


Save the Date!
10th Caravan Special:
"East la Corse"

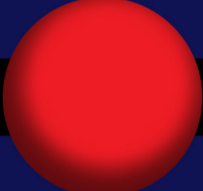
24th July, 12pm SLT

After Party: Tall Tails



Special Report
Part Four:
The Newbie
Pony.

RED BALL EXPRESS
PONY CONVOY



We're Up Late

New faction enters the fray

Stoats take a strong stance on key estate issues



The Stoats make a stand. [Photo: Devi]

Posters seen in the areas of the Meadows and the Pike proclaim the Stoats – mischievous hunters that live among us in the woods and grasslands – are alarmed at the appearance of cannon armed pony carts around the Meadows and the amount of debris and refuse building up in Pike and they appear to be ready to do something about it.

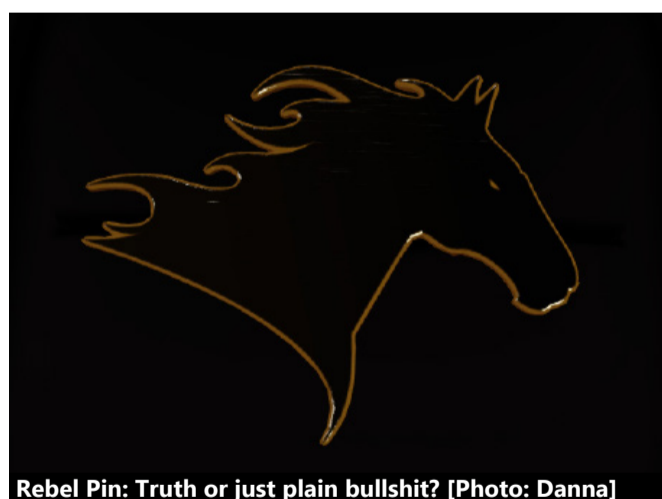
In anonymous letter to the gazette they state: "The refuse and detritus left along the shores and waterways of Pike, and the corrupt ponizei patrols were bad enough, but now the sound of hooves marching in unison and cannons catching the trees on fire are a clear provocation by the Head of the Armed Body!"

Once thought of as seemingly small harmless furry animals - albeit pesky - is it time now to take a fresh look at the stoats? To what degree will they back up their firm words with direct action?

Only time will tell if they are all squeak and no bite or whether they will emerge into the fray as a serious player, a faction to be reckoned with.

As always, your trusty Gazette will continue to monitor this new rising force and report any rumour or developments as they emerge.

The Legend of the Rebel Pin



Rebel Pin: Truth or just plain bullshit? [Photo: Danna]

Whispers in hushed rooms and broken text in damaged ancient books speak of Rebel's family who once ruled the entire world. *Ok, stay with me, it gets better...*

...And the secret to their success is said to be an artefact that gave them power over all other ponies. They are said to have ruled the entire world and kept humans as their slaves.

The texts hint that this pin still exists - lost to time and memory - but hidden away ...somewhere.

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It is said that whomever wears the pin shall have the power to control all ponies and subdue humans!

But as you would expect - there is a catch. The pin is also said to cause madness. But of course this would not really be an issue at TT.

The ancient texts speak of its former wearer who got drunk on power and in short time, both they and the pony empire fell and the stories soon faded into legend.

It is suggested that the pin - if it exists - would be guarded by a pony warrior of exceptional sexiness!

But this is just a story right? Who knows if the pin really even exists!

But if it does, surely it would take an Indiana Pony to find it... or even steal it.

Agincourt Pack Released

A number of new of achievements called the Agincourt pack have been added to the catalogue.

These include new achievements related to blind carting, GTFO, time-based mainland carting, TT electricity generation, modern flower dressage, pony hide and seek using the resident TT cannon, Pimp my Cart, event hosting, steeples and whip circle hand signals.

Full details are available here: <https://wiki.tt.suspicious.services/en/Achievements>.

The Newbie Pony

In this edition, Tricky takes a look at the type of pony she calls the newbie. This type of pony has very limited knowledge or prior experience of ponyplay, but perhaps understands what some of the whip signals mean. It is important to note that it's quite common for an experienced pony to pretend to be a novice, perhaps to capture the interest of a trainer to seemingly be the one to introduce them to the lifestyle. An experienced trainer will usually recognise pretend newbies because real newbies are usually more stressed than the ones pretending!

Newbie ponies will tend to try and explain to you in IMs or OOC why they failed a command or task. Newbie ponies are not only more stressed but also more emotional than experienced ones. They try harder and they are more ashamed by failure. An elder pony, that has more experience, knows what is difficult or easy and knows that a trainer may make some things more difficult on purpose and

that failure doesn't mean that it's not considered a good pony.

An important note for a trainers is that a newbie pony probably doesn't necessarily have a full grasp of what pony life really entails. That means that although they may be mentally prepared for full days of training, they probably haven't fully experienced being stalled, ignored or having to share the attentions of a trainer with other ponies. This may lead to the pony becoming frustrated. So introduce them gradually to their new pony life. Don't fully restrict a newbie pony on day one because it slows their ability to learn and adapt. They may become frustrated and quit if it's too much too soon.

The first lessons with a newbie pony are critical in terms of covering all the basics because it is unlikely these basics would ever be covered again because other trainers are likely to assume the pony has already been taught them. So always cover the basics in detail, as the rest of the pony's life may depend on it.

A newbie pony will obviously arrive with expectations on what pony life will be like. Some of these assumptions will be correct and some will be false, which like all things in life, could lead to disappointment.

Lets face it: It's rare for people try ponyplay purely to do slalom and steeples. They are probably drawn to ponyplay by the D/s elements of the lifestyle including bondage, domination, helplessness and humiliation. As we know, ponyplay offers it all and it is recommended that at the beginning you focus on the RP aspects as you introduce them to their new pony life. Then you can focus on covering all the basics as mentioned above and the whip circle is a good place to start their formal pony skill training because it is fairly simple and gives the impression that the rest won't be difficult to learn...

Ponifia add helicopter to Arsenal

The Ponifia recently took delivery of an Airbus H-160 helicopter which successfully battled the lag to conduct a very smooth landing on the primary TT flower field.

The pilot, Eesoov, is reported to have been unamused at having to land this expensive hardware in such a notoriously laggy part of the estate - but was done very smoothly... albeit slowly ...and carefully...

This follows hot on the heels of the Ponizei Eurocopter which was menacing our skies during the infamous handover of the 'Graffiti Triad'. Upon landing, Miss Tricky gave her new hardware the once over and checked that it really did have the genuine Italian leather interior boasted about in the glossy brochure, before making a short statement to the assembled curious onlookers.

"This impressive state of the art helicopter will be an important tool for us in the Ponifia in our relentless pursuit of supporting charitable causes."

Is a helicopter in the fleet now a mandatory component for a serious faction? Can we expect Stoat or TT Army helicopters soon? Stay tuned as the skies are filled with the sound of helicopter blades as the factions seek to out-machine each other. Fun!



Tricky inspects her new hardware [Photo: Lexi]

TT Nosering Mare Icons: Explained!

Have you ever wondered what those tiny icons that are sometimes displayed over a mares head mean?

Well these are used to visually indicate whether the mare has any particular restrictions in place which would affect their ability to see or understand.



Marehearing - The mare sees mostly indecipherable symbols in chat instead of the real words being spoken, apart from a number of predefined allowed words.



Shuffled - Changes the word order. Only really works on longer sentences as shuffling two words doesn't really do much.



Dotified - 'Spoken' words will appear as dots.



Silence - Makes the chat totally silent except for emotes.



Forced Mouse look

So if you are taking some mares out for training, be sure to check for these icons as you may find that your carefully planned explanation of the newest crazy flower pattern idea is completely lost on the mare who is only 'hearing' completely unintelligible words.

It is accepted that for some of these new flower patterns, being able to fully understand the words may not actually aid with understanding...

Pony Heels Drills: Part 1

The idea of the Pony Heel drill developed by Pringle and General Loren is to have some order when moving ponies, and is a new fun challenge for trainers and ponies to learn and perfect. The main goal is to have them move in an orderly and elegant fashion behind the trainer.

Ponies spend a lot of time working on their tack and enhancing their event skills, so why not also focus on orderly and elegant movement too? These movements should be done in a coordinated way, with smooth transitions and equal spacing. Ponies are beautiful animals and this will be further enhanced when they can demonstrate beauty and elegance when moving around in groups.

This techniques continues to be developed by Loren and Pringle, so this article covers the first two key principles with more examples and explanation to follow in future editions.

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HEEL LINE: Is a single line of ponies forming up behind the trainer, everyone facing forward.

It is used for walking in narrow passages, or to have them all in a line behind the trainer. This can also be used for running with a trainer behind having fun with a whip on the slow ones.

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HEEL 3 ROW: The ponies line up in rows behind the trainer, moving one at a time. The next pony moves to their assigned position when the previous pony is in place. The Heel 2 Row command indicates rows of 2 ponies, etc.

Pony Follow: When the trainer starts to walk, the ponies follow in the given formation.

Pony Free: Ponies are dismissed and are expected to curtsy together in one single movement. They are not dismissed until the trainer is satisfied.

At Ease: Ponies can relax and emote, go to the loo, scratch their nose, but still keep formation.

Stay: With this command, ponies don't move at all! They are like concrete statues.