

## 18<sup>th</sup> December - O Lord-Horse



The hooves of a horse are very much like a human fingernail (but obviously far tougher). Their ancestors had toes like other animals and horses have basically evolved to stand on their middle toe/finger. They are capable of locking their legs so that they can doze off standing up without falling over. This is useful in the wild when it might be useful to conserve energy but also be ready to gallop away in the event of danger. Wild horse populations are led by an alpha female, a lead mare who decides where the herd should go and what route to take, she also expects the best grazing spot wherever they stop! Generally speaking, there is only one mature male with the group whose job is to bring up the rear, watch out for predators and fight off others stallions. His role is strictly to be butch and beautiful, he doesn't get to make any decisions in the herd hierarchy.