

Girl dies after fall

A 12-year-old girl died after a fall from her pony while crossing a bridge over the M55. Charlotte Collison, from Preston, was hacking with a friend near Kirkham, Lancashire, when she was unseated. She was airlifted to Royal Preston Hospital, but died there.

Rider airlifted after fall

A Luton rider was airlifted after a fall from her horse. The woman and three others were riding along a path when a motorcyclist on the adjacent road revved his engine and scared the horse. The woman, who suffered head injuries, was taken to a specialist Cambridgeshire hospital by helicopter.

Panto horses help charity

More than £17,000 was raised for the Breast Cancer Campaign at the inaugural RSA Group Pantomime Horse Derby at Windsor Racecourse. Dressage rider and trainer Andrew Gould performed a demonstration on his pupil Katie Price's Jordan's Glamour Girl. Andrew and his wife Polly then judged the pantomime horses, who tried to emulate the movements. Twenty-three pantomime horse teams also took part in a series of 100m races.

"It's great to support such a worthwhile charity, but I had no idea what I was letting myself in for," joked Andrew.



Beaulieu Road sales yard: officers recovered two stolen trailers

Police recovered two stolen trailers after equine liaison officers visited the Beaulieu Road pony sales in the New Forest.

Officers from the Country Watch and Horse Watch crime reduction initiatives attend these events to look out for stolen property from equine or rural related crimes committed all over the UK. They recovered trailers stolen in Salisbury and Nottingham.

Stolen trailers found

Country Watch Sergeant Louise Hubble said: "Visiting these events forms an integral part of our work. It enables us to encourage people to report incidents that often go unreported and pass on information that might be of interest to the police."

Anyone requiring information or advice about equine or rural safety and security should contact Country Watch or Horse Watch on 0845 045 45 45.

Man fined for horse neglect

A horse dealer who admitted failing to protect one of his animals from pain and suffering has been fined £2,000. Oxford Magistrates Court heard that Henry Light, 62, of Lower Icknield Way, Chinnor, did not take proper care of a cob. Paddy Roche, prosecuting, said

RSPCA officers were called in February after a tip-off from a member of the public, and found the lame horse.

Clive Rees, defending, said Light was unable to care for the animal properly due to cracked ribs. He told the court Light had paid a woman to look after the

horse, but she had failed to alert him to its problems.

Magistrates decided not to ban Light from keeping horses, but ordered that the animal should not be returned to him. He was ordered to pay £2,000 costs.

Rescued horses attacked

Eight horses have been attacked at an equine welfare centre near Lincoln.

The animals were found with deep slash wounds and injuries that appeared to have been caused by shots from air rifles.

Silver Florin Equine

Welfare owner Vennessa Malone said one two-year-old called Kiero was found with slash wounds on his legs and other animals had been shot.

"Kiero was slashed three times and seven other horses shot, apparently with an air

rifle. One horse had 14 wounds," she said. "I can't bring myself to believe that someone could do this."

The animals at the centre have all been rescued from abuse, neglect or abandonment.

Teenager battles back

A year after being in a coma with serious head injuries after a fall from her horse, Nikkita Williams has returned to competition.

The West Midlands 17-year-old battled back to star

at a show raising money for Breast Cancer Research.

The teenager showed no signs of nerves to finish third in the equestrian fun day in Aldridge, the first time she had been back in

the saddle since her accident.

There were fears that she would not recover but she is now planning to start a course at Rodbaston Agricultural College.