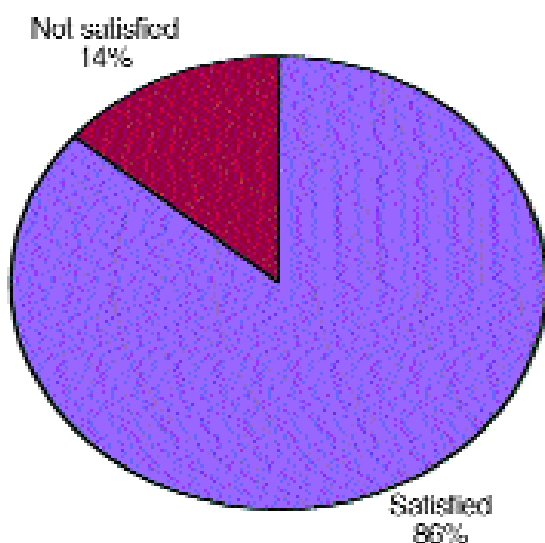




SURVEY OF TRAINERS 2000

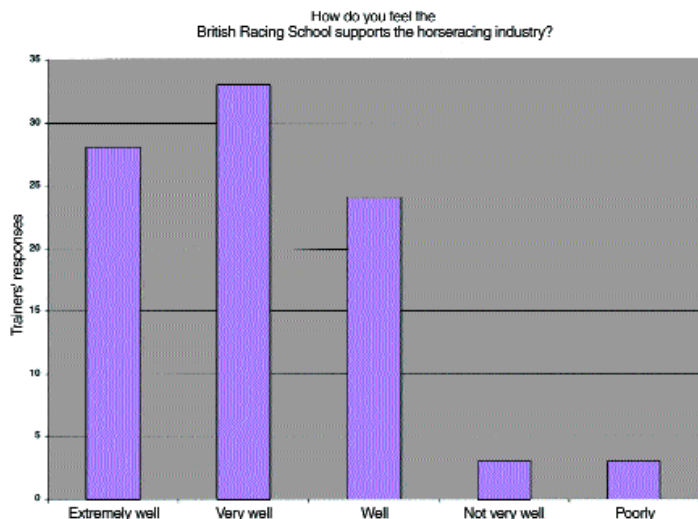
The survey of trainers which the School carries out every two years has indicated 86% of trainers are satisfied with the standard of trainee that leaves the School.

Are you satisfied with the overall standard of trainee leaving the school?



The questionnaire was sent to all those trainers who currently have trainees on the Government funded training scheme. The response rate was 48.5% which far exceeds the rate achieved in previous years and we are very grateful to the trainers for their co-operation.

The survey is used as part of the comprehensive review of all training and provides the key input from the trainers who not only contribute financially to the School but provide the jobs for the trainees once they complete their nine week course. Trainers were asked how they rated the support which the school provides to the racing industry; 94% responded that the school supported the industry well or better. One leading trainer commented "I think it is amazing how good they



get the kids to be in such a short time and am extremely grateful that the head lads and I no longer have to teach the basics of riding each afternoon as we used to do. By the time the kids come to me they are capable of riding 6 to 10 of our quietest horses. This is a remarkable achievement in such a short time and a great credit to the dedicated training staff".

Trainers were also asked to indicate which area needed most improvement. The area of biggest concern was in relation to the lack of horsemanship of trainees. Currently trainees ride out two lots every day on different horses six days a week throughout their nine week course. Rory MacDonald, the Director responded "this concern will need to be addressed. We intend to use a well respected individual from the wider equestrian world to look at our training programme and methods and to make recommendations for improvements. They will also be asked to indicate whether these improvements can be achieved within the existing 9 week programme or if it would mean extending the course and/or requiring additional facilities. If it is the latter, this will have funding and trainee number implications which will need to be raised with the industry".

Trainers also indicated a high level of satisfaction with the roving assessors who visit the trainees in yards. This is particularly pleasing given the additional workload resulting from Health & Safety. Lastly trainers were asked to make any comments about any other issues. Recruiting continues to be an area of major concern. The other major comment was that a significant number of trainers thought the 9 week course was not long enough.

Overall the questionnaire has been extremely useful. It has highlighted areas of concern from trainers which we need to address and it has vindicated the concerted effort by all members of staff to provide the best possible training and service to the racing industry.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

The School has been re-recognised as an Investor in People. The standard is now widely recognised through many organisations and aims to improve the contribution of staff in developing a business. The School was first recognised in 1995 and the Investors in People standard has become an important part of the way the School operates and improves its performance.

ASCOT TURF TRIAL

Ascot Racecourse have recently announced their plans to realign the track to provide more room for the rebuilding of the main stand. As a preliminary step, a trial is being conducted at The British Racing School to determine the best possible surface for the new track. A variety of different surfaces have been laid at the School and in 2001 these will be subjected to the equivalent of a full season's racing and then an assessment will be made.

THE 2000 FLAT SEASON HANDS 'N' HEELS SERIES

The 2000 flat series of 12 races was won by Mark Worrell who is attached to Sir Mark Prescott's yard. He edged just ahead of Glen Sparkes with David Kinsella third. Ray Cochrane presented Mark with his trophy.

There have been 180 runners and 60 apprentices who have had rides. In only one incident have the Stewards been involved. For Lee Paddock, the Series provided him with his first winner.

Riders in each race are awarded points based on a variety of criteria by Robert Sidebottom who is the Jockey Coach at The British Racing School and who has attended every race in the series. The criteria includes how they exit the stalls, position themselves during the race and that they keep the horse balanced at the finish.



Mark Worrell receives his trophy from Ray Cochrane

FOREIGN COURSES

Over the past two or three years The British Racing School has run six courses for foreign students. The programme and content are similar to that of the licence courses. They are run over a period of between five and seven days and have practical and theoretical elements. All practical aspects of the course are filmed and then reviewed by the students. They ride out each morning and each session will include an assessment of their present abilities, a lesson on good principles and how to improve followed by the opportunity to practice. Each day's riding progression is assessed, tested and the students are taught on a range of different horses at increasing speeds and various disciplines.

Day 1 concentrates on their individual style, balance and contact on the reins. Day 2 we look at their ability to control different types of rides and Day 3 comprises jumping practice out of the stalls or over obstacles depending on the requirement of the students. Day 4 looks at the principles and practice of riding work. The fifth day deals with assessing their horse's ability and performance in relation to the ground, distance, fitness etc.

Each afternoon the students also have lessons and practice sessions on the racehorse simulators. These sessions are designed to improve a rider's balance, ability to change hands and use the whip effectively within the rules. Again these sessions are filmed and reviewed in the classroom. Interestingly, regardless of the type of course or riding subject, what the students find most beneficial and enlightening is the ability to see themselves performing in the video review sessions. We sometimes fail to recognise how difficult self-analysis is, especially whilst performing.

Other afternoon lessons provide advice on reading form, racecourse procedures and assessing horses.

During the early evenings other related subjects are included; for example diet and nutrition and physical fitness all delivered by experts in their fields.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? COURSE 27

In this issue we are featuring course 27 who attended at The British Racing School in. See anybody you recognise? Their names and the yards they attended are as follows:



Name	Trainer they work/worked for
Brian Moule	H Cecil
Ian Haigh	H Rohan
Marion Davey	M Tompkins
Joanna Knight	M Tompkins
Leonie James	D Thom
Karen Gobbee	B Heffernan
David Moody	G Lewis
Timothy Kelly	P Hayward
Seb Sanders	R Akehurst
Nicola Cronin	Lord Fitzgerald
Michael Stewart	C Booth
Justin Lloyd	A Hewitt
Jonathan Tydeman	R Dickin
Richard Phillips	Graham Thorner
Jason Weaver	Luca Cumani
Andrew Street	G Moore
Marlene McPherson	J Wilson
Paula Rowsell	P Nicholls

JOCKEY TRAINING

The Jockey Training conducted at the School is divided into 2 areas. Firstly, there are the courses for Apprentices and Conditionals and secondly those aimed at Amateurs. Before a Conditional or Apprentice can take out a licence they must attend the School for a 5 day course. The course ensures that each jockey is properly prepared to race ride in public. During the week they will ride out 4 lots and cover style and technique, stalls, schooling and jumping, riding work, and horse assessment. Each phase is videoed and then reviewed with the Jockey Coach. Physical fitness is assessed and guidance given on how to maintain or improve it. Talks by the Licensing and Security Departments of the Jockey Club cover the administrative aspects of being a jockey. Diet is considered to be extremely important and a session with a sports dietician provides them with the do's and don'ts for maintaining a healthy body and at the right weight. A visit to the racecourse is arranged and the whole procedure for race day is explained in detail. Also included are a talk by a Trainer on the role of an Apprentice or Conditional, a financial briefing and equicisor sessions. All in all it is a busy 5 days and at the end a report is forwarded to the Jockey Club.

Apprentice and Conditional jockeys will return to the School for Continuation and Intermediate Courses depending on the number of rides and winners they accumulate. The Continuation course concentrates on improving riding technique and introduces them to sports psychology for the first time. The Intermediate Course aims to provide on insight into life as a professional jockey with talks by financial experts, various jockey organisations (JAGB, JETS etc) and some help and advice on dealing with the media.

The Amateur Jockey courses are for those intending to apply for Category A or B Licences. The One day Category A Seminars are held at the BRS and at other venues and cover race riding, rules, whip technique and a talk by Yogi Breisner on schooling and jumping. The Category B Course takes 3 days and is a shortened version of the Conditional Licence Course.

The courses use the full range of facilities at the School. Obviously the horses play a major part but the Indoor School, gallops, starting stalls and schooling fences are all utilised. Lectures are given in the Moller Theatre or Sunley Room and speakers are encouraged to use the full range of audio-visual media available.

We are indebted to the external speakers who contribute on a regular basis and just as importantly those who make guest appearances. In all we rely on 15 different speakers ranging from Stewards Secretaries to Sports Psychologists, Jumping Coach to Dietician to put together 8 Licence, 5 Continuation, 2 Intermediate, 5 Category B, 5 Category A, an Amateur National Hunt and an Amateur Flat courses each year. For good measure we also provide remedial training and so far this year 21 days have been conducted for 9 jockeys.

Jockey Training plays a large part in the day to day operation of the British Racing School. The training covers a broad spectrum of jockeys and the content of each course is reviewed regularly to ensure currency and accuracy.



RECRUITING

There is a constant requirement to attract young people to a career in racing and the School has been active in pursuit of suitable candidates. The exhibition trailer (known as the Burger van) is becoming a familiar site around the country attending a series of events where large groups of young people congregate. The School also attends events with a smaller scale display. The larger events are often supported by the presence of an Equicisor (horse simulator) operated by Robin Gow and Paul Winter. This undoubtedly draws the crowds and allows people to have a closer look at the display or ask any questions.

Careers days are arranged specifically for School and Careers Service Advisers. These try to introduce Careers Specialists to the racing industry so that they have first hand experience of what is involved and to achieve this they are taken into a Trainers yard and where possible on to a racecourse. The School is extremely grateful to those Trainers who have allowed is the opportunity to do this and for the time they have taken to help spread the message that racing is an exciting and worthwhile career for a young person.

Recruiting is becoming a much larger operation for the School and to meet the demand a new full time Career Administration post has been created. The Careers Administrator will be responsible for all recruiting events, providing advise to Careers Specialists and bringing students into the School from first contact to arrival for a course.

Events attended since September have been:

Ascot Festival	23rd – 24th September
Career Day	27th September
Career Day	4th October
Equine Event, Stoneleigh	4th – 5th November
Careers Live, Olympia	8th – 9th November
National Stud	2nd – 3rd December
Taster Days	13th September
	25th October
	15th November

GORILLAS (CENTAUR PROJECT)

Due to the popularity and the benefits of these courses it was decided to continue with them until the end of this year. It is hoped that funding will be available to keep the scheme going next year. Tony Weston and Dave Goram visit the advanced course for 5 evening sessions and also take them for a one day 'outward bound' course at an Army camp in Essex. The purpose of this work is to help the trainees deal with being away from home and show them how and where they can get help if they need it.

RACING WELFARE

The BRS continues to work closely with Racing Welfare. Reverend Graham Lockinge visits the School to watch first lot on Tuesday mornings and to enjoy an informal chat with the trainees. These visits are of great benefit to both Graham and the trainees especially those who choose to continue their working life in Newmarket once they have left the School.

BRS HORSES: MWEENISH

A big 16.1hh bay gelding foaled 1982 by Callernish x No Trix was owned by Mr Richard Hall and trained by John/Paul Webber.

Presented to The British Racing School in 1997, the first of a number of beautifully behaved gentlemen horses from that yard where horses are clearly treated like the noblemen they are and thus behave like them!

Mweenish ran 83 times over hurdles and fences, winning 7 races in England and Ireland and placed 24 times – a remarkable career.

A splendid ride and schoolmaster, he is now sharing his wisdom and experience with our trainees and conditional/amateur riders with whom he is a staunch favourite.



STAFF PROFILE: MICK O'SHEA BRS INSTRUCTOR

Born in Nottingham Mick worked for 'Boggy' Whelan in Epsom where he had a few rides on the flat however unfortunately without success. He then turned to National Hunt racing and rode 29 winners, mainly for Basil Richmond based in Lincolnshire.



In 1981 he came south to Newmarket where he took up the position of Travelling Head Lad to Paul Kelleway. In his first season with Paul he was fortunate to be linked with Madam Gay, a high class filly who was second in The Oaks and who was one of the first British horses to run in The Arlington Million in Chicago where she finished third.

In 1988 Mick became Head Lad to Luca Cumani where he was associated with many good horses including MarkofDistinction the horse that was Frankie Dettori's first Group One winner, and Barathea winner of The Irish 2,000 Guineas and Breeders Cup Mile in America.

Despite being a staunch Nottingham Forest supporter, Mick is a highly respected and popular member of the instructional staff here at The British Racing School.

THE NEWMARKET HORSE SHOW

The Newmarket Horse Show took place at the School on 23rd July. In previous years the Show was called The Animal Health Trust Horse Show and took place with them at Kentford. This year's show was deemed to have been a success with over 700 entries and it is hoped to build on this start for next year. It represents an attempt to establish better communications with those in the wider horse world and racing and hopefully to develop a better understanding.

COURSE 135

Each student receives a certificate at the end of their Course. Course 135 receives their awards from Jason Weaver a former pupil of the School.



JOELENE RICHARDS

Very sadly, Joelene Richards who was on Course 84 in 1996 was killed in a traffic accident. She received The Twelve Club Award in 1997 for the best female trainee of her year. She then worked for Derek Haydn Jones and she had a number of rides as an apprentice. She will be remembered as a popular, hard working and talented trainee whose life was tragically cut short.

CHANGES IN STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Health & Safety - Phillipa Parry has now commenced her new role as Health & Safety in the Workplace Co-ordinator. It is of immeasurable benefit to the School to have our own in house Health & Safety Advisor and we would hope that this will certainly help procedures run smoothly not only for the School but for Trainers employing our Trainees.



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