

NEWSLETTER

| Spring 2019

Welcome to our new format newsletter, as always life has been busy at South Bucks RDA, we hope you enjoy reading all about it.

Breaking News

On Sunday 13th January at about midnight we had our third break-in in as many months. Three thieves damaged fencing (potentially allowing our horses onto the main road); internal doors and walls and stole our quad bike. We will have to replace the quad bike, mend the broken fences and doors, and upgrade our security system, all at great cost to the group. Without the quad bike staff and volunteers are working hard and doing a lot by hand, such as poo picking the fields (that's about two-wheel barrows of poo per field per day). As you all know we receive no external funding and rely totally on donations and lesson fees, if you can help in anyway please let us know, we have a JustGiving page to raise funds www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/helen-burt-2.

Group News

The Very Reverend Roger Royle hosted our bi-annual Carol Service on the 9th December, a great time was had by all and our thanks go to everyone who helped with the organisation and were part of the evening.



Katie Ells has joined the South Bucks team working Monday, Friday and Sunday. Please say hello.

Working party, we are in desperate need of some help to clear and tidy a number of different areas at the stables, if you can help please can you email us on info@southbucksrda.org, when we have some volunteers we will arrange a few hours to meet up. Thank you.

Di and Helen attended the Bucks Sporting Lunch Club in association with SportAid to network and talk to local people and businesses about what we do.



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In the next month we will have new marketing leaflets about what we do at South Bucks, they will cover: Volunteering, Horses and Ponies, The Benefits of Riding, Working with SEND Schools and Fundraising. We would like to use these to spread the word, so if you would like to see them or have contacts who might be interested please let Emma (Saturday Instructor) or Helen know.

On the 25th October we hosted an evening demonstration for members of the Burnham Beeches Rotary Club. 38 members enjoyed watching Bryony Moss Riding Lambrusco, Jess Phillips riding Mabel and a special demonstration by Julie Payne riding Athene re-creating the magic of her Gold medal winning freestyle to music test from the Europeans last year. The Rotary Club are long term supporters of South Bucks and we are very grateful for their help.

Riders



Jess and Mabel came a close 3rd at the Silver Para Summer Championships. Jess was the youngest competitor and has now qualified for the Winter Championships in February.

Harry (and his trusty steed Harley) are now being mentored by International show jumper Trevor Breen who came to South Bucks RDA to give Harry a masterclass and a few mementos.



Bryony who rides on Saturday is one of the 50 Faces of RDA. This is an externally facing publicity campaign celebrating RDA's 50th anniversary in 2019. The campaign '50 faces' will comprise 50 portrait photographs of people within our organisation who challenge the perceptions of disability, volunteering or equestrian sport. The resulting portraits will form an interactive collage which will be used as a focal point for the RDA website, media campaign and social media throughout our 50th. RDA National came to interview and photo Bryony with Billy.

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Horses



Billy was bought for us with funds raised by the Mayor of Hillingdon and he came to present Billy with a stable plaque and rug ably assisted by Beverly. We are very grateful to have been given the funding to buy such a lovely horse and for the continued support we are receiving.

Our amazing and lovely Lambrusco is **RDA Horse of the Year 2018**, he won this prestigious award for all the work he has done with our riders and para riders during his long career. Helen put on her posh frock and went to the RDA Gala Dinner to accept the award on his behalf. There is a lovely video on YouTube about Lambrusco www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm4gRMA-3l0.



Schools

The Shanley Foundation kindly supported our schools with funds so that they can continue to ride at South Bucks RDA. During the week five schools bring riders to us: Claytons, Manor Green, Meadow High, Coteford and Arbour Vale. If you can volunteer in the week or have ideas how we can raise funds to support the schools to bring children to ride, please let us know.

Training

On the 28th October we held a Judges Training Day which was led by John Robinson, this was for people who want to judge dressage tests and Regional and National level. Thanks to Pav, Shera, Natasha and Harry who came and rode their tests and our helpers who prepared the horses.

Dates for your diary - 2019

Proficiency Test Training Day for Instructors, at South Bucks – 24th February – **helpers needed!**

Quiz Night at St. Teresa's Church, Beaconsfield (behind Waitrose) – Saturday 2nd March
(Contact: Theresa.drake@southbucksrda.org)

Robert Pickles Training for volunteers and staff at South Bucks – 11th April

Slough Together Walk – 4th May – a lovely walk whilst fundraising for the Group.

Regional Show at Wellington Riding Centre -19th May

RDA National Championships at Hartpury College – 12th – 14th July

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SBRDA Fundraising Committee

There are huge costs associated with running any riding school, most charge for lessons at a rate that will cover those costs and also make a profit, at South Bucks RDA we do things differently, we want to make riding as accessible as possible for as many people as we can and so try to keep the costs of lessons as low as we can.

One of the ways we do this is by fundraising, this helps to towards the costs of lessons, the day to day running costs of the yard and to look after our wonderful horses and ponies to name but a few, we have an enthusiastic and dedicated fundraising committee made up of SBRDA volunteers, parents, staff, friends, a rider and trustees. The fundraising committee meet once every 6 weeks and organise or help to organise several events through the year, we also attend other events to raise money and awareness for SBRDA and generally do anything we can to raise some money.

If you have any ideas or can help in any way please let us know, if you are doing a sponsored event or your company helps charities in any way and would be prepared to help us then again please let us know, we will have a regular slot on the Newsletters to let you know what we are doing so please keep an eye out for us.

The fundraising committee can be reached via the yard on 01753 662796 or alan.lawrence@southbucksrda.org . Thank you, Alan Lawrence, Trustee Fundraising

Farm and Stable made a donation of £500 and gave us a HayGain, worth £1300 which steams hay for the horses, so it is easier to digest. They came to visit and handover a cheque so who better to accept it than The RDA Horse of the Year himself assisted by Helen and Sophie.



The South Bucks Running Group - Emma Moore and Jenny Clarke gave up their Boxing Day morning to help at the Boxing Day Park Run held at Black Park. It was organised by Fred Ashford and it was Fred's choice to select South Bucks RDA as the charity to support in exchange for a couple of people to help-out on the day. They raised an incredible £700.

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Upcoming Fundraising Events

Quiz Night - The Tolmie family are back in action on the **Saturday 2nd March** at St. Teresa's Church Beaconsfield (behind Waitrose), running another of their very successful Quiz Nights. Please come along, it is a fun evening and a great fundraiser for the group, tickets are £8 per person, for further information please contact Theresa.drake@southbucksrda.org.

Slough Together Walk, this is a great way to raise funds for the Group, it is a 6-mile walk leaving Upton Park in Slough and finishing in the grounds of Eton College, the course is mainly flat and dogs are welcome. Members of the Fundraising Committee have walked for South Bucks for the past few years raising £2500 through sponsorship, £500 of this was matched by Apple, it would be lovely to have more people involved. This year's walk is on the **4th May 2019**. If you would like to join the walk and raise funds for South Bucks, please contact Jayne Stevens at hannah.jessica@hotmail.co.uk.

And please don't forget

Crowd Funding for the break in - www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/helen-burt-2

Easy Fundraising - www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/southbucksrda

Chiltern and South Bucks Lottery - www.chilternsouthbuckslottery.co.uk/support/south-bucks-riding-for-the-disabled-group

Thank you to N20 for their continued support, photocopying our newsletter



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