



# Hope in the Valley Newsletter

Hope in the Valley is a charitable riding group for physically disabled children. Manned entirely by volunteers, its aim is to give these children between the ages of 3 and 16 the opportunity to experience the pleasure, independence and therapeutic benefits that riding a horse brings.

## Important dates for Autumn 2009

Autumn term begins	9th Sept
World Biggest Riding Lesson	30th Sept
Supra Regional Conference	21st Oct
No Riding	21st & 28th Oct
Half term	28th Oct
Christmas Party	9th Dec
Last Riding	9th Dec
Spring term begins	6th Jan 2010

Autumn 2009

## Top Story & Event News

### Top Story!



### World Biggest Riding Lesson! 30th September

RDA is launching its 40th anniversary celebrations on 30th September 2009 by enabling people throughout the world to take part in this great event and Hope in the Valley is taking part!

All riders and volunteers are welcome to take part in this exciting event! We are incorporating a simple routine at the beginning of our usual lessons.

All monies raised will go straight into Hope in the Valley coffers and will be used to continually improve the facilities for our riders and volunteers.

### Note from the Editor

Welcome to our Autumn Edition! Amusing events have been going on behind the scenes which are not fit for the Annual Review but too good not to share with you here! Pop the kettle on, make a nice cuppa and read everything that has been going on so that you are in the loop! Next issue is the New Year one which will include a Young Riders Page so that our young riders can also enjoy these newsletters. Any ideas and contributions are always welcome especially from the riders!  
Penny Pearce. PR Officer (contact details on page 3)

### Christmas Cards on Sale Now!



Gorgeous picture of Rose in the snow!  
£4 for pack of 10 available now every Wednesday at Plumpton.

### Supra Regional Conference

To be held on 21st October 2009 at Sandown Racecourse 9.30am - 3.30pm. "RDA in Harmony" is the theme. Please contact Sheila if you would like to attend this fascinating and informative day.

### Christmas Party 9th December



An exciting afternoon planned at Plumpton! Theme will be revealed! Watch this space!

Hope in the Valley RDA Group Reg. Charity No: 1074384

A member of the Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving registered under charity number 244108  
Company Limited by Guarantee No 5010395

[www.hopeinthevalley.org](http://www.hopeinthevalley.org)

## Local and National News

### Training Afternoon & AGM 2nd Sept

Thank you to all our volunteers who attended such a fun and informative afternoon. Our equine partners were very co-operative, however, I heard that Taylor's diet needs reviewing following his rather 'noisy' afternoon!! An insider is quoted "he could f\*\*t for England" !!

### Annual Dog Walk 12th August

About 11 ladies plus numerous dogs of all shapes and sizes did a circular walk around Duddleswell via Kings Standing. The weather was lovely and everyone had an enjoyable yomp over bracken and heather with all our doggy friends getting on famously and not a cross bark in sight. Hilary's little Archie tried to escape once or twice but came back when we disappeared from sight. All the dogs enjoyed playing in the pond at the bottom of the hill!! We met up at the Nutley Arms for lunch which we were able to eat outside in the sunshine and I think it was a most successful day. Thanks to everyone who came and made it such a lovely group.

By Jenny Brown

### Firle Horse Trials 29th & 30th August

Many thanks to all those volunteers who helped at this trial on behalf of Hope in the Valley. Takings were well over £8,000 which is very impressive and we are awaiting to hear our share of this sum. By Lesley Morrill.

### Diana Crook

Diana Crook, has been the lady behind the Sales Table until last term. Diana has decided to take a break from this and we would like to especially thank her for all her time and contribution and wish her well in her other projects.

### Sales Table at Plumpton

There will be a Christmas Sales Table on 9th December and donations of good quality items are requested for that (but no more books please!!) We are hoping to resume the Sales Table in January 2010 but in order to do this we are looking for one or two volunteers to organise and man the table. We have a volunteer who is willing to help by putting everything away and do some general organising but she is only able to help at the latter part of the afternoon. Please contact Nikki on 01273 470471 or email [hopeinthevalley@mac.com](mailto:hopeinthevalley@mac.com) if you are interested.

### Amazing Leg work!!!

Alex, Nicola Cramond's daughter, has kindly offered to raise funds for Hope in the Valley whilst taking part in Brighton's first ever Marathon being held next April! Wow! She hopes to raise £1000 for us. Anyone else want to give it a go as well? Take a look at this link: [www.justgiving.com/alexbrightonmarathon](http://www.justgiving.com/alexbrightonmarathon)

## A Right Wet Royal Visit! By Carol and Ian McLean

Earlier in May, a mystery envelope arrived marked "Lord Chamberlain, Buckingham Palace" It turns out to be an invitation to a royal garden party at the palace for long service to charity (R.D.A). A flurry of excitement followed including an outfit bought, hat borrowed from a good friend and off we went to London. On arrival, the sun was shining, we could see national costume, uniforms and best frocks in every direction, relaxed guests milling and chatting. Rain began! However, it had the courtesy to at least stop just for the Queen and Prince Phillip as introductions to the chosen were made. Just as the royal party were about to return to the palace leaving us to enjoy the tea, the heavens opened and a car was hastily summoned and conveniently whisked away the royals well in time before the weather went into a complete overdrive with hail, lightning, high winds and three and a half months worth of rain in 3 minutes flat! Best frocks clinging, hats dissolving, uniforms sodden but we are British, the small talk, laughter and eating went on as the water rose over our shoes hoping the marquee would stay up at least! Umbrellas to the fore on the windward side, and the band played on, like on the Titanic !!! Drenched policemen kept smiling whilst ushering us home with our friends in the car. We were all soaked and in excellent spirits at the end of a truly memorable British Garden Party!

## A Very Wet Gossip!!

There were rumours that the fire alarm went off during Hartpurp Championships in July caused by our very own Lesley! In response to this scandal, she agreed to give the following statement "Yes - I did set the fire alarm off in the student accommodation - I didn't do what the 'rules' stated which was to keep the shower/bathroom door shut while running the shower (actually my husband rang me and I went to answer him and forgot to shut it) and the alarms in the whole building went off!!! And did we want to evacuate the building and stand outside??? No - because it was pouring very hard!!!" Hopefully, there were plenty of warm, dry and fluffy towels to go around following this mishap!!

## Horsey Humour

Q: What animal always goes to bed with his shoes on?

A: Horse

Q: A man rode into town on Friday. The next day he rode back on Friday. How is this possible?

A: The horse's name was Friday

### Contact details:

#### Sheila Camilleri

Group Organiser  
& Child Protection  
Officer

Tell: 01273 846136  
sheilacamilleri@f2s.com

#### Nikki Terry

Hon. Secretary  
Tel: 01273 470471  
hopeinthevalley@mac.com

#### Group mobile number

(Wednesdays only)  
Mob: 07842 209384

#### Newsletter editor:

#### Penny Pearce

PR Officer  
Contributions to future  
editions are welcome. Please  
email or post to Penny at:

2 Laurel Cottages  
Keymer Road  
Keymer  
BN6 8QT  
Email:  
penny321@hotmail.com  
Text: 07535 338811

#### Website

www.hopeinthevalley.org

## Horsey News and tit bits!

### Horse Report by Nicola Cramond

As from September we have a new pony in our midst; Cyril. Cyril is owned by Michelle from Bevern bridge Stables; a home he shares with Shalimar and Harry. Cyril is 21 years old and about 14.3 hands high. He is chestnut and although somewhat 'cobby' in appearance he is not too wide which makes him well suited to a number of our young riders. He has been teaching children to ride at Bevern bridge for some years now so is quite likely to have a few tricks up his rather hairy sleeves (so watch out for corner cutting and clock watching!) We are hugely grateful to Michelle for loaning him and also to Ann Harding (Shalimar's Mum) and Diane Stratford who have volunteered to bring him every week

Also new on the scene is Jane Walsh's Rio. Rio, who is also a chestnut, is not nearly as experienced as Cyril. He is also younger and smaller and seems to have had an unfortunate start in life. However Jane and her family have been working on his education over the summer and we are hoping that he will soon feel brave enough to join us.

Congratulations to Crystal and Christopher on gaining their RDA long service awards – They have been turning up regularly for five years now-both are ALWAYS immaculately turned out although quite different in personality they are both wonderfully unflappable (give or take the odd wooden pony cut out car park sign!).

### Cups & Trophies awarded in July 2009 - Big Congratulations!

**Joe Stephenson** – *Pamela Hazell Joy of Riding*

**Reece Goatcher**- *Novice Riding Cup*

**Isabel Dean**– *Novice Horse Care Cup*

**Abbi Heinzl**– *Junior Cup*

**Jack Virgo**- *Junior Horse Care Cup (Marc Godfrey Cup)*

**Lily Hill** – *Sarah Baverstock Cup for Personal Achievement*

**Patrick Phillips** - *Mary Gethen Cup for Improvement*

**Ahid Gbaya** – *Senior Riding Cup*

**Charlotte Virgo** - *Toffee and Mr Moon Senior Horse Care Trophy*

### Riders:

Leavers: Kelly Gunn after riding with us since 1999  
Robin Moore after riding with us since 2000

Movers: Kennedy Wells to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session  
Jack Virgo to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session  
Harry Dale to the 4<sup>th</sup> Session

New rider: Matilda Barrowman

### New Volunteers!

We warmly welcome the following volunteers:  
Karen Brook,  
Bev Erlstedt, and  
Tony Bradley (Lara's Dad who will be helping with teas sometimes)

### Well done to our former Rider!

Olivia Fairweather, our former rider, has progressed very well and recently she got offered a place at Brunel University to do an Occupational Therapy course following her fantastic A Level results(B,B,C). This news gives us a very warm glow knowing that our riders go on to succeed in their lives!