



# LIVING THE DREAM

**R**iding her horse on Wimbledon Common is Deborah Tarrant's sanctuary. After years of demanding jobs and life challenges, Deborah felt burnt out; riding helped her recovery. She has found that being at one with a horse and focusing on her riding brings an easy mindfulness.

Deborah loved riding as a youngster, but rode only sporadically in adult life. She met husband Peter and, on moving to South West London, he bought her a membership at Wimbledon Village Stables.

Deborah was thrilled to discover how superb the stables in the heart of the village is: the lovely horses, the instructors and the riders forming a real community which is caring, supportive and fun. Deborah also loves the training and social events. She once mentioned that her long held dream was to have her own horse; Carol, owner of WVS, heard this and made it happen -- and quickly. Peter and Deborah married in October 2017 and in January 2018 Onyx arrived: what a wonderful year for her -- a man and a horse!

He is perfect: he has a kind temperament, with eyes to match; he is clever, trustworthy and fun loving, sometimes giving a squeal of delight when out on the common (sorry Peter, that's Onyx!).

When the annual fancy dress sponsored ride fell on their first wedding anniversary, Deborah faced a dilemma - what was she to do? She quickly found the perfect solution: go as a bride with two grooms! As she rode Onyx round the 10 mile course, her devoted husband ran beside them.

A year on and Deborah and Onyx have truly bonded, both of them learning a lot along the way



and have even participated in dressage competitions. Getting Onyx ready, including plaiting and donning fancy gear is all part of the experience that Deborah so enjoys.

WVS has changed her life - not only has she found her own 'black beauty' in Onyx, but also a happy and healthy place to be, with brilliant instructors and lovely new friends.

Now Peter is also learning to ride and, for their late honeymoon, will be joining Deborah on a horseback safari in South Africa. With great instruction and support from the WVS team he too is enjoying riding.

Deborah's lifetime dream has more than come true and she is living happily and well with 'horsefulness'! ■

**Wimbledon Village Stables, 24a High Street, Wimbledon, SW19 5DX. [www.wvstables.com](http://www.wvstables.com)**

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