

HORSES

IN THE NEWS



MONET'S GARDEN

The three-time Grade One winner and 2016 Retraining of Racehorses horse of the year has died aged 20. Trained by Nicky Richards, he won Aintree's Old Roan Chase, which was renamed after him, three times.



GLENCARRIG DOLPHIN

Sue Browne and Nicola Baguley's stallion picked up the most titles at the British Connemara Pony Society awards on 18 November, winning five trophies. Close behind was Smokin Gun, who took home four awards.



LIONHEART

The part-bred Clydesdale, who served with Nottinghamshire Police and the City of London Police's mounted branch, has retired after 14 years of service. He will enjoy "grooming and relaxing hacking".

An option for any riders injured by untraced drivers

Motor Insurers' Bureau can also help if drivers are not insured

By ELEANOR JONES

RIDERS have been urged to take advantage of the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB) should they ever be injured in an accident.

Rider Claire Berry-Jones' case with the MIB, which handles claims against uninsured and untraced drivers, was settled on 14 November for £12,775 in compensation for injuries she suffered in December 2013.

Claire was knocked over and trampled by her two-year-old cob, whom she was leading on a road in 2013, after he was spooked by a speeding car. She suffered concussion and injuries that prevent her from working as much as she did before, and had to undergo counselling to enable her to ride again.

The driver, whom Claire said saw the incident, did not stop, but Hanna Campbell of HorseSolicitor took on the case.

"I'm keen to get the message out; I don't think many riders are aware of the MIB," Ms Campbell told *H&H*. "I think if people don't catch the numberplate, they think they can't pursue a claim."

Ms Campbell said if there is an identifiable driver, claims will be submitted to his or her insurers.

"But if the person responsible



Riders can contact the bureau if they are injured in incidents involving untraced or uninsured drivers

has fled the scene or isn't insured, the MIB is there to compensate victims of incidents if they've sustained injuries," she added.

"I want to raise awareness and increase access to justice for riders. I'm a rider and when I set up this firm, that was the ethic; it's important to me."

Ms Campbell said Claire's case took time as medical experts needed to establish the long-term effects of her injuries, but many cases are settled more quickly.

Claire told *H&H*: "It's taken a long time but [the compensation] will help with my horse. It's definitely worth contacting Hanna or the MIB if you've had an accident; people shouldn't be able

to get away with things like this."

A spokesperson for the MIB said there are an estimated one million uninsured drivers in Britain, and uninsured and untraced motorists kill 120 and injure 29,000 people every year.

"Uninsured and 'hit-and-run' driving is a nationwide problem that seriously affects the lives of innocent people," she told *H&H*. "Victims can seek compensation from MIB as our role is to give them the means to get their lives back on track. We receive thousands of claims every year; the annual cost of compensation is nearly £300m, which is funded by the motor insurance premiums of all law-abiding motorists."

OBITUARIES



NICK EMBIRICOS

THE owner of 1981 Grand National winner Aldaniti and a driving force behind the formation of the Bob Champion Cancer Trust died on 21 November aged 81.

Aldaniti was ridden by Bob, who said it had always been "Nick's dream to win the race".

Mr Embiricos, who was chairman of the trust for years, also co-owned Tina Cook's Olympic medal-winning ride Miners Frolic.

"When I was stable jockey to Josh Gifford, Nick and his wife Valda had nice horses and I was very fortunate to ride a lot of winners for them. Then, Aldaniti came along and won the National," said Bob. "They were the most lovely owners and lovely, easy people to ride for. The horses

always, always came first, and they were fantastic to deal with, and a lot of fun, too.

"Nick really wanted the charity, and for it to succeed. He was instrumental in getting it going. He put his heart and soul into it."

A statement from the trust added that Mr Embiricos was a "hands-on chairman whose determination and spirit allowed us to get to where we are today".

A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, 4 December at St Peter Ad Vincula Church, Wisborough Green, West Sussex.