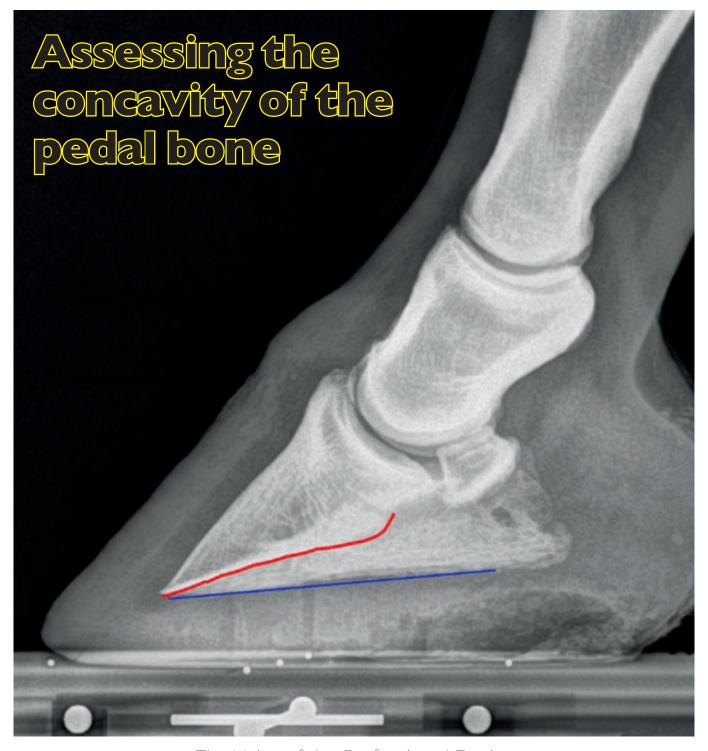


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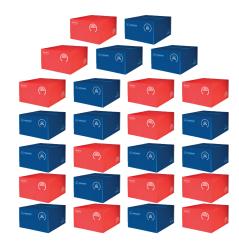














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Forge Editorial Panel

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British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association Holly Flack, Membership Secretary, Claire Jones, National Secretary.

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Craig D'Arcy AWCF BSc(Hons) T: 01254 697050

Daniel Harman AWCF GradDipELR T: 07973 693712

Sam Masters DipWCF T: 07526 348224 The July 2022 issue of Forge Knowledge contains two articles:

 Relationship between the heel buttress and the orientation of the distal phalanx

By Phillip Martin FWCF GradDip ELR

 The palmar metric: assessing the concavity of the pedal bone

By Monique Craig BSCE APF



Worshipful Company of Farriers

Clerk: Charlotte Clifford, 19 Queen Street, Chipperfield, Hertfordshire WD4 9BT

Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths

Clerk: Jill Moffatt, 9 Little Trinity Lane, London EC4V 2AD

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)
Tom Smith, FWCF, GradDipELR, Chair of the Council

Toby B. Daniels. DipHE, DipWCF Derek T. Gardner AWCF

BFBA farrier on FRC council Simon Moore FWCF

WCF farrier on FRC Council
Robin P. May AWCF

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

President's address

So It happened! Its been one month and five days since our AGM and writing this, I can say my feet literally haven't hit the ground yet!

I have been part of the BFBA for around 10 years now and I am humbled and proud to be given this opportunity to be its President. It has definitely been a real learning curve and along the way and there have been number of times when all of us on the Executive Committee have been under huge pressure.

Having a role on the EC means that, aside from our day jobs as working farriers, we are responsible for the association's staff; we run the various subcommittees that are responsible for the magazine content, the competitions, CPD and it's rollout; as well as looking to help rebuild the association into a modern and futureproofed organisation - making it the body our industry needs in order to look after and support our members over the next 117 years!

BFBA has been full steam ahead over the past few months and a number of things have been progressing behind the scenes. Some of these have taken weeks or months to come to fruition, but now are slowly starting to take shape.

Our website - www.forgeandfarrier.co.uk - has been relaunched thanks to the tireless work of Claire Brown and Holly Flack who took on the enormous job of working with the web designers to help rebrand and relaunch it. We have a new National Secretary, Claire Jones, who will help make the administration of our association a modern, updated and coordinated machine.

We have now created a CPD Working Committee that will coordinate CPD events up and down the

country. We realise that good quality CPD must be available to all farriers as the requirement for continuing education becomes mandatory next year. We envisage that farriers will want to achieve their CPD points in many different ways. I want to make sure farriers are supported and that keeping up to date is not a chore!

Adding to your skillset needs to be something that not only stimulates you, but also either makes you more money or makes your job easier!

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity in my first President's address to thank a number of people who have been incredibly supportive. Without them I simply couldn't have got this far.

Firstly, Haydn Price, who gave me my first chance to join this amazing profession and also taught me the standards that I have tried to keep all my working life.

Cliff Barnes invited me to join the EC. He has always encouraged me and been there on the end of a phone, providing help me whenever I asked for it. Claire Brown is incredibly supportive and has played a major part in helping me and the EC in our constant drive to make the association relevant and more progressive. Lastly, Craig D'Arcy has been an excellent mentor and good friend over the past 10 years. He has helped make so many positive changes over the years and, without a doubt, has given the association the solid foundation it needed to be able to grow and move forward. I cannot thank them and the EC enough for their support.

I will endeavour to be the President that you as members want and need, and look forward to seeing and meeting you over the next few years.

Ben Benson, BFBA President



BFBA Focus, Stoneleigh, 29 & 30 October The BFBA International Team Horseshoeing Competition, 28th & 29 October see pages 9 and 15

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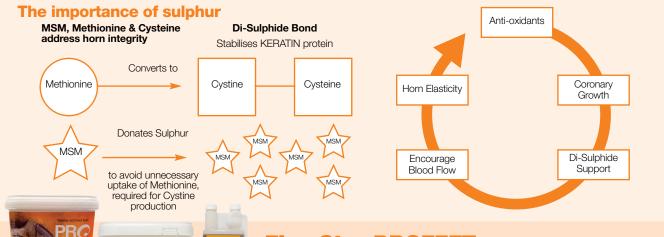


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BFBA annual general meeting



The BFBA Executive Committee. From left, past President Huw Dyer AWCF, Daniel Harman AWCF GradDipELR, immediate past President Craig D'Arcy BSc(hons) AWCF, President Ben Benson AWCF, Vice President Abby Bunyard AWCF, Sam Masters DipWCF, Phoebe Colton DipWCF

The AGM was held on 21 May at the Forge, Stoneleigh, in person and online, offering as many members as possible the opportunity to attend. For those who were unable to be there, here are the highlights.

Welcoming members and guests to the meeting, the then President Craig D'Arcy thanked the people who had supported him over the past two years, including members of the Purple Army, the Craft Committee, the Executive Committee (EC) and the Finance Committee, among many others who stepped up when called on for support.

Having served on the EC for 19 years, he described his second presidential term as 'eventful'. Covid-19 had been challenging but had led to improved communication, supporting farriers through the lockdowns and dealing with mental health issues. It had been an opportunity to look at the role of the Association. He noted that the BFBA had come through the pandemic with a good balance sheet. He reported that Sarah Mary Brown FWCF and Phillip Martin FWCF had stepped down and he paid tribute to their work on behalf of the Association.

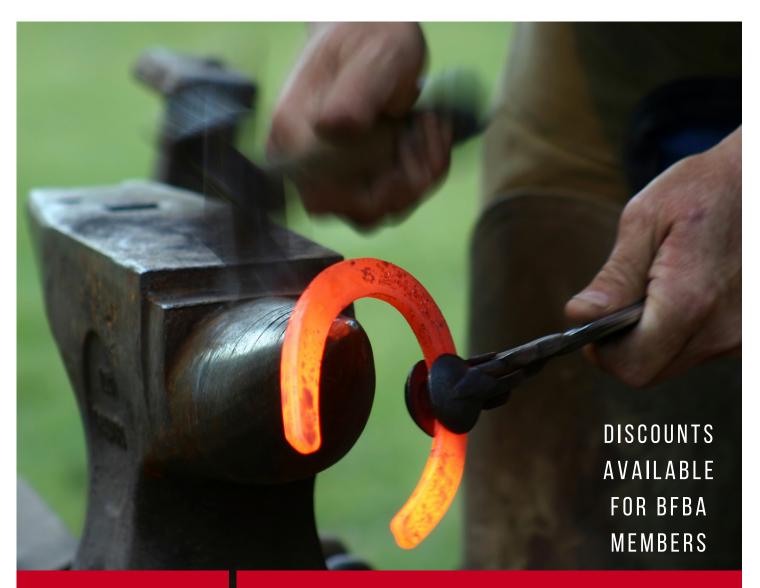
He also thanked Holly Flack 'for doing a great job' as the membership secretary. He noted the good work being done by the new National Secretary Claire Jones, as well as Claire Brown in her role marketing farriers and farriery and her involvement in supporting the Association in multiple ways.

Vice President's address

Ben Benson AWCF said he had learnt a lot from Craig and Vice President Huw Dyer. He acknowledged how the committee members pulled together to drive the Association forward with the support and help of members. Focus, he said, was becoming one of the best hoofcare conventions in the world, drawing the interest of international speakers.

'We are at full strength in the office with the help of Andrea Brereton who supports the Association with HR. We need to get subcommittees set up and give them the autonomy to work, pulling in more members to get involved.

Continued on p 6



THE EXPERTS

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'The Editorial Panel was set up last year with Mark Aikens BSc (Hons) FdSc DipWCF as its chair and he is doing a firstclass job. Our new website went live three weeks ago with a total rebrand. All our members can view Focus lectures, Forge magazine and Forge Knowledge and manage the member portfolio.

'Holly has done an amazing job for five years manning the office single-handedly. I want to pay tribute to Claire (Brown) who does many more jobs than she signed up for originally. I would like to thank the EC and Craft Committee. When we need it, we benefit from the help of so many people and we are truly grateful for this.'

Members' auditor

The Finance Committee met three times during the year and Members' Auditor Cliff Barnes AWCF was invited to the meetings. He said: 'It was great to be involved. The accounts were spot on and any questions I had were answered. The Association's surplus has increased dramatically despite Covid-19 and BFBA is in the healthiest position I have ever known it. This is a fantastic effort. Thanks to the Treasurer (Abby Bunyard AWCF) we are in a good position for the future.'

EC update

Members of the Executive Committee gave short reports of their involvement during the year.

- Sam Masters DipWCF joined the EC officially last year and has been involved with the website and specifically with setting up the fuel card member benefit.
- Abby Bunyard AWCF continues to support the Association in bringing things up to date. She said that Covid-19 had helped the BFBA to achieve more because the EC members had not had to drive to meetings at Stoneleigh. This had allowed the EC to act quickly on spontaneous ideas.
- Daniel Harman AWCF DipELR has recently been coopted on to the EC and had already learnt a lot from 'a great team'. He is particularly interested in taking CPD forwards and getting involved in Focus.
- Huw Dyer AWCF had been impressed by zoom meetings as it provides opportunities to hold single-issue meetings. Although he missed seeing people, he also felt the Association had got more done.
- Phoebe Colton DipWCF was attending her first real life AGM. She had seen the groundwork that had been done, which was now building momentum, actioning good ideas and being productive. The change of venue for Focus this year would work well and she has lots of ideas for top class CPD.

Craft committee update

Danny Bennett AWCF Class 1 presented an update from the Craft Committee and reported that Zoom has also played an important part in keeping the committee running, making it easier to have regular meetings. Covid-19 had made things unpredictable. However, this year the BFBA hopes it will be supported by the full complement of teams at the International Team Competition at the end of October. Last year a home competition had been run it in a new building, and this year will be in a marquee. Developmental plans and underway and a long-term plan could work well for the future.

Editorial panel

Chair Mark Aikens reported that Forge and Forge Knowledge magazines were doing well and getting traction overseas. Both magazine are always looking for content and contributions, not only on shoeing, but business advice, farrier news, and so on.

Insurance update, by John Howe

John Howe of Eastlake & Beachell (E&B), the BFBA's insurance partner, remembered that the first BFBA AGM he had attended had been held on Coventry in the late 1990s, but that this would be his last as he had decided to retire. He was pleased to see how the relationship between E&B and the BFBA had developed over the years. Attending Focus last year, he said, had demonstrated a wonderful transformation of the event. His colleague Cerys Brown would attend the 2023 AGM to present the insurance update.

Hiscox, the current insurer, had proved to be a helpful company that dealt with claims promptly. One small development had been an add-on for legal expenses underwritten by ARAG, which now includes Morrish as one of the approved solicitors in the event of a member having to pay legal expenses.

Of the 30 claims made during the year, he said that 23 had been settled. Claims made had been for fire, theft, injury to horse and damage. He went on to say that because the scheme is relatively small in terms of premium income - and up to £5 million indemnity provided – a large claim would be a problem. However, he was happy to report that generally farriers were skilful professionals.

As far as van insurance was concerned, E&B uses five insurers. In seeking van insurance he said that farriers must make it clear what they actually do as regards carrying gas and a forge in their van.

E&B's contribution to the Association would be £14577, based on 637 member policies.

From the floor, **Simon Persse DipWCF** thanked E&B for the help and support it had provided during a disciplinary issue. John Howe said that E&B's strength was that when someone had a problem, it would do its best to sort it out.

Proposition

Ben Benson introduced the proposition he wished to put before the Association's members (as published in Forge, January 2022, p 4) pertaining to EC members serving on FRC Council and its committee.

He said: 'I am putting forward these propositions, because I want to invite our members to be a part of this conversation. He explained that the Investigation Committee (IC) and the Disciplinary Committee (DC) are separate from the council of the Farriers Registration Council. Currently, we can have two appointees on council, but we don't have appointees on IC or DC. For clarity, I want to ask members what they want.

• NB: These propositions will come into force following the next AGM

After discussion, with contributions form members in the room and online, the following was agreed.

1a. Should a member of the BFBA Executive Committee (EC) serve on the Farriers Registration's Investigation Committee or Disciplinary Committee. Yes



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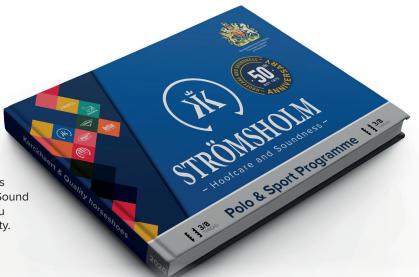


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Let's Get Gluing

Stromsholm is delighted to bring you this guide on the different adhesives on the market and especially on how to use the most popular adhesives found in the farriery industry. This booklet would have not been possible without the help and advice from the manufacturers featured in this 'let's get gluing' guide and especially to Jeff Newman for sharing his technical data with Stromsholm.

1b. Should an EC member sit on council of the FRC? Yes

1c. Should the outcome of 1a and 1b apply to an EC member holding office within the BFBA or should it apply to the whole EC? No

Rule change

In future, electronic propositions can be made. These must be submitted as an attachment (on headed paper) to an email; propositions can also sent be as a letter (by post).

Reform of Branches

Looking ahead, the BFBA wants to allows its members to be more dynamic. It feels the old branch system can landlock the members. It is currently working on a new structure that will

be presented to the branches with the aim of making positive changes. The current system of districts and branches to EC will change to regions, offering the opportunity for regional chairs to join the EC. BFBA will invite every branch chair, secretary and treasurer to join this conversation.

AWCF course

The new AWCF course sets a new standard for training to help people move onto higher exams.

Danny Bennett explained that the course had been developed following recognition that the first time failure rate for higher farriery exams was high. 'Higher exams are a tough test, so the course concentrates on exam preparation. As the exam is often attempted in two parts - practical and theory the new course has been set up to meet these need', he said.

NOMINATION ADDRESS BY BEN BENSON

Having been invited some 10 years ago to join the Executive Committee (EC) by past President Cliff Barnes, I didn't ever see myself standing before you asking for your support to be elected as President of the BFBA. I am as excited as I am petrified! I have seen some seismic changes, not just to the farriery industry, but also to this association. I have worked with six Presidents and have seen the EC change and develop. I have seen our office administration rebuilt literally from the ground up, through the determination of Holly Flack to become more organised, coordinated and stronger than ever. She will now be supported by our new National Secretary Claire Jones.

In this decade of change, I have seen the industry reel and roll through challenges - from the recession to Brexit and Covid. On every occasion, the association has stepped up and supported its membership and, indeed, the farriery industry. I am so pleased to see the Association become the voice of the industry

as other equestrian organisations come to us for support and our opinion. This shows that our voice is sought after, and more importantly that we are being listened to.

As an Association, I believe the thing we should be most proud of is that BFBA is being listened to. We all hear opinions in the media and in day-to-day life, but we only choose to listen to the ones we value and trust. So to know see the association being listened to by not just the organisations within farriery but, more importantly, by those other charities and organisations within the equine sector is definitely a huge change in the right direction and one I want to continue to work with and develop.

Over the next two years I want to see the BFBA become even more relevant. Given that CPD is a obvious requirement that the Association will take forward, it should also puts itself at the centre of it. Nobody knows the farriery industry like we do. We have the insight, the infrastructure and the passion to help develop and support the industry to grow through education.

I am also passionate that we tackle the other elephant in the room – the horse owner. I want to help our members by helping to educate the horse owners in the UK to better understand what a great job their farrier is doing, and how they can help the farrier and their horse in the best way. For too long we have seen social media groups as 'go to' sources of information for the owner who isn't sure what to do. I want to see BFBA representatives out giving talks and lectures to riding clubs and groups describing how farriers do the best for both horse and owner. Farriers could start by talking to their clients about what they do throughout the year, rather than just put the value against the cost of four shoes and one off service that is easily

I also want to help the association to realise the other part of itself that is left untapped, the blacksmiths. We are hoping to run a bladesmithing championship on the Sunday at this year's Focus. This is something that has obviously had a huge renaissance in the media recently and we feel this is an area that many farriers also have an interest in. With the help of some companies that already have expressed an interest, I would like to see that we can encourage more blacksmiths and amateur bladesmiths to take up membership and reinforce the second 'B' in our name.

I have always believed in the Association having a role in the equine industry. I want to help lead the Craft Committee and the EC. I have always felt that the more inclusive we can be in creating subcommittees, the more members who are able to join in and help in the running. This is crucial for succession planning that we need to have in place to open the door to the Association and what goes on and encourage the next generation of organising committees.

I hope I can be the President that you want, someone you can rely on and someone you can trust. I am truly excited for the challenges ahead and really looking forward to leading the Association into its next chapter.



'we should all be proud that BFBA is being listened to'



The BFBA International Team Horseshoeing Competition

Friday 28th & Saturday 29th October 2022

- Huge farriery and blacksmithing trade fair
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Website

The AGM heard that BFBA had bought the Forge & Farrier website. Claire Brown, who had developed the site, explained that the new website had been built mobile first, offering farriers the opportunity to use it during breaks in their day. The leading part of the site was now the calendar, which was massive resource. It has been developed with ease of use in mind and the wide use of key words make searching easier. She added that while the website will serve UK members well, it may also attract an international audience. CPD content will be expanded and classified adverts can be placed free of charge which could support matching apprentices with training farriers.

Resume for EC nominations All candidates were appointed to the positions sought

Craig D'Arcy wanted to remain on the EC to support the next president. He said he had worked well with Ben and wanted to remain part of the strong team that would continue to take the Association forward.

Abby Bunyard was standing for the position of Vice President. Abby is a training farrier from Dorset who qualified in 1996 and has been a BFBA member since then. She said: 'In 2016, Cliff Barnes encouraged me to join EC and I was co-opted on. In 2017, I became Treasurer and the accounts have gone from strength to strength. The Association is healthy. I am proud of a team and that we have instigated good housekeeping and safeguarding members' money. I have been a part of team that brought in a new computer system, saving money in the process. We brought Forge back into the Association, which we refreshed and relaunched. The purchase of Forge & Farrier offers loads of scope of future. I am proud to be a part of the team bringing Focus to farriers and blacksmiths – it is a hub of



Dorset farrier Abby Bunyard is the first woman to be elected Vice President of the British Farriers and Blacksmiths Association

education and a place for competition and socialising.

For the past four years, Abby has also been the UK delegate for the European Federation of Farrier Associations (EFFA): 'In 2023, we will host European-wide apprentice training and the EFFA AGM, later in the year. In the past few years we have made great strides in a positive direction. This is a journey I want to be a part of. I will work with new President to continue the work we have started."

Dan Harman qualified in 1995 and is based in Buckinghamshire. He has trained eight apprentices and is currently training three. He holds the AWCF and Grad DipELR higher qualifications. He said: 'I want to join the EC to be a part of what the BFBA does for farriers, especially following Covid-19 when the Association kept us working. CPD will become mandatory. CPD has a vital role in maintaining the reputation of UK having the best farriers worldwide.'

Cliff Barnes stood for election as Members' Auditor.

Trophy

The Branch that won the cup for the most new members was Central Southern

Vote of thanks

The new President thanked Craig and Huw for stepping up to take on the roles of President and Vice-President at short notice

AGM 2023

The venue for next year's AGM will be Stoneleigh.





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A well-deserved award



Fran Jurga received Lifetime Journalism Achievement Award for invaluable journalistic pursuit of the science, art and history in equine podiatry and farriery. Blogger Gina Keesling has kindly allowed Forge to reproduce her report of Fran's surprise.

The 2022 International Equine Podiatry Conference included an unexpected addition to the itinerary. With so many hoof care professionals out in the world, all working hard at learning/perfecting/doing their work in the most productive and successful capacity possible, it's easy to forget about the folks whose mission it is to observe and report all this learning/ perfecting/doing.

Journalism is like advertising, only there's no product being sold, so it's effectiveness can't be measured in sales reports. In the case of newspapers, magazines and television, it's quantified by readership and viewership, with the various entities vying for these eyes by whatever means necessary to

A craft in itself: this important and essential vocation that facilitates even more and better learning/perfecting/doing. Journalism is a mostly invisible vocation; unless the story's setting is dire or dangerous, most folks don't think about the writers and photographers who produce the non-dramaladen media that we consume on a daily basis. Observing, documenting and then relaying events and information in such a manner that other folks can benefit of it in an actionable way, or come away from it having been entertained or enlightened – is way, way harder than most folks realize.

In the horse industry, there are plenty of forms of media to consume on all things horse. But when you get to the feet, it's a whole 'nother, much more complicated ball of wax. Horse hooves are simultaneously miraculously resilient and frustratingly, heartbreakingly fragile. There's an entire sector of folks out here studying and trying to understand the resilience, so they can support the fragile and repair the broken. All in varied situations requiring different approaches, leading to different solutions. Like journalism, graphic design is an invisible profession. When consuming media of any form, most people don't notice the arrangement of wording to photos, at all. If it is boring or unclear they may pass it by without a thought as to why. Here Fran has done

Gina Keesling describes herself as having started out as a horse crazy girl, who, when she couldn't be riding horses would draw them instead. As there didn't seem to be employers lining up with jobs needing girls to ride and/or draw horses all day, she put that aside and went to college where she studied graphic design.

She married a farrier, which unleashed her repressed horse art into promotional materials for him, and later, other

Her blogs can be found at https://ginakeesling. wordpress.com/



Consummate professional, Fran shifted from shock and tears of gratitude to an impromptu acceptance speech

For 40 years, Fran has kept track of hoof information, writing it down for others to absorb and apply

her magic; taking Dr Lisa Lancaster's amazing closeup hoof wall photo and pairing it with perfectly balanced type sizes; paragraphs/ headlines and white space that allows all to sing in different ways. In typical Fran fashion, her Hoofcare logo and credentials are tiny and unobtrusive; as always, the hoof is the star.

We needed somebody to keep track of all this hoof information; to write it down so others can catch up, absorb, add to, subtract from, and ultimately apply all the stuff that's being discovered and demonstrated. For some 40 years, one person in the horse industry did just that for all things hoof-related. Fran Jurga has

stepped up in every way imaginable, from her Hoofcare and Lameness print magazine, to the online Hoof Blog, and the cutting edge hoof research compilation HoofSearch.

Rood and Riddle's Podiatry Partners implored Fran to attend this year's Equine Podiatry conference – so vigorously that she was told she must be there, even if she had to crawl. On Friday night, she learned why they were so insistent. It was a shocking, then emotional surprise; everyone knew what was coming except Fran.

In 2019, the renowned Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital hosted the first International Equine Podiatry Conference. Fran was at this important event, documenting the presenters and their respective materials as only someone with her passion for horses and their hooves can. Michigan State University's Lisa Simons Lancaster MSc, PhD, DVM, took notice, and suggested to Kentucky farrier Victor Camp that Fran be publicly recognized for her invaluable journalistic pursuit of the science, art and history in equine podiatry and farriery; a Lifetime Achievement Award. Those two engaged R&R's Drs Scott Morrison and Raul Bras and the rest of the Podiatry partners; thus the Lifetime Journalism Achievement Award was born.

The overall size of the copper and steel award sculpture is only about 15 inches wide overall - creating the intricate detail from the two disparate metals was an ambitious project.

Pictures: Greg Thomas Photograph



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A brand-new horse and animal assisted activity area designed to enhance the student learning experience and facilitate equine and canine research opportunities at Hartpury has officially opened for use.

Located within Hartpury Equine, the £730,000 activity area consists of a covered 60 m x 30 m arena finished with an Andrews Bowen Pro Wax Surface. A 22 m-diameter round pen completes a contemporary learning environment for Hartpury University and Hartpury College students enrolled on equine, human-animal interaction and canine diplomas, undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.

The arena will also provide additional capacity for competitors at this summer's major equine events including the NAF Five Star Hartpury Festival of Dressage, NAF Five Star Hartpury Showjumping Spectacular, NAF Five Star International Hartpury Horse Trials and the FEI Dressage and Eventing European Championships for Young Riders and Juniors.

Hartpury University students studying equine sports coaching or equestrian sports science programmes will benefit from an additional arena for coaching practice, and those enrolled on courses such as the BSc (Hons) equine performance and rehabilitation will be able to use the space for horse assessment and therapy support.

Postgraduate students will also benefit from the facility.

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Pictures: Greg Thomas Photography

Victor recruited Michigan farrier and artist blacksmith Jennifer Horn of Daisy Hill Forge to create the award. Victor imagined the award piece be a combination of metal art and forged components in the form of an open journal or magazine, Jennifer took that idea further and created a replica of HoofCare & Lameness journal.

When Covid-19 brought everything to a screeching halt, the pair continued to incubate a plan for the inside pages, which ultimately melded the professions of equine veterinary medicine and farriery into one cohesive unit, just like Fran has been facilitating for all these years.

For artists, getting the concept out of the brain and into physical form is usually fraught with challenges. For over a year, Jennifer ruminated on the idea for the award; kept in touch with Victor and discussed the same. She attended a workshop and learned copper repoussé; and actually forged the veterinary caduceus on the left hand page at the event under the tutelage of Travis Fleming of Artistic Anvil Forge in Athens, Alabama.

Jennifer's farrier clientele are mostly pleasure horses, so the wedge heel roadster shoe that she chose is well outside her everyday forging. This is a very challenging configuration with the tapered thickness of the shoe's web, combined with the trailers to add traction, not to mention the asymmetrical crease and nail pattern needed to properly fit this hind hoof.

In 2022, six days before the event, she hit her stride and the pieces came together, all 40 of them. Much more than the sum of the parts, the result is positively magical; contrasting metals, organic form, icons representing all facets of hoof care - it was perfect.

No detail was omitted on this award; meticulous attention to precision and accuracy were given - befitting a recipient that has always done the same in her journalistic endeavours.

Fran is so humble, she would never talk about her many accomplishments that inspired the hoof community to honour her with this award, so I am here to do it on her behalf.

Accomplishments

Hoofcare and Lameness print magazine was published from 1985 to 2005; 79 issues in all. Fran produced the whole thing, writing the stories and articles, procuring images/ art, photography and graphic design. Then she attended conventions and seminars across the country (and the world) meeting her subscribers and advertisers in person; gathering more materials for stories and feature articles.

The **Hoof Blog** dovetailed with that in 2004, eventually replacing the paper version. In the 18 years since, she's posted well over 1,800 entries. All exquisitely researched, absolutely factual, featuring images that are perfectly suited and often

'It is said that no other person has provided for more personal introductions between farriers, veterinarians and equine studies researchers, many resulting in subsequent lifelong friendships, than Fran Jurga'

> - Victor Camp, from his award ceremony introduction

so obscure that I've never seen them anywhere else. Even though I've strongly encouraged her to repost/recycle her excellent content – she instead forges onward – each of those entries is new and unique.

HoofSearch is her newest endeavour. A paid online subscription service, it's like having your own private library of only hoof-related news, information and research. Each month, HoofSearch covers the wide world of hoof and lameness research. And that extends to stable management, arena/track surfaces, racing safety and injury, and specific information on breed/sport foot problems and lameness that affect performance. Of course, it delves deeply into laminitis and indexes the latest research citations and descriptions of peer-reviewed on insulin dysregulation and PPID, as well as navicular disease, anatomy, biomechanics and much more.

Not only does her written text inform and educate everyone from horse owners to hoof care professionals to PhDs, Fran's graphic design that presents said text is out here quietly winning awards. Multiple times, American Horse Publications has recognized her in various categories, competing with other submissions specifically from the equine industry.

Alongside all this, Fran is a freelance writer and graphic designer, contributing content to well-known equine publications like Equus Magazine, AIM Equine Network's coverage of the Olympics, World Equestrian Games and more. She spearheaded the social media and information hub for Dreamworks' film War Horse. A few notable book PR projects include The Horse Boy and EQUUS by Tim Flach.

On a separate track, Fran has also been involved in the development of many of the world's leading aquariums, zoos, natural history museums, and visitor centres. Her work is found from Europe to Japan and many places between. She's the wordsmith and storyteller behind the writing on the walls.

Thank you, Fran, for your immeasurable contributions, surely they're more far-reaching than any of us could imagine.

FARRIERS WEEK

JULY 10-16

'A time for horse owners, trainers, vets and members of the equine community to acknowledge the contribution of farriers'



We are celebrating Farriers Week alongside the *American Farriers Journal*. Last year we had a tremendous response to our campaign gaining superb exposure on social media and the positivity and support for farriery in the UK that was a pleasure to share. We plan to publish a series of posts on our social media channels to educate and inform, and to dispel some of the inaccuracies/myths around equine trimming and shoeing. Do share them on your platforms.

THE BRITISH FARRIERS AND BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION are delighted to confirm we will be hosting an

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Mr Jordan Vaughan DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr William O'Shaughnessy AWCF (Warwickshire College)

Distinction in Theory

Miss Hannah Chamberlain DipWCF, whose ATF is Miss Abby Bunyard AWCF (Herefordshire and Ludlow College)

Mr Kendell Norris DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Laurence Ridgeway DipWCF (Warwickshire College)

Pass

Hereford and Ludlow College

- Mr Kamil Markiewicz DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Mark Barton DipWCF
- Mr Bradley Fisher DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Lee Murray AWCF
- Mr Andrew Sutton DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Karn Herbert DipWCF
- Mr Alistair Hollinshead DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Matt Randles DipWCF
- Mr George Eastwood DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr David Sanderson AWCF
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- Mr Ben Harris DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Steven Craddock AWCF
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Mr Jack Loveridge DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Gary Pickford DipWCF

Warwickshire College

- Mr Louis Agnew DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Andrew Casserly FWCF
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- Mr Jake-Lewis Fawsett DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr William Mulqueen DipWCF
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- Mr James Jenkins DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr James Cooper DipWCF
- Mr Dylan Kirk DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Stephen Cox-Rusbridge AWCF
- Mr Elliot Marris DipWCF, whose ATF is Mr Richard Spence AWCF



Congratulations to all new diploma holders

The Worshipful Company of Farriers held a special reception for all those who would, under normal circumstances, have attended a Presentation Ceremony in 2020 or 2021. This special event was an opportunity to farriers to celebrate their successes in the Diploma and Higher Examinations in person. Presentations were made by the WCF Master Mark Houghton.

The reception took place on Thursday 16 June 2022 at Saddlers' Hall in London. The recipients were congratulated by the Master, by FRC Chair Tom Smith FWCF (who was also presented with his higher certificate) and by BFBA President, Ben Benson AWCF. It was attended by past President and Assistant Head of Farriery at Myerscough College, Craig D'Arcy AWCF BSc(Hons), Hereford college tutor Daniel Bennett AWCF and Tim James DipWCF from Warwickshire College. The FRC registrar David Greenwood also attended the event.



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Kings plate Competition

The flat season is well and truly under way and showcased a particularly special Derby on 4 June, celebrating the HRH The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We hope that you were able to enjoy the weekend and take part in some celebrations – even if plating duties called!

Badminton Horse Trials was a superb event at the beginning of May, making a very welcome return to the eventing calendar. Many congratulations to **Jim Blurton AWCF** on winning the WCF Best Shod award for Oliver Townend's Swallow Spring.

Congratulations to Godolphin's Alex Ridgeway, Phil Brook and Gerhard Schoombie winners of the 2021's Kings Plate competition.

A BIG thank you to all of our 'Kings Platers' – don't forget contact Dan Collins on 01908 233909 if you are interested in learning more about the range of Kerckhaert plates.

Champagne moments

- **★** Do Your Job, trained by Michael Scudamore, delivered his first Grade Two success. Congratulations to Wesley Powell who shod 'Do Your Job', with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound, nailed on with Liberty Carrera Secure Cu Nails.
- * Ahoy Senor won the Mildmay Novices' Chase at Aintree. Well done to farrier Gregg Crawford. He shod Ahoy Senor, with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound. 'Ahoy Senor' was trained by Lucinda Russell Racing and ridden by Derek Richard Fox.
- **★** The Last Day won the Red Rum Handicap Chase for farrier Mark Galliers. Mark shod The Last Day with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound. 'The Last Day' was trained by Evan Williams Racing and ridden by Adam Wedge.
- **★** Clan Des Obeaux secured a second Bowl victory. Congratulations to **Tom Bougourd**. He shod 'Clan Des Obeaux', with Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound. 'Clan Des Obeaux' was trained by Paul Nicholls and ridden by Harry Cobden
- ★ Epatante won the Aintree Hurdle. Congratulations to Chapel Forge Farriers. Epatante was shod with Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound, nailed on with Liberty Nails. 'Epatante' was trained by Nicky Henderson and ridden by Aidan Coleman.
- **★** Jonbon secured a superb win at Aintree for Nicky Henderson and ridden by Aidan Coleman. Well done to Chapel Forge Farriers who shod Jonbon with Kerckhaert Kings



Alex Ridgeway, Phil Brook and Gerhard Schoombie

Super Sound, nailed on with Liberty Nails.

- ★ Gelino Bello won the Cavani Menswear Sefton Novices' Hurdle. Congratulations to **Tom Bougourd** who shod Gelino Bello with Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound. Gelino Bello was trained by Paul Nicholls and ridden by Harry Cobden.
- **★** Greaneteen successfully defended the Celebration Chase at Sandown. Congratulations to **Tom Bougourd**. Greaneteen was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound. Greaneteen was trained by Paul Nicholls and ridden by Harry Cobden.
- * Cachet won the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket, ridden by James Doyle and trained by George Boughey. Congratulations to **Eoin Murphy** who shod Cachet with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound.
- **★** Coroebus won the 2,000 Guineas under James Doyle for Godolphin. Congratulations to farriers Phil Brook, Gerhard Schoombie and Alex Ridgeway. They shod Coroebus, with Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound, nailed on with Liberty Carrera Secure Cu. Coroebus was trained by Godolphin's Charlie Appleby.
 - ★ Marie's Rock provided Nicky Henderson with a Punchestown Festival winner in the Grade 1 Coolmore Irish EBF Mares Champion Hurdle. Congratulations to Chapel Forge Farriers who shod Marie's Rock with Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound, nailed on with Liberty Nails.



Greg Crawford with Ahoy Senor

Meanwhile away from the racetrack

Congratulations to Trevor Breen International Showjumper riding Chankar Mail on winning the Royal Windsor Horse Show puissance.

We think jumping 2.15 m sets a new World Record for a horse wearing Kerckhaert Classic 19 horseshoes! A bottle of champagne is on its way to the farrier, Matt Alderman.

In the July issue of Forge Knowledge

Forge Knowledge is a member-only benefit offering an opportunity for gaining CPD. BFBA membership

is free for apprentices.

Relationship between the heel buttress and the orientation of the distal phalanx

By Phillip Martin FWCF GradDip ELR

If there was a consistent external marker that accurately predicted the orientation of the distal phalanx within the hoof capsule, then farriers would be able to use this to guide their approach to

trimming. Phillip Martin undertook a

research project to investigate whether any correlation exists between the heel buttress of the hoof and the orientation of the distal phalanx as part of his Fellowship studies.



Fig 1: Hooves (a) with and (b) without the desired parallelism of the toe and heel

The palmar metric: assessing the concavity of the pedal bone

By Monique Craig BSCE APF

The study of shape and structure of a biological organism is referred to as morphology. As you might suspect, there is a great variation in the shape (also known as morphology) of horses' hooves. Understanding the morphology of bones and hooves is important as it greatly impacts trimming and shoe application.



Fig 1. Left and right images are the same, but on the right-hand image I have indicated (in red) the curve that I am calling the 'palmar curve'



FLYING ANVIL FOUNDATION MEETS ANOTHER FARRIERY WORLD

Travel dust in Kyrgyzstan





Karakol horse and cattle market

By Bernard Duvernay HonFWCF

In the July issue of Forge, Bernard takes us on a journey to Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia – to Barskoon – a small village on the shore of Lake Yssykköl and then on to Karakol.

Sandwiched between two educational courses in India, I had the opportunity to organise a few workshops in Central Asia. From Delhi, it is easy to reach the Himalayan range, then over the Chinese desert to land in the heart of the country of Steppe riders.

I spent a memorable day at the Karakol fair (pictured above) on the first Sunday, before the start of the first workshop. Here, hundreds of horses, cattle gather and the local farriers work right through the fair. Horses are tied up in unimaginable restraining devices. A complete shoeing only takes 20 minutes and everything is sloppy. The horses are very uncomfortable, the straps stretched under their belly are unbearable!

As I watch, this visit at the fair immerses me into the atmosphere; I can begin to grasp how to introduce my course to make it relevant for my participants.

On a Monday morning like on other days, Easter is not celebrated here and people can hardly get by without working. I don't have time to think about eggs, chocolate bunnies, not to mention a good meal, and the thought of home brings back the taste of delicious sweet desserts that my mother used to prepare.



I experienced restraining devices I had never seen before. Restrained horses were shod in 20 minutes. Above is one of the farriers at the market place. (Right) the type of shoeing done there

Himalayan mountains

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A horseshoe and nail supplier at the market

In recent years, this region has become a destination for hikers or horseback riders, for lovers of wide open spaces – a life removed from the chaos of modern life. From one day to one month, you can ride these expanses of grassland without any boundaries or limits whatsoever. However, some Western riders on their arrival have scruples about riding these horses when they observe the feet and shoeing. You don't need to be a farrier to be aware of poor shoeing.

Back in Barskoon, the modem doesn't seem to be responding! The telephone line was probably cut by the very strong evening wind or by a bird that was a little too heavy, thus disconnecting the hastily assembled wires. It was impossible to get in touch with 'Baikonur' (the space base of the former USSR, which is what I call my Geneva home).

There is nothing to hope for, you learn to create a bubble around you, to abandon the usual mode of functioning in which everything must happen immediately at the moment we want it to. Sometimes there's no water supply, sometimes it's the electricity: the transformers and installations still go back to the Soviet era and are unable to adapt to excessive consumption. Their maximum limit was the bare minimum! Even today, many people haven't put the Soviet era behind them. Everything is dilapidated or patched up and the old

buildings are in a pitiful state, without maintenance. The new ones aren't much better!

There is a school under construction, but the building site was halted - the money was there to build it, but the politicians helped themselves before



Barskook

Villagers at the forge



The forge in Barskoon under water

the craftsmen. Suddenly everything came to a halt, and it is already almost a ruin before it was completed. I met many people, ordinary folk, who were not prepared for this change of life. Although it has been nearly 30 years since the Soviets



The nails are hand made



The shepherds were my trainees



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disappeared, they still cannot believe that they left for real. So, many turn to drink! What misery there is in this remote region, where some local people live on next to nothing.

Here, running water is not always available and I know that I will be working in dirty and dusty places, with the local blacksmiths. I will be forging shoes in very old workshops running on coal (with inefficient bad coal), giving off a lot of dust!

Today, Tuesday, the weather was a huge challenge. I, who had arrived wearing my lungi (Indian fabric clothes tied at the waist) and now it's snowing...

Snow and rain are the worst conditions I could imagine. The mud sticks to my shoes, the horses are disgusting and smell very strong in this wet weather, not to mention that they have started to moult.

For the next three days, I will be working with blacksmiths aiming to improving the production of local horseshoes. In the workshop where I am forging this morning, as I light the fire, my colleagues try to scoop up the water from the flooded floor. The upper concrete structure, ravaged and moth-eaten - made of poor materials, which drains the water accumulated during the rainy night. There was a time when these installations were fully functional. The machines, now dilapidated and even completely unusable, testify that it was possible to do a good job. What a funny feeling to think that I'm indirectly in contact with this Soviet era - when the dissident that I might have been would have ended up in a Gulag. The people I work with lived through this period, they are deeply affected. Yet those who have managed to wean themselves off strong alcohol are touching: they also ask a lot about me, about what I'm doing here, about what needs to be done. How can one be interested in them, in their horses, they ask?

On Wednesday morning the weather was wonderful! From my room, I catch a magnificent glimpse of a mountain range,



Old and new shape of shoe made from the same steel material



In another villeage with my trainees

the snow is already melting, it's much less cold today. Nonetheless, this rain and snow were beneficial, because the ground and pastures were very dry, everything will turn green quickly now.

The sun warms my heart, the colours are different and I forget the gloom. If only these people could discover the warm colours of Indian fabrics, a few spices to wake them up, and the abolition of vodka to make them see life from another angle. Utopia! What will become of these remote regions when the young people desert them?

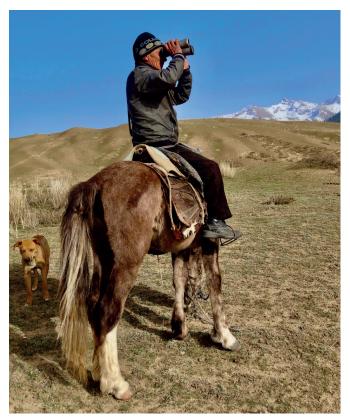
Today, I spend all day with Talent, the blacksmith of the village. He immediately shows interest in what I do. He observes first, then shows me his tricks, different and faster ways of making shoes. Despite his damaged anvil due to improper use (the horn is no more than an unusable stump), Talent does a remarkable job. He simply puts up with this anvil, but what else can do? He is brilliant and lives up to his name so well! Very quickly he makes shoes in a way I am incapable of. This is a good start, at least I have a follower who will be able to make shoes for me exactly as I want them for the class starting tomorrow. That afternoon, I shod my first horse with the 'Kyrgyz-Swiss' shoes from our morning's production. I am very satisfied; they are easier to use than with their usual shoes and the shapes match the hooves much better. We can show this model to the farrier trainees. Two of them are already arriving that afternoon, they have travelled 170 km by bus and collective taxi to join us, a good reason not to disappoint them!

First day of classes in Barskoon

My students are shepherds, breeders, equestrian trekking guides, above all horsemen, connoisseurs. None of them remember at what age they rode for the first time, no doubt their baby cradle was already resting on the back of an equine before they even opened their eyes. They tell me about going to school on their horses, their donkeys tied to the trees patiently waiting for the end of lessons. I am always amazed at how patient and impassive horses are in all situations. Here again the horse is used as a means of transport for children and adults. The shepherds undertake immense journeys with their herds during the beautiful season - from June to October - after which the snow can descend on the high plateaux at 4000 m. At this altitude the weather changes quickly and can block the herds - who may suffer for weeks on end before being able to make their way down to the valley at 1700 m.

Our course begins with a theoretical introduction to anatomy, physiology, balance and balance of the body, of the limbs and hooves. Then, we go through the notions of trimming and shoeing. My slides fascinate them! It's a wonderful way to imprint their brains with new ideas. Then, we worked on the horses. The locals are used to shoeing their own horses with a minimum of tools. The unsuitable shoes seen at the fair in Karacol are produced by a few blacksmiths with little clue of how to adapt a shoe to the hoof. Even the nails are forged by hand and they're much too big for these little feet. Made of terribly hard steel, they act as studs and wear very little. These shoes are impossible to describe - my photos give you some idea of what they are like!

The entire trimming process, from preparing the hoof



A shepherd on his horse watching the wolves

to shoeing, is an ecological disaster! By definition, ecology means 'the branch of biology that deals with the relations of organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings'. However, here, the hand of man is at odds with nature and produces a disaster at the level of the natural function of the hooves. Although these horses have been shod like this for ages, it certainly was not under these conditions. This is another consequence of the post-communist era, there are areas that have suffered particularly, there is no professional training, no political will to preserve traditions and knowhow. Knowledge has disappeared in baths of vodka, lack of communication between those who make the shoes and those who apply them. Farriery is an unattractive profession for young people.

After only two days of trimming and shoeing with my small group, the principles of shoeing had completely changed for these trainees. Now, through a simple but common-sense



Villagers watching the trainees



Tight fitting, narrow high heels, nails very much in the back of the foot



New shoes made by Talent

approach, we put some order back in the house, we went back to the how and why of things, everything becomes clearer, simple but logical! Everything becomes obvious through demonstrations, without criticising the past, without pretensions for the future. Simply by reiterating notions that seemed so obvious that we don't understand why we reached this degree of negligence!

Through our training, the farriery profession has a solid knowledge base, and no one can perform correctly without having rubbed shoulders with a master, a mentor - someone who has been able to pass on their experience, years of practice, their questionings, their doubts and successes. An enthusiastic teacher can quickly make his students fascinated at discovering all that farriery contains in terms of knowledge, all that can be learned to meet the needs of the horse, of its feet. No need to spend weeks and months to produce big changes. Progress can quickly spread across the region. These people don't need to be perfectionists or to be picky about aesthetic details. The most important thing is to observe the feet and see that they retain their natural shape, that the equine appears comfortable after shoeing and that the needs in terms of adherence are always met for the horses' toughest jobs.

We repeated this workshop in Karakol and Otradnoye. In the future, we plan to give a follow-up and to reproduce these small teaching sessions in different regions of Kyrgyzstan. Our hope is that, subsequently, well-trained locals will be able to take over the teaching activity and continue to disseminate their know-how.

It is by focusing on this kind of training that FAF is at its most useful, helping in regions where craft traditions are badly neglected.

COULD YOU DESIGN THE NEW NATIONAL HERITAGE IRONWORK AWARD FOR HERITAGE METALWORK CONSERVATION?

The NHIG is looking for a vibrant design that incoporates the NHIG logo and communicates excellence.

- Design the tooling for a stamped medallion with the following lettering: NHIG Heritage Metalwork Conservation Award
- Pictorial to include NHIG logo (contact the group for high-resolution images of this, which is available in both horizontal and square formats)
- The design should aim to communicate the idea of excellence in heritage metalwork conservation
- Medallion approximately 100-120 mm diameter
- Design must be presented in DXF file format
- £250 for the winning design. Further information is available at https://nhig.org.uk/design-competition/

CONSERVATION OF ARCHITECTURAL IRONWORK

A conservation of architectural ironwork course will be held by the NHIG on 28 and 29 September in York.

Aimed at craft practitioners and consultative professionals, the course is an introduction to the conservation of ironwork, covering historical context, metallurgy of wrought iron and steels, traditional tools, techniques, materials, design and manufacture, with a focus on the processes of restoration, surface preparation and treatments,

specification and standards for heritage ironwork contracts, including a procurement and pricing exercise. The lectures will be complemented by a site visit to survey historic ironwork and develop a strategy for its conservation.

The IHBC (Institute of Historic Building Conservation) recognises this course as contributing to mandatory CPD requirements for its members. Delegates will learn the basic principles of assessing historic ironwork and

making decisions about its care. Tender procedures often require the commissioner of the work to have knowledge of the medium in order to procure the best value. We aim to equip those wishing to commission work on listed ironwork with information they will find essential in the writing of specifications.

Lecturers Geoff Wallis and Bethan Griffiths have extensive experience in the field of historic ironwork conservation.

BLACKSMITHS' GUILD AWARDS

The Guild of Wrought Ironwork Craftsmen of Wessex aims to keep the traditional skills of the blacksmiths' craft alive.

THE FRANK DAY MEMORIAL TROPHY

This award is open to anyone with three years or less blacksmithing experience. The trophy is awarded to the best piece of work from the winners of the Frank Day Trophy competition class at the Dorchester and North Somerset Shows and any pieces submitted at the Guild AGM. The award is judged at the Guild AGM

THE AUDREY PAULL PERPETUAL TROPHY

The Audrey Paull trophy for 'unsung heroes' of the Guild may be awarded on the recommendation of the Master and approved by Audrey Paull. The Trophy may be awarded to anyone who has provided exceptional service to the Guild. The Trophy is presented at the Guild's annual general meeting.

THE RICHARD JONES BURSARY

The Richard Jones Bursary Award of £200 will be made to any 'up and coming' smith who, in the opinion of the Guild Committee, best describes how the money would benefit their blacksmithing career.

Applications must be submitted by 31 August and the successful candidate will be decided at the Guild's AGM.

The winning applicant is required to provide the Guild with a written or verbal account of how the money was spent within 12 months of the award.





Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot!

As a working farrier, you endure cold, wet, windy conditions, but nothing is as uncomfortable as working in relentless heat. Some could argue that the farrier is the closest thing to the horse as they too have to work in these conditions!

Whether undercover, in the shade or in direct sunlight, humid conditions mean that simply being outside exposes us to the risk of dehydration. We have to take care to hydrate ourselves and our horses to avoid this.

As a farrier this may seem irrelevant to your specialism, but with negative effects on hooves themselves and more readily a direct risk to both yourself and the horse if dehydration is evident. It could also expose weak kidneys as they are the scales that act to maintain the correct balance of electrolytes in the body.

- Are they not standing still/losing balance?
- Are you experiencing abnormal behaviour?
- Is the horse stiff when asking to place its leg on a stand or Hoof Jack?

WATER OF LIFE

Water is, quite simply, the most important aspect of the horses' diet. Essential to life, water makes up around 65-75% of the horse's bodyweight.

A lack of water is seen initially as reduced appetite and poor performance; but can lead to depression, bone and cartilage damage, poor horn integrity and, ultimately, be fatal to the animal if not rehydrated. Water is essential not only to hydration itself, but all aspects of general health. Research now also links a lack of fresh water directly to an increase in gastric ulcers: so for all these reasons it's vital that there is access to clean, fresh water available in both the field and the stable.

SWEAT OFF THE STRESS

Sweat is produced by mammals to cool the body through evaporation. Bodily fluids are lost when our horses and ponies sweat, which includes what we refer to as electrolytes. These are made up of sodium, chloride, potassium, magnesium and calcium

The more they sweat the more likely they are to dehydrate. This is due to the body's blood vessels constricting to prevent further fluid loss, which stops the heat from escaping and so the individual feels even hotter as opposed to cooling down. An energy sapping experience and a dangerous one.

Blood salt concentrations provide a thirst triggering mechanism, and when our equine friends require water their brains may not get the signal to tell them to drink!





LOSSES

Warmer weather can account for around 3 x the losses of colder climates. With around 4 litres of sweat lost in an hour of little to no work - to 16 litres lost

through hard work. Put a hot, humid climate into the mix and you can increase these figures further.

REPLACE THE SWEAT

It's worth noting that electrolytes must be fed in a way that works with the body, or more damage can be done. For example, using a very concentrated form of electrolytes (ie, a paste) can actually draw water out of the gut as it passes through, hence leaving the horse more dehydrated than it was before. Added to that is the abrasive nature of concentrated salt, and this has been identified as a risk factor for gastric ulcers.

WHAT SHOULD YOU RECOMMEND?

A salt containing the essential plasma salts (electrolytes) and supported by a good carrier to help with a fast uptake and delivery. Dextrose is commonly used and proven in human trials and some use this with equine Electro Salts to support absorption, it also helps with palatability which can be a great way to get salts into tired or fussy individuals.

Use BETA NOPS approved companies to ensure the right ratios are delivered safely.

TAKE AWAY MESSAGE

Be aware of abnormal behaviour, in particular throughout the warmer months

Recommend a good quality electrolyte to be fed (under manufacturer's instructions) during warmer weather and when the horse has worked up a sweat. If horses are not drinking it may also be worth mixing into feed to help establish the thirst mechanism.

In some cases, individuals take with them a few handfuls of

chaff to add water to after a competition and deliver the Electro Salts in this package with clean, fresh water, helping to replenish lost supplies.

It may be worth taking this approach when shoeing in warm conditions too.



Keep up to date and join our Five Star Club naf-equine.eu/uk/fivestarclub

Equestrian naf-equine.eu/uk

NAF @ The Forge

Five Star Farrier

As he takes over as BFBA President, it seemed a good time to meet up with Team GBR farrier Ben Benson AWCF to discuss his pathway to success and unveil exclusively to you, some interesting facts about our Five Star Farrier.

When did you qualify as a farrier?

2003

What is the most enjoyable thing about your job?

The feeling of being able to help an animal, and look

after their wellbeing. Working with great horses, excellent customers and listening to their experiences with their horses.

What is your most memorable appointment with a client and why?

Lots of memorable appointments for lots of different reasons but something a little different... I am fortunate to shoe some wonderful competition horses, two are at the Olympics currently and two were short listed. This would make Tokyo to be one of the most memorable and the opportunity to enjoy it with them too is just a dream. The ability to come here in the most dramatic setting with the most amazing facilities and be part of the whole journey from start to finish makes it really special.

What is your most treasured possession?

My dad was a farrier and I have his anvil and tool box in my forge which I have displayed in pride of place. A special



reminder of my legacy and a feeling that I am incredibly proud to continue a family tradition.

Best refreshment from your customers?

Best refreshment from a customer has to be a phenomenal gift and that was a pair of tickets. No ordinary tickets, but tickets to the 100 m finals at the 2016 Olympics in RIO. The story goes, my customers travel agent poorly arranged their flights for the day after, so Jim Blurton and I managed to borrow an Olympic car for the evening to enjoy the final and experience a real one off!

What top tips would you give to up and coming apprentices?

Reputations take years to build and seconds to lose, you need to conduct yourself as a professional at all times.

What top tips would you give to horse owners to help with hoof care?

Try not to overwash your horses as this can force the wet / dry process to create havoc with horn health.

Picking out your horse's feet daily will save you so much money, as poor hoof hygiene is possibly one of the biggest causes of horn failure whereby the farrier will be on their back foot before they have even started.

Investing in a good quality hoof application can save hundreds of pounds a year to support hoof hygiene.

'Five Star Farriers use PROFEET'







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Ben Casserly, DWCF
Chad Chance, CJF
Nigel Fennell, CJF, DWCF, AWCF
Cody Gregory, CJF, AWCF
Tim Hoover, CJF
Jennifer Horn, CJF
John McNerney, CJF

Dr. Lydia Mudd, CF, DVM
Katie Panos, CJF
Dr. Sammy Pittman, CF, DVM
Doug Russo, CJF, AWCF
Tim Shannon, CJF, AWCF
Dr. Tracy Turner, DVM
Andrew Wells, CJF

2022 Judges

Open Division

Ben Casserly, DWCF John McNerney, CJF Andrew Wells, CJF

Intermediate Division

Juan Berumen, CJF Brian Buckner, CJF Daniel Jones, CJF Sawyer Spradling, CJF

www. americanfarriers.org



Laminitis. A new study

A new study has found that the concentration of insulin in the blood is a key indicator of equids that are most at risk of developing laminitis. The research, led by the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), in partnership with the Waltham PetCare Science Institute, investigated predictors of laminitis in ponies. The findings show that it is possible to identify high risk ponies and then take measures to reduce the risk of them developing the condition.

Laminitis affects the soft tissue (laminae) that attaches the pedal bone to the hoof wall and is a common condition, affecting native pony breeds most frequently. Laminitis can be recurrent and potentially serious for both horses and ponies, leading to extreme pain, instability of the pedal bone in the hoof capsule and in some cases the animal may need to be euthanased. Its prevalence is estimated at one case per 200 horse-years in the UK and for ponies it is thought to be much higher.

There are three types of laminitis of which endocrinopathic laminitis is the most common. Endocrinopathic laminitis includes laminitis associated with disorders of the hormone insulin. This study investigated practical ways vets can measure, and owners can identify, predictors of the condition. The research team included Edward Knowles, the lead author and PhD student, and Nicola Menzies-Gow, Professor in Equine Medicine, and Jonathan Elliott, Professor of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology at the RVC, as well as Professor Patricia Harris, Head of the Equine Studies group at the Waltham Petcare Science Institute.

The study involved 374 ponies from the south of England that had not previously suffered from laminitis. The ponies

were kept according to their normal routine and were visited every six months for four years. Information was collected on the ponies' diet and exercise, and they were weighed, measured and examined. Blood samples were also taken, including one to measure their insulin response to a sugar syrup given orally. If a pony developed laminitis during the study period, the results of their examination and tests before laminitis were compared with the ponies in which laminitis did not develop.

The researchers found that the concentration of the hormone insulin in the blood, either at rest or after oral sugar syrup, was the most important predictor of whether an individual would develop the condition in the future. They also discovered the overall risk of laminitis was five cases per 100 pony-years.

By measuring insulin concentrations, the researchers could identify ponies as being at low, medium or high risk of future laminitis episodes. Over a one-year period, they found that the risk of laminitis in the low-risk group was too small to detect, but more than one-third of the high-risk group would develop laminitis. Over a longer period of four years, they found that around 70 per cent of high-risk ponies would be expected to develop laminitis, whereas this was only the case for around six per cent of low-risk ponies. Surprisingly, concentrations of adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH), which is associated with one of the hormone disorders encompassed by endocrinopathic laminitis, was not found to be useful for predicting future laminitis episodes.

It is hoped that the research will improve vets' and owners' ability to identify ponies that are at the highest risk of laminitis so that they make any necessary changes to help reduce the likelihood of these ponies developing this painful condition.

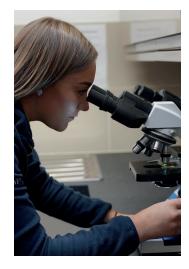
The study was funded by MARS Petcare UK and the Mellon Fund

Strategic use of wormers

Project WORMS, which stands for Working to Overcome Resistance and Make for a Sustainable future is a new initiative that aims to tackle resistance to equine worming

The first stage of the project involves asking horse owners and stud managers to complete surveys to find out how and when they worm, and which products they use. The data will be used to help vets work with horse owners to try to prevent serious disease due to wormer resistance in the future.

The project is the result of a collaboration between VetPartners' Equine Clinical Board, CVS Group and IVC Evidensia and is supported by the British Equestrian Veterinary Association (BEVA).



Julia Shrubb, a vet at Ashbrook Equine Hospital, said: 'Most horse owners want to do the right thing for their horses, now and in the future, but many are unaware of the seriousness of the impending resistance problems of current wormers.'

Dr Tim Mair, CVS equine director, said: 'Anthelmintic resistance is a rapidly growing, worldwide problem. With no new worming drugs on the horizon it's important we know how they're being used now so together we do everything we can to protect the drugs we currently have available. This means using them strategically and only when necessary.'

To find out more about the project and access the surveys, visit: projectworms.co.uk



Congratulations

At the time of writing 42L are receiving eagerly anticipated results from their WCF Diploma examinations. Many congratulations to all of you who have passed! Don't forget to get in touch with the Sales Team to find out how we can help you in the next stage of your careers!

The College Block Award

As ever, it has been a pleasure to receive nominations for a College Block Award. Awarded in recognition of those working hard, overcoming a particular challenge, or achieving super end of block results those nominated receive a certificate and Stromsholm voucher.

In this issue we congratulate

WCG MORETON MORRELL **COLLEGE**

Jack Sayer (45L) 'For showing very good progress in both his theory and practical'

Jack is trained by Alex Mercer AWCF

HEREFORD COLLEGE

Charlie Pimblott (45L) 'For achieving Distinction for Practical in Block 2'.

Charlie is trained by ATF J Goddard DipWCF.

Hannah Chamberlain (42L) 'For achieving Distinction in the Theory in the Diploma exam'.

Hannah is trained by Abby Bunyard AWCF.





If you haven't already, don't forget to sign up as a member to the Stromsholm Apprentice Club (which you can do at any stage of your apprenticeship). Visit www.stromsholm.co.uk and follow the link to Apprentice Club. Signing up is FREE, quick and easy and you gain lots of great benefits including a 10% discount on tools throughout your apprenticeship.

Best Shod Awards

Congratulations to Tristan Lambert DipWCF winner of the WCF Best Shod Award at South Eastern Shire Horse Association Heavy Horse and County Show.

The winning horse was Southwood Trudy owned by Mr W Langley and Ms M Teasdale in the 2-year-old Shire class.

Congratulations to Sergeant Josh Cooksley AWCF the winner of the Worshipful Company of Farriers Best Shod Award at Royal Windsor Horse Show.

The award was judged within the Defence Animal Training Regiment Team B in the Service Team Jumping Class.



Imprint Hoof Repair - a tough versatile addition to the farrier's toolbox. Ideal for treating cracked or damaged hooves, foal foot deformities, laminitics, and horses needing hoof reconstruction. Using Imprint Structural Adhesive, Imprint Hoof Repair forms a powerful bond with the hoof wall. The unique Imprint formula means there is no exothermic reaction whilst hardening which eliminates issues caused by excessive heat.

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USA FARRIERY AMBASSADOR

Farrier Rachael Millard,

CJF, is currently in the UK as part of the Edward Martin Cultural Exchange programme! She will be hosted by a number of different farriers across the UK, sitting in on CPD events and participating in clinics and contests.



Rachael is based in Tennessee and

runs Nomad Forge, a horseshoeing service that aims to provide the very best in equine hoof care. Her business was founded in 2019, after she graduated from Kentucky Horseshoeing School. She then completed a two-year apprenticeship, during which time she earned her Certified Farrier and her Certified Journeyman Farrier certifications with the American Farriers Association.

She currently works in the Knoxville-area of East Tennessee, although she is often on the road for continuing education events. She believes investment in CPD is essential to provide top-quality hoof care, whether it's for a barefoot pony or a high-power sport horse.

Rachael will be in the UK until 11 September. If you are able to host her during her stay, please phone Huw Dyer, 07740 723118 or Londonderry Forge 01677 422587.

ARE THEY STANDING COMFORTABLY?



Joint support is paramount to performance. But, what does this mean?

Performance of the joint describes the capability of the joint itself, to enable movement and provide structural support. Wear and tear occurs daily in all types of horse and pony regardless of their workload and type, which can compromise the joints' integrity.

As a working farrier, asking each individual to weight bear on independent limbs and further stretch onto stands can generate discomfort if joints are under stress.

Farriers can now provide sound advice

- All customers deserve the NAF Five Star Solution
- Flush out the free radical toxins = **ANTIOXIDANTS**
- Maintain and regenerate connective tissue = **GLUCOSAMINE**
- Stimulate circulation and target the anti-inflammatory process = MSM
- Support cartilage protection = CHONDROITIN
- Promote a regular stride pattern = OMEGA-3s
- Healthy synovial fluid = HA

So why the NAF Five Star Superflex Solutions?

Many of our customers feed a Glucosamine/ MSM supplement daily, this has a benefit to the otherwise healthy joint.

However, when joints are compromised or under additional stresses and strains such as concussive forces exerted by hard ground or workload, injury and genetic/confirmation factors, it is advisable to take a multifactorial approach with the NAF FIVE STAR SUPERFLEX SOLUTIONS.

Contact NAF using our free Nutritional Advice Line. Call 0800 373 106 or email info@naf-uk.com



The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) offers scholarships of up to £18,000 to support the training and education of talented craftspeople, such as farriers and blacksmiths.

The Trust supports vital skills in traditional and contemporary crafts and contribute to excellence in the British craft industry. Scholarships are available to fund the education and training of any UK resident, aged 18 or older.

All talented craftspeople, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or nationality are invited to apply. QEST particularly encourages applications from those with protected characteristics that are under-represented in the craft sector.

Applications are open from 11 July to 15 August 2022. They must be submitted online using QEST's online application form. Before you apply, please read the Scholarship Application Guidance, which can be found at https://www.qest.org.uk/apply/scholarships/



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QUICKFIRE, WITH

Alex Prentice DipWCF

Alex Prentice qualified as a farrier 17 years ago. He lives in Hampshire, which he believes possibly has one of the highest concentrations of farriers in the country. 'Although we may bump in to each other in our various areas, there aren't any organised events given that CPD is becoming mandatory. So with this in mind I started the Southern Central branch ably assisted by Harry Spinks and Luke Lloyd – and although Covid has severely restricted things, we are aiming to have our first event later in the year.'

If you weren't a farrier, you'd be ...

Probably a blacksmith or an engineer.

Most memorable appointment with a client ...

Turning up one Friday morning to a lady who said that I couldn't shoe her horse as it had told her on the way in from the field 'that it didn't want to be shod today'!

Biggest mistake you've learnt from

Not asking for help

Your secret weapon ...

Pads, Magic Cushion and the Baldor

Best time saving tip ...

Contacting my customers the night before to confirm their appointment. It's very frustrating and costly if they have



forgotten and you're sitting in the yard twiddling your thumbs.

What's your favourite pub? ...

There's a lovely country pub called The White Lion in Soberton, it's not unusual to find a few farriers in there.

Who's your biggest inspiration? ...

Isambard Kingdom Brunel

Where are you happiest? ...

Either fly fishing, in my workshop or with my family.

Farriers Registration Council (FRC) Consultation on the Standard of Proof used at Stage 1 of the Disciplinary Process

The FRC has launched a consultation and invites the profession and members of the public – in particular horse owners - to comment.

As the statutory regulator, the Farriers Registration Council considers and determines disciplinary cases through its Investigating Committee and the Disciplinary Committee. These are operated independently of the Council and each other. The standard of proof is the level to which the regulator must prove factual allegations against a registrant and the standard of proof used in the disciplinary process is a matter of policy choice for the Council.

The FRC says that in England and Wales only the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the FRC use the criminal standard of proof 'so as to be sure' (synonymous with 'beyond reasonable doubt'), whereas all other regulators use the civil standard 'more likely than not' (or 'on the balance of probabilities'). Recognising that the position adopted by the Council could be described as at variance with other regulatory bodies exercising similar powers, led to the launch of the consultation.

The rationale for application of the civil standard is that the fundamental purpose of professional regulation and discipline is protection of the public and not punishment of an individual who commits misconduct. Although the consequence of regulatory proceedings may be severe, they do not include potential for loss of liberty. Professional regulatory proceedings are not part of the criminal jurisdiction, but part of the civil jurisdiction and, as such, the proper standard of proof to apply in such proceedings is the civil standard.

The consultation paper opened for comments on 24 June and closes on 5 August 2022. It can be found of the FRC website at www.farrier-reg.gov.uk at https://bit.ly/3u1DBqM



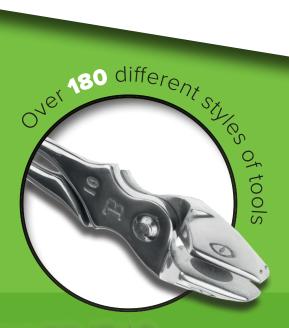
3D HOOFCARE

Derek Poupard is the owner and inventor of 3D HoofCare and HoofCast. Having spent most of his career ambitiously trying to improve the quality of a horse's hoof, his latest efforts have shown positive results in a very short time frame. Through the use of incorporating the latest technologies such as 3D printing to create the HoofCare product, as well as developing this product alongside his own HoofCast product, the goal was to emulate the horse hoof in its natural state of being barefoot.

SPECIALIST HORSESHOES

Research and development for Jim Blurton's growing range of specialist horseshoes takes place at Forden Farriers. Working with local vets Jim Blurton continues to trial and test new horseshoe innovations, designed to address specific equine ailments.





FARRIER TOOLS

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Dealing with personal trauma

Mental health issues are common – affecting one in four people every year, and some of these will be the result of trauma. There is no need to suffer alone. Help is available, you just need to find it.

Catherine Wensley-Green merges coaching and mentoring to help those who need it. Because she works from a trauma informed background, her aim is to help clients in a way that will personally suit them and make them feel the most comfortable.

Here, she describes a scenario that some readers may recognise.

When a traumatic event occurs, we tend to push it to the back of our mind, locking it away securely in order to get on with life. As we grow up, we are encouraged to 'be strong' and are often told to 'man up'. The pain we carry - caused by an event that happened in the past - is often hidden behind a mask.

Emotional trauma can be described as a sinister hitch hiker. This insidious, hidden trauma that may have its roots in our childhood is invisible to the eye, yet it presents itself through patterns of behaviour. We may not even recognise that the trauma occurred, we go on living life whilst struggling to understand the link between our behaviour and our

The word trauma is generally associated with an obvious event such as bereavement, abuse, war, etc. However, it can be derived from any event that has left someone with what is, in their perception, an overwhelming amount of stress, causing them to feel unable to cope. It is the individual's specific perception of an event that causes trauma rather than the

Everyone has their own level of resilience and coping skills, so what affects one will not necessarily affect another. No-one has the right to decide whether a particular event would have a lasting effect of trauma on an individual.

Trauma cannot be outgrown, we need to face it, accept it and work through the emotion attached to it, otherwise we will continue to carry the burden throughout our lives.

Unlike physical trauma, emotional trauma is much harder to spot, in fact it is invisible, which is why so many of us put on a mask and go about our lives. The pressure of this can directly cause mental health issues or leave the person vulnerable to developing them.

Trauma's inability to stay dormant means that it has to present itself some way and will often present itself clearly though behaviour.



Imagine trying to tightly close your fist around water, the water will always escape.

Often the carrier doesn't know that the way they feel about themselves is due to unrecognised and unresolved trauma. Being unable to connect the way they feel with the way they behave, can create frustration and confusion, and is a common cause for the development of depression and anxiety. As a result, we look for escape - for relief - and this may lead to excessive alcohol consumption, drug use, promiscuity, overworking, frequent moving from job to job/ home to home/partner to partner or overeating. These are all classic symptoms of unresolved trauma.

Although these are visible and can be damaging, there are numerous other ways trauma can present itself through behaviour. Here again, this depends on the individual and their resilience and coping skills, but may involve bullying/ aggressive behaviour, jealousy stemming from insecurity, attention seeking and contradictory behaviours, to name a few. Although trauma is never an excuse for bad behaviour, it may be a reason for it. If we can recognise that the person behaving in an undesirable manner is them presenting their trauma, it can help us to protect ourselves from reacting or taking their behaviour personally.

Aside from helping her clients, Catherine is a livery yard manager in south Gloucestershire and she is married to a farrier.

To find out more about how she can help, visit Hope and Aspiration, https://www.hopeandaspiration.com/

Andrew Neel/Unsplash

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As a Lecturer in Blacksmithing, you will be responsible for providing inspirational teaching and learning and will additionally support excellence in assessment to ensure learners reach their highest potential.

Why join us?

At Myerscough College and University Centre we have a nationally and internationally recognised Further Education, Higher Education, Adult Education and Apprenticeship provision. The Further Education provision is well established, the Higher Education provision has a well-recognised partnership with UCLan and the apprenticeship provision is operational nationally.

We offer a rewarding and enjoyable working environment, where colleagues are inspired to make a positive difference to the educational experience and employability of our students. We are one of the top five largest land-based and sports colleges in the UK.

Hours -25.9 hours per week. Department - Veterinary Nursing and Farriery. Location - Myerscough College (Preston). Salary -£19,337 - £31,536 full time equivalent per annum in accordance with qualifications and experience. Actual salary will be pro rata. Teacher qualified staff commence at minimum £24,467 pro rata. Reference - NoLBS-0.7-Pre.

Visit our website https://bit.ly/CareersAtMyerscough for the full list of excellent benefits our college offers.



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 34 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 Ne	w (00 - 3
	22 x 10	2 - 4
Front Quarter Clip	22 x 8 Ne	v 00 - 3
Hind Side Clip	20 x 10	00 - 1
	22 x 8 Ne	v (00 - 3
	22 x 10	2 - 4













- 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

construction and repair el, 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

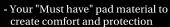
SILICONE

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





- Urethane-based, that sets in 30 seconds and sticks directly to a clean,
- Ideal with or without any kind of pads
- Optimal shock absorption, support and protection, enhancing the general condition of the sole, frog and hoof



- 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

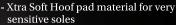


fast bonding & hoof repair

- 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



oft pad filling material ock absorption and support



- 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



