

News Archive

Trust Me, I'm a Dealer

We took part in this new BBC2 series, first episode 6.30pm August 24th, to try to get money for a new pony. Three of the Centre members put up £500 each and we also put a “collectable” forward for this new series, starring Paul Martin, of “Flog It” fame.

Find out what happened – did we lose the personal money that we risked? Did we make enough to fund a new pony? Watch us on the 3rd September and see how we got on.

Regional and National Competitions 2009

Well done to all our riders who competed in the Regional Championships at Oaklands this year.

James H, Ben O, Esa S, Phoebe, Charlotte R, Charlotte D, Edward M, Heidi S, Janet D, Paul D, Anne Y competed on [Sunny](#), Silver, [Huggy Bear](#) and [Muscadeu D'Arbaud](#).

James and Heidi qualified for the National Championships at Hartpury. Unfortunately Heidi was not able to compete on the day. But James got a 2nd and 5th in his classes. Very well done, James!

Hunter Trials 2008

Following the success of the September 2007 Hunter Trials in aid of the Elisabeth Curtis Centre at Hill House Carlton, we held another event on the 11 October, which raised almost £2000 for the Centre.

[Muscadeu d'Arbaud](#), joined us on the 6 October, and was shown on “Look East” and “About Anglia”. He is a Camargue pony, who has travelled on foot, mainly, from France, with his handler, Luke.

[Please visit this website to see their journey.](#)

RDA Regional and National

We attended the RDA Regional and National events, with some success.



and hope to have an Bedfordshire CC Article

An article in “Bedfordshire” where Kyle talks about how the Elisabeth Curtis Centre directed his life.

Our thanks to Bedfordshire County Council, Kyle and his family for allowing us to publish this.

New York Marathon – 7 November 2004 – They finished!!!!

Richard and Karen Hollingsworth ran the New York Marathon in 5hours 02mins and 4hours 50mins respectively. Very Well Done.

National Finals – July 2004

We took Pedro and three riders to the RDA National Finals at Hartpury in Gloucestershire on the 17th and 18th July.

- Kirsty – won 1st in Senior Handy Pony, 2nd in Senior Introduction to Dressage.
- Kevan won 1st in Junior Handy Pony, 2nd in Junior Introduction to Dressage.
- Rosie – won 4th in Junior Handy Pony, 3rd in Introduction to Dressage.

The weather was kind to us – not too hot, cold or windy and the rain held off until after the classes had ended.



Lucy and Rowan, Jan 2004

Lucy, one of the regular helpers on Saturday Morning cross-stitched a beautiful picture of Rowan. See right to see Lucy showing her picture, which took a year to complete, to the handsome boy himself.

National Finals – 2003

Three riders from the Elisabeth Curtis Centre qualified at Wimpole Hall regional competition, to compete at the National Championships at Hartpury College in July.

Pedro went too. He travelled well in one of instructor's trailer and enjoyed his stable on the front corner where he could see everything. All three riders did very well and enjoyed themselves.

Results were:

- Sarah – won 2nd in Working horse and Pony, 4th in Dressage.
- Kyle won 1st in Tack and Turnout, 3rd in Dressage
- John – won 4th in Working Horse and Pony, 6th in Dressage

Open day 2003

Read a fuller [report of this year's open day](#) which raised £500 for the centre in one afternoon.

Wimpole June 8 2003

Some of our riders competed at the area trials at Wimpole Hall, Cambs, in June and 3 of them gained places in the National Finals – see above. Well done, Kyle, Sarah and John.

Special Olympics 2003

One of our riders, Matthew, qualified for the Great Britain Team this year.

Open Day 2001

A [report of our Open Day 2001](#), attended by Alistair Burt

Special Olympics – Cardiff 2001

GOING FOR GOLD – AND WE GOT IT!

Four horse riders, Kyle Bennett-Knell, Matthew Bird, Sharon Foster and Donna Hercock, from the Elisabeth Curtis Centre in Bromham qualified through competition to represent not only the Centre, but also the Eastern Region, at the Special Olympic National Games.

These games are held every four years and this year took place in Cardiff between 28 July and 4 August.

Previous to the games the riders had been training hard and competed in three disciplines – Dressage, Horsecare and a Trail ride.

The results – in order of age, youngest first were:

- Dressage Horse Care & Knowledge Trail Ride
 - Donna Hercock Bronze Silver Silver
 - Matthew Bird Silver Silver 4th
 - Kyle Bennett-Knell Silver Gold 5th
 - Sharon Foster 5th Bronze 5th

Donna, Matthew and Kyle are still at school. Sharon works for Bedford Garden Enterprises and they were very pleased with her success.

We are proud of them all. It was a big event and the first time any of them had competed at that level.

by Eileen Nash

Editor:- (Congratulations to Jenni Williams and Eileen Nash and all those volunteers to worked hard to ensure our riders could take part)

Anglia Action TV visited us again in September 2001

This was to update the film they took of the Centre for MADD, October 2000 (see report below)

The report is due to be shown on Anglia Action on the 9 October.

Pedro was our pony star again, as he behaves very calmly around TV cameras.

Anglia Action often use clips of the Elisabeth Curtis Centre when they mention Riding for the Disabled.

Sensory Ride Opened for use – extended 2002

We have opened our sensory outdoor ride for our riders to use in the summer months. It features

riding under the natural arches the pine trees and listening to the wind chimes in them while playing games. A further extension of the land available was made in 2002, to create even more room and interest on the ride.

New Look for Indoor School

The Centre has had a new rubber surface in the Indoor school, and a “viewing area” constructed with room for wheelchairs, as well as new plastic chairs, and a set of storage cupboards for the games equipment.

Own Charity Registration – Number 1074150

On April 1st 1999, following changes to the RDA National’s constitution we gained our own charity registration while remaining within the “umbrella” of the RDA. Management committee members are now trustees, answerable directly to the Charity Commission.

Our Last Royal Visit

On June 30th 1998 we were honoured by a visit to the Centre of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.