

# South Bucks RDA NEWSLETTER

| Autumn/Winter 2020

## A BIG Thank you

To all the helpers, parents, and riders for your amazing efforts with Fundraising during this very difficult time. There have been sponsored walks, runs and cycle rides as well as collections of tins and clothes, car boot sales and just straight forward donations. So many of you have been involved, so thank you all so much. It might have to continue for some time to come so please keep it happening to care for our wonderful horses and ponies.

And for your understanding during this difficult time, we are abiding by Government and RDA National guidelines and will keep everyone updated as we travel this journey together.

**Di – Group Chairman**

---

## A note from Caro our Centre Manager

After weeks of uncertainty and lockdowns we welcomed back 32 riders. Sadly, those of you who need more assistance mounting and dismounting are currently unable to return. You are greatly missed.



We are thrilled to welcome back several volunteers which is such a treat. As always, we can't thank you enough for all the help and support you continue to show us. For those of you who have been unable to return and would like to visit the yard and see the horses, we'd love to see you. Please contact us when we are open again and we will arrange times for you to come and visit.



We arranged some grooming days as another opportunity for those of you who are not yet back riding and will hopefully have more dates in the diary soon.

All the horses/ponies are happy and well and of course behaving.



## Our riders are still achieving



### RDA Brilliant Person Award 2020 Winner

## Teagan Murphy

National RDA brought out a special award this year for people who had made a great effort in these strange times, we nominated Teagan Murphy for her amazing fundraising during lockdown. We are really pleased to announce that Teagan won the junior section.

Teagan like many other riders at SBRDA really missed riding and interacting with the ponies during lock down. She was also very concerned that we would struggle to fund feeding and caring for the horses. She decided that she wanted to do her bit to raise much needed funds for the group.

She came up with the idea of a sponsored cycle ride. Teagan had only recently started to gain confidence riding a bike a short way, having dyspraxia, the co-ordination needed both to ride a bike or a horse is a great challenge to her. Her aim was to cycle 55km between 22<sup>nd</sup> May and 6<sup>th</sup> June. During each ride Teagan wore her South Bucks RDA outfit and a great smile to show people who she was raising funds for.

Teagan had set herself a £200 goal, however she actually raised sponsorship of £1380. Congratulations to Teagan and her family for such a great effort. It is great to see her smile again in our limited opening.



Emma and River were very successful in three days of competition at the Keysoe International Para Competition. River took everything in his stride and behaved like a true gentleman. Emma was a cool, calm competitor and it was a very enjoyable experience for all concerned.

| SBRDA Autum/Winter 2020

**Volunteers!**

**Thank you** to all our volunteers: for staying committed to us; for keeping in touch and sending us ideas; for taking part in our online activities, and those of South Region RDA; and for most importantly returning to duty as we have slowly resumed some of our activity – South Bucks RDA is incredibly lucky to have such a loyal and committed team.

Emma organised Zoom sessions for helpers & riders to keep in touch



Carol entered the South Region online competitions - and won a rosette - whohooo!

There were plenty of entries for the helper 'Guess Who?' on our Facebook page!



## | SBRDA Autumn/Winter 2020



and finally, volunteers were back, after several months of no activity, with riders and ponies.

### A few bits and pieces

Please remember to keep an eye out for emails from South Bucks, we will keep you posted on the latest information for riders and volunteers. You can also find out what is happening by following our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SouthBucksRDA/>.

If you have questions or queries about how we are remaining COVID-19 compliant email the office [Enquiries@southbucks.org](mailto:Enquiries@southbucks.org) and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Theresa is part of the National working party that looks at how we can carry on activities as safely as possible. The RDA's motto is "*It's what you can do that counts*" and they are aiming for this at all times.

There will be an order for South Bucks Clothing very soon, watch out for an email from Gina.

And just because we all love him, what a lovely picture of an incredibly special horse, taken by Rose of Daydream Equine Art,



## The all-important Fundraising

For a few years now we have needed to replace both kitchens at the yard, the one in the stables that is used mainly by staff and volunteers and the one in the classroom used by everybody, I believe I'm right in saying the classroom kitchen has been there over 40 years, and was Di's Mum's before we had it so it really does deserve a rest.

Over recent months our focus has been on the classroom kitchen as this is used by staff, volunteers and an area where our riders, parents and carers can go, we also have other plans to expand services offered by SBRDA which warrant the replacement of the kitchen facilities.

We have been incredibly fortunate to secure a donation from the Vinci Foundation of £7,421.00 to carry out this work, Dave Belshaw, a Group Manager for Bachy Soletanche (part of the Vinci Group) and the Dad of our rider Luca, put us forward for this and sponsored our application, Dave spoke to me back at the beginning of 2020 suggesting we should apply, the Trustee's put together and submitted the application and with a lot of work from the Trustee's and Dave we now have the money in our account.

Phil Hines, Bachy Soletanche UK Group Managing Director visited the yard on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October and presented Di with the cheque, the Trustee's and everybody at SBRDA would like to thank Phil, Dave and the Vinci Foundation for all their hard work and generosity.



We have a couple of volunteers going into the yard over the Christmas break to remove the old kitchen and Ashford Kitchens and Interiors of Farnham Common will be installing the new kitchen in January 2021.

## | SBRDA Autumn/Winter 2020

We also have people who kindly ran the virtual London Marathon for us this year, Fionnuala French, Brian Webber and Elaine McLellen have so far raised £4,836.69 including gift aid.

Mark Moore of the Burnham Joggers ran the Boston Virtual Marathon and raised £1000, these are fantastic amounts of money that are very much needed, I'm sure that running the virtual marathons must be more difficult than the normal run around London and Boston, there are no crowds willing you on, a totally different atmosphere and no masses of runners around you giving that all important support, so I think extra thanks are required here for the achievements of these supporters of SBRDA.



As a fundraising committee we have been very quiet, we are used to having meetings once every 6 weeks, organising and being part of local events and tack sales etc, none of which have taken place, we had a predicted target of £20,000.00 for this year which based on previous years and the major increase in planned events for this year really was achievable, in reality we have missed the target by miles as practically all events were cancelled..

This said we have not been inactive, Jayne Stevens and Selina Scott that did the Slough Walk Together as they do every year, they raised a fantastic £3000.00.



Emma Moore has been doing car boot sales where she can and dealing with most of the cash4clothes collections which again has raised a good amount of money and is still going, we are also still collecting tin cans which we will scrap at the end of the year, so if you can collect them please do, we need drinks cans and food cans, they do have to be washed out, have the labels taken off and be crushed for us to take them but the money we will get from this will help.

| SBRDA Autumn/Winter 2020



We have a slot booked for the Hazlemere Christmas Fair on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at Hazlemere Golf Club, this is a socially distanced event where a controlled amount of people will be allowed entry for a timed period, we will be selling all sorts of items that Emma and her family have been making, Christmas decorations that Jen makes and face masks that Theresa has made amongst other things.

Christmas cards are now available, they come in packs of 6 and are excellent value at £3.00 a pack, every penny these bring in goes directly to SBRDA, in each pack you'll find 2 Forrester, 2 Harley and 2 Lambrusco all looking very festive, thank you to Emma Moore for supplying the cards and taking the photos, Emma's daughter Hannah for the artwork, design and getting them printed, also thank you to Rosy Cox and Buchanan Dean Design in Bourne End for discounting the printing and also then buying some of the cards from us. Contact Emma if you would like purchase cards [emma-moore.72@outlook.com](mailto:emma-moore.72@outlook.com)



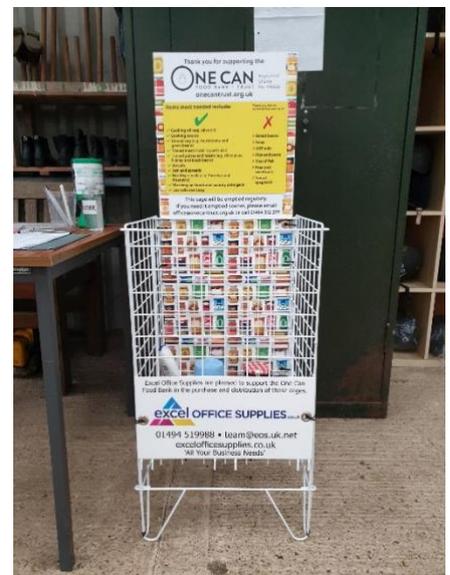
Judith Moore has completed a sponsored bike ride for us, we still have money coming in from this but so far it stands at around £1000.00, so our thanks go out to Judith and her supporters for a great effort.

Francis Gahan who for those of you that don't know him is one of our old rider and a great guy, has been helping with some fund raising ideas and is heavily involved in organising a three day bucket collection in Tesco, Slough in 2021, Francis can often be seen around in his SBRDA baseball cap and also advertises us on the wheels of his wheelchair, he's supported us for many, many years and is a good friend of many of us at the yard.

| SBRDA Autumn/Winter 2020

As long as restrictions allow, we will be back out at fundraising events in 2021, we have a plan and lots of the events we have attended in the past have been in touch with me already to ask us if we want slots, some have asked us to attend with a pony, we used to take the legendary Forrester with us but he's done more than his fair share and deserves a rest so Pip attended the last one with us and as long as Caro and our instructors can free Pip up he will be helping us pull the crowds in at future outside events, he is a bit of a poser and seems to like all the attention he gets especially if the person giving the attention has a piece of apple in their hand.

On the gallery in the indoor arena you'll see there is now a One Can food bank cage, if you can spare a can here and there then please do, One Can are a registered charity operating throughout South Bucks providing emergency food parcels for people in crisis, their work is so important at all times but more so at the moment given the current situation with Covid, Jo Belshaw (our rider Luca's Mum) is a representative of One Can and I think it's a great thing when a charity such as South Bucks RDA can help another local charity such as One Can.



South Bucks RDA Group  
 Is Your Christmas Party Cancelled?  
 Help our horses and ponies  
**EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY**  
 By donating the unused cost of your party to us!  
 Donations can be made through  
[www.uk.virginmoneygiving.com](http://www.uk.virginmoneygiving.com)  
 South Buckinghamshire Riding for the Disabled Group  
**THANK YOU FROM**  
 Lambrusco, Harley, Forester, Billy B, Billy G,  
 Pip, Wolfie, Tru, Bruce, Mabel, Mickey & Duke  
[www.southbucksrda.org](http://www.southbucksrda.org)

If you work for a business that has cancelled the Christmas party this year? Please nominate South Bucks RDA to benefit from the money that would have been spent on the annual event. Donations can be made directly to our Virgin MoneyGiving page:  
<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/donation-web/charity...>



## | SBRDA Autumn/Winter 2020

Emma (Instructor) is running a fundraising webinar about how to have Career Conversations. This is on 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. Contact Emma on [emmaford@coaching4careers.co.uk](mailto:emmaford@coaching4careers.co.uk).



Please remember that there are several different and easy ways to help us raise funds:

Amazon Smile – [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk)

Easy Fundraising - [www.Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.Easyfundraising.org.uk)

Our thanks go out to everybody who has in any way raised or donated money to us, we have had some really encouraging support and received some great sums but believe me we have like many other charities missed out this year, you can see from what I've mentioned above that we have been lucky with what we have received for which we are very grateful but it's a far cry from where we would usually be, if you hear of anything which may help us or you have any ideas then please do not hesitate to contact me, details below, I'm always up for a chat about SBRDA.

Thanks

Alan Lawrence

Trustee & Chair of Fundraising

[alanlawrence5@btinternet.com](mailto:alanlawrence5@btinternet.com)

07881 950147



| SBRDA Autum/Winter 2020

Finally.....a few happy memories, we hope to see everyone very soon





Registered Charity No: 1136630  
01753 662796 or email [enquiries@southbucksrda.org](mailto:enquiries@southbucksrda.org)

