



Amelia Waddicor deftly steers pure-bred Caspian gelding Kinton Khoja around the obstacles at Cricklands, 13th March 2016 .

Photo by Stuart Gregory

THE CASPIAN

MAGAZINE OF THE CASPIAN HORSE SOCIETY

REG. CHARITY NUMBER 1076026

SPRING/SUMMER 2016

Discover more about the world of Caspian Horses!

Enjoy news and views from CHS members and friends of the Caspian from the United Kingdom, Iran, America, Australia and Sweden.

Read how California is helping to sell the prestigious 50th Anniversary Caspian Calendar. Order your own Calendar ...

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Khoja's Promising New Career

A Visit to Buckingham Palace

Norouzabad's new trees

The Adventures of a Quarter Horse x Caspian part-bred

... and much more!

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THE CHAIRMAN'S LETTER – RUTH STAINES

It gives me particular pleasure this year to be able to welcome two past members of the Caspian Breed Society to the Council of CHS, Angela Leadbetter and Rebecca Mann. The CBS decided last year that it would no longer issue equine passports, which we were happy to take on and it has now decided that the time is right for there to be a single Caspian society in UK. We look forward to working for the Caspian breed with all past CBS members and owners who would like to join us.

As a consequence the CHS will make an appearance at the Bath and West Show, from 1 – 4 June this year, continuing from the many appearances there by the CBS. We rely on Rebecca and Angela for the arrangements and most of the manpower as they have done this for many years, but I and other Council members will be lending a helping hand and I hope as many members as possible will visit the stand. Not least because we have a Caspian competing in a Private Driving class in the main ring at 1.45pm on the Wednesday (more about Kineton Khoja later in the magazine)!

Since the last issue of 'The Caspian', Farokh Khorrooshi, Colin Barker and I have been to Buckingham Palace to present an Anniversary Calendar to HRH Prince Philip. You can read about the occasion in Farokh's article in this issue.

We look forward once more to our annual Caspian classes at Ashby Show on Sunday, 10 July, where we hope as many members and owners as possible will bring their pure and part bred Caspians. If you do not own a Caspian, it is a very friendly place to meet

Caspians and talk to their owners.

I am finding that shows with World Breed classes are starting to take notice of the Caspian.



We have an invitation from the Royal Cheshire Show to take part in a World Breeds Parade on June 21. At the time of writing I am hoping we may be able to take part. There is a new show, the Foreign Breeds Championships, at Onley near Rugby, on June 19 – it seems June is a particularly busy month. Of course Caspians may compete in many classes other than World Breeds, indeed they can surely make their mark better by competing in a specific discipline. We need more of them out there!

Our AGM is again to be held at Long Close Gardens, by kind permission of Mr John Oakland, and it is hoped that many members and their guests will come to talk about Caspians and wander in the glorious gardens – I know many of you did not have enough time for this last year.

Finally I commend to you the ICS Census of Caspians sent out to all members recently. The International Caspian Studbook and the national societies work very hard to maintain accurate registers of all pure bred Caspians and it is hoped that this census will prompt owners to send updates. However thorough the Registrars are, they cannot second guess which horses have been gelded or died (or even not registered at all)! We need to be told!

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COUNCIL BUSINESS

CO-EDITORS

Vicki Shortis and Liz Webster

Welcome to our second cyber magazine!

We have been very pleased by the reaction to our first emailed magazine last autumn. Having received some positive comments and no negative ones, we hope it means that you like it and we invite you to enjoy this Spring/Summer issue in the same format. Please remember that we love to receive your comments.

We were both very thrilled to receive a letter from H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh's Private Secretary, thanking us for sending a copy of the last issue.

We've had two problems getting it ready this time – Vicki has had no proper internet connection for some time, so she couldn't receive submissions and Liz is type-setting the magazine while awaiting a much-postponed hip replacement operation. We would therefore like to thank all our contributors for responding so well to her pleas to send submissions in earlier than normal, in order to fit in with her limitations after the event and still get the magazine out on time!

Spring is here at last, which does help to fire one's enthusiasm. Again we shall have classes for Caspians at Ashby in July - see more details in this magazine. As well as Ashby, there do seem to be more shows with classes open to all breeds, including Caspians.

Remember to apply for a Points Card early (and you can also see details of the Special Rosette Scheme in this issue) from Helen Thirlby, whose address can be found on the Council page at the end of this magazine.

We hope you enjoy the stories of Khoja and Cajan, two Caspians who have been given the opportunity to show what they are capable of – a chance too few Caspians are given, we're sorry to say. We hope their experiences will fire your ambition to get your Caspians properly trained and 'out there'!!

HON. SECRETARY

Angela Davies

The changes to the Constitution that were ratified at the 2015 AGM have now been completed and the Constitution has been sent to Council members for a final review. The new Constitution will be available on the CHS website. Members can request a copy by contacting the Secretary.

The CHS Rules and Regulations for members have also been updated and will be available shortly.

Earlier this year we sent a request to UK tax-paying members asking them to renew their Gift Aid declaration and advise us of any changes to personal details. While some members did return the form, some are still outstanding and we would be grateful if the

forms could be returned. A scanned copy emailed to the Secretary is fine.

Anyone who has recently joined the CHS or has completed a Gift Aid declaration in the last 12 months need not complete another one. The Gift Aid declaration is on the CHS website, but members can request a copy by contacting the Secretary.

Please can Members who have signed a Gift Aid declaration in the past and who are now no longer UK taxpayers let us know now, so that we can ensure we do not make a fraudulent claim? The CHS can claim 25p in every pound on subscriptions and donations made to the Society, if a member is a UK taxpayer and happy for us to do so.

Contacting members by email has become our main form of communication, but we regularly get failure delivery notices when sending out information, so we would be grateful if all members could notify us of email address changes. Thank you.

REGISTRAR

Ruth Staines

Two stallion licences were issued at the end of 2015, one in UK and one in Netherlands.

However most of my work since the last magazine report has been getting the new passport layout ready, as all passports issued from 1 January 2016 must be in this format. This involved a number of meetings with other Passport Issuing Organisations, as there was much to be discussed with DEFRA to turn their interpretation of the EU regulations into a workable document. The pages are in a different order, and there is now a new page to add amendments other than change of owner, for example castration and changes of colour. The written ID page may no longer be amended – this is impossible as it has to be laminated. It also has to be typed – this means I have to copy the information from the ID form – and as this has to be signed as correct by a vet, if anything is omitted or illegible I must address any queries to the vet concerned. Owners should therefore check the forms carefully while the vet is present to make sure every section is accurately filled in.

As paperwork has changed and DEFRA tells us there are more changes in the pipeline, I urge all breeders to contact me for new application forms rather than use ones they may have filed away. Please also contact me if you need covering certificates – they are a requirement for registration. Have all stallion owners sent their 2015 returns in?

It saves a lot of trouble if the paperwork is filled in correctly at the beginning of the horse's life rather than

later on. Incorrect or missing paperwork may mean your Caspian cannot be registered at all and at present the breed can ill afford to lose any.

Rules and Regulations can be found on the Registration Passports and Stallion Licensing page of our website www.caspianhorsesociety.org.uk

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Pat Bowles

I am delighted to report that I have reached my long held target of over 100 members. In fact we now have 110! A lot of these are due to the Conference in Iran and the Calendar Launch in London, also those who have rescued Caspians requiring new homes in recent years. As I always say, if you each introduced one new member, we would be sailing away. Even a few would help, as we do need and appreciate all our members.

I would urge all those who can pay by Standing Order to do so, as it makes it so much easier for our records and saves me having to chase you when you forget! The Membership Application form is on our website to download and you can fill it in and send it to me.

We are delighted to welcome Angela Leadbetter back again after many years.

I am wondering if there is anyone who would be prepared to take on the Membership Secretary's job? I have not had a very good year health-wise and after all, I am 88!

Eds: We think Pat has earned a rest! Could YOU spare two or three hours a week to take over as Membership Secretary from Pat? The member database is now well established and not difficult to maintain and it can be a fun and very part-time job for somebody who would like to help support the Caspian. Please let Pat know if you are interested.

RETIRING TREASURER

John Sansome

This year has been very good for the Caspian Horse in general and for the finances of the Society. The Conference in Iran brought in some new members, which always helps the cash flow. When a member pays taxes in the UK, we can collect Gift Aid from their subscriptions too, so we urge people to complete the Gift Aid form when joining, or you can obtain a form from the Treasurer.

There are several more ways in which members can add to our funds for Caspian promotion. Donations can be made through the Caspian Horse Society or the Gene Bank page on our website, using PayPal.

When buying anything online, look for the website of www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Register yourself as a donor, give the Caspian Horse Society as your cause and then make your purchase from virtually all of the usual online stores and many hundreds more outlets. CHS receives a donation every time you make a purchase this way, at no cost to you. You may find other special offers too.

So far we have raised £171.78 from 13 donors for CHS funds, through "easyfundraising" and could raise this considerably if more CHS members joined in. You can invite a friend to join in by clicking a button on the website, raising a further £1 when they start to buy. I would certainly like to thank those who have raised this sum for CHS.

This is my last year as Treasurer and I wish you well. I welcome Nichola Waddicor, who is taking over as Treasurer and I hope she enjoys it as much as I have.

TREASURER ELECT

Nichola Waddicor

So, Treasurer! Hmmm...

We have owned our Caspian, Kineton Khoja, for a little over a year now. And wow, what an action-packed year that has been! Now I've been talked into being Treasurer of CHS. I am no expert (on Caspians) so you will have to bear with me on that front, but what I can do is add two and two together and hopefully come up with a sensible answer.

I have always worked in accounts, firstly for a merchant bank, more recently for a global company travelling and working overseas until a few years ago I landed my dream job working at a wildlife park. OK, so they don't let me too near the animals, but I have been 'keeper for the day' on several occasions and have witnessed some pretty incredible births - rhinos, zebra, camel to name a few. I get to use my skills in accounting whilst indulging in the fantastic environment of animals.

And now I can combine my accounting skills with my love of all things equine. I know CHS is not the Pony Club (ah, the days of Pony Club camp in the past; these kids do grow up) but I'm looking forward to the challenge of meeting people passionate about the little horse that I'm getting to know and love.

Bring it on!!!

THE CHS

If you would like to print out and keep the new-format Caspian magazine I have found that Ryman Stationery (office suppliers), sell the ideal binder. Ref. 0499030830, which will hold up to 30 pages. (Visit www.ryman.co.uk to obtain from the internet. For free delivery there is a minimum order value.) Liz



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Saturday 11th June 2016

The 2016 AGM will again be at Long Close Gardens, Woodhouse Eaves, near Leicester, at the kind invitation of Mr John Oakland. Sadly, last year's weather was not conducive to walking round the beautiful gardens for all but the brave.

This year the AGM will be held on 11th June, a Saturday (please note change of day!) and we hope the beautiful rhododendrons and azaleas, for which this garden is well-known by garden lovers, will still be in flower along with much else, all looked after by John himself.

Information on the AGM and voting papers will be sent to members nearer the time.

Long Close Gardens are open to the public for charity.
Website: www.longclose.org.uk

2016 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (*Caspian present)

10th April - Spring Council meeting, Shawell, Leics.

1st-4th June, *Bath & West Show, Somerset

11th June - AGM, Woodhouse Eaves, Leics.

26th June - Summer Council Meeting, Shawell, Leics.

10th July – *Ashby Show & Caspian Classes, Leics.

16th October – Autumn Council Meeting, Shawell, Leics.

See also the dates of Khoja's competitions, page 11.

OBITUARY – MICHAEL THOMAS



From Elizabeth Webster

Just as our Autumn 2015 issue was virtually full and ready to close for publication, we heard of the sad death of Mr Michael Thomas in early November last year.

Michael was the husband of the late Pamela Thomas (whose Obituary featured in the *Spring 2014* issue) and father of Naomi, of the Sirhowy Caspian Stud in Hampshire. We did not have space then to write of his great support for the Society, helping out at shows while Pamela was Chairman of the Society in the mid-1990s and again from 1999-2001.

When I was running our Breed Shows, Michael could always be relied upon to run our Collecting Ring with friendly efficiency, roaming the horsebox park to keep tabs on missing competitors and 'persuade' them promptly into the show ring with a megaphone! Michael and Pamela used to take a caravan to the shows, feed the judges and chief stewards lavishly and provide a welcoming haven and comfortable seats when needed. Always patient and cheerful, Michael let me relax about getting competitors into the ring on time and willingly stood in as temporary horse-holder and leader wherever he was needed! I have nothing but affectionate memories of him.

INTERNATIONAL CASPIAN SOCIETY UPDATE

Brenda Dalton, ICS Chairman

Whilst some of the ICS Rules for Registration are apparently open to misinterpretation, others are in need of updating, so we are trying to remedy these a few at a time. We have started with the 'X' Register, the 'Two-year' rule and the importance of having a unique Prefix or, in the rare case where a breeder may only breed one or two horses but wishes to repeat a name, they must make it unique by adding a numerical suffix e.g. the second Ostad would become Ostad II.

We are also asking Member Societies to send out Census forms on our behalf. It is hoped that forms will be passed on from owner to owner creating a snowball effect that will eventually tell us how many registered animals are still alive in each country and also how many unregistered Caspians there are which have parents in the ICSB.

Information from the Census will help us to update the information on Member Society databases and subsequently in the ICS.

Multiple search facility. We have recently introduced a multiple search facility to the subscription section on the ICS live database on the website. In addition to the information previously supplied i.e. details of horse, co-efficient, pedigree, results of planned mating, it is now possible to:

- search for all horses in numerical or alphabetical order, then add any required combination of the available searches, colour, country where the horse was registered, gender, age span, whether living or deceased, or both if a full list is required e.g.
- living mares/fillies registered in the UK – (say) black, between the ages of 4 and 10
- a list of stallions with any colour, country or age combination. It is then possible to click on any parent to find their details, co-efficient, pedigree etc.
- A 'Statistics' heading, shows at a glance how many Caspians are alive in each country.

Further searches are planned for the future BUT the accuracy relies entirely on information being kept up to date.

The fees charged for this facility are used solely to run the website, which provides National Registrars with a facility to enter registrations directly and to provide up to date information for breeders, researchers and other interested parties. This information is permanently available to Registrars.

Data Protection Act. Whilst most of our owners and breeders wish their names to be included, privacy laws in some countries have tied our hands and we are no longer able to publish these. Depending on how many people wish to have their names disclosed, we are hoping to find a technical solution to this in due course.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IS NOW ON OUR WEBSITE www.caspianhorsesociety.org.uk

We are pleased to say that after considerable work by Farokh Khorooshi, Elizabeth Webster and Ruth Staines, you can now see photographs taken at the 4th International Caspian Conference, last September. The Conference has its own Home Page, from where you can link to the Photo Diaries of each day, the Conference Programme, Breed Show and Results and the Iranian publicity.

We are extremely grateful to several members of CHS, both British and European, for so kindly permitting us



*Fariba Hosseinabadi,
Conference Organiser*

to choose from their photographs. We hope you will enjoy finding out what we did on those very special four days!

A GENE BANK FOR CASPIANS – A VITAL NEXT STEP Elizabeth Webster

A responsible breed society should make every effort to retain the widest possible genetic base to their breed, to prevent genetic weakness through inbreeding and the loss of special breed characteristics. The Caspian Horse Society takes this responsibility extremely seriously.

The Caspian Horse is already amongst the rarest of creatures, having been known to the modern world for just 50 years, after apparent extinction. Its importance to the equine species as the probable ancestor of most of today's hot-blooded breeds has already been established. We must now protect this unique horse breed from genetic deterioration by inbreeding, to keep the breed in good shape for future generations.

The good news is that the Caspian now exists in several parts of the world, thanks to early exports from Iran and the UK within the first 30 years of its 'new' life. Ideally, geographically separated breeders should be able to exchange bloodlines with each other to prevent stagnation and in-breeding. The aim is to provide them with a choice of new bloodlines via Artificial Insemination (AI), so that all Caspians, wherever they are, continue to be produced to the Breed Standard devised by their re-discoverer - Louise Firouz.

The inter-dependence of breeders is one of several important reasons why the CHS is collecting funds to set-up a Gene (or Sperm) Bank, starting with the rarest and most under-used bloodlines, when we have the funds available. But we don't have forever. To put it plainly - the Gene Bank needs to be established before some of these rare bloodlines begin to fade from existence.

Strong focus on new bloodlines at the International Conference

Another stimulus is the potential supply of excellent new bloodlines from Iran, when reciprocal arrangements can be made in the future for the exchange and transport of frozen semen into and out of Iran.

A good part of the 4th International Caspian Conference held in Iran in September 2015, dealt with the many important reasons why we need to preserve the Caspian. Artificial Insemination (AI) was the topic of several research papers and presentations, covering the genetic specialities of the Caspian which should be preserved and the processes involved. It is considered essential for the genetic health of the Caspian breed

worldwide that AI becomes not only an acceptable way to maintain a wide genetic base, but that it should be given the expertise and proper funding required to make it an accessible facility in the relatively near future.

Although currently few, we're told there are already good facilities in Iran for collection, testing, storage and insemination. Following the strong interest expressed at the Conference and the desire of Iranian breeders to work with the ICS in the preservation of their national breed, we hope that AI for Caspians between Iran and other countries will soon be possible on a wider scale.

Equine Artificial Insemination – the facts

The freezing of viable equine semen for AI used to be a rather hit and miss affair. These days, thanks to pioneering work by CHS President, Jane Holderness-Roddam and CHS Vice-President, Elizabeth Mansfield-Parnell, equine AI has become far more reliable. Stallion Centres like the West Kington Stallion Centre have established effective procedures for collection, testing and storing semen and handle the paperwork and logistics required to transfer it in good condition to most parts of the world. West Kington, and similar centres, will also be happy to advise on the selection and preparation and insemination of suitable recipient mares.

Before reaching that stage, semen must be collected from stallions chosen for correct equine conformation, breed excellence and bloodlines. Not all stallions will co-operate and of those that do, their semen may be of insufficient quantity or quality for processing. Those that pass this stage may still be eliminated if their sperm does not survive freezing, storage and thawing and the scheme will obviously rely greatly on the goodwill and co-operation of stallion owners. It is easy to see why this



Photo by Farokh Khoroooshi

can be a costly business, but also reassuring to know that many horses do pass the test and go on to produce viable foals by AI these days. The International Caspian Stud Book's rules permit AI and pure-bred registration according to strict criteria, which require the ICS (via its national member societies) to be notified before insemination, after foaling and at registration of the foal.

The likely costs

For European distribution, costs are currently likely to be in the region of £5000 to test two stallions, which would cover livery, semen collection, processing, tests to the standard required by the EU and initial storage. It's likely to cost around £2,000 more for Worldwide suitability. We would aim to test two or three stallions

simultaneously if possible, but as not all may be suitable, replacements would have to be on stand-by.

CHS Council hopes that this project will enable us to save and store sperm from as many bloodlines as possible, so we predict that there will be an on-going need for further funds after the initial testing stages.

CHS has already started to raise the funds required – our total so far is £3,045.00, thanks to donations and legacies from generous individuals, but it has bottomed out at the moment and needs a lift!

Members of CHS and friends of Caspians can help!

A percentage of sales of the Anniversary Calendar will eventually go towards the fund and you too can help us to meet this target if, like us, you are concerned about keeping the breed strong. The sooner the money is raised, the sooner we can start the programme, before bloodlines are lost.

There are so many effective ways in which you can work with us to reach our goal! Our website has some ideas of how to raise funds and donate. It can be done by PayPal or in the usual ways, via the website. We will regularly update the total so that we can all see what a difference our efforts are making.

(If you kindly make a donation, please state that it is intended for the Gene Bank Fund - thank you.) Whatever you can spare will be so much appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JUSTIN AND FLEUR!

We hear from Ron Scott that his daughter Fleur married Mr Justin Morfoot on 19th November. Fleur and Justin are living in Norfolk.

Some of our older members may well remember Fleur as a little girl, sometimes, her father says "sitting in the corner taking notes for me at meetings!" She is now a qualified Vet.

Fleur built up the Lanhill Caspian Stud alongside Ron and Jane's Henden Stud, which started in Kent and ended up near Chippenham, Wiltshire.



Ron and Jane Scott with the new Dr Fleur Morfoot, MRCVS.

Henden Stud has now closed, but Fleur still has a few Caspians with her in Norfolk.

A CALENDAR FOR 2017?

Barbara Smthers and Vicki Shortis are planning to produce a calendar for 2017 to help raise funds towards the Caspian Gene Bank. They invite Caspian owners to submit photographs of a high standard (see *Liz Webster's article, "The Right Photograph" on page 26*) for selection by the CHS Council on 26th June at the Summer Council Meeting.

We would like to hear from owners who are willing to supply suitable photographs and look forward to hearing from you.

Barbara Smthers and Vicki Shortis

CASPIANS AT ASHBY SHOW SUNDAY 10TH JULY 2016

Janet Dedicoat

Here's a message to all CHS members and Caspian Horse owners...



Welcome to 2016 and an invitation for like-minded people to meet up again at **Ashby Show** to exhibit their Caspians. We are always pleased to see new faces and this year we hope to attract even more Caspian entries to the ring. In 2015 we had a variety of quality entries across the board, with a different view and approach from Mr Ian Woodward, our honorary Judge. This year we are pleased to have Mr Alan Edmunds to judge our stock, adding another experienced eye and opinion.

The schedule remains the same this year. It would be wonderful to see more young stock, if possible. The past few years have been difficult for all breeders in the equine industry and few have bred many offspring, but I am optimistic that a few may arrive this year. Ashby is a central meeting place, a good shop window with a good atmosphere. We are always made welcome by the Ashby Show Committee, which encourages us to attend each year.

For those not solely dedicated to Caspian Horses, this Show offers a wide variety of other livestock exhibits, stands and spectacles to see and do, as well as refreshing food marquees. For many it is a huge effort to make this journey and we are very grateful to see you. At present it is our only show with classes dedicated to pure and part-bred Caspians. With more and more interest in the breed, I hope you agree it is a wonderful place to see the line-up of Caspians in our final Parade.

Last but not least, come and support us with your stock if you can, or on foot if not. Enjoy the day!

PERFORMANCE CARDS & HPC ROSETTES

The Caspian Horse is willing and very able to take part in events of all sorts, excelling at many types of competitive carriage driving, scurry, dressage, jumping and gymkhana, *when given the chance*. Some people may dismiss the Caspian as beautiful, but too small! So he becomes a field ornament. What a waste of latent talent that is – how will anybody know what they can do?

Performance of any kind is not only good for both horse and owner, but it is the key to getting the Caspian seen in the right places by the right people. It will help to establish a proper market for Caspians in times that are still challenging for many in the horse world.

As an encouragement, CHS provides owners with Performance Points Cards on request, on which they can collect points for *any* type of competitive activity with their Caspian to win a special Points Winner's rosette and sash at the end of the season. Points Cards are effective from 1st November to 31st of October the following year. They are provided at Ashby Show (where you can earn double points), but some people may already have amassed a good score by then, so be sure to ask for your card early in the season and make every effort to fill it before the end of October! As well as the Points Sash and Rosette you will be heartily congratulated in an article and photo in 'The Caspian' magazine.

CHS can also send an HPC (Highest Placed Caspian) rosette to the Show Secretary of any show or event you enter with a registered Caspian or Part-bred for you to win, as well as any place rosette you may achieve. You will need to provide the full name, address and date of the show, the classes you have entered (and on which day, if appropriate). Allow a minimum of seven days for the rosette to reach the show secretary. Points Cards and HPC rosettes can be obtained by request to Helen Thirlby, whose contact details are given in the list of Council members on page 32, or you can email her.

Ashby Show

(The 101st Show)

CATTOWS FARM, NORMANTON LANE,

HEATHER, LEICS. LE67 2TD

SUNDAY, 10TH JULY 2016

By kind invitation of Ashby Show Committee.

*** CASPIAN CLASSES ***

Ring 6, from 12.00 noon

Open to members of any ICS member Caspian Society or registered Caspian or Part-Bred.

Judge: Mr Alan Edmunds

Class 1 - Licensed Caspian Stallion or Gelding 4 yrs. old & over

Class 2 - Caspian Mare (4 yrs. & over) / Brood Mare / Mare with Foal -
(Special rosette for Best Foal.)

Class 3 - Caspian Youngstock 1-3 years old, colt, filly, gelding

Class 4 - Part-bred Caspian (any sex, any age), Rosette to Best 3 yrs. old & Under

Class 5 - Mixed Ridden, any sex, any age. (Rosette to Best Rider)

*** PARADE OF CASPIAN HORSES***

(Ring 6, follows the classes)

With commentary, including information on individual horses

All entrants are welcome, including part-bred Caspians
Persian rugs and bridles may be worn by pure-bred Caspians if preferred

Schedules, Entry Forms, Directions –

*Request from Janet Dedicoat (CHS members will automatically receive them).
0121 445 1984 or email Janet Dedicoat*

Double Performance Points.

ENTRIES CLOSE 25th JUNE 2016.

Stabling can be arranged nearby by the Ashby Show Secretary,
Contact <info@ashbyshow.com> (first come, first served!)

Good Caspian entries are vital to ensure our presence at Ashby in years to come

PLEASE COME, WITH OR WITHOUT YOUR CASPIAN!

Ashby Show's Caspian classes are your chance to show off your beloved Caspians, win a rosette or two and, of course, gain double Performance Points!

All members will receive the Schedule and Entry Form, either with this magazine or soon afterwards. It is also open to non-CHS members, who will need to request them from Janet and pay £1 extra, per entry,

to enter registered Caspians or Part-bred Caspians. There will be five classes, which should start around mid-day and continue to mid-afternoon.

A Parade of Caspians will take place in our show-ring at the end of our classes, which will also gain you points for attendance.

CALENDAR PRESENTATION AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Farokh Khorrooshi



Colin Barker and Farokh Khorrooshi flank HRH Duke of Edinburgh, with Ruth Staines on right. Photo: Colin Baldwin

The call from the Palace came while I was in San Diego, trying to promote the 50th Anniversary Caspian Calendar. Only a day or two earlier, my hard working Caspian fan of a sister-in-law, Gita Khadiri, had asked me if there was 'a royal angle' to the Caspian Horse story (the Caspian charm had worked again). I was informed that thanks to some good work by Brenda Dalton, we were to be granted an audience with His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh! The Duke has been a Caspian supporter ever since being presented with a Caspian stallion (Rostam) and mare (Khorshid Kola) while in Iran in 1971, to attend the glittering celebrations of 2,500 years of the Peacock Throne.

"How about *this*, Gita!" I said, showing her the email on my iPad. She was duly impressed and after several emails back and forth between San Diego, Ruth Staines and the Duke's office at Buckingham Palace, we had settled for December 3rd at 11 a.m. I rang Colin (Barker) from Los Angeles to give him the news.

"Colin, your photos are going to be presented at Buckingham Palace!"

"Oh!" said Colin, "I'd better get my suit dry cleaned." Now we were all set for our important visit to Buckingham Palace.

Upon returning home, Ruth and I decided it would be best to travel to London the day before and stay overnight. As it happened, the Iran Heritage Foundation had a special event on in London that night and kindly agreed to allow us to promote the Calendar there. Colin would catch the train from Graffham, Sussex on the day itself and meet us at the Palace gates. I managed to book a couple of rooms for us at La Gaffe, a lovely family-run small hotel in Hampstead, managed by the owner's son, Lorenzo Stella.

Still feeling the effects of jet lag, I drove to London as arranged and settled in at the hotel. Ruth arrived from Oxford later that day. We took a cab to Asia House in

Mayfair carrying a few copies of the Calendar, hoping to sell some. The evening was most informative, with lots of Persian poetry recited in Farsi, so I am not quite sure what Ruth made of it all. There was a big day ahead, so we took a cab back to the hotel and retired after dinner.

I had prepared a special Calendar for the presentation. As those who have purchased the Calendar will know, it is sealed in special acid-free, museum-quality tissue paper and housed in its own special box. One problem – we planned to show the photographs in the Calendar to the Duke, but didn't want to leave him a boxed Calendar with a broken seal. We solved it by deciding to take two copies, so we could leave one with an unbroken seal behind for him to enjoy and hopefully share with the family!

The next morning, I met Ruth at breakfast. Soon we were on our way to the Palace, armed with two copies of the Calendar. We had been told to go to the North Gate. I asked the cab driver to take us to Buckingham Palace. He nodded, but when I mentioned the North Gate, he sat up! I didn't realise the significance of this until we arrived – the North Gate is the big one at the end of the Mall – the main entrance to the Palace.

After a few minutes we managed to find Colin and together we set off for the entrance, working our way through a thick wall of tourists and flashing cameras. In the distance, the Household Cavalry Band played, as the famous Changing of the Guards took place. We presented our papers to the policeman at the gate and were told to walk to "those brown doors over there". Those brown doors were some 200 metres across what seemed like a vast courtyard. To our left, guardsmen shouted orders for the Changing of the Guards. We walked towards the doors feeling the weight of hundreds of flashing tourist cameras on our backs. (I wonder who they thought we were...?)

After what seemed like a long walk, we arrived at the brown doors, which opened exactly as we arrived. Once inside, we were warmly greeted by George Hewson, our coats were taken and the necessary protocols were explained in detail. Apparently the Duke would like to see us in the Library. Formalities taken care off, we were led through long corridors and lovely winding staircases. The walls were covered by works of art and the furniture in the corridors was adorned with antiques. The atmosphere was calm and hushed.

Once in the Library, we met the official Palace photographer – Colin Baldwin. A short rehearsal determined who would stand where and next to whom. Moments later, Prince Philip entered the room looking fit and in very good health, thanked us for coming in and invited us to take a seat. His knowledge of the Caspian Horse and our project took us all by surprise! He seemed genuinely interested in the Caspian Horse and spent ages reminiscing about his lovely Caspians and how intelligent and athletic they were and what quick learners they had been.

The Calendar was finally unveiled. I will never forget the look on his face as we leafed through the pages. He went through each and every shot, asking many questions about how each shot was achieved and who the horse was. He was particularly interested in the Iran shots and spent a long time admiring the atmosphere that Colin (Barker) had so beautifully created. When we came to the Texas barn shot, Ruth informed the Duke that the stallion featured in that shot was the grandson of Rostam, the stallion that had been presented to him in 1971. He seemed delighted.

After fully half an hour we shook hands, left a fresh copy of the Calendar with the Duke and said our good-byes. He left the Library as we were accompanied back to the ground floor. After thanking the courteous staff for their help, we put our coats on, shook hands and walked out into the bright daylight to face the camera flashes of the many tourists outside the Palace railings. We walked right up the Mall, found a quiet restaurant, sat down, looked at each other and asked "Have we just been to Buckingham Palace?"

The waiter came to our table with menus. Back down to earth!

KHOJA & AMELIA – WHAT A TEAM!

Nichola Waddicor

Our cover story.



Amelia and her groom Morag Patrick compete at Cricklands. (Photo by Stuart Gregory)

Kineton Khoja has been with us just over a year now. We collected him from the riding school on the 24th January 2015, where he was without a job. He was a birthday present for Amelia and it was planned that, hopefully, he would become her next driving pony. She had already clocked up an impressive collection of wins/Championships with her Dartmoor Hill Pony, Cosmo, over the last eight years, but as she was rapidly heading out of Junior classes and into Adult ones she felt that she needed a pony with a bit more Wow.

Khoja is a nine year old gelding. Having been broken to be ridden at six, he had done a couple of years in the riding school, but a lack of suitably small and able children mean that for the year prior to us getting him, he had done literally nothing apart from being handled.

We started him off slowly, bringing him back into ridden work then began taking him out and about to see the real world (his previous life had restricted him mainly to the riding school, with a few short hacks round the surrounding estate). It is essential for any driving pony that they are safe and able to cope with multiple situations, which may or may not arise.

We took him off to horse shows, where initially he was very excited. He learnt that going out in the horse box was fun and nothing to worry about.

By Easter we were long reining him, introducing blinkers and the feel of 'shafts' made from jump poles down his sides. Slowly we progressed to his first trip out with his wheels following along behind.

July came and we decided to send him off for some specialist training with Horse Drawn Promotion. He came back ready to take on anything.

His first driving show was at the start of September, where he was 2nd in the Novice Pony class. He then went to the Osborne Refrigeration National Championships at Addington Manor, where he was a creditable 3rd.

So what now? Winter was approaching and we didn't want to turn him away to forget about his newly learned skills of driving. Amelia had always fancied giving Indoor Driving Trials a go; so we thought - what have we got to lose? Let's go for it!

We booked some lessons with Team GBR member James Broome and slowly it started to come together. Their first event was supposed to be 20th October, but a bruised sole meant Khoja went lame, so we took Cosmo, which with hindsight was a good idea as we had no idea what we were doing. They managed to come 6th.

November came. Khoja was entered, the lorry loaded, weather not too bad, so off we went on the hour and a half drive to Chepstow. Dressage was not too bad. They got a bit lost in the cones but went clear! Next were the obstacles. Now all of their lessons had focused on paces and precision, so this was the first time Khoja had seen an obstacle, let alone driven one. There were 17 in his class and they came 7th. Not bad we thought.

The December event came in fancy dress. With the top dressage score (!), a clear in cones and a bit more of a clue with the obstacles, they managed 5th!

January came. By now we were organised, tea and coffee in the horse box and bacon for butties at lunchtime. Dressage was improving, clear again round the cones. Obstacles - well they lived up to their name! Somewhat challenging. And the vehicle got stuck on one. They lost 35 seconds, but still came 6th/12!

In a chance look at a driving site we spotted a small light-weight competition vehicle for sale. 24 hours later and a trip up to Derby and it was ours! Fortunately we were able to sell his old vehicle nearly as fast.

Another Tuesday and another lesson with James - oh no! The carriage was great, but the harness wasn't compatible. A quick trawl round the internet and various replacement parts were on their way. But this was all a bit hotch-potch so we bit the bullet, ordered a new harness and awaited its arrival.

February arrived and the next competition was fast approaching. Cobbled harness in hand, new carriage loaded, we set off again. There was a break in the weather and the sun shone.

The second best dressage score (21) and fastest clear time round the cones! Obstacles loomed even trickier than before. Three people had already been eliminated, gulp. Amelia planned her route and took it steady round the first two. Clear. Deep breath and they went for it. Obstacles 3 and 4 - clear! Not eliminated!

Phew! Now all we had to do was wait for the results.

Blimey! First from the remaining six competitors! They had done it, their first win at a driving trials event!

And then the post arrived... a Golden Ticket that the 2,200 competitors who started the indoor trials season all dream of getting - and one has landed on our doorstep. 'You have qualified for the British Championships at Keysoe'. Oh, wow! Only 157 from that 2,200 have qualified - and we are one of them.

The new harness arrived, obviously way too big, so loads of alterations had to be made and now we have something that sort of fits. It arrived in time for the last event of the season. After a quick modification to the carriage shafts we were ready to go. Well, Khoja had other ideas! He knows what's coming now and looks forward to the cones and obstacles - "why bother with this dressage rubbish? I am the almighty Ginger!!" They managed to redeem themselves and come 5th.

So, to the British Championships we headed. 110 miles from us, two days of competition and a couple of nights staying over - yes, in the horsebox. Khoja has never had a sleepover. M40 traffic meant it took hours to get there. We declared and got our number. We set up camp, two of us in the horsebox, two in the tent inside the trailer and Khoja in his corral. What happened next?



Well, we were first to go on the Saturday morning. After freezing in the lorry overnight, we were all a bit bleary-eyed. Khoja has never competed indoors before, so it was a big ask, but he pulled out all the stops and did a creditable dressage test. Actually they were 2nd, impressive against the 17 best juniors in the country!

Unfortunately, pilot error and a technical hitch which caused equipment failure meant that they were eliminated after the cones. Gutted.

They gathered themselves together to complete the final day. The crowd was cheering, the tannoy was blaring, the music was loud, but they did it. They completed the obstacles and did them well. Looking at their times, if they had maintained their 2nd place overnight, they had stood a good chance of being placed, but this year was not our year. We had achieved more than we ever expected. We never set out to qualify and were totally shocked when we did.



*Round the obstacles at Keysoe like an old pro!
Photo Mike Watts*

What an achievement for a little chap who has only been driving properly for about six months. We are delighted really (and gutted at the same time). Amelia has never done driving trials before, so it was the blind leading the blind. Next year we will know what we are doing!

I think we can now say that Khoja is a carriage horse. Having spent years doing private driving, we are rapidly coming to the conclusion that maybe this is not Khoja's future. Instead it will be driving trials. Amelia is keen to give it a go. The outdoor season starts soon and the 15km marathons are on the horizon. Amelia is due to finish at Hartpury in June and who knows what the future will hold, once the real world of work comes into play? In the meantime we are enjoying the challenge of trials driving and the pleasure of owning Khoja.

Swingletree Photography has more photographs on pages 4-6 of their website:

<http://swingletreephotos.photoshelter.com/gallery/Novice-Junior/G000056GGb01YGVs/5/C000016EOSby9wM8>

You can see Khoja's round on the Keysoe website. Look for the Novice Junior class.

AMELIA AND KHOJA'S FUTURE PROGRAMME FOR 2016 SO FAR INCLUDES:

10th May, All-in-One Driving, Cricklands, Novice Pony.

1st June, Royal Bath & West Show, Novice Pony, Class H179, Main Ring.

18th June, Three Counties Show, Malvern, Four-Wheel Exercise, Class H235.

19th June, Smiths Lawn, Windsor Great Park. Schedule not out yet, but will probably be in Four-Wheel Exercise and Pleasure Driving classes. They will stay on for the 'Fly-Past' at 5.00 p.m. and Parade past the Royal Box.

Eds. Kinton Khoja was bred by the late Suzanne Dore. We hope as many members as possible will go along to some of these events to support Amelia and Khoja, cheer them on and enjoy a wonderful day.

"IN HARNESS" MAGAZINE DOES THE CASPIAN PROUD

During the latter half of 2015, Hannah King, a writer for 'In Harness' magazine, spent a great deal of time writing about Caspian Horses.

In *Issue 40 (July/August '15)* 'In Harness' ran a major, 5-page photo-editorial (p.34-38) on the 50 Year Celebrations, the history of the breed, modern Caspians in the driving world and the Caspian Calendar. Photographic contributions included a competitive four-in-hand of Caspians being driven by Dick Kearley in the States (see also 'The Caspian', Autumn/winter 2015). It featured photos and editorial supplied by Ateshe Firouz-Larsson, Elizabeth Webster, Colin Barker and Caspian drivers/owners Nichola and Amelia Waddicor, Rebecca Mann and ex-scurry driver Colin Cornwell.

Historic photographs were supplied by the Firouz family, who, along with some of the founder members of the Caspian movement in Britain, also provided much editorial. Photos included the successful tandem pair of greys driven by Christine Belton in the 1980s. Khoja was strongly featured and the smart calendar photo taken at the start of his new career was shown.

In *Issue 41, (October/November '15)* 'A big thank you to the Firouz family' for their contribution to issue 40 appeared in the leading News section at the beginning, with historic photographs. Khoja appeared briefly on p. 17 – 'Report on Addington, BDS National Championships'.

In *Issue 42, (December '15/January '16)*, came another two-page spread (p.58-59), featuring the International Conference in Iran with Ruth Staines, and the Anniversary Calendar with Farokh Khorrooshi. Khoja himself appeared on 'Caught on Camera', (p.36) where the caption says he was 'taking it all in his stride' at his first IDCD event!!

We can't thank Hannah King and 'In Harness' enough for

this fabulous exposure – let's hope it leads to more Caspians being driven successfully and raising more good publicity for Caspians. Well done Nichola, Amelia and Khoja too! Visit www.inharness.co.uk to order back copies.

DARKHORSE INSHALLAH

Olwen Sales



Darkhorse Inshallah, who is an 11.2hh, 15 year old grey gelding by Darkhorse Karoun out of Winstay Bist O Yek, continues to have an active life with his 11 year old rider, my daughter Lizzie Sales.

He wintered out well (rather too well!) and grows a thick winter coat, so we've had quite a bit of tidying up to do to get him

ready for his first Pony Club rally at the beginning of April this year.

In the last six months he has done Fun Rides, taken part in a Mini-Hunter Trial and also accepted his rider in Halloween costume at a Pony club show jumping competition. He is a calm little horse and takes everything in his stride. With the longer days we are all looking forward to doing more riding.

TWO FAMILY WEDDINGS (WITH CASPIANS)

Rebecca Mann

The years 2014 and 2015 were very busy for us all at Edcombe Stud, near Cheddar, in Somerset.



On November 21st 2014, my daughter Sarah married Andrew.

Edcombe Aladdin (of Caspian Calendar fame) had the important job of taking her to the church. Aladdin is shown (left) being driven by Sarah's brother, Jamie, who gave the bride away. Sarah and Andrew are

both in the Royal Navy and live in Yeovil, near Andrew's base. (Photo by Lee Hatherall)

On April 25th 2015, it was Rachel's turn. Again Aladdin was given the job of taking her to church, shown (overleaf) being driven by proud Mum.



Rachael's Caspian mare Edcombe Cassima, last year's Breed Champion at Ashby, also made an appearance (below).
(Photos by Harry Mottram)



Rachel and her husband Terry are living near Bampton, in Devon and should have had their first child by the time you read this.

People may remember the girls riding their Caspians Runnymede Ruby, Henden Morgantina, and the part-bred Runnymede Zurah (Lulu), at Breed Shows in the 1990's. Two more weddings are planned over the next two years, so Aladdin will be busy again!

UPDATE ON TITCH AND TOPAZ

Jane Holderness-Roddam

Runnymede Topaz, who was bred by the late Rosemary Harris and given to me by Pat Bowles when I became President of the CHS, has been a great representative of the breed and a much loved inmate of West Kingston Stud. She was very easy to back once we found a jockey small enough to ride her and has been ridden by several children, including Brian Moore (of Rugby fame's) daughter and Jennie Loriston-Clarke's granddaughter, who was jumping her round over several rather large looking obstacles when I came to watch her.

She has adapted well to being in with full grown horses and manages to keep herself away from the more aggressive types, but mixes in with those who are friendlier. She has always been extremely independent, but remarkably friendly and loves children. She has the distinctive Caspian shriek whenever she is left alone, but quickly adapts to whatever situation she finds herself involved with and runs around with her usual enthusiasm and agility.

Topaz has lost the sight in one eye recently, due to a virulent attack of sarcoids on the inside of her eyelid. She has been so brave over the aggressive treatment necessary to control this and the outlook is not that good, but she does not appear to be in too much pain at the moment and runs around with her permanent fly mask apparently happy. She is regularly monitored by the vets, who are interested in her case and her stoic attitude.

Topaz has bred two colt foals. The first, sadly, died from atypical myopathy as a two year old, turned out with



Topaz (left) with her part-bred son, Tiny Titch

other Caspians nearby. Last year's foal is by the well-known sports pony sire 'Littledale Bright Star' and is called 'Tiny Titch'! He is very smart and a great character, a lovely mover and spectacular jumper, but very, very cheeky! He is due to be castrated in the spring, before hopefully turning into a super child's pony once he settles down and becomes less interested in everything of the opposite sex! Only his mother is able to keep him in his place, which she does very effectively! I will keep you posted on his progress and we would love to see any of you if you ever want to call in to see us at West Kingston Stud. www.westkingtonstud.co.uk.

BAMBI AND THE FENCES!

Rosie Gilbert



Bambi (Bere Sahira), shown (left) as a foal at her first public outing, is a pure-bred Caspian filly who was bottle-fed by her first owner Claire Thomas, when the filly's dam died of colic soon after her foal was born in 2012. She is now owned by Rosie.

I apologise – it's been a while since I've had any significant tales to tell. Bambi has been bum-high all last summer, so I stopped all thoughts of continuing with backing her and enjoyed letting myself off the task.

Bambi shares a double-sized stable-come-barn with her pony companion Beau, a lot more enjoyable for both. She's stabled because of her total disregard for fencing, which allows her free range on 20 acres of grazing, the root cause of her blubber store! The only fencing which deters her is motorway four-rail or mains electric wire fencing, neither of which is on her winter grazing boundaries.

Her first season in mid-winter brought a taste for an ugly old gelding and a teenage abhorrence of boundaries! She became an uncatchable fence destroyer and drove poor jealous Beau to a crazed fighting frenzy. Rugs were torn, fencing lay limp. Beau was driven off to the east and west. Bambi was truly testing her place in my heart

and home but, apparently oblivious to the endless trouble she caused, my son Thom informs me daily how much he loves Bambi and she him. She's his best friend I'm told, so of course she remains.

The final crunch came in early February. The ponies had crests like titanium and were frog-marched to the farriers for a trim. They haven't been turned out since. They're allowed unlimited hay but no fresh grass until their weight is down and we have a sturdy paddock available!

Every cloud has a silver lining - it does mean daily handling for her and a bit more stimulation to her life. Thom and I 'groom' her daily and she is regularly lunged. She enjoys the company and handling, Thom enjoys sporadic grooming and stable management and gets a good dose of fresh air, amusing himself by playing in the hay barn or digging up the sand school in between.

As for backing her, I've been jumping next to and leaning on her back for the past fortnight. This spring is the first time she has been comfortable with my full weight laying over her back. Although I think she may well be becoming a little bum-high again, today I couldn't resist swinging my leg round to the other side. Three times she accepted this and I even sat fully upright but, as neither of us was correctly dressed for the occasion, I left it on a good note. I'm highly aware that she needs lots of time and repetition with everything, as although kind (and mostly willing), she is still very much a baby.

Normally I am a queen of rugging horses - rug, rug and rug some more is my natural default, but as their obesity crisis grew and the all-important rug suffered a rip or two in mid-winter, I took the drastic step of un-rugging my precious babies. The thought of them relying on the coats nature provided worried me terribly, of course.



When they came in I slept easy, knowing the elements could no longer touch them.

Why is Bambi pictured here in her PJs? Well, the sun came out today. I dropped Ollie on the

school run this morning, dressed without my usual winter wraps and it inspired Thom and I to get the bubbles and hose out. (Thom was dying to try out a new blue sponge).

Bambi and Beau cooled down from their lunges today with a full-on bubble bath and a jolly good scrub and de-hair. By four o'clock they were only a little damp still (but not cold) so we hunted about for these fetching PJs and tucked the totally spoilt prince and princess up for the night.... I hope I haven't made them too soft to survive next winter!

CASPIANS REHOMED...

Barbara Smathers

Arjuna Caspian Stud, Staffs.

Never thought I would see the day when Caspian Horses would need to be rescued. But even our rare breed has not been immune to the global economic downturn in recent years, which both reduced the numbers of Caspians being bred and flooded the market with very cheap or free horses, sometimes in dire need.

Caspian owners have rallied round. Helen Thirlby led the way in 2013 when she rescued Darkhorse Zarah, the first of the Darkhorses rescued that year when the stud was closed down.

July 2013 brought a sale of Caspians at York Sales numbering 52, both pure and part bred, from the former Darkhorse Stud. Several Caspian owners offered homes, so the elderly mare Darkhorse Qaramir went to live out her days "with dignity" in Lancashire with Brenda Dalton and Darkhorse Shizari made the long trip to Pandora Best in South Devon, to join her herd.

Darkhorse Aliah and Henden Farideh Ai Banou came home with me! The mares here have grown in confidence and condition; their progress has been hugely rewarding. Thanks must go to both Penny Walster and Harry Thirlby, for their assistance in the Caspian rescue efforts.

Following the York Sale, the matter of Caspian Welfare was discussed at the CHS AGM in 2013 and a dedicated **Welfare Fund** was started, to better enable Caspian rescues should they be needed in future.

Unfortunately, some of the other Darkhorse refugees have travelled around Europe or passed through numerous hands, but have never found their forever home. Henden Allawi was one such horse. A beautiful licensed stallion in 2013, he had been gelded and had gone through at least half a dozen homes in the past two years, through no fault of his own. The CHS Welfare Fund was able to offer a grant to Rebecca Mann in Somerset to purchase Allawi so he never has to move again.

THE WELFARE FUND

The Welfare Fund was able to help Allawi and give him a happy-ever-after home, thanks to your donations! There are may be more Caspian Horses that need our help, so please consider donating to the Welfare Fund.

Remember a lost and beloved horse with a donation, knowing that the money you give will be dedicated to giving a living Caspian Horse the chance of a better future.



HENDEN ALLAWI

Rebecca Mann

Allawi was one of Debbie Thompson' (Darkhorse) Caspian stallions and has had numerous homes since the stud's dispersal. Last December he was for sale again, as his owners had lost their grazing. I agreed to give

him a home, but was very short of space, so he spent a couple of months at Barbara Smathers' yard in Staffordshire before we collected him on the 8th February.

Allawi had a long journey down the M6 and M5 to Somerset while Storm Imogen was raging, but he travelled reasonably well and arrived safely at our yard, near Cheddar.

He has been introduced to our new Caspian stallion, Mazda. They are in adjacent stables, not turned out together, as Mazda is a bit boisterous. When the weather improves, Allawi will be introduced to the rest of the herd.

He suffers from sweet itch and has had an infestation of lice, so his skin condition will need monitoring over the next few months. He is quite nervous, so I want to give him plenty of time to settle down properly before he is ridden. He is gelded and broken to ride, so hopefully he will be able to work in my riding school. However, if he proves to be too nervous, I have plenty of grazing space, so he will be able to run with my youngstock on the Mendips.

Whatever happens, he is now in a forever home and will not have to change hands again.

DARKHORSE QARAMIR

Brenda Dalton

When Qaramir first arrived she was very unhappy about being stabled and even declined feed in order to get out first thing in the morning. She now gallops down the field if she thinks someone might be coming to put her in and stands by her door loudly demanding entry. If it is raining in the morning, even with a rug on, she will turn her back on an opened door.

My stables and paddocks are close to the house so it isn't too difficult to spoil her. She is stabled at night and, because our grass is very rich, grazing is restricted in the summer and she is stabled for two hours in the early afternoon with a small haynet and Happy Hoof but she makes sure that we don't forget to add at least three carrots. In the winter she has four feeds of hay and Happy Hoof.

Unfortunately, for the first time ever. our lower land and stables succumbed to the Boxing Day floods when the banks of the nearby River Ribble were breached by constant heavy rain.



We were forced to let them out into upwards of 15 inches of water, so they had to wade between tiny 'islands' here and there, while we heightened all the stable floors by

paving them with concrete blocks. This proved to be so successful for normal stable drainage that we have left them in place. We were up until after midnight lifting everything in the hay store and the garage to a safe height.

The paddocks remained flooded for the next two days and the higher ground was needed for the tiny St Kilda sheep, so we took the Caspians to a paddock they had not been in before and left head collars on in case we had a problem catching them. I needn't have been concerned. Qaramir tried desperately to come back with us. When we returned, she galloped along the fence alongside us, to the gate, and jogged until she arrived back at her stable.

Back in their usual paddocks, they took very little notice of the sound and sight of the army Chinook that flew backwards and forwards for the next few days, almost overhead, with its massive sandbags to plug the breached river bank.



THE BITTELL BANDITS

As told to Janet Dedicoat!

We have come a long way from our distant home in the open fields and feral lifestyle of the luxurious south at Lanhill in Wiltshire, to the hustle and bustle, comings and goings of our life now, at Bittell, near Birmingham. Sadly, through no fault of ours, the Lanhill and Henden studs were dispersed and new homes were found for us. We are five in number. Each has a different story and we're a mixed bunch of characters.

We are four Caspian stallions - Lanhill Petit Nikki (the 'cool dude'), Henden Nasri ('the villain'), Henden Saeed ('mischief maker'), Henden Shakir ('Mr Glamorous') and a Caspian gelding, Pip (Darkhorse Kourosh - "I would like to be a stallion").



Darkhorse Kourosh (Pip)

Pip arrived here from a very different background. He'd had a very poor start and after various kind homes, has arrived to be part of the Bittell Family.

We four stallions, plus four others, were herded from our paddocks at the stud into various partitions of a horsebox and travelled through the dark night...a fearful venture from the start...and eventually unloaded into a welcoming, warm, but very different barn home. We had no head-collars or communication skills at all.



Henden Shakir

From those early days of disbelief, amazement, fright and defensive behaviour, we have taken a lot in our strides, from the company of many other bigger and smaller equines to the attention of other livestock and humans, big and small.

We no longer fear the attacks of larger mares that we try to "chat up" or the grandchild with a variety of toys, vehicles and noisy musical instruments, who also frequently launches carrots over our doors. Christmas and flag days are still rather daunting.

We moved for the winter from the quieter big barn and paddocks to the main livery yard, where our eyes were



Lanhill Petit Nikki



Henden Saeed

on stalks for many weeks....so much action! Horses were going here, there and everywhere, in a variety of clothing and tack. It took days before we ventured to look out over our doors. We had a different daily routine - and WORK. What a shock!

We have met the vet, the farrier, tractors (but soon realised that these brought our food and bedding), the road and traffic!!! Clipping machines shaving our neighbours and hail on the roof. We nearly left home that day. The plastic shavings bags still take some understanding, especially if the colour changes. Our journey has been eventful, but we are gaining confidence in human nature and ways.



Henden Nasri

We too have our favourites - those who feed us and coo regularly at us and those who educate us. On the whole our previous existence was quiet and peaceful at the stud, but we actually like being involved with the activities in the yard in our new life. Lorries and trailers do take us to nice places, but we are still not over-keen on this idea. We take consolation in still being together and chatter endlessly between ourselves, drawing up plans of what mischievous deed we can do next. Our relationship with the gelding is improving and he comes up with some hilarious ideas too.

Yes, life has changed in 2016. We are more accepting of things outside our comfort zone, and would miss the attention and company that we are receiving now.

We must sleep now, photos tomorrow. Don't want to be tired for Easter! Who knows what comes next?

THE STICHILL STUD

(NEAR KELSO, BORDERS)

As told by Anna Bergmann

Anna reports that both Fred (her seven year old pure-bred Caspian stallion Bytham Orient) and Stichill Sapphire, (her 5 year old 3/4-bred mare by her part-bred stallion Bytham Bobby Dazzler), are jumping really well.

Anna says "I don't need to tell you how well they jump – how agile they are – and what pleasure they give!"



Fred is shown clearing a replica of a jump used in show jumping at nearby Floors Castle. Rider is Katy Mcfadyen.

Meanwhile Sapphire has been covering herself in glory in indoor show jumping at the prestigious new equestrian centre owned by Ian Stark. More photos of all Anna's Caspians will, we hope, be available for our Autumn issue!

CASPIAN x SKYROS HORSE 'THEODOROS'

Sheilagh Nisbet Brown

Readers may remember my article in a previous issue of the Caspian Horse Magazine where I explain how, after breeding the pure Skyros Horse in Scotland for 5 years, I wanted to take advantage of the phenomenon of hybrid vigour, where offspring show enhanced biological traits due to the mixing of genes from a dam and sire of different breeds. In this way, I have set out to allow the Skyros to show its value as a desirable cross-bred sports pony.

Theodoros was born in May 2014 to my Skyros mare Anastasia, sired by the Caspian stallion Bytham Orient (Fred), standing at Anna Bergman's Stichill stud. Anastasia is an experienced brood mare and generously nursed Theo, but his superior growth rate over the pure bred Skyros is also a factor of the Caspian genes and hybrid vigour. From the start, Theo has been sturdy, bold and inquisitive.



*Theo at 22 months,
March 2016*

He is responding well to basic training in good manners and is already easy to catch, halter, groom, pick out feet, worm, accept needles and wear a rug. Last year, we began some simple leading and trotting work, going over poles and tackling tiny jumps. None of this fazed him. We will continue this foundation work for another year.

With regard to weaning, I prefer to allow the mare and foal to do most of the work. Breeders will know that as the foal matures, his dynamic with the mare changes and they spend increasingly longer times apart in the field and with other horses. So, when Theo reached about fourteen months, I moved Anastasia into another paddock with her mother and sister, leaving Theo with his aunts. He nickered for only a little while.

During his gelding we found that he needed the amount of anaesthetic normally required for a 500kg horse and I would be interested in hearing if other breeders have observed a similar phenomenon. As this is a family magazine, I will refrain from too frank a description, but the parts removed from Theo were also unusually large: of the size of mangos compared with the Skyrian's apricots.

We thought it would be a good idea to introduce Theo to the showing scene, and gratefully accepted Anna's offer of help with loading and moral support. Although rather reluctant at first, Theo did load and we set off in pouring rain to the Yarrow Show. Unfortunately, the ground was so muddy, we weren't able to walk him around, but we were all pleased that Theo had travelled so well. Maybe this year we'll have better luck with the weather.

Theo is rising two years now and I am enormously pleased with his growth rate, conformation, movement and promising athleticism. He also has his father's beautiful eyes.

EUROPE AND OVERSEAS...

SWEDEN...

Emma Lindahl, Nordiclighs Stud

Emma started by saying that there was little news from Sweden. Then in a further series of emails, she evidently had a sudden recall! Here is her account (slightly abridged):

Now that we have our new farm, we are going to sell our "old farm" this spring/summer, if we will have enough time to organize everything.

Before Christmas, the Swedish Caspian Horse Association took part in the Sweden International Horse Show in Stockholm, where we had a stand for the SCHA and managed to have three different Caspians exhibiting the breed in three different places on several occasions.



On the stand was Tabriz's Sham (left) who was much admired by many of the estimated 89,000 people who attended this major show.



Taking part in the Christmas show in the Main Arena was the gelding Ann's Bounty, ridden by Nicole Wasmuth, who did a fantastic job as Santa Claus (left). They were there for the whole

week, from early morning to evening, to practice and arrange with customs. There has been great publicity for the Caspian and the SCHA and it has been shown on Swedish TV a lot since.



Maks Zpirit gave a dressage display representing the Caspian Breed in the Paddock Ring, with his rider, Maja.

A Caspian is also featuring in a big TV reality show here in Sweden

called 'Farmen' (The Farmer). The competitors have to live on a farm and the last person left is the winner, who wins a half million SEK. You can see the bay Caspian in episode 3, (the Caspian's identity is unknown at the moment) on this link, (although you will have to speak Swedish to understand what they're saying!)

<https://www.facebook.com/Farmenv4/videos/1019321204798634/?fref=nf>



In other news, the Swedish Caspian Horse Association held their breed show at our farm in 2015.

Our stallion MCC Kerdars Knight (left) was Best in Show.

The mare Astiz Inez (below) was Reserve Best in Show



Nordiclights Delyar (not pictured) is training to be an archery horse - a trainer from Iran will be coming to Sweden this spring and they will take part in their first competition in May.

A lady from Denmark is competing a lot with a Caspian and I hope we will have more information about them in the next issue of the magazine.

Finally, we are expecting seven Caspian foals this year from four different stallions!

Eds: From their excellent website, you can access fabulous photographs taken at the International Conference and Show by the Iranian photographer, Saman Moradi at www.nordiclights.se

IRAN...

NEW 'NARCY TREES' AT NOROUZABAD

As told by Fahimeh Vaezi, Tehran

We are indebted to Fahimeh, who teaches riding with Caspians to the young riders of Tehran at Norouzabad equestrian centre, for her recent photographs of a significant occasion there! Norouzabad is located a few miles outside Tehran and is where Louise Firouz and her husband Narcy ran their equestrian centre in the 1960s. It was to Norouzabad that she took the first Caspians she found and handed them over to her young pupils and her own children to discover just what these 'new ponies' could do. (See 'The Caspian' Spring/Summer 2015).

When Louise and Narcy arrived at Norouzabad some 50 years ago, Narcy planted many trees, several of which I saw when Ateshe and I met Fahimeh and visited Norouzabad in April last year.

One of the trees was of particular significance to Fahimeh and her friends and helpers. This revered (and obviously dying) tree, stood in a place of honour in the



centre of the stable yard and was pointed out to me as being the special tree planted by Narcy all those years ago. Now Fahimeh tells us that the old tree finally gave up the ghost.

Two new young trees (which, from the photo below resemble willows) have been planted in its place, with due ceremony by Fahimeh (centre) and her helpers and students. Let's hope the new trees flourish and watch over Narcy and Louise's legacy for at least another 50 years.





Footnote: Fahimeh (standing 3rd from left) has sent a photograph of Dr Peter Daels from Denmark, (a Speaker at the Conference, standing 2nd from right) who recently visited Norouzabad during the lovely Iranian springtime.

UNITED STATES...

THE ADVENTURES OF A CASPIAN x QUARTER HORSE

Rebecca Malcolm, Georgia, USA

DiMar Cajun is a Caspian x Quarter Horse gelding, owned by Rebecca Malcolm, (nee Willner). Becca runs a training stable, RDW Eventing, from her farm. Cajun was bred by Dick Kearley, of DiMar Caspians in Hawthorne, Florida. (We have featured some of Dick's Caspians several times in this magazine.)



*Cajun and the newly-weds!
Photo by DeDe Wilson*

Here is Becca's account of life with Cajun.

"Cajun is now eight, and has been in honest, solid work with just me for about a year and a half. Since last year, I took time off from the upper level competitions to settle into a new life as a newly-wed, buying a home and a barn, etc. Cajun made the transition easy as he became my 'go-to' number 1 horse in the barn.

He moved up to Novice in 2015. He averages in the upper 20's in the dressage and rarely touches a pole in show jumping. Cross Country is always a blast and leaves everyone's heart full of love when he finishes.

Exposing him has been the most important part of his training, he is super athletic, but still gets distracted by new surprises. I have ridden my whole life with a lot of people on a lot of horses, but this 13.3 hh Caspian has my greatest debt for level of education. Now that I am settled in life and starting back with competing new horses, I have realized how much he improves my riding. He makes me sharper, more aware. I have better body control and better appreciation for the importance of balance and how it affects the horse.

He absolutely loves his job. He is a bit of a ham, he knows he is talented and doesn't really like being a packer just yet. He takes his role very seriously. Honestly, when he has more than three days off you will find him doing gallops out back. He methodically goes in one direction for a few circles and will change direction and do the same amount of circles on the other lead.



Photo by Randy Traynor

His accolades for 2015 were recognized at our South Wind Dressage and Eventing Banquet, where he was low point in Novice combined test on a 25.6, which was his winning score at the Championships in November. He also took home a few awards in the Jumpers.

As far as where his future goes, he will stay at my new farm in Georgia and continue to event while raising the bar on his dressage. He would be offended for me to say that eventing past Novice would probably be pushing it, however I believe his flat work can go a bit further. It's possible he will be able to show at 3'3" + in the jumper ring, so I will just let him tell me where he is most comfortable for now. I hope, once his limits are set, he will settle down and be able to take a few kids through the levels as time goes on. For now I will just enjoy having him at events, running around the Beginner Novice or Novice, hopefully taking home the ribbons he deserves. Every time he wins I always tell him it's his ribbon. I just have the pleasure of being the one in the saddle.

Cajun was featured in Eventing Nation as a special breed in the sport. A link to the article is given overleaf...

<http://eventingnation.com/a-horse-of-a-different-color-cajun/>

He is truly remarkable and I hope he gives the Caspian breed a boost as a Sport Horse!

Becca"

RDW Eventing

USPC

Certified Dressage A & Traditional A,

www.rdweventing.com

Dick Kearley says:

"Little Cajun has SUCH a solid base in his training it is unbelievable. He takes first place in his class at virtually every outing. Last weekend he pulled a 25 score in dressage along with high praise from the judge. I don't know if you follow eventing, but I can tell you that dressage scores in the mid-twenties are usually going to extremely experienced horses of the 'dressage breeds.'" Usually these horses have been in Dressage first and come to Eventing as a second job. Cajun is just amazing and his owner loves him to death.

His dam is my registered Quarter Horse mare, Ms Hickory San. She is a stout Stock Horse type and her background is loaded with Cutting Horse blood. His sire is Kristull Triumph (pure-bred Caspian – now a gelding).

Triumph was sired by Henden Trojan, out of Henden Becci. So on the top side he traces back to Aseman, Mehri, Daria Nour, Ruba, Mitra and Douez, all foundation animals. Triumph signed up for his first Pony Club Games Rally at the tender age of 16 - a practice rally on March 26th, followed by the Pony Club Rally itself on April 9th.



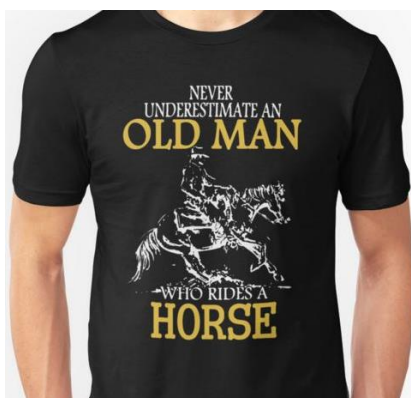
Triumph and his rider, Jackson (nearest), had a great day yesterday at the Pony Club Games Practice.

They rode happily in a large group of ponies and Triumph

never made a mis-step. I was very pleased with his smooth and willing transitions between the gaits, both up and down.

NEVER
UNDER-
ESTIMATE...

Top of Dick's Bucket List is his intention to ride again and earn this shirt...



MY VISIT TO GENE GILBERT'S CASPIANS, LOS ANGELES, MARCH 2016 Ruth Staines

While I was visiting my daughter and her family in San Diego recently, I thought I should follow in Farokh's footsteps and visit Gene Gilbert, who owns Caspians near the centre of Los Angeles, a two hour drive north. I had been telling my family about Caspians for years, but they had never seen one! We drove virtually the whole way on the romantically named 'Golden State Freeway', which was not so romantic when we crossed into LA County and the traffic resembled that on the M25! We passed 'downtown' and many huge shopping malls, then to the west, as we turned off north of the city, were the inviting slopes of Griffith Park (with Hollywood just beyond the park).

Within seconds we were in a pretty, leafy street with yards of horses at the end, a peaceful enclave in the midst of all the city buildings. We knew Gene's riding club (a US Pony Club Riding Centre) was a few streets away, but she keeps her Caspians at the end of her garden!



Gene greeted us warmly, and treated us to a picnic lunch in her lovely garden. She had even invited some children from the Pony Club camp to keep my grandchildren company.

I asked if they rode in Griffith Park – it has many trails but sadly is cut off to riders from this area by a highway and a river – a bridge has been promised for many years, but it does not seem likely to be built in the near future. Then Gene introduced us to about a dozen Caspians, all very friendly. She first saw Caspians at Equitana, Kentucky, in 1996. Many of her Caspians have Australian lines, having been bred by the Covingtons, who imported stock from there. She has bred three of her own, but with the US market virtually non-existent she is not breeding at the moment. One Caspian is used at the Pony Club and more have been used in the past.

Two Caspians were brought out into the round exercise pen so we could see them move.



First the grey gelding, MCCs Kourosh (Marida Manzel x Chippendale Khalifah)



Then a lovely bay stallion with dorsal stripe - MCCs Ardestan (Chippendale Bahram x Woodstock Taliyeh II), who can be traced to Shirine on his dam's side.

Photos: Ruth Staines

Both showed the lovely smooth (and very fast!) strides of the Caspian.

Gene is very keen to attract more children to ride at her Pony Club – so if you are anywhere near LA please take your children (or indeed yourselves) riding there and meet some Caspians!



Liz Webster's daughter, Dani, met Gene at Enterprise Farms in 2009. www.enterprisefarms.com

DiMAR CYCLONE

Dick Kearley, Florida, USA

Until fairly recently, the first of my purebreds to compete under saddle, Cyclone, was working with our little Pony Club Games team. I had no idea where that would go because I have learned that Pony Club is fraught with many changes of heart and changes in direction. Very young riders are not likely to stay focused on a single competitive goal. We had leased a Welsh mare with games experience just for this games team, but after the Sunday practice we had decided to send her home, because Cyclone was doing so well we just didn't need another true pony giving the kids a hard time.

Sadly, Cyclone is currently out of a job, as his young rider has now moved on to larger horses, but we continue to hope that he will be able to start in work again soon as he is such a good performer.



DiMar Cyclone taking part in the Pony Club Hunt. Dress code is relaxed, but Cyclone and his rider got a little award for Best Turned Out.

MY VISIT TO CALIFORNIA

Farokh Khorrooshi

After the successful launch of the Calendar on October 7th at the Iran Heritage Foundation in London's Mayfair, I prepared my sheep at the farm, put the ram in with the ewes, packed my suitcase and set off for California, where the largest community of expat Iranians live.

Upon arrival at LAX Airport in Los Angeles, I was met and whisked off to my first Iranian gathering by my sister, who lives and works in LA. Not having spoken much Farsi for some 40 years, I found the going hard! Luckily everyone was very friendly and enthusiastic. I was astonished to find how so few Iranians had ever heard of the Caspian Horse. This did, of course, give me a chance to tell them all about the plight of their national heritage. Most of my audiences were genuinely shocked to hear the story and seemed very concerned. I assured them all that lots of effort was being put in by

a small number of dedicated people to make sure that this unique horse would not become extinct.

Prior to flying out there, I had arranged for 500 copies of the Calendar to be flown out to LA (at horrifying expense) so that I would be able to offer them to interested Iranians. This proved to be a nightmare. The shipper's truck arrived only after much chasing and many broken promises. The driver arrived steaming with frustration and complaining about the traffic. To my horror I found that the loads had shifted and two of the three pallets in the truck had been broken. Some of the delicate Calendar boxes were clearly damaged. Many telephone calls later, the load was sent back to the depot for repacking, as it was not sensible to unload it in the condition in which it had arrived. I found this both depressing and frustrating. Many, many 'phone calls later, we received the repacked cargo, with some 40 or so Calendars damaged - heart-breaking. I took a few Calendars to LA as hand luggage so I had something to show.

My sister and some old friends from college days had arranged several TV and radio interviews. A tough week lay ahead.

I decided to visit my brother and his family in San Diego for the weekend. I packed a few copies of the Calendar and a boxed set of A2 prints and boarded the Amtrak train. The journey from Los Angeles to San Diego is a delight, as most of the route follows the coast. My brother picked me up at San Diego station and took me to a wonderful Health Food vegetarian restaurant. Good start.

The weekend was spent briefing my brother and his wife on what was going on and what help was needed. They both sprang into action and managed to sell ten Calendars in a day. They also bought the first set of A2 prints with the number 1/50. My brother and his wife seemed genuinely proud to own such a prestigious collection of prints.

I discussed the plans for the week ahead with my brother. He kindly offered me one of his cars to take for the drive to LA and to use for zipping around that vast city, which I gratefully accepted. That car became my home for the next two weeks. Sometimes I drove for up to ten hours a day, from one end of Los Angeles to the other with no more than a bottle of warm water and a bag of nuts. During that week I managed to contact Gene Gilbert, who owns several working Caspians in a wonderful old riding school in LA. She was wonderfully hospitable and very supportive.

The highlight of the visit was my TV interview with Bijan Khalili, who owns the biggest Iranian book shop in LA and is an enthusiastic publisher. He was thrilled to learn all about the Caspian Horse and its history. He gave me a long interview in his weekly Arts program and offered to sell the calendars in his bookstore.

(www.ketab.com Tel. 1-800-367-4726, should any of our American members wish to contact him.)



Television interview with Mr Bijan Khalili

A couple of days before my departure, an email came through from CHS Chairman Ruth Staines, informing me about the invitation from Buckingham Palace to present a Calendar to HRH Prince Philip. We had been granted an audience with His Royal Highness, who is a great supporter of the Caspian Horse (*see my article on page??*).

During my two or so weeks in LA, I managed to put 1000 miles on my brother's car. I returned to the UK after three weeks having sold about 200 Calendars, but there's a long way to go before we can recover our costs, pay our bills and begin to raise money for the Gene bank.

We need to sell many more Calendars - and CHS now has 110 members! If you have not already done so, I invite you to purchase your own Calendar and help us to raise money for the Gene Bank.

Please visit www.caspianproductions.co.uk to see a short film narrated by Martin Clunes and order your own 50th Anniversary Calendar.

AUSTRALIA...

THE DAY THE FILM CREW CAME

Jenne Timbs

Jasenna Caspian Stud, Brisbane, Australia

I worked very hard in 2015 trying to use the 50th Anniversary of the rediscovery of the Caspian Horse to promote them here in Australia. I contacted the three major Television Network stations, a documentary film maker and several horse magazine/website managers.

In February we had an extensive article (and front cover) in the "Horses and People" Magazine and in June we welcomed the film crew from 'Totally Wild', who produce a children's television program. Click on this link and then on the picture to read the article with all photos in situ.

<https://www.horsesandpeople.com.au/article/the-caspian#.Vvu4IfI97IU>

When I 'phoned the 'Totally Wild' staff, they were preparing for a program on endangered species, so they were instantly interested and quickly came back with a filming date about three weeks into the future. I directed them to the 'Horses and People' article, knowing that they could go through it and pick out the most important information on which to base the show. In hind sight I am not sure that it was actually read, as little of what I would class as the really important information made it through into the final show. Still when you only have a three minute segment and are targeting a young audience, there is a limit to what can be said.

Late June is mid-winter in Australia, and though our winters are fairly mild, the horses were in their winter coats and lacked their beautiful glossy summer sheen. The day before was hectic, there is always so much to do at Jasenna stud and we also had to fit in washing three horses, sorting out rugs and organising stables to put them in (since we are no longer showing horses, we have cut costs by decommissioning our stables).

The film crew was scheduled to arrive at 9 a.m., so we were up very early. Morning Glory, our only Caspian horse schooled for riding, was already groomed and saddled when they arrived and the first footage taken was of our daughter Sienna, then eleven years old, riding Morning Glory. Duane, the interviewer, then asked if MG was a mare, as he wanted a "Magnificent Mare" to use for his opening statements. We explained that though a very sweet and gentle mare, she was by no means a "magnificent" Caspian and that we had much nicer examples. They, however, seemed keen to get started and as we figured MG would stand nice and still beside Duane, we positioned her front-on to the camera so less of her conformation could be seen.

We then asked if they wanted some footage of different coloured Caspians running in a paddock. This was met with enthusiasm as "Totally Wild is much about "action". We had not really prepared for doing this and so the five horses we collected for the best colour combination had not even been groomed! Still they performed beautifully, cantering and prancing with tails up and nostrils flared. The producers must have also been pleased as we have seen parts of the footage used on a couple of subsequent shows that mentioned horses.

Next we rushed to do Sienna's interview with her little stallion, Hadar. He behaved so well and stood nice and still except when Duane, who had an arm resting on his back, touched his flank a couple of times. Sienna also



Sienna showed them her little stallion, Jasenna Hadar

spoke well and was in no way camera shy. It was then time to do tricks with Shenayim, undoubtedly one of our smartest fillies (below).

She smiled, lifted each leg when I pointed to it and kicked a ball. The camera man remarked how great it was that the horses did exactly what we said they would do. They often find this is not the case.



Jasenna Shenayim, one of our smartest fillies

The final interview was done with Meshek, our bay stallion that so often went with us to the Brisbane Royal Horse Breeds Expo. Even in winter he keeps a lovely short coat and after finishing the closing remarks I asked would they like him to gallop around the paddock for some nice footage "If he will?" They nodded. I told them where to stand and then let him go. He galloped around beautifully several times and then had a nice roll in the dirt in the corner and ruined in an instant all of the hard work we had put into washing him. Still we had finished filming him and I suppose he had earned it. The team were very happy with their three hours of work when they left us and we were so pleased that the horses had done everything on cue.



Meshek with Jenne and Sienna before he rolled in the dirt!

On viewing the program when it went to air a couple of months later, there are a few things I would change and I have made a mental note if there is ever a next time. As well as the article, I would send in a list of the most important points to cover, as TV people run on such tight schedules that I am not sure they read lengthy articles.

Secondly I would try and position the horses for the best angle, as the camera man is more concerned about the people in the shot and rumps can become the major horse feature.

Lastly I would try and enlist other horsey people to help with grooming on the day etc., as once the crew arrives, three hours goes in the blink of an eye and there is no time for any touch-ups.

On the whole, we have received positive feedback from the show.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE... We look forward to revealing news of the Caspian Horses which form a vital ingredient in a newly established **Children's Village** in Hungary. First visitors last summer were children from the war-torn regions of Donetsk and Lugansk in the Ukraine. The horses which help the children to forget their hard lives for a while include registered and foundation Caspians and some which failed assessment by ICS, plus the offspring of both. The children, the Caspians, and their remarkable owner form the beating heart of this very special place.

MITANNI STUD

Rosie Mecca, Victoria

Rosie tells us that she is intending to drive and exhibit her Caspians. This future project will feature her beautiful new pup, a Belgian Shepherd of the Laekenois variety named Belgenbeau Bellatrix Orionis (Bella)! She has a future in tracking, obedience and scent detection. She will also become an unconventional carriage dog, accompanying Rosie when she attends driving demonstrations and exhibitions with her Caspians.



Eds: *Makes a change to feature a dog in this magazine! More about this plan to come in the future, we hope.*

CONTROL OF ANIMALS ACT 2015 Chapter 23

Abbreviated extracts from Explanatory Notes
issued by Legislation.gov.uk

(Included in case anybody is thinking of fly-grazing!)

The explanatory notes on this site relate to the Control of Horses Act 2015, which received Royal Assent on 26th March 2015. They have been prepared by DEFRA in order to assist in understanding the Act. They do not form part of it and have not been endorsed by Parliament. The notes should be read in conjunction with the Act and are not intended as a comprehensive description. Where a section or part-section does not seem to require any explanation or comment, none has been given.

The Act is about horses which are unlawfully present on land, whether they have strayed or been placed there deliberately. It amends the Animals Act 1971 ("the 1971 Act") so as to enable local authorities, freeholders and occupiers to deal with horses which are present unlawfully on their land.

The Act introduces a new procedure regarding the detention and disposal of such horses. Specifically, it allows horses to be disposed of 96 hours after detention, rather than fourteen days as previously, and includes destruction or (disposal in) any other way (which could include giving it to a charity). Previously, detained horses had to be sold at a market or auction, despite many having little or no value.

Fly-grazing is the placing of horses on another person's land to use their grazing, without their consent. Despite legal requirements for all horses to be identified by a horse passport and microchip it has become a significant problem in some parts of England. There were calls for the law to be changed to make it easier for local authorities, in relation to public places, and freeholders and occupiers of land to deal with the problem.

The 1971 Act extends to England and Wales as a single jurisdiction and so does this Act. However, these amendments to the 1971 Act apply only in England. Wales legislated on fly-grazing in the Control of Horses (Wales) Act 2014. The 1971 Act and this Act do not extend to Scotland or Northern Ireland.

Visit

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/23/notes> for the full explanation of the Act and to access the Act itself.

MEMO FROM RUTH STAINES – CHS REGISTRAR. Caspian owners – please note: When you have your horse micro-chipped, the vet **must** sign and stamp the passport beside (not on top of) the bar code label. **Important** – your vet should ask to see the passport when attending the horse. Owners should ensure they give the passport to the vet for checking **even if it is not requested**. For further information, please see the Registration, Passports and Stallion Licensing page on the society website www.caspianhorsesociety.org.uk

CHILDREN'S POLO – THE PONY CLUB

It is believed that small horses of Caspian type may have been used by Persian kings and queens in the earliest form of polo played in the huge Imam square in the centre of Isfahan. This prompts us to explore the possibility of young children using modern Caspians for this now popular pastime. The Caspian certainly has the intelligence, build, balance and sure-footedness to take part in the sport. Welfare of pony and rider are of the highest importance of course and there are strict rules to prevent any misuse of the 'ponies'.

Both the Cowdray Park Polo Academy and the Pony Club provide tuition and hold matches and championships for young players. There are several websites which explain all aspects of children's polo.

One is the Pony Club:

www.pcuk.org/index.php/disciplines/polo/polopolo_competitions

Another is Sussex Polo:

www.sussexpolo.co.uk/polo-lessons/junior-polo

From the Pony Club Junior Rule Book for 2016, we learn that Pony Club Polo is played by over 300 young people aged 6-21 years old. They describe it as a great way to have fun and make social contacts and friendships for life. The five Pony Club (polo) sections are based on age groups. Other than the youngest ('Jorrock's'), the best teams in each Section play the finals of the Pony Club Polo Championships at Cowdray Park over a weekend in early August.



Sabrina Bradley on Edcombe Aladdin (photo by Colin Barker for the Anniversary Calendar)

The youngest children play in the Jorrock's Championships, held at Hurtwood Park Polo Club in early August.

In addition to a full programme of tournaments and training in the summer holidays, there are arena tournaments and training courses in the Easter holidays.

Following on from the success of the Pony Club's polo-playing junior members, a new level of competition was introduced in 2011– the Junior Academy. If anybody wishes to know the rules, they can be found on the Pony Club polo site and many others.

We will keep you updated on this possible future outlet for Caspians.

THE RIGHT PHOTOGRAPH CAN 'SELL' YOUR HORSE

Elizabeth Webster

We're talking *business* photographs here, not family snaps, so let me confess right now that I am no great shakes as a photographer myself - but I do know a good photo of a horse when I see one! I know that by your presentation of the horse – and the message you convey - you can influence somebody to follow up on your advertisement before any others. You should aim to 'sell' the *idea* of your horse, as well as the horse itself.

Having only a small automatic camera, I can't advise you on the intricacies of focus or timing. Whilst great for family snaps and landscapes, it has its limitations where horse photography is concerned. But from the other end of the operation, especially when it is to be printed and possibly enlarged or viewed on the unforgiving screen, I know that quality is very important! So if you can't manage it or don't have a good camera, get a professional to do it - or ask a keen and preferably horsey photographer friend to take the photos under your direction. Choose a dry day with good light, but avoid the brightest sun, which can give a bleached look.

Some things are just plain common sense, but I have found that this often goes out of the window when faced with the task of capturing the perfect image.

So if you're taking a photograph of a Caspian intended for our website's FOR SALE or AT STUD pages or for the Press, remember that first impressions really *do* count. Before you start, have your Caspian beautifully groomed and shining, with clean, well-shaped hooves, brushed and tidy mane and tail. In advertised sales lists, most other people will have done at least that, so don't put your poor horse at a disadvantage straight away! Glossy summer coats always looks best, so wait until all traces of winter fluff have gone if you can.

For his photo-call, your horse should ideally be wearing a smart, well-fitting bridle which will enhance his pretty head, with leather or chain lead-rein. Head-collars should preferably be avoided unless they're the polished leather sort. Lead-ropes can look clumsy or moth-eaten, so either avoid them or buy a brand new one! If your Caspian will stand still without being held close up, try to put a little distance between your end of the lead-rein and his, so that you are not hiding any part of him. If his leader is to be in the image, they too should be well-groomed and smartly dressed. If not, the extra length of rein will allow them to be easily removed from the image.

The background: Think carefully about your background! Many an otherwise fine shot of a horse has been rendered useless due to a telegraph pole or tree apparently growing out of its back. A busy background can also make the horse 'disappear', so try

to pick fairly plain surroundings and check through the viewfinder for inconvenient objects that the eye doesn't normally notice.



A traditional, formal pose requires your horse to stand sideways to the camera, all four feet weight bearing and shown in balance, with the legs furthest from the camera in view. Which way he faces

depends on whether his neck is well-shaped or needs a mane to hide behind! His ears should be pricked and his head up, with his attention focussed on something interesting beyond the camera (cue an off-camera assistant with tempting mare or snack!). For Caspians, the camera should be aimed at mid-girth - the photographer may need to crouch to the same level - so that his fine legs are not fore-shortened. Be careful not to become so pre-occupied with the ears that you forget about the legs and vice versa. (I speak from experience!)



For an action shot, first make sure the image is clear and not blurred and that *it flatters your horse*. All the requirements as regards grooming etc. will still apply, so a distant snap of a hairy horse galloping around a

mucky field just won't do! Remember - your prime objective is to 'sell' your horse's presence, good conformation, paces and temperament, not how high he bucks, however amusing it may be. This horse may be galloping up a hill, but he still looks impressive!

Whether for sale or for stud, remember that the purpose for which he is to be 'sold' should be part of your planning how best to present him. If I was a mare owner looking for the sire of a future child's pony, I would be far less impressed by a flying buck (no matter how athletically performed and beautifully photographed) than by a picture of the stallion ridden or led by a child, standing and behaving beautifully on the lead.

On the other hand, if I was looking for a jumping sire, or perhaps to buy a potential sports pony/horse, I would prefer to see him being ridden, possibly in dressage or jumping, to reassure me that he would fit my needs. If you hope to find him a driving home, his presentation should be just as carefully thought out and I always think that he *should* be shown in action, doing what he does best.

The miracle of cropping! Once you have your images, (always take many more than you think you'll need!) examine them carefully and be prepared to discard several! Then see if any of the rest could be improved by cropping. Unwanted space or objects can be cropped out, revealing your horse as the centre of attention.

Make sure the chosen image is unambiguously about your horse and not the field or stable yard he lives in or how many nice friends he has. Don't hesitate to crop out his leader if it would improve the image, no matter how smartly dressed they are!

Finally - dare I say it? I invite owners to check their images on our website's FOR SALE and AT STUD pages. Could yours give a better impression of the horse concerned? Don't forget that they also represent the Caspian breed! You will first need to convince the viewer that a Caspian is a good idea before they will look properly at your horse (first impressions, remember?) If you really want to attract a buyer, or a mare owner to your stallion, it pays to have a really honest look at your photograph. For your own sake, make sure it really is the best you can do.

Let's face it, we Caspian lovers are *all* in the business of 'selling' Caspians to the horse-loving public. Summer coats will soon be here again and we'll be more than happy to exchange a photograph for you. Go the extra mile – you know what they say about a good image being worth a thousand words....

SUMMER TIPS

Vicki Shortis

- Remember to start your anti-midge treatment before they arrive. Feeding Garlic or Marmite is one way.
- Remember to start in good time to prepare your horse for the season by grooming and schooling.
- Remember, when handling a nervous horse, to scratch his neck and along his crest, rather than patting him.
- Remember to start digging in your field, entirely removing and burning Ragwort before it flowers.
- Remember to keep water tanks filled and regularly scrubbed to stop green algae forming on the sides.
- Remember to wear Hi-Viz clothing when riding, driving or leading a horse on the road and to get Road Safety training.
- Remember, when driving a car past a horse, to PASS WIDE AND SLOW.*
- Did you know that Horse and Hound does a three times a week editorial Newsletter via email, which you can subscribe to free of charge?

SWEET-ITCH: Whatever the breed, some horses are prone to Sweet-Itch. This can be made worse if they are living near water and trees, which make good breeding areas for midges. I've had some horses who have suffered from this stressful problem as I live near a river, we have drainage ditches on the water meadows which hold stagnant water and a good selection of trees.

I've found that adding a small measure of garlic and Wendall's Stop-itch to a daily feed and applying 'NAFOFF' Deet Power equine fly repellent gel to the itchy parts seem to help to control it. If they have rubbed an area raw, I apply Aloe Vera jelly to the area.

STRANGLES: In February 2015, two dozen cases of strangles were reported at one of Norfolk's horse charities, Redwings Farm. Redwings has launched a survey to help tackle further incidents of it, to understand owners perception of this dangerous disease, which affects the upper respiratory tract of equines, and how it can be better tackled.

Redwings has teamed up with Animal Health Trust and the University of Liverpool to set up the online survey. They are interested to hear from horse owners regardless of their experience of strangles. Everyone who completes the survey will receive a healthy treat for their horse or pony.

The survey is at :

www.redwings.org.uk/strangles-survey. (Extracts taken from an article in the Eastern Daily Press 16.4.2016)

BOOK REVIEWS

Vicki Shortis

FOR LOVE OF HORSES

The Diaries of Dorothy, Mrs Geoffrey Brooke, this is an interesting and unemotional account of how and why the Brooke Hospital for equines was started. It has now been re-printed by the Brooke to mark their 80th anniversary, with re-mastered photos and updated notes about their work for the welfare of horses and donkeys. The Paperback book is available for £5 from [www.info@thebrooke.org](mailto:info@thebrooke.org). It is also available in Kindle from www.Amazon.co.uk

MOUNT

For all Jilly Cooper fans, her latest book, starring her readers' favourite cad, Rupert Campbell-Black, is due to be released on the 8th September 2016. It will be available in hard-cover for £13.60 and in Kindle edition for £9.99

This book can be pre-ordered from www.Amazon.co.uk

(Note - if you decide to buy either of these books, please remember that you can get them from Amazon via www.easyfundraising.org.uk which will earn a donation to CHS at no extra cost to you)

ROAD SAFETY

*(*The British Horse Society has launched a new Road Safety Campaign on www.bhs.org.uk) With traffic increasing all the time, roads are not so horse-friendly these days, so this could save your life.*

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

A few members are still 'out of kilter' with the payment dates of their Standing Orders (and one or two with cash/cheques too). All Annual subscriptions are due each 1st April once you have joined CHS (unless you joined after January 1st, in which case you can miss that year). We would be grateful if you would now make sure you have paid your 2016 subscription and if necessary changed your bank arrangements to pay your Standing Order on 1st April as from 2017. Thanks so much for your support.

Our Membership Secretary can advise on your membership status if required.

OUR WEBSITE – Farokh Khorrooshi

www.caspianhorsesociety.org.uk

Farokh Khorrooshi, Ruth Staines and Elizabeth Webster have been working hard to ensure that our website is a constant source of up-to-date information for Caspian breeders and full of interesting news and photographs of Caspians and events. It is regularly updated and added to, but there's always more to do! In particular we need more and better photographs for the Gallery, so please keep sending them in.

An explanation of the Gene Bank Project and how visitors can help us to fund-raise for it will shortly be available. Donations by any means are very welcome indeed towards the Gene Bank and payment facilities by PayPal have now been added for your convenience.

Statistics 'behind' our website tell us how well the website is working to attract new visitors, as well as regular users. We know that visits to the CHS website have increased tenfold in the last 18 months and that it is now visited regularly by people in many parts of the world. We are always reviewing its content and welcome constructive feedback and suggestions.

As I write I see that during March, for example, we had an average of 680 unique visitors per week and 1,791 page views per week. Interestingly, the highest peak for both categories was on 29th February, when it topped out at 444 page views and 142 unique visitors to our website. This was the day that the CHS Newsletter was emailed to members, in which we announced that the 4th International Conference programme and Breed Show photo diaries could now be seen on our website.

Nice to know that our Magazine, Newsletter and Website all work together to provide more information and gain new supporters for the Caspian Horse.

MEMBER'S RECIPE

Contributed by Vicki Shortis

MELON & GRAPEFRUIT CRAB STARTER (Serves six)

12 ozs. (340 gr.) brown and white Crabmeat
3 melons
Grapefruit segments, fresh or tinned
Half cup of Mayonnaise
A little olive oil
Lemon or Lime juice to taste
Salt and pepper

Garnish: Cayenne pepper

Chicory or Lettuce, Flaked almonds

Mix the mayonnaise, olive oil and lemon juice in a bowl and gently fold in the crabmeat and grapefruit segments, leaving the pieces of both as large as possible.

Add seasoning to taste. Cool in the fridge until ready. Cut melons in half and scoop out the seeds (you may need to level the melon bases to help them stand up). Spoon the crab mixture into the cavity.

To garnish, add a sprinkle of cayenne for colour and decorate with slices of chicory or lettuce and flaked almonds. This can also be adapted to make a light lunch, served with some nice crusty bread!

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE OF 'THE CASPIAN'...

We love to keep in touch with our members, wherever they are. This is *your* magazine and our notice board.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WRITE AN ARTICLE OR REPORT for 'The Caspian' magazine, we would love to receive it, but please remember the following requirements!

Text: Send your editorial in Word (not pdf), so it can be manipulated to fit into the space available.

Please restrict it to 450 words maximum, (slightly less if you send a photograph) unless requested to write more. We may need to edit or précis your submission, but can send you the précis version to check if you wish and time allows.

Photographs: Please email photographs as jpegs, in original size if you can. Ensure the quality is as good as possible and send it as an attachment - we can reduce and crop it as required, without losing clarity. (We can also crop and slightly enhance most home-scanned historical photographs).

Send all submissions to both Vicki and Liz.

DEADLINES: 1st APRIL (Spring/Summer) and 1st OCTOBER (Autumn/Winter).

BE WEBWISE!

Useful Contacts

www.caspianhorsesociety.org.uk Our own very comprehensive website with associated links. It is regularly updated with news, photographs and information.

www.caspianhorses.org Website of the International Caspian Society. This site holds the International Caspian studbook and enables electronic entries by national member registrars. Lots of information, news and links to useful sites, including ICS member societies' websites.

To add a link, contact the ICS Registrar, Kay Taplin <icsregistrar@hotmail.com>

www.caspianproductions.co.uk Producers of the 50th Anniversary Calendar. Visit this site to preview and buy the Calendar and read the fascinating Calendar Diaries.

Other useful sites:

www.laminitisclinic.org Informative and helpful site for anyone with a laminitis problem.

www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk This site offers a voucher for free ACTH blood test to diagnose Cushing's Disease. Lab fees are covered but you pay the vet's call-out charge.

www.yourhorseshealth.com/health_care/colic

Very useful for help with colic. (Note: health_care)

www.bhs.org.uk The BHS covers a wide range of issues affecting horse, rider and related subjects on a daily basis.

www.sweet-itch.com Information to help overcome Sweet Itch.

www.grasssickness.org Visit this site to learn more about this very distressing disease.

www.ragwort-ulk.com and www.ragwort.com
Two sites for advice about dealing with ragwort, which is highly toxic to horses

www.pcuk.org Website of the Pony Club in the UK.

www.nntta.co.uk Useful site if you tow a trailer. Advice on towing and where to find urgently needed spare parts.

www.stolenhorseregister.com To report a stolen or missing horse contact the Stolen Horse Register.
Tel 0870 870 7107

www.newc.co.uk National Equine Welfare Council. Lots of useful advice.

THE CHS 2016 WORDSEARCH PUZZLE

*Search horizontally, vertically, diagonally and backwards.
We've started you off with an easy one to get you in the mood!
All words are contained in this issue of 'The Caspian'.*

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

CAN YOU FIND THESE WORDS?

CARRIAGE
SHAWELL
ASHBY SHOW
KHOJA
THEODORUS
PARADE
CARDS

CYCLONE
AZALEAS
CONFERENCE
BLOODLINES
BAMBI
AUTUMN
FUNDRAISE

CAJUN
GIFT AID
GENE BANK
BREED
CRICKLANDS
PHOTO
STOCKHOLM

THE HORSE

WHERE IN THIS WIDE WORLD can man find
nobility without pride, friendship without envy
- Or beauty without vanity?

Here, where grace is served with muscle and
strength by gentleness confined.

He serves without servility; he has fought
without enmity. There is nothing so powerful,
nothing less violent. There is nothing so quick,
nothing more patient.

Ronald Duncan 1954

"...AND ALLAH took a handful of southerly
wind, blew His breath over it and created
the horse. Thou shall fly without wings, and
conquer without any sword. Oh, horse..."

Bedouin Legend

"THE DAUGHTER who won't lift a finger in
the house is the same child who cycles
madly off in the pouring rain to spend all
morning mucking out a stable."

Samantha Armstrong

CHS BUSINESS PAGE

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Please contact Pat Bowles (contact details on last page)

NB: Membership is valid from 1st April to the following 31st March. SO = Standing Order. New members joining after 1st January need not pay the following April 1st but should resume in future years.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES:

Voting Membership (V) Non-Voting membership (NV)

LIFE (V): One payment: UK £175. Overseas £200

ANNUAL UK (V): £17 cheque or £15 (SO)

FAMILY (UK) (2 *Voting adults + up to 2 children below 18 at same address*): £27 cheque or £25 (SO)

JUNIOR (NV): £9 cheque or £7 (SO)

OVERSEAS (V): £20 cheque or £18 (SO)

OVERSEAS (NV): £12 cheque or £10 (SO)

SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Register young-stock at reduced prices
- Opportunity to be on Council
- Vote at Annual General Meetings
- Include your stock on Stallion and Sale lists for free
- Reduced Entry Fees at Breed Shows
- Receive Bi-annual Newsletters and Magazines
- Take part in the Performance Points Scheme
- Qualify for a Special CHS Rosette when showing
- Qualify for CHS awards

REGISTRATION DISPUTES

The Society is only a registration authority and cannot decide ownership or financial disputes, which are matters for the courts. When buying or leasing a horse or having a mare covered, do make sure that the paperwork is correct before proceeding. It is far easier to get it right at the outset than to have an acrimonious dispute later.

TRANSFERS

Selling your Caspian? It is a legal requirement for the new owner to transport the horse *with* its passport when moving it to its new home and then to send the passport to the Passport Issuing Organisation (*or PIO*), i.e. the CHS for UK-registered Caspians, to be amended within 30 days of change of owner. Please return the Registration Certificate for amendment at the same time.

STALLION LICENSING

CHS requires both pure and part-bred stallions to hold a valid licence BEFORE covering a mare. The pure-bred offspring of an unlicensed stallion will be put into the X-section of the studbook, as will all its descendants.

For the Standard (vet only) licence: Please apply to the CHS Registrar for an application form, to be completed and returned with the £15 fee. A CHS-approved vet must inspect the horse.

Stallion Assessment to the Breed Standard (BSA) is also available for licensed stallions - or pre-licensing for advisory purposes. Can be done free of charge at Ashby Show if requested beforehand or for home visits, expenses will be payable. Contact Ruth Staines (Registrar).

FOAL REGISTRATION AND PASSPORTS

Whether pure or part-bred, DEFRA requires that a foal should be registered, micro-chipped and receive a passport by the time it is 6 months old. DNA parent-verification is now mandatory for pure-bred registration, for which at least 40 *pulled* mane or tail hairs, with follicles attached, will be required with the application. A unique stud prefix is mandatory, finalised *before* registration with Ruth Staines, Registrar.

IMPORTANT: Breeders and owners please note that EU, DEFRA and the Society make changes to the Rules and Regulations from time to time. Updated CHS R and R can be found on the website. Please do not use old forms – request up-to-date forms from the Registrar. Please refer to the R and R and Registrar BEFORE taking any actions which might prejudice your paperwork – this can cause problems in later years. Contact Ruth Staines, Registrar.

REGISTRATION FEES – INCLUSIVE OF PASSPORT

<i>Pure-bred:</i>	<i>Members</i>	<i>Non-members</i>
Colts up to 6 months	£15	£29.50
Fillies up to 6 months	£20	£39.50
Colts 6-24 months	£25	£49.50
Fillies 6-24 months	£35	£69.50

<i>Part-bred:</i>		
Colts up to 6 months	£15	£29.50
Fillies up to 6 months	£15	£29.50
Colts 6-24 months	£25	£49.50
Fillies 6-24 months	£25	£49.50

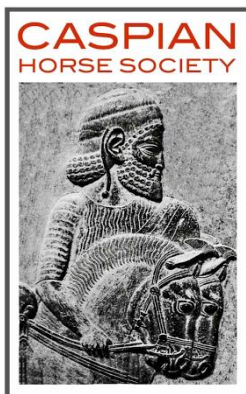
CHARGES:

Register your unique Prefix	£28
Standard Stallion Licence	£15
BSA: Inspectors' expenses only	No fee
DNA Verification for registration	£25
Duplicate Registration Certificate	£8
Duplicate Passport	£15
Transfer of Ownership	£5
Changes (e.g. gelding/colour)	£5
Change of Address	No Fee

Documents will be posted to UK addresses by 1st class post unless Special Delivery is requested and paid for in advance. Additional Overseas postal costs, both standard and Special Delivery, will be added to invoices.

For Stallions at Stud and Horses for Sale/Lease/Loan, please visit our website: www.caspianhorsesociety.org.uk

*Owners should contact Ruth Staines to update entries
<chs.registrar@dial.pipex.com>.*



CASPIAN HORSE SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1076026

PATRON: Mrs Ateshe Firouz-Larsson

PRESIDENT: Mrs Jane Holderness-Roddam, CBE, LVO

VICE-PRESIDENT: Mrs Elizabeth Mansfield-Parnell

HON. MEMBER: Dr Gus Cothran

MEMBER EMERITUS: Mrs Pat Bowles, MBE,
(Temp. Membership Secretary
COMPANY SECRETARY:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mrs Ruth Staines (Chairman and Registrar)

Mr John Sansome (Temp. Treasurer)

Mrs Nichola Waddicor (Treasurer elect)

Mrs Elizabeth Webster (Co-Editor)

Mrs Vicki Shortis (Co-Editor)

Mrs Janet Dedicoat (Council Member)

Ms Barbara Smathers (Council Member)

Mrs Helen Thirlby (Council Member)

Ms Penny Walster (Council Member)

Mr Farokh Khorrooshi (Council Member)

Mr Chris Fluskey (Council Member)

Co-opted until election to Council at AGM 2016

Mrs Angela Leadbetter

Mrs Rebecca Mann

ADVISORS TO COUNCIL

Mrs Brenda Dalton (International Chairman)

Ms Kay Taplin (International Registrar)

NB- This is the website version of the Magazine. In accordance with the Data Protection Act, all personal contact details have been removed. You can contact CHS via our website and messages will be delivered to the appropriate person.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1076026 REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 3763510 LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
REGISTERED IN ENGLAND AND WALES

REGISTERED OFFICE: 10, Water Lane, Castle Bytham, Grantham, NG33 4RT

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