

December 2004

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When F.R.D.I. decided to establish a permanent Office in 1997 we were grateful for the offer from R.D.A Australia to share their office space which, as many of you know, is located within the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds, Victoria, Australia. This arrangement has worked very well, since the many common objectives enable us to have a good working relationship.

Due to a major redevelopment at the Showgrounds site we have been given notice that we must vacate our premises in December. Finding new premises that we can afford has been a difficult task. We are pleased to advise members that the Moonee Valley Racecourse (located not far from our present location) has offered R.D.A. Australia & F.R.D.I. temporary accommodation at their site. The Moonee Valley Administration has been most helpful and we are grateful to them. This offer will enable the Office to remain operational while searching for more permanent premises. The Office will close on December 17 – probably until late January – to give us time to relocate and establish ourselves in the new premises. Access via e-mail will still be available and I will endeavour to respond to urgent requests that way. Our postal address will remain unchanged. Telephone numbers may change but we should be able to divert calls in the interim. We apologise for any inconvenience during this transitional period, which we hope will be of comparatively short duration. Members will be notified as soon as a new contact details are finalised. Details will be posted on the website....keep checkingwww.frdi.net

12th International Therapeutic Riding Congress

BRAZIL

....probable date ...AUGUST 2006

The F.R.D.I. Executive Board met with the Brazil organising committee in Brasilia in October. The Brazil Committee is very enthusiastic about the prospect of hosting the 12th International Congress. The meetings between the two organisations were very positive with both groups committed to holding a Congress which will enable us to share collective knowledge and learn from each other. Those of us who had not been to Brazil before were impressed with what Brasilia and the country in general

has to offer. Brasilia, the national capital, is an interesting city having been in existence for the comparatively short period of forty years. The architecture of the various public buildings is modern and quite striking.

We urge as many members as possible to start saving for Brazil in 2006 now. You can be assured of a warm welcome...and the opportunity to explore the country before or after the Congress will be an added bonus. Take your camera....there is much to see!!

Call for Papers will be published early in 2005. Watch the websites for ongoing information.

FRDI: www.frdi.net

OR ANDE BRASIL

www.equoterapia.org.br

Contact: Glycerio Proenca

Tel.: 55 61 468 7406

Fax: 55 61 468 8486

E-mail: ande@equoterapia.org.br



Results of Open Musical Ride (Video) Competition

Classes 43 & 44 RDA UK National Championships 2004

Details of the results of the Open Musical Ride Video Competition Classes 43 & 44, as part of the RDA UK National Championships 2004 have just been received. The judges were very impressed with the standard of videos submitted. The judges add their congratulations and look forward to even more entries next year.

Results

Open Musical Ride:

1st RDA Hong Kong
"A Dragon Dance"

Open Drill Ride:

1st RDA Hong Kong
2nd RDA Australia (Victoria)
Marriott House, Moorabbin
"Military Tattoo"
3rd RDA Australia (Victoria)
Moorabbin
"Pas de Trios"

Enquiries for those wishing to enter in 2005 should be addressed to:

Kay Woodcock

E-mail: dressage@riding-for-disabled.org.uk

Videotapes: If there is sufficient interest videotapes of those competing may be available. Contact Kay Woodcock for details - e-mail address above.

DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER

Those wishing to contribute to March 2005 newsletter should submit copy to the office no later than WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH. Logos and photographs are welcome.

European funding supports Equine Assisted Therapy

Jennifer Baillie on behalf of the Pegasus partnership

At the International Congress in Budapest in 2003 a paper was presented describing the Pegasus project, funded through the Leonardo da Vinci initiative of the European Commission. Briefly, the aims of the project are to develop an innovative (for the Flemish part of Belgium) post-graduate course in Equine Assisted Therapy (EAT), to design an ethical code specific to EAT (and building on existing professional ethical codes), to produce a document on good practice, to disseminate the benefit of EAT to as wide an audience of potential beneficiaries as possible, to build up a network of expertise and to create a web-site with links all over Europe.

The project will culminate in a closing conference which will be held in Brussels on 21st and 22nd October 2005. The President of FRDI has already agreed to Chair part of this conference and it is hoped that other members of FRDI will participate thus leading to further co-operation in the future.

So far two courses, which are designed on a modular basis for professionals who already hold a qualification in the fields of health and social care, have been started. Some of the first students have already completed the course and will receive certificates. The courses are still in the process of evaluation but several amendments to the curriculum have already been made as a result of feed back.

The ethical code is in its final stages and will include a self-evaluation questionnaire which will be tried out very shortly.

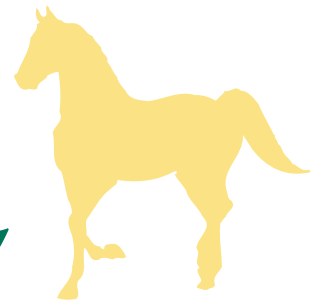
The document of good practice is being drawn together from existing publications in the countries from which the partners are drawn (Belgium, The Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain and the United Kingdom) as well as current EAT practice. It will include relevant sections on health and safety (particularly taking account of European legislation), infrastructure and horse management among others.

Four transnational meetings of all the partners, each hosted by a different partner, have taken place at six month intervals. At these meetings discussions take place between all the partners to ensure that there is agreement before anything is put into the public domain. The meetings cover three days and all of the "Work Tools" (the terminology used for the different tasks) are discussed in turn. The genuine friendship and goodwill that has been generated over these meetings has allowed disagreements to be aired openly and solved in an amicable fashion.

It is hoped that this project will create valuable resources to add to those already in place across Europe and lead to further co-operation in effective practice.

Talking Point

"Terminology in Use in the Field of Therapeutic Riding"



This section of our newsletter has been established to encourage discussion and exchange of opinions on matters of common interest to our members. In our last newsletter an article on "Terminology in Use in the Field of Therapeutic Riding" – by Lelio de Castro Cirillo from Brazil was published.

Dr Jean Paul Hoff (France) has responded to the article regarding translation of Greek words used in Mr. Cirillo's article.

Dear Madam,

Reading the last Newsletter I discover some inconceivable mistakes of Greek translation contained in "Terminology in Use in the Field of Therapeutic Riding"

Regarding the word HYPOTHERAPY: - from memory,

1. "IPPOS" (iota with accent) in Greek is the name designating "The Horse"

- for example Hippocrates, Hippocampus, Hippotherapy.

2. "YPO" (upsilon with accent) in Greek is a preposition and signifies "under" (opposite to "YPER") which follows the Greek grammar which contains declinations – for example Hypodermic; Hypothermic, Hypotension.

The explanation of Portuguese terminology don't modify the radicals HIPPO and HYPO of Greek origin. HYPOTHERAPY would signify "Rebate therapy" or "Low therapy". This does not seem to be based on a correct understanding of the Greek translation.

Ed. - For an overview of the subject members are referred to a paper presented at the 9th International Therapeutic Riding Congress – Denver, USA 1997 The author – Jane Copeland Fitzpatrick PT presented the paper (see pp 1- 15): "Hippotherapy and Therapeutic Riding – An International Review". A survey was conducted regarding the practice of Hippotherapy internationally. Responses were received from 24 countries – 14 of which offered specialised training in Hippotherapy at that time.

Barbara Heine PT HPCS submits the following thoughts.

The Terminology Debate:

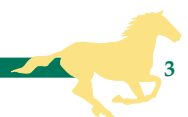
With the global spread of knowledge about the benefits of Hippotherapy, this service is increasingly sought after and practised in many countries. It is timely to take a look at the area that creates confusion not only in the minds of the population that seeks these services but also among the service providers themselves. I refer to the area of Terminology and in particular the difference between Hippotherapy and other fields within Therapeutic Riding. My experience with how hippotherapy is defined and practised is based primarily on the 11 years that I spent working in the hippotherapy field in the United States. I have also taught courses in Russia, Japan and New Zealand and since 2000 I have been living and practising hippotherapy in Australia. In all those countries there are differences

in not only how hippotherapy is defined and practised but also in whether it is practised at all. In the United States the definition of Hippotherapy only allows for Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Speech and Language Therapists to provide hippotherapy services. During a visit to Russia in 2000 it was pointed out by my hosts that according to the American Hippotherapy Association there could be no hippotherapy practised because in Russia there are no Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists or Speech Therapists. Would it then follow that Doctors specialising in rehabilitation or kinesiologists could not do Hippotherapy in that country? Japan trains Physiotherapists but the structure of their Health system does not allow payment for services other than those provided in hospital run clinics. For this reason RDA is extremely popular in

Japan because there is no alternative. Australia and New Zealand are different again-Hippotherapy is practised but on a very small scale because of reimbursement issues. From information gathered during 2 FRDI Congresses I know that almost as many different scenarios exist in Europe for the practice of Hippotherapy as there are countries.

It is not surprising therefore that much confusion reigns throughout the world on the "what" and "who" of the definition and right to practise. In fact after reading the September issue of the FRDI Newsletter it would appear that there is not even a consensus globally on the actual name Hippotherapy. Printed in "Talking Point, the President of ANDE-BRASIL, Mr Lelio de Castro Cirillo, describes the history and reasons behind the terminology adopted in his

Continued over page



RDA-Samsung — NEWS —

Another cheer in Korea

Many riders at RDA-Samsung have spent hours riding, yet everyone wishes the stays could be longer.

With that hope behind, another class gathered to enjoy the last day of their riding session.

The riding programs at RDA-Samsung are Therapeutic Riding Class I & II which runs once a week for two months and the Hippotherapy session which runs twice a week for two months.

Two months can be quite short, but the only viable solution as we have so many waiting clients. In Korea, there is a great need for therapeutic riding centres, however, ours is the only program which runs in conjunction with a hospital.

Due to the unique situation, clients come from various regions within Korea, whom we are never able to admit at once. An average waiting period cannot be determined as each client's term depends on his/her progress.

With time flying so quickly the volunteers as well as the riders were sorry to say goodbye. They so enjoyed riding and sharing good times together.

With the year drawing to a close, everyone seems to be more sentimental, however, the clients fighting spirit and their desire to move forward, gives us courage and hope to continue with our work.



Korea RDA

country. The "brand" name is Equotherapy and the programs provided under the Equotherapy umbrella are Hypotherapy, Education / Re-education, Pre-sportive and Sportive. I am one of a number of people concerned about the word Hypotherapy which when translated literally from the Greek derivatives means therapy that is "low" or "under" or "lacking".

Mr Cirillo, in the beginning of his article expresses the opinion that it is impossible to reach international consensus on a single word or expression to describe the plethora of activities involving disabled people and horses.

My feeling is that we should do everything in our power to reach consensus. Many countries work constantly and diligently in the areas of

research, horse welfare, education and best practice standards. Educators, medical professionals, donors and funding bodies require this information as is their right. They need to know that what we are doing is safe, based on sound principles and documented evidence and that the welfare of the horse is protected. I would welcome a debate on this issue and I feel strongly that if we can pull together, the FRDI as a body and in particular the Congress will become meaningful in every sense and provide a forum not only for the healthy exchange of information but the potential for developing International standards in education and training.

Barbara Heine PT HPCS

Chair RDAA Hippotherapy
Member FRDI Medical Committee
Past President
-American Hippotherapy Association.

Situation Vacant

Dubai, United Arab Emirates



RDAD Instructor

Riding for the Disabled Association of Dubai (RDAD) requires full time, certified Instructor for 50 students each week.

Ability to supervise grooms, manage horse care and maintain flexible attitude. Dubai, UAE is an exciting, safe, multi-cultural city.

Final package depends on experience, but includes salary, accommodation, allowance, and use of car.

Interested people should E-mail CV to: rdadubai@hotmail.com

NEWS from *around the World*

Note: CORRECTION – In our last issue this section focussed on two centres in Israel. The photographs used related to the INTRA group and should have appeared after the text on INTRA rather than prior to Italy....an editorial error. My apologies..Ed.

A WINDOW ON *Croatia & Greece*

F.R.D.I. has an increasing number of members in countries where national conflict has occurred. It is encouraging to hear that in one such country – Croatia, therapeutic riding activities commenced in what was then a difficult climate. The initial enthusiasm has continued and we are pleased to receive the following report.

Croatia



Therapeutic Riding Association or Croatia (TRAC)

The first therapeutic riding programs in Croatia started after the war in 1993. The first of these was KRILA-Terapijsko Jahanje in Zagreb, (KRILA has been an associate member of FRDI since 1995) – and MOGU Therapeutic Riding from Osijek. Those NGOs were able to arrange education for their staff in Great Britain and the USA. As the programs grew up and the benefits were being recognised all over the society, we founded the THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION OF CROATIA- (an associate member of FRDI since 2002). The purpose of the Association was to make national standards and education programs for

future therapeutic riding instructors. And we did it!! We customised FRDI and NARHA documents, standards etc. and recognised national standards in therapeutic riding activities.

This year, in January, we promoted the first generation of 6 therapeutic riding instructors under the Croatian national standards. In KRILA and MOGU, and even in other centres we still organise educational meetings, congress and courses, so the next group of future instructors are in the process of education. Some photos of our work – therapy, special education programs and sport are shown below.

We have National Championships from 1999 – every year. Ivan Srsic on Saba and Slaven Hudina on Tulasi were our representatives at the Paralympic games in Athens.

Davorka Suvak President T.R.A.C.

Executive Director in MOGU
therapeutic riding

*Ed. – Congratulations - this is real
progress!*



Love - Croatia



Therapeutic Riding Croatia



Greece

Greece has been very much in the news this year with the 2004 Olympic and Paralympic Games. So many of us were tuned to the television for the wonderful opening and closing ceremonies, and to see the athletes from around the world displaying their skill in competition.

Many of our members were able to send athletes to the Paralympic Games and we congratulate all those who competed, and in so doing demonstrated that it is ability not disability that counts.



The following report from Dimitra Karouzaki of T.R.A.G. (Therapeutic Riding Association of Greece) – a Full Member of FRDI, highlights the organisation of the equestrian section of the Paralympic Games in Athens and the participation of a Greek Therapeutic Riding athlete at the Paralympics for the first time. Congratulations to T.R.A.G., Nikos Sigas and all our Greek friends who worked so hard to make the games the success that they were.



ATHENS PARALYMPIC GAMES 2004 - THE DREAM CAME TRUE

September 30, 2004. Athens.
Paralympic Games Closing Ceremony.

The end of a magnificent celebration. 69 horses with their riders from 29 countries took part in a perfectly organised athletic event.

The 28 year old athlete Nikos Sigas from Serres with his horse Demon became the first Greek athletic couple to ever take part in the Equestrian Sports in the Paralympic Games. Nikos and Demon with a very satisfactory performance, received a 60,16% for their appearance in the Grade III Individual Programme, taking 15th place.

The Greek Therapeutic Riding Association is completely satisfied with their performance

since it is the first time that a Greek Therapeutic Riding athlete has taken part in the Paralympic Games. It has now given us motivation to intensify efforts for improvement and for increasing the number of athletes in the next Paralympic Games in 2008.

A particularly moving moment for the Greek Therapeutic Riding Association was when one of its athletes, Orestis Ioannou held the torch with the Paralympic Flame.

The Paralympic flame ceremony was held a few days before the Opening Ceremony, in the ancient temple of Hephaestus at the Acropolis. Hephaestus, son of Zeus, was the god of fire and blacksmith crafts in Ancient Greece. An important detail: Hephaestus was a god with disability.

(Hephaestus is the son of Zeus and Hera. Sometimes it is said that Hera alone produced him and that he has no father. He is the only god to be physically ugly. He is also lame. Accounts as to how he became lame vary. Some say that Hera, upset by having an ugly child, flung him from Mount Olympus into the sea, breaking his legs. Others that he took Hera's side in an argument with Zeus and Zeus flung him off Mount Olympus. He is the god of fire and the forge. He is the Blacksmith and armourer the gods. He uses a volcano as his forge. He is the patron god of both blacksmiths and weavers. He is kind and peace loving. His wife is Aphrodite. Sometimes his wife is identified as Aglaia.)

Moreover, we owe a huge "THANK YOU" to the Steward's team as well as the team of Paralympic Volunteers: They have been a great help and their contribution was a big factor to the success of the Paralympic Games. Everything about the Paralympic Games was magnificent. The only unfortunate moment was the sudden death of Arestote - a 16-year-old gelding that passed away due to a heart attack. His rider was Valerie Sales from France. Our thoughts are with her.



Orestis Ioannou - Torchbearer



Nikos Sigas on Demon



Volunteers for the Greek Paralympic Team - including the most important bicycle!

Greece continued

SERRES

A report from Maria Liga

Maria is a physiotherapist in a public special school of 30 students with cerebral palsy, autism and mental retardation. She has attended the Bobath course, the Conductive Education course at the PETO Institute in Budapest and also a two year course in Autism. Maria has been working with children with special needs for 21 years now.

She received considerable help from Therapeutic Riding Association of Greece (T.R.A.G.) in Athens, and parents and friends. Mrs Dimitra Karouzaki is their President and TRAG has been in existence for 20 years now. Dimitra and others from TRAG came to Serres to give demonstrations and generally helped a lot with training. Maria wanted more information – she already had considerable experience with cerebral palsy but it was not enough. She could understand that Hippotherapy was not a simple thing. Maria found a sponsor from the local community, and, in order to understand more about the mechanism of the horse's motion she started riding at 43 years of age receiving help from the trainer of the local riding club.

Attending the International Congress in Budapest provided a great opportunity to learn from the many reports, videos and studies. This was a very good experience. She was also able to purchase reference books and meet interesting people. A conversation with Charlotte von Arbin led her to attend a Hippotherapy course conducted in Sweden by Susanne von Dietze. Next year she will attend the last part of

the course with Susanne in Goteborg, Sweden. Maria will also go to Goteborg for a three day course by Mrs Meaden.

Maria comments that Hippotherapy is a very scientific field which excites and interests her – different from classical physiotherapy which is also necessary. The students and parents are very happy because the children are doing something different. This is much appreciated. Children who have had physiotherapy treatment almost since birth become tired of it, so Hippotherapy gives a new vision – not only for the students.

The director and colleagues at the school recognise the work done by Maria and offer assistance. An invitation was sent to other schools in the town, to bring together the children from other schools and the special school in order to demonstrate the program and encourage the idea of integration. It gave an opportunity to show what else the horse could do. It worked very well.

Maria's school would like to participate in a comenius program. This is a European program for schools and institutions about culture and civilization aspects. It concerns both general and special education with the program last three years. They are seeking 3 or 4 partners. They already have one partner from Sweden. Maria's school is the leader. Exchange visits between schools are undertaken in order to learn more. Special schools with a Hippotherapy program or centres with such a program can participate. An attempt is being made to make the programme known to the Ministry of Education.

Apart from the association in Athens (TRAG), therapeutic riding is something new in Greece and care must be taken in the diffusion of the programs.

If you are interested in hearing more information about the Comenius Program, or becoming a partner, contact Maria Liga

From Maria Liga

E-mail: liga@otenet.gr



Therapeutic Riding at Serres



Therapeutic Riding at Serres

CORFU - THE SILVA PROJECT

Just prior to going to print we received a new member from Greece - Mrs Sylvia Dimitriadis Steen, from Corfu. Sylvia is engaged in an exciting project - The Silva Project for endangered species. Sylvia lives on the Silva estate in Corfu and was approached to provide temporary lodgings for six Skyrian horses. Skyrian ponies are a unique and rare breed of endangered horses from antiquity. Having survived for the last two centuries primarily on the Greek island of Skyros, this hardy mountain pony has served man time and time again.

Sylvia Steen became very interested in Skyrian horses – also called "Alogaki", which means small horse in Greek. As a result of her visit to their native island and collaboration between university professors and specialists in the breed, she learned about their situation and imminent extinction. The Silva project slowly took form: the Silva estate would provide the Skyrian horse breed an additional if not unique opportunity to survive.

Today Silva is a non-profit society founded for the breeding and protection of rare animals and for the propagation of various plant

species which are in danger of extinction. The Silva project also has a children's riding program, a hippotherapy program and an educational program where children from the island's primary schools are given the opportunity to be in contact with the horses and other animals on the estate.

Visit Silva's website to learn more about this most interesting project:

www.skyrianhorse.org

Welcome to the FRDI family Sylvia. We look forward to hearing more about your work.



Coming Events 2005/2006...

JANUARY 2005:

6 January – 8 April, 2005

NARHA Approved Instructor Training Course

Location: Old Lyme, Connecticut, USA

6 January – 17 February, 2005

NARHA Approved Instructor Training Course

Location: Old Lyme, Connecticut, USA

Contact for the above Courses:

NARHA OR Katie Guernsey, Training & Education Co-ordinator

High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Inc., P.O. Box 254, Old Lyme CT 06371

E-mail: kguernsey@highhopestr.org

Another course will be held in late August – early October 2005 – details to be announced.

High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Inc., P.O. Box 254, Old Lyme CT 06371

E-mail: kguernsey@highhopestr.org

Another course will be held in late August – early October 2005 – details to be announced.

FEBRUARY 2005:

9 – 11 February, 2005

I.P.E.C. International Trainers Clinic

Location: Hartpury College, United Kingdom

Contact: melaniecraven@britishdressage.co.uk

If development money is needed please apply to the I.P.E.C. President (Jonquil Solt) at jonquil@solt.demon.co.uk by 31 December, 2004

MARCH 2005:

I.P.E.C. Classification Course – Sweden

Contact: Charlotte von Arbin –I.R.T. for details

E-mail: von.arbin.charlotte@telia.com

7 - 8 March, 2005:

Asia-RDA Conference to be held in Hong Kong.

The conference is designed to bring together countries in Asia which already participate in Riding for the Disabled as well as those which may participate in the future. The aims are to share knowledge & experience; help promote the concept & values of RDA; facilitate & establish a network of communication among participating countries; to pool regional resources for long-term development of RDA in Asia.

Goal: to create Asia RDA.

Contact: Peter Tam or Nick Rodgers – RDA Hong Kong.

Tel.: 852 2454 9961

fax: 852 2465 5914

E-mail: canneych@rda.org.hk

25 March – 25 September, 2005

EXPO 2005 – Aichi, Japan. Japan Assoc. for 2005 World Exposition

Check the website: <http://www.expo2005.or.jp>

E-mail: voicebox@expo2005.or.jp

AUGUST 2005:

Courses with Susanne von Dietze-Pollak – Sweden

Contact: Charlotte von Arbin – I.R.T. for details

E-mail: von.arbin.charlotte@telia.com

SEPTEMBER 2005:

6 – 9 September, 2005

RDA Japan Event

Theme: "Building a Friendly Relationship between Horse and Human"

Organiser: RDA Japan Planning Committee

Location: Expo 2005 Aichi (Seto Area, Citizen Participation Zone)

The location is in an area near the central Japan city of Nagoya.

Discussion sessions with guest speakers including FRDI President-Mrs Gundula Hauser, on topics related to riding for the disabled are being planned as well as events related to the human-horse relationship. More details to come.

To be kept informed, contact RDA Japan

E-mail: rdaj@thanks.biglobe.ne.jp

OCTOBER 2005:

14-16 October, 2005

CanTRA 25th Anniversary Conference

Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association (CanTRA)

THEME: "Tools to Teach ...to Learn...to Lead"

Location: University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Contact: Ms Lynne O'Brien, Administrator, CanTRA

P.O. Box 24009, Guelph, Ontario N1E 6V8 Canada

Tel: 1 519 767 0700

Fax: 1 519 763 0304

E-mail: ctra@golden.net

Website: www.cantra.ca

21 – 22 October, 2005

Closing Conference : Leonardo da Vinci Pegasus Project on Equine Assisted Therapy (EAT) – Brussels, Belgium

Contact: Hans de Vriese, Jobenco, Coupure Links 633, B-9000, Gent, Belgium

Tel: 32 9233 5780

E-mail: hansdevriese@jobenco.be

2006:

12th International Therapeutic Riding Congress

Probable date: August, 2006 –actual date to be finalised shortly.

Watch the newsletter and F.R.D.I. Website for more details.

Call for Papers will be published early in 2005.

Best wishes to all our members as we approach the end of 2004 and look forward to a New Year. May 2005 be a year of peace, goodwill and safety for everyone.

Thank you

FRDI gratefully acknowledges the support of Samsung in the publication and distribution of this newsletter.

