

Acorn & Squirrels of Exeter Newsletter- March 2020

Not a good way to start this Newsletter with the news of the closure of the Group because of the dreadful Coronavirus. It is such a terrible thing to have happened and so hard on all of us and our riders. Our three ponies are the ones that are happy being out in the field with the sun on their backs! When we will be back doing what is so rewarding and fulfilling I don't know, but as soon as we are we are going to have a really good celebration!!

Our term has been quite up and down with illness, broken down mini buses, bad behaviour, a lame pony and of course lots of fun. Logan is back after this broken leg but because Sooty was lame he had to ride Corbett a couple of times. The 9.30 to 10 Tuesday ride is full up with six of our youngest riders. This session goes from strength to strength and all the riders benefit so much. Even Lilly who had a bit of a wobbly in the middle of term finished the term on a high. The school now bring just five riders which is working really well. Wednesdays sessions are all full and we have one new rider, Laurie, who comes with the Tavistock Group and although quite timid she is happy once riding Tor. Just a mention of Daisy, she is fine but having a bit of a stand-off with Tor and Sooty is definitely not a friend of Daisy! We are still looking for a new pony to replace Will.

Suzie Jo, one of our totally blind riders from Tuesday mornings, wrote a lovely story for the RDA National Story Writing Competition. I'm not sure if judging will now take place but if it does it would be great if she got a mention. I have attached a copy!

Sooty has been lame on and off during the term so we decided to get Jonathan Wood, the vet, to X-ray his hock. He has some thickening of the bone which could be the start of a spavin or arthritis. He has had an injection into the joint so time off now will give it time to heal.

There were 116 Easter 'treats' in the jar and Lilly's granny guessed 115, couldn't have been closer!!

We had some very welcome donations during the term - these are now much needed as we have no income coming in due to the Covid19.

Again thank you for all your help during the term! Have a very Happy Easter and fingers crossed we will be back riding before not too, too long.

Sue