



Hoofprint

Gaddesden Place RDA Newsletter

June 2009

www.gaddesdenplacerda.org.uk

Enquiries Tel: 0845 241 5309



Dear Everyone,

Welcome to a new edition of our 'Hoofprint' newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading it. If you have any ideas for the next issue, please contact Ernest Cox (Tel: 01582-792549)

A big 'Thank You' from the Trustees to all the instructors and volunteers for making Gaddesden Place such a wonderful RDA Centre.

Lizzie Roberts - Chairman

Gaddesden Place RDA Kneeler

'Friends of Gaddesden Place RDA' commissioned this kneeler for use in St Peter's Church, Great Gaddesden.

The kneeler is dedicated to the memory of Trina Hall, the founder of Gaddesden Place RDA, who died in 2002. The cost of the kneeler was met by personal donations – not from Gaddesden Place RDA funds.



'Hoofprint'

It is some time since 'Hoofprint' - the Gaddesden Place RDA newsletter - has been published. We hope you like this new edition. It is intended to issue 'Hoofprint' 3 or 4 times a year to enable all our riders, parents, and helpers to keep in touch with what is happening.

QUIZ NIGHT RESULTS

The quiz night held at Potton End Village Hall on 6th June raised £900. Over 120 people took part. The winning team was a group of parents of some of our Saturday riders. Runners up were Julie (Saturday Instructor) and some of her helpers. Thank you to everyone who supported this event. Lizzie is already planning some more fiendish questions for next year's quiz !

Oaklands

What a great day, sun was shining and everyone did so well.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make the Oaklands Regional RDA competition on 10th May such a memorable day.

9 of our 12 Riders were placed – which was excellent.

Our riders points and positions were:-

Anne Marie	113	2nd
Janet Birch	108	5 th
George	131	10 th
Sarah M	129	4 th
Judth	125	6 th
Hayley	121	10 th
Rebecca	118	5 th
Harriet	128	5 th
Catherine	129	3 rd
Max	127	6 th
Edward	135	4 th
Kevin	118	7 th

Harriet and Judith both also got winners rosettes for the art competition!

Congratulations to all our participants !

RUBY PICNIC BALL
at 'Cloisters Ballroom' - Whipsnade Zoo

SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER

As well as being our biggest annual fund-raising event, this year we shall also be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of 'Riding for the Disabled' - hence it will be a 'RUBY PICNIC BALL' Come and enjoy a fabulous evening - and dance to the sensational 'Dark Blues' band. There will be superb raffle prizes - and a chance that you might win the 'Heads & Tails' game ! (If you cannot be at the Ball - perhaps you will consider donating a raffle prize.) Tables may be reserved and tickets bought by contacting:-

Lizzie Roberts. Tel: 01727 761898

Recipe of the Month
Oaklands Chocolate Shortbread

By popular demand
Oven Temp: 350° / 180° /Gas
Bake for 35 to 40 min (fan ovens may be less)

7 oz Plain Flour
1 oz Cocoa
4oz Castor Sugar
6oz Butter



Melt the butter in a saucepan and add all other ingredients, mix together to a soft dough. Spread evenly into a 12" x 8" Swiss roll tin and cook as above. Leave to cool a little and then cut into fingers in tin and leave till cold before removing. Enjoy.

STABLE YARD TEAM

We now have a splendid team carrying out the essential daily stable yard duties. Juliet and Carolyn work Mondays to Thursdays - and Judy does Fridays to Sundays. This arrangement is working extremely well. Caring for the ponies, feeding them, mucking out - and ensuring all is well on the yard is a 365 day a year responsibility. Our ponies really appreciate the team's work !

OUR WEBSITE

Did you know Gaddesden Place RDA has its own website ?

It has just been updated by the Webmasters, Alistair and Christina Grieve, and contains some super pictures of our ponies - and our Instructors ! Do have a look. It can be found at:

www.gaddesdenplacerrda.org.uk

Olivia - VIP

Eight year old Olivia Blake, one of our Thursday riders, cut the ribbon to officially open the new Keech Cottage Children's Hospice Charity Shop in Hemel Hempstead. Congratulations Olivia ! Everyone at Gaddesden Place RDA is very proud of you.

Chloe Stadden

Everyone who knew Chloe was deeply saddened by her death at the beginning of May. Chloe was just 16 - and had been riding at Gaddesden Place RDA since the age of 4. Chloe loved to ride - and had a great fondness for 'Clunie' She will be particularly missed by her Saturday morning Instructor, Julie, her fellow riders - and the helpers. We offer our sincere condolence to Chloe's family and friends.

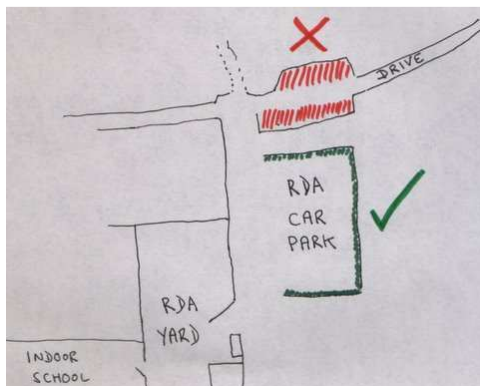
**From The Horse's Mouth
'Ben' says.....**



I was a bit nervous about moving from my home at Chiltern Group RDA, but I love it here at Gaddesden Place. Kiwi, Gemma, Clunie, Murphy and Stan have all made me very welcome and I now feel very happy here. It's lovely to have some of my familiar helpers from Chiltern Group with me. I hope they feel as much at home as I do.

CAR PARKING

Will all helpers, riders and parents Please park only in the RDA car park as shown on the diagram. The areas shown in red are for Gaddesden Stables – **and must not be used by us.**



**PONY CLUB - RDA SHOW
Sunday 5th July 9-30am - 4-00pm
at Flamstead Pony Club**

Twenty-five teams (each comprising one Pony Club rider and one Gaddesden RDA rider) will compete at the Flamstead Pony Club venue on Sunday, 5th July. Both riders will complete a dressage test. Pony Club riders will complete a show jumping round - and the RDA riders will take part in a 'Handy Pony' event.

Helpers are needed for preparation at Gaddesden Place on Saturday, 4th July – and for the big event at Flamstead Pony Club on Sunday 5th. Please be there by 9-00am.

A map giving directions to the venue is on display in the office area of the indoor school at Gaddesden Place RDA.

Your support for all the riders - and help with the organisational tasks will be very welcome.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

The kitchen area, which has been in urgent need of improvement for some time, is to be refurbished during the summer break. As Lizzie has been central to its planning - guess what colour it will be !

It is also our intention to replace the existing feed shed with a larger building. A significant amount of money was donated in memory of Lizzie's husband, Barry Roberts, who sadly died earlier this year. This money will go towards the new feed shed.

Both these are expensive, but necessary projects. If anyone wishes to contribute towards the cost of them, or wishes to donate money for any other aspect of the work of Gaddesden Place RDA, do please consider using 'Gift Aid'. (See separate item)

'GIFT AID'

Any donation made to Gaddesden Place RDA can be increased in value if the donor chooses to do so through the 'Gift Aid' scheme. If the donor is a tax payer, 'Gift Aid' enables Gaddesden Place RDA to reclaim the tax on the amount given. There is no extra cost to the donor, but the value of the gift is increased by 28%. There is just one simple form to complete to take advantage of the 'Gift Aid' scheme. The form is available to download from the Gaddesden Place RDA website at: www.gaddesdenplacerrda.org.uk or any of our Trustees will be pleased to give you further information.

Did You Know ?

The cost of keeping our ponies is approximately £4,500 each a year. This expenditure includes feed, shoeing, veterinary bills, tack and insurance. So annually, we have to raise about £27,000 to look after our 6 ponies.

Would you consider sponsoring a pony ? Or do you know a commercial organisation that might wish to help ?

Sponsorship need not be for a whole year - even a month's sponsorship would be gratefully appreciated.

Sponsors will receive a certificate and a photo of their chosen pony in recognition of their valued contribution to our work.

For more information about sponsoring one of our ponies - please contact our Chairperson, Lizzie Roberts. Tel: 01727 761898

Notecards on sale

Our very own Gaddesden Place RDA notecards are now available at £4 for a pack of seven. The cards feature pictures of Gaddesden ponies reproduced from the original portraits by artist, Heather Wagner.

The inside of each card is blank for you to write in your own greetings or message.

The cards come with envelopes.

To purchase a pack, please put £4 cash or cheque (payable to Gaddesden Place RDA) in an envelope, together with your printed name, full address - and phone number.

If you give your order to one of the Instructors, Trustees - or any of the helpers - they will ensure that you receive your cards as soon as possible.

ALL proceeds from the sale of these cards goes to Gaddesden Place RDA.



UPDATE ON INSTRUCTORS

To identify all the Instructors at Gaddesden Place RDA - visit our website at www.gaddesdenplacerrda.org.uk

There are photos of each of them - and a team photograph !

Tracey is now qualified and instructing on Fridays. Steph, working on Saturdays, is a log-book holder, working towards RDA Group Instructor status.

GADESSEN PLACE RDA TRUSTEES

Responsibility for running Gaddesden Place RDA rests with the Trustees - all of whom carry out their duties in an entirely voluntary capacity.

The current Trustees are:-

Lizzie Roberts - Chairperson
Jackie Boulter - Vice Chair
Sheila Finnie - Group Organiser
Anne Nudd - Secretary
Rob Jennings - Treasurer
Christina Grieve
Juliet Godfrey
Gwen Morgan
Candace Pitkin
Ernest Cox