

NTF WEEKLY – 28 AUGUST 2018

BRS and The Prince's Trust helping young people into horseracing

The following report is taken from the British Racing School's latest newsletter. It is another example of the work taking place to bring more young people into employment with trainers and show what great opportunities await them.

The Prince's Trust Get Started with Horseracing Programme was almost 18 months in the planning and proved a phenomenal success. On the 19th of March, 9 young people from the Prince's Trust embarked on their week-long residential course with us to find out more about the horseracing industry and to grow in confidence and find self-belief.

None of the 9 attendees were in education, employment or training and many had come from disadvantaged or troubled backgrounds. During the week they were in the yard at 6:30am learning to muck out and care for racehorses. They had the chance to ride throughout the week, as well as go on various trips including visits to Dalham Hall, Amy Murphy's yard and Chelmsford City Racecourse. All those on the course successfully completed the programme with more than half the group progressing onto further training courses with us. One of the attendees who progressed onto a 9-week Foundation Course has now started her new job with Marco Botti and is flourishing.

We are extremely grateful to all who helped support this programme including, Godolphin, Johnnie Boden, Chelmsford City Racecourse and Amy Murphy. We would also like to extend our gratitude to The Alborada Trust, who's generous support has ensured that this programme will be replicated and continue to run at the BRS for the foreseeable future.

Nominate best racecourses for maintaining the track

The Pitchcare Groundstaff Awards recognise the work done by racecourses' Groundstaff teams to prepare and maintain the racing surface and other important elements of the racecourse infrastructure.

The awards are judged in September and the RCA is inviting trainers to nominate racecourse Groundstaff for meritorious achievements. You can nominate a flat, jump and dual-purpose racecourse for the award by emailing George Noad at the NTF office g.noad@racehorsetrainers.org

What Of It tops RoR Goffs UK Championships

Six days of high quality competition at the RoR Goffs UK National Championships concluded on Sunday with the final evening performance under lights in the Aintree International Equestrian Centre. The ninetieth and final class saw the coveted title of Goffs UK Supreme Champion 2018, together with a first prize of £2,500, awarded to What Of It, ridden by Hannah Horton, an achievement that crowned a fantastic season for the pair.

The 15-year-old gelding, already the winner of the RoR Tattersalls Show Series Championship at Hickstead in June was adjudged Supreme Champion by a panel of judges including jockey Nico de Boinville.

What Of It is a true family horse, he remains in the ownership of his former trainer Sarah Ward and her son Tom, who rode him to victory in three of his Hunter Chase wins and is assistant trainer to Richard Hannon. Equipped with an impeccable temperament, What Of It regularly escorts young horses out hacking and has also done some arena eventing, some cross-country and trained-up several Pony Club members.

See [ntfmuse](#) for more information about former racehorses competing at the RoR Goffs UK Championships.

Don't miss this training if you want to strengthen your business

Not many trainers have business management experience when they start training horses. We all know how hard it is to maintain a sustainable business as a racehorse trainer so the management training modules we have put on with the support of The Racing Foundation are a great way to strengthen your business.

Read what one delegate to the Newmarket module said,

"I just wanted to thank you and the NTF for supporting the management training day at the BRS yesterday. The consensus among attendees was of how useful this training is to senior staff and how greatly it will impact morale in yards. Hopefully, it will continue to reach as many trainers, and industry staff members, as possible."

The module is designed to help trainers recruit and retain exceptional staff teams. It is about sharing ideas, tips and support to match the team award criteria and make other wider ranging changes. They are geared to the criteria for the Lycetts Team Champion Award and attending will be a boost to your nomination for the 2019 award.

The modules are delivered by Peter Burnet, who already runs management training for the racing industry at the British Racing School. Trainers either attending the modules or sending representatives in 2017 included Luca Cumani, Ann Duffield, William Haggas, Mark Johnston

(Lycetts Team Champion Award shortlisted), Martin Keighley (LTCA shortlisted), Seamus Mullins (LTCA shortlisted), Jonjo O'Neill, George Scott, Suzy Smith (LTCA shortlisted.)

Book now for the remaining event at

- **Cheltenham on Wednesday 12th September**
- **Kelso on Wednesday 3rd October**

The training runs from 10.00 to 16.30 with lunch and refreshments provided. Dress is casual / work clothes. The day will consist of a mix of activities, discussion and some new ideas. There is no formal preparation for the day and please come with an open mind!

To book places

This year there is a charge of £100 + vat per place. To book yourself and up to one other staff member onto any of the three days please contact the NTF at teamchampion@racehorsetrainers.org or ring 01488 71794.

Preparing to Make Tax Digital

From April 2019, some businesses will have to make their VAT returns using digital systems. This is part of the Government's Make Tax Digital (MTD) strategy.

HMRC has published [further information](#) on MTD to support businesses and agents in the run up to the start of the mandatory MTD VAT service. This includes:

- A new HMRC VAT Notice.
- A page on GOV.UK providing a list of software developers HMRC is currently working with during the MTD VAT pilot that have already demonstrated a prototype of their product ready to start testing with businesses and/or agents.
- A communications pack to provide stakeholders with information to support businesses and agents to prepare for MTD.

As part of MTD, businesses registered for VAT with a taxable turnover above the VAT registration threshold of £85,000 will need to keep VAT records digitally and file their VAT returns using MTD compatible software. This will start from their first VAT period starting on or after 1 April 2019. Businesses with a taxable turnover below the VAT threshold will not have to operate MTD but can still choose to do so voluntarily.

Starting stalls wanted

Iain Jardine Racing are looking to buy a 3-stall set of practice starting stalls. They can collect if necessary. If you have a set for sale, please call Val Renwick on 07944 722011 or email iainjardineracing@outlook.com

Regulation deadlines

- **1 October 2018** – Level 2 safety vest mandatory for jockeys for race riding
- **January 2019** – Changes to Racing Calendar and Programme Book take effect