfare. Racing should seek not only to survive, but to flourish.”

The board warned of racing becoming a political topic and the risks this could pose to the sport’s future.

It stressed racing has to be happy and confident in discussing the ethics of using horses in racing and to explain why horses have a better life because of the sport.

“We can have the best welfare in the world but if we aren’t telling people about it, we can find ourselves on the back foot,” said programme director Alison Enticknap.

“The word ‘defensive’ comes up a lot and that comes from a good place — we are defensive because it matters to us. If we didn’t care, it wouldn’t matter.”

She referred to a quote from the strategy, which reads: “Every interaction on welfare is an opportunity to surprise people, to dispel a myth, or to change someone’s mind”.

“In every interaction on welfare, we need to be inspiring a positive change in attitudes, not simply seeking to make a difficult conversation go away,” Alison added.

The strategy is about the future of racing, but it will trickle into other disciplines. The points are in many cases as relevant for sport and leisure horses as for the racing thoroughbred.

Accountability of owners and better education on their responsibilities, traceability of

horses, improving safety and creating an end-of-life, decision-making tool — all these and more are as relevant to the sport horse owner as racing yards.

CODE OF ETHICS

ONE recommendation was to develop a code of ethics, which “underlines the sport’s commitment to its horses” and has been mooted to be developed with other equine sports as a “sport horse charter”.

The final recommendation is for racing to “step up its engagement and collaboration with other equine sports and sectors”.

There are still some questions to be answered — where the funding is going to come from for the 20 recommendations and 26 projects over the next five years is a major one.

Tougher sanctions for whip

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Kiwi eventer **Jonelle Price** and her husband, top eventer Tim, welcomed baby girl, Abel Casey, on 10 February. The Prices said their son Otis is proud to introduce visitors to his “liddle” sister.



Two-time Grand National-winning jockey **Leighton Aspell** retired at Fontwell on 23 February. Leighton, who will still do pre-training for people, said the retirement was “emotional”.



Para dressage rider **Suzanna Hext** will focus on swimming for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics after making the “difficult” decision to step back from equestrian competition for 2020.

Pictures by Simon Cooper, Peter Nixon, Bill Selwyn and Mike Sturk

rule breaches are on the horizon, with a consultation and review of penalties recommended “ideally by the end of October”.

Between 2010 and 2018, the number of whip offences decreased by nearly 40%.

Despite this, the welfare board warned that the sport “cannot afford to be complacent of the salience of the whip as a political issue” and the barrier they believe it presents in encouraging people into the sport.

The Horse Welfare Board states the need to increase penalties is its “clear, minimum recommendation”, in particular for whip action offences (for example, over shoulder height), whip modification offences and repeat or multiple offences by the same jockey.

It states that the consultation should seek views on fines and suspensions, and prize money sanctions, as well as the possibility of disqualification and discussion over future banning or retention of the whip for encouragement.

Mr Johnson added that this is “a matter of public trust” and not the case that the HWB wants the whip banned.

“We’d like people, especially those unfamiliar with horses, to understand and accept what’s necessary for our jockeys to

the whip consultation.

BHA chief executive Nick Rust said he was “proud of the work already done by the sport” and the welfare board’s ambition.

“Racing people want the very best for our horses,” he said. “We would love more people outside our sport to understand just how much we put into keeping horses safe and allowing them to enjoy the quality of life that goes with being an equine athlete.

“I know our sport has been frustrated at times, because it feels not enough has been done to speak up for racing. I firmly believe the strategy gives us a platform to talk about all the good things we do with pride and confidence. That is why it is a pivotal moment, an opportunity to show that we can be trusted to do the right thing for our horses.”

World Horse Welfare’s chief executive Roly Owers described it as a “watershed moment” for British racing.

“It not only sees the first truly integrated approach to equine welfare across the industry, but it also clearly recognises the importance of public perception and its relevance to the future of racing,” he said.

“We welcome the focus on not just the care of horses but their quality of life and basing decisions

‘If we didn’t care, it wouldn’t matter’

ALISON ENTICKNAP

race safely in a fair sporting competition,” he said. “It’s not about taking away the whip.

“Anyone who’s ridden a half-tonne horse knows you need to be able to exercise control for the safety of horse and rider. This is about what should be allowable under our rules and how we penalise misuse to keep breaches to a minimum.”

THE REACTION

THE industry reaction has been overwhelmingly positive.

The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) has called it a “pivotal moment”, accepting all the recommendations including

on rigorous evidence.

“The board has been thorough in its rationale and sound in its recommendations, and while it doesn’t provide a detailed framework, it does set out a clear direction of travel that everyone within racing needs to embrace and be seen to be doing so.

“Without doubt there are going to be some challenging days ahead, but World Horse Welfare will support British racing to implement the board’s recommendations, which have the potential both to create a bright future for the sport and enhance the wellbeing of the thousands of racehorses involved.”



Olympic medal-winning American showjumper **McLain Ward** and wife Lauren have welcomed a new baby girl, Madison. Madison is the couple’s second daughter and sister to Lilly.



British Eventing’s (BE) chief sport officer **Paul Graham** is leaving at the end of February. Paul, who started the role in July 2019, said it had been “satisfying” to see the sport move forward.

THE ORGANISATION — OF HORSEBOX — & TRAILER OWNERS

SPECIALIST HORSEBOX AND TRAILER BREAKDOWN COVER

01488 657650

www.horsebox-rescue.co.uk



Copyright - SBM Photographic

- Roadside Assistance / Repair
- Professional Horse Transport
- Vehicle Recovery
- Full UK Cover
- Optional European Assistance



Proprietors

HORSES IN THE NEWS



MR MOSES

Frank Slattery's coloured cob, who stood champion at Horse of the Year Show (HOYS), Great Yorkshire and the Royal Highland, has died aged 26. He was ridden by Zoe Hyslop and competed at HOYS 10 times.



CHIASMA

Frankel's two-year-old full sister (Galileo x Danehill) has gone into training with John Gosden. Bred by Juddmonte Farms, she is only the second filly out of Kind — the other being Joyeuse (by Oasis Dream).



CARROWMORE GEMSTONE

The pony eventer medallist, who won European team gold, team and individual silver with Louisa and Rose Nesbitt, has retired aged 23. "Eze" also enjoyed success with Annabel Yarrow and Lily Stamp.

Vigilance urged at all times for fatal laminitis

Owners are warned that the deadly disease can strike at all times of year



Vets warn grass growth varies day to day, not just between seasons

OWNERS are reminded of the importance of being vigilant for laminitis; not focusing on it as a "seasonal" disease.

Professionals are urging owners to act now to reduce horses' and ponies' weight, and to seek immediate veterinary advice if they see signs of the condition.

Chloe Casalis de Pury, of Buckinghamshire-based Chess Valley Equine Vets, has treated two acute cases of laminitis this year involving ponies who had no history of the disease — and were kept on "bare" paddocks.

"We're seeing more laminitis in what we used to think of as 'safe' periods; late autumn or very early spring. Both ponies are mild cases,

'One of the worst diseases'

VET CHLOE CASALIS DE PURY

but we are hearing of others who are becoming 'footy' too," she said.

"We are becoming more aware of laminitis and less tolerant of the chronically footy pony, which means we're seeing these acute or chronic flare-ups more than we would have done 10 years ago."

Dr Casalis de Pury said it is never too late for owners to act.

By BECKY MURRAY

"Now is the time to be taking precautions, such as restricting grazing or using track systems [see box, right] that encourage movement, especially if horses or ponies are carrying too many pounds. There are very few excuses," she said.

"It is one of the worst diseases a horse could face. We have seen international dressage horses put down because of this disease."

Lucy Grieve, member of the British Equine Veterinary Association's (BEVA) ethics and welfare committee, told *H&H* it is important not to focus solely on "seasonal" laminitis.

"Grass growth, and so sugar levels, can vary from day to day, never mind between seasons, so it's not as simple as we would hope. There is the misconception if the field is 'bare' it's safe, but grass is simply being eaten as fast as it is growing, so the horse is still consuming potentially dangerous amounts," she said.

"Obesity is the biggest cause of pasture-associated laminitis, so it stands to reason that keeping horses slim will reduce risks. I urge owners to be honest about weight; we can instinctively know our horse may be more fat than

TRACK SYSTEM BENEFITS

A GOOD way to help manage equine weight and reduce the risk of laminitis is movement.

Lucy Grieve, member of the British Equestrian Veterinary Association's ethics and welfare committee, and vet Chloe Casalis de Pury agreed that implementing an exercise programme and creating a track system can be useful.

"Don't let your horse sit in the field like a couch potato," said Ms Grieve. "Do more with them — they are athletic animals who enjoy exercise. The more they do, the fitter they'll get, and the more you will both benefit. If you really want to enhance their daily life, invest in a track system and research ways to enrich their environments — they'll thank you for it."

Dr Casalis de Pury said a track system restricts grazing while encouraging movement.

"Instead of strip-grazing, run electric fence around the outside of the field so you are minimising the acreage the horse can graze," she said.

"If water is at one end, the gate at the other and any hay in the middle, you encourage them to walk around more than if they're standing on a postage stamp of grass and are incredibly bored — that's not great for welfare either."

"I've seen people use different surfaces, such as a loafing area with woodchip or sand where horses can roll — you can get as imaginative as you want," she said.

fit, but sometimes it feels easier to bury our head in the sand."

Farrier Antony Marris told *H&H* laminitis can be fatal in equines of all breeds and sizes, adding that unpredictable weather can catch owners out.

"In the last couple of years, we've had really extreme weather so it can be difficult to manage if it's mild, then a sudden hard frost or influx of snow — these can be serious triggers," he said.

"If an owner suspects laminitis, they shouldn't hesitate to seek advice; it's a veterinary emergency."



PREMIER EQUINE

ENGLAND

MASTERS IN THE ART OF RUG MAKING



ADD
+
LINERS

BUSTER ZERO™

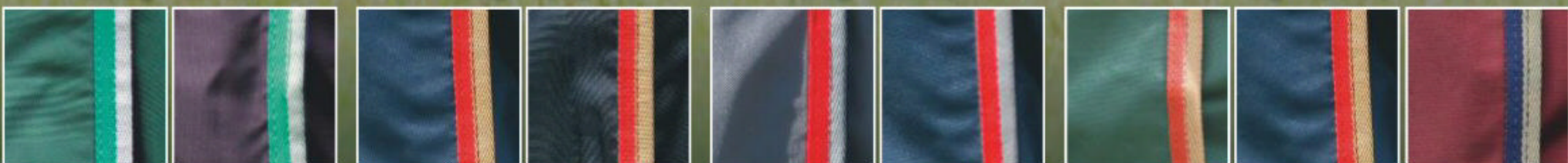
WITH CLASSIC DETACHABLE NECK COVER - AVAILABLE IN BURGUNDY, GREEN OR NAVY - **£144**

200g - **£155**

100g - **£154**

50g - **£150**

0g - **£144**



www.premierequine.co.uk | Order Line 01469 532279

FREE DELIVERY on orders over £100 in UK and 20 EU countries

▲ WOMEN DRIVERS

A rider who came to the rescue when a posh car was stuck in a flood, because the recovery team didn't want wet feet and she had her wellies on, was also amused to be told how to drive her horsebox in such conditions by a number of male drivers... always appreciated, chaps!

▲ OPTIMISM

So the school's flooded, the fields are waterlogged and many roads aren't much better. But let's look on the bright side — good water jump practice for the approaching eventing season? Worth a try?

▲ MAKING AN EFFORT

A rider FaceTiming her absent husband was surprised to be asked why she'd "got all done up". "I haven't," she said, confused. "I've just had a bath, I'm clean." Ah. Riders and Muggles alike know where you're coming from.

GOOD WEEK

BAD WEEK

▼ WEATHER

Day 5,672 of the storm. No fences are left standing. Herds of feral Shetlands are roaming the land, destruction in their wake. The muted roar is the desperate chant of riders everywhere: "Spring is coming. Spring is coming"...

▼ MORE WEATHER

Talking of storms, *H&H* has previously given very sage advice on when to expect rain (leave horses unrugged) and sun (put rugs on). We can now adapt that to say, simply, yes, it will rain today. You're welcome.

▼ BEHAVIOUR

A Muggle parent and a childless rider were discussing bad behaviour. "You don't know the meaning of the words until you've had twin toddlers," the frazzled former said. "Ah," answered the rider, with a knowing grin. "But I've got two Shetlands and a Jack Russell." We have a winner.

Riders join forces across UK to get message across

More than 120 Pass Wide and Slow rides will be taking place as part of an annual awareness-raising campaign



There were 53 awareness rides held in 2019

By BECKY MURRAY

HUNDREDS of equestrians will take part in awareness rides across the country aiming to educate drivers on passing horses safely, with other road users' support.

The Pass Wide and Slow (PWAS) road safety campaign will hold the annual event on 10 May with 125 rides planned, up from 53 in 2019.

PWAS founder Debbie Smith told *H&H* the number of planned rides was "incredible".

"In 2016 we only had 20. This year it really seems to have taken off and it's because everybody feels the same; there are thousands of houses being built, roads are getting busier and if we don't do something we'll get pushed off the roads eventually," she said.

"The rides are about raising awareness in drivers on how to pass horses safely, and reminding riders to wear hi-vis and head cameras, be polite and keep themselves safe — it's a two-part thing and has to be about awareness all round."

Last year rides were supported by walkers, cyclists and mounted police forces including Gloucestershire, West Yorkshire and West Mercia, and this year it is hoped motorcyclists will join in.

"Bikers are vulnerable like us and have similar problems — drivers don't always look out for them. It would be lovely to have motorbikes with us; it can be about both of us," said Debbie.

Wakefield-based motorcyclist Gary Baker joined the PWAS group after he saw a Facebook post from a rider thanking a trail bike group for stopping and turning their engines off.

Mr Baker told *H&H* it's important groups work together.

"On trail bikes some people think we shouldn't be on byways, and horse riders seem to have the same problem, so it's about sticking up for each other," he said.

"I'm speaking with the Trail

Riders Fellowship, a national organisation that promotes trail riding, and we've asked what riders want us to do when we come across them — I want to get that message out to as many bike groups as I can. I plan to join an awareness ride near me and I'll be making people aware of them and asking others if they want to join."

The British Horse Society's director of safety Alan Hiscox told *H&H* rides can be an excellent way to raise awareness, adding "we're all working together".

"It's great to see the campaigning the PWAS group has been doing continues to grow, and this is evident in the number of rides that will take place," he said.

"Working with other vulnerable road users is really important and another way to get the message out there that we can all share the roads."

"It is important to remember that if we're asking drivers to apply to the Highway Code that equestrians do the same."

And finally... Alan the pony

ALAN the £5 pony is heading to the Winter Area Festival Championships.

Spartacus VI, as he is formally known, and Vicci Smith will be competing in prelim silver at Hartpury in April.

Vicci told *H&H* a friend bought Alan from people living by the A19 as a foal, but he did not grow big enough.

"I thought he sounded ace and I'd give him a chance," she

said. "We agreed I'd pay £1 but I only had a £5 note!"

The pair got into dressage "by accident" but qualified for the Area Festival Finals, at which they finished fourth, securing a championship wild card.

"I didn't expect anything because everyone looked very professional — and there was me on my little hairy cob," Vicci said. "He's my, and my family's, best friend." **EJ**



Picture by Robert Bristow



TADCASTER NORTH YORKSHIRE

3 | 5 | 3 | Acres 8 | EPC: F

Contact: 01937 223016 £2,600,000



EVERDON NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

3 | 5 | 3 | Acres 15.6 | EPC: B

Contact: 01788 820062 offers over £1,750,000



MOGGERHANGER BEDFORDSHIRE

3 | 4 | 2 | Acres 3 | EPC: C

Contact: 01234 607999 guide price £1,200,000



ROYDON ESSEX

3 | 5 | 3 | Acres 2 | EPC: D

Contact: 01279 757500 OIEO £1,200,000



BURTON CHESHIRE

3 | 4 | 3 | Acres 4.2 | EPC: G

Contact: 01513 056956 £1,195,000



LEAGRAM LANCASHIRE

3 | 5 | 3 | Acres 2.25 | EPC: C

Contact: 01254 828922 offers over £900,000



STILTON CAMBRIDGESHIRE

2 | 3 | 2 | Acres 4 | EPC: C

Contact: 01780 750200 guide price £850,000



NR LANCASTER LANCASHIRE

4 | 5 | 2 | Acres 5 | EPC: D

Contact: 01524 380560 guide price £800,000



ASHBOCKING SUFFOLK

2 | 4 | 2 | Acres 3 | EPC: F

Contact: 01473 289700 £800,000



BEDWAS CAERPHILLY

3 | 4 | 3 | Acres 4 | EPC: D

Contact: 02921 690690 £700,000



ASHFIELD SUFFOLK

4 | 3 | 2 | Acres 4 | EPC: F

Contact: 01473 289700 £650,000



SHEEPWASH DEVON

2 | 4 | 2 | Acres 5.1 | EPC: E

Contact: 01805 626990 £550,000

All acreage is STS.



Indoor and outdoor shows both have a place when training horses

PUTTING ON A SHOW

THERE have been good comments recently from Graham Fletcher (6 February) and Shirley Light (13 February) about UK shows and show centres.

We have some good venues in the UK, which are doing a great job hosting shows outdoors throughout the winter for us, and spring and autumn tours would

be appreciated by those of us who stay in this country.

However, it's imperative we keep our indoor circuit going. It's ideal for starting young horses' careers and necessary when conditions are just too bad outdoors.

Jumping indoors is a great test of how well schooled a horse is and offers them an opportunity

to become used to atmosphere. To keep the indoor circuit on the road, maybe the answer is to help our show centres obtain rates relief and sponsorship, and change classification from equestrian to agricultural as it is on the Continent.

Whether indoors or out, show centre staff should be appreciated, and riders and owners should be provided with the best possible facilities, otherwise showjumping in this country could decline.

Rosie Moss

Andover, Hants

A LACK OF INTEGRITY

A FRIEND of mine sold her novice event horse for a realistic price to a professional event rider, pointing out that the horse had suffered a tendon injury and been rested for a year, before competing for a season with no issues. My friend gave the event rider the phone number of the vet, who confirmed the horse's medical history.

This month, however, my friend was contacted by a lady who was buying the horse from the event rider, who was asking a

substantial sum. But the eventer lied, saying that the horse had been vetted at purchase and passed with flying colours. My friend was horrified at the lack of integrity by a professional rider.

Before agreeing to buy any horse, contact the riders present and past, and look up the horse's results history. Giving a clear picture that adds up historically is beneficial to everyone concerned.

Anna Sims-Hilditch

Calne, Wilts

IS THE GYM TOO MUCH?

FURTHER to Joanna Thurman-Baker's dressage blog on the *H&H* website suggesting riders go to the gym less (11 February), I disagree. Most of us are not riding multiple horses each day, which would obviously keep us in shape.

Being fit for riding is not the only reason to go to the gym. Some of us want an attractive figure, while others might simply enjoy the training. My reason is that powerlifting is my other sport. I also do flexibility work.

Katherine Rousseaux

Gipplands, Australia

HORSE&HOUND

NEXT WEEK



DON'T MISS

SPORT HORSE BREEDING: OBOS QUALITY 004, SCOTTISH STUDS, PLUS OWNING A STALLION



CHELTENHAM

FESTIVAL PREVIEW: PHILIP KIRBY, TRAINER OF LADY BUTTONS

PLUS Capt Ian Farquhar visits the Essex and Suffolk, BSPA Festival of Showing report, Bishop Burton and Wellington dressage regionals and what to do if your horse crib-bites



EVENTING

FIRST 2020 REPORT PLUS LIFE LESSONS WITH MARK KYLE

Feeding the best in Sport Horse Breeding

SPILLERS™ is proud to feed the elite horses at Stallion AI Services. To find out more about our extensive range of feeds for your Sport Horse please visit www.spillers-feeds.com or call the **SPILLERS™** Care-Line on + 44 (0)1908 226626.



@horseandhound



facebook.com/horseandhound
instagram.com/horseandhound



LETTER OF THE WEEK

I THINK the National Pony Society's weigh-in scheme is a great idea, as it offers guidance on feeding ponies a balanced diet to keep them in tip-top condition. Many confuse show condition with fat, so the scheme will be a useful way to educate people about their pony's health.

However, while it will get people talking about equine obesity, a topic that needs addressing, until show judges start crediting the animals that are a healthy weight and condition, owners will continue

to ignore their vet's advice on overfeeding in pursuit of that red rosette.

Without judges supporting vets and nutritionists by rewarding those who keep their ponies at a healthy weight, the changes needed to fix the obesity

problem in show horses and ponies won't happen.
Ellie Marshall Smith
Leeds, W Yorks



The writer of letter of the week wins a bottle of Champagne Taittinger

ENOUGH AND NO MORE

I AGREE with Joanna Thurman-Baker. I am 52 and have been riding dressage on other people's horses for almost 14 years. I struggled for most of those and made little progress, so I worked out, did yoga and hiked. However, I convinced myself that I wasn't doing enough, so I upped the ante to include circuit training and yoga twice a week, and kickboxing once a week — still to no avail.

My instructor suggested I may be doing too much, so I started pelvic floor physical therapy, followed by physical therapy to improve the mess my muscles were in. And now I'm finally seeing results, understanding "feel" and collection at walk and trot.

I have come to learn that there is no secret exercise or ritual to success; each person has their own journey. And now my mantra is, "Just enough and no more."

Kim Lockwood
Carlisle, Pennsylvania

WHITE'S ALL RIGHT

WITH regard to S Edmunds' letter (30 January), having worked in National Hunt racing I was told early on about the prevalence of best turned out at racecourses. This usually comes with a cash prize or a gift or voucher from the race sponsor.

White bands make the plaits stand out to those judging — usually non-horsey hospitality guests — and increase the chances of winning that extra prize, ditto the addition of quarter marks. A loose, albeit pulled, mane can look scruffy to those who might not appreciate a well-pulled, tidy mane, and as such plaited horses generally win best turned out.

Personally, I enjoyed plaiting and grooming, and took pride in the horses' appearance.

Erin Attride
Woodley, Berks

GROOMS, KEEP IT UP!

FURTHER to the plaited vs pulled mane debate, and even though I'm a traditionalist, white bands on plaits are very attractive.

I would ask S Edmunds to look at pictures of racehorses from the past and compare turnout with that of today. Modern grooms do a wonderful job — keep it up.

Ray Middleton
Angus, Scotland

HAVE YOUR SAY

Do you feel strongly about an issue in the horse world? Write to H&H at hhletters@ti-media.com and please include your full name and address.

HORSE&HOUND

Established 1884

Editorial queries 01252 555029
Advertising queries 0800 316 5450

Pinehurst 2, Pinehurst Road, Farnborough Business Park,
Farnborough, Hants GU14 7BF.

To email use firstname.surname@ti-media.com

To telephone use 01252 5 and the extension below

EDITORIAL

Editor-in-Chief **Sarah Jenkins**

Magazine Editor/Eventing/Endurance **Pippa Roome** (07815 442555)

Website Editor **Carol Phillips** (55024)

News Editor **Eleanor Jones** (55021)

Features Editor/Polo/Riding Clubs **Martha Terry** (55025)

Showjumping **Jennifer Donald** (55048)

Dressage/Products/Breeding **Polly Bryan** (55035)

Showing/Vet/Features Assistant **Alex Robinson** (55026)

Hunting **Catherine Austen** (55033)

Racing/Driving/Team Chasing/Pony Club/Point-to-Point/Editorial Assistant
Hannah Lemieux (55029)

Chief Sub Editor (Print) **Victoria Rea** (55087)

Print Sub Editor **Briony Reed** (55037)

Print Sub Editor **Jane Gazzard**

Products Assistant/Print Sub Editor **Georgia Guerin** (55070)

Acting Art Editor **Sarah Readman** (55039)

Senior Designer **Sophie Cheeseman**

Picture Editor **Richard Tole** (55043)

Senior Picture Researcher **Rebecca Pattenden** (55042)

Senior News Writer **Lucy Elder** (55020)

News Writer **Becky Murray** (55036)

Web Features Editor **Gemma Redrup** (55023)

Studio Director **Brett Lewis** (55137)

Group Art Director **Dean Usher** (55242)

PUBLISHING

Managing Director **Gareth Beesley**

Senior Marketing Manager **Nicola McClure** (55115)

Senior Marketing Executive **Hannah Rought** (55122)

Group Managing Director **Andrea Davies**

ADVERTISING

Head of Market **Justeen Jones** (01622 861148)

Production Manager **Chris Gozzett** (020 3148 2691)

Property Account Manager **Oliver Pearson** (07961 800887)

Book your classified advert online at horseandhound.co.uk/placeadvert

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Email help@magazinesdirect.com or

call 0330 333 1113 (from the UK) or 0044 330 333 1113 (from overseas)

24-hour H&H customer self-service subscriptions site mymagazine.co.uk

SERVICES

To order a photograph email hhprintorders@ti-media.com

To order a past issue, visit mags-uk.com/browse-by-title/horse-hound.html

Editorial complaints: We work hard to achieve the highest standards of editorial content and we are committed to complying with the Editors' Code of Practice (ipso.co.uk/IPSO/cop.html) as enforced by IPSO. If you have a complaint about our editorial content, you can email us at complaints@ti-media.com or write to Complaints Manager, TI Media Legal Department, 3rd Floor, Marsh Wall, London E14 9AP. Please provide details of the material you are complaining about and explain your complaint by reference to the Editors' Code. We will try to acknowledge your complaint within five working days and we aim to correct substantial errors as soon as possible.



International dressage judge

Stephen Clarke on being talent-spotted by Harvey Smith, judging record-breaking tests and being proud to be British

When I was a child, all I could think about was riding. I grew up in Wales next to a farm that had great but wild ponies. If I could stay on board, I was allowed to train and show them. I set up my own stables before the age of 20 and had showjumpers, hunters and event horses.

Harvey Smith spotted me at a local show with my Connemara/thoroughbred Daybreak and told me I should compete at Hickstead. I had no idea how to go about it. Harvey arranged everything. I had no money for a hotel, so slept in my mare's stable with a bale of straw separating us.

I had always tried to train my event horses and showjumpers to be supple and responsive, so I decided to train my showjumpers to the higher levels of dressage. Much to my amazement, they were successful.

I was offered a job at the Wirral Riding Centre, where I competed two grand prix horses, as well as Ulysses, who became my first international grand prix horse.

I then spent two winters training with Ernst Bachinger at the Spanish Riding School. Ulysses was sold, but I had a horse I had bought as a two-year-old waiting in the wings. With help from Jennie Loriston-Clarke and Ferdi Eilberg, Becket went on to be reserve for the 1988 Olympics.

running my training centre.

About 30 years ago, I was asked by top international judge Eric Lette to go to the Netherlands to judge a championship. I was told it wasn't an exam, but by the end, Eric said with a wink, "By the way, you passed the test," and so I became an international judge.

'My British Airways app tells me I have flown the distance equivalent of going to the moon and back three times over the past decade'

I started judging in my early 20s as I became fed up with everyone moaning about the judging. I discovered it's not that easy, and trying to balance the complexities so you give a fair mark to every rider through every movement takes a lot of concentration.

I worked my way up the judging list while competing and

I seem to travel endlessly — probably 20 or 30 international shows a year. My British Airways app tells me I have flown the distance equivalent of going to the moon and back three times over the past decade.

In 2013, I became the FEI dressage judge general. The job involves developing the

uniformity of judging worldwide. Judging is all about trying to keep things in perspective and acknowledging that every rider is trying to do their best. My goal is to ensure young judges have the opportunity to develop their education and skills.

I have been part of situations that were beyond my wildest dreams. Being president of the ground jury at the 2012 London Olympics was an honour. I was so proud of our country. To be on the judging panel when Totilas and Valegro broke the world records was beyond exciting. The privilege of being able to award 10s for movements where you just can't imagine how it could be better is so exciting.

Some years ago, I was on the judging panel at a show in Florida. The other Europeans and I were jet-lagged. Apart from the judge at B, we failed to notice that one of the riders had missed two movements during the grand prix. I still get a red face thinking about it. **H&H**

● As told to Leslie Bliss

NEXT WEEK

Cheltenham Racecourse doctor Lee Humphreys

Picture by trevor-meeks-photography.co.uk





PRO
REACTION

LIGHTWEIGHT BOOTS OFFERING
ULTIMATE SHOCK PROTECTION



SOFT PERFORATED
NEOPRENE LINING



STRONG AND
DURABLE BOOTS



CONSISTENT
AIR FLOW



DESIGNED BY
HY EQUESTRIAN

Hy-Equestrian.com  

AVAILABLE AT STOCKISTS NATIONWIDE

A NEW AGE IN EVENTING
BOOT TECHNOLOGY

Nº1

PATENTED
AIR COOLING
TECHNOLOGY



CARBON TECH
ICONIC

CARBON TECH AIR COOLED EVENTING BOOTS

FRONT (PAIR) **£68** HIND (PAIR) **£72**   


PREMIER EQUINE
ENGLAND

www.premierequine.co.uk | Order Line 01469 532279

Free Delivery on orders over £100 in UK and 20 EU countries



Although racing fatalities are at an all-time low, thanks to improved training methods and veterinary expertise, there is still the need for more training

Horse down

New training and techniques for racing emergencies could mean safer sport for all horses and humans, as *Lesley Barwise-Munro MRCVS* explains

THE latest statistics from the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) show that the five-year rolling average fatality rate for horses racing in the UK now stands at the lowest on record — at 0.19%. Not

THE VET

LESLEY BARWISE-MUNRO MRCVS, from Alnorthumbria Veterinary Group, Northumberland, is the senior vet at Newcastle Racecourse, and attended the London and Rio Olympics and World Equestrian Games as an FEI treating vet. alnorthumbriavets.co.uk, 01670 897597

only has there been a significant drop in fatality figures, but an overall decrease of 36% in the rate of long-term injuries sustained on the track.

Reasons for these ongoing reductions range from improvement in the methods and standards of racehorse training to more sophisticated practices for preparing racetracks. However, one of the key factors has been the heightened expertise of the veterinary teams on duty.

The BHA stipulates that a racecourse vet must attend a casualty management training course once every five years, run by the Association of Racecourse Veterinary Surgeons (ARVS) and underpinned by the BHA. Both societies now recognise

the need for more training, however, on an annual basis, to ensure vets have the necessary skills and equipment to respond appropriately. And that training should involve not just the vets but the whole racecourse team — the doctors, paramedics, ground staff, horse ambulance and screens teams, stewards and the clerk of the course.

This training is being carried out by the ARVS in association with the British Animal Rescue and Trauma Care Association (BARTA). As part of the new BHA initiative, an appraisal system will also be in place to ensure all racecourses meet minimum standards of veterinary care, protocols and equipment.

While the training is geared

to the racetrack, these skills and techniques can be used in everyday emergency practice and are transferable to event cover in a range of equestrian sports.

RACE AGAINST TIME

AN important part of the training deals with how to work safely around the recumbent horse. It is never acceptable to expect a point-to-point fence judge to grab the leg of a fallen horse to help him roll over. The thrashing head and limbs of a struggling horse can be extremely dangerous to the assisting team or an injured jockey in close proximity.

If a jockey is trapped under a horse, doctors, vets, ground staff and the person controlling the incident must work together

Improved cooling systems are vital for treating heat stress in a racehorse



Beating the heat

THE provision of improved cooling facilities at racetracks across the UK has been a focal point of the new appraisal system.

Factors that contribute to heat stress include sub-optimal fitness, high ambient temperature, high humidity and longer-distance jump races over undulating tracks. Some horses seem to be more at risk than others and are now flagged up to the on-course vets at each race meeting by the BHA veterinary officer.

Heat stress can be life-threatening. Signs typically develop some minutes after racing, as the heat in the horse's body builds up, and include rapid breathing that fails to recover, agitation, incoordination, kicking out and drooping of the head with the ears held to the sides. Treatment involves applying large volumes of cold (iced, if possible) water to the horse's whole body, to promote heat conduction through the skin. The vet may administer anti-inflammatory agents and sometimes intravenous fluids as emergency treatment.

Believe it or not, we occasionally experience warm weather conditions for the four-mile-long Eider Chase, which is held each February at Newcastle Racecourse and considered by some as a trial for the Grand National.

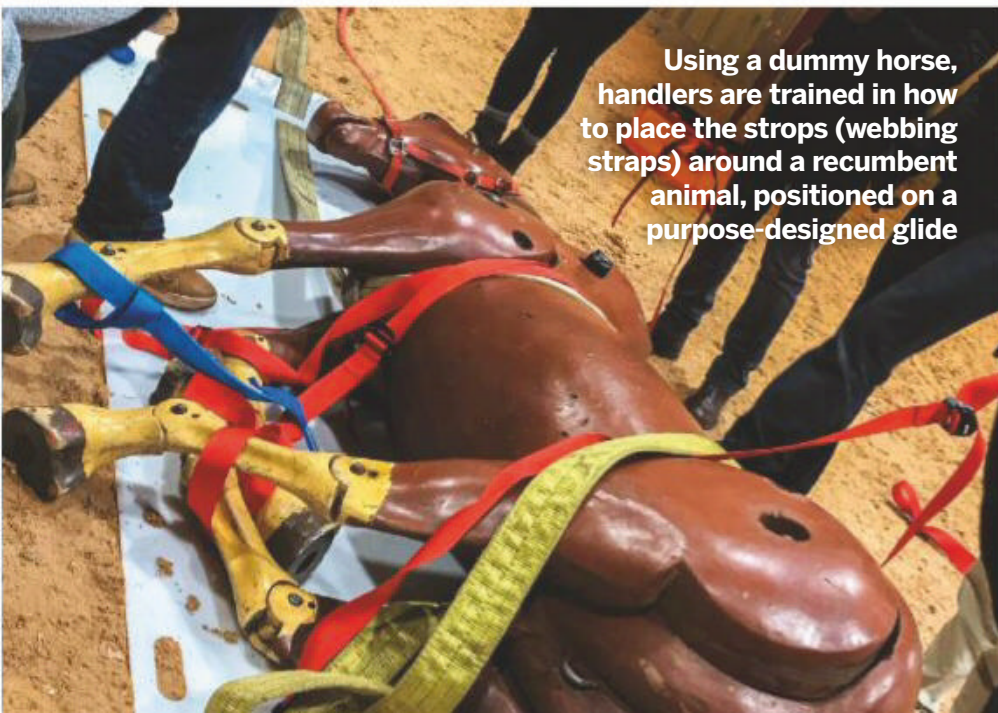
Last year, a horse began to show signs of heat stress upon arriving in the parade ring after the race. The management of this case required a large number of people to erect and hold screens and to administer veterinary treatment. At the same time, more people provided a continual supply of buckets of cold water to apply to the horse for around 20 minutes, until he recovered sufficiently to be walked safely back to the stables.

as the situation unfolds. The vets use clear protocols to respond rapidly, working with the medical team to ascertain the best method and direction in which to move the horse.

This type of incident can be

life-threatening for the jockey and has occurred on occasion in both racing and eventing. Following a relatively recent racing incident, vets are aware that the situation may require giving the horse general

Using a dummy horse, handlers are trained in how to place the strops (webbing straps) around a recumbent animal, positioned on a purpose-designed glide



A Robert Jones bandage is an effective way of stabilising a limb fracture



anaesthesia and fully assessing his injuries only once the rider has been safely removed.

The quickest, safest method of moving a horse away from an injured or trapped jockey involves the use of strops. Trained groundstaff using a specially designed metal "introducer" will place these webbing straps in specific positions under the horse's body, according to which way he needs to be moved. There may not be time to wait for a tractor to arrive to help move the horse. With two or three people on the end of each strop, a horse can be moved quickly.

These techniques rarely need to be used, thankfully, but when they are required the whole operation must be very slick. Training must, therefore, be repeated at intervals throughout the year.

Another useful piece of equipment is a glide, a type of drag mat used to transfer an anaesthetised horse up the ramp into an ambulance and to an area for veterinary assessment.

INJURY ASSESSMENT

ON occasion, there may be uncertainty about the type and severity of injury a horse has sustained. Vets are now trained to obtain a second opinion as necessary while the horse is in situ, or to apply a support system to an affected limb so that he can be transported off the course to the veterinary treatment room to be reassessed.

Modern digital radiography (DR) and scanning equipment allows immediate email or WhatsApp communication to a specialist orthopaedic surgeon, for guidance as to whether a fracture is repairable and the long-term prognosis. Many more lower limb fractures can now be repaired, but welfare of the horse has to be the top priority throughout.

Better support systems for travelling horses with limb

fractures to referral centres are also more widely and effectively used — for example, a cast or a Robert Jones bandage, or a variety of splinting techniques.

Screens erected around an incident do not necessarily indicate that a serious injury has occurred. They are used primarily to provide a quiet, safe and private place for the vet or doctor to carry out their assessments. Regular training for the screens team is essential, so they know how to position them correctly.

Euthanasia on the racetrack is a sensitive issue, but it is sometimes essential for the welfare of a horse who has suffered a fatal injury. The method of choice is no longer a firearm, but intravenous chemical euthanasia. Sedatives and euthanasia solution should be ready, as this facilitates the procedure when it is required.

Major incident management also forms part of annual training. If a fire breaks out in the stables, for example, the racecourse team must assess the direction in which it is progressing before starting to move the horses to safety in an appropriate order. This requires a lot of manpower; there may be more than 100 horses attending the meeting, with each travelling groom in charge of more than one horse.

Opening the stable doors might be the first reaction, but loose horses galloping around — and possibly in the dark — would be a danger to themselves and others. Each needs to be led out individually and may require veterinary sedation, hence the need for a large volume of sedative to be available. A contingency plan must also be in place for the treatment of injuries and burns. **H&H**

NEXT WEEK

Crib-biting: what do we know?

HORSE&HOUND

THE INTERVIEW

Paul Nicholls with top chaser Cyrname, who Paul admits used to be a 'tearaway' before mellowing with age

Paul Nicholls

The reigning champion trainer tells *Martha Terry* about his big-race contenders, a reformed tearaway and why Bryony Frost might become the first woman to win the Grand National

THERE'S a hallowed selection of boxes on the right as you enter Paul Nicholls' yard, which is built halfway up a hill on a dairy farm in the Mendips, Somerset. The stable doors are adorned with green plaques, denoting previous incumbents' Grade One successes. A whole wall is dedicated to the exploits of Kauto Star who, among his 16 Grade One wins, landed two Gold Cups and five King Georges just over a decade ago.

"At one point, we had these five boxes filled with Denman, Kauto Star, Master Minded, Big Buck's and Neptune Collonges," says Paul, reeling off the names of his former stars. "That could never happen again, but the funny thing about these boxes is that we don't purposefully put the best horses in them but the biggest horses, because they are the biggest boxes. There's obviously a correlation between the biggest horses winning the top races."

Paul heads over to "Master Minded's box" — the 2008 and 2009 champion chaser — where the latest Nicholls star, Clan Des Obeaux, is contentedly munching on his hay. The 17hh Clan — like previous members of this stable block, Kauto Star, See More Business and Silviniaco Conti — is a dual King George winner. He hacked up in this season's renewal, trouncing his stablemate Cyrname by 21 lengths. Next stop, the Gold Cup.

"He's in seriously good order and goes to Cheltenham with an outstanding chance," says Paul of the eight-year-old. "They said it was the hottest King George for years and he showed how much he's improved. Clifford [Baker, head lad] thinks he's 10lb better than last season. I think he's under-rated. One day we'll hit the jackpot with him."

Paul points to a gap among Master Minded's plaques and laughs: "There's space for a Gold Cup one here."

THREE months ago, thanks to lowering Altior's colours for the first time in his jumping career, Johnny de la Hey's Cyrname was the buzz horse at Ditcheat, the highest-rated chaser in training. For comparison, Clan is only 12th on that list. Favourite for the King George, the Nickname-sired Cyrname didn't run with his usual

panache in finishing runner-up, before running a stinker when odds-on favourite in the Betfair Chase at Ascot two weeks ago. He suffered a tired fall at the last and the screens went up. Marvellously, he emerged unscathed to a huge roar from the crowd — with Paul quipping, "That's the best result of the day."

Paul believes there may be a physical problem afflicting his star, acknowledging the race with Altior took its toll.

"We are learning that Cyrname puts so much into his races that it takes him time to get over them," he says. "Clan was on fire in the King George, but I don't think Cyrname was quite right. He's not a strong, heavy horse, like a Denman — he's light and a bit fragile."

'He goes to Cheltenham with an outstanding chance'

PAUL NICHOLLS ON CLAN DES OBEAUX

Something's missing which I can't put my finger on, but we'll get to the bottom of it."

The reason Paul says he's "still learning" about Cyrname is because until this season, the eight-year-old was "nearly untrainable".

"He used to be such a tearaway that even 18 months ago the only thing we could do with him was go up the hill [Paul's famously steep gallop] because you couldn't stop him anywhere else," says Paul. "Now he's relaxed with age, he's much easier to get fit."

Besides this stiff four-furlong uphill gallop, Paul has three other gallops at his Manor Farm Stables, in the heart of Blackmore Vale hunting country. There's a flat five-furlong one, which Paul uses for short, sharp bursts, and two 400m circuits, one on deep sand and the other on sand and fibre. There's also a boarded outdoor arena, where the horses often do their schooling over jumps.

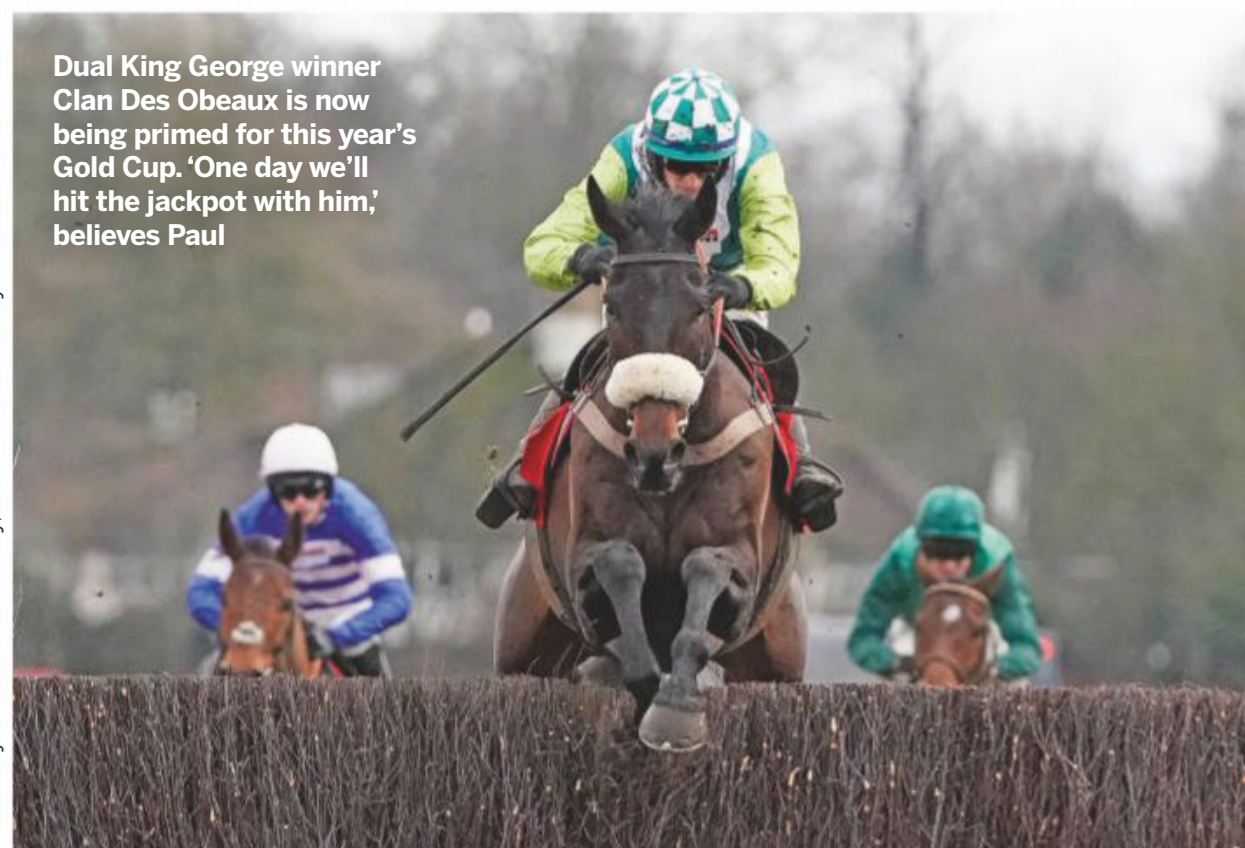
The main 80-box yard is workmanlike, rather than classically immaculate, with higgledy-piggledy pockets of stables dotted around. The vibe is relaxed and the horses are all alert, friendly and inquisitive, nuzzling the



'A smashing chasing type for the future,' says Paul of Pic D'Orhy, a promising five-year-old



The 80-box yard in Ditcheat, Somerset, has a relaxed and friendly atmosphere



Dual King George winner Clan Des Obeaux is now being primed for this year's Gold Cup. 'One day we'll hit the jackpot with him,' believes Paul



Master Minded's former stable is adorned with plaques marking his big-race victories

Paul, champion trainer 11 times in his career already, says he 'relishes the challenge' every year



Two-time Gold Cup winner Kauto Star is one of the yard's most famous former residents

lads and any visitors who pass their box. It was a surprise to see the horses without exercise sheets on a blustery February morning, but Paul's attention to detail is consummate. He has even resurfaced the steep road outside the yard with non-slip tarmac so his horses can reach the gallops in comfort, and has his own gritting machine and snowplough.

STABLED next door to Cyrname is Paul's latest young hope, the De la Heys' Pic D'Orhy, who shot to prominence as the 33/1 winner of the £155,000 Betfair Hurdle at Newbury a couple of weeks ago. Paul beams as he introduces him: "I've always thought a lot of him and loved his model, and you can see why; he's only five years old and what a smashing chasing type of horse he'll be for the future."

The French-bred's recent win has prompted talk for the Champion Hurdle — for which he'd need to be supplemented by 4 March.

"I wish I'd put him in the Champion now, but hindsight is a wonderful thing," he says. "I'm in no hurry with him."

If Pic D'Orhy does swerve towards Cheltenham, he'll join several other Ditchheat contenders with chances besides Clan, such as Politologue and Dynamite Dollars in the Champion Chase, and the new Triumph favourite, Solo, an easy winner last weekend.

Cyrname won't be lining up at the Festival, or possibly anywhere else this season — Paul wants to "go back to the drawing board" with this top-rated chaser.

The diminutive Frodon may have taken second billing to Clan and Cyrname this season, though Bryony Frost called him "Pegasus" after becoming the first woman to ride a Grade One winner over fences at the Cheltenham Festival. Frodon is Clan's galloping partner but is likely to leave the Gold Cup to his mate in a bid to recapture the Ryanair he won last year. After a sticky start to this season for Frodon, Paul believes he has this son of Nickname right back on track with a Grade Two win last month.

"He had really bad ulcers, but we've sorted them out and he's back," he says.

Perhaps even more excitingly for Bryony is

the prospect of yet another Nickname son, Yala Enki, Paul's major hope for the Grand National, who finished third in a trial at Haydock two weekends ago. The pair won a 3½-mile handicap chase in heavy ground last month, so will relish the distance. Paul likens the 10-year-old to his sole Grand National winner.

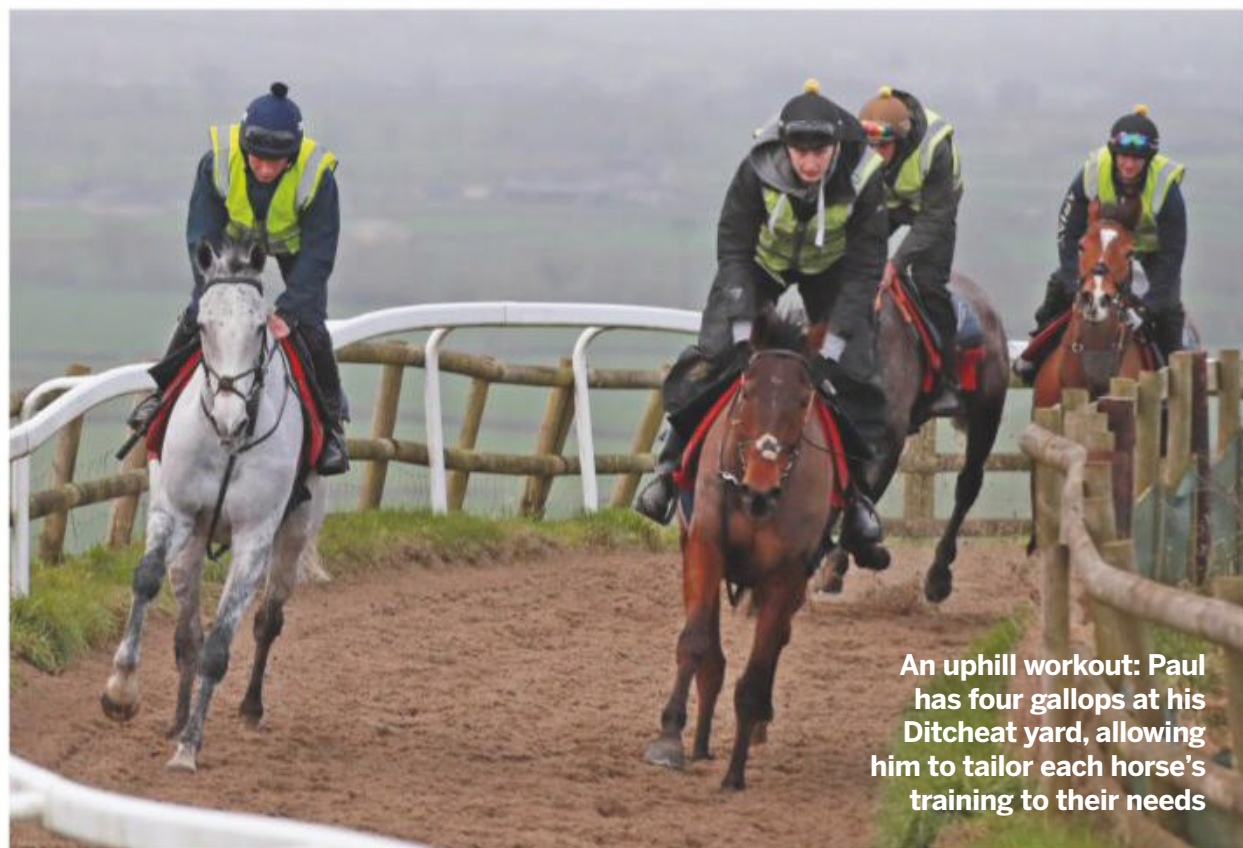
"Yala Enki's like Neptune Collonges in that he's a real stayer with a touch of class," he says. "Bryony rides him well — she suits him. I'm still learning about him and I think we can get him better than we've had him."

The heady days of Kauto Star and Denman may be long gone, but those green plaques keep trickling in. As we reach the crux of the season, several new stars are being primed to live up to their predecessors' achievements. Paul's been champion trainer 11 times already, and is breathing down Nicky Henderson's neck in his efforts to defend his title.

"It always ends up going to the last day and I'm sure it will be the same this year," Paul smiles. "It's a challenge we always relish." **H&H**



The 17hh Clan Des Obeaux occupies Master Minded's spacious former stable



An uphill workout: Paul has four gallops at his Ditchheat yard, allowing him to tailor each horse's training to their needs



NEW
Conditioning range

Build his Optimum Condition

The perfect
complement



Low starch &
molasses free

High in oil
for coat shine



Speak to one of our nutritionists on: 01908 226 626
your partners in care

www.spillers-feeds.com

© Mars, 2019.

Stuart Hollings

The leading showing figure on his career as a judge, his role as ring-checker and why the marking system changed the way he sourced ponies



STUART is a successful showing breeder, producer and author, who also runs the popular North of England shows with his brother Nigel. He has won countless titles at Horse of the Year Show and Royal International. A regular *H&H* columnist and leading judge, Stuart has officiated at all major championships.

If Stuart could still have any horse now it would be Portman Lad, pictured ridden by his brother Nigel at Staffordshire County in 1977



IN the early days of production, apart from plaiting, I was in charge of time management. My first task when I was showing, particularly at county shows, was to investigate whether the rings looked “buzzy” in order to gauge the working-in preparations. Competitors are more likely to travel in the early hours rather than stable overnight, so you must plan to arrive on the showground in plenty of time.

As a show secretary now I often witness competitors arriving late, and sometimes they actually ask the organisers to delay their classes. It is the competitors’ responsibility to ensure they do not miss classes, especially if they follow on and are not timed.

I was in a commentary box at Malvern last season when an exhibitor complained that he missed a championship because of poor announcements — it seems that the more show secretaries spoon-feed today’s competitors, the more dependent they become.

Despite the efforts of showing societies to curb abuse on social

media, it continues to rage. If someone feels the need to complain, then my advice is to go through the official channels already in place.

IN THE JUDGING SEAT

THE role of the judge is to obtain a satisfactory result. The go-round and pull-in are important elements of the class for me and an excellent first impression could theoretically cancel out a minor misdemeanour in the show when awarding the performance score.

You can only judge what you see inside the ring; if a steward

informs you a pony has been naughty behind your back, I would not act on that information.

I always make an effort to politely interact with my co-judge during the process — then there’s more chance of them appreciating my viewpoint. I cannot remember ever requiring a referee in more than 40 years of judging.

My parents told me that a good show animal costs the same to keep as a bad one and with a better return. I often passed this gem on to clients — advising them to purchase the best they could afford.

The horse I wish I had now was my brother Nigel’s Portman Lad, a gentleman of a lightweight hunter who won at Wembley in 1974 with Vin Toulson. He gave Nigel a successful transition from ponies to horses.

In our two seasons with “Portie” he won many county shows on the flat and over fences — often beating the great and the good. Portie was the first horse I produced and was champion with me on our one and only outing.

My priority when sourcing ponies to produce under saddle changed significantly after the marks system was introduced 25 years ago. Before this, there was a stronger emphasis on way of going. However, it made sense to place much more importance on correct conformation to achieve consistent results, as the new conformation phase then carried 40% of the marks (nowadays 50%). **H&H**

**NEXT
WEEK**

**Three-time Olympic
eventer Mark Kyle**

‘A good show animal costs the same to keep as a bad one’

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM STUART’S PARENTS



PREMIER EQUINE
ENGLAND

MASTERS IN THE ART OF RUG MAKING

REVOLUTIONARY
SUPER-LIGHTWEIGHT
MATERIAL

BUSTERTM

STAY-DRY SUPER LITE FLY RUG

AVAILABLE IN NAVY/SILVER, WINE/SILVER OR GREEN/SILVER - **£118**



www.premierequine.co.uk | Order Line 01469 532279

FREE DELIVERY on orders over £100 in UK and 20 EU countries



With a 30 Year Warranty, Horserail has unmatched durability. Unlike traditional wooden post and rail Horserail won't fade, warp or become brittle in extreme weather conditions.

No painting, cracking or splintering to repair. We all know that owning a Horse is an investment in money, patience and dedication. That is why Horserail pay special attention to all that goes into our products to provide a long lasting, attractive fence that requires little to no maintenance.

***** WHEN SELECTING A HORSE FENCE, COMPARE THE COST OF ANY RIGID FENCE, WITH ITS ADDED MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS AND POSSIBLE VET BILLS FROM INJURIES, TO THE COST OF HORSERAIL FENCE...**

AND THE CHOICE IS EASY ***



W: www.horserail.co.uk

E: horserail@mmg.ie

P: 0808 2344766 | M: 07785 986645

SAFE • STRONG • ELECTRIFIABLE

SHOW GUIDE 2020

29 H&H'S GUIDE TO THE BEST SHOWS AROUND THE COUNTRY

A region-by-region preview of this season's most unmissable shows in all disciplines.

40 WHERE TO COMPETE ALONGSIDE THE ELITE

From local shows to the pinnacles of the sport, the low-down on where we can expect to see our equestrian heroes this season.

42 FAMILY FUN

H&H's pick of the best child-friendly shows with entertainment laid on for all the family — plus how the pros cope.

44 WILLIAM FOX-PITT'S TRAINING MASTERCLASS

The six-time Burghley winner puts his top horses, Little Fire and Oratorio, through their paces with some practical exercises.

50 ACCESS ALL AREAS: LOTTIE FRY

H&H goes behind the scenes at Britain's latest dressage star's base in the Netherlands to meet her potential Olympic rides.

LeMieux

LeMieux®

Star in a Soft Shell!



SOFT TOUCH



WIND RESISTANT



WATER RESISTANT



EMBROIDERY
FRIENDLY

Navy

SOFT SHELL JACKET
XS, S, M, L, XL & XXL

£64.95

DIAMANTE ACOUSTIC FLY HOODS
Navy, Burgundy & Black M & L - £39.95

Available from all
major LeMieux stockists
www.lemieuxproducts.com



Grey

Burgundy

Britain's best shows

From championship showing qualifiers to the most challenging five-star event in the world, Britain boasts an exciting array of events. *Stephanie Bateman* discovers the shows you can't miss this season — as a rider or spectator

Scotland



The Scottish Horse Show

Royal Highland Showground, Edinburgh, 8 July

WHAT'S ON: competitors from all over the UK come to compete in nearly 100 classes from working hunter to first ridden, with many HOYS qualifiers to boot.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: this show is a qualifier for the two-day Caledonian Showing Championships, held in October.

Royal Highland

Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh, 18-21 June

WHAT'S ON: a large number of showing classes including Horse of the Year Show (HOYS) qualifiers as well as top British Showjumping (BS) classes offering generous cash prizes.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: its famous blue sashes but also the superb social scene and shopping.

BS Cabin EC Sunshine Tour

The Cabin Equestrian Centre, Aberdeenshire, 14-19 July

WHAT'S ON: five days of jumping including Scottish Champions Tour qualifiers, Scottish branch north-east championship, National Team qualifier alongside Graham Heath and Scope qualifiers.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the great variety of classes and qualifiers that attract the crème de la crème of British showjumping.

BD Cabin EC Summer regionals and Area Festivals

The Cabin Equestrian Centre, Aberdeenshire, 31 July-2 August

WHAT'S ON: this Scottish festival of dressage boasts both British Dressage (BD) summer regionals and Area Festival classes.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a celebration of dressage at one of Scotland's largest equestrian centres in the north-east.

Coral Scottish Grand National Festival

Ayr Racecourse, Ayr, 17-18 April

WHAT'S ON: the biggest and richest jump meeting in Scotland, featuring 15 exciting races.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: don't miss Ladies' Day on the Friday, while the pinnacle of jump racing in Scotland, the Coral Scottish Grand National, is held on the Saturday.

Edinburgh Riding of the Marches

Edinburgh, 13 September

WHAT'S ON: taking its roots from the historical Common Ridings of Scotland, 300 horses traverse the ancient Royal Mile in a re-enactment of the return of the Captain of the Trained Band to Edinburgh with the tragic news of defeat at the Battle of Flodden, 1513.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a morning of high-energy gallops through some of Edinburgh's stunning countryside followed by a parade through the city with crowds in excess of 20,000.

Land Rover Blair Castle International Horse Trials and Country Fair

Blair Castle, Perthshire, 27-30 August

WHAT'S ON: Scotland's premier equestrian event features international classes including CC12*-L, CC13*-L, CC14*-L and CC14*-S.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: alongside top-class eventing, the country fair showcases all sorts of countryside pursuits, set in one of Scotland's best-known Highland estates.

North

Randox Health Grand National Festival

Aintree Racecourse, Merseyside, 2-4 April

WHAT'S ON: three thrilling days of racing action, including Liverpool's Day and Ladies' Day, and culminating in the meeting's feature Grand National Day.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: steeped in history, the Grand National is a thrilling display of sheer talent and true determination.

Northumberland County Show

Bywell Hall, Northumberland, 25 May

WHAT'S ON: marketed as "the premier event of the north-east", with the light horse section alone attracting 500 entries. The parkland setting hosts nearly 100 classes, including Olympia qualifiers.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a festival of farming, food, fun and music in the grounds of a beautiful Palladian-style country home.

Equi-Trek Bramham International Horse Trials

Bramham Park, West Yorks, 4-7 June

WHAT'S ON: one of the biggest events in Yorkshire, Bramham attracts a top-class international field with its popular Equi-Trek CCI4*-L, Land Rover CCI4*-S and British Horse Feeds under-25 CCI4*-L classes.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: Bramham also hosts affiliated and Pony Club showjumping, mounted games, Burghley Young Event Horse and showing classes.

North of England Summer Show

Arena UK, Lincs, 27-28 June

WHAT'S ON: a two-day event hosting showing classes including a variety of championship finals boasting prizes of up to £1,000 and a number of HOYS qualifiers.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the amazing array of championship finals split over two days with horses on one day and ponies on the other, offering the biggest prizes in showing.

The Equerry Bolesworth International Horse Show

Bolesworth Castle, Chester, 9-14 June

WHAT'S ON: a thrilling five days of world-class equestrian sport including international dressage and showjumping as well as an eventing grand prix.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a fun fusion of sport, lifestyle and corporate hospitality, set in the beautiful surroundings of Bolesworth Castle.

Picture by PA Images



Great Yorkshire Show

Great Yorkshire Showground, N Yorks, 14-16 July

WHAT'S ON: known as the "North's leading agricultural event", this three-day show offers a variety of showing classes, some offering HOYS qualification.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: riding in the main or White Rose rings is definitely on the showing bucket list — getting a galloping shot along the grandstand is a must!

Lemieux National Dressage Championships

Somerford Park, Cheshire, 24-27 September

WHAT'S ON: based at new venue Somerford Park, this year's National Dressage Championships are set to be better than ever with championship titles on offer from prelim silver through to grand prix.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: as well as a whopping 25 titles on offer, riders get the chance to rub shoulders with the very best horses and riders in British dressage.

Stars Northern Champion of Champions

Aintree International Equestrian Centre, Merseyside, 28 October-1 November

WHAT'S ON: dubbed as the HOYS for home-producers, Stars is open only to riding and Pony Club members who have qualified at relevant shows.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: exhibitors gain points for their individual clubs, culminating in an overall champion club, which earns a substantial prize fund. There's also a southern championship.

TheraPlate UK Liverpool International Horse Show

M&S Bank Arena, Merseyside, 31 December-3 January

WHAT'S ON: celebrate the New Year in style at this equestrian spectacular, boasting a stellar line-up of international dressage, showjumping and an eventing grand prix.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: alongside top-class competition, spectators are treated to extraordinary displays and live entertainment with an abundance of champagne.

Showring Shine, Everyday.

The winning formula you can count on when it's your time to shine. As the world's #1 grooming aid, ShowSheen® Hair Polish & Detangler is uniquely formulated to provide professional results.

Photo: 1st Class Images

"We love Absorbine products to keep our horses looking great everyday!" Seven times HOYS Supreme winner, Jayne Ross, and Twinshock Warrior, HOYS Supreme Horse of the Year 2019.



Check the yellow ribbon for more great products, available from your local Absorbine® stockist.



The Horse World's Most Trusted Name®

absorbine.co.uk



Midlands

Ideal Saddles Combined Training Championships

Fieldhouse EC, Staffs, 15 March

WHAT'S ON: a mixture of dressage and showjumping, riders who have qualified at one of 19 events across the country battle it out for the championship titles.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: with options from prelim to elementary dressage, and 70cm to 100cm jumping, there is something for every grassroots level.

Skinner's Pet Foods National Team Chase Championships

Tur Langton, Leics, 29 March

WHAT'S ON: held at the Fernie team chase, qualified teams battle it out for championship title.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: gritting our teeth as determined and exceptionally brave riders race across country over enormous hedges at breakneck speed.

Blue Chip Winter Championship Finals

Hartpury College, Glos, 1-5 April

WHAT'S ON: five electrifying days of both championship and non-championship jumping classes, from 85cm pony classes to a 1.40m grand prix.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: don't miss the championship gala evening, which hosts the Blue Chip grand prix and an educational and entertaining masterclass.

Dodson & Horrell Chatsworth International Horse Trials

Chatsworth, Derbys, 15-17 May

WHAT'S ON: a three-day eventing showcase with classes including novice, CCI2*-S, CCI4*-S and advanced.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the event also features the second leg of the Event Rider Masters Series and Dubarry Burghley Young Event Horse classes.

Hunter Chase Evening

Stratford Racecourse, Warks, 29 May

WHAT'S ON: a highlight of the point-to-point season, this evening meeting features hotly contested championship finals.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the excitement of the best point-to-point horses in the country battling it out for highly sought-after season titles.

The Lycetts Festival of Hunting

East of England Showground, Cambs, 22 July

WHAT'S ON: this historic and prestigious event is the annual showcase for the world of hunting.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: besides a variety of showing classes, there's also the inter-hunt relay in which teams of riders duel over a mirror-image set of jumps.

British Showjumping National Championships

Stoneleigh Park, Warks, 4-9 August

WHAT'S ON: world-class riders competing for the esteemed international stairway league title, as well as coveted opportunities to qualify for HOYS.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: running alongside the championships is the popular Stoneleigh Horse Show, which boasts an array of showing classes including HOYS qualifiers.

The Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials

Burghley, Lincs, 2-6 September

WHAT'S ON: one of the world's best five-star events, boasting five days of eventing action set in the stunning Burghley Park.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: if the Cottesmore Leap isn't for you, there's also the Dubarry Burghley Young Event Horse classes or the final of the BE80(T) championships.

British Riding Clubs NAF Five Star National Championships

Lincolnshire Showground, Lincs, 5-6 September

WHAT'S ON: a celebration of British Riding Clubs, this event hosts the championships in both dressage and showjumping as well as direct entry classes that don't require qualification.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the variety of classes aimed at a wide selection of riding abilities — there are also style jumping classes and riding tests alongside the championship classes.

Horse of the Year Show

NEC, Birmingham, 7-11 October

WHAT'S ON: a spectacular showcase of finals to many national showjumping championships as well as hosting the finale to the British showing year.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: an event that celebrates everything equestrian, HOYS also boasts international dressage, finals for the Pony Club mounted games Prince Philip cup and thrilling displays.

BSPS Heritage Championships

Arena UK, Lincs, 17-18 October

WHAT'S ON: a two-day showcase for natives, these championships also offer qualifying classes for Olympia and the Royal International Horse Show (RIHS).

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: Saturday night's thrilling evening performance with star-studded ridden championships from working hunter to lead-rein and breed classes.

Wales

Chepstow International

Chepstow Racecourse, Monmouthshire, 27-28 June

WHAT'S ON: British Eventing classes including the Welsh National Championships and Dubarry Burghley Young Event Horse qualifier.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a great day out packed with British Eventing (BE) affiliated eventing action in the stunning parkland of Piercefield Park at Chepstow Racecourse.

Monmouthshire Show

Monmouthshire Showground, Monmouthshire, 4 July

WHAT'S ON: for showing enthusiasts, there are 19 HOYS qualifiers, alongside showjumping classes, scurry driving and an inter-hunt relay.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: witnessing an eclectic mix of horses, cattle, sheep and dogs battle it out for top honours in the wonderful Wye Valley.

Royal Welsh Show

Royal Welsh Showground, Powys, 20-23 July

WHAT'S ON: since its formation in 1904, the Royal Welsh Show has become the pinnacle of the Welsh agricultural calendar, boasting a variety of showing and driving classes as well as top-class attractions and displays.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: being part of the best that Wales has to offer at the foot of the stunning Welsh hills.

Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show

Fonmon Castle, Vale of Glamorgan, 12 August

WHAT'S ON: alongside over 200 tradestands and a variety of attractions and displays, the show features showing classes, showjumping and a hunt scurry.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a great day out for all the family at Fonmon Castle in the heart of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Chepstow Summer International Horse Show

David Broome Event Centre, Monmouthshire, 28-31 August

WHAT'S ON: a four-day showjumping show with tours at CSI2*, CSI*, CSIYH* and CSIP, as well as a variety of national classes from British novice to Foxhunter.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a super array of showjumping classes including internationals at a first-class venue.



South-West



The Cheltenham Festival

Cheltenham Racecourse, Glos, 10-13 March

WHAT'S ON: a four-day sporting spectacular, the festival is the most prestigious race meeting in the British National Hunt racing calendar.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the Magners Cheltenham Gold Cup is packed full of adrenalin as the country's best staying chasers battle it out for the ultimate prize in jump racing.

Badminton Horse Trials

Badminton, Glos, 6-10 May

WHAT'S ON: the pinnacle of eventing, if you're good enough to qualify for the elite CCI5* competition, and for riders showcasing upcoming talent, there are the hotly contested Dubarry Burghley Young Event Horse classes.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: seeing the world's top horses and riders at an iconic and beautiful parkland venue.

Wincanton Family Fun Day

Wincanton Racecourse, Somerset, 19 April

WHAT'S ON: a family-friendly day packed full of jump racing at this beautiful rural racecourse.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: there's a climbing wall, face-painting, bouncy castles and treasure hunts for under-18s (free entry) — plus complimentary Easter eggs.

Devon County Show

Westpoint Showground, Exeter, 21-23 May

WHAT'S ON: top-class showjumping in the main arena, as well as scurry racing, the inter-hunt relay competition and HOYS showing qualifiers.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: from magnificent heavy horses to super-cute Shetland ponies, Devon County Show plays host to over 1,000 equines over the three days.

Golden Horseshoe Ride

Exford Showground, Somerset, 22-24 May

WHAT'S ON: the UK's oldest competitive endurance ride, the Golden Horseshoe has become one of the ultimate "bucket-list" endurance rides.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the Golden Horseshoe currently offers broad appeal to riders due to its wide range of classes from 24km to 160km (100 miles).

Hartpury Festival of Dressage

Hartpury College, Glos, 1-5 July

WHAT'S ON: this prestigious five-day dressage bonanza hosts a variety of classes from FEI CDI3* and CPEDI3* to Premier League classes, drawing in Olympic, European and world champions.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the inspiring festival gala evening which includes the finals of the Elite Stallions young horse prix st george championship and the NAF Superflex grand prix freestyle.

Barbury International Horse Trials

Barbury Castle Estate, Wilts, 2-5 July

WHAT'S ON: in the heart of Wiltshire, this event offers a range of BE novice sections as well as young horse classes and CCI3* and CCI4* classes.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: situated in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, overlooked by an Iron Age hill fort, it's a wonderful place to compete and spectate.

Launceston Horse Trials and Country Fair

St Leonards EC, Cornwall, 19 July

WHAT'S ON: offering the only BE novice course in Cornwall, this event welcomes both professional and amateur riders with classes from BE80(T) to novice level.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: an eventing gem in the deepest south-west boasting holiday cottages and a paintballing site — what more could you want?

Magic Millions Festival of British Eventing

Gatcombe Park, Glos, 7-9 August

WHAT'S ON: held at the home of the Princess Royal, the event incorporates the British open, intermediate and novice championships, as well as the Corinthian Cup and Retraining of Racehorses championship.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a weekend of top-class eventing, arena attractions including the Shetland Pony Grand National and entertainment for all the family.

New Forest and Hampshire County Show

The Showground, Hants, 28-30 July

WHAT'S ON: famous for its international showjumping including the international stairway, this three-day show also offers more than 50 HOYS-qualifying showing classes.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: from inter-hunt relays and driving to heavy horse ridden HOYS qualifiers, there's something for everyone at this traditional country show.

SsangYong Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials

Blenheim Palace, Oxon, 17-20 September

WHAT'S ON: this leading three-star horse trials in the grounds of Blenheim Palace attracts some of the world's best event horses and riders.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the eight/nine-year-old class at CCI4*-S level, showcasing some of the upcoming stars of the sport.

Ladbrokes Winter Carnival

Newbury Racecourse, Berks, 27-28 November

WHAT'S ON: enjoy two days of superb racing while kicking off the festive season in style at this party to remember with festive menus, mulled wine and winter cocktails.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the hotly contested feature race of the carnival — the Ladbrokes Trophy — is worth an impressive £350,000.

South-East

Royal Windsor

Windsor Great Park, Berks, 13-17 May

WHAT'S ON: a five-day celebration of international jumping and dressage alongside the Land Rover international driving grand prix, endurance racing and national showing.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: competing in front of The Queen against the stunning backdrop of Windsor Castle.

Cartier Queen's Cup

Guards Polo Club, Surrey, 19 May-14 June

WHAT'S ON: celebrating its 60th anniversary, the 22-goal tournament runs over three weeks, providing fast-paced action from the world's top players and ponies.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: watching first-class sport among the heady mix of glitz, horses and champagne, in an idyllic setting.

Investec Derby Festival

Epsom Racecourse, Surrey, 5-6 June

WHAT'S ON: a highlight of Flat racing's summer calendar, the festival offers some of the world's best over two days including Investec Ladies' Day on Friday and Investec Derby Day on Saturday.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the carnival atmosphere on the hill or top hat and tails in the Queen's Stand, while catching the thrill of the feature race, the Investec Derby.

Royal Ascot

Ascot Racecourse, Berks, 16-20 June

WHAT'S ON: Britain's most valuable race meeting, Royal Ascot attracts racing's finest to compete for more than £8m in prize money, with six races on the card each afternoon.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: aside from the glitz and glamour, don't miss the feature race of the meeting, the Ascot Gold Cup, one of the biggest races in the Flat calendar.

Al Shira'aa Hickstead Derby Meeting

Hickstead, West Sussex, 24-28 June

WHAT'S ON: marking its 60th anniversary, this year's meeting is set to be the best yet, with a host of international showjumping classes and showing classes including HOYS qualifiers.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the Al Shira'aa Hickstead Derby, in which riders take on the descent of the 10ft 6in Hickstead Derby Bank — terrifying!

British Driving Society Annual Show

Windsor Great Park, Berks, 21 July

WHAT'S ON: started in 1965, the traditional summer gathering for private driving enthusiasts takes place across three arenas with classes for a variety of competitors.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the opportunity for competitors to drive through the Royal Park in the concours d'elegance and parade in front of the Royal Box.

South Suffolk Show

Ampton Racecourse, Suffolk, 10 May

WHAT'S ON: a whopping six rings of equine competition including showing with RIHS qualifiers, driving and jumping with national B&C championship qualifiers.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: watching the majestic chestnut Suffolk heavy horses classes showcasing the county's endangered equine gems.

Kent County

Kent Showground, 10-12 July

WHAT'S ON: a true country show, with two large dedicated equine rings, Kent County plays host to HOYS qualifiers in both showjumping and showing.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: alongside top-class national competition, there's Pony Club mounted games, scurry driving, heavy horses and an abundance of displays.



Pyecombe Senior BS Four-Day Show

Brendon Stud, Sussex, 6-9 August

WHAT'S ON: a four-day bonanza for showjumpers from British novice to Foxhunter.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: besides all the usual qualifiers, there are Derbies and annual championship classes.

Longines Global Champions Tour London

Royal Hospital Chelsea, London, 14-16 August

WHAT'S ON: this tour brings together the top showjumpers in the world to compete in prestigious locations for unprecedented prize money.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the London event is the 14th on the circuit, a key stage in the season when the ranking battle will be at full throttle for a place in Prague Playoffs.

Royal County of Berkshire

Newbury Showground, Berks, 19-20 September

WHAT'S ON: classes from the international stairway and Equifest qualifiers to coaching, heavy horses, side-saddle, Olympia qualifiers and scurry driving championships.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: perfect for heavy horse enthusiasts, this show holds a grassroots championship qualifier for the British Heavy Horse Grassroots Championship.

Olympia, The London International Horse Show

Olympia, London, 15-21 December

WHAT'S ON: the best way to get into the festive spirit in the lead-up to Christmas, Olympia hosts FEI World Cup qualifiers in three disciplines: dressage, showjumping and driving.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the incredible displays from around the world, and the Christmas finale, in which Father Christmas sings Olympia's traditional carol.

Ladbroke's Christmas Festival

Kempton Park, Surrey, 26-27 December

WHAT'S ON: with 12 top quality races over two days between Christmas and the New Year, this mid-season jump racing event is one not to be missed.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the thrilling King George VI on Boxing Day is the feature race of this meeting, drawing incredible talent from the top staying chasers in the land.



THE EQUESTRIAN-SPORTS-BRAND



COMPETITION LINE

Season 2020



FOR STOCKISTS PLEASE GO TO
WWW.ZEBRAPRODUCTS.CO.UK OR
CALL 01352 763350

7 new shows

Cornbury Park Horse Trials

Cornbury Park, Oxon, 11-13 September

WHAT'S ON: this new event set in Lord Rotherwick's Oxfordshire family estate hosts CCI2*-S and CCI3*-S classes over three days.

WHAT WE'RE MOST EXCITED ABOUT: the stunning setting of this 5,000-acre estate, formerly a horse trials venue, should prove a suitable replacement for Gatcombe's autumn event.

Cirencester Park International Horse Trials

Cirencester Park, Glos, 21-22 March

WHAT'S ON: making a comeback after a 47-year break, this event will host classes from novice to open intermediate.

WHAT WE'RE MOST EXCITED ABOUT: returning to this beautiful parkland setting after nearly half a century to watch top-class eventing action.

Eventing Spring Carnival at Thoresby Park International

Thoresby Park, Notts, 27-29 March

WHAT'S ON: replacing Belton Horse Trials, this new event boasts a packed schedule with international classes at three- and four-star as well as an OIU21 trial, ONU18 and U25 trial.

WHAT WE'RE MOST EXCITED ABOUT: world-class equestrian sport alongside a fun-filled day of family entertainment.

Wellington International Showjumping CSI2*

Wellington Riding, Hants, 19-21 May

WHAT'S ON: Wellington's inaugural CSI2* with FEI ranking classes and a prize fund potentially up to a total of €50,000 (£42,500).

WHAT WE'RE MOST EXCITED ABOUT: a thrilling three-day showjumping extravaganza at a super facility.

Bicton International Showjumping

Bicton Arena, Devon, 10-13 September CSI2*

WHAT'S ON: for the first time ever, Bicton will host CSI2* classes in its pretty TopSpec Arena alongside one-star and young horse classes.

WHAT WE'RE MOST EXCITED ABOUT: a team of top-class grooms will be on hand to help competitors unload on arrival, and there's live music and a hog roast on Saturday night.

Petplan Equine Summer Area Festival Championships

Arena UK, Lincs, 10-13 September

WHAT'S ON: aimed at grassroots dressage riders, the addition of the Summer Championship will be the perfect finale to the first new summer season of Area Festivals.

WHAT WE'RE MOST EXCITED ABOUT: a fantastic array of classes from prelim to inter II and freestyle to music classes in a championship setting.

British Dressage Middle Tour Festival

Keysoe, Beds, 3-6 December

WHAT'S ON: held during Keysoe's High Profile show and replacing the small tour championships, this will incorporate inter II, inter B and inter A/B freestyle classes.

WHAT WE'RE MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO: a brand new middle tour festival to provide more opportunities for riders competing at the FEI levels of inter II, inter A and inter B.

7 great shows for grassroots riders

Science Supplements Cup

Badminton, Glos, 5-6 May

WHAT'S ON: hosted over two days, the championship brings together winners from regional finals from around the country to contest the coveted BE90 and BE100 titles.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the opportunity for amateurs to ride on the hallowed turf of the stunning and historic Badminton Park.

SEIB Trailblazers Championships

Stoneleigh Park, Warks, 24-26 July, 29 July-1 August

WHAT'S ON: the Dodson & Horrell dressage championships (24-26 July), Trailblazers showing and working hunter championships (25-26 July), Cavaletti Saddles showjumping championships (29 July-1 August) and FMBs combined training championships (30-31 July)

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the superb array of classes at a first-class venue with a truly championship feel.

Amateur Festival of British Showjumping

Bicton Arena, Devon, 31 July-2 August

WHAT'S ON: a host of unaffiliated classes from 60cm to 1m with money and product prizes alongside BS classes from 85cm to Foxhunter with sashes and rugs for champions.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: a fancy dress mini-major competition on the Saturday evening, perfect for those who love dressing up!

The Shearwater Equine Sports UK Grassroots Championships

Arena UK, Lincs, 6-9 August

WHAT'S ON: more than 150 classes across showjumping, dressage, showing, combined training and fun classes.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: alongside the great choice of classes, this event is aimed purely at the amateur and grassroots levels, so riders compete on a truly level playing field.

Scottish Grassroots Eventing Festival

Blair Castle, Perthshire, 27-29 August

WHAT'S ON: a culmination of Scottish grassroots eventing at BE90 and BE100 level, with riders competing for the coveted titles.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: the celebration of Scotland's finest grassroots riders at one of the country's most stunning settings.

The British Eventing BE80(T) Championship

Burghley, Lincs, 1-2 September

WHAT'S ON: qualified combinations from 12 regional finals will battle it out for the BE80 championship title on the hallowed turf of the Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials.

WHAT WE MOST LOVE: the opportunity to compete at Burghley over a brand-new course being developed especially for the championship.

Weston Park Regional Team Challenge

Weston Park, Shrops, October TBC

WHAT'S ON: a new team competition for grassroots riders, the Team Challenge is a brand new team competition for adults run at BE80(T) and BE90 Open level.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST: riders select their own teams of four to compete at regional qualifiers, leading to a national championship at Weston Park in October. H&H

Some things are worth protecting.

kbis.insure/yourhorse



Our range of products includes:

Horse Insurance

Horsebox & Trailer Insurance

Yard & Freelance Instructor Insurance

Event & Show Insurance

Property Insurance

Farrier Insurance

Personal Accident Insurance

Breakdown Insurance



0345 230 2323 | kbis.insure/yourhorse

KBIS Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (300861)



Spot the stars



In the run-up to the Olympics, here's the low-down on the big shows and local venues where you might rub shoulders with the elite

EVENTING

THE season starts early this year, on the last day of February. This weekend (29 February-1 March), Oliver Townend and Piggy French tend to make the trip to Cambridgeshire for Isleham, while Nicola Wilson will take her young horses to Epworth in South Yorkshire, for the season's curtain-raisers.

"Epworth's friendly and well run, with showjumping on a surface, so it's always consistent at this time of year," says Nicola. "The cross-country is encouraging so they can find their feet."

Gemma Tattersall is among many elite eventers starting out at Tweseldown (5-8 March), often with their Badminton horses — Pippa Funnell, Kitty King, Andrew Nicholson, Izzy Taylor and Laura Collett were all in the ribbons here in 2019.

"I'll take my top horses and a couple of younger ones," says Gemma. "The ground is good; it takes a lot for it not to run. The team have done so much work on the venue and the courses are educational."

Lincolnshire (13-15 March) is also on the agenda for Nicola Wilson, though her Badminton-bound Bulana heads to Norfolk event Great Witchingham

Carl Hester is hoping to get more grand prix scores on the board for Hawtins Delicato



Nicola Wilson plans to begin Bulana's season at Great Witchingham, Norfolk, in preparation for Badminton

(20-22 March): "It's a long way for us, but they are very welcoming. It's flat for the dressage and has a proper cross-country course."

Meanwhile, fellow five-star rider Georgie Spence will head from Tweseldown to Pontispool (14-15 March).

"The showjumping is on a surface, the parking is good and the cross-country is challenging, which is good to give you a kick-start with the older horses," she says.

Eventers will miss two favourites in the eventing calendar, Belton and Gatcombe, which are replaced by Cirencester Park (21-22 March) and the Spring Carnival at Thoresby Park (27-29 March). Georgie Spence is excited about the new events.

"It's nice for owners to go to different places and I like not to know the layout or what the fences are; it gets your blood up," she says.

Once the early season is under way, it's the big events — Badminton (7-10 May), Chatsworth (16-17 May), Bramham (4-7 June)

WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

AVAXHOME-

the biggest Internet portal,
providing you various content:
brand new books, trending movies,
fresh magazines, hot games,
recent software, latest music releases.

Unlimited satisfaction one low price

Cheap constant access to piping hot media

Protect your downloadings from Big brother

Safer, than torrent-trackers

18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

All languages

Brand new content

One site



AVXLIVE ICU

AvaxHome - Your End Place

We have everything for all of your needs. Just open <https://avxlive.icu>

and Blenheim (17-20 September) — that are the honeypot venues for the top riders. Burghley (3-6 September) is likely to feature plenty of top riders who missed out on Olympic spots, as well as Tokyo riders on other horses.

DRESSAGE

GARETH HUGHES admits to having plans “A, B and C” this year, according to Olympic selection. He’ll compete at Windsor (13-17 May) and Bolesworth (9-14 June), with Hickstead (24-27 June) and Hartpury (1-5 July) featuring after selection.

“It’s really important that we riders support the internationals in this country,” he says. “They are well run, at great venues and with very good judges. It allows us to compete at top level, without all the travelling that’s involved when we go to shows abroad. It’s also great for the sport in the UK, as it means more people can come to see the top horses.”

Carl Hester is planning to compete at the likes of Wellington and Somerford (24-27 May) Premier Leagues, besides Windsor and Bolesworth, to get more grands prix under Hawthins Delicato’s belt on home ground.

“I’m aiming to get in a bit of national schooling in between the internationals,” he says. “At international shows you’re always trying to make everything perfect, so it’s nice to be able to experiment a little at the Premier Leagues, if I need to. Last year doing this really worked for Hawthins Delicato, and it was why he was able to produce his best grand prix test to date at the Europeans.

“The grands prix at Premier Leagues also have very good judges, and can often be like mini internationals.”

SHOWING

THOSE keen to spot young show horses should head to Keysoe Spring Show (27 April) — Jayne Ross usually attends with her new novices. In the north-west, SHB (GB) at Myerscough College (4 April) is a similarly traditional route for producers.

The pros’ plaited ponies will emerge at the BSPS winter championships (18-19 April) at Arena UK, and tend to go on to great things during the season. Last year’s novice show pony champion, Team Jinks’ Stretcholt New Dimension, went on to stand show pony of the year at Horse of the Year Show (HOYS).

The action heats up at the NPS Spring Festival at Malvern (25 April), which has two novice ridden finals, plus the first batch of HOYS mountain and moorland qualifiers. Native producer Aimee Devane is planning to aim her “true novices” here, and is also looking forward to Cheshire County (16-17 June).

“I’ll be aiming all my novices for the NPS Summer Championships [31 July-2 August], the Picton final being the pinnacle for any novice native,” she adds.

The ultimate showcase of novice show horses will be at Royal Windsor in May. Most top producers will be aiming their young hopefuls at these novice classes. Multi-supreme

riding horse Diamonds Are Forever is just one of the legendary rides to have achieved their first major win on royal turf.

Simon Reynolds says: “Our team of novices will contend a few smaller shows before hopefully aiming them at Royal Windsor if all the prep goes to plan. It’s never a one-size-fits-all approach.”

SHOWJUMPING

THE top showjumpers are currently competing on various tours in Florida, Spain and Portugal, and we’re unlikely to see most of them on home ground until Royal Windsor (13-17 May). However, the likes of Scott Brash are occasionally spotted with a lorryload at Pyecombe in Sussex, which runs a four-day senior show (23-26 April). In March and April, the centre holds nine days of affiliated senior showjumping.

The team riders will be involved abroad in Nations Cups in the run-up to Tokyo (see box, right), but most will also converge on Royal Windsor and Hickstead (Al Shira’aa Derby Meeting on 24-28 June and Longines Royal International Horse Show on 21-26 July).

Michael Whitaker intends to compete more in Britain this year.

“I’m hoping to do Windsor and Bolesworth, and I always try to get to Great Yorkshire [14-16 July] and Hickstead. I wouldn’t rule out doing the Derby if I have a horse good enough.”

Matt Sampson, Harriett Nuttall and Olympic contender Holly Smith are other top riders we’re bound to see at Hickstead — “It’s always in my calendar,” says Holly. “I love competing there.”

TEAM CHASING

THE team chasing season kicks off in a couple of weeks’ time, with multi-champion Yvonne Goss gearing up for classes up to intermediate at the Beaufort in Wiltshire (15 March), the first of six consecutive weekends.

“Beaufort’s track is not overly big, with lots of timber fences, so doesn’t cause too many problems,” says Yvonne, who is also looking forward to the Skinner’s Pet Foods national championships at the Fernie (29 March).

“The championships are a highlight of the calendar. It’s a truly brilliant course with an unbelievable atmosphere. It’s a proper jumping track, but it flows really nicely.



Holly Smith always has Hickstead in her diary

Olympic watch

NOMINATED entries for dressage, showjumping and eventing close 1 June; final entries on 6 July. Final entries for para dressage are 3 August.

● **EVENTING:** results at four- and five-star will be considered. A long-list is expected from 12 May-1 June, from which the squad will be selected around 16 June. This means Badminton, Chatsworth, Bramham and Luhmühlen are the main events to watch Olympic contenders.

● **DRESSAGE:** selection will be made in June. Keysoe (13-15 March), Windsor (13-17 May) and Bolesworth (9-14 June) are putting on grand prix specials to allow contenders to post some scores.

Carl and Charlotte are expected at 's-Hertogenbosch (the Netherlands, 12-15 March) and Saumur (France, 30 April-3 May), before Windsor and Bolesworth.

● **SHOWJUMPING:** Olympic contenders are likely to represent Britain in Nations Cup legs at St Gallen (Switzerland, 21-14 May), Rotterdam (18-21 June), Falsterbo (Sweden, 9-12 July), and Hickstead (23-26 July), though as the latter falls during the Tokyo horses’ quarantine period, they won’t be competing their Olympic horses.

● **PARA:** Hartpury CPEDI (1-5 July) is traditionally the final trial, after which the riders are announced.

“The Belvoir team chase [in September] is another I love. It’s only an intermediate but it’s a super course with lovely, natural hedges.”

DRIVING

DRIVING fans will enjoy a trip to Lampeter Stallion Show in Ceredigion (18 April), where champion Jessie Dudley-Apicella plans to start her season. After Royal Windsor, she’ll head to the Royal Welsh (20-23 July).

“There’s a big grandstand, and my horses have always

thrived on the atmosphere there,” she says.

“It’s the only show, in my opinion, that could rival Royal Windsor.” H&H

Family fun



Braving events with tots in tow can feel like a military operation. But pick wisely and you can avoid tears and tantrums, finds *Madeleine Silver*

STANDING in the toilet breastfeeding at a race meeting last November, in Arctic conditions, it dawned on me that the arrival of children might have temporarily negated the charm of going racing. In that moment, a sofa and *ITV Racing* would have been preferable. But expert parents, with the battle wounds of prams stuck in mud and children wailing ringside, harbour the secrets of keeping pint-sized spectators happy.

"It is more stressful taking children to the polo, but because I really want to go and the other option is not going, you just suck it up," admits mother-of-two and polo reporter Aurora Eastwood. "On the days that aren't so prestigious you can pull up your car on the sidelines right next to the pitch. I often put them in the boot with the bottom half of the tailgate up and the top open, and they'll play in

there quite happily. I know they're safely away from a loose horse that way as well. Now Flora is three it's easier than last summer, when she kept running off and not looking back.

"After the Queen's Cup final at Guards two years ago, I was walking to the prize-giving thinking she was right behind me, when I heard this Argentine groom shriek and lunge at her as she was minesweeping glasses of champagne," laughs Aurora, who swears by copious snacks, colouring books, a packed lunch (to avoid buying overpriced burgers) and a willingness to cough up for the fairground.

NIRVANA for five-star eventer Harry Meade's wife Rosie has been in the form of Tattersalls International Horse Trials in Co. Meath.

"There used to be two children's areas — one near the main arena, and another in a

good spectating loop on the cross-country," she says. "Parents could sit and watch, with one eye on the children, who had the happiest time."

The popular bouncy castles, face painting and animals can now be found in the centre of the action alongside the shopping village.

Arming her children Lily, seven, and Charlie, five, with their own money keeps them busy as they budget for ice creams ("eventing without ice creams is a disaster," says Rosie) and she never skimps on clothing ("cold children are not fun"). But plans can still go awry.

"When Harry finished third at Badminton in 2014, everybody scarpered when it was the prize-giving. Having had tonnes of support all weekend, I was left with a nappy to deal with and missed the lap of honour," she says.

Equestrian broadcaster Aly Vance, who has an 18-month-old daughter, admits that



Choose a show with something for everyone and the whole family is sure to enjoy themselves

“breastfeeding and nappy changing areas at racecourses can be hit-and-miss”.

“Goodwood has a lovely room in the March Stand which is dedicated to feeding and changing, which makes a difference, especially when I’m smartly dressed for the races. But it’s not always plain sailing and there can be a lot of mess,” she says. “India, who was never sick, always saved her best efforts for when I was smartly dressed and about to go on television. I recommend always wearing a light colour as it doesn’t show the milk stains so much.”

With India no longer happy to sit in her sling for hours, the crèche at the Goodwood Festival was a godsend for Aly this year. Similarly, National Hunt trainer Charlie Longsdon’s wife Sophie, who has a nine-year-old daughter, Milly, and seven-year-old twin boys, has mastered the art of making the most of Newbury Racecourse’s crèche.

“I’ve managed to time it so I dropped the kids off, went to see the owners, saddled a horse, watched the runner, had a drink and then picked them up on the way out. And they loved it,” she says.

Now her children have outgrown the crèche, standing up close to a fence is a tactic to keep them interested, and meetings at Stratford have become a highlight, with face painting and a bouncy castle. But keeping

track of teddies will forever be high on the agenda after an incident at Worcester.

“The twins were babies, and Milly was two, and we thought we’d had a great day until we were packing up and realised we’d lost Bear Bear, Harry’s comforter,” Sophie remembers. “In the end we had to phone Ian Popham, who was the last jockey still there, who had to go and find it. It was very dramatic at the time and we’ll be forever grateful to Ian.”

FOR grand prix dressage rider Steph Croxford, it has been far-flung shows on the Continent that have provided some of the greatest fun for her two children Annabelle, 12, and Ben, nine.

“I think the European shows are often far more accepting and understanding of kids squealing and running around. They just sort of absorb the children into the show,” says Steph. “But we would always pick somewhere we knew we could go off and explore. Biarritz in France for example is fantastic because the showground is a stone’s throw from the beach.”

By her own admission, asking a small child to sit through a dressage test is like forcing them to watch “paint dry”, which is why on home turf, the CDI at Hickstead ranks as one of the most popular.

“At Hickstead, you walk along the field from

the dressage and there’s another world, with the showjumping, all the stalls and fairs,” she says. “And Bolesworth is the same — they have other stuff going on.”

For the Hickstead Derby meeting and the Royal International, performer Tomfoolery takes centre stage in the family zone, with hobby horse jump-offs, magic shows and a Derby course walk.

“Hickstead is a bit different to some of the indoor shows. It’s not a set few hours so you can come at whatever time you like and it’s not as strict as, ‘This is your seat and you must sit here,’ which as a mother I can understand is quite stressful when you take children to shows,” says Hickstead’s press officer Victoria Goff.

“You can sit right by the ring, in the stands, or go and have a picnic by the side of the arena. It’s very relaxed and there would be space to leave a buggy in front of your seat.”

And so, while the days of luxuriously sitting through a whole showjumping class — or even one dressage test — might be on hold, parents needn’t resign themselves to being armchair spectators.

“People have to remember just to embrace it,” says Steph Croxford. And if all else fails?

“There’s *Peppa Pig* and an iPad,” adds Rosie Meade. **H&H**

6 of the best events for kids

TATTERSALLS HORSE TRIALS & COUNTRY FAIR, CO. MEATH **27-31 MAY**

The peace-keeper: a kids’ area that includes farmyard pets, carnival rides, a bouncy castle and a merry-go-round, as well as a novelty dog show and mini pony rides. Plus, a convenient mound from which to watch the water complex. tatts.ie

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY SHOW, STAFFS **27-28 MAY**

The peace-keeper: the Big Pete Monster Truck Team’s “leaping” trucks are a star attraction in the main ring. There are hound parades, a steam railway, vintage machinery and medieval crafts, such as rope- and clog-making. staffscountyshowground.co.uk

GLOUCESTERSHIRE FESTIVAL OF POLO, GLOS **6-7 JUNE**

The peace-keeper: a tasteful array of free fairground rides. Plus, a laid-back atmosphere for noisy children, and pitch-side picnic spots close to the action. beaufortpoloclub.com

THE ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW, SUSSEX **21-26 JULY**

The peace-keeper: the family zone with a funfair and entertainment from performer Tomfoolery. For older children, there’s Wild West-themed crazy golf, a climbing wall and laser clay shooting. hickstead.co.uk

GOODWOOD FESTIVAL, SUSSEX **28 JULY-1 AUGUST**

The peace-keeper: a crèche for newborns to three-year-olds in the Lennox Enclosure and a mother-and-baby room for nursing mothers in the March Stand. And, as at most racecourses, you can breathe a sigh of relief as you manoeuvre your pram on tarmac. goodwood.com

BLenheim PALACE HORSE TRIALS, OXFORDSHIRE **17-20 SEPTEMBER**

The peace-keeper: a kids’ entertainment area with an array of inflatables, conveniently close to the food court. Little spectators can get the best view of the cross-country from the bank on top of the main double water crossing of the River Glyme. blenheimhorse.co.uk

Train like a pro



William Fox-Pitt demonstrates his systematic approach to flatwork training with his two top horses — and suggests a handy pre-season exercise for fresh jumpers

Flatwork

IT'S a bright but blustery morning at Wood Lane Stables in Dorset, but the training intensity is hotting up. William Fox-Pitt's top horses, Little Fire and Oratorio II, are both in the running for the Olympics and being geared up for early-season CCI5*s. For this session, William is riding Little Fire, with his assistant head groom Adam Short on Oratorio (pictured, right). Both horses step out from their stables in smart, navy exercise sheets, which they'll keep on for the first 10 minutes.



William rides Little Fire (Aiden), an 11yo 17hh gelding by Graf Top. Ninth at Badminton CCI5*-L 2019 and aiming for Kentucky CCI5*-L.

Adam Short rides Oratorio II (Rio), an 11yo 16.3hh gelding by Oslo Biats. 13th at Badminton 2019 and aiming for Badminton again.

William Fox-Pitt aboard his Olympic hopeful, the 11-year-old Little Fire — whatever horse William is riding, he follows the same basic three-part flatwork routine



William often drops his inside hand to ensure the horse is balanced and consistent in his outline

Although these horses are at the pinnacle of the sport, William follows the same basic routine with all his horses at the start of any flatwork session.

“As a general rule, a rough guide would be that I break it up into three sections of 10 minutes: the warm-up, then suppling, followed by discipline and movements,” says William, adding that this is only a target time. “I’ll do this at home and at shows. I feel if they can’t do a test after that, they’re probably in the wrong job. Of course, at a big event, I might ride them earlier in the day as well, but the actual work before a test will be half an hour.

“Horses are creatures of habit — we humans like variety, but horses don’t like surprises,” he adds. “So I do the same routine every day and they know what to expect.”

ABOUT WILLIAM

WILLIAM FOX-PITT is one of the most successful event riders in history, with a record six Burghley titles to his name and 14 CCI5* wins. He has represented Britain at 19 senior championships, collecting multiple medals including seven European team golds. He has been British number one 11 times.

SUPLING STAGE

BOTH horses follow a similar plan over the next 10 minutes, which is focused on suppling and obedience.

“They’ve had their look-around so now I’ll start to increase the contact and expect them to concentrate on me, but I still want the poll below the wither so they’re stretching, especially Little Fire, because he is naturally up in front,” William says. “Oratorio finds everything easy, but he can be tight in the neck so Adam needs to make him work, stretching from the base of his neck right through to the mouth.

“We’re working on getting a connection with the horses, so we are riding the horse right from our leg to the rein, and there are no ‘vacant areas’ they can fill with ad-libbing.”

The pair work in both trot and canter on transitions and plenty of leg-yielding.

“I really like leg-yielding as it’s relaxing and suppling,” he says. “I do it on all my horses and in different gears within the trot. I make sure it’s not flat or fast, and that the horse is not escaping through the shoulders.”

William adds more complicated lateral work, such as shoulder-in on a circle, and counter bend working towards renvers — all within the same long, low outline.

“This develops strength in the trot, but I’ll only do it for a quarter to half a circle,” he says. “This gets the horse nicely into the outside contact. These exercises tell me what the horse is finding easy, and what I need to work on.”

All the while, William is doing almost imperceptible half-halts, to check the horse is listening.

WARM-UP

BOTH horses are walking purposefully around the arena on a long rein, taking in their surroundings.

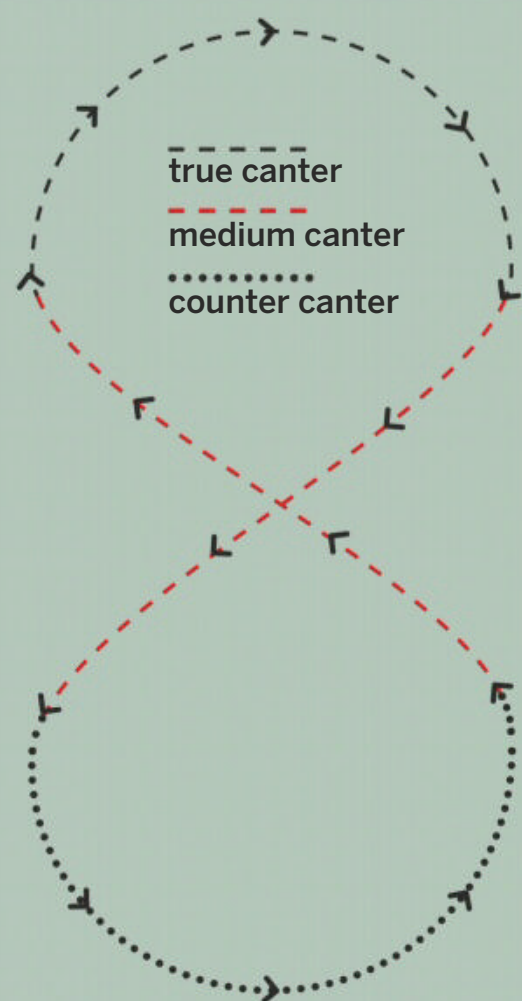
“I always give them freedom in this stage, let them look around and absorb their environment,” William says. “Of course, if the horse is feeling very fresh, you won’t ride round on the buckle, but I won’t pin them down on the bit. Little Fire’s feeling chilled today, so I can have a long rein. As he relaxes, he’ll stretch down naturally but without me forcing his head down. I’m not thinking about using my hand at all.”

After several minutes in walk and trot, both riders ask for canter, and do five minutes in canter out of the saddle. The reins are now shorter, but the horses are still not on the bit. As it’s cold, William has slightly extended the warm-up period.

“Subconsciously, you might spend slightly longer in this stage if it’s freezing,” he says. “Always remember how much muscle a horse has to warm up.”

Before starting the next phase, the horses are walked again, on slightly more of a contact.

“Walk is a good pace for checking the horse is listening and off my leg,” William says. “I’m not expecting him to be perfect, just ready for what we’re doing next.”



“I’m probably doing one every 30 seconds or so,” he says. “It’s not pulling the reins, but as if you’re thinking of making a transition and then changing your mind.”

He also often drops the inside hand off the rein to check the horse is secure and connected by staying consistent in his outline.

“If your horse is properly schooled, you should be able to ride the whole five-star test one-handed,” he says.

The horses finish this stage with a few minutes’ walk on a loose rein.

“It’s easy to niggle in the walk, but you need really clear signals to say to the horse he can switch off now so he isn’t kept guessing,” William says.

MOVEMENTS AND DISCIPLINE

FOR the final stage, the riders incorporate some sitting trot and a few movements in a “competitive outline”.

Oratorio needs to develop his core strength, stability and contact, so Adam works on changes within the pace, encouraging rhythm and regularity.

“Try to imagine the contact as the weight of your arm in his mouth,” says William. “Open

‘Eventing dressage isn’t fancy; it’s about riding a good, safe test’

WILLIAM FOX-PITT

your arm to find the contact; don’t rely on your rein, but use your body to keep the softness.”

Adam repeats a figure-of-eight exercise (see diagram, p45), to practise counter canter and stop Oratorio either anticipating a flying change or falling out through his shoulder.

“He can crab, putting his quarters in, and this helps align him,” says William. “This exercise is useful because it trains both corners and being straight across the diagonal. You work on lots of different aspects naturally without forcing any one issue too hard.”

Adam adds several different movements within the same pattern. Across the diagonal,



William works on Little Fire’s straightness: ‘It’s important to stay on a straight line without relying on the arena boards’

Oratorio is asked either for medium trot or a halt over X. Adam also gives and take the reins to ensure the horse is in self-carriage.

Little Fire is now lifting up and stepping powerfully and rhythmically through several movements, such as shoulder-in, half-pass and halts, often using the three-quarter line.

“We’re doing a lot of work on the three-quarter line as it’s in the Olympic test, but also because it’s important to be able to stay on a straight line without relying on the boards,” William explains. “It also allows you to approach the straight line from a different point than always down the centre.

“If you’ve done your first two phases properly, this stage should be natural to the horse,” William says. “I try to be really aware of how I’m riding, as if my trainer, Tracie Robinson, is watching me. Am I sitting up? Are my hands still?”

The riders wind up the session in rising trot on a long rein.

“I keep it simple,” William sums up. “Eventing dressage is not about being as fancy as Valegro. It’s about riding a good, safe test for a baseline of seven. If you get a few nines for the horse’s highlights, you’re automatically in a very competitive position.”



Adam Short gives and retakes the reins to ensure Oratorio is in self-carriage

Right: counter-bend on the circle is a useful exercise in the suppling stage



The results speak for themselves!

PROVEN TIME AND TIME AGAIN

Balanced Show Mix is the original fibre based conditioning feed designed to aid weight gain and promote extra condition – without the fizz usually associated with high cereal rations.

FEED BALANCED – SEE THE RESULTS!



BEFORE



AFTER



BALANCED
Horse Feeds

www.balancedhorsefeeds.co.uk
Freephone Helpline: 0800 1975 200



Glamourdale

Exerdale

also available:

Negro • Kjento • Lord Leatherdale • Chippendale
Jayson • George Clooney

STALLION
AI SERVICES

CONTACT AGENT UK:
sales@stallionai.com | +44 194 866 6295



VAN OLST
HORSES

info@vanolsthorses.com | +31 162 429 360



NATIONWIDE HORSEBOX BREAKDOWN COVER, ASSISTANCE AND RECOVERY



Equicar > Individual Membership

Full breakdown cover for your vehicle and trailer, includes horses transported safely home. **From £115**



Equicar > Joint Membership

Full breakdown cover for two people in any vehicle towing any trailer. People and horses transported safely home. **£145**



Trailer Membership

Full breakdown cover for your trailer. Individual membership, includes horses transported safely home. **From £52**



Horsebox Membership

Full breakdown cover for your horsebox. Individual membership, includes horses transported safely home. **From £216**

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A QUOTATION

www.equinerescue.co.uk

01300 348997



William rides Atlantic Vital Spark (Ted), 10yo 16.3hh gelding by Atlantic Sparkey. 14th at Blenheim CCI4*-L and ninth Blair CCI4*-S.

William aboard 'cross-country machine' Atlantic Vital Spark, who is feeling fresh for his jumping session

Walk poles

WILLIAM uses six or seven raised poles in a line for all his horses to develop their core strength and walk pace.

They are spaced specifically according to each horse, but roughly a yard (about 90cm) apart, so the horse can step down once between each pole.

"I put them in blocks and use wooden poles so you don't have to keep jumping off when they knock them," he says.

"I sometimes do them on a long rein, sometimes on the bit — it's not particularly to stop them being clumsy, although heavy poles help this, but to develop their strength," he says.

"I'll start with three or four reps, building up to 10 in a session. It's harder than it looks — you can tell with the young horses, as they'll veer one way to make it easier for themselves."



Jumping

A PRE-SEASON EXERCISE

WILLIAM has produced Ted since he was a seven-year-old, and is aiming for Bramham and possibly a first tilt at five-star at Pau.

"He's a cross-country machine, very confident and wants to do things his way," says William. "He's never tricky, but he is independent in his opinions."

After 20 minutes' warm-up in all three paces, William starts jumping over an angled cross-pole out of canter, and then a small upright, to be greeted by a playful buck.

"At this stage of the year most of my horses haven't jumped much for a while, so a particularly good exercise is four fences on

in canter, jumping just two of the four, and gradually includes all four, fitting in four strides between each one.

"I love this exercise because it teaches them rhythm, finding their stride pattern and the discipline of jumping on a circle to the centre of each fence," he says.

"It's quite hard for horses to stay on the same canter lead — naturally they tend to land on the opposite lead to the one on which they took off."

William switches the uprights to cross-poles, at about 2ft 6in in the centre.

"I never use big fences for this exercise, but you can make the cross-poles quite steep," he says. "This helps the rider be disciplined in jumping from centre to centre and develops the horse's coordination and elasticity." **H&H**

BEHIND THE SCENES

WILLIAM and his wife Alice have just launched the Fox-Pitt Eventing YouTube channel, revealing the team behind the scenes at Wood Lane Stables, and the dedicated care given to top-class competition horses. In its first fortnight, it has had 11,000 hours of watch time and 4,000 subscribers.

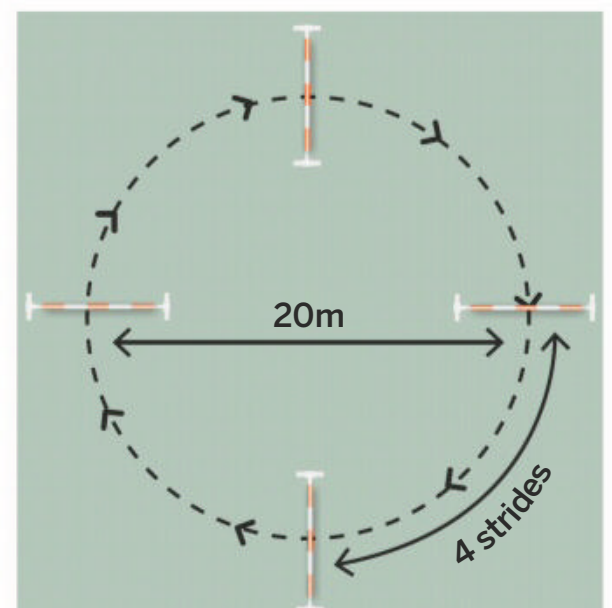
● Visit Fox Pitt Equestrian on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvXqjKjKjKjKjKjKjKjKjKj)

'This teaches rhythm and discipline'

WILLIAM FOX-PITT

a circle, to teach them a bit of discipline and make them wait," says William. "It's especially useful if they're a bit excitable, like Ted today."

Four 2ft fences are set up on a 20-metre circle (see diagram, right). William starts



As this exercise can be hard for some horses to master, William suggests starting either with the poles on the ground, or just jumping two of the four fences and gradually working up to the complete circle

YOUR GRASSLAND NEEDS

Suregrow

fertiliser

Nutrients lost during the wet winter need to be replaced to sustain grass growth

- ✓ Specialist fertiliser for horse and pony paddocks
- ✓ Slow release nutrients
- ✓ Improves sward density
- ✓ No need to relocate your horse



Contact us for more information



www.suregrowuk.com



sales@suregrowuk.com



01423 223045

Tattersalls / **ROR**

2020 Show Horse Series

Tattersalls/RoR Show Series Championship

Tattersalls/RoR Scottish Show Series

A series of qualifiers at different venues around the country culminating in Championship Finals at **Hickstead's Derby meeting** and the **Royal Highland Show**.

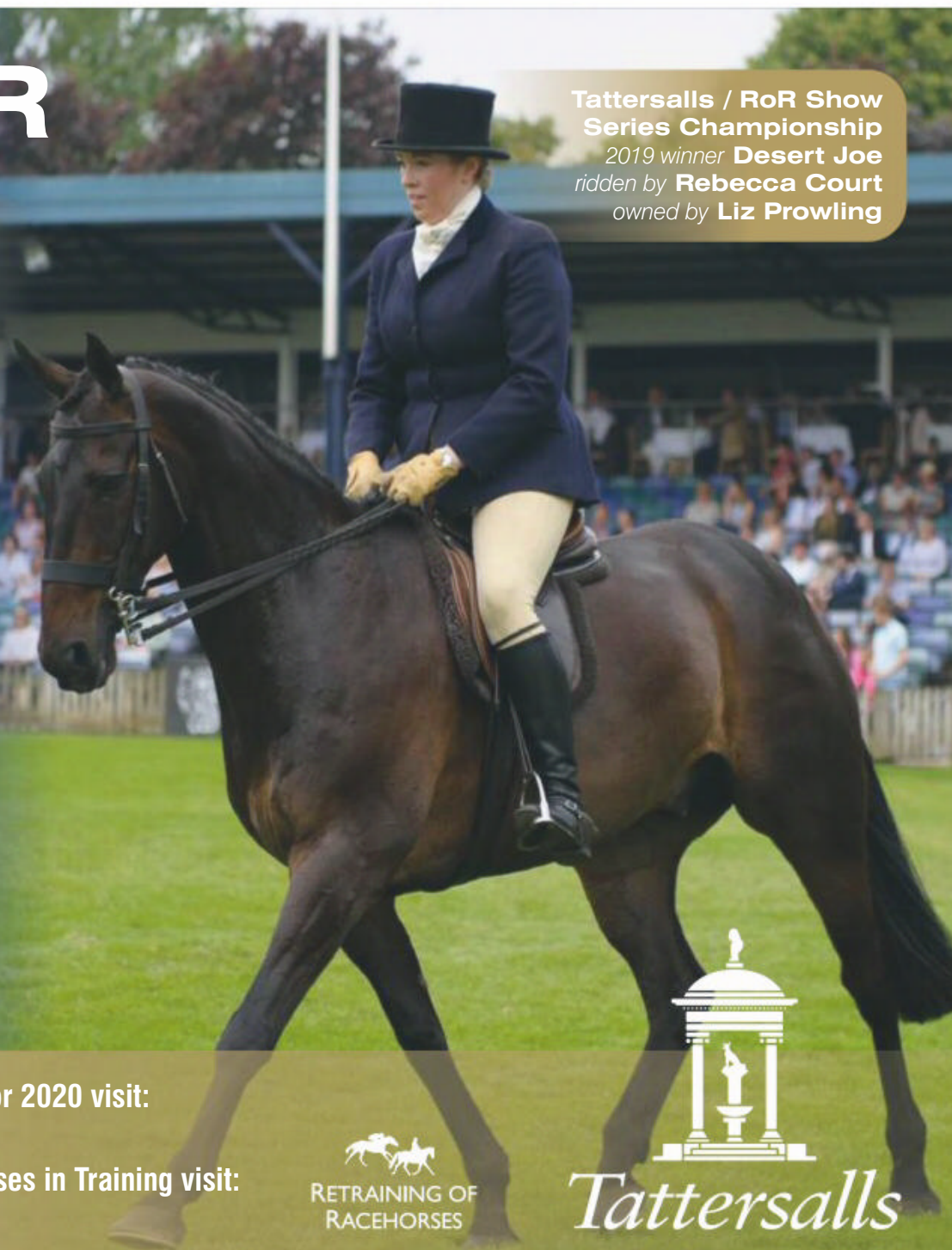
All entrants must have raced in GB (inc. point to points) and therefore must be registered with Weatherbys. Horses will also need to be registered with the RoR.

Classes are judged under Riding Horse rules where the horse is ridden by a RoR panel judge and awarded marks for ride and conformation.

For more info on registration, show secretaries & qualifiers for 2020 visit:
www.ror.org.uk or tel: 01488 648998

For more info on Tattersalls or Tattersalls Sales featuring Horses in Training visit:
www.tattersalls.com or tel: 01638 665931

Tattersalls / RoR Show Series Championship
2019 winner **Desert Joe**
ridden by **Rebecca Court**
owned by **Liz Prowling**




RETRAINING OF
RACEHORSES



Tattersalls

Access All Areas Lottie Fry

With all eyes on Tokyo, the young but talented Lottie Fry is a very real contender for the British dressage team, finds *Martha Terry* on a visit to her Dutch base



Lottie Fry schools the 'hot' Dark Legend, her European Championship ride and one of her Olympic contenders

Pictures by Liz Neville Photography

THERE are still three hours until daybreak when Lottie makes the short walk from her apartment to the yard. The British dressage rider is first in at 5.30am to start feeding the horses, and begins riding at 7am.

In the Netherlands in January, it's not light until well after breakfast. Not that it matters in the cosy barns at the Van Olsts' yard near Breda, which houses stables, a 20x60m indoor school and horse walker. The large sliding doors are kept shut, heat lamps and radiators pump out warmth, and the horses' sleek, unclipped coats look radiant.

There are around 200 horses on site, including broodmares, foals and youngsters, as well as the dressage stallions and geldings, but Lottie operates out of just one of the barns.

"I feed these horses before everyone else arrives at 7.30am, taking a cart round all the stables," says Lottie, looking immaculate at this early hour, dressed in black jodhs and gilet, with manicured black nails.

"We call the feed 'brok' — it looks like horse and pony nuts but it's TopSpec and is specific to each horse's needs — and we also feed lucerne, which is like chaff."

In the tack room, Lottie's dachshund Bami — meaning noodles in Dutch — is snuggled under a fleecy blanket, barking

my strength because I'm small, so it has to be technique."

Anne joins me at the viewing window. She rides up to five horses every morning alongside Lottie's rides, before training her more intensely from the ground in the afternoon. She explains how Lottie arrived at the yard, over five years ago, when she was 18.

"Carl Hester sent her to me saying she was a good junior rider, and she came with Dinky [Z Flemmenco]," says Anne. "After three months she started riding other horses; after six months it became a long-term job."

"From the start, she was very good and wanted to learn, but she was very inexperienced. Her timing for the grand prix work has really developed, but she still has so much to learn, which is a good thing — there's much more to come."

Last year, Lottie broke into the senior ranks, despite being eligible for under-25 championships — she won gold in 2018.

"The original plan was under-25s but the whole time I had it in my mind she could do seniors," Anne says. "I knew if she wanted to be considered for Tokyo, she had to prove she could deal with the pressure of a senior championships, so she had to move up last year for the Europeans. So far, every time she goes out at senior level she gets a personal best."

'From the start, Lottie was a very good rider, but the good thing is there's much more to come'

ANNE VAN OLST

enthusiastically at any visitors. Outside, a flamboyant dapple-grey is being lunged in a pen, before being brought in under the heat lamps to be tacked up. This is Especial, Lottie's third ride of the morning. The six-year-old is by Lottie's grand prix ride Everdale, out of a Vivaldi x San Remo mare. Lottie loves the continuity of riding both sire and offspring.

"Most Everdales are like their dad; they all love to work and will keep going all day; everything comes so easily to them," she says. "Especial's been lunged just to get rid of a bit of his excess energy."

OVER in the school, Anne van Olst is practising passage on a home-bred stallion, Nespresso, alongside a couple of work riders as Lottie joins in. Music is blaring from a Dutch radio station, and the atmosphere is relaxed as the four horses are put through their paces. A collie wanders through the school, one of eight dogs belonging to various riders and grooms roaming round the yard.

Nespresso's work is done, and after a few laps of loose-rein walk, Anne leaves the arena, leaning over to the sill of the viewing window to pick up a sugar lump from a large tub. All the horses get sugar lumps after working, and "sometimes halfway through if they're really good", says Lottie.

Especial's next young horse class is looming and he'll come out at small tour later in the year. He is learning tempi changes and pirouettes, and Lottie intersperses periods of work with loose-rein walk and encouraging pats. He's very enthusiastic, pumping forward from the hind-end. Lottie's slight frame creates such an elegant picture on this striking gelding, with her aids almost imperceptible.

"That's the plan," smiles Lottie. "I can't use

Anne's hunch proved correct — Lottie's in the Olympic shake-up on two horses, her championship ride Dark Legend (Darky), and the 11-year-old Everdale, who caused a stir at Olympia when finishing third behind Charlotte Dujardin and Carl Hester.

DARKY is next on Lottie's 14-strong list for the day. His gaze follows her round as she collects his tack. Lottie's affection for all her horses is palpable, but perhaps especially this one.

"Darky's really attached to me," Lottie laughs. "He likes to be stabled near the tack room so he can be near me and know when he's going out for a ride. We tried putting him in a stable with an outside window, but he's not happy when he can't see me. He whinnied all the time."

"He's so funny. He's just coming back from a short holiday and he was really grumpy. He had his ears back every time I went near him because he knew I wasn't going to ride him."

At this time of year Lottie rides mostly in the indoor school, but as Darky is more experienced and used to going outside for turnout, she takes him for a gentle work-out in the outdoor arena, situated in front of the van Olsts' home.

"All the horses go out in the paddocks in the summer but only Darky is turned out in winter — because he's so hot," she says. "The others go in the lunge pen or outdoor pen in winter because otherwise we'll have no grass."

Lottie's Canadian groom, Sophie O'Bray, 20, rugs up Darky for his daily turnout, while Lottie turns her attention to her next ride, Kjento, who is waiting docilely in cross-ties beneath the heat lamps. Sophie does most of the tacking up and turning out, enabling Lottie to keep riding all day.



Lottie shares a cuddle with Bami, her dachshund, and the exciting Everdale



Lottie and Everdale in action at Olympia last year, where they finished third with 82.62%



Despite a busy schedule, Lottie's work ethic remains 'exceptional' throughout the day



Glamourdale is another top ride — he has a window box as he loves people looking at him

“The horses love Sophie, and she loves having the experience of working with these amazing horses,” says Lottie. “And she’s always happy to accompany me on our long days.”

Kjento is a five-year-old stallion by the van Olsts’ famous stallion Negro, out of a Jazz x Juventus mare, and big things are expected of him — and his offspring.

“He’s one of the most famous young breeding stallions in the Netherlands right now,” says Lottie, who is priming him for the KWPN stallion show in ’s-Hertogenbosch. “He has very correct movement; he scores 10s for

‘No one who does the riding has anything to do with the breeding’

LOTTIE FRY ON MANAGING STALLIONS

canter and trot. He only has to do leg-yielding, transitions, medium canter and trot at shows, but he can naturally piaffe already. He hasn’t been trained at all, it’s just in him.”

Kjento shows no qualms in front of the camera as Lottie works him in, looking soft, supple and chilled.

“Negros are so different to Everdales,” Lottie explains. “They’re chunkier and more relaxed, but very beautiful. Their forte is a talent for piaffe and passage.”

Gertjan van Olst is watching on — he’s



‘Darky’s really attached to me’: Lottie’s affection for all her horses is evident, but especially for Dark Legend



Like father, like son: Lottie also rides six-year-old Especial, by Everdale. ‘Everything comes so easily to them,’ she says of Everdale’s progeny



Lottie aboard the Negro son Kjento, a hugely promising five-year-old stallion. ‘He has very correct movement; he scores 10s for canter and trot,’ explains Lottie

a huge fan of this young stallion. He knew Kjento was special from day one.

“I can tell what a horse will be like from a foal, nine times out of 10, because we know the bloodlines so well and how they stamp their stock — our stallions are stars and the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree,” he says. “We breed 10 to 12 foals a year, and buy in 90 more foals, but 95% will have our stallions’ breeding. Out of those 100, maybe one or two will be really special.

“Negro is still covering but he’s now 25, so it’s great for us that we have his sons, like Kjento, to breed from.”

The stallions’ breeding duties run alongside their ridden careers, and Gertjan’s management is a major factor in their success. Each morning at 6am, the stallions breed to enable fresh semen to go wherever required in the world.

“No one who does the riding has anything to do with the breeding, so the two jobs are kept completely separate, because the stallions are clever,” says Lottie. “They know which person means breeding and which means training, so we never let them get confused.”

EVERDALE is another breeding stallion on Lottie’s roster. She’s not riding him until her lesson later with Anne, and as we peer into his vast stable, he’s fast asleep in the deep bed of shavings.

“I lunged him earlier in a headcollar and boots, and then he has a nap — we are interrupting him,” jokes Lottie, giving him a cuddle with Bami tucked under her arm. “He has a double stable because he’s so big [17.3hh] and very special. Although he’s so tall, he’s compact, but when he’s excited he grows even more. He is so talented — everything comes so naturally to him.”

Anne believes Everdale will be perfectly suited to Tokyo’s conditions, although she insists there are eight or so riders in the running for one of the three Olympic berths.

“Everdale is a horse from another planet — he’s amazing,” she says. “All the Everdales find work easy. They don’t breathe hard or sweat; they’re so blood.”

Another of Lottie’s powerful black horses, Glamourdale — like Everdale by Lord Leatherdale x Negro — is only nine, but he’s destined for stardom, too, having already been crowned world seven-year-old champion. He’s being primed for big tour this spring. He has a box facing outside, “because he loves people looking at him,” says Lottie.

By lunchtime, Lottie still has seven more to ride. Gertjan describes her work ethic as exceptional.

“Even if it’s late at night and we say she doesn’t need to ride the last one on her list, she always will,” he says. “She is so focused.”

Lottie admits the days go so fast she rarely has time for meals, but grabs sandwiches and coffee when she can. Anne laughs: “She eats five times what I do!” But despite the long hours spent in the saddle, Lottie exudes a smiley serenity. The busy barn’s prevailing peaceful atmosphere is broken intermittently only by Bami, yapping from under his blanket.

Ten days after *H&H*’s visit, Lottie was heading to Amsterdam CDI with Everdale. It’s time to leave her to get on with the serious work — “the amazing privilege” of three hours of lessons with Anne. **H&H**

Trust

NAF



SUPPORT

CLEAN SPORT



**Charlotte Fry &
Van Olst Horses**

Anne & Gertjan van Olst:

"We are convinced, and for us it is proven, that NAF is a great and reliable partner in keeping our team of horses fit to compete."

2020



VISION

a new decade of excellence



FIVE STAR FOR THE BEST PERFORMANCE WORLDWIDE

For more details please call our Nutritional Advice Line:
0800 373 106 or email info@naf-uk.com

naf-equine.eu/uk   

NAF
★★★★★ a Nutritional Advanced Formulas brand

Show Services

Mustead Horse Trials, Heath Farm, Godalming



2020 Dates

March 1st: AFRC Dressage and Combined Training,
March 21st-22nd: BE Horse Trials,
March 28th: Hunter Trials, **April 25-26th:** Unaffiliated Horse Trials,
May 24th: Showing Show, **August 1st:** Hunter Trials,
September 19-20th: BE Horse Trials, **October 4th:** Hunter Trials

We're a friendly venue which runs events and clinics throughout the year. In the summer we also run evening clear round jumping and Dressage and Combined Training events. See our website for details. Please get in touch if you'd like to hold clinics, run camps or hire the venue for an external event.

We have 100 + fences from 60cm – 100cm, on free draining sand, available for schooling all year round. Show Jumps/Dressage arena on grass also available for hire. £30 per horse. Online booking available via the website. Discounts available for 10 or more horses.

becca@munsteadhorsetrials.co.uk | 07768740969
www.munsteadhorsetrials.co.uk

THE BHS NATIONAL COACHING CONVENTION

YOGI BREISNER
MBE FBHS

JENNIE LORISTON-CLARKE
MBE FBHS

CORINNE BRACKEN

RICHARD WAYGOOD MBE

WITH STEVE WILLIAMS, FEI COURSE BUILDER

Featuring masterclasses and expert advice from top coaches, professional riders and industry professionals.
The BHS National Conventions are the perfect CPD day.

Addington Equestrian Centre, Buckinghamshire - 16 March
Cavan Equestrian Centre, Republic of Ireland - 30 March
Bishop Burton College, Yorkshire - 5 Oct
Scottish National Equestrian Centre, West Lothian - 2 Nov

Visit bhs.org.uk/coachingconvention to book



DEFRA
Recognised
PIO

Welcome to ... CHAPS UK

MEMBERSHIPS, PASSPORTS, STUD BOOK,
GRADINGS, YOUNGSTOCK EVALUATIONS,
JUDGES' PANEL, REGIONAL and AFFILIATED SHOWS
CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW, HOYS QUALIFIERS,
TRAINING DAYS, JUNIOR BURSARY
and much, much more!

CHAPS (UK) 2020 DATES:

Spring Grading & Y'stock Evals 21 March; Spring Show 22 March; North East Regional 5 April; Winter Restricted Finals 18-19 April; South East Regional 25 April; South West Regional 2 May; Scottish Regional incorporated in Scottish Friend of PUK Show 3 May; Mid Wales Regional at Royal Welsh Spring Fair 16-17 May; Northern Regional at Hambleton District Show 23-24 May; South Welsh Regional 06 June; CHAPS North West at Derbyshire Festival 07-08 June; Midlands Regional 27 June; Stallion & Mare Grading 12 August; CHAPS Championship Show 13-15 August

If it's Coloured;
We've got it covered!

www.chapsuk.com

THE EAST ANGLIA HORSE SHOW

5th April, 3rd June, 20th June
Showing classes affiliated & unaffiliated for all levels.
Qualifiers for: BSPA, EQUIFEST, ESUK, National Welsh, NPS, PONIES (UK), ROYAL LONDON, SSADL, TEAHS, TGCA, TSR, VHS, WPCS BRONZE MEDAL, 15+
The East Anglia Horse Show in May incorporating the Welsh Bronze Medal Show
5th July
Showing classes affiliated & unaffiliated for all levels, 79 classes & 19 championships
The East Anglia Championship Finals Classes, Welsh Bronze Medal Classes, In Hand, Ridden, Breed, Lorry Dog, Afternoon Gala Performance.
Qualifiers for: EQUIFEST, ESUK, IMHPS, NATIONAL WELSH SHOW, ROYAL LONDON, TSR, 15+
Venue: Emneth Showground, 175 Outwell Road, Emneth, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. PE14 8BG
Web: www.theeastangliahorshow.org.uk Email: theeastangliahorshow@aol.co.uk Tel: 01354 638800
SHOW SECRETARY: IVY HOUSE FARM, EUXIMOOR DROVE, CHRISTCHURCH, WISBECH, CAMBS. PE14 9LT

PRE HOYS AUTUMN GALA SHOW

4th October
Showing classes to include youngstock, pure bred, part bred and ridden
Several Championships in the Evening Performance with music
Venue: Forest Edge Arena, Drymere, Swaffham, Norfolk. PE37 8AS
Facebook: <https://facebook.com/event/s/pre-hoys-autumn-gala-show-2020/485788688956725/?ti=c1>
Email: PreHOYSAutumnGalaShow@aol.com

Chilham Park

Canterbury, Kent CT4 8DB

Show Dates for 2020

18th/19th April	Chilham Castle BE Horse Trials
3rd May	Combined Training & Eventers Challenge
7th June	Hunter Trials and Team Chase
25th/26th July	Chilham Castle BE International Horse Trials
13th September	One Day Event
4th October	Combined Training & Eventers Challenge

NOW
TAKING
ONLINE
BOOKINGS

For further details, Secretary: 01227 730811
Email: info@chilhampark.co.uk Website: www.chilhampark.co.uk



SEIB Competitions 2020

Could this be your year?



QUALIFIERS FOR HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW SEIB SEARCH FOR A STAR

The SEIB Search for a Star has numerous top show horses to its credit. The search for this year's star begins in April. Classes for Hunters, Riding horses/Hacks, Working show horse/pony, Cobs and Traditionals



QUALIFIERS FOR HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW SEIB RACEHORSE TO RIDING HORSE

This competition has been instigated by SEIB to support and encourage the re-education of thoroughbreds taken out of racing and re-schooled. The competition is open to amateurs and professionals with thoroughbreds that have raced.



QUALIFIERS FOR YOUR HORSE LIVE SEIB SFAS MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND

Open to Mountain and Moorland breeds registered in the main body of the pure bred Mountain and Moorland stud book of their respective breeds at the time of entry and entered in the name and ownership under which they are currently registered. Part bred are not eligible to compete. Ridden by amateur riders.



SEIB SEARCH FOR A STAR RDA

Open to any horse and independent rider associated to an RDA Group.

Competition Dates 2020

QUALIFIERS:

SFAS, R2R & M&M - 5th April
Bury Farm Equestrian, Slapton,
Leighton Buzzard

SFAS, R2R & M&M - 2nd May
Stretcholt Equestrian Centre,
Somerset

SFAS, R2R & M&M - 7th June
Greenlands EC Wreay Carlisle

RDA ONLY - 10th July
RDA National Championships,
Hartpury College, Gloucester

SFAS, R2R & M&M - 19th July
Onley Equestrian Centre, Rugby

SFAS, R2R & M&M - 2nd August
Arena UK Allington Lane
Allington Grantham

R2R ONLY - 6th September
Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials

FINALS:



RDA - 10th September
BSHA Hunter Championship, Addington Manor Equestrian Centre



R2R, SFAS - 7th to 11th October
Horse of the Year Show, NEC Birmingham



M&M - 6th November
Your Horse Live, Stoneleigh Park

For more information please visit: search4astar.org.uk
& racehorse2ridinghorse.co.uk
or email: competitions@seib.co.uk

@SEIB.Search4AStar @SEIB.R2R

Terms & Conditions apply. South Essex House, North Road, South Ockendon Essex RM15 5BE.
South Essex Insurance Brokers Ltd are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

SEIB
INSURANCE BROKERS
Over 50 years of excellent service



19th-21st MAY

SAVE THE DATE

WELLINGTON INTERNATIONAL
SHOW JUMPING

CSI 2*, CSI 1*, CSIYH 1* 



www.wellingtoninternational.co.uk

VINE & CRAVEN HUNT

CROSS COUNTRY RIDES 2020

Sunday 26th April at Kingsclere, North Hampshire

Sunday 31st May at Highclere, Nr Newbury

Sunday 21st June at Facombe, North Hampshire

Sunday 16th August at Highclere, Nr Newbury

Sunday 13th September at Lambourn, Berkshire

www.vineandcravenhunt.co.uk



Over 170 classes
including
HOYS and
RIHS
qualifiers



#creamofdevon

To download a schedule visit
devoncountyshow.co.uk/competitions-schedules



23rd and 24th May

Stabling Available
RIHS and HOYS Qualifiers
Affiliated & Unaffiliated Classes



Entries Close
Showing - 8th May
Show Jumping - 15th May
No paper entry fees!

Hertsshow.com
equine@hertsshow.com



UPLOAD YOUR EVENT FOR FREE TODAY

www.equoevents.co.uk



12 - 14 June

Over 260 classes including
36 HOYS Qualifiers
Turn to Midlands Section
for entry details
royalthreecounties.co.uk



Surrey County Show

Bank Holiday Monday 25th May 2020

New for 2020

British Showjumping Classes
running all day

Side Saddle Equitation

In-hand Miniature Shetland

Unaffiliated Showing

TSR In-hand & Ridden
Training Classes

Plus...

RIHS qualifiers - Hunters, Cobs,
BSPA Ridden

www.surreycountyshow.co.uk



WADEBRIDGE / 4, 5 & 6th JUNE 2020
EST. 1783

EQUINE SECTION ENTRIES
www.royalcornwall.co.uk | Entries close: 17th April
01208 812183 | livestock@royalcornwall.co.uk

The County Showground, Stafford, ST18 0BD

Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th May 2020

Classes for everyone with wide range of qualifiers including RIHS, HOYS and many more

Ridden/Working Hunters, Sport Horse, Retained Racehorses, Hacks, Riding Horses, Cobs, Working Show Horse, SHP, WHP, Training Stakes, Show Ponies, Ridden M & M, Shetlands, In-Hand Welsh A, B, C, D & Mixed M & M, Veterans, Local Rider, Miniature Horses, M & M WHP, Skewbald & Piebald, Private Driving, In-Hand Shires, Ridden Heavy Horse, Trade/Agric Turnouts, Senior Show Jumping, Double Harness Scurry.

SAE (9" x 6" with large stamp) for schedules:
Mrs G Jones, Corner House, The Green, Barton-under-Needwood, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, DE13 8JD or visit www.staffscountyshowground.co.uk
Any enquiries please e-mail gilly.jones@btinternet.com or telephone 07801 817715
Entries Close: Light/Heavy Horses 20th April, Show Jumping 22nd May

THE SUFFOLK SHOW

**Wednesday 27
& Thursday 28 May 2020**

Qualifiers include: Olympia Direct
(Senior Showing & Ridden M&M),
RIHS and Horse of the Year Show.

Over 300 equine classes - British Showjumping
(Senior, Cat 3), Heavy Horse, Light Horse and
Pony Classes, Driving, Coaching and Scurry.

Schedule and entry forms available online or by
post – send SAE (large letter) to Elizabeth Payne,
SAA, Trinity Park, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich,
Suffolk IP3 8UH.

Tel: 01473 707115

Email: liz.payne@suffolkshow.co.uk

Entries close: Light Horses/Ponies - 20 March;
Heavy Horses/Driving/Donkeys - 27 March;
Showjumping - 8 May.

www.suffolkshow.co.uk

The 136th Lincolnshire Show

Lincolnshire Showground, Grange-de-Lings, Lincoln LN2 2NA

Postal entries close 9th April, Online entries close 16th April 2020

Visit www.lincolnshireshow.co.uk to enter and download the schedule.

44 HOYS Qualifiers including Ridden Hunters, Ladies Side Saddle, Riding Horses, Hacks, Cobs, Coloured Ridden Horses and Ponies, Children's Riding Ponies, Mountain and Moorlands - plus much more!

Sunday 28th June - Save the Date
Derbyshire County Show

Back at Elvaston Showground with new
Affiliated classes

Schedule email:
Lighthorses@derbyshirecountyshow.org.uk

Tel: 07825 705992

www.derbyshirecountyshow.org.uk



The Al Shira'aa Hickstead Derby Meeting
24 - 28 June (Entries Close: May 18)
Senior affiliated jumping classes starting from 0.90m plus HOYS Showing qualifiers (H, C, RH, Hunters, WH, Private Driving, Scurry Driving, M&Ms) and Coloureds, Trade Turnouts, RoR Champs

The Longines Royal International Horse Show
21 - 26 July (Entries Close: June 1)
Senior affiliated jumping classes starting from 0.90m plus RIHS Showing Championship classes (must qualify), Scurry Driving, Trade Turnouts

The Hurstpierpoint College National Schools, Pony Club & NSEA Jumping Championships
1 August (Entries Close: July 8)

The Science Supplements All England Jumping Championships
3 - 6 September (Entries Close: August 10)
A full range of senior affiliated jumping classes all with finals in the International Arena. Age and height classes ranging from 0.90m to 1.40m

Download schedules from end of March
www.hickstead.co.uk



Kent County Show

10,11,12 July 2020

Schedules and Entries Online 1 April

- 23 HOYS Qualifiers
- New Amateur Ridden Hunter Classes
- Pure and Part Bred Irish Draught In Hand & Ridden
- ROR TBA Challenge Show Series Qualifier

- Native Best of Breed Rosettes
- New Showjumping classes
- Open Show Hunter Pony classes
- Foreign Breed classes and championship
- Welsh part bred classes
- CHAPS Veteran Qualifier



Schedules from Meghan Rice-Wilson:
meghan@kentshowground.co.uk
01622 633057
www.kentshow.co.uk
Kent Showground, Maidstone ME14 3JF



MONMOUTHSHIRE SHOW

SATURDAY 4TH JULY 2020

Monmouthshire Showground, Monmouth

Full Schedule and online entry from Beginning of April at
www.monmouthshow.co.uk

Horse and pony classes including qualifiers for HOYS, BSHA, ROR, Veteran, NPS, SSADL, WPCS, Scurry, British Showjumping, TSR.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES POSTAL FRIDAY 22ND MAY 2020
ONLINE FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2020

For further information contact
Liz Hacket Pain 07968 147984 or horses@monmouthshow.co.uk

106th ASHBY SHOW

Sunday, 12th July, 2020

Cattows Farm, Normanton Lane, Heather, Leics, LE67 2TD

HOYS Cuddy Working Hunter of the Year Qualifier,
HOYS Show Hunter of the Year (all weights including Small),
HOYS - Ladies Side Saddle Horse of the Year Championship Qualifier

Shires, Hunters, Riding Horse, Cob, ID, RoR, CHAPS, Side Saddle, Veteran, Welsh, Shetland, Pony Breeding, SHP, WH, WHP, Training Stakes, M&M, Young Handler, Local Rider, Fancy Dress

Entries taken on-line or postal – Closing date – 8th June, 2020

SENIOR BRITISH SHOW JUMPING
Main Ring National Accumulator (£1500 prize money)
Show Jumping Ring - British Novice (First Round), Discovery/1m Open, Newcomers/1.10m Open, Foxhunter/1.20m Open & National 1.30m.
Entries taken on the day

Schedules and entries available on website or send A5 SAE to:
Jane Harding, Several Woods Cottage, Heath Lane, Boundary, Swadlincote, Derbys, DE11 7AZ Tel: 01283 229225
info@ashbyshow.com www.ashbyshow.com

BURWARTON SHOW

THURSDAY 6 AUGUST 2020

Hunters, Welsh, Shetlands, M&M, Cobs, Coloureds, Veterans, Dressage, Driving, RoR Amateur Ridden & In-Hand Show Series Qualifier, BS Jumping. Schedules available May.

Tel: 01746 787535
www.burwartonshow.co.uk
info@burwartonshow.co.uk

Please mention



when replying to advertisements

DUMFRIES AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Friday 31st July & Saturday 1st August 2020

The Show Field, Park Farm, New Abbey Road, Dumfries, DG2 7LU

Friday 31st July – Unaffiliated Show Jumping
Saturday 1st August – BSJA Show Jumping

Horse Showing Classes on both days
Schedule available beginning of June

See our website for details www.dumfriesshow.co.uk



HONITON AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Thursday 6th August 2020



Hosts to the West of England Hound Show

Classes for; Hunters, Cobs, Riding Horse, CHAPS, Mountain & Moorland (NPS), Arabs, Heavy Horses, Retained Racehorse - RoR Qualifiers, Private Driving, Side Saddle, Veterans, Shetlands, WHP/SHP/LR/FR.

Entries Close 1st July 2020

Schedules (SAE Min C5 Envelope please):

Marcelle Connor, Bank House, 66a High Street, Honiton, Devon, EX14 1PS

Tel: 01404 41794 • info@honitonshow.co.uk

www.honitonshow.co.uk

ROYAL THREE COUNTIES SHOW in association with JCB

12 - 14 June

Over 260 classes including 36 HOYS Qualifiers

Turn to Midlands Section for entry details

royalthreecounties.co.uk



22nd & 23rd August

Celebrate traditional rural life

SAVE THE DATE!

Schedule email:

equinelcs@gmail.com • 07825705992

Gallow Field Road, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 7QX

Visit:

www.leicestershirecountyshow.co.uk



SOULDROP 28TH ANNUAL CHARITY HORSE AND FAMILY DOG SHOW

Sunday 23rd August 2020

nr. Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire

S/jumping inc. Peter Pan, Local, Pairs, Horse & Hound, Novice, Open. Showing - In Hand and Ridden. L/Rein, First Ridden, M & M, Arabs, Youngstock, Condition, Coloured, Family, Driving Type etc. Perpetual trophies. Championships.

Raising funds for the Brooke - (action for working horses and donkeys) and the Children's Magical Taxi Tour (for children with life threatening illnesses).

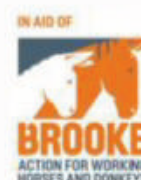
Something for everyone - please come along and support us.

Show Sec. Mrs Gill Green, Windmill Hill Cottage, Colworth Estate, Sharnbrook, Beds. MK44 1LD.

Mob: 07720373415

Email: gilliangreen25@gmail.com

www.souldrophorseshow.co.uk



MORETON-IN-MARSH SHOW

Saturday 5th September 2020

Hunters, Workers, Hacks, Cobs, R.H, M&M, Show Hunter Pony (HOYS), Retained Racehorses, British Showjumping classes, 6 Bar Challenge, Pairs Team Relay

Schedule & Online Entry from June onwards

www.moretonshow.co.uk

Closing dates:-

Showing 01.08.20

Show Jumping 28.08.20

Tel: 01608 651908

Sioe Sir Fôn ANGLESEY County Show

BOOK ONLINE

Diwrnod gwyb i'r holl deulu
A great day out for the whole family

Awst 11-12 August 2020

www.angleseyshow.org.uk

Ar faes y sioe / On the showground, Gwalchmai, LL65 4RW

HORSE&HOUND

DUNSTER SHOW

Dunster Castle Lawns
Near Minehead, Somerset

21st AUGUST 2020

Postal & Online Entries:
Close July 9th

BSPS, NPS, HOYS Qualifiers

Secretary:

Mrs R. Langdon, Apple Tree House, Higher Vexford, Lydeard St Lawrence, Taunton, Somerset, TA24 6SL

secretary@dunstershow.demon.co.uk
www.thedunstershow.co.uk

equo HORSE&HOUND

THE EASY WAY
TO FIND AN
EVENT AND
ENTER ONLINE



www.equoevents.co.uk

EDENBRIDGE & OXTED
AGRICULTURAL SHOW
Celebrating the country way of life since 1897

30 & 31 August

Ardenrun Showground RH7 6LL

Schedules:

www.edenbridge-show.co.uk

01737 645843

jackie@edenbridge-show.co.uk

Please mention **HORSE&HOUND**
when replying to advertisements



ROYAL THREE COUNTIES SHOW

in association with



12 – 14 June

Over 260 classes including 36 HOYS Qualifiers

Entries open 1 March: royalthreecounties.co.uk

Entry closing date: 24 April postal, 8 May online

For more information contact Betsy Branyan:
equineteam@threecounties.co.uk 01684 584 900



BUCKS COUNTY SHOW

Weedon Park, Aylesbury

THURSDAY 27th AUGUST 2020

HOYS QUALIFIERS:- Ridden, Working, Ladies & Small Hunters, Hacks, Cobs, Riding Horses & Cuddy Breeders Challenge.

RIHS QUALIFIERS:- M&M WHP, Coloured Ridden Horses & Ponies

Also Classes for Hack, In-Hand Competition Horse, Miniature Shetland, SP In-Hand & M&M In-Hand & Ridden, Part-Breds, Retrained Racehorses, Foreign & Rare Native breeds.

SHOW JUMPING Snr BSJA – NEW British Novice, Newcomers, Foxhunter, Discovery, Accumulator, Open Classes & AREA TRIAL.

HORSE ENTRIES (POSTAL) CLOSE – 27th JULY 2020

HORSE ENTRIES (ONLINE) CLOSE – 5th AUGUST 2020

SJ ENTRIES CLOSE – 10th AUGUST 2020

buckscountyshow.co.uk

Bucks County Show, No.5 Lilies, High Street, Weedon,
Bucks, HP22 4NS
Telephone: 01296 680400

APPLY ONLINE
NOW
www.seas.org.uk/equine

SOUTH OF ENGLAND SHOW
11,12,13 JUN 20

200 classes for 2020
HOYS & RIHS Qualifiers

3 days of Showjumping
from 1m Open to
International Stairway
and more

South of England Show

11, 12 & 13 June 2020

CLOSING DATE FOR ONLINE SHOWING ENTRIES 19 April

CLOSING DATE FOR ONLINE SHOWJUMPING ENTRIES 29 May

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) @SouthEngShows

#SouthofEnglandShow

SEIB
INSURANCE BROKERS
Over 50 years of excellent service



Main image courtesy of JPC Images and inset image courtesy of Julia Shearwood

**Your chance to ride
around the famous
Burghley Horse Trials
Cross Country Course**



**The SEIB Insurance Brokers Burghley
Sponsored Ride Sunday 6th September 2020**

**A unique one-off chance to ride along
the famous Land Rover Burghley Horse
Trials Cross Country Course on the final
day of the World Class International 5*
Three Day Event.**

**On-line entries open mid-March at
www.burghleysponsoredride.co.uk**

email: burghley.sr2018@btconnect.com

www.seib.co.uk  

www.facebook.com/SEIBBurghleySponsoredRide

South Essex House, North Road, South Ockendon Essex RM15 5BE South Essex
Insurance Brokers Ltd are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.
(local call charges apply)



HENLEY SHOW

Saturday 12th September 2020

Classes include:

Affiliated British Show Jumping &
Unaffiliated Show Jumping & Showing
Classes - Local Ridden Hunter,
Novice & Open Working Hunter,
Lead Rein, First Ridden,
Coloured Classes, Veteran Classes,
Foreign Breed Classes, Young Stock,
PC/RC Horse/Pony, Heavy Horses
In Hand & Ridden & many more...

Schedules and online entries

www.thehenleyshow.co.uk

All enquiries please contact

Alison Abrahams

henleyhorseentries@hotmail.com

or 07879 255999

**GRANDSDEN
SHOW** Est. 1891
www.gransdenshow.org.uk

Saturday 26th September 2020

118th Year

Riding Horse, Hunters, Mixed Mountain
& Moorland, Side Saddle, RoR, Driving,
& Unaffiliated Classes. P(UK), Equifest, ROR,
SSA and BDS Qualifiers. Also, Livestock and
Companion Dog Show.

A great day out for all the family.

Trade Stand Enquiries Welcome

Schedule available on website

www.gransdenshow.org.uk

All enquiries please contact Event Manager

Charlotte Kane-Belcher

Tel 01480 731878

info@gransdenshow.org.uk

Show Secretaries

**The Longines Royal International
Horse Show**

21 - 26 July 2020

Secretary: Lizzie Bunn

All England Jumping Course, Hickstead,

West Sussex RH17 5NU

Tel 01273 834315 www.hickstead.co.uk

**The Science Supplements All
England Jumping Championships**

3 - 6 September 2020

Secretary: Lizzie Bunn

All England Jumping Course, Hickstead,

West Sussex RH17 5NU

Tel 01273 834315 www.hickstead.co.uk

**The Al Shira'aa Hickstead
Derby Meeting**

25 - 28 June 2020

Secretary: Lizzie Bunn

All England Jumping Course, Hickstead,

West Sussex RH17 5NU

Tel 01273 834315 www.hickstead.co.uk

Staffordshire County Show
Weds 27th & Thurs 28th May

Secretary: Mrs G Jones, Corner House, The Green,
Barton-under-Needwood, Burton-on-Trent, DE13 8JD.

Any enquiries please e-mail gilly.jones@btinternet.com

or telephone 07801 817715.

For schedules send SAE (9" x 6" with large stamp)

or download from www.staffscountyshowground.co.uk

Show Special Goods & Services

Yard-Vue™

sales@trailervision.co.uk

01733 246473

• Check your property
from anywhere at any
time

• No monthly charge

• Wi-Fi enabled

ONLY
£119.99

1 YEAR WARRANTY

• View your horses while travelling

• Quick and easy fitting - no wiring
or drilling

• View images on a smart phone or
tablet

**Equi-Vue2™
SPECIAL
INTRO
PRICE!**

£149.99



Equi-Vue2™



Langaller Farm

BOVEY TRACEY, DEVON TQ13 9JP.

Email: langallerfarm@aol.com Tel: 01626 836556 Mobile: 07812 103448



WOODVEAN MIDNIGHT BLUE

Owned by Miss. M. Harper
Llanarth Alleycat X Culross
Maid In Blue. 14.2hh WHP.
£450 N.F.F.R.



BARKWAY EARLYBIRD

Owned by Ms. S. Egan
Beckside Little Toff X Barkway
Enigma. 12hh Show Pony.
£350 N.F.F.R.



PENDLEY MASTER OF ART

Owned by Mrs. J. Williams
& Mr. A. Thomas-Chambers
Dolphin Super Star X Queensdale
Chardonnay. 14hh British Riding Pony.
£450 N.F.F.R.

Also standing Langaller Starring Role, Catherston Liberator, Sandy's Light, Castlegar Cool Mist, Newtown Pedro, Primitive Proposal, Keady Star, Colbeach Nightlight and Langaller Star Maker

Sports Premix

Fibrelok Sports Premix has been meticulously developed to suit all disciplines and budgets. Our flagship sports fibres are blended with high grade silica sand to create a leading all-weather equestrian surface. Sports Premix has been designed for the more demanding applications, further additives are added to increase moisture retention and durability. **Fibrelok Sport** has increased elasticity whilst maintaining excellent hoof grip and energy return. High grade silica sand is blended with polyester, nylon and elastane fibres to create a high performance sure footed surface.

Sports Fibre

Sports Fibre can be added to new or existing sand-based surfaces. This is a synthetic blended fibre that creates an artificial root structure, aids stability and moisture retention. Available in **300kg bales** with a spread rate of **3.5kg per sq/m**.

Recommended for...
SHOW JUMPING, DRESSAGE, POLO, CARRIAGE DRIVING
and **GENERAL SCHOOLING**

FIBRELOK
EQUESTRIAN SURFACES

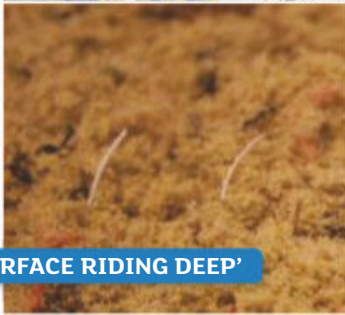
DONCASTER

Rear of Northfield, Stonehill
Hatfield Woodhouse, Doncaster DN7 6NP

enquiries@fibrelok.co.uk
www.fibrelok.co.uk



Call us
for a
FREE
sample



'SURFACE RIDING DEEP'



For questions, quotations and general enquiries please contact us on
01302 841999

Celebrating 100 years

Scotts
OF THRAPSTON
EST. 1920



SCOTTS STABLES...AT THE HEART OF BUSINESS LIFE



To find out more, please call Scotts on **01832 732366**
or email **equestrian@scottsofthrapston.co.uk**
scottsofthrapston.co.uk

#stablesforlife

ENGRAINED
WITH PASSION

MOCHARA

LEGGINGS • COMPETITION WEAR

BASE LAYERS • PERSONALISATION

LIVE AN ACTIVE LIFE IN STYLE
WITH MOCHARA

www.mochara.co.uk

The **TRUSTED PLACE TO *buy & sell* YOUR HORSE**

THE HOME OF QUALITY HORSES FOR OVER 135 YEARS

OUR SIMPLE PRICING POLICY

STANDARD £35

- One week in H&H magazine (4x1)
- Six weeks online • Unlimited photos & videos

PREMIUM £50

- One week in H&H magazine (4x2)
- Six weeks online • Unlimited photos & videos
 - Appear above standard adverts online
 - Premium badge and background online

HORSE&HOUND

HORSES *for* SALE

www.horseandhound.co.uk/horsesforsale



SPECIALIST EQUESTRIAN TAILOR & OUTFITTER

MADE TO MEASURE - QUICK TURN AROUND



British Manufacturers and International Distributors of High Class Clothing and Accessories for Horse and Rider

Everything available bespoke and off the peg

Tweed & Navy Jackets ♦ Inhand Outfits

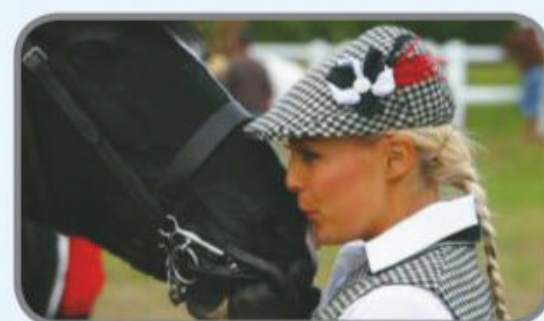
Lead Rein Outfits ♦ Driving Outfits

Jods ♦ Waistcoats

Boots ♦ Accessories

Hats ♦ Gift Vouchers

and much much more



*'why compromise...
stand out from the crowd'*



Find us on 

Email: lebeaucheval@aol.com
Tel: +44 (0)1200 445 137

Visit us today @
www.lebeaucheval.com

CLIMATISED COATINGS

Established 1993

Climatised Coatings are a superb range of external wall coatings that are tough, flexible, durable and weatherproof



- Stormshield Insulation Systems • High build breathing coating suitable for all types of external walls • All latest colourings available • Nationwide service with over 20 years' experience
- Guaranteed not to flake, peel or chip for 10 years • Not affected by acid rain or salt laden atmosphere

All our work is done by our highly trained personnel, to an exceptionally high standard of detail, rarely seen these days.

Climatised Coatings (UK) Ltd
105 Weston Grove, Chester CH2 1QP
Tel: 01244 378488
info@climatisedcoatingsuk.co.uk
www.climatisedcoatings.co.uk

HAY BAR™

FEED AS NATURE INTENDED



It's a great way to allow the horses to eat with their heads down but without making a mess by dragging all the loose hay around their boxes!

*Laura Collett
Top International Event Rider*



Visit our
NEW website
for more information

www.haybar.co.uk Tel: 01723 882434

CHART STABLES

+44 (0)1233 611123
CALL TODAY FOR A FREE BROCHURE



15% OFF* ALL STABLES, MOBILES & FIELD SHELTERS
please quote ref **HH2020** to qualify, for more information visit our website
*15% off unit cost of building, T&C's & exclusions apply**



PREMIUM STABLES, FIELD SHELTERS AND MOBILE EQUESTRIAN BUILDINGS

Delivered and installed across the UK by our experienced team,
with DIY available for wider destinations.

enquiries@chartstables.co.uk www.chartstables.co.uk



Where does your wet dog travel?

From small hatchback to 4x4 & even lorry seat covers we have happy solutions for you all!



www.thecarbootdogbedcompany.co.uk
info@thecarbootdogbedcompany.co.uk
07584 578347



HORSE&HOUND Tablet Edition

Read *Horse & Hound*
wherever you are each
week on your tablet

Search *Horse & Hound*
magazine in your tablet's store



Oakley

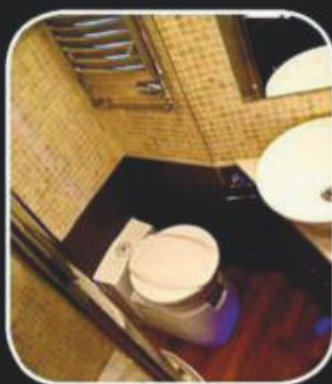
SINCE 1947

THE WORLD'S MOST SOUGHT AFTER HORSEBOXES



It takes years of breeding to create the lasting qualities of a truly renowned pedigree. Which is why Oakley is renowned worldwide for horse boxes that have a unique quality, strength, value, comfort and bespoke style that's sought after, but never caught by our imitators. Oakley's long-standing history and experience of over 70 years using only the finest luxury lightweight materials, their willingness to adapt to an ever changing economic market and their full focus on you, the customer, that maintains their products as

'The world's most sought after horseboxes'



To view Oakley's full range of products & services, our ever changing pre-owned horsebox stock and sales & service centres please go to:

T +44 (0)1920 466781 **E** sales@oakleyhorseboxes.co.uk **W** www.oakleyhorseboxes.com

Oakley Coachbuilders, High Cross, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG11 1AD

Who do you need for your horse, yard or land?
We select the best professional for you

FIND AN EQUINE PRO

www.findanequinepro.com

- 1 Post your job
- 2 Receive quotes
- 3 Choose your pro

Simple
 Trusted
 Competitive
 Free

Post your job. Pro's onsite are verified by us. You receive their details & competitive quotes from them. It's FREE to use.

Use and review www.findanequinepro.com and receive your free amazon gift voucher. Limited time only.



Are you an equestrian business owner?
 Register today and receive new clients directly to your inbox

Tag us on social media for your chance to win a country jacket. #FlyerPower. #FindAnEquinePro

www.findanequinepro.com
info@findanequinepro.com
 Find An Equine Pro



brodpod®

'Horseshoe'
magnetic bracelet
featuring
Neodymium Magnets
Copper Elements
Stainless Steel

For our full range of
award winning microcurrent & magnetic
products for people, dogs & horses
visit: **www.brodpod.co.uk**
Tel: 017684 84402
Mon - Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm

HORSE&HOUND

***Don't miss out on
Horse & Hound's***

Careers & Education Feature

11th June Issue

COPY DEADLINE:
Thursday 28th May

To promote your course, apprenticeship
or training programme to our **134,000***
readers please call Hasan Mubarak

Hasan.Mubarak@ti-media.com
or call on 01252 555346

**Readership 2018*



**GOVA[®] horse
PLAST**



unique optional WOOD TEXTURE effect

STABLE BOARDS

MAINTENANCE FREE
made of recycled plastic

Will not shrink
rot or splinter



Maintenance free



High quality solid board
unbreakable



Impact resistant
Suitable for internal
and external stables



official
GOVAPLAST
distributor

Contact your stable construction company for more details
tel: 01920 469 926 or info@goplastic.co.uk

Made in UK

EQUITECTOR

Riding & Hunting Boots

RIDING BOOTS SHOWING BOOTS & GAITERS

CALF ANY
WIDTH
13" TO 19"

SHORT LEG
HEIGHT
AVAILABLE

SIZE 2 TO 14
MENS
& LADIES

MADE-TO-
MEASURE
AVAILABLE

WARM IN WINTER - COOL IN SUMMER

SPECIAL FEATURES:

- CLIMATE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY
- WATERPROOF LEATHER
- STIRRUP BALANCE SYSTEM
- HOOF PROOF TOE PROTECTION

WWW.EQUITECTOR.COM **TELEPHONE: 0208 090 4029**

OVER 20 YEARS PROVIDING

RIDING HOLIDAYS FOR EVERYONE

We have the ranch
experience or riding safari
to suit you, whether an
experienced or novice rider,
even non-riders.
Ideal holidays for families,
couples and singles.

**CATTLE & HORSE DRIVES,
PACK TRIPS, ADVENTURES,
WHITEWATER RAFTING
AND MUCH MORE**

**REQUEST
YOUR FREE
68 PAGE
BROCHURE
NOW!**

USA · CANADA · ARGENTINA · SOUTH AFRICA · BOTSWANA · NAMIBIA · TANZANIA

**RANCH
RIDER**

ABTA 96395 · ATOL 4660

+44 (0) 1509 618811
email: info@ranchrider.com
www.ranchrider.com

NEW

equo POWERED BY
HORSE&HOUND

ORGANISERS

THE **SMART** WAY TO **ORGANISE YOUR EVENT ONLINE**
www.equoevents.co.uk



UPLOAD YOUR EVENT IN
MINUTES
FOR **FREE**



TO BE SEEN BY
2 MILLION
RIDERS*

EQUO GIVES YOU



CENTRAL PLACE TO MANAGE YOUR ENTRIES, TIMES AND RESULTS



Meaning no more
illegible entries
and no more
bouncing cheques



Payment directly
to your bank
account



Class times are
produced in the
click of a button



THERE IS AN EQUO REP NEAR YOU.
TO GET THEIR HELP OR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL

equo.events@timeinc.com

Upload your event for **FREE** today
 [**www.equoevents.co.uk**](http://www.equoevents.co.uk)

* across horseandhound.co.uk, H&H e-news, H&H magazine, H&H social media, equoevents.com, Equo e-news, Equo social media



*Stylish Equestrian
Clothing For Tots to Teens*
www.jollytotsequestrian.co.uk

PRIORY STUD HORSEBOXES

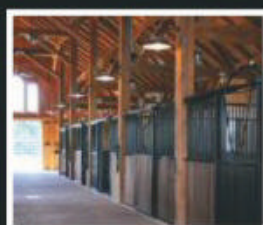
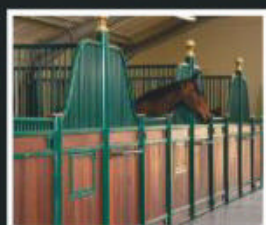
Established 1957



For all your horsebox requirements. New builds 7.5t, 3 horse with 2t payload, alterations, renovations, paintwork, facelifts, repairs, pre-MOT preparation, Insurance accident work, ramp problems a speciality, a selection of non-HGV boxes always in stock / available and part exchange welcome.

**Tel: 01621 815446 or email
priorystudhorseboxes@btconnect.com**

Quality that lasts a lifetime



Internal Stables • External Doors • Stable Accessories
Barns • Horse Exercisers

FREE on site advice • Fitting service

To find out more email sales@loddon.co.uk
call **01508 520744** or visit www.loddon.co.uk



Loddon
Stables & Stalls

HORSE&HOUND

Sport Horse Breeding Special

*Part
one*

Essential
reading for
all breeders

- The Irish stud producing big results
- Why Scotland is becoming a breeding hotspot
- The ins and outs of owning a stallion — is it for you?

On sale 5 March



HACK UP BESPOKE HERITAGE

PROFESSIONALS FEEL THE DIFFERENCE FEEDING INSTANT LIQUID CAALM

A new approach to Instant calming
Sugar and Magnesium FREE

Antonia Brown
National Dressage and
International Event Rider

Jesmond Rainbow
Reserve Champion Novice
Gold Regionals 2020

Impi Champion
Novice Gold Regionals 2020

Finn Healy
3 x Gold European
FEI medallist
Horse & Hound
Awards Young Rider
of the Year 2019

The Ultimate



**LIQUID + BESPOKE
COMBO**



"Instant Liquid Caalm delivered focus and concentration for both our horses with brilliant results. We have our friends 'The Healy's' to thank for the introduction to Bespoke powders and liquids."

Tim Brown Ex International Showjumper and trainer to Finn and Antonia



Horse riders choose bespoke, they are not sponsored.

PLASTIC FREE
50NEW coupon code for
50% EXTRA FREE product
and a FREE pail

**Re-fill & re-use the
measured squeeze bottle**
Sample Size £9.99



FORMULATE LIVE
WITH ALEX OVER
THE PHONE



The formulation
and creation of
bespoke natural
supplements for
horses and dogs

Helpline - 01359 308866 · hackup.co.uk





Save up to 40%

by purchasing your Aviform equine supplements in the new 100% compostable pouch as a multi-buy.

Percentage savings compared to purchasing pouches singularly. Discount example Biodura Hoof Care.

BIODURA  Balanced Biotin Hoof Supplement	PRO-COMPLETE  Ultimate Equine All in One Supplement	SUPPLEAZE GOLD  Research Based Joint Supplement	EGF  Promotes a Healthy Gastric Condition	EQUABLE  Effective Equine Calmer
---	--	---	--	---

NEW 100% Compostable Bio-Pouches

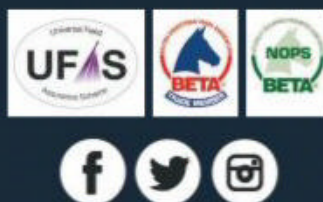
Environmentally friendly plastics free packaging.

Aviform's new Bio-Pouch is 100% compostable which complies with EN13432/2000 for compostability.

Our customers rate us as 5 Star on the independent review site Trustpilot.
Ranked #1*. Visit aviform.co.uk for more than 4,000 independent 5 Star reviews
from customers who love our products and service. *At copy submission deadline.



Aviform
Since 1977



HOW TO ORDER

Visit: aviform.co.uk

Tel: **01953 528008**

Aviform Ltd, Wymondham, NR18 9SB, UK

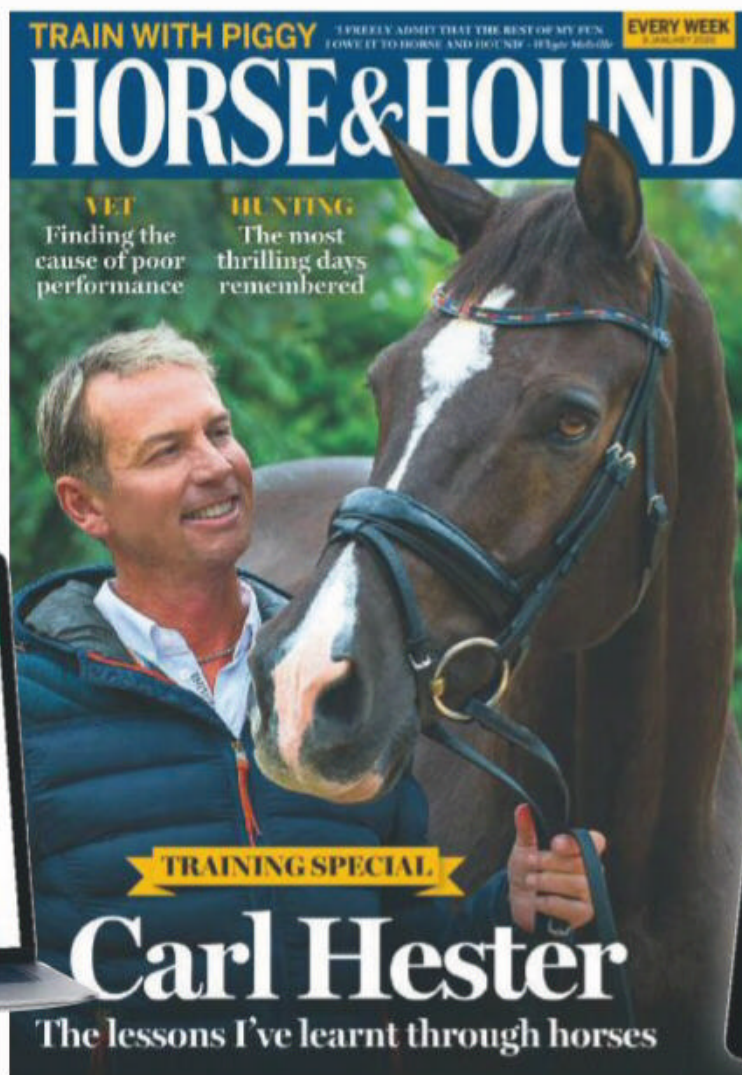


ES&OE

SUBSCRIBE NOW

from only £2.15* per issue!

NEW



You can now enjoy H&H magazine, H&H magazine, H&H Plus and iPad and iPhone editions in one combined subscription at a heavily discounted rate.

- Home delivery of the print magazine each week
- H&H magazine wherever you are with the iPad and iPhone edition
- Access to H&H Plus including extensive veterinary library
- Enjoy an advert-free experience on horseandhound.co.uk
- Never miss our exclusive breaking news and opinion from the equestrian world
- Exclusive weekly e-newsletter from our Editor-in-Chief

visit www.horseandhoundsubs.co.uk/54AP
or call 0330 333 1125 and quote 54AP

Lines open Monday-Saturday 8am to 6pm UK time

✓ DELIVERED DIRECT TO YOUR DOOR ✓ CANCEL ANYTIME ✓ NO HIDDEN COSTS

Offer closes 31st March 2020. Offer open to new subscribers only. Direct Debit offer is available to UK subscribers only. *After six issues continuing at £27.99 when paying by 3 monthly Direct Debit. This price is guaranteed for the first 12 months and we will notify you in advance of any price changes. Please allow up to six weeks for delivery of your first print subscription issue (up to eight weeks overseas). The full subscription rate is for 12 months (52 issues) and includes postage and packaging. If the magazine ordered changes frequency per annum, we will honour the number of issues paid for, not the term of the subscription. For full terms and conditions, visit www.magazinesdirect.com/terms. For enquiries please call: +44 (0) 330 333 1125. Lines are open Monday-Saturday 8am-6pm UK Time or e-mail: HHplus@magazinesdirect.com Calls to 0330 numbers will be charged at no more than a national landline call, and may be included in your phone provider's call bundle.



The historic Haydon

Steeped in tradition, the ‘happy ship’ of the Haydon has much to be proud of, not least its supporters, many of whom have followed the hunt since childhood

By TESSA WAUGH

SOME hunts chop and change their masters as frequently as the weather. Others attract people who commit to the long haul. The Haydon is one of those happy ships with a group of masters who are rooted to the area and, even more crucially, get on.

The current crew have notched up around 40 years between them, setting the tone for stability throughout the hunt.

Heather MacDonald is now in her 12th season as master and is also district commissioner

of a well-subscribed branch of the Pony Club, the South Northumberland. She has hunted with the Haydon all her life, taking up her first post as supporters’ club secretary back in 1976.

William Nicholl, who joined Heather in the mastership in 2009, when Charlie Shirley-Beavan was master and huntsman, describes her as “our elder statesman”, adding,

“There isn’t anyone Heather doesn’t know.”

William and his equally keen wife, Clara, and their two children Elsie and Sam are both very much part of the scene.

“Clara is a sensational cook,” says Heather. “Will and Clara host the puppy show lunch and Clara also cooks the lunches for the point-to-point.”

Support comes from a good spread of ages: “We saw lots of young people come in when Charlie was master,” says William, who was in his 30s when he

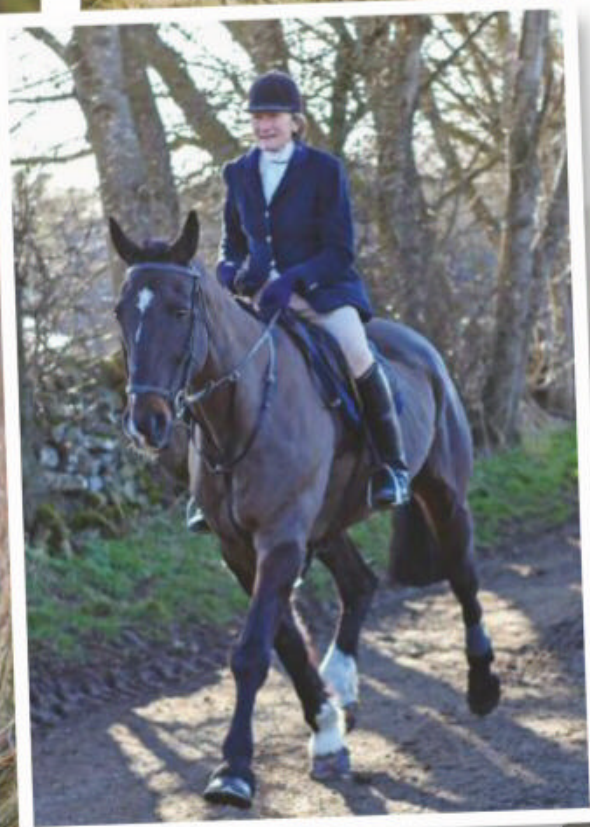
joined the mastership, carrying on a family tradition: his father was master of the pack as was his grandfather, Col Nicholl, who hunted the hounds between 1959 and 1967.

Having hunted with the Haydon all his life, William recalls his childhood as a halcyon period in the hunt’s history with Donald Edgar — a farmer and from the edge of the country — as huntsman and his father, Charles, as field master.

William adds: “We tend to have amateurs here. It doesn’t



Joint-master and huntsman Angus Crozier joined the mastership in 2011 and has hunted the hounds since 2013



Top: Steph Smith, Gayle Tailford and Jane Parker. Above: Heather MacDonald. Above, right: whipper-in Will Crozier. Right: Nellie Faulks and Jean Craney

“I’m at the mart a lot,” Brian notes, “so if anyone [a farmer] has anything to say, they can come and get it off their chest.”

THE HOUNDS AND KENNEL-HUNTSMAN

KENNEL-HUNTSMAN David Stobart arrived in September 2016 from Cumbria where he was countryman for the Cumberland, the pack where his father John Stobart is a joint-master.

The kennels are out of the way, up a gravel track on the site of an old witherite mine belonging to Reuben Straker, in the centre of their Saturday country. The hounds have been kennelled there since 1971.

Just a year after they moved there, Tony Dale (long-serving kennel-huntsman from 1967-85) was indoors having walked the hounds out when he heard a horrendous crash. Looking



down at the kennels, he saw that a massive hole had appeared where one of the mine shafts had fallen in, taking the yard in front of the hound lodges with it.

By a stroke of luck, the hounds were in a neighbouring yard that had stayed intact and Donald Edgar, who was master at the time, was able to climb in and hand each one out to Tony. The hole has since been filled in and the hounds are kennelled on another spot nearby.

There are currently 30 couple of Haydon hounds and

they hunt five days a fortnight. The main days are Wednesdays and Saturdays, with alternate Mondays on foot. David hunts on a bike and his girlfriend Steph Smith looks after three horses at the kennels while Angus Crozier’s wife, Deborah, and Jade Hunter look after the rest.

Angus Crozier breeds the hounds, which are hill type, using their own stallion hounds as much as possible. They broke with tradition and used Blencathra Saddler 14 last year on a bitch called Crafty 15.

HUNTING

“She has an excellent cry on her,” says Angus.

He entered seven of their progeny this season and names a bitch called Crystal as the one that stands out.

They also used their own dog (Crafty’s brother) Crosby 15 on a bitch called Bramble 18 and entered six puppies from that match this season. Testament to their quality, three of these — Bashful, Bangle and Bellman — along with their sire Crosby won the group class at Lowther last year.

A hound called Searcher 17 by Cumberland Shamrock 10 out of a bitch called Static 12 has also had a lot of success in the show ring in recent years.

David enjoys showing the hounds and there are pinboards in his sitting room displaying their many rosettes. In this part of the country, each hunt hosts a hound show for all the local packs.

“I try to go to as many as possible, that way you ensure they all come back to ours,” he says.

THE COUNTRY AND FAMOUS LANDMARKS

THE Haydon country is in the south-west corner of Northumberland, following the South Tyne River from the western edge of Hexham through to the county boundary with Cumbria. Neighbouring packs include the Bewcastle and North Tyne to the west, the Tynedale

Below: the Haydon country is wild yet picturesque



Family tradition: joint-master William Nicholl, whose father and grandfather were also former Haydon masters, with wife Clara and daughter Elsie

Right: joint-master and huntsman Angus Crozier (right) with his son, whipper-in Will

and the Braes of Derwent to the east and the North Pennine to the south.

One of the great features of the country is Hadrian’s Wall, built by the Romans more than 1,800 years ago. The wall is still intact in some places and divides the Haydon Wednesday country from the Saturday country. Haydonites refer to “north of the wall” and “south of the wall” like characters in *Game of Thrones* and it is wild enough to imagine a *GoT* battle scenario playing out.





Neville White is a stalwart of the hunt, and a great help in kennels

In reality, the wall attracts a procession of walkers all year round stopping to take pictures of the famous Sycamore Gap — a large sycamore tree standing alone in a dip — one of the most photographed trees in Britain.

The Saturday country is between the South Tyne and the Roman Wall, what Angus Crozier describes as “gallop and jump wall country”. They have put in plenty of hunt jumps over the years at Whinnetley, home of the Nicholls, and Harfondale, which are both popular meets along with Grindon Hill — belonging to the Teasdales — and Westmillhills belonging to the Stephensons, both of whom are big supporters.

At Langley, Threepwood, Heather says you will find “a bit of Leicestershire in Northumberland; lovely going,

grassy fields, top of the ground. We can gallop without sinking in two foot — which our horses appreciate now and again”.

On Wednesdays, the Haydon hunt the south side of the Tyne around Hexhamshire and Slayley up to the fringes of the grouse moors. This is gentler country which has plenty of grass, smaller enclosures and more forestry. There might be 15 or so out on horses, with about 25 on Saturdays and eight or 10 people on bikes, more on Saturdays.

“Many of them are the sons from the farms we hunt over,” explains Angus.

Dukesfield Hall belonging to Andrew and Cath Swallow is a favourite Wednesday meet.

The Haydon Monday country, hunted on foot, is north of the wall and characterised by white grass





Westgate Laboratories

POSTAL WORM COUNTS & TESTS



“

I trust Westgate to ensure this essential aspect of our horses’ care is covered, helping to keep them in tip top condition through the season.

SARAH BULLIMORE

Discounts for 4+



ALL SEASONS



Subscription Service

A complete, bespoke test based worm control programme for your horse from £6.50 pcm



Sand Testing

Minimise the risk of sand colic with a faecal test to measure sediment levels



Parasite control

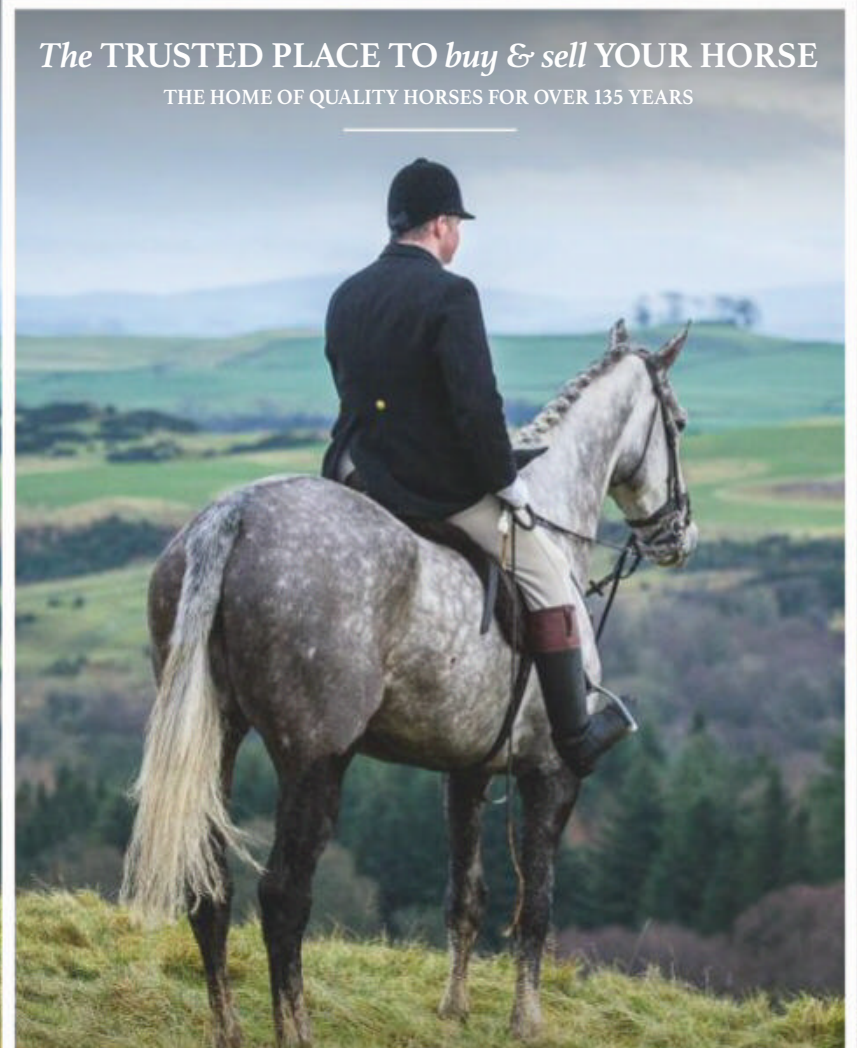
Worm egg counts, EquiSal tapeworm, plus tests to target pinworm, liverfluke and lungworm

passionate about good parasite control for your horse or pony

contact us | **01670 791994**
info@westgatelabs.co.uk | www.westgatelabs.co.uk

The TRUSTED PLACE TO *buy & sell* YOUR HORSE

THE HOME OF QUALITY HORSES FOR OVER 135 YEARS



HORSE&HOUND

HORSES *for* SALE

www.horseandhound.co.uk/horsesforsale

HUNTING

and heather. It is boggier there and harder to get about.

HELP FROM ALL ANGLES

THERE are many people who play their part in keeping the show on the road. Neville White is a great help at the kennels, while Willie Weatherstone runs a raffle at every meet and organises a hunt ball every February. Hector Rutherford has been chairman of the point-to-point. The Pattinson family at Hot Bank have been long-term supporters of the Haydon and Gillian Pattinson is retiring as secretary this season.

"They are always very obliging," says Angus, "putting on a meet at a drop of a hat."

Hannah Teasdale ably helps David as he tours the shows through the summer.

AN ENTERTAINING HUNT HISTORY

YOU don't need to have a direct connection with the Haydon to enjoy a book by long-term supporter Roy Wallis, now in



The Pattinson family: Harry, Louise, Florence, Esme, John and Gillian

his mid-80s. Mr Wallis gives a comprehensive account of their history starting with the first huntsman recorded, a Thomas Davison, in 1834.

Thomas hunted the hounds on foot and his wage per season was £9 along with a pair of shoes,

which cost 10 shillings. Hounds were kept at their walkers' and after each day's hunting, would either follow their walkers home or find their own way back.

He also has some good stories about Donald Edgar, who hunted the pack for 20

IN KENNELS

Masters: Heather MacDonald, William Nicholl, Angus Crozier, Brian Tailford

Hon sec: Gillian Pattinson, haydonhunt@googlemail.com

Kennel-huntsman: David Stobart

Chairman: Mary Ann Reay

Countrymen: Gareth Robson, Josie Brown, Robert Stephenson

seasons between 1967 and 1987.

Boxing Day 1971 was a vintage day despite being held in a less promising section of the country. Mr Wallis reports that having found in Dotland Fell, hounds hunted their fox for 17 miles, ending up where they started at around 5pm. He also adds that the hounds ended their day without the huntsman: "Boxing Day was the only day of the year when Donald had to be home in decent time, as he always took his [famously long-suffering] wife to the pantomime." **H&H**

ONLY IN HORSE & HOUND

'Adventures in the "Toon"'

John Holliday reflects on a fun-filled hunting exchange and changes afoot

FEBRUARY "fill dyke" has lived up to its reputation, the problem being that the dykes are already full. As I write, the River Smite has been transformed from a stream to a likeness of the mighty Mississippi, and the vale of Belvoir resembles the bayous of Louisiana. Careful consideration is being given as to how far toward spring we will continue to hunt this season.

A few weeks ago, we accepted an invitation from the "canny lads" of Northumberland to hunt the Tynedale country, a treat indeed. We enjoyed an excellent day — after a hunt of over two hours, the mileometer had reached double figures.

The evening brought its own adventures in "Toon", aka Newcastle-upon-Tyne, beginning with supper and concluding in the early hours with only my second-ever visit to a nightclub.

Hunt exchange meets are very popular but not always

OPINION

without consequences. Several years ago, the Belvoir hosted Chris Ryan's famous Kerry beagles, the Scardeen. A good day was had, leaving the vale looking as though a hurricane had passed through. Some years later, I commented to Chris that the event had put paid to other visiting hunts for a few seasons and the fencing-man used over 100 rails repairing the damage.

"I tink you'll find that was your chaps trying to keep up with ours!" quickly came the response.

DODGING DENNIS

THE Tynedale return fixture was held this month with the meet at Sheepwash near Harby. Their impressive bitch pack hunted beautifully all day and had a good morning, entertaining a large field of more than 100 followers.

They threaded their way across the Harby hills and those with sufficient horsepower, given the deep going, were treated to a decent eight-mile hunt in the afternoon.



A huge vale hedge was made considerably more inviting with a hole created by Charlie Shirley-Beavan's not insubstantial proportions cartwheeling through it. His hunting horn remains there still, lost, presumably flat and buried.

The Gin Bar at the newly converted Engine Yard at Belvoir Castle provided nourishment and well-earned liquid refreshment as a fitting climax to an enjoyable day.

In a successful effort to forestall the effects of Storm Dennis, the Debdale Lodge meet was brought forward to

9am and we were safely home before the worst of the weather arrived. Neither did it do anything to put off the revellers at our hunt ball later that same evening. Anyone leaving dishevelled could scarcely blame the gales.

MOVING ON

WE have changes of staff here at Old English HQ. After four seasons man and boy, Lewis Chutter is looking forward to his new position as kennel-huntsman to the Heythrop and on 1 May, we will welcome Sam Jones in his stead.

Elsewhere, former Belvoir first whipper-in George Pierce replicates the careers of the brothers Anyan, Frank and Ken — home-grown Belvoirites — who between them hunted the Blackmore Vale for 35 years. It is to be hoped that George's sojourn at Charlton Horethorne will be equally memorable.

With Chris Edwards hunting the Cottesmore, former Belvoir whippers-in now occupy three of the top appointments in hunt service. As our Geordie friends would say, "Howay the lads." **H&H**

John Holliday has been professional huntsman of the Belvoir since 2010, having spent 14 seasons prior to that in the same role at the Ledbury.



Mike Mallard

The larger-than-life 'wheeler dealer' who has hunted with 35 different packs

BORN on a council estate in Tipton, 73-year-old Mike Mallard has lost none of his distinct Black Country accent. A self-confessed "wheeler-dealer" from the age of 18, Mike has worked for himself ever since, mostly in the motor industry.

"Basically I buy and sell cars," says Mike, "and I've done all right for myself."

It's fair to say that he has "lived a bit" and is one of life's characters. A self-confessed adrenalin junkie and lover of extreme sports, Mike's sport of choice when he was in his 20s was speedway, based at Cradley Heath, near Dudley, a town known for making chains, especially those for the Titanic. His team was known as the Heathens.

"It taught me how to fall off without hurting myself," he says of his days on the speedway circuit.

Not born to country life or brought up with horses, Mike bought his wife Caroline a horse

as a wedding present when they were married in 1977, some 43 years ago.

"I did a deal with a farmer and swapped him a car for a horse," he remembers.

Mike needed a horse as well and counts himself lucky that his first one was a really good one. He was taken to his first opening meet of the Albrighton Woodland with some lads who owned

"David Palmer was my mentor," says Mike. "I went to a meet on the Clee Hills but ended up with the wrong pack, as Capt Foster was meeting just next door with the Wheatland hounds. I found my way across to the Ludlow, which I really enjoyed and I eventually became David's field master."

Mike lives in the Albrighton Woodland country so he was

'He is one in a million and so extremely generous in every way possible. We all love him'

SENIOR JOINT-MASTER ANN HARTLEY

racehorses with local trainer Luther Bridge, and he never looked back. He then went to the Clifton-on-Teme where David Palmer was hunting the hounds and followed him when he went to hunt the Ludlow.

asked to become a master there, a position he held for five seasons. While he was a master, he also subscribed to the Kilkenny in Ireland and has hunted with 35 different packs in his hunting career.

He is now hunting with the North Staffordshire and is a huge help to them.

"Where do you start?" says senior joint-master Ann Hartley about Mike's contribution to the hunt. "He is one in a million and so extremely generous in every way possible. We all love him because he is never afraid to tell us exactly what he thinks."

Well turned-out and in the first rank of the field, Mike still goes as well as anyone and has a host of stories to keep people amused. He absolutely loves his large grey hunter whom he bought as a seven-year-old from a pregnant lady in Bristol.

"There was a caravan parked in his field and the horse was in poor condition," Mike recalls in that captivating way of a natural storyteller, "but he jumped the fence out of the manège and I bought him. He's as nappy as the day is long, but if the hounds are going he will jump anything." **H&H**

Behind the scenes at the Beaufort

Rebecca Jordan visits the Duke of Beaufort's immaculate kennels and meets the team behind the seamless operation



AS you drive from the village and through the distinctive Badminton gates, the drive rises gently, cushioned each side by a wide and immaculate grass verge. Yew and evergreen holm oaks guide the way into ancient parkland over the brow, where the famous lake lies.

Just before you reach the park, on the right is the beautiful stable yard. Directly opposite is the Duke of Beaufort's hunt kennels. The first impression is how normal these kennels are, despite their setting. This is a working environment like every other kennels in the country. However, history runs deeper here.

Hounds have been kennelled

at Badminton since 1640. Since then they have remained the private pack of the Dukes of Beaufort. The 10th Duke was so synonymous with foxhunting he was known as Master and his car's number plate MFH1. One specific Beaufort female line can be traced back over 60 generations to 1743. This makes the foxhound the most chronicled animal in the world; the Arabian horse comes a close second.

Today there are 25 couple of doghounds, 35 couple of bitches and 20 couple of pups preparing to enter next season. These are big, strong hounds that, as a pack, resonate a demeanor appropriate to their surroundings.

Hounds meet four days a week:

the doghounds hunt Mondays and Thursdays and the bitches Wednesdays and Saturdays.

AN EXCEPTIONAL TEAM IN PRESTIGIOUS ROLES

DUE to the scale of this operation it takes an exceptional team of staff to turn out hounds to the exemplary benchmark the Beaufort is feted with within the hunting community.

Nick Hopkins is in charge as kennel-huntsman. His is one of the most prestigious roles within hunt service. Both he and amateur huntsman Matt Ramsden, who

Right: The team share all the jobs in kennels between them — everyone does everything





Joint-master and huntsman Matt Ramsden and the hounds are the public faces of the Beaufort — but there is a large, hard-working team behind the scenes



The next generation: hounds have been bred at the Beaufort kennels for more than 400 years

'Nick's role as kennel-huntsman is a high-profile job, 365 days a year — it's relentless'

MATT RAMSDEN

spent five seasons hunting the Bedale, moved to the Duke of Beaufort's in 2016.

"Nick was certainly the obvious choice to come here with me as kennel-huntsman," says Matt, joint-master with the 12th Duke of Beaufort.

Matt and Nick have history. After hunting the Royal Agricultural College beagles Matt spent two seasons at the North Cotswold honing his knowledge of venery, kennel management and hunting etiquette under the watchful eye of Nigel Peel. Ironically Nick was kennel-huntsman, so Matt worked "under" him both in kennels and out on the hunting field.

"I was 29 when we came here, which is quite young, and I had a lot of responsibility," says Matt. "I knew Nick knew his role inside out and was aware of the level of responsibility involved. I could trust him. I had so much to learn away from the kennels — the farmers, the lie of the country — without having the anxiety of what could be going on at the kennels.

"Nick has a very level head, which is essential as there is an added element of pressure here in terms of expectation on a hunting day [up to 200 horses on Wednesdays and Saturdays]. That needs dealing with in a

sensible way.

"And it's a high-profile job, 365 days a year — it's relentless. You need someone who has the temperament to embrace and enjoy the job. If there isn't a visitor here from this country, America or Ireland looking at hounds there's four days' hunting a week followed by the horse trials to prepare for and then the puppy show — on top of all the usual duties. It goes without saying he is first-rate at looking after hounds."

Nick kicked off his career at the Oakley. He went on to hunt the Clifton Foot Beagles and then had seven sporting seasons at the Minehead Harriers before going to the North Cotswold for a further 10.

"I was very lucky to start my career under Paul Bellamy. A good grounding is essential," says Nick. "I am passionate about this. Some places you move straight into a first whipper-in's position. It's bound to be a struggle and so it worries me that, today, because the jobs aren't there as staff numbers are cut, hunt staff are now moving into the bigger jobs too quickly.

"That's obviously not the case here. There are four of us working in kennels," he explains. "We each do every job in kennels. That way anyone new to the team

HUNTING



There are 25 couple of doghounds, 35 couple of bitches and 20 couple of pups preparing to enter next season in kennels

learns every aspect of kennel management. And because we aren't a one-man band we are able to carry anyone new to the job who will naturally be slower in their work — say, skinning — as they learn, make mistakes and gain confidence.”

Emily Livy is the youngest in kennels at 19 years old. She, in fact, completed a season last year in the stable yard but moved into kennels when the bursary position fell vacant. She would one day like to hunt hounds and currently holds the position of trainee whipper-in.

She works alongside second whipper-in Neil Starsmore who

has been here for nine seasons and is retiring on 1 May. Rhys Matcham, first whipper-in at the Quorn, will take over next season. Kennelman Chris Bolland completes the team. This is his second season.

PIES, PASTIES AND PREPARATION

THE day I visited, the whole team was in the flesh house tidying up. While the others were out hunting the day before, Chris had picked up a cow, two bullocks and 12 calves. He had just returned from his fortnightly run to Callington, Cornwall, with four tonnes of pies and pasties while Neil, Nick and

Emily did the skinning.

Very rarely does Chris actually get to go hunting. It is testament to kennelmen across the country they carry out this job without enjoying the spoils of their work first-hand. Their love for hounds is enough to endure long, cold hours in the flesh house.

While Chris is collecting dead stock, Nick and Neil are out hunting four days a week. Emily rides on Wednesdays and Saturdays but returns to kennels at second horses to prepare kennels for hounds on their return.

During the day Nick is “on point”. He is the eyes and the

ears of the team. He rides wide to ensure hounds are safe across roads and keeps livestock away from the trail to avoid any foil. He is always thinking ahead, reading the moment to keep each trail flowing for as long as is feasible.

Neil and Emily ride with Matt and turn hounds to him as and when required. It is their job to ensure the pack is “all on” — one or other will often be seen bringing on hounds that have become detached from the rest of the pack.

Back at kennels Nick feeds hounds. Only the hot bitches (those in-season) are fed on the morning of hunting.

“We cannot pick up enough flesh any longer to feed hounds,” says Nick. “There is more corn grown than in the past and so less livestock. And Defra regulations state we cannot feed any cows over four months old since the BSE (mad cow disease) crisis.

“So we supplement with pies and pasties that have not reached the required spec in factory. Asides from looking a bit squashed, there is nothing wrong with them. They are full of energy and hounds love them.

“Calves are not such a rich meat as beef, so we tend to feed these the day before hunting. It's just like preparing for a marathon: we feed the calves then because that meat goes through the hounds quicker, whereas beef stays with them longer and is more nutritious. It's like us having a full roast after hunting.”

Skin money used to be a serious financial perk in hunt service. Again the BSE crisis put paid to that. Calf skins were £15 each 25 years ago; today just £2. Nick reckons it's at least 15 years



Kennel-huntsman Nick Hopkins 'knows his job inside out' according to Matt Ramsden



Second whipper-in Neil Starsmore hard at work polishing boots

since it was worth him skinning a sheep at £3 a skin.

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

WHILE Nick is in the feed house with hounds, Emily and Neil clean kit in the valeting room. Breeches and coats are washed off immediately and boots boned ready for polishing before the next day's hunting.

Each member of staff has two pairs of leather boots and three green coats. A bolt of Beaufort cloth is stored in the corner and coats are bespoke Mears coats individually tailored at EH Spencer in Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire. New coats and boots start their career in the show ring then appear on more fashionable days, before being relegated to autumn hunting.

Hunt staff buttons differ to those worn by masters and

subscribers awarded hunt buttons. These descend from the Beaufort outdoor servant livery and are inscribed with "Honi soit qui mal y pense", the motto of the British chivalric Order of the Garter. It translates as "Shame on him who thinks evil of it". Knights and Ladies of the Garter are entitled to encircle the escutcheon of their arms with the garter and motto, and the first Duke was installed as a Knight of the Garter in 1672.

Staff enter kennels at 6.30am during the season; 4.30am for autumn hunting. From mid-September until the opening meet everyone is at their busiest. Hounds are out hunting from 8am-4pm five days a week, so second horses are essential.

The season ends mid-March, but long before that maintenance work has started so kennels are immaculate for the horse trials at the beginning of May. Hounds move into their summer lodges at the back of the kennels to minimise disturbance when the public is on site.

By the third Saturday in June — the traditional date for the

'For nearly 400 years, hounds have been an integral part of the family'

NICK HOPKINS

puppy show — 2,000 litres of paint will have been used on the kennels. In the weeks leading up to it acres of grass are mown.

Nick aims for Christmas whelps and tries up to 10 bitches. Matt is responsible for the breeding programme and will either select one of their own eight stallion hounds or send them away to a dog hound elsewhere.

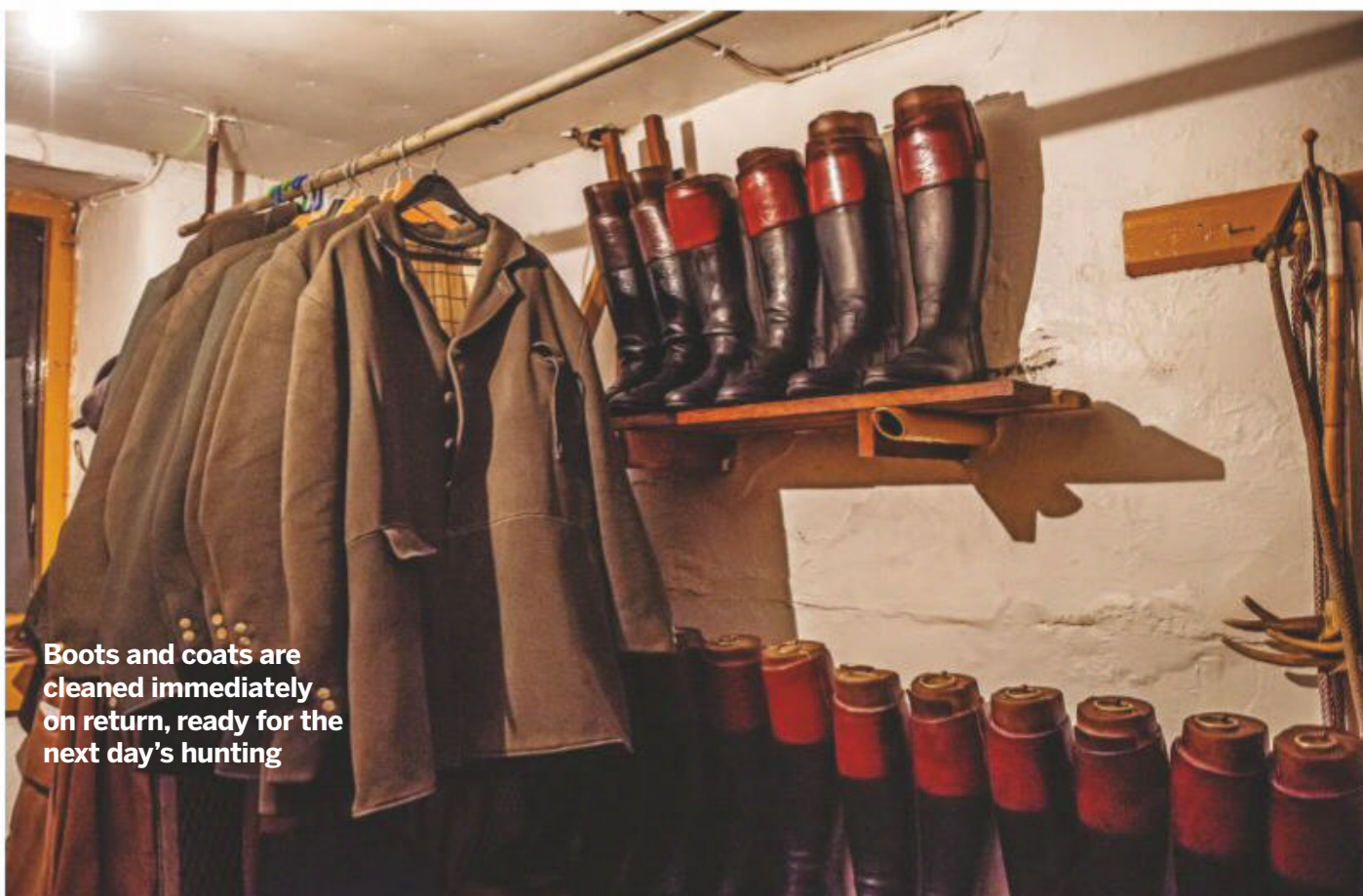
Up to 400 guests are invited to the puppy show, set within the iconic high Cotswold stone wall. This is the highlight of the hunt's summer social season.

"Everything must go like clockwork; nothing is left to chance," says Nick. "However, we are dealing with animals."

He continues: "For nearly 400 years, these hounds have been an integral part of this family; it is such a grand set-up. It's quite magical hacking back to the kennels through the park at the end of a day's hunting, looking back at the house all lit up. I am also very lucky to work with such a self-motivated team — the largest in the country." **H&H**



Nick and Neil are out hunting four days a week and they can expect up to 200 horses in the field on Wednesdays and Saturdays



Boots and coats are cleaned immediately on return, ready for the next day's hunting

‘Once she had decided we would jump, we would, no matter how imposing the hedge’



Kittymoon

Lady Ross on the inimitable Kittymoon, who may not have had brakes or stunning looks, but who was ‘the greatest fun’

HOW many hunters have bedded down at Buckingham Palace? One such is the “remarkable” Kittymoon, much-missed ride of Lady Ross, vice-chairman of the Dumfriesshire and Stewartry.

“My late husband, Lt Col Sir Malcolm Ross, was controller of The Queen’s household and we lived in St. James’s Palace, with no stables,” explains Susie. “After a little bribery and a lot of calling in favours, Kitty arrived in the Royal Mews.”

Kittymoon was born in 1993, out of an “unbreakable”

thoroughbred mare, Tabitha Twitchet, by Irish Draught stallion Roma Atlantic Moonshine.

Susie’s daughter, also Tabitha, thought: “Perfect for Mum — she needs a challenge!” Susie duly bought her, and it was a challenge: “We had many a battle, ditches were difficult and we often charged off in the wrong direction. Hours were spent endeavouring to canter a circle on the correct leg.”

The work paid off and Kittymoon went hunting with Susie, with the Beaufort and Heythrop, among others. One

Ledbury hedge springs to mind: “In mid-air, I saw wire a metre out, and so did she. She went up from the up!”

In the summer, Tabitha evented her, winning at intermediate level and qualifying for Windsor, “only to be stung by a bee and withdrawn. So sad. I had the most expensive hack around the park when the swelling had gone down”.

In London, Kittymoon moved to Knightsbridge Barracks, where Susie enlisted the corporal major to “get us jumping a five-barred gate without fear. We managed it and had great fun cantering up Rotten Row and jumping park benches”.

One year Kittymoon was stabled at Windsor, hidden when The Queen visited: “She wasn’t a great beauty and the groom thought she would offend Her Majesty’s eye!”

Kittymoon was “sweet” on the ground, dogs lay on and under her and “anyone could go up to her”.

In 2009, Sir Malcolm and Lady Ross moved to Dumfriesshire.

“We had the greatest fun. Her brakes were suspect, but I knew that once she had decided we would jump, we would, however imposing the dyke, rails or hedge. How brave I became!”

The field clearly had equal confidence in the mare, whose tongue was often out.

“The cry would go up, ‘Here come Kittymoon and Lady Ross, follow them and you can’t go wrong!’”

After eight seasons, she damaged a tendon for the third time.

“We decided she would hate a life of retirement and she was put down that day, still plaited up and looking her best.”

A tree is planted on her grave to commemorate a “horse of tremendous character and a great friend”. **H&H**

NEXT WEEK Quorn senior master Joss Hanbury



THE BHS

On Tour

LEARN



YOGI BREISNER MBE FBHS

Probably the greatest horseman of our lifetime. From racing success to Olympic Medal Coach and European Championship gold medallist.

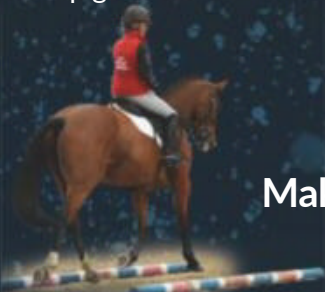
FROM THE BEST

RICHARD WAYGOOD MBE

From the Household Cavalry to supporting 23 team medals now leading GBR's Olympic dreams.

Masterclasses from your favourite equestrians, including Corinne Bracken and sessions on equine fitness, feeding, conformation, showing, riding out and course walking.

Make the most out of every aspect of your equestrian experience.



Addington Equestrian Centre, Buckinghamshire - 15 March
Bishop Burton College, Yorkshire - 4 October

Cavan Equestrian Centre, Republic of Ireland - 29 March
Scottish National Equestrian Centre, West Lothian - 1 November

The
British
Horse
Society

Tickets cost £25

Book online: bhs.org.uk/on-tour

Supported by...



WOW
SADDLES



BEDMAX

Dengie



Weightmans

Experts in private client and family law.

Combining efficiency and experience, our team of specialists provide a sympathetic yet proactive approach to legal services to help you in all areas of your life, having particular experience assisting clients in the equestrian sector.

- Pre and post nuptial agreements, separation and divorce
- Cohabitation agreements and disputes
- Disputes in relation to children
- Tax and succession planning through Wills, Trust and Powers of Attorney
- Trust and estate disputes

Our national team is ranked in the top tier in leading legal directories Chambers & Partners and Legal 500.

For further information or to arrange a free 30 minute telephone consultation, please call 0345 073 9900 or email Emma Collins, Partner at emma.collins@weightmans.com

“A strong, reliable and intelligent team that looks to achieve the right result for the client.”

Legal 500



@weightmans



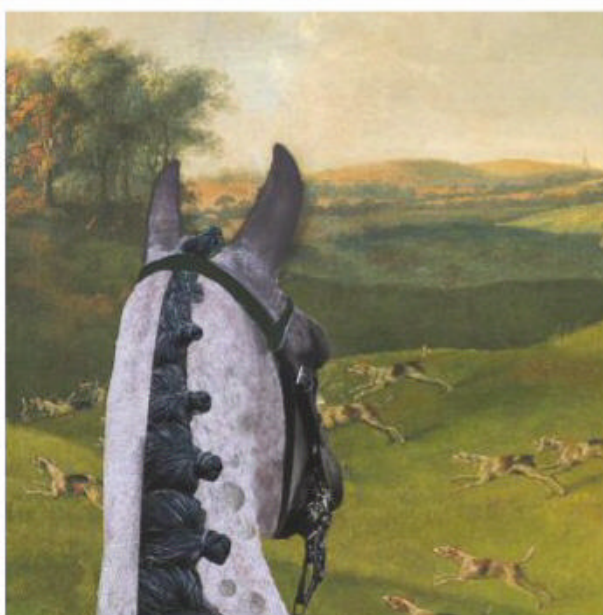
weightmans

www.weightmans.com



That ‘hunting gene’

H&H hunting editor *Catherine Austen* highlights the need for positive, passionate spirit from hunting’s supporters as it looks to the future



IT’S 15 years since that monumentally depressing week where we all went hunting on two very different days — one before the bringing into force of the Hunting Act 2004, and one after it. I remember the desperation of “just one more draw” as darkness fell on the last day of “proper” hunting, and then the grim, determined faces as we went trail-hunting in the new era. I’m not sure back then how many of us, despite everything we said publicly, thought we’d still be hunting now.

Well, we are. It’s certainly not the same and it never will be the same. We were doing something that we knew, and still do know, was right. Hunting — and the countryside management it brought with it — was the best form of control for the species we hunted and allowed balanced populations to flourish.

It was stopped by a shockingly bad law that was brought into force for disingenuous political reasons.

We are, however, still going. Hunts continue to meet and to entertain their devoted followers. They continue to breed that most marvellous animal, the hound, and followers continue to be fascinated by watching them work. They continue to be warm, supportive, welcoming communities woven into the tapestry of rural life. They continue to generously support and raise money for great local causes.

I have no idea what the next 15 years will bring for hunting. We have shown ourselves capable of adapting, and we’re going to have to keep doing so, probably quicker than we’d like. Creeping suburbanisation threatens swathes of the British countryside and the rural economy is likely to have to reshape itself in a post-Brexit era. We have to work hand-in-hand with our farmers and landowners, as without their support we really will be trotting round the roads.

It’s all too easy to think negatively, especially when you’re staring over the top of your laptop as the wind lashes the ever-falling rain against the window and your horse languishes in its stable with a minor leg injury. But the “hunting gene” is an indefatigable one; just look at how each new wave of passionately keen hunting children springs up, with or without the help of hunting parents.

For centuries, each older generation has grumbled that things aren’t what they used to be, and each crop of bright young things has ignored them and cracked on with the sport they love, which is exactly as it should be.

HERE are two things I wish hunting people would do. The first is to be more considerate of other road users. We’ve been banging on about it for decades, but still members of the field appear to be in some kind of dream world, utterly oblivious to the fact that they are standing in a group in the middle of the road and there are non-hunting cars waiting for them to move.

Don’t wait for someone to say, “Car please!” As soon as your hooves hit tarmac, make sure you are in single file, conscious of traffic, and thanking passing cars with a smile and a wave. It’s a small thing, in no way difficult, but really very important. And don’t be stupid enough to ride on someone’s mown verge. It doesn’t matter if you have lost a shoe — don’t do it. Every piece of grass is sodden and having large hoofprints all over it would infuriate the most tolerant person.

Two — stop bitching and whingeing. Haven’t we got enough problems without fighting among ourselves? I heard recently about a group of hunting women who told off a relative newcomer for wearing a navy coat (inherited from a family member) but not plaiting her horse to go with it. Seriously? How very unkind and unhelpful. Who really cares?

And you might not think your huntsman/whipper-in/field master is the Lionel Messi of the hunting world, but he or she is doing his or her level best in difficult circumstances. Please support and encourage, not the opposite — and if you really can’t find anything nice to say, don’t say anything at all. We have enemies outside the gates; we really don’t need them inside the walls as well. **H&H**

GREEN LIVING *made easy*

ECO-FRIENDLY IDEAS FOR

- Home
- Fashion
- Beauty
- Travel
- Garden
- Food

SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY!

Your
greener
shopping
guide

**263
PRACTICAL
WAYS TO
HELP THE
PLANET**

**PLUS
34-PAGE
SUSTAINABLE
RECIPE
BOOK**

• Carbon offsetting • Electric cars & bikes • Grow your own veg • Recycling

ON SALE NOW

**Your complete guide
to Green Living
at Newsagents and
Supermarkets**

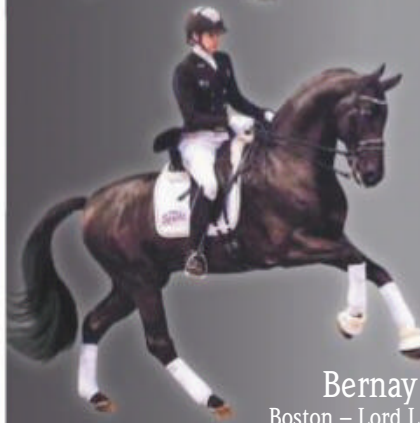
STALLIONS 2020



Millennium
Easy Game – E.H. Ravel



Hickstead White
Hickstead – Coupe de Coeur



Bernay
Boston – Lord Loxley



Stakkato Gold
Stakkato – Werther

Order for catalogue
and video
Phone: +49 54 32/80 38 80



Gestüt Sprehe GmbH
Neuekamp 1
D-49624 Benstrup
Phone: +49 54 32 / 80 38 80

www.gestuet-sprehe.de

The SEIB Redwings Show Sunday 12th July



A great day
out for
all abilities!

New venue for 2020: Trinity Park, Suffolk



Classes for everyone:

In-hand
Ridden
Rescue
Donkeys
Working Hunters
Just for Fun
Heavy Horses

plus much more

For more information:

Call 01508 481032

Email jpalmer@redwings.co.uk

Visit www.redwings.org.uk



A Hole in one



Work on building Chuchaqui LAT's confidence reaps rewards for Clare Hole as the combination win at advanced medium with a margin of more than 3%

Two sisters scoop a brace of wins, while a horse who was denied his shot at regionals last year returns to gain the highest score of the show

By GEMMA REDRUP

Easton College Winter Regional Championships, Norfolk

THE Hole sisters enjoyed a particularly successful campaign at Easton, winning all three classes they entered between them. Eighteen-year-old Clare Hole scooped two tickets, the first coming in the advanced medium gold with Chuchaqui LAT. The 13-year-old son of Painted Black

finished on 71.05%, more than 3% clear of his nearest rival.

"We've taken it slowly with 'Chico' to build his confidence in the arena," explained Clare, who is currently studying four A levels in the hope of securing a place at university to study natural sciences. "He was my first horse and, although we've had him a few years, he can get worried and in a muddle through trying too hard. Taking him out a lot and working him through higher level movements at home has really

helped him with his nerves. He puts his heart into everything and is a pleasure to ride."

Clare's other victory came in the inter I aboard Winnetou GEP, who scored 70.7%.

"It's been a dream of mine to compete at nationals at inter I, so this is really exciting," said Clare. "We've owned him since he was two, and between me, my mother and sister, Ruth, we've trained him up. I thought he might be spooky, but he was very brave."

Ruth Hole topped the prix st georges (PSG) aboard the experienced Dimaggio son Headmore Delegate, with 73.64%, despite having only ridden him in competition "a handful of times".

"I'm very happy and I can't thank his owners Alice and Sarah Oppenheimer enough for giving me the opportunity to ride 'Del'," said Ruth, who is 20 and studying psychology at university alongside pursuing her riding career. "Alice rode him to grand prix before he went to Becky Edwards to contest

'She is almost too clever for her own good'

TAHLEY REEVE-SMITH
ON JILLEKE

young riders, and it was a case of it being good timing for me to be able to take him on."

Ruth explained that for the first few months she just hacked and jumped Del.

"We are just playing around and letting him enjoy himself and dictate what he wants to do as, although he behaves like he's five, he is actually 17. We're just building our partnership, and Clare and I are so grateful to our trainer Jill Day for all of the help she has given us over the years."

A BIRTHDAY WIN

TAHLEY REEVE-SMITH clocked the highest score of the competition when taking the elementary gold freestyle with Woodcroft Valentino. They won by more than 5% with plus-76%, performing to a Simon & Garfunkel medley.

"I've owned 'Frankie' since he was three and as he is around 18hh, his canter in particular has taken time," explained Tahley of the seven-year-old. "He can sit much better now and he is so trainable — I love him so much."

It was a case of redemption for Tahley and Frankie as they qualified for the winter championships last year, but a cut to his leg meant that he



‘When I bought him from a riding school he couldn’t canter’ — but eight years on Jo Freeman and Chalk II win an elementary music title

couldn’t compete.

“It’s so lovely that he finally gets to go,” said Tahley, who also won the novice gold freestyle, riding Alison and Andrew James’ six-year-old, Jilleke.

“Alison had a few drinks at the Equine Elite Auction three years ago and was dancing, waving her hands, and the next thing we knew the auctioneer had accepted her dance moves as a bid,” laughed Tahley. “Jilleke is almost too clever for her own good, but she’s really knuckled down into her work — it was a lovely birthday present for

Alison, too, who sadly couldn’t be there as she was enjoying her special day in Abu Dhabi. I’d also like to thank Duncan and his team at Easton, who always put on such a wonderful show for us.”

Judy Hancock was arguably the busiest lady at this show, juggling competing alongside judging duties. Riding Just Dance BH, she picked up two tickets to the national championships in both the elementary and novice silver sections.

“He’s only six but coped so well with the atmosphere,” said Judy,

who bought “Tonto” almost two years ago. “He’s very trainable and has always been well-balanced and uphill — I don’t think I’ll ever find another one like him.”

Jo Freeman and Chalk II picked up first, second and third placings throughout this regional final. Their win came in the elementary freestyle silver to a *Jungle Book* medley, which they won by more than 3.5%.

“I wasn’t expecting to go so well at all,” said Jo, who is a conveyancer by day. “Despite being a traditional cob, ‘Chalk’ is very agile and light-footed and some of his best marks come in his canter work, even though when I bought him from a riding school eight years ago, he couldn’t canter — thanks go to Sara-Jane Lanning for all of her assistance in training us.”

Antonia Brown was first and second in the novice gold, riding Impulz De B and Jesmond Rainbow to 74.44% and 74.26% respectively.

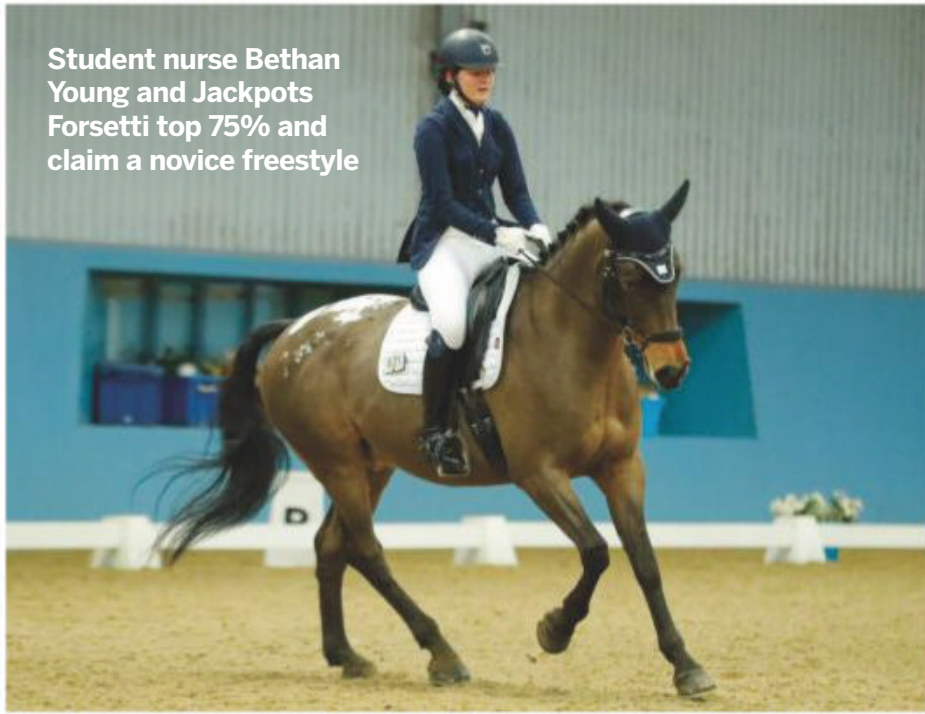
“I couldn’t split them after our tests,” admitted Antonia. “I’ve owned Impulz De B with Sara Lucas since he was a rising four-year-old and he has amazing rhythm and presence — he showed off but was relaxed so I’m super-happy with both of their performances. I hope he’ll be a grand prix ride for someone, as all of our horses are for sale.”

Student nurse Bethan Young said her win in the novice freestyle silver came as a “surprise”. The 19-year-old scored almost 76% with her knobstrupper/Hanoverian Jackpots Forsetti, whom she has owned for four years, since purchasing him as a four-year-old.

“It was only the third time I’d ridden through the test with the music, but I’m so proud as he stayed with me all the way,” said Bethan, who trains with Clare Knowles and was riding to an Olly Murs medley. “My dream is to get to PSG so that I can ride in a tailcoat.” **H&H**

RESULTS

KBIS prelim 17 silv (J Hancock, R Hillier, P Bushell).— 1, Haybells Cinderella (F Hayes) 74.59; 2, Tomriland Billy (K Joyce) 73.45; 3, Thistledown Eye Drop (D Bullman) 72.59. **Prestige Italia nov 37 gold (J Hancock, R Hillier, J Howard).**— 1, Impulz De B (A Brown) 74.44; 2, Jesmond Rainbow (A Brown) 74.26; 3, Forever London (E Darling) 71.54. **silv (A Darken, L Olsen, E Pewter).**— 1, Just Dance BH (J Hancock) 72.53; 2, Jackpots Forsetti (B Young) 69.94; 3, Maggies Hope (K Low) 69.44. **Baileys Horse Feeds nov FSM gold (M Drewe, J Howard, R Baldwin).**— 1, Jilleke (T Reeve-Smith) 75.46; 2, Dalychill Rocker (G Catling) 75.19; 3, Waverly Night Music (G Day) 72.87. **silv (J Hancock, R Hillier, P Bushell).**— 1, Jackpots Forsetti 75.93; 2, Chalk II (J Freeman) 74.82; 3, Jananda Fringe Chic (N Taylor) 74.44. **Equi-Trek elem 59 gold (M Drewe, J Howard, R Baldwin).**— 1, Dan Icarus (N Barker) 74.48; 2, Woodcroft Valentino (T Reeve-Smith) 73.02; 3, Lionhardt (N Barker) 71.15. **silv (R Hillier, M Drewe, R Baldwin).**— 1, Just Dance BH 70.63; 2, My Diss Sire (J Barker) 70.63; 3, Chalk II 68.28. **Suregrow elem FSM gold (R Hillier, M Drewe, R Baldwin).**— 1, Woodcroft Valentino 76.35; 2, Dalychill Rocker 71.28. **silv (J Hancock, R Hillier, J Howard).**— 1, Chalk II 70.32; 2, Figaro III (S Gibbs) 66.73; 3, San Giovanni (K Boyd) 64.87. **Theraplate med 75 gold (M Drewe, A Darken, J Howard).**— 1, Soliman (E Bird) 67.52. **silv (M Drewe, A Darken, J Howard).**— 1, Wind Dance (A Taylor) 70.86; 2, Nemo VII (K De Graff) 69.19; 3, Feuertanz (S Heath) 68.42. **Spillers med FSM gold (J Hancock, R Hillier, J Howard).**— 1, Penhaligon Rockstein (R Hurst) 70.17; 2, Hormela (J Palmer) 69.44. **silv (R Hillier, M Drewe, R Baldwin).**— 1, Mount Pleasant Herman (T Fall) 72.39; 2, Decorum (J Penwarden) 70.94; 3, Skikkild’s Wince (H Deuce) 70.72. **Charles Owen adv med 98 gold (J Hancock, R Hillier, P Bushell).**— 1, Chuchaqui LAT (C Hole) 71.05; 2, Retro Hit (E Woolley) 68.03; 3, Penhaligon Rockstein (R Hurst) 66.23. **silv (J Hancock, R Hillier, J Howard).**— 1, Fleedwood (M Greet) 71.4; 2, Feuertanz 67.24; 3, Professional (S Chatwin) 67.19. **Nupafeed adv med FSM gold (J Hancock, R Hillier, P Bushell).**— 1, Evaldo (C Cockerton) 73.78; Penhaligon Rockstein 67.39. **silv (R Hillier, M Drewe, R Baldwin).**— 1, Urban Knight (J Littlejohn) 73.33; 2, Zafir (C Drakeley) 70.78; 3, My Samber Rose (L Perry) 70.33. **NAF Magic PSG (N Herbert, A Darken, P Bushell).**— 1, Headmore Delegate (R Hole) 73.64; 2, Creto (H Williams) 72.68; 3, Dancing Diamond (K Dyrby) 70.22. **NAF Superflex inter I (N Herbert, A Darken, P Bushell).**— 1, Winnetou GEP (C Hole) 70.7; 2, Formidable (C O’Mahony) 69.65; 3, Fix Up, Look Sharp (E Darling) 68.55.



Student nurse Bethan Young and Jackpots Forsetti top 75% and claim a novice freestyle

A CHANGE IN TRAINING TECHNIQUE

TRACY FALL credits her win in the medium silver freestyle to a new training method she has implemented with her horse, Mount Pleasant Herman, with the help of trainer Jenku Dietrichsen.

“I’ve been working with Jenku for the past year and he has transformed ‘Herman’ through in-hand work to improve his self-carriage,” explained Tracy, who scored 72.39%. “His way of going is now lovely and light thanks to using movements such as rein-back to canter in-hand. I think it’s a lovely way of training, instead of feeling like you have to resort to different bits of kit.

“Herman gave me everything in the arena. He has always found himself as the bridesmaid instead of the bride, so it’s lovely that he has now won himself a sash.”

I OWE IT TO...



Winter survivors savour the

Star pairings receive their due honours, while there are close contests and less predictable wins

By CELIA CADWALLADER

Merrist Wood Winter Regional Championships, Surrey

“YOU savour the good days,” said 72.92% prix st georges (PSG) winner Molly Key, who claimed one of the show’s more cherished championship sashes. Her ride, 15-year-old Absinth W (Ant), last wore a regionals sash at Hickstead in 2018.

“Ant’s scores haven’t massively improved since then, but at home I’ve felt him improve by 0.1% every session. He’s peaked at the right time and put everything he could into it,” she said.

“A couple of years ago, we’d come up the final centre line and both be exhausted; today he felt as though he could do it again,” added Molly. “Although he’s had kissing spine surgery, he’s quite tough physically, but his confidence is fragile — he has needed reassuring that he can still manage the movements.”

Rowan Bryson, a close second to Molly in the PSG, was several points ahead of the field in the inter I with her 69.74% test riding Laudabilis 13-year old Lazulith (Larry). Rowan was urged to show off her trot in the prize-giving, but later revealed that the first horse she has produced from a youngster has not been easy.

“Larry’s quite a long horse and



‘He’s peaked at the right time,’ says Molly Key of her PSG triumph with 15-year-old Absinth W

it’s hard to get him to engage and push through. If he goes rigid in his back and I go rigid in mine, we end up bouncing off each other,” explained Rowan. “I’ve recently moved to Katie Bailey’s yard and with her help, I’m allowing the trot to flow. I no longer get sheets that say, ‘Needs to be more forward.’ When it shows in the marks and the results, you know the improvement is there.”

According to Mandy Brown, 69.04% winner of the advanced medium silver, her Rhondeo mare Keystone Rumour entered the ring saying, “Yes, Mum, let’s

do this.” Mandy added: “She was shooting off my leg and obedient right down to the last square halt. She’s 13 now and is much stronger behind. I was able to get her to sit in every corner and rev her engine.

“I use visualisation techniques as a management consultant, so when I’m travelling I visualise every step of my test. I know that I often try too hard, so at the show I told myself to imagine I was just riding through the test at home.”

Merrist Wood proved a good choice of venue for Somerset-based veterinary pathologist Debra Fewes, who rode four tests

and achieved four top-10 placings with her home-bred Fidertanz x Negro 10-year-old, Fabrizio. However, she couldn’t be found in time to wear her sash for her 70.68% winning elementary gold.

She said: “Freddie’s established at elementary but he’s quite reactive, so we did the elementaries for good experience and preparation for the silver mediums. When my husband told me I’d won, I was so flustered trying to make the prize-giving — although I missed it — that I didn’t ride our freestyle well. He still managed third on 71.03%.”



Rowan Bryson tops the inter I aboard Laudabilis gelding Lazulith



A delighted Mandy Brown takes advanced medium honours with Rhondeo mare Keystone Rumour

good days

A similar warm-up situation proved successful for Sara Malpass and Keystone DiCaprio, who posted 64.14% and 65.78% for their medium classes before going on to take second with 72.5% in the elementary — then claimed the title for their 73.33% elementary freestyle.

Sara said: “The bad weather rescheduling actually played into my hands, as it enabled him to get over his show tension.”

DiCaprio’s history of OCD (osteochondritis dissecans) pain in his stifle joints and neck have made success a long journey for the pair. Of her freestyle floorplan, Sara said: “I kept it simple, but showed off his full ability and included whole diagonal leg-yields and medium trots.”

Sara-Jane Lanning’s expertise in compiling freestyle floorplans and music saw Trina Nethercliffe’s Connemara/Irish Draught Dreamcatcher III achieve a 71.44% medium gold win.

“Medium suits her better than the elementary we did the day before,” said Sara-Jane. “She finds lateral work so easy — I can play to that strength and I do quite a high degree of difficulty, including half-passing right across the arena and back, and shoulder-ins on the centre line. I can pack a lot in because she’s small and balanced.”

HEADMORE SUCCESS

AS to be expected, Headmore-based horses were also among the show successes and they included

Headmore Footloose ridden by Maeve Morris, who has gone through to the nationals at prelim and novice and will be returning to Hartpury following her 73.49% win at elementary. But Alice’s sister Kate and SOS Sealpoint had to yield first place in the novice freestyle to Wantage-based Ali Dane’s 75.65% on Stantaii Ashbank, who is owned by the “most dedicated owner in the world”, Lissa Lowrie.

Alice demonstrated her expertise in managing her hot mare Headmore Bella Ruby, who has been denied her “shoe-pulling clay” turnout recently. Their advanced medium gold win was on a lower-than-usual score of 70.66% due to a spook but they were back, more relaxed, for the freestyle, winning on 77.33%.

Judge Mary-Anne Horn said: “One of Bella Ruby’s highlights are the changes and Alice’s choreography included a lovely shallow five-loop serpentine with

‘I can pack a lot in because she’s small and balanced’

SARA-JANE LANNING ON DREAMCATCHER III

changes beautifully positioned on the centre line.”

Hannah Biggs banked a best-to-date medium gold win with the Foundation x Ehrenstolz seven-year-old Freeman.

“I wanted a soft, happy, relaxed



Jezz Palmer and Governor stallion King IV dance to a novice title

test; I didn’t push for power or expression,” she said. “My extended trots across the diagonal don’t require any encouragement, because I just turn the tap a millimetre and I’m thinking, ‘Whoa, steady!’ I’m incredibly lucky to have him and very grateful to his owners, David and Sarah Johnson.”

The silver medium winner was decided on three collective points in favour of Kent-based

with as we’ve struggled to get him relaxed in the walk. He also scored eight for his impulsion, which is never ending!”

The silver medium freestyle was won by Danielle Balsdon from Exeter, en route to British Dressage Youth National Academy training at Kilbees Farm in Berkshire. She rode her only horse, the 10-year-old Lord Lennox, whom she has brought on from a five-year-old.

Two future star horses claimed the novice gold classes. Dannie Morgan won the straight class on the Escolar x Laudablis six-year-old, 17.2hh High Hoes Estelle, who he now owns with proud breeder Nicky Callam. Jezz Palmer and Richard Burge’s five-year-old Governor x Johnson stallion King IV won the freestyle with 74.35%. Jezz’s cleverly ridden and technically challenging elementary gold freestyle with Blousey Brown was also a winning test, scoring 73.14%. [H&H](#)

RESULTS

Superflex inter I gold (M Terry, M-A Horn, F Wilson).—1, Lazulith (R Bryson) 69.74; 2, State Secret (S Bell) 66.75; 3, Rivaal (S Edwards) 65.75. **Magic PSG gold (D Lush, M-A Horn, L Wall).**—1, Absinth W (M Key) 70.92; 2, Lazulith 69.61; 3, Bjerresminde Zoa (S-J Lanning) 68. **Charles Owen adv med 98 gold (D Wardle, M-A Horn, J Head).**—1, Headmore Bella Ruby (A Oppenheimer) 70.66; 2, St Giles Bon Bon (N Buchanan) 69.45; 3, Royal Angelina (R Swain) 67.94. **silv (L Whetstone, T Cowie, S Andrews).**—1, Keystone Rumour (M Brown) 69.04; 2, Casino Scandal (J Price) 69.42; 3, Conexion (H Kenny) 67.41. **Nupafeed adv med FSM gold (M-A Horn, J Head, A Duck).**—1, Headmore Bella Ruby 77.33; 2, Delhurens Sunshine (S Wilson) 70.94; 3, Pepperwood Casanova (K Shepherd) 68.39. **silv (L Whetstone, S Andrews, T Cowie).**—1, Woodhams Dorissimo (S Ansty) 70.39; 2, Furst Love 1 (S Colborn) 70.28; 3, Sandro’s Storm (H Bown) 69.83. **Theraplate UK med 75 gold (P Bushell, N Goodman, M King).**—1, Freeman (H Biggs) 75.36; 2, Joe Cocker B (C Gallimore) 70.54; 3, Atterupgaards Capirossi (L Hoad) 68.12. **silv (D Wardle, J Surr, S McMahon).**—1, Fiasco II (R Collyer) 70; 2, Fire (R Lee-Woolf) 70; 3, Casino Scandal (J Price) 69.82. **Spillers med FSM gold (N Goodman, J Selway, P Bushell).**—1, Dreamcatcher III (S-J Lanning) 71.44; 2, Helsinki (C Wagstaff) 71.39; 3, Scarlett III (E

Klatzko) 70.72. **silv (M-A Horn, F Wilson, M Terry).**—1, Lord Lennox (D Balsdon) 71.28; 2, Fantastic Khan (L Russell) 68.39; 3, Twyford Salamander (N Byam-Cook) 68. **Equi-Trek elem 59 gold (H Ashley, D Lush, C Spear).**—1, Fabrizio (D Fews) 70.68; 2, Keystone Debonaire (D Grinyer) 70.1; 3, Fidenzio (K Mephram) 69.95. **silv (F Wilson, L Waller, P Green).**—1, Headmore Footloose (M Morris) 73.49; 2, Keystone DiCaprio (S Malpass) 72.5; 3, Billy Sykes (L Westaway) 71.72. **Suregrow elem FSM gold (D Lush, H Ashley, C Spear).**—1, Blousey Brown (J Palmer) 73.14; 2, Quartz (A Ross) 71.28; 3, Fabrizio 71.02. **silv. (A Duck, J Selway, S Andrews).**—1, Keystone DiCaprio 73.33; 2, SOS Sealpoint (K Oppenheimer) 72.82; 3, Dresscode Cocktail (M Graham) 72.44. **Prestige Italia nov 37A gold (R Baldwin, S Rowlands).**—1, High Hoes Estelle (D Morgan) 77.59; 2, Catherston Olleander (C Dicker) 71.85; 3, Ivaya (B Martin) 69.82. **silv (L Selway, R Baldwin, S Wood).**—1, Jimmy Choo II (F Sagina) 70.8; 2, Jacobus D (M McBride) 70.74; 3, Hero (Huroos) (G Peckham) 70.67. **Baileys nov gold FSM (N Goodman, S Rowlands, A Brunton).**—1, King IV (J Palmer) 74.35; 2, Jaliva (L Amy) 73.52; 3, Newton Devadasi (A Berman) 70.37. **silv (M-A Horn, A Greenaway, L Waller).**—1, Stantaii Ashbank (A Dane) 75.65; 2, SOS Sealpoint 74.54; 3, Dun-lin (A Fenn) 72.69. **KBIS prelim 17A silv (S-J Lanning, J Rooney, A Duck).**—1, Waxwing Pocket Money (F Grabham) 70.58; 2, Bernwode Broadway (F Grabham) 69.71; 3, Don Johnson III (J Cooper) 69.71.

HANDING DOWN ADVICE

FI GRABHAM, 12, took first and second at prelim, riding Waxwing Pocket Money (pictured) and her future pony classes partner Bernwode Broadway, scoring 70.58% and 69.17% respectively. Her mother Pippa has hammered home the importance of not losing marks for inaccuracy, which she learned from trainer Sara-Jane Lanning 20 years ago.

Judging at C here, Sara-Jane said: “Fi was the outstanding rider in the class. She set up every movement and rode brilliant circles. Many seemed to think the R-S line defines the limit of a 20m circle, making them too small.”

Pippa said: “We’re very strict at home with Fi’s

I OWE IT TO...

shapes. I joked that if they weren’t right, she’d be doing them on foot!”





A two-time triumph

Challenging times for Tyler Bradshaw are rewarded with two valiant wins, and several other riders take multiple titles at a show disrupted by Storm Dennis



Fiona Newall and Fendy VCG (Don Schufro x Ferro) scoop two victories at medium, with 80% from one judge for their freestyle

By JO PRESTWICH

Myerscough Winter Regional Championships, Lancs

STORM DENNIS wreaked havoc as the organisers were left with the unenviable decision of rescheduling two days of competition to avoid the worst of the storm. Two mammoth days of tests and an 11-day wait for the final classes was the most workable solution.

Perhaps most determined of the winners was Tyler Bradshaw, whose 12-hour round trip from Tiverton in Devon was rewarded with a win in the elementary freestyle gold on Igor VIII and

victory at advanced medium freestyle silver with Gijsbert.

If ever a horse “owed” his rider, it’s Igor. As a four-year-old he was struck down with septic peritonitis and given a 5% chance of survival.

“He cost me my upcoming marriage as choosing to use my wedding money for the horse broke my engagement,” reflected Tyler. “He wasn’t insured and in total it cost £18,000 to get him right, but my animals always come first. Getting married then obviously wasn’t meant to be.

“It’s taken a long time to get the horse’s core strength back. He’s seven now; he had to wear a surgical binder for three months followed by six months off and



‘He cost me my upcoming marriage’ — Igor VIII was saved from septic peritonitis by Tyler Bradshaw’s wedding money, but repaid his rider by claiming the elementary freestyle gold

then very slow rehab, but this makes it all worthwhile.”

Twenty-four hours later, Tyler — who trains with Pammy Hutton — was back in the winner’s enclosure with Gijsbert, a United nine-year-old who initially lived up to his breeding.

“The United bloodline has a reputation for being challenging and he was certainly that,” she said. “I bought him in the Netherlands after I’d persuaded the people who owned him to let me try him. They tried to put me off and when I saw him deck his rider, I understood why but I loved him and couldn’t get him

out of my mind. He broke my back when he was a five-year-old, but I wouldn’t change anything — I adore him.”

‘IT’S A DREAM COME TRUE’

FULL-TIME accountant Fiona Newall doubled up in the medium silver and the freestyle equivalent with her 10-year-old Fendy VCG, earning an 80% in the latter from judge at E.

“I couldn’t believe it, it’s a dream come true,” declared Fiona, who trains with Kate Cowell. “She’s finished second at the regionals in the past at novice and elementary level, so it’s lovely to be a winner this time. I was delighted with her medium 75 test — it was mistake free and I felt she’d gone as well as she could, so there were no regrets when we halted. I knew we’d made a mistake in the freestyle, but luckily it didn’t cost us.”

Fiona bought the Don Schufro x Ferro mare as a just-backed four-year-old.

“She was the first one I looked at, she was the right size with a good hindleg — in fact it was love at first sight,” she said.

Lauren Williamson won both novice and elementary freestyle silver with Vancouver LG, who originally stood as a stallion with LG Sporthorses, but has now been gelded.

“It’s been a hectic week,” said Lauren. “Originally he was doing the novice on Saturday and both freestyle tests on Sunday. Rearranging childcare has been a military operation, but my mother-in-law Janet saved the day.”

Vancouver is by Connaisseur out of Wodine and a full brother to Higgins Van De Uilenhoek, ridden by Emma Jablonski to win the advanced medium gold.

Sarah Higgins won the two highest level classes, the inter I courtesy of Mount St John De La Beaute and the prix st georges with Davidoff. The latter, by Westpoint, is owned by Sarah Rao, third herself in the same class with Faydirmie ZH.

“He did really well in young horse classes and then was a real challenge, but we’ve come out the



TWO FUTURE PARA SUPERSTARS

SOPHIE WELLS might not have competed her Myerscough rides that much, but it didn’t stop her heading home with both the elementary and medium gold titles under her belt, courtesy of Classic Jillz Geuzenhof (pictured) and Don Cara.

The former is a six-year-old Charmeur gelding owned by Charlotte Hogg. He was bought as a just-backed three-year-old after two failed vettings in the Netherlands and a chance remark from Rebecca Hughes that they had this youngster in the field.

“He was supposed to be Gareth Hughes’ ‘retirement horse,’” said grade V para medallist Sophie. “He was as massive then as he is now, was an angel to begin with, went through a terrible teenage phase spending most of his time ‘waving’ at everyone and is now settling down. He’s only had a handful of outings, but he’s very talented and I’m hoping he’ll be my 2024 Paris Paralympics dancing partner.”

Rowland Kinch’s Don Cara is Sophie’s back-up plan for Tokyo later this year.

“He’s been with me six weeks and this was only our second outing. I wasn’t sure how it would go but he was great. I came here with zero expectations with both horses, so this is just the best start to the season.”



Lauren Williamson wins at novice and elementary on Vancouver LG

other side and that was his biggest win,” said Sarah Higgins of Davidoff.

Sarah has had Jill and Emma Blundell’s De La Beauté for four

months and this was their first competitive outing.

“She’s a lovely mare and I’m very lucky to have the ride on her,” added Sarah. [H&H](#)

RESULTS

KBIS prelim 17A silv (S Edwards, H Bradley, S Smith).— 1, Noble Top Hat (J Dutton) 70.69; 2, Fiji CDS (J Varley) 70.52; 3, Short Clough Master Class (N Connolly) 69.6. **Prestige Italia nov 37A gold (H Bradley, S Kingwells, A Smith).**— 1, Jerrydale (S Taylor) 73.4; 2, Classic Jillz Geuzenhof (S Wells) 72.59; 3, Waverley Fellini (G Sims) 71.91. **Equitrek elem 59 gold.**— 1, Classic Jillz Geuzenhof 73.94; 2, French Noir MFS (D Lever) 72.71; 3, Inocencio DHI (M Chapman) 70.68. **Theraplate med 75 gold (K Barker, F**

Lace, J Ward.— 1, Don Cara (S Wells) 71.58; 2, Waverley Dante (G Sims) 70.68; 3, Fidalgo T (G Sims) 68.38. **silv (A Smith, J Ward, K Barker).**— 1, Fendy VCG (F Newall) 69.77; 2, Daleron (A Ingoe-Topham) 69.73; 3, Showstar (J Ainscough) 69.05. **Charles Owen adv med 98 gold (A Bennie, T Downes, F Lace).**— 1, Higgins Van De Uilenhoek (E Jablonski) 70.18; 2, Ruxton Shogun (M Phillips) 68.51; 3, Elixer (S Higgins) 68.11. **silv (A Bennie, T Downes, J Ward).**— 1, Barchetta (L Dunkeld) 70.26; 2, Gijsbert (T Bradshaw) 68.51; 3, Showstar 68.29. **Magic PSG (C Ballantyne, C Halsall, F Lace).**— 1, Davidoff (S Higgins) 67.48; 2, Woodcroft Dancing Queen (R Todd) 67.46; 3,

Faydirmie ZH (S Rao) 66.84. **Superflex inter I.**— 1, Mount St John De La Beaute (S Higgins) 68.9; 2, Woodcroft Dancing Queen 66.71; 3, Easter Bunny II (S Higgins) 66.49. **Bailey’s nov FSM gold (H Bradley, S Kingwells, A Smith).**— 1, Julieta (A Cowan) 73.61; 2, Briarwood Firefly (L Bellis) 72.04; 3, Jemimah HH (J Clark) 69.91. **silv (A Bennie, T Downes, S Edwards).**— 1, Vancouver LG (L Williamson) 77.87; 2, Inspiration Van De Hazahoeve (J Oakes) 69.07; 3, Westpoint Fully Comical (T Brown) 68.98. **Suregrow elem FSM gold (H Bradley, A Smith, S Kingwells).**— 1, Igor VIII (T Bradshaw) 72.88; 2, SP Street Dancer (L Davison) 69.68; 3, MSL Saltarello Hit (L Mills) 65.9. **silv (A Bennie,**

T Downes, S Edwards).— 1, Vancouver LG 74.55; 2, DHI Dinegro (D Hames) 69.62; 3, Don Deluxe (L Williamson) 68.91. **Spillers med FSM gold (A Bennie, T Downes, H Bradley).**— 1, Fandango V (N Lawson) 73; 2, Ruxton Shogun (M Phillips) 72.2; 3, Gucci SCS & DHI (N Kayal) 71.06. **silv.**— 1, Fendy VCG 74.94; 2, Frankel (B Edginton) 73.28; 3, Giannova (L Clarkson) 68.83. **Nupafeed adv med FSM gold.**— 1, Flying Dream II (D Lever) 71.11; 2, Der Rubin (C Dutton) 69.61; 3, Woodcroft Royal Charter (A Cowan) 69.93. **silv (T Downes, A Smith, J Ward).**— 1, Gijsbert (T Bradshaw) 71.67; 2, Barchetta (L Dunkeld) 70.28; 3, Dublin (L Johnson) 67.83.



'He's very talented,' says Elizabeth Allen of the 'sensitive' Hannover II, who takes PSG honours

RESULTS

11 Feb: prelim 15Q brnz (A Webster).— 1, Victoria (V Goody) 66; 2, Sjimmy (S Laflin) 66. **prelim 17A Q brnz.**— 1, Sjimmy 66.5. **nov 23 gold (F Foy).**— 1, Kamuelas Platinum (E Allen) 66; 2, Don Dello (T Jones) 64.3. **silv.**— 1, Flamgoch (L Hoskins) 63.9. **brnz.**— 1, LSS Lanzarote (R Bating) 68.9; 2, Coombeland Crown Cruise HSH (R Bating) 66.4. **nov 38Q gold (A Webster).**— 1, Don Dello 66.9; 2, Kamuelas Platinum 66.4. **silv.**— 1, Ava Luna (J Dyer) 65.6; 2, Flamgoch 61.9. **brnz.**— 1eq, Coombeland Crown Cruise HSH & Chip (A Miller) 65.9; 3, Jandine (L Mesquita) 63.5. **elem 43 silv (F Foy).**— 1, Space Telescope (J Male) 63.7. **brnz.**— 1, LSS Lanzarote 66.7; 2, Ava Luna 65.6; 3, Chip 62.5. **elem 59Q silv.**— 1, Danson Don Grande (H Beaton) 61.7; 2, Space Telescope 59.2. **brnz.**— 1, Foxies Star (D Squires) 66.7. **med 69 gold (S Wood).**— 1, Glasson Lad (E Allen) 69.2. **silv.**— 1, Holywell Cavalier Classic (J Lo-Vel) 66.6. **brnz.**— 1, Sam (A Miller) 67.5; 2, Rose (L Mesquita) 65.7; 3, Foxies Star 64.6. **med 76Q gold.**— 1, Glasson Lad 65.3. **silv.**— 1, Holywell Cavalier Classic 62.4. **brnz.**— 1, Sam 67.7; 2, Kiwi (A Miller) 64. **adv med 85 silv (S Wood).**— 1, Top Of The Pops (R Pople) 66.1; 2, Gaucho (S Brooks) 64.1. **brnz.**— 1, C Why (T Bartlett) 65.5. **adv med 91Q silv.**— 1, Dark Knight (C Deithrick) 67.5; 2, Gaucho 63.7. **brnz.**— 1, Wellshead Foxtrot (S Lanz) 65.7. **PYO adv.**— 1, Dark Knight 67.2 A102. **FEI PSG Q gold.**— 1, Hannover II (E Allen) 64.2. **brnz.**— 1, Top Of The Pops 64.

Hannover steps it up a gear

Kings Sedgemoor, Somerset

THREE riders from Collective Equestrian in Somerset, headed up by trainer and rider Elizabeth Allen, enjoyed six wins and two seconds between them.

Riding Jonny Clarke-West's riding eight-year-old Hannover II, Elizabeth landed the prix st georges (PSG).

"Jonny has owned him for two years and I've produced him from novice level," she said. "He's quite sensitive and it's taken time to

By STEPHANIE BATEMAN

build up a relationship, but he is starting to trust me now. He's very talented and we're developing the lift in the trot, which he is just starting to transfer into the ring."

The gelding's highlights were his tempi changes, for which he scored eights.

"It was his first show of this season and he's done only a handful of PSGs," added Elizabeth. "He is about to make

his inter I debut and then he's off to the regionals at PSG in early March, then internationals later in the year, hopefully."

Elizabeth also topped a novice with Vicky Goody's five-year-old Kamuelas Platinum (Tulip), and both mediums with the Powell family's 10-year-old Connemara pony Glasson Lad, whom Elizabeth is schooling for his usual rider Eden Powell.

"We've been taking Tulip to a water treadmill, which has made a huge difference to her strength.

She is very active but couldn't cope with the power, so it's helped develop her strength and core stability," said Elizabeth.

"Glasson Lad is a lovely pony and Eden is aiming for pony Premier Leagues with him."

Tulip's owner Vicky topped a prelim on her other horse HRH Victoria.

"Victoria is a cob who I hunted and is now being converted to dressage," said Vicky. "This is my first go at dressage. It's funny having two horses at different ends of the spectrum — a hunting cob and a horse bred specifically for the job — doing dressage."

The novice 38 was won by Tegan Jones on Elizabeth's 19-year-old Don Dello (Lexi) on their affiliated debut.

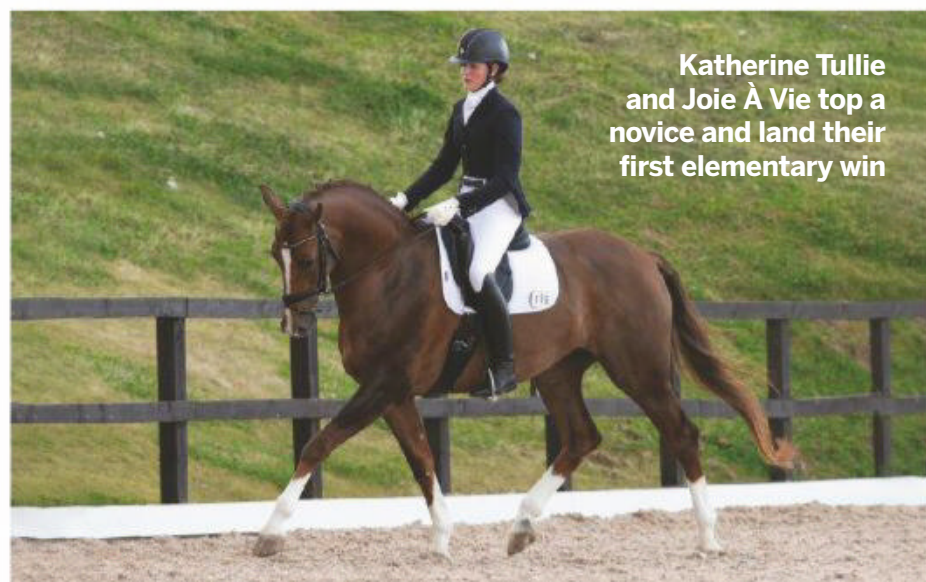
"It was only our second competition as a partnership," said Tegan. "I've only had the ride on Lexi since November, so we're still getting to know each other, but I'm hoping to learn new skills and start making our way up through the levels."

À Vie is a Joie

KATHERINE TULLIE and Joie À Vie won their first elementary with 71.56% and novice 39 with 69.23% at Rockrose Equestrian, East Lothian, despite bad weather.

"It was pouring with rain and blowing gale-force winds, but she was very well behaved for a baby. She kept turning her bum into

the rain, but I couldn't blame her for that," said Katherine of the rising six-year-old warmblood by Everdale. "I've had her since she was three and she's super chilled out and not at all spooky, but can be sharp because she is very clever. She has an amazing canter and is very exciting."



Katherine Tullie and Joie À Vie top a novice and land their first elementary win



Sophie Taylor and the rising six-year-old Everdale son Jerrydale collect plus-75% elementary and medium wins

Jerrydale walks the walk

Field House, Staffs

SOPHIE TAYLOR and Jerrydale scored a pair of wins, landing medium 61 and elementary 59, both with plus-75%.

Sophie bought the rising six-year-old by Everdale from Van Olst Horses in 2018.

“He’s really trainable so even when he’s hot, he’s rideable,” said Sophie, who is studying for her A levels and has been based with the Moody sisters since she was 12. “He has an amazing walk and we got a 10 in his test. I couldn’t manage without Becky and Hannah [Moody] — they help me so much.”

“He’s excitable but a real character. He throws his buckets over the stable and likes to lead himself around the arena,” said Sophie of Jerrydale.

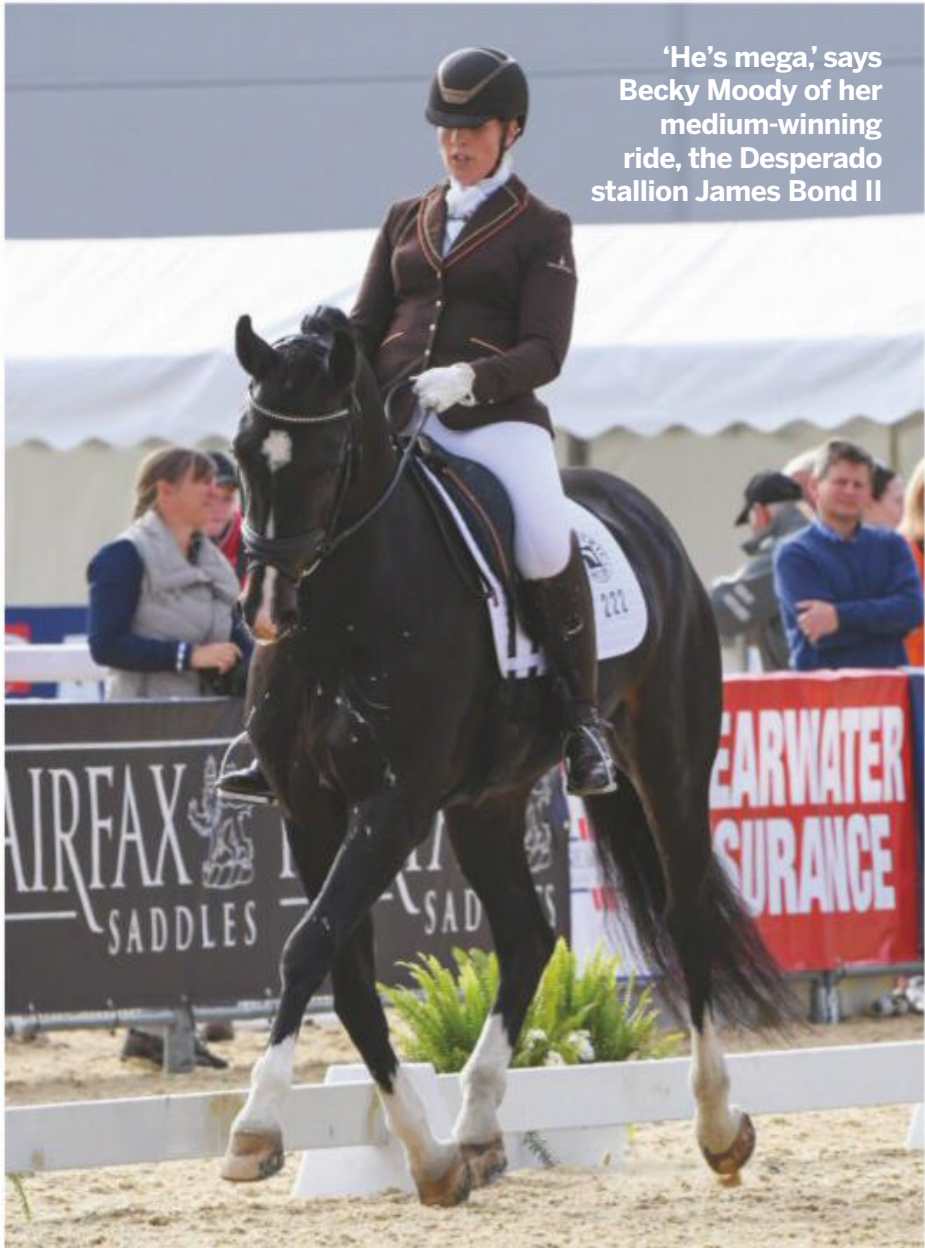
Becky Moody also enjoyed a successful day at Field House, winning the medium 75 with Jo Cooper and Pat and David Webster’s six-year-old stallion James Bond II, as well as the PSG with 10-year-old mare Full Fusion BS, owned by Julie Lockey and Hannah Moody.

“I was really pleased with Fusion because we have spent a lot of time training instead of competing her, and I feel like it’s beginning to pay off as she is so much stronger and finding the work easier,” said Becky. “Her

piaffe is really coming on, but she found it hard mentally, so it’s taken me a long time to get that right. I’m hoping she’ll do some inter IIs later this year.”

This was just James Bond’s second show since winning the elementary gold at the national championships in September.

“I was delighted with his first test,” said Becky. “He’s mega and so talented.”



‘He’s mega,’ says Becky Moody of her medium-winning ride, the Desperado stallion James Bond II

‘SHE WAS GIVEN A 20% CHANCE OF SURVIVAL’

DESPITE being dumped as a two-month-old foal, Cleo XV is holding her own between the white boards.

Fourth-year PhD student Yasmin Ahmed and six-year-old mare Cleo won both prelims at Alnwick Ford.

“She was dumped in our fields aged just two months so we bottle fed her, but she was given only a 20% chance of surviving,” said Yasmin, who gets up at 4.20am to fit the horses in around her PhD.

“She’s such a fighter and her amazing attitude pulled her through. We thought she’d be a happy hacker, but she’s really turned her hoof to dressage. She’s qualified for the Area Festivals and then we’ll step her up to novice.”



RESULTS

FIELD HOUSE, STAFFS

13 Feb: **prelim 17A Q gold** (J Byrne).— 1, Dunkerrin Pandora (L Robinson) 71.55; 2, Embla Nevada (S Price) 68.79. **brnz.**— 1, Maidenhill Red Robin (A Kolanowska) 68.97; 2, Ower Lad (S Winter) 68.45. **prelim 19Q gold.**— 1, Dunkerrin Pandora 71.04. **silv.**— 1, Little Miss Aredis (K Hendry Griffiths) 68.75. **brnz.**— 1, Fluff McDuff (C Snow) 65.42; 2, Active Skyfall (S Bailey) 64.38; 3, Kildun Rocky (L Biddle) 63.13. **nov 23 silv.**— 1, Little Miss Aredis 69.79; 2, Dollar II (D Alexander) 65. **nov 37A Q gold** (J Byrne).— 1, Bellini B (P Bartram) 68.33. **silv.**— 1, Dollar II 62.59. **brnz.**— 1, Explosion VMH (S Goodwin) 65; 3, Gortmore Rosebud (A Lennon) 64.63. **nov FSM Q gold.**— 1, Bellini B 73.89. **brnz.**— 1, Sienna V 71.11; 2, Tansycroft Time Out (B Parker) 66.39; 3, Craic A Jack (A Shenton) 64.72. **elem 45 silv** (A Bennie).— 1, Aragon W (S Bosomworth) 70.52; 2, Brocksford Rebel (C Dobney) 66.03. **brnz.**— 1, Explosion VMH 67.93; 2, Sherratts Apache (L Fletcher Chard) 66.72; 3, Sirius Chesnut (K Ferrar) 65.86. **elem FSM Q silv.**— 1, Aragon W 75.19; 2, More Or Less (A Tomlinson) 71.15. **elem 59Q gold.**— 1, Jerrydale (S Taylor) 75.31. **silv.**— 1, Gypsy Fortune (D Glanville) 73.75; 2, Rodilya (C Winton) 70.16; 3, More Or Less 69.84. **brnz.**— 1, Sherratts Apache 67.5. **med 61 gold.**— 1, Jerrydale 75.86; 2, James Bond II (B Moody) 72.93. **silv.**— 1, Gypsy Fortune 68.45; 2, Filia (J Harkness) 67.24; 3, Rodilya (C Winton) 66.72. **med 75Q gold.**— 1, James Bond II 73.11; 2, Homerus DC (A Nicpon) 67.57. **silv.**— 1, Little Jo (S Pryde) 71.22; 2, Donnisbroc (P Bartram) 70.14; 3, Roadrunner (R Onions) 67.84. **med FSM Q silv.**— 1, Donnisbroc 76.67. **adv med 98Q silv.**— 1, Barchetta (L Dunkeld) 74.47; 2, Windhover II (L Bellis) 63.95. **adv med FSM Q silv.**— 1, Barchetta 73.67; 2, Windhover II 70.67. **PSG Q gold.**— 1, Full Fusion BS (B Moody) 78.16; 2, Eureko (H Moody) 63.82. **silv.**— 1, Westhills Watermark (E Holmes) 66.05.

Ex-racer excels

WHEN eventer Roberto Scalisi took on ex-racehorse Alamein for £500 to bring on and sell, little did he know the horse would turn into an intermediate eventer and successful dressage horse.

"I bought him two years ago with Ros Hayward, but we got too attached to him," said Roberto, who won both elementaries at Vale View. "He's won at British Eventing [BE] novice level, done his first international and first BE intermediate, so this was a little outing before we go eventing."

The 10-year-old is now qualified for the elementary regionals. "It's really cool considering that two years ago he was running flat out for his life and he's now on the bit doing dressage between the white boards," adds Roberto.

'HE WENT DOWN LIKE A TONNE OF BRICKS'

JUST over a year ago, graphic designer Emily Barraclough very nearly lost her loan horse Jager Meister to colic. However, one operation and months of rehab later, and he is back winning between the white boards, claiming both elementaries at Addington Equestrian.

Emily has had the 11-year-old warmblood for nearly two years and this was their first affiliated show together.

"I'm just grateful to still have him," she said. "He

AGAINST THE ODDS

went down like a tonne of bricks one night, so he was rushed to the Royal Veterinary College where they operated on him. The first few days were touch and

go, but we eventually got him home and after months of rehab, he's fine. I was super happy when he spooked at a puddle and dragged me off, as it showed he was back to normal!"



ONLY IN HORSE & HOUND

'Judges, get on the same page'

Pammy Hutton is frustrated by growing divisions within our sport

LONDON 2012 heralded a new era for dressage: gold medals won with softness, harmony and positive power. Eight years on, and our sport is divided over the spectacular versus correctness. But why can't we have the two together? Surely Olympic-standard excellence and flowing horsemanship should not be incompatible?

If dressage is becoming a circus for freakish horses, where do we go from here? Will we end up with purpose-bred equines with exaggerated movement akin to those much maligned dogs at Crufts?

I winced at a recent prix st georges test scoring over 80%, yet the horse was dipped in the back with wildly flying front legs. It epitomised my fears.

Judges, you need to get on the same page. What you choose to reward or penalise maps out dressage's direction.

As Laura Tomlinson (23 January) rightly says: "It's

OPINION

important to look to the pinnacle of our sport to set the right example." On which note, well done Charlotte Dujardin and Mount St John Freestyle. Your recent World Cup test in Amsterdam was beautiful.

RIGHTS AND WRONGS

THE debate over horse welfare and training methods rages on across social media. Everyone has their own idea of what is abuse. But whatever your definition, please be honest. Don't pretend wrongs are rights by trying to justify them. Or worse, publicly preaching while privately condoning.

Everyone should do right by their own horses. Others, like me, are also driven to speak out because what they see keeps them awake at night — even when it means risking verbal, reputational and potential financial punishment. Inevitably, the result can be online disharmony between those who should be on the same side; the side of the horse.

The solution to this time-



consuming, often unproductive squabbling is a robust system of reporting to the relevant authorities, who are then duty-bound to report back fully and transparently on their findings and actions. If reports of alleged abuse are not addressed to the right people or are submitted in the wrong way, we need to know why so we can rectify them.

As followers of the FEI Time to Act Facebook group know, I am not afraid to say my piece. The limiting factor is the potential for being sued by naming people. That's why it's the authorities, our

governing bodies, who must act.

When it comes to equine welfare, we all differ in how much we're prepared to tolerate. Maybe we should instead be thinking about how much more horses can tolerate.

TO BENEFIT ALL

WE once had sponsorship worth £75,000 a year. Wow, those were the days! Now you get a free jar of something and happily endorse it. However, it can all go horribly wrong for a sponsor if "their" rider is caught "with their pants down" or, even worse, mistreating a horse.

It's great that equestrian companies still want to give something back. But maybe they're better off sponsoring shows and events for the benefit of all, rather than individual riders? Hickstead needs sponsors, as does Badminton.

Meanwhile, look after those sponsors known by another name — owners. Telephone, send pictures, throw a party; communication is key. **H&H**

NEXT WEEK

Olympic gold medallist
Carl Hester

Pammy Hutton FBHS is an international competitor, trainer of Olympic and Paralympic medallists and trainer/mother to British team members Charlie and Pippa.



Katrina Hall takes medium glory riding 19-year-old New Forest King Of The Street

Hunter turned dressage horse

BEING bred for hunting isn't holding back 17.3hh home-bred gelding Allegro III, who won the medium 75 at Stourport, Worcs.

Zara Griffiss was asked to school the Irish Draught/thoroughbred gelding for the hunting field, but quickly learned of his dressage talents and refused to give him back.

"His owner Patrick Legg asked me to bring Allegro on, but when I started schooling him, I realised he was actually really talented and took him to his first dressage competition where he scored 72% at novice. It was at that point I told Patrick he's not going hunting again."

The 10-year-old is now being aimed at advanced medium. **H&H**

King reigns victorious

FREELANCE groom Katrina Hall's 19-year-old New Forest gelding, King Of The Street, is proving that age is just a number, winning medium 75 at Brook Farm with just shy of 70%.

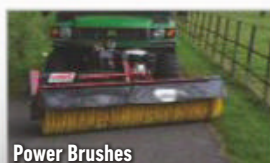
"I've done a bit of everything with him, but switched to dressage in 2010," said Katrina, who has had the 14.2hh gelding for 13 years. "We have been to the summer and winter regionals and

do the Area Festivals every year, and he's also done the British Dressage veteran championships the past two years. He has a good extended trot and he's supple, so finds the lateral work easy."



KICK-START YOUR PADDOCKS FOR SPRING

Coming to an equestrian event near you this year . . . see website & social media for details



Specialist Equestrian Section online @ logictoday.co.uk



UK Manufactured
Nationwide Dealer Network

North • Hexham, Northumberland 01434 606661
South • Cheltenham, Gloucestershire 01285 720930



Derek Morton tops a seven-strong jump-off to claim the winter classic grand prix with Science Supplements KBS High Quality



High Quality magic for Morton

Skilled course-building and plenty of strong entries produce gripping competition at South View

By MARGARET SHAW

South View Winter Classic, Cheshire

AT the end of a very busy and fruitful four days, Derek Morton put the icing on his cake when he produced the winning time of 42.47sec in the winter classic grand prix.

Second-drawn in the seven-

strong jump-off and riding Science Supplements KBS High Quality (Liam), Derek took every short cut at speed to stay ahead of Donny Janciauskas and Cool Quarz, who finished in 44.80sec.

"We needed to be fast and the course didn't give anything away, but Liam is a big horse with a massive stride and a huge engine," said Derek.

Course-designer Gillian Milner earned great praise for her courses

over the weekend and her grand prix track brought the curtain down on a hugely successful show.

With airy verticals, roll-backs, three doubles and a square final oxer, the first-round course posed questions throughout for the 40 starters. But the seven hopefuls fighting it out for top honours had produced classic first-round clears and all had their sights set on the £1,000 winner's purse.

After Ian Fives opened with eventual seventh-placed Horinde, Derek set a blistering pace and Liam matched his rider's determination all the way.

"Liam is a very brave horse and I do have difficulty controlling his energy as he's sometimes too brave, but he covers so much ground and can jump and turn with ease," said Derek, who pulled off a series of tight turnbacks.

Pictures by Suzanne Jones



'He is so brave': Isaac Hall and Conrad VI lead the B&C qualifier

Owner Zoe Snedker originally bought her OBOS Quality nine-year-old for working hunter classes, but once Derek recognised his potential over coloured fences, Liam was quickly switched.

After contesting the 2018 Foxhunter and 2019 winter B&C finals, under Derek's guidance, Liam has continued to step up with ease and he came here showing good grand prix form after finishing third at Aintree.

Fresh from their 1.40m win at Aintree, Donny Janciauskas and Cool Quarz gave immediate chase, but despite taking every short cut, they had to settle for second

after producing the only other double clear.

The fastest time of all, 39.15sec, came at the expense of a rail down for third-placed Mark Turnbull riding Ashton Dakota.

Although out of luck in this competition, the pair had showed their rivals a clean pair of heels to win a 1.40m class two days earlier.

KEEN COMPETITION

WITH two tickets on offer to the Royal International, competition was understandably keen in the winter B&C qualifier and it was Isaac Hall and Ben Bick, two riders making their first visit to



'She was very focused today': Rachael Connor and Juvenosa top the six-year-old qualifiers



CRACKING RIDES FOR CRIPPEN

AFTER an absence of more than 20 years, John Crippen made a productive return visit to South View, claiming both Royal International tickets when Tamino HCT (Tam; pictured) and Juluis took the top two places in the winter B&C qualifier.

John, who pulled off a spectacular turn into the double to win, has produced Karen Knight's Tam through the age classes, the seven-year-old recently qualifying for the BS winter grade C final with a win at Bury Farm.

"He's always quick and it was game on all round," said John. "He can be a bit of a hooligan at home, but you can forgive horses anything when they jump like that."

The Buckinghamshire rider was not too far behind the leading time with new ride, Chloe Templeton's Mylord Carthago six-year-old Juluis.

"I took the same route and although he's a game little horse who did everything I asked, I didn't think we could beat Tamino's time."

"The courses here asked plenty of questions, but when I last rode here on 128cm ponies, I thought they were massive then too," concluded John.

ONES TO WATCH

South View, who claimed the Hickstead tickets.

Twenty-four combinations from a field of more than 40 contested the final round, in which Isaac and Conrad VI cruised into the lead with eight left to jump.

Conrad was originally bought by Isaac's uncle Tim Davies, who was also competing in the class, but after sustaining a serious field injury, the Dutch-bred gelding spent a year on stable rest.

Since Conrad's recovery, Isaac

catch the leading time, hugging all the wings to take second.

"To qualify was our main aim and as he is so brave, I chucked the kitchen sink at him," said Ben.

With mammoth entries across the board and plenty of tickets on offer to Addington's British Showjumping (BS) spring and Hartpury's Blue Chip Championships, every class was hard fought.

Ben Bick topped a hotly contested BS winter 1.35m qualifier with Carron's Galerius.

'With so many in it, this was a tough jump-off and there were no tricks on the course'

ISAAC HALL

had been competing him mainly in Belgium, but the pair returned to England in October and they came here in good form after a recent win at Keysoe.

"With so many in it, this was a tough jump-off, but Conrad has stepped back up quickly. There were no tricks on the course, so I left Conrad to make up the ground on the early runs," said Isaac.

Drawn four horses later, Ben Bick (Carron Nicol's LCC Comanche) also tried hard to

Ben is just 10 months into his partnership with the Diamant De Semilly nine-year-old.

"He's so careful and is stepping up well to world rankings classes. We have big plans for him this year," said Ben.

YOUNG STARS

RACHAEL CONNOR and Angel Tough triumphed in the winter championships when Juvenosa (Bella) and Righteous could not be overtaken in the six- and seven-

year-old qualifiers.

Rachael has produced Bella since she bought her Dakar VDL mare as a four-year-old, and the agile grey mare is just back in action after a winter break.

‘She’s small, nippy and she loves to be dared — we took every option’

RACHAEL CONNOR
ON JUVENOSA

“She was spooky on the first day, but very focused today,” said Rachael. “She’s small and nippy and she loves to be dared, so we took every option.”

Angel Tough and Righteous maintained their Aintree winning form and they were again at the races throughout to win the winter seven-year-old.

A home-bred by Luidam, Righteous has been ridden by Angel throughout his career.

“He has so much stride for a little horse, so it’s easy to take strides out rather than risk doing turns,” said Angel.

Thomas Dovkants led the way in the BS winter grade C qualifier riding Conquib.



‘He has so much stride for a little horse’: Angel Tough and Righteous win the seven-year-old qualifier

The Contender 10-year-old owned by John Evans of Evolution Stud has been with Thomas for only a few weeks.

Fernhill Off Chance, an eight-year-old by Sligo Candy Boy, has been quickly into his stride after returning to action following a winter break.

Already Hartpury-bound for

the Karma championship, the Irish-bred gelding added another Blue Chip ticket when heading the DDS Demolition 1.25m with Gemma Ellison in the saddle.

“He always seems to rise to the challenge,” said Gemma.

Ian Fives produced the winning round in the Blue Chip Dynamic B&C riding Lisca H.

The Irish rider, who is based with Dave Quigley, has been riding the Quintender nine-year-old mare for a year mainly in Belgium, the pair recording a win at Opglabbeek in November.

“We aimed her at this show to build her up after a break and she was quick and careful everywhere,” said Ian. **H&H**

ONLY IN HORSE & HOUND

‘Riders tend to vote with their feet’

BS steward John Taylor finds much to admire at South View

IT has been a busy winter, and in addition to attending two junior premier shows here at South View, I have also officiated at four other winter classics around the country. This has been one of the best supported, with quality riders and a good calibre of horses.

While recent storms have created havoc across the country, Cheshire remained one of the least affected counties, although the temporary stable field here has suffered.

I walked the stable area several times and thought the organisers managed the situation sympathetically, offering plenty of top-up straw

OPINION

and bedding. As much as we would like to, we can’t alter the weather.

Riders reported that they loved the size of the main arena — it boasts a long ring, a well-maintained surface, and plenty of space for course-designers to set different lines.

They were also impressed with the quick changeovers and variety of tracks — “tough, but fair” was the main theme of comments.

A STEWARDS’ MOTTO

FROM a steward’s point of view, I am pleased we are now seen as a point of contact.

The new tack rules seem to have settled in well with only a



few riders needing a reminder. Since the implementation of the new rules, there have been very few issues regarding spurs and riders seem keen to ask advice.

A stewards’ motto is “HPI”:

● Help — to assist and be a point of contact advising on tack

issues and conduct.

● Prevent — to stop abuses and unfair advantages being gained, creating a fair and level playing field.

● Intervention — to deal with infringements of the rules.

Happily, at this show, I had a very quiet time with few issues to address.

South View is an established centre dedicated to running shows, and owners, riders and spectators remarked on the warm welcome from the accommodating secretaries to the restaurant staff.

Riders tend to vote with their feet and many new faces here vowed to return. **H&H**

**NEXT
WEEK**

**Guest comment
from the CSI5*
in Doha**

John Taylor is a British Showjumping steward.

Teeth problems?

call the dentist!

Saddle problems?

call the saddle fitter!

Biting problems?

call...



UK's largest **Biting Specialists**
& Comprehensive **Bit Bank Service**

30 DAY
BIT TRIAL
AVAILABLE
ONLINE



See Ema Odlin-Baxter Featured on Horse & Country TV - Blue Chip All Stars Academy

- One on One Clinics
- Lecture & Biting Demonstrations
- Sessions Available throughout the U.K and Overseas on Request
- Talks and Demos ideal for Riding Clubs, Pony Clubs, Committees & Seminars

BUY • TRY • LEARN



t: +44 (0)1405 861800 • www.thehorsebitshop.co.uk

Hannah Barker and Ammanvalley Santino produce the only double clear to claim the winter JA classic qualifier



Barker bags it

Things go to plan for Elsi Jacques, a week-long partnership comes up trumps, and risky turns pay off for some

Morris EC 148cm Pony Premier, Ayrshire

HANNAH BARKER and Ammanvalley Santino were on flying form, producing the only double clear for victory

By BECKY MURRAY

in Saturday's Charles Britton Construction winter JA classic qualifier. The experienced combination most recently took second place in the 148cm Voltaire Design mince pie stakes at Olympia before Christmas, and this was the British-bred gelding's first show back.

"He felt really good," said Hannah. "In the jump-off, my plan was to go for the clear. He's naturally very forward to ride and really takes you round."

"This is my last year on him and he's the only pony I have at the moment, so I'll be aiming for teams again. We were at the pony

European Championships in Strzegom last year — it's all been amazing," she added.

With only three combinations in the second round and with both Tabitha Kyle and Jennifer Billington picking up four faults, a third jump-off was not on the cards. Second-placed Tabitha collected her ticket to the spring final on Nightgirl Van Het Sonnishof Z, while third-placed Jennifer and Merlijn VD Bisschop had already qualified earlier in the month.

The equivalent class on Sunday resulted in a head-to-head between Elsi Jacques and Tabitha, who was this time riding the qualified gelding Gangnam Style II, and Jennifer Billington

on the also already qualified Faith X. As Tabitha took a pull going into the final fence after a long gallop down from the second-last oxer, it was Elsi who took home the spoils on her mother's stallion Trevoulter Ladies Man in 34.15sec.

Elsi said she had some making up to do after it "wasn't their day" on Saturday.

"I had a stop and two down in this class and was eliminated in the handicap — he has bipolar!" she said. "He's not naturally quick; he bucks, which usually uses up a lot of time and if you take a pull, he can have a fence down. But it went to plan today so I'm really happy."

'I HAD TO BE QUICK AND CLEAR'

SATURDAY'S winter JC qualifier provided three thrilling rounds with Rachel Proudley on Charlotte Shore's Robin Hood Lad snatching victory

from Anna Black on Miami Sandyman (Astro) by less than half a second.

“I can’t believe it — we’ve only had Robin for a week,” said Rachel, who had travelled from North Yorkshire with five rides. “He was absolutely foot-perfect.

“I watched Anna and thought I might need to go a bit fast here. I was second to go, so knew I still had everyone to come after me. I had to be quick — and clear.”

Both combinations took three daring inside turns, but it was Rachel’s stride out to the last that sealed the deal.

“I was going to go round the back to the second last, but I saw Anna do the inside turn and I knew it was possible,” said Rachel.

Second-placed 12-year-old Anna was delighted to qualify with the 12-year-old gelding Astro, whom she has had for two years.

“Going first was nerve-racking because I didn’t know the turns, but he was amazing and I really trust him,” she said. “I haven’t been to Hickstead before, so I’m really excited to qualify. I hope to qualify my 138cm, too.”

With the next five combinations having a series of faults, it was down to final rider, Elysia Heagren-Bond, who pulled a clear out of the bag on Conella II to secure the remaining Hickstead ticket.

‘I WANTED THAT TRIPLE CLEAR’

IN Sunday’s equivalent class, first to go in the final round was already qualified Iwan



Rachel Proudley and Robin Hood Lad clinch victory in Saturday’s winter JC qualifier by less than half a second, after just a week together

‘I can’t believe it — we’ve only had Robin a week’

RACHEL PROUDLEY

Carpenter, who threw down the gauntlet with some impossibly tight inside turns on eight-year-old Merllyns Mermaid (Jay), the mare he had victory with in the same class at Aintree last month.

The pair set the time with a triple clear on 43.58sec. With six still to jump, the other

combinations paid the price attempting the same risky turns. It was third-last to go Aimee Jones and Sharelle’s polished clear in 52.50sec that clinched second place and her ticket to the final. The other qualification passed to third-placed Tatiane Mauree on Giblins.

“Jay is such an easy pony,” said

RESULTS

15 Feb: Blue Chip pony newcomers.—

1, Sam 003 (A Tucker); 2, Miami Bubble Gum (E McCulloch); 3, RS Cassini (A Morris). **1m.**— 1, Portmore Stroller (R Proudley); 2, Glanvyrnnyw Baby Boo (L Notman); 3, A Second Chance (L Notman).

Blue Chip Pro sparkle JC/JA h’cap.— 1, Derryisland Lady (G d’Ambrosio); 2, Nightgirl Van Het Sonnishof Z (T Kyle); 3, Dapple Grey Dew Drop (E Jacques).

Charles Britton Equestrian Construction winter JA classic.— 1, Ammanvalley Santino (H Barker); 2, Nightgirl Van Het Sonnishof Z; 3, Merlijn VD Bisschop (J Billington). **winter JC.**— 1, Robin Hood Lad (R Proudley); 2, Miami Sandyman (A Black); 3, Conella II (E Heagren-Bond).

pony Foxhunter/1.10m.— 1, Hietvelds Bjorn (T Kyle); 2, Beech Comber (R Proudley); 3, Atomic Du Bary (T Kyle).

pony 1.15m members cup.— 1, Atomic Du Bary; 2, Spot The Okehurst (C Miller); 3, Miami Moonbeam (T Mauree).

16 Feb: Blue Chip pony newcomers.—1, RS Cassini; 2, Robe Park Bobby (R Proudley); 3, Orchids Moyana (G Earnshaw). **1m.**— 1, Portmore Stroller; 2, Murphy X (I Campbell); 3, Miami Moonbeam. **JC/JA h’cap.**— 1, Westward Sunshine (E Jacques); 2, Atomic Du Bary; 3, Zodianne Van De Doevenbree (S Wicks).

Charles Britton Equestrian Construction winter JA classic.— 1, Trevoulter Ladies Man (E Jacques); 2, Gangnam Style II (T Kyle); 3, Faith X (J Billington). **winter JC.**— 1, Merllyns Mermaid (I Carpenter); 2, Sharelle (A Jones); 3, Giblins (T Mauree).

148cm restricted.— 1, Westward Sunshine (E Jacques); 2, Atomic Du Bary; 3, Beech Comber. **Voltaire Design pony coral.**— 1, 2 Hietvelds Bjorn, Dark Silk (T Kyle); 3, Little Red Cloud (C Lockhead).

Iwan of the eight-year-old mare.

“I knew where I wanted to go — she responded and moved to exactly where I needed her. She has turned out to be a real top pony.”

Aimee was thrilled with Tania Wareham’s 12-year-old Sharelle, on whom she has had the ride since the beginning of the year.

“I’ve tried a few of the qualifiers but had a couple of poles, so today has been brilliant. I really wanted that triple clear,” said Aimee. “She can get strong and she’s very keen, but she’s incredible — she has a really massive jump.”

In the Blue Chip Pro sparkle JC/JA competition, it was Gabriella d’Ambrosio and 12-year-old mare Derryisland Lady who produced a flat-out jump-off in a time of 37.78sec, finishing ahead of Tabitha Kyle on Nightgirl Van Het Sonnishof Z in second and Elsi Jacques on Dapple Grey Dew Drop behind in third.

“We’ve owned Lady for three years and it’s taken me a while to get used to her, but hopefully I’m getting to grips with her now,” said Gabriella.

“She’s quite powerful and strong, so when you let her go it’s difficult to come back, but she decided she was having a go today.” **H&H**



‘It went to plan today’: Elsi Jacques and Trevoulter Ladies Man head Sunday’s winter JA classic

‘A bit too close for comfort!’

Guy Williams’ grand prix success comes by the narrowest of margins, while the Whitakers find winning form across Europe



Guy Williams celebrates his first win with Cicero II after clinching victory in the grand prix

CSI3* Atlantic Tour week 4, Vilamoura Equestrian Centre, Portugal

WHEN two of the world’s fastest riders — who both happen to be British — go head-to-head in a jump-off, sparks are guaranteed to fly. But Sunday’s grand prix proved that Guy Williams and Laura Renwick are pretty much inseparable in a race against the clock as the margins couldn’t

By JENNIFER DONALD

have been tighter — Guy claiming victory over his team-mate by just one hundredth of a second.

“It was a bit too close for comfort!” said Guy, who has had plenty of international placings in his 14-month partnership with the 13-year-old Cicero II, but this marked their first win together.

“I thought I’d go seven strides

to the second fence, where Laura went eight, and I was planning on going eight strides to the last but I just didn’t see it, so I went nine instead and luckily I just caught her. She’s fast and I’d have been happy with second — but I’ll have to buy John [Renwick] a drink.”

Laura was riding her home-bred Arkuga and the two British riders were a distance ahead of the rest of the field in a six-way jump-off in which Ireland’s

David Simpson (Foudre F) and Great Britain’s Will Fletcher (Persimmon) both finished on four faults.

Will’s younger brother Olli Fletcher was a three-star winner on Saturday, taking the speed class with Horst Van De Mispelaere, while Guy’s stable jockey Lily Attwood took the two-phase riding Hanniemo G.

“We’re going to try to step up our game even more in the rankings classes,” said Guy, looking ahead to the remaining weeks of the Atlantic Tour. “My daughter Maisy has also been here riding, and has had two seconds, so we’re just going to try to win as much as we can.”

Laura Renwick had been in typically flying form during the week, claiming a brace of wins with a new ride, Teza Englefield’s Anvil’s Every Little Helps and took a one-two in the seven-year-old final with Symphony (Parco x Tristan De Quelan) and MHS Alabama (OBOS Quality 004 x Cavalier Royale).

Laura Mantel claimed the six-year-old equivalent on the Renwicks’ mare Aurora (Typhoon S x For Pleasure) while Charlene Bastone made it a British whitewash when taking the five-year-old title on the stallion Painted White Van Het Burghof.

George Whitaker headed the line-up for Friday’s 1.35m two-phase riding Giranette while Ireland’s Mikey Pender found winning form with the 12-year-old Casanova Van Overis Z in Friday’s jump-off class. **H&H**

IN BRIEF

CAREER HIGHLIGHT FOR GULLIKSEN

HE’S one of the stalwarts of the sport and finally, at the age of 60, Geir “Jimmy” Gulliksen won his first World Cup qualifier — the last leg in the 2019/20 series in Gothenburg — riding VDL Groep Quatro (pictured).

“Even to fall off, it doesn’t matter — I couldn’t be happier,” said Geir, referring to the tumble he took during the prize-giving. “This is definitely the highlight of my career.”

Robert Whitaker and Catwalk IV finished with 12 faults,

finishing just outside the top 18 in the overall league standings, meaning he needs three riders above him to drop out in order to secure a place in the World Cup Final in Las Vegas in April.

He and Catwalk had won Thursday’s 1.50m jump-off class, with Robert also picking up placings at the show with Stacy Willsons’s Cirrus and the seven-year-old Argento son Vermento.

SENSATIONAL WEEK FOR WATTS

ON the Sunshine Tour in Vejer de la Frontera, Spain, the CSI3* 1.50m grand prix went to Belgium’s Gudrun Patteet riding Sea Coast Kashmira Z, with the

runner-up spot going to the flying Kayleigh Watts on Ninkie De VY Z, capping a sensational week for the British rider.

“The jump-off went really well for us and Ninkie always gives her all in the ring, so I was really confident in taking the risk, riding fast and going all out to be competitive,” said Kayleigh, who finished ahead of Joe Clayton (Like A Diamond Van Het Schaeck).

Ellen Whitaker was the runaway winner of Saturday’s “small grand prix” riding Arena UK Winston. She held off the challenge of fellow Brit Matt Sampson (Cristo Beech) in a 15-strong jump-off.



Picture by Julia Reinhardt/Getty Images

‘Ben’s a breath of fresh air’

By PENNY RICHARDSON

Chard Equestrian, Somerset

THE decision to travel to Chard Equestrian with 19 horses in four lorries paid off handsomely for producer Julian Mincher and his team, who gained numerous wins and placings.

“We were going to do two days, but we looked at the weather forecast and decided on just the one. It was a crazy day, but worth it, as day two was cancelled in the end,” explained Hampshire-based Julian.

‘It was a crazy day but worth it’

JULIAN MINCHER ON TRAVELLING 19 HORSES FROM HAMPSHIRE TO CHARD FOR A SINGLE DAY

Julian’s stable jockey Ben Clark partnered 12 of the horses and it would have been 13 if the show hadn’t run out of light towards the end of the 1.40m class.

Ben currently rides for his parents, as well as travelling to Julian’s base. He will celebrate his 18th birthday next month and has already represented his country on junior Nations Cup teams.

Ben’s first win came in the 1.05m open on Louisiana, a grade B daughter of Argento who arrived two weeks before to be sold and has now achieved six

Argento daughter Louisiana adds to her recent tally of victories as she and Ben Clark head the 1.05m open



victories in four shows.

He also scored a one-two in the Blue Chip Karma qualifier, taking the class on his earlier newcomers winner Come On Vivien and finishing second with the stallion NPS Campagne II Z, a seven-year-old being tried against the clock for the first time.

It was a similar result in the 1.40m class, which Ben won on his

mother’s mare Jancovica and was second with the eight-year-old Doublem Chacco Lover, a horse who recently stepped up to the level and was placed in the grand prix at Onley Grounds Winter Classic.

“Ben is the most grounded young man I have ever met and if there was a gold medal for hard work, he would certainly win it,”

said Julian. “He’s inherited that work ethic from his parents. He’s not from a wealthy family and is at work at 7am every day at his mother’s livery yard. When he arrives at my place, he’s also straight to work and if I’m busy teaching, he’ll start cleaning tack or tidying up. He’s a breath of fresh air compared with some others his own age.”

The White stuff



Alistair White claims wins at 1.05m and 1.10m aboard Hanleen O Tess

Highfield Equestrian at Howe, Fife

SCOTTISH rider Alistair White won all three amateur classes in a day to remember.

Alistair’s success began with a runaway win in the 95cm class on his partner Angela Wiltshire’s Whiskey Girl, a mare who was bred as a potential pony eventer and grew slightly over height.

“Angela’s been very busy with work, so I’m keeping Whiskey Girl ticking over for her,” said Alistair, who combines a full-time truck driving job with looking after their horses on DIY livery.

“It’s not easy, but someone’s got to do it!” said Alistair, who also won the 1.05m and 1.10m classes, with his own Hanleen O Tess.

This 12-year-old mare was bought from her breeders in 2016 just after starting her jumping

career and Alistair has produced her to grade B.

“We clicked straight away. She’s a lovely horse who loves to jump and loves to win,” he said.

Alistair and Angela are looking forward to travelling from their home in Stirling this summer.

“We’re going to the Blue Chip Championships and the Amateur Jamboree at Weston Lawns, but the amateur show at Aintree is our big one. Our holiday time is already booked!” remarked Alistair. **H&H**

‘She loves to jump and loves to win’

ALISTAIR WHITE ON WHISKEY GIRL



Where there's a will

NCPA Cheshire, Reaseheath College, Cheshire

ANDREW COLLINS and his ever-reliable partner Surewill bagged their 2020 Royal International (RIHS) ticket in coloured ranks and the section championship at this early qualifier, as competition centres were once again tested by stormy conditions and endless rainfall.

Owned by Stuart Birch, striking maxi cob Surewill has been triumphing in coloured and open cob ranks for the past few seasons.

Sixth as a maxi and fourth in the coloureds at the NEC

By ALEX ROBINSON

in October, Surewill has been hacking and enjoying farm rides over the winter.

"We don't normally go out this early but he was certainly happy to be back," said Andrew. "He is just such a dude."

Andrew has his two plaited campaigners, Jamaica Will and

Vicarage Spirit, as well as a young maxi cob to complete his 2020 team.

"I don't do anything massively intense," he added. "They might go to five or six shows a year. It keeps them fresh and they aren't machines at the end of the day."

Don Barton's plaited horse Langaller Tarak (Carrot), ridden by Kieran Baslington, also picked up early qualification.

The elegant six-year-old was supreme ridden horse at the Coloured Horse and Pony Society (CHAPS) championships last year and also stood fourth at the RIHS on his first appearance.

"He was also at Horse of the Year Show [HOYS] last year and the aim will be to get another ticket this time," said Kieran, who produces Carrot from his home in Shropshire.

'We don't normally go out this early but he was certainly happy to be back; he's such a dude'

ANDREW COLLINS ON SUREWILL

Andrew Collins' Surewill nets his RIHS ticket in coloured ranks, topping his section championship



Sue-Helen Shuttleworth and the native gelding Braveheart also picked up their Hickstead ticket after winning the native/traditional ponies, while leading the plaited ponies was Sorrelcourt Rockferry and Charlotte Brooke-Rankin.

Vikki Eastwood's San Cler Cardinal and Anna Meehan were crowned Traditional Gypsy Cob Association (TGCA) champions.

Vikki has owned the nine-year-old since he was four.

"He is a working stallion and we have a foal by him due in five weeks," said Vikki.

Last term, the eye-catching stallion won the first TGCA championship held at Cheshire County show.

"He has an amazing temperament," continued Vikki. "He can cover a mare in the morning and be at a show in the afternoon."

The Steeples family's five-year-old Fell mare Greenholme Jasmin took the in-hand supreme accolade for the second year running.



San Cler Cardinal stands TGCA champion for Vikki Eastwood, with Anna Meehan in the saddle

CAREER SWITCH PROVING FRUITFUL

KATHERINE MARKS and her Highland gelding Carlung Peregrine were called forward to take the supreme ridden honours.

The nine-year-old was successful between the white boards and in-hand before Katherine scouted him out as a potential ridden star last October.

"He has a huge character and I'm delighted at how we've done at our first show," she said.

ONE TO WATCH



Sinatra comes out singing

BSPS Area 13A, Poldice Valley Arena, Cornwall

THE British Show Pony Society (BSPS) Heritage ridden classes attracted strong entries, producing Kathryn Pitt's choice for the supreme of show. This was the Welsh section A Wydean Sinatra, ridden by Amelia Watson.

The duo have been crowned Pretty Polly home-produced mini supreme champions at Hickstead on three separate occasions, and here they stepped up to win the junior ridden spoils as well as the first ridden.

Reserve supreme went to Yasmin Lewis and Bunbury Sail, who topped the show hunter

pony line-up.

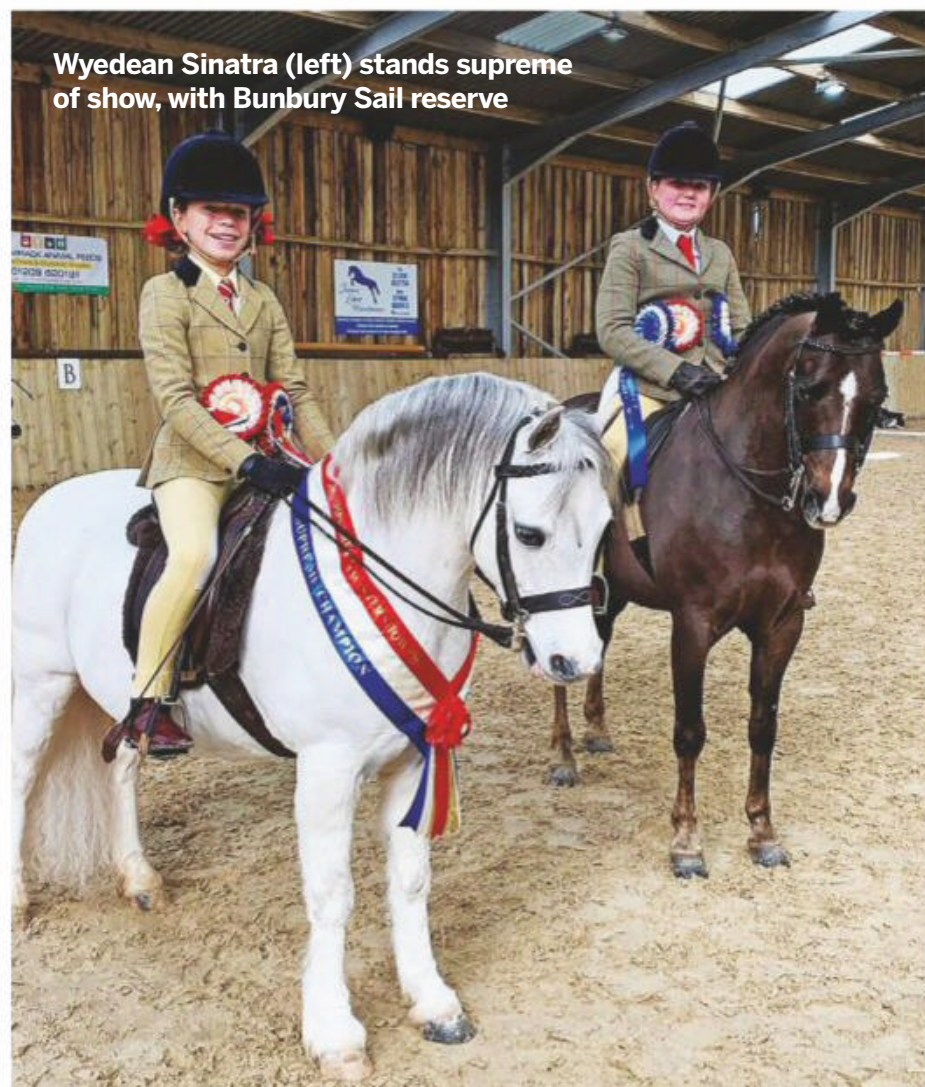
Sam Laity — who celebrated his 11th birthday on Valentine's Day — steered his new ride Barney IX to the working hunter pony championship after winning the nursery stakes.

The combination were making their first appearance together.

"Barney is now 13 and we've

been very fortunate to be able to have him from Jo and Grace Donnor," said Sam's mother Marie.

"Sam absolutely lives for his ponies and is out doing them every day before school. He has done lots of flat showing in the past but now finds the workers much more exciting. We are lucky



Wydean Sinatra (left) stands supreme of show, with Bunbury Sail reserve



The new partnership of Barney IX and Sam Laity top the working hunter pony line-up to take the championship

Picture by Jennifer Durkin



Fofsway Gold Dust (Ottilie Simmonds) is top show pony



Cruz II lands the intermediate spoils with Millie Olds

to have such a superstar pony and I can't wait to see them both shine this year."

The intermediate spoils went to Millie Olds and Cruz II, while leading the show pony

championship was the lead-rein combination of Fofsway Gold Dust and Ottilie Simmonds. Ottilie was also reserve in the Heritage classes on her Shetland Sharptor Knighthood. **H&H**

ONLY IN HORSE & HOUND

'Should we ban bad hands?'

Simon Reynolds ponders the BSHA's new rulings for novice classes

THE country has been battered by storms; if you were thinking of emigrating, this winter would be the decider.

One week it felt like we had moved to three different countries in as many days. We were in T-shirts with bright sunshine one day, then felt the extremes of gale-force winds and torrential rain the next. We even had snow. Thank goodness for indoor schools as it has been tough to get consistent work from the youngsters. However, preparation is well under way for the coming season.

We have run a few training clinics this winter that have proven very popular. It is great to see that enthusiasm in general has not been dampened. Our pupils were both amateur and professional. No matter what your level, I think it's always good to gain another perspective and eye from the floor. None of us are beyond accessing help as you just never stop learning. We always have to be open to new

Simon is best known for producing cobs for the show ring, including the prolific Hallmark.

OPINION

ideas and be ready to take on constructive criticism.

SAFEGUARDING OUR NEXT STARS

EVERY year it seems new rules are emerging with each showing society. The British Show Horse Association (BSHA) have imposed a ban on the swales bit in novice classes for 2020. I have always said that any bit in the wrong hands is a problem. Can you imagine making a rule to ban bad hands? It has, after all, been enforced for overweight riders, another welfare issue.

In all seriousness, I

'I have always said that any bit in the wrong hands is a problem'

understand why the rule has been implicated as not all riders are capable of riding in every bit, but I do think that is a judgement each rider should make for themselves. I don't



think we all need nursemaiding.

Technically, there is no age limit on a novice in that society and not all novice horses are four-year-olds. For example, a horse that has never shown

horses in novice classes must be ridden by the judge first before their saddle is removed for conformation. As a judge, I have always followed this procedure as otherwise it is not fair for the horse or the judge.

This is a much fairer and safer option — many young horses are not comfortable with a quick regirthing, and it can be unreasonable to expect them to come out and settle into their job under those circumstances and with a strange rider. Extra time and care should be taken in these classes to give them the best experience possible. This includes from stewards and judges.

It is always appreciated when officials make every effort not to rush through these classes and when an appropriate ride-judge is selected — one who is confident yet sympathetic. As a ride-judge, I never expect young horses to go perfectly and I always give allowances for green mistakes. They've all got to start somewhere. **H&H**

NEXT WEEK

Leading judge Stuart Hollings

Insurance designed for your lifestyle



Call
0345 450 0635
for a free consultation
with our experts



REASSURINGLY GOOD INSURANCE

Call the Horse & Hound Premium Property Service for a quotation
whatever your property type we will tailor a policy to suit you.

Horse & Hound Premium Property Insurance is a trading name of TI Media Limited an introducer to South Essex Insurance Brokers Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority
*Terms, conditions and higher values available on request



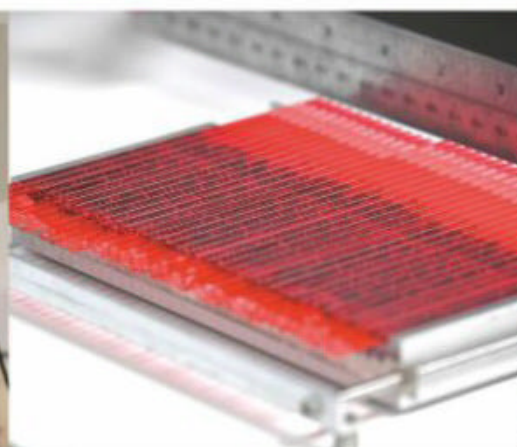
**DON'T MISS OUR 16 PAGE
H&H PULL-OUTS**

In the 1st & 2nd Sport Horse Issues
5th March & 2nd April



**OPEN DAY
& STALLION PARADE**
18TH APRIL 2020

Fresh & Chilled Semen Collection & Distribution • Dummy Training • Semen Sexing • Chilled Semen Extender Testing • Semen Freezing
Frozen Semen Storage & Distribution • Semen Export & Import Services Semen Assessments • Sales & Marketing for You & Your Stallion
The Stallion Vet & Stud Directory • Stallion SPM 20 • Stallion Livery Services • Emergency Breeding Preservation Services
Cloning & Genetic Preservation Via our sister company, Gemini Genetics



Stallion AI Services, Chapel Field Stud, Ash Lane, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 4BP | E-mail: sales@stallionai.com
Tel: +44 (0)1948 666 295 | www.stallionai.com | [f facebook.com/stallionai](https://www.facebook.com/stallionai) | [@stallionai](https://twitter.com/stallionai)



Solo's runaway triumph

A French colt gives Paul Nicholls his fifth Adonis win, while a promising young jockey takes the day's most valuable race

Kempton Park Racecourse,
Surrey

By MARCUS ARMYTAGE

DESPITE being something of a last-chance saloon as far as racecourse action is concerned for Cheltenham Festival horses, Kempton Park's Betway Chase Day has a good record at producing Cheltenham winners; the standout candidate for a gold medal in a fortnight was the Paul Nicholls-trained Solo.

The recent French import, who is still a colt, ran away with the Weatherbys Cheltenham Festival Betting Guide Adonis Juvenile Hurdle. He led from halfway and came home 13 lengths clear of Fujimoto Flyer — a Japanese-bred, French-raced and now Irish-trained filly who did her cause little good by pulling.

It was the fifth time Nicholls has won the Adonis and he will be hoping Solo, a 15-length winner

at Auteuil when last seen out in the autumn in France, emulates Zarkanda, the only one to go on and win the Triumph Hurdle.

Some smart Cheltenham winners have been colts or full horses in the past, including champion hurdlers Alderbrook and Monksfield, both of whom went on to have careers as stallions. However, even though Solo is by the well-regarded Kapgarde and has a potential stallion career were he to win the Triumph, Nicholls has pencilled him in for a trip to vet at the end of the current season in May.

"He had shown us at home that he was quite smart," said Nicholls. "But sometimes those French horses which come over at Christmas take a while to acclimatise. He's very laid-

back and he thrives on work. You'd think there'd be a bit of improvement when you gelded him. He's the same model as Master Minded and he'll be a big, strong chaser one day."

Solo's owner Johnny de la Hey has some smart horses, including Cyrname, but he has only ever had one winter Festival winner, which was Diego Du Charmil in Cheltenham's Fred Winter in 2016.

Just proving what a rollercoaster ride this sport can be, a fortnight ago he won the Betfair Hurdle with 33/1 shot Pic D'Orhy but then on the Saturday in between, 15 February, he had a scare when Cyrname took a while to get up after falling at Ascot, although the gelding is now fine.

"I don't want to repeat last weekend," said the owner. "It never gets easier and that was traumatic. One week you win with a 33/1 shot, the next you



Tom Cannon and Who Dares Wins (left) claim a novices' chase ahead of Southfield Stone (Bryony Frost)

get turned over at 1/3. Until five minutes ago, I wasn't thinking about Cheltenham for Solo but now you'd be hopeful."

'ONE IN A MILLION'

WHO DARES WINS must rank near the top of horses in which to have a share in and there are not many places he has not taken Henry Ponsonby and his syndicate.

So far the remarkable eight-year-old by Jeremy has won a

'He'll be a big, strong chaser one day,' says Paul Nicholls of his Weatherbys Cheltenham Festival Betting Guide Adonis Juvenile Hurdle winner Solo (Harry Cobden)





PASSING WITH FLYING COLOURS

TOM CANNON secured his second winner of the day aboard the Chris Gordon-trained Highway One O Two (pictured) in the Sky Bet Dovecote Novices' Hurdle, which looked a hot contest on paper.

Twice a runaway winner at Plumpton, this represented a much sterner test for the five-year-old gelding, but he came through it with flying colours, coming home 4¾ lengths ahead of West Cork.

However, the son of Shirocco will skip the Festival and be kept fresh for the two-miler at Aintree in April.

Like other Gordon stable-stars, including Highway One O One and Commanche Red (third behind Who Dares Wins in the Betway Pendil Novices' Chase), Highway One O Two was bought from John Costello in Ireland, a source Gordon credits with "improving the quality" of his Winchester yard.

In his bumpers Highway One O Two, who is owned by Anthony Ward-Thomas, was almost unrideable but a Dexter ring bit seems to have helped and the gelding may have matured a bit. Though he does not pull at home — the trainer rides him out and, as his wife quipped, he would never "ride a puller" — he still likes to set his own fractions in a race and Cannon let him do his own thing, allowing him to make all.

ONE TO WATCH

OWN A SHARE IN A RACEHORSE

And join a new breed of racing syndicate for only **£65.00...**



Bob Pebble

£65 a share (inc VAT and a welcome pack)

Bob Pebble is a five-year-old gelding, in training with Paul Nicholls. Steeped in pedigree, Bob Pebble made his debut in Ireland to finish a strong second after beating the odds-on favourite - who has since gone on to win!

Settling well in Ditcheat, Bob Pebble has shown a natural ability when schooling (as well as a bit of attitude), and we look forward to running him in two or three bumpers this Spring, with the aim of turning to hurdles later in the year.

There are 1750 shares available and nothing extra to pay for the syndicate term, which ends on 31.01.21.

A share in Bob Pebble includes:

- ◆ A beautiful postal welcome pack
- ◆ Regular behind-the-scenes updates tracking Bob's progress
- ◆ The chance to enter the ballot for owner's badges on racedays when Bob runs
- ◆ Invitations to join exclusive Old Gold Racing events (including pre-race drinks in the car park)
- ◆ Membership to our community of racing nuts!

Shares also available in our
OLD GOLD RACING GIFT BOXES


OLD GOLD
RACING

www.oldgoldracing.com

Call today to learn more:
Cheltenham
(01242) 801 228

5% Discount Code: **HH2**

GET YOUR HEART RACING

Northumblerland Plate, been placed in two Chester Cups, finished fourth in the Group One Prix du Cadran at Longchamp and placed at Cheltenham (Coral Cup) and at Royal Ascot (Ascot Stakes) — at the same time winning £330,000 in prize money.

You cannot ask much more of a horse but, having now got off the mark in Kempton's Betway Pendil Novices' Chase, he will head to Cheltenham with an each-way chance again — probably in the RSA Chase.

Whether the Alan King-trained gelding would have won had Master Tommytucker not crashed out at the fourth-last doesn't really matter, because jumping is the name of the game.

"He's one in a million this horse," said Ponsonby. "He's been wonderful to be involved with. Flat, hurdles or fences, it's all the same to him."

King explained that Plumpton, on his previous outing, had been a disaster.

"He walked through the ditch and was lucky not to be brought down four out," he said. "We had to find out if Cheltenham was on the agenda. He had to side-step Paul's horse and I was quite pleased he was headed between

The Colin Tizzard-trained Mister Malarky clears the last to win the Betway Handicap Chase with Jonjo O'Neill Jr in the saddle



the last two because it gave him something to go at."

The victory was the first leg of a treble on the day for jockey Tom Cannon (see box, p113).

A day after having to rule Native River out the Gold Cup and Grand National with a suspensory injury, trainer Colin Tizzard enjoyed better luck with the Jonjo O'Neill Jr-ridden Mister Malarky. The pair beat Black Corton two

lengths in the day's most valuable race, the Betway Handicap Chase.

The seven-year-old looked an exciting prospect last year when winning the Reynoldstown at Ascot. Although he ran well in the Ladbroke Trophy, his two efforts since have been thwarted by very soft ground; to the extent that Tizzard stopped running him two months ago and waited for the rain to stop. It has not got drier

but there was quite a lot of good-to-soft in the going description at Kempton, and with a bit more help from the ground, Mister Malarky refound his mojo.

Tizzard praised the young winning jockey: "In the first mile, Jonjo did well to keep him in position and then, past the stands, he got him into a good spot. He fired him into the fences, which you can do on this horse." **H&H**

ONLY IN HORSE & HOUND

'The future of racing is at stake'

Kim Bailey on the build-up to Cheltenham and racehorse welfare

KEMPTON PARK provided a good day for the small Herefordshire yard of Tom Symonds on Saturday, 22 February. The trainer was assistant to Nicky Henderson for many years and was always regarded as a brilliant sidekick.

All he needed was a good horse to show off his ability as a trainer and Sir Peter and Lady Gibbings' Song For Someone winning the rescheduled Betway Kingwell Hurdle demonstrated just that. Young trainers need a big winner to get going, so this should really help Tom establish himself.

The prep races for Cheltenham are over with and we now have the Festival

OPINION

preview evenings to entertain. Personally, I don't really enjoy them because we all just argue or supposedly discuss the Festival races and potential winners.

I am actually doing one in aid of the WellChild charity, alongside *ITV Racing's* Ed Chamberlain, at Cheltenham Ladies' College on 5 March — so at least it is all for a good cause.

A FOND FAREWELL

JOCKEY Leighton Aspell announced live on *ITV Racing* at Kempton that he is hanging up his boots for the second, and final, time after riding at Fontwell on Sunday, 23 February. There are few better race-riders or horsemen than Leighton and, aged 43, it is probably time to retire, but what a career with a total of 922 winners.



He will always be associated with the Trevor Hemmings-owned Many Clouds, whom he rode to 12 wins, including the 2015 Grand National. The Oliver Sherwood-trained gelding captured the hearts of many — a popular and successful racehorse before he passed away having won the Cotswold Chase at Cheltenham.

Extremely sad but what a

way to go; please bury me in the winner's enclosure if I die after winning a Cheltenham Gold Cup!

Leighton will be missed, he had a huge fan club and rode for many years for his "main boss" Oliver Sherwood, who I'm sure will miss Leighton's input and horsemanship. It was a jockey/trainer partnership based on trust and friendship.

The British Horseracing Authority announced the new Horse Welfare Board's five-year strategic plan last week. It is hugely important that all sides of the sport respect, take on board and especially get behind it — the future of racing is at stake and we would all be silly not to do so.

This time in two weeks we will be nearly at the end of the Cheltenham Festival. Winners, or even one winner, is all you want there as a trainer — it is our Mecca of sport. **H&H**

The Cotswolds-based National Hunt handler has trained over 1,200 winners, including the "big three" — the Grand National (Mr Frisk), Cheltenham Gold Cup (Master Oats) and Champion Hurdle (Alderbrook).



Jack Andrews en route to claiming the first of three victories, leading the field on Generous Ransom

Andrews' hat-trick success

Men's title contender Jack Andrews triumphs and a jockey scores a win in her first point-to-point in over a year

South East Hunts Club,
Charing, Kent

HAVING lost out to the weather last weekend, Charing was the beneficiary this time, as other meetings being abandoned meant an influx of runners at the Kent course. Despite horses travelling from far and wide, it was one of the most local trainers who had the most success, as Ashford-based David Phelan trained a double.

Generous Ransom landed the first leg, holding off Kelvingrove to win by a head in the veteran conditions race.

"Generous Ransom likes Charing and the 'easy' finish is probably why, the last half-mile is all downhill," said David of the 12-year-old gelding.

The handler's second victory

By WILL HICKMAN

on the day came in the following race when Full Irish took the men's open.

"He lacks a bit of confidence," admitted David. "He was bought to run in the Aintree Foxhunters, but I think he prefers point-to-pointing to the bigger fences."

Both of David's winners were ridden by men's title contender Jack Andrews, whom David was quick to praise: "They are both tricky rides and Jack was very good. He helps me out a lot and comes over to school them all for me."

Jack completed a treble in the saddle when claiming the closing restricted contest. Rapidly improving The Golden Rebel outstayed his rivals to win by eight lengths for trainer Julie Wadland.

SIBLING RIVALRY

NEWMARKET-BASED rider Frankie Flinton secured her second pointing win when seven-year-old Darius Des Bois produced too much youthful speed for the 13-year-old Dont

Do Mondays in the ladies' open. Frankie hadn't ridden in a point-to-point since riding her first winner over a year ago.

Gina Andrews was not as lucky as her brother, with her only completion of the day being a second in the opening 2m4f open maiden race, won by four-year-old debutant Kenyan Cowboy,

ridden by James King and trained by successful producer of young horses, Francesca Nimmo.

Reigning champion trainer Tom Ellis added another winner to his tally with his only runner of the day, as Lucy Burton rode Earlshill to success in the conditions race. Lucy rode the nine-year-old prominently throughout and did well to survive a bad blunder in the late stages to hold on for a first win of her riding career.



Frankie Flinton pilots Darius Des Bois to triumph in the ladies' open

'I think he prefers point-to-pointing'

DAVID PHELAN ON FULL IRISH

Easterby adds to his tally

William Easterby makes it 100 victories, while a four-year-old wins on his debut

By PETER BURGON

Sinnington,
Duncombe Park, Yorks

FEWER than eight years after opening his account on Gwyre at Dalton Park, William Easterby, 25, took his career tally under all codes to 100, comprising 74 between the flags and 26 under Rules, with a double on stable companions Panthers Creek and Black River, whom he also trains.

After taking it up at the fourth in the restricted, Panthers Creek was never headed and found plenty in the closing stages to beat Buzzkillbob (Leah Cooper) by one-and-a-quarter lengths.

"Panthers Creek had been disappointing since we bought him last May, but first-time blinkers sharpened him up and he enjoyed bowling along in front," said William of the seven-year-old.

Always in the leading pair in the mixed open, Black River was in command from three out. Despite being joined at the last by Cup Final and Ross Wilson, he scored by a length.

"He always likes being up with the pace, stays well and will now be aimed at next month's 4m1f Grimthorpe Gold Cup at Sheriff Hutton," added William. "My sister, Emily, does all the work on him at home. She deserves credit because he's had a list of niggling injuries since being bought out of Paul Nicholls' yard in May 2016."



Both ridden and trained by William Easterby, Panthers Creek sharpens up in blinkers to win the restricted

Snow Castle was the day's only winning favourite in the hunt members' — the first leg of a double for jockey Joe Wright.

Greensalt (William Easterby) was still four lengths in front at the last but got tired and hung left up the run-in as Snow Castle's late thrust saw him snatch an unlikely head verdict.

The victory was a welcome tonic for trainer and Yorkshire area secretary, Guy Brewer, who was on hand to greet his winner, less than five months after suffering a fractured skull and bleed on the brain when kicked in the head by one of his yearlings.

SURPRISE WIN

SCOTTISH raider Star Of Markinch (Charlotte Dun) looked sure to land the two-mile Flat race after quickening three lengths clear turning for home. However, in another extremely close finish, Twist About (Joe Wright) engaged overdrive to win by a neck.

"That was a surprise as he hadn't shown much at home," said

Joe of the home-bred four-year-old debutant. "After passing a couple of rivals, the penny seemed to drop. Despite being pushed wide on the home turn, he took hold of the bit and produced an amazing turn of foot."

Daly An Sceil (Jack Teal), who had run four times on the Flat in Ireland in 2018, was an easy winner of the open maiden. The five-year-old never came off the bridle before coasting home 12 lengths ahead of Ballygown Bay

(Natalya Irvine).

"She didn't have a lot of respect for her fences when I started schooling her last summer but eventually got the hang of things," said Jack. "I got her in a nice rhythm early on and she impressed me as there was still plenty in the tank at the finish."

With continuing terrible weather, the Sinnington committee deserved praise for finally getting the meeting on at the third time of asking. **H&H**

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS

SOUTH EAST HUNTS CLUB, CHARING

Saturday, 22 February

Open maiden. — 1, Mr & Mrs C Poste's Kenyan Cowboy (J King) F Nimmo.

Jockey Club & RoR veteran conditions

9yo&ups. — 1, The Huntin, Shootin, Fishin Partnership's Generous Ransom (J Andrews) D Phelan. **men's open.** — 1, A Ward-Thomas' Full Irish (J Andrews) D Phelan. **ladies' open.** — 1, M Flinton's Darius Des Bois (F Flinton) J Owen. **conditions.** — 1, J Burton's Earlshill (L Burton) T Ellis. **restricted.** — 1, R Freeman & D Gardner's The Golden Rebel (J Andrews) J Wadland.

DUNCOMBE PARK, YORKS

Saturday, 22 February

Hunt members'. — 1, J Kibble & J Younger's Snow Castle (J Wright) G Brewer. **confined.** — 1, C Milburn, P Kench & Mrs C Milburn's Six A Side (W Milburn) W Milburn. **restricted.** — 1, S Easterby's Panthers Creek (W Easterby) W Easterby. **mixed open.** — 1, S Easterby's Black River (W Easterby) W Easterby. **PPORA club members' vet & nov riders conditions** **6yo&up.** — 1, T Sowerby's Big Sound (L Hodgins) T Sowerby. **open maiden.** — 1, J Teal & F Attmore's Daly An Sceil (J Teal) J Teal.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE CLUB (WESSEX), BADBURY RINGS

Sunday, 23 February

CA club members' conditions div 1. — 1, T Leadbeater's Undisputed (A Edwards) P Rowley. **div 2.** — 1, C Pyne's Curious Carlos (B Moorcroft) M Bowen. **mens'**

open. — 1, F Armitage's Champagne Lilly (A Edwards) P Rowley. **CA club members' nov riders conditions.** — 1, G Whisker & D Prettyjohn's Master Dancer (F Gillard) S Sampson. **Skinner's ladies open.** — 1, J McCullough's Master Baker (J Supple) L Jefford. **restricted div 1.** — 1, Mr & Mrs B Herbert & family's Organised Solution (M Herbert) N Sheppard. **div 2.** — 1, L Vaughan's No Limitations (B Gibbs) R Potter. **maiden conditions 5&up.** — 1, The Glanvilles Partners' Revels Hill (F Proctor) C Barber.

WAVENEY HARRIERS, HIGHAM

Sunday, 23 February

Hunt members'. — 1, G Braithwaite's Laser Beam (A Stevens) A Pennock. **PPORA club members' conditions.** — 1, The Cranfield Family's The Gunner Brady (I Marshall) A Hill. **mens' open.** — 1, S Stearn's Just Cause (R Stearn) J Owen. **ladies' open.** — 1, The Southfield Racing Partnership's Southfield Theatre (L Bradstock) S Bradstock. **open maiden.** — 1, N Wright's Tekap (G Andrews) N Wright. **restricted.** — 1, G Costelloe's Hard Ground (J Andrews) G Costelloe.

WESTERN, WADEBRIDGE

Sunday, 23 February

Nov & vet riders conditions. — 1, S Trump's Raddon Top (C Houlihan) L Jefford. **open maiden.** — 1, J Heard & D Willis' Cottage Rose (D Andrews) J Heard. **restricted.** — 1, T Hamlin & J Gardener's Nickelsonthetime (J Newman) N McLean. **intermediate.** — 1, G Beilby & J Beilby's Bridge Of Spies (C Houlihan) G Beilby. **ladies' open.** — 1, The Otter Club's Wind Tor (C Emsley) E Walker. **mens' open.** — 1, The Stone Valley Racing Club's Ballyhowne (T Chanin) R Chanin.



Snow Castle and Joe Wright snatch a win in the hunt members'

**16.3hh
& over**

eQUO
HORSE&HOUND

THE EASY WAY
TO FIND AN
EVENT AND
ENTER ONLINE

OVER
1000
LIVE
EVENTS

www.equoevents.co.uk

Graded Sports Horse Stallion

Height: 16.2hh **Age:** 11 years
Price: POA **Location:** Stevenage, Hertfordshire
Description: Unique opportunity due to breeder's retirement to acquire this modern Sports Horse Stallion. He has exceptional bloodlines, with an abundance of international dressage and eventing stars. **07885 624865 / 07885 624865 admin@mydayfeeds.co.uk / simonnorman05@aol.com**



Super Quality Allrounder

Height: 17hh **Age:** 6 years
Price: £10,000
Location: Biggar, Lanarkshire
Description: ISH 6yrs old 17hh Mare. Brought on slowly last year with 1sts in all disciplines. Perfect manners, great nature. Ready to excel with new partner. Clean limbs. Show Quality. **07841668122 sandralamb2@gmail.com**



Irish Allrounder 16.1 approx 7yrs dark grey gelding

Height: 16.1hh **Age:** 7 years
Price: £7950 **Location:** Upton Upon Severn
Description: Hunts SJ XC schools well on flat aims to please lovely temperament good confirmation movement quite to ride shoe box traffic ready to specialise in a field of your choice ridden by different ages videos Regretfully sale due business commitments. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OL9CRTeUJOc&feature=youtu.be> **janet.ball@live.co.uk**



Emperor Laughton

Height: 17.1hh
Age: 6 years
Price: £8500
Location: Cheshire
Description: Potential top class Irish sports horse by Emperor Augustus (TB). Rising 6 years old. Bay. Gelding. About 17.1 hands. Very attractive quality light weight show hunter type. **07482224003 denismatthews2010@gmail.com**



Top Class MW Show Horse / Potential Worker

Height: 17.1hh **Age:** 8 years
Price: POA **Location:** Clevedon
Description: Blue & white, 8yo, ISH, GELDING by Ringfort Cruise (CRUSING lines). **07857348276 sophiemager@hotmail.co.uk**



Vera

Height: 16.1hh **Age:** 5 years
Price: £10,000 **Location:** Stratford Upon Avon, Warwickshire
Description: 16.1hh 5yrs Warmblood mare. She is sensible easy to ride and has competed at many shows unaffiliated and is ready to go on further in british showjumping and Eventing or she would make a super dressage horse. She hacks alone or in company. She bred a lovely foal which we still have and hope to produce as a stallion in the future. **07768510963 esportshorses@gmail.com**

BE Int Broodmare

Height: 16hh
Age: 11 years
Price: £1500
Location: Sleaford
Description: Due to slight unsoundness due to an old injury Evie is available as a broodmare to a loving home. 11YO, BE Intermediate. **07932978714 taylorsboy4@yahoo.co.uk**



RoR - eye-catching superb mover

Height: 16.1hh
Age: 13 years
Price: £2500
Location: Melton Mowbray
Description: Ex-racehorse that has won 2 races over hurdles and 3 races over fences. Has hunted in Leicestershire. **07939557091 sa.cornwall@gmail.com**



Full Irish Draught

Height: 16.2 hh **Age:** 7 years
Price: £4,500
Location: Maidstone, Kent
Description: Gin is a full bred Irish Draught by Crosstown Pride. She hacks well and is good in all traffic, she has Hunted in Ireland proving bold and careful. Kind nature and lovely stable manners, good to catch, shoe, load. **07808965626**



Quality WPB

Height: 12hh
Age: 2 years
Price: £3000
Location: Monmouthshire
Description: Hatterall Sunrise homebred striking yearling filly that is full of quality and all the attributes to become a performance horse for the future. **07855384944 Thebarn84@gmail.com**



Bay Selle Français

Height: 16.2hh
Age: 12 years
Price: £6000
Location: Glous
Description: Gelding by Made In Semilly. Scopey athletic jump. Has placed in Foxhunter. Has done a few prelim dressage classes, scoring up to 66%. **07914155616 chloejacquet@hotmail.com**



Super Showjumper

Height: 16hh **Age:** 11 years
Price: £80,000 **Location:** East Sussex
Description: Super fast, careful, level headed speed horse. Many wins and placings at 1.30 level. Jumped CS14* Hickstead Speed Derby 1.50, 2019 very successfully, could be a great contender for 2020! Jumped consistently well in the winnings up to 1.35 level. Started to move up to 1.40 / 1.50 in 2019. Very well bred Irish horse. Sire: Sir Shutterfly. Dam: Noble Crusing. He is quick, level headed, bold, careful and has a great technique. Lovely temperament in the stable. **07778 616990 sales@equinequality.com**



Competition Horse

Height: 16.2hh
Age: 6 years 10 months
Price: £95,000
Location: South Shields
Description: Stunning 7 year old, 16.2hh, chestnut Hanoverian gelding with MSJ Freestyle bloodlines (Fidermark). **07545177285 stephanie.halton@yahoo.co.uk**



Grand Prix Showjumper

Height: 16.1hh **Age:** 10 years **Price:** POA
Location: Dungannon, County Tyrone
Description: Grand Prix winning showjumper, bred from top European bloodlines with outstanding movement and conformation. Serious enquiries only invited, as the price reflects both it's past record. **07742515879 kevinjordan58@btinternet.com**

Top Show/BD/SJ prospect

Height: 16.1hh
Age: 7 years
Price: £4850 ovno
Location: Telford



Description: Mare. Top Show/ BD/ BS prospect. Balanced, established flatwork. Snaffle mouth. Straight, impressive movement. **07815173850**
samuelpaxton@hotmail.com

Stunning allrounder

Height: 16hh
Age: 5 years 8 months
Price: £6300
Location: Worcestershire
Description: Liberty is a draught X who has no vices. She has been hunting, done local SJ, XC, dressage and fun rides. Hacks alone and in company/ heavy traffic.
07971162512
phoebebeaneale@icloud.com



14.3hh
-15.2hh

Find more
pictures and
videos of horses
for sale at
horseandhound.co.uk
HORSES for SALE

Saint - beautiful sweetheart!

Height: 14.3hh **Age:** 4 years
Price: £5950 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois
Description: Saint is an adorable 4 year old purebred Connemara dun gelding, 14.3 hh. He is a saint, easy to ride and to do anything with. He is very well bred, his Sire is Cloonaveigh Cisco and his Dam is by Murvey Benny. Saint is very pretty, he has a very nice head.
00353868077626 gertytynan@gmail.com



Arkle - real star

Height: 15hh **Age:** 4 years
Price: £5950 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois
Description: Arkle is a beautiful dun gelding, 4 year old, purebred Connemara, 15 hh. He is absolutely stunning, very beautiful inside and out! Arkle is well bred, his Sire is Oisín na Coillte Dubh and his dam is by Matchmakers Lad. He is quiet and easy to ride, he is good in traffic, easy to shoe, box, catch, clip. Arkle is a dream, he is very honest, he has a good jump and jumped up to 1.20m with a novice student.
00353868077626 gertytynan@gmail.com



Bonnie - every child dream!

Height: 14.3hh **Age:** 5 years
Price: £4500 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois
Description: Bonnie is a lovely 5 year old purebred Connemara mare, 150cm. She is a class one Connemara mare with very good breeding. She is a sweetheart, very friendly, not mareish and very loveable. She is well bred, her Sire is Menlough Owen and her Dam is by Moy Hazy Cove.
00353 868077626
gertytynan@gmail.com



Looking to place an advert?
Call 01252 555045 and talk
to our customer service team
HORSES for SALE



Trusted Reviews

Have a good look at the Samsung S8 and you'll see more than just a beautiful 5.8 inch screen, you'll see a whole world of innovation. Visit trustedreviews.com to compare it with what else is out there, and find the perfect phone for you.

The why before you buy

Holly – stunning mare!

Height: 15hh **Age:** 8 years

Price: £3950 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois

Description: Holly is a stunning 8 year old black mare, 15 hh. She is a mare real hard to find! She has a lovely temperament, she's a real sweetheart! Holly is easy to ride, good to shoe, box, catch, clip ride and in traffic. Holly is a beautiful looking mare! She has a pretty head and three lovely paces. She is a real honest mare, she jumps a course of small jumps and cross country.

00353868077626

gertytynan@gmail.com



14.2hh
& under

11.3hh Allrounder

Height: 11.3hh

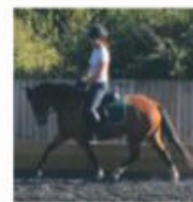
Age: 6 years 2 months

Price: £2000

Location: Essex

Description: Willing 6 y/o welsh section A mare. Three correct paces. Good in every way. For sale through no fault of her own. 5 star home only. Videos available.

luciemanna89@hotmail.com



Adam - a stunning working hunter prospect!

Height: 15hh **Age:** 4 years

Price: £5500 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois

Description: Adam is a very pretty 4 year old purebred Connemra gelding, 15hh. He is very well bred, his Sire is Moorland Macdara and his dam is by Wings of Justice. Adam is a lovely gelding, he has a real good jump and a nice step, he is honest and loves the cross country.

00353868077626

gertytynan@gmail.com



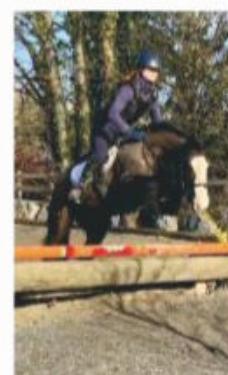
Bono - worth his weight in Gold!

Height: 14.2hh **Age:** 5 years

Price: £3950 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois

Description: Bono is a super stunning 5 year old black gelding, 14.2hh. He is a true supercob, he has a fantastic, honest jump, he is very quiet, he has hunted and is very pretty! Bono is ridden here by novice students in a snaffle at all times, he is hunted in a snaffle and is easy to ride at all times. Bono is suitable for novice, mother daughter share or riding school. He is very pretty with a very nice face. He is very good toe shoe, box, catch, clip, ride and in traffic. He hacks out alone or in company. Bono has a real good jump, he can jump up to 1.10 with ease. He is a real supercob!

00353868077626 gertytynan@gmail.com



Jack – handsome, super quiet and quality allrounder!

Height: 15hh **Age:** 5 years

Price: £6950 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois

Description: Jack is a super stunning 15hh purebred Connemara gelding, he is 5 years old, base and super handsome. He is very pretty, he has a stunning face and is a real model. Jack is a quiet gelding with lots of quality.

00353868077626 gertytynan@gmail.com



Future Ridden Prospect

Height: 12.3hh **Age:** 4 years

Price: £1200

Location: Cardigan, Ceredigion

Description: Looking for an experienced home for Bryngwennol Contessa, successfully shown in hand since a foal, many championships and points winner 2018 and 2019.

01239 841770

sheilajcoles@btinternet.com



Genuine Allrounder Horse

Height: 15.3hh **Age:** 6 years 2 months

Price: £5500

Location: Bedale, Yorkshire (North)

Description: Same home for last 3 yrs, produced slowly with a view to event. Hacks alone or in company and never fizzy or strong. Hunted, dressage turns his hoof to anything and is very laid back. Good to do. Genuine horse.

tattyhunt@outlook.com



Grey Mare - 14.2hh - 6yrs

Height: 14.2hh **Age:** 6yrs

Price: POA **Location:** Maidstone, Kent

Description: Cara is a very sweet Connemara x that has recently come in from Ireland where she has done the last 2 seasons in a Trekking centre. Excellent to hack in even the heaviest of traffic and she will happily go alone or in company and is calm and sane in big open spaces. Cara is very sweet to handle, good to catch and load.

07808965626



Cosmo - Allrounder!

Height: 15hh **Age:** 6 years

Price: £4500 **Location:** Mountrath, Laois

Description: Cosmo is a 6 year old black gelding, 15hh. He is a real allrounder, he has three very nice paces, a soft mouth, a good jump and he is very honest. He has hunted all season with a novice rider in a snaffle. Cosmo is a competition type Cob, he is keen to work. Cosmo is very quiet, not spooky and relaxed in new situations. He is suitable for riding school. He loves jumping and takes everything in his stride, he is ideal for eventing as he absolutely loves cross country. He jumps banks, water, drains with ease. Cosmo is a real allrounder! He has a lovely and kind character.

00353868077626 gertytynan@gmail.com



Horses
Wanted

Want to Sell Your Horse?

Small, friendly, experienced yard looking for all types of horses to buy now. Immediate decision made, cash on collection.

Sales livery available.

Tel: 07498 038259

Hunter / Allrounder

Height: 15hh

Age:

10 years 7 months

Price: £3500

Location: York

Description:

Forward fun little hunting horse. XC schooled & SJ. Hacks alone & in company. Homebred.

07835767670

h_mccaie@hotmail.co.uk



Fun PC/RC mare

Height: 15.1hh

Age: 7 years

Price: POA

Location: Swindon

Description: Willing steady jump nice flat work hacks alone/in company loads, travels well good to catch, clip etc snaffle mouth fit, ready Insta#babybuttonisforsale

cassjwinter@yahoo.com



HORSES TAKEN

Problematic horses considered, instant cash decision and can collect.

Call 07523195320

eQUO
HORSE&HOUND

THE EASY WAY
TO FIND AN
EVENT AND
ENTER ONLINE

OVER
1000
LIVE
EVENTS

www.equoevents.co.uk

Horseboxes & Vehicles

Lowe's Horseboxes

HORSEBOXES WANTED

Struggling to sell your horsebox?
Plagued with time waster and enquiries that go nowhere?

WE CAN HELP!

Take all the stress out selling your horsebox with Lowe's horseboxes!
We pay top prices for nice lorries and are looking for any age or condition.

We also always have a good selection in stock, so give us a call today!

Mobile: 07971 179246 / 07747 403429



S&L Horseboxes built to order

Price: £59,500
Location: Selby, Yorkshire (North)
Description: Built to order, based on low milage 62 plate Daf LF, chassis can be upgraded and the specification can be changed to suit. Luxury 4 berth living accommodation finished in Walnut.
07921099860
horsebox.service@btconnect.com



EQ 6 BERTH, 5/6 STALL



New Build On Reg 2013 Used Chassis, Automatic, Low Mileage. Beautiful EQ design, great storage, spacious horse area. Whether you are buying new or used, selling or wish to part-ex, we can help.

Other Horseboxes Wanted/For Sale
07778 616 990
www.equinequality.com

WE WANT YOUR HORSEBOX

We buy discreetly and for cash.

Please send pictures to bonfields2000@hotmail.co.uk or phone **07968 184072 / 01332 874565** for an instant decision. (whatsapp or email)



equo

HORSE&HOUND

UPLOAD YOUR EVENT FOR FREE TODAY

www.equoevents.co.uk

S&L Horseboxes, Now Available For Commission

Price: POA **Location:** Selby, Yorkshire
Description: Just arrived and now available for commission, immaculate low mileage 63 plate DAF LF, can be built to any specification, please call for details. Finance packages available. **07921 099860 / 01757 630233 (Anthony)**
horsebox.service@btconnect.com



Oakley, Whittaker, PRB, Lehel, Equicruiser and other quality Horseboxes always Wanted.

P reg onwards, non HGV. Clients waiting. Take the hassle out of selling your box. Big selection of boxes also for sale.

Tel luke skidmore
01562 730647 or 07828 287515 Worcs
www.centralenglandhorseboxes.co.uk



OLD CARS

CASH PAID ANYWHERE IN THE EU

Any make or model
Condition unimportant

Telephone John:
07960 870446 or email sales@villiersclassics.com

Just arrived and now available for commission

Price: N/A **Location:** Selby, Yorkshire (North)
Description: Just arrived another immaculate low mileage Daf LF 7.5 ton, available for immediate coach build or conversion, call us for further details.
07921099860
horsebox.service@btconnect.com



2002 Iveco Tector, 3 Horse Horsebox

Price: £22,995 **Location:** Selby, Yorkshire
Description: '2002 Iveco Tector 75E17 5 speed manual. Luxury living sleeps 4, stalled for 3 horses, built by S&L Horseboxes, 2 skirt lockers 2 tack lockers. Recent new horse floor, tilt cab, Toilet and Shower. Battery Immobiliser, 167101KM more pictures available on request.
07712897638
horsebox.service@btconnect.com





HORSE&HOUND

To advertise your riding holiday to over 171,000* equestrian readers

Please call **0800 316 5450** or email hasan.mubarak@ti-media.com

NRS Jul '15 to Jun '16



British Pet Insurance

Services



DON'T LOSE OUT BY NOT INSURING

GET A QUOTE

01444 708840

britishpetinsurance.co.uk

✓ HIGH VET FEE COVER

✓ 3 CHOICES OF EXCESS

✓ INTEREST FREE PAYMENTS

British Pet Insurance Services is owned by Petcover EU Ltd who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Julie Andrews
Horse Insurance Services



HORSE INSURANCE BROKER



HORSE • HORSEBOX • TRAILER • BREAKDOWN

Call us on 01444 708836 or
visit www.jahis.co.uk for a quote

Julie Andrews Horse Insurance Services is owned by Petcover EU Ltd who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

INSURANCE THAT BEATS THE COMPETITION

01992 718666



Please mention **HORSE&HOUND**
when replying to advertisements

DON'T GET SCAMMED WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

RECOGNISE AND AVOID SCAMMERS

- ✓ Scammers call claiming to be from H&H saying payment has not gone through — hang up
- ✓ Scammers encourage you to pay for things you haven't seen — don't
 - ✓ Scammers send emails offering products in broken English — delete these emails

HORSE&HOUND WILL NEVER DO THE FOLLOWING

- ✗ Call to ask for your payment details
- ✗ Email you asking for personal information
- ✗ Email from any address that is not in the format @ti-media.com

If you receive any calls or emails claiming to be from Horse & Hound,
DO NOT give out your information. If you have any doubts call us on **0800 316 5450**



Insurance for everything Equestrian

Forget comparison sites, with 50 years' of experience, SEIB do the hard work for you, **we're here to help.**

SEIB INSURANCE COVER

Horse & Pony

Horseboxes (optional breakdown)

Trailers (optional breakdown)

Riding Schools & Livery Yards

Equestrian Home & Business

Studs

Liability

Save time, one call does it all

Call 0345 450 0631

www.seib.co.uk   

Photography with thanks to Team Ramsay Horton for their kind assistance

Terms and conditions apply. South Essex Insurance Brokers House, North Road, South Ockendon Essex RM15 5BE. South Essex Insurance Brokers Ltd are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. (local call charges apply)







4 weeks free on horse insurance*!

Your unique code: **GALLOP99**



Visit theinsuranceemporium.co.uk/HH99 or call **03300 244 019** today!



Entertainment & Leisure Insurance Services is an appointed representative of The Equine and Livestock Insurance Company Limited. The Insurance Emporium is a trading name of The Equine and Livestock Insurance Company Limited (registered in England and Wales no. 294940) which is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority no. 202748. *Terms & conditions apply. Offer ends 31/12/2020 and is only redeemable on lunar and calendar monthly policies and not where premiums are paid annually.

The Defaqto 5 Star Rating applies to our Horse Insurance product.

27 February 2020 HORSE & HOUND

123

Stables & Outbuildings



T: 01490 413 152 E: enquiries@cheval-liberte.co.uk
W: www.chevaltrailers.co.uk f @ChevalLiberteUK
FIND YOUR CLOSEST DISTRIBUTOR AT WWW.CHEVALTRAILERS.CO.UK/DISTRIBUTORS



Brand New
DUOMAX

A double herringbone horse trailer without the compromises

BUILT-IN TACK ROOM • REAR RAMP/DOOR • FRONT UNLOADING RAMP •
PULLMAN 2 SUSPENSION • ALUMINIUM WALLS & FLOOR • DIAGONAL LOADING

JonWilliamStables.co.uk

Quality equestrian buildings built by British craftsmen



Stables - Mobile Stables & Shelters



1965-2015
50th Anniversary



American Barns - Garaging

Call us today on 01380 850965



PRIME STABLES LTD

HAND CRAFTED TIMBER BUILDINGS

Stables - Mobile Field Shelters - American Barns - Hay Barns



Garden Buildings - Garages - Workshops - Planning Service
Tel: 01403 823 836 www.primestables.co.uk

HORSE&HOUND

Tablet Edition

Read *Horse & Hound* wherever you are each week on your tablet

Search *Horse & Hound* magazine in your tablet's store



ENJOY H&H ON IPAD? RATE & REVIEW TO LET US KNOW

Available on the App Store

Available on kindle fire

Google play

zinio



Imperial In Hardwood





Regal Regency In Black Plastic



Majestic Victorian In Hardwood

Monarch Internal Stables

01902 605566
monarch-equestrian.co.uk
sales@monarch-equestrian.co.uk



HORSE WALKERS / TREAD MILLS



Aldershot Equestrian
Email: horsetech@btconnect.com Phone: 07799264060
www.aldershotequestrian.co.uk



equo
HORSE & HOUND

THE EASY WAY
TO FIND AN
EVENT AND
ENTER ONLINE

OVER
1000
LIVE
EVENTS

www.equoevents.co.uk

**EX DISPLAY
SHEDS. STABLES,**

Fieldshelters, Garages,
Summerhouses, Offices, Workshops,
Beach Huts, Commercial, Agricultural,
Etc. in timber and steel.

Tel: 01935 891195

Please mention **HORSE & HOUND**
when replying to advertisements



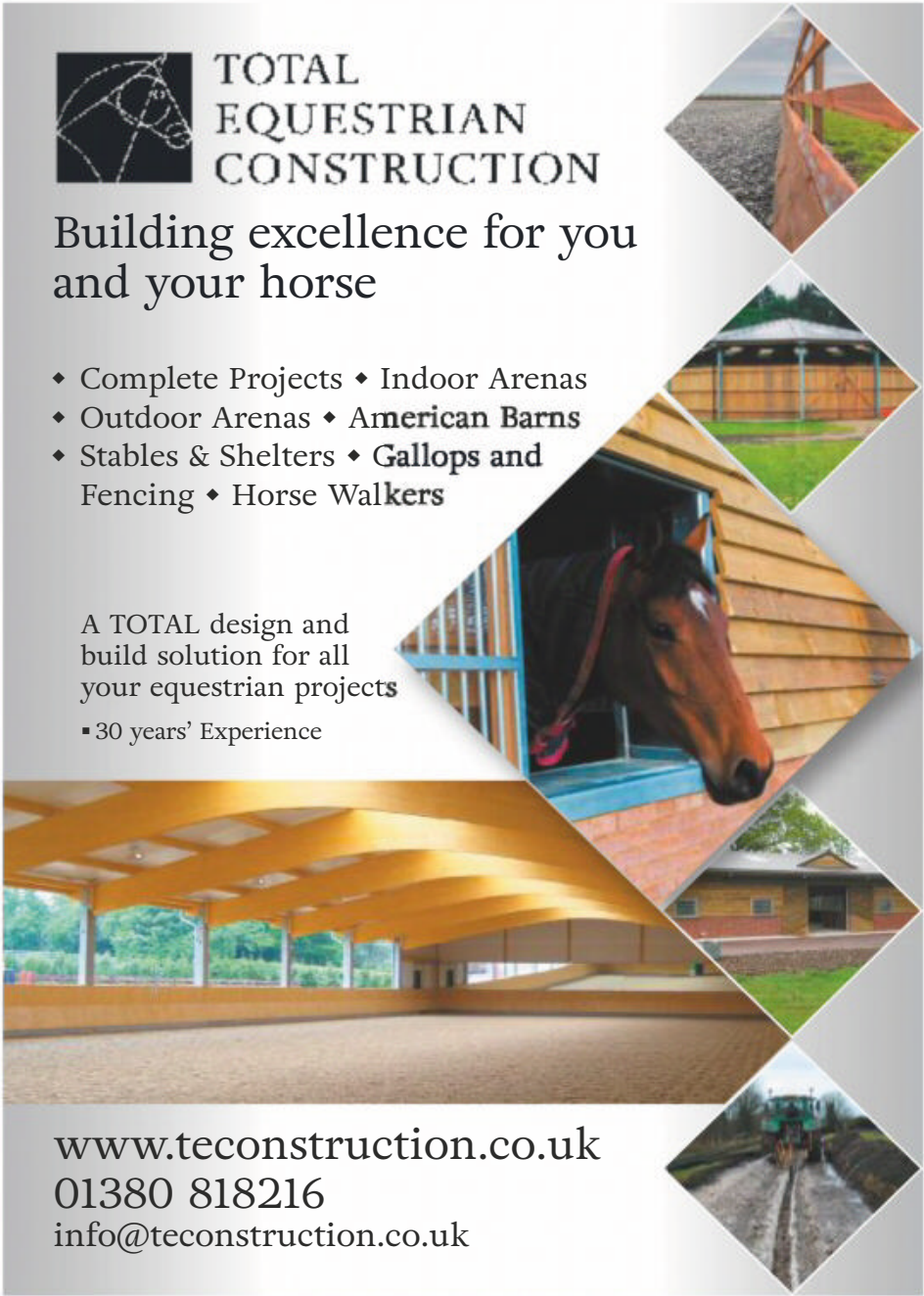
**TOTAL
EQUESTRIAN
CONSTRUCTION**

Building excellence for you
and your horse

- ◆ Complete Projects ◆ Indoor Arenas
- ◆ Outdoor Arenas ◆ American Barns
- ◆ Stables & Shelters ◆ Gallops and Fencing ◆ Horse Walkers

A TOTAL design and
build solution for all
your equestrian projects

- 30 years' Experience



www.teconstruction.co.uk
01380 818216
info@teconstruction.co.uk



ESTABLISHED
30+
YEARS

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY!



TURFFLOAT™

**Quote “HH10”
for 10% off all
Flexiride orders!**





FLEXIRIDE™

Quotation call **01564 794 020**
www.equestriandirectltd.co.uk

Arenas & Fencing

UK'S LEADING ARENA MAINTENANCE SUPPLIER
'try before you buy'



Colour your way
Includes Delivery,
Set-Up and Demonstration



Prices start from £800. 1.5m, 1.8m, 2.1m, 2.4m, 3.0m
For all arenas, gallops and lunging pens!
Comes with extendable side arm and blade
Fully adjustable depth control
T: 01427 728700
arenamateuk@gmail.com | Accept all major CC
 www.arenamate.co.uk 

equo
HORSE & HOUND

IT'S SHOWTIME
Enter. Compete. Repeat.



equoevents.co.uk

IMPROVE WITH OUR DUAL STABILISER

An additive to Silica sand our Dual Stabiliser consists of a combination of Nylon and Rubber Crumb to increase stability within the surface.



UPGRADE WITH OUR COMBI-WAX

Designed to install in new or existing surfaces, Combi-Wax uses premium equestrian wax to bind with the sand and fibres to achieve a professional quality surface or rejuvenate a tired one





TIMBERSPECS

www.timberspecs.com **UK.LTD**

Paynetts Farm, Cranbrook Road, Goudhurst, Kent, TN17 1DY

Tel: 01580 212141
Mob: 07710 480259
Email: info@timberspecs.com



- Sectional Timber Buildings
- Timber Built Garages
- Log Cabins
- Flood Proof Cabins
- Planning Help Available



- Mobile Homes
- Club Houses
- Country Parks
- Garden, Studio & Office Buildings

affordable

sustainable materials

eco friendly

bespoke design

Mobile homes, holiday chalets, log homes. All built to your requirements, delivered and erected anywhere, we offer builds in round, square, cavity and random log up to 360mm thick. Houses supplied to meet building control regulations.



Bespoke Design Service And Technical Data

The Natural Way To Build

For more information on all the buildings please visit our website..
Web: www.timberspecs.co.uk Email: info@timberspecs.com
Tel: 01580 212141 Mob: 07710 480259

Goods & Services



CATER-WASH
18kg Equine Washing Machine

HOW CLEAN ARE YOUR RUGS?

- Unmatched value
- Wash up to 7ft heavy weight rug
- Re Proof
- Quick Wash for daily items
- Pre Wash
- Add Steam

0% Interest FREE Finance*

£50 OFF
enter code

HHDISCOUNT
£1198.00+VAT
*£99 per month for 12 months subject to status

Tel: 01229 480001 email: info@caterkwik.co.uk Visit: www.caterwash.com

HORSE&HOUND

Alternative Therapies

Equi-Laser

Laser therapy for all muscle strain, arthritis, tendon/ligament injuries & splints.

Available for sale or hire.

01785 851187
www.equi-laser.co.uk

Feed

Abbott & Co (Wessex) Ltd

Hay, straw, haylage, shavings, Bedrap bedding, Bedmax shavings.

Available Nationwide

Telephone: 01444 400822

COMMERCIAL LOANS & MORTGAGES

3mths-25yrs £10,000 - £5,000,000

Specialist help for Financial Problem cases

We can lend against property – **Farms, Farm Buildings, Equestrian Buildings and Bare Land, Industrial Buildings, Residential Property (Houses, Flats, Buy-to-Lets, Development Projects), Hotels, Guest Houses, Retail Shops (& flats over), houses in Multiple Occupation, Pubs, Restaurants, Cafes/Take Aways, B&B's etc...**

Call us to discuss - if it can be done - we can help!

0800 280 06 05

Brilliant Finance Ltd

Whether you are a professional rider, trainer, owner or hobby rider, adding equipment or services to your existing yard/or creating a brand new one, we can tailor a finance deal to suit you.

Some examples of what we can fund:

- Horseboxes
- Paddock Maintenance Equipment
- Tractors/Trailers/Quads
- Horse Walkers
- Arenas
- Fencing, Stables, Barns
- Show jumps/Cross Country Courses
- Veterinary/Equine Therapy Equipment



Keep your cash in the bank... CALL NOW



FUNDING AVAILABLE

FOR ALL OF YOUR EQUESTRIAN NEEDS

EQUESTRIAN FINANCE



Chiralea House, Addington Lane, Trottscliffe, Kent, ME19 5DN.
Equestrian Finance is a trading style of Corporate Leasing & Finance Ltd (Est 2000)
Reg No: 4052841
Authorised and regulated by the FCA No: 726379
DPA Reg No: Z7824275

Very competitive rates offered with quick decision times
Terms from 2 to 7 years | Nationwide Coverage

sales@corporateleasing.co.uk | 01732 753753
www.corporateleasing.co.uk

Livery Services

Fed up with Rodents Ruining Your Tack & Feed?



Fight back with a Feral!

Feral cat charity SNIP urgently needs homes on stables and farms for healthy, neutered feral cats. They are rescued from London's streets and make perfect mousers for your stables!

Free service • Release pen & starter pack provided UK-wide • We deliver up to 3hrs drive from London

CALL US TODAY ON 07342 784379

facebook.com/snipcats twitter.com/snipcats www.snipcats.org
SNIP registered charity no.299258

Shipping & Transport

Ken Gamble International Horse Transport Ltd

Oxon/ Glos based.
Local, National, International.
Weekly to Ireland-Regularly to France.
Shared loads available.
Fully licensed and DEFRA approved.
ALL documentation arranged if required.
Tel: 01451 844716 • Fax: 01451 844639
Mobile: 07836 785301
Email: ken.gamble@btconnect.com

Julie Magnus Horse Transport

Caring for your horse during transit.
Full international licensing

07711 192967
www.jmrt.co.uk

Paddock & Yard Equipment

Rafferty Newman



Paddock maintenance equipment for ATV'S and compact tractors

Honda, Polaris, Logic, Wessex, accessories and attachments.
New and used Horse muck collectors and surface graders.
Tel: 01730 264484 Fax: 01730 264625
www.affertynewman.com

HORSE&HOUND



HORSE&HOUND

To advertise your riding holiday to over 171,000* equestrian readers

Please call 0800 316 5450
or email hasan.mubarak@ti-media.com

NRS Jul '15 to Jun '16

Veterinary

Westgate Laboratories | POSTAL WORM COUNTS & TESTS



Tests you can trust to target parasite control; worm counts, pinworm, lungworm & liver fluke tests plus EquiSal tests for tapeworm. Same day service, FREE, friendly, vet approved advice.

www.westgatelabs.co.uk • 01670 791994

Discounts for 10+ horses

HORSE&HOUND

Hunt Staff Advertising

Looking for new Hunt Staff for 2020?

Advertise your vacancies through Horse & Hound print and online.

For information, help and advice, please contact **Jade Davidson**
T: 07572 109786
E: jade.davidson@ti-media.com



Horse Health

HAPPY TUMMY® Charcoal

The Best Feed Additive

For Health, Performance & Condition

- Natural
- Fast-acting
- Effective
- Economic

"I can't recommend Happy Tummy highly enough, thank God I found it!"

Tracey Cole (Certified NLP Trainer)



Website: finefettlefeed.com

Tel: 0800 612 7496



HORSE&HOUND

UPLOAD YOUR
EVENT FOR
FREE TODAY

www.equoevents.co.uk

Livery Services



DIY LIVERY AVAILABLE

Chipping Norton/Moreton-in-Marsh

For single client with multiple horses.
Up to 25 acres grassland.
Very private location with good riding out.
Stables/Barn can be arranged.

Please call David 07878100420

Jobs Wanted

Please mention

HORSE&HOUND

when replying to
advertisements

Nags 'N' Nannies

Est 1988

Delivering a tailored personal service for Employers and Staff. Grooms, Nannies, Housekeepers. Contact us to discuss requirements.

Telephone: 01248 602814 or info@nagsandnannies.co.uk.
staff register free online www.nagsandnannies.co.uk

Horse and Hound incorporating Horse Exchange, ISSN 0018-5140, Vol. CXVII No. 5040 (Est. 1884), 27 February 2020. Published weekly by TI Media Limited, 161 Marsh Wall, London E14 9AP, United Kingdom. Registered with the Post Office as a newspaper. Publisher's annual subscription rates/information (52 issues) including postage: UK £159.05; Europe/Eire €264.40. USA: \$342.30, Rest of the World £251.20 (priority mail). For enquiries and orders please e-mail: help@magazinesdirect.com, alternatively from the UK call: 0330 333 1113, overseas call: +44 330 333 1113 (Lines are open Monday-Saturday, 8am-6pm UK Time). Cheques payable to: TI Media Limited. Airfreight and mailing in the USA by agent named Air Business Ltd, c/o Worldnet Shipping Inc., 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Jamaica NY 11431. US Postmaster: Send address changes to HORSE & HOUND, Air Business Ltd, c/o Worldnet Shipping Inc., 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Subscription records are maintained at TI Media Limited, 161 Marsh Wall, London E14 9AP. Air Business Ltd is acting as our mailing agent. Printed by Walstead UK Limited. Distributed by Marketforce (UK) Ltd, a TI Media Limited company, 2nd Floor, 5 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London E14 5HU Tel: +44 (0)20 378 79001. Agencies for Australia and New Zealand: Gordon & Gotch Ltd. For South Africa: Central News Agency Ltd. Conditions of sale. This periodical shall not without the written consent of the publishers first given be lent, resold, hired out or otherwise disposed of by way of Trade at more than the recommended selling price shown on the cover (selling price in Eire subject to VAT), and that it shall not be lent, resold, or hired out or otherwise disposed of in a mutilated condition or in any unauthorised cover by way of Trade or annexed to or as part of any publication or advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever. Whilst every care is taken, Horse and Hound does not accept liability for loss or damage to MSS, photos and artwork submitted for possible publication. Every care is taken to avoid mistakes but the Publisher cannot accept liability for inaccurate information published in Horse & Hound. You are strongly urged to check details of all dates and other information published in Horse & Hound.

Property

RURAL SCENE

01264 850700

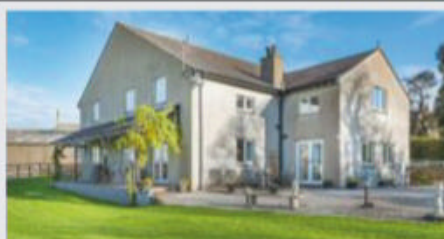
ruralscene.co.uk

Equestrian
Smallholdings
Residential
Farms
Lifestyle





E SUSSEX • c. 4.75 Acres • 4 Beds ER:F • Annexe • Buildings • Stables & Manege • Nr Ashdown Forest £1,250,000 Ref: JN5890



CUMBRIA • c. 24 Acres • 3 Bed House ER: C • Barns • 22 Stables • Tack & Feed Rooms • Log Cabin £1,250,000 Ref: AR4507



SURREY • c. 2 Acres • 4 Beds ER: F • P.P To Extend • Paddock • Loose Box, Tack Room & Stores £1,125,000 Ref: JN5797



LINCS • c. 3.7 Acres • 3 Beds ER: F • Det Annexe • Manege Area / Riding Paddock • Stabling, Barn, Feed Room £700,000 Ref: AR6006



LINCS • c. 4 Acres • Det 3 Bed FH ER: E • PP to Extend • Stables, Hay Store and Manege • Mobile Home £425,000 Ref: AR5907

WANTED!

Equestrian Properties Throughout England and Wales

If you're thinking of selling your equestrian property
Call Us Now!!



PELHAMS

EQUESTRIAN & COUNTRY PROPERTY AGENTS



WHETHER YOU ARE THINKING OF SELLING OR LETTING

Equestrian Property

Stable yard / Racing yard/ Polo yard
Competition / training yard

PELHAMS 01252 781640



www.pelhams.co.uk

Rare cause to conga



Tessa Waugh reflects on a season blighted by storms, rain and injuries to horse and human — but is buoyed by a new horse from down south, who is taking to hill life like the proverbial duck

I THINK we can safely say that 2019/20 hasn't been the best of seasons. I was talking to a master from further down the country the other day and he agreed.

"And anyone who says any different is lying," he said robustly.

First it was wet: biblical amounts of rain throughout November and December. Then more recently the wind came along, blowing a gale on hunting days, dropping back to a normal speed for the rest of the week. In the entire season to date, I can count on one hand the times Adam has entered the house dancing the conga and feeling pleased with the day.

Boxing Day, which rarely amounts to much wherever you are in the country, produced good sport — Adam congaed then. And last Tuesday, the visiting Tynedale had a five-mile point in some of our wilder country. That day, the field made a heroic skedaddle over scree and bogs until the trail reached its conclusion somewhere in the Border country. I bumped into Caroline, who was among them, in

'Most southern horses stand, freezing, at the gate as if to say, "Take me back to the Shire"'

Tesco the following day.

"Probably one of the best days I've had," she told me, still radiant with the memory of it and, as Caroline's not a gushy person, you had to take the statement at face value.

There was a time when I'd have felt envious, having missed a good day, but I didn't at all. Perhaps it's something to do with age.

ON the home front, the season has been similarly taxing what with lame-gate — Adam's two horses both off at the same time. Then there's Mary and her broken wrist. We were supposed to be hunting today

in the hills on the Scottish side, but it wasn't to be thanks to the weather. Storm Dennis is giving us what-for with swirling snow and 50mph winds, the horses are in the stables and I'm indoors with sleet coating the windows.

It's not all bad, though, for a new horse has arrived from Leicestershire for Adam; a handsome bay belonging to Andrew Osborne, recently retired master and huntsman of the Cottesmore.

In the past I have felt sorry for southern horses when they first arrive here. They stand at the gate mid-afternoon in a freezing wind with an expression that says, "Why have you brought me to this godforsaken place? Take me back to the Shire." Not so this one, who has adjusted to hill life like a duck to water. Give him a pack of hounds and he's ready to go.

As for the dud season. There's no point getting fed up about these things. All hunting people know there are as many annoying aspects to the sport as punch-the-air ones. Onwards and upwards we go and here's to the next one. **H&H**

Picture by sarahfarnsworth.co.uk



