

Newsletter of the Dial Wood Carriage Driving Group

#### **SUMMER 2021**

With the tentative promise that all current restrictions will be lifted by 19<sup>th</sup> July, the Dial Wood team is looking forward to doing what it does best, creating opportunities for fun, learning, achievement and therapy with the help of our fabulous team both two legged and four legged.

## **WELCOME BACK!**

What an absolute delight it has been to welcome back, albeit with a few extra health and safety measures, our wonderful participants old and new.



Nina can't contain her delight at being back in the company of her friend Little Splash

We are unable to carriage drive at present, though we have been able to offer some riding as part of our popular pony therapy sessions.

Participants have also enjoyed grooming our boys, taking them for walks, or tackling obstacle courses in the arena, learning about pony welfare and just enjoying the happy and relaxed atmosphere at the yard. Being with ponies has a very positive impact on mental health and general well being. It has been a tough eighteen months, but as these photographs clearly demonstrate, ponies really are the best medicine.



New participant Sammi has a go at mane plaiting.

Duncan was certainly glad to see Grahame and Khan during a recent visit.



Duncan seems to be serenading his friends or is it Grahame's sun tan lotion!

#### **BLOOMING LOVELY!**

A big thank you goes to volunteer Merriam and her mum Lindy who have donated some beautiful flowers and hanging baskets for us to sell.

This in turn inspired some rather clever upcycling turning old hats into fun and attractive hanging hat baskets. Why not treat yourself or a friend.

Some of our volunteers have got to work clearing the yard and making it look really smart for the months ahead.



Craig presents Dial Wood's very own flower show!

# **GRAND DRAW.**

Dial Wood is delighted to announce that the tickets for our Annual Grand Draw are now on sale. They are just £1.00 per ticket and there are some fabulous prizes to be had, including a Yorkshire Mini Break, Original Art Work, choice of Luxury Hampers, Cinema Tickets and lots more.

The draw will take place early December so plenty of time to buy some tickets or sell some to help raise funds for Dial Wood

#### **ADOPT A PONY**

Dial Wood's Adopt a Pony Scheme is a great way to help us. For just £19.99 you will receive a framed picture of your chosen pony plus regular newsletters and pony letters.

## **WONDERFUL WEBSITE**

At last our much awaited wonderful new website is up and running. It's a great place to learn more about the group, view some fantastic photographs and download application forms for both potential Volunteers and Participants. View us on www.dialwoodrda.co.uk

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Big Congratulations to Terri, who has finished her Asdan project which has now gone to RDA national Office for moderation. Well done Terri for all your hard work.

#### **NEW VOLUNTEERS.**

A big Welcome to our recent new volunteers.

Your contribution to our group is really appreciated.

#### RIDE OR DRIVE?

Our boys have been demonstrating recently just how versatile they are.



And Finally.....

## **A DRIVING FORCE**

The passing of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in April reminded us of his role as an Ambassador for Carriage Driving as a sport. It was also a time to reflect on the continued success of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme through which Dial Wood has provided volunteering opportunities for many candidates and hopes to do so for many more years to come RIP Sir, your legacy lives on.

## DATE OF NEXT NEWSLETTER:-

SEPTEMBER 2021.

**ALL ARTICLES TO CHRIS.** 

