The Mane Bit

HARROGATE HILLS' MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2026

The kindest treatment of the horse is gained through knowledge.

WELCOME BACK!

Not sure if you've heard but apparently there's a new instructor starting this September at Harrogate… her name is Meredith Kelly… oh wait… my mistake…same Meredith, different last name…

Mr. & Mrs. Kelly

For all of you who didn't know, Meredith tied the knot with Ethan here at the farm on August 22.

It was a beautiful day with a memorable ceremony, and incredibly wonderful food!! Some of the younger set managed to dance into the wee hours of the morning… or so I'm told. Being the party animal I am, I was in bed long before that!!!

Congratulations to Ethan and Meredith and thanks for having your special day at the farm!

The wedding tent in the north hayfield

CALENDAR of EVENTS

LESSONS RESUME
Tuesday, September 8

HARROGATE HILLS HUNTER SHOW
Sunday, October 4

HALLOWEEN PARTY
Sunday, October 25

HOOFBEATS & HEARTBEATS SESSION
Fall date pending

P.A. DAYS
Stay tuned, as dates still to be determined

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

Summer review

Tiny Trotters graduates

This past June we had our annual graduation ceremony for our Tiny Trotters. We are always so proud of how hard they work and how much they accomplish throughout the year. Congratulations to our graduates and welcome to our new class of 2026/27.

We had a great summer of camp. Despite the wildfires sending smoky air our way, the campers persevered and, with a modified schedule, still managed to get all their riding lessons in and learn a lot!

In August we had our specialty camps. Each specialty camp emphasized a different aspect of horsemanship. We went deep on partnership and then tested our relationship with an off-property adventure at Grand-view Equestrian Farm (thanks to Ashley for the use of her facility!).

Off-property schooling at Grandview

Trying on the heavy lead vest used for protection from the x-ray radiation

(Above) Dr. Crowley sharing some of her knowledge about things one can encounter when owning your own horse

We followed that with a week long investigation into the ins and outs of owning our own horse. Our equine vet, Dr. Melinda Crowley, came out to do an examination of Stretch including x-rays, nerve blocks and flexion tests (photos above). It was an informative session and we're so grateful that she was so generous with her time and knowledge.

Our last specialty camp was our first ever cross-country session. That was a blast and the riders, and the horses, all overcame the challenges that were presented. By the end of the week, I think everyone was pretty proud about what they had found the courage to do.

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Alinka and Spirit on the cross country course

We ended the summer with our adult riding camp. That also was a lot of fun and while everyone was pretty tired by the end of the week, the benefits of getting to ride every day

Adult riding camp

was apparent for all who participated. On the Wednesday of our adult camp, we had a mindfulness session with Mahmoud called Hoofbeats and Heartbeats. A lot of profound insights came out of that session and we're planning to do it again this fall. Stay tuned!

Horses frolicking in the 'cross country' field

Clara and Jake taking a cross country fence

The horses have enjoyed frolicking in our 'cross country' field although not as often as they had hoped. We're really hoping they get more opportunities this fall once the hay has been cut.

By the way, if any one wants to be on standby to give us a hand with the hay when it gets put in the barn, feel free to reach out!

Speaking of horses, Riley will be joining the school this September and Holly (who's been working with Joan all summer) could be close behind her. Also, Mahmoud has been helping us with the horses this summer and we're hoping to see Harley in the riding school this fall too.

Vivienne and Lottie taking a cross country fence

PHOTO GALLERY

Here are some more photos from our successful specialty camps and other events this summer.

Braiding practice

Hugs from Alinka for Hannah

Leo riding bareback on Lottie

Some of the hardworking Harrogate helpers

Samantha and Mrs. V on a cross country jump.

Painting horseshoes for good luck

Summer campers getting ready to bring in the horses

Riding in the big hayfield

Riding out in the field for the cross country camp

Here's a flashback as Kyra took time out of her studies for veterinary medicine to spend a day at camp. It was so much fun to see 'the band get back together' if only for a day. Thanks, Kyra!

We have some Fridays available for Birthday parties so if that is part of your future plans, let us know as soon as you can.

For more information about how to celebrate a birthday at Harrogate, check out our website.

harrogatehills.com/birthday-parties/

The answer to May's Trivia Question is:

Q: What is the most important thing to which the horse should always have access?

A: Water.

This month's winner of a $25 gift card from Greenhawk is **Scarlet I.**

SEPTEMBER TRIVIA QUESTION:

Every clue has a starting point.
Look where each line begins.
Examine what you find.
Very carefully, of course.
Each letter has a purpose.
Now ask yourself: what number have you found?

Why might this number be important for horses?

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.

All correct Trivia 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.

HARROGATE HILLS

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