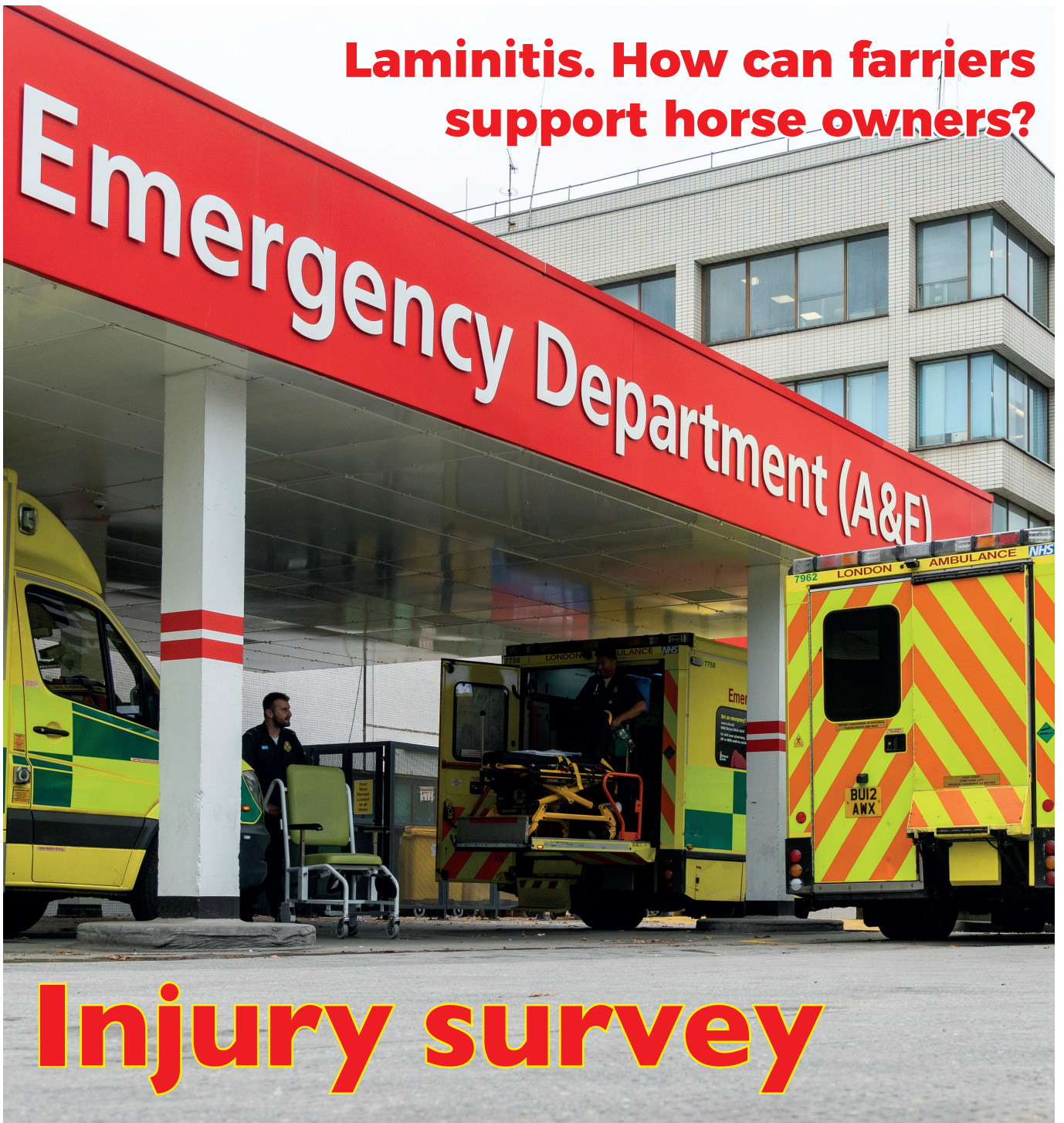




FORGE

FORGE IS THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH FARRIERS AND BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION

Laminitis. How can farriers support horse owners?



Injury survey

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ISSN No 0955 5293

Forge is the official magazine of BFBA

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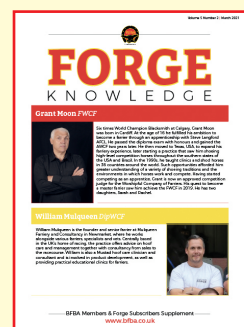
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The March 2021 issue of
Forge Knowledge

- Hoof mapping - guide or rule? The accuracy of using external landmarks to localise internal structures in the equine hoof by Grant Moon FWCF
- Case report. A shoeing solution for a racehorse by William Mulqueen



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Northern area (employee):

D Craig D'Arcy BSc(Hons) AWCf

Southern area (self employed):

David C. Hall BSc(hons) DipWCF,
Chair of the Council

Southern area (employee):

Tom Smith AWCf

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Ben Benson AWCf and Simon Moore FWCF

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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

The announcements made by the Prime Minister on 22 February offered good news – a roadmap out of lockdown – 'if everything goes to plan'.

Having said that, freedom depends on maintaining vigilance around biosecurity. We must stick to the rules, look after ourselves and each other, and not let our guard down. It is possible that we may yet face regional restrictions if variants of the virus arise. However, it feels good to have some dates to focus on.

BFBA plans to start up events again as soon as we can, although in the meantime, we believe that online events have a lot to offer and could work well for some modules of the AWCF and FWCF courses. As far as apprentices are concerned, by any standards the past year has been a challenge and not the best preparation for exams, so we are also holding three Pre-Diploma events to support our apprentice members taking their Diploma examination in May. The weeks leading up to your exam are an opportunity to take ownership of your learning. Assess any weaknesses and be honest with yourself about these. If they are there – face them and seek out information and support. Help is available – you can ask your ATF, your college tutor, or the BFBA. We will help you if you ask us.

In the centre of this magazine you will find our injury survey. Working with horses and at the anvil presents risk – we all know that, but we don't currently have data to back up the anecdotal evidence we hear.

As an association we want to gather quantitative data. Our aim is to reduce risk through a campaign to promote discussion, raise awareness and educate owners to help them provide a safer working environment.

Sometimes this may mean difficult conversations about saying no to shoeing an unsafe horse or requiring sedation if we feel it is necessary. We will be sharing the survey results with you in the May issue of Forge.

I am five months into my Presidency of your association. My Executive Committee team are working hard on issues as they arise. Looking ahead, these will include conversations with the Farriers Registration Council and other bodies. We are in daily contact and have regular Zoom meetings. We are here working for you, so let us know what you want and we will do our best for you.

After the success of last year's **Lockdown League**, I am delighted to announce that a second competition will take place in April. This is a great opportunity to compete at home. You can get involved either by joining in or following the competitors' progress.

Craig D'Arcy, BFBA President



BFBA FOCUS

October 30 & 31 2021,
in a new venue at Stoneleigh

The image features a large, dark, metallic horseshoe with the letters 'BFBA' embossed in the center. To the left of the horseshoe is a logo for 'BFBA FOCUS' with a small circular emblem containing the BFBA logo and the text 'Established 1904'. The background is a dark, textured surface with a warm, orange glow at the bottom.

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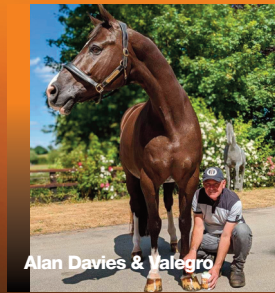
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BFBA activities

The association has continued to hold regular meetings on Zoom as the lockdown continues. We have held regular Executive Committee meetings, as well as keeping in constant touch on issues that arise, which affect our members.

And we have continued to reach out to members, horse owners and organisations linked to farriery through Facebook and Instagram.

Our 'Safety First' Facebook post clearly struck a chord, swiftly being shared 199 times and reaching 23,230 people in the UK, Europe, USA and Australia

SAFETY FIRST

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. The farrier may request the horse owner or keeper to seek assistance from a veterinary surgeon.

www.farrier-reg.gov.uk/code-of-professional-conduct



Apprentice support

ONLINE PRE-DIPLOMA EVENTS

The BFBA has organised three individual events that will be held before the next Diploma exam, which is scheduled for May 2021.

Each event will have a different theme:

- The first will address **technique in the written exam** presented by **Sarah Logie FWCF**
- The second, by **Jim Ferrie FWCF**, will cover the **oral exam and dispelling myths** surrounding the Diploma examination.
- The third event will be a session on **live horse observation** with a WCF veterinary examiner.

Dates for all three sessions have yet to be confirmed, but all will be held on Zoom, which will help give maximum accessibility. Numbers will be limited for each session.

To register or find out more, contact the BFBA office, telephone 02476 696595 or email membership@bfba.co.uk



We marked National Apprentice Week in February

Paying a data protection fee - have you had a letter from the Information Commissioner's Office?

When a BFBA member received a letter from the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) requiring them to register and pay a fee for data protection, they got in touch with the BFBA.

We looked into the issue and were able to confirm that the request was not a scam. We emailed our members about this in January, explaining that the ICO is an independent body set up to uphold information rights. A data protection fee may need to be paid to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) '...if you're a business, organisation or sole trader processing personal data, unless you're exempt'. These fees fund the data protection work carried out by the ICO under the General Data Protection Regulation, which came into effect on the 25 May 2018.

Further information can be found on the government website <https://www.gov.uk/data-protection-register-notify-ico-personal-data>

The registration fee depends on your business size and turnover, but starts at £40. If your business is not exempt and you either fail to pay a fee or pay an incorrect fee, you

are breaking the law, for which the fines are substantial. There is a simple questionnaire that will help determine if you need to pay a fee.

In its simplest form, if you have a customer's number stored in your mobile phone you are 'processing data' and are responsible for ensuring that the information held is secure and that you have taken all reasonable measures to ensure it is kept that way. Is your security code always on? Where do you keep your phone? Is your vehicle locked? In addition, customers also have a right to withdraw consent for their data being held, subject to certain exemptions.

Furthermore, you need to consider who else has access to your business information as it also includes the personal information you hold on any employees. You should make sure that anyone else having access to that information has appropriate data protection policies in place for example, office administrators, accountants, payroll and so on.

For further information visit <https://ico.org.uk/>

BFBA Executive Committee.



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BESIDE THE FIRE

Steve Teichman

North American Farrier Steve Teichman was the US eventing team's farrier. His skills – he has been described as a genius, an artist and an engineer – have made him one of the most respected farriers in the world. Having retired from farriery in November 2020, he shares his career story with Forge.

Born and raised in southeastern Pennsylvania, I came from a family of nine children. Needless to say my parents had their hands full and my father's primary goal was to raise us and get each of us a college education.

I was always very creative and had a keen interest in animals; my first choice was to attend art school, but this was not my father's idea of a proper education! As so often happens, fate had its way and I wound up expressing some of my creativity working as a farrier apprentice age 14. The compromise that I made with my father was that I would pursue a college degree along side my horseshoeing. My early start in horseshoeing culminated in an amazing 48 year career as a farrier.

In 1973, I was shoeing Standardbred horses in central Delaware under the guidance of farrier and educator Eddie Warrington. This location and time gave me a unique opportunity to train with some of the best farriers in the field, learning the finer points in trimming and balancing the hoof. I moved back to southeastern Pennsylvania to apply these core basic principles to the lucrative hunter/jumper and event world.

In 1980, I started as an intern at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine's farrier shop at the New Bolton Center. Here I developed a strategy of techniques for shoeing sport horses with acute and chronic hoof problems. I also completed a degree in degree in biology and art.

Education has been of core importance in my life – learning is never wasted. I was one the US cohort to achieve the Royal Veterinary College's Graduate Diploma in Equine Locomotor Research. My dissertation was entitled: 'The effects of front shoe surface modifications in the sport horse on the duration of breakover during the walk and trot on artificial and solid surfaces'.

Forging and shoe making had always been an interest of mine, and a necessity – certainly from the 1970s through the mid-1990s. I competed heavily during those years and became a member of the North American Horseshoeing Team in 1986.

By the middle of the 1980s I began to become frustrated with the sole proprietor approach that was typical of farrier practices in the USA.



I formed Chester County Farrier Service, which became Chester County Farrier Associates. These were model multi-farrier businesses with as many as eight trucks on the road at one time, serving the large horse community in the region.

This business structure gave me the opportunity to travel all over the world. Much of my time was spent traveling back and forth to England from the early 1990s through to 2010, as the team farrier under coach Captain Mark Phillips. During my stays in the Cotswolds I had the pleasure to work with many skilled local farriers assisting in care of the USA team's horses. Although I travelled back and forth on a monthly schedule, I was fortunate to have time to work and learn from many English craftsmen.

These challenges and clients ultimately led me to my first Olympic Games in Sydney in 2000. Since then I have had the honour to have worked at six Olympic Games, six Pan-American Games, several World Games events and for the USA Equestrian Team at the European Open. I hold one patent developed in the early 1990s for a medium-weight sport horse shoe.

Who influenced you and how?

Eddie Warrington from Townsend Delaware. A most amazing self-trained farrier and gifted instructor.

Tell us about a typical day's work.

Typically we (me and one or two assistants) would leave the shop anywhere between 4.30 and 5.30 am as it was often a two-hour drive to our appointment. My practice consisted largely of top level event horses. Most barns will had a dozen or so to be shod in a day and it wasn't uncommon to do 15 to 17 sets in a day. Four days a month we worked for a large veterinary practice dealing with a range of issues, from hospital plates, surgical cases and



Stephen combines his love of art and forging skills to create a unique finished product for the horse and horseman. Steve, Laura, and son Marshall along with their dogs, live in scenic Chester County, Pennsylvania

NEW



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Straight Bar Shoe

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Suspensory Shoe

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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.



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quarter cracks to remedial shoeing for the sport horse. We use several styles of glue-on shoes, and all types of composites.

Tell us about your business interests

Farriers in this country tend to work as sole as proprietors, very individual. One of my goals as a young farrier was to develop a larger multi-man farrier practice. I did this but not without many bumps in the road. We are a very independent group in the USA and some are poorly educated. If I hadn't set up my practice, I would never have had the time to fit in all the US Equestrian Federation (USEF) teamwork that was required to support our eventers.

What was your most difficult, challenging or puzzling work experience?

Clinic work often led to the frustration, disappointment and pleasure of working with laminitics. As much as we have achieved in understanding this disorder, dealing with it remains tricky business.

What was your proudest moment?

In the late 1990s I was the farrier supporting our USEF horses competing at Burghley Horse Trials. On one occasion, my dilemma was sorting out how to trot-up one of the horses that had run a bit of brush from the steeplechase course (long format days) through his frog. With limited tools and time and some unforeseen difficulties finding the farrier at the venue, I made a shoe out of some security fence and nailed it on backwards. This protected the frog and eased the breakover. We were good to go!

What is your secret to a perfect fire weld?

ALWAYS have two shoes in the fire! This keeps you busy and

prevents 'the watching and waiting game', which can lead to a tendency to forge prematurely.

What do you still want to achieve?

I'm still working on making my mark as a silversmith and painter...I'll get there!

Of all the farriers/blacksmiths dead or alive, who would you want to spend some time with and why?

That's a difficult question as there were/are many great farrier and blacksmiths to choose from. I would probably choose Professor Franz Enge (1893-1930) who worked for the University of Pennsylvania in its early years. He helped establish the farrier programme as among the world's finest. He was an amazing craftsman, ahead of his time. We are still digging up and figuring out what these men new then. So much of our skills and knowledge disappeared in the 1930s.

If you could change one thing, what would it be?

How we teach and educate farriers in the USA. Our nation's independent 'do-it-yourself' attitude is a double-edge sword for sure - it has led to a tremendous amount of innovation in the farrier community; however, the other side of this is the stubborn know-it-all who want to reinvent the wheel.

Farriers in the USA are not so great at standing on the shoulders of those who came before them. It makes moving our industry forward an impossibly slow process.

When you're not working, what do you like doing?

I had always wanted to have a career as an artist and I have an amazing art studio at my forge at my home in southeast Pennsylvania.



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Laminitis. Can the farrier's role offer more support?

By Sian Wall BSc BVSc MRCVS from NAF's veterinary team

A recent Royal Veterinary College study revealed that one in 10 horses or ponies suffer a laminitic episode each year and that these episodes were not always recognised as laminitis by owners. The most common symptom reported was a short stilted gait and difficulty turning, with the more obvious signs of the horse stood rocked back onto its heels and the divergent hoof rings much less commonly featured. Vets often find bounding digital pulses, but the study revealed that owners do not typically feel for these, a skill that may help owners pick up on cases of laminitis sooner. What's more, the study revealed it is a year-long problem with no 'safe season'. Most owners are aware of the increased risk with the appearance of lush spring grass, but are less likely to remain vigilant and maintain preventative measures throughout the year.

Can you offer more?

Laminitis is a painful debilitating disease, accounting for 15% of equine deaths in the UK. It is often recurrent and has known risk factors such as obesity, a carbohydrate-rich diet, certain breeds (eg. UK natives) and those with underlying endocrine disease such as pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction (PPID, Cushing's) and equine metabolic syndrome (EMS). Horses and ponies that have suffered from laminitis previously, or possess any of the known risk factors must be managed accordingly to reduce the incidence of future painful episodes. So, what can we do to reduce these risks?

Optimal hoof care

Those horses and ponies not seeing their farrier at least every eight weeks are shown to be at greater risk of suffering from laminitic episodes, therefore regular farrier visits are vital in the reduction of risk. Not only are farriers able to care for the hoof appropriately, but they are also in an ideal position to advise on other management factors such as weight control and dietary management. Alongside improving owners' awareness of the varied – and sometimes subtle – clinical signs of laminitis, farriers can provide education in practical aspects such as feeling for pulses and body condition scoring.

The sooner treatment is implemented, the better chance of recovery, so educating owners in the recognition of subtle signs and an acknowledgement of their own animal's risk factors can be a vital component of a successful outcome.

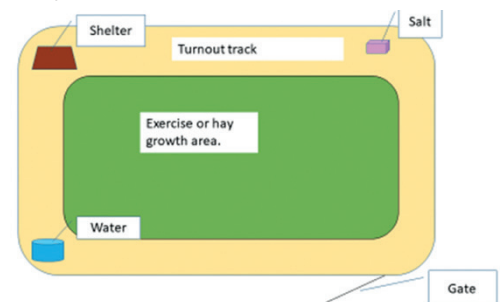
Diet

Encourage owners to keep their horses and ponies at a suitable weight, ideally with regular body condition scoring. A weigh tape used by the same person each time can be useful to monitor trends, but should not be relied on for an accurate



weight. These at-risk horses and ponies should be kept on a high-fibre forage diet with minimal, ideally no, concentrate feed. If a forage-only diet is not providing sufficient energy for the workload, then the addition of oil can be a safer way to provide a more energy-rich ration. Always introduce the oil slowly and balance with supplementary vitamin E. If they can manage on a forage-only diet, it is wise to remember UK soil deficiencies often necessitate the addition of a vitamin and mineral supplement to complete the diet. Pasture management can play a crucial role in laminitis prevention, especially during the spring. This may include limiting grazing with a muzzle, turning out at night or restricting access to certain areas, ideally while still providing them with enough area and incentive to move, such as a track system (Paddock Paradise) with widespread resources.

The paddock paradise system is a simple track system around the edge of a paddock/field with different needs at each corner, requiring the individual to simply keep moving to meet their needs.



The paddock paradise system is also known as the track grazing system

individual to simply keep moving to meet their needs.

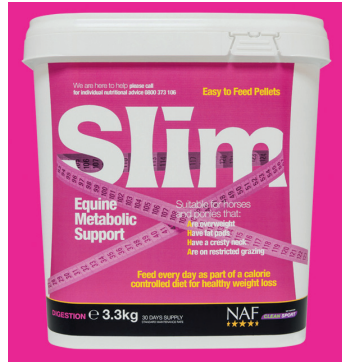
Supplements

Hoof-targeted nutritional support can help maintain hoof health. Biotin is a well-established ingredient known to encourage hoof growth, strength and integrity. Adding biotin to the diet alongside other sulphur rich ingredients such as methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) and the sulphur-containing amino acids methionine and cysteine can promote stable keratin formation.

Although the effects of laminitis are demonstrated in the feet, these are often the consequence of disturbance

elsewhere, such as toxins, diet change or endocrinopathy. The addition of antioxidants and anti-inflammatory essential fatty acids in the diet can support the whole horse, protecting against oxidative stress due to damaging free radicals. Oxidative damage to the lamellae is a feature of laminitic episodes, and a component of a wider systemic inflammatory response. Supporting optimal liver function with antioxidants and other liver-specific ingredients can impact on hoof health, due to the liver's role in converting the amino acid cysteine to cystine, which then goes on to form the keratin strengthening disulphide bonds. Gut support is always beneficial in horses undergoing any kind of inflammatory or debilitating episode, laminitis is no exception.

So, in answer to the question 'what can we do?', a synergistic and holistic approach to nutrition, management and hoof maintenance can attempt to control for the known laminitis risk factors. Farriers not only play a vital role in hoof maintenance but are also in an ideal situation to educate owners on symptoms and management strategies to reduce flare-ups of this painful and debilitating, sometimes fatal, condition.



Help support a health weight. Provide essential nutrients that may be lacking from a restricted diet. Support insulin action and normal blood glucose levels

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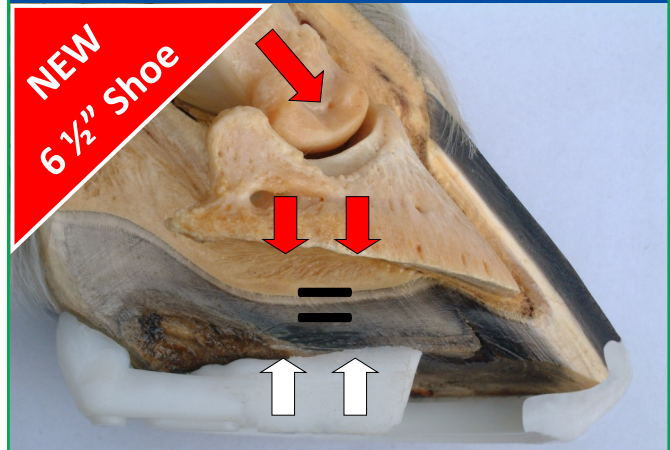
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Patterson's Spade Mill, County Antrim



Main picture: ©National Trust Images/Chris Lacey



Picture: ©National Trust Images/John Millar

Interview by Katy Blanchard

The Patterson family started making spades in Ireland in 1695, passing down the skills through many generations of the family. Today, James McCullough is Head Spade-maker and Tom McMahon is the Assistant Spade-maker. They are the custodians of these skills at the National Trust's Patterson's Spade Mill in County Antrim, taking on commissions and giving the public an insight into the ancient art of blacksmithing. Their routes into the National Trust were very different, but both share a passion for keeping traditional skills alive at the last of the UK's water-driven mills still in daily working use.

'Seeing the old machinery work and red-hot metal transformed into something new – I had a passion for it from the very start.'



Pictures: ©National Trust Images/John Millar

Tell us about your journey with the National Trust

James:

Life changed dramatically for me in 2005 when I suffered a brain injury. I wasn't able to work and I became housebound. I started volunteering here in 2008 because I needed something to do to get me out and further my recovery. From the moment I walked through the door, I thought it was the most incredible place. Seeing all the old machinery work and red-hot metal being transformed into something new – I had such a passion for it from the very start.

My volunteering was initially in the gardens, cutting grass and hedges, and after about a year and a half I became a guide. I did that for a couple of seasons before an apprenticeship in spade-making came up. I was fascinated by it all and jumped at the chance. The Trust supported me through the apprenticeship as well as further blacksmith training. From starting here as a volunteer 12 years ago, I'm here today as Head Spade-Maker.

I've only been in this role for a few months because I went off for a while to teach the art of blacksmithing. I did some of those courses here at Patterson's, and now I teach and take on commissions as part of my role.

I used to drive lorries before my accident, and life now is so different. I love being able to make something from a piece of metal and see it through from start to finish. When I get the forge lit and the hammer in my hand, who knows what I'm going to make? Every item we make is unique, using traditional skills, and I particularly love passing those skills on to others. The first thing trainees make in classes at the

'Every item we make is unique, using traditional skills, and I particularly love passing those skills on to others.'



'When I saw the machines at Patterson's – some dating back 200 years – I was drawn here.'

forge here is usually something like a knife, and they can leave with that piece. They are always amazed at what they can achieve and I get a real buzz from being part of that.

Being here has been completely life-changing for me. It's given me a focus in life and helped me get back on my feet. After that terrible injury, I felt I had lost so much but now I am doing something that I really love. The National Trust has supported me through a very difficult time and given me a great colleague and friend in Tom. We work very closely and are a real team. I now have a new outlook on life and I have the Trust to thank. I feel I'm able to give something back by passing on those skills.

Tom:

My path into the National Trust was simpler than James'. I've been interested in machinery since I was a small boy growing up on a farm. When I saw the machines at Patterson's – some dating back 200 years – I was drawn here.

I have a real passion for working with and looking after traditional machinery like this, and I made a career previously in the maintenance of farming equipment. I spent quite a lot of time dealing with major health and safety issues, which was quite stressful, so I had no hesitation in switching careers when the post came up here in 2008.

I'd been volunteering for a couple of years by then, and I knew that Patterson's was a special place where I wanted to be. We have some machines here that exist in very few other places, such as a fully working trip hammer that is almost 200 years old and still in daily use. The head of the hammer weighs 250 kg and is completely water-driven. To have the

opportunity to work with it and maintain it is a big buzz for me.

Every item we make is a one-off – we don't make a standard spade – and all are commissions. We receive commissions from all over the place, including from other properties within the Trust. They might ask us for items such as handrails, or vine nails to train vines up a wall. Not so long ago we made gates for Springhill, Londonderry, in the traditional way, riveting mortice and tenon joints.

We catch up on our machinery maintenance and spade orders in the winter when we're closed to the public, and when we are open during the summer we spend a lot of time doing demonstrations. People really enjoy coming here, seeing the machinery in full swing and witnessing what we are making out of red-hot metal. I get a thrill out showing them what we do because they are so often blown away by the place – it's a real, traditional spade mill still in full working order. There's no doubt, this is a really interesting place and, in this job, boredom is just never an issue. We are keeping an important part of our cultural heritage alive.

James and Tom were interviewed by Katy Blanchard for the photographic book – **A Portrait of the National Trust: 125 stories for 125 years** – telling the stories of people and their relationships with the Trust as part of the charity's 125 year celebrations, available from <https://shop.nationaltrust.org.uk/a-portrait-of-the-national-trust-125-stories-for-125-years.html>



'It's a real, traditional spade mill still in full working order.'



Pictures: ©National Trust Images/John Millar



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BFBA SURVEY

Injuries to farriers



The BFBA is increasingly concerned about the number of serious injuries incurred by farriers and farrier apprentices whilst at work.

As we all know, horses can cause severe injuries to people and farriers are at a high-risk of injury. There is currently no data available to say how often injuries occur or how bad they are. Anecdotally, the injury rate would appear to be high and photographs of bloodied farriers – often posted by those who consider they had a lucky escape – appear on social media with warnings to others about the unpredictability of such instances.

This survey is the beginning of a campaign to promote discussion, raise awareness and educate, with the aim of reducing the risk to farriers. The results from the survey will help us to quantify the frequency and types of injuries sustained by farriers while providing hoofcare services. To achieve this we need facts, please complete this questionnaire. The information gained will enable us to identify the ways in which we can support and help farriers to work more safely.

The results from the survey are anonymous, unless you wish to provide your details.

To take part

Complete the survey here, remove the pages and return them to The Forge, Avenue B, 10th Street, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

Or complete the survey here, take a picture and text it to 07747 602978 or email it to claire@forgepr.co.uk

Or complete the survey online – <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bfbainj>

The survey will close on 1 April 2021

In 2013, the British Equine Veterinary Association commissioned a report to ask UK equine vets about injuries they had sustained at work. The results found that most had suffered bruising, fracture and laceration, with the most common site of injury being the leg (29%) and the head (23%). The main cause of injury was a kick from a hind limb (49%), a strike with a fore limb (11%), followed by crush injury (5%). Nearly a quarter of vets reported injuries that required hospital admission and 7% resulted in loss of consciousness. Furthermore, it was apparent that those in their first five years of equine practice were at greater risk.

Questions in this survey are similar to those in the study conducted by Parkin et al (2018). This is for interest and to enable us to draw comparisons between farriers and equine practitioners. Our thanks to Tim Parkin for his permission to do this.

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

Please only complete the survey if you are a farrier or apprentice currently working in the UK.

1. Name (leave blank if you wish to remain anonymous. However, we will need your name if you would like to enter the prize draw).

2. Please indicate which applies to you.

- Farrier
 Apprentice

3. How old are you?

4. How long have you been working as a farrier? (start from the year you began your apprenticeship)

- Up to 5 years
 5 – 10 years

- 11 – 15 years
 16 – 20 years
 21 – 25 years
 26 – 30 years
 31 – 35 years
 36 years and above

For the purpose of this study please include only the injuries sustained through horse behaviour whilst trimming or shoeing, not those incurred in the forge or at the anvil unless a horse was involved.

An injury is defined as 'An injury or event that required (self) treatment and/or resulted in time off work' (Parkin et al 2018). (Therefore please include any injuries that have required first aid and/or pain medication).

5. How many injuries have you sustained in your career so far?

6. Of the total number of injuries stated in question 5, how many of those required the attention of a medical professional (doctor, physiotherapist, chiropractor)?

7. Of the total number of injuries stated in question 5, how many of those required hospital treatment?

Now, please answer the following questions focusing on the most serious injury you have sustained.

8. Would you describe the type of work the horse was involved in at the time of injury?

- Pleasure

continued on p 8

- Sports horse (affiliated competition)
- Racing
- Stud
- Welfare
- No work, box rest
- No work, retired
- Other (please state)

9. How would you describe the horse involved in the injury?

- Mature
- Young/inexperienced

10. In which area of the body was this injury sustained? (please tick all that apply)

- Head
- Face
- Neck
- Chest
- Back
- Abdomen
- Arm
- Pelvis
- Leg
- Hand
- Foot

Other (please specify)

11. How would you describe the type of injury sustained? (please tick all that apply)

- Bruising
- Fracture
- Laceration
- Ligament/tendon
- Concussion
- Dislocation
- Back injury
- Loss of sight
- Loss of consciousness

Other (please specify)

12. What was the cause of the injury?

- Kick with forelimb
- Kick with hindlimb
- Stamp
- Bite
- Crush
- Head butt
- Fall of horse
- Other (please state)

13. As a result of the injury did you?

- Visit your GP
- Attend hospital
- Require admission to hospital overnight
- Require admission to hospital for more than one night

14. What treatment was required? (please tick all that apply)

- Dressing of wounds
- Treatment of fractures
- Physiotherapy/chiropractor
- Analgesia
- Stitches
- Surgery
- Other (please state)

15. As a result of the injury did you require time off work?

- No
- Yes, the rest of the day
- Yes, between 1 and 3 days
- Yes, between 4 and 6 days
- Yes, between 1 to 2 weeks
- Yes, between 2 to 4 weeks
- Yes, in excess of 4 weeks

16. As a result of this accident, have you lasting physical impairments?

- No
- Yes

17. As a result of this accident, did you suffer financially?

- No
- Yes

18. As a result of this accident, did you make a claim on personal injury insurance?

- No
- Yes

19. Was the horse being held by a handler?

- No
- Yes, owner or client
- Yes, groom
- Yes, another farrier
- Yes, farrier apprentice
- Yes, vet
- Other (please specify)

20. Was the horse restrained at the time of injury? (please tick all that apply)

- No

- Yes, twitch
- Yes, bridle/chifney
- Yes, sedated (orally)
- Yes, (i/v)
- Other (please state)

21. Did this injury occur on a horse you had worked with previously?

- No
- Yes (move to question 23)

22. If no, were you made aware of previous behavioural problems during hoof care appointments?

- No
- Yes

23. Do you feel that the owner/client was honest with you prior to commencing hoof care?

- No
- Yes

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

- Misbehaviour
- Nervous (of farrier and/or hoof care process)
- Poor environment (uneven ground, mud, gravel, poor lighting, lack of space etc)
- Spook (by environment)
- Spook (by another animal or human)
- Poor handling
- Other (please specify)

25. How do you think this accident could have been avoided? (please tick all that apply)

- It was completely unavoidable
- Being pre-warned
- Better handling
- Better environment
- Restraint (bridle, twitch, chifney or other)
- Restraint (sedation, oral)
- Restraint (sedation, i/v)

26. Have you changed your practise as a result of this accident?

- No
- Yes

The following are questions that relate to minimising risk

27. Are you aware that the FRC Code of Conduct (2021) (section 24) states that '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.'

- No
- Yes

28. Prior to starting work for a new client do you provide a 'terms of business' agreement?

- No
- Yes

29. Prior to starting work for a new client, do you provide a terms of business agreement which asks the client to confirm whether the horse is known to be difficult during routine hoof care appointments?

- No
- Yes

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

- No
- Yes

31. Do you carry out a risk assessment prior to commencing work?

- No
- Yes

32. Do you wear personal protective equipment (PPE)? (please tick all that apply)

- Chaps
- Steel toe-capped boots
- Gloves
- Helmet
- Bump cap
- Body protector
- Other (please specify)

33. Do you have personal injury insurance?

- No
- Yes

34. Have you recommended to a client that a horse be sedated prior to you commencing hoof care?

- No (move to question 36)
- Yes, oral sedation
- Yes, i/v sedation

35. If yes, is your recommendation generally accepted?

- No
- Sometimes
- Yes, always

36. If the owner/client does not want the horse sedated, what was the main reason for the owner/client declining?

- Owner/client did not feel that it was necessary
- Owner/client did not want to incur additional cost

Owner/client did not want to call out the vet
Other (please specify)

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

- You continue to provide hoof care services
- You no longer provide hoof care services

38. Please use the space below to provide any further details you may wish to include:



Thank you for the time you have taken to include this survey. If you have any comments or questions regarding this or the campaign, please email claire@forgepr.co.uk or call 07747 602978.

Please return the completed survey by 1 April 2021

TO THANK YOU FOR THE TIME YOU HAVE TAKEN TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE, YOUR NAME WILL BE ENTERED INTO A PRIZE DRAW!

Stromsholm Farrier Supplies gave 10 bump hats - that offer protection against accidental bumping or scraping to the head whilst at work - to the first 10 questionnaire responses received, **AND**



All responses received will be entered into an additional prize draw to win.

- A pair of Silverback chaps
- Silverback Chaps bump cap
- A Farriers Foundation hat

OUR THANKS TO THESE BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SUPPORT

Take the Farriery Injury Survey >

- promote discussion
- raise awareness
- educate

REDUCE THE RISK

Injuries incurred whilst carrying out routine farriery can be devastating. These farriers kindly shared their shocking stories

Robbie Newton BSc (Hons) DipWCF

Robbie suffered a tripod fracture of the eye orbit and needed three plates fitted - two around the eye socket and one plate above the lip. This was an occasion when a horse he had shod for years lunged forward to bite at his apprentice just as Robbie went to pick up a hind leg to fit. Robbie was thrown 'out the back' and fell end-on to a security door that had swung open and wasn't pinned back to the wall.



The horse was known to be a biter, but considered 'fine once you were up close to it'. Robbie continued to shoe the horse for about 18 months after the accident. He was left with various scars and his short-term memory was affected.

Mark Aikens BSc (Hons) FdSc DipWCF

In 2011, Mark was attending the last client of the day to trim three Andalusians. The first horse to be worked on was a 4-year-old gelding that he had trimmed since it was a foal. The horse was being held by the owner.

As Mark picked up his hind foot to dress it on his knee, the horse suddenly kicked downward. Mark was unable to get his hand out of the way and in a split second his hand was trapped between the horse's foot and the floor. To make the situation worse, the horse picked up his other hind foot and pivoted, further crushing Mark's fingers.

Once freed Mark's finger was hanging down the back of his hand. On admission to hospital Mark underwent a seven-hour operation to reattach his index finger. It had sustained a multiple open fracture, damage to the ulnar digital artery and nerve, and both flexor and extensor tendons were severed. Following a two-week stay in hospital and attempts to reattach the finger, including seven days of leech therapy, the finger became necrotic and had to be amputated.

Mark was off work for eight weeks and received pain medication and physiotherapy. He gave himself time to get back into work steadily while learning to overcome the loss of his finger.



Oliver Mitchell BSc (Hons) FdSc DipWCF

Oli was called to a yard in Ainsworth, Lancashire, in May 2011 to shoe three show jumpers. The horses were not stabled at the yard but were only there for a lesson. The owners reportedly could not get hold of their own farrier.



The second horse he worked on was a 15hh, five-year-old mare that was reportedly good with the farrier! The owner took the horse into the wash box and cross tied it. It very soon became clear the horse was not good with the farrier. Oli had managed to trim all four feet and fit the shoes but when it came to nailing on, the horse's behaviour got worse. The decision was made that it would be safer to apply a twitch.

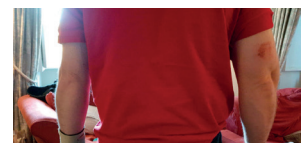
With the tool box at the front of the horse, Oli managed to nail-on. As he approached the front of the horse, he bent down under the cross ties to retrieve his box before clenching up; it is unclear why the horse snapped out of natural sedation, but it reared vertically. Oli instantly bent double and covered his head as the horse came down paddling its front feet and landed on his shoulders pulling him underneath itself. As it panicked and darted from side to side, Oli was flung about under its belly and legs. He remembers standing up before collapsing on the floor. He was taken to hospital by ambulance.

His injuries included a lost front tooth, a severed lateral nerve on his right leg, a cut to his eye, stitching to his hand; laceration to his stomach; a hoof print across his right collar bone, a bruised and very swollen right arm, and multiple cuts and bruises.

Ben Benson AWCF

In February 2019, Ben was shoeing a dressage stallion that he had shod since it was six. It was generally well behaved but had bitten members of staff, although these had been minor.

As Ben approached the horse to fit the final shoe - about four foot away - the horse flew at him teeth bared. Having the hot shoe in his fitting tongs in his right hand it bit his bent elbow, picked him up and shook him 'violently up and down in a explosive and violent attack'. He then swung Ben and dropped him causing him to land awkwardly on his left arm, breaking his wrist. As the horse's hind feet cantered on the spot between his arm and chest he managed to roll to safety. He was off work for about a four weeks before slowly getting back into work. His grip strength took a while to regain. Afterwards, he heard nothing from the owner.



Help is at hand



By Jonathan Nunn FWCF

The Farriers Foundation was founded in 2012 to support farriers and their families in times of hardship caused by ill health or injury.

As a co-founder of The Farriers Foundation, it was apparent to me that the number of injuries involving farriers was increasing. One of the Trust's first beneficiaries, in 2013, was Matt Allen who suffered a severe head trauma resulting from a kick from the hind foot of a horse. He suffered skull fractures and a brain injury that put him in a coma and led to a long period of rehabilitation. Our charity helped fund Matt's driving assessments to enable him to regain his driving license.

Thankfully Matt is doing well and after a very long period of convalescence he has returned to farriery. He was assessed as being fit to return to work in February - eight years after his injury occurred.

Unfortunately, it would seem that Matt has been one of a number of young farriers who have suffered a severe head or facial injury in recent years. We are increasingly concerned for the safety and welfare of farriers who are suffering injuries and find it difficult to understand why increasing dangers and risks of injury should be happening.

We are working closely with the BFBA to help support farriers and find ways of highlighting risks to farriers, while making horse owners aware of the importance of ensuring proper conditions and safety precautions are in place to ensure that farriers are kept safe at work. Lockdown Learning Farriery podcasts recently featured a discussion on the subject of equine safety and farrier safety, and we will be hoping to look into this subject and develop this further.

The Farriers Foundation will continue to provide help and assistance where necessary. If you are aware of someone who may require financial help or support, please visit our website.

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Kerckhaert Kings Plate competition

It seems incredible that nearly 12 months has passed since the first lockdown shortly after Cheltenham Festival last year. We are obviously pleased that racing recommenced but, at the time of writing, it is looking like we will be cheering on our runners this year from the comfort of our homes and not from the famous stands in Gloucestershire. We wish all our runners well and hope you all return safely. A new year, and new hope for a 'smoother' year ahead. 2020 has certainly been a challenging one!

Well done to our Kings Plate winners

Special congratulations to

★ **Adam Curtis** (Audarya) and **Toby Pedley's** (Glass Slippers) for their Breeders Cup winners, **Tom Hardy** for his two Group One winners in France (Gear Up & Subjectivist) and **John Benfield** following Bristol De Mai's third win in the Betfair Chase.



Tom Bougourd with Frodon

★ Ghaiyyath was crowned Cartier Horse of the Year following a superb Flat season which included wins in the Coronation Cup, Coral-Eclipse and Juddmonte International. Ghaiyyath wore Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound Plates and was shod by **Derek Poupard** and **Phil Brook** and trained by Charlie Appleby.

A few of our recent Kings Plate winners:

★ **Tom Bougourd** shod Politologue on his way to a record 11th victory for trainer Paul Nicholls when he won the Betfair Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown under Harry Skelton. Politologue was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound.

★ **Nada To Prada** won a Listed race at Haydock for trainer Michael Scudamore and jockey Richard Patrick. Shod by **Wesley Powell**, Nada To Prada was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound nailed on with the Liberty Secure Nails.

★ **Paisley Park** won the Long Walk for trainer Emma Lavelle and ridden by Aidan Coleman. Congratulations to **Quinlan Farriery Ltd** who shod Paisley Park with Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound nailed on with the Liberty nails.

★ **Frodon** won a terrific King George VI Chase. Trained by Paul Nicholls and ridden by Bryony Frost, **Frodon** is shod by Tom Bougourd and he was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound.

★ **Shan Blue**, shod by Spud Allison, Phill Smith and David Webley, won at Kempton. They shod Shan Blue, with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound and nailed on with the Liberty Carrera nails. Thank you to Horseshoe & Farrier Supplies (Midlands) Ltd for stocking the yard and the team with our Kings range.

★ **Mark Galliers** shod Silver Streak who won the Ladbrokes Christmas Hurdle at Kempton. Trained by Evan Williams and ridden by Adam Wedge, Silver Streak was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound nailed on with the Liberty Carrera Cu nails.



Following a further, consistent high-performing year, we are delighted to confirm **O'Shaughnessy Farriery** as the winner of the flat Kings Plate Competition. Ed will be taken to the Hoofcare Summit (when circumstances allow).

Huge congratulations to the whole team who had great success at the top level, especially with **Enable, Lord North, Nazeef, Palace Pier, Stradivarius & Mishriff**.

THE KERCKHAERT KINGS PLATE CHAMPIONSHIP

NATIONAL HUNT

Trainer	Prize money	Farrier
1 Paul Nicholls	£1,565,960.69	Tom Bougourd
2 Dan Skelton	£927,322.52	Spud Allison, Pip Smith & David Webley
3 Nicky Henderson	£780,896.55	Chapel Forge Farriers
4 Fergal O'Brien	£564,609.52	John Benfield
5 Nigel Twiston-Davies	£550,688.26	John Benfield

FLAT

Trainer	Prize money	Farrier
1 Mark Johnston	£130,953.77	Tom Hardy & Justin Landy
2 Michael Appleby	£129,152.50	Ed Dodd
3 Stuart Williams	£94,921.62	Motion Horse Farriery
4 Tony Carroll	£75,560.37	Adam Lane
5 Karl Burke	£75,322.66	Jason Gajczak & Jamie Fox

Correct at 8 February 2021

★ Bravemansgame scored an impressive victory in the MansionBet Challow Novices' Hurdle at Newbury for trainer Paul Nicholls, ridden by Harry Cobden. Shod by **Tom Bougourd**, Bravemansgame was wearing Kerckhaert Kings Super Sound.

★ Secret Reprieve, trained by Evan Williams and ridden by Adam Wedge, secured a superb victory in the Coral Welsh Grand National. Congratulations to **Mark Galliers** who shod Secret Reprieve with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound, nailed on with the Liberty Carrera Cu nails.

★ Adagio secured a Grade 1 for trainer David Pipe in the Finale Juvenile Hurdle at Chepstow. Farrier **Kevin Hollis** shod Adagio with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound, nailed on with the Liberty ASV 1 ¾ nails. He was ridden by Tom Scudamore.

★ First Flow beat Politologue in the Clarence House Chase. First Flow was trained by Kim Bailey and ridden by David Bass. Farrier **Andy Martin** shod First Flow with Kerckhaert Kings Extra Sound, nailed on with Liberty nails.



Dave Webley

GET IN TOUCH!

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Efficacy test on polyester casting tape application

By Jeff Newnham, managing director, Pro-Glu



As we are not currently able to hold hands-on clinics or demonstrations, I have been presenting weekly Facebook live events. The purpose of my presentation on 30 January – my 35th – was to talk about the results of a short series of tests carried out on using casting tape on hooves.

Casting tape is usually either polyester or fibreglass impregnated with a water-activated one-part polyurethane (PU) adhesive. For this reason, the tape is packaged in airtight aluminium pouches.

I hoped the results would provide guidance on how to achieve good, repeatable outcomes.

After watching many tutorials online, I wasn't surprised that many farriers shy away from using casting tape. It appears that every farrier has their own method of application they have found that works for them – possibly after many (expensive) failures.

These tests were not without their variables and in no way should be seen as conclusive or 'the only way'.

With many adhesives available, I carried out this trial using Pro-Glu A9020 as the MMA (methyl methacrylate) and



	Casting tape	Pro-Glu A9020	Pro-Glu U6020
Wet tongue depressor	**	–	–
Dry tongue depressor Wet casting tape	***	***	**
Dry tongue depressor Dry casting tape	*	***	***
Dry tongue depressor Wet casting tape post glueing	–	*****	***
Wet tongue depressor Dry casting tape	–	***	***

The outright winner of the trial was Pro-Glu A9020 applied to a dry tongue depressor, wrapped with a dry casting tape and then wetted

Pro-Glu U6020 as the PU. I used Pro-Glu 3" polyester casting tape. The air temperature was a constant 17°C. The water temperature was 12°C. Standard wooden tongue depressors were used on all tests.

The tests were set out to illustrate the efficacy of bonding two tongue depressors using casting tape with either no water, water, MMA, PU or a combination.

A * rating system was used, with 5* being the highest/best result.

Test results were performed on Facebook Live Broadcast 30 January 2021, with attendees rating the results. It can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/600184194/videos/10158190908439195/>

Conclusion

These results have a huge caveat inasmuch as the trial included only one type of tape, one type of MMA and PU, and each test was performed only once. But they are a great starting point for discussion!

IN BRIEF. BUSINESS AWARDS

Finalists for the 2021 BETA Business Awards that recognise and reward the outstanding achievements of individuals and companies in the equestrian industry, have been announced.

BETA executive director Claire Williams, said: 'We have had a huge number of nominations, which really shows that in times like these, members of our industry are keen to rally and support one another.'

One of the awards is the TSM Marketing Effectiveness Award – recognising effective communications and the increased value a company's marketing campaign has brought to its brands. The nominees for this award include **Horslyx/Caltech**, based in Wigton, Cumbria.

The winners will be announced in an online ceremony at 4 pm on Thursday 11 March.



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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





@apprenticefarrier

This award celebrates the apprentices who have 'gone the extra mile' to be nominated by their tutors and recognised for their efforts. They may have had a particularly successful college attendance or made exceptional progress since their last attendance. Winners receive a Stromsholm voucher and certificate.

Our congratulations to:

WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE

George Hayter (43L) ATF Mr J Hayter 'for putting in effort over and above for his theory work'.

Jordan Vaughan (42L) ATF Mr W O'Shaughnessy 'for good work and effort towards his farriery studies'.

HEREFORD COLLEGE

Ross Johnstone (43L) ATF Mr B Benson AWCF 'for overall improvement and an A grade for his skill over the course of the block'.

Aled True (42L) ATF Mr G Thomas DipWCF 'for overall engagement and progression in all aspects during block 5'.



Aled True



George Hayter



Jordan Vaughan



Ross Johnstone

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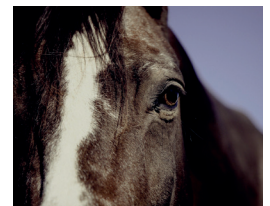
IN BRIEF. Scotland's Rural College invests in a new Aberdeen equine centre

Horse enthusiasts, students and the Scottish equine industry are to benefit from a new centre for equine skills at Scotland's Rural College (SRUC).

SRUC is investing £310,000 to create new stabling for up to six horses, a ménage, equipment store and supporting facilities for students at its Craibstone campus in Aberdeen. The SRUC Aberdeen Equine Centre will create new opportunities for students to learn practical skills.

It is expected that the centre will be completed by the end of this summer, in time for the arrival of the first cohort of students on the HNC/HND Equine Studies courses.

The new HNC course gives students practical experience and knowledge of horse care and riding, while the new HND course provides additional experience and knowledge in management within the equine industry. Equine studies students will have the opportunity to progress on to degree courses such as Veterinary Nursing or Rural Business Management. The new equine centre will also offer additional opportunities for animal care students.



Despite COVID-19, the graduate diploma farriers approach the end of their course

Who would have expected 2020 to be quite the year that it turned out be? As with all types of education, the Royal Veterinary Colleges' (RVC) Graduate Diploma carried on throughout, albeit with some changes, explains Daniel Harman AWCF.

The last update I gave followed the biomechanics and orthopaedics residential module in October 2019.

In November of that year, we attended the RVC for the 'critical evaluation of scientific literature' weekend. At this point the majority of us had some idea of what our own study would be.

We were taught how to source and select current literature appropriate to our own study and learn the hierarchy of evidence-based veterinary medicine/farriery. Learning how to critically evaluate scientific papers is a skill in itself, I found it very challenging to find relevant papers and then evaluate their credibility.

Luckily when writing scientific papers there is software that can assist you, Mendeley is the one that we were taught to use. Mendeley allows you to categorise and store relevant research papers, the software will add the citations and bibliography for you when referencing the papers in your write up.

This module assessment was to produce a 1500-word literature review, based on our own project idea.

We all passed this module and at the beginning of March 2020 moved on to the 'study design and equine locomotor



assessment methods' residential weekend, held at the RVC.

During this weekend we were taught the skills of how to design our clinical research study and use the appropriate assessment methodology. The study design had to include:

- The background of your study – ie, why you want study this, what is already written and, more importantly, what is not already written.



Data collection in progress



- Your aims, objectives and hypothesis – ie, what you plan to do and what exact questions are you asking of the study and want answers for.
- Method and materials – this describes how to plan and execute your study
- Timeline – how long your study is likely to take, this is divided into each element of your study.
- Ethical considerations – we needed to apply to the Clinical Research Ethical Review Board (CRERB) for permission to undertake our study. The board check to make sure that your study is safe and meets ethical standards.

The module assessment was to produce our own 1500-word study design to successfully move onto the next module.

Then the Covid-19 pandemic hit, which meant the RVC was closed to students and the 'structure and motion lab' that many of us were relying on was not available. Some projects were also affected by the national lockdown's general movement and social distancing restrictions. As a result, a couple of our cohort chose to defer their project to a later date.

The penultimate module, 'data processing and statistics' took place remotely in November. At this stage three students joined us from previous UK and US cohorts.

This module is considered by previous students to be the most difficult and would become more challenging by being

held over a zoom meeting. In advance of the zoom weekend we were given a series of pre-recorded lectures. Each lecture concentrated on analysing data, drawing conclusions from it and sharing the results through scientific reports.

We were taught how to use Excel to produce spreadsheets and analyse data through a software called SPSS. The lectures covered dealing with variables (factors within the study), producing graphs and charts, calculating summary statistics ie, mean and median, and some different statistical tests that we may opt to use in our own study. On the actual weekend we were split into two groups and given sample datasets to analyse and write up the results.

Our module assessment was to analyse a sample dataset and write-up the methods and results in accepted scientific format.

Personally, I am at the stage of my study where I have collected and analysed my data and whilst I sit here off from work with a fractured foot, I have the task of writing up my final paper.

We had hoped that our final residential weekend in February 2021 could be held in person, but this was not the case. Having completed our research projects, we would now have to present them online – just another challenge to overcome. The deadline for submitting our final papers is this month.

HISTORY

20 years on from foot-and-mouth

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) was discovered at an Essex abattoir on 19 February 2001 and the highly infectious disease quickly spread across the UK.

The disease, which mainly affected cattle, pigs, sheep and goats, plunged the agricultural industry into its worst crisis for decades – an economic and social disaster for large parts of Britain.

There was a total of 2000 cases of FMD – each one meant a farm having its livestock killed. But the culling policy saw not just the animals on affected farms killed, but also the killing of animals in the surrounding area.

By the time the last case was confirmed on 30 September, more than six million sheep, cattle and pigs had been slaughtered.

For a special feature in the June 2001 issue of Forge, we spoke to farriers **Derek Gardner** in Cumbria, **David Gulley** in Leicestershire, **Mark Preece** on the Devon/Cornwall border and **Malcolm Tribe** in Devon.

Derek explained that while he would normally have been busy shoeing, instead he was working with the squads of contractors employed to deal with the carcasses of farm animals.

The countryside was closed – nobody wanted to leave their land or to have other people coming onto it for fear of spreading disease. He said that the majority of horses had been turned away and in some cases, their shoes were just allowed to drop off.

The whole of Leicestershire had been declared an infected area, the livestock market was closed and the Gulley team was 70% down on work.

In his 24 years as a farrier, Mark Preece said he had never experienced anything like the restrictions imposed by FMD. His work had reduced by 40% but he still felt lucky compared to others.

In Devon, Malcolm Tribe said that during the first few weeks of FMD, the phone barely stopped ringing with people cancelling appointments – many of his clients' horses were kept alongside livestock, which put them out of bounds.

Bridleways and open spaces were closed, and agricultural shows and events cancelled: FMD even delayed the General Election.

Farriers in Surrey – the home of the then NAFBAE president David Collister – were also affected, despite remaining FMD-free.



George Hiles / Unsplash

Empty fells – one legacy of FMD

The crisis is said to have cost the UK £8 billion. The last cull took place in January 2002 and restrictions on livestock movement continued into 2002.

As for lessons learned from 2001 – a total ban on the feeding of catering waste containing meat or meat products was introduced. Other recommendations for change related to the improvement of contingency plans, reassessing the possible use of emergency vaccination, better animal identification and movement controls, carcase disposal, communications and data handling.

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In the March issue of *Forge Knowledge*

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

'Hoof mapping - guide or rule? The accuracy of using external landmarks to localise internal structures in the equine hoof was a study undertaken by **Grant Moon FWCF** for his fellowship thesis.

His aim was to determine the accuracy of using external landmarks on the solear surface of the hoof capsule as part of a specific hoof trimming protocol to localise anatomical structures within the equine hoof. It was hypothesised that external landmarks would be accurate enough to provide an estimation of the position of key anatomical parameters in everyday practice.

One-hundred cadaver hooves were used in this study with computed tomography scanning performed before and

after trimming had been completed. A hoof map was used to standardise the trimming in a collaborative study with Jonathan Nunn FWCF. The soles and frogs of the hooves were trimmed in accordance with a trimming for the application of a shoe and all trimming was performed by the same farrier.

Grant discusses his study, its findings and presents his conclusions.



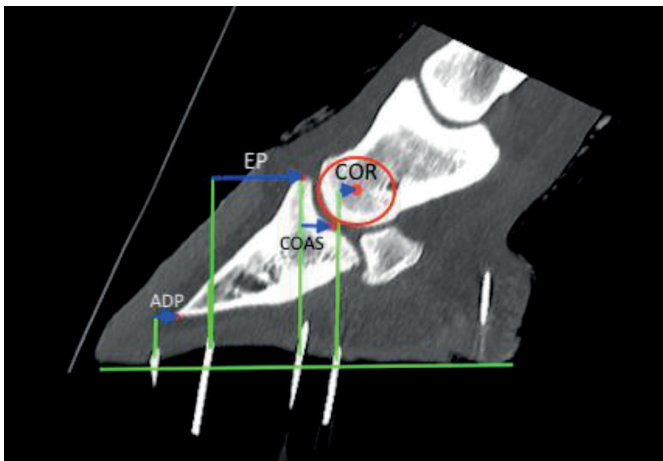
Case report

Newmarket farrier **William Mulqueen DipWCF** works mainly with racehorses. He explains how both trainers and horses have targets and aims for the season, so once horses are in training there is little opportunity for farriers to try new solutions for farriery issues.

In his case report, William describes the challenge he faced with a horse that he said has 'all the hoof characteristics that most farriers expect to see in a Thoroughbred racehorse - thin soles, thin walls, low heels and a slightly long toe. It presented with a lot of bruising and discolouration to the sole of the hoof, leading to evidence of trauma (bruising).'

At this point in the horse's training, it wasn't far off being entered for a race, which meant he needed to find a shoeing solution that would suit the horse's training and racing demands.

Given three days by the trainer to fix the problem, he describes in words and pictures how he approached shoeing this horse.





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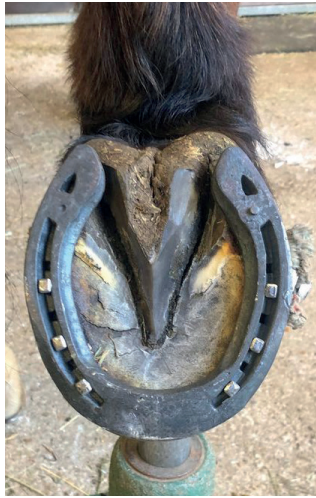
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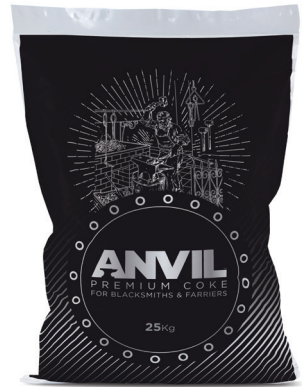
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EQUINE HEALTH

Evidence shows traditional frequent worming is unnecessary

New research from equine parasitologist Dr Martin Nielsen at the Gluck Equine Research Center in Kentucky has provided more evidence to show that reducing de-worming intensity doesn't have any adverse health risks on horses. His work confirms that the traditional approach of frequent routine de-worming at pre-determined intervals, without the use of diagnostic testing is unnecessary.

'Internal parasites, predominantly strongyles and ascarids, are omnipresent at equine yards,' said Dr Nielsen. 'But a persistent growing resistance to the anthelmintics we have available is challenging us to find more sustainable and yet effective parasite control programmes.'

'De-worming every six to eight weeks and rotating between products is still very common around the world but this sort of carpet bombing is completely unnecessary and drug rotation does not prevent drug resistance,' Dr Nielsen continued. 'Many people are not comfortable with de-worming less frequently, thinking it will compromise horse health, but our study shows that this is not the case; no adverse health effects were seen that could be ascribed to scaling down de-worming intensity.'



The study, involving 99 mares and 93 foals at four stud-farms in New Zealand, evaluated the worm egg count levels, bodyweight and equine health of groups of mares and foals under different parasite control protocols. These included traditional approaches with frequent de-worming and drug rotation, as well as the currently recommended protocols involving less de-worming and more surveillance and worm egg counts.

David Rendle, Chair of BEVA's Health and Medicines Committee said: 'This study provides further evidence to show that there is no justification for the traditional approach of calendar-based routine treatment and gives further reassurance that the frequency of treatment can be reduced without detriment to equine health or development of youngstock.'

'Spreading this information will hopefully encourage any horse owners who have not done so already to change from their old-fashioned habits of frequent de-worming, to a diagnostic test-led, or at least a more strategic approach with routine drug-resistance testing.'

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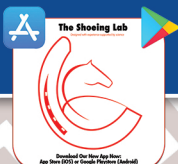
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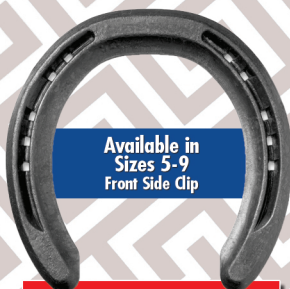
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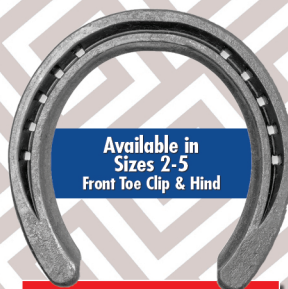


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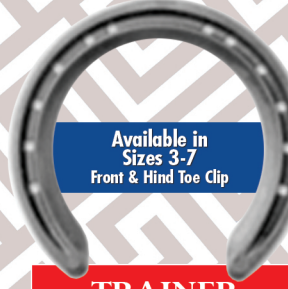
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Henry Middleton launches farriery business in Oxfordshire

Henry Middleton's love of horses and strong desire to keep rural craftsmanship skills alive led him to embark on a career in farriery. After training with Karn Herbert in Berkshire, supported by a QEST Dulverton Trust Apprenticeship, Henry has now completed his training and he recently launched his new business, Middleton Farriery.



With his new business, Henry will be working across Oxfordshire and the surrounding areas, providing a high quality, reliable service to meet each horse's needs and keeping the true rural craft of farriery alive.

Henry gained a wealth of knowledge concerning routine, corrective and remedial shoeing during his apprenticeship with Karn, and gained experience working with High Goal Polo Teams, race horses, grand prix dressage and show jumpers, as well as recreational horses, ponies and donkeys. He was also awarded the Diploma of the Worshipful Company of Farriers.

During his training, Henry focused on mastering the traditional techniques that are essential in farriery. 'Shoeing horses has happened for hundreds of years and it is the true age-old skills of making and fitting bespoke shoes to individual horses that are vital to maintain and care for their feet,' he explains.

'I would like to continue this age-old skillset whilst also bringing a further dimension to the farriery business, with a focus on the remedial side. This specialist area uses modern materials and methods, combined with the traditional skills required to make adequate shoes, in order to serve the complex veterinary anatomical problems associated with horses. This method of shoeing can only be done by hand and keeps the old skills alive, with a modern direction.'



The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) offers scholarships of up to £18,000 for the training and education of talented craftspeople. It sustains vital skills in traditional and contemporary crafts and contributes to excellence in the British craft industry.

Who can apply?

Scholarships fund the education and training of any individual UK resident, aged 18 or older, who would like to improve their craft skills. Applications are welcomed from talented craftspeople, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or nationality.

What does it fund?

QEST funds traditional college courses, vocational training or one to one training with a master craftsman. It encourages applications from a broad range of crafts. In addition to training costs, it can cover costs directly related to training such as transport, equipment, materials and accommodation as long as it is proportionate to the grant request.

Next steps

QEST is open for applications twice a year, in January and July.

If you are unsure about applying or have any questions, contact QEST. Members of the team are more than happy to answer queries and support any access needs.

IN BRIEF. STEEL INDUSTRY NEWS

BHP, which is among the world's top producers of major commodities, including iron ore, metallurgical coal and copper, released its half year results on 16 February 2021.

Mike Henry, Chief Executive Officer, and David Lamont, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the Company's operating and financial performance.

'BHP has delivered a strong set of results. Our continued delivery of reliable operational performance during the half supported record production at Western Australia Iron Ore and record concentrator throughput at Escondida.

Our operations generated robust cash flows, return on capital employed increased to 24 per cent and our balance

sheet remains strong with net debt at the bottom of our target range. The Board has announced a record half year dividend of US\$1.01 per share, bringing BHP's shareholder returns to more than US\$30 billion over the past three years.

BHP has more than 80,000 employees and contractors, primarily in Australia and the Americas.



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