



Pony pannier picnics to the beach or the moors, orienteering and cream tea served in the gardens are only some of the activities offered by the Uist Community Riding School (UCRS) this summer.

A summer full of fun and activities at the Uist Community Riding School

Sue MacDonald

Orienteering: try some map reading and orienteering and learn new skills.

Cart rides: we have three ponies trained up to pull a cart around East Camp and the surrounding area – why not come along and try this.

Cream teas: we have had some clotted cream flown all the way from Devon to supply you with a proper West Country Cream tea. Served every Saturday in July, 2-4pm at East Camp Trust gardens (and if it's wet you can be served in the polytunnels). You will also have the opportunity to buy seasonal vegetables and plants.

Horse owners: in order to utilise our facilities to the full we are offering a season of mini shows for you to compete on your horse. To complement this we are offering training nights on Wednesday and Friday 5-7pm for you to train towards these competitions.

Indoor school hire: we welcome any group wishing to hire out the school for training sessions.

Indoor and outdoor games: for those who do not wish to ride, come down to our ball game afternoons on Fridays 3-4pm, play indoors or outside, depending on the weather.

Sport for all: we are starting a Tetrathlon training evening once a week on Tuesdays 5-7pm, to train towards this four discipline event. Swimming, running, cycling and riding – you do not need to be an experienced rider to take part, just come and give it a go.

Along with all these choices we still coordinate lessons, jumping and dressage opportunities, beach paddles and beach rides, pony pamper sessions and own-a-pony mornings, Pony Club badge days and summer camp 1-5 August.

If that's not enough to get you motivated then there is always

manure you can bag for your garden.

Yard news

Seven of our staff and volunteers are half way through their UCKK level one and two coaching courses to gain higher standards of teaching and improve their employment prospects; we will be holding more courses in the future, so if you are interested get in touch with the yard. We will also be enrolling for NC and HNC classes this autumn. Culla, Balivanich School's Mascot is developing well and is now training to pull a cart; he is visited regularly by the school

children and is attending their open day this week.

As part of our health and safety plan at the stables in conjunction with the fire brigade, we arranged a training evening to rehearse an escape plan for stabled horses and familiarise the firemen with handling animals. Thank you to Iain and his team for spending time to familiarise themselves with the yard layout – we look forward to having a follow up training in the future.

See our summer itinerary on page 39 and if you require more information on the above call us any time on 01870602808 24 hour answer phone.

THE Uist Community Riding School (UCRS) is offering several different activities and opportunities this summer for you to come along and try. We have something for everyone.

Pony pannier picnics operate throughout the summer and are great fun for kids. Our Shetland ponies will carry all the wood, sausage and marshmallows up the beach or onto the moors for a fry up.