

12th September 2026

Dear Members,

One of the things that sets Pony Club apart from simply “learning to ride” is the emphasis we place on helping our members become knowledgeable, capable horsepeople. Riding is a huge part of Pony Club, of course, but understanding how to care for a pony properly is every bit as important.

The Pony Club Tests reflect this, assessing pony care and welfare alongside riding ability, with members’ knowledge developing as they progress through the levels.

Starting next month, we are offering a series of Pony Care and Stable Management sessions with Elaine Hazelwood at Crow End, Church Lane, Graveley, SG4 7LU.

These sessions will be particularly valuable for members working towards their next Pony Club Test, but you absolutely do not need to be planning to take a test to come along. They are for anyone who wants to learn more, become a better horseperson, build confidence caring for their pony, or simply refresh their knowledge.

The sessions will take place on the yard, with the ever-patient Stripes (your own pony stays at home for this) available to assist our members as they polish their practical skills!

Members will be put in one hour time slots, grouped broadly by age and level:

- **8 years and under** – focusing on E and D Test knowledge
- **Over 8s** – focusing on D+ and C Test knowledge. We appreciate this group will include a wider range of ages, from 9-year-olds through to teenagers, but Elaine is brilliant at engaging members of different ages and pitching the learning appropriately for each of them.

Dates and booking links:

- [Saturday 10th October](#) – 1pm–3pm
- [Saturday 14th November](#) – 1pm–3pm
- [Saturday 5th December](#) – 1pm–3pm

Links to test syllabuses:

- [D Test](#)
- [D+ Test](#)
- [C Test](#)

We would really encourage parents to make Pony Care part of their child’s Pony Club training alongside their ridden rallies and lessons.

We hope to see lots of our members there!

Best wishes,

Sue and Emma.

On the subject of care sessions and tests, here are some 2027 dates for your diary:

- **19th February:** unmounted Pony Care session at Graveley Village Hall. This session will have a particular focus on Achievement Badges, so if there is something you would like to work towards that can be achieved away from the yard setting, please let us know.
- **18th April:** D and D+ Tests. It is possible to do both tests on the same day, which may be useful for some.
- **9th May:** C+ Test (care only)
- **22nd May:** C Test (ride and care) and C+ Test (ride only).
- A schedule for **C+ Care** sessions will come out soon. The course will be delivered online by Dawn and will most likely start in January.