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## Cowboys

Posted by Roland - 2006/03/31 20:44

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Just wondering why "cowboy" has become such a negative term here in the UK, for instance WES in its web site makes out to be a cowboy is bad yet some of the best horsemen in America are/ were cowboys !!!

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by Brew - 2006/03/31 21:07

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From Wikipedia:

### Negative associations

In the British Isles, Australia and New Zealand, the term cowboy is derogatory, and usually applied to tradesmen whose work is of shoddy and questionable value, e.g., "a cowboy plumber". The term predates the discovery of the New World and originates from the perception that herdsmen are unskilled laborers.

On the European continent the term 'cowboy' is also sometimes used to someone who behaves as hot-headed and rash as the 'civilised' outsiders expect from the 'savage' inhabitants of the 'Wild West'.

Interesting that the term was around BEFORE 'The Americas' were discovered!

So basically it means 'Unskilled'.

Post edited by: Brew, at: 2006/03/31 22:11

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by Bit of Both - 2006/04/01 15:18

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I was wondering that too. I only became interested in QHs & western riding after working as a cowboy/ringer in Australia and was really surprised to find that UK organisations try to distance themselves from where the whole thing originated (cowboys, etc). Why is that? I would love to have any of the skill that "cowboys" have when riding/training their horses and handling stock.

Do you think we will ever see events like cutting, roping, team penning etc in the UK?

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by jinglejoys - 2006/04/01 20:31

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Because cowboys in this country conjure up pictures of "Yahoo!" louts and rough riding not the thoughtful way of western riding.

Go to any "Western display" at a county showground and you see people riding around on andalusians shouting and doing trick riding usually dressed up in theatre costumes as cowboys and indians--make me cringe!:ohmy:

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by markm - 2006/04/01 21:25

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Maybe if cutting, roping, team penning etc was adopted by all the UK Western Riding Associations and run to high standards and appropriate rules the theatrical version you refer to for public entertainment would not be taken seriously by anybody. After all western riding in the UK is what we make it.

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by Bit of Both - 2006/04/03 12:17

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Do you think there is any chance of that happening? How would you go about something like that? Does it already happen in the UK? So many questions!

When I was "googling" on the net I found someplace right down south that had barrel racing and some stock work. Do you think that could be expanded over the whole of the UK? I'm in Scotland so it's not really possible to go that far south to spectate.

Are there any other western enthusiasts who are interested in this sort of thing? :)

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by ReysMum - 2006/04/03 16:10

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I have done cattle work down south, and also barrel racing etc - there are a couple of places in the SouthEast that have COWS.

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by jinglejoys - 2006/04/03 20:57

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I watched the mules doing Barrel Racing on My Bishop Mule Days DVD's it looked fun but Malaga's got to be backed first and I think we'll learn to walk and trot first!:)

Can anyone explain the rules of the "Keyhole" race thing?From my DVD it looks like the rider races up to the judge who's standing (Precariously) in a marked off box then turn round and race back

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by markrm - 2006/04/03 21:25

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See/[www.chickeemonkee.com/event\\_descriptions.htm](http://www.chickeemonkee.com/event_descriptions.htm)

Found this on the internet - Western Horsemen of Oregon website. I presume the rules will be pretty well the same where ever, as it seems to be a very simple race.

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## Games/Races

Posted by admin - 2006/04/03 21:29

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Moved thread here as it appears to be heading in this direction.

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by amanda - 2006/04/04 10:34

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would love to be able to do cattle work etc. Although I understand why WES originally disassociated themselves with the 'cowboy' image, I think the perception of western riding has moved on a great deal in the UK and we should now welcome 'proper cowboy' stuff!

There has been talk that AQHA.UK may offer limited cutting classes so that is a step in the right direction.

Done properly, cattle work is fantastic to watch and the horses love it too. I hate to see it done badly though; most of us

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have witnessed events where riders and horses haven't had the necessary schooling and look more like something out of a 'B' movie, horses getting socked in the mouth and badly spurred.  
IMO, it's about time we acknowledged the part the cowboy has played in our modern day way of western riding, and give the cowboy the respect he (or she) deserves!

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by jinglejoys - 2006/04/04 13:44

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Thanks for posting the keyhole race rules:cheer:

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by michaela - 2006/04/04 17:38

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we do games and trail :)  
hoping to do cattle work next year when i have my own transport as that involves moving round a bit more B)

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by markrm - 2006/04/04 19:31

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No problem, you can find practically anything online with Google

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by snailranch - 2006/04/09 10:20

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The WHA of GB, at [www.wha-of-gb.org.uk](http://www.wha-of-gb.org.uk) and the BRCA at [www.brca.ndo.co.uk/](http://www.brca.ndo.co.uk/) cover all aspects of western riding. It is a shame there is no link from this site to them.

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by admin - 2006/04/09 10:42

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As a registered 'Author Status' user of this site you can add links to other western sites using the BOOKMARK feature. That's what its for...;)

I'll add them...with basic info... perhaps the site webmasters would like to make themselves known to me (PM) then I can then assign the bookmark to them so they can edit and update the info they contain.

PS. [www.wha-of-gb.org.uk](http://www.wha-of-gb.org.uk) is ALREADY THERE

Post edited by: admin, at: 2006/04/09 12:00

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by Cowboy - 2006/05/11 21:01

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Hi, Have you heard of the Western Horsemen's Association? We do all of the events that you spoke about already in our shows, plus many others from speed events to reining and horsemanship.. Check out the website at [www.wha-of-gb.org.uk](http://www.wha-of-gb.org.uk). While we try to promote good horsemanship we also understand that people want to have FUN with their

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horses and try to provide an environment where the both things are possible. There is a show at the Brandon Riding Academy on the 13th and 14th of this month. Why not check it out, you can be sure of a warm welcome.

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by Brew - 2006/05/11 21:28

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Hi Cowboy Thanks for the heads up... put your event on the event calendar for all to see. You will notice that there is already a bookmark (link) for the website here on TheWesternShop.com

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by Cowboy - 2006/05/12 20:08

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Hi again,

I struggled to navigate the events section so here are the show dates:

Brandon Riding Academy - 13-14 May, 24-25 June, 22-23 July, 12-13 August. Contact 01842 810089.

Bar-S Rodeo 10-11 June and 9-10 September @ Swaffham, 16 August, 26-27 August ( Ranch Days ) Contact 01474 707330.

WHA Summer Show July 8-9 @ Swaffham, WHA Championship Show October 7-8 Venue to be advised. Contact 01842 815292.

Check them out?

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by hobbyhorse - 2007/09/22 17:12

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You may be suprised at just how many people are interested in the whole western sport in this country the problem is that there very few associations that can support the other sides of the sport HOWEVER THAT IS ABOUT TO CHANGE OVER THIS WINTER A NEW ASSOCIATION IS BEING FORMED THAT WILL BE DEDICATED TO ALL FORMS OF WESTERN INCLUDING BARRLE RACING COW WORK AND ALL THE THINGS THAT WE SEE IN THE US SO WHATCH THIS SPACE

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by qhrider - 2007/09/22 17:20

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another western group?? Can't keep up with the ones I am already a member (BR soon!)

Post edited by: qhrider, at: 2007/09/22 18:21

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by hobbyhorse - 2007/09/22 18:41

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The differance with this is that it is for everyone and will take in all aspects of western with no inflexible rules for members so if you want to put on or attend a show you can at any level

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by Roland - 2007/09/22 20:40

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Hey good luck, but can't help thinking we already have WHA, WES, BR, NRHA,AQHA, APHC and a myriad of other associations/breed clubs people can only afford so many memberships !!!  
then theres a lack of suitable venues with the right footing, sorry but my guess is we need fewer groups not more, and also dont think a "anything goes" is a good idea , some people still think western riding is rough riding, lets aim to keep standards of horsemanship high..just my 10 cents worth....)

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by hobbyhorse - 2007/09/22 21:15

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Yes in part I do agree however there is many people out there who would like shows that give the chance to enter the full range of western classes including ranch classes after all thats where it all starts from there is a need for an association that does not hamstring its self with rules over and above the class rules I am sure that if you have been to any western show you will have seen rules at the show which make no sense and restrict the enjoyment of the show to which you have taken time and money to attend  
If you wish to work cows Barrel race or enter a reining class you should be given the chance if the association is put together in a professional manner you will be able to do this and enjoy yourself as well we all need to work on the image of western riding

Post edited by: hobbyhorse, at: 2007/09/22 22:17

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## Re:Cowboys

Posted by vix\_ann - 2008/03/13 18:58

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The WHA is back on track this year with games and pleasure classes for all. Cattle classes are been worked on but with foot and mouth only just gone it is a bit tricky at the moment.

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