

**CHARNWOOD**

**TAILS**

**Issue 87**

**DECEMBER 2011**



**THE *FREE* MAGAZINE FOR HORSE  
AND ANIMAL LOVERS IN CHARNWOOD  
AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS!**



# **\*RISEHOLME FEEDS\***



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Christmas Eve: close at 2pm • 25th, 26th & 27th: closed • Open 28th: 9-5.30pm • 29th, 30th: 9-7pm;  
31st: 9-2pm • 1st, 2nd Jan: closed • Open as usual Tuesday 3rd Jan



Charnwood Tails wishes everyone  
a very Happy Christmas  
and a Jolly New Year!



**Thank you to all advertisers and readers for your support during 2011 - hope to see you in 2012!**

Front Cover:  
Santa's little helper, aka  
Buddy!

Owner Tracy says "When he is not working for Santa, Buddy loves going to shows where he takes part in the in-hand showing classes and likes to go round the clear round jumping too!

"He is only 8.2hh and is a miniature Shetland pony with a BIG character! He is a real cutey-pie and makes us laugh so much!!!"



Share your news, views and photos with the other 999+ readers of Charnwood Tails! Please email to [info@charnwoodtails.co.uk](mailto:info@charnwoodtails.co.uk)

# CONTACT US!

Charnwood Tails, c/o 7 Ashby Square, Loughborough LE11 5AA  
email: [info@charnwoodtails.co.uk](mailto:info@charnwoodtails.co.uk) • 07961 535189

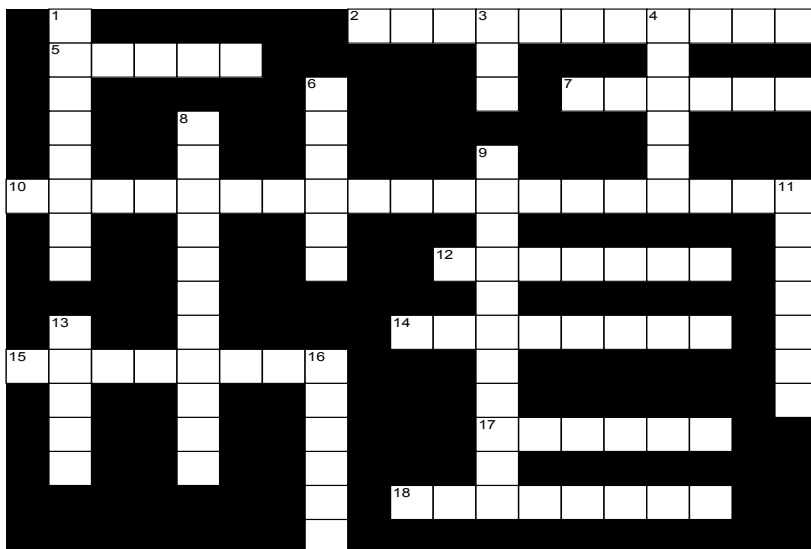
# Christmas Prize Crossword

❄️❄️❄️❄️ **£20** for first correct entry! ❄️❄️❄️❄️

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Please send completed crossword together with your name and address to Charnwood Tails, 7 Ashby Square, Loughborough LE11 5AA. CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 21ST DECEMBER. Winner of a £20 cheque will be the first correct solution drawn. Any business wishing to sponsor the crossword page please email [info@charnwoodtails.co.uk](mailto:info@charnwoodtails.co.uk)



Charnwood Tails 12/11

## ACROSS

- 2 Of the year, December 21st
- 5 A popular name for equine, canine, feline or human births at this time of year
- 7 Equine perhaps associated with Christmas
- 10 Film starring Tatum O'Neal as a showjumper
- 12 Michael Jackson's son, also a type of horse clip
- 14 When is the next issue of Charnwood Tails?
- 15 Most of us have one in our homes at Christmas, but what is a saddle without one?
- 17 An anti-inflammatory feed supplement which also keeps vampires at bay!
- 18 Talking horse of the 1960s television programme

## DOWN

- 1 Horse colour and for roasting on an open fire
- 3 Seasonal colour
- 4 Festive decoration for home and horse alike!
- 6 Begins on 2A
- 8 Originator of 'Ride with Your Mind' teaching
- 9 Winner of the 2011 Grand National
- 11 'More hay?', 'No thanks Roy, I'm stuffed!'
- 13 Something there is less of during the winter months
- 16 Second part of a Charnwood village name and descriptive of a colour in Western riding horses



# The Horse Trough

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The Horse Trough would like to wish all customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to welcoming you again in 2012!

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## Welcome in 2012 with a visit to our January Sale!

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**HUMAN, HORSE & HOUND**

## RIDE WITH YOUR MIND

Vivienne Isaac

# What's Normal?



I'm half way through reading a fascinating book called *Thinking in Pictures – And Other Reports from My Life with Autism* by Temple Grandin. It's a real eye-opener as to how her mind works in an entirely visual way, and how different it is to mine. Which leads me to ask the question, 'what's normal'? If it's not 'normal' is it abnormal or paranormal? When I think of the word 'paranormal' I hear the sound of the music from the 'X Files', and get goose bumps on my skin. The word abnormal would lead me to think of something that is deformed or misshapen. What does your brain do?

What also interests me about the way Temple Grandin thinks is that she finds human contact very difficult yet has a great affinity with animals, cattle in particular, and believes that the way her mind works is akin to how animals think. So if we want to be safe around our horses, and have fun with them on the ground and ridden then we must first think like them. Understanding things from our horse's perspective will make it much easier to help them be confident around us.

Of course, like us, no two horses are the same so we need to adapt our thinking to take into account each horse's innate character, learned behaviours, environment and spirit level. Many problems develop as horses learn so quickly that often times we've taught them something inadvertently that it would be better for all concerned if they didn't know! It's not possible for them to 'unlearn' this, what we need to do then is condition them to the behaviour that would be preferable so that we all stay safe and have fun. If you remember from last month, practising the right thing will strengthen that neural pathway, so consistency at this stage is vital to learning the desirable thing.

I'm not naturally assertive with my horses and this has generated some major problems in my journey with my horse, Djinn. I've had to learn how to be firm but fair in a way that she understands and yet preserves her dignity. My mind likes to just 'see what happens – go with the flow'. That led us into all sorts of problems as Djinn found she could do what she liked, then I got frustrated and we both got frightened!

When we get frustrated and frightened that's when we know we've reached the end of our current knowledge in this area at this time. Either we seek help, give up, or use violence. Giving up was not an option I wanted to take and violence is an absolute no no. That means learning how to be different, to make a difference, was the only way forward. How I have to be is not 'normal' for me, but over time it's becoming easier, less abnormal, but may be a little paranormal

If you'd like some help to improve your 'normal' and impress your horse, then give me a call, I'll be pleased to help. Feeling the stress and strain or got aches and pains – have some shiatsu (good for you and your horse). Gift Vouchers available for lessons and shiatsu – give a present that'll really make a difference – better still get your loved ones to treat you!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

[vivienne.isaac652@btinternet.com](mailto:vivienne.isaac652@btinternet.com)

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## War Horse

Before the advent of motorised vehicles, horses played a pivotal role in the war effort, both in the cavalry and hauling guns, ammunition, ambulances and other supplies. As described in the 1982 *War Horse* story, the film adaptation of which is due to be released in the UK in January, many of these animals were enlisted from loving homes and thrown into the horrors of war, where armies were often ill-equipped to protect them from the threat of injury and disease. With medical provisions in short supply, The Blue Cross animal charity offered a lifeline to both war horses and their beloved masters.

Founded in 1897 as Our Dumb Friends League, the charity gained its current name from its valuable work helping animals in both world wars. A Blue Cross flag – to distinguish from the Red Cross facilities for injured men - flew over animal hospitals across the battlefields of Europe, and identified horse ambulances and vital medical supplies sent to the front lines.

There is the moving story of a young apprentice carpenter, named George Turner, who had joined the army while under age, but who risked his life for the horses in his charge. Caught in fierce German shelling as he carried ammunition forward, one of his horses was badly wounded. George, together with his other horse, Dolly, went back through heavy fire to bring the injured horse to an officer, for that last act of kindness, in that it could be put out of its pain.

It is estimated that the British Army used 1.2 million horses and mules in the First World War, of which 484,000 sadly died in battle. But after the war, the great sacrifices made by these loyal animals appeared to be forgotten as thousands were sold cheaply abroad for labour or meat. When news reached Britain of their fate, The Blue Cross launched an appeal to buy back as many as possible. Alongside Mrs Dorothy Brooke, who later founded her own charity The Brooke, they rescued more than 4,000 old war horses in the 1930s.

The work and sacrifices made by not only horses but also dogs, cats, pigeons etc., is now recognised by the Animals in War Memorial in London, which was unveiled by the Princess Royal in 2004.



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Remember there is no January issue of  
Charnwood Tails ... copy deadline for  
the February issue is **16th January**



# One Year On

In November 2010, Carl and Moya Law opened the tack and clothing shop at Oak Farm, Ratby Lane, Markfield. This runs alongside their feed and bedding business and the last 12 months have seen the customer base grow beyond their wildest dreams as more and more people have

realised the benefits of shopping for their equestrian needs at a working stable yard where the people behind the counter understand the challenges of horse management in the current economic climate.

So many new customers have arrived in the shop, saying that they saw the advert for Oak Farm in *Charnwood Tails* – to all those equestrian businesses out there, this is the place to advertise!

The products and services on offer are evolving all the time as the customer buying trends change, but the main ones on offer are:

**Horse Feed** – with over 35 years experience of feeding from children's ponies to hunters and competition horses, Moya and Carl are happy to help with feeding problems. A lady visited the shop this year and explained that she felt that she would have to have her pony put to sleep if she could not prevent further weight loss. We are delighted to report that, since she has been feeding the feed suggested at Oak Farm, the pony is thriving – it's owner returns regularly for her "bag of miracle dinner"!

There are nine different Bedding products on offer – Moya and Carl are happy to explain the pro's and cons of each and to show some of them in use on the yard. Free delivery is available for quantity.

In partnership with the fast growing Dapper Dobbins rug washing and repair business, Oak Farm has handled literally hundreds of rugs in the last 12 months in their capacity as the local Dapper Dobbins drop off point. The rugs are beautifully cleaned and packed then dropped back at Oak Farm. A text message alerts the owner that they are ready for collection – a system that works very well for all concerned. Satisfied customers are coming back for a second and third time with rugs – proof if needed that they are happy with Dapper Dobbins' results.



Clipper blades are also taken for sharpening and, like the rugs, customers can rely on a fast turn around when needed, with a text message to let them know that they are ready for collection. Clippers are also taken for service and repair with quotations being provided if required. Blades are also for sale, both new and second hand (which have been sharpened and are "ready to go!").

**Rugs** – a growing range of rugs are available. Waffles, fleeces, summer sheets, fly rugs, rain sheets, stable

and winter turnout from brands such as Shires, Mark Todd, Jumpers Horse Line, Loveson, Comfort Zone, Knight Rider and more.

Clothing and footwear for around the yard and at shows are available for both adults and children. One of the best parts of Moya's job is to help people kit themselves out for a show and then enjoy the next visit from the customer when they tell her how they got on and show her the pics!

Tack and grooming equipment is available as are stable tools, buckets, haynets etc.

The list could go on! But cannot finish without a mention of the Poultry Feed and equipment. Carl has many years experience of poultry keeping and has been able to help numerous people that have bought chickens but needed help with feeding and care. Dog, cat and small pet feed is also available.

Over the past 12 months it has become increasingly apparent that customers appreciate the knowledge, experience and willingness to go the extra mile that is displayed at Oak Farm. Moya and Carl truly enjoy their work and love nothing more than to help, advise and obtain goods requested, even if they are not in stock.

With a great range of horsey Christmas Cards and Gifts on display and a repeat of last year's successful "Christmas Wish List" scheme together with the availability of Vouchers, this year Oak Farm is the place to go Christmas Shopping!

Moya and Carl would like to thank their customers for their support over the past 12 months and wish them a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Bring on the next 12 months!!!!

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<b>Loughborough</b>	<b>Sat - 10-4pm</b>
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# CLASSIFIEDS

FREE for private\* advertisers!  
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\* **Free Private Adverts** - owned or offered by individuals inc DIY livery, secondhand goods etc.

**£5 Bold Ads!** - for all trade type ads inc full/part livery, services etc - if you charge a fee then so must we!

Advertisements for inclusion in the next issue need to reach us by **16th January**

Please **EMAIL** to info@charnwoodtails.co.uk or **POST** to 7 Ashby Square, Loughborough LE11 5AA.  
For **bold** listings please send required wording along with a cheque for £5 payable to Charnwood Tails

## HORSES FOR SALE

15HH TB/X BAY MARE, 10YRS OLD. Has done RC activities, hunting, good in traffic in company. Not a novice ride. Kind, easy, genuine mare, lives in or out, good to box, shoe, clip, load. Vaccinated and wormed to date. £2400 ONO incl tack & rugs. Mobile 07941 770286

TWO DONKEYS FOR SALE BOTH 11 HH APPROX., one jenny 18 months old, one jack 2 years, home bred lovely sweet kind natures, halter broken and well used to farm life, £150 jack, £250 jenny, can be split. 07906 991627 Quorn

COLOURED YEARLING COB FILLY, 14HH. Well handled, very sweet natured, only for sale as husband lost interest. £380 or near offer. Call Denise on 07726 649683

## HORSEWEAR

I have 8 rugs that I would like to go to a pony charity. There are stable and NZ types, 5` and 5`3". They would need to be picked up from Keyworth. Contact 0115 8461613 (answer phone) please leave number and I will get back to you

MASTA RUGS, 1 x 6ft 9 heavyweight turnout good condition, clean. 1 x middleweight turnout good condition, clean £40 each. 1 x Masta fleece £10, 1 x Weatherbeeta exercise sheet £10. 07906 991627 Quorn

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## WANTED

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GRAZING/FIELD WANTED in Groby, Ratby, Kirby Muxloe areas for quiet retired pony, stable not essential as good-doer and lives out. Mature experienced owner willing to do any repair work necessary and provide 3 months rent in advance. Refs can be supplied. Please contact by email gherkin353084009@aol.com

Winter's coming, it is too dark to ride after school, so what an opportunity to brush up on your theory and practical knowledge.

I am running a course for 7-12 year olds who feel they need to learn more about the theory and practicalities of caring for a pony. The course will be weekly, joining fee £5:00, numbers will be limited. Interested?

Then phone or text 07985912318 to ask more about it. We will cover the subjects that you need. I am a fully qualified Sports Coach, with First Aid and C.R.B.

The course will be held in my home and parents are welcome.

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I NEED TO SELL MY SCRAP BOOKS, each one contains over 500 named horses, collected over 30 years. I have most native breeds and Arabians. These books are arranged in alphabetical order and pedigree is in where known. Contact 0115 8461613 (answer phone) please leave number and I will get back to you

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# Advertise in Charnwood Tails!

## Full Colour Ads

Quarter Page (90mm x 60mm)	£ 47
Half Page (90mm x 124mm)	£ 75
Full Page (185mm x 124mm)	£105

Trade Classified: £5 bold listing

## Black & White Ads

Mini (text only, 30mm x 60mm)	£15
Sixth Page (60mm x 60mm)	£27
Quarter Page (90mm x 60mm)	£37
Half Page (90mm x 124mm)	£60
Full Page (185mm x 124mm)	£92

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**\* Pre-payment is required for all advertisements please \***

For advertising enquiries please email  
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or phone **07961 535189** (if unanswered please leave a message and we'll get back to you)

**COPY DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS 16th January**  
**www.charnwoodtails.co.uk**

# Diary Dates

## **Sunday 4th December**

DRESSAGE, Canaan Farm, Costock near Loughborough. Call Hayley, 07725 432355 or email hayleysankey@yahoo.co.uk

QUORN HUNT CHRISTMAS SHOW JUMPING COMPETITION, Vale View EC. Details see [www.quorn-hunt.co.uk](http://www.quorn-hunt.co.uk).

## **Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th December**

CLEAR ROUND ARENA EVENTING, Diamond Equestrian, New Hall Park Farm, Enderby Road, Thurlaston LE9 7TF. 07950 213691

## **Sunday 18th December**

OPEN FUN PRIZE SHOW, Canaan Farm, Costock near Loughborough. Call Hayley, 07725 432355 or email hayleysankey@yahoo.co.uk

CHARITY EVENTERS CHALLENGE IN AID OF DERBYSHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND AIR AMBULANCE, Classes from 65cm - 1m; clear round classes; Raffle Prizes held at Brooksby Equestrian Centre, Brooksby Melton College, near Melton Mowbray LE14 2LJ: Contact Emma Cumberland 07891 495524

GRID WORK CLINIC WITH KIM SPENCER, Diamond Equestrian, New Hall Park Farm, Enderby Road, Thurlaston LE9 7TF. 1/2 Hour slots for £15 private lesson. please pre-book asap, text me on 07950 213691



# ... 2012 ...



## **Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th January**

INDOOR WINTER DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS, Rearsby Lodge Riding Club, held at Brooksby Equestrian Centre, Brooksby near Melton Mowbray. Contact Liz Atkins, 0116 2871662 or see [www.rearsbylodge.com](http://www.rearsbylodge.com)



If you have dates that you would like to be included on this page, please email us at [info@charnwoodtails.co.uk](mailto:info@charnwoodtails.co.uk).

Dates will be included on our website [www.charnwoodtails.co.uk](http://www.charnwoodtails.co.uk) where you can also view previous issues and up-to-date classified ads



## Christmas is Coming.. What Presents Should you Buy?

How about a voucher for a horse massage?

🐾 Ideal Present for your friends horse

Horses are athletic animals and benefit from massage as people do.

Merry Christmas



Equine Sports Massage Helps

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Even if the horse does not need treatment for any of the above reasons there is no better way to show horses you care; Massage Promotes Well-Being & gives a "Feel Good" Factor.

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Wash Only  
Stable Rugs £7.00  
Turnout Rug up to 7' £8.50/over 7' £10.00  
Turnout Rug with hood £9.00  
Other Rugs/Duvets/Thermotex £6.50  
Summer Sheets/Cool Rugs £4.00

Wash and Re-proof  
Turnout Rug up to 7' £14.00/over 7' £16.00  
Turnout Rug with hood £15.00

Miscellaneous Items  
Munnahs/Saddlecloths £2.00 each  
Travel Boots £4.00 per set  
Stable Cloths/Bandages £3.50 per load

*Price reduction for 10 rugs and over*

**07889 411546**

Free Personal Collection and Delivery Service  
for a minimum of 5 rugs  
*Based in Horse near Melton Mowbray*

# The Tack Shack

Thank You for  
being part of the Tack  
Shack 2011 experience and I  
wish that you and yours enjoy a  
fun and safe Christmas and New Year

**REMEMBER:** Tack Shack has fabulous "horsey  
gifts for us horsey people" like  
fun horse Christmas stockings, stunning  
woolly hat, scarf & glove sets, and heated  
coats to keep you warm in the  
colder months ahead.

Everything you need for that perfect  
Christmas gift & much more -  
come and take a look at

26 Field Street, Shepshed, Loughborough LE12 9AL

**Tel. 01509 505893**

Open 10am-5.30pm Tues-Sat, 10am-3pm Sun, Closed Monday





# OAK FARM



RATBY LANE MARKFIELD LE67 9RJ

Tel: 01530 249500 Carl on 07850 877794 or Moya on 07801 307401

Email: [oakfarm2004@btinternet.com](mailto:oakfarm2004@btinternet.com) DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS TAKEN

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am - 6pm Saturday 9am - 5pm Sunday 10am - 4pm

Closed: 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> Dec and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan



PRESENTS CARDS VOUCHERS



LEAVE A CHRISTMAS WISH LIST WITH US -  
SEND YOUR LOVED ONES TO THE SHOP AND GET WHAT YOU  
REALLY WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS!

**NEW IN - DUST EXTRACTED WOODPECKER**

**SHAVINGS ONLY £6.90**

**NETS OF CARROTS STILL ONLY £2 !!**

**WHITE SHAVINGS STILL ONLY £6.60 A BALE!!**

**OTHER BEDDING FROM £4.40 A BALE**

**FEED QUALITY BUT PAY LESS - CHECK OUT OUR DENGIE  
PRICES AND THOSE OF OTHER LEADING BRANDS!!**



**!HUGE WINTER SALE STARTS 28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER !**

**UP TO 40% OFF  
SELECTED  
CLOTHING &  
TACK**

**£5 OFF ALL  
RUGS  
PRICES START  
FROM £24.99**

**SOCKS,GLOVES  
BEANIES ETC -  
BUY 3 GET  
CHEAPEST ½  
PRICE**

**SPEND OVER £25 ON NON-SALE ITEMS - GET £5 OFF!**

(OFFER ONLY APPLIES TO CLOTHING, GIFTS AND TACK)

**TO ALL OF OUR LOVELY CUSTOMERS -  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CUSTOM IN 2011.  
HAVE A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS - CARL & MOYA xx**

Oak Farm is situated just two minutes from the A50 Field Head Island. Take the Thornton/Botcheston exit from the island. Once you pass the Islamic Foundation on your left, take the next left turn (signposted to Ratby). It is the first farm 200 yards down this road on the left hand side.