

Newsletter of the Dial Wood Carriage Driving Group

Spring/Summer 2018.

There is something rather special about the smells of freshly mown grass, warm canvas, hoof oil and seasoned leather. Is it because it reminds us it's Summer, the show season is here, and for those who love ponies the weekends are full of promise....

'LOTSA BOTTLE!'

The first event to 'kick off' the show season was **Overton Gala** a successful event inspite of a Royal Wedding and an F A Cup final! Undeterred Audrey and Andrew set up the Bottle Tombola, Lucky Dip and Hook a Duck. The weather was kind and the show had a great family atmosphere. A very respectable £108.00 was raised for Dial Wood. We may also be in line to receive some proceeds from the Gala itself.



In addition a new volunteer, who came over for a chat at the Gala, has now joined the group. Fran has already attended a training session at WRDA and helped with mucking out.

'WHEN THE WIND BLOWS...'

Even when blustery conditions mean we can't drive clients are able to enjoy the diversity of what we have to offer . Carol enjoyed an afternoon long reining Little Splash complimenting her driving skills with some ground work. Carol has already passed her Grade 1. Driving test and is working towards Grade 2. Ruth joined her in the arena putting Big Splash through his paces.



AND THE FORECAST LOOKS GOOD...

We have always been at the mercy of the weather here at Dial Wood, but all that is set to change this Summer when we hope to erect a classroom on the yard to offer clients the opportunity for pony based education sessions whatever the weather.

Permission has been given by HMP New Hall to site the classroom at the back of the stables and Cummins have once again stepped in to help laying planings for the foundations, as well as erecting our new carriage shed and painting the stable block.

SOCIAL EVENING

The Social evening scheduled for February, but cancelled because of snow went ahead on Friday 4th May. It was a lovely opportunity to relax with volunteers old and new. Julie prepared a Photo Quiz and a marvellous Twentieth Anniversary cake, and Audrey gave out certificates to those who had achieved

various goals over the last twelve months. A tombola and Pin the tail on the Donkey game added to the evenings entertainment.

FUND RAISING NEWS:

The Summer is always a busy time for fund raising, do come and support us at all our shows. This year we are 'getting crafty' with a selection of equine related items gracing our stalls. Our beautiful painted horseshoes are always popular, but we are trying other items too. If you feel inspired share your ideas with the group.

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

Well I think it's fair to say that Little Tonto is having the time of his life with new pal Ellie, the two have become the best of friends and enjoy time together in their field over at Haigh. They are planning to do a sponsored walk in memory of Lucy the Shetland. Contact the group for more details if you wish to sponsor the adorable duo or indeed take part.



ROCK ON TOMMY!

Sunday client Tommy is working towards his Grade 1 Driving test which he hopes to achieve over the Summer. Tommy loves driving Duncan and his good strong voice shows Duncan he means business. Good Luck Tommy...You can do it!

TRAINING:

Volunteers have enjoyed a number of training sessions recently, among them a riding therapy training session at Wakefield RDA attended by Audrey, Andrew, Julie, Chris, Wendy and Fran. Dial Wood hopes to offer pony / riding therapy as well as Carriage driving, in the not too distant future and volunteers are being encouraged to take part in this new and exciting venture.

Sunday Volunteer Holly has recently added to her driving skills by enjoying some carriage driving experience away from the Group, spending an afternoon at Red House Stables under the watchful eye of Caroline Dale Leach.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERARY

Well this September Dial Wood is officially twenty years old. So much has been achieved in this time and the group would love to celebrate this milestone anniversary with some sort of event. Do you have any ideas? If so let us know.

EVENTS LIST

SUNDAY 24TH JUNE – HORBURY SHOW

SATURDAY 28TH JULY – WOOLLEY HORSE SHOW

SATURDAY 4TH AUGUST – EMLEY SHOW

<u>SUNDAY 19TH AUGUST – WRDA HORSE & DOG SHOW</u>

Advent fair - To be Confirmed

DATE OF NEXT NEWSLETTER Our next Newsletter is Scheduled for September. Articles should be forwarded to Chris.

