

# HAMPSHIRE HORSE



In association with *Peter Cox Photography*

DECEMBER 2004 (Issue 3)



*Merry Christmas and welcome to the December issue of Hampshire Horse. Peter Cox (equine photographer) has kindly offered to host the Hampshire Horse Newsletters on his web-site. To download copies of previous issues please visit [petercox-photography.co.uk](http://petercox-photography.co.uk).*

## What's On:

**Fri 21 January: Western Riding and Dressage - The Link?** Lecture by Bob Mayhew. 7.30pm  
Colden Common Community Centre, nr Winchester (M3 J11). BHS members £5, non-members £6. Cheques Payable to "British Horse Society Hampshire". SAE to Ms Kayti Harvey, 16 Tamella Road, Botley, Southampton, Hants, SO30 2NY. Tel 01489 699015 (eves only), email [events@BSHampshire.org.uk](mailto:events@BSHampshire.org.uk)

**Thur 24 February: Monty Roberts "Horses in my Life" Tour** – 7.30pm Quob Stables, Durlay, near Southampton. (Not suitable for children under 8 years). Advance tickets £20, £25 on the door. Please make all cheques payable to 'Intelligent Horsemanship Ltd' and post to Lethornes, Lambourn, Berkshire RG17 8QS. Please send SAE and state clearly the date and venue for ticket purchase. Ring 01488 71300 for telephone bookings:- (£3 total booking fee on credit/debit cards)

**Fri 25 February: Get Your Horse Fit – For Work & Play** - Mixed evening with different speakers. 7.30pm  
Dummer Village Hall, nr Basingstoke. BHS members £5, non-members £6. SAE to Ms Kayti Harvey, 16 Tamella Road, Botley, Southampton, Hants, SO30 2NY. Tel 01489 699015 (eves only), email [events@BSHampshire.org.uk](mailto:events@BSHampshire.org.uk)

### **Merrist Wood Campus, Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE**

([www.merristwood.ac.uk](http://www.merristwood.ac.uk)) Contact Event Secretary on 01483 884147

**Wed 26 January: An evening with the Paralympians** (lecture/demonstration).

Tickets £15, credit card booking available

**Mon 14 February: 10 out of 10 Clinic by British Dressage Judge Sarah Waylett**

Advance bookings only, tickets £20 per session

**Wed 30 March: Lecture/demonstration with Mary Wanless** - Contact Lee Harris, MWD Project Manager, 5 Albert Mansions, Church Road, Hove BN3 2FS. Tel. 01273 736083

**Sun 13 March: The Rockbourne Fun Ride (with jumps)** – UK Chasers Course, Rockbourne, nr Fordingbridge. Advance bookings only. Email: [events@BSHampshire.org.uk](mailto:events@BSHampshire.org.uk). Please see website for further details: [www.BSHampshire.org.uk](http://www.BSHampshire.org.uk)

**Tues 19 April: BHS Road Safety Test** (open to all) – Wellington Riding Centre, Heckfield, Hook.  
Contact Wellington's Training Team direct on 0118 932 6308

*(If you wish to advertise an event, please send details to either the email or postal address below)*



Just Launched

### **"Enlightened Biting"**

*By Heather Hyde*

For many years I have been asked by customers to write a book on bits and associated biting problems. I can only apologise that it has actually taken me this long to compile it. It is very informative, contains no gobbledegook and has many diagrams and photographs of bits. It talks you through mouth conformation, how to assess it, how to check for any points of over sensitivity, it describes the different actions and suitability of the various mouthpieces and cheeks. It also talks you through doubles and how to introduce them, and it will leave you in a far better position to either make an informed decision on your own or to narrow the field down when phoning me for advice.

The price of the book is £10 + postage and it is already being used as a reference book for students sitting exams etc. If after you have read it you feel there is anything I have omitted or need to expand on, then I am always open to suggestions. For the first year, we will keep you on our database and anything new that we add to the book will be forwarded to you free of charge. For further details please visit [www.neueschulebits.com](http://www.neueschulebits.com), or contact the Helpline on 0871-250-BITS (2487), Fax 0871-250-2488, e-mail [info@neueschulebits.com](mailto:info@neueschulebits.com)

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Tel: 07759 571864

## Where to Ride: Hayling Island Coastal Path and Beach

### Hayling Billy Coastal Path

**The location** The Hayling Billy Coastal Path runs along the west coast of Hayling Island. It is a permissive route which is used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders. Follow the path south into West Town (approx. 2 miles). Option to take Coastal path back to car park, or extend ride by taking Staunton Road down to the beach.

**Important information** No permit is required for this route. The path is multi-use, frequented by walkers and cyclists so care should be taken at all times.

**Facilities** Horse-box parking is available at the rear of the Esso Garage at North Hayling Holt, Havant Road, Hayling Island (Signposted Hayling Billy Path).

### Hayling Beach

**The location** Horse riders are permitted to ride on the beach during Autumn and Winter months at any time of day. However, from Good Friday to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, access is only permissible before 10.00am and after 7.00pm. The beach is particularly enjoyable for horse-riders if the tide is out, exposing a large sandy area. However please be warned, on a breezy day there maybe kite boarders and wind surfers. Also be aware that if the tide is out fully a large sand bank will be exposed, but the tide does come in very quickly and riders risk being cut-off if they go onto the sand bank.

**Important information** No permit is required. The beach is multi-use, so care should be taken at all times.

**Facilities** Horse-box and trailer parking is available at all beach car parks.

### Peter Cox Photography



**SPECIAL OFFER** to mark the association of Hampshire Horse News Letter and Peter Cox Photography any order placed during December and January will be subject to a 10% discount on published prices – to get your discount simply send this advert with your order - for telephone orders just mention the Hampshire Horse News Letter – Montages are made up of your favourite photographs from the 2004 season. All photographs



taken during 2004 season are still available for viewing on my web site at [www.petercox-photography.co.uk](http://www.petercox-photography.co.uk) – or Call me on 02392 691349 – all major Credit/debit Cards accepted.

### Facilities for Hire:

The Paddocks, Tulls Lane, Standford, nr Passfield, Bordon GU53 8RD (tel. 01428 751231)

**CROSS COUNTRY: 60 fences.** A variety of solid fences from 1'-3' (several in the 3'3"-3'6" range) including a small water complex, double coffin, banks, ditches, pheasant feeder and 'V'.

**RUSTIC: 18 fences.** A great help to starting cross country - separate paddock, fences from 1'-2'3".

**Show jumping:** Jump for Joy light plastic show jumps

**Prices (per horse/session) Cross country £10 (water £10 extra), show jumps £10, Cross country + show jumps £15. Advance bookings only**



**Handy Hint:** *When the weather turns really cold, try floating a clean football in your water trough to stop the water freezing over!!*

## \*\*\*ARTICLES\*\*\*

### How Horses Keep Warm

How nature helps horses to keep warm in the cold winter temperatures. By Jayne Pedigo

So how do horses keep the elements at bay? In actual fact, the horse's body is well equipped to deal with temperatures way below the human comfort zone. Often horse owners will arrive at the barn, bundled up in layers of clothing, to find their horses frolicking in the snow quite oblivious of the sub-zero temperatures.

#### On the Outside

The most obvious concession to the season is the horse's winter coat, which can start growing in around late August. As the days shorten, the "hair factor" kicks in. In addition, sudden cold temperatures such as a cold front will prompt the horse's body to start producing his winter coat. Here in Texas, I have noticed my horse, Annapolis, starts to get a little hairy in about mid-October. In spite of the fact that it is often in the 70's, the shorter days and a couple of cold fronts coming through are enough to convince Annapolis' body that it's time to don the winter woollies. The horse's winter coat differs from the summer coat in that the hairs are longer and coarser. The horse is able to fluff up his coat, the individual hairs standing out, rather than laying flat against the skin, trapping air close to his body and thereby insulating him from the cold. The additional grease which accumulates in this thicker coat, especially in pastured horses, gives additional insulation.

#### On the Inside

Nature has designed the horse to withstand the cold from the inside too. Horses are grazing animals that fare best if there is a small amount of food constantly being processed by the digestive system (hence the old adage "*feed little and often*"). As the gut digests the fibre in the diet, heat is generated, contributing to the horse's body warmth, even in freezing temperatures. One of the most natural ways to help a horse keep warm in the winter is to allow him ad lib access to good quality hay. Today's domesticated horses are more prone to impaction colics in the winter. This is due to the fact that they are often confined to stables in inclement weather and receive less turnout and exercise, while still receiving a full grain ration. The fact that horses often drink less in winter, when the water is at or near freezing, increases the chances of a colic.

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### COLIC

The term "colic" simply means abdominal pain. There are many causes of colic and symptoms range from very mild to violent.

#### What are the symptoms?

A horse with colic will show varying symptoms depending on the cause of the colic, how long it has been present and the stoicism of the patient. Mild colic symptoms include dullness, pawing the ground, flank-watching, curling up of the top lip, adopting a 'straining to urinate' stance and lying quietly. Severe colic pain can cause a horse to roll and throw itself about in an uncontrolled and dangerous manner.

#### What causes colic?

Colic can be due to something as simple as a gut 'spasm' resulting from a change in diet or routine or as serious as twisting of a part of the intestine with consequent strangulation of its blood supply. The more common causes include impaction (where the intestine becomes clogged with semi-digested food material), displacement of a segment of bowel from its normal position, torsion or twisting, strangulation through hernias or holes, strangulation by fatty tumours and other causes of obstruction.

#### How is colic treated?

Different types of colic require different treatments. Simple large colon impactions usually respond to treatment by lubrication with oil, salt and water given by stomach tube. Many cases respond quickly to analgesics (pain killers) such as 'Buscopan' and equipalazone ('bute'). Some cases require urgent aggressive treatment - either medical or surgical, if the horse's life is to be saved. Some colics can only be treated by operating to correct the underlying problem.

#### What should I do if my horse has colic?

Call your vet immediately and explain the symptoms. Do not give it any feed or medication unless instructed to do so. Persistent severe pain usually indicates a serious problem and an emergency situation. If possible, keep the horse walking but do not attempt to take the horse out of its stable if it is in uncontrollable pain.

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**How can a vet tell what is causing the colic?**

In addition to straightforward clinical examinations of the horse's behaviour, attitude, temperature, pulse and respiratory rates and mucous membrane colour, veterinary investigations such as rectal examination, taking blood and peritoneal (abdominal) fluid samples, ultrasound scanning and passing a stomach tube can all give indications of the type and severity of the problem. It is not always easy to establish the exact problem and in some cases, surgery is needed to allow examination of the abdominal cavity (exploratory laparotomy) to pinpoint the abnormality as well as to allow correction or treatment. In many cases your veterinary surgeon will quickly determine whether your horse might potentially require surgery or not, and recommend the appropriate action, usually referral to a specifically experienced veterinary hospital. In all cases, the earlier the decision can be made as to whether medical or surgical treatment is needed and that treatment is begun, the better the horse's chance of survival.

**Can I prevent my horse from getting colic ?**

To a certain extent - Yes. Regular worming to prevent damage to the intestine and its blood supply helps enormously. Keeping to a routine and avoiding sudden changes in management and feed type and time also helps. Horses, and particularly their intestines, are creatures of habit. Changes should be made gradually and carefully. Horses who are injured or having a break from exercise should not be bedded on straw. Many will eat their bedding and their large intestines will become impacted. This can be prevented by bedding them on shavings, paper or other non-edible materials and they should have unlimited access to drinking water and, if possible, some exercise. Nevertheless, cases of colic are neither preventable nor predictable.

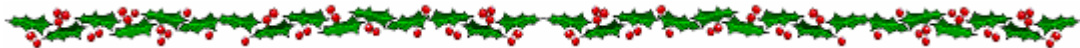
(With thanks to the Liphook Equine Hospital, [www.liphookequinehosp.co.uk](http://www.liphookequinehosp.co.uk))



**Winners of signed Videos "Successful Show Jumping with Tim Stockdale":**

- Kay from Purbrook won volume 1 "Laying the Foundations"
- Megan from Horndean won volume 2 "Moving On Moving Up"
- Jo from Waterlooville won volume 3 "Advanced Show Jumping"

With many, many thanks to [www.equestrianbooksandvideos.com](http://www.equestrianbooksandvideos.com) who kindly donated all three videos



**Local Classifeds:**

<b>FOR SALE 12.1HH MARE</b>	A wonderful opportunity to own this fantastic 12.1hh Sect B Chestnut Roan 9 years old mare. Excels in everything she does. Always placed. A member of the local pony club and BYRDS. This summer already placed in Working Hunter, First Ridden and Prelim Dressage. Ridden by my 9 year old son for the last 3 years. Sadly selling due to other commitments. £2,500 Tel: 023 9278 3462 (Waterlooville)
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>Eggbutt French link bit, 5½"</b> . Nearly new, only used twice. £10 E-mail: <a href="mailto:jo.smith87@ntlworld.com">jo.smith87@ntlworld.com</a> Tel: 023 9235 5123 (Waterlooville)
<b>FOR SALE</b>	<b>Ariat Heritage Jodphur Boots</b> , black leather with front zip, size 7 ½. New, worn just once. £45 ono Tel: 07736 709081 (Horndean)

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