

# WEAVERHOUSE EQUINE NEWS

[www.weaverhouse-equine.com](http://www.weaverhouse-equine.com) 0845 519 8614

\*\*\*FEBRUARY 2012 NEWS\*\*\*FEBRUARY 2012 NEWS \*\*\*FEBRUARY 2012 NEWS



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WeaverHouse Equine treats horses all over the UK and Channel Islands. If you would like your horse treating, please contact us and we will try to arrange an appointment for you asap. The call out fee can be shared amongst several horses - for full details call 0845 519 8614

*Hi there everyone !*

*I hope this message finds you all well, and keeping yourselves and your horses warm, in what, touch wood, a very mild winter ! We are extremely busy here at both WeaverHouse Equine and also WeaverHouse Mainline, as well as our brand new venture WeaverHouse Canine. The Canine side is rapidly growing and we feel that it would be only right that we recognized the importance of the well being of our canine friends. The brief for the website has been given and work starts very soon.*

*The quest for my perfect horse still continues. I thought I had found a horse, but unfortunately he failed the vetting and had to go back - after I had bought all new rugs, tack etc etc. So now, not am I only looking for my ideal horse, but also one that all my rugs and tack will fit !!! Never mind, if not there is always e bay !!*

*Andy-Practice Manager*

*On a different note, my mum came to visit recently and bought with her a poem that I wrote 27 years ago, when I was show jumping, which I entered in a competition in Horse and Hound and won ! The poem goes something like this !*

*We arrived at the show, Myself and my horse  
I got out the lorry, And walked the big course  
No 1 was a spread, With a cross pole in front  
No 2 was an upright, That was fit for the hunt  
No 3 a big double, So high and so wide  
I would get out of trouble, If I sit down and ride  
No 4 was a gate, White with black spots  
No 5 was an upright, Made out of logs  
No 6 and then 7, They were quite small  
Compared the the rest, So wide and so tall  
And then No 8, The Oh dreaded planks  
They are hard to get right, I would rather say no thanks !*

*And then the huge double, The last fence of all  
Which you have to get right, or you may have a fall  
Quite a big course, for a Foxhunter track  
I'll tack up my horse now, And get on his back !!*

WeaverHouse Equine is pleased to be selected as an agent for cyclo-ssage UK. The next news letter will have a dedicated feature about this amazing product, which is available for humans, horses, and dogs. I have just bought one for our dog Toby and I think I can safely say he loves it ! For more details ask Adam or Tom, or contact cyclo-ssage direct on 0800 169 2808



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## Professional Osteopaths Caring and Maintaining Your Horses Back Health

### **The following is a case study by our resident Equine Osteopath, Mr Tom Austen .....**

As Osteopaths we are often there to pick up the pieces after an accident or fall. Working with both horses and people the equine team at WeaverHouse are in the privileged position of, on occasion, having to help both horse and rider back to health.

In 2005 an estimate of horse population in Cheshire revealed 14-15 horses per square kilometre, with horse ownership on the rise over the last seven years the mind boggles as to the density of horse population in the county today. More horses and more people unfortunately could create more opportunities for accidents to occur, WeaverHouse Equine to the rescue!

Hope presented to me following a fall from her horse Spring a 9 year old gelding, one month previously. She had been cantering in a field near her home when her horse spooked, twisted to the left and bucked wildly causing her to fall onto her left side impacting her lower back, left shoulder and hitting her head on the floor. Hope's symptoms had worsened over the month, her neck was now sore and riding hurt her lower back especially as Spring was also playing up when asked to canter on the left rein and kicking out when girthing up.

Hope had sustained a whiplash injury from her fall, which had left her with inflammation in some of her spinal joints especially between her shoulders, base of the neck and lumbar spine. She had not allowed the injury to settle as she worked long hours as a waitress and then spent the rest of her time riding or looking after Spring and her sister's horse Cracker.

A week following the first treatment Hope's symptoms had reduced, she had been on holiday and had returned home feeling refreshed. The holiday had been well timed; treatment, carefully prescribed exercises and a break from work and riding had really allowed her body to begin healing itself.

WeaverHouse Equine received a call from Hope following her return from holiday, Spring was still showing signs of discomfort in his schooling and so I arrived a couple of days later for a consultation.

Spring was sensitive over his back flinching when light pressure was applied behind the saddle on the left and at the base of his lower back on the right. When moving he wasn't tracking up with his right hind and went disunited on the left rein moving into canter, he was also very reluctant to walk backwards. It seemed the sudden movement and incident of bucking had caused muscle strain and spinal joint restriction in the base of Spring's back on the right leading to a compensatory overstrain behind the saddle on the left. This restriction in Spring's back was causing him pain in his canter work and when backing up.

Following two treatments of deep tissue massage and gentle manipulation Spring was stretching out well on the lunge and moving evenly. Hope had also noticed a difference in her ridden work. Her back felt loose, relaxed and supple and she was sitting tall in the saddle.

Both Hope and Spring continue to be patients at WeaverHouse Equine. They compete together eventing at novice level and are looking forward to the start of the season this spring.

WeaverHouse Equine are offering free pre-season back checks for both horse and rider, please call for full details quoting reference number TAFBC12

