PONY CLUB

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ding jockeys can venture ner into the exciting world orseracing and become an ert on the Thoroughbred ed throughout QIPCO ish Champions Series 2017. new 'Kickstart' race days being held at Newmarket ecourse on Sunday 7th y and York Racecourse Saturday 27th May, and ddition the ever popular zone will return again to QIPCO British Champions y at Ascot on Saturday 21st tober.

all three race days, endees will get the chance earn their Horseracing rtificate by taking part a bitesize lesson in the ckey School, meeting an ex cehorse, learning about the ck and kit used for racing nd going on a tour of the cecourse. In addition, Pony lub Members will get the nance to earn their Intro to ony Racing Badge. There will lso be opportunities to learn bout careers within racing nd everyone will receive he Horseracing Handbook which can be used to follow he QIPCO British Champions eries races throughout the ummer.

Whether you choose to attend Newmarket, York or Ascot racecourses (or all three!) you will get a unique and fun insight into the world of horseracing. Activities are free for all children; you don't have to be a Member of The Pony Club to take part. Find out more here: www.pcuk.org/bcd

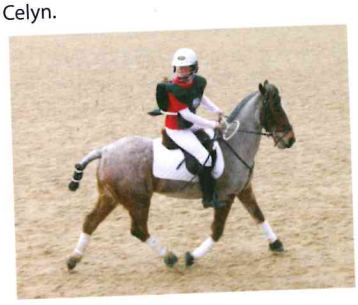
Use our Facebook page or email rebeccaphilpot@redpin.co.uk to keep Welsh Rider magazine up to date with your Pony Club stories and you could be on this page.

Polocrosse success

Flint and Denbigh Pony Club members Katie Davies and Jac Evans headed south in March to take part in the Arden Polocrosse Arena tournament, held at the prestigious Dallas Burston Polo Club on their 'SuperArena'. Katie and Jac have both been playing polocrosse for a few years, having been introduced to the sport through their Pony Club. They are both members of the UK Polocrosse Association, and are lucky enough to be coached by the UK Chief Coach, Tom Simkin.

Katie and Jac had a successful day at the Dallas Burston event, with both of them winning several 'Star Play' points as well as 'Best Number' points, too. They are now looking forward to the next arena event, before the game moves on to grass in early May and the main playing season begins.

It will be a busy summer for them on the pitch. Katie and her pony, Coke, have been selected to represent Wales in the upcoming Pony Club Polocrosse Home International, to be held in July this year. Both Katie and Jac will also be aiming towards competing at the Pony Club Championships in August, representing Flint and Denbigh as well as Area 5, also taking part in UKPA events playing for their local club, Celyn.



Katie Davies and her pony Coke in action

Jac Evans

Swansea & District

Swansea and District Branch of the Pony Club is coming into its 68th year and has a strong reputation within the surrounding area. The club has achieved a lot of success over the years, with ex members staying in the club and teaching classes and lessons to new members, acting as role models for the younger riders coming through.

It is the start of the season for Swansea and District Branch of the Pony Club, with members learning horse and pony care, which provides a foundation of knowledge for children learning to ride and care for their ponies. The season started with the eventers' challenge on the 2nd April. The club regularly qualifies for the National Pony Club Championships, and prides itself on teaching members new skills to give them every chance of success in local and national competitions.

The club is eager to encourage more members, with the youngest member currently age five, and oldest 25, with a range of abilities. Swansea acts as a community for children with a devotion to horse riding, teaching them how to ride, jump and anything in between, including polocrosse. They hold around seven shows and competitions a year, including the notorious Pony Club camp held in the summer holidays.

The events build members' confidence and allows them to have fun with their friends and ponies.

Swansea & District Pony Club members

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