

Price: £24.99

ISBN: ISBN 978 1 84114 651 5

Hardback, 144 pages,

Format: 210x297mm,
including over 120
black and white images

Imprint: Halsgrove

Halsgrove Sales Contacts:

Sue Rhodes-Thompson – DDI 01823 653770 suet@halsgrove.com

Caren Ash – DDI 01823 653772 carena@halsgrove.com

Marie Lewis – DDI 01823 653771 mariel@halsgrove.com

Andrew Stirling – Mobile 07971 572468 andrews@halsgrove.com

THE SUFFOLK PUNCH

AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE BREED

Edward Hart

The Suffolk Punch is among the noblest of our British breeds of horse and yet it has come perilously close to extinction. Characterised as containing all the physical attributes essential to a good working horse – Style Symmetry and Strength – its good nature and placid temperament allowed one observer, writing in the 1860s, to record a scene then common in our country lanes of 'a great Suffolk cart-horse as big as an elephant, conducted by a tiny thing of a boy who can scarcely reach the horse's nose to take hold of the rein'.

That such a magnificent beast such disappear entirely from our world is unthinkable and this book provides a historical overview along with a current status of the Suffolk Punch. Containing over 120 photographs

The Suffolk Punch Trust was set up in 2002 to take the Colony Stud at HM Hollesley Prison into private charitable ownership. It is the country's oldest existing stud and the stamp of horse there is of very high quality. The Trust's primary aims are to expand the Suffolk Punch breed, make the horses more accessible to the general public, to continue the therapeutic, rehabilitation and training programmes for prison inmates, and to undertake conservation and heritage education.

It is almost a hundred years since the last comprehensive history of the Suffolk Punch was written. The principal aim of this book is to provide an up to date illustrated study of these handsome animals and to bring to the attention of the wider public an appreciation of the breed, its historic importance as a working horse, and the current work being done to ensure its survival.

Edward Hart's first memories are of the horses of the Scots Greys, a regiment from the nearby Strensall Barracks, York, which were exercised daily past his home. One of his grandfathers was a noted breeder of Hackney horses, the other a village joiner and wheelwright, and Edward remained fascinated by the working horse. He became a farm worker on leaving school, counting himself lucky to have caught the tail end of the big farm staffs and the horse age on the land. After farming on his own account, Edward Hart became a full-time agricultural journalist and author, and has written over thirty books. Several are on heavy horses, the most recent being *Showing the Heavy Horse*.

As a writer for *Horse and Hound* and *Heavy Horse World*, he reports on major shows, and visits the leading studs. An early one was Hollesley Bay, and he came to know many Suffolk practitioners, from horsemen to brewery owners. Edward Hart also writes regularly for *The Daily Telegraph*, *Country Illustrated* and *The Yorkshire Post*, and welcomes the chance to spread the gospel of the Suffolk Punch.



HALSGROVE

Halsgrove House, Ryelands Industrial Estate,
Bagley Road, Wellington, Somerset TA21 9PZ

Tel: 01823 653777 Fax: 01823 216796

www.halsgrove.com e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com

HALSGROVE TRADE PACK

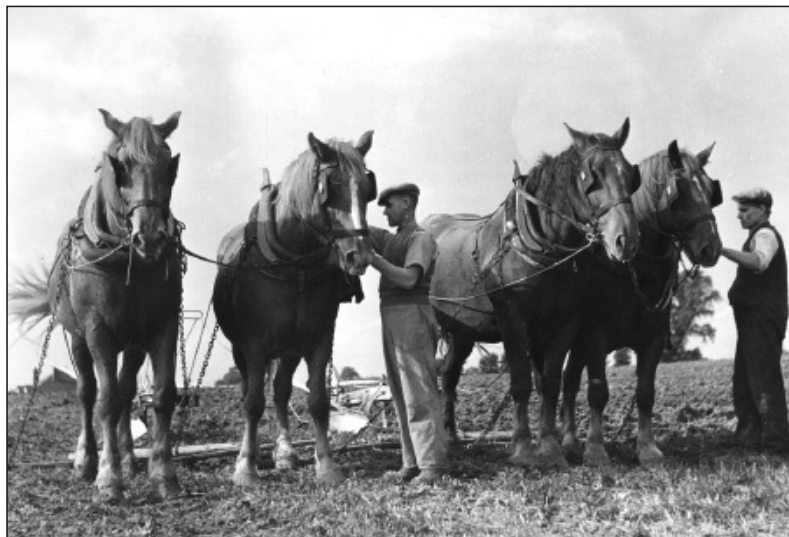
FEATURE CHAPTERS AND GALLERY – THE SUFFOLK PUNCH

Feature Chapters:

- Chapter 1 **THE SUFFOLK HORSE**
- Chapter 2 **THE EARLY DAYS**
- Chapter 3 **A LOOK AT THE STUDS**
- Chapter 4 **THE SUFFOLK IN THE 1990s**
- Chapter 5 **INTO THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**
- Chapter 6 **THE SUFFOLK PUNCH IN LITERATURE**
- Chapter 7 **STABLE AND FIELD**
- Chapter 8 **THE SUFFOLK HORSE MUSEUM**
- Chapter 9 **SUFFOLK STALLIONS AND A FEW MARES**
- Chapter 10 **THE SUFFOLK HORSE IN AMERICA**
- Chapter 11 **THE APPEAL OF THE SUFFOLK HORSE**
- Chapter 12 **THE SUFFOLK HORSE SOCIETY**
- Chapter 13 **EXPORTS**
- Chapter 14 **MORE STUDS**
- Chapter 15 **AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**
- Chapter 16 **THE SUFFOLK PUNCH TRUST**



Paul Heiney's ploughing pair, 1993.



Instant and complete obedience was the secret in working with heavy horses.



Example of a double page spread.



Springfield Commander.



Hawthorne Melody Farm Team, owned by John F. Cuneo, Libertyville, Illinois, c.1940.

Photo courtesy of American Suffolk Horse Association



Colony Windsor, 1996.

Halsgrove House, Ryelands Industrial Est.ate,
Bagley Road, Wellington, Somerset TA21 9PZ
Tel: 01823 653777 Fax: 01823 216796
www.halsgrove.com e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com