



The Mane Bit

HARROGATE HILLS' MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

The kindest treatment of the horse is gained through knowledge.



Winter Relay

On January 2nd we had our first annual winter relay, and a great time was had by all.

The “Bucking Broncos” were the winners over all,



despite the best efforts of the “Willy Nillies” and the “Last Minute Heroes”!

We were pleasantly surprised by the ease with which the riders handled the courses...

Next year we will make it harder!!!



JANUARY'S TRIVIA QUESTION:

Some Arabian horses have something quite different about them. What is it?
(It has to do with bones, but it is not that distinctive concave facial profile.)

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

The answer to **December's Trivia Question** is:
(You have a Quarter Horse and he seems to move 'short' in front and sometimes he trips. What is the most likely cause of this problem?)

Chances are good that the problem the Quarter Horse is experiencing has to do with

Navicular Disease

The winner is **Marleigh B.**, who will receive a \$25 gift card from Greenhawk.
Honourable mention to **Charlotte C.**

Calendar of EVENTS



CAMP DISCOUNT DEADLINE

Monday, January 26

MARCH BREAK CAMP

March 16 to March 20

SPECIALTY CAMP REGISTRATION

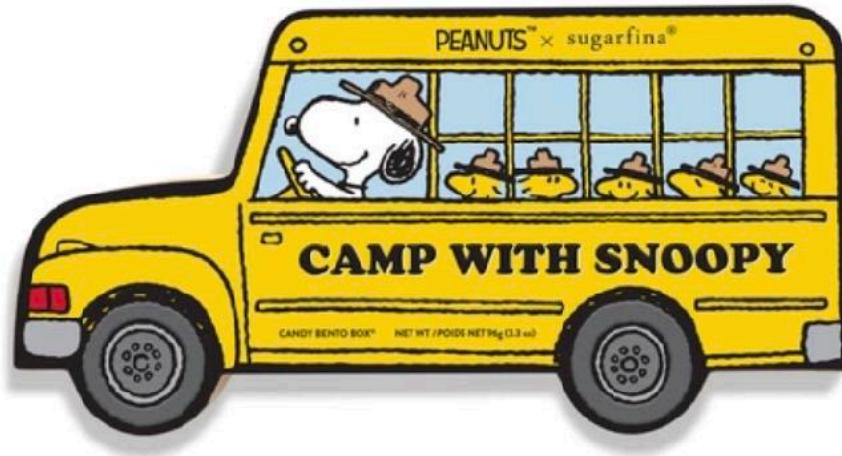
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See Website for details.

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.

40 years of Summer Camp at Harrogate Hills



When I first started my business in 1985, I was informed during the lease signing that a Summer Camp operated on the west side of the property.

I confess I had never really experienced summer camp. In fact, I recall when I was young reading a Peanuts cartoon about Charlie Brown taking a bus to go to 'camp', I remember thinking it must be an American thing, as no one I knew had ever gone to 'camp'. We just hung around the neighbourhood making porch tents out of sheets and pretending that our bicycles were horses!

As you might imagine, I was quite surprised to learn that

summer camp was quite a big thing! At the last minute, the people who operated the camp asked us to run the riding portion for the first summer. They actually brought horses in for that purpose, and we did our best.

However, it became pretty clear that we would be better off (especially reputationally) if we designed and arranged a program of our own, and so the following summer we began.

Over the years I have had the pleasure of working with people who have been to camp and who are filled with great fun ideas! That left me free to create a riding program that could fit

into that fun and still have us be proud of the riders we produced.

I admit I'm a bit envious of the kids who get to ride actual horses in the summer. I loved my bicycle, but it paled in comparison to having a real pony to pamper and fuss over.

But I'm seriously proud that our summer camp attendees not only learn to ride, they also get to learn so much about horses and about how to look after them.

...many of them are still in touch with the friends they made at camp 40 years ago.

I had the opportunity to speak to some of the kids that rode in our summer camps back in 1980's. It was so nice to find out that many of them are still in touch with the friends they made 40 years ago. Here's to more lifelong friendships developing during the summer of 2026.



Winter riding fun!

The hearty Harrogate Riders are seriously putting in the work this winter! Being indoors can be a great time to do the homework that will pay off when the weather improves.

The discipline of riding accurate school figures is essential to the development of the horses and riders. Sometimes, they're easier to practice within the framework of the

four walls. There are less distractions for the horse and more guidelines for the riders. This kind of work is what builds the riders skills and enables them to do the fun ventures we get to do in the warmer months. Things like riding in the cross-country field, taking the horses off property, or going to horse shows, are only possible when we invest in this kind of work.



We're always excited when the riders take this kind of work so seriously (even when it's freezing!), and we look forward to watching them reap the rewards as the warm weather rolls around.



Stay tuned for unique and exciting adventures with horses, as we present new learning opportunities beyond your regular weekly lessons.



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