



Registered Charity No:
1098257

The Horse Rangers Association's Newsletter

Founders Day 2012

This year's Founder's Day took place on Saturday 25 February 2012 at Hampton Court Palace. Over 200 members marched in the glorious sunshine from Hampton Court Green (next to the car park), past the Mews and into Hampton Court Palace.

Family, friends and the general public admired the fantastic Ranger uniforms and well turned out horses. One young spectator was heard to say "Are they Royal?"

The Founders Day service took place in the Chapel at Hampton Court Palace, which is the same venue as our Carol Service in December. The parade then marched back to the green where members were dismissed and invited back to the Mews for refreshments.

A **BIG** thank you to all the members that took part and the parents and friends that came to support them. Thanks also to Starbucks for providing us with coffee and the volunteers who baked cakes.



Check out the photo's from the day on our Facebook page.



Did you know...

The Horse Rangers Association was founded in 1954 by Raymond Gordon and was originally based in Shepperton. Through Royal connections, the charity relocated to the Royal Mews, Hampton Court in the 1960s.

Raymond Gordon's vision was to enable young people, who would not otherwise have the opportunity, to learn to look after and ride horses.

Our Founders Day Parade is to celebrate Raymond Gordon's birthday and the unique organisation that we all know and love today. It is a key event in the Rangers calendar, if you have not seen it before please come and support us at the 2013 parade. For dates and more information visit our events page on the Rangers website.

Update from the yard

Tilly

Tilly is continuing her appointments at LEH for remedial shoeing. To help keep her sound and more comfortable Tilly has been on a diet since the end of June! To date she has lost 56kg, a fantastic amount. Tilly definitely wins slimmer of the year!



Krystal

Krystal underwent Platelet Enhancement Therapy in January on a torn check ligament in her right foreleg. This treatment will aid healing and speed up her recovery time. Her follow up scan in February showed the ligament was 70% healed. The vet advised that she could gradually start walk exercise and is now up to one hour daily. Her next scan is at the end of April, so fingers crossed!



Tom Jones

Tom is the new addition to the Ranger family. He arrived on Tuesday 13 March and is a 14.2hh, 7 year old, light weight cob. He is very affectionate and friendly and has settled in to Ranger life really well.



This picture was taken on his first day out in the field.

Yard inspections

In March we had two annual inspections. The first was by the BHS (British Horse Society) to be an approved riding centre. We were rated 'Highly Commended' or 'Commended' for each category.

The second inspection was by a vet, on behalf of Richmond Council, for being a registered riding stables, which we passed with flying colours, achieving above the standard required.

Well done to Theresa and the stable staff who always keep the yard and horses looking so fabulous.

Our new Squadron!

Eight lucky children have become pioneers at HRA – they're the first members of the brand new Number 7 Squadron, for children with special needs, which started on 4 April.

Everyone at Rangers knows about the exciting and valuable work of Number Squadron 6, HRA's dedicated Special Needs Section. This group runs as a member of the RDA (Riding for the Disabled Association) and relies on 80 volunteers each week to provide riding opportunities to children and vulnerable adults with a wide range of abilities. But for children with special needs who also attend mainstream school, these daytime sessions are not possible.

No. 7 Squadron will run on Wednesday evenings throughout the year at the Mews. Like Squadrons 1 to 5, children will spend alternate weeks learning to ride and caring for our horses. It's headed up by Jo O'Sullivan, who has helped with our No. 4 and No. 6 Squadrons, and Elle Garside from No. 2 Squadron. As well as volunteers who are new to HRA, they also have the support of lots of great young volunteers from the other Squadrons.



Volunteers

Bob Bradsell

News from the Mews would like to wish Bob Bradsell a very happy 80th birthday. Bob is an extremely valued volunteer who gives up his time every Thursday to help with number 6 Squadron, our Special Needs Section. Bob also helps our week staff on Tuesdays and Thursday, mucking out and exercising the horses. Happy Birthday Bob.



Alastair Yates

News from the Mews would also like to welcome Alastair Yates to the team. Alastair is the new Head of Communications for the organisation. He comes to us from BBC TV News where he presented for over 20 years.



Jack Petchey Achievements

Thanks to the Jack Petchey Foundation's support we are able to seek 9 nominations for Rangers to receive a Jack Petchey Achievement Award during 2012.



The first ever winner of was Serena Carter from Number 1 Squadron who landed a £200 cash prize.

Serena was chosen by her peers for being welcoming and helpful to new and younger members and also for being an informative and inspirational leader to others.

She must spend the windfall on something which will benefit a group of her Horse Ranger friends. So, the young rider decided on a Musical Ride lesson for 16 children in her squadron.

Serena said, "I wanted to help as many people as possible and find something different from our normal activities. The dressage-style lesson will be a fantastic reward and give us a chance to challenge our riding skills."



The second winner of the year went to Number 2 Squadron Maisie Goodson. Maisie said, "I was so surprised to win and am really excited to spend the money on things that Horse Rangers don't usually get a chance to buy. I am very honoured".

Both awards are part of a £65 million pound sum of money, which businessman Jack Petchey has donated since setting up his Foundation in 1999.

His philanthropy recognises the positive, inspiring and important contributions that young people make to our society.

A ride to remember

The first fundraising ride to Oxshott Woods took place on Easter Monday. Theresa Barrett, Stable Manager escorted seven members and two stable staff to Oxshott for a fun but fast ride!



Although the weather was a little damp both riders and horses had a great day whilst raising £350 for the organisation.

The ride was open to all senior Rangers and Instructors. Theresa hopes to organise a second ride in the summer. We will keep you posted with more details when they are available.



Fanatical about fundraising

Natwest count on us!

Thanks to all of our Rangers, friends, volunteers, and supporters who voted for us in the NatWest Bank initiative - "Community Force" which gave local community groups the opportunity to win £6,000 ... and **We Won!**



Picture from left to right:

Rachel Brenton Natwest, Victoria Padolsey RDA Group Instructor, Emily Messenger on Nancy, Heather Mower RDA Group Instructor, Alice Whale RDA Volunteer, Ben Bedford on Blackie and Mark Croucher Natwest.

Horse Rangers applied to CommunityForce to help with the costs of our Special Needs Section. CommunityForce, which forms part of the Bank's Customer Charter, offers organisations more than just financial support. NatWest staff are also getting involved by volunteering their time and expertise.

Mazars Charitable Trust

Squadron 3 Officer Sarah Carne kindly nominated our special needs section to benefit from her employer's charitable trust. At the end of March we received a cheque from Mazars Charitable Trust for £250 which will fund one of our RDA classes next term. Mazars offer their staff the opportunity each year to nominate charities to benefit from their trust and this is the second time Sarah has nominated Rangers to benefit from the fund. Two years ago Mazars made a donation to help fund Disney's training during his first year at the Mews.

Thank you Sarah.

Could your company support us?

We are always keen to hear from businesses and companies that would like to support us. Please call our office on 020 8979 4196 for an informal chat.

Dates for your diary

Number 6 Squadron Open Day
Friday 29 June

Awards Day
Sunday 1 July

Check out our website and Facebook page for more events and information.

New sponsor

News from the Mews would like to say a huge thank you to Hedley Foundation and the Sylvia Waddilove Foundation for the recent grant money. This has enabled us to buy 'Tom Jones' our new horse and all his equipment. Read the 'Up-date from the yard' to find out more about Tom.



Do you shop at Tesco?

Please collect the Tesco Vouchers for schools and clubs and give them to one of your officers at the weekend.



Stay tuned!

Keep up-to-date with all the latest Horse Ranger news ...



Visit our new website
horserangers.com

Alternatively, if you have a smart phone just scan the QR code!



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