



FORGE

FORGE IS THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH FARRIERS AND BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION

Managing risk



**Injury survey
- the results are in**

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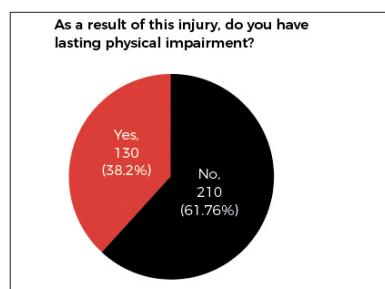


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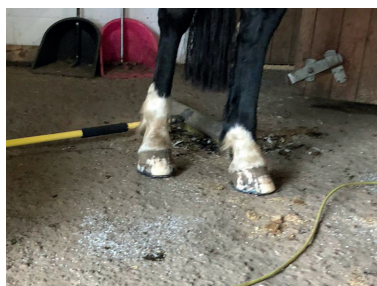
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of Horseshoes

CONTENTS



Injury survey

4



Risk awareness

12



Remembering Tom

22

BFBA

- 2 President's address
- 2 Focus 2021 – news update
- 4 Injury to farriers survey. The results
- 10 BFBA AGM – do join us
- 10 Survey prize winners
- 10 What3words
- 28 What's in *Forge Knowledge*?
- 29 Second Lockdown League

Features

- 12 **FEATURE** Reducing injuries to farriers

- 16 **FEATURE** Injuries causes by horses – when can I pursue a claim?

News

- 19 National heritage ironwork group
- 20 WCF higher qualifications gain Ofqual accreditation
- 23 Funding for learning
- 23 Higher exam success
- 24 Donkey Breed Society 'Fab Farrier' awards
- 24 A grateful owner thanks their farrier

- 26 Covid effect on the equestrian sector
- 27 Apprentice at the anvil
- 34 Kerckhaert Kings Plate competition

Obituary

- 22 **OBITUARY** Remembering Tom Holliday

Learning/research

- 32 Stromsholm Apprentice Club news
- 33 Implications of a severe toe crack

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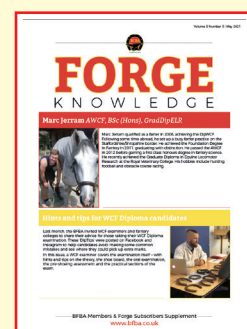
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The May 2021 issue of *Forge Knowledge* includes two articles on hoof anatomy:

- Case report 'An advanced case of laminitis' by Marc Jerram AWCF, BSc(Hons), Grad Dip ELR
- Hints and tips for candidates approaching the Diploma written by WCF examiners



Worshipful Company of Farriers

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Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths

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European Federation of Farriers Associations

President, John Ravanelli (EDHV Germany)
Vice-President, Peter Kristiansen (DMFA Denmark)
Secretary, Chris Linssner AWCF
www.eurofarrier.org

Farriers appointed to FRC Council

Farriers elected to FRC Council (three-year appointment)
David C. Hall BSc(Hons) DipWCF (Hons),
Chair of the Council
Tom Smith, AWCF, GradDipELR
Deputy Chair
Toby B. Daniels, DipHE, DipWCF
Derek T. Gardner AWCF

BFBA farriers on FRC council

Ben T. Benson AWCF
Simon Moore FWCF

WCF farrier on FRC Council

Robin P. May AWCF

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Forge does not endorse any advertising material included in this publication.

Contributions in the form of articles, reports, letters and photographs are welcomed.

President's address

We are delighted that our flagship event – **BFBA Focus** – will go ahead this year alongside a **BFBA Home International** and **Team Apprentice Competition**.

However, we are sad that the International Competition cannot be held. Welcoming our fellow farriers from around the world is a highlight of our year and we very much look forward to 2022 when the International Competition will be back.

Having had my first coronavirus vaccination, I feel there is light at the end of the tunnel and I'm very much looking forward to a time when we can get together in person. My fellow members of the Executive Committee who are based all over the country are just as keen for an opportunity to meet up.

I hope that Branches are beginning to think about putting on events again. Although our AGM will be held online (on 15 May), we hope they will support us on Zoom. In fact, we encourage all farriers to join us at the meeting (see page 10 for details).

Thank you to all of you who filled out our injury questionnaire. The results (which start on page 4) don't tell the whole story because we haven't yet had the opportunity to analyse them fully. Once we have done so, we plan to use them to best effect – highlighting risks and looking at the best ways of protecting ourselves at work, as well as collaborating with horse owners to ensure safety is the top of everyone's list. Do get in touch with your comments.



What the results do show – even at a glance – is that for farriers, injury at work is common. Of the 349 who completed the survey, only five farriers reported never having suffered an injury at work.

Later this month, the final-year apprentices will take their Diploma examinations. To help them, we invited the WCF Examiners to contribute a selection of Dip Tips, which we shared on social media and also in our members only magazine *Forge Knowledge*. We can't name the Examiners involved, but a number of them went above and beyond what we were expecting and their tips were very well received. We are very grateful to them and wish all those taking exams the best of luck.

There are a number of farriers among us who are willing to serve with various bodies, where they do their best for the good of us all. Some are appointed by BFBA, others do so because they want to, for the good of our profession. The aggression and rudeness shown to them by some farriers – particularly on social media – is reprehensible. Why would anyone want to represent us when all they get is abuse for what they do? Please respect their efforts.

Finally, we extend our condolences to the Royal family following the death of The Duke of Edinburgh. Prince Philip – a polo player, carriage driver, president of the FEI and the founder of the Pony Club Mounted Games – loved horses. This was marked beautifully by his Fell ponies, which had a special place at his funeral.

Craig D'Arcy, BFBA President

International news!

The BFBA International Team Horseshoeing Competition will sadly not be held in 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and uncertainties.

Chief Steward Mark Watson said: 'We are planning to hold a BFBA Home International Horseshoeing Competition and BFBA Team Apprentice Competition alongside BFBA Focus in October 2021 in the exciting new venue at Stoneleigh Park – this will encompass exciting upgrades to the facilities for our competitions and we are very much looking forward to welcoming our international competition family back next year.'

THE BFBA FOCUS EVENT WILL INCLUDE THE LECTURE THEATRE, MARKETPLACE AND PRODUCT DEMONSTRATIONS AT ITS NEW VENUE IN BLACKDOWN HALLS 4 TO 13, STONELEIGH PARK.

If you have any questions, please contact headoffice@bfba.co.uk or call 024 76 696595.

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Update

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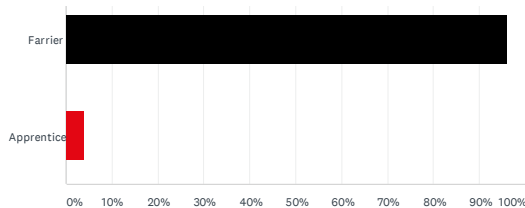
BFBA injury survey

The results

In March, we asked you to share your experiences of being injured while working with horses. We did this through a survey to gather data on the frequency and types of injuries affecting the profession. Your answers will enable BFBA to promote discussion and raise awareness of the risks of working with horses. We are grateful to the 349 of you who responded. Here's what you told us – why not grab a cup of tea and look at the findings?

ABOUT YOU...

Are you a farrier or an apprentice?



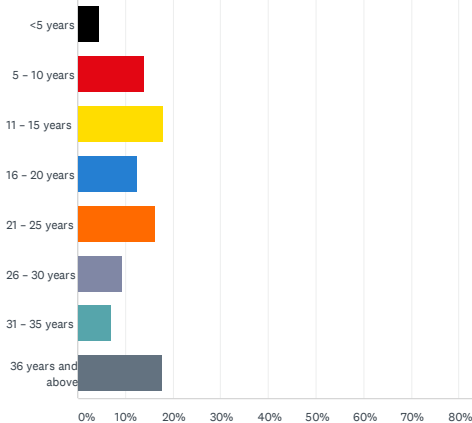
Respondents: 349.
Skipped: 0

96% Farriers,
4% apprentices.

How old are you? Average age: 41.44%

Respondents: 349
Skipped: 0

How long have you worked as a farrier?



Respondents: 349
Skipped: 0

<5 years, 16 (4.58%)
5-10 years, 49 (14.04%)
11-15 years, 63 (18.05%)
16-20 years, 44 (12.61%)
21-25 years, 57 (16.33%)
26-30 years, 33 (9.46%)
31-35 years, 25 (7.16%)
Over 36 years, 62 (17.77%)

YOUR INJURIES...

For the purpose of this study we asked respondents to include only the injuries sustained through horse behaviour while trimming or shoeing, not those incurred in the forge or at the anvil, unless a horse was involved. An injury was defined as 'An injury or event that required (self) treatment and/or resulted in time off work' (Parkin 2018). Therefore, we asked about injuries that required first aid and/or pain medication.

How many injuries have you sustained in your career?

Respondents: 348
Skipped: 1

Average 6.37

Of your total injuries, how many required the attention of a medical professional?

Respondents: 346
Skipped: 3

Average 3.84

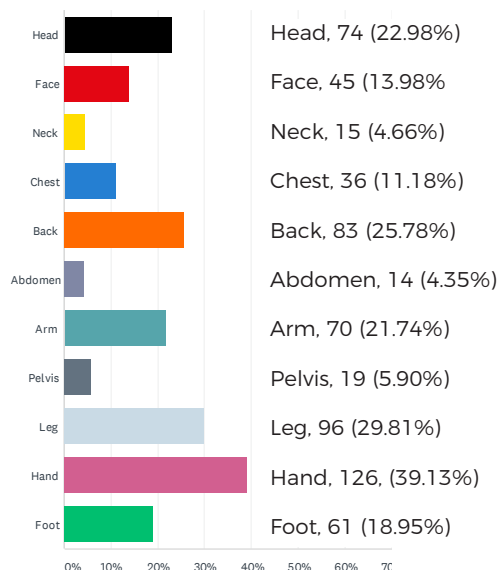
How many injuries required hospital treatment?

Respondents: 346
Skipped: 3

Average 2.28

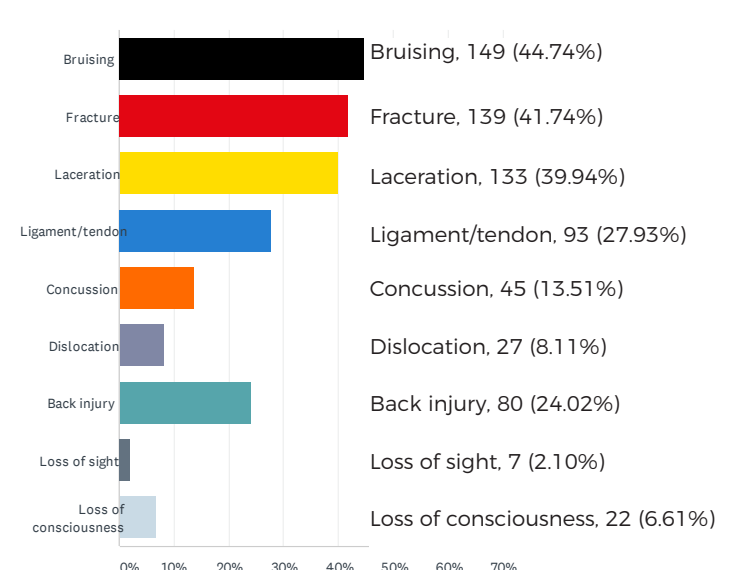
In which area of your body was this injury sustained?

Respondents: 322 . Skipped: 27



How would you describe the injury sustained?

Respondents: 333. Skipped: 16



PARKIN, T. D. H., BROWN, J. & MACDONALD, E.B. (2018) Occupational risks of working with horses. A questionnaire survey of equine veterinary surgeons. *Equine Veterinary Education* **30**, 200-205



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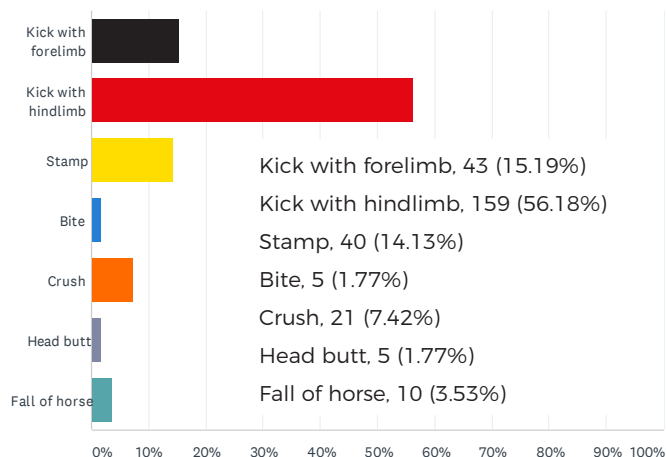
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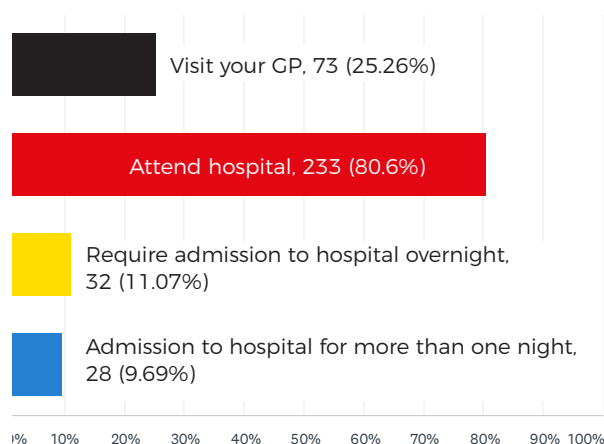
What was the main cause of the injury?

Respondents: 283. Skipped: 66.



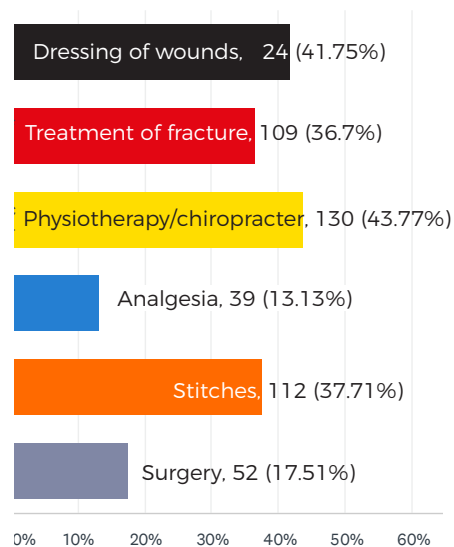
As a result of the injury did you?

Respondents: 289. Skipped: 60.



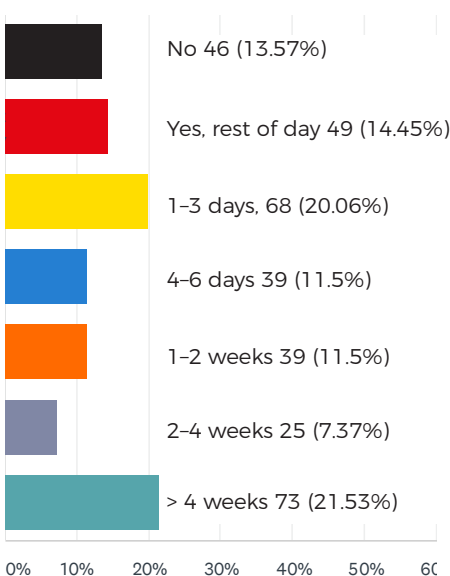
What treatment was required?

Respondents: 297. Skipped: 52



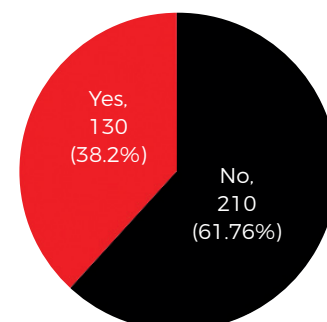
Did you need time off work as a result of the injury?

Respondents: 339. Skipped: 10



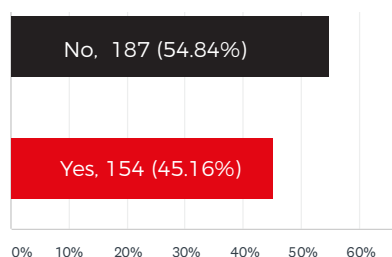
As a result of this injury, do you have lasting physical impairment?

Respondents: 340
Skipped: 9.



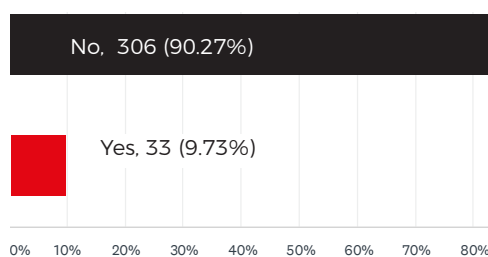
Did you suffer financially as a result of this injury?

Respondents: 341
Skipped: 8



Did you make a personal injury claim?

Respondents: 339
Skipped: 10



**Thank you for
completing our
survey,
turn to page 8
for more results**



Egg Bar Shoe

Made from aerospace grade aluminium alloy, designed for maximum endurance, have a wide chamfer on the whole of the front of the shoe to facilitate the breakover of the foot.



Rolling Shoe

Designed to make it easy to tilt the hoof forward or to the side, gives a great protection of the sole. It can be used in a sporting manner or as a therapeutic horseshoe to reduce joint strain.



Heart Bar Shoe

Made of aerospace grade aluminium alloy, the shoe mimics the unshod foot, as the frog and wall are restored to a natural pattern of weight bearing. The wide chamfer on the toe eases the break over of the foot.



Collateral Shoe

The wide branch limits the penetration into soft ground and the narrow branch assists. Three clips, steel insert embedded in the toe to increase wear resistance, made of aerospace grade aluminium alloy, designed for maximum endurance.



NEW

Suspensory Hind Shoe

A very wide flat bearing surface at the toe, with narrow bevelled heels. Designed to improve the movement of the hind limb on soft surfaces by the wider toe reducing penetration into the ground, while the more narrow heels allow the shoe more penetration into the surface.



Suspensory Shoe

Designed to reduce the insertion of the toe into the ground and facilitate the penetration of the heels in soft ground, thanks to the narrow branches. The enlarged heel area in contact with the foot increases comfort in the posterior area. A large rolling facilitates the rotation forwards the foot.



Onion Heel Shoe

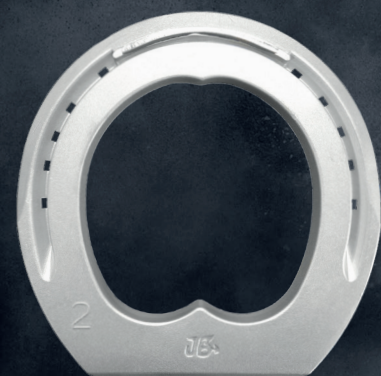
provides a wide coverage in the heel area to distribute the pressures in the posterior area. This reduces the sinking of heels in soft ground.



NEW

Collateral Hind Shoe

The wide branch limits the penetration into soft ground and the narrow branch assists. steel insert embedded in the toe to increase wear resistance.



Straight Bar Shoe

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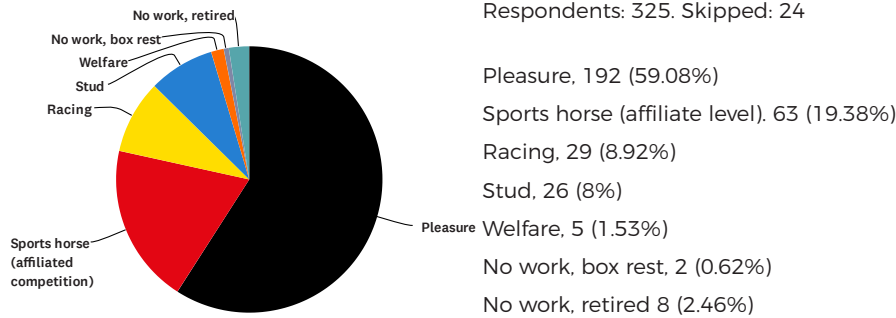
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ABOUT THE HORSE AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES...

What was the occupation of the horse at the time of the injury?



How old was the horse? Respondents 338. Skipped 11.

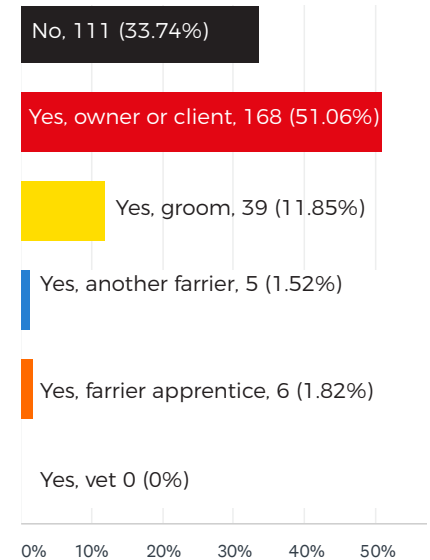
Young, inexperienced 125 (36.98%)

Mature, 213 (63.02%)

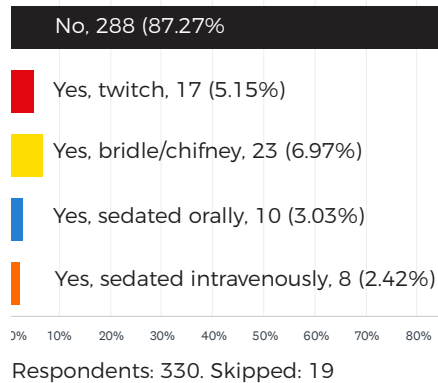


At the time the injury occurred, was the horse being held by a handler?

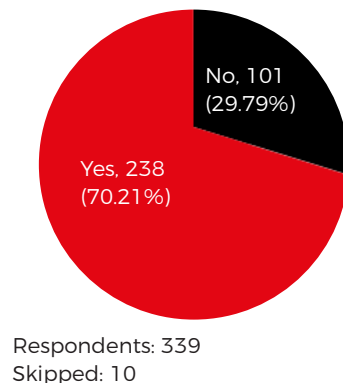
Respondents: 329. Skipped: 20



Was the horse being restrained at the time of the injury? (tick all that apply)



Did the injury occur with a horse you had worked on previously?



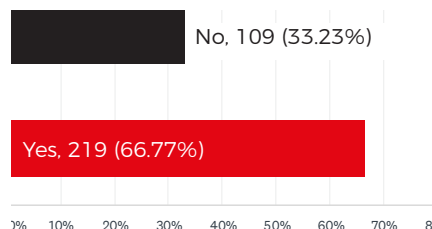
If no, were you made aware of previous behavioural problems during hoofcare appointments?

Respondents: 113. Skipped: 236

Yes, 8 (7.08%)
No, 105 (92.92%)

Do you feel the owner/client was honest with you before commencing hoofcare?

Respondents: 328. Skipped: 21



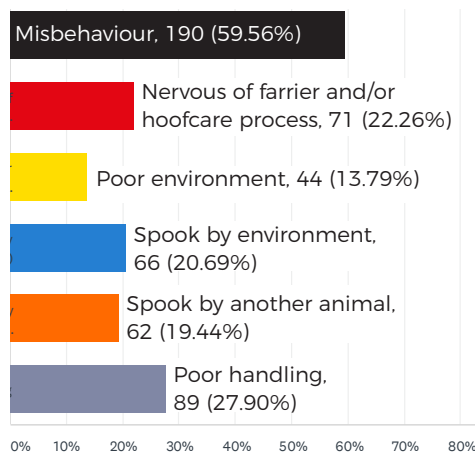
Have you changed your practise as a result of the accident?

Respondents 339.
Skipped 10.

No, 103 (30.38%)
Yes, 236 (69.62%)

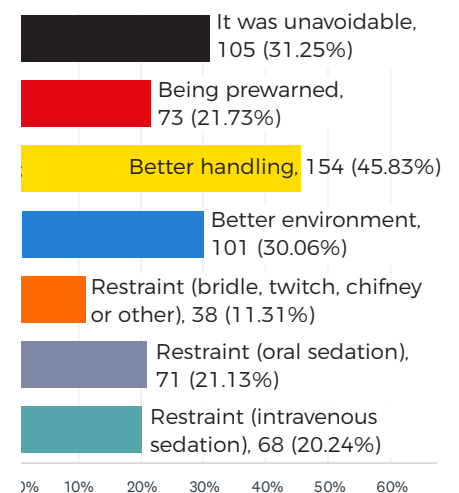
What do you believe was the cause of the injury sustained? (tick all that apply)

Respondents: 319
Skipped: 30



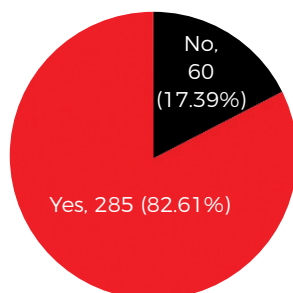
How do you think the accident could have been avoided? (tick all that apply)

Respondents: 336
Skipped: 13



ABOUT MINIMISING RISK...

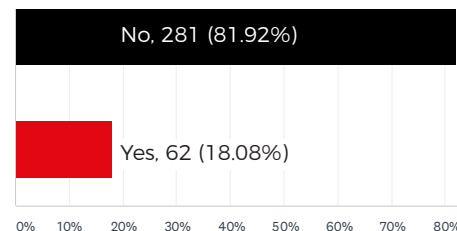
Are you aware that the FRC Code of Conduct (2021) (section 24) states: 'Farriers are advised not to commence or continue working with an animal if it is felt that the present temperament of the horse, or the conditions the horse is kept in, are unfavourable to a successful outcome and/or that the health and safety of the farrier or others, including the horse, may be compromised by proceeding.'



Respondents: 345. Skipped: 4

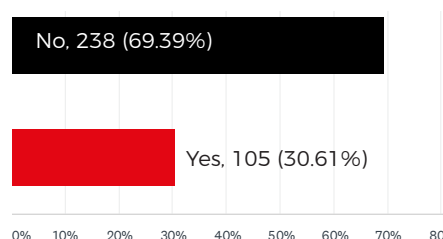


Before starting work for a new client, do you provide a 'terms of business' agreement?



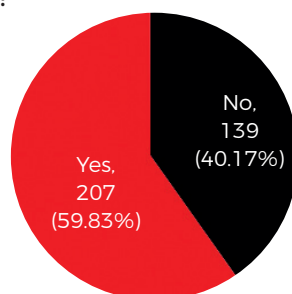
Respondents: 343. Skipped: 6

Before starting work for a new client, do you provide a terms a terms of business agreement, which asks the client to confirm whether the horse is difficult during routine hoofcare appointments?



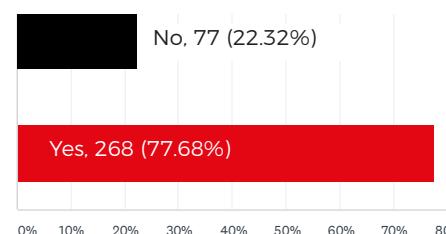
Respondents: 343. Skipped: 6

Did you know the Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 contain the requirement to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient' general assessment of risk?



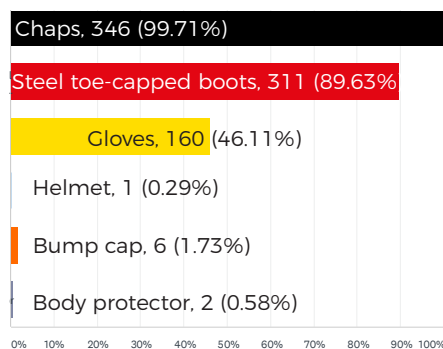
Respondents: 346. Skipped: 3

Do you carry out a risk assessment before commencing work?



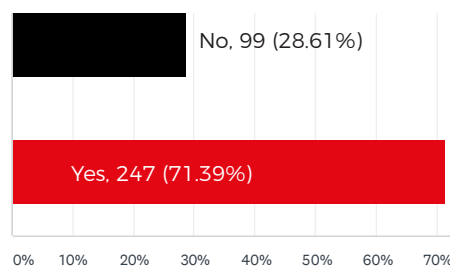
Respondents: 345
Skipped: 4

Do you wear PPE?



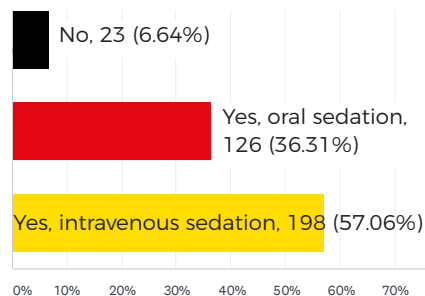
Respondents: 347. Skipped: 2

Do you have personal injury insurance?



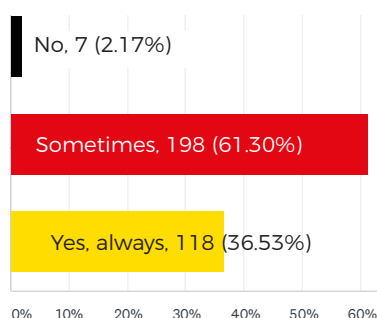
Respondents: 346. Skipped: 3

Have you recommended to a client that a horse be sedated before you commence hoofcare?



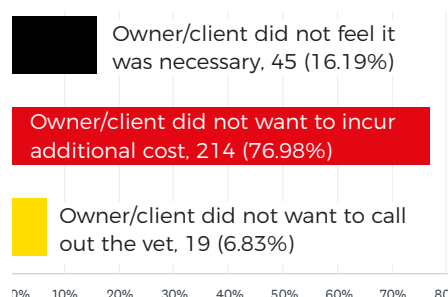
Respondents: 347. Skipped: 2

If yes, is your recommendation generally accepted?



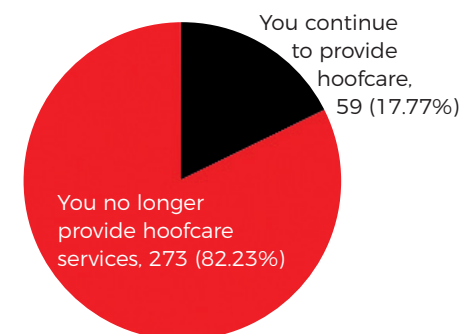
Respondents: 323. Skipped: 26

If the owner does not want the horse sedated, what is the reason for the owner/client declining?



Respondents: 278. Skipped: 71

If the owner/client declines horse sedation, what is the usual outcome?



Respondents: 332. Skipped: 17

BFBA annual general meeting



Following the success of last year's meeting, and due to the ongoing coronavirus restrictions, the British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association (BFBA) AGM will take place on Zoom, on Saturday, 15 May 2021.

BFBA members need to pre-register to receive the link to access the meeting and vote. Zoom is simple to use, however, should you require any assistance please do let us know. It is anticipated that the AGM will begin at 10 am and should take approximately two hours. Further details will be confirmed in due course.

All BFBA members are warmly invited to attend and questions will be taken. Attendees last year found the experience a positive one and enjoyed taking an active role in shaping the future of your association. The Executive Committee encourage as many members as possible to join them.

To register please email headoffice@bfba.co.uk or call 024 76 696595.



**REGISTER
NOW!**

Injury survey prize winners

The survey is now closed. By way of thanking you for your participation Gibbins of Suffolk, Silverback Chaps and The Farriers Foundation generously donated prizes.

Congratulations to the first 10 completing the survey who each receive a bump cap embroidered by Gibbins of Suffolk. They are:

- Mark Aikens
- Norman Johnson
- Dexter Strickland
- Shane Francis

- John Ford
- Jay Tovey
- Jonathan Black
- Dafydd Buncombe
- David Jennings
- Ian Wainwright

The winner of the Silverback chaps and bump cap was Kevin Balcombe.

And the winner of The Farriers Foundation cap was David Gill.



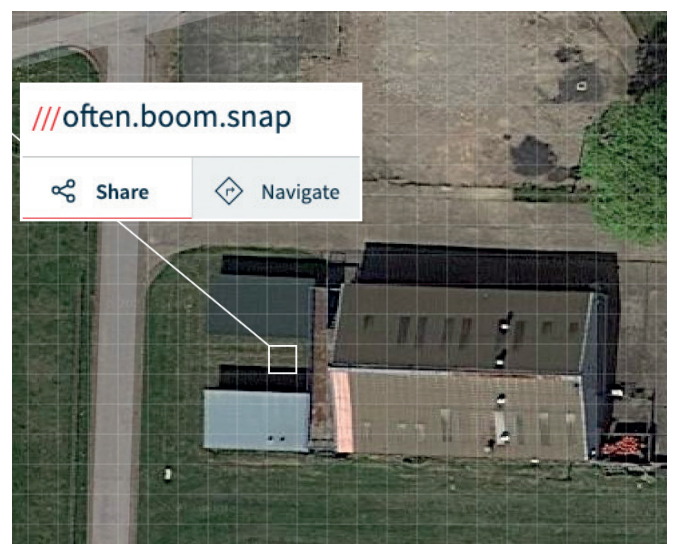
WHAT3WORDS

Every 3 metre square of the world has been given a unique combination of three words. what3words makes it easy to find, share and save precise locations – whatever and wherever it is. Pictured on the right, for example, is the Forge at Stoneleigh.

what3words could be especially useful to farriers, for example, for those wanting to find yard locations or letting someone know where you are (especially if working on your own). It is also been used by riders hacking in remote locations and emergency situations.

Guides can help you master the app, from sharing and navigating to creating lists of saved locations.

Enter a place name or street address into the search bar and choose the correct result. Switch to satellite mode and zoom in until you see the grid. Tap on a square to see its what3words address.





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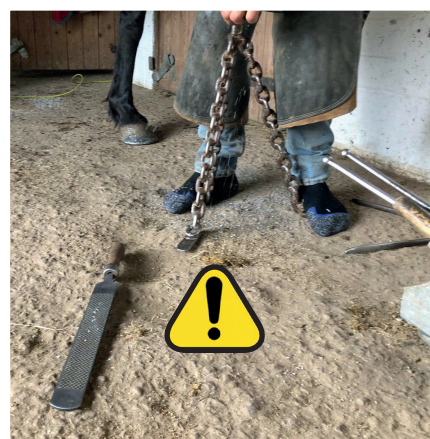


Reducing injuries to farriers

By Jane Patching



How safe are farriers when working at equine premises? Location, access to the yard, the availability of a suitable working area, not to mention the behaviour of individual equines and their owners are just some of the daily hazards they face! Injuries that occur may be the result of hazardous situations, which often go without assessment before work is undertaken. Communication and observation between the horse owner and the farrier are key to suitably assessing the risks and subsequently reducing injuries.



Identifying hazards

Hazards are situations with the potential to cause injury or damage. When looking at hazards consider the following points:

1. What can you actually see?
2. What harm could this cause?

This may sound extremely obvious, but take a few moments before completing a task to consider the following:

- What am I about to do?
- Think about the task and how you intend to tackle it.
- What could I do wrong from here?
- What effect may this have on other people? (Because of something you do or don't do or because of something somebody else does or doesn't do.)
- What if something happened by chance?
- Think about the consequences if things were to go wrong.
- Could you or somebody else get hurt?
- How badly might you be injured?
- Could machinery or equipment be damaged?

Lone workers, or those employing less than five employees, do not have

to write risk assessments down; however, they have to show they have considered the risks and implemented control measures where necessary. Considering the above points is a good starting point for creating a risk assessment.

A risk assessment doesn't need to be an onerous, time-consuming, lengthy document. A dynamic/on-the-spot risk assessment is just as effective. As long as the individual has considered all the risks for the particular tasks, this can help them to work safely and reduce potential injury, individuals can find the best method to suit them or there are many templates available to assist if required.



Owner responsibility

Discuss with the owner prior to visiting the yard and establish what facilities are available in terms of a suitable level working area, preferably covered.

Some background on the individual horse would be extremely beneficial – are they well handled? Has the owner taught them to pick their feet up? Do they fidget? Do they kick or bite etc? Have they ever been shod or barefoot only?

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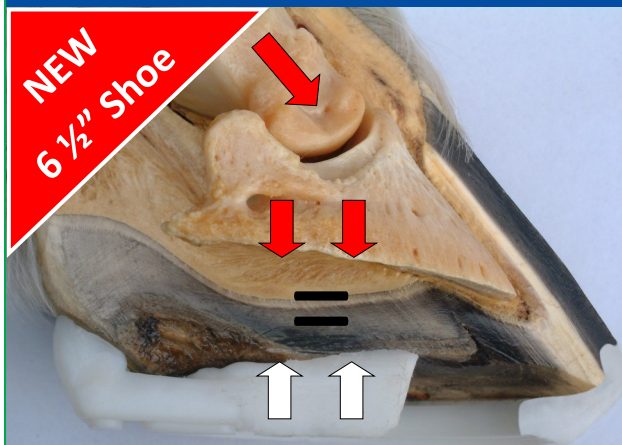
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This knowledge is vital to help when assessing the environment for risks.

Who will be there to assist if required? The yard owner, the horse owner, a friend of the horse owner. Is the farrier expected to catch a horse, trim or shoe and then return it to a field, whilst lone working, just what would happen if you were injured? How would you call for help? What if you can't?

It's okay to say NO. Why should a farrier put themselves in a position of danger? Who decides to let that happen? It is understandable that welfare of the horse and also finance requirements can sometimes be top of the list when taking on a client, but pause there and think for a moment. The repercussions of working in an unsafe situation could be far more damaging and a serious injury could cause long-term health and financial issues if an individual cannot work.

Education

Education is one of the key factors here. With many apprentice farriers in training there is an opportunity to ensure they are aware of how to risk assess a situation properly and by educating apprentice farriers to assess risks and be confident

to speak up if something is not safe is one way to help reduce injuries. Most apprentices are young workers, these individuals should be risk assessed themselves. They may not be physically capable of some of the tasks expected and lack of experience could

cause them to miss something and potentially end up in danger.

At the other end of the scale, complacency can also play a part in increased injuries. Sometimes when a task has become second nature, mistakes can happen where people rush or take shortcuts.

The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 explains the duty of care held by employers: 'It is an employer's duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of their employees and other people who may be affected by their business'. Therefore, where apprentices or other employees are taken on, there is a duty of care to assess the risks and ensure the relevant control measures are in place.

It is not just about farrier education though, there is a clear requirement for owner education and for them to understand the risks faced by farriers and how they can assist in reducing these. Now, this isn't necessarily down to the farrier themselves, but clear communication with the owner regarding the safety expectations and appropriate handling and training of the horse should be had and potential issues documented.

Reportable Injuries and RIDDOR

The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (known as RIDDOR) means certain types of injuries, depending on their severity, must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Reporting of RIDDOR incidents is the responsibility of employers, self-employed and people in control of work premises, depending on the situation.

Types of reportable injuries

- Death arising from a work-related injury.

Specified injuries include:

- Fractures (except fingers and toes).
- Amputations.



Jane Patching is a highly qualified Health, Safety and Environment (EHS) Manager and also a keen equestrian who enjoys competing in dressage with her horse Molly. She is combining her extensive EHS experience across a variety of industries with my love of horses to bring a friendly, knowledgeable and realistic approach to providing Health, Safety and Environmental support and guidance to equine and small businesses. She is also an approved EHS Adviser for the Association of British Riding Schools. She offers a wide range of services including:

- Site visits and full health, safety and environmental audits
- Recommendations for improvement
- Risk assessments
- Fire risk assessments
- COSHH Assessments
- Health and safety training
- Event risk assessment and guidance.



Picture: Shutterstock / Irina Orlova



- Permanent loss of sight or reduction of site.
- Crush injuries leading to organ damage.
- Serious burns covering more than 10% of the body.
- Scalpings.
- Unconsciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia.
- Any other injury from working in an enclosed space resulting in an illness requiring resuscitation or hospitalisation for more than 24 hours.
- Over seven-day injuries – where an employee or self-employed person is unable to work for more than seven days as a result of their injury.
- Work-related accidents involving members of the public or people not at work must be reported if the person is injured and requires hospital treatment.

Full information on RIDDOR and the reporting process can be found at www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/reportable-incidents.htm

Where to go from here?

Of course, working with live animals will always carry a risk of an unforeseen event resulting in an accident, but many accidents can be prevented by clear communication between the farrier and the client regarding the expectations of suitable shoeing areas and horse training and behaviour.

Farriers play a vital role in the management of horses' health and welfare and it is important that they are not viewed in any other capacity than any other professional: for example, vets and physiotherapists, have specific requirements before carrying out the treatment of horses.

In all other industry and employment levels, health and safety is a key priority and changes are made where necessary to ensure individuals remain healthy and safe during their working day. This should be no different for farriers...remember it is okay to say no! Spend some time ensuring you are happy with the work environment offered, the assistance from the horse owner / yard owner and comfortable you have been made aware of any potential behavioural issues posed by the horse.

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Injuries caused by horses - when can I pursue a claim?



Our legal advisers, Morrish Solicitors, accept that – in general terms – domesticated horses are not normally a danger to people. However, there will be certain horses that have a dangerous characteristic or certain situations in which any horse might behave dangerously (in the same way as dogs may). Here, we aim to give some understanding of when it might be possible to pursue a claim if injured by a horse.

It is important to remember that the law on this subject relies heavily on the evidence of those with knowledge and experience of horses, which means farriers! One of the most important things to appreciate is that the legislation allows for strict liability in certain circumstances without having to prove negligence or fault. This can lead to a valid claim in situations where you might not think this would be the case.

Animals Act 1971 ('Animals Act')

This legislation was introduced by Parliament to replace the complex common law rules that had built up over time and to clarify when liability will arise for damage caused by an animal. To determine whether liability arises under the Animals Act, a number of questions must be answered. It might be apt to visualise each question as being like a fence in a steeplechase race that must be cleared in order to reach the finish victorious.

To extend this image further and for fun's sake, let's say that the horse is your lawyer and it is their task to get you over the fences and to the finish line. With this image in mind... 'Under starters' orders...'

1. Can the 'keeper' be identified? (Fence 1)

The animals Act imposes strict liability on the 'keeper'. This is defined as the person who 'owns the animal or has it in his possession'. This includes individuals such as racehorse trainers. In most cases, this is a simple fence to clear in order to be up and running.

2. Is it possible to pinpoint the particular characteristic that caused the injury? (Fence 2)

For example, was the injury caused by kicking, bucking, bolting, rearing, biting etc?

In most cases, the person injured will be able to say what behaviour caused or directly led to their injury. However, it is not always clear cut or there may be a dispute about the facts. There may also be some instances where the person injured cannot recall the events due to a head injury and will need to rely upon witnesses or what is recorded in the accident documentation.

In these circumstances, this is a fence that will usually be overcome but cannot be taken for granted and the race is over if not cleared.

3. Was the characteristic that caused the injury something that can be explained or understood because of the circumstances? (Fence 3)

This is where your own experience and knowledge of horses is very much in play. Basically, when looking at the facts of the case, is there an explanation as to why a horse behaved as it did? As an obvious example, if you creep up behind any horse and startle it you cannot be surprised if it kicks out. However, as a horse person, you will probably be able to identify numerous situations where horse might become 'spooked' or react dangerously, some of which might not always be obvious to a lawyer. This question boils down to looking at the facts and asking yourself whether you are unsurprised that a horse might react in this way. Sometimes, the courts will need the evidence of an equine behaviour expert to assist with this question.

If you clear this fence you can bypass fence 4 and move straight to fence 5. If you failed to clear it, you can still remount and remain in the race if you get over fence 4.

4. Was the characteristic that caused the injury something this particular horse was known for? (Fence 4)

This is a fairly straightforward question about whether the horse has a reputation for the behaviour that caused injury or was known to have behaved this way in the past. For example, was the horse known to kick, bite, buck, bolt etc, or known to spook at certain things?

One of the biggest challenges with this fence is obtaining the necessary evidence if the alleged behaviour is denied by the keeper. It is, therefore, always helpful to have witness statements from people who can confirm this known character trait.

5. Was the characteristic that caused the injury known to the keeper or a person who was in charge of the horse as an employee of the keeper? (Fence 5)

It is important to note that you can still clear this fence if the keeper denies knowledge but you can prove that an employee of theirs who was in charge of the horse did have this knowledge. For example, at a race yard it might be that the assistant trainer or head lass/lad has more direct day to day knowledge of the horse in question.

It is also easier to clear this fence if you cleared Fence 3 (ie, the behaviour of the horse that caused injury might be expected from any horse in the particular circumstances). It will be difficult for an experienced horse person to deny they knew a horse might behave in this way in such circumstances when it is commonly accepted that such circumstances might trigger this behaviour.

It can be more difficult if you are relying on the fact that the particular horse in question had a known character trait. If there is a dispute about this, witness evidence from others with experience of the horse or documents showing past similar behaviour will be key.

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Obviously, if the horse is called 'Mr Nibbles' or 'Mrs Double Barrel', this would be a good indication of a known behaviour trait!

6. Was the characteristic of the horse that caused the injury something that was likely to cause this kind of injury or likely to cause a severe injury? (Fence 6)

On the face of it, this might appear to be a simple question to answer, but there has been a lot of legal dispute on this issue within the case law and something lawyers acting for defendant's have focused in an attempt to defeat claims. It would be hard to dispute that a horse that kicks out at someone is liable to cause injury and that such injury is likely to be severe if the horse connects.

However, defendants have argued that a characteristic such as bolting or bucking might not necessarily cause a severe injury even if this causes a rider to be unseated. Like with the question at fence 3, it is sometimes necessary to obtain the evidence of an equine behaviour expert to deal with this issue.

7. Was the injury due wholly to the fault of the person injured? (Fence 7)

This fence does not usually present a problem as those who work with and look after horses know how to behave and act respectfully around them. However, it is sometimes alleged by lawyers acting for defendants and will be a race ender if proved. An extreme example would be someone standing behind a horse within 'the kicking zone' and letting off a party popper!

8. Did the injured person 'voluntarily accept the risk'? (Fence 8)

Even when you have successfully negotiated your way over the previous fences, you might fall at the last.

This is often used by lawyers acting for defendants as a 'get out of jail card'. To use it, they must show that the injured person:

- a) Fully appreciated the risk in question, and;
- b) Exposed themselves to it.

However, it is very important to note that the law differentiates between those who are injured as an employee. The legislation states that an employee cannot be seen to have accepted a risk incidental to their employment. For example, a member of stable staff or work rider employed by a racehorse trainer would be protected by this principle. However, this would be less clear in the situation of a farrier who is self-employed and has more control over the work they choose to undertake.

This fence is perhaps more problematic for those injured undertaking a leisure activity rather than those injured whilst working. For example, someone who books riding lessons or riding holiday will be seen to be accepting the risks incidental to such activity. However, they could not be seen to have accepted a risk they are unaware of (eg, if they are given a horse to ride that is known to have a dangerous character trait but were not warned about this).

9. Winners' enclosure

If you have safely negotiated the above fences you are home and dry. Just as a rider needs a good horse to improve their odds of winning, a claimant needs a good lawyer to increase their chances of succeeding with a claim and recovering damages for injury.

In the unfortunate event that you do suffer injury and wish to pursue a claim, be sure to choose a top class stables such as Morrish Solicitors with thoroughbred lawyers and an excellent track record of success!!

Note: This article focuses on liability under the Animals Act, but there may also be a claim in negligence. Further, whilst working with horses is a unique job, an employer has a duty to comply with the same workplace health and safety regulations that apply to all workplaces, and an injury resulting from a breach of these may give rise to a successful claim. The best thing to do is to seek specialist legal advice.

Some examples of successful cases run by Morrish Solicitors

Case 1: A member of stable staff was riding in a string when the horse behind started to overtake and kicked out as it pulled up alongside, connecting with his lower leg and causing very severe injury that ultimately led to a lower limb amputation.

Case 2: A member of stable staff lost a finger when a horse with a known history of such behaviour bit him.

Case 3: A farrier was working on a client's horse when a dog wearing a veterinary cone entered the yard causing the horse to be spooked. It trampled on his hand, causing the need for surgery and permanent damage.

Case 4: A work rider suffered multiple injuries when she was riding a horse and the stirrup leather broke causing her to fall.

Case 5: A stud hand was working with a stallion and mare when both horses became agitated by the process and resulted in his leg been trampled on causing a severe left ankle fracture.

Case 6: A member of stable staff suffered significant injuries when riding on the gallops and their horse was spooked by a wild bird that flew out of bushes causing the horse to spook and veer off the gallops and unseat them (this is similar to another successful claim where a horse ridden on the gallops was spooked by cows in a field adjacent to the gallops).

Case 7: A farrier recovered damages for a serious hand injury when he requested a horse be sedated by the owner before working on it due to previous difficult behaviour, but the horse came round whilst being shod, suggesting it had not been sedated or not properly sedated.

Case 8: A member of stable staff recovered damages for a serious fracture injury suffered when she was using a wheelbarrow to transport feed and fell due to a defect with the surface of the yard.

Case 9: A travelling lass recovered damages for injury suffered when accompanying a horse to the races and tripped over a hazard whilst leading the horse down the chute to the race track.

Case 10: A member of stable staff at a pre-training yard recovered damages for head injury suffered when the horse she was riding pitched forwards and whipped its head back head butting her. It was alleged that the horse had a known tendency to do this and that such behaviour would be aggravated by certain factors.

National Heritage Ironwork Group – news

Preserving the infrastructure of an historic industrial site

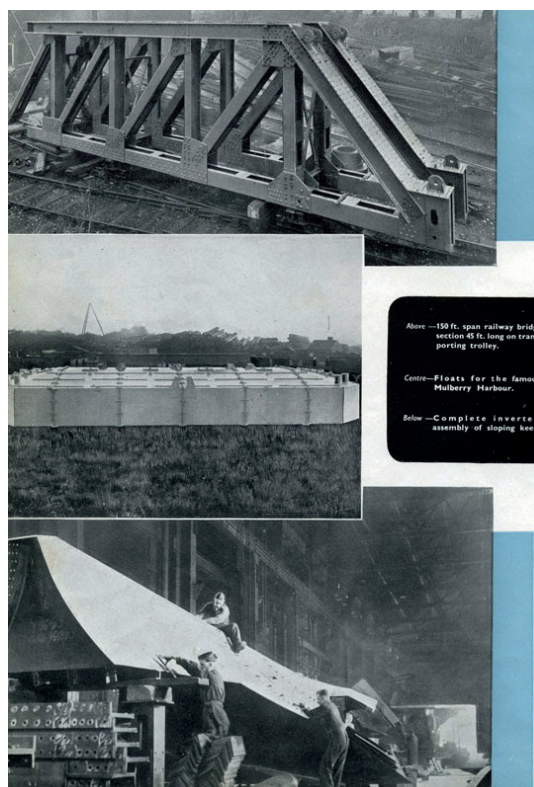
The Butterley Company was a pioneer of mechanised heavy engineering processes at the forefront of the industrial revolution. Founded in Derbyshire in 1790 by Benjamin Outram, it manufactured iconic buildings and structures – from St Pancras Station to the Falkirk Wheel and the Spinnaker at Portsmouth.

Butterley Engineering closed in 2008 and the site is now the subject of a mixed housing and commercial redevelopment. The Butterley Ironworks Trust (BIT) is campaigning to save two structures at the site – the Blast Wall and the underground Canal and Wharves – which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Additionally, it wants to save two Grade II Listed buildings amongst the remaining structures, which have historical significance.

BIT is a Registered Charity (No. 1173670) whose broad aim is to secure the nationally and internationally important heritage features of the former Butterley Works site. Its vision is to employ the latest 'virtual reality' technologies to demonstrate the historic engineering and socio-economic importance of the site with a series of 'experiences' designed for all ages and interests.

To deliver this ambition, it needs crowdfunding – <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/step-one---a-journey-to-restore-open-the-ironworks> – to secure specialist support to help plan the delivery of an original and exciting visitor experience.

(right) A page from the Butterley Company brochure: a bridge used in WW2 for the Rhine crossings; one of the pontoons, which was used with the Mulberry Harbour to get troops and kit to the shore after D Day; and a keel, one of many the company made for the navy



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Traditional Joining and Repair Techniques

Wednesday 9 June 2021,
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What is this event about?

This webinar – presented by blacksmith Rowan Taylor – will help you identify and understand the various types of joining techniques found in historic ironwork, including:

- Different types of fire-weld
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- Halving joints
- Collars: wrapped, screwed and fire-welded
- Nuts & bolts with a focus on threads
- Square-headed fixings from the period 1850s-1920s
- Appropriate use of replica fixings

By the end of the session, you should be able to appreciate what is involved in construction and how best to approach repair. The presentation will include case studies and short video clips demonstrating key techniques.

Who is it for?

The webinar is aimed mainly at general conservation professionals, for whom ironwork falls within their remit but is not a specialism. It will also be suitable for blacksmith students and metalworkers unfamiliar with historic material or keen to learn more.



Site Dismantling and Fixing

Wednesday 12 May 2021, 12:00-1:30 pm

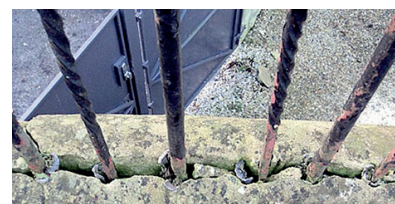
What is this event about?

Removing and reinstating ironwork will always have an impact, but how can we minimise that impact, act responsibly and safely, and avoid further complications? This webinar – presented by highly skilled blacksmith David James – will look at the issues involved in dismantling ironwork on site and fixing it back in again, giving an overview of potential approaches, tackling typical problems and offering some solutions, including:

- Methods of removing iron from stonework
- Options for fixing ironwork into stone
- Safe practice working with lead
- Using heat on site

Who is it for?

Anyone who wants to get a better understanding of the ironwork in their care: owner/custodian, specifier or practitioner.



For more information about these events or to book a place, visit <https://nhig.org.uk/events>

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WCF higher qualifications gain Ofqual accreditation



By Coreen Beckford, WCF Registrar

I am pleased to announce that the AWCF and FWCF awards have recently been approved as official qualifications by Ofqual. The higher exams, and the profession overall, can now receive the respect and recognition they deserve.

Why is it important for the AWCF and FWCF to be approved with Ofqual?

Approval means that the AWCF and FWCF are officially recognised by the Government. The qualification levels are recognised on the UK National Qualification Framework and Regulated Qualification Framework.

Horse-owners, employers and the lay public will know that someone who has gained an Ofqual regulated qualification has reached a recognised standard in the achievement of specific knowledge and skills. This adds to the credibility of the farriery craft. The AWCF and FWCF qualifications will be more easily recognised, not just in England, but also across the UK and Europe and the World.

What was involved to get the AWCF and FWCF to this level?

Time spent in meetings and long phone calls in the evenings! We had to communicate extensively with Ofqual to explain the Company's intentions and draft new and refine old exam processes to meet Ofqual's list of general conditions (of which there are 91). These conditions cover areas such as governance, accessibility, learning time, and the handling of assessment enquires. We had to draft internal assurance procedures to ensure that the higher exams met all of the conditions and qualification levels.

What does this mean for potential new associate / fellows?

They will now get a certificate with the Ofqual logo and qualification number on it. Candidates can be reassured that

What does this mean?

The AWCF can now be found on the OFQUAL register as an occupational qualification (reference 603/7226/6). It is a level 5 qualification, which means it is recognised as equivalent to a diploma of higher education or foundation degree.

An AWCF holder...

- Has practical, theoretical or technological knowledge and understanding of a subject or field of work to find ways forward in broadly defined, complex contexts as practical, theoretical or technological knowledge and understanding of a subject or field of work to find ways forward in broadly defined, complex contexts.
- Can analyse, interpret and evaluate relevant information, concepts and ideas.
- Is aware of the nature and scope of the area of study or work.
- Understands different perspectives, approaches or schools of thought and the reasoning behind them

The FWCF can now be found on the OFQUAL register as an occupational qualification (reference 603/7227/8). It is a level 6 qualification, which means it is recognised as equivalent to a degree apprenticeship, ordinary degree without honours or graduate certificate.

An FWCF holder...

- Has advanced practical, conceptual or technological knowledge and understanding of a subject or field of work to create ways forward in contexts where there are many interacting factors.
- Understands different perspectives, approaches or schools of thought and the theories that underpin them.
- Can critically analyse, interpret and evaluate complex information, concepts and ideas.

their awards have been developed to clearly defined national standards and developed in conjunction with industry to ensure that they are fit for purpose.

What does it mean for colleges and associations (such as BFBA)?

There are no restrictions on any organisation setting up a study course leading towards an approved Ofqual qualification. This means that the onus falls on those organisations to demonstrate that they can get course participants up to AWCF and FWCF standard.

The AWCF and FWCF reliably indicate the understanding demonstrated by students. They have been developed by an experienced examination board using a rigorous, reiterative development process. Study organisations can display their teaching skills via their students who successfully attain a qualification that Ofqual regulates.

How does it benefit the profession?

The AWCF and FWCF qualification will be listed in Ofqual's Register of Regulated Qualifications, which is a key resource for those looking to take qualifications.

Farriery customers can know that someone who has a certificate for an Ofqual regulated qualification has reached a recognised standard in the acquisition and achievement of specific knowledge and skills.

Ofqual recognition gives confidence that the qualifications are delivered by an organisation whose integrity, resources and competence have been independently vetted and are independently verified on an ongoing basis. It informs everyone that the qualifications are monitored at consistently the standard and level it claims to be at.



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OBITUARY

Tom Holliday

Tribute by Andrew James AWCF Master Farrier

Thomas Mark William Holliday died on 21 February 2021 aged 26 years. His funeral service was held at All Saints Church Kipton, Leicestershire, on Tuesday, 16 March 2021. Tom qualified from Myerscough College in 2015.

One of the hardest things to do is to say goodbye to someone so young and with so much promise – someone who was a real trier and an all-round lovely person to have known. Tom, you will always be remembered fondly, rest in peace.

In the middle of 2011, I received a rather brief letter from a young lad asking to join my team for his apprenticeship. Brief it was, but there was something about him that made me enquire further. His father John hunted with the Ledbury hounds and his brother was already training with another ATF in Lincolnshire. I soon discovered that his grandfather on his mother's side was a former army farrier whom I had come across when I myself was training. Putting it simply, it appeared farriery and the love of horses was bred in him.

Tom joined us in the Autumn of 2011 to embark upon his apprenticeship. He appeared to be fairly quiet at first, but was always willing to learn and we actually found we had a lot of commonalities due to the area Tom grew up in, and that I trained in.

As he developed I always knew he was taking in as much information as possible when explaining different techniques to him, which was proven when he practised by himself and made excellent examples of a host of different shoes.

Tom quickly grew in confidence and demonstrated a clear love of shoeing. He would ask lots of questions and bring a lot to the table, spending plenty of time in the forge practicing. He also had a wonderful way with people – all my customers loved Tom – he was always given the good biscuits!

Most weekends, to earn pocket money, Tom would help us on the family farm. He was prepared to get involved with everything – from helping with difficult calvings to dealing with the many trials that sheep provide! He often asked questions about the different lineages of the cattle and took

'As long as we live, they too will live, for they are now a part of us, as we remember them'



a keen interest in them. It was clear that Tom could turn his hand to most things and possessed a wonderful outlook on life.

Many of you are familiar with Tom's accolades, representing England, the Barbarians FC and usually a podium finish at every competition he entered – which was likely to be the top one.

We travelled around the country on many occasions to compete, but on one memorable occasion we were heading to the Kent County show. We had packed all the camping gear and were looking forward to an adventure. It was raining quite heavily and as we arrived we experienced a torrential downpour. The camping gear was no longer habitable and so we ended up travelling 50 miles to find a Premier Inn! We sat down and had a great dinner and, of course, Tom ordered ribs. He really had a thing for ribs!

Tom was a perfectionist and put thought, good practice and effort into each shoe he made. I was incredibly proud of him and will always remember him fondly with a smile.



(left) At the Worshipful Company of Farriers Diploma presentation event in January 2016, Tom won the BFBA prize for the best forging skills. (right) Tom, with one of the many awards he won



Funding for learning



A scholarship will enable James Osborne to embark on the two-year blacksmithing design forgework skills course at the National School of Blacksmithing in Hereford



Picture: Julian Calder

A scholarship enabled Nina Thomas to undertake a three-year foundation degree in farriery science at Myerscough College



Sam Woolham received QEST Pewterers' Company funding to support his training as an apprentice farrier with Paul Horner FWCF BSc (Hons) in Somerset

The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) supports the training and education of talented and aspiring craftspeople through traditional college courses, vocational training, apprenticeships and one-to-one training with a master craftsman; helping to support Britain's cultural heritage and sustain vital skills in traditional and contemporary crafts. Applications for QEST funding open soon.

Over the past 30 years QEST has awarded nearly £5 million to 600 individuals working across the UK in 130 different craft disciplines. From guitar making to saddlery and blacksmithing to enamelling, QEST embraces craft in all its forms and is proud to contribute towards its evolving tradition.

QEST funding has provided an essential turning point for many of its alumni, and continues to support them throughout their careers, offering opportunities for exhibitions, collaborations and commissions through our extensive craft network. A number of blacksmiths and farriers have been awarded scholarships by the charity over the years, to further their skills and develop their practice. For example, a 2012 Radcliffe Trust Scholarship enabled Nina Thomas

to undertake a three year FdSc Farriery Science Course at Myerscough College in Lancashire, while Sam Woolham received QEST Pewterers' Company funding to support his training as an apprentice farrier with Paul Horner FWCF BSc (Hons) in Somerset. A 2020 QEST Herbert MacGregor Scholarship will enable James Osborne to embark on the two-year Blacksmithing Design Forgework Skills course at The National School of Blacksmithing in Hereford, and a 2019 QEST Howdens Scholarship enabled artist blacksmith Bex Simon to attend a number of courses in the art of geometry at The Prince's Foundation School of Traditional Arts, which she is incorporating into her practice.

Applications for QEST funding are open twice a year, and the next round opens on 12 July and closes on 16 August 2021. If you are a talented blacksmith or farrier looking to broaden your skills, you can apply for up to £18,000 to support further training and education. For more details on eligibility criteria, and to apply, please visit www.qest.org.uk/apply

QEST was founded by the Royal Warrant Holders Association in 1990 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Association and the 90th birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother. In 2017 HRH The Prince of Wales became Patron, with Vice-Patrons the Earl of Snowdon and the Marquess of Salisbury.

Higher exam success



Pass in Fellowship of the Worshipful Company of Farriers (603/7227/8)
Mr **Thomas Smith GradDip ELR FWCF** of Hampshire

Pass in Associateship of the Worshipful Company of Farriers (603/7226/6)
Mr **Martin James Pearson AWCF** of Northamptonshire
Mr **Nick James Sturgess AWCF** of Hampshire

The Donkey Breed Society recognises more 'Fab Farriers'



(left) Tom Heath;
(right) Brad Brett;
(below) Daley Johnson and
(below right) Jasper Smart



Rolling out this important award across the UK since the beginning of this year, the Donkey Breed Society has announced a further seven recipients. These are farriers who take on board the fact that donkeys are different to ponies and horses, that they need to be approached differently, their hooves worked differently and that it is always necessary to display patience.



The Society is delighted that the British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association (BFBA) is regularly featuring the Award in the Forge magazine and updating the ever-growing list of recipients. DBS Officer Sarah Booth said, 'We want these farriers to know just how much we value them and their understanding of the sometimes complex needs of our members' donkeys. The stories provided by those nominating these farriers, demonstrate individuals prepared to go above and beyond for their clients.'

Congratulations to the latest recipients

David Pryce DipWCF, Jersey; **Brad Brett DipWCF**, West Region; **Jasper Smart DipWCF**, Worcestershire; **Tom Heath DipWCF**, West Region; **Daley Johnson DipWCF**, Oxfordshire; **Mark Jones DipWCF**, Herefordshire; **Alan Godson DipWCF**, Worcestershire and Warwickshire.

Horse owner Shelley Ratty is grateful to her farrier

Eddie Dennis is a remarkable farrier – friendly, funny, extremely knowledgeable and highly respected in and around Kent, Shelley writes.

I have had horses for 40 years and Eddie is undeniably the best farrier I have ever met. He is always on time, but in the unlikely event of any hold-ups he messages or calls to let me know. He always treats my horses and ponies with kindness and takes the time to speak to them before he starts work on their feet. If any of my boys lose a shoe he is there either the same day or the next, without complaint or charge. I have a very precious 31-year-old pony called Bluey who has an arthritic lump on his knee. Eddie makes sure that he keeps this foot as low as possible so as to cause minimum discomfort, always allows Bluey to get comfortable without rushing him, and always treats the horses with kindness and care.

Recently, Bluey came out of his stable and was extremely lame in a hind limb. As he was walking on his toe, I immediately thought that it could be an abscess so I called Eddie to ask when he could come to have a look. Although he wasn't in the immediate area, he immediately diverted and was at my yard in 20 minutes.

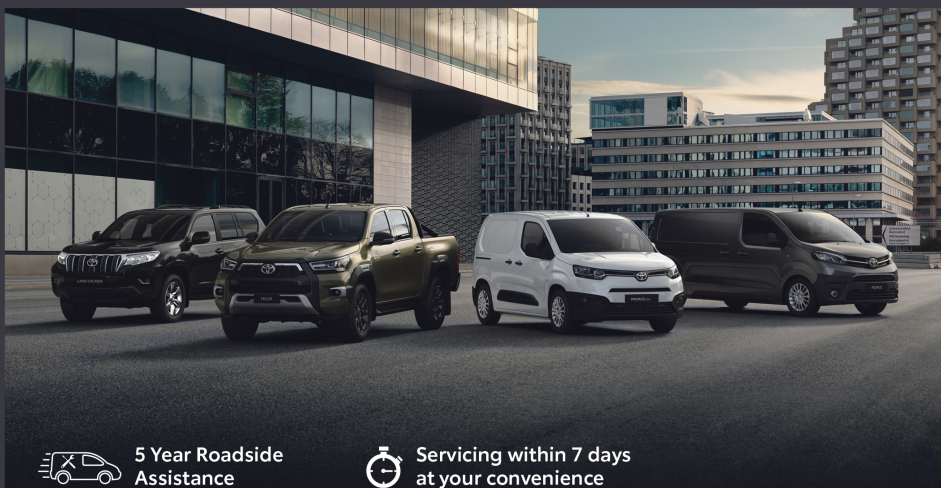
This kind of service is what makes Eddie outstanding in my eyes. He found the abscess almost immediately and Bluey was so much more comfortable – I was so grateful for his kindness. If there was an award for the best farrier who always delivers outstanding service, I think Eddie should receive it for his total commitment to his profession, over and above what is expected.

Thank you Eddie for everything, Shelley, Tia and Kiki



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*Business users only. Initial rental and VAT applies. Model shown is MY21 Proace Medium Diesel 1.5D 100 Active Van at £29355.00 OTR. Prices correct at time of being published. Terms and conditions apply. Available on new leases of Proace Medium when ordered and proposed for finance between 1st April 2021 and 30th June 2021, registered and financed by 30th September 2021 through Toyota Financial Services by 30th June 2021 on a 48 month Finance Lease Balloon contract 24-48 months contract up 50% deposit. Monthly payment of 47x £124.48 + VAT is based on a 48 month Finance Lease with Balloon with £5,000.00 + VAT initial deposit and Balloon of £7,650.00 + VAT.

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LONDONDERRY



Covid effect on equestrian sector

The findings of a new British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA) survey provide an interesting snapshot of the UK's equestrian sector in the wake of a global pandemic. The survey set out to measure the impact of Covid-19 on riding and equestrian spending habits. It took place in December 2020 and January 2021, with 1,508 horse owners and riders providing input on their activities since the beginning of 2020.

The detailed survey, commissioned by BETA and carried out by JDA Research, reveals that online shopping has increased by 38%, highlighting an increased trend for armchair spending. This unexpected boost is thought likely to play an important role in helping to shape the future of retail, BETA believes.

Although affiliated and non-affiliated competition has been impacted, the survey found only a slight decrease in riding overall, which is expected to recover and return to pre-Covid 19 levels. Meanwhile, there has been little change in horse ownership.

'It has been two years since the last BETA National Equestrian Survey was published and the world has had to contend with enormous challenges because of the coronavirus pandemic...This new survey offers us a unique insight into the way in which the pandemic has affected our core activities of shopping for equestrian goods, riding and horse ownership – and helps us to shape our response for the future', said Claire Williams, BETA executive director.

Key findings on equestrian spending

- 9% of those surveyed said they were spending more on equestrian goods.
- 21% said they were spending less or had stopped spending.

Increased spenders tended to be younger, with 23% of under-25s spending more – and on items associated with riding rather than on the upkeep of a horse, with 58% of them buying saddles and 35% investing in general rider clothing.

Older riders and horse owners (over-45s) were more cautious with their spending and only 5% of this age group were spending more, compared with 23% who were spending less or had stopped.

Top three items bought during the pandemic:

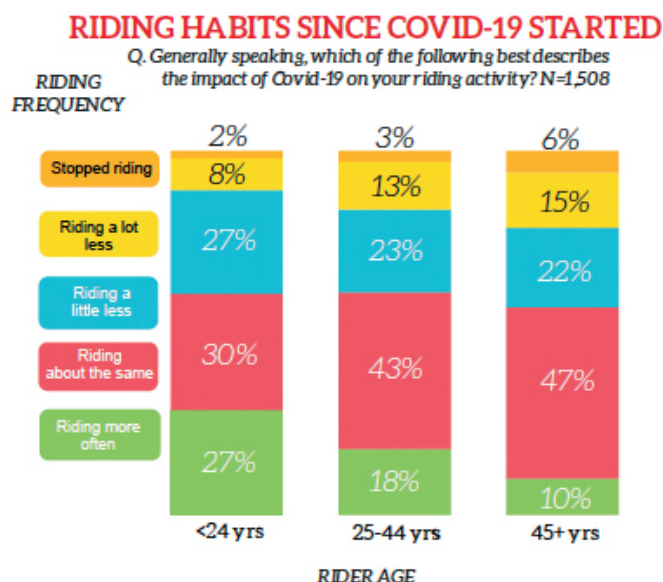
1. 58% bought equipment for horses such as saddles and rugs.
2. 35% bought rider clothing.
3. 34% bought horse feed.

Online spending showed significant changes, with 49% of riders and horse owners shopping online more than they did at the same time in 2019, and they were spending 38% more on average than they did before the pandemic. Two in three said they would continue with online purchasing in future.

Impact on riding

Competitive riding has been severely hit by Covid-19, with only 15% of riders taking part in affiliated events compared with 30% in a typical year. Despite this, six in 10 equestrians said they continued to ride the same as or more often than they did before the pandemic. Here are the key facts on riding behaviour:

- 1 in 20 riders said they had stopped riding completely since March 2020.



In conclusion, the global pandemic has caused a slight decrease in riding frequency but this does not appear too dramatic and will likely recover to pre-Covid levels. Perhaps more marked is the increased trend in online equestrian spending, which may shape the future of retail

- Hacking remains the most common riding activity and the one least hit, with only a 7% fall from 93% of riders participating in a typical year.

Impact on riding

The overall impact of Covid on the frequency of riding is generally small, with the following key findings:

- 59% of riders were riding more often or at least the same.
- 41% of riders have been riding less often since the pandemic
- The average frequency of riding days per week was down from 3.9 in a normal year to 3.3 during the pandemic.
- Riders under 25 are three times more likely to ride more often than those aged over 45.
- The overall number of people riding over the previous 12 months was down from 3 million in 2018 to 2.5 million, while those riding at least once a month fell from 1.8 million to 1.5 million.

Impact on horse ownership

Overall, there have been only slight decreases in the number of horse owners, from 446,000 in 2018 to 433,000, and privately owned horses, from 670,000 to 650,000.



Apprentice at the anvil

William Midwinter is a final-year apprentice at Uppington Smithy in Shropshire. His ATF Mike Kieran and he is studying at Myerscough College. He is due to take the Diploma in 2022.

His father Paul – who sent the photograph – says that as a child Will always wanted to work with animals and spent his holidays working on farms. He grew up around horses, sharing a pony with his brothers, although he says his preference then was for riding motorbikes not horses!

Will discovered his passion for forging after being bought a trial day at the British Ironworks centre in Oswestry. After qualifying, Will has plans to set up by himself while keeping in touch with Uppington Smithy.

● Forge is happy to include pictures and news of farriers and apprentices, email forge.bfba@gmail.com



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Now available online

In the May issue of *Forge Knowledge*

Forge Knowledge contains farrier science and is published as a member-only benefit. BFBA membership is free for apprentices.

An advanced case of laminitis

Marc Jerram describes his approach to a laminitic horse with Cushing's syndrome, which developed a seroma part way through the treatment cycle. The case emphasises the importance of an open-minded team approach, involving farrier, vet and owner, to modify



the treatment and ultimately achieve a good outcome for the horse.

Tips for success in the diploma examination

Last month, the BFBA invited WCF examiners and farriery colleges to share their advice for those taking their WCF Diploma examination. These 'DipTips' were posted on Facebook and Instagram to help candidates avoid making some common mistakes and see where they could pick up extra marks.

In this issue, a WCF examiner covers the examination itself – with hints and tips on the theory, the shoe board, the oral examination, the pre-shoeing assessment and the practical sections of the exam.

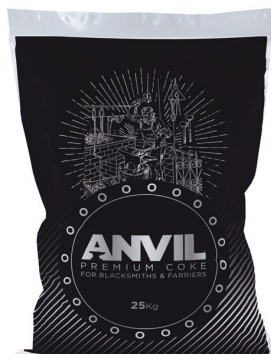
Good luck to those apprentices who are taking their Diploma exam in May.



A mock examination takes place at Hereford college

Featured products

CPL Distribution is introducing a new forge fuel – **Anvil** – which is designed specifically for farriers and blacksmiths. It offers a great core heat that is easy to control, a good clinker and a clean burn.



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Our legal advisers, **Morrish Solicitors**, have worked with the BFBA and farriers for many years.



During Covid-19 it has been focusing on how it can help our members, taking a personal approach to suit their needs. To achieve this, it has produced informative videos, articles and webinars.

It also produces a monthly newsletter with useful articles, legal updates and Morrish updates such as webinars and training. You can sign up for these at www.morrishsolicitors.com/newsletter

Its webinars are available on YouTube covering topics such as employment law after Brexit and 'A pandemic of claims – Covid-19 and the law'.

LOCKDOWN

LEAGUE



Our second Lockdown League event is again comprised of an open class, an intermediate, and two for apprentices (1st/2nd year and 3rd/4th year). This first competition took place on 10 April, the second is on 8 May and the final – the championship – happens on 12 June. It is not too late if you want to join in the competition – you can find the details on the BFBA's facebook page.

● The judges' specimen shoes are revealed at 09.00 on the morning of the competition.

● Competitors then have 2 hours to make the shoes in their own forge, photograph them and submit them for judging.

● The judges on this occasion were Gavin Colby AWCF and Ruairaidh Robb AWCF.

● The Chief Steward is Danny Bennett.

● The judges on 8 May will be Jonathan Nunn FWCF (open and intermediate) and Mark Watson FWCF (apprentices).

● The judges on 12 June will be Gary Darlow AFCL (open and intermediate) and Russell Jones DipWCF (apprentices).

● The entry fee is £5 for members and £10 for non-members per class. Apprentices, it is free to join the BFBA – make sure you are a member.



Shoes for the open competition



Shoes for the intermediate competition



RESULTS

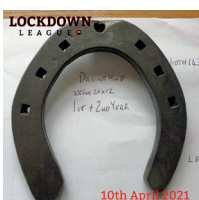
OPEN

- 1 George Rogerson
- 2 Lewis Balfour
- 3 Andrew Casserley
- 4 Andrew Bowyer
- 5 Steven Beane
- 6 Joseph Whitehead

RESULTS

INTERMEDIATE

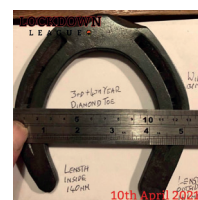
- 1 Toby Thurgood
- 2 Stuart Taylor
- 3 Sam Shanks
- 4 Joshua Cottam
- 5 Paul Horner
- 6 Thomas Brown



Shoes for the 1st/2nd years' competition



Shoes for the 3rd/4th years' competition



RESULTS

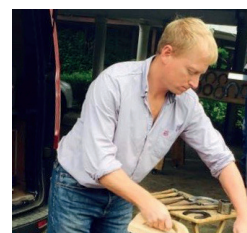
1ST/2ND YEAR

- 1 Kathleen Beaman
- 2 Henry Chitty
- 3 Ross Johnstone
- 4 Zak Jones
- 5 Damien Moran
- 6 Naama Guela

RESULTS

3RD/4TH YEAR

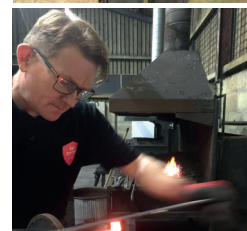
- 1 Liam Burkinshaw
- 2 Sol Tovey
- 3 Aled True
- 4 Kieran Smale
- 5 Jamie Hughes
- 6 Christian Welsford



Gavin Colby AWCF and Ruairaidh Robb AWCF



Jonathan Nunn FWCF and Mark Watson FWCF



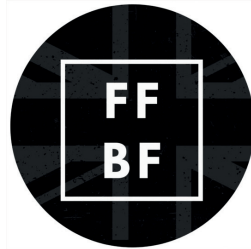
Gary Darlow AFCL and Russell Jones DipWCF



Thank you for sharing your photographs



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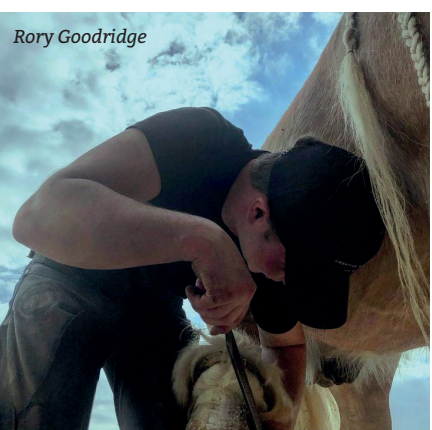
Naama Geula



Joshua Dench



Alice Atkinson



Rory Goodridge



Emma Burns



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Many congratulations to all those who have been nominated for a **College Block Award** for their last college attendance; it is so good to hear that such positive progress has been made. Winners receive a Stromsholm voucher and certificate.

WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE

42L **Louis Agnew** 'for exceptional effort in all aspects of his apprenticeship'. Louis is trained by Mr Andrew Casserly FWCF.

42S **Callum Humphrey** 'for very good engagement with the online learning'. Callum is trained by Mr Mark Humphrey DipWCF.

HEREFORD COLLEGE

42S **Mary-Ann Talling** 'for consistent high

theory grades and best portfolio'. Mary-Ann is trained by ATF Mr M Talling AWCF.

41L **Emily Hockney** 'for highest theory grade in block 7'. Emily is trained by ATF Mr P Brush DipWCF.

45S **Naama Geula** 'for an A grade Distinction for practical in block 1'. Naama is trained by ATF Mr T Smith AWCF.

MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE

43L **Joshua Dench** 'improved in both

theory and practical with an excellent end of block theory result'. Josh is trained by ATF Dean Mould DipWCF.

44S **Alice Atkinson** 'consistent and always gives 100% in both theory and practical'. Alice is trained by ATF Robert Atkinson DipWCF.

42S **Rory Goodridge** 'has put a lot of effort into his theory work over the lock down'. Rory is trained by ATF Mr W Beach DipWCF.

41L **Emma Burns** 'focused and hardworking apprentice, always keen to improve and a pleasure to teach'. Emma is trained by ATF William Moore DipWCF.

45S **Rosie Dobson** 'very keen to learn and expand her knowledge in theory and practical. Excellent progress made with practical during her week in College'. Rosie is trained by ATF Phillip Brush DipWCF.

<https://www.stromsholm.co.uk/apprentice-club-4-w.asp>

Strangles Awareness Week takes place in May

Now in its second year, Strangles Awareness Week (3–9 May) aims to provide an opportunity for horse owners, yard managers and equine professionals to share their stories and promote support for those affected by this infectious equine disease.



The initiative is a collaborative effort between the British Horse Society, Intervacc, Keeping Britain's Horses Healthy, Redwings Horse Sanctuary, Scotland's Rural College's Premium Assured Strangles Scheme (PASS), Surveillance of Equine Strangles (SES), The (Dick) Royal School of Veterinary Studies and World Horse Welfare. Together they have decades' worth of experience of either caring for horses with strangles, educating horse owners, supporting those coping with outbreaks or research into the disease.

As part of the week's aim to promote more open and constructive conversations around strangles, this year's event will include a series of podcasts with figures from across the equestrian community sharing their perspectives and lived experiences of the disease, how they practice good biosecurity and the importance of positive discussions about the disease's prevention and management.

Everyone will also be able to participate through social media (look for #SAW2021) where there will be opportunities for people to tell their own strangles stories or share messages from the week with their own followers.

Implications of a severe toe crack



A few years back, Peter Baker AWCF, was invited by a fellow farrier to look at the cadaver feet of a polo pony that had been euthanased having been lame behind with a toe crack. It proved to be an interesting exercise, he explains, adding that the full implications have not been taken on board until recently. Here, he shares his experience in photographs.

The animal's feet had been stored in water for a few weeks, which made hoof capsule separation a mucky, yet simple task.

The toe crack can easily be seen and the way it affected the hoof capsule. The extent of the soft tissue invasion through the laminal structure can also be seen clearly. The picture opposite shows the modification of P3 and the demineralisation of the bone structure.

Kerckhaert Kings Plate competition

We were delighted to see Cheltenham Festival take place this year; despite a lack of crowds, we joined many others across the country cheering the runners on from our sofa! Together with Aintree, it is always a delight to see horses shod with Kerckhaert shoes return to the winner's enclosure but all those getting horses qualified to run at this level should be congratulated – it is a team effort and no mean feat!

Welcome farrier Tom Hardy to the 'Kings Plate' stable! Tom shoes for Mark Johnston's and we are delighted to report that they are enjoying a fantastic start to the season using our shoes. We wish them continued success.

A few of our recent Kings Plate winners

- ★ **Daniel Hewer** shod Vivency with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound. Vivency was trained by Lee Carter and ridden by Daniel Muscutt.
- ★ Sporting John won the Grade 1 novice chase at Sandown for trainer Phillip Hobbs and jockey Richard Johnson. Sporting John was shod by **Benjamin Parker** with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound nailed on with Liberty nails.
- ★ Mishriff won the Saudi Cup for trainer John Gosden. He was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound, nailed on with the Liberty F1J nails as shod by **O'Shaughnessy Farriery**.

★ Shishkin won the Arkle Cheltenham Festival for Nicky Henderson. Shod by **Chapel Forge Farriers**, Shishkin was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound nailed on with Liberty nails and was ridden by Nico de Boinville.

★ Chantry House won the Marsh Chase for trainer Nicky Henderson and jockey Nico de Boinville. Shod by **Chapel Forge Farriers**, Marsh Chase was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound nailed on with Liberty nails.

★ John Gosden's Lord North won the Dubai Turf under jockey Frankie Dettori. Shod by **O'Shaughnessy Farriery**, Lord North was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound nailed on with Liberty nails.

★ Mishriff continued his winning streak by securing the Dubai Sheema Classic at Meydan Racecourse.

★ Rebel's Romance won the UAE Derby at Meydan for Godolphin and William Buick. Farriers **Derek Poupard** and **Declan Cronin** shod Rebel's Romance with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound nailed on with Liberty Secure Cu nails.

★ Mark Johnston's Subjectivist won the Dubai Gold Cup at Meydan for Mark Johnston and Joe Fanning. Shod by **Tom Hardy**, Subjectivist was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound nailed on with Liberty Secure nails.

GET IN TOUCH!

Contact Dan Collins on 01908 233909 if you are interested in learning more about the range of Kerckhaert plates.



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Trainer	Prize money	Farrier
1 Paul Nicholls	£2,054,890.14	Tom Bougourd
2 Dan Skelton	£1,538,806.94	Spud Allison, Pip Smith & David Webley
3 Nicky Henderson	£1,236,359.54	Chapel Forge Farriers
4 Nigel Twiston-Davies	£732,214.08	John Benfield
5 Fergal O'Brien	£729,042.42	John Benfield

FLAT

Trainer	Prize money	Farrier
1 Mark Johnston	£403,421.83	Tom Hardy & Justin Landy
2 Michael Appleby	£262,992.52	Ed Dodd
3 Andrew Balding	£262,601.44	Eugene Cullen
4 Stuart Williams	£196,828.95	Motion Horse
5 Karl Burke	£196,341.20	Jason Gajczak & Jamie Fox

Correct at 9 April 2021



Tom Hardy with Subjectivist, winner of the Dubai Gold Cup

ANVIL

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FOR BLACKSMITHS AND FARRIERS

CPL
PRODUCTS

- FANTASTIC CORE HEAT
- EASY TO MANAGE FUEL
- CLEAN BURN
- FORMS A GOOD CLINKER

£15.50 PER BAG
£620 PER TONNE

TO PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY
CALL 0345 450 0778
or visit www.coals2u.co.uk



ENDORSED BY MEMBERS OF THE BABA

Best Coke that I have ever used in my 20 years of blacksmithing. It is of a nice, consistent size; burns very hot with minimal fumes and clinkers up into one solid chunk.

Mort, Firebird Forge

The coke was consistent and very clean producing a hard compact clinker with very little ash residue. The fire also stayed clean for a decent length of time and it was easy to clear the clinker. I would certainly be happy to use this fuel in my Forge in the future.

Adrian, Bringsty Forge



BFBA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

**We are the voice of the working Farrier –
representing you and safeguarding our craft**

- ★ **FREE** Entry to BFBA Focus & the International Team Horseshoeing Competition
- ★ **FREE** Delivery on all BFBA merchandise
- ★ **25% OFF** all BFBA courses eg, AWCF/FWCF courses and all CPD courses
- ★ Bi-monthly *Forge* magazine and farrier science CPD *Forge Knowledge*
- ★ Online access to American Farriers Associations 'No Foot, No Horse' magazine
- ★ **AFA members' rate** to attend the American Farriers Association Annual Convention
- ★ **12.5% OFF** Eastlake & Beachell Forge insurance, plus preferential rates on Pensions and Healthcare plans eastlakebeachell.co.uk - 0116 254 4277
- ★ **25% OFF** retail at Red Horse Products Ltd plus email them to receive a **FREE** Farriers Sample Pack info@redhorseproducts.co.uk - redhorseproducts.com - 0808 164 0723
- ★ **10% OFF** Silverback Chaps with Free embroidery (single name) plus a Free Silverback T-shirt silverbackchaps.com - 01947 897165
- ★ **10% OFF** Stromsholm Gibbins aprons with Free embroidery (single name) stromsholm.co.uk - 01908 233909
- ★ **10% OFF** Handmade Shoes (UK) Ltd. HMS exclusive tools only to include: Beanie Tools, Ridolfo Tools and Kingery (Tosakay Forge) Tools, handmadeshoesltd.co.uk - 01296 662 473
- ★ **5% OFF** Londonderry Forge tool maintenance and knife sharpening kit and consumables eg, buffing compound, expander wheels and belts etc. www.forgesupplies.co.uk - 01677 422587
- ★ **FREE DELIVERY** at The Shoeing Lab on Werkman Ortho kit 1.0 and 2.0, www.theshoeinglab.com - 01905 641640
- ★ **BFBA EXCLUSIVE** Embroidered Farrier Pack from Giraffe Graphics for only £99.99 plus VAT to include one soft shell jacket, one hoodie, three polos and three vests all embroidered with your logo (left-chest decoration on all items).
- ★ **FREE** half-hour legal advice over the phone on any issue with Morrish Solicitors plus **10% OFF** wills including spouses, plus **10% OFF** many more legal services, www.morrishsolicitors.com - 033 3344 9600
- ★ **The Edward Martin MBE Cultural Exchange** – the opportunity to go on or to host an American student.

**For more information on any of these benefits or
find out how to become a member contact Head Office,
02476 696595 email headoffice@bfba.co.uk
www.bfba.co.uk**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Marketing & Advertising Sales:

Holly Flack, telephone: 07984 808445, email: membership@bfba.co.uk

QUALIFIED FARRIER NEEDED

**Surrey/Berkshire
area to work with
polo ponies for
1 or 2 days a week.
Accommodation
can be arranged.**

**Contact
Tom Cunningham**

07748 207037

THE FARRIERS FOUNDATION



The Farriers Foundation is safety net for our profession, providing help and support for farriers and their families who need it.

Like many other charities and welfare organisations, the maintenance and delivery of the service we provide have perhaps never been so important. The funding we need to meet these needs is under intense pressure, so we look forward to being able to organise and attend fundraising events as soon as it is safe to do so.

Rest assured, those who need our support can continue to reach out – we are here for them.

To those whose contributions make this help possible, we send our heartfelt thanks. And those who give their time to The Farriers Foundation, whether as Trustees or fundraisers, should be proud of what they help our charity to achieve.

Email thefarriersfoundation@gmail.com

Tel 01785 281867

www.thefarriersfoundation.co.uk

REGISTERED CHARITY No 1156236. REGISTERED ADDRESS 53 Greenfields, Gnosall, Stafford ST20 0HP

BFBA ATF MEMBERSHIP



BFBA wants to help you to **safeguard your business** and we believe ATF membership is the answer. The cost of ATF membership can be directly written off against your tax bill and the membership benefits are seriously beneficial.

MAJOR BENEFIT

The new apprenticeship contract is a game changer in protecting my business. This BFBA contract has been specifically written for ATF's – offering transparency about the responsibility of the employee and employer, while safeguarding the ATF's business. It covers social media as well as responsibility to the apprentice when terminating an apprenticeship early, and financial investment that the ATF has made to that apprentice.

This ATF membership will give our businesses a level of support and protection that has been missing for some years. Peace of mind is a huge thing when we are taking out insurance policies and this is about giving us back up and support when there's a problem, rather than leaving us feeling lost and alone. (Ben Benson AWCF, ATF)

Alongside the standard benefits of BFBA membership, **ATF membership** brings you a **free employment contract** between you and your apprentice(s). The contract has been developed by BFBA to help you avoid all the major pitfalls that might affect you and your business. Negotiating your own contract would cost in the region of £2500. This is a valuable benefit – did you know all apprentices should have had a contract in place from February 25, 2019?

Membership includes a FREE half-hour consultation on employment issues and human resources, as well as further support at a special ATF members' rate.

ATF membership costs £210. Call Holly Flack at the BFBA office, 02476 696595, and benefit your business now!



MUSTAD
DESIGNED TO PERFORM

LiBero Concave

*When your sports horse
needs Extra Traction*
Now available in 8mm

LiBero Concave 8mm:

- The best of both worlds: the increased traction from the concave features while benefiting from the cover of a $\frac{3}{4}$ fullered shoe
- Placement markers for tungsten pins and stud holes
- Perfectly forged clips designed to be slim and strong
- Original concave U crease fullering for extra traction
- Durable and still 20% lighter*

* Than the 10mm LiBero Concave

- Perfect fit with ESL pitch nails
- Available in symmetrical fronts and left and right hinds
- Toe clip or side clips fronts and quarter clip hinds

20 Shoes per box
Punched for Type E nail
Recommended nail:
Concave, EXL and ESL Pitch.



LiBero Concave:
The extreme versatility
of the LiBero is now
combined with a full
concave profile to
provide extra traction.

The LiBero Concave are available in
the following models, sections and sizes:

SHOE MODELS	SECTIONS	SIZES
Front Toe Clip	20 x 10	00 - 1
	22 x 8 New	00 - 3
	22 x 10	2 - 4
Front Quarter Clip	22 x 8 New	00 - 3
	22 x 10	2 - 4
	22 x 10	2 - 4
Hind Side Clip	22 x 8 New	00 - 3
	22 x 10	2 - 4
	22 x 10	2 - 4



Flush Clips



Extended Crease Design



Comfort Sole Relief



ABC Concept



COMFORTMIX

HOOF PAD ZNO

Hoof pad with Zinc Oxide
Preventing thrush



- Recommended for use during wet seasons, preventing thrush
- Closes hoof sole from air thanks to the bonding feature
- Prevents humidity from getting in between the sole and pad material

HOOF REPAIR WHITE

Hoof reconstruction and repair
Glue on steel, aluminium & plastic shoes



- Adhesive designed for large and small hoof repairs
- Bonds to most shoes
- Affixes to a clean dry hoof wall
- Sets in approximately 1 minute and hardens within 5 minutes while maintaining flexibility to ensure natural hoof movement
- Hardens to white/beige color

SILICONE

Protective filling material



- It gives good protection and coverage of the sole
- This silicone sets within 3 minutes
- Can be used with any kind of pad
- It prevents debris or moisture getting in between the pad and the sole

HOOF PAD

Protective pad material
For shock absorption and support



- Your "Must have" pad material to create comfort and protection
- Urethane-based, that sets in 30 seconds and sticks directly to a clean, dry sole
- Ideal with or without any kind of pads
- Optimal shock absorption, support and protection, enhancing the general condition of the sole, frog and hoof

HOOF REPAIR BLACK

Super fast hoof reconstruction and repair
Glue on steel, aluminium & plastic shoes



- Adhesive designed for large and small hoof repairs
- Bonds to most shoes
- Affixes to a clean dry hoof wall
- Sets in approximately 1 minute and hardens within 5 minutes while maintaining flexibility to ensure natural hoof movement
- Hardens to black color

SUPER BOND

For a super fast bonding & hoof repair
Foal extensions. Customized shoes



- It sets in 30 seconds and sticks to a clean dry hoof wall for small repairs
- Create a custom shoe for horses
- Perfect to glue on cuffs for foals or use with foal extension

HOOF PAD SOFT

Soft pad filling material
For shock absorption and support



- Xtra Soft Hoof pad material for very sensitive soles
- It sets in 30 seconds and affixes to clean dry soles
- Can be used with any kind of pad
- It seals the pad from any debris or moisture getting in between the pad and sole



COMFORT 200 CC DISPENSER AND MIXING TIPS

- Premium quality dispensing gun for 200 cc cartridges



- Bag of 10 pieces
- Perfect fit on the 200 cc cartridge

Mustad Hoofcare
Pascallaan 42, 8218 NJ Lelystad - NL
Phone +31 (0) 32 0211 422 www.mustad.com

