

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

## **Join us for Racing Week**

MONDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 11.00am Alive & Active Exercises Afternoon Movie – Black Beauty

TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER Morning – Jigsaw Club, Fresh Air & Manicures Afternoon – Brace yourself for Bingo

## WEDNESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER

11.00am – Exercise with a difference Afternoon – New month and a new challenge for the participants in the Brookfields quiz

THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER Morning – Fresh Air & Manicures Afternoon – Higher or Lower? Join us for Play Your Cards Right

> FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 11.00am Alive & Active Exercises An afternoon at the races – join us,

put your bet on and shout for your horse to win!

SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER Afternoon – No horsing around as we gather together to do our horse quiz

SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER Sunday afternoon activity of Resident's choice

RROOKFIELDS



## Horseracing – did you know?

It's Britain's second-favourite sport after football. With over six million attendees passing through the turnstiles at racecourses around the country every year, the sport's popularity is widespread.

It wasn't invented here. While the modern-day sport did originate in Britain, horses have been racing for as long as they have been domesticated. Nomadic tribesmen raced horses in Central Asia as far back as 4500 BC, while the first horseback tournaments on British soil took place around 200 AD.

Racing is 'The Sport of Kings'. King James I took such a deep interest in racing that in 1605, he was urged by parliament to refocus his attentions on running the country. It was King James himself who established Newmarket as a royal resort and began racing horses in the town, but it was his son Charles I who made Newmarket into what is now commonly known as the headquarters of British racing.

Racing was once outlawed. During the protectorate of Oliver Cromwell (1653-1658), the racing of horses was banned. The majority of horses were requisitioned by the state after the Civil War and the early proponents of British racehorse breeding were dealt a temporary blow.

Horses are supreme athletes. While a human heart beats between 60 and 100 times per minute at rest, Thoroughbred racehorses have resting heartrates of just 40 beats per minute.

The original racehorses were bred for war. The three founding sires of Thoroughbred racing in the UK arrived in England in the 17th and 18th centuries, having been bred for war overseas. Darley Arabian, the Byerley Turk and Godolphin Arabian were fast, powerful horses and they were bred with local mares to create the Thoroughbred lineage that continues to thrive today.

Jockeys are a rare breed. While many dream of a career in racing, only a select few actually get the chance to ride for a living. In November 2017, there were around 450 professional jockeys in the UK and another 300 amateur riders.