The Equestrian.com
Hickstead Derby Meeting 2015

Here’s a few photos to remind you of what went on in June

The Sunshine Tour 2015
The final month of qualification competitions in 2015

- Book Review: The Heart of Stable Relationships By Wendy Felicity Firmin-Price
- Win tickets for Epsom Racehorse Trainers’ Open Day
Free Admission & Parking

Come and watch the equine stars of the future competing in Hickstead’s famous International Arena. Shopping, restaurants and free grandstand seating.

www.hickstead.co.uk

2015 Sunshine Tour Championships
at the All England Showground, Hickstead
Friday 18th to Sunday 20th September 2015
Unaffiliated Dressage, Show Jumping & Showing Championship
To find a Qualifying Venue near you go to
www.sunshinetour.co.uk

Sunshine Tour UK Tel: 01372 451458 Email: enquiries@sunshinetour.co.uk

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Everything you wanted to know, but didn’t like to ask!

If you’re unsure about the ins and outs of rehoming a horse from the RSPCA, here’s our Q&A to answer all your questions, queries and maybe even a few misconceptions!

Will a rescued horse be naughty, and will it ever settle into a normal yard routine?

A lot of our horses, ponies and donkeys wouldn’t be suitable for first time owners, and this is simply because they need a confident, experienced home that will bring them on and build up a good relationship with them. Some of them will have needed a lot of rehabilitation work. Therefore experience with horses and patience is a must! But like the thousands of cats and dogs that are rehomed every year in the UK, there’s no reason why with love and care, horses cannot settle into a new home and be loving. Lifelong friends too. It is extremely rewarding for us everytime we watch a rescued horse flourish in the loving home they deserve.

What is the adoption process and time-frame?

The first step is to have a look online at our available horses. Then fill in our horse and pony fostering and adoption application form. We will then be in touch with you if there is a suitable horse, donkey or pony available. If your application is successful, you will be invited to either meet your chosen horse or meet an equine that may be better suited to you. Horses cannot easily be moved about among our animal centres so you may have to travel if you want to adopt a horse because they are never rehomed unseen. You may need to travel to an equine centre to try the horse more than once if this is felt to be necessary to ensure that you and the horse are right for each other. Before a horse or pony can be adopted from us we always carry out a home visit. This gives us the opportunity to assess both your expertise and your facilities, and support you in preparing for the arrival of your horse. There is nothing quite like the feeling we get from successfully rehabilitating and rehoming a rescue animal.

How much is the adoption fee, and what health concerns should I consider?

Depending on the type of horse, pony or donkey, we ask for an adoption fee of between £50 - £500. Every animal will have a passport, be microchipped, be vaccinated against tetanus, have had their feet and teeth checked, and you’ll be told a thorough history of what has happened to them in our care including any behavioural assessments. It costs us a great deal to care for, rehabilitate and rehome each horse so we feel the adoption fee really is a small contribution towards this cost. It also helps to cover the costs of microchipping and vaccinations, and gelding of males.

It sounds great, I really think I could offer a horse, pony or donkey a home.

We have three specialist equine centres covering England and Wales – in County Durham, Shropshire and Surrey. To find out more about rehoming an equine from us, you can visit our website where there is more information and all the contact details you need to register your interest. You can also view some of the animals we have available for rehoming. We are also looking for special foster homes for some of our animals, where we ask very experienced horses to look after certain animals for a minimum of six months while they rehabilitate. You can register your interest in fostering online too.

It sounds great but I’m just not ready to adopt a horse. How else can I help RSPCA horses?

We appreciate any form of your support, from holding a bake sale to running a marathon! But you could also donate any unwanted tack, rugs or other equipment. Also by spreading the word to your horsey friends that the RSPCA has a huge number of very versatile horses desperately needing homes, you will take another horse one step closer to finding his or her forever home.

Does the RSPCA really want to rehome a horse to me? I hear they can be quite picky!

Obviously, we will only rehome our horses to suitable homes where we are sure they will be looked after for the rest of their lives. These animals, after all, have been through some very tough times and deserve a loving home for life. It’s no secret that we are currently in a horse crisis in the UK, and the amount of rescues we carry out is proof of this. We currently have over 600 horses in our care, which is far more than we can house ourselves, but we would never turn away a horse in need. We currently have 76% of our horses in private boarding as our own equine centres are full, and as we are constantly rescuing more horses that desperately need us every week, we are always very keen to find forever homes for as many horses as we possibly can.

I’d like a riding horse! Is it true I can only get a companion animal from the RSPCA?

Absolutely not! We have a huge range of different breeds, sizes and ages of horses in our care, and a number of them are very capable of being ridden again, once they are matched with the right home. We also have facilities to start youngsters that we rescue, which many people aren’t aware of, so your next project could come from us! Likewise, we have lots of older horses, shetlands and donkeys, and those who have been through so much trauma they cannot be ridden, but all of these can make superb companion ponies. But there’s no reason why many of our other horses can’t go on to learn new disciplines, from becoming your happy hacking horse to a carriage driving pony!

Will I ever be able to officially own the horse, or can the RSPCA take it back at any time?

When people first rehome a horse from us, we keep in touch for the first six months, as much to check on the horse as to check on the owner! This is just to keep an eye on how horse and owner are getting on with each other, and give owners the opportunity to review the situation if perhaps they are not getting on as well as they had hoped with the animal. After six months, the horse, pony or donkey will be officially signed over from us to the new owners. We always encourage owners to let us know how things are going, and raise any concerns.

S

o you’ve been looking for your next horse for a while. You’ve browsed online, you’ve asked around people you know, but the right horse just hasn’t trotted into your life yet. But what about rehoming a horse? If you’ve always liked the idea of giving a horse in need a second chance, then the RSPCA has plenty of horses that are looking for you as much as you’re looking for them!

CONTACT DETAILS

To report cruelty or an animal in distress please contact RSPCA on 0300 1234 999 or visit www.rspca.org.uk facebook.com/rspca twitter: @rspca_official

Dancer: a yearling cob gelding who should make around 13.1hh when fully grown. He would like to be given time to build trust in a new owner.

Tuppance: a smart, rising 2 yr old, standing at 12hh. She is very well behaved for her age. She is good to lead, groom and have her feet handled and stands well for the vet and for the farrier. She is happy to be stabled but has lived out through the seasons and she mixes well with other mares.

August 2015

NagMag

Tel: NagMag on 01273 491 922 or email: info@nagmagmedia.com

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August 2015 NagMag
Foal Limb deformities

By Paula Broadhurst

Limb deformities in foals can either be ‘congenital’ meaning they are present at birth or ‘acquired’ meaning that they develop after birth. Further more, within each of these categories limb deformities can be ‘flexural’ or ‘angular’.

Flexural limb deformities are commonly present at birth (congenital) and can present as the tendons and ligaments being ‘too loose’ ( lax) or ‘too tight’ (contracted). The degree of contracture or laxity and specifically, which part of the limb is involved, will affect the management protocol that will be advised by your vet at the new born foal exam. This may involve more or less exercise, softer or firmer bedding, splinting, casting, medical treatment or surgery.

Acquired flexural deformities develop as the foal is growing and are often associated with rapid growth spurts and/or excess nutrition. These deformities can involve individual or multiple joints and can progress rapidly even over as little as a week. Importantly, most of these flexural problems can be corrected provided they are recognised early and treated correctly however, if left unmanaged they can lead to permanent unsoundness for the rest of the foals life.

The treatment might involve restricted exercise, early weaning, corrective farriery or surgery. Angular limb deformities are limb deviations from the normal axis of the leg. The two main types are ‘Varus’ meaning an inward deviation or ‘Valgus’ meaning an outward deviation. Congenital angular limb deformities are very common and management will vary depending on how severe the deviation is and which area of the leg is involved. The major growing phase of the fetlocks is when the foal is very young (less than 2 months of age) so angulations involving the fetlocks must be corrected very early. In contrast to the knees and hocks where we have a little more time available as rapid growth continues until 4 to 6 months.

Acquired limb angulations like flexural deformities commonly develop associated with imbalanced growth due to incorrect nutrition, mineral or vitamin deficiencies. Regardless of whether the angulation is congenital or acquired, management may involve restricted exercise, corrective farriery, shock wave treatment, modified nutrition or surgery. Which option or combination of options is used depends on the degree of deviation, which joint is involved, age of the foal and other concurrent problems.

In summary, limb deformities (congenital or acquired, flexural or angular) in foals are a complex condition. Early recognition and correct treatment can usually resolve or significantly improve most of these deformities however; a delay of a few weeks in instigating the correct management can mean a missed opportunity and a life long conformational abnormality. It is vital that you monitor your foal’s growth closely and frequently observe your foal standing and walking on a firm flat surface so that problems are seen early.

This is especially important for the farrier to be able to correctly trim the hoof.

I would advise that you immediately contact your vet regarding anything out of the ordinary with the growth and development of your foals limbs. They can then assess the condition and advise if there is time for conservative management or whether a more aggressive approach should be instigated immediately. NM
Ashford Forest Sponsored Ride, Pippingford Park, Nr. Nutley, 11th July
Images © ARW Photography

110 riders took part in the 4th Annual Ashdown Forest Sponsored Ride setting out from Pippingford Park just off the A22 between Wych Cross and Nutley.

This year we were raising money for The Fostering Network, chosen by the organisers Deborah Waygood and Mark Jackson who have recently become Foster Carers themselves with West Sussex County Council.

There was a choice of a 6 mile or 12 mile route through breathtaking scenery, views out to the South Downs, though Heathland and Woodland. The weather could not have been better, warm in the sunshine with a cool breeze.

We had refreshments including an ice cream van at the start/finish and some fantastic photographs taken by Andrew Wickens of ARW Photography (www.arwphotography.co.uk)

There were also a few people and dogs taking part in a 3.5 mile walk.

A great time was had by all and we raised £1019.99 for The Fostering Network.

For more information visit www.fostering.net

Southern riders qualify for Horse of the Year Show
Images © SMR Photos

The fourth SEIB Search for a Star and Racehorse to Riding Horse qualifier of 2015 took place at Bury Farm Equestrian Centre, Slapton, Buckinghamshire on the 5th July.

Georgie Steele from Horsley riding Colbeach Mark of Distinction in the Riding Horse Hack Class

Helen Craig from Leatherhead with her Working Hunter Creaghduff Welcome

James Killick from Gatwick second in the Show Hunter Class on My Leading Light owned by Owen and Kate Brooks

Alison Short Dressage on a recent visit to Carl Hester’s yard in Gloucestershire. Pictured Carl with his latest Grand Prix Ride Wannado looking on. www.alisonsshort.co.uk

Beaming Harriet at Cadnam Show with yard mate Lily on her palomino, Rushington Tiger Lily, competing in the ‘Prettiest Mare or Filly’ class.

Show off your equine companions to the world!
Send us your favourite horse photo and we will display it in our Close-up of the South picture album.
NagMag Magazine, The Granaries, Paynesfield, Henfield Road, Albourne, West Sussex BN6 9JJ or email your picture to us at: info@nagmagmedia.com
Make your space off limits to flies

This time of year we are plagued by swarms of flies brought out by the warmth of the air passing over our often damp fields and pastures. Not only are they a nuisance to us but for our poor equine friends they can make their lives a constant misery, culminating in various allergies and skin complaints.

Here is a sample of some of the products that have been brought to the market to try and help alleviate and control this annual nuisance. NM

1. **Safe-Care Equine** – a company in its infancy but already with a proven track record for the quality of their plant based products that are kind for you, for your horse and the environment. Four trigger pulls of their fly repellent will cover a square metre of skin. Ingredients include lemon, tea-tree, cedarwood and lavender oils. HSE approved for 72 hours. Rrp £9.99 for 750ml or in larger amounts. www.safe-care-equine.com

2. **TRI-TEC 14®** American fly control from Farnam, the makers of Red Cell. This is the grand daddy of insecticides and has been granted a British HSE (license 9215) confirming it kills disease carrying pests such as horse, stable, house, face, horn and deer flies. Mosquitoes, Deer ticks, gnats and lice. It’s unique formula that contains cypermethrin, pyrethrins and strong polymers will keep it in place for up to 14 days effectiveness even in light showery conditions. It’s longevity and potent effects make it a cost effective investment. From stockists and direct from www.lesliesutcliffe.com Rrp £24.95 for 473ml

3. **The Ultimate 2 in 1 Fly Repellent & Skin Tonic** from newcomers Stable Environment Limited. Established about 4 years ago, this company are producing effective environmentally friendly & biodegradable products. With testimonials from the likes of Endurance rider Mandy Yarnold, their Fly Repellent stands out in this market. Containing Neem and Lemon Eucalyptus Pure Essential Oils, it also aims to repair and moisturise damaged skin. HSE approved. From stockists and direct from www.stable-environment.co.uk Rrp £9.99 750ml

4. **The H-Traps** – if you are bothered by Horse flies then this is an amazing invention that you cannot be without. It is erected near to the source of the infestation, whether it be in a field, near a stable block or by a ditch. It comes fully flat packed with instructions and pump and can be taken down when not in use and re-erected the following year. The secret is simple, it attracts the horse fly by imitating a horse or cow hide, the female fly cannot draw blood and is directed through a funnel into a filter of water and cannot escape; thereby gradually killing of the female population and breaking the breeding cycle. It can over time affect an area of up to four acres. Worthwhile? Definitely, it is a good 10 year investment. www.eqproducts.biz £130 incl. VAT and UK postage

5. **The Z-itch Sweet Itch Rug with Hood** is a well-priced, comfortable way to provide a barrier between the horse and biting midges and flies. It comes in three pieces for great protection and additionally helps to reduce UV damage. Z-itch also produce a pour-on liquid created to aid the control of sweet itch. The rug with hood is available from stockists in sizes 4’9” – 7’.

Rrp of £80

6. **New Supreme Products Fly Off from the Professional Collection** is the ‘must have’ fly repellent in your grooming basket this summer. Blended from aromatic oils carefully selected to deter flies offering excellent protection for a few days. Say goodbye to irritating wasps, flies and insects. Rrp 10.99 500 ml

**DO YOU AND YOUR HORSES HATE INSECTS?**
You can now effectively reduce their numbers with the professional insect control systems

- **Dynatrap 1200** : The DINATRAP offers a 3-way protection plan for insect elimination, including mosquitoes and midges.
  - First, UV fluorescent bulbs produce warm light to attract insects to the DINATRAP.
  - Second, an exclusive coating of titanium dioxide (TiO2) inside Dynatrap produces carbon dioxide (CO2), which is irresistible to mosquitoes and midges.
  - Third, the insects are lured to the powerful vacuum fan, where they are collected and trapped into the retaining cage.

  **Price £135** (incl. VAT and UK mainland shipping).

- **The Flyzone** – simple and effective outdoor flytrap. 

  **Price £5.00**

- **The I-TRAP 40 HT** – The discrete 40 m² short circuit proof insect control unit. 

  **Price: £79.00**

- **The FlyZone Outdoor Co2 Flytrap** – with 5 covers.

  **Price: £35.00**

- **The H-trap – a novel effective horsetail trap.**
  - No chemicals and no electricity.
  - 90 – 95% reduction in horsefly population.
  - Easy to set up and maintain.
  - Ideal for yards, fields, arenas, walkers, gardens.
  - **Price £125** (incl. VAT and UK mainland shipping).

- **The Z-itch Sweet Itch Rug with Hood** is a well-priced, comfortable way to provide a barrier between the horse and biting midges and flies. It comes in three pieces for great protection and additionally helps to reduce UV damage. Z-itch also produce a pour-on liquid created to aid the control of sweet itch. The rug with hood is available from stockists in sizes 4’9” – 7’.

  **Rrp £80**

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  **Rrp 10.99 500 ml**

**EQ Products**
Ash Farm – Mill Lane – Felbridge – West Sussex RH19 2PF
Mob: 07850 799 782 Tel: 01342 326 139 www.flytraps.biz
Flies – why should your horse put up with them?

Flies are not only a major irritation to horses, causing them to become stressed and uncomfortable during the warmer weather but they also increase the risk of the spread of disease. A good fly control programme is highly advisable during the summer, to help keep your horse happy and healthy’, says Zoetis vet Wendy Talbot.

Ectoparasite is the term used to describe parasites that affect animals externally, and horses are prone to attack from many species, including house flies, horse flies, black flies, blow flies, bot flies, mosquitoes, mites, lice, ticks and mites. They can cause dermatitis, pruritic (itchy) conditions, lumps and skin lesions. They can also cause conjunctivitis, headshaking contamination of muck heap well away from stables and paddocks and keeping stables meticulously clean will reduce the risk of flies bothering the horse. Fly rugs and face-masks are essential for many horses in the summer and applying a fly repellent or insecticide aims to kill the fly as soon as possible after contact with no biting needed and can remain effective for up to four weeks against some ectoparasites. For maximum effectiveness treatment should be started before the fly season has begun, to control breeding, and continued at regular intervals throughout the season.

The fact that insecticides have a medicinal function by killing the insects, means they require a licence from the Veterinary Medicines Directorate, to ensure their responsible, safe and effective use. Speak to your vet or SQP about their responsible, safe and effective use. Speak to your vet or SQP about the most effective prescription insecticide available for your horse.

“We would never put up with fly infestations so why should our horses?”

As an owner it can be very difficult to choose which fly product will work best for you. A repellent aims to make the horse less attractive to the fly. An insecticide aims to kill the fly as soon as possible after contact with no biting needed and can remain effective for up to four weeks against some ectoparasites. For maximum effectiveness treatment should be started before the fly season has begun, to control breeding, and continued at regular intervals throughout the season.

The outstanding land-based college

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have a technical query about using Zoetis products please contact them on 0845 300 8034 or visit www.zoetis.co.uk

© EVP Photography
Historic Firle Place flings open its doors over the Bank Holiday weekend

O
n Sunday 30th August, over 500 riders, 1,000 dogs and up to 10,000 visitors will descend on this historic Sussex estate for the award-winning Firle Place International Horse Trials, Country Fair and Dog Festival.

Now in its 39th year, the jam-packed line-up on the 5,000-acre estate in the South Downs National Park includes something for every family member. Horse lovers will enjoy the world-class dressage, showjumping and cross country competition over the whole weekend, combined with some excellent food stalls and shopping including over 40 Weald Craft exhibitors.

Added to that, on the Sunday, the Country Fair and Dog Festival offer fun for all the family. Dog owners will relish the huge variety of dog competitions, including high octane gundog scurries and terrier racing, dog shows and fun agility, as well as a chance to show that “My Dog Has Talent!” The added variety of have a go archery on Firle Place lawns and a wide range of farmers market stalls and attractions will entertain everyone, including the shopaholics! NM

CONTACT DETAILS
For more information call 01323 482016 / 07973 103110 or visit www.firleplaceevent.co.uk

WIN TWO TICKETS FOR EPSOM RACEHORSE TRAINERS’ OPEN DAY

A fabulous opportunity for you and your children to see what goes on behind the scenes at the training yards, getting up close with the stars of the track, their trainers and stable staff.

The day commences at 9am when the racing yards will be open for you to see the horses in their home environment. There will be a courtesy bus service from the Downskeepers’ Hut on Tattenham Corner Road.

All proceeds from the day will go to our local charity, Epsom Racing Staff Welfare, which provides affordable accommodation and other welfare benefits for Epsom’s racing staff.

Open day wristbands: Adults £7.50 or Open Day & Racing Ticket just £20 | KIDS GO FREE!

How to Enter

WIN two tickets Epsom Racehorse Trainers’ Open Day on Monday, 31st August

Send a postcard, together with your name, address and telephone number to: Epsom Racehorse Competition, The Granaries, Paynesfield, Henfield Rd, Albourne, West Sussex BN6 9JL

(No later than 26th August, 2015)

Alternatively enter online, see Epsom Family Fun Raceday Competition at www.NagMagMagazine.com

Rules of Entry

The competition is open to UK mainland residents only. Only completed entries received by the closing date, August 20, 2015 will be eligible. No entries received after this date will be considered. No cash alternatives will be offered for any prize. The Judges decision is final and no correspondence can be entered into. Only one entry per household. Employees of ENM Solutions, Epsom Racing Staff Welfare and their associated companies and their families are not eligible to enter.

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Feeling stressed and overwhelmed? Confidence needing a boost? Would you like more from your relationships?

Discover how The Healing Power of Horses can empower you to transform your life, relationships and confidence.

Discover how on Sunday 23rd Aug or 13th Sept

And discover how you can benefit from their amazing gifts

Course run by Wendy Felicity Firmin-Price author of The HEART of Stable Relationships

The Holistic Horse Centre Rydings Farm

Long Reach Ockham Surrey GU23 6PF

Tel: 07801 567850

For more information contact Wendy direct: 07801 567850 or email: Wendy@holisticriding.com

NM

Book Review: The Heart of Stable Relationships

AUTHOR: Wendy Felicity Firmin-Price

The Heart of Stable Relationships: 12 ways the Healing Power of Horses can Transform Your Life

As you are reading this magazine, we would assume that you have an empathy with horses. Even if you do not, Wendy’s book, “The Heart of Stable Relationships” will offer you a profound idea of how these amazing creatures have evolved during their time to live in harmony with each other and if we look close enough can empower us as individuals to recognise our insecurities or anxieties and place them in context in order to lead a more inclusive and whole life. The book is not labelled a ‘self help’ study but each and every one of us can identify with some dilemma covered by Wendy and how by mirroring our responses through the herd can take away valuable insights into our behaviour. Wendy has many years of life experience and carefully takes the time to relay her findings through thoughtfully laid out chapters. This is a great read, whether you feel you need help or not, it will help you to understand yourself and find your place in the herd.

Paperback: 156 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform; 1 edition (24 Jun. 2015)


For more information contact Wendy direct: 07801 567850 or email: Wendy@holisticriding.com NM
The jockey won last year; the horse won three years ago. Together Trevor Breen and Loughnatousa WB proved unbeatable, the only combination to jump clear in the first round of this year’s Equestrian.com Hickstead Derby.

According to Bob Ellis, the Olympic course builder, the ground conditions were absolutely perfect, but the testing course took its toll on the majority of the field. Five horses and riders tied for second place with four faults apiece, including Steven Franks from Forest Green, Surrey, on the grey Carlow Cruiser.

"Loughnatousa WB, the first horse to win the Derby twice with different riders, jumped out of his skin and gave me a wonderful ride," said Trevor. "We were nearly out of gas towards the end, though! I was thankful I didn’t have to jump off!"

Having won the Bunn Leisure Derby Tankard riding Depardieu Van’t Kiezelhof on the first day of international competition, Guy Williams went on to claim top spot with Casper de Muze next day in the Bunn Leisure Master’s Challenge, a speed and power class which culminates in an ascending row of white gates.

To complete the hat-trick, Guy and his chestnut gelding Casper de Muze then retained their title in the British Speed Derby in a time of 91.95 seconds, again beating Harriet Nuttall and Silver Lift into second place, and also breaking the course record set by Shane Breen in 2008 by 1/100th of a second.

"The ground was faster this year," said Guy, the only rider to have won the Speed Derby four times. "We made up a few strides round the course compared with last year."

Trevor Breen summed up the whole show: "Hickstead is traditional English showjumping at its very, very best!"

And where better to view it from but the top of the new public grandstand, moved from its previous Olympic home in Greenwich Park! NM
As we enter August, we also enter the final month of qualification competitions in 2015 for the first ever unaffiliated championships at The All England Showground, Hickstead.

**GBEC Spring Open Show Sunday 7th June 2015**

The show season is well under way and showing competitors at Great Bookham had a very successful day! Kicking off with the dressage, Georgina Taylor on her younger Kambra SC won the 1B Intro A test and also came 5th in the Prelim 13 much to Georgina’s delight. Ellie Hutchings also had a very good day winning the Prelim 13 and Prelim 14 on her horse, Talisman. Ellie also leads the points in the Romeo Attlee’s Dressage Points League for the Prelim section. Other winners in the dressage were Grace Lloyd Jones on Haniert’s Choice who won the Walk & Trot 1 with a massive 75.6% whilst Katie Rowbottom won the Novice on her brilliant horse, Acodees and for the junior’s, Zoe Hiscock won with a fantastic 66.6% on her ride, Spot The Clover Girl.

Hiscock won with a fantastic 66.6% on Acordes and for the junior’s, Zoe Hiscock won with a fantastic 66.6% on her ride, Spot The Clover Girl. Zoe was 2nd in Prettiest Mare & First Ridden and become the Champion of the Fun Showing Championship.

A whilst her sister, Cassia Cortes on pony Towy Six, went on to win the Best First/Borrowed/Riding School Pony, 2nd in Prettiest Mare & First Ridden and become the Champion of the Fun Showing Championship.

Cassia Cortes on pony Towy Six

Kiyah Bailey on Barkway Oberon

Keeping up with the success of the juniors, Kiyah Bailey on her pony Barkway Oberon managed to win the Top Turnout, In Hand Show Horse & Pony as well as come 2nd in Lead Rein Rider and scoop up Reserve Champion in both the Fun Showing Championship and In Hand Championship.

Taking the Champion spot for both the In Hand and Fun Showing Championships was little pony Wernendris Captain after winning both In Hand MM and Lead Rein Rider.

Captain is owned by Lucy Cullingham and ridden by both her daughters, Lexie and Lola.

Emily Gibson left the show beaming with pride with her Connemara, Honeyhill Freedom aka Bertie, after taking 1st place for Handsomest Gelding and 3rd in the In Hand MM class. The general consensus is that they did pretty well as it was Bertie’s first ever show and a tentative step into showing for event rider Emily!

In the Coloured classes, Armanda Sykes headed off a very strong field to take the top spot in the Ridden class. The Working Hunter ring saw some fabulous horses and newcomer Katie Lewis managed to keep herself cool as a cucumber to scoop up the red rosette for the Novice & Newcomer Working Hunter Class on her horse Dublin Lass.

The show jumping was exciting as ever with some great combinations setting the standard for all competitors. Alice Hillary on her pony Oak Croft Kingsburgh managed to win the 65cm and was 3rd in the 70cm. Imogen Reed on Mayfly went on to take top spot in the 70cm ahead of Caitlin Allen on loan pony Loopy Lulu who came 2nd but then went on to win the 75cm on her own pony Hoopla Henry. The 80cm was led by Annie Rye Blakey on her ride, Pinky whilst the 90cm and 1m were won by Catherine Sunnynbank on Go Getter and Franck Simonnot on his grey mare 14 NM.

As we enter August, we also enter the final month of qualification competitions in 2015 for the first ever unaffiliated championships at The All England Showground, Hickstead.
Matilda Stevens with Sea Moor Kingdom

Qualified First Ridden & Junior Handler at Cranleigh Show

Tina Stevens, mother of 9-year-old Matilda bought 12.2h, 7-year-old Sea Moor Kingdom, also from Cranleigh last September although the initial viewing didn’t go quite according to plan. “When we tried him out she could only just get him to trot, never mind canter, so we knew that there would be a long road ahead of us. I thought he might have a problem somewhere, but with the help of a chiropractor and physiotherapist together with lots of hard work and a good instructor doing flat work, making Matilda ride him a straight line we’re finally getting there.”

“Cranleigh show was our first proper outing with Frankie and Matilda was so pleased with how he went, she knows all the work she has put in with him is paying off. Earlier this year they did a Pony Club dressage test and came 4th with a score of 71.75% and a comment from the judge saying what lovely harmony both pony and rider have together. We’re really looking forward to taking part in the Sunshine Tour Championships.”

Helen Wyatt with Maggie’s Surprise

Qualified Novice Dressage at Glebe Farm Equestrian Centre

Helen lives in Oxfordshire with her boyfriend; a miniature Shetland, two dogs and three horses. “We have a small house with some land where we keep the horses – but we use a local school across the road from us where we ride our horses. I bought Maggie’s Surprise about three years ago and it’s fair to say doing dressage has been a bit of a surprise to all of us, as he was only bought as a little hacking pony to ride out by my boyfriend who is learning to ride on his cob. He has been a surprise from the beginning to be honest, as they didn’t even realise his mother was pregnant until she started giving birth hence his name – Maggie’s Surprise! It has been even more rewarding that he is doing so incredibly well, having had both stifles operated on as a 4 year-old following an infection and his mother being called dry in the 7th month of her pregnancy. Thankfully he is now doing fine and we are very pleased with how he is coming along. He is pretty much sound although his right front has some OCD. It wasn’t clear at the time if this would affect him and we were really worried that he may not be able to compete, but we’ve had him treated and he is back in work and competing is just fabulous for us and to qualify for events like the Sunshine Tour is just the icing on the cake! He’s a really special horse to us and we love competing him and can’t wait to try our best at the Sunshine Tour.”

Francis Sedgwick with Will Be Wil Be

Qualified Novice Horse at Goring & District Riding Club

Francis has Marfan Syndrome and M.E. compromising her daily life, but riding has always helped her through her difficulties. She has always aspired to ride side saddle and in 2014 organised a lesson on her veteran Thoroughbred, with whom she had previously competed at local dressage competitions. All was well until her horse was diagnosed with guttural pouch mycosis and sadly had to be put down. At around the same time she was approached about re-homing an 11-year-old, 17.3h Dutch Warmblood as his retired owner was finding it harder to manage the workload as he grew older.

As a youngster Will had a propoception deformity and a sudden onset affecting his offside fore and hind legs, and was referred to a veterinary acupuncturist for treatment. The foalleg returned to normal after some time, but the hind leg is still slightly affected presenting with a mild stagshalt action and occasional toe dragging. Frances felt that the partnership was meant to be, both affected by disability, but both had a lot to give and not to be written off because of their disadvantages.

At 11 years old, ‘Will’ had done little in his career, so at the beginning of 2015 Frances took him to a couple of Prelim Dressage events through her local riding club (Goring & District) to see how he coped. She was really pleased to have gained a 6th place at Topthorn Arena

Rachel Woodward with Mitcheltroy Thomas

Qualified Novice Hunter Working Hunter Pony and Ridden Veteran at Topthorn Arena

Fiona Earle from Hampshire bought her 14.2h 7 year old coloured cob ‘Willie’ 2 years ago as a happy hobby, “After a couple of in hand shows we caught the competing bug and began doing a few ridden shows at the end of last season. We’ve also done a handful of Intro Dressage tests now and a couple of Prelims, but the canter work needs a lot of improvement!”

Fiona and Alfie have qualified for the Sunshine Tour Combined Training Championship, “I popped a few jumps at home in the field and Alf seemed to love it, so I thought we’d give combined training a go. It’s a great discipline for Alf as he’s not built for speed, so jumping without being against the clock can have fun and still be competitive. After an outing to Crofton Manor on 17 May, Alf and I have now also qualified for ridden cobs and my old boy, Toby has qualified for Ridden Vets.”
Fashion for kids

 Adidas MESSI Sports shirt in vivid mint available sizes 3 yrs – 16 yrs from www.zalando.co.uk currently on sale.
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 How about earning brownie points with your children by decorating a wall of their bedroom with horses. The clever people at Photowall have numerous ideas to help you. www.photowall.co.uk
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 Featuring the Epsom Racehorse Trainers’ Open Day

 London Gatwick Family Fun Day

 Monday 31 August

 Enjoy an action packed day starting with visits to the local Epsom training yards then head off to the races for FREE family entertainment with Ben & Holly making personal appearances at intervals throughout the day.
Sport England supports exciting new ways for women to share and celebrate how they get active, including a partnership with M&S and the chance to create their own This Girl Can pictures.

Cassie, a 23 year-old student from Bromley in Kent who features in the campaign and is a keen runner says “You can’t worry about what people might be thinking of you when you exercise because it doesn’t matter how you look or whether you’re any good at it. I don’t let that bother me as an amputee, and nor should anyone else. For me, having my foot amputated actually gave me my life back, and I’d say to any woman worried about being judged, just get out there and give something a try, whatever your ability level. It’s the best thing I ever did.”

To find out more, visit thisgirlcan.co.uk, join the conversation by following @ThisGirlCan and using the hashtag #ThisGirlCan.

**RESEARCH AND INSIGHT BEHIND THIS GIRL CAN**

**Sports participation**
- 6.8m women in England play sport once a week
- 8.8m men in England play sport once a week
- 75 per cent of women want to play more sport than they currently do

Source: Sport England’s Active People Survey. Things that hold us back

**Fear of judgement**
Whether it’s fear of judgement about appearance, ability, or for spending time on yourself rather than with family, the fear of judgement outweighs women’s confidence to exercise.

**Appearance:** Right from an early age, appearance is a concern for women. One in four women say they “hate the way I look when I exercise or play sport”.

**Ability:** Over a quarter of girls say they don’t feel that they have the skills to do well in sport.

**Family:** Many mums would like to exercise, but the fear of being judged for putting yourself first is a barrier.

**About Sport England**
Sport England is focused on helping people and communities across the country create a sporting habit for life. They will invest over £1 billion of National Lottery and Exchequer funding between 2012 and 2017 in organisations and projects that will:
- Help more people have a sporting habit for life
- Create more opportunities for young people to play sport
- Nurture and develop talent
- Provide the right facilities in the right places
- Support local authorities and unlock local funding
- Ensure real opportunities for communities.

The National Lottery has been changing lives for 20 years. Every week National Lottery players raise over £30 million to help change people’s lives across the UK. Download the App and become part of this exciting exercise to help women back into Riding, Carriage Driving or any sport of your choice. NM
35 degrees Norfolk!!

WORDS and IMAGES : Paul and Chris Orchard

N o one would know from the pictures that the private driving classes at The Royal Norfolk show were held on the hottest day of the year!
The turnouts were as immaculate as the beautifully manoeuvred dedicated driving arena at this top class show.
The show boasts the best evening entertainment for the competitors, a top quality tribute band absolutely free, in such a wonderful setting.

The show was held on the hottest day of the year!

The stuff that dreams are made of

Sixteen year old Kent carriage driver, Opal Weaver took the British Driving Society Smiths Lawn Junior Championship on her first time driving at the annual show much to the delight of her family and Kent Area Commissioner, Antonia Gallop.

Opal approached Antonia last year for some help learning about traditional vehicles in preparation for her junior scholarship so it was suggested she come along on the lorry to take advantage of seeing the fantastic private vehicles at the show, whilst Antonia competed in the Veteran class with her pony Merioneth Moeson.

After a credible placing but missing out on the scholarship, Opal invited Antonia to join her for the presentation day at the Royal Mews as a “thank you” and it was there that Antonia had the idea that Opal could drive her much loved pony at Windsor the following year.

“Moses, as he is known at home, has had a fantastic career in Private Driving and at 22 years old is winding down with just a few outings a year as he does love his public. When I was Opal’s age I was lent some amazing horses and learnt so much from them I wanted to pass this on and as she had worked hard for the scholarship but missed out, I felt this could be where her talent would shine through. I have owned him since he was a colt and he has competed with me all his life in Private Driving classes so he knows the ropes but never had a different driver when showing”

It was agreed that Opal would come and practice junior scholarship, Opal invited Antonia to join her for the presentation day at the Royal Mews as a “thank you” and it was there that Antonia had the idea that Opal could drive her much loved pony at Windsor the following year.

Opal would have just been born! It was an amazing day that ground was in 1999 as a novice, sixteen years ago and a tear or two when I realised that the last time we were on that ground was in 1999 as a novice, sixteen years ago and Opal would have just been born! It was an amazing day and a memory to treasure for all of us”

Opal will be heading to Ballet West in August to follow her passion for dance but here’s hoping we see her back on the box seat again soon. NM

FOR SALE – PONY TEAM

A fantastic opportunity for anyone wanting to progress into pairs or team as these ponies have the potential to qualify for the 2017 Pony World Championships, which was the original aim.

6 Welsh section A’s, all chestnut and grey between 121 and 125cm. 3 from the world renowned Templeduardin Stud and 3 imported from Holland. All ponies have great temperaments and are good movers. They have trained this season with Boyd Exell and are currently competition fit; competing this season. They will be competing at the Junior Championships and Lowther National if not sold. All carriages/harness/quad etc and spares for sale.

Contact Mike Hodgson for further details 07787289615

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlQNaxNwDg8
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SUNDAY AUGUST 2ND
Summer Show – Paddock Wood TN12 6PE KENT
Cross Country – Caroline Joanne, Littonbank Manor SURREY
Teams of 3 – Hickstead The All England Jumping Course SUSSEX
Unaff Dressage – Shefield Equestrian HAMPSHIRE

MONDAY AUGUST 3RD
Michel Assouline Clinic – Cobham Manor EC KENT
Showjumping Clinics – Oldencraig EC SURREY
BS Seniors – Pachesham EC SURREY
Ladies Lesson & Cuppa – Quoq Stables EC HAMPSHIRE
Junior Camp – Lower Peake Farm HAMPSHIRE

THURSDAY AUGUST 6TH
Flatwork clinics – Oldencraig EC SURREY
Ladies Day – Brighton Racecourse SUSSEX
Evening Lessons – Isadown Farm Stables HAMPSHIRE
Carriage Driving Lesson – Ryecroft School of Equestrian HAMPSHIRE

FRIDAY AUGUST 7TH
Beach Party Fun show all ages – Chelthens EC KENT

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FORTHCOMING EQUESTRIAN EVENTS IN YOUR AREA – AUGUST 2015

SUNDAY AUGUST 1ST
BS Sunday – Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre KENT
Summer Fun Show – GBCSC SURREY
Fun Show & Safe Champions – Pachesham EC SUSSEX
Staghope (Young England) – Ham Polo Club, Ground 1 SUSSEX
Denmead Budget Fun Show – Forest Road HAMPSHIRE

THURSDAY AUGUST 7TH
BS Sunday – Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre KENT
Summer Fun Show – GBCSC SURREY
Fun Show & Safe Champions – Pachesham EC SUSSEX
Staghope (Young England) – Ham Polo Club, Ground 1 SUSSEX
Denmead Budget Fun Show – Forest Road HAMPSHIRE

SATURDAY AUGUST 14TH
BS Sunday – Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre KENT
Summer Fun Show – GBCSC SURREY
Fun Show & Safe Champions – Pachesham EC SUSSEX
Staghope (Young England) – Ham Polo Club, Ground 1 SUSSEX
Denmead Budget Fun Show – Forest Road HAMPSHIRE

SATURDAY AUGUST 21ST
BS Sunday – Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre KENT
Summer Fun Show – GBCSC SURREY
Fun Show & Safe Champions – Pachesham EC SUSSEX
Staghope (Young England) – Ham Polo Club, Ground 1 SUSSEX
Denmead Budget Fun Show – Forest Road HAMPSHIRE

SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND
BS Sunday – Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre KENT
Summer Fun Show – GBCSC SURREY
Fun Show & Safe Champions – Pachesham EC SUSSEX
Staghope (Young England) – Ham Polo Club, Ground 1 SUSSEX
Denmead Budget Fun Show – Forest Road HAMPSHIRE

SATURDAY AUGUST 29TH
BS Sunday – Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre KENT
Summer Fun Show – GBCSC SURREY
Fun Show & Safe Champions – Pachesham EC SUSSEX
Staghope (Young England) – Ham Polo Club, Ground 1 SUSSEX
Denmead Budget Fun Show – Forest Road HAMPSHIRE

SATURDAY AUGUST 30TH
Jumpcross – Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre KENT
Ibrian Performance Show – Merret Wood College SUSSEX
Dressage afternoon – Bookham Riding Club Shawsfield SUSSEX
Candilo Clinic – Ham Polo Club, Ground 1 SURREY
Two Day Event – Pachesham Equestrian Centre KENT
BE Firle Place International – The South of England Showground, Ardingly, SUSSEX, RH17 6TL SUSSEX
Back to School Trophy – Summer Polo Grounds SUSSEX
Cup 2 Goal Tournament – Lower lake ground Knepp Castle SUSSEX
White Horse Harness Club – Redenhall Park HAMPSHIRE

MONDAY AUGUST 31ST
Family Fun Day & Horse Show – Mount Mascal Stables KENT
Gymkhana all ages – Chelthens Equestrian Centre KENT
Family Fun – Epsom Downs Racecourse SUSSEX
County Polo 3-A-Side – Summer Polo Grounds SUSSEX

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