

NAF

Restoring the Balance



NAF Five Star Riding Club of the Month Award

Susan Osborne nominated the Norfolk Horse Training & Equitation Club because "The NHTEC is a unique BHS Affiliated Riding Club because it is focused towards training instead of competition. NHTEC helps to teach riders how to train their horses using equine learning theory and ethical training techniques. It deserves a Five Star Club nomination for all the riders and horses it has helped over the years, some of which would otherwise have been unrideable."

Congratulations to The Norfolk Horse Training and Equitation Club



Susan's horses

by Dr Andrew McLean on Equine Learning Theory. A complete and total revelation – I only wish that I had known about this years before."

changed the name in early 2007 to the Norfolk Horse Training and Equitation Club."

"I then found that the Norfolk Horse Training and Equitation Club (NHTEC) riding club was based near to me and had been using these techniques to train horses for some years. I joined NHTEC as it was using Equine Learning Theory techniques to train horses and this was an area I was keen to pursue and support. They were able to help me put the theory into practice with my horses."



Abi and Danny

"NHTEC meets monthly from March to November and organises training days for members and their horses. This year we have days on Le Trec, Spook-busting control, lateral work, pole-work/jumping and a four day summer camp planned for the end of July. As all ethical training begins from the ground, club days are programmed so that they can either be done with the horse in-hand or ridden depending where each horse and rider combination has got to in its training."

"Membership of NHTEC can start you on a huge journey to recapture the essence and joy of correct training. In addition you get to meet some friendly, like-minded horsey friends to help you on your way."

Chairman Mike Harrison tells us more about the club which is based in Area 14 and promotes ethical training and handling whilst making learning fun and inspiring.

"The club is based at Running Free Farm in Aylmerton. We began in 2003 as the Norfolk Natural Horse Group. To reflect our evolving profile, we

conflict-free training, based on equine learning theory (which is itself evidenced-based on scientific principles). We offer a place where: members can meet and find owners with similar problems and aspirations, can come for guidance on any aspect of keeping a horse where they have a problem, and can feel safe and have fun with their horses."

"The club has the use of facilities at its home base Running Free Farm. Unusually, and I believe unique for a riding club, our members have access to: three paddocks, a one mile oval grass exercise track, American-style stalls and stable block with a sand-roll 'play and stretch' area, a full size indoor training arena and about a mile of all-weather outdoor riding on 'Paddock Paradise' – a linked system of gravel tracks around the farm."

"To be nominated is humbling and brilliant news. We are glad to have our work recognised and the opportunity to make it more widely known."

"The club covers a wide area, with members from all over Norfolk. Owners also contact us for help from other parts of England, Europe and the rest of the world. We are primarily a training club, and don't generally offer or focus on competitive events."

"There are currently around 50 members. The number fluctuates because different owners come with different aims and aspirations. Primarily they will have an issue with their horse which they can't resolve: when the issues are resolved some certainly go on to compete and/or enjoy a new relationship with their horses, and without us supporting them. They may also stay to take a more active part in club activities generally."

"We aim to provide for the education and retraining of riders through



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ANGLIA