



Heron's Ghyll Newsletter Summer 2026

As I write this, we are having another few 'heat wave' days. Some love it, others don't, but it's probably safe to say it's lovely to see the sun but not so good if you are busy and have lots to do. Unfortunately we had to cancel our Thursday drive at Burchetts because of the heat. Fingers crossed next week will be a bit cooler.

This is turning out to be quite a packed newsletter with quite a few events to report and many thanks to Jan and Hilary for their contributions.

Recent Events

Heron's Ghyll Quiz Evening



Jan contemplating the score board!



Karen and Maureen -
Don't mention wooden spoons!

Jan said:

Held at East Hoathly village hall, the evening was another successful, and well attended one to chalk up and add to our funds. Once again, it was a tight finish to the end with the (visiting) winners triumphant by one point. Thanks go to the new quiz masters who certainly gave us all something to ponder over and also thanks to Karen for successfully running the raffle and whose team won the ever useful wooden spoons!

Diesel and Dexter



You may have noticed that Diesel and Dexter haven't been at Burchetts for driving days in the last few weeks. They have both now moved from the stables where they have been for some months and are now living quite near each other, enjoying very cosy and somewhat luxury accommodation with access to plenty of grass, care and attention.

Unfortunately Dexter was kicked by one of his new stable mates, but with some vet's treatment, he has recovered well and will soon return to our Thursday driving. Hopefully he has forgiven the lady mare who inflicted his injuries and she will behave nicely in future!

Diesel, meanwhile, has been suffering quite badly from mites which have made his legs very sore. There was concern about swelling on his legs and the vet suggested a course of steroids and a rest from driving for the steroids to take effect. It was noticeable recently that Diesel's legs were much improved. Also the fact that he is out 24 hours a day could be another factor in his legs improving and, as with Dexter, we hope he will be back with us very soon.

Dexter at Burchetts

For a while now, at the end of each driving day, once his harness has been taken off, Dexter needs to scratch an itch and we've noticed rolling is the best way to do this!



Shall I?



Yes! Go for it



Ah! That's better

Hilary's 'Thank You' to Karl



A big shout out to Karl, usually found as Lead for pony Ollie. Karl has been terrific taking home and restoring our RDA broken posts and markers. These are precious items as they are very expensive to replace. So please be kind to our group's equipment, some we have had for a long time which does make them fragile.



Thank you Karl you are a star.



Recent Events

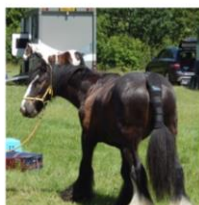
The Oaks Show (held at Burchetts)

Jan said...

A small but happy show run by the local Oaks Driving Club. We had four of our members driving – Mike and Shelley in the Novice Whip, driving Buttons and Ollie with Megan and Michael driving in the Le Trec style competition on the same two ponies. A huge thank you to Sue, Mia and Karl with Ollie and Bella with Buttons for turning out on a Saturday to enable our drivers to try something a little different.

We opened the clubhouse for everyone to use and enjoy some of the catering for which I thank my daughter, Lisa, and volunteer Charmian for running. The weather was kindly with a light breeze keeping everything cool and the judge, Colin Hurd, was impressed by everyone who made such an effort.

A few photos, courtesy of Maureen, taken on the day....



Recent Events



We had a visit from "Inspire" in Eastbourne to have a look at the sort of activity we do on a Thursday morning. Ten of their residents plus four carers enjoyed an hour of observing some driving along with introductions and getting up close and personal with the horses.

Thanks go to Angela and Susanne for collecting Diesel (who was not driving) and allowing those that wanted to brush his mane and feed him mints. They were taken into the back field with Di who explained what Buttons was doing in and out of the cones and gave Jackie a huge round of applause for a clear round.

We may gain one or two newbies to join the group, but even if not, it was a successful hour for them, enjoying being somewhere different, interacting with the horses and enjoying a welcome drink. Apparently they talked of nothing else for the rest of the day!

Jan



Heathfield Show

Towards the end of May, Ollie, Sue Page, Mia and Karl attended the annual Heathfield Show and gave a well received demonstration of what we do at Heron's Ghyll RDA.

Ollie performed brilliantly and seemed to enjoy the limelight, not being phased by all the strange sights and sounds of a proper show.

Many thanks Sue, Mia and Karl for turning out on a Saturday to promote our group.



Heron's Ghyll Driving Group RDA

Registered charity 1073569

'Carriage Driving for People with a Disability'

www.heronsghyll-rda.co.uk