



## 2011 Committee

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Chairman – Ruth Watson  
Vice-Chairs – David  
Pomphret & Vincent  
Seddon  
Secretary – Carol  
Brougham  
Assistant Secretary –  
Rowena Sheldon  
Treasurer – Helen Platt

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Andy Wood  
Becky Brougham  
Marie Pomphret  
Julie Horton  
Lynn Salmon  
Gillian Hanley  
Nigel Keene  
Debbie Gaskell  
Debbie Wing  
Jane Gerrard

### Junior Committee

Sophie Horton  
Jade Horton  
Becky Gaskell  
Megan Pomphret  
Joshua Gerrard  
Matthew Gerrard

## GREETINGS ALL!

Hi folks,

Well the weather held beautifully, didn't it? Lots of lovely sunshine in April gave us a fantastic first two shows. So lovely to see old friends and also to make new ones. Welcome to all you new members and welcome back to you familiar faces!

R.I.P.....

...to our old caravan! I'm afraid age and being buried in the ground (very mobile)

finally caught up with our old 'secretary's office', and he has shuffled off to the scrapyard in the sky. Our new operations hub is a little more glamorous, as you will see at the next show!! We're very pleased with it.

Plenty of stuff going on in this newsletter, so have a good read. Fun day details, last chance for Lynn Russell places, charity details and of course our fantastic junior

newsletter! I hope it's providing important information on pony care as well as the usual fun and games.

So best of luck to you for May, get you pre entries in to make life easier on show morning!!

Ruth

Chairman

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## Qualifiers galore!!

The May show is a Trophy show, with our lovely bespoke glass trophies to each and every class winner.

Our qualifiers are **NWWHC, NWSJC, Blue Chip NWSC, Midlands** finals, **Equifest** and there will again be **TGCA** qualifiers. The ridden qualifier will be held in ring 3 before lunch, with the in hand one after lunch.

It's worth you Gypsy cob folks entering these classes, as with enough entries, we would consider putting the TGCA class in as a permanent addition next year. Won't happen if you don't enter though!

## Charlotte's success!!!!

Massive, massive congratulations go out to one of our own members, Charlotte Brunt and her pony Stepol Va Va Va Vroom (Jay) as they win their class at the Blue Chip Winter Showjumping Championships 2011!!!!

Quote from [www.horseandhound.co.uk](http://www.horseandhound.co.uk): Blue Chip debutante Charlotte realised a dream after heading the TAG66 novice champion with Stepol Va Va Va Vroom, beating 81 other competitors. As a child, Charlotte use to watch wistfully at shows.

"I always wanted to be part of it," said Charlotte, "just competing was a dream, winning here is way beyond that."

We are so proud of you and Jay, Charlotte, and hope your partnership was helped along by the club. You have ridden well and fairly, and always been gracious either first or last, and you put your pony's well being before a rosette. Becky and I are particularly delighted for you.





*Lynn Russell showing her outstanding cobs. Get those entries in for the chance to have a lesson with her!!!*

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

[www.bridgewaterridingclub.com](http://www.bridgewaterridingclub.com)

[www.facebook.com/bridgewaterridingclub](https://www.facebook.com/bridgewaterridingclub)

## Lynn Russell at Bridgewater!!!!!!

Last chance for you to grab a space on this very prestigious clinic!!!

Lynn is one of the best known and successful showing professionals in the country and this is your opportunity to get hands on, close up advice from her, at South View Equestrian Centre on 21<sup>st</sup> May. This is the very first time Lynn has taken clinics in this area.

All clinic participants will receive a goody bag containing products from Lynn's sponsors! Entry is £45 (this includes a guest), your clinic will last 1.5 hours and will have a maximum of 6 people. Spectators are welcome at a cost of £5.

Attached is the entry form, please contact Vinny if you want one of the last places. They are going fast!!

## It's all for charityeeee.....

Well, we are all being generous little bees this year.... Your clear round contributions have so far raised £134 for Shy Lowen Rehabilitation Centre, so well done you! Could I ask if any of you can spare any old stable equipment? The centre works on donations, and you all know how much you need those yard bits and pieces. Anything you can spare, please bring to the next show and we will make sure Shy Lowen get it. Check out on the internet the C4 documentary 'Teenage Horse Whisperers' for the fantastic work they do.

Also on the generosity subject, thanks to those of you who have donated your spare change to our member Amy Neill. This brave soul is undertaking a sky dive in aid of Help for Heroes, and must raise as much as she can before she takes the plunge. She will have her collecting bucket at the May show, so please dig deep, and be grateful it isn't you! There is also a young lady who will be collecting for the Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Centre, a good one for all you Racehorse to Riding Horse competitors.

Finally, we will be having a special raffle for a gorgeous embroidered saddlecloth, in aid of the disaster appeal for Japan. I'm sure you have seen the dreadful devastation suffered, and our junior committee wanted to do something to help.

You are a very generous membership, I appreciate times are difficult, and every little helps!!

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**AND FINALLY** (but not forgetting the Junior news below!)

## Fun Day!!!!

See the attached form for details of the fun day on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Dressage competition, clear round, gymkhana games, show jumping, working hunter and showing clinics, it's all there for you! Get your entries in so places can be allocated in plenty of time. Any questions, give me a call or drop me an email and I'll help all I can.

We had a fantastic time last year, so come along and join in the fun!

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## Hello to all Junior members!!!!



Hope you have all enjoyed the last two shows and the lovely weather, fingers crossed for the next one.

Look out again Charlie pony, who will need finding at lunchtime. You really need to listen out for the announcement. Again there will be a great prize for the person who brings him back safely to the caravan.

We have attached a quiz for you to test your pony knowledge, please

return on show day to Carol, the winner will be announced at lunch time, again the winner will get a nice prize.

**Now a message to all you boys, we have heard that you don't like our pink rosettes, so Marie has ordered some new rosettes, and now you boys get a choice if you don't want pink...**

Hope to see you all soon!

**Sophie, Megan,  
Rebecca, Jade,  
Josh and  
Matthew**

### Charlie in a scrape...

Guess who stuffed himself with way too many carrots, after escaping into Mr. Smith's garden?  
(again!!! - Ruth)

Charlie managed to eat so many he got colic, which is stomach ache in horses can be very, very serious. Fortunately, a visit from the vet and an injection to relax his tummy muscle was all that was needed, he was very lucky. (Poppy wasn't very sympathetic...) So Becky from junior committee has put together a great fact sheet telling you all you need to know about colic!

### What is Colic?

The term "colic" means a "pain in the abdomen" or "pain in the belly". There are many causes for such pain, ranging from the mild to the life-threatening or fatal. One of the problems with colic is that it can be very difficult in the early stages to detect the mild, from the potentially fatal. This is why any signs of abdominal pain should be taken seriously right from the start.



### Signs of Colic

The signs of colic in horses range from mild cases to extremely violent in severe cases. The following list includes the most common signs:

Lying down more than usual, getting up and lying down repeatedly, standing stretched out, standing frequently as if to urinate, turning the head towards the flank, repeatedly curling the upper lip, pawing the ground, kicking at the abdomen and rolling.

### What to do

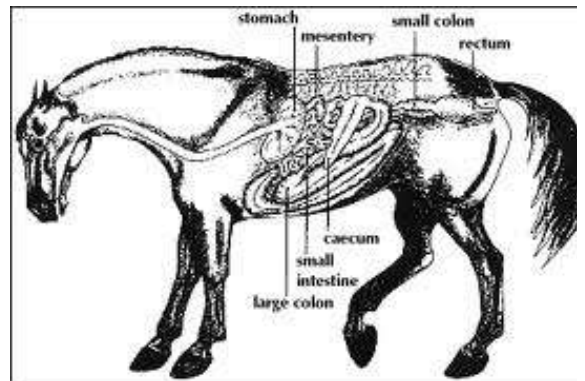
When you see the signs of pain take a few minutes to observe the horse's appearance and behaviour before calling the vet.

- If possible, take his temperature, pulse and respiration rates.
- Note what his appetite has been like in the past day or so, and the consistency and frequency of his droppings.
- Has his water intake been normal?
- Are his gums a normal colour?
- Think about whether he has had access to any unusual feedstuffs in the past day or so, whether any medications have been administered, and whether there have been any changes in management.
- Now call your vet. It is important to take all food away from the horse until the vet arrives. If he is nibbling at his bedding, find a way to prevent this. Walking the horse can be a useful way of distracting him from the pain. If the horse insists on rolling, there will be little you can do to prevent it. If possible, try to get the horse to an area where he will do himself the least damage when he rolls. But do not get hurt yourself. Observe him/her until the vet arrives.

## Prevention of colic

If you happen to be a horse, colic is probably an unfortunate fact of life. Listed below are some of the management factors which are thought to reduce colic incidence

- Allow as much turnout as possible
- Maintain a regular feeding schedule
- Ensure constant access to clean water
- Provide at least 60% of digestible energy from forage
- Do not feed excessive digestible energy
- Do not feed mouldy hay or feed
- Provide access to forage for as much of the day as possible
- Do not over graze pastures
- Do not feed or water horses before they have cooled off
- Maintain a consistent exercise regime
- Make all changes in diet, exercise level and management slowly
- Control intestinal parasites



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*Thanks to Becky for her hard work on the factsheet!!!*

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## QUIZ TIME!!!!

1. Name two different brushes for grooming a pony.
2. What is a metal curry comb used for?
3. Name five breeds of ponies native to United Kingdom.
4. What is a female pony called, up to the age of 3?
5. What is a pony called in its first year?
6. What is meant by a green horse?
7. What does a red ribbon in the tail mean?
8. How many rings are there at Bridgewater rc shows?
9. Name three paces of a pony?
10. Which pony won the Fred Clifton Memorial Trophy in 2010?

**Get your answers in with your pre entries, and we will draw the winner on show day for a great prize!!!!**