

Perry Group Open Day

The weather was kind to us for our annual Open Day and a few hundred supporters turned up. Volunteers brought plants, cakes & bric-a-brac to sell and we beat last years fundraising totaling £652.35. More importantly the days events helped to raise our profile which will only benefit us in the future.

Four displays were held beginning with John Foukes' Dressage Qualifier ride for this year. Second came the Pirates of the Caribbean

Musical Ride which was a roaring success. Third came the Vaulters turn to show what they were capable of and entertained the crowds with their acrobatic stunts. To close the events for the afternoon, Deb Daniel drove Berry in a Carriage Driving Display. Lizzie took time to explain details to the crowd as the group got ready.

This year we entered the musical ride competition with our version of Pirates of the Caribbean, this year we have not won but watch this space for next year!

Sucess at the Regional Qualifiers

Anne Browning and Alison Smith did extremely well in their respective dressage tests at Rodbaston on Wednesday 18th May. Both riders have qualified to ride at the RDA

National Championships at Hartpury College on 22nd July. Anne was riding Ned Kelly and Alison was riding Archie. John Foukes came 2nd in his section.

Sansaw Horse Trials

Once again we raffled two luxury food hampers over the weekend and raised £635.22 A special thank you for those who helped out over the 3 days, Anne Browning, Rachel Neville, Jane Yeoman and Denny Johnson on Friday
Joy Dolton, Joyce Elliott, Christine Wright, Margaret Green, Jessica Bluhm, Miriam & Suzanne Evans, Vicky, Megan and Sophie French, Emily Lewis on Saturday
Jill Harrison, Lizzie Lawrence and Joe Davies, Lindsay Green, Maisie Hillditch, Lucy Russell and Jenny Sheldon on Sunday.

Group Finances

Currently our bank account holds £15,045.37, which isn't bad at all considering we have just bought a new horse... Scrumpy Jack!
The Open Day Total was £652.35.....which was actually up on last years figure...small but up!
Broken down to....
Raffle.....* 116.10
Tea & Cakes.....* 284.00
Plants.....* 186.90
Collection Boxes....* 65.35
(A further £ 25 was made on plant sales after the event)
The Sansaw Raffle total was £635.22
Another point of interest may be that so far £ 965.00 sponsorship money has been received for the Perry Group Show on 17.7.05 and 'Much More' is required!

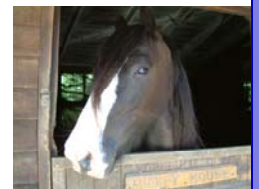
Forthcoming Events

- Carriage Driving Display West Mid **25/06 05**
- Family Horse Show 17/07/05
- National Championships Hartpury College 23 & 24/07/05
- RDA Holiday Clwyd 4 - 8/08/05
- Sponsored Ride Long Mynd 10/08/05
- Sponsored Bike Ride Scotland 22/08/05
- Fun Ride Nescliffe 11/09/05

THANK YOU!

A Great Big Thank You to Mrs J Lloyd of Ellesmere who presented us with a cheque for £236.00 which was raised at her 88th Birthday party.

Meet Scrumpy Jack, our new Carriage Driving Horse.



Why do I Volunteer?

One night, 14 years ago, whilst at University, I spent 2 hours in our communal kitchen with a housemate discussing a lecture which he had attended earlier that day. Before my eyes he experienced an epiphany, a realisation that was both sad and disappointing to him. 'Every human action is borne from a selfish motivation'

Initially preposterous to me, I was challenged to suggest one human act which was selfless. 'What about living organ donors. It is painful, it is dangerous and there is absolutely nothing in it for the donor' I said. Within seconds the psychology

student returned with 'Donors give either because of love or because they couldn't live with themselves for turning their backs on someone in need, especially if they had the power to save a life. It really does all come down to the fact that every action is because of *you*, how *you* feel, what *you* want, *you, you, you*'.

With RDA I am guilty as charged. I get much more out of being a part of it than I alone could ever give. Being a volunteer and a client, during every second something is gained. I love to share happy moments with children who have been given incredible obstacles to overcome. Ob-

stacles which are unfair and not only met but often surpassed. The inspiration, hope and simplicity that a child harbours is often lost as we grow older but spending an hour a week with children who make you feel humble, seems to rejuvenate my soul.

A second gain for me is only understood by knowing where I am with my life right now. Imagine. You are a 31 year old, soon to be divorcee who has moved back home with her mother. You cannot work any longer and for a chatterbox the isolation is torturous. You have no children. You have Multiple Sclerosis. The Perry Group provides me with a much needed struc-

ture, opportunities to create a little positivism in a river of negatives. It is the most worthy cause I have ever spent any time on. Worthy because it provides Physiotherapy and fun for special people (myself included).


Last but not least, the group is a rare collection of great people; People who give me a lift when I am around them and people whom I now consider my friends. To this day I am unresolved concerning this issue of motivation but conclude that as long I can do something that makes people happy, it is a very good use of my time.

By Denny Johnson

If you have something to share with the group please contact me!

We desperately need volunteers, especially for the National Championships, the Sponsored Ride and the RDA Holiday at Clwyd Special Centre. Please add your name to the notice boards if you can make some time? The group is a team and we all make it happen.

Happy Birthday to you! Happy Birthday to you!

Cancer Cancers are cute. They pretend to be tough but it's all an act. They stay pretty close to home, are extremely psychic, have a great sense of humour and are the world's best cooks. They collect things.	Judy Fox Alison Jones Margaret Barnes	10th of August 16th of August 21st of August
Sue Kirk Sue Heard Margaret Green	6th of July 22nd of July 22nd of July	
Leo Leo's are larger than life. They're very generous and extremely helpful. If you're feeling a bit low, go to a Leo for some TLC. They love people and you'll rarely see a Leo by themselves. They hardly ever get moody; in fact they're pretty good tempered for a lion.	Rachel Neville Pam Ward Pam King Fenella Davies Alexia Ross Julie Pocock	27th of August 12th of August 26th of September 16th of September 22nd of September 6th of September
Nick Ffoulkes Jones Jo Hodges Dorothy Simcox	14th of July 3rd of August 6th of August	