

## Dates for your diary

### JUNE

- 6th North Lincs Riding Club Summer Ball at Market Rasen. Tel: 07535 681691.
- 6th Combined training at Sheepgate, Leverton. Tel: 01205 870236.
- 6-7th Deeping show, driving and unaffiliated show jumping at Market Deeping. Tel: 07725 145038.
- 7th Affiliated dressage at Laughton Manor, Folkingham. Tel: 01529 497410
- 7th Unaffiliated dressage at Sheepgate, Leverton. Tel: 01205 870236.
- 9th Senior affiliated show jumping at Arena UK, Grantham. Tel: 01476 591569.
- 10th Affiliated dressage at Sheepgate, Leverton. Tel: 01205 870236.
- 10th Senior affiliated show jumping at Horse World, Market Rasen. Tel: 01673 849967.
- 12th Unaffiliated show jumping at Sheepgate, Leverton. Tel: 01205 870236.
- 12th National Hunt racing at Market Rasen. Tel: 01673 843434.
- 13-14th Affiliated show jumping at Elms Farm, Caythorpe. Tel: 01630 661314.
- 14th Affiliated dressage at Horse World, Market Rasen. Tel: 01673 849967.
- 14th Unaffiliated show jumping and show at Sheepgate, Leverton. Tel: 01205 870236.
- 17th Affiliated dressage at Elms Farm, Caythorpe. Tel: 01630 661314.
- 20-21st Affiliated show jumping, Laughton Manor, Folkingham. Tel: 01529 497410.
- 20-21st Affiliated junior show jumping at Arena UK, Grantham. Tel: 01476 591569.
- 24-25th Affiliated senior show jumping, driving and show at County Show. Tel: 01775 680078.
- 26th National hunt racing at Market Rasen. Tel: 01673 843434.
- 26-28th Affiliated dressage at Sheepgate, Leverton. Tel: 01205 870236.
- 28th Affiliated senior show jumping at Horse World, Market Rasen. Tel: 01673 849967.
- 28th Affiliated driving at Crowle. Tel: 07875 834809.
- 30th Affiliated senior show jumping at Arena UK, Grantham. Tel: 01476 591569.

# Equestrian life in the county

## Summer horse trials at Hackthorn



HACKTHORN HALL

The Lincolnshire estates of Belton and Burghley are well known for their prestigious horse trials, but a Lincolnshire pony club gives local riders at many levels the chance to compete against the backdrop of an elegant house sitting in front of a shimmering lake.

In 2003 the Burton Hunt Branch of The Pony Club were looking for a new site for a cross-country course. They gratefully accepted an invitation from Mr and Mrs William Cracroft-Eley to build a new course in the parkland surrounding Hackthorn Hall, north of Lincoln.

The building of the course was master-minded by Dick Evans, President of the Burton Pony Club. He used his skills as a civil engineer and rider to design the obstacles which were constructed by a team of volunteers who were mainly parents of Pony Club members. Some obstacles utilise materials found on site, such as the trunks of mature felled trees; others reflect the local area, for example, the 'Picture Gallery' which features pictures of the Red Arrows and Hackthorn Hall and St Michael's Church painted by former Burton Pony Club member Melodie Hindmarch.

Each year the Burton Pony Club runs two hunter trials and two consecutive days of horse trials one

day events at Hackthorn. The horse trials will be held on Saturday and Sunday, 4th and 5th July. This fixture caters for riders of all ages and levels, with courses ranging from 0.60 metres to 1.15 metres. It is very popular with both Pony Club members and adults from Lincolnshire and the surrounding counties including Yorkshire. In 2005 Hackthorn was chosen as the venue for the East Midlands qualifying competition for The Pony Club Eventing Championship.

### THE BURTON HUNT BRANCH OF THE PONY CLUB ~ FIXTURES 2009

<b>Date</b>	Saturday 4th July and Sunday 5th July
<b>Event</b>	One Day Event (unaffiliated) PC Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Classes for non-members of all ages (including adults) as well as Pony Club members.
<b>Venue</b>	Hackthorn Hall, Lincoln LN2 3PQ (Lincolnshire)
<b>Entries close</b>	Saturday 13th June

<b>Date</b>	Sunday 20th September
<b>Event</b>	Autumn Cross Country (unaffiliated)
<b>Venue</b>	Hackthorn Hall, Lincoln LN2 3QP (Lincolnshire)
<b>Entries close</b>	Monday 14th September
<b>Entries will be taken on the day only if places available.</b>	

Website [www.pcuk.org/burton](http://www.pcuk.org/burton)  
 Entries Secretary Mrs F Evans,  
 79 Sudbrooke Lane, Nettleham,  
 Lincoln LN2 2RW  
 Tel 01522 824524  
 Fax 01522 824523  
 e-mail [freda.evans@ntlworld.com](mailto:freda.evans@ntlworld.com)

## News on the hoof

Congratulations to Nettleton jockey Oliver Williams who rode his first winner of the season at Market Rasen a few weeks ago and was presented with a special prize by his own younger sister, Amelia who had been given the job of making the presentation to the race winner because of her work for the injured jockeys fund.

And congratulations to South Wold North Pony Club whose annual cross-country event at Withcall near Louth was a brilliant success. Winners included Elizabeth and Sue Evans (Pre-novice pairs); Fallon Burkitt (Pre-novice individual); Megan Millson and Megan Booth (novice pairs); Lauren Mathieson (novice pony); Kelly Dobson (novice horse); Gemma Hufton and Sara Kirwin (intermediate pairs); Latta Chauhan (intermediate individual); Rosie Dobson (open individual).



## Straight from the horse's mouth

### TOP TIP

Watch out for sweet itch! If you notice your horse or pony rubbing, biting and obviously irritated around the mane, withers, tail and sometimes under the belly you could have a sweet itch problem. What is sweet itch? Simply it is an allergic skin reaction to the bite of the black fly or midge called *Culicoides*. It can drive your horse crazy. Other tell-tale signs include a lot more tail swishing than usual, restlessness and a loss of appetite. The horse's coat thins and you can then see thickening skin with what looks like oozing sores. What can you do about it? Happily there are treatments. A protective fly blanket helps as do some fly sprays but if the condition has already taken hold then medication from the vet is needed straight away. The good news is that sweet itch can be treated and your horse can be returned to his usual happy self.

### PONY EXPRESS

Make haste and send us your news, photos, results and dates for the diary. Equestrian Life is interested in all things horsey so let us know what is going on whether you are a novice rider or an experienced carriage driver. Send to Lincolnshire Life, County House, 9 Checkpoint Court, Sadler Road, Lincoln LN6 3PW or email [editorial@lincolnshirelife.co.uk](mailto:editorial@lincolnshirelife.co.uk)

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**Polo Tournament**  
Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th  
June at Leadenham Polo Club.

Further information on  
[www.leadenhampoloclub.com](http://www.leadenhampoloclub.com)

Don't miss the coverage of this event  
in the July issue of Lincolnshire Life,  
The County magazine.