

# WES NEWS

**April 2025**

**Issue 117**

**The official magazine of the Western  
Equestrian Society, formed in 1985**



## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairman:	<b>ROB PAINTER</b> <i>westernequestriansociety.chair@gmail.com</i>	Leader of the Society and Chair of the Society Governing Council
Secretary:	<b>DANIEL GWALTER</b> <i>dan@wes-uk.com</i>	Manages council, organises meetings etc.
Treasurer:	<b>DANIELLE L'OSTE-BROWN</b> <i>dani.wes.treasurer@gmail.com</i>	Overseas the financial affairs of the society
Mem. Secretary:	<b>KAYREEN JONES</b> <i>kayreenjones4@btinternet.com</i>	Maintains contact with the membership
Health and Safety:	<b>PAULINE NORTON</b> <i>chloe276@aol.com</i>	Monitors Health and Safety to ensure compliance with current legislation, etc.
Area Co-ordinator:	<b>HARRY SCARGILL</b> <i>hbscontracting@outlook.com</i>	Point of contact for the area representatives
Show Co-ordinator:	<b>HELEN PAYNE</b> <i>helenmpayne@outlook.com</i>	Co-ordinates all showing activities of the society
Publicity Officer:	<b>ELLEN ARKLE</b> <i>wespressoofficer@gmail.com</i>	Promoting the society in the media
Youth Officer:	<b>DANI O'BRIEN</b> <i>daniobrien1987@hotmail.com</i>	Promotes activities for youth members

## OTHER SOCIETY CONTACTS

Education Officer:	<b>LEE RUTTER</b> <i>westerntainer82@yahoo.co.uk</i>	Support and grow our professionals, to help WES achieve our objectives.
Animal Welfare Adviser:	<b>PAULINE NORTON</b> <i>chloe276@aol.com</i>	The person to report to with any animal welfare issues
Trail Award Advisers:	<b>CLAIRE SHEPHERD</b> <i>westrailaward@yahoo.com</i>	Administers the Trail Awards
Webmaster:	<b>DANIEL GWALTER</b> <i>dan@wes-uk.com</i>	Maintains WES website
WES News Editor:	<b>KATE WENSLEY</b> <i>katewensley13@icloud.com</i>	Edits WES News and distributes it electronically to all members

## SOCIETY APPROVED JUDGES

*The following is a list of members holding WES judging cards*

**DAVID BRINDLEY** (Wrexham) **07778 591196**  
*david.brindley1@outlook.com*

**MICHAEL CARDER** (Cambridgeshire)  
**01354 692011** *mick@carder.me.uk*

**JOHANNA COTTON** (Wrexham) **07984 141973**  
*johanna.cotton@outlook.com*

**SCHERIE DERMODY** (Cheshire) **01270 780620**  
*scherie0105@googlemail.com*

**TAMMY GREAVES** (Hampshire) **07824 664795**  
*tammygreaves@hotmail.co.uk*

**LEE RUTTER** (Lincolnshire) **07736 430111**  
*lee@oakridgearena.co.uk*

**DAVID HUDSPETH** (Notts.)  
**07977 530954**

**BRUCE LAWRENCE** (Herefordshire)  
**07791 323192** *office@valleyviewranch.co.uk*

**DAVID LLOYD** (Hampshire) **01252 875896**

**PAULINE NORTON** (Kent) **07860 868022**  
*chloe276@aol.com*

## JUDGES' COMMITTEE

Mick Carder (Chair), David Brindley, Scherie Dermody, David Lloyd, Bob Mayhew,

## AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Area rep. names are in **BOLD**, County rep. names are in bold italic

	<b>Area</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Email addresses</b>
1	Grampian and Highlands	<b>VACANT</b>	
2	Gwynedd, Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Wrexham, Cheshire, Shropshire & Staffs <i>Wrexham:</i>	<b>LINDA CLANCY</b>  <b>David Brindley</b>	<i><a href="mailto:lindaclancy01@gmail.com">lindaclancy01@gmail.com</a></i>  <i><a href="mailto:david.brindley1@outlook.com">david.brindley1@outlook.com</a></i>
3	Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire <i>Cornwall:</i> <i>Wiltshire:</i>	<b>ANNE WEBSTER</b> <b>Sara Brandikese</b> <b>Jane Brain</b> <b>Bev Jeavons</b>	<i><a href="mailto:annequus@aol.com">annequus@aol.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:brandolesesara@gmail.com">brandolesesara@gmail.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:j1412b@hotmail.com">j1412b@hotmail.com</a></i>
4	Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear <i>Cumbria</i> <i>Tyne and Wear:</i>	<b>VACANT</b>  <b>Ann Johnston</b> <b>Jo Powell</b>	  <i><a href="mailto:jcjarlatton@yahoo.co.uk">jcjarlatton@yahoo.co.uk</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:jojacksdskwert@gmail.com">jojacksdskwert@gmail.com</a></i>
5	Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Yorkshire <i>East Yorkshire:</i> <i>North Yorkshire:</i> <i>South Yorkshire:</i> <i>Lancashire:</i> <i>West Yorkshire:</i>	<b>HARRY SCARGILL</b>  <b>Caitlin Scargill</b> <b>Nickey Smith</b> <b>Helen Plant</b> <b>Charlotte Madeley</b> <b>Su McAlpin</b>	<i><a href="mailto:hbscontracting@outlook.com">hbscontracting@outlook.com</a></i>  <i><a href="mailto:kkdewing@gmail.com">kkdewing@gmail.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:nickeysmith.wes@gmail.com">nickeysmith.wes@gmail.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:helenplant@sky.com">helenplant@sky.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:madeleysrus@gmail.com">madeleysrus@gmail.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:su.mcalpin@gmail.com">su.mcalpin@gmail.com</a></i>
6	Avon, Gloucs, Herefordshire, Worcs Vale of Glamorgan, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Bridgend, Neath & Port Talbot, Swansea, Carmarthenshire <i>Herefordshire:</i>	<b>TRACY HAYNES</b>  <b>Bruce Lawrence</b>	<i><a href="mailto:tHaynes63@msn.com">tHaynes63@msn.com</a></i>  <i><a href="mailto:office@valleyviewranch.co.uk">office@valleyviewranch.co.uk</a></i>
7	Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire. <i>Leicestershire</i>	<b>KATE WENSLEY</b>  <b>Stephanie Goodacre</b>	<i><a href="mailto:k8st.km@icloud.com">k8st.km@icloud.com</a></i>  <i><a href="mailto:stephaniegoodacre@btinternet.com">stephaniegoodacre@btinternet.com</a></i>
8	Berkshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Surrey, Sussex <i>Beds./Berks.</i>	<b>NIKKI GWALTER</b>  <b>Alison Cheetham</b>	<i><a href="mailto:Nikki@happyontheplanet.com">Nikki@happyontheplanet.com</a></i>  <i><a href="mailto:alison.cheetham@yahoo.co.uk">alison.cheetham@yahoo.co.uk</a></i>
9	Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk	<b>VACANT</b>	
10	Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands <i>Bedfordshire</i>	<b>CLAIRE SHEPHERD</b>  <b>Abbey Brotherton</b>	<i><a href="mailto:claireshepherd101@gmail.com">claireshepherd101@gmail.com</a></i>  <i><a href="mailto:fjordshow@gmail.com">fjordshow@gmail.com</a></i>
11	Borders, Central, Fife, Lothian, Tayside <i>Fife:</i>	<b>KAYREEN JONES</b> <b>Seonaid Doherty</b>	<i><a href="mailto:kayreenjones4@btinternet.com">kayreenjones4@btinternet.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:curly1508@gmail.com">curly1508@gmail.com</a></i>
12	Dumfries & Galloway, Strathclyde	<b>PATRICIA O'MITCHELL</b>	<i><a href="mailto:barbarellababy@hotmail.com">barbarellababy@hotmail.com</a></i>
13	Dorset and Hampshire	<b>ANNE BATLEY</b> <b>YVONNE NEWBEGIN</b>	<i><a href="mailto:a.batley@ntlworld.com">a.batley@ntlworld.com</a></i> <i><a href="mailto:yvonnenewbegin@gmail.com">yvonnenewbegin@gmail.com</a></i>

## SOCIETY APPROVED PROFESSIONALS

The following Instructors have met the criteria for WES Accreditation. They have provided documentary evidence to the Society to demonstrate that they: hold Public Liability Insurance cover to a minimum of £5m; have attended a recognised Child Protection course and hold a recognised First Aid qualification, as defined in the Society's Rulebook (Rules 19.1/7). Anyone booking an Instructor should request evidence that this documentation is up to date. The Society cannot accept any responsibility for Instructors not having up to date Insurance or First Aid.

<b>Bedfordshire</b>	<b>Jolie Cooper (Level 2)</b>		☎ 07765 329563
<b>Cambridgeshire</b>	<b>David Deptford (R; Level 5)</b>	01354 651944	
<b>Cheshire</b>	<b>Scherie Dermody (Level 2)</b>	☎ 01270 780620	☎ 07930 410128
<b>Denbighshire</b>	<b>Tim Keeley (R; Level 2)</b>	☎ 01824 750463	
<b>Dorset</b>	<b>Martina Drabkova (Level 2)</b> <b>Michael Langford (Level 3)</b>		☎ 07775 729942 ☎ 07834 956900
<b>East Lothian</b>	<b>Kayreen Jones (Level 2)</b>	☎ 01620 892632	☎ 07895 106052
<b>Hampshire</b>	<b>Tammy Greaves (R; Level 4)</b>	☎ 01425 610278	☎ 07824 664795
<b>Herefordshire</b>	<b>Bruce Lawrence (R; Level 5)</b>	☎ 01432 820081	☎ 07791 323192
<b>Lincolnshire</b>	<b>Joe Midgley (Level 2)</b> <b>Lee Rutter (Level 2)</b>		☎ 07588 412702 ☎ 07736 430111
<b>Oxon</b>	<b>Catherine Wright (R; Level 2)</b>	☎ 01608 730039	
<b>Surrey</b>	<b>Janet Burwood (Level 2)</b> <b>Kirsty Hewitt (R; Level 2)</b>	☎ 01293 782014 ☎ 01932 340358	☎ 07715 833349 ☎ 07961 684201
<b>Yorkshire</b>	<b>Emma Chapman-Lonie (Level 3)</b> <b>Joanne Smithies (Level 2)</b> <b>Adam Yates (Level 2)</b>		☎ 07964 932877 ☎ 07719 670321 ☎ 07795 624074

**Key to qualifications:** **R**, Riding Stables. WES levels: **1**, Assumed to be an Assistant Instructor, working under the direct or indirect supervision of a more highly qualified instructor/trainer. A Level 1 instructor is expected to be able to teach basic Western riding skills to novice riders on trained horses on a one-to-one basis e.g. In a riding school situation; **2**, Expected to have good theoretical and practical knowledge of all disciplines covered by WES and to be able to prepare students and horses for competition in all WES show classes at local/novice rider level. Should be capable of teaching independently in one-to-one or group sessions. Should be a competent horse person, capable of working with both trained and novice horses; **3**, An experienced instructor, who has demonstrated a high degree of practical ability, and depth of theoretical knowledge in at least 2 specialist modules. The instructor will be of a satisfactory standard in order to prepare horses and riders at National Championship level; **4**, An autonomous and highly experienced instructor, who has demonstrated a high degree of practical ability, and a depth of theoretical knowledge in at least 5 specialist modules; **5**, Honorary. An enhanced level, which may be awarded to those level 4 instructors who have demonstrated a commitment to continuous professional development and equestrian excellence.

### WES Policy on UKCC Instructors wishing to apply for WES

1. To become a WES approved instructor a UKCC coach must:-
  - a. Become a member of the Western Equestrian Society.
  - b. Pay an application fee for the assessment.
  - c. Have undertaken and passed a Western Equestrian Society Rulebook Test
3. Upon application the Instructor will be required to comply with all rules of the Western Equestrian Society relating to membership of the Approved list including maintaining Society membership, attendance on an approved Child Protection Course and providing proof of insurance and First Aid on an annual basis.



## ADVERTISING RATES

**WES approved events** are **free**, as are **"For Sale"** and **"Wanted"** small adverts posted by **current members**.

Rates for other items are as follows:

**Full page £30** (*portrait 148mm x 210mm*)

**Half page £20** (*landscape 148mm x 102mm*)

**Quarter page £12** (*portrait 69mm x 102mm*)

***WES Members receive a £5.00 discount on the above rates.***

These rates are per issue, and advertisements should be relevant to Western riding or horses, e.g clothing or tack.

Advertising copy should be in **PDF, Word, Text** or **JPG format** and sent to the editor WES News.

***wesnewsmag@gmail.com***

Payment should be made by BACS.

*Once an advertisement has been accepted, advertisers will receive account details and the reference number to be used to identify their payment.*

## DEADLINE FOR THE JULY ISSUE

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2025**

*Please email your reports, articles, etc. in **Word, text** (with pictures and Graphics), or as a **PDF** to*  
***wesnewsmag@gmail.com***

If you are sending in an advertisement, please send it as a **PDF, Word** or a **graphic** so it can be resized as necessary to fit the available space.

It will help if articles are submitted for publication as you have them, rather than waiting until the deadline. This makes the editor's life a little easier.

**Editor: Kate Wensley**

**Proof Reader: Helen Payne**

***wesnewsmag@gmail.com***

## The Trail Awards – Now Even Better!

We're thrilled to unveil the *new and improved* WES **Trail Awards** programme – launching **with immediate effect!** Whether you're just starting your western riding adventure or already logging serious hours on the trail, there's never been a better time to get involved.

### **More Awards, Same Price!**

We've added *more milestones* and *more fabulous rewards* – all while keeping the one-off **£40 sign-up fee** the same. You just need to be an active **WES member** for the duration of your Trail Awards journey.

### **What You'll Receive**

- **On sign-up:** Hi-viz tabard (NEW!)
- **50 hours:** Certificate + First Aid Kit
- **100 hours:** SOS SaddleTag
- **250 hours:** Special Rosette + Water Bottle
- **350 hours:** Softshell Jacket
- **500 hours:** Inscribed Silver Belt Buckle by Montana Silversmiths

BONUS for current participants – You'll receive the new hi-viz tabard too, no matter where you are on your journey!

### **NEW: The 1,000 Hour Challenge!**

Already hit the 500-hour milestone? You can now enter the **1,000 Hours Challenge** for just **£25**.

- Track your hours annually
- Stay an active WES member
- Reach 1,000 hours and earn a **personalised WES-branded Clique Idaho Jacket** with your name (or your horse's!) and "1,000 hours" proudly displayed.

### **More Inclusive Tack Rules**

No western saddle? No problem!

You can now log hours in **ANY tack**, including stock saddles and English tack.

Perfect for those starting out in western riding or transitioning from other styles.

### **New In-Hand Option**

Got a young horse, a golden oldie, or one in rehab?

You can now complete **up to 250 hours in-hand**, including long-lining. We know trail time matters – no matter how it's done.

### **Safety First!**

We're putting safety front and centre. We recommend:

- ★ Helmets while riding
- ★ Well-fitted tack
- ★ Gloves, hats, and sturdy boots for in-hand work
- ★ Hi-viz for you and your horse
- ★ A mobile phone and a first aid kit on every outing

Email Claire for more information: [westrailaward@yahoo.com](mailto:westrailaward@yahoo.com)

# WES 2024 Hi Point trophy winners

## Riders

**Amateur Rider — Hi Point:** Kim Briggs; **Reserve:** Evelyn Dash

**Novice Rider — Hi Point:** Janet Amir; **Reserve:** Jane Whitehead

**Open Rider — Hi Point:** Kim Briggs; **Reserve:** Alan Payne

**Youth 13 & Under — Hi Point:** Isabella (Izzi) Dewey; **Reserve:** Jemima Keeping

**Youth 14–18 — Hi Point:** Francesca Tyrer-Bragg; **Reserve:** Scarlett Thomas

## Horses

**Novice Horse — Hi Point:** Gunner Be A Rooster, (owner: Janet Amir); **Reserve:** RQH Electric Tartan, (owner: Kim Briggs)

**Intermediate Horse — Hi Point:** A Twisted Face, (owner: Dani O'Brien); **Reserve:** The Greatest Smoke, (owner: Yvonne Newbegin)

**Open Horse — Hi Point:** RQH Electric Tartan, (owner: Kim Briggs); **Reserve:** Magnus Rex at Dawn, (owner: Joe Midgley)

## Hi Scores trophy winners

**Novice Rider:** Yvonne Newbegin, 76; **Reserve:** Charlotte Madeley, 74

**Amateur:** Nicole Pasotti, 74.5; **Reserve:** Kim Briggs, 73.7

**Open:** Kim Briggs, 79.67; **Reserve:** Alan Payne, 76.13

## Founders Award

A new award presented for the first time this year is the **Founders Award** sponsored by the three of our founding members, Bob Mayhew, Mick Carder and Roger Wells.

We are pleased to announce that the first recipient of this award is

### GILL PARKER

The founders presented the award to Gill for her continued efforts to be a voice for the need of good horsemanship. She says she is still working to improve her own skills as a communicator with her horse and trying to dispel the stereotypical negative images of western that still exist. Gill has also supported all of our National shows since the very first, back in the 1980s.

## Special Awards

In recognition of her long service on WES council as Chair and Membership Secretary, Chairman, Rob Painter, presented an award to **Ann Hughes**.

Also recognised for their inspiration, enthusiasm, and dedication to promoting the ideals of the Society, awards were made to retiring President, **Bob Mayhew** and retiring magazine editor, **Roger Wells**.

# Q24 International Championship

Aachen, Germany 3rd to 12th October 2024

**F**OUR UK competitors made their way to Q24 this year and had one of the most successful shows for UK competitors in recent times across a wide range of disciplines and classes.



Travelling were Alan Payne with his mother's Hot Steppin Leaguer, it is worth noting that Alan had bred and trained 'Beau' (Hot Steppin Leaguer) and had also competed Beau's Dam and Sire. Carin Herrick with her own Wimpys Smart Chex (Twinkie), Lucy Adams with Sheeza Tinsel Lady, her senior horse and Onlystopninforicecream her junior horse, and Annie Gravett with Code Word Lazy.

The competition was tough which was to be expected with Annie competing in the biggest class of the show Level 1 Amateur Trail with 39 entries.

All the horse and rider combinations were placed top 5 or above and all made the finals in their classes. At Q all riders initially compete in 4 AQHA classes and then the results are combined, and the top qualifying horses go through to the finals, where the entries are large the top 15 riders go through, but this number reduces in line with the initial entries. It is therefore a massive achievement to make the finals and what all competitors strive to achieve.

The final medal haul was impressive with Carin Herrick and Wimpys Smart Chex winning 2 Gold Medals and International Championships in Amateur Select Ranch Riding and Open Ranch Trail. 3 Silver Medals and Reserve International Championships in Amateur Working Western Rail, Open



Working Western Rail and Amateur Select Western Horsemanship and finally Reserve Champion Amateur Ranch Challenge.

Points are also accumulated across all the classes that the competitors compete in and the overall combination with the highest points in each division are awarded an All-Around Championship. As well as the ridden performance classes to qualify the horses must also compete in the halter classes. Carrin and Twinkie won 3 of the 4 All Around Amateur Select Championship Awards

Alan on his first trip to Aachen with Beau had a very successful show competing in some very tough classes and scoring 70 plus for wins and top six placings in Trail, Western Riding and Western Pleasure. Alan and Beau were Reserve L1 Western Riding Circuit Champion and took home the Bronze Medal in the blue ribbon event Senior Western Pleasure and were also placed 6th in the Senior Trail Final

Alan showed Annie Gravett's mare in the Open Performance Halter Class and were placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall with the combined results of the 4 judges. Annie then competed in the Amateur Select Trail and placed 8th in the finals after qualifying from the 4 x AQHA classes.

Lucy Adams is going from strength to strength competing in Europe and had another impressive show with her stunning palomino Sheeza Tinsel Lady 'Greta' winning the Level 1 Green Ranch Riding Circuit Champion and also the Bronze medal in the Senior Ranch Riding Championship.

Lucy was also competing her new horse Onlystopnforicecream (Great Name) 'Icy' at her first ever show and they placed 2<sup>nd</sup> x 5<sup>th</sup> in the Level 1 Green Ranch Riding but went on to win the Bronze Medal in the Junior Ranch Riding Championship

The show was very long, 10 days of actual showing and a couple of days for warm ups to get the horses acclimatised to the venue. The weather was not kind with plenty of rain but fortunately the indoor arena was used when it was too wet to show in the massive outdoor dressage arena. All the competitors, horses, owners, helpers, and dogs must have been exhausted by the time they got home; these events are a team effort and AQHA UK would like to offer huge Congratulations to all.

Dates for Q25 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2025



**JOINT MEMBERSHIP**

Bringing **Value & Opportunity** to our Members

For more  
information go to  
<https://wes-uk.com/wes-and-ercha-uk-joint-membership>  
or click into this panel

# *More Than a Hobby – A Way of Life*

By Dan Gwalter

WHEN I first said, “I want to learn to ride a horse,” I had no idea what was about to unfold. I thought I was buying a hobby – something new, something personal. What I got instead was a life, a family, a truckload of new friends, and a heart that’s never been so full.

My journey into the western world started, as many do, with a single horse – George. Some of you know him already, and if you do, then you’ll know exactly what I mean when I say he has personality. But for me, George is much more than just a horse with character. He’s the one who taught me what it means to truly ride, to listen, to earn a horse’s trust – and to keep getting back on (even if it’s after a fly buck and a bruised ego).

This year, George and I are on an adventure. From March to September, we’re on the road most weekends – clinics, camps, shows – learning every step of the way. My aim? Simple: to become the rider he deserves.



But I’m no longer riding solo. My wife, once a die-hard eventer, is now fully converted to western. She’s riding a beautiful four-year-old who’s just starting out in the world, and together they’ll be joining us at camps and clinics this year. She’s also taken on the role of Area 8 Co-ordinator, so her weekends are just as horse-filled as mine – and she wouldn’t have it any other way.

Our daughter Mollie is a regular at youth camps with her Welsh Section B, but if she had her way, she’d already have her very own (older) Quarter Horse. Watching her ride and grow in confidence is one of the real joys of this journey. And not to be left out, our youngest – Harry, age five – rides in

charity pleasure classes on a Shetland, kitted out in full western tack, naturally. We're not just a family that rides anymore. We're a western family – full stop.

We've shaped our lives around this way of being. I built our lorry so we can live off-grid for days – even weeks – at a time. That setup lets us strip everything back to what really matters: our horses, each other, and the community we've found along the way.

Because beyond the riding, beyond the shows, beyond the buckles and boots – the real magic of western isn't in the saddle. It's in the people. We've made friends we'll keep for life. There's a little show family that we see at almost every event. The ones who cheer for you, laugh with you, help you tack up when you're late, and hand you a drink when the day's done. That's where the gold is.

I've been lucky enough to work with and be guided by incredible horsemen and women – Tanya Rowe, David Deptford, Lee Rutter, Bob Mayhew – and honestly, every single person I've trained with has left their mark on me. I've learned something from each of them. Sometimes it was a big technical thing. Sometimes, just a small shift in mindset. But all of it matters.

We are, as we like to say, Team Gwalter. And I couldn't be prouder to be on this journey with my tribe – two-legged and four.

So yes, this started as a wish to ride a horse. But now, I live differently. I look forward differently. I measure success differently. This isn't just a hobby anymore.

This is a way of life.



# WES Youth Clinic

Held at Sovereign QH 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> April 2025



IT'S the last day of the WES Youth Clinic and half the riders are crying because they don't want it to end, the others are falling asleep on their horses as they've worked so hard! When I asked for feedback from the parents the first thing was 'when is the next one, can we do it again next year, but can we make it three days?' I think that sums up the last few days!

Seventeen riders arrived at Sovereign on the Tuesday afternoon ready for 2 days of fun. We started with a quick warm up ride and a giant pizza order! By Wednesday morning new friendships were already formed, and everyone was excited that they would ride with both David Deptford and Jolie Cooper. There were 3 youth groups and one adult group, starting from lead rein (although none of them were on the lead rein by the end of it!) up to more experienced adults riding youngsters or working towards the Euro's. It was great to see both the adults and youth riders cheering each other on, telling their friends how well they were riding, and saying they had the best day ever!

After two ridden sessions we had a giant Easter Egg hunt for all the youth riders and their siblings. There's still one egg hidden somewhere at Sovereign if any of you get hungry!

We finished the evening with hobby horse jumping, cowboy boot wanging and a water race while doing chicken dancing or walking backwards! Everyone had a lot of fun!

On Thursday everyone switched instructors, it was incredible to see the progress the riders made both on this clinic and what they've achieved since



the last time I've seen them. The lessons were fun and engaging and the kids worked hard and learnt so much. Everyone is desperate to get back to Sovereign and David's lessons asap and they are also asking Jolie to come and teach them at home too! For me it was lovely to watch from the sidelines listening to all the parents' proud comments about their child's achievements and how engaging the instructors were. A big thank you to our WES Professionals David and Jolie and to everyone to come along and joined in.

If you are on the fence about joining in our clinics please chat to any of the youth riders or their parents or pop along and watch!

**Dani O'Brien** - WES Youth Officer



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

To obtain all of the latest information on show, clinic and event dates go to

**<https://wes-uk.com/events-calendar>**

or, just click anywhere in this panel.



# SCOTTISH YOUTH CAMP

Balnuith Cottage, Tealing, Dundee, DD4 0RE

28th-29<sup>th</sup> July 2025

WES Youth Members £45 per day  
Non Members £50 per day

ALL WELCOME FROM LEAD REIN UPWARDS.  
A FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING CAMP

STABLING ON SITE. FREE CAMPING

FUN YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND GAMES

SPECTATORS WELCOME

WITH WES PROFESSIONAL  
**KAYREEN JONES**

Please contact Emily Tenbruck on 07825237900 or email  
[emztenbi@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:emztenbi@hotmail.co.uk) to book in. You do not need to have previously ridden  
western or have western tack to take part - everyone welcome





## WES Merchandise

We are very pleased to announce our new Apparel Supplier for WES is Emma Moore at EM-E. Emma is happy to personalise items, and we love the range on offer! Everything is really good quality and looks fantastic so from bobble hats to gilets, backpacks and teddy bears, head over to the website at [sales@em-e.uk](mailto:sales@em-e.uk) to place your orders! Once you have your items, we would love you to share your photos of you wearing them on the WES Discussion Facebook page!



## 2025 National Show

I AM working away at setting up the sponsorship for the WES Nationals 2025 and as soon as all the details are in place, I will be emailing out the information to all members.

If you run a business, we hope to have limited trade stand space available this year for you to sell your items, so if this would be of interest to you and you would like to contact me to discuss how best you can be placed at the event, please feel free to email me at [wespressoofficer@gmail.com](mailto:wespressoofficer@gmail.com) or call me on 07832 090 988.

Individual Class Sponsorships will also be available again and after last year's amazing response, we look forward to your support again this year.

We really cannot thank everyone enough for your support in 2024, let's make 2025 a ride to remember!

**Ellen Arkle, Publicity Officer**



**WES** are again excited to be working with the team at the HorsemanSHIP Showcase for 2025! We will be in our gazebo shouting about WES Membership and the benefits we bring to our members as well as promoting our WES Professionals. Lee Rutter and Joe Midgley are demonstrating at the event again so let's all support them!

We will be sponsoring the Interactive Zone again and are really pleased to be able to offer VIP Ticket Discounts to WES Members for another year until tickets are sold out! For your discount code and further details, please contact Ellen at [wespressoofficer@gmail.com](mailto:wespressoofficer@gmail.com). With an extra day added, this is set to be a wonderful event yet again!

DEAR Editor, Please convey my thanks to all of our members for their support over the years that I have been directly involved with all facets of our Society.

It was also nice to meet up with my friends at the recent AGM held in Coventry. Receiving the special award of an electro-plated pewter flask presented to me by our council was very much appreciated. I have enjoyed every minute of my direct involvement with WES and will remain very interested in its future, albeit in the background. With the current council members, I see a very pro-active and exciting future for the promotion of Western in the UK. We are, undoubtedly, the best Western Riding organisation in the country.

*I wish you all success in continuing my efforts of producing WES News and the Annual Journal.*

**Roger Wells**



## WES Membership Secretary

AS you no doubt are aware at the WES AGM Ann Hughes stood down after 13 years as Membership Secretary, as well as being Chairperson for WES. I applied for the post after serving as Area Rep Coordinator. So, I would like to introduce myself! I have been a member of the society for a good few years now and serve as Area 11 Rep as well as being a WES Professional. I love helping people and their horses as well as giving something back to the society. Ann has been very patiently showing me the ropes with the databases (with help also from Roger Wells) and I think I have now got the hang of it. I kept my original email address ([kayreenjones4@gmail.com](mailto:kayreenjones4@gmail.com)) so if you get an email from me it will either be from Mojo (the membership site) or as above.

Apologies if I email you asking a question, it could well be me just wishing to clarify something for the database. If anyone has issues with accessing the membership mojo site, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me, and I will try and help you out. It is important that the data base is kept up to date so changes of email address or mailing address should be changed on the database, but I am happy to help you if you get stuck! The email address you gave on joining is the email that Membership Mojo will use to contact you.

Normally you will get an email when your membership is due for renewal and this will give you the fee (full, family, etc.) you can pay by PayPal, Stripe payment, BACS, etc. if you do send a cheque or another method (such as BACS and Postal order) can you please contact me to let me know so that I can look out for it. Any cheques should now be sent to me at the address below. I look forward to helping you with any enquiries and am looking forward to serving WES in this way.

Best wishes

**Kayreen Jones**



# IT'S COW TIME!!

**O**AKRIDGE Easter show marked the first event of the ERCHA 2025 calendar and what a start to the season!! As well as the existing ERCHA members, the show saw an increased number of competitors participating in the ranch cutting, some originating from their joint membership with WES.

Congratulations to all participants, the standard of riding was phenomenal, with some fantastic scores being set as the bar for future events this year. WES Education Office and approved instructor, Lee Rutter took the win in the Open Bridle Specular with a combined score of 212, proving yet again what an amazing horseman he is. Congratulations Lee, Santas Shining Star and owner Gill Killick!

Congratulations to winners in the other categories -

ERCHA Non-Pro Bridle Spectacular winner – Cat Pinney

ERCHA Novice Horse Non-Pro – Laura Cohen

ERCHA Open Herd work winner – Tom Wilkinson

ERCHA Non-Pro Herd work winner – Danielle L'Oste – Brown

ERCHA Box Drive – Tracey Howard

OAK Ranch Cutting winner – Sean Coleman

ERCHA has recently rolled out an introductory joint membership in conjunction with WES to give riders new to the cow horse scene the means to attend specialised clinics and an introduction to competing. WES member Steph Cherrington competed in the Oak Ranch Cutting and proved just what a thrill the competition can be! Steph has recently been bitten by the cattle bug and has been training on her Welsh D mare, Miri. The ethos behind the collaboration was to bring value and opportunities to our members, looking at Steph and Miri, we think we're on the right track! ERCHA is for everyone to enjoy and participate in, so if you are looking for some fun this year, sign up – you'll be hooked in no time!

Interested in attending or participating in the next ERCHA event?

- The next event scheduled for the ERCHA calendar is the Sudbrooke Showdown on 9 – 11<sup>th</sup> May. There are classes for all levels of riding and WES members can utilise their existing membership to enter selected classes. Spectators are welcome.

Full details can be found on the Sudbrooke Park Cattle Company Facebook page or contacting [SudbrookeParkCattleCompany@gmail.com](mailto:SudbrookeParkCattleCompany@gmail.com)





## Area 11 Borders, Central, Fife, Lothian, Tayside

**H**l everyone! It has been a little quiet in Area 11. I would like to welcome our new members who have joined us. We have had two play days at Blackford Glen in Edinburgh. Both were a bit cold, and it would have been nicer if the sun had been out! But those who came had a lovely time and it was a chance to catch up with each other and find out what we had been up to.

We have the first of two youth clinics on the 17th of May 2025. We have decided to open this to everyone so that we can use the day as best we can. Non-WES members are £40 WES members are £35.00. We can do groundwork/ ridden work, work on obstacles, Ranch, etc. Everyone is welcome so bring lunch along, tea and coffee is available. This will be a price for both of the sessions, so good value and you do not need a western saddle or to have ridden western previously!

Moving forward we have a show planned in June. I am currently working on the schedule, and we are hoping to make it a fun learning weekend with a barbeque on the Saturday evening. So please keep an eye out for the email with the schedule once I have it approved.

Area 11, and some riders from other areas, took part in an Area 11 pole challenge to keep us going through the winter! We are just waiting on final results from our judge, then we will get the rosettes ordered for everyone. Hopefully, those who entered will pop a photo on the Facebook page with their hard-won rosette.

We will be planning more events in Area 11 as we go but they do need to be (just like in other areas) supported. So please let me know of things you would like to put on.

One diary date is the 7<sup>th</sup> of September when we can join with the Scottish Tilting club and have a fun ride around Balgone and surrounding land. This can go towards your Trail award, there will be plenty of parking and there is a café on site!

Feel free to get in touch with a chat, I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes, Kayreen



Western Equestrian  
**WES**  
Society

Save the date  
15th-17th  
August 2025  
**WES NATIONALS**

THE  
**OAKRIDGE**  
A R E N A



Western Equestrian  
**WES**  
Society

**YOUTH CLINIC**  
*Pre WES National Show Clinic*  
Oakridge Arena, Newark NG23 7NZ

14<sup>th</sup> August 2025  
£50 - 2x 1 hour sessions

ALL WELCOME FROM LEAD REIN UPWARDS

STABLING VIA WES NATIONAL SHOW

STAY FOR THE YOUTH & LITTLE BRITCHES  
CLASSES AT THE NATIONAL SHOW!

FUN YOUTH ACTIVITIES

WITH WES PROFESSIONALS  
*Lee Rutter and Jolie Cooper*

CONTACT DANI O'BRIEN FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK  
daniobrien1987@hotmail.com





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