



USER COMMENTS REGARDING THE DR. COOK BITLESS BRIDLE – 2015 - 2016

Amy, November 10, 2016 My mare was diagnosed with shaken head syndrome in 2013 and it had taken over a year to get her where she could be approached and worked with in a calm manner. She had advanced in her training but she never really took the bit. She would throw her head and grind her teeth. I loved this mare – as I adopted her through a “rescue” (that I really don’t think was a rescue). I wanted her to enjoy life. So I did some research on bitless bridles. I decided to take the plunge and order one. That was in January of 2015. Boy or boy – she was the happiest horse I had ever seen once the fitting was done. I rode her around the arena and she went nonstop. (You have to understand that in a bit she would take a few steps and stop and plant her feet). A month later, I purchase a second one for my husband and his thoroughbred. His horse settled right down and has never threw a temper tantrum again.

We cannot say enough good things about Dr. Cook’s bitless bridles! I know that we would not be traveling the trails that we do today if we had not switched to Dr. Cook’s.

Colleen, November 7, 2016 First day in bitless and wow! I'm never going back to bits or archaic bitless options. Me and my mare say thank you!

Terri, October , 2016 I wanted to tell you that I am delighted with my other nylon bridle i purchased. i have a young horse who did okay with a bit but really was miserable the whole ride. she didn't fight but i could tell she HATED IT....she is such a good little horse i thought sure she would do better with a bitless bridle and i have to say i was right..she loves it and is much perkier. actually seems to enjoy the ride now. head up, looking around and enjoying herself without being out of control. her ears are up and she is curious and delighted. she is 5 years old. i tried it on my new 15 year old horse who hated the bit so much she parked her front feet in a lock and refused to move. rather than resort to force or anything excessive i tried my young mares bitless on her and the change was startling. she moved right out and stopped on a dime. a completely different horse. i am convinced that bits must be very painful torture devices after witnessing the personality changes with my two mares. what a huge difference. i have to thank you so much for creating this bridle. it is amazing. as different as night and day. thank you again!! i just bought another one for my 15 year so she doesn't have to share and i don't have to adjust it every time i swap horses.

Sam, October 3, 2016 Just got my Dr Cook Bitless Bridle today and rode for 2 hours, Great quality and my horse responds better than a with a bit!! LOVE this bridle!



Amber, September 10, 2016 Tried our bitless bridle today and NO HEADTOSSING! Very happy!



Petra September 7, 2016 My 19 year old trotter mare named Vanish. She went bitless with dr. cook's Bitless Bridle 16 years ago. We love it.



Susan, Aug 30, 2016 Another successful Dr. Cook's Bitless Bridle conversion!!! Cricket has had to have a bit since she's been here (since February)...not very controllable without. Tonight, Tess forgot to bring her bridle so we put the bitless on her....happy, happy, quiet, lovely mare for her lesson!!! PS: this was Magic's first lesson in a year (little black pony behind). She's been nanny to our colt so she's had a lot of time off....very lovely little mare too (also bitless)!

Kellie, August 21, 2016 My mare would gag on the bit. After doing research I decided to go with your Dr Cook Bitless.. I know I made the best choice! I will never go back to bits or use any other bridle. I've been using it for a year now and my baby is comfortable and happy. She even sticks her nose into the nose band when we are saddling up for a ride. Thank you Dr. Cook!



Jessica, August 9, 2016 After a riding accident a year ago my horse Tucker wouldn't tolerate a bit in his mouth at all. I decided to try the Dr Cook Bitless Bridle and wish I would have switched earlier. I'm in love with this product and so is he!



Zoi, July 29, 2016 Thought I would share my new Suffolk Punch in his first outing in our draft size Dr Cook. He has really taken to it very well, having never been ridden bitless before. Proud momma!

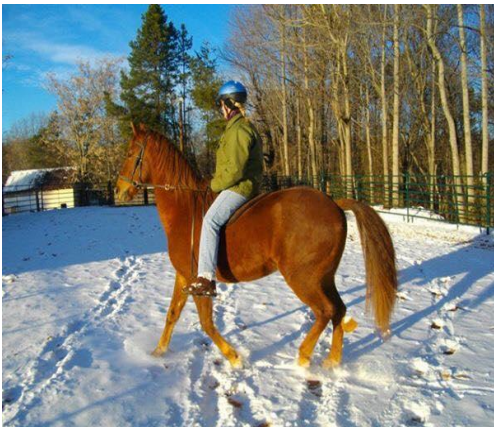


Jessica, July 17, 2016 After using your bridle for about 6 weeks, I took my Arabian on a 40 mile bitless (and barefoot!) ride. Using your bridle

has been amazing. I don't feel like I have "control" over my horse, but now we have something even better--we have a partnership. He w/t/c without issue and stops on a dime. We are both so glad we made the switch. Thank you!!

Carolyn, July 11, 2016 I just want everyone to see how very happy I am with The Bitless Bridle by Dr. Cook and how far I have come along "using my different muscle groups" (neck, back, butt)...of special note in this little video, my head is properly positioned almost all of the time (when the dangled flies aren't bothering me)...either level with, or below, my withers...and I am fairly certain that my trainer, Christina Fiebeck, will agree that MOST of the time we work very well together...at least I think that's why I hear her say "Good BOY Chex" more often than "No SIR"...(though yesterday I wasn't quite as good as usual and did give her a run for the money)...well, we all have good and not so good days...I do know that most of the time my Mom is grinning from ear to ear as she watches me!

Brenda Anne, June 25, 2016 I brought home a spirited Saddlebred 2 months ago. I wasn't able to speak with anyone who had worked with her but found out her last job was as a show horse and she had been out of work for at least a couple of years. Since I own a Dr Cook's it was a no-brainer to try that first. It works great for her by allowing me to ride with a loose rein most of the time. We went on a 12 mile trail ride yesterday with many challenges and she was calm and confident. I doubt that I will need any other bridle for her.



Dawn, June 1, 2016 My gelding, Sun, used to take off running with me. He'd grab the bit in his mouth and I couldn't stop him. At the time, I was a green rider. Rather than going with a stronger bit, I decided to try your bitless bridle.

When I first started using it with Sun, he'd try to take off running with me. But I finally had control of his head! He would shake his head and stomp his feet, but wouldn't take off!

I went on a trail ride with a large group and a "cowboy" who knew Sun came up and asked about the bridle. He said it wouldn't work because I didn't have any control of his mouth. Well some horses in front of us started trotting off, Sun tried to run off to catch them. I kept him walking. The cowboy never said another word about the bitless bridle not allowing enough control! LOL!!

I bought that bridle almost 10 years ago and it is still in great shape!



Lea, May 27, 2016 I just wanted to say how much I love your bridle! I started using it on my share horse 2.5. years ago (in the UK) and then got my own horse last year in May. She was broken in in a headcollar and I am bringing her on in your bridle. She has never had a bit in her mouth and is loving the Dr. Cook bridle, learning really well and we do everything in it!!

Sandi, May 14, 2016 I received my Dr Cook bridle today. I was really surprised how quickly Applegate (my appy Mare) took to it. I thought I would have to work with her but not only did she respond well, she didnt toss her head or yank the rains out of my hands. She rode better and is much happier. I cant say thank you enough. Now my husband wants one for his horse too! Everyone should get rid of bits and go bitless!

Eric, April 29, 2016 Doing a little Mounted Search and Rescue training. This was just the second time that I had the Dr. Cook Bitless on my Liberty. She loves it and I will hopefully never put another bit in her mouth.

Cheryl, April 23, 2016 I've two horses with these bridles. I can't recommend them highly enough. My daughter's Connemara went from a Dutch Gag on the second ring to this and was instantly more controllable. He's so relaxed now and we've been using it for years. My IDxAppaloosa wears one too. I bought him this bridle because when he was a baby he used to jump so big over everything and was so forward I was worried about catching him in the mouth. We compete xc and do endurance riding in them and have never had a problem stopping them. It makes me so cross when people tell me that they need to put strong bits in their poor horses' mouths because otherwise they will have no control. No horse should have to suffer a bit anymore, just the same as all horses can be barefoot, but that's another story.



Maribel, March 21, 2016 Riding my four year old Ottb Kaepernicking, with his new Dr cook bitless bridle. He came off the track four months ago and is happily working with his bridle! Thank you so much for making such a great invention!



Petra march 5, 2016 My horse and I are completely in love with the bitless bridle. To go bitless and having that kind of trust is amazing!!

Alan, February 25, 2016 Ginger, my Haflinger lead driving mare, responded to the Driving BB/with blinders, with more respect than her snaffle bit she's had for most of her adult life. I started her with it by saddling and riding her first. I would often have to crank down on the snaffle to get her to slow or stop, but with just the command word and brief pressure on the BB, she seemed happy to comply and obviously with no pain. She already has permanent knots on her lips where the snaffle bit pinched her. I could tell she hated the snaffle the moment I first drove her. I'm hoping her team partner, an identical mare, takes to it as well. I still have to drive Ginger with it, but I'm very optimistic. Thanks for a well made beta bridle, that works as well as it looks. It matches my harness as well.

Kendra, February 23, 2016 My Buddy came to live with me in October. From the very first time I got on his back, he would be so amped up that I could hardly control him for the first 10minutes of my ride. Riding like this is simply exhausting and disheartening. The gal who owned him before me rode him with 2 bits and one of them was a mule bit (bicycle chain) and the other one was a long shanked Pelham Snaffle with a chain curb. I refused to ride my new friend with something so harsh. Since October I have tried several different bits and would see a very slight

change but nothing that was remarkable.

Then I went to tack swap and was introduced to this bridle (Beta Headstall and look forward to purchasing a leather one soon). I would not have bought it, except the lady said it worked well on her hard mouthed Morgan (who she has since retired) This bridle completely changed Buddy (saddlebred, ex show horse), as quickly as the first day. He was so calm I could not believe that it was the same horse that just the week before I struggled with! Stopping was not a challenge and he responded so easily I felt that we were talking the same language. I did not want our ride to end. Now I am actually thinking that I can take him on a trail ride with a group.

Patti, February 16, 2016 I can't say enough about how happy and well-behaved my horse is without a bit. Every time I ride, I feel a stronger bond for this new level of understanding between us. Thank you, Dr. Cook for your kindness and ingenuity.

Amber , February 16, 2016 Just wanted to share how nice the bridle has worked-out. I'd never use anything else on her and she even helps me put it on.

Jerry, February 15, 2016 Hi, First of all, I am totally blown away by the experience I am having with my new bridle. I have been training my horse since May of 2015 and I have tried many bits that would be more suitable for him. He crewed at the bit no matter what I tried, and fought me all the way. Recently I took him on a week long trail ride some 119 miles and I ended up using a hack because he wore his mouth raw. On the ride someone mentioned how much better he was without a bit in his mouth. Having experience with Hackamores in the past, I new there must be something a little less evasive. I started searching the internet until I came across Dr. Cooks Bitless Bridle. I can't believe he is the same horse, He actually acts like he is enjoying himself, and moving much more at ease. He does not fight and is much more attentive. Now I can't wait to ride each day. Thanks.

Sarah, February 11, 2016 I am still amazed at the difference this bitless bridle has made on his attitude and how well he listens to me. He use to throw his head and fight me but now he is very willing to listen to me without a single problem. I will never use a bit in his mouth again.
2 years and counting.

Patti, February 10, 2016 Romeo is so relaxed. He's never been able to sustain this with a bit in his mouth--possibly because my hands are not quite stable, but that doesn't matter as much without a bit. Once Romeo understood how this worked, I've never seen him quite so happy--one of the woman said he looked like a western horse the way he trots around with his nose to the ground! I took him on the trails after about 6x and quickly realized there was no need to feel like I was at a disadvantage like the trainer made me think. It's like we have this understanding now, me and Romeo--I don't put a piece of metal between his teeth, and in turn, he responds to my gentle requests. We are both enjoying the freedom of riding bitless. I hope I can get the video up on Facebook so it might encourage others. Thank you all again!

Amy, January 13, 2016 Competing in my dr cook bitless bridle at Arena UK on Sunday. I wouldn't ride Gizmo in any other bridle!

Rebecca, January 12, 2016 I wanted to check in with y'all. My wonderful hubby bought me the beta bitless bridle for Christmas. It's been horrible weather and so cold here that today was my first chance to ride since getting it. So, I went out and adjusted it all up according to the paper that came with it and off we went. I honestly didn't do anything as far as training. I just hopped on bareback and off we went. I can't tell you how incredibly amazed I am. My super forward gelding had the best handle I've ever felt on him. I even tried every cue that I thought wouldn't work without a bit and he responded effortlessly. He even dropped his head the first time I bumped the reins to ask. As I've told you all before he would run through the bit quite often and the trainer even had him in a correction bit due to this. He never offered to run through any of my stopping cues. He was spot on. Almost stopped like my reining mare. Haha. That's impressive for my TWH. He seemed to be much lighter and so responsive. He even kept his gait a bit better. He rounded out in the back well. I was worried about not having any or enough poll pressure for that. I can honestly say that although I'm a pretty tough skeptic y'all have surpassed any and all expectations I had. Thank you so much for all of your help and support along the way. Also, thank you for being so polite and quick to respond to all my countless messages with a million questions. You always answered each question very quickly and in a manner I could easily understand. I plan to share my story with all of my equine friends. Feel free to use any of my messages as testimonial for anyone who is a big skeptic. Thank you so much for one of my best rides yet. It will only get better from here and I will keep you in the loop of our progress. Also, I love this bridle so much I'm very heavily considering starting my 2 year old QH in it when the time comes. I will try to keep y'all in the loop of that as well. Thank you so much again. God Bless.

Nancy, January 10, 2016 My 8 yr old paint mare Zuli riding the hills of Northern New Mexico, in her Dr. Cook Bitless Bridle. She loves it!!

Janice, December 2, 2015 I want to first say thank you for all the time you spent with me figuring out what size I needed. Max has been in his Dr. Cook Bitless bridle for a month now and it has been wonderful. I can't believe he is the same horse. He is responsive and cooperative and there is no more fuss. I will never go back to using bits again! Thanks Dr Cook and team!

Sarah, November 9, 2015 Best season for trail riding, fall, here in Quebec, the colors are wonderful and horses so happy (no flies!!!). Here is my Arabian Goliath and I a few weekends ago, bitless for two years now with him.



Diana, October 26, 2015 Hi, I just like to let you know that your anglo-arabian horse RUBI is OVERJOYED with your Bitless Bridle by Dr. Robert Cook! So thank you very much.

Linda, October 20, 2015 Hello - I recently attended a Tack Swap hoping to find a Dr. Cook Bitless Bridle to try on my mare. My income is meager and this was an avenue I figured it could not hurt to try. Though I asked at all the stands, no one had one to offer for sale. The reason? Several people owned them and all of them stated they left them at home - that they would not part with them! One lady said if she sold hers her daughter would be furious. She absolutely loves it!

Another said they start all their horses in this bridle. They use it in place of a sidepull, bosal or hackamore. They had only the highest praise to give.

One woman said if I do get one, she wanted me to know the leather is of a very high quality, soft as butter. Just beautiful. She also said it would retain its value if I ever did wish to part with it later & resell it. Several told me they ride in them all the time, & that their horses loved the bridle.

Eventually many weeks later I did locate one at resale. It was a beta with a crystal browband. I was very impressed with the thickness of the beta, similar to that of real leather. It was gorgeous, and I was very dismayed when I found that my Paint mare requires a different size. (this was a Cob size and she requires a Horse size) The woman I sold it to used it on her Arabian and it fit her perfectly. Her horse rode very happily in it the very first time out! She is thrilled with the bridle and feels it was her lucky day when she purchased it from me.

I thought you would enjoy hearing the rave reviews of your product. My search continues, but I do know that one day my mare will be wearing one.



Debbie, October 16, 2015 The Dr Cook Bitless Bridle has brought out the absolute best in Buddy. Buddy had anxiety when he knew he was going to be bridled with the bit and, for a change, he was perfectly relaxed today. Now he doesn't mind wearing a bridle and it's as easy as putting on a halter. Friends have noticed how light and responsive he is, requiring just a squeeze and release on the lines. I can see that he will enjoy his lessons from now on and I'm looking forward to starting my other donkeys bitless too! It is amazing what a

difference the Dr. Cook Bitless Bridle has made. It's FANTASTIC!



Pamela Hidden Brook Farm, October 5, 2015 I wanted to let you know that earlier this month, I think the girls made history, as this year, at the Provincial 4-H show, the girls were allowed to show alongside all of the other riders in the same classes, and were even allowed to compete in the games (barrel racing) afterward with their horses. All of the girls did really well. And they were even joined by a couple of bitless riders from 2 other clubs which was awesome!

Donna, September 19, 2015 I have never felt compelled to write a testimonial letter ever before but must share my experience with Dr. Robert Cook's Bitless Bridle. Before anything else, I want to state that I was a veterinary student at Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine, and Dr. Cook was one of my instructors. He has my absolute respect. I knew before even trying this bridle that if he had anything to do with its development that it had a great chance of helping my gelding. My gelding is an 8 year old Morgan cross that came from a rescue situation. I started him with ground work for a full year before attempting to tack and ride. He has always been extremely curious and generally accepting of all that we threw at him. When I started the tacking part of things, he immediately hated the bit – but don't they all? Last summer I tried about 4 or 5 different types of bits and he would do anything to evade them all. I ended up with a flash over his nose to keep him from putting his tongue repeatedly over the bit. Finally, about a month ago, I decided to try a bitless approach and read about Dr. Cook's system. My guy has gotten consistently more relaxed and has stopped all the head tossing. Today I had my first ever relaxed walk, trot, canter experience with a happy horse. Thank you Dr. Cook!



Charolette, September 21, 2015 My big western pleasure mare gets tense in her shank bit but stays nice and relaxed in her Dr Cook bitless bridle. This is a picture of our very first bitless ride.



Lindi. September 20, 2015 Who says you can't jump bitless? Loving this bridle!



Jitka, September 2, 2015 The Dr. Cook's bitless bridle also works well for cattle work! Keeps me safe and I can stop my horse much quicker and safer then on the bit!

Debbie & Buddy , August 15th 2015 I ground drove Buddy with the new bridle and am absolutely thrilled with how he responds!! I have some hay covered with a tarp and when we approached he was afraid but I was able to gently, guide him towards it and eventually got him right up next to it. It is amazing what a difference The Bitless Bridle made – and cheek pieces without blinders. I can see that he will enjoy his lessons from now on and I'm looking forward to starting my other donkeys bitless too! Buddy had anxiety when he knew he was going to be bridled with the bit and, for a change, he was perfectly relaxed today. I will send you pics as I get further along but wanted you to know immediately that my first time experience using The Bitless Bridle was FANTASTIC!

Don, August 11, 2015 I was glad to see you on Face Book . I been out with my draft horse Max , riding and driving in your Dr. Cook bitless bridle for 6 months now and I want to thank you for giving my horse back!! Max had issues paying attention and always seemed to be stressed when riding or driving. He is relaxed and ready and I am so impressed. Thanks again from me and my Max.



Laura, August 5, 2015 Riding Magico with his new Dr. Cook bitless bridle. He responds so incredible in it and is so happy!

Mary Anne July 29, 2015 Halleluia! Finally got my girl to relax, stop tossing her and even stop. We LOVE the Dr. Cook Bitless! I have been thinking of giving it a try for years. Why did I listen to my so called trainer? She worked with my horse for almost a year at a hefty cost and 6 different bits. I didn't like watching some of her training ways so I finally ditched the trainer and bought your English Leather bridle from Smart Pak and Wa-La I have a a new horse, responsive and happy and dare I say even better breaks! I could not be happier with the quality of your bridle too! Thank you!



Sarah-Maude July 25, 2015 Still working hard with my horses! This is Goliath my arabian cross, a very sensitive and athletic horse, a real wonder! So Nice to ride him in the Dr. Cook Bitless Bridle, he's so lite and responsive!



Bonnie July 23, 2015 Lex loves his bitless bridle! It's not a miracle cure, he still has some head shaking issues (he used to shake so much his bridle has fallen off!), but he's much more focused and interested in his work now smile emoticon And I'm loving the beta material, I was certain I would trade up for the leather if he liked it but this is a wonderful product and I'll happily keep it.



Claudia, July 20, 2015 I visited the Saddlebred Kidz last eve at summer camp in Baldwin, WI. It was sooo great to see/ride them. They are doing beautifully in the Dr Cook Bitless Bridle and were so eager to please. Pic is of my mare, oh so sweet, "Serendipity"



Steve & Deb, July 17, 2015 One day a friend of mine encouraged me to read a book called the 'Riding Between the Worlds' by Linda Kohanov. Linda runs Epona Quest, a center for equine assisted psychotherapy. I looked up her website and reviewed some of the work that is done at the center and thought, Leaves and Lizards would be an excellent location to combine horse trekking with an equine therapy workshop. I contacted the center and was put in touch with Shelley Rosenberg. Shelley is a certified Epona Instructor and offers individual Equine Experiential Learning sessions. These sessions use both the human and equine instructor's expertise in developing open communication that facilitates healing and self discovery.

Shelley is a United States Dressage Federation (USDF) "L" judge, certified USDF instructor, provides lessons and training for riders from beginners up to the level of Grand Prix dressage. She has over 30 years of experience training horses, teaching riders and professionally competing in the art of dressage riding. I contacted Shelley to see if she would be interested in hosting an Epona workshop in Costa Rica. She was excited about the prospect and we quickly formulated a plan to combine the Epona principles with a 7 day horse trek in the mountains and rainforest in Costa Rica. At that time we were using bits on all of our horses, Shelley is a huge proponent of natural horsemanship and Dr. Cook's Bitless bridle.

She has been exposed to and has experienced horse training methods from the most brutal to the most simple and natural. She saw a photo of one of our guys riding Juano, our stallion, with a bit. She told me in 3 days she would be riding him bitless and bridleless, as a matter of fact she said she could get all of our horse out of bits. We all gaffed at what we considered to be an arrogant boost from an over confident woman that had no idea what she would be dealing with when it came to working with high spirited Costarricense de Paso (Costa Rican) horses let alone ride Juano bitless! Shelley arrived by helicopter to our local landing strip, she had just spent a few days working with a wealthy woman's horses in San Jose and she flew her over the mountains to our side of Costa Rica. Our horsemen and guides were waiting for this woman when she arrived. I drove right up to the corral, no time for coffee, it was all business.

Juano was saddled up and they were anxious to see Shelley in action. After meeting everyone, she greeted Juano, sized him up. She pulled a Dr. Cook's Bitless Bridle out of her bag, over the top of the bit and bridle. Hopped on his back, rode him around a minute or two then used the ring after few minutes, ceremoniously removed the bit and handed it to me. She rode him smoothly and easily around the corral as if they were floating on air. Right, left, backwards, walk, trot, canter and the most important thing, she brought him to a stop. No fighting, no stress, it was like they were dancing.

She stopped him in front of us, looked at Enrique and said, "Less is more. Here, you

try." Enrique hopped up on Juano and did the same. His smile, his connection with Juano at that moment remains one of the most precious memories of my life. We each took a turn. To ride a horse for the first time, knowing pain is no consequence, is an overwhelming, liberating experience. It allows the connection, all boundaries are removed. That morning, with Juano, was the benchmark example for all of us, it created a real relationship between horse and human.



Shelley, July 8, 2015 I have been traveling all over the world using only the Dr. Cook's bitless bridle. I have been training horses as my life's career, changing to Dr. Cook's in 2005.

Now with Western Dressage on the move I believe you will see even more horses in the Dr. Cook bridle. I have a Western pleasure horse of my own for the first time in my life - a warm blood. He is doing passage and piaffe in The Bitless Bridle. He was trained in The Bitless Bridle from the start. Truly I can't say enough about The Bitless Bridle or thank Dr. Cook enough.

I'm on my way to Maine today, then to Texas. I take 10 bridles with me and each rider is asked just to try the bridle. They only go back to the bit to compete.

When I first did a clinic in Costa Rica the horses were in heavy curbs with tie downs. Now at Leaves and Lizards resort they are only in the Dr. Cook Bitless Bridle. The move from bit to bitless is far faster than you would ever imagine.

Sandra, June 8, 2015 I am a high profile dressage rider in Ireland and my horse is a 20 year old that I have trained mainly myself and brought up the levels to compete in Grand Prix. Loving the Dr. Cooks bridle, it really helps my horse and I will be using it as part of his training. I only discovered it a couple of weeks ago and I'm very excited by the idea that we can easily ride all the Grand Prix movements in it. I also allow some students on him to learn and it's so nice to realise that his mouth won't suffer as a consequence of unsteady hands. I have my own business called Ultimate Dressage Experience,

Debbie, June 4, 2014 Oh good Lord! I tried the bitless tonight and I am shocked and amazed at how much better she rode! I am speechless! Thank you!

Debbie (follow up) June 16, 2015 After having such a fabulous result using The Bitless Bridle for the first time yesterday I decided to give Buddy a brief schooling session harnessed to the cart. The first indication is that he was perfectly relaxed as I put the bridle on him with no fuss at all- and he stood quietly, while I harnessed him. Once I started driving I noticed a complete difference with how he handles and I only need to give the lightest tug and release to get him to respond. In fact I very quickly learned that all I need is a light squeeze and release, whereas before I'd try to have a light hold on the lines but he would grab the bit and try to bolt then

wouldn't want to stop. I suspected but can now see clearly that these were all evasive maneuvers due to the bit. I was going to switch him to another bit to see if he would tolerate something different but so glad now that I researched to find alternative and found the Bitless Bridle. I am looking forward to using it on the rest of my donkeys too. Debbie and Buddy

Debbie (cont) I ground drove Buddy with the new bridle and am absolutely thrilled with how he responds!! I have some hay covered with a tarp and when we approached he was afraid but I was able to gently, guide him towards it and eventually got him right up next to it. It is amazing what a difference the bitless bridle made – and cheek pieces without blinders. I can see that he will enjoy his lessons from now on and I'm looking forward to starting my other donkeys bitless too! Buddy had anxiety when he knew he was going to be bridled with the bit and, for a change, he was perfectly relaxed today. I will send you pics as I get further along but wanted you to know immediately that my first time experience using The Bitless Bridle was FANTASTIC!



Elaine, May 28, 2015 One of the toughest rides on the UK endurance calendar, if you're not climbing a steep hill then you're descending one! My mare flew it in her Dr Cooks Bitless Bridle and came home with a Gold! I love that this bridle allows her to pace herself without my interference!



Nina, May 22, 2015 You are never too young or too old to be bitless and beautiful!!!

Sarah is a 20 year old petite arab, and Colette is a 9 year old petite equestrian, they are modeling a gorgeous black leather Dr. Cooks cross under bridle. Sarah and Colette had a wonderful maiden voyage in their new Dr. Cooks bridle, and all who witnessed were in agreement, that this was the most quiet and comfortable that Sarah has EVER been in a bridle! Thank you Dr. Cook!



Vicki, May 20, 2015 My rescue horse Skye, enjoying the bit-free life. She behaves so much better in her Dr. Cooks Bitless Bridle!

Carol B.V.M.S., M.R.C.V.S., May 18, 2015 I am emailing to thank you for the work you have done in creating, explaining and promoting your bitless bridle concepts, as well as to thank you for your recent letters which were published in the Veterinary Record.

I am a veterinarian and horse owner. I learned about your bridle many years ago from your Vet Times article and purchased one for my beautiful Anglo-Arab mare, who had been a 'head-shaker'. This little mare had been ridden in a thick eggbutt snaffle. She was 'light' and very willing, with many 'gears' in each pace and excellent 'brakes' but would tend to walk or trot along, when returning from a ride, with her nose practically grazing the ground. I always allowed this because I thought she was stretching her top line, and at any rate, she appeared comfortable doing it and she was not being 'difficult'.

Both the head shaking and the nose lowering improved considerably after our change to the 'Dr Cook'. I now ride my little Spanish horse in this bridle and she too has been transformed both in her way of going and even in her physical shape. I have told many others about the bridle and it's benefits.

I work only with small animals and have no influence in equine practice but I am appalled by some of the things done to horses and suggested as treatments by my fellow professionals. I have even read about a procedure for resection of the trigeminal nerve as a 'treatment' for head-shakers. I wonder whether wild horses suffer from head-shaking? I am sure many of the horses with this 'syndrome' have chronic pain and that they do not generally stand shaking their heads when unbridled or unriden (except when annoyed by flies).

I agree whole-heartedly with your very sensible assertions regarding 'palatal dysfunction' and associated 'syndromes'. There is indeed a very great deal wrong in the world of horses and it is extremely sad and worrying that the veterinary profession should be playing such a big part in making the problems worse instead of better. I feel very sad about the length of time I rode my arab mare with the uncomfortable bit in her mouth, prior to realizing what was wrong. Horses tell us things and I have only recently become more skilled at hearing them. There is much to be learned. I am grateful that you are willing to speak up for the sake of horses. They need all the help they can get.



I wanted to share our latest adventure in our bitless bridle. Zoe and I had a lot of fun yesterday riding on the Cape Hatteras National Seashore with fellow friends. The ocean was choppy and rough, but my mare was as calm as "still water" in her bridle. I enjoy sharing our adventures, because I think it's important to promote how great this bridle can be.

Elizabeth, May 5, 2015 My haflinger mare is doing so well. Her transition has been exactly as described in the directions. She stops better now than she ever has! I'm so excited about this fabulous product!

Jillian, April 29, 2015 I purchased the bitless bridle at equine affaire and I was a little skeptical since my horse is typically a hand full but I must say that I'm very glad I bought it. I finally got a chance to try it on my little horse and it was like riding a whole new horse. He wasn't trying to pull my arms off, his trot was actually smoother, he started listening to very light cues even a verbal cue to back up, and for the first time in his life he came to a stop and stood quietly no dancing or trying to run off! Thank you so much for such a wonderful product!



Alyssa, April 23, 2015 I recently purchased your bitless bridle at equine affair in Columbus Ohio. Firefly and I are very pleased with our purchase. The adjustment to the bridle was effortless and he is much lighter on the forehand using the bitless bridle. I can't wait to order one for my mare. Thank you!

Christina, April 10, 2015 Just wanted to share our wonderful experience today. My mare and I competed in our first dressage test ever today and proudly performed wearing our Dr Cook bitless bridle. Our goal was a 60, and we received a score of 73.125%. We LOVE our bridle, and I think she represented it well today... fingers crossed that bitless bridles will soon be allowed in all shows/disciplines! We can't wait to learn more and wear our bridle throughout the journey.



Shawn, April 4, 2015 Today was the first I got to run my horse

at a gaming show with my new bitless bridle. I can honestly say it has made a world of difference in the way he turns and carries himself through a turn. He is faster also. Best barrel runs I have ever made . Best money I have spent.



Heather, March 19, 2015 I did my Senior photos with my horse Urban. He is a very energetic horse and i never thought riding him bitless was possible but he loves this bridle so much! I ride him in it all the time now!



Sharon, March 14, 2015 This is Dee Dee, she's one of 10 riding school horses that are all enjoying their lessons in the Dr Cook Bitless Bridle.



Emily, March 12, 2015 Just wanted to say thanks for creating this awesome bridle. My horse competed his first horse trials in it and we love it!!! I would love for them to be legal in the dressage phase....maybe one day!!

Hanna, February, 20, 2015 Hi, Just wanted to write and say thank you so much for my bitless bridle, my horse Spencer took to it like a fish to water on our first attempt and I can honestly say I will never ride with a bit again.

Spencer is a rescue horse with a variety of problems which everyone told me were simply behavioural, but I felt that he was acting out of pain and the anticipation of pain. The most difficult ridden problem was that he would lean heavily on the bit, drag the reins practically out to the buckle and canter round and round the ring completely out of control with his head almost touching the floor. Trainers told me to hold him more firmly, even to jab him in the mouth with the bit when he tried to lean – but I refused to do this and eventually decided to stop riding him altogether until the leaning problem could be solved in-hand. We had some success working in just a headcollar with reins clipped on the sides – he was no longer taking off but he still leant very heavily on my hands. I was able to get him to collect for a few strides in response to me tightening my abdominals and straightening my spine but after a

few strides he would then start leaning again.

I decided to buy a bitless bridle on a whim just to see if it would help us break through this plateau, and to my amazement from the moment I put it on him he was able to collect in response to my abdominals and maintain the collection all the way around the ring with only a featherweight feeling in my hands!

Finally I feel like there's light at the end of the tunnel for my lovely horse, and maybe soon I'll be able to start safely riding him again. In addition, now that he longer feels or fears pain, all of his other "behavioural" issues like aggressiveness in the stall have mysteriously vanished. Thank you so much for giving us this priceless gift!

Sunny, February 15, 2015 Hi Bitless Bridle folks! I want to thank Dr Cook for this amazing bridle. Peaches has been in every bridle known to man and I have never got such wonderful results. Thanks for the great customer service too! I will be telling everyone at my barn about this!



Carol, January 27, 2015 Katie is 10 years old and Luchica three years old. Katie has started her all by herself - taught her to have a halter on, lead, tie up, have her hooves trimmed, come when called, be groomed and lately, be ridden. Luchica is very good at being a donkey, that is, she is quite stubborn and she takes a lot of convincing before she will do what you want. However, Katie has persevered and has her going well and now regularly rides her out in the open. Luchica has taken very well indeed to the Dr Cook bridle, accepting it without resistance and clearly quite comfortable with it.

In Australia we have a national donkey society, which has a regular magazine, the Donkey Digest. The Editor is coming here next week to do a story on Katie and her donkey. You can be sure the Dr Cook bridle will get a mention and a photo!

By the way, I have a pony here whose owners tell me he fought the bit all the time so much so that they struggled to get his bridle on him and his young rider could not manage him. He has been here three weeks and Katie is riding him in a Dr Cook bridle. He is going beautifully, very forward moving and relaxed. His owners have asked me to give them the details of the Dr Cook bridles as they want to buy one for the pony. They are quite traditional in their views, so it is a big change for them to accept going bitless.



Bob, January 18, 2015 Troy modeling his new Dr. Cooks Bitless Bridle
He's a 6 y.o. Appaloosa recently rescued, rehab'd, and back under saddle after a major injury. One of the several injuries he sustained from some bad human handling was that his tongue was severely damaged (nearly cut off, re healed with a big scar across it). That meant I wasn't sure how he'd react, or what sort of 'feeling' he'd have anyway. And it was just not worth his anxiety to force him to take a bit. Dr. Cook's was the perfect solution. Not only is Troy fine with it in general, he remains light, responsive, and completely understands what's being asked. Well done, and many thanks!

Jack and Jenna, January 12, 2015 Dear Dr. Cook, We received Dr Cook Bitless Bridles for Christmas this year, We just tried them today and were both shocked and amazed at how well our horses (Bonners and Jasmine) did in them! They are like two different horses, relaxed and eager. Both of our horses had issues with constant slobbering and tossing their heads, seeming focused on the bit and not on enjoying the ride. The idea of bits never felt right to either one of us but we tried hacamores and even another similar bridle but they seemed to create other problems and the hackamore seemed even worse! My parents bought my husband and I each a beta Dr Cook. We could not be happier and my mother told me when she ordered the bridle the person on the phone was so helpful and nice. We will not be taking advantage of the 30 day trial! No way are you getting these back, we are so happy and thrilled and will be sure to tell everyone about the Dr Cook Bitless bridle and the wonderful company you run. Very happy horses and riders in Fla! THANKS!!!

Bruce. January 6, 2015 I received my Dr Cook Bitless last week and have been on several rides. I was very pleased with the difference it has made in my horse. He is responding well I and I will never go back to bits!