



East Grinstead & District Lions Club
(International Association of Lions Clubs)
District 105 SE England

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News Release

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HONEY gets a new set of tack thanks to the Lions.

HONEY the horse took centre stage at the Burstow Park Riding school as she showed off her new tack to an appreciative audience.

Recently purchased by the Riding for the Disabled Association with funds from the East Grinstead Lions Club, Honey was treated to new equipment by the Lions Ladies.

Seven members of the group made the trip to the stables on Tuesday last week to be introduced to the new addition and see children riding and performing fun exercises.

Ladies Lion member Molly Turner said: "The Lions bought the pony and we had some money left in our funds so we decided to give the tack to complete the gift for them. It was a lovely occasion and a marvellous place to visit."

Mrs Turner said that two volunteers assisted each rider whilst they trotted, picked things up from a table and dropped them in a bucket while on horse back. "It's great to see them feel at home and for parents to see that their children can be so comfortable with an animal," she said.

Honey was the second horse that the RDA picked after the first proved to be unsuitable.

Mrs Turner said that it was important that the horse had the ride temperament.

Honey was eventually found after an 11 month search in Holland.

She said that recognition should go to the volunteers who devote so much time to helping out and enable the children to ride.

"When a child is in a wheelchair they are always looked down on," she said. "But when they're on a horse they are at eye level or even looking down on you and that is wonderful."

The RDA urgently needs volunteers and one hour per week during term time is the minimum that is required. Training is provided.

For more details contact Eileen McLaren on 01342 325197.

With acknowledgements to the 'East Grinstead Courier'.