

# THE PERRY RIDING AND DRIVING GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO. 10 Autumn 2003

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

**Driving Demo at the West Midland Show.** The event went well, everyone worked really hard with the bucket collection and we raised £368.87p Mickey had a wonderful time!!

**Picnic Drive at Loton Park, Alberbury** by kind permission of Sir Michael Leighton

Everyone really enjoyed the picnic venue, the deer were slightly confused about what we were doing driving about up there but the weather was kind to us and a good time had by all.

**Driving Demo at the RDA National Championships, Hartpury, Gloucs** Berry excelled himself by carrying three riders to winning positions in the Ride in the Country competition at Hartpury in the morning and then behaving impeccably for the demonstration in the afternoon. The Championships really should be a 'Must' for volunteers to visit at least once. We have a video of this year on order and will offer it around when it arrives.

**Riding & Driving for the Shropshire RDA Holiday at Packwood School**

The riding went off very smoothly for the Holiday, Jo Hodges organised the driving part which was enjoyed by Chris and Ann Marie.

**Sponsored Ride with Group ponies over the Long Mynd.** Glorious weather helped to make this a wonderful day and as a bonus we raised £633.50p

**Fun Ride at Hilley Farm, Pentre near Nesscliffe.** We do not know exactly how much this raised yet but are hoping it will be in the region of £1800.

**Fund Raising Hog Roast & Jazz Lunch at Packwood School.** The Abraham Darby School Jazz Band performed magnificently, we had the use of an amazing marquee on the front lawns at Packwood, the weather was brilliant and we made £938.21p - an excellent result. The Grand Raffle was drawn there with many of the prize winners known personally to us. The Raffle raised £798.

## RIDING NEWS

Alison Smith won her class and Anthony Munk and Tom Higginson were well placed in theirs at the National Championships in July.

### Vaulting

The Cruckton boys have recently had two days of training with Rebecca Morgan of the Scottish International Vaulting Squad. Beca and Daniel flew down from Edinburgh to give us the benefit of their expertise and it was certainly a very worthwhile weekend. On Sunday we travelled to the Special Riding Centre at Clwyd where the boys got the chance of vaulting with Fred, a 17 hand retired Show Jumper who has been used for National and International Vaulting Championships. The benefit of using a specially trained horse immediately became apparent.

On Monday the training continued here at Perry Cottage and we used Mac who belongs to Gilly Smart. In no time Mac was allowing the boys to kneel up on his back and later to stand up. They all had a fantastic time.

We have now booked our very own Ned Kelly onto a training course with Beca - there will be no stopping the boys then!

### Dressage

It is hoped that Michael Clode will be attending the World Class Performers Training Day at Hartpury later this month.

## Still to come:

Next week the Committee members will be in the foyer at the start of the evening for the **Shrewsbury Amateur Operatic Society production of South Pacific**. The SAOS have offered the Group the proceeds from their nightly raffle.

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup> October Fund Raising Dressage to Music Demonstration at Walford College**

Tickets still available at £10 and half price for under 12s. Do try and come to this fantastic afternoon's entertainment.

## HORSE AND PONY NEWS

- Basil has gone back to his owners now.
- We have bought a 2 year old ride and drive pony as deputy for Micky, although hopefully he won't be needed for a long time yet.
- Sadly Archie sustained a bad kick on a hind leg about 8 weeks ago. He is showing slow signs of recover and it has been decided to winter him at a friend's as a companion. We hope six months off will allow the leg to heal completely.

## GRANT NEWS

- As mentioned, Ned Kelly, is currently under negotiation for purchase for the Group due to the funding of the Shropshire Youth Foundation.
- Our Grant from Children in Need has been well spent on a Meeting Hut, flooring fitted by David and Annette Knight. The shelves are full of all the Group equipment and it is already being much appreciated. There is even space for Trojan the vaulting barrel horse!

The Producer of Children in Need has been in touch with a view to doing some filming of the children. It is most likely they will be coming on a Thursday morning in the near future - so dig out your sweatshirts ladies!

## LAST CHANCE

to order tickets for the "**Spirit of the Horse**" Show, please contact Nicola on 01743 355400 for details before Friday, 17/10/03