

CRANLEIGH RDA GROUP NEWSLETTER

Charity No 1125242

2010/2011

Casi's Farm, Rowly Drive, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8PL

Special Days out – and in!



Regional Fun Day

A group of our riders had a great day out at this year's Regional Fun Day, 10 May, at Felbridge Showground, East Grinstead. As usual the various games and competitions were much enjoyed. This year for the second time Cranleigh also held their own July Fun Week at Casi's Farm in the last week of term with lots of games and equipment set out in the lower field, so that a wider group of riders could enjoy the excitement of races and gymkhana games.



Above

Riders and Volunteers at Hickstead

Left

Bettina McClean (Instructor), Michelle Davies and Della Morgan (Volunteer)

Regional Dressage Day

At the Regional Dressage Day on June 8th at Hickstead, Cranleigh had a fine turnout entering twelve riders, all of whom came away with rosettes, many of them for placement. Michelle Davies was awarded first place in her class, and also won the cup for the highest score for a newcomer.



Howard House, Chairman of the County Club, presents the cheque

Golf Day 5 October 2010

Over £20,000 was raised by members of the Guilford County Club at a Charity Golf Day in aid of Cranleigh RDA Group at West Hill Golf Club, Brookwood. 24 teams took part in the competition, coming from the wide range of firms and local businesses associated with the County Club. In addition to the golf there was a silent auction and a raffle with a top prize of one week's holiday for two at a 5 star hotel in Mauritius, generously donated by Beachcomber Tours, Guildford. Very many people supported the Golf Day in one way or another, donating prizes, buying raffle tickets or auction items and of course by playing. Sincere thanks to all.

Sponsored Ride Good Friday 2011

Better weather this year for the 100 riders who supported our group by taking part in the annual 11 mile marked ride over the Surrey Hills including parts of the Albury Estate and the Hurtwood, with the kind permission of their managing groups. The day was unseasonably warm and most ponies, still carrying their winter coats, had to be washed down afterwards. Makes a change from being washed by rain!

Our own team of three ponies are pictured here with their riders (l to r) Snoopy (Sandra Hudson), Conor Howard (Perdigau) and Sue Keen (Badger), together with Maria Collyer, our Stable Manager (centre) who is behind the success and smooth running all our events. Our team raised well over £1,000 of the overall total £3,500 raised from the ride. Thanks to all who rode, sponsored, helped or supported in any way.



Barbara Wilson of Slinfold Golf Club put our name forward for the Horsham Waitrose Community Matters scheme and with her fellow lady players presented us with a cheque for £417. During her 2011 ongoing Lady Captaincy, Barbara has chosen Cranleigh RDA as her charity and despite also working full time has been committed to her support for us.



SAVI

(Surrey Association for Visual Impairment) continue to organise occasional sessions with us so that their members can experience riding and horse care. Many of the children have never ridden before but they soon pick it up and enjoy all the sensory experiences that being near horses offers.

Sainsbury's Charity Partner for 2010/11

The staff of Sainsbury, Cranleigh nominated us to be their local charity partner of the year. On completion, staff came along to Casi's Farm to present their cheque (pictured) and in addition the Store Manger allowed a one off collection day. In total £1,487.10 was raised by this venture and our thanks to Sainsbury for their support.



Awards

At the 2010 AGM Helene Jordan was voted Volunteer of the Year in recognition of the valuable input she makes to our group. Helene is Saturday morning Organiser, and it was the 9.30am Saturday morning six strong ride (below) that was the ride judged to have progressed most over the year.



Holly Kent age 10, St Joseph's School was chosen as the rider who achieved the most in the year, overcoming fear and anxiety to be able to ride independently and do a rising trot. Well done to all!

Developing our Instructors

We are keen to give the opportunity to develop the skills and experience of our volunteers. Congratulations to Lizzie Calvert and Sarah Lambert who received their Group Instructor badges this year on successful completion of their training. Several volunteers became Log book holders and take on new responsibilities to train as Instructors in their group, including our Stable Manager, Maria Collyer. Four volunteers are working for the UKCC Level 1 coaching qualification, which will enable them to assist with the teaching in their groups.

Petra Trek, October 2010

Congratulations to Pauline and Geoff Lane – they did it! Together with 18 other RDA trekkers and four walking for St Nicholas Hospice, they successfully completed a six day, 100 mile trek from the Dead Sea to Petra in challenging conditions of gruelling heat over harsh rocky ground. Between them they raised over £10,000 for Cranleigh RDA and in total £65,000 was raised for the two charities involved. This is the second fund raising trek Pauline has organised and she has our admiration and thanks.



Albury Free Festival 2011

We were very lucky to be chosen as the beneficiary charity of the 2011 free music festival held at Albury Cricket Ground on 17 July 2011. Throughout the afternoon various group and bands gave their time to play jazz, blues and rock music, whilst locals gathered with their families and friends to picnic or enjoy the on-site BBQ and bar. Two of our ponies, Hamish and Paddy went along for patting and petting, loved by the children. Despite slightly inclement weather the day was a great success and raised money and profile for our charity.

ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network) – widening a fresh initiative in Cranleigh RDA.

This year 22 riders from several different session groups successfully took part in this national education programme involving project work in horse care and management as well as riding. On completion a nationally recognised certificate is awarded. This is an ideal vehicle for introducing riders to caring for their ponies and them giving them more responsibility. Those who have taken part have greatly enjoyed it as well as gaining in confidence and skills.

Our group is thriving

In the Census year 2010/2011, 244 children and adults rode with Cranleigh RDA, an increase of 20 over the previous year. Volunteer numbers also rose to 169, compared with 138 in 2010. Quite simply, we could not operate without them.

Hosting Events

In the past year, we have hosted events for RDA National and the SE Region and the riding element of the three day RDA National holiday for eight riders from different RDA groups.

Outdoor School Refurbishment

Over the summer months of 2010, the outdoor school was given a facelift with new fencing and gates, the surface re-graded and a new spectator area created. We are now enjoying the improved arena.