



December 2017

Issue 2

Welcome to the 2nd Pegasus RDA Newsletter. As we are heading towards the end of 2017 and the end of Pegasus's first year, we have lots of successes and positive news to report!

Christmas Cards

We had some fantastic entries in our Design a Christmas Card Competition – A huge Thank You to everyone who entered! We are pleased to announce the winners are Grace Wilson, Sophie McLaughlin, Sofia Urtone and Alicia Chan.

The cards will be on sale in the gallery during our Sunday sessions costing £5 for 12 cards (3 of each design) or £3.50 for 8 cards (2 of each design). Stocks are limited so hurry to avoid disappointment.



Big Ride

Back in October, members of our group took part in the North West leg of RDA UK's Big Ride Project. Assistant coach Megan and one of our riders Fiona and her family braved the gale-force winds to complete a 7km walk along the Pennine Way. Their efforts managed to raise £228, which will be shared between Pegasus and RDA National to go towards the building of a new HQ and teaching centre. A special mention also goes to our rider Daniel and his dad Hughie, who had also planned to take part but, due to illness, could not attend on the day.

Coaching Qualifications

We would like to offer huge congratulations to Klaudia and Megan who both passed their assessments and are now qualified as Assistant Coaches.

Rider Progression

We have seen all our riders make some amazing progression this year, and many of our riders have passed RDA Proficiency tests in both Riding and Horse Care.

Congratulations go to the following riders and we look forward to working with you all to see you progress even further next year!

Volunteer Award Winners

**National Young Volunteer of the Year:
Megan Holland**



Megan is one of our most dedicated and popular volunteers. Her huge commitment and input to our group was recognised by being awarded the National Young Volunteer of the Year award. The award was presented by Claire Balding at the RDA Gala Dinner.

**North West Volunteer of the Year:
Richard Sinclair**



Since joining Pegasus, Richard has made a significant contribution to our group, both during sessions and in his own time. He is one of our most valued members who is always helpful and friendly. Richard attended the North West Regional Conference at Aintree, where he received his well-deserved award.

**North West Chair's Helper of the Year:
Gill Petty**



Gill is one of our founder members, Trustee and Coach who works tirelessly both in our sessions and behind the scenes to ensure that our group is successful. Her efforts have been recognised at Regional level, and Gill was awarded the Jubilee Trophy by Regional Chair Sheila Saner at the North West Regional Conference.

The following riders have passed Grade 1 Horse Riding and Horse Care: Matthew, Parker, Fiona Airey, Sophie McLaughlin, George Kingdom, Dylan Eccles, Ruby Bishop, Niamh Lynch, Jade Chan and Olivia Stuart.

The following riders have passed Grade 2 Riding: Matthew Parker, Fiona Airey, Niamh Lynch and Sophie McLaughlin. Matthew Parker has also passed Grade 2 Horse Care.

Accolades and Awards

To say we are a new group, we certainly have made our mark on the RDA community, both Regionally and Nationally. It is great to see the value of our members being recognised and we could not be more proud of our volunteers and riders.

Anne Thorpe Award Winners

The Anne Thorpe Awards recognise RDA participants in the North West Region who have overcome challenges to achieve their personal goals. This year, our group had not one, but two riders selected to receive recognition!

Matthew Parker won 2nd place and Fiona Airey achieved 4th place in recognition of the progression in riding and horse care Matthew and Fiona have demonstrated over the past 12 months.



Happy Christmas!

We are holding Christmas-themed rides on the 10th and 17th December, so feel free to wear your Christmas jumpers! We are closed on the 24th and 31st December and sessions will resume on 7th January 2018.

We would like to wish all our coaches, volunteers, riders and their families a massive thank you for the continued help and support this year. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!