

Pony Club News



The Hong Kong Pony Club Newsletter, May 2007

It has been a busy few months for Pony Club and I feel we have achieved a lot. Since January, we have had ongoing D, D+ and C rallies in Tuen Mun, Pokfulam, Lei Yue Mun and Lo Wu. To all of you who have been attending these rallies and to those who have passed their test 'congratulations'. These rallies cannot run without the help of Instructors. My thanks to Jo Eling, Joelle Scott, Helen Norton, Therese Hederby and Annie Ho.



We have had a lot of fun at the various events held in recent months. In February we had mounted games at Tuen Mun, and I am delighted to say we had great support for this, both from pony club members and their parents, with over 50 people in attendance. March saw us at Lo Wu for a BBQ and an evening of unmounted games. From tacking up a 'pseudo' horse, to a crop relay race for children and parents, to a clear round jumping competition for the children, we had lots of fun. Thanks to Pippa Hatton and her team for allowing us the use of Lo Wu.

April saw Pony Club at Happy Valley as part of the carnival that was organized by HKEF. Pony Club did Fancy Dress, Mounted Games and had a Pony Club booth. This was an amazing experience and for some of the children who had a chance to ride on the actual track, well, check out the photographs in this newsletter, they say it all. My thanks to HKEF for inviting Pony Club to be part of this.

April also saw a 3-day camp at Tuen Mun. Attended by 48 pony clubbers, the day started with mucking out at 8am, and ended with a yard inspection at 6pm. In between we did lots of riding, stable management, road safety lectures, course building and much, much more. The last day of camp saw a 'Chase Me Charlie' competition where the children jump an ever-increasing height until you are left with a winner. In the older groups (age 12 to 14) we stopped the height at 1.05m as my heart could not take the strain any longer, and



most of them were still jumping it clear!!!! To Gina Porter and her team, 'thank you' for the use of Tuen Mun.

This will be our last Newsletter before the summer break. May I wish you all a pleasant and happy summer wherever you are, and safe riding.

Mildred Gannon
District Commissioner

Meet your fellow Pony Clubbers

Sara Devereux

Hi, my name is Sara Devereux. I've been riding for 8 and half years. I started riding when I was 4, so I'm 12 now. My favorite pony is Flynn!!!! I am currently riding at Pokfulam Public Riding Stables. My instructor is Peta.

When I was riding Flynn in the inter-school competition, I came first in dressage. I got given my rosette and was cantering around the arena for my victory lap. A boy jumped off a stand and spooked Flynn. I fell off (During MY victory lap!!). How embarrassing!!! I was the laughing stock on the bus, all the way back to school.



Starting low...

...and getting higher....



...and higher, and higher...

...still looking good... ...until finally...Oops!

Would you like to be featured on our 'Meet your fellow Pony Clubbers' page? Write about your riding experiences, and e-mail your article to Heather at newsletter@hongkongponyclub.com. The kinds of things we'd like to hear about are:- Where do you ride? Who are your favourite ponies? What was your best riding experience? What was your most embarrassing or funniest riding experience? Don't forget to give us a photo of yourself!

What's the quickest way to mail a little horse?
Use the Pony Express.



Thanks to
Andrea
Leung
for pony
jokes.

Instructor Top Tips

Rebecca Bugg



How long have you been an instructor in Hong Kong, and at which stable?

1999 - 2003 on and off; back here since March at Tuen Mun and Lei Yu Mun stables.

Where did you learn to ride, and how old were you when you started learning?

In the U.K., starting when I was 7 years old.

Who is your horse now, and what is he like?

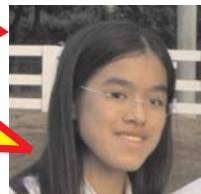
Fortune Boy, C378, who is a 16.2 hh chestnut gelding with a white face.

What do you like to do in Riding Shows?

Training young horses rather than going for big prizes

Rebecca's Top Tip

Read as many horsey books as you can to gain knowledge, and don't be afraid to try something new.



Rebecca was interviewed by Cheryl Chan and Sum Sze Tam



How long have you been an instructor in Hong Kong, and at which stable?

For 1 month, at Tuen Mun, and Beas River.

Where did you learn to ride, and how old were you when you started learning?

In Germany, when I was 12 years old.

Who was your favourite pony when you were learning to ride, and why?

A grey called Santiago, because he was pretty, and he was great to ride and learn from.

Who do you ride now, and what is he like?

I ride Star of Northern, a bay, and Tango, a real big bay.

What do you like to do in Riding Shows?

Dressage.

Julia Gamp



Julia was interviewed by Fabienne Chiang

Julia's Top Tip

Viel unterrichtet bei guten Ausbildern nehmen, viele verschiedene Pferde reiten und viel lesen.

(Which means: Take a lot of lessons with good instructors, ride many different ponies, and read a lot on horse theory.)

Pony Club Reporters

Equestrian Carnival at Happy Valley



Hi Everybody! I'm called [Kwan Yee Ng](#). I'm 9 years old and I've started riding since I was 6. My favourite ponies are Fortune, Myara and Honeydew. I'm not sure, maybe I like Polly. You might think I'm crazy but I'm not. I won't be surprised if any showjumper mistook Polly and got her to jump again when she soared over the fence perfectly!!!

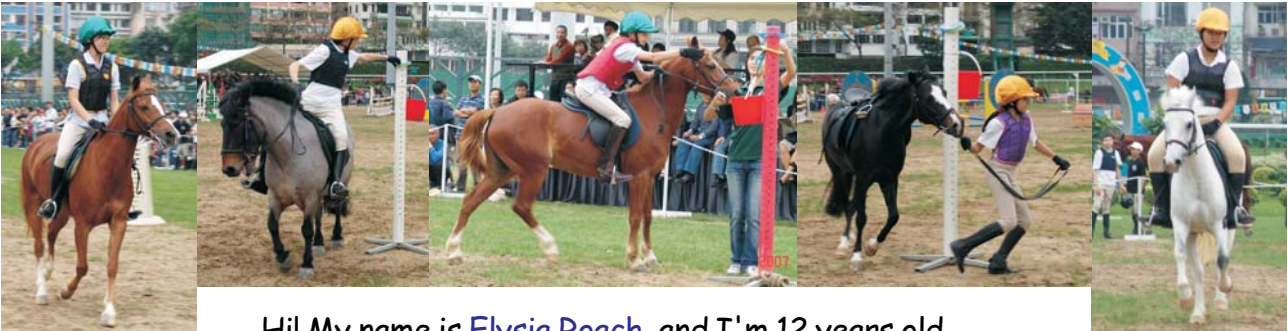
Anyway down to the HKEF Carnival, I was riding Harry (PATHETIC!) and I nearly fell off when he reared! I was in the fancy-dress parade as a tribal hunter and went third! (Note: I found out that the more feathers you had, the easier it was for you to win. I had six, too bad! And the winners had feathers all over them!)

I was on the T.V. and in the newspaper! I was drop-dead embarrassed when they rushed over and interviewed me! By the way, the people there weren't exactly nice. Some Middle Asian children were throwing shreds of hay at Spot while I was feeding him carrots. I only had three and was on to my last when they marched over and told me to give them one. And when I refused, they said an even ruder phrase! But, since they were the only ones who were 'rude' (put in the mild way), I had a glamorous day!!!

Love, Kwan Yee



Pony Club Reporters



Hi! My name is [Elysia Roach](#), and I'm 12 years old.

On April 8th, 2007, we went to the Happy Valley race track to participate in an Equestrian Carnival. I was to compete in the Mounted Games on Harry. He is a very tiny grey pony, very cute, but very lazy. I was in group Green, in the 1st round, I was with Stephanie, and in the second round, I was with Dominique.

When we arrived, we waited for a while because the younger kids were doing Fancy Dress Parade first on the ponies. After, we hopped on and started the games. I was expecting Harry to not move, but clearly, I was wrong. He wanted to take off, buck, and do all this naughty stuff...he even tried to rear! I was amazed; he was usually the pony that doesn't move at all. Once, when I was going in canter to the far end, he tried to buck, but I kept my reins short. Every stride he bucked, so it felt like he was a rocking horse. It was so funny! It also felt really weird. But, I prefer the naughty Harry to the non-moving one.



I remember on the practice, we could ride the ponies on the race track to get to the field. But, we were being led. I wish that we could have a mini race along one side of the race track. I bet that it would be really fun if we did that. But you don't really get a lot of opportunities to ride on the race track. So I guess that we were lucky to at least walk on it horse-back. It was still fun though!

I really enjoyed this gymkhana. Pony Club haven't done something like this in a long time. Something different once in a while is really fun. I personally think that Pony Club should do more of these things! Thank You Mildred for organizing this exciting event! It was very fun!



Pony Club Reporters

Easter Camp at Tuen Mun



Clinton Whyte writes: I would like to thank you all for making this year's Easter camp a great camp. I was sorry that the camp had to end so soon. Maybe next time you could ask the schools to give us kids longer holidays so we could spend more time at Tuen Mun.

I know that you were very busy at camp so may not have seen everything that we got up to. Here are some highlights in case you missed out on the Pelham B performance.

Day 1 The road safety ride was new, as in Hong Kong there is little chance to ride your horse on a road. I think that only people using one horse power should be allowed on the road. When we went into the lychee garden and cantered and it took me 2 minutes and several circuits of the garden to slow down Carrington to trot and then another 2 rounds to get him to walk. I think that the horses were enjoying themselves just as much as us.

Day 2 When we finished our jumping lesson and had dismounted, Five Star Shining began rubbing his head on my protector and he didn't stop for a long time (He must have been really itchy or he thought he needed my fibre in his diet!.) He finally stopped and I got him back to his box. But my protector was so covered in black hairs it looked like it was me who needed grooming... Also on that day Hin Ngai had a hard time with Flynn. After he had cleaned Flynn's box. Flynn decided to go to the toilet and he had to clean it out all over again. He wasn't too happy about that (Hin Ngai I mean).



Pony Club Reporters

Day 3 for me was probably the best day in the camp. Even mucking out was fun. The Chase Me Charlie competition was the most satisfying part of the camp, because my horse and me made a good team and especially because we succeeded in jumping 105cm. Maybe next time even higher.

Thank you for everything you have done in this camp. To me it has been the best camp so far as I had a great horse, great friends, and a great time. What I learned at camp will also be a help to me as I prepare for my C test. Once again a saddle bag full of thanks to both you and your assistants. My mind is already galloping forward to the next camp.



The BEST THING about camp was.....

Having fun with all my friends and the horses. Jumping 1.05 metres. Riding and learning to tack-up. The second day. Always having fun with friends. Road safety was really interesting as I've never ridden on the road. Lunch. My pony - I love my pony so-o much! Having fun with friends and riding. Riding twice a day EVERY day. Jumping higher than I ever did before. Being with my best friends all day. Chase-Me-Charlie. Learning things we don't do in normal riding lessons, like course-building. Getting a big shiny trophy and a rosette. Everything - camp really rox!!!

The WORST THING about camp was.....

Being so hot. Fishing Lisle's bit out of the drain when it fell in during tack-cleaning. My partner was really annoying. When the poo bag burst and we had to shovel it all up all over again. The end of the last day of camp. Being smushed by Flinger. My Mum was there all the time. As soon as I mucked out the stall, my pony went to the toilet again. Was there a worst thing? My pony kept rolling every time he got bored. Going home. Having to wait 6 months for another camp - we should have camp every month!



Pony Club Reporters

Unmounted Games at Lo Wu

Kelly Anderson writes: The un-mounted Pony Club Event was a blast. It started off with a barbeque where everyone was able to meet each other before the games started. We were then put into groups of four, with some young and some a little older.



The first game was putting a whole bridle together from scratch, then tacking up and putting boots on the horse. I must say its sounds easier than it was, and there was a lot of laughing going on! The next game was very entertaining: the teams had a relay where the person had to run around a dressage letter at the other end of the paddock carrying a whip, then passing it to the next team member before they



could go. There was a little brother and sister competition going on as well, as my brother and I were on different teams, so when we went last for our teams there was a lot of cheering going on. My team won that one as we all had very good whip changes and everyone had fun and supported each other.

The next event was similar except some adults joined us, one adult in each team. We also mixed teams as I moved to Dominique and Elysia's team who were both very enthusiastic. Nick Rodgers, Robin Kilroy were just two of the adults who joined us. As we got prepared, our teams took their shoes off: I saw Nick take his shoes off too. Again there was lots of cheering as the adults went first and everyone cheered each other on. We then did a theory event where we had to name the parts of the body of a horse, which was very tricky, and we all ended up begging the parents. Later we had to plait a tail and bandage a horse's tail on either end of the pole.



Lastly we had a jumping competing where we had to jump over, slide under and run in and out of obstacles to try to get the fastest time. We all did our best, some more scared about being able to fit under the small gap or scared about the pole falling on our heads. After everyone had finished their rounds, the results ended up as a tie: my brother and I had the exact same times: after a very competitive jump off and many tense seconds for the both of us, we ended up with a dead tie so we shared first prize.



I have to say the thing I enjoyed most about the night was everything: the events, being able to get to know other riders and for us to be able to cheer on our team members; also, for me, being able to see how many young enthusiastic riders took part. It was the best and I hope there will be more games in the future. Thanks to Mildred, Pippa and everyone who helped to organise a GREAT night!!!

Pony Club Word Search

Can you find the names of these ponies & horses hidden in the square below?

| | | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|---------|----------|-------------------|
| Sky | Harry | Tricky | Flight | Charade | Olympic Dreamer |
| Hal | Diago | Amber | Image | Fortune | Five Star Shining |
| Polly | Flynn | Tonto | Flinger | Sun Ray | Carrington |
| Cody | Dove | Spike | Malaki | Raggerty | Vitality Star |

F Y T A B O T N O T M T C N H C A G O L
 L A S G D R E W A V K H U M V C D J O A
 S R E B M A A B F R A S I T R Y Z O G S
 R N S G T Y N V A R S K V K F A F G A S
 U U U M V E W J A H A D S Q R Y N A W B
 I S G O N R D D G L L R T Y E I Q I D E
 X R T Y U I E O A I O P A S N D F D H J
 A L K J H V Z M L M N B V I U C X Z D F
 Q G Y T O E H L A D S F H Q T A E U J L
 A F W D A R H N H E V S P F R Y L L O P
 C D R W N U M O P U R A S V O S F N T C
 R C V T D S A R H A R D I P F S A V O L
 E S S A L G V X T B S G C A P R K E W Y
 G G L X I M N S V L S A C I N F D Y G N
 N A A R D X E Y S J R A K N P S F A W R
 I C Y M Y V T M W R L E P H M M L D B U
 L G H V I T A L I T Y S T A R A Y J B F
 F U F F B Q S N A B Y F J R S T N L X C
 B L B S I H G M B C K J K R L H N G O V
 G V I F H T J D A R V J D Y S F R D P L
 T Y N G O G Y A E Z S C U I L M Y Y G H
 R C G N H C B H R D F E A Z X U O P L Y
 D S Y R U T R I C K Y T R E G G A R K H
 F C B H U K I L E R C T Y N D S H U K L



Thanks to Andreas Wong
for designing this Word Search

- Q What kind of horse walks around at midnight?
 A A Nightmare!!
- Q What breed of horse can jump higher than a house?
 A All breeds. Houses don't jump.
- Q What does it mean if you find a horse shoe?
 A Some poor horse is walking around in his socks.
- Q What is the best type of story to tell a runaway horse?
 A A tale of WHOA!



Thanks to Andrea
Leung for pony jokes

Dates For Your Diary: Upcoming Pony Club Events

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| MAY | Saturday 19 th | Cone Scurry & Treasure Hunt |
| JUNE | Saturday 23 rd | BBQ, Disco & Games for all the family |
| JULY/AUGUST | | SUMMER BREAK |
| SEPTEMBER | Saturday 22 nd | Welcome-back evening & Mounted Games |
| | Saturday 29 th - Oct 1 st | Non-residential Pony Camp at Tuen Mun |
| OCTOBER | date t.b.c. | THE RAGGERTY BALL |
| NOVEMBER | Saturday 24 th | Unmounted Games |
| DECEMBER | date t.b.c. | Pony Club Xmas Show/Carol singing |

This provisional schedule may be subject to change. The finalised details of each event will be sent to you by e-mail and posted on Pony Club boards at Riding Stables.

Check out the new Pony Club website!

Thanks to Steve at Flying Tiger Web Design for our new-look website. Log-in to the members' area at www.hongkongponyclub.com to see lots of photos of recent Pony Club events, post messages to your fellow Pony Clubbers and vote for your favourite pony.

Your log-in name for the members' area is your e-mail address. (If you have changed your e-mail address since joining Pony Club, don't forget to let Canney know). Your password will be sent to you by e-mail. Once you have logged in to the members' area, you can change your password to one of your own choice.

Non-Residential Pony Camp

The next Pony Club Camp will be held from Saturday September 29th to Monday October 1st at Tuen Mun Riding Stables. Bookings open on September 1st, and must be submitted using the camp booking form, which will be sent out to members by e-mail on the evening of August 31st. To be fair to all Pony Clubbers, bookings not submitted on the camp form and bookings submitted before September 1st cannot be accepted.

Pony Club Tests

Congratulations to the following Pony Clubbers, who have passed their tests recently:

D test: Emily Cheng, Jocelyn Choy, Andrea Leung, Kieran Cheng, Lottie Farrar, Shirley Lee, Camille Montagne, Elaina Cayrouse, Mia Shaw, Allie Brown, Mizuki Toyoda, Samantha Yih, Olivia Adams, Kristy Fong, Imogen Howarth, Jennifer Wright.

D+ test: Antonia Chan, Denise Chan, Kieran Cheng, Sara Devereux, Shirley Lee, Olivia Norton, Lauren Tang, Natalie Luk, Maddy Cinnamon, Pias Tang, Joyce Chow, Joss Fleischer-Ballard.

Good-luck to all those Pony Clubbers who will be taking tests in the next few weeks!

THE RAGGERTY BALL

We are delighted to invite all Pony Clubbers to bring their family and friends to the first ever Pony Club Ball, to be held in the coming October. Dress up in any mixture of party clothes and riding gear, and dance the night away. Profits will be used for the benefit of our Hong Kong ponies. Details will be available after the summer break.

Inter-Pacific Exchange

Wishing Francis, Jah Ying, Ching and Joyce the best of luck at the IPE in July. Go girls, and do us all proud!

Pony Club D Rallies and Test

These D Rallies will be held at Lo Wu Saddle Club with instructor Ms. Helen Norton. The fee is \$120 per rally and \$150 for the test: 8 places are available. You must complete all rallies before you can take your test. Please contact Canney if you would like to register.

Rally 1: 20 May (Sun) 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Rally 2: 24 May (Thur) 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Rally 3: 27 May (Sun) 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Rally 4: 10 June (Sun) 1:30-3:00 p.m.

D Test (Stable Management & Riding)

17 June (Sun) 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Quick Quiz

1. What is a good bedding for horses with dust allergies?

- a) Cotton wool b) Vegetable peelings c) Saw dust d) Paper shavings

2. Thatching is putting straw under your horse's rug; when would you do this?

- a) When the horse is filthy & you don't want to groom b) When the horse is wet
c) When your rug is dirty d) When the horse chews his rug

3. What is the space between a horse's ears called?

- a) The Croup b) The Stifle c) The Poll d) The Ergot

4. What is a hackamore?

- a) Someone who rides their horse on very long hacks b) A bitless bridle
c) A type of horse d) A place where hacks can graze

5. The fetlock is:

- a) Part of the mane b) A blacksmith's tool
c) A joint on the leg of a horse d) A type of feed

6. What is a numnah?

- a) A cloth or pad put under the saddle b) A type of rug
c) What you get after riding for hours on end d) An eastern saddle

(Answers on the next page)

...Classifieds...Classifieds...Classifieds...Classifieds...

Merchandise available from the Pony Club Office:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| T-shirt (red/black/white) \$ 60 | Baseball cap \$20 | Bag (S) \$ 80 |
| Sweat shirt (red/black) \$120 | Tie \$80 | Bag (L) \$150 |

Photo CDs

CDs of photographs from recent Pony Club events, suitable for digital printing, are available to order from the Pony Club Office. Price \$ 50 each.

1. Equestrian Carnival
2. Easter Camp: Snaffles
3. Easter Camp: Gags
4. Easter Camp: Martingales
5. Easter Camp: Pelhams



Do you have outgrown riding gear that you want to sell?

Just fill in the form below and pass it to Canney, or e-mail the details to newsletter@hongkongponyclub.com, to advertise your gear in **Pony Club News**.

Pony Club News Classifieds

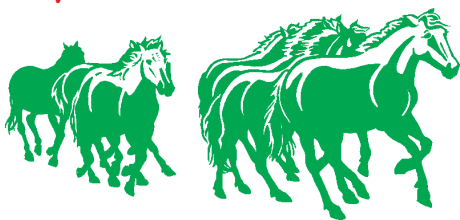
Item for sale:

Description (size, colour, condition):

Price:

Contact phone #:

Contact name:



Answers to Quick Quiz questions

1. d, 2. b, 3. c, 4. b, 5. c, 6. a



PONY CLUB REPORTERS - PONY CLUB REPORTERS - PONY CLUB REPORTERS

We'd like to invite all our Pony Club members to send us articles! Next time you take part in a Pony Club event, send us a report about it. Interview your Instructor and find out their Top Tip to improve your riding. Who's your favourite pony? Write in and let us know why you love him/her. Can you design a pony-themed word search or crossword? E-mail your articles to Heather at newsletter@hongkongponyclub.com.

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