

NORTHCOTE HORSES

Dear Reader,

Hello folks, I hope you are all enjoying this beautiful weather were having right now, I know I am. We are sending out this letter to you, possible a little earlier as we wanted to let you know about the next event which is approaching fast. It is the centre's 20th anniversary and we wanted to be able to let you all know about this event and hope that you might be able to come down and enjoy in some of our birthday celebrations. Details are further down the page.

With this lovely hot weather we have been taking advantage of it, and giving the Horses some extra baths, we have also been going on some nice hacks out too.

Sadly some of the horses are unable to enjoy the weather to the full, Buster the Quarter Horse developed an allergy to something outdoors and found it extremely difficult to breath during the night, the vet was called out for him in the morning, and he was then put on box rest and a course of Ventipulmin to help his lungs open up more, also haylage was given instead of hay, and he is still on that now. Then Scooby who is normally on herbs to help his breathing came down the same and low and behold so has little Clyde the Shetland who is already on steroids for his breathing, and now all three are on this extra medication and all three have to stay in until the pollen count is better or their breathing returns to as normal for them. Scooby also has had to have new night quarters for now so as he doesn't eat the dry hay and the same for Clyde who is sharing with Duncan as he also seems a bit the same so we need to keep an eye on him too.

As for the others they are definitely enjoying the weather and also the cooling hose downs after work.

Event Days

So far we have had two event days the first being Medieval day in May and Wild West in June.

Medieval day was a good turn out with horses and riders in new costumes and looking lovely and colourful, We also saw Herbie our new medieval Minstrel with his humorous songs, and even had a fantastic bouncy castle. Well

Donations & Visitors

The recession has really gripped people hard and we have been hit quite hard as a result of this, with the amount of donations not coming in, and also with the Visitor numbers to the centre still being down despite suspending our

done to the L.E.V.T. team with their performance, and thank you to The Knights of Skirbeck a local re-enactment group for yet another wonderful show.

Wild West was low in attendance but better then last year, this year we actually made a profit not a huge amount but profit all the same. All the horses, riders and helpers looked wonderful once again and we all had lots of fun and all

admission prices, and relying on donations from folk for their visit, we have still not had the people coming in to visit. We had hoped with the media hype saying that tourism was looking good for people in Britain and especially for the coastal areas that it might mean that we also would have more people coming through the



20 Years of Northcote

Well how about that then 20 years on and the centre is still here, and to mark the occasion we are holding another event

day showing some of the things that we do here at the centre, from a chance to groom a pony to showing the different types of events that we put on with the horses and their riders complete with various costumes. The L.E.V.T. will be once again showing their vaulting skills. If your daring you could have a go on a low tightrope, the Knights of Skirbeck will be with us once again with their re-enactment display and The Icthus dog training group will also be performing. The Lincolnshire Weavers and Spinners

will be here to demonstrate their craft, and the bouncy castle will be returning.

We do have some stalls and they are slowly increasing but are desperately looking for more people to have a stall here at these event days, so if you have car boot items that you are trying to sell or you have a craft or food/sweet stall anything, then come along a pitch is a mere £5.

The date for our anniversary celebration is Sunday 19th July gates open at 10:45 and the day starts with a parade of all the horses at 11:15am. Food and drinks available, admission is £4 adults & £3 seniors/child.

the horses really enjoyed it which is very important. Thank you to Robert for bringing his lovely Shetland ponies, and joining in the fun too, thanks also to Debbie and friends and her line dancing doggy display, FANTASTIC.. We also had a live country duo from Grimsby called Gringos who were brilliant but sadly not everyone stayed to the end of the set, but they are happy to come back to us again next year, thank you guys.

gate. This at least has not happened for us, maybe it's just that folks have gone to places that provide all the entertainment they need in the one price package, understandable. We are now hoping that July and especially August will be better, fingers crossed folks.

School Visit

We have had our regular visit from the pupils from Huttoft primary school who were so very well behaved as always and a credit to the school.

We are always happy to open our doors to school visits as the younger generation are the future to the Heavy Horses survival. So if your school would like to visit we are happy to accommodate at any time of the year.

Birthday Fun

Hannah a Scooby adopter and also one of my young Vaulters held her birthday party here (she is now 8 years old) where Hannah and her friends met all the horses and groomed the ponies before having party food and then going for a dray ride with William.

Again if this is something you would like to do please get in touch for more details.

ICTHUS Dog Training

Debbie who runs the dog training here at the centre ran a dog show here in June in aid of the horse centre, sadly the weather was not with us and for the most part it rained.. But for those brave folk that came with their well groomed dogs it was a very nice day and myself and my husband with our noisy dog Sheba enjoyed ourselves. Well done to all and thank you.

William

Wayne has now upgraded to William for riding in the shows who is doing rather well, it is so good to see him out there taking part in the shows, as before he was tied to his mother Mays apron strings as it were, and so had failed to take part in the special days until now, and you will be happy to know him and Wayne are getting along quite nicely.



The Hens Nest Tea-Room

The Tea-room has had a new lease of life. Allan has redecorated the hens nest and put on new table cloths on the tables, something that proved to be a bit of a venture!! and has re-coated the floor, something that Allan was unsure of doing because of the drying time needed, it was only done a couple of days before we opened at Easter!! But it all came together in the end and looks so nice, thank you Allan. The ladies from Waverley home have done a fantastic job of making new curtains and pelmets, and also matching aprons for themselves as they run the Tea-room on Weds for us which is lovely. There is now a lot more choice in what we offer, the very popular choice being the toasted sandwiches which are very nice and also yummy doughnuts (keep Wayne away from these!) creamed teas and ice cream too. Yummy!

HOW YOU'RE HELPING

Robert our good neighbour and his son Charlie have been and concreted a section near to the costume room which needed to be done and was kindly paid out of your donations to us, it is an area that is used for winter turnout for Mojo and Buster as they are unable to go out to grass in the winter and the area that they had been using gets so muddy in winter this will now be a brilliant place for them to get out of their stable and stretch their legs. It is also an area that will have better benefit in the summer months too.



We are also hoping to raise more money to have a concrete base laid for the ponies bed before winter sets in.

Harvey As most of you may know Harvey our shire cross takes great pride in his ability to deliver a bride to the church on time as he is the chap we use for running the horse drawn weddings and he did this without fail earlier this year, not only did he deliver the bride and her father but also ALL of the bridesmaids too.. and then safely bring the newly married couple to the reception where lots of posing for photos was done something that again Harvey was quite happy to partake in. Thank you to Robert again for your help who did a marvelous job driving Harvey.

Harvey is also the chosen horse for teaching folk how to carriage drive and once again was fantastic for this even if Terena was slightly pulled from her driving position as he said there was no way he was going past any rubbish being burnt in a bin!!!! He has another lady booked in soon so we will make sure that there is no burning rubbish around!!

Magnus Well he proved to be a little more exciting then Wayne expected when on the Wild West Day Sheriff 'Wayne' got on his pony to bring some law and order to the place except playing a spoof character from an old carry on film meant he had to be short sighted therefore getting on his pony facing the wrong way something that the pony is more than used to, but this time Magnus thought OK you normally want me to go faster so he did!! But as he set off in his canter he also put in a few bucks too, true rodeo horse yeehaw! Luckily He has a good seat and a sense of humour!

If you have a computer and like to chat on Facebook then you might want to join our group, search for Northcote Heavy Horse Centre and add us to your friends. It is another way of keeping up with things that go on at the centre and pictures to, even Bosun has his own page L. E. V. T. Bosun.

You can also see our updated Website at www.northcote-horses.co.uk we'd love to get some feedback on it.

Email us at: northcotehorses@btconnect.com

Or call us on: 01754 830286 mob: 07899815960

Northcote Heavy Horse Centre, Spilsby Lincolnshire PE23 5PS.

Don't forget the anniversary date Sunday 19th July.

Hope to see you there! Terena & Horses.xx

