

# WES NEWS

April 2020

*The Official Magazine  
of the Western  
Equestrian Society,  
formed in 1985*

Issue 106





---

## Contents

<b>WES Trail Award Scheme .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>WES Merchandise .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>WES Website.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Society Information .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Area and County Representatives .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Society Approved Judges .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Society Approved Instructors .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Advertising Rates .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>From the Editor.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Chairman's Report .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Area Coordinators Report .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Youth Report.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Webmasters Report .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Deadline for Next Issues .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Cover Picture.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>WES AGM Report.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Virtual Shows Report .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>A Guide to the North York Moors .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>How I got into Western riding .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>My COVID Year .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>A Civilian's Experience at a Mounted Police Clinic.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Having Fun in Lockdown.....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Area Round-up.....</b>	<b>30</b>
Area 1 .....	30
Area 2 .....	30
Area 3 .....	30
Area 4 .....	31
Area 5 .....	34
Area 6 .....	35
Area 7 .....	36
Area 8 .....	37
Area 9 .....	39
Area 10 .....	39
Area 11 .....	39
Area 12 .....	39
Area 13 .....	39
<b>Event Notifications.....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>For sale and Wanted.....</b>	<b>44</b>



## WES Trail Award Scheme

*The Society's Trail Riding Award Scheme is open only to members of the Society*

The Scheme is very simple - any WES member who hacks out for pleasure (training and schooling do NOT count) in a western saddle can record their hours and qualify for an award. The horse does not have to belong to the rider, but must be ridden in a western saddle.

- The scheme is subject to a once only payment of £40.
- Participants can download a log sheet from the **WES web site** ([www.wes-uk.com](http://www.wes-uk.com)) on which to record their hours spent hacking. If you do not have access to the internet forms can be obtained from **David Hudspeth, Old Police House, 14 John's Road, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts., NG12 2GW**
- Subject to ratification\* the following awards will be made:
  - **75 hours:** Commemorative certificate.
  - **150 hours:** Commemorative certificate.
  - **250 hours:** A certificate plus an inscribed silver belt buckle\* supplied by Montana Silversmiths, subsidised by £50.00 from WES funds, the price to be confirmed at the time of purchase.
  - **500 hours:** Certificate plus option to purchase trail award merchandise embroidered with the Trail Award Logo obtainable from WES Merchandising.
  - **1,000 hours:** Option to purchase a Trail Award Jacket, embroidered with the Trail Award Logo, obtainable from WES Merchandising, together with 1 year's free membership of the Society.



*\* To qualify for the silver belt buckle and other benefits claimants must have maintained continuous membership of the society since joining the scheme. In the event of membership lapsing for any period the claimant's participation in the Trail Riding Scheme will be deemed void. Rider records must be submitted to the Society on an annual basis when requested. Clothing supplied will vary depending upon the fashion as the time of request.*

For details of the WES Trail Awards Scheme, please contact David Hudspeth, Old Police House, 14 John's Road, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts., NG122GW

### WES Merchandise

**For a wide range of  
clothing with the WES  
embroidered logo  
please visit the**

**TOTAL CLOTHING  
SHOP**

[WWW.totalclothingshop.co.uk/wes](http://WWW.totalclothingshop.co.uk/wes)

### WES Website

**Please visit the New  
Updated WES website  
for information on the  
Society, details of  
shows clinics, etc.**

[www.wes-uk.com](http://www.wes-uk.com)



## Society Information

Council Members			
Position	Brief Job Description	Name	email
<b>Chairman:</b>	Spokesperson and figurehead of the society.	<b>Ann Hughes</b>	<a href="mailto:wesmembership595@sky.com">wesmembership595@sky.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Manages council, organises meeting etc.	<b>Debbie Langford</b>	<a href="mailto:debbie@ferndown-com.co.uk">debbie@ferndown-com.co.uk</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Overseas the financial affairs of the society	<b>Beverly Jeavons</b>	<a href="mailto:bevjeavons@hotmail.co.uk">bevjeavons@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	Contact with any membership queries	<b>Ann Hughes</b>	<a href="mailto:wesmembership595@sky.com">wesmembership595@sky.com</a>
<b>Health and Safety:</b>	Monitors Health and Safety to ensure with legislation, etc..	<b>Matt Ayling</b>	<a href="mailto:Wes-safety@hotmail.com">Wes-safety@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Area Co-ordinator:</b>	Point of contact for the area reps.	<b>John Ayles</b>	<a href="mailto:alberta.ayles@btinternet.com">alberta.ayles@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Show Co-ordinator:</b>	Organises all activities of the society.	<b>Michael Carder</b>	<a href="mailto:wesshow@carder.me.uk">wesshow@carder.me.uk</a>
<b>Publicity Officer:</b>	Promoting the society in the media	<b>Zoe Hughes</b>	<a href="mailto:wespressandpr@gmail.com">wespressandpr@gmail.com</a>
<b>Youth Officer:</b>	Promotes activities for youth members	<b>Louise Hunt</b>	<a href="mailto:Louiseh2015@gmail.com">Louiseh2015@gmail.com</a>
Other Society Contacts			
<b>Animal Welfare Adviser:</b>	The person to report to with any animal welfare issues.	<b>Louise Hunt</b>	<a href="mailto:Louiseh2015@gmail.com">Louiseh2015@gmail.com</a>
<b>Trail Award Scheme:</b>	Administers the Trail Award	<b>David Hudspeth:</b>	<a href="mailto:Hands-on-qh@ntlworld.com">Hands-on-qh@ntlworld.com</a>
<b>Liaison Contact</b>	Go between with other like-minded societies.	<b>Yvonne Newbegin</b>	<a href="mailto:yvonnenewbegin@gmail.com">yvonnenewbegin@gmail.com</a>
<b>Webmaster</b>	Maintains WES website	<b>Daniel Gwalter</b>	<a href="mailto:wes@happyontheplanet.com">wes@happyontheplanet.com</a>
<b>WES News Editor</b>	Edits WES News and distributes it electronically to those members who have subscribed	<b>Chris Thompson</b>	<a href="mailto:cpa.thompson@btconnect.com">cpa.thompson@btconnect.com</a>



## Area and County Representatives

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

Area No.	Area Covered	Representative Name	email
1	Grampian and Highlands	<b>KATHY BRIGGS</b>	<a href="mailto:pyenjack@btinternet.com">pyenjack@btinternet.com</a>
2	Gwynedd, Clwyd, Cheshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire	<b>MICHELLE SURGEY PRICE</b>	<a href="mailto:unziptheflare@googlemail.com">unziptheflare@googlemail.com</a>
3	Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire	<b>EMMA HILLIER</b>	<a href="mailto:farrantshayes@gmail.com">farrantshayes@gmail.com</a>
	Devon:	<i>Ann Webster</i>	<a href="mailto:annequus@aol.com">annequus@aol.com</a>
	Wiltshire	<i>Jane Brain</i>	<a href="mailto:j1412b@hotmail.com">j1412b@hotmail.com</a>
4	Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear	<b>ANGIE TAYLOR</b>	<a href="mailto:angie@whittonstalltaxis.co.uk">angie@whittonstalltaxis.co.uk</a>
	Tyne and Wear	<i>Jo Powell</i>	<a href="mailto:webster.powell@btinternet.com">webster.powell@btinternet.com</a>
5	Lancashire, Merseyside, Yorkshire, Greater. Manchester	Margaret Kemp	<a href="mailto:mekemp.wes@gmail.com">mekemp.wes@gmail.com</a>
	East Yorkshire	<i>Harry Scargill</i>	<a href="mailto:hbscontracting@outlook.com">hbscontracting@outlook.com</a>
	North Yorkshire	<i>Nickey Smith</i>	<a href="mailto:nickeysmith.wes@outlook.com">nickeysmith.wes@outlook.com</a>
	Lancashire	<i>Georgina O'Connor</i>	<a href="mailto:activepeopleandpets@gmail.com">activepeopleandpets@gmail.com</a>
	West Yorkshire:	<i>Lesley A. Wilkinson-Lyner</i>	<a href="mailto:lesley@thehoovesgroup.com">lesley@thehoovesgroup.com</a>
6	Avon, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Dyfed, Glamorgan, Gloucestershire, Gwent, Herefordshire, Pembrokeshire, Powys, Worcestershire	<b>MANDY HAWKINS</b>	<a href="mailto:wesarea6@gmail.com">wesarea6@gmail.com</a>
	Pembrokeshire	<i>Julie Wilson</i>	<a href="mailto:rainbow.eggs@btinternet.com">rainbow.eggs@btinternet.com</a>
	Gloucestershire	<i>Gill Parker</i>	<a href="mailto:bronze@gillparker.co.uk">bronze@gillparker.co.uk</a>
	Herefordshire	<i>Bruce Lawrence</i>	<a href="mailto:bclsph123@icloud.com">bclsph123@icloud.com</a>
	Glamorgan	<i>Yvonne Allen</i>	<a href="mailto:ylallen@aol.com">ylallen@aol.com</a>
	Powys	<i>Fran Groves</i>	<a href="mailto:frangroves@aol.com">frangroves@aol.com</a>
	Worcestershire	<i>Roger Wells</i>	<a href="mailto:rwells613@gmail.com">rwells613@gmail.com</a>
7	Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire.	<b>VICKY EASTON</b>	<a href="mailto:Vicky.wes7@gmail.com">Vicky.wes7@gmail.com</a>
	Leicestershire	<i>Stephanie Goodacre</i>	<a href="mailto:stephaniegoodacre@btinternet.com">stephaniegoodacre@btinternet.com</a>
8	Berkshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Surrey, Sussex	<b>JO GALLAGHER</b>	<a href="mailto:paul.joanne.gallagher@btinternet.com">paul.joanne.gallagher@btinternet.com</a>
	East Sussex	<i>Vicki Holden</i>	<a href="mailto:vholden26@yahoo.co.uk">vholden26@yahoo.co.uk</a>
	West Sussex	<i>Rebecca Bendall</i>	<a href="mailto:rebeccabendall@sky.com">rebeccabendall@sky.com</a>
9	Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk	<b>NICOLA PERCY</b>	<a href="mailto:nicteach1@yahoo.com">nicteach1@yahoo.com</a>
10	Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire., Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands	<b>SARAH CAMERON</b>	<a href="mailto:pale.rider@live.co.uk">pale.rider@live.co.uk</a>
		<b>JANE GIBBS</b>	<a href="mailto:jane_gibbs@rocketmail.com">jane_gibbs@rocketmail.com</a>
	Befordshire	<i>Abbey Brotherton</i>	<a href="mailto:brotherton499@btinternet.com">brotherton499@btinternet.com</a>
11	Borders, Central, Fife, Lothian, Tayside	<b>KAYREEN JONES</b>	<a href="mailto:kayreenjones4@btinternet.com">kayreenjones4@btinternet.com</a>
12	Dumfries & Galloway, Strathclyde	<b>PATRICIA O'MICHAEL</b>	<a href="mailto:barbarellababy@hotmail.com">barbarellababy@hotmail.com</a>
13	Dorset and Hampshire	<b>ANNE BATLEY</b>	<a href="mailto:a.batley@ntlworld.com">a.batley@ntlworld.com</a>



---

## Society Approved Judges

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

*(Prob. = Newly approved judges who are required to stand alongside existing judges for at least one show before accepting a judges appointment).*

**Lucy Adams** (Lincolnshire) Tel: 07833 357682

**David Brindley** (Wrexham) Tel. 07778 591196

**Michael Carder** (Cambridgeshire) Tel: 01354 692011

**Johanna Cotton** (Wrexham) Tel. 07984 141973

**Scherie Dermody** (Cheshire) Tel: 01270 780620

**David Hudspeth** (Nottinghamshire) Tel 07977 530954

**Louise Hunt** (Kent) Mob: 07712277812 email: [Louiseh2015@gmail.com](mailto:Louiseh2015@gmail.com)

**Bruce Lawrence** (Herefordshire) Tel: 07791 323192

**David Lloyd** (Hampshire) Tel: 01252 875896

**Bob Mayhew** (Hampshire) Tel: 07818 445562,

email: [bobmayhew62@gmail.com](mailto:bobmayhew62@gmail.com)

NB. (Bob also holds NRHA.DE, and judge emeritus for AQHA, APHA, NCHA & NRHA)

### ***WES Judges Committee***

The following Judges are members of the WES Judges Committee:

Mick Carder (chair),  
Bob Mayhew,  
David Lloyd,  
Scherie Dermody



## Society Approved Instructors

### The following is a list of WES Approved Instructors

<b>John Fyfe</b>	Tel: 01316649715 Mob: 07957 555 989
<b>Sandra Loder</b>	Tel: 01975 41270 Mob: 07825549728
<b>Janet Burwood</b>	Tel: 01293 782014 Mob: 0771 5833349
<b>Tammy Greaves</b>	Tel: 01425 610278 Mob: 07824 664795
<b>David Lloyd</b>	Tel: 01252 875896
<b>Arlene Cluness</b>	Tel: 01464 871264 Mob: 07776 251944
<b>Emma Chapman-Ionie</b>	Tel: 01969 623688
<b>Kayreen Jones</b>	Tel: 01620 892632
<b>Bruce Lawrence</b>	Tel: 01432 820081 Mob: 07725 501207
<b>Michael Langford</b>	Mob: 07834 958900
<b>Catherine Wright</b>	Tel: 01608 730039
<b>Kirsty Hewitt</b>	Tel: 01932 340358 Mob: 07932 029558
<b>Scherie Dermody</b>	Tel: 01270 780620 Mob: 07930 410128
<b>Tim Keeley</b>	Tel: 01824 750463
<b>Bob Mayhew</b>	Tel: 0239263 2145 Mob: 07818 445562

## Advertising Rates

Advertising for WES approved events is free, as are “For Sale” and “Wanted” small ads posted by members

### Rates for other items are as follows

Full page (Nominal A4 portrait) £50  
Half page (Nominal A5 landscape) £30  
Quarter page (Nominal A6 portrait) £20

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 either be in Word or JPG format. It should be sent to the editor WES News. email: [cpa.thompson@btconnect.com](mailto:cpa.thompson@btconnect.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.





---

## From the Editor

Welcome to issue 106 of the WES News. When I did the COVID special back in the spring of 2020 I never imagined for one minute that a year on would still be in lockdown, although it is now easing. What has never ceased to amaze me however, is the resilience and the resourcefulness of the Area and County Reps, and others, who have managed to overcome almost insurmountable difficulties to put on virtual and real shows, etc. You all deserve a big vote of thanks.

The WES AGM was held as a virtual, Zoom, meeting for the first time. For those who did not attend it was a successful meeting, with the attendees voting to have next year's AGM as Zoom meeting. From my own viewpoint attending the meeting via Zoom saved approximately two hours of driving each way from Berkshire to Coventry as well as the cost of the fuel. I suspect that the other attendees had similar savings. In addition, it saves WES the cost of hiring the hotel conference facilities, etc. so whilst there are obviously some downsides to a Zoom meeting, it appears that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages

As some of you already know, this issue of WES News was delayed until after the AGM to allow for a report of this Zoom meeting to be included. In view of this and the fact that competitions and other events may still be postponed, or even cancelled, due to COVID the next issue of WES News will be after the National Show, so probably early September. Hopefully, this will give the organisers of regional and national shows, camps, and other events plenty of time to send their reports in for inclusion in the next issue.

As I was putting the magazine together the death of HRH Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh was announced. Should we put in something about him I wondered but decided against adding to the many tributes that have already been paid by people who are far more eloquent than I. So I will limit myself to saying RIP Sir.

Summer is fast approaching, so I hope that everyone can get out there and enjoy their horses in good weather without too many flies or midges troubling them.

---

## Chairman's Report

*By  
Ann Hughes*

The lockdown forced us to have the first 'Zoom' AGM meeting, it was quite a daunting prospect, not knowing how many would want to join in and also to be able to keep it active and allow everyone to be able to contribute as they would be able to do at a normal meeting. My thanks to all those that attended.

Considering it was our first time of doing it we were pleased to see that numbers were good and on the whole it worked well, despite a couple of misunderstandings. Several points were raised that we, as council, can take forward to discuss in greater detail.

The 'Bill Sheppard' award was voted for, and awarded to, Louise Hunt for her outstanding work during the last 12 months or so, setting up the virtual shows, photographic competitions and raffles, it was an almost unanimous vote in her favour. Ros Madden, (Bill Sheppard's daughter), pointed out that over the years the awards meaning has been altered slightly, we aim to re-instate the original meaning for next year, but that Louise deserved the award whichever criteria was used.

The National show and the National Clinic have changed venue this year, being very kindly hosted by David Deptford and all at Sovereign quarter Horses (Horsecreek Farm, Coldham Bank, March PE15





OBS). It means that the show will not be quite so central this year, but because we are a Nationwide Society, some members are going to find it easier to get to it and some will have quite a distance to cover. Wherever we hold it, that will always be a problem though, and there will always be pros and cons.

We have always had a problem contacting Moreton Morrell, but despite numerous phone calls and emails over a period of months, we were not able speak to anyone there to find out if were likely to be able to use their facilities again this year. So, knowing that things were likely to move very fast once the lockdown finished in June, we felt we needed to find a venue quickly so that the show could be held on its regular date. David kindly said that he would be very pleased to offer us the use of his venue. We will have a much better surface for the horses, plus we get 'food' on site, something I will very much appreciate. The bar will also mean we can get together in the evening in comfort, rather than sitting out on camp chairs in the open.

We did manage to contact the college a couple of weeks ago, with a view to holding the clinic there, but they could not offer us the date's we needed, so again with very little notice David offered us his venue. I have attended many camps at Sovereign and they have always been somewhere I want to go back to again and again, such a great atmosphere.

If we can go ahead with either the show or the clinic will very much hinge on any covid restrictions still existing, but I am going to be eternally optimistic and say we will be able to enjoy both.

The meeting ended with a vote for next year to use the 'Zoom' format again. This will be in March next year, date tbc.

Thank you all for being such loyal members, many have found it tough going, but we can all now look forward to normality coming back and enjoying our beautiful four legged and two legged friends to the full once more.

---

---

## **Area Coordinators Report**

*By  
John Ayles*

This is a heartfelt thank you to all the Area Reps who put so much work into their jobs regardless of Covid and I am sure all members will agree that they are a very important part of our society that makes it that successful.

All of you have managed to keep your area members connected one way or another.

We welcome new Reps for Area 9 Nicola Percy and Area 3 Emma Hillier.

So nice to see so many of you attending the Area Reps meeting and for organizing Area Zoom meetings.

Now we are looking forward to getting back to the good times where we and our horses are all able to socialize again when restrictions are lifted.



---

## Youth Report

By  
*Louise Hunt*

I am so thrilled to see so many youth riders taking part in the Virtual shows, and trying to improve upon their previous scores, it shows what ambition and drive you have. It has been lovely to see you practicing too.

As you will have seen on our social media pages, the WES National Show 2021 is taking place at Horse Creek farm from 27<sup>th</sup> August – 29<sup>th</sup> August, so I am pleased to announce that on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August there will be a Pre-Show Clinic with Olivia Lochhead for Youth riders, booking forms will be out shortly and I advise to book your place quickly as places will be limited. Olivia is a UKCC Level 2 coach, and has first-hand experience teaching competitors on the AQHA UK Youth & Amateur teams, Olivia herself has won many championships including, 2019 AQHA European Champion Senior Ranch Riding with White Faced n Blazin who she trained, and was a member of the 2016 AQHA UK Youth World Cup team competing in Australia.

This is a great opportunity for Youth riders, booking form out shortly! Please contact me if you have any queries.

I would also like to remind members that Membership for children under 10 years is FREE.... So please sign up now via our website!

We are currently a few days in to the “Easter Youth challenge” running from 2<sup>nd</sup> April until 19<sup>th</sup> April only £4 per rider, each participant will be receiving a lovely rosette and the rider who completes the most time riding, lunging, hacking etc. will win a prize! Good luck to all who signed up .... if you haven't yet there is still time!

The Youth Show Wardrobe is up and running and any WES Youth member competing at a WES event can “Hire / Rent” these show clothes. The wardrobe will be taken to the National Show, and some Area shows. Pictures of the show clothing available is on the Show Wardrobe page, if you need any information regarding this please contact me!

There is lots more to come and announcements will be made soon on more youth events to come throughout 2021!

---

## Webmasters Report

By  
*Daniel Gwalter*

Hi everyone, for those that have not met me, my name is Dan Gwalter and recently I was lucky enough to be asked to take on the role of webmaster for WES. What this means is that ultimately I am responsible for the day to day running of the WES website and have a mission to make it a useable, inclusive and informative place for both members and non-members alike.

So, what does this really mean? Well, I think we can all agree that the current WES website has fallen behind the times and given its long history has become overly complicated. The website has a lot of really valuable information, however, unfortunately, this can be difficult to find and even harder to maintain. As such I have sought and received approval from the WES council to produce a new and improved website which I have been working on behind the scenes.



The new website will be showcased over the coming months and will be a complete redesign ensuring that the layout remains fresh, clean and simple with a strong focus on providing useful information in as few clicks as possible. I have already produced a proof-of-concept version of the website and received great feedback from those that have seen it in action.

In anticipation of the new website, I would like to share with you a few things that I am working on.

- Enhanced information regarding the Council, Judges, Reps and Instructors
- Gallery of WES members activities
- Articles and blogs relating to western riding, horsemanship and all things WES
- Improved calendar showing physical and virtual events in more detail across all WES areas (easily filtered to show only certain types of event or areas)
- Directory of WES related materials such as the constitution, rule book and guides
- Archives of all of the WES newsletters
- Youth area dedicated to showcasing the various youth initiatives
- Scheme area to provide clear information as to the many WES schemes that you can get involved in

As you can see, there is a lot to be done and I hope that you will all find the new WES website a welcome change.

If anyone has any other great ideas for the WES website please feel free to reach out to me directly at [daniel@happyontheplanet.com](mailto:daniel@happyontheplanet.com) and I will be glad to discuss your ideas.

---

## Deadline for Next Issues

Here is the submission date for the next issue of the WES News:

**Issue 107      Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

The Magazine will typically be published 1-2 weeks after this, depending on how quickly I get the report for the National show.

**Please submit your reports, articles, etc. in Word or as an email, with pictures and Graphics as JPG files.** If you are sending in an advertisement, please send it as Word or a graphic so it can be resized as necessary to fit the available space.

Finally, please do not wait until the last minute to send items to me. Receiving 8-10 Area Reports plus any articles on the final day runs the risk of something getting lost in the rush.

---

## Cover Picture

Tammy Greaves of Burley Villa has been accredited with the new title of “Professional Horsewoman” by the AQHA this year, so she has made the cover of this issue!! Congratulations Tammy

The picture is of Tammy at the 2019 AQHA European Championships held in Kreuth, Germany. Showing Senior Trail with Anita Bokisch’s Mebe Rageous



---

## WES AGM Report

*By  
Ann Hughes*

The lockdown forced us to have the first 'Zoom' AGM meeting, it was quite a daunting prospect, not knowing how many would want to join in, and also to be able to keep it active and allow everyone to be able to contribute as they would be able to do at a normal meeting. My thanks to all those that attended.

Considering it was our first time of doing it we were pleased to see that numbers were good and on the whole it worked well, despite a couple of misunderstandings. Several points were raised that we, as council, can take forward to discuss in greater detail.

The 'Bill Sheppard' award was voted for, and awarded to, Louise Hunt for her outstanding work during the last 12 months or so, setting up the virtual shows, photographic competitions and raffles, it was an almost unanimous vote in her favour. Ros Madden, (Bill Sheppards daughter), pointed out that over the years the awards meaning has been altered slightly, we aim to re-instate the original meaning for next year, but that Louise deserved the award whichever criteria was used.

The National show and the National Clinic have changed venue this year, being very kindly hosted by David Deptford and all at Sovereign. It means that the show will not be quite so central this year, but because we are a Nationwide Society, some members are going to find it easier to get to it and some will have quite a distance to cover. Wherever we hold it that will always be a problem though, and there will always be pros and cons.

We have always had a problem contacting Moreton Morrell, but despite numerous phone calls and emails over a period of months, we were not able speak to anyone there to find out if were likely to be able to use their facilities again this year. So, knowing that things were likely to move very fast once the lockdown finished in June, we felt we needed to find a venue quickly so that the show could be held on its regular date. David kindly said that he would be very pleased to offer us the use of his venue. We will have a much better surface for the horses, plus we get 'food' on site, something I will very much appreciate. The bar will also mean we can get together in the evening in comfort, rather than sitting out on camp chairs in the open.

We did manage to contact the college a couple of weeks ago, with a view to holding the clinic there, but they could not offer us the date's we needed, so again with very little notice David offered us his venue. I have attended many camps at Sovereign and they have always been somewhere I want to go back to again and again, such a great atmosphere.

If we can go ahead with either the show or the clinic will very much hinge on any covid restrictions still existing, but I am going to be eternally optimistic and say we will be able to enjoy both.

The meeting ended with a vote for next year to use the 'Zoom' format again. This will be in March next year, date TBC.

Thank you all for being such loyal members, many have found it tough going, but we can all now look forward to normality coming back and enjoying our beautiful four legged and two legged friends to the full once more.

---



## Virtual Shows Report

By  
*Louise Hunt*

Once again I must start with saying a big “Thank you” to everyone who has supported these events, I do hope you have enjoyed taking part and being able to compete whilst we cannot in person. A very big Thank you to our WES Judges who have given up their time to Judge these events too!

Our “Goodbye 2020 show” was a huge success, I know some of you unfortunately had snow and bad weather so were not able to take part. It was great to see more members entering the Photo Competitions as well.

We were able to run a Hi Points award over the two main Virtual Shows – August & December 2020, the winners were as follows: -

**Walk / Jog** – Diana Hicks  
**Novice Rider** – Jennifer Durrant  
**Novice Horse** – Alison Cheetham  
**Amateur** – Kim Collier & RQH Electric Tartan  
**Open** – Vicky Easton

**The results for the December 2020 Virtual Show are as follows**

### Showmanship

#### Novice Rider

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
22	Caroline Burrowson	Charlie Brown	1 <sup>st</sup>
28	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	2 <sup>nd</sup>
23	Caroline Burrowson	Down Derry Maw	3 <sup>rd</sup>
7	Rhiannon Hickman	Shining On Me	4 <sup>th</sup>
11	Leslie Hastie	Ruberslaw Perfectsue	5 <sup>th</sup>
4	Phyl Drummond	Blue Yanbu	6 <sup>th</sup>
3	Phyl Drummond	Ayasha Of Saltcreek	7 <sup>th</sup>
15	Kirsty Cameron	Bobby	8 <sup>th</sup>
21	Louise Bell	Hilston Jewel	9 <sup>th</sup>

#### Amateur

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
16	Kim Briggs	RQH Electric Tartan	1 <sup>st</sup>
11	Leslie Hastie	Ruberslaw Perfectsue	2 <sup>nd</sup>

#### Open

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
30	Tammy Greaves	Night Call Invitation	1 <sup>st</sup>
4	Phyl Drummond	Blue Yanbu	2 <sup>nd</sup>



---

## Horsemanship

### Youth

Entry No	Name	Name Of Horse	Placing
20	Izzy Babji	Duffy	1 <sup>st</sup>

### Walk / Jog

Entry No	Name	Name Of Horse	Placing
17	Tracy Garton	Ima Smooth Leaguer	1 <sup>st</sup>
19	Gill Raymond	Dun It At The Ritz	2 <sup>nd</sup>
25	Diana Meryl Hicks	Mr Jamie Fish	3 <sup>rd</sup>
29	Tracy Haynes	Tafika Tiger	4 <sup>th</sup>
14	Magdalena Lagodka	Smokey	5 <sup>th</sup>
31	Melissa Way	Azzuia Beau	6 <sup>th</sup>
24	Francine Whitehead	Texas	7 <sup>th</sup>
22	Caroline Burrowson	Charlie Brown	8 <sup>th</sup>
9	Jane Gibbs	Glenvara Lileth	9 <sup>th</sup>
15	Kirsty Cameron	Bobby	10 <sup>th</sup>
8	Sarah Cameron	Ziggy	11 <sup>th</sup>
21	Louise Bell	Hilston Jewel	12 <sup>th</sup>

### Novice Rider

Entry No	Name	Name Of Horse	Placing
12	Audrey Prescott	Chicoleenas Dolled Up	1 <sup>st</sup>
19	Gill Raymond	Dun It At The Ritz	2 <sup>nd</sup>
14	Madalena Lagodka	Smokey	3 <sup>rd</sup>
7	Rhiannon Hickman	Shining On Me	4 <sup>th</sup>
4	Phyl Drummond	Blue Yanbu	5 <sup>th</sup>
3	Phyl Drummond	Ayasha Of Saltcreek	6 <sup>th</sup>
28	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	7 <sup>th</sup>

### Novice Horse

Entry No	Name	Name Of Horse	Placing
19	Gill Raymond	Dun It At The Ritz	1 <sup>st</sup>
6	Alison Cheetham	Chamfron Paloma	2 <sup>nd</sup>
28	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	3 <sup>rd</sup>
21	Louise Bell	Hilston Jewel	4 <sup>th</sup>

### Amateur

Entry No	Name	Name Of Horse	Placing
10	Vicky Easton	Smart Snippa Chic	1 <sup>st</sup>
2	Denise Russell	RS Jamiroqua Olena	2 <sup>nd</sup>
12	Audrey Prescott	Chicoleenas Dolled Up	3 <sup>rd</sup>
16	Kim Briggs	RQH Electric Tartan	4 <sup>th</sup>



---

**Open**

Entry No	Name	Name Of Horse	Placing
10	Vicky Easton	Smart Snippa Chic	1 <sup>st</sup>
12	Audrey Prescott	Chicoleenas Dolled Up	2 <sup>nd</sup>
16	Kim Briggs	RQH Electric Tartan	3 <sup>rd</sup>

**Ranch Riding**

**Youth**

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
20	Izzy Babji	Duffy	1 <sup>st</sup>

**Novice Rider**

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
18	Camille Geisz	T.George	1 <sup>st</sup>
28	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	2 <sup>nd</sup>
25	Diana Meryl Hicks	Mr Jamie Fish	3 <sup>rd</sup>
7	Rhiannon Hickman	Shining On Me	4 <sup>th</sup>

**Novice Horse**

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
6	Alison Cheetham	Chamfron Paloma	1 <sup>st</sup>
18	Camille Geisz	T. George	2 <sup>nd</sup>
28	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	

**Amateur**

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
10	Vicky Easton	Smart Snippa Chic	1 <sup>st</sup>
18	Camille Geisz	T.George	2 <sup>nd</sup>

**Open**

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
2	Denise Russell	RS Jamiroqua Olena	1 <sup>st</sup>
10	Vicky Easton	Smart Snippa Chic	2 <sup>nd</sup>

**Unaffiliated**

Entry No	Name	Horse Name	Placing
26	Clare Carter	Tiggy	1 <sup>st</sup>

A huge Congratulations to you all! Thank you for the wonderful pictures you sent in to celebrate your achievements!





*Kim Brigg's RQH Electric Tartan*



*Alison Cheetham & Chamfron Paloma celebrating their Hi Point award!*



*Abbey Rome's horse Pumba modelling her Photo Competition rosette!*

### Virtual Shows 2021

We are currently in the process of Judging our "Spring Virtual Show" which is bigger than ever with 4 WES Approved Judges and I am pleased to say we have had over 40 competitors enter!

**The results for the Spring Virtual Show 2021 are as follows:**

### Trail - Judge David Brindley

#### Youth / LB

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
22	Emma Kay	Albert	1 <sup>st</sup>
11	Zac Cheetham	Billy	2 <sup>nd</sup>
34	Scarlett Thomas	Moorbridge Ladybird	3 <sup>rd</sup>
12	Nancy Cook	Teddy Bear	4 <sup>th</sup>
7	Izzy Babij	Duffy	5 <sup>th</sup>
27	India Austin	Jigsaw Puzzle	6 <sup>th</sup>
8	Gracie Evans	Nic	--



---

**Walk / Jog**

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
15	Tracy Garton	Ima Smooth Leaguer	1 <sup>st</sup>
5	Kirsty Cameron	Bobby	2 <sup>nd</sup>
6	Sarah Cameron	Ziggy	3 <sup>rd</sup>
30	Melissa Way	Lilith	4 <sup>th</sup>
3	Jane Gibbs	Glenvara Lileth	5 <sup>th</sup>

**Novice Rider**

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
32	Camille Geisz	George	1 <sup>st</sup>
40	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	2 <sup>nd</sup>

**Novice Horse**

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
10	Alison Cheetham	Chamfron Paloma	1 <sup>st</sup>
40	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	2 <sup>nd</sup>
29	Tammy Greaves	Night Call Invitation	3 <sup>rd</sup>

**Amateur**

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
32	Camille Geisz	George	1 <sup>st</sup>
16	Anita Bokisch	Mebe Rageous	2 <sup>nd</sup>

**Open**

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
32	Camille Geisz	George	1 <sup>st</sup>
9	Olivia Plumb	Nic	2 <sup>nd</sup>
37	Tammy Greaves	Ima Smooth Leaguer	3 <sup>rd</sup>
16	Anita Bokisch	Mebe Rageous	4 <sup>th</sup>

**Unaffiliated – WALK / JOG pattern**

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
24	Kate Thomas	Tafika Tiger	1 <sup>st</sup>
23	Nicole Pasotti	Azzura Beau	2 <sup>nd</sup>

**Unaffiliated – Amateur Pattern**

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
37	Tammy Greaves	Ima Smooth Leaguer	1 <sup>st</sup>



---

## Ranch - Judge Louise Hunt

### Youth

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
26	Emogene Wootton-Jones	Keeps Me Peppy	1 <sup>st</sup>
12	Nancy Cook	Teddy Bear	2 <sup>nd</sup>
7	Izzy Babij	Duffy	3 <sup>rd</sup>
22	Emma Kay	Albert	4 <sup>th</sup>

### Novice Rider

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
13	Nick Ainsley	Jac Wonders Who	1 <sup>st</sup>
41	Diana Nottingham	Rhiona	2 <sup>nd</sup>
20	Seraya Sigsworth	Doxford Chrissy	3 <sup>rd</sup>
14	Charlie Madeley	Ellerbeck Spangle	4 <sup>th</sup>
40	Jennifer McFarlane	Conor	5 <sup>th</sup>
7	Izzy Babij	Duffy	6 <sup>th</sup>

### Novice Horse

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
29	Tammy Greaves	Night Call Invitation	1 <sup>st</sup>
4	Kim Collier	RQH Electric Tartan	2 <sup>nd</sup>
10	Alison Cheetham	Chamfron Paloma	3 <sup>rd</sup>
20	Seraya Sigsworth	Doxford Chrissy	4 <sup>th</sup>
40	Jennifer McFarlane	Conor	5 <sup>th</sup>
7	Izzy Babij	Duffy	6 <sup>th</sup>

### Amateur

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
7	Izzy Babij	Duffy	1 <sup>st</sup>

### Open - No Entries

### Unaffiliated – No Entries

## Showmanship - Judge Mick Carder

### Youth

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
25	Scarlett Thomas	Mebe Rageous	1 <sup>st</sup>
31	India Austin	Ima Smooth Leaguer	2 <sup>nd</sup>
26	Emogene Wootton- Jones	Keeps Me Peppy	3 <sup>rd</sup>
12	Nancy Cook	Teddy Bear	4 <sup>th</sup>
11	Zac Cheetham	Billy	5 <sup>th</sup>



### Novice Rider

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
30	Melissa Way	Lilith	1 <sup>st</sup>
28	Tracy Haynes	Night Call Invitation	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Janet Allen		3 <sup>rd</sup>
15	Tracy Garton	Ima Smooth Leaguer	4 <sup>th</sup>
35	Julia Aitken		5 <sup>th</sup>
17	Phyl Drummond	Ayasha Of Saltcreek	6 <sup>th</sup>
18	Phyl Drummond	Blue Yanbu	7 <sup>th</sup>
40	Jennifer McFarlane	Connor	8 <sup>th</sup>
2	Lesley Hastie	Ruberslaw Perfectsue	9 <sup>th</sup>

### Amateur

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
15	Tracy Garton	Ima Smooth Leaguer	1 <sup>st</sup>
30	Melissa Way	Lilith	2 <sup>nd</sup>
4	Kim Collier	RQH Electric Tartan	3 <sup>rd</sup>
18	Phyl Drummond	Blue Yanbu	4 <sup>th</sup>
17	Phyl Drummond	Ayasha Of Saltcreek	5 <sup>th</sup>
2	Lesley Hastie	Ruberslaw Perfectsue	-

### Open

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
37	Tammy Greaves	Ima Smooth Leaguer	1 <sup>st</sup>
29	Tammy Greaves	Night call Invitation	2 <sup>nd</sup>
21	Ginny Johnson	Savannah Pearly Nights	3 <sup>rd</sup>

### Unaffiliated Novice Rider pattern

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
23	Nicole Patsotti	Azzura Beau	1 <sup>st</sup>
24	Kate Thomas	Moorbridge Ladybird	2 <sup>nd</sup>

### Unaffiliated Amateur Pattern

Entry No	Competitor Name	Horse Name	Placing
25	Scarlett Thomas	Mebe Rageous	1 <sup>st</sup>

### HIGH POINT WINNERS FOR SPRING VIRTUAL SHOW 2021

<b>Youth</b>	Scarlett Thomas
<b>Walk/jog</b>	DIANA Hicks & Tracy Garton
<b>Novice rider</b>	Melissa Way
<b>Novice horse</b>	Tammy Greaves
<b>Amateur</b>	Tracy Garton
<b>Open</b>	Tammy Greaves
<b>Unaffiliated</b>	Nicole Pasotti

Congratulations to all the winners





I am hoping to continue these events even when Lockdown eases, as from the feedback I have had so far they are thoroughly enjoyed.... Please let us know!

Stay safe & Keep practicing!

---

---

## **A Guide to the North York Moors**

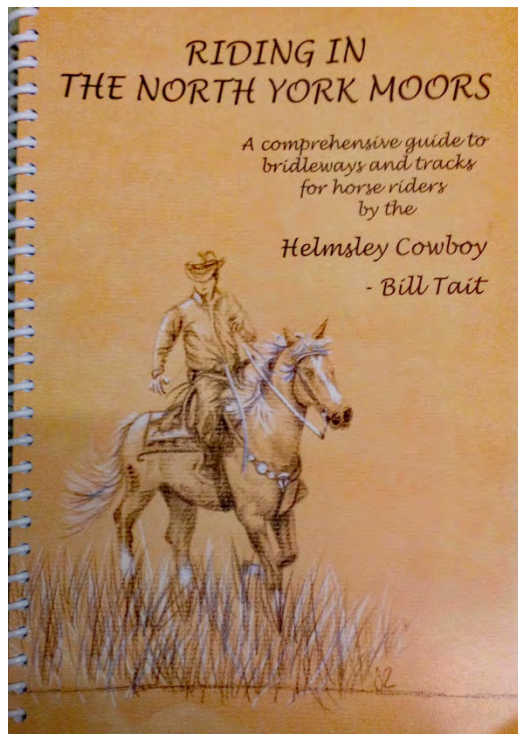
*By  
Bill Tait*

My book, a guide to the North York Moors has gone into a third reprint having sold over 260 copies and has raised much needed money, from the profits, for bridle way repairs and improvements

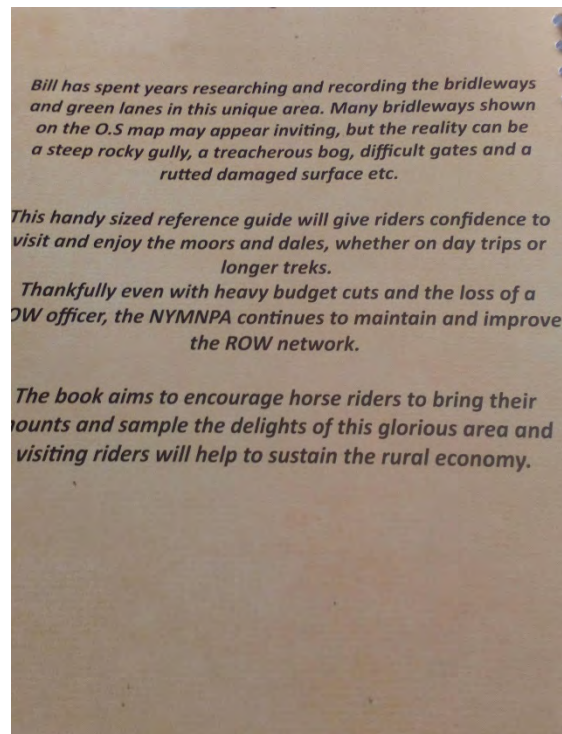
Our bridle way group together with Ride Yorkshire and the NYCC Rights of Way Dept. were busy before lockdown doing bridle way improvements, however recently the fields were very muddy and there has not much riding out as it has been too icy.

The book costs £9.50 (£12.50 including p&p). You can order yours via the link below. Both Bill and Janet will have copies with them when they lead rides over the next few months.

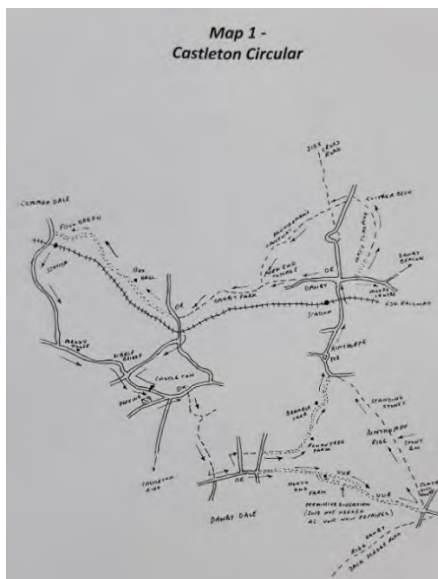
<https://www.rideyorkshire.org/book-by-the-helmsley-cowboy/>



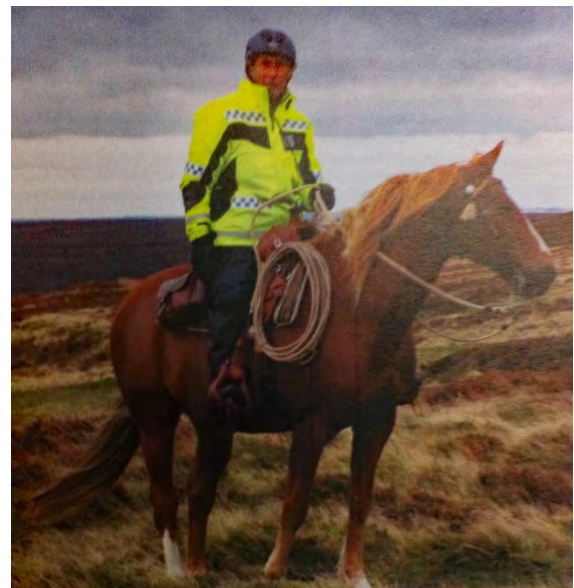
*The front cover of Bill's book*



*The back cover of Bill's book*



*A typical map from the book*



*Bill out on the trail*



## How I got into Western riding

by  
*Karen Inkster*

I got into western riding as I was competing my rescue mare Connie in endurance and as we went up the mileage and thus length of rides, I found the western saddle much more comfortable for both horse and rider. I use an adjustable treeless western saddle, therefore it is very light and works well for both me and my horses. I am quite short in stature and unfortunately suffer from shoulder and elbow calcification of the joints, so having a light saddle makes tacking up much easier!

A couple of years later I bought a second horse, Monty, a Spanish mustang. Unfortunately, he came with many behavioural issues and the horn certainly comes in handy when he wants to show me his rodeo moves!

I also do a lot of long-distance rides with my two horses and dog, camping in the hills under the stars. This is my number one love. I live in Perthshire Scotland and am very lucky in that I can ride from my door to the Cairngorms without hardly touching tarmac, I can ride for days and days! I usually ride Connie and lead Monty as my mare is an awesome trail horse and although Monty is greatly improved through positive reinforcement training, he can still be a bit unreliable, so he is usually the pack pony!

The western horn is great for looping the lead rein round, I don't tie it or anything, so in an emergency it will release, but it saves my shoulders being pulled out of the socket when Monty sees a tasty patch of grass!



*Karen's herd, Connie on the right and Monty on the left*

As a new member I'm really looking forward to learning more about western and maybe taking part in some low-level completions when I know more about what I should be doing! I've met some wonderful new friends through riding western and it's lovely to see so many bitless riders too (I'm an Ambassador for the World Bitless Association). I'm in the process of setting up a small natural equine centre, which



has corals for horses and either camping space or a couple of glamping pods for riders should anyone want to visit and explore the local area!

*Editors Note: Karen is a field officer for Scotways*

---

---

## **My COVID Year**

*By  
Shuna Marden*

I have had the quietest year with horses this year than for the last 50 years! I think my horse box did less than 500 miles in the whole year, & only I did about 6 live competitions, none of them Western, as I don't have a suitable saddle for my little Fjord.

I did keep on with a bit of training, & kept the interest going by doing quite a bit of "on line Trec", which is very similar to Western Trail, & Gaia did very well, being Reserve Open Champion for Scotland. I know I could have done some video Western, but I can use an English saddle in Trec. If anyone has a very lightweight, W. Saddle for a wide but short backed horse, I would be interested.

The last month has been more restrictive than all the Covid restrictions, as we have had over a month of continuous ice, followed by two weeks of quite deep, freezing snow, & you just could not move horses anywhere. There was actually the case of two wild rabbits, in Aberdeenshire, that were so hungry they jumped over a half door and shared the horse's hay net, & slept in the stable with the pony ?? One of them is still doing it although the snow has mostly gone, & it was briefly mentioned in H&H.

---

---

## **A Civilian's Experience at a Mounted Police Clinic**

*By  
Lisa Zaininger*

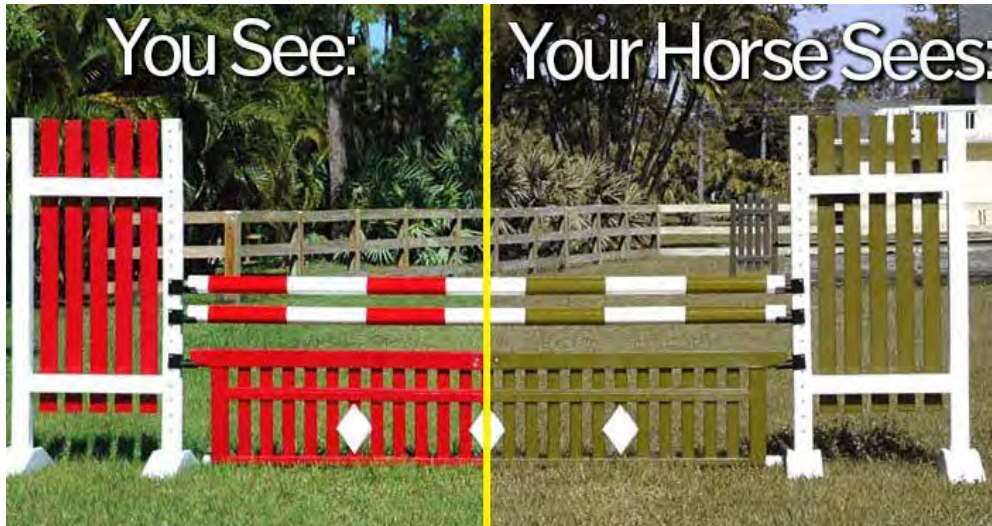
Who hasn't marveled at riders who guide their fearless steeds through unforgiving desert sands or down treacherous mountainous slopes? I'm thinking of course of classic horse tales such as *Hidalgo* and *The Man From Snowy River*. While we may not live in the deserts of the Middle East or the Australian frontier, we can still find opportunities to challenge ourselves and our trusting mounts.

Such an opportunity presented itself to me in late June, when a group of 15 riders—including 3 Kane County Mounted Rangers—participated in a de-spooking clinic hosted by the National Mounted Police Services (NMPS).

Founded by 30-year veteran Bill Richey, this organization has been training mounted officers and civilians since 2000. Mr. Richey has served as a mounted police officer as well as trained over 200 horse and rider teams to perform safely and professionally at various venues including the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta and the annual Mardi Gras festival in New Orleans. Mr. Richey travels throughout the country 50 weeks per year instructing students on horse physiology and psychology as well as drill and equitation techniques to ensure the safety and success of his students while overcoming challenging situations with large groups of people.

I was very fortunate to find a clinic within a 45-minute drive hosted by Hendrick Stables in Kingston, Illinois. The owner, Jen Lowe, did a great job with directions and accommodation.

The weekend session started with instruction in the indoor arena where we learned about how horses see and perceive their environment. I was surprised to learn that horses see primarily two colors and have more cones in their eye, which makes certain objects appear brighter. It also gives them superior night vision.



With their lack of depth perception, it can be hard for them to differentiate between an object and its background—with the result being that objects can appear much larger than they really are. Similar to progressive eyeglass lenses, each part of their eye sees objects at a different distance.

The bottom of the eye sees things up close, which is helpful when their head is lowered for grazing. The middle of the eye sees things at mid-distance, and the top part of the eye sees things in the distance, which explains why they raise their head high when startled and gaze into the distance. Objects behind them appear to be larger and less focused, which explains why they can react to objects that come up quickly from behind—despite the fact that they can see nearly 365 degrees around them due to the placement of their eyes on the side of their head.

In addition to horse physiology, we learned about drill techniques and how a mounted squad can be used to move and divide a crowd of people. Mr. Richey explained how a squad can ride in various patterns, such as a herringbone, to segment a crowd of people and help control the “mob mentality” that can cause rioting and other unwanted and dangerous behavior.

Given our current climate with COVID-19 and the Black Lives Matter protests, this type of training could certainly be useful.

One of the attendees happened to be a mounted officer from the Chicago Police Department, and I was somewhat surprised to hear that these officers do not receive formalized training. I know that she had some good takeaways from the weekend that she will share with her department.

After the presentation and before mounting, Mr. Richey gave a demonstration in the round pen with some reactive horses to show how to identify their “trouble spots.” He said that every horse will have something that worries him, and it’s our job to figure that out. It might be objects near the ground or objects above their head. Oftentimes they will be more worried about objects on one side over the other. Once we’ve identified that, we can apply techniques to “counter” or “guide” our horses more effectively.



We also talked about the horse's instinctive states, and that we would be more successful if we could keep our horse relaxed and in thought. If we pushed them too hard, they would revert to their instinctual flight response, so it was our job to carefully manage how much we asked them to do. In other words, there was no shame in staying further back or leading a horse through a particular challenge.

After the lecture portion, it was finally time to mount up, and I was eager to figure out my mare Piper's trouble spots. After a brief warmup, to get everyone more comfortable and focused, we practiced some simple drill maneuvers. Riding in pairs of two—similar to a parade formation—we rode around the arena, turning left and right and separating into a rollback.

As we all got settled, the first object was introduced—a simple plywood board. It was interesting to see how each horse responded; some hardly hesitated walking over it while some stopped in their tracks, lowered their head and eyed it suspiciously. This was our first lesson in figuring out how we'd have to help our horses through each obstacle.

Mr. Richey provided coaching to each rider to overcome the board, and we continued to circle and repeat the obstacle until all of the horses were quietly walking over the board in single file. Then the next object was added—some PVC piping with Styrofoam noodles positioned at knee height.

As the horses and riders became comfortable with this, the next object was added—more PVC piping with Styrofoam noodles positioned above head height.

I quickly learned that Piper was more concerned about lower objects and objects on her left side. This seemed consistent with her resistance to having her legs and feet handled when I first got her, and with being more “right-handed” with her bending and canter transitions. With this information, I could anticipate how she would react to each new obstacle and set her up to be more successful. It was fascinating!

As the afternoon went on, the objects continued to get more challenging. We rode over wooden bridges and through a myriad of noodle tunnels including one that revolved like a turnstile when you rode through it.



When we were instructed to gather at the far end of the arena, I could feel my anxiety start to build. Down at the opposite end, Mr. Richey popped open a small canister which started to hiss and squeal. Suddenly a large cloud of orange, billowy smoke shot out high into the air! The horses were all on alert and some were snorting and starting to dance around. The smoke cloud continued to grow larger and started to drift toward us! We were instructed to start moving and circle the foul-smelling ethereal cloud. Piper was on alert, and her heart was pounding underneath me, but we led out with the others and started circling. Inevitably, the smoke came closer and closer until it enveloped us, but then quickly drifted past. I could feel Piper briefly relax, until we circled and the next orange cloud grew closer.



While I thought the smoke was an intimidating obstacle, the next obstacle proved to be even more challenging. Again, we were instructed to gather at the far end of the arena. Mr. Richey then proceeded to take a gasoline can and pour a line about 50 feet long down the center of the arena. He then leaned over with his butane lighter and ignited it! Piper's head shot up and her ears pricked forward. I was not expecting to be dealing with a fire obstacle—especially on our first day! I'm sure she sensed my concern, but we rallied on following the commands of our instructor to circle the object and work our way closer and closer to the fire line. After joking with us that he liked to torture horses, Mr. Richey assured us that horse fur and tail hair would not easily burn, although I was a little skeptical. To my amazement, some horses got over their initial fear quite quickly and walked through the sizzling flames. Piper was not as easily convinced, and it took quite a bit of coaxing to get her to approach the line. Once near it, we used the mentality of the herd by closely following one of the bolder horses through the flames. As each rider conquered the various obstacles, Mr. Richey would yell out "Loser" which was his endearing way of saying "Good job!"

Over the course of the day, each rider and their mount were challenged and succeeded. Although there were a few "unplanned dismounts," nobody was badly hurt or deterred from continuing on. We wearily returned to our stables and trailers to earn a well-deserved rest for the evening.

On day two, we practiced the same types of obstacles, but the number and complexity grew. Soon we were crossing a bridge with fire on both sides, or riding through a noodle tunnel and up to and around the police car. By afternoon, we were ready for the final test: a course using every obstacle including a flapping tarp curtain surrounded by a burning ring of fire, wooden plank bridges and a gauntlet of PVC piping with Styrofoam noodles protruding in every direction.



As we rode in a circle clockwise through this barrage of obstacles, a motorcycle with radio blaring drove around us—counter-clockwise—while the police car circled nearby with sirens blaring, and a smoke bomb exploded in the middle of it all! It was intense! Pictures and video that were taken that day failed to capture all of the sights, sounds and smells that flooded your senses as well as the rising energy and anxiety of the horses and riders as we navigated through the chaos. Eventually the fire extinguished itself and the empty smoke bomb lay quietly on the ground. The group of 15 riders and 15 horses gave a collective sigh of relief as we quietly acknowledged our accomplishments. But it was not quite over...

The final exercise, for those who agreed to stay, was to perform a simulated extraction of a police car mired in an angry mob. Of course, we had to imagine the crowd, but the blaring horns of the white Ford were startlingly real. As 7 riders called it a day, dismounted and wandered away, the remaining 8 of us returned to the arena and wearily assembled in a tight formation as a column of 2.

The objective is to ride nose to tail and knee to knee to form an impenetrable line that can ride straight into a large crowd and part it like the Red Sea in order to reach the target—the stranded vehicle. The first pair of riders needs to be steadfast, to ride directly toward the blaring sirens with the others following closely behind. Once the target is reached, each rider side passes to the left or right, does a turn on the forehand to face the opposite direction (still hugging the vehicle), and then slowly moves forward to escort the vehicle through the envisioned masses. The drill requires awareness of your horse and fellow riders, timing, precision, determination and pure grit.





Although I was proud of Piper for having persevered through the obstacle course finale, I was astonished by her bravery and focus during the extraction. As we came upon the blaring squad car, she boldly walked directly up to the front of the Ford with her head positioned over the hood of the screaming vehicle. She executed a lovely turn on the forehand and then remained perfectly parallel to the vehicle by the driver's side door as we waited for everyone to get into position. The final step was to escort the freed car across the arena, and it was only then that she hesitated and created some distance between us and the creeping vehicle, but I could not fault her. She had performed bravely and we had accomplished more in those two days than I had ever expected.

The National Mounted Police Services offers clinics throughout the United States, and I would highly recommend it for anyone open to the challenge and the opportunity to build your partnership with your horse. It requires listening to your horse and trusting each other to overcome some intense challenges—as a team. So, take a chance and check it out at <http://mountedpolice.org> or by clicking on the logo below



*Editors Note:*

*This article appeared in the 2020 Spanish Mustang Registry Annual and is reproduced here with permission of the Author.*

---

## Having Fun in Lockdown

*By  
Dan Gwalter*

Hi everyone, with Boris announcing the cancellation of Christmas (well that's how I saw it at least) and the continued Covid restrictions in the first part of the year I could not have been happier to find that Area 8 created a lockdown challenge for us frustrated equestrians.





The scheme was devilishly simple in concept, to spend time with your horse performing groundwork, schooling, hacking or riding and to record those hours. If you achieve a set of milestone hours then you are rewarded with a rosette, which sounded perfect in the current lockdown climate to be able to achieve something memorable for doing what we love best!

For me and my boy George, I took the opportunity to set myself challenges, not hours, but outcomes. I set out to improve in the following ways.

- **Groundwork** - to gain George's trust and focus when working on the ground
- **Trailer** - to get my boy to walk calmly onto the trailer and stand to be tied and transported
- **Ridden** - to learn to sit the Jog
- **Experience** - to get George off the yard and out hacking

So with that in mind, I set about dedicating at least 2 hours every other day to work with my horse, to really learn and to grow in confidence and skill.

Here we are at the end of March and this is my update.

- **Groundwork** - I learnt about disengagement and how it causes a horse to really focus on what is being asked, I studied Warwick schiller, Monty Roberts, Clinton Anderson and many many others but by far, the most fun I had originated from a book by Linda Parelli called 52 challenges for you and your horse. I can wholeheartedly recommend this book to anyone who wants to spend more time on the ground improving the relationship they have with their own horse. Trust me, trying to teach a horse to be led by its tail is no mean feat!
- **Trailer** - hours (many of them) spent building confidence and trust, spent loading and unloading, standing, feeding, grooming and disassembling/reassembling partitions. But we got there, George now leads onto the trailer, but better still, I can now send him onto the trailer ahead of me (cute trick but very rewarding).
- **Ridden** - I asked my wife to put George on a long training line and to lunge me in the saddle. This allowed me the time to focus on my seat, my position, my hands without thinking about trivial matters such as steering or setting the pace. I am pleased to report - I can sit the jog (just about!).
- **Experience** - bringing this all together, I used all of my newfound confidence and skills to take George for a long hack away from our yard, he loaded like a dream, he walked out like a gentleman and for me, as a lifelong first, it was the most amazing experience.

So there we have it, turning lockdown into something less depressing, I would like to offer a huge debt of gratitude to my wife (Nikki) for supporting me, helping me and kicking me up the rear occasionally, thank you, you have helped me on this crazy journey. To the WES team, thank you for your encouragement and guidance, I am so very passionate about western riding and horsemanship and so pleased to have found a supportive community to reside within. Lastly thank you to Vicky Holden who dreamt up the lockdown challenge, your idea gave me the motivation and the framework to improve rapidly.

Until next time, onwards and upwards, keep riding but most of all, keep smiling



---

## Area Round-up

### Area 1

*Grampian and Highlands*

*By*

*Kathy Briggs*

---

### Area 2

*Gwynedd, Clwyd, Cheshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire*

*By*

*Lesley and Michelle Surguy-Price*

---

### Area 3

*Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire*

*By*

*Emma Hillier*

Hello! My name is Emma Hillier and I am the new rep for area 3. I live just outside Cullompton in Devon, where my husband Jon and I have a small farm with pedigree herds of Devon Ruby cattle and British Lop pigs.

Whilst I am very much a newbie to Western, I have been riding since my teens and still have my first horse, the now 26 year old 'Ernie the Grumpy Arab', who is still ridden out hacking.

My introduction to Western came in 2019, when on weekends away in the New Forest, I was able to go for lessons with the lovely Tammy Greaves. I was totally won over by this relaxed, light style of riding and asked Tammy to look out for a Western trained horse for me. It took a couple of years, but eventually I was lucky enough to be able to buy Travis (Dewstow Dun Juan), one of her lesson horses, during lockdown in May 2020. He is an absolute diamond and so patient, tolerating my mistakes without so much as a swish of the tail! It definitely helps that he is more whoa than go! The lockdowns have given us plenty of time to get to know one another. We have mostly been hacking but have managed a few lessons up at The Crescent arena in Kentisbeare when restrictions have allowed and are looking forward to getting out and about to some clinics this Summer. The team at the Crescent are so welcoming, and the covered arena and surface are both excellent- we are fortunate to have such a wonderful facility in the South-West.

Being quite new to the discipline myself, I am keen to encourage low-key 'have a go' clinics for beginners like myself. The other area reps have been really supportive and whilst I have a huge amount to learn about organising events safely, I'm really looking forward to meeting some of the area 3 members. Do forgive me if events don't start appearing immediately, as my plan is to attend some WES clinics in neighbouring areas to get a handle on how things run, as well as sorting out my first aid certificate. All events need at least two first aiders in order to be able to run, so do let me know if you are in area 3 and are a first aider with a current certificate, as this would be most helpful! I am thinking of going to the Nationals as a spectator, so do let me know if you are planning to go and need a hand with horses.

I am also a big fan of trail riding, so would love to be able to organise at least one of these in our area before the year is out.

Obviously Area 3 is huge, covering Somerset, Devon and Cornwall. Whilst I am getting 'up to speed' I would encourage area 3 members to check out clinics in our neighbouring areas- 6 and 13, where I am sure you will receive a warm welcome.

I would like to organise a Zoom get-together for area 3 in the coming weeks, so watch out for an email from me with the code for this. Thanks to those of you who have already reached out to me with kind messages telling me about you and your horses- it has been much appreciated. Also thanks to the previous area 3 reps, who have been so helpful with passing on information.

Finally, **we have no county reps that I know of in Area 3.**

If anyone feels they would like to come forward for these posts it would be just fabulous- drop me an email on [farrantshayes@gmail.com](mailto:farrantshayes@gmail.com).

---

## Area 4

*Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear*

*By  
Jo Powell*

Unfortunately, we have no recent events to comment on in Area 4, in common with everyone else we had to cancel lots of events last year, but here are a few notes and photo's from some of our members.

### *Lynn Coulson*

I am a fairly new member and have not yet had the chance to meet anyone but thought you might like some news for a future newsletter. My paint horse mare DDP Iconic Delight (Darcy to her friends) has been taking part in the APHA Paint Alternative Competition. In 2020 she was top 10 (10th) in the Recreational Riding section, Top 5 (joint 5th) in Dressage and was the Champion for Zone 12 (Europe). All of her dressage credits were gained whilst competing in a western saddle against others in the more traditional English turnout.

### *Kris Coates*



*Using Saxon to pony his stable mate to get both exercised, Jo is the photographer riding Jack and ponying Skwert.*



---

***Jo Powell***

Dreaming of doing this again.



***Elizabeth Anne***



*We are lucky enough to have a field to work in, so I have made obstacles to work on. Here is Ash doing some pole work. Would love to attend a pole clinic when restrictions are lifted. Hopefully 2021 will be a better year for us all.*

---

**Angie Taylor**



*Snippers Deelite aka Woody. A rare sunny day so rug off for a while.*

**Jean Lowrie Gamlin**



*I use my western saddle for hacks and any activity I have on my horse including giving my fellow livery horse owners a taste of how great it feels to be sat on a horse with a western saddle and giving some children a very controlled session on my bomb or off horse in an arena for photo shoots with them on a western saddle.*



---

**Phyl Drummond**



*Phyl Drummond and Ayesha competing in the online show.*

**Sheila Wilson**



*Sheila Wilson and Indie competing in the online show.*

Let us hope that this summer allows us to get out and about again.

---

**Area 5**

*Lancashire, Merseyside, Yorkshire, Greater  
Manchester*

*By  
Margaret Kemp*

Restrictions with Covid have changed our lives for more than a year now and have hit many families and businesses hard.



My thanks to WES members who have continued their loyal support and membership throughout a time of very few events. Internet connection has been invaluable and due to necessity, many of us have learnt new skills. A practice with Zoom (thanks to WES secretary Debbie's help) for our AGM was a bonus, providing a delightful opportunity to have a chat together again. It was successfully followed a few days later in January by the Area's first ever virtual Annual meeting with 15 members joining in the discussion of future events.

Sadly, due to the uncertainty of Covid, we decided that it would not be sensible to go ahead with the two-day Northern Show that has been held in July at **Myerscough College** for many years. This event requires much early planning and with a non-UK judge & high cost premises we didn't have the confidence at that time to go ahead. But we sure are looking forward to holding it in **2022 (date booked 9th & 10th July)**.

The **Northern WES Easter Camp** that was to be held at Bishop Burton College on 1<sup>st</sup> April had to be postponed and is now re-arranged to take place in the summer from the **9th-11th July**.

With lockdown relaxation of restrictions in April for outdoor sports & allowing 6 together outside we look forward to events, socially distanced as practiced in Autumn 2020. Training sessions will replace the annual show day on 16<sup>th</sup> May at **Richmond Equestrian Centre**.

Thinking back, I have memories of a previous disaster also causing a lockdown, which began early February 2001 and lasted through into 2002. An horrendous Foot & Mouth epidemic hit much of the UK, causing severe restriction on contact and movement of people & animals. First noted in Essex it spread very quickly and farmers across the north of the UK were hit very badly, many losing their livelihood by having all their ruminating animals (cattle, sheep, pigs & goats) slaughtered and then burnt to try and contain the disease. People, horses, and dogs were not infected but could spread it, so not even the pleasure of dog walking or hacking out was allowed.

With previously little riding experience I had begun my western riding career a few years earlier following a visit to the USA, when I bought appaloosa mare 'Apollo Straw Girl', joined WES and after a few years took over the Area 5 Reps role from Jane Walmsley. With enthusiasm, much help and in a time when I think folk were looking for alternatives to the strict Military style English equitation, membership within the Area had risen to 130 before Foot & Mouth hit us. It came within 3 miles of our farm, but we were fortunate and eventually it was over and the country began to slowly rise like the mythical Phoenix out of the ashes.

Following the more recent lockdown we are beginning a slow climb back to normality again, with clinics. The venue is booked for the National August Bank holiday Show plus an Area one at Askham Bryan in September. Hopefully, the vaccination programme will mean these will go ahead and we can spruce up our horses, dig out our show attire and once more enjoy taking part in classes & socialising with our western friends.

---

## Area 6

*Avon, Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Dyfed, Glamorgan, Gloucestershire, Gwent, Herefordshire,  
Pembrokeshire, Powys, Worcestershire*

*By*

*Mandy Hawkins*

We have managed to arrange a few dates for events all to be held at Valley View Ranch and Equestrian Centre. With the lifting of lockdown in England being announced we are very hopeful that these will go ahead as planned.





Unfortunately, due to Welsh Government not announcing their dates for relaxing of Covid restrictions in Wales and not having any venues in the Welsh counties who will be as flexible with bookings as VVR it means that no events have been organised in the Welsh counties yet. When this changes we can look into our options if members want some localised events and are willing to support them even if they are just a couple of informal get togethers, rides out etc.

The events we have arranged so far are as follows.

**WES AREA 6 SUMMER CAMP**

Friday 21st May to Sunday 23rd May. This event is currently FULLY BOOKED but if anyone else is interested let me know as names will be put on a waiting list.

**WES AREA 6 PRACTICE SHOW**

Sunday 13th June 2021 Judge Bruce Lawrence

**WES AREA 6 PRE-SHOW CLINIC**

Saturday 21st August 2021 with Bruce Lawrence

**WES AREA 6 SHOW**

Saturday 21st August (evening freestyle reining and freestyle Horsemanship classes) Sunday 22nd August (Main Show) Judge TBC

---

**Area 7**

*Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire.*

*By*

*Vicky Easton*

2020 was a very sparse year for events in the WES calendar and it doesn't look very good for the beginning of 2021. I must give Louise a great big Thank you for the Virtual Shows she has been putting on and for the forthcoming Spring show she has planned for the 30th March 2021.

I for one entered and Ruby and I had great success winning both the Amatuer and Open Hi points Rosettes in the last Show. I also entered the previous shows as I need something to work towards.

My 12 year old grandson generously agreed to film my first show classes and he caught the riding "bug". New riding hat and boots for Christmas and I bought shorter stirrups for him when it looked like he was going to continue. So he's riding my 15.2 Coloured mare Rimmel (to big really but Ruby is a bit to sharpe for a beginner) and has progressed from lead rein to jogging on his own, he really enjoys Trail so you never know.... a youth in the making... maybe!!



The Area 7 AGM was held by Zoom on Sunday 7th March at 11.00

Attending Vicky Easton, Ann Hughes, Stephanie Goodacre and Evelyn Dash.  
Apologies Dennis Stocks, Helen Payne and Mel Riley.

Last years minutes were approved and seconded by Ann Hughes

Treasurer report was given by Vicky Easton - a small loss was reported.

Last years events were:

Micheal Langford Clinic,

Adventure Trail fun day

Sherwood forrest picnic ride.

Proposed clinics for this year are all on hold at the moment,

Stephanie has offered her out door arena for a small get together - date to be arranged when Covid reg allow.

Looking at other venues but awaiting prices.

Matters arising - none.

Next years AGM date to be decided later.

Meeting closed

---

### **Area 8**

*Berkshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Surrey, Sussex*

*By*

*Jo Gallagher*

Well since I last wrote the weather has changed from mud and rain, to snow and wind!.. the latter being preferable in my opinion. At least we've had some warm sunshine mixed in with the cold winter days, which makes it feel like Spring is just around the corner.

I recently had a Zoom meeting with my two County Reps, and the Area Rep Co-ordinator to bang heads together and get some thoughts and opinions on how to proceed with events in 2021. After speaking with them it gave me the encouragement and incentive to get organising and I have managed to put a few dates on the 2021 Event calendar.

Two clinics and a Trail ride, have been booked!... that's a good feeling... However, no one knows at this point in time if they can go ahead as planned, and all we can do is to mark them on our calendars and hope!

Until next time, stay warm and Keep Safe.

### *East Sussex Update*

*By*

*Victoria Holden*

At the start of 2021 we decided Area 8 members needed something to try and keep themselves motivated during the current lockdown so introduced the Lockdown Challenge. To achieve a rosette members have to complete a minimum of 25 hours trail riding, schooling, lunging or groundwork with their horses within 2 months. The person who completes the most hours will win the grand prize. Quite a few members have signed up for it and even downloaded the equilab app to help record their hours and rides. The wintry weather has thrown a bit of a spanner in the works so we have decided to extend the challenge to the end of March so will announce the winners in the next issue.

I have also decided to try and organise a group ride on the South Downs this summer to give members something to look forward to, all being well and good. I think most people are getting fed up with the cold, mud and rain and just want spring to arrive now. I have seen daffodils emerging whilst out riding so hopefully won't be long now!





---

**Area 9**

*Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk*

*By*

*Jo Turtle*

---

**Area 10**

*Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire., Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire,  
West Midlands*

*By*

*Sarah Cameron*

---

**Area 11**

*Borders, Central, Fife, Lothian, Tayside*

*By*

*Kayreen Jones*

---

**Area 12**

*Dumfries & Galloway, Strathclyde*

*By*

*Patricia O'Reilly*

---

**Area 13**

*Dorset and Hampshire*

*by*

*Anne Batley*

---

---



## Event Notifications



### **WES Northern Camp 9-11<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**Bishop Burton College,  
Bishop Burton  
Nr Beverley HU17 8QG**

**Sessions of group instruction for beginners & more  
experienced riders in 2 indoor schools with Western  
trainers**

**Michael Langford(Hampshire) & Lee Rutter(Nottingham)**

**Stabling & accommodation on site**

**For further details & to book a place contact**

**Margaret 01759 318227 [mekemp.wes@gmail.com](mailto:mekemp.wes@gmail.com)**





WESTERN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY PRESENTS

# BRING IT ON!

3 DAY NATIONAL CAMP!

23RD - 25TH JULY 2021

VENUE: SOVEREIGN QUARTER HORSES, MARCH  
PE15 0BS

WITH MICHAEL LANGFORD & DAVID DEPTFORD

£300 for members and £325 for non-members

Limited places available, deposit secures place.  
Please contact [wesmembership595@sky.com](mailto:wesmembership595@sky.com)  
for a booking form.

Friday and Saturday evening meals provided.



## Western Equestrian Society

### We Need You!

We appreciate these are difficult times and that Covid-19 has had a huge impact on many businesses and individuals, but we would be grateful if you would consider sponsoring the WES National show 2021.

We are offering four sponsorship packages

Individual Class Sponsorship - £25

Championship Class Sponsorship - £50

1 Day Show Sponsorship - £100

Show Programme Sponsorship - £200

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for the WES National Show 2021 please message Louise Hunt for more information via [Louiseh2015@gmail.com](mailto:Louiseh2015@gmail.com)

### Thank You!





WESTERN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY

# *2021 National Show*



*Save the date!*



*27th, 28th and 29th August*



NEW VENUE: SOVEREIGN QUARTER HORSES  
HORSECREEK FARM  
COLDHAM BANK  
MARCH  
PE15 0BS



Charity Pleasure Class theme: Rainbow  
In aid of our NHS hero's



---

## For sale and Wanted

### For Sale

16 Inch Timberline Phoenix western saddle, with saddle pads, girths and accessories. The timberline is similar to an English Reactor Panel saddle with mobile panels that are meant to adjust to almost any horse [http://timberlinesaddlecompany.com/Phoenix\\_P7P0.html](http://timberlinesaddlecompany.com/Phoenix_P7P0.html)



I bought this as my first western saddle for Brego but you do sit slightly higher off the horse than in a conventional saddle, so it has spent much of its life on a saddle rack and has only been used occasionally.

It is located in Berkshire and any buyer would have to collect

I am looking for £600 for it. If you are interested, please contact me on [cpa.thompson@btconnect.com](mailto:cpa.thompson@btconnect.com)