

Icelandic Horses in the UK

SET THE PACE

Issue 80



October 2018 - Autumn Ramblings

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CHRISTMAS DEADLINE 13th December 2018

Front Cover: Celia Carlyon-Smith Challenge Runner up Photo: Harriet Vincent

Back Cover: Martine & Harriet Bye Halfkey Challenge winner Photo: Eileen Ritchie

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A Word from the Editor

With the summer show and competition season over and the results in, the clocks turned back to winter time and the temperatures plummeting here, our minds have turned to our winter programme of riding weekends and training courses at Oakfield.

It's the last course for the year this weekend, days are just too short and temperatures too cold for many hours outside watching and only small amounts of time doing. It's over to individual lessons and bringing the youngsters on along with maintenance and new projects around the farm.



Kittens meeting Mani.

The riding weekends got off to a cracking start last weekend after we sadly had to cancel the Martin ride last month due to the weather. (C'est la vie, they are pleasure rides and we want people to enjoy them not endure them). The kittens continue to delight and experience new things.

This issue we are focussing on the autumnal thoughts of the contributors and on the chat group we have been discussing how to keep horses and riders fit and active through shorter days and colder weather. Lauren Doughton started the discussion ([here](#)) with a lot of interesting and innovative ideas from the chat group. An interesting article I came across from [Nordic Sport](#) highlighting new research that suggests that hacking is a good, lower intensity way to keep the horses fit through the winter is encouraging.

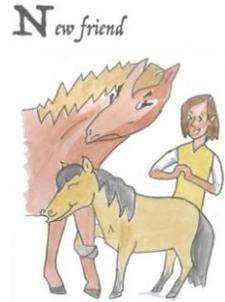
Erik Andersen, head of education at the Norwegian Icelandic Horse Association says: "In Icelandic horse circles it is much too common to let the horses rest entirely during the winter half of the year. All the intensive training is then concentrated in the spring and summer in connection with meets and competitions," says Andersen. He has over 45 years of experience in training Icelandic horses and is also a riding instructor and competition judge. Andersen recommends an increase in training in the autumn and winter months, both with long rides at low intensities and shorter intervals at higher intensities. But horses should also be allowed to recover more between meets and contests in the spring and summer than they are today.

Thank you again for your original articles and suggestions of articles to include that demonstrate the breadth and depth of the activities we undertake with our hairy beasts through the less clement parts of the year and well done to all those who have succeeded in their aims and aspirations for this year.

Remember anything that is blue and underlined is a live link, click on it for more information. It's great to hear your stories and very encouraging and brave of those who share their less than perfect and sometimes painful experiences with us. Next issue will be out in time for Christmas and will be a fun focus, so if you have ideas for articles, Icelandic fun fact quizzes or anything else to provide a little entertainment over the festive season when many people are away from home and horses for a while, please send them on in via messenger or [email](#). **Mo**

Warm Welcomes

It's good to see the chat group continue to grow with familiar faces joining in and new people from all over the world with an interest in Icelandic horses in the UK asking to join. Some have already introduced themselves (the ones with blue links, do click on them and find out more about our new chat group members). If you are interested in who is joining the group, anyone can look at the members link on the facebook page on the top left hand side. We invite everyone to add themselves to our [map](#) following the instructions on the next page or just use it to find out who is around you with an interest in Icelandic horses. If you get stuck or want me to do it for you message me with your postcode.

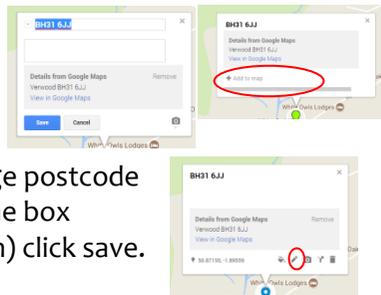


Since the last issue, we welcome in order of joining, most recent first:

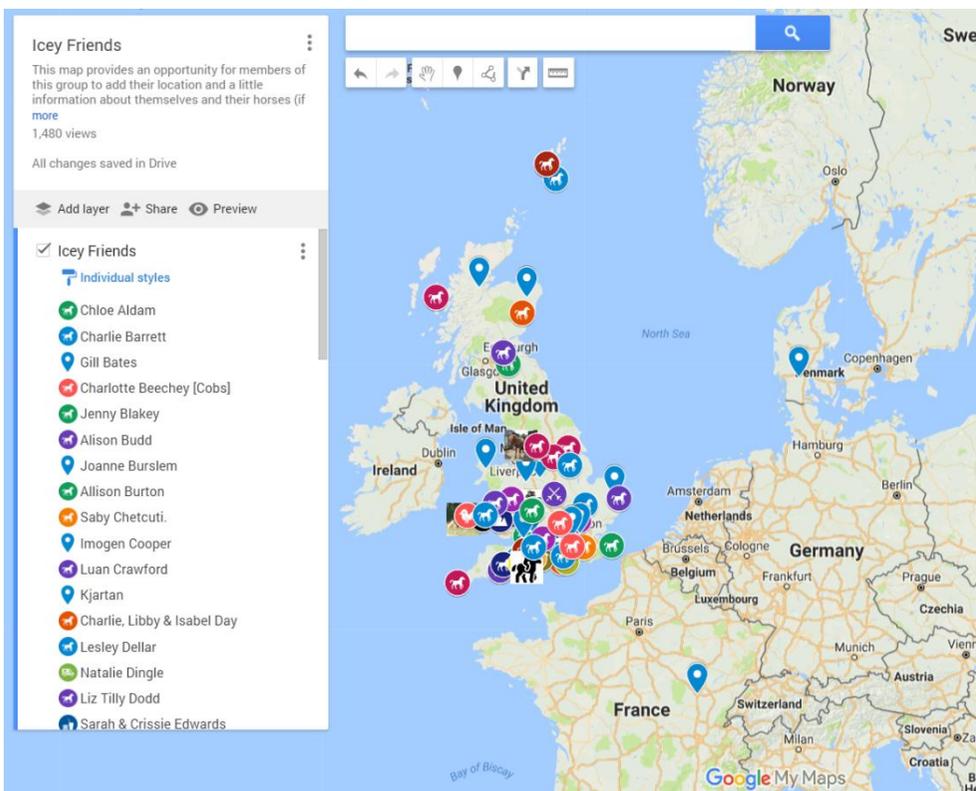
Flora Tagle Mattoni, Peter Coles, [Mandy Watson](#), Kirsten Harvey, Andrea Weitbrecht, Mirjam Horn, Fiona Condy, Myrthe Duijsens, Valentina Mihevc, BC Naklo, Haraldur Pall Guðmunsson, Zoey Tory, Victoria Hutcheson, Penny Dickinson, Jason Turnbull, Michelle De Feo, Karen Woodhams, Gillian Helen Bates, Thomas Hoogenboom, Gudbjorg F Sigurdardottir, Céline Peniston-Bird, Pamela Cameron, [Bent Rune Skulevold](#) (more from Bent Rune later on in the magazine), Geraldine Bray, Svanhildur Hall, Peter Rudin-Burgess, Will Covert, Caron Littler-gordon, Jo Babij, Hazel Haley, [Kari Baklund](#), Paul L Rendle-Barnes, Katie Freeman, Charlie Hope-Lang, Alison Scougall, Paula Hazeltine, Trudy Gatt, Guðrún Agata Jakobsdóttir, Toria LaMarche, Jenny Dunn, Lyndsay Sims, Danielle Gaynor, [Pippa Phillips](#), Alaina Jayne, Lucy Jane Clark, Lynette Caitlin Mikula, Pamela Hansson, Margrét Erla Júlíusdóttir, Sarah Garrehy, Jode Lane, Patricia Walker, Björn Ólafsson, [Joanne Young](#), [Amy O'Connor](#), Vivi Ane, Jeff Rose, Guðrún Erla Hrafnisdóttir, Helen O'Keefe, Hallveig Fróðadóttir, Andreas Trappe, Linda Rún Pétursdóttir, Yorick Butcher, [Shannon Dalgård](#), Björn Ólafur, Isabel Day, Andrea Bennett, Danielle Alexandra. [Back to Contents](#)

We maintain a community location map which you can access and if you like you can **add yourself to the map:** (PC, Mac & ipad only, you can view and edit on a phone but not add yourself.)

- Click [here](#)
- Enter your postcode in the search bar
- Click add to map
- Click on the edit icon (pencil icon) change postcode to your name, add details you want in the box below (add photos with the camera icon) click save.



You don't need to do any more than that but if you want to change your icon from a teardrop to a horse or something more interesting you can do that by clicking the paint pot.



If you get stuck, just drop me a [PM](#) and I will help you out.

To open the map to add yourself or to explore click [here](#).

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ACHIEVEMENTS

We like to celebrate all the achievements people on the chat group share with us. Some are nationally and internationally significant; others only mean anything to the people involved. Regardless of their wider significance, it's great to share them and celebrate them within our Icelandic horse Community, most of them are related to our horse activities but a few are significant in other ways.

Brave Pants Cup

[Helena](#) has kindly allowed us to use her Brave Pants cartoon to make a Set the Pace Brave Pants Cup. Actually, it's a personalised mug, more practical, but cup sounds more trophy like.

We award a brave pants mug for each issue to the person the editorial team thinks has stepped out of their comfort zone in the bravest way. (Editorial team are Mic, Lu & Mo)

You have to be in it to win it which means talking about your challenges on the chat group or your personal or group pages (the ones we belong to or are friends with).

We have awarded two cups this issue, one to Ruth Colwill as a special award from the Oakfield September show where she unexpectedly entered the V5 (Group 4 Gait Intermediate) final. You will remember from the [last issue of STP](#) that Ruth has found riding in company quite intimidating. To take on and compete alongside the most experienced riders in the UK who are serious

about their competition and to continue in canter despite being passed on the oval track surely merited a special award. The cup proper for this issue goes to Liz Phillips. You can read her story [here](#).

Lauren sent us a picture of her enjoying the mug she was awarded last time! You can read Lauren's post [here](#) if you missed it first time around

We will be searching for "Brave Pants" in your posts as well as just taking an interest as we usually do, so tell us about your adventures. [Back to Contents](#)



Endurance

Achievements

[Kim Willoughby](#) has had an amazing season in her endurance work. Her Josef won the track and trail at the BCs and was second in the dressage. She also started competitive endurance riding and Josef gained two bronze thistle qualifier awards, then his [bronze thistle award](#) at the Endurance championships by completing a 50km ride in just under four hours, coming third in the novice horse class (out of 10) and with Kim winning novice rider. Kim was also on the winning Lothians branch team. Josef currently has 746 kilometres on his endurance card. Added to that they have ridden nearly every branch in Scotland accompanying Catriona and Lyfting and Kim says it's been great fun. Kim says Josef is looking forward to a few weeks off after his last Endurance ride later in November and that his favourite hobby in his time off is to get as muddy as possible. Well done to both Kim and Josef.



Riding Recognition

[FEIF Good and Harmonious Riding](#)

Judges at FEIF World ranking events can nominate riders to be included in FEIF [Good & Harmonious riding list](#) because of their fine riding style. This is independent of the test or the marks given. Every year a fresh list is started.

Congratulations to Fi Pugh who has been nominated twice this year in two different events.

[FEIF Feather Prize](#)

In 2002, the Board of FEIF decided to establish a new prize; the FEIF Feather Prize. The aim of this prize is to encourage good riding and good horsemanship, a tribute to feather light riding. The awarded rider sets an example to the Icelandic Horse World. Individual countries have also chosen to award the feather prize nationally.

Congratulations to Aidan Carson who was awarded the Youth Rider Feather Prize at the Swedish National Championships and to Freija Glansdorp who won the UK prize.

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World Rankings

Congratulations to Aidan Carson for his very successful year. As you can see, Aidan is currently 8th in the world for P2 in 2018, a truly outstanding achievement.

There is an interview with Aidan and his own take on his year in the young rider section of the magazine.

FEIF WorldRanking

Aidan Carson

Tests: T1 V2 F2 PP1 P2 P3

FEIF WorldRanking: P2-SpeedPass 100m: 26 (7.790)

Ranking 2018: PP1-Pace Test: 97 (5.985)

P2-SpeedPass 100m: 8 (7.695)

Foreign Breeds Shows

Possibly the last of the season (I am sure you will correct me if I am wrong), was Lesley Dellar at the Ashwell Show, Hertfordshire. She came 1st in the Foreign Breed in-hand as well as gaining rosettes for two other classes. Well done Lesley. Some lovely photos of her taken by her aunt on the original post [here](#). Foreign Breed classes have really taken off this year; I wonder what next year will bring once our hairy horses are less hairy again.



Dressage on Ice - [Luan Crawford](#)

Sooooo much to tell you this time, but as dressage is a bit boring to most I'll keep it brief ☺ (*That might be partially true, but we all like seeing Lu's amazing progress. Lu has created a separate Facebook page for her Dressage Adventures, so, if like me you like to keep up with how Lu is doing you can follow along [here](#) and see all the videos etc which I find hard to track down on the Haygrazer site – Mo.*)

In September, I bought myself the best birthday present ever; a place on a weekend dressage camp, it was/is run monthly by a local professional dressage rider vlogger Olivia Towers (see her [Facebook page](#)) she specialises in mind set as well as dressage, and she competes at top level working at Grand

Prix, I had 2 lessons, an equine Pilates session and a mindset talk over the weekend and WOW it was just amazing, Merkur got a lot of attention, and the others on the camp were very eager to learn about the Icelandic's and their gaits, we even did a tölt demo, and Olivia had a go herself.



My main aim of the weekend lessons was to see if Merkur and I had medium trot so that we could work towards moving up a level to novice, well... . . . We sure have so after Christmas we shall be having a dabble...



This month I took Merkur out for a weekend of competing, I was a bit nervous as it had been over a month since we went out to a competition, well on the Saturday we went to the local venue and got excellent scores in both our classes, even with me forgetting the test and getting -2 points in one section.

The Sunday was the first of three qualifying competitions for the Malvern Hills riding club winter dressage series, this show I was very nervous about, all the middle aged women on their BIG horses looking down at us, Merkur and I held our own and although we were small we got BIG scores and came second in both tests with high scores, after the judge came out she commented on how lovely calm and talented he was, I told her he was an Icelandic horse and he was gaited she was very interested, then the writer came over and asked Toby my 10 year old son 'is mummy riding your pony?' (Angry face) 'Err no he is my HORSE!'

Next weekend I have an indoor championship show that we qualified for back in July, I've bought Merkur some classy white boots, just in case we get in the prize giving as it's ridden, v v excited, everything crossed... . . . Next STP I should know if I qualified for the winter dressage series... . Fingers crossed for that too



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Young Riders – Autumn Update



Aidan Carson has been having an amazing summer in Sweden where he is currently training horses for DK Icelandics on their farm. When I caught up with him earlier in the week he told me that after his amazing summer he is starting to help get the farm ready for the short days of winter and that he has started to train his horse Óðinn again after a well deserved break following his success at the Swedish Championships. Aidan wrote:

“My high points from this year include becoming a double Swedish Champion as well as getting a new personal best in 100m pace of 7,67 seconds. Another achievement is ranking in the top 10 of the 2018 World ranking and top young rider in the Swedish ranking.”

Well done Aidan and we look forward to following your progress again next year. Aidan also featured in the [FEIF World Championship video](#) which was released in June (1.00). and interviewed for [Islandhäst Nyheter](#) (English translation courtesy of my daughter) and the [Elmia Indoor Show video](#) earlier this month.

“Hi Aidan!

You won PP1U, but did not become Swedish champion as you were riding for Great Britain. How did it feel? –

It felt pretty good. I definitely would not have expected it. But Jimmy was on top form before the race and during the race was very safe and still. So I had a good feeling.

I know your horse is called "Jimmy". Can you tell me more about him?

My family bred him and my dad and I have worked together to train and ride him. In the last year he has been just mine. He is 11 years old now and last year we took part in the FEIF World Cup and were placed as fifth and seventh place young rider in my classes.

What does a regular training week look like for Jimmy? "

I ride him 2-3 times a week and have him as a hand horse once a week. He has one to two rest days.

How do you prepare for the competitions? –

The day before I eat only healthy food and drink a lot of water. I think I get a good feeling in the body then. Then on the day of the competition, I get into my own bubble and just turn off the outside world. I can get a little nervous too and then you just have to collect your thoughts and concentrate on what you are doing.

How is it that you ended up in Sweden?

Last year I left school and gained a place at University but then I went to the World Cup and after the success there I felt this was what I wanted to do full-time. I searched for jobs all over Europe and received very quick answers from Daniel and Katie Sundin Brumpton. I talked to my mom about where I would work and she recommended Daniel and Katie who she had met at various championships across Europe. I just left everything except my horse at home and went to Sweden to work.

What's next?–

I am going to work towards Elmia Icelandic Power Show in Jönköping this autumn.

Thank you Aidan and good luck”

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Crissie Edwards has had her knee op and is on the road to recovery. She wrote: *“It's very boring and I am back at home but it's not ideal! Hopefully my knee will be better than ever when I'm*



up and running. I gave college a miss this year due to my knee and was supposed to start an apprenticeship in the local primary school but didn't realise how restricted I would be so that's on hold until I can get around easily! Xx “

Crissie managed to visit the horses last week and has started physio so hopefully she will be back riding in the new year.



We send her our good wishes and will catch up with her at Christmas to see how she is getting on.



Pippa Phillips is just a little horse mad. It's lovely to see and well worth following her riding adventures on FB. Earlier this month she wrote an introduction when she joined the chat group *“7 years ago in the October holidays I met my best friend Kæti, when she returned home to her birth place. Her character is definitely one of a kind - I've been very lucky to meet a horse like her, she's so funny, brave, excitable and sassy!”* Some fantastic pictures on the [original post](#).

Pippa was our covergirl last edition. I caught up with her briefly while preparing the magazine. I asked her what her winter plans were and about the amazing jumps her mum has been making for her.

“Hellooo! Thank you for the message... In the winter I let Kæti just chill! She does so tremendously well in the summer that she deserves an easy breezy winter! However I would like to do some clicker training with her, just as a bit of fun over the chillier months. She's very happy just having fun in her fields with her mates just now and I'm hoping to carry on hacking and doing tackless fun as long as the weather will let us!”

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Robyn Philpott wrote: *“The horses have had nearly 2 months off after the Autumn Show because I have my karate black belt grading soon so been focusing of that - just bringing them back into work because I miss it too much and they’re bored!”* She did manage to have a little Halloween fun in between all the hard work helping to dress a friend’s horse up yesterday.



Isabel Day Izzy wrote: *“This summer I was mainly working on Orvars tölt. When the summer started I barely had any. My summer goal was to get his tölt more consistent which I got. We went from maybe four or five steps to about a lap of our arena which is great. This winter I hope to get it even more consistent without him rolling into canter or going into trot which will be a challenge but I'm up for it. I'm very excited to go on the course at Oakfield at the weekend and hope to learn even more and maybe figure out some stuff to make his tölt better and looking less pacey.”* We are looking forward to it too. See you soon.



We send [Rachel Mackinnon](#) very special 21st birthday wishes and look forward to hearing more about her dressage adventures with Lyrskra as they continue to improve. She wrote: *“Little Lyskra was an angel at her latest dressage competition, some good scores AND she stayed within the marked area which is a huuuuuge achievement for her!”*

Malte Cook has also had an amazing summer. He has gone from riding Logi for the first time to taking part in his first 4 gait. Charlotte wrote *“The audience was with them all the way around, which you can hear on [the video](#). Malte has now qualified to ride 4.1 sport A to the national competition for Denmark next year, so we just hope children will be allowed to ride. All his transitions were correct, so I was very proud and equally nervous, hence the bouncing camera”* For those of you who don't know, Charlotte rides for GB although based in Denmark.

Ranking 2018: P2 - SpeedPass 100m

30 October 2018

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Other rankings: T1 T2 T3 T4 V1 V2 F1 F2 PP1 P1 P2 P3 C4 C5 Events
FEIF WorldRanking

Results included: 01 January 2018 ... 29 October 2018. Between round brackets, the ranking of 20 October 2018 is shown.

Are you a WorldRanking rider? Be sure to **register yourself and your horse** properly at every WorldRanking Event. Check your name and the FEIFid of your horse to ensure valid results!

World Champion

Charlotte Cook (GB) with Sæla frá Þóreyjarnúpi

Lona Sneve (NO) with Stóri-Dímon frá Hraukbæ - Young Rider

Fastest time registered in the Ranking 2018

Helen Klaas with Vif van 't Groote Veld: 7.36" (DE - 22-Jul-2018 - Kaufungen; DIM Kaufungen 2018)

Pos.	Prev.	Rider	Average Countries	Best 2 times
1	(1)	Helen Klaas	7.390" DE MC	7.36"; 7.42" (of 5)
2	(2)	Viktoria Große	7.435" DE	7.40"; 7.47" (of 6)
3	(3)	Konráð Valur Sveinsson	7.450" IS	7.41"; 7.49" (of 2)
4	(4)	Markus Albrecht Schoch	7.455" CH MC DE	7.40"; 7.51" (of 4)
5	(5)	Charlotte Cook	7.540" MC DK SE DE	7.50"; 7.58" (of 7)
6	(8)	Þorvaldur Árnason	7.575" SE	7.57"; 7.58" (of 3)
7	(10)	Carina Jylebäck	7.635" SE	7.59"; 7.68" (of 4)
8	(11)	Aidan Carson	7.695" SE	7.67"; 7.72" (of 3)
8	(11)	Ladina Sigurbjörnsson-Foppa	7.695" DE CH MC	7.68"; 7.71" (of 12)
10	(13)	Elise Harryson	7.715" SE	7.70"; 7.73" (of 5)

She is currently the world champion at 100m Speedpass (P2). [Back to Contents](#)

Hairy Horse & Young People's Camp 17-18 February 2019

We have made plans for our first hairy horse and Young People's Camp in Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire, 17-18 February next year (2019). This will be an opportunity for young people 10 to 18 years old to spend time together, learning and having fun with Icelandic horses. Demos, games and Tolt practice are in the plan. Please express your interest ASAP as numbers will be limited. Contact [Ann & Dave Savage](#).

If you are under 27 (or a parent or sponsor) and are interested in telling us about your adventures with your Icelandic horse, whatever it is and wherever you are, please do [get in touch](#).

Bwunty's Sqwibbles

Sarah Brunt

Introducing another of our talented Icelandic Artists, Sarah Brunt.

I'm an animal daft-daft animal hobbyist cartoonist with a penchant for Icelandic horses and mostly anything else hairy and on four legs.



I have two horses, a bat-eared Staffie, one young wild-boy outdoor cat, one middle-aged, fat indoor cat and one free-spirited, former stray, old and fat, sometimes-in, sometimes-out cat.

Like many people, my obsession with horses started very early, from trying to do rising trot on my bike, progressing to 'Hickstead' on a spacehopper; years of lessons at various riding schools until finally being hooked on Icelandics at Pentland Hills Icelandics.





In 2003, Vaka fra Stonehaven came into my life, followed by Ljufa fra Dareag Dair a couple of years later. These girls provided the inspiration for my business page profile picture. Both are still with me and at 25, Vaka is still leading me a merry dance that chestnut mares feel entitled to do.

I'm actually a full time primary teacher so Bwunty's Sqwibbles fits in to evenings, weekends and holidays. I set up this niche business in 2017, taking commissions for pet pictures and also selling some of my own printed products.

If you like what you see and are interested in booking a commission, or buying any of my merchandise, please do get in touch. Christmas is not far off and I can

provide a unique, bespoke gift for your loved ones.

Contact me through Facebook at 'Bwunty's Sqwibbles' (@artyanimals) or email me at:

sarabrunts52@msn.com



Thanks for reading!



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AUTUMN RAMBLINGS

A summer of Icelandic awesomeness...

Janina Hetz

This is a story about Lupina and Prawn.

Before you ask (“Prawn?! As in “prawn”?! Why on earth is the horse called Prawn?”), she has a real Icelandic name... but Prawn did stick somehow, and whilst everyone might occasionally get confused about my horses’ names, EVERYONE knows – and loves – Prawn.

With both Icelandics having turned 5 this year, it was time to start their ridden careers. I had done the groundwork with them last summer, although I skipped the long-lining step after a rather unplanned belly-skiing incident... They were then allowed a winter off to grow and develop further, and Halfkey Icelandics’ “Mounting March”

prompted me to really start in earnest. And that’s what we did, and those two little Icelandics have since exceeded any expectations by miles. All I hoped for was to have 2 happy horses by the end of the summer with some basic steering and brakes so they could go out to do some hacking... However, that clearly was far too simple and boring in their opinions!



Specifically Lupina turned into a straight A student who skipped her way through the levels. Although 5-gaited and showing hardly anything but a fairly pacey tölt in the field, we found some kind of trot reasonably quickly, and even an ability to differentiate somewhat between trot and tölt aids. Halt – not a problem. Gates – not a problem. Riding in a big field by herself – not a problem. Steering – simples. Brakes – check. So it was time for her first hacks, obviously in company of experienced, sensible, older horses... Well, it very quickly transpired that Lupina was the most sensible of them all. Especially when we found ourselves going into the opposite direction of a local cross country marathon where she demonstrated that random fancy dress ideas (Trojans and Romans included) did not bother her in the slightest, whilst her “calming influence” had a meltdown (much to her bemusement).

Prawn meanwhile was as cool as a cucumber. She is incredibly relaxed about anything in life, so much so that her first reaction to anything new was to ask “and why would I even want to consider doing this?!”. So it took plenty of careful convincing (thank goodness she likes her treats!), but we got there! Being 4-gaited she found the walk/trot/canter malarkey incredibly easy, and did not go unnoticed by the dressage riders as she does have some very fancy moves indeed. Specifically her canter-halt transitions are spectacular (they will be even better when they are asked for and not spontaneous). Hacking was very easy with her – Prawn’s worry-free nature means she did not even contemplate that there could ever be anything scary.

With things going quite so well, it was time to plan our first outings. A couple of trips to Connegar Farm within a few weeks of being under saddle just confirmed that I had ended up with some equine superstars (yes, I am of course biased) as they took the whole experience completely in their stride.



Next up the Oakfield Beginner's Camp: and what a great experience for us all. Some minor hiccup to start with... Prawn fell in love with her half-brother, so her concentration went rapidly downhill whilst her hormones went rapidly into overdrive. Fortunately the "loose horse!!!" protocol was well practiced and the escapee caught quickly (thanks to the various helpers!). It was therefore up to Lupina to deliver for the team, and she did just that.

It was then Prawn's turn her hoof into a different arena – and she delivered in her first ever dressage test in incredibly testing conditions (rain and more rain!), with scores of 5s and 6s throughout, and some very lovely comments from the judge.

In a moment of madness I then entered them both into the foreign breeds classes at the Dorset County Show (I do not do showing. Ever.) Lupina was doing the ridden class and worked incredibly hard – it was a long show for such a young horse. Andy (the one who'd much rather play golf) then got dressed in tweed to help with showing them both in-hand later on. He took my "make sure she really goes forward" somewhat too serious: Prawn showed some fantastic canter in-hand for the entire round.



Time for the Oakfield Autumn Show... Prawn went onto the oval track for the first time in her life on the Friday evening, and did not quite see the point. So I was genuinely pleased to get her round the track during the four-gait test on the Saturday, but even more so that we were able to show some baby tölt which she had only really started. Her chance to shine came in the Trot in Harmony test though – I think I have found my future dressage horse!



Lupina showed somewhat of a gait medley during the four-gait test – not unexpected.

She did qualify for the T8 A-Final though: tölt is clearly her strong point at present!

Both Icelandics then had a little holiday, before being brought

back into work for the Winter Tölt Series at Connegar Farm. Within just a few weeks they both significantly improved their scores in the four-gait class, and Lupina tackled her first T7 tölt test rather well.

I am genuinely so proud of them both and how they have mastered the big step from horse childhood into adult life. How they approach every day and every challenge with so much happiness, curiosity, and positivity is perfect evidence of how truly amazing this breed is. Some more adventures to start soon – let's hope they continue to be as happy about everything as they are now!

Janina is an amazing photographer and she posted a lovely album of photos for the first winter tölt series [here](#).

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And now for something completely different

Gundula Sharman

Gosh, this last summer was brilliant! Great weather - and yes, we are almost ashamed to admit it: here, in the North East of Scotland, we moaned a bit about the drought, but it was not bad enough that we really “suffered” from it. As it happens, we have supplies enough to overwinter a dozen extra horses belonging to friends who did actually need a little help. So yes, it was brilliant!

What was also good is that we ventured forth into new adventures, namely “camp rides” or “saddle tramping”. In Iceland overnight trips on horseback seem the most natural thing in the world? So why don’t we do that at home?



Scotland offers a wonderful environment and has truly amazing access legislation. Basically, riders have the same rights as walkers - as long as we can overcome certain obstacles such as locked gates and deep ditches, we can go anywhere and sleep anywhere. Details aside (if you are interested in the details you can read them [here](#)), it is all good!

So here we are, equipped with a brand new pack saddle (an amazing piece of kit!!!) all packed and ready for the off into the Cairngorm Mountains.



Over 4 days and 3 nights in the (fairly) remote Cairngorm hills we discovered a new world, complete with its own rules, a different experience of time and a new sense of what matters and what does not.

We had a wonderful time! How boring would it be to tell you all about how we navigated that really challenging ditch? Or to share the pain about full exposure to the might of the Scottish midge? I shall spare you that.

Everyone talks about the importance of immaculate preparation. Fair enough, but we never quite got that far, we had a plan of where we wanted to go and what we wanted to do.

Our initial aim was overnighing – i.e. access to water and enough grazing. That can be found practically anywhere in the hills, and in general terms we had a good idea where we wanted to go and what we needed to take with us:

- For the horses: A home-made electric fencing kit and a rope to create a highline.
- For us: camping equipment and food.
- Extras: first aid kit for horse and rider, an extra boot, should a shoe come off, and a little luxury for when things get tough – that fitted into a hip flask. All in all, the luggage should not weigh more than about 30kg- 35 kg per packhorse. – Sorted.

So what did we learn?

- The horses were amazing! After the first day they understood we were not going back to the trailer and we soon settled into a routine whereby the packhorse could be loose and just trotting along – our little free running “herd”.
- All in all, every day is incredibly hard work, packing up, dismantling the paddock, packing the pack for the pack horse, tacking up the other horses, riding or walking (depending on the terrain) stopping to eat (means taking off the pack, looking after the horse, repacking) finding a camp, setting up paddock erecting the camp, cooking, sleeping – and the whole hog starts again the next day. In the terrain we travelled in, 10 miles per day was plenty for rider and horses alike. All is well when the weather is benign. In the rain everything is even slower – don’t be over ambitious!
- Bring plenty of food! We found, we ate pretty much everything we had, and when the food ran out, it was time to go home again.
- Stop, look and listen. Time and again, we said this or that spot is beautiful. But it was only when we stopped, sat down and really looked and listened, that the environment really began to talk with us. Give yourself that moment, when nothing matters but looking 20 mins at that one hill side. You will be surprised at what you see, I promise! (And who cares that you only managed 7 miles that day?)
- The hills are alive – with all sorts of weird and wonderful people. Even at the most remote spots you will have unexpected encounters with strangers. Some really are weird. What was this lonely walker doing in the middle of nowhere without the faintest sense of direction? Hope he made it to – well, somewhere! Many are wonderful, the old experienced mountaineer who told us: “Any trip on which I do not learn something new about myself or the world is a wasted trip!” So true!



What did we learn about ourselves?

If you want to, you can do it! Don't get bogged (!) down by too much detail. Worrying about that too much might stop you going out altogether. The horses love it, and spending day and night in their immediate company will do something amazing to your relationship with your horse(s). Don't rush things: at best, you miss out on the miracle of tiny things, and at worst it can become dangerous. And finally – ah yes, take it easy and enjoy! – Happy saddle tramping. (Visit [Saddle Tramping UK](#) for more information)



PS: Why I am writing about this?

30 years ago, as a young wife, and mother, I was frequently asked “what do you do?” Since I was not employed, more often than not, the answer was “nothing” (much). I raised 3 children, ran the household, helped out on the farm and I had time to stand at this fundraiser coffee morning, or similar community event to answer this stupid question... But it all amounted to not much, because the underlying question was all about what measurable results did I achieve Such as income, status, career prospects, and so on.

Today, in my riding career I often have the same experience. What do I do with my horse(s)? Nothing much - I seek to improve my riding by attending training clinics and lessons as they come about, I go out hacking and yes, I seek adventure. Again, no scores, no measurable results, no rosettes. But let's turn this around. For my safe return from the wilderness, I trained these wonderful horses to be reliable, brave, versatile and fit. I am working on ever more sophisticated communication, and I am creating a very special bond with the horses. I also have A LOT of fun! Not really measurable – but it is not nothing!

Gundula Sharman - Oct 2018

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Eldur Stories

Fi Pugh

For those of you who don't know, Eldur along with Fi and Ian saw and commented on the developments in the Icelandic horse community in the UK in various publications from its very inception until he finally died last April leaving a huge hole in Fi & Ian's life, but also his voice will be hugely missed in the barn and other articles and we are looking forward to hearing more Eldur stories in the months to come. M.



Eldur entered our life quietly and without fuss. It was almost as though he had known we had wanted to buy his sister, but as she was rearing a young foal, we had ended up with him instead. If he played his cards right, and was very careful and didn't do anything

silly, he might just get to stay in this new place which seemed to have plenty to eat and some obliging servants.

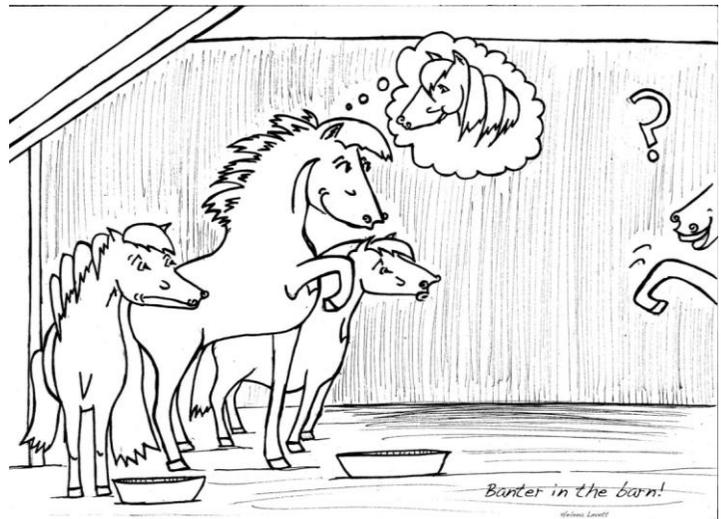
Wise in the ways of young, unhandled ponies we left a head collar on him with a long piece of string on it so we could catch him. He lay down in the barn for most of the first three days. It was a long way from Scotland and his legs were tired. What was that about a lorry? Well, of course he didn't walk, but you might have thought he had done. I took the head collar off after five minutes. Catching this one wasn't going to be a problem.

Getting him to move was another thing. He didn't see the need, so he remained immovable. Teaching him to lead reliably took six months. I was riding him before I could lead him anywhere without backup. As someone wise put it the other day, we had both read the manual. Unfortunately, it turned out there was more than one and they had been written by different individuals.

I am a practical person. When our horses reach the end of their lives, they die, we don't "lose" them. But when Eldur died last April, at the scarily grand age of 36, I was the one who was lost. Eldur had shaped my life for the last 32 years without me realising it. Not all his characteristics were necessarily those you might wish for in a horse, but he was actually quite wonderful in many ways. He was entirely predictable once we got to know him. Food was more important to him than anything else and he would act accordingly. He was good natured with all the other animals apart from the horses which he tolerated, but in close quarters attack was definitely the first form of defence. He was as bombproof as a horse could be and he had an outrageous sense of humour.

He was the start of Old Hills Icelandics, and he nurtured my obsession with the breed. Without him there would have been no trip to the World Championships in Sweden in 1991, no chance meeting there that resulted in me being secretary of FEIF for 15 years, no FEIF breeding leaders meetings, sport leaders meetings, Delegates Assemblies, where I got to know so many knowledgeable people and learnt so much about the horses. Without all this, I would never have become a sport judge or trained as an instructor, and Old Hills Icelandics might never have been born.

We did buy Eldur's sister a couple of years later. Depending on how you look at it, the gods were smiling on us (or were they just having a laugh?) the day we decided to make do with Eldur first of all as his sister wasn't available just yet.



Had we been able to buy her first, we would never have had another Icelandic and our life would certainly have travelled a different course, but that's another story.

I still miss Eldur. That sort of personality leaves a massive hole. But Erró has laid claim to the empty stable and he has a place in my heart that no other horse has ever found.

Old Hills Icelandics may have lost its most famous, or maybe infamous, inhabitant but Eldur will be remembered by many, for many years yet.

Houlls & Hounds End of Season Show – [Estelle Smith](#)

Hardy lot those Shetland Islanders, the rest of us retreat indoors at the end of September unless the weather is kind. The Houlls and Hounds End



of Season Show is not until the middle of October. The views are fantastic, as are the rosettes and they get CAKE! Estelle Smith

captured the atmosphere and a nice haul of rosettes and prizes which she shared on [Facebook](#) and kindly let me share here for a wider audience. It looks like you had an amazing time.



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Oakfield Autumn

Just a very few words from us but a couple of videos you may not have seen. The September show was amazing and almost perfect thanks to our wonderful volunteers but it seems a lifetime ago. Since I retired we have quadrupled our courses and autumn activities, the demand is out there and we are having a great time filling it with new trainers taking on new learners. Other people have talked about the show, the courses and the riding weekends. A couple of high points for you to watch if you would like. The first was Imogen Cooper's video of the [three girls in a row in the five gait final](#) which was very special and [Martine Bye, our fancy dress winner](#). She has chosen the fancy dress theme for the spring show, which will be Concors d' Elegance... go and Google it for ideas.

Chiron Equestrian, the kind sponsors of our fancy dress wrote a great [blog post](#) about the show.

Back in the Saddle

Liz was awarded the Brave Pants cup for this issue. You can read for yourself why we thought she was a worthy recipient.

If somebody had told me that 12 years would pass, with me barely riding, I would never have believed them, but there it is!

Having had a very traditional upbringing of ponies and pony club, competitions, and increasingly large horses, I first encountered Icelandic Horses when my mother, Jennifer Greaves, having become disheartened by the failings of 'big horses', (mainly feet and back problems) recalled how wonderful, and tough and hardy the Icelandics had been to ride, when she was a child, growing up in Edinburgh. So, as the number of 'big horses' decreased in our yard, the number of Icelandics increased!

It was at the first ever British Championships in North Wales - hosted by my parents, that I met Clive Phillips. (Icelandics have a lot to answer for!) I moved from Wales to Stonehaven where Clive already had a small number of Icelandics.



Clive with Indæll from Rickarton

Whilst studying at university, Clive had spent three consecutive summers working at different farms in Iceland. At one of the farms, his wage was quite a well bred mare - rather than bringing her home, he kept her at her farm in Iceland, where he was able to access a greater choice of stallions - for breeding from her. Each year, once her offspring were old enough to travel, they made the journey across the sea.

Meanwhile, at home, we'd been breeding foals from our stallion 'Indaell from Rickarton'. (who very sadly died earlier this year, at the incredible age of 36)

I can't remember the dates, but at some point we had the exciting opportunity to expand the blood lines with the arrival of a stallion from Iceland - 'Pinur fra Holum'. So, in between our full time jobs, we were training and riding our horses, (some which were sold - to the same homes where they're still active and loving life, and some for ourselves) and travelling to every training course or competition that we could.

We were active with our horses, and had produced a nice, good looking group, with lots of potential, but sometimes life takes over! In a frenetic period of four years, we had Calum and Pippa, we moved from our cottage with rented land, to a farm, and Clive changed jobs - it was certainly a busy time! The training of the horses had to be put on the back burner - there just wasn't the available time to give young horses the continuity of regular work, which is so important for them.

Pippa is wildly enthusiastic about riding - she has Kaeti, who I'm sure many of you will have seen their antics on Facebook, and 'Roo' - an Irish Sports pony. It was through taking Pippa to shows and training clinics that I decided I really needed to get myself a horse and join in!



Roo giving Moldi riding tips

Since he was born I've always quite liked 'Moldi'. His mother 'Kolka' is a daughter of the famous 'Kolfinnur fra Kjarnholtum' and was one of the mares we bred in Iceland and brought over, and his father is Pinur. However, the big question was, is thirteen too old to start backing a horse?!

Although I'd occasionally sat on friend's horses, and have stolen Pippa's 'Roo' for a few rides, I felt a bit too rusty to tackle Moldi on my own, so enlisted the help of a horse trainer friend, for the first couple of long reining sessions - this gave me the confidence to continue on my own.

The first thing to establish was to make 'stop' his default setting! To start off with, he was very sensitive, and 'scooty' - but by long reining, and using vocal commands, he quickly learnt to stop and seek reassurance from 'his human' if he was worried about anything.

There comes a point where you've done all the preparation that you can, and you just have to get on them! Having looked back through my Facebook posts, I see that the 22nd September was when I took a deep breath and slithered onto him!

The first week of moving from riding in a relatively confined cattle court, to a yard, and then into the large expanse of the arena was a bit tense - but he always stopped when I asked him to!!!



Early days in the safety of the barn

Since then his progress has been astonishing - within two weeks of his first little ride up our farm track, I took him to the beach with Pippa and two other riders, rode him bareback through our woods - on a very windy day, boxed off with Pippa and Kaeti, and had our first little training session in the arena! I think we've reached a great milestone unexpectedly quickly, where he trusts me to make everything ok for him, and I trust him to be sensible, which makes for a great partnership!

My plan over the next couple of weeks is to continue working on his trot and canter, possibly aiming to join Pippa and Roo at their next dressage competition - for an 'Intro test'. (Fairly basic manoeuvres in walk and trot) Beyond that, I'll be quite keen to see his tölt and how he jumps - I'd be very happy if we were able to compete in local show jumping and cross country events - but there's no hurry. For now, I'm concentrating on getting myself as fit and lightweight as I can, and giving Moldi a good experience, for lots of fun next year!



World Championships 1991 (Sweden) L-R Lise Manniche, Mic Rushen, Liz Phillips, Fi Pugh 1

Autumn Ramblings from Solva

Mic Rushen

It's hard to believe it's nearly the end of October, and as I write this the clocks are about to go back. It's been a glorious summer but it passed far too quickly for my liking. It's still warm during the day, and it's been a good autumn here. The horses are already growing huge winter coats and I think I'll have to clip Bob and Fjalar as they are sweating up just standing around, let alone when being ridden.

We have 34 horses here at the moment, ranging from this year's foals (now getting very big and confident) to several retirees in their 30s, and everything in between. Most of the horses are still out on the heathland, with the main herd (currently 17 including the foals) up in "the long field" on the next door disused airfield – about 15 acres of nice dry grazing with several old runways which do a good job of wearing their hooves down. It's easily visible from the house and it's always fun to watch when they have a silly turn and bomb up and down. Even the oldies join in, but the instigators are usually the 2 year old fillies who are very full of themselves and like teaching the two colt foals how much they can get away with before being firmly trampled on by the older horses.

There are half a dozen fatties on "the front common", which has been grazed all summer and is now a bit thin on grass, thank goodness, as the fatties are all huge in spite of all being quite elderly - Gletta, who is 30, looks more like a 7 year old apart from all her grey hairs. They will stay there until they need more grass, or the area gets too wet – this is a so-called wet heathland, but so far this year it's stayed pretty dry apart from the stream through the middle which the National Trust have dammed part-way to create more varied wildlife habitats. There are certainly plenty of different wildflowers, herbs and grasses which the horses enjoy. As the sweeter grass is eaten they start in on the coarse stuff, reed and heather, all good roughage.



We've not really done as much riding over the summer as we hoped, it's been rather busy with lots of fencing to do (how come fence posts never last more than 10 years these days?) along with all the other jobs, but I think we're pretty much ready for whatever the Pembrokeshire winter throws at us this year. I just hope we're not snowed in again!

The sheep are doing well and mostly failing in their bids to die as young as possible. We have virtually all pure Icelandic sheep these days, apart from Lambie who is half Jacob, and around 12 years old. The Icelandic fleece is great for felting, plus they have characters just as interesting as the horses, they come in beautiful colours and their children taste good! :D They also do a very good job companion grazing with the horses, which helps keep the worm population under control for both species. With this number of horses, picking up muck is impossible, but by combining regular worming with companion grazing it seems our worm counts are always acceptable.



We're about to start working with Sveinn, our rising 4 year old young stallion. Nothing much, just some ground work, trailer loading, hand horsing, and enough "training" to sit on him, then he will be turned away again until the spring. All very slow and only if he's ready and accepting of it all. He's a very sweet chap so I don't imagine it will be very dramatic. His foal from Gaefa is really stunning, and he's covered 3 mares this year, so we're very hopeful for his babies next spring. His mum, Olga, has been running with Jan's colt Tindur – Olga's foals are always very special, so having another to look forward to is great.

Kolfaxi will be returning to his owner in a few weeks, and I think I might have to make the hard decision for one of the oldies, who is not looking brilliant in spite of a summer of good grass. He's started looking a bit sorry for himself, and I think before long he will tell me he's had enough. You can always tell when it's time. Meanwhile, Madam Hind, who I really thought was nearly at the end of the line earlier this year, has picked up beautifully and is thoroughly enjoying herself with her Toyboy, Peppa Pig, a retired Welsh x, all of about 10hh, who is completely in love with her. They wander around the barn paddock together, evict the goats from their shed and steal their breakfast, and have a very nice time. 😊

Crissie has had an operation on her knee which has meant 4 weeks (so far – another 4 to go!) immobile, so Kvika is enjoying a lovely holiday out with the herd. Jan has been riding Tibra and Glodis, while I've been concentrating mostly on Fjalar, with Bob going out once a week or so just to keep him ticking over. He's had his shoes off and is ridden

in Easyboot Gloves which suit him really well. I would love to do the same with Fjalar, but without his “Magic Shoes” from our lovely farrier (even *he* doesn’t know quite why they work so well, but they do!) he tends to fall on his nose every few steps, so going barefoot is not really an option. Jan is getting the keys to her new house today so will be moving away from our back field and a few miles down the road to a lovely farm near Wiston, the other side of Haverfordwest – we’ll miss her and Bruce but it’ll be great to have a new patch of riding to explore.

I’m in Dorset for the last course of 2018 at Oakfield at the moment, with several more courses and have-a-go shows on the calendar for next year. Much to my own surprise I’m really enjoying teaching, it’s so rewarding seeing people having fun and improving so much even in just a weekend. It’s great meeting all the new people getting into Icelandics now too. Sadly we can’t make it to the IHSGB AGM to catch up with Scottish friends; Edinburgh is just too far and too expensive from here. Someone really needs to invent a “Beam Me Up Scotty”...

In the meantime I’m felting madly in between all the outside jobs, ready for various commissions and to build up stock for Christmas craft fairs. Vikings seem to be very popular even outside the Icelandic horse fraternity. ☺

Right, that’s enough rambling for one morning, well done if you’ve read this far! Mick

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It's been a lovely summer

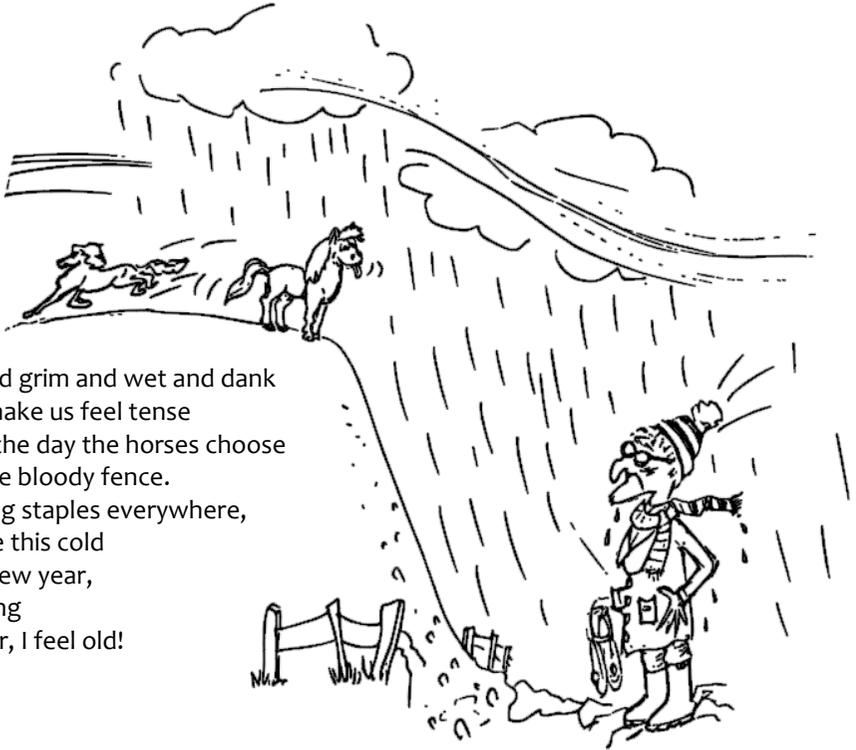
It's been a lovely summer,
full of blue skies and warm days,
with sweetly scented flowers
and meadows full of hay.
But now the nights are drawing in
the mornings have turned cold,
the horses coats are getting thick
and bugger, I feel old!

I'm sure my horse is growing –
at least it feels that way.
It's definitely harder
getting on and off each day.
And though I take the vitamins,
those pills that website sold,
I still have aches all over
and bugger, I feel old!

Mic Rushen

The fields are getting bigger too,
the hill feels much more steep.
I'm sure that it's a longer walk
through mud that seems so deep
and every time I go to catch
my pony in the cold
he stands right up the other end
and bugger, I feel old!

The autumn clock change vexes me,
it means my bedtime's late
and horses want their breakfast served
at nine o'clock, not eight
so I must chase the goats away
before they get too bold
and pinch the horse's food again
and bugger, I feel old!



It's dark and grim and wet and dank
the gales make us feel tense
and that's the day the horses choose
to break the bloody fence.
I'm sneezing staples everywhere,
I really hate this cold
so roll on new year,
roll on spring
'Cos bugger, I feel old!



In just a few days time we will be remembering the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. A world changing event. Approximately 10 million people and [8 million horses died](#) fighting in that war which led directly to an end for horses as transport and in farm work across most of Europe.

Porgeir shared an insight into the effect the war had on Iceland and their horses:

The first large export of Icelandic horses to Germany took place in 1914 when 74 horses were shipped to Hamburg. The horse purchase of the Germans was met with much suspicion by the British in those beginning months of the Great War and later in that same year a shipment of 300 Icelandic horses was confiscated by British authorities and diverted to Leith in Scotland.

Consequently the horse export declined considerably during the conflict years as crossing the Atlantic was a risky undertaking.

One of the about 20 Icelandic ships that were sunk during WWI was the coaster Flóra. On her way from Iceland to Norway in 1917 a British cruiser ordered her to change course and go to Lerwick on the Shetland Islands to be inspected. When Flóra came closer to the coast it entered an embargo zone that had been declared by the Germans and was targeted by the guns of the German submarine U52. Passengers and crew were allowed to embark

lifeboats and then the ship was sunk by torpedoes. The U52 commander did not know that there were also 5 Icelandic horses on board.

According to one of the surviving passengers two of the horses managed to get out of the holds unharmed and could be seen swimming for half an hour before they disappeared.

The incident didn't escape the attention of the submarine's crew and one of them, Julius Schopka, later the consul general for Austria in Reykjavík, described the scene as follows in his memoirs:

“When Flóra sank I saw something I will never forget as long as I live. There were two Icelandic horses swimming in the middle of the ocean. One of them was gray and a very handsome animal. He emerged himself out of the water, snorting, and swam towards us as he expected some help. How long would they last swimming? Never long enough to get ashore. Their strength would finally fade and they would eventually have to give up. Poor, poor creatures!”

Autumn in Iceland

Tanya Davis

Horses in Iceland often live wild for half of the year and when the days begin to get short and the temperatures drop, one of the biggest social events in the Icelandic year is the roundup, it's the ultimate autumn ramble for an Icelandic horse admirer. Tanya is a professional photographer who is a member of our chat group and has posted some fantastic photos and videos of the roundup in Tungurett on our chat group. I asked her if we could share some in Set the Pace. She generously gave me free rein.

Tanya wrote: “Laufskalarett is of course the huge and popular one well known by everyone, the Tungurett one week later is always great and special to me as it has very little tourists and is small and more like a little family meeting! It's always great to share my photos with other Ivey lovers! “

The official [Guide to Iceland Video](#) gives you an idea of how big an undertaking the Laufskalarett roundup is. Some of our community regularly holiday in Iceland at this time to take part in it.

These are pictures from the second Round Up this time in Dalvík, North Iceland. This one was much smaller than Laufskalarett but special to me in another way, as I rode my own 6 year old girl for the first time to and from the round up.

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We went with a group of 16 riders, she had never been in such a large group of horses and riders and a new route for her where she had never been, crossing the river also. She was a little Star!



Our group of riders having a break at the Tungurett, having already ridden 5 miles to there, inclusive crossing the river, before they ride on to meet the herd half way. — at [Dalvíkurbyggð](#).



Riding into the "Skidadal" valley



The horses are coming in with one rider in the lead; others follow behind and block any diversions the horses might find.



Most riders follow behind to deal with stragglers.



Good fun and real quality family time.



ADVICE & INFORMATION

Knowledge base

If you would like to make personal recommendations about services offered relating to the Icelandic horse, please [contact me](#).

Artists (of the Icelandic Horse)

[Sarah Brunt](#)

[Shannon Dalgaard](#)

[Karen Earth](#)

[Irene Fordyce](#)

[Emily Hancock](#)

[Elisabeth Haug](#)

[Helena Leigh Levett](#)

[Mic Rushen](#)

[Midgaard Maleri](#)

Event Organisers

[Devon & Cornwall Icelandics](#) (Harriet Vincent)

[Dragon Riders](#) (Mic Rushen – Wales)

[Houlls Horses & Hounds](#) , (Dorothy Sales - Shetland Isles)

[Halfkey Icelandic Horses](#) (Lu Crawford – online so covers whole country)

[Ice Dragons Equestrian](#) (Peter and Kath Heathcote)

[Icelandic Horses in Scotland \(Lothians\)-IHSGB Affiliated](#) (Delia Marriott)

[Oakfield Farm – Verwood Dorset](#) (Nick Foot- Mo Hall, Verwood, Dorset)

[Old Hills Icelandics](#) (Ian & Fi Pugh- Malvern,Worcester)

[Ride Yorkshire](#)

[South Central Icelandic Horse](#) (Barry Laker, covers Hampshire, IOW, West Sussex, Surrey, EastDorset, Wiltshire & Berkshire.)

[Tölting Angles](#) (Dave & Ann Savage – Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire)

[Tweed Icelandic Riding Club](#)(Kirsty Carson - South Scotland / North England)

[Viking Raiders of the East](#) (Karen Smith – Lincolnshire & Yorkshire)

[Viking Horses of Yorkshire – IHSGB Affiliated](#) (Bethany AF)

Trainers

We are looking for [your recommendations](#) for trainers that work for you.

NAME	AREA	TYPE	RECOMMENDED BY
Mary Concannon	UK	Clicker Training (+R)	Nick Foot
Eva Eventuallyly			Shona Stewart
Bjorn Roar Larsen	Shetland Level 3		Shona Stewart
Anni Olsen			Shona Stewart

Articles Index

Above is the link to the Facebook post where articles have been linked previously. Below are listed a compilation of the links shared by chat group members since the last edition of Set the Pace and will be compiled into the index when it gets to its new home.

Information & Research

[Shoulder Movement in slow motion](#) from: Leigha Brothers

[Managing your horses weight Booklet](#) from: University of Liverpool

[Monitoring Exercise Recovery](#) from: Trackener

[Laminitis Vaccine Research](#) from: Science Daily

[When to Rug](#) from: Dr David Martin

[Rugging Infographic](#) from: North West Equine Vets

[How bits work](#) from: Horse Spirit

[The purpose of whiskers, lips and muzzles in horses infographic](#) from: Integrated Bodyworks

[Licking and Chewing – Submission or Stress?](#) from: International Society for Equitation Science

[How to keep your horses safe in Firework Season](#)

from: World Horse Welfare

[Bone Maturity in horses](#)

Manalo Mendez

[The Bridge of Engagement – re-educating the spine.](#)

Integrated Bodyworks

[5 year old horse lumbar spine](#)

Helen Davies Equine Research

[How much grass do Horses need](#)

from: Nelipot Cottage – Keeping sport horses holistically healthy

[Ask a Geneticist: Why do Icelandic horses have more gaits?](#)

from: The Reykjavik Grapevine

[Natural England Walks & Rides database](#)

Details and maps for more than 1800 walks, rides and areas of open access provided under the Countryside Stewardship, Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Environmental Stewardship Schemes

[Travelling horses in the heat](#) from: Horse & Hound

Connection Training horses with kindness and thoughtfulness

[Worming Options](#) after the removal of a praziquantel-only worming product in October 2018 – Westgate Labs

[Worming Options printable infographic](#) – Westgate Labs

[The importance of correct biting](#) on the horses tongue & the impact on shoulder movement – Anatomy in Motion

[From the horses eye view](#) – Haras de la Sence

[Compulsory microchipping of horses from October 2020](#) UK Gov Press release.

[App Fengur](#) World Fengur phone app that allows access to information from World Fengur database

[Horse Flies](#)

Interest and Amusement

[Toltriding – Film Channel dedicated to Icelandic Horses](#)

[Because of Horses Podcast](#) Interviews with people from all walks of equestrian life. Free.

[Richard Dunwoody's Icelandic Racing Adventure](#) from: Racing Post

[Roundup season in Iceland](#) from: Langhaus Farm

[Icelandic horses being introduced into America](#)

[Mounted Archery 2018 Competition – amazing video](#)

[Alize Froment, bitless and bridleless showcase](#) from HOYS 2018

[The number of Icelandic Horses around the world infographic](#) from Horses of Iceland

[A perfectly preserved 30,000 year old foal](#) from: The Siberian Times

[Bitless and Barefoot at Equifest for the first time](#)

[The Royal Dick vet college out-standing fracture repair](#)

[Contemporary art of riding](#) Katerine Burr – beautiful groundwork

[10 for tölt](#) Kveikur frá Stangarlæk 1

Opportunities to Join in

Lesley Dellar – [WW1 Remembrance Ride Elvden Estate](#) – World Horse Welfare

Mic Rushen – [Hrimnir free online instruction videos](#) from December 2018

Lu Crawford - [Hay Grazer E-Riders, online dressage](#)

Maike Ahlgrimm - [Bridge the Pennine Bridleway Gap](#) – Petition

Louise Thorrington - [The Horse Trust](#) – request for participation in a study to develop a saliva test for encysted redworm

[FEIF Virtual Ride to Berlin](#)

[Your Horse 1000 mile hack](#)

Chat Group Responses to Information Requests

[Towing Vehicle insurance – June 2018](#)

[Sweet Itch rug recommendations – July 2018](#)

[Travelling horses without partitions – September 2018](#)

[How to safely open a gate from horseback – September 2018](#)

[Electric Fencing – September 2018](#)

[Tow Vehicle Recommendations – September 2018](#)

[Renault Master van conversion options – October 2018](#)

[Exercising your horse in winter – October 2018](#)

[Flying a horse in from Iceland – October 2018](#)

Icelandic Horse Blogs/Facebook pages

[Little Viking Horse](#) (Catherine Holland)

[My Shetland](#) (Frances Taylor)

[Me and Aspar the Icelandic Horse](#) (Thalia Colyer)

[Efi's Trec Adventures](#) (Rebekah Spowage)

[The Adventures of Tinna and Jörð](#) (Karen Smith)

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THIS PAGE IS UPDATED BETWEEN ISSUES OF SET THE PACE

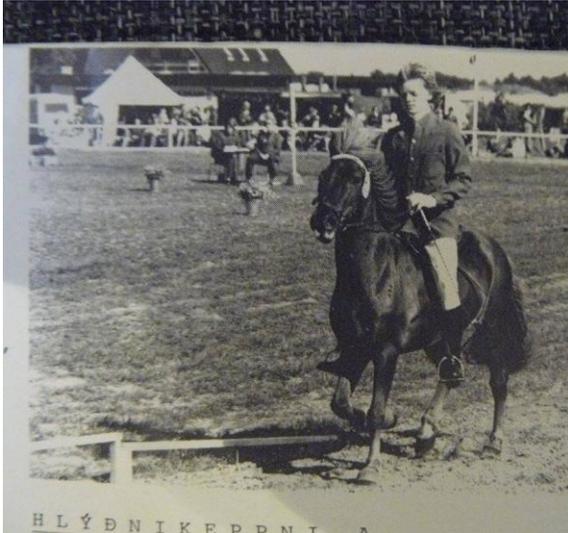
For people who are not familiar with e-publications, it can be odd to see a large amount of white space in a magazine. If you order a printed copy, this space and the contents page are removed/adjusted. M.

Gait Academy

Bent Rune Skulevold

Hi, I am a new member of the Group and as requested I want to introduce myself and why I love the Icelandic Horse.

Me on Faxi in Skiveren 1977



40 Years ago I needed a horse - as I wanted to be a cowboy when I grew up - it just happened to be an Icelandic horse.

I competed successfully for many years with Icelandic horses - before I decided I wanted an education as a professional riding Instructor. I therefore went into a 6 year study - and during those years I completed 2 senior instructor educations - one of them is

the British Horse society Instructor examination (B.H.S.I) - the other where the equivalent in Sweden at Strömsholm (long time before Icelandic horses where allowed there).

I am also an International FEIF Sport judge (judged several WC), and a Gædingakeppni judge (judged several Landsmot) - and I was chief Instructor for the education of the Norwegian Icelandic horse Instructors, where 10 FEIF level 3 Instructors where educated.

After a 10 year deep dive in the art of teaching riders Good and Harmonious Riding - and a successful project to coach a group of talented riders in Holland - where they now are starting to become visible on the list of "Good and Harmonious Riding" - as well as being well presented internationally - I have decided to share what I can share, to a broader audience. We held our first Free Online Workshop on Good and Harmonious Riding over the last two weeks of October. It was very well supported.

For your information on what makes a good and harmonious rider, we have made [this video](#) for your information. If you are interested, there is also "[My Manifesto](#)" which tells you more about me. Please come and join us.



Equine ID: What you need to know

As of 1st October 2018*, all horses in England must be identified with a microchip and passport.

We all want the best for our horses and equine ID helps to protect them. Follow the steps below to ensure you are ready for the new regulations:



 Log on to the Chip Checker (www.equineregister.co.uk) and put in your horse's microchip number to check the details are up to date. If anything is incorrect then get in touch with your Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO)

 If you buy a horse, or your horse is lost, stolen, euthanased/dies or is signed out of the food chain, you need to let your PIO know within 30 days and they will then have 24 hours to update the Central Equine Database

 All horses imported permanently to the UK need to be registered with a UK PIO within 30 days of their arrival

 *If your horse was born before 30th June 2009 and isn't microchipped, you have two years to ensure they are microchipped. If your horse was born after this date, then it should already be microchipped.



Accidents happen

Monika Rudin-Burgess

Accidents happen. We all hope that it won't be any of us that it happens to, or anyone who we know or love. Sometimes though, we aren't that fortunate and some of you will know that a couple of years ago now Nick had a very serious unavoidable accident. I am naturally risk averse and it took me quite a while to be able to come to terms with the idea of Nick riding again. I am a pragmatic person too and I do accept that there was almost nothing Nick could have done to prevent or mitigate the consequences of the accident. Almost nothing. At the time he didn't wear an air-jacket. That would have made a huge difference, but hindsight is always 20/20.

Since Nick talked about his accident several people have bought and wear their air jackets on and off the track and I am writing this as several people have had accidents over the last couple of months and as Monika has written below, the consequences are not just physical and an air-jacket can really help as part of the process of regaining your confidence – I highly recommend them, Mo.

As a few of you know, I broke my collarbone in July on a horse riding tour in Iceland. I won't go into details as I found the difficult bit of my recovery wasn't the physical but the mental state. I really didn't want to hear other people's stories about their accidents as it made me think of all the bad things that could also happen. Lots of times I heard how I must miss riding when really I was glad I had an excuse not to.

I bought Karl Greenwood's book about rider confidence and didn't get past the first couple of chapters, he kept talking about driving cars and how we are not scared doing that and I ended up being petrified driving.

I got back onto Fönix eventually as there were no more excuses left; I bought an air vest and spent 30 minutes in a school just walking. It didn't feel like fun though and I was petrified on our first hack. I knew one thing though that I did have fun with Fönix before the accident and I wanted to find that feeling again. I put notes up all around the house saying „horse riding is fun“ and kept looking at my favourite photo of me and Fönix.

Slowly I have found the fun again and the confidence, schooling really helps as I concentrate so much on what we have to do and forget the „dangers“. My collarbone has healed really well and I sometimes forget it happened; the mental side is much improved as well.

Thank you for sharing your less than perfect experience Monika.

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WHAT'S ON

Please [let me know](#) of any events you are organising or attending.

November 2018

- 2-4 Oakfield Oval Track Beginner/Improver/confidence Contact: [Mic Rushen](#)
2-6 Marieke Mulder Tölt clinics. Rider places provisionally full. Spectators welcome £10 but must book in (limited parking). Various venues from North Lincolnshire to Norfolk to Gatwick. For the agenda/waiting list contact rojeth@gmail.com
15 IHSGB Long Distance Award Ends MEMBERS ONLY Contact: [Jem Adams](#)
16-18 Oakfield Riding Weekend – Circular Route (Full) Contact: [Nick Foot](#)
17 IHSGB AGM Edinburgh MEMBERS ONLY Contact: [Jem Adams](#)
24 [Légèreté Catherine Marshall](#), Edinburgh. Contact: [Heather Morrison](#)
25 Winter Tolt Series – Connegar Farm, Dorset Contact: [Jem Adams](#)
31 [Halfkey Nov Challenge deadline - see Halfkey Icelandics for details](#)

December 2018

- 8-9 IHSGB course Helmut Bramesfeld MEMBERS ONLY Contact: [Ellen Brimble](#)
15 **Set the Pace Deadline – Christmas Fun Issue**
27-28 Indoor Winter Tolt with Fi Pugh- Pinchbeck Contact: [Ann Savage](#)
31 [Halfkey Dec Challenge deadline - see Halfkey Icelandics for details](#)
31-1/1 Oakfield New Year's Day picnic ride & NYE social Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

2019

January 2019

- 13 Winter Tolt Series – Connegar Farm, Dorset Contact: [Jem Adams](#)
19 [Judging Advice day with Fi Pugh, Norham](#) Contact: Yvonne Archibald
25/27 Oakfield Riding Weekend & Burns Supper (Full) Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

February 2019

- 1-2 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)
8-9 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)
15-16 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)
17-18 Hairy Horses & Young People Camp, Pinchbeck Contact: [Ann Savage](#)
22-23 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)
23 Fi Pugh clinic – Rollestone Farm – Exeter (full) Contact: [Maria Freestone](#)
TBC Dark days of winter Hobby Horse Social Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

March 2019

- 1-2 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)
3-4 Indoor Winter Tolt with Fi Pugh- Pinchbeck Contact: [Ann Savage](#)
8-9 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)
15-16 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)
22-23 Oakfield Boldness Training – 1hr sessions Contact: [Mary Concannon](#)

April 2019

- 13-14 Oakfield Oval Track Beginner/Improver/confidence Contact: [Mic Rushen](#)
20-21 Easter Eggstravaganza, Pinchbeck, Lincs Contact: [Fi Pugh](#)
20-22 [Oakfield Clicker Clinic](#), Mary Concannon Contact: [Nick Foot](#)
27-28 Oakfield Improvers Oval Track Preparation W/e Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

May 2019

- 3 Oakfield Oval Track Familiarisation from 1pm Contact: [Nick Foot](#)
3 Oakfield Judges Q & A plus shared takeaway (6pm) Contact: [Nick Foot](#)
4-5 Oakfield Spring Show Contact: [Nick Foot](#)
18-19 Have-a-go show Devon with Mic Rushen Contact: [Debbie Ede](#)

June 2019

- 8-10 [Oakfield Clicker Clinic](#), Mary Concannon Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

July 2019

- 27/28 Icelandic Horse camp [Ingleby Hall Livery](#) Contact: [Rebekah Spowage](#)

August 2019

- 24/26 Adult pony club camp [Ingleby Hall Livery](#) Contact: [Rebekah Spowage](#)

September 2019

- 13 Oakfield Oval Track Familiarisation from 1pm Contact: [Nick Foot](#)
13 Oakfield Judges Q & A plus shared takeaway (6pm) Contact: [Nick Foot](#)
14-15 Oakfield September Show Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

October 2019

- 5-7 [Oakfield Clicker Clinic](#), Mary Concannon Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

November 2019

- 2-4 [Oakfield Clicker Clinic](#), Mary Concannon Contact: [Nick Foot](#)

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Crochet Icelandic Sweater Lillabjorn Crochet

And for the printed version so we don't have a blank page (and I promised)
This is a crocheted version of the Icelandic Sweater. It is available on this link

<https://www.lillabjorncrochet.com/2018/10/esja-sweater.html>

Esja Sweater

crochet pattern
www.lillabjorncrochet.com



