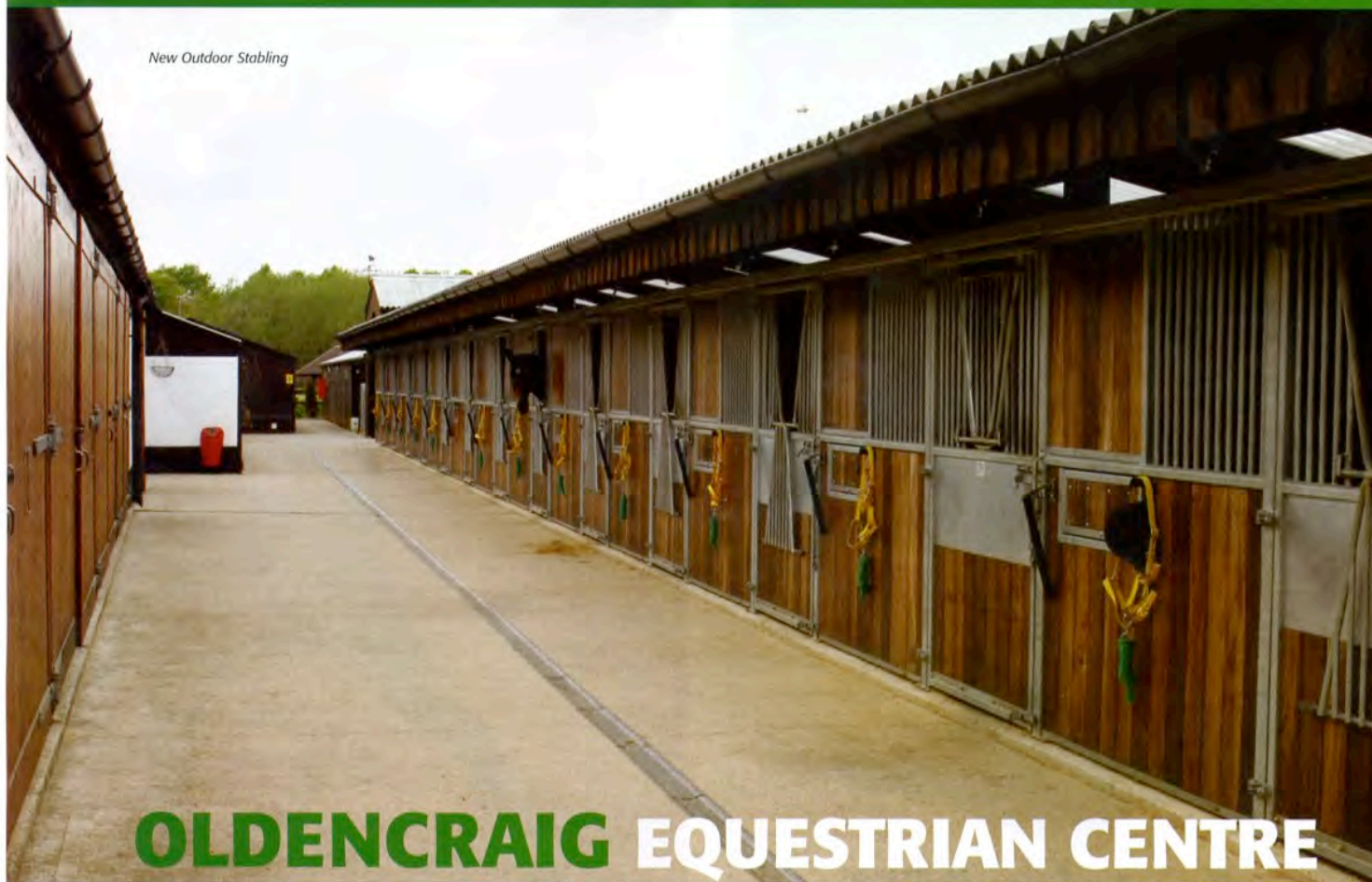


New Outdoor Stabling



## OLDENCRAIG EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

– A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AND QUALITY

**OLDENCRAIG EQUESTRIAN CENTRE IN SURREY IS ONE OF THE TOP EQUESTRIAN CENTRES IN THE COUNTRY. HOME OF OLYMPIC RIDER, TRAINER AND 13 TIMES NATIONAL CHAMPION VICKI THOMPSON, IT ALSO BOASTS EXCEPTIONAL LIVERY AND TRAINING FACILITIES AS WELL AS BEING A THRIVING COMPETITION CENTRE. OWNER IAN WINFIELD, WHO HAS DEDICATED THE PAST EIGHT YEARS AND OVER FIVE MILLION POUNDS ON THE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT OLDENCRAIG, ALSO RUNS A UNIQUELY TAILORED-TO-THE-INDIVIDUAL HORSE AND RIDER MATCHMAKING SALES SERVICE.**

### GIVING THE CUSTOMERS WHAT THEY WANT

Ian's great talent in business, which he has brought to the equestrian world through Oldencraig, is working out what people want. To this end, apart from providing absolutely top-notch livery facilities, he has even provided, a bar and restaurant and a swimming pool for the families and friends of his clients to enjoy. There are beautiful lawns for children to play on, there is a lake to sit beside, and viewing areas where you can watch the riders train and exercise. Even all the paths and walkways are designed so that you do not have to get your feet muddy when walking around the yard. There is plenty of parking space, again on gravel, not mud. In fact, Ian has thought of everything: "It was all very low key when I came here," he says, "I looked at what was going on and I talked to people about what they want, people want hard standing, good car parks, nice areas. I spoke to clients and show people, and I asked Vicki as a rider – what do riders want? And then I added my own flair and just got on with it!"

### LUXURY LIVERY FACILITIES

And what a project. Ian started out by knocking down one old stable block and building a state of the art new one, "After that the others didn't look so good," he recalls, "And I thought; lets get serious here, and I started to think about the whole thing, so I knocked down everything else and started again." The end result is an amazingly high standard yard where every conceivable service is available for the horse and owner. Oldencraig provides a twenty-four hour luxury care and supervision service for your horse or horses. There are washstands and solariums, heating and air conditioning in each stable block. Each block also has its own tack room and rug room, and everything is pristine. Each stable has a matching headcollar and rope outside the door and a hoofpick too. Every saddle is covered in a green and gold Oldencraig saddle cover, with a bandage box underneath it – all provided by the centre. There is an indoor school, complete with bistro and bar from where you can see the action, as well as four outdoor arenas, a covered area, and a covered lunge ring. There is even a

covered area for farriers to work in – with hay racks for the horses. There are sixty acres of individual turnout paddocks and your horse's every whim can be catered for, there are three members of staff who simply turn out and bring in horses all day, "We want what you want for your horse," says Ian, "He can go out all day, or for two hours, or all night – whatever you want."

### TOP TRAINING

Oldencraig boasts three Olympic sized floodlit arenas complete with all weather surfaces as well as a splendid brand new indoor school with full-length training mirrors and a heated viewing gallery. There are also two all weather floodlit lunge arenas and a new Claydon horsewalker. Not only are the facilities extensive but they are immaculately maintained by Ian's team at all times. Top trainer based at Oldencraig is Olympic rider and thirteen times National Dressage Champion Vicki Thompson. Vicki and her new Grand Prix ride, Papillon train with the great German trainer Johann Hinemann. Papillon is due to start competing at Grand Prix this year.



Vicki herself holds regular clinics and trains clients on site. Lecture Demos are also held at Oldencraig by visiting top riders like Arthur Kottas, Leslie Law, Capt Mark Phillips, Pippa and William Funnell, Ferdi Eilberg, Johann Hinnemann, Carl Hester and many more. The staff riders are advanced level and trained by Vicki. The centre trains all level of riders from novice to Grand Prix. "We have complete novices, happy hackers, fluffy ponies and Grand Prix horses here," declares Ian, "We accommodate everyone. Our forte is looking after nervous riders too, we provide a special service to help the more nervous client." And prices are extremely reasonable too; full livery is from around £144.00 per week, obviously depending on any individual requirements.

**TOP COMPETITION CENTRE**

Whether you want to compete yourself, or simply sit back and relax whilst others do – there is plenty to do and see at Oldencraig. Not surprisingly, given the excellent facilities, the centre has been voted "Best Show Centre" by British Dressage Magazine. There are shows on throughout the year in all disciplines, but for the Dressage enthusiast both affiliated and unaffiliated shows are held two or three times a week at Oldencraig. The competitions are up to Grand Prix level and for the past six years BD Area Festival and Regional Championships have been held here. Next year the centre will hold its first Premier League, and Oldencraig also hopes to be one of the Olympic training camps for teams training at the London Olympics.

**HAND PICKED HORSES FOR SALE**

Ian and Vicki also sell horses at Oldencraig – but this is horse sales with a difference; They both offer a highly personalised service with guarantees; "We buy them and have them vetted," they explain, "And they are automatically insured by Shearwater up to the value of fifty thousand pounds. When we sell horses, we are not desperate to sell, so we won't sell it if it is not exactly the right horse for you." If you want to buy a horse – in any price range – Ian and Vicki will arrange for you to try two or three after ascertaining your requirements. Whether you want a competition horse to start your career on, or a Grand Prix Dressage horse, Oldencraig will cater for you. "After you have tried two or three you can choose the one you prefer and then you can have lessons on it and get to know each other. If you go ahead and buy the horse we will guarantee to take it back within a month and exchange it for another one if for some reason it does not suit you." In fact the team at Oldencraig will do everything they can to help you find the right horse and even travel with the horse to settle it in its new home if it is not to stay at Oldencraig.

**SIMPLY THE BEST**

Ian's ambition is simply to be the best; "I want to be one of the top centres in Europe," he declares, "I think I am well on the way." Ian has based his standards on those he sees in Europe; "I think Europe gets it right. When you go to Germany you

can see that they know how to do it all properly. In England I think people just don't bother. In Germany they have stunning facilities and that's what I want here, I want the best for the horses and the best for the clients. I think what makes us successful is that we will do anything for the client – we will hold your hand in any way you want. We know that every horse and client is different and we will cater for that."



Vicki Thompson



American Barn Stabling and Indoor School



Ian and "puppy" Minnie!

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**CARL HESTER**

LECTURE DEMO

7th JULY 2007

**LESLIE LAW**

LECTURE DEMO

2nd AUGUST 2007

**CONTACT NUMBERS**

**RIDING SCHOOL & TICKET BOOKINGS**

01342 833317

**OEC TACK SHOP**

01342 837581

(Open Mon - Sat 9-5, Sun Show Days Only)

**HORSES FOR SALE**

01342 837750

VISIT THE WEB SITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FACILITIES, CLINICS, MASTERCLASSES AND LESSONS ON

[www.oldencraig.com](http://www.oldencraig.com)