



# CHESTON FARM EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Volume 1

September 2016

## Welcome

This is the first of our newsletters detailing information about what has been going on here at Cheston and future events happening over the next few months.

## About Cheston Farm

Welcome to Cheston, We are a licensed, BHS Highly Approved and PC Accredited Centre with a reputation of delivering excellence in everything we do. We believe we are one of the best centres in the South West.

We can offer something to suit just about every equine enthusiast from lessons for beginners to coaching advanced riders. We have an excellent and varied team of riding school horses from steady cobs to sport horses and we welcome many riders who bring their own horse to train with us.

Adults and Children (age 4+) can ride. We do novice to advanced lessons, pony clubs days, beach rides, moor gallops, competitions, fun tests and BHS exam training. Something to suit every age and stage of learning.

### Key Dates

**Tues 6th Sept**—Andrew Lovell Clinic  
**Sun 25th Sept**—Andrew Lovell Clinic  
**Tues 27th Sept**—Open/Unaffiliated Dressage  
**Tues 11th Oct** —Andrew Lovell Clinic

### Mon 24th - Fri 28th Oct

—Half Term Pony Club Activities  
—Beach Ride

**During October**—Riding School Competition nights throughout October

**Tues 25th Oct**— Open/Unaffiliated Dressage  
**Sun 30th Oct** —Andrew Lovell Clinic  
**Tues 8th Nov** —Andrew Lovell Clinic  
**Sun 27th Nov** —Andrew Lovell Clinic  
**Tues 29th Nov**—Open/Unaffiliated Dressage  
**Tues 13th Dec** —Andrew Lovell Clinic

## In This Issue

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The foal was born on the day Mohammed Ali died so we nick named him in honour of the sporting legend. We hope he will also be 'the greatest'



# Staff Spotlight

**Name:** Sophie

**Job:** Boss Lady and General dogs body

**Most common thing to say:** "hmmmm, when's dinner?"

**Favorite Food:** Anything cooked by Andrew or good pub grub!

**Favorite Horsey Activity:** Jumping and teaching hard working riders

**Favorite Pony:** My lovely Solstice Drum and then all my other guys too

**Most Interesting Fact about self:** Used to live in the USA as a teen, nearly got eaten by a hippo!



## Perfect Pony - Nominated by Pony Club

**Name:** Sunny

**Show Name:** Cosmic Sunrise

**Age:** 17 years old

**Height:** 14.2HH

**Favorite Activity:** After eating, Sonny enjoys jumping

**Most Interesting Fact about Pony:** He won the Chase me Charlie, jumping and clearing 3ft 6, beating some of the bigger horses

**You Voted because:**

Kiera (12), "he is very fast but does what you ask."

Ella (6), "I love him and he is really nice"

Freya (6), "He's very cuddly"

Connie (13), "I love jumping him"

Tom (10), "He was fun to jump"



## Star Horse

**Name:** Jack

**Show Name:** Ardlea Sweet Jack

**Age:** 5 years

**Height:** 14.3HH

**Favorite Activity:** Cross country jumping

**Most Interesting Fact about Pony:** He came over from Ireland and is our only horse that is hogged!

**You Voted because:** Lara - "He has an amazing jump and looks really smart"

Lizzie - "He is really cool and I love jumping him!!"

Grubby - "They are all awesome!"

## Caption Competition

Competition Time ; Can you come up with a caption to accompany this picture of Elvis?

To enter simply comment under the photo on our Facebook page with you Caption or pass it to Sophie.

Closing Date: Friday 18th November 2016.

The winner will be announced in the next newsletter



## Cheston Cafe

We are looking forward to the opening of Cheston Café where you will be able to relax with a coffee and cake whilst watching riders in the indoor school.

Whilst sat in the Café you can have a look at the Shop selling the basics for riding as well as the 'second hand shop' for when your child grows out of those jodhpurs or boots and you want to sell them. This will also be where the new Reception will be based.

The all important toilet is already open with the rest of the Café, not far behind.

Any ideas of food that you would like to be sold in the Café please let a member of staff know.



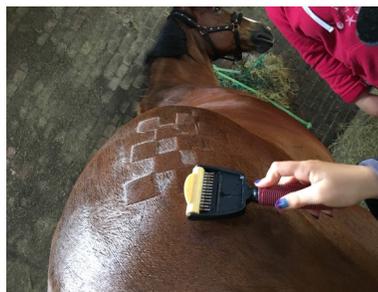
Sophie outside the Café (top) , Café in its present state. (bottom)

## How to .... create Quarter Marks.

Each newsletter we will show you step by step guides

Traditionally used for light horse and show hunter classes, good quarter marks finish off and enhance a nice horsey bum! PC have been practising them on Claude and Scooby.

1) Take a wet sponge and body brush and thoroughly wet and groom the quarters taking care to get the coat smooth and in one direction.



2) You need a fine toothed comb for the delicate squares and checkers and a good body firm body brush for the swipes and sharks teeth.

3) For show ring you can finish with hairspray to keep them still but don't touch as every mark will show!



# Cheston Out and About this Summer



The Team at Cheston have been busy this summer attending Yealhampton Show, Kingsbridge Show and a number of other shows. Sol, Connor, Elvis and Jack have been attending shows over the summer to give the horses confidence and experience at these kind of events.

During July and August we have also taken Sonny, Blaze, Jack, Connor and Free to the Redpost Jumping Events. All the horses have performed amazingly and we are all super proud of them.

A few photos to show them at their best!



# Pony Club

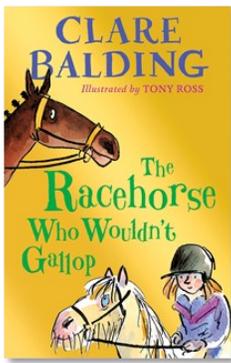
Our Pony Club is accredited to Pony Club UK, you do not need your own pony and we are open to non-members too. Enjoy all the fun without owning a pony!



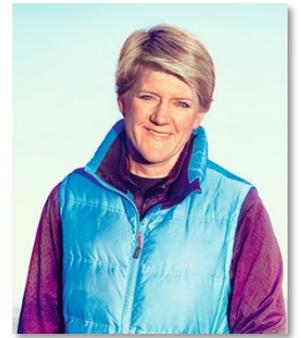
- Club activities are available on several different days and in school holidays including 3 day camp
- Every Saturday: 9-10 am for 5-9 year olds and Sundays 10am- 1pm for 6-9 year old beginner riders, Saturday 9-4 pm for older experienced riders 9+. All sessions include riding lesson or hack as appropriate.
- Weekday PC : 4-6 pm for riders 6 and over.

All activity days are led by Cheston's full time adult staff (BHS/NVQ qualified staff) under the close supervision of Sophie (proprietor/manager, BHSII qualified and first aid trained). Activities are themed around key learning topics towards Pony Club badges and tests and certificates are available for non-members.





# CLARE BALDING COMES TO EXETER FOR FAMILY EVENT TO CELEBRATE FIRST CHILDREN'S BOOK



**Don't miss Clare's funfair-inspired event to mark the publication of *The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop***

Number one bestselling author, national treasure, and broadcaster Clare Balding will be visiting Northcott Theatre this October to celebrate the publication of her very first children's book. Fresh from the Rio Olympics and Paralympics this summer, Clare will come to Exeter to share stories from her own childhood of growing up surrounded by animals. There will be special readings from the new book as well as expert advice on working with and caring for animals. Young readers should come prepared to be inspired. The event will end with an audience Q&A and a chance to have your book signed. Plus, expect funfair-inspired foyer entertainment for all the family.

*The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop* follows Charlie Bass, a horse-mad ten-year-old who dreams of owning her own pony. Charlie is thrilled when she accidentally manages to buy a racehorse. The horse she buys, Noble Warrior, looks the part: strong, fit and healthy. There's just one problem - he won't gallop. In fact, he won't even trot round the field without his best friend, Percy, a naughty Palomino pony, at his side. Nevertheless, Charlie is convinced that Noble Warrior has what it takes to be a champion - he just needs the right motivation.

**"A heart-warming story with a great girl-power message" Jacqueline Wilson**

Clare Balding's Family Evening with *The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop*

<https://exeternorthcott.co.uk/calendar/clare-baldings-family-evening-with-the-racehorse-who-wouldnt-gallop/>

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 6.30pm Tickets: £11.50 ticket only, £19.50 ticket + signed book



*The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop* by Clare Balding will be published by Puffin (Penguin Random House) on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016, £9.99 hardback



**Pony Club Camp**

We ran two camps for children over the summer, where they were living, working and riding together.

All have had a wonderful time and learnt to be bigger and better together.

## Cheston Pony Club Race Yard visit to Martin Hill Racing

Martin Hill very kindly gave us a fab and informative tour of his racing set up near Totnes. On a roasting hot day, we toured the cool airy barn with happy and affectionate Thoroughbred race horses enjoying cuddles from members. Martin told us all about his racing successes, horse management and the feeding ethic which leads to such happy horses.



The yard was surrounded by lovely grazing which the horses enjoy along with the horse walker. We 'galloped' up the exercise track with a quick race in the cars to mimic the cruising speed of a racehorse galloping at 32mph. Whilst there we learnt about the fences and start gate and discovered the track is available for hire for just £10!

Martin is looking for a work rider at present as the horses all require a lot of exercise including hacking and gallop work.

We had no shortage of volunteers amongst our gang. However, PC members had to settle with asking lots of questions as Martin offered us squash and biscuits in his garden. We had a lovely time at the yard so are very grateful for Martin taking time away from both his racing yard and his other business, a builders reclamation yard. Our next trip just might have to be to Newton Abbot Racecourse to see the horses in action!

To find out more about Martin Hill Racing, take a look at his website at [www.martinhillracing.co.uk](http://www.martinhillracing.co.uk) and perhaps you might be tempted to join a Racing Syndicate or work for Martin.



## OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Lucas, Darcey, Gracie, Niamh, Tom, Alice, Jessica, Amy, Eleni and Eliza for achieving their tack cleaning badge during Junior Camp.

Congratulations also to Connie, Talitha, Morgan, Melissa, Lianne, Jamie and Morgan S for achieving their Countryside badge during Senior Camp.



Congratulations to our Royal Navy riders who recently completed their first mini jump sessions and collected clear round rosettes. Tayto, Finn, Frodo,

**NEW: After School Taster lessons for 4-5 year old children. 3.30 and 4pm. A fun 30minute 1:1 lesson (£25) with Junior Instructor to gain confidence and basics. Ideal for occasional young riders or those too young for Mini Pony Club.**



## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.chestonfarm.co.uk](http://www.chestonfarm.co.uk)

Facebook: Cheston Farm  
Equestrian Centre

### DID YOU KNOW!

We also offer Bed and Breakfast at Cheston as well as riding holidays.

For more information check out our Facebook page

Cheston Farm Dartmoor Riding

### Next Newsletter out December 2016

This is the first of our quarterly newsletters to keep you up to date with everything that has been and will be going on at Cheston.

If there is anything else you would like to see in this newsletter then please speak to Sophie or a member of the Cheston team and we will try to do our best!