

# The Mane Bit

#### HARROGATE HILLS' MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

**JULY 2025** 

The kindest treatment of the horse is gained through knowledge.

# Welcome to the Harrogate Hills family, Blueberry and Finnaur him in the outside stalls



Last month, we were joined by our first new school horse, "Blueberry."

Blueberry is an eight-yearold, 17HH, dark bay thoroughbred. As all who have met her know, she is a gentle giant. When you look at her, you'll notice that she has a small blemish on her belly.

This is an umbilical hernia, but her vet and ours have both told us that we needn't worry about it. It would be quite a major surgery to fix this at this time (she has had it all her

life), and the resulting fix would only be cosmetic, so like her previous owners, we have decided to let well enough alone.

She's learning the ropes and will be in the school full-time by September.



Finnaur, who came more recently, is a fourteen-year-old bay, Morgan gelding (so now Rocky has a 'cousin').

He is owned by our good friend Mahmoud, and we hope to have him join us in the riding school by September. If you're looking for him, you'll find him in the outside stalls next to Harrison...those would be the stalls we swore we would NEVER use again (sorry Joan). We just couldn't turn down the opportunity to have two wonderful new co-workers join us in the fall.

# CALENDAR of EVENTS



### FALL REGISTRATION

Friday, August 1

### RIDING SCHOOL IS CLOSED

Monday, August 25 until Monday, Sept 1

#### **LESSONS RESUME**

Tuesday, September 2

#### **AUGUST SPECIALTY CAMPS**

- Equine Assisted Learning, has spots available
- Show Preparation is full
  - Jumping Basics has one spot available

For more information on any of these events please email info@harrogatehills.ca

### Can it get too hot?

That's the question we were asking ourselves on June 22.

We were supposed to be going to Stonewood Equestrian for our second offproperty horse show just as we entered a somewhat historic heat wave.

We decided that we couldn't really justify subjecting the horses to a day of hot misery. The grounds at Stonewood are fantastic but there isn't much shade. And even loading horses onto a hot steel trailer seemed inhumane.

As you might imagine, quite a bit of preparation goes into our ventures off property and the Harrogate show team puts a lot of energy into planning to make sure all the details are looked after.

The wonderful thing about Harrogate students is that there is never any hesitation to put the horses' welfare first.

Even though we were all disappointed, the Harrogate show team was 100% behind our decision to cancel.

At the last Stonewood show, our show team made it clear that they had improved a lot.



They were highly competitive, came home with lots of ribbons, and made all of us very proud.

However, their selfless concern and care of their equine partners is what truly shows the quality of their horsemanship and that makes us proudest of all.

We'll get 'em next time!







#### **TINY TROTTERS GRADUATION**

Saturday, June 21st was a big day at Harrogate Hills. This year's Tiny Trotters got to show us everything they've learned since they began their riding journey, as they participated in our year-end graduation ceremony.

The knowledge they've absorbed, and skills they've mastered this past year was on display for all to see and it was very impressive. It's so exciting and heartwarming to see these young equestrians taking their studies and their sport so seriously.





















## JULY TRIVIA QUESTION:

Finnaur, our newest arrival, is the same breed as one of our other horses at the farm. Which horse is that, and what is the breed?

The answer will be in next month's issue of The Mane Bit.

#### TRIVIA GUIDELINES

- Place your answer in the box found in the lounge and include your name and contact information.
- There will be a random draw from the correct submitted answers and one person will win a prize.
- The winner will be announced in the following month's Newsletter.

## The answer to June's Trivia Question is:

Q: I A horse cannot extend his hock without also flexing his stifle. There is one injury a horse can sustain that will allow the hock to move without involving the stifle.

(Many years ago, Ben had this injury.)

What is the name of the body part that has been damaged so that this otherwise impossible movement can be achieved?

A: The Peroneus Tertius is the answer we were looking for. It is only when this tendonous muscle is ruptured that the horse can move his hock without involving the stifle.

We know it was a really tough one this month but we do have a winner!

Marleigh B. gets a well earned \$25 gift card from Greenhawk,.Congratulations!

All correct guesses have a chance to win, so don't miss the opportunity to be our next Trivia winner!



Stay tuned to our monthly newsletter for unique and exciting adventures with horses, as we present new learning opportunities in our monthly newsletter that take you beyond your regular weekly lessons.





The kindest treatment of the horse is gained through knowledge.