



Bannockburn Riding for the Disabled Newsletter March 2010



CLASS NEWS

All classes are starting on 6 week/school term blocks with specific aims. Some themes currently running are Musical Rides, Mini "Jumping" Competitions, Road Safety and Learning to Trot.

5 taster sessions were held during the school half term break, with all five children being placed in classes.

HORSES

RDA Regional Dressage and Handy Pony Competition will be held here on 1st June. Anyone interested in taking part should speak to Sara.

Dazzle is now back at work following his 8 weeks off. He is starting gently with some light walking.

DRIVING

Puzzle, Aida and Naiad are currently undergoing training with a view to being ready for the new driving season.

VAULTING

The RDA National Championships will be held in July in Hartpury. If you would like to get involved, come along on Saturdays at 3pm to find out more.

ARENA UPDATE

All riders should have felt the difference now that the new arena surface has been

laid. Well done Peter, Brian, Sara, Dave and Richard Blore with his faithful digger. Thanks to all who bought a square, and a special mention to Clare Howarth (aka the Naked Showjumper!) who raised a whopping £1500 towards the fund.

FUNDRAISING/EVENTS

Ceilidh

This year's ceilidh was another sell out – well done and thank you to all those involved in organising the night. And a huge thank you to everyone who gave their support by coming along. A great night was had by all – we have the photos to prove it! On that subject, if you have any good pics please hand them in for the noticeboard.

Rag Bag Scheme

We are participating in the Rag Bag Scheme to raise funds by recycling unwanted clothing. The more you donate the more we raise! Bags arriving first week in March so be sure to pick yours up and fill it with all types of clothing, shoes (tied together), bags, hats, belts, towels, curtains and bedlinen. Return to us by Wednesday 31st March. A great way to declutter those wardrobes and support RDA at the same time!

Tesco Vouchers

Don't forget – these are now available, so please remind all your friends and family to collect the vouchers when they shop and hand them into the Centre.

Can your place of work help the RDA?

If you work for a large company, there may be a staff fundraising or volunteering scheme. You may find information about this on your intranet or staff notice boards. Examples include time off to volunteer, matched giving (where your employer matches any fundraising you do in your own time for a charity) or a grant award scheme which sometimes requires an employee to “sponsor” an application to a foundation which is part of the business. Businesses which do this include Zurich Community Trust, Santander, etc. Some may not even require any employee involvement, just letting us know about the scheme is enough. Other companies have a small charity committee where employees decide where the money goes. If this applies to you or any of your friends and family, please contact Helen Kallow at the centre to discuss things further. Helen can provide all the help needed to submit any applications for funding, all you have to do is sign on the dotted line!

Grand Summer Raffle

We are holding a Grand Summer Raffle and are looking for high quality prizes which will generate ticket sales. Examples include driving lessons, hotel stays and meals out. If you know someone who works for a smaller business which may be interested in donating goods, services or money for specific items, please let us know. We have good links with local media which can generate positive publicity for smaller businesses.

VISITOR'S BOOK

Just a reminder that for health and safety reasons, such as in case of fire, we have now installed a visitors' sign-in book in the cafe. ALL visitors to the Centre please SIGN IN AND OUT of this book, thank you.

GRASS VERGES

There has been recent damage to the verges - could all drivers to the centre please ensure that they DO NOT drive on any grass verges and always use passing places. If any vehicle is seen to be driving on verges, the driver WILL BE CHARGED FOR REPAIR.

VOLUNTEERS

For the security of volunteers' belongings, we have installed some lockers in the cafe. Please keep the key with you and return at the end of the day.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Please hand any contributions to Jen by the end of March. Thanks!