



DRIVING START BACK FIRST WEEK

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PERRY GROUP NEWSLETTER WINTER 2008 – Issue 30

**Editor's Note – the Group is now celebrating its 30th issue of the Newsletter.
Does anyone have any comments/ideas/contributions for future editions?**

The Group has certainly had a busy year and been in the press and even on the tv several times. Although it may seem as if we are preaching to the converted, we have to keep telling people what a great job we do. You would be amazed how many folk still have no idea that we do anything other than lead ponies round in circles!

VAULTING

Numbers of vaulters go from strength to strength. Sam Gant and Jane went to the Corbet School in November to run a Focus Day for the 125 Year 7 youngsters (not all at once!) split into 6 groups. Taking the barrel horse and a few of the games that Sam encourages the vaulters to play as warm up exercises, we were able to give them an idea of how much of a fun activity it can be.

DRIVING

Every effort is being made to encourage new people to join our driving groups, both Wednesday and Friday mornings. Here again the Group needs to publicise the activities that it puts on for people and to try to spread the word about the excellent horses, the up to date equipment and the professional efficiency of the driving volunteers. If you know anyone whom you feel might benefit from learning a new skill, getting some fresh air and engaging in a lot of social interaction with some extremely welcoming volunteers, then please mention us to them.

Why not leave this Newsletter somewhere where someone else might pick it up and read it?

FUND RAISING

A number of amazing fund raising initiatives have taken place since the Autumn Newsletter was sent out.

* A fantastically successful Plant Sale was held at Hall Farm Nurseries by Christine and Nick Foulkes Jones raising the sum of £ **1,800** Chris and Nick took the opportunity to announce they have been invited to create a 40th Anniversary RDA Garden for Chelsea 2011. The queue is already forming for volunteers for that stand!!

* The Quiz Night at Nesscliff was a brilliant night of fun and raised £**800** well done to everyone who helped organise it, Trevor White was our Quiz master, many thanks to him, Anona, Dawn, Sam, Holly, Julie and Kotti

* Bag Packing at Asda was well supported by a lot of our volunteers and vaulters and raised £**680** especial thanks to Avril for delivering and collecting Miracle the pony, despite being very unwell herself.

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* A sponsored ride in very wet and windy weather took place on Sunday 23rd November but luckily it was around Nesscliff Hill so walkers, riders and horses were mostly in the lee of the hill and we didn't get very wet at all. £500 was raised by that venture. Well done to everyone who has been selling raffle tickets for the draw that will take place at our Christmas Lunch on Thursday 18th December at Nesscliff Village Hall. There will be a chance to pick up a ticket there if you have missed to get one and the 2009 Group Calendars with some fantastic photographs will be on sale as well. The lunch is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and other volunteers as well as being a very good meal prepared for us by Louise Cooke.

VAULTERS

Very well done for all your help with the Bag Packing and the Sponsored Ride. Keep your eyes out for a notice on a Barrel Competition in the New Year.

VOLUNTEERS

Interested Volunteers are warmly invited along to view a session and meet our members.

Detailed is a list of Committee members, everyone is very friendly and helpful and if you need to know anything, please ask. We are only too willing to include you on the fund raising sub committee, or onto our volunteer training programmes – Instructor training/AB Whip training/First Aid and Child Protection courses are currently covered.



CHRISTMAS



Very Best Wishes to all our friends and supporters for this Christmas and the New Year

Please note you are warmly invited to Carol Sing with us in Montford Bridge on the evening of Sunday 22nd December. We are invited back afterwards to David and Suzanne Evans' house for mince pies and punch.

BIRTHDAYS

December – 6th Tracey Pritchard, 14th Megan French, 18th Chris Cooper and Kim Henderson (Drivers) 23rd Jane Wynne (Driver) 24th Delphine Wise (Rider), 30th Kirsty Dallow and Katherine Pyper (Drivers)

January – 9th Sandra Cook (Driver) 18th Jenny Ekstein

February – 4th Emily Neville and Jill Harrison, 13th Angus Hannagan, 21st Rosemary Salter