

The kindest treatment of the horse is gained through knowledge.

Adult camp opportunity



I often think of participation in the sport of riding like a pyramid.

At the base, which is the largest cohort, are all the complete beginners and they're almost always young kids. From that group, a fair number will continue to ride through high school. The numbers dwindle quite significantly after this point with many fewer continuing their adventure while they are in university. Even fewer ride throughout adult hood as careers and families take priority. (And of course there are the very few, perhaps percent of a percent who chooses to work with horses in a

professional capacity but perhaps we'll talk about them another time!)

I mention this in order to note that like almost all riding schools, the vast majority of our students at HHRS are young people. That's wonderful but because of that, every now and again I need to be reminded that horses are not just good for kids!

Quite a few years ago, after numerous requests, we offered an adult camp, and we had a fantastic time! We spent the mornings riding



MARCH TRIVIA QUESTION:



What is this horse suffering from? Name three things that could have caused this.

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

Calendar of EVENTS



MARCH BREAK CAMP

Monday, March 16 through
Thursday, March 19

READY, SET, SHOW WORKSHOP

Friday, March 20

SPRING IS HERE!

March 20

HUNTER SHOW SERIES

Sunday, May 3
Sunday, June 7
Sunday, October 4



horses and learning about them. Leaving behind busy careers or busy family obligations (and sometimes both) was a great benefit to

those adults. Horses are so honest and so present in everything they do and that alone made it a bit of a therapeutic week for all concerned.

Well, it turns out that some of our adults are now asking if that is something we might do again. It hadn't really occurred to me for a number of years now, but the idea does intrigue me.

I've looked at the schedule, and the only week would

have available would be Monday August 24 –Friday, August 28. Just to prevent complete exhaustion, we once again only do half days...☺

If we have enough brave adults that think they might benefit from spending a week with the horses, let me know. No commitment yet. I just want to know if there are enough of you put it together.

It could be fun!

Girl Guides explore horsemanship

On March 1st we had a group of Girl Guides come to the farm for a morning with the horses.

They learned all about safety and how to groom, how to identify parts of the horse, and how to lead the horses around.

A great time was had by all.



UPCOMING MARCH BREAK CAMPS

Jumping Fundamentals Bootcamp *Monday March 16 – Thursday March 19*

Jumping has often been compared to a symphony. The musical notes or the riding that takes place in between the jumps is the most important part, and the moment the horse is in the air over the fence is the silent pause within it. Silence on its own has little value but music without breaks doesn't work either.

Both are essential, and together they create harmony we're looking for over fences.

As all great riding masters understand, the hardest part of jumping isn't the moment in the air. Rather, it's making sure the horse gets to the fence correctly. Learning how to set your horse up for success is the focus of this week's camp.

The ability to maintain balance, rhythm, and identify and ride the correct track to a fence are the skills that matter most and they take years to develop. This bootcamp is designed to give riders the opportunity to build and strengthen those

skills until they become second nature. Even if you're not jumping yet, this intensive camp will provide the framework you need when you begin riding over fences.



Ready, Set, Show Workshop

Friday, March 20

Our Ready, Set, Show Workshop is designed to help riders practice and refine the skills they'll need for the upcoming show season.



Run as a mock horse show, riders will go through typical show events, from entering the ring to riding their courses, just as they would at a real show. After each round, participants will

receive feedback, take part in group discussion about strengths and areas for improvement, and have the opportunity to try again and apply what they've learned.

We'll also focus on strategies to manage show nerves and build confidence, helping riders

feel prepared both mentally and physically. It's a valuable chance to gain experience and practice the "do-over" that real horse shows don't allow.





BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Did you know that we have Birthday Parties at Harrogate? Our private birthday party package gives you exclusive access to all of our facilities and offers the opportunity for participants to ride a horse, learn to groom, and learn about horse behaviour.

If you're looking for a unique birthday celebration, check out the link below.

If you know anyone who might be interested in knowing about this, please let them know!

harrogatehills.com/birthday-parties/

The answer to February's Trivia Question is:

Q: Along with growing a winter coat, what can horses do with their hair that helps insulate them? What is this process called?

A: Pilo erection

Congratulations to **Scarlet** for winning the February trivia! Honorary mention to **Marleilgh B., Alinka, Silvia S., Pax M.V.** Scarlet wins a \$25 gift card from Greenhawk.

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.

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