

# HORSE WEEK



A weekly round-up of equestrian sport

Compiled by:  
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## IN BRIEF

### Horse found

A horse has been found on the Gransha Road, between Dundonald and Comber (near to La Mon hotel).

The animal was found last Wednesday night and despite numerous enquiries, the owner has not yet been located.

The horse is described as being very friendly and well looked after.

If you know who owns this animal, please contact Chris Johnston on 028 9044 8958 or mobile 07770 643456.

### Derby for Downshire

DOWNSHIRE Riding Club is holding its annual jumping derby at the home of the Champion family, Edentrillick Hill, Hillsborough, on Saturday, July 18.

There are classes for 3'3, 2'9 and 2'3 for both juniors and seniors and the event is open to all. Prizes have been very kindly sponsored by Mr Jim Turner.

Entry forms can be obtained from dorabeacom@hotmail.co.uk or by texting/phoning Dora on 07876 758979.

### NI Young Event Horse

LAUREL View welcome sponsors Equine Touch Ireland and Botanica for the Northern Ireland Young Event Horse competition on Wednesday, August 12. Classes for four, five, six-year-olds and ponies are on the schedule and this year sees the return of the Speed derby for horses seven years and over.

Training sessions in flatwork and jumping for this event are to be held on Wednesdays, July 22 and August 5, with daytime and evening sessions available. More details are available on website [www.laurelview.co.uk](http://www.laurelview.co.uk).

Further information from Laurel View 028 9083 0649 or email [laurelview01@btinternet.com](mailto:laurelview01@btinternet.com).

### Jump into summer with Warrenpoint

WARRENPOINT and District Riding Club invite you to take part in their Summer Mini League starting this Friday, July 3, at the Moygannon Showgrounds, Rostrevor Road, Warrenpoint.

The league will run for four weeks. Competitors must ride on two out of the three qualifying Fridays, ie. Fridays, July 3, July 10 and/or July 17 to qualify for the Final on Friday, July 24. Same horse/pony combination applies and points are awarded for both attendance and performance. Entries taken at showground. Pony entries £5. Horse entries £7. Members and Non-Members welcome. Enquiries to 07802 570664 or 07970 805092.

### Charity show for Antrim

ANTRIM Coast Equestrian Club is hosting its Annual Silver Charity Show on Saturday, July 18. It will be held at Ballymena Road, Carnlough, by kind permission of Mr C McAuley and will commence at 10am.

Classes include horse and pony jumping, top score with prize fund, working hunter and riding classes. All proceeds will go to Motorneurone Disease.

For further details contact Rosetta on 07739 539523.



■ Nine-year-old Peadar McLaughlin, Kilrea, had a double clear on 'Sapphire' at the first meeting of the six-week show jumping league organised by the North Coast Riding Club at Coole Farm, Coleraine. (FW26-575DL)

PICTURE: David Larmour

Report, results and more pics

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## Ravensdale Lodge: you never know where you will see them

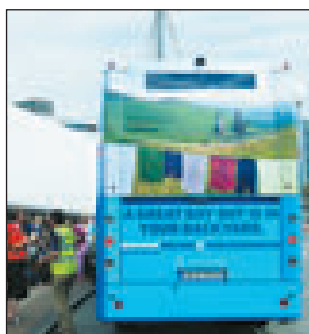
ON cinema screens, public broadcasting networks across the US, promotional tourism videos, "No Frontiers" travel show and a raft of national Press articles and images but, the back of a bus has to be a first for Ravensdale Lodge!

Imagine the surprise the team at the popular Dundalk Equestrian Centre got when an email came through from Failte Ireland, the national tourism authority, to say that one of their iconic images had been chosen from the countless tourism archive photos on file to go on the back of the Aircoach buses as part of a promotional campaign.

"We were stunned," stated Niall Connolly of Ravensdale Lodge.

"Stunned, but not surprised; the photograph was taken nearly 10 years ago, but it is an iconic image that will stand the test of time, it is a wonderful testament to the remarkable area that we live and work in.

"The fact that this one image was chosen ahead of the thousands on file is fantastic and speaks volumes for Ravensdale and the Cooley Mountains where it was taken, considering the competition from the likes of Kerry and Donegal to



■ Ravensdale Lodge's great image of trekking across the Cooley mountain has made it onto the back of aircoaches as part of the Dublin's Doorstep campaign. (FW26-519NN)

mention just two. I was particularly pleased that Failte Ireland chose an equestrian photograph for the campaign as it is not being specifically targeted at people who want to horse ride, the campaign is trying to highlight to people just what is on their doorstep in Ireland if they go and look," he went on to say.

When asked what the exposure would mean for the award winning centre, Niall said: "Hopefully there will be some bounce from the campaign and the image, we have been involved with many initiatives over the years from the RTE travel programme "No Frontiers", "Equitrekking" on PBS in America, various tourism promotional programmes and even a cinema

ad campaign that the local council ran a couple of years ago, they all help in getting people out on horse back. Our images have also been used in all the national papers at one time or another and one was even nominated for photograph of the year a couple of years ago.

"This has happened for a reason, the stunning scenery and countryside that we have on our doorstep is truly breathtaking and as nice as anything to be witnessed in Ireland. We have had clients of all levels of experience, from beginners to advanced, from all over the world, riding with us over the years and their reaction to the beauty of the area is always the same, we are very lucky to have it beside us.

Niall continued: "Horse riding has become so popular over the past few years and it is now a lifestyle choice for many who live hectic lives, we are very lucky to have such a fantastic facility in this area. Our horses are really super and our accessibility is second to none as we are located one hours drive from both Dublin and Belfast, yet are just a couple of minutes off the motorway, you could say that we have it all."

So, if you find yourself stuck in traffic on a hot sunny day and see an image of people on horse back up in the mountains on the back of a bus, you know what to do... Call the good people at Ravensdale Lodge and "get a ticket to ride".

## HORSE SCENE



It is always advisable to ring the venue before setting off, to ensure the event is taking place

### equestrian events

**THURSDAY, JULY 2** - Registered Horse and Pony League at Kernan's Equestrian Centre, Crossmaglen - horses 10am, ponies 5.30pm. Jump Cross League at Knockagh View Equestrian Centre, Greenisland, 6.30pm. Dressage League at Carlingford Lough Equestrian Centre - pre-entry. Dressage competition (preliminary and novice levels) at Carlingford Lough Equestrian Centre, 6pm. Pony Training Show at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook, 7.30pm. Mossvale Riding Club Show Jumping for All, outdoors (on grass) at Mossvale Equestrian Centre, Dromara, 7pm. **FRIDAY, JULY 3** - Warrenpoint and District Riding Club show jumping at Moygannon showgrounds, located between Warrenpoint and Rostrevor, 7pm. CTG Equestrian 12-week horse and pony training league at Ecclesville Centre, Fintona, 6pm. Seven-week Show Jumping League (on grass, weather permitting) at Connell Hill, Randalstown, 6.30pm. Mini League Show jumping at Mill Yard Equestrian Centre, Anahilt, Hillsborough, 6.30pm.

**SATURDAY, JULY 4** - Omagh Show. NI Branch-BDS Show at Newtownards. Midway Group Cross-Challenge Final (open to all, whether qualified or not) at Tullylish, Gilford, County Down, 9am sharp. IPS NR Championship Show at Knockagh View Equestrian Centre, Greenisland, 9am sharp. NICDA Scarvagh HDT, Co Down. Mossvale Riding Club Show Jumper of the Year qualifiers at Milligan Tyres, Ballybannon Rd., Castlewelan. Redhall Riding Club Summer Show at Laurel View Equestrian Centre, Templepatrick - enter on the day or pre-enter. Mid Antrim Horse Show at Kissack's Farm, Larne Road Roundabout, Ballymena from 9.30am - Horse and Pony Registered and Unregistered jumping. Beechgrove 'Go As You Please' 90-acre cross-country course between Dromore and Banbridge - open 10am - 4pm (weather permitting). Jumping competition (novice riders and young horses) at Carlingford Lough Equestrian Centre, 10am. Show Jumping (30cm / 40cm - 70cm / 80cm) at Birr House Riding Centre, Dundonald, 2pm. On The Ball Fun Gymkhana in conjunction with Portmore Equestrian Centre, Aghalee, horses 11.30am, ponies 12 noon. Mossvale Riding Club Show Jumping for All, outdoors (on grass) at Mossvale Equestrian Centre, Dromara, 12 noon.

**SUNDAY, JULY 5** - Dressage for everyone at Gransha Equestrian Centre, Bangor (pre-entry). Annual Cross-Country Derby (mixed SJ & XC) at Tullymurry Equestrian Centre, Clough, Downpatrick - pre-entry by July 2. Go As You Please Cross-country at Laurel View Equestrian Centre, Templepatrick, 12 noon - 4pm. Beechgrove 'Go As You Please' 90-acre cross-country course between Dromore and Banbridge - open 10am - 4pm (weather permitting). American Harness Racing at Tyrella,

3.30pm. Summer League Final at The Burn Equestrian Centre, Knockbracken, 11am. SJI Jumping at Portmore Equestrian Centre, Aghalee - ponies 10am, horses 4pm approx. Danescroft Go As You Please cross-country, Lisburn, open from 10am to 4pm approx. (weather permitting). ILDR A Pleasure Ride at Shanes Castle, Antrim, start 10am-1pm. North Antrim Riding Club Go As You Please at Drumsamney, Tobermore from 2pm - 5pm. Registered Show Jumping at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook - Horses 9.30am sharp, Ponies 1pm. Charity dog show at Barkston Equestrian Centre, Newry, 2pm. Registered Horse Jumping at McGarry's, Ballycastle, 10am. **MONDAY, JULY 6** - Moy Riding Club Summer League Jumping at Moy Field, 6.30pm - Horses and Ponies. Maine Killyless Riding Club Summer Jumping League (horses and ponies, minimum to open) at Caherty Road, Broughshane, 6.30pm. **TUESDAY, JULY 7** - Jump Cross at Lisbane Farm, Saintfield, 6pm. Riding and Road Safety four-week training course at Laurel View Equestrian Centre, Templepatrick, 7pm - pre-book. North Coast Riding Club six-week Jumping League at Coole Farm, Aghadowey, 6.30pm. Jump Cross competition at The Beeches Equestrian Centre, Ballyclare.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 8** - Registered Horse League on Olympic Standard All-Weather Grass Arenas at Ravensdale Lodge, classes 80cm 1.30m, start time 12 noon. BHS Riding and Road Safety Exam at Laurel View, Templepatrick - must be booked prior to June 16 with BHS. Strule Valley Riding Club annual summer show jumping league at Ecclesville, Fintona, 6.30pm. Horse Training Show at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook, 7.30pm. **THURSDAY, JULY 9** - Registered Horse and Pony League at Kernan's Equestrian Centre, Crossmaglen - horses 10am, ponies 5.30pm. Jump Cross League at Knockagh View Equestrian Centre, Greenisland, 6.30pm. Dressage League at Carlingford Lough Equestrian Centre - pre-entry. Mossvale Riding Club Show Jumping for All, outdoors (on grass) at Mossvale Equestrian Centre, Dromara, 7pm. Pony Training Show at Millbrook Equestrian Centre, Bessbrook, 7.30pm.

**FRIDAY, JULY 10** - Warrenpoint and District Riding Club show jumping at Moygannon showgrounds, located between Warrenpoint and Rostrevor, 7pm. CTG Equestrian 12-week horse and pony training league at Ecclesville Centre, Fintona, 6pm. Seven-week Show Jumping League (on grass, weather permitting) at Connell Hill, Randalstown, 6.30pm. Mini League Show jumping at Mill Yard Equestrian Centre, Anahilt, Hillsborough, 6.30pm. NI Outdoor Amateur Championships at Kernan Equestrian Centre, Crossmaglen, 7pm.

To include items in Horse Scene contact:

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