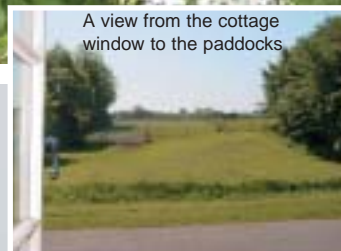


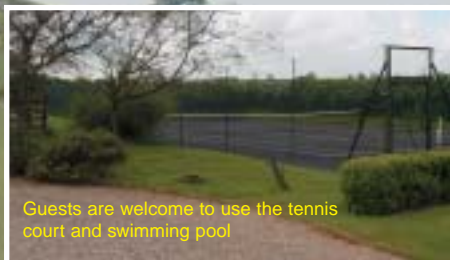
# What we did on our



Paddy House and the Blacksmith's Shop



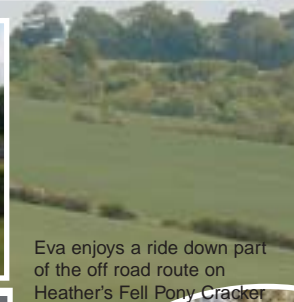
A view from the cottage window to the paddocks



Guests are welcome to use the tennis court and swimming pool



Part of the traditional stable block at Home Farm



Eva enjoys a ride down part of the off road route on Heather's Fell Pony Cracker



When I said I was going to Lincolnshire on holiday this Spring break, a few people looked askance; why Lincolnshire? Little did they know I had a plan, and this holiday was a reconnaissance mission to find out if it's possible to truly mix horses with a 'seaside family holiday'.

Nestling in the Lincolnshire Wolds two miles from Louth, in a designated Area of Outstanding Beauty, is Home Farm, Hallington. Our base for the week, Paddy House, is one of two self catering cottages run by Heather Canter and her family.

OK, first things first. If you like hacking, this is a great place for you. There's very little traffic, wide verges and Home Farm has its own six mile off road ride with many other routes nearby. Spend as long as you like tending and grooming, or just 'hanging out' with your horse, and doing those things for which there is never time in the working day.

To entertain your family, and for you to relax, there is a tennis court, and swimming in the heated pool on site, and lots of local walks including a very pleasant one alongside a meandering brook in the Hubbard Hills park. Louth is a pretty market town providing all local amenities, some nice restaurants, and the nearest golf course, of which there are several in the area.

I wish we'd had chance to explore more of the local landscape which as well as the ubiquitous windmills both ancient and modern, features many beautiful landmarks and churches, evidence of Lincolnshire's prosperous past built on the back of the medieval wool trade. A visit to Lincoln Cathedral is also highly recommended - its latest claim to fame is that it provided the film set for Westminster Abbey in the Da Vinci Code.

We found the Paddy House very comfortable, with ensuite bathrooms and wood burner for cosy evenings. Nothing was too much trouble for our hosts, Heather and Bernie Canter, and pets are welcomed.

I'd highly recommend Canter-Hallington as a base for a short or long break. Or for something different, why not take a few days to introduce your horse to cubbing this autumn, with the friendly South Wold pack who welcome those new to the sport.

With this part of the British coast such a short drive from the Central region, we definitely plan to revisit, and next time my neddies come too!

**For more information contact Heather Canter on 01507 605864, or email: [canter.hallington@virgin.net](mailto:canter.hallington@virgin.net) [www.canter-hallington.co.uk](http://www.canter-hallington.co.uk)**



Quiet lanes with very little traffic

# holidays

Barbara Gadd reports

The east coast has beaches where you can ride for miles and miles. Heather recommends a route about 30 minutes' drive away from Hallington, at Mablethrope where you can take your horse along the shore near a seal sanctuary. As I hadn't brought my own horse, I booked in for a two hour beach ride at Black Cat Equestrian Centre in Sutton on Sea. Here I enjoyed a lovely canter at the water's edge on Jake, an obliging chestnut cob who is posing below.

There was a stiff breeze that evening, and my escort Samantha Wells, and I marvelled at the intrepid fishermen who had setup with tents for their evening's sport.

Ahhhh, sunny days with bucket and spade in traditional British style. An unpromising week's forecast seemed to miss our little corner of Lincolnshire for most of the Whitsun week, so we were able to spend plenty of time making sandcastles and collecting seashells to satisfy childish notions (adults as well as kids!)



## Yes, you really can..... 'Take Your Horse on Holiday'!

Home Farm, Hallington is the base for UK Chasers Course 28. There are over 50 jumps from tiny to testing in a peaceful and unspoilt glacial valley of about 50 acres pasture preserved under the county stewardship scheme. Also at the disposal of guests is a floodlit manege and poles for groundwork

Heather's daughter, Ros, seen below in two of the pictures has just completed her degree in Sports Science, has her Pony Club A test and is working towards her hours for her BHSAI. An accomplished horsewoman, she has won BE competitions at intermediate level and completed her first advanced last year. She represented GB at the World University Equestrian Championships in France in 2006, winning a silver medal and finishing best of the British riders and was shortlisted for the Junior British Evening team. Ros is happy to give lessons to guests and it is good to know that expert advice is on hand should it be needed during your stay.



Ros introducing a young horse to some of the fantastic range of fences on the course.



Eva 'walking the course'.