Fasher Horses, 59 Creek Ridge Road,

Wilberforce, 2756

Dear Adrian.

Very many thanks for the opportunity to assess and use your excellent new snaffle bit.

I have been riding and training competition horses and their riders for the past 25 years in Equestrian sport in the disciplines of Dressage, Jumping and Eventing. This bit is the most helpful innovation I have seen in all that time.

As you will know very many of the horses we use for Equestrian activities, (particularly in Australia) have had a previous life as a racehorse. In the breaking and training for that purpose many develop a habit of withdrawing the tongue from under the bit and 'parking' it either at the back of the throat or in some cases out of the side of their mouths. This is a clear effort on the horses part to resist the pressure of the bit on the tongue.

Your innovation encourages the horse to allow the tongue to remain comfortably under the bit and is of enormous assistance to riders. It allows the horse to be more comfortable and more available to the riders aids.

I have tried the bit out on several horses to great effect. In my experience they accept the bit and learn to become responsive to the riders rein aids.

So far as I know the FEI has not yet assessed this new bit for use in competition. I would like to join with other riders and coaches in our sport in putting together a submission to the FEI to consider its use in competition at all levels. The reason for this is that although the bit assists in keeping the horse calm and happy when it is used appropriately, the horse will very quickly revert to former reactions when an ordinary snaffle is used.

The FEI has long upheld the view that we look after the horses welfare at all costs. This bit should be considered in that light.

I think it is important that riders who are well known in Europe should try the bit and join in the submission to the FEI. I would be pleased to assist in this submission.

With best regards,

Judy Fasher, NCAS Level 11 Instructor, Equestrian Australia Former co-ordinator of Elite Squad, NSWIS, Equestrian From: Paul McGreevy [mailto:paul.mcgreevy@sydney.edu.au]

**Sent:** Friday, 27 February 2015 11:15 AM

To: Admin

Subject: RE: WTP bits and how are they going

Hi AM

I can see no reason for the FEI refusing the use of the WTP bit <u>normal plate</u>.

PM

PAUL McGREEVY | Professor Faculty of Veterinary Science

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

# Professor Paul McGreevy Oualifications and achievements:

Paul has a few horses one a 17.1 Freishan and rides them about 3 times a week and uses the WTP normal plate bits.

Professor Paul McGreevy BVSc, PhD, is a British veterinarian and Professor of Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science at the University of Sydney's Faculty of Veterinary Science. He has contributed over 170 peer-reviewed articles including many on equitation science, co-authored two benchmark books, and been the recipient of numerous teaching and research awards. He has life-long experience in training horses and can often be found taking his conference calls from his office - the back of a horse.

Prof Paul McGreevy Faculty of Veterinary Science, Gunn Building (B19), University of Sydney, NSW 2006

## **Qualifications**

BVSc, PhD, MRCVS, MACVS (Animal Welfare), Cert CABC, Grad Cert Higher Ed. RCVS Recognised Specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine

## **Teaching Areas**

- Lectures in Animal Husbandry to 1<sup>st</sup> year BVSc students. Topics: Horse, cat and dog management.
- Lectures in Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science to 3<sup>rd</sup> year BVSc students. Topics: Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science.
- Lectures in Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science to 3<sup>rd</sup> year Animal and Veterinary Bioscience students. Topics: Ethology, learning theory and animal welfare science.

# **VIP Projects**

- Animal Behaviour
  - <a href="http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=873">http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=873</a>
- Animal welfare, alternatives and ethics
   <a href="http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=923">http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=923</a>
- Horses
  - <a href="http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=689">http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=689</a>
- Dogs <a href="http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=592">http://vip.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/pages/index.php?Page=Subject+Page&ContentID=592</a>

# Administration

- Unit of Study co-ordinator VETS3018 Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare Science.
- Member of Veterinary Science Faculty's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

## **Research Interests**

- Equitation science.
- Ethopathies in companion and exotic species.
- Learning theory as applied to animal training and behaviour modification.
- Urban animal management.
- Use of IT in teaching and epidemiological research.

# **Contribution to the Profession and the Community**

- Member of RSPCA (Australia) Scientific Advisory Panel.
- Member of Scientific Advisory Panel for World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA)
- Co-founder and Junior Vice-President: International Equitation Science Society (ISES)
- Member of Scientific Advisory Panel: International Fund for Animal Welfare.

## **Collaborations**

• The Royal Veterinary College (RVC) VEctAR Veterinary Electronic Animal Record <a href="http://www.rvc.ac.uk/VEctAR/Index.cfm">http://www.rvc.ac.uk/VEctAR/Index.cfm</a>.

# **Books**

2010 Equitation science <a href="http://www.coop-">http://www.coop-</a>

<u>bookshop.com.au/bookshop/showExtended/9781405189057</u>> - McGreevy, P.D. & McLean, A.N.Wiley-Blackwell, Oxon. ISBN: 9781405189057

2009 A Modern Dog's Life < <a href="http://www.unswpress.com.au/code13/p1051">http://www.unswpress.com.au/code13/p1051</a> - McGreevy, P.D. UNSW Press, Sydney. ISBN: 9781742231051

2007 Carrots and Sticks: principles of animal training

<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/CarrotsAndSticks">http://www.holisticpage.com.au/CarrotsAndSticks</a> PaulMcgreevy%7C9780521686914> - McGreevy, P.D. & Boakes, R.A. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. [Also available in Japanese]. ISBN-13: 9780521686914.

2004 Equine Behavior: a guide for veterinarians and equine scientists <a href="http://www.abebooks.com/9780702026348/Equine-Behaviour-Guide-Veterinarians-Scientists-0702026344/plp">http://www.abebooks.com/9780702026348/Equine-Behaviour-Guide-Veterinarians-Scientists-0702026344/plp</a> - McGreevy, P.D. W.B. Saunders, London. [Also available in Russian]. ISBN 0-7020-2634-4.

2002 Handle with Care: making friends with animals.

<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents">http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents</a> PaulMcgreevy%</a>
<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents">http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents</a> PaulMcgreevy%
<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents">http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents</a> PaulMcgreevy%
<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents">http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents</a> PaulMcgreevy%
<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents">http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents</a> PaulMcgreevy
<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/HandleWithCare:ForChildrenAndParents">http

1996 Why does my horse..?: an owner's guide to equine behaviour problems and their resolution.

<a href="http://www.holisticpage.com.au/WhyDoesMyHorse...">http://www.holisticpage.com.au/WhyDoesMyHorse...</a> PaulMcgreevy%7C9780285635623> McGreevy, P.D. pp250, Souvenir Press, London. [Now available in paperback - Also available in Swedish and Italian]. ISBN 0-285-63562-X.

#### **Selected Publications**

McGreevy, P.D., Burton, F.L., McLean, A.N. (2009) The horse-human dyad: Can we align horse training and handling activities with the equid social ethogram? The Veterinary Journal. 181 (1) 12-18. 2009.

McGreevy, P.D. Breeding for Quality of Life. Animal Welfare. 16, 125-128. 2007.

McGreevy, PD. The advent of equitation science. The Veterinary Journal. 174, 492–500. 2007.

Evans KE. McGreevy, PD. The distribution of ganglion cells in the equine retina and its relationship to skull morphology. Anatomia, Histologia, Embryologia. 35, 1–6. 2006.

McGreevy, PD. Thomson PC. Differences in motor laterality in breeds of performance horse. Applied Animal Behaviour Science. 99, 183–190. 2006.

McGreevy, PD. Rogers LJ. Motor and sensory laterality in Thoroughbred horses. Applied Animal Behaviour Science. 92 (4) 337-352 begin\_of\_the\_skype\_highlighting 92 (4) 337-352 end\_of\_the\_skype\_highlighting. 2005.

McGreevy, PD. Grassi TD. Harman AM. A strong correlation exists between the distribution of retinal ganglion cells and nose length in the dog. Brain, Behaviour and Evolution. 63 (1), 13-22, 2004.

McGreevy, PD. Nicol CJ. Behavioural and physiological consequences associated with the short-term prevention of crib-biting in horses. Physiology and Behaviour 65 (1) 15-23. 1998.

McGreevy, PD. Richardson JD. Nicol CJ. Lane JG. A radiographic and endoscopic study of horses performing an oral stereotypy. Equine Veterinary Journal 27, 92-95. 1995.

McGreevy, PD. Cripps PJ. French NP. Green LE. Nicol CJ. Management factors associated with stereotypic and redirected behaviour in the Thoroughbred horse. Equine Veterinary Journal 27, 86-91. 1995.

HORSESHOEBEND, GONN RD, BARHAM, NSW, 2732

26.11.14

Dear Adrian,

I recently purchased one of your WTP snaffle bits after reading in your advertisement that it negates the nutcracker effect of an ordinary snaffle. This aspect has always concerned me and I have tried a number of bits over the years to try and overcome this effect but have never found a satisfactory solution.

So I was thrilled to find your WTP snaffle really does do what you say it does. The bit sits very comfortably in the horse's mouth with the middle plate quite flat on the tongue with no protruding joints to poke into the roof of the mouth.

I have been amazed at the confidence the horse's have in this bit, shown by much better contact, so making the horses much easier to ride. This is particularly noticeable when using the snaffle in a double bridle, which usually looks so uncomfortable in the mouth.

I must congratulate you on this invention as it will certainly make horses much happier and overcome what could be seen as a welfare issue which has remained unsolved for many years .

I was surprised to hear that the WTP snaffle has not yet been passed for EA and FEI use as if one reads the EA definition of a snaffle in the rule book, this bit fulfills all the criteria mentioned.

I hope it will be listed for use soon.

Regards,

Debbie Warne

B Ag Sci. NCAS Level I General and Pony Club. Past EA Dressage Judge FEI level Dressage Rider. Past Victorian Dressage Squad member. From: Lesley Hawson

**Sent:** Saturday, 18 July 2015 7:19 PM

To: Admin

**Subject:** Re: Feedback on the WTP Bits

Hi Adrian, finally I have had a chance to sit down and draw my conclusions about your product and I think you are onto something..

I tried the D ring snaffle and the loose ring snaffle bits. I trialled both bits on an experienced horse and a horse that I am foundation training.

#### Problems I have observed with bits are as follows:

- 1. Single and double jointed bits can press the horse's cheeks onto the premolar teeth with even relatively low rein tension (the so-called nutcracker action) causing pain, injury and interfering with the training process. The bars can also be caught and held between the premolar teeth of the horse so that stimulus control of the horse via the bit is no longer possible. Micro cracks and abrasions will occur on the affected teeth as a result of this action. It is easy to see if this is happening with bit use as there will be "bite" marks on the bars. I have never seen a used snaffle bit without these bite marks.
- 2. Mullen mouth and straight bar bits avoid the nutcracker action of snaffle bits but the horse is more able to grasp the bit between its premolars resulting in loss of stimulus control.

#### Where the WTP bit is innovative:

The rostral orientation of the bit bars force the bulk of the bit to sit on the tongue proper while the innovative joint restricts how far caudal the shank end of the bit bars can be pulled against the bit. This results in the pressure of the bit remaining on the surface of the tongue at all times and apparently reducing the incidence of the horse grabbing the bit between the premolars or presumably the tongue retracting under the bit. I suggest the action of the bit is the equivalent of having the bit sit more rostrally in the mouth than with standard bits so that increased pressure on the bit such as when applying a slowing cue acts on the tongue and encourages a more vertical head position. This means that cues from the bit may be more reliably received onto the tongue than in a standard snaffle where the joint can spear up into the hard palate or gets caught between the premolars or causes overt pain when pinching the cheeks against the teeth.

I liked the light weight of the bits and my horses both went better more acute response to cues. The flat and curved finish of the cover over the joint presumably allows for closer contact with the surface of the tongue. The self limiting nature of the WTP joint should eliminate the risks of the bit hitting the hard palate in low palated horses or nut cracking the cheeks onto the premolars/molars. The curve of the bars of the bits and the self limiting joint places the bit pressure more rostrally in the oral cavity creating downward pressure on the tongue and mandible which promotes not only a lower and more vertical head set but also more surface area for cue application. It is possible that this combination of curve and self limiting joint makes it more difficult for the horse to successfully avoid bit pressure through grabbing the bit with its premolars or folding the tongue over or under the bit.

My interim conclusion is that the self limiting nature of the innovative joint in the WTP bit seems to provide a more humane mechanism for communication between rider and horse by reducing the nut cracking action associated with single and double jointed snaffle bits.

Sincerely,

Lesley Hawson BSc. BVSc. PhD.

Associate Australian Equine Behaviour Centre

Lecturer: Equine Studies Melbourne Polytechnic

**Membership Secretary** 

**From:** Mendez Equestrian Centre [mailto:mendezegcentre@bigpond.com]

Sent: Friday, 8 January 2016 6:21 AM

To: Admin

**Subject:** Re: WTP bits trial report

# Good Morning Adrian

And thank you for giving us the opportunity to trial your bits on our horses, I have found they fit well in the mouth, our horses accepted the bit willingly observing this, I knew you and your bits are what you and others whom have tried them why they speak highly of them.

I always have the horses wellness in mind allowing the horse to relax it jaw and have a soft even contact the acceptance of your design of bits allows for this. I have recommended them to several students and clients of mine one being already in contact with you and purchasing the WTP bits for their horses.

One horse had really bad mouth issues even taking the bit, he was ridden bitless for a while as would panic if contact was taken up on the reins if connected to a bit. I have been using your bit on him and am extremely happy with the results and it lead to a happy horse.

Thank you again for allowing us the opportunity to try and see for ourselves your design of bits for the welfare of the horse.

Regards Josè Mendez

# Profile: Jose Mendez

José Mendez is highly respected throughout the Equestrian world. He is a former rider and trainer of The Royal School of Equestrian Art in Jerez, Spain and has successfully competed at International Grand Prix level representing his country on several occasions. Jose is an accredited NCAS Dressage Level II Coach Educator and FISRB level 3 Official Coach.

José's training principles are based on Appreciation, Sincerity and Kindness. (A.S.K). Through strengthening these ASK principles José aims to teach the skills necessary to augment the partnership of horse and rider.

Jose started his training in classical dressage at the early age of twelve when joined the <u>Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art</u> (Real Escuela Andaluza Del Arte Ecustre). Based in Jerez de la Frontera, Spain, the school is one of the four classical schools which also includes the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, Portuguese School of Equestrian Art in Lisbon and the Cadre Noir in Saumur.

Jose's arrival in Australia from Spain in the early 1980's saw him taking on the reins as head trainer at El Caballo Blanco for a number of years, where he bought forth the knowledge and expertise of classical horsemanship to the public and equestrian field. Jose is always in demand to showcase his and his horses talents at major events including Equitana.

To whom it may concern,

After competing in equestrian disciplines for over 40 years from pony club, world cup showjumping, western and now competing in working equitation this bit is by far the best I have used. I have now been using this bit for a year. I use no noseband at all for training and only a cavesson in competition as it is a gear check requirement for working equitation?

When I train my horses I compare it to me having to wear the tack myself. If I had to have a piece of metal in my mouth this is the bit I would choose. It is rounded and softly made with no nutcracker action and it still and even.

The variety of bits that are acceptable with such harsh consequences amazes me and to hear this comfortable bit is not approved, well to say the least, dumb founded me.

I am a current EA Level One Coach I understand it is all about the hands using the bit, since we cannot perfect every riders hands at least lets help the horse community and give them something nice in their mouth.

I do hope the EA and FEI will see the benefits for their beautiful equestrian animals and allow them to be comfortable.

I use my bit for western shows, campdrafting, reining, working equitation, hacking, I will jump him it and I hope to be able to compete in the dressage arena.

We allow so many varieties of "bits" to be used on horses and many of these are passed by the FEI and EA. Please allow us to use ourbit of choice the bit that has moved forward with technology, horse comfort and training our equine friend kindly.

"The FEI is involved in several research and development projects with the intention of promoting the best possible standards within our disciplines. It is a prime objective to investigate and promote developments that relate to equine welfare, which is at the heart of all FEI activity. Research is not actually carried out at the FEI, but we collaborate with universities and other research organisations by supporting research to improve scientific understanding and the welfare of high performance horses" FEI 20111–2014 retrieved 30 March 2015, <a href="http://www.fei.org/fei/your-role/veterinarians/welfare/research">http://www.fei.org/fei/your-role/veterinarians/welfare/research</a>

The quote listed is directly from the FEI website... "equine welfare". That is all that should matter.

Please forward this relevant bodies.

Thank you

Julianna Matthews

NCAS EA Level 1 Coach

Cert iV Education Support

Diploma Business Administration

From: Kathy Ordynski [mailto:kathy.ordynski@bigpond.com]

Sent: Friday, 18 September 2015 9:48 PM

To: Admin

**Subject:** Re: Horse loves the WTP Bits

Hi Adrian.

I compete in Dressage and have tried the WTP normal bit and my horse really loves it. I would be grateful if you could notify me when they are approved by the FEI. Best regards
Kathy Ordynski



It is legal to compete in the tack in the photographs above HOWEVER

I with current regulations cannot use the bit I am competing in in all the photographs below. Go figure???





From: Lea Bierman [mailto:leab6@live.com.au] Sent: Monday, 13 January 2014 5:31 PM

To: admin@iiwinners.com

Subject: Review and recommendation.

To Whom It May Concern,

I recently purchased two WTP bits and I am pleased to write this review in support of the application to EA for approval of the WTP bridoon and snaffle bits for dressage training and competition.

With more than thirty years as an EA NCAS Level 3 Dressage Specialist Coach and Coach Educator, National Grand Prix level Judge and Judge Educator, Grand Prix level trainer and competitor and former lecturer in Equine Studies at UQG for 14 years, I know that what makes any bit "painful" or "kind" is the hands on the end of the reins. However, the well-thought-out and tested design of these bits definitely swings the pendulum in favour of more comfort for the horse regardless of who is using it.

Both my horses accepted the bits really well despite being at opposite ends of the spectrum in terms of one being willing to lean and the other being a little shy of the contact. They quietly chomped and produced good quality saliva. Neither of them has tongue issues.

As far as riding goes, the action of the bits is quite direct but well controlled and definitely reduces the problem of pressure being unintentionally applied to sensitive areas of the mouth. This should absolutely make for our horses being "happier athletes" as prescribed in the Rule Book.

What especially struck me was how much more effective the half halt was in lightening the forehand when riding with them. This was particularly noticeable in the extended trot and downward transitions.

Should you require any further information please feel free to contact me.

Regards

Lea Bierman EA NCAS Level 3 Dressage Specialist Coach and Coach Educator National A Level Judge, Judge Educator, Judge Mentor B.A., Dip Ed, MEd University of Queensland From: Norm Glenn [mailto:mail@normglenn.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 23 June 2015 5:54 PM

To: 'Admin'

**Subject:** F.E.I. and WTP Bit approval

Hello Adrian at WTP

The frustration of equestrian rules continues.

I have had over 20 years experience in equine competition rules, six years of which was actually writing rules, at the pony club level in Victoria Australia (PCAV). Over the years, I have seen some very outdated thinking rules and thought the equine industry had moved on substantially, only to discover that the F.E.I. has still not approved the WTP (NP) snaffle bit in Dressage competitions. Their decisions show a total self-righteous approach and ignorance of their own rules and purposes. I have read the impressive reports from some of the heads of Equestrian Australia, who have also called on the F.E.I. to support and approve the WTP bit. I have personally tried the WTP bits on many horses over the past four months with remarkable results and therefore, speak with experience and now highly recommend them to others. The fact that vets recommend them is the highest accolade.

Hopefully, the F.E.I. is going to use some commonsense, be progressive and allow the WTP NP bit.

To prohibit the WTP NP versions would be ludicrous. Here are my reasons for saying so:

- 1. Horse associations such as F.E.I., espouse welfare of the horse to be paramount. The WTP NP is the epitome of horse welfare when it comes to using bits.
- 2. The purpose of disallowing a bit should be either from a horse's welfare perspective, or that it gives unfair performance advantage to the rider.

On both accounts, the WTP NP bit passes the test. It is kind to the horse yet it does not provide an unfair advantage to the rider/horse.

I write this to encourage you to provide information to the F.E.I... so that they can make a sensible decision based on proper knowledge and to live up the standards of the F.E.I. Code of Conduct.

Please do something to point out to the F.E.I. that the WTP NP snaffle bit in the DSEL, Full Cheek or Loose Ring formats:

- 1. Enhance the welfare of the horse and above all other bits, conforms to their code of conduct more so than many other bits and that there is scientific proof to support this.
- 2. Reduce bit pressure, not increase it; and is less forceful and artificial than any other bit worldwide.
- 3. It does not give the rider any unfair advantage. Furthermore, there is no leverage offered, which is the reason snaffle bits are to be encouraged, providing the bit does not include any harsh mechanisms such as twisted wire which the WTP collection discussed here do not.
- 4. Comply with the F.E.I. snaffle bit descriptions.

# The Purpose of Dressage Bit Rules

I would encourage you to remind the F.E.I. of what a bit in dressage is supposed to do. (a) offer no leverage (b) be humane to the horse. Compared to a snaffle bit with a nut-cracker action, the WTP NP bits perfectly comply with these purposes.

Here is a chance for the F.E.I. to shine and show that it lives up to its Code of Conduct, and that it is a progressive organisation realising that there is a 'new age' for the equine bit.

I fail to see how the F.E.I. could deny its use for dressage or any other discipline.

Regards, Norm Glenn

Ph: 0419 556 783

Web: <a href="http://www.normglenn.com">http://www.normglenn.com</a>
Email: <a href="mail@normglenn.com">mail@normglenn.com</a>

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----Original Message----

From: Grant Stewart [mailto:grant@oakridgeequestrian.co.nz]

Sent: Tuesday, 3 March 2015 11:24 AM

To: 'Admin'

Subject: RE: oakridgeequestrian.co.nz

Importance: High

Hi Adrian,

Any word from the FEI about the approval of the bits.

I have had loads of dressage riders /eventers ask me as they are using the bits and their horses love them. Most of these people are at the high end but some even at the low end are concerned about the approval delays...They all agree the bits should be approved for competition as they are so kind for the horses and the results have been amazing.

See the below email from Paula sent to me today...she is using the WTP Bit on her Dressage horse and it has made a massive difference...she's winning shows now.

#### Hi Grant,

My horse has improved so much and won both his classes at the weekend which has now made people sit up and take notice and ask questions. I have not kept it a secret that I am trying a new bit and people are talking about it..

I wish the FEI would hurry up! Regards, Paula

Grant Stewart 276 Dansey Road RD2, Ngongotaha Rotorua Ph 07 357 2432 or Mb 021 324 892 www.oakridgeequestrian.co.nz **From:** Genevieve Denize [mailto:gen@denize.co.nz]

**Sent:** Sunday, 3 April 2016 2:56 PM **To:** Grant Stewart; adminiiwinnerscom

Subject: Re: WTP Bits

Hi Grant and Adrian,

I am pleased to advise I have used the bits on four different horses, all dressage mounts over the last few weeks with great success. Another of our Dressage NZ Board members is currently using two of them on her 15hh 4 year Andalusian mare and her 17hh warmblood mare. I have ridden both horses in the bits and my feeling is you get much more consistent contact in them and therefore happier horses.

In terms of my wee mare, there is no question as far as I and my mum are concerned, that she is definitely the most settled and happy in the WTP bit. My mum also considers her 16.2 warmblood gelding is definitely better in it too. My mum happens to have a vet from Melbourne who is grazing her 18hh warmblood dressage mount there so I took the opportunity to show her the bits. Everyone who has looked at the bits are unanimous that we can see no reason why these bits you have given me to try should not be allowed in dressage.

Kind regards,

Genevieve

**From:** Alison and Peter Jenkins [mailto:family.jenkins@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** dimanche 20 mars 2016 03:55 **To:** Carina Mayer < carina.mayer@fei.org >

**Subject:** Winning Tongue Plate- Normal Plate Bits

Dear Carina

I understand from Intelligent Inventions Ltd that they have submitted their normal plate Winning Tongue Plate bits for approval for use in dressage.

We have one mare who has a boney lump on her right hand bar and is extremely happy, soft and supple in a loose ring normal plate Winning Tongue Plate bit, something she is not in any other sort of approved dressage bit.

As an equine dental technician, stud owner, competitor and trainer, for over 30 yrs, I feel strongly that these bits are of great benefit to many horses that are sensitive in the mouth. If the normal plate bit were approved these mouth sensitive horses could have a useful, less stressed competitive life.

I should be grateful if you would let me know when these bits will be approved.

Regards,

Peter Jenkins.

**From:** Chad [mailto:chambourne@mweb.co.za] **Sent:** Tuesday, 23 February 2016 6:10 PM

To: 'Admin'

Subject: RE: WTP bits and how are they going

**Importance:** High

Morning,

I have been getting such great results from your bits!

I have now recently been to Cape Town giving clinics and introduced everyone to your bit.

There will be several people buying in the following week.

I must also just mention that the service is excellent!!

Kind regards,

#### **Chad Cunningham**

C +27 (0)83 776 2290 E chambourne@mweb.co.za W www.londonlanestud.co.za



Friendship, respect, excellence

**Chad Cunningham** (Accredited FEI Level I and II Coach) is the resident trainer for all showjumpers and equitation riders. Chad is an experienced showjumper in his own right and has produced many riders that are competing at the highest levels in the sport.

Below is a summary of Chad's achievements in his life so far:

- SA qualified International Level 1 Coach
- FEI Accredited FEI Level 1 and 2
- Current Level 1 First Aid
- Regular editor for Sporting Horse Magazine
- TV Commentator : President's Cup 2012, World Cup Qualifier, Cape Town
- Showjumping Squad Coach for Talent Identification Team
- Attended the Inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore 2010 where Samantha McIntosh won the Bronze medal
- Chef de Equipe of numerous Interprovincial showjumping and equitation teams
- Chef de Equipe at five Childrens World Jumping Finals, where all my students have finished in the Top 10 and all won the prestigious "Style Award"
- Attended the 2013 Rob Hoekstra Coaches Clinic
- Produced a South African Champion in Pony Riders, Juniors and Young Riders
- Personally sponsored by Equiline and Prestige Saddlery through Western Shoppe
- Awarded the W.A.S. Instructors Trophy for the instructor producing the most successful pupils for 2009, 2010 and 2012
- National Panel A Equitation Judge, soon to be promoted
- I have had the honour of being tutored by some of the best coaches in the world including Gonda Betrix, Barry Taylor, Ronnie Lawrence, Sean Henderson, Rob Hoekstra, Tim Stockdale, Antonis Petris, Gerry Mullins, Jean Philippe-Camboulives, George Morris

My name is Helena Hugoson Feldt.

I am a veterinarian and breeder of jumping horses.

Our family are proud owners of many very good horses.

Visit our homepage on www.heliotrop.se

We've tried WTP bit on our horses and the horses clearly shows that they are doing very well with WTP bit.

We have WTP bit. And in my veterinary profession I will recommend to use WTP bit.

Sincerely

Helena Hugoson Feldt och Thomas Feldt, Bäcka Gård, Helsingborg

Sweden.

# WTP BETT.

My name is Bo Jehnå and I am A trainer in dressage, International 4 Judge, Coach for the Swedish Dressage team & Active member of IDTC international dressage training club.

I was introduced to the WTP-bit and I just say, what a good effect this bit has! I saw when they tried the WTP bit on Horses who are not comfortable with the tongue From the first day those horses tried it, they held their tongue steady below the bit and were very comfortable with the feeling of it.

Even horses that are good in their mouth are more satisfied with WTP bit. One of the horses I saw is 13 years old and hasn't been satisfied with any bit we have tried, until we tried the WTP bit, and she loved the bit from the first day and every day since then.

Yours Sincerely Bo Jehnå **From:** Malin Petersson [mailto:malin.petersson@boxmover.se]

Sent: Friday, 4 December 2015 5:50 AM

To: Admin

Subject: VB: Julia

My name is Julia Lundh. I have been a member of the Swedish equestrian team in vaulting with my horse Lu1 since 2012. Lu1 is a big horse almost 180 cm. My biggest problem has always been that he is heavy in the front and can pull really hard. I have tried so many different bits but nothing has ever worked for me to both ride on and to lunge on. The problem I have in riding I also have in lunging. I got to try the WTP bit from Malin Feldt for the first time a few weeks ago and I can just say WOW!!!!

For the first time I was able to ride and lunge him on the same bit with a very happy and steady horse. He did not pull in my hand and he was carrying him self in a very nice and harmonic way. I will never put anything else than the WTP bit in his mouth again. So now I'm looking forward to the upcoming season and our goal to qualify for the next European championship 2016 in France.



Best regards

Julia Lundh

My name is Kerstin Andre' and I am dressage A-trainer in Sweden with many pupils from ponies to GP. I'm also Supervisor for the national teams for ponies, juniors and young riders in Sweden.

I was introduced to the WTP-bit for some weeks Ago and "I am really surprised..."what a good effect this bit has on horses who are not comfortable with the tongue until we tried the WTP bit.

From the first day those horses tried it, they held their tongue steady below the bit and were very comfortable with the feeling of it.

I think it's depending of that this bit doesn't move either backwards or upwards in the mouth, and because of that doesn't squeeze the bars of the mouth.

One of the horses is 13 years old and hasn't been satisfied with any bit we have tried, until we tried the WTP bit, and she loved the bit from the first day and every day since then.

Yours Sincerely

Kerstin Andre'

Hello,

My name is Paulinda Friberg and I am a member of the Swedish dressage A team. I have tried the WTP bit om my team horse and finally I have found a bit who's fits into her mouth. Before she has never been comfortable with her tongue. With the WTP bits she is totally relaxed and calm.

I look forward to keep on riding with the WTP bits!

Kind regards Paulinda Friberg **From:** Malin Petersson [mailto:malin.petersson@boxmover.se]

Sent: Tuesday, 13 October 2015 1:02 AM

To: Admin

**Subject:** The NP WTP solved the problems

# Hej Adrian!!

Yesterday I met Cristel Vinberg, she is one of ours head judges in the swedish federation of all our horse competition.

I gave her one np bit 12,5 DSEL. She self have racing horses and off course lots of friends with horses...

One of her friends have major problem with their horse, the horse is 17 years old and they have never been able to go away with the horse on completion because of that the horse only are able to be ridden on Hackamore but still with some problem, they have tried every bit on the market but still with problems.

With NP BIT fixed all problems and they have been away on 5 competitions! And they are still in some shock and don't really believe it yet!

Med vänliga hälsningar BoxMover AB

Malin Feldt







# 13 gilla-markeringar

peterharnstam Nytt bett, hästarna trivs super med detta i munnen! Finns att beställa hos @sonnyssadelhjalp

Hej New bite! horses think it's great to have it in their mouth. Gives you an amazing feeling. Peter Härnstam

- Peter has been involved in the Swedish Equestrian Federation in various ways, among others as a member of the Dressage Committee for 6 years. Peter has also served on the board of the Swedish Dressage Training Club for several years, both as a member and as chairman.
- Peter has trained and competed several horses in dressage up to Grand Prix. He has also competed many young horses both in Falsterbo and Flyinge.
- Sweden, both for regular training sessions and even as temporary "guest coach". Peter
  has held a lot of lectures and clinics, across the country. He has held clinics for the
  Swedish Equestrian Federation, both centrally and in the territories, has been hired by
  Ridskolan Stromsholm and several riding clubs and companies.

**From:** farthingsfarm@yahoo.co.uk [mailto:farthingsfarm@yahoo.co.uk]

Sent: Wednesday, 11 March 2015 8:14 PM

**To:** admin@iiwinners.com **Subject:** Re: WTP Bit report

# WTP Bit testimonial by Megan Williams

- NVQ qualified level 1,2 and 3 in equine management
- Over 27 years equine and riding experience
- Ridden professionally for a living for past 18 years.
- Race ridden now own and run livery yard doing full livery, breaking and schooling and Dressage.

I recently purchased my first Winning Tongue Plate Bit for my 4yr old PRE is the most sensitive horse ever in the mouth and snaffles just make his life hell. I had tried every bit on my horse who hated the contact not happy and started to rear.

When I tried this bit the transformation was unbelievable. He is a more relaxed comfortable horse that now enjoys his work.

Surely this is what dressage is about, comfort and relaxation for the horse. I really do hope this bit gets the approval by FEI for competition as I believe this bit is highly beneficial to the welfare of the horse.

Wouldn't it be so much nicer seeing happy stress free horses than ones in bits allowed such as bauchers where horses are put under intense poll pressure and can see the tension between hands and mouth- surely not what dressage is about.

I believe every dressage trainer should try one of these bits they truly make a difference. Quite frankly I wouldn't use anything other now.

From: Bernie Traurig

Sent: Monday, 12 October 2015 3:44 AM

To: admin@iiwinners.com

Subject: Re: How are the Bits and irons going

# Hi Adrian,

I have been experimenting with the bits on some horses during the clinics I do and so far they have improved each horse. I lent them to a few professionals and have good reports back on their Success as well.

Regards, Bernie Traurig

# **Bernie Traurig CV**

JUMPERS • HUNTERS • EQUITATION • DRESSAGE • EVENTING As a Horseman, Bernie is renowned for not only his riding talents but for his teaching and coaching gifts. As a competitor, Bernie has represented the United States Equestrian Team both at home and abroad on many occasions and reached the top of the sport in all 3 of the International Equestrian Olympic disciplines: Show Jumping, Dressage, and Eventing. In 2009 he was inducted into the National Show Hunter Hall of Fame. In 2010 the California Professional Horsemen's Association honored him with their Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2012 he was awarded the USHJA President's Distinguished Service Award. He is recognized as a legend in the sport. As a teacher and trainer, he is one of the most sought after clinicians in the country today. His talent for teaching goes back to his roots where he was fortunate enough to have been educated by some of the very best Master Instructors this country and the world have to offer. He served as the West Coast's associate Chef d' Equip to George H. Morris, the former Chef d' Equip of the United States Olympic Equestrian Team. After amassing over 50 years worth of training and riding techniques and experiences with thousands of horses, Bernie is driven to give back to the sport that has given him so much fulfillment and success.

**From:** Dr. McKay [mailto:mckayvet@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, 1 January 2016 5:45 AM

To: adminiiwinnerscom

Subject: WTP-NP and my arab

Greetings, Adrian!

Yesterday I rode him with the WTP bit he's soooo good with the WTP, he's like a different horse. Wish I'd had this bit 15 years ago.)

My experience with riding a pretty green "new to me" horse with this bit has been positive and very encouraging.

I do believe this bit is very comfortable I really saw a huge change in the quarter horse.

Whoever said this bit is like having power steering wasn't kidding.

So far... very very very impressed.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to evaluate this bit. I do believe, esp. based on my "problem" horse (the QH) that this bit, used from DAY ONE on young horses will prevent a lot of behavior and training problems routinely seen today. Fantastic invention. Thank you!

Fondly, Deb McKay, DVM



# Hi Adrian,

I am a solely equine veterinarian with a great interest in biomechanics, or training the horse correctly according to anatomical and physiological principles. I have written several articles on the subject which have been published in New Zealand and Australian horse magazines.

I believe a lot of problem behaviours and pain issues in performance horses come from a lack of understanding of biomechanics and the way a horse must work — with the thrust generated from the hindquarters carried over a supple back into an accepting hand and producing the desired connection and communication between horse and rider. I have been of the belief that the choice of bit was relatively unimportant compared to the sensitivity of the seat and hands and tact of the rider. However, my own horse (a showjumper I have trained and competed to Mini Prix level) and another young horse that I am helping to train, responded very favourably when I tried the Normal Plate loose ring WTP bit on them. They suddenly became much more willing to stretch forward toward the bit. The young horse immediately felt happier and stopped resisting the forward driving aids.

I am very impressed with this bit and will continue to use it on horses that I train. I support the application for this bit to be approved by the FEI. I believe it is a mild, comfortable bit that helps horses to gain trust in the rider's hands.

Regards,

Angela McLeod

730 Clonbinane Rd Broadford VIC 3658 **P:** +613 5787 1374 **F:** +613 57871 220

E: admin@aebc.com.au



Dear Adrian,

Thank you for allowing us to trial the WTP bits. We have used the two Normal Plate snaffle types, loose ring and fixed So far, we find the bit to appear to be comfortable and soft in the horse's mouth. The bits are a nice, simple design which appeals to us as we prioritise the horse's responses to bit pressure due to the amount problems that arise from incorrect training and inconsistent or intense bit pressure. Ultimately, all horses should be able to be ridden safely in a snaffle, and the added features of the WTP bit make this particular snaffle a nice option.

A bit is only as good as the hands at the other end, however with these bits we have found less resistance in many horses, less oral conflicts, and improved lightness. – Dr Andrew McLean.

We have used these bits mostly on horses with contact problems and find them to be helpful in encouraging the horse to touch the contact and become more still in the mouth.

As a soft, non-evasive bit, I support that these bits should be allowed for FEI competitions.

Kind regards,

**AEBC Team** 

Dr. Andrew McLean developed and manages the Australian Equine Behaviour Centre <a href="http://www.aebc.com.au/">http://www.aebc.com.au/</a>, the most internationally recognised horse training and behaviour modification centre in Australia.

#### **Credentials:**

Andrew McLean holds a PhD in equine cogniton and learning, has been an accredited horseriding coach for over 25 years and has written top-selling books <a href="http://www.aebc.com.au/Books">http://www.aebc.com.au/Books</a> and numerous peer reviewed journal articles <a href="http://www.aebc.com.au/Articles">http://www.aebc.com.au/Articles</a>. A past winner of the Gawler CCI\*\*\*, he has also represented Australia in Horse Trials, competed at state and national events in FEI level dressage and eventing and has also showjumped to Grand Prix level.

In great demand as a trainer, coach and speaker, Dr McLean currently conducts lecture demonstrations at universities and conferences around the world. He teaches throughout Australia, Europe, South Africa, the USA, Canada and New Zealand. Andrew continues to coach riders and National Federations on the optimal use of learning theory for improved welfare of the trained horse as well as improved performance.

#### **Recent Career Highlights**

Andrew was recently elected President of the International Society for Equitation Science. He was instrumental in hosting the 1st International Equitation Science

<a href="http://www.aebc.com.au/equitationscience">http://www.aebc.com.au/equitationscience</a> Symposium which was held at the AEBC in 2005. Annual symposia and conferences throughout the world have followed.

Conducting lectures and demonstrations at Haras de la Cense Expo in 2006 (France) and Equitana 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2008.

Delivering a lecture/demonstration at the Global Dressage Forum in October 2006 for which he was voted best new presenter (Topic: "Training principles that arise from learning theory") and subsequently asked to return in 2008 (Topic: "Learned helplessness in the competition horse").

Conducting an interactive presentation in the Netherlands for elite dressage coaches under the auspices of the Dutch Dressage Federation on the application of learning theory to dressage for improved welfare and performance.



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## KILMORE EQUINE CLINIC

Dr. Maxine Brain, BVSc., M.ACVSc Dr. Anita Burke. B.Sc. BVMS Dr. Zoe Page B.V.Sc., MANZCVSc Dr. Suzie O'Grady BVSc

Report re - WTP bits

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear Adrian,

As you know I recently spoke to you with regard to a 2-year-old Standardbred filly that was constantly playing with her tongue and getting on one rein during workouts. I had seen the WTP bits advertised and thought they sounded like a possible solution to this problem. I read a lot of testimonials about the different types of bits available and also spoke to a local Thoroughbred trainer who had used two types and really liked them. Upon speaking to you I purchased a normal plate WTP bit with spoons, as recommended for Harness racing.

My husband and I both hold Grade A Harness Racing Training Licences and have done so for around 28 seasons. We both drive work at home and my husband drives in races. We had both driven the filly and found her to be very "mouthy" and at times resentful of the bit. The first time I drove her with the WTP bit she was so much more settled it was hard to believe she was the same horse. On seeing the improvement in her steering my husband decided we should also purchase WTP bits for the two older horses that we had in work. One horse was known to put her tongue over the bit and could be inclined to hang and pull. We purchased the extended plate bit for her and within a week she was driving on a long rein. The second horse also wore a hanging bit and had a head check bit on. We have been able remove these two bits and he is now racing at the highest level in his normal Harness racing WTP bit. We are both very happy with the results we have seen in these three horses and plan to keep using these bits on them on a daily basis. A local trainer borrowed our normal tongue plate bit for his filly that can pull and he also liked how she drove and asked for your contact details.

I am currently employed as an Equine Veterinarian and have been working at Kilmore Equine Clinic since 2001. I have recently recommended that two clients should contact you with regards to your bits. The first was a hunter that was inclined to run through the bit and the rider did not want to put a severe bit on him. The second was an older Thoroughbred that is ridden at Pony Club and interschool competitions. This horse does some jumping but predominantly competes in Dressage. This horse has thickening of the mucous membranes of both commissures of the mouth that were present when he was purchased. These areas are prone to splitting and becoming raw. The owners have tried many bits and the horse has had to be treated with oral gels to reduce inflammation and encourage healing on multiple occasions. When reading the WTP bit testimonials I became aware that the unique design of the bit meant it sat in a different position in the mouth and was less likely to cause rubbing of the commissures. I instantly thought of the horse in question and contacted the owner. The owner has since used the WTP bit on this horse and he is going kindly, without getting on one rein and the commissures of his mouth have shown no signs of inflammation. His young owner could feel the difference the first time he wore the bit and has since had a few lessons where her instructor has also noticed how much happier the horse is

I have been informed that this horse will not be able to wear this bit for interschool competitions as it is not yet FEI approved. It is my belief that in this case there is definitely an animal welfare aspect that needs to be taken into account. This horse has endured mouth/lip pain for many years and finally the use of the WTP bit has solved the problem. I believe the safety of his rider must be taken into account too. Surely a happy horse without pain is more likely to compete more softly and compliantly than one with ongoing chronic mouth issues.

I will continue to recommend the WTP to owners for horses with mouth problems or steering and tongue issues. I hope that the FEI recognises the many benefits of their use both in horses with mouth issues and also for the rider that just wants their horse to be happy and comfortable in the mouth.

If you have any queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dr. Anita Burke BSc BVMS (Hons)

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