



NEWSLETTER

ROSA crosses the £100K line

We are pleased to announce that ROSA has now raised over £100K towards its initial fundraising target of £120K – the amount needed to secure the five pieces of land being sold off by the District Council. Although The Richmondshire Landscape Trust was able to make this purchase at the beginning of last year, in order to do so within the given timescale, it had to raise the capital through a number of interest free loans.

These loans in total amounted to nearly £40,000 and ROSA has been working hard to pay these back. Thanks to our recent fundraising activities and the generous support of our members and the wider local community, we have now achieved a balance of £101,400.

Frank Gibbon, the Trust's Chairman, said: "We still have quite a bit of money left to raise but it is great news that we have broken through the £100K barrier. It was largely due to the generosity of these interest-free loans – some of which have since been converted into gifts – that we were able to secure the future of the land and we are now determined to honour our commitment to pay any outstanding loans back as soon as possible."

Further money is also needed to maintain and improve the land that has been purchased and the Trust is already implementing an active land management programme that includes fence and wall repairs, tree planting, hedging and re-sowing of meadows.

Try your hand at dry stone walling

If you have ever admired Yorkshire's dry stone walls and wondered how they are built, there is now an ideal opportunity to gain first-hand experience of this ancient craft.

The Otley and Yorkshire Dales branch of the Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain is organising a two-day beginners' course, which will enable people to learn some basic techniques at the same time as restoring some of the boundaries on the Trust's land.

The course will take place on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd March at Jack King's Wood and trainees will be involved in stripping out

remnants of the old wall, laying foundations and creating a new wall. The course costs £55 although there will be a 20% discount on this amount for ROSA members.

Participants are asked to wear sturdy boots (preferably with steel reinforced toes) and to bring strong gloves. The Jack King's Wood site is on the outskirts of Richmond on the Reeth/Leyburn Road, just opposite the Round Howe car park. Parking is in the field up a narrow lane.

For more details or to reserve a place, please contact John McCleod on 01423 506821 or email john.mcleod10@btinternet.com

Prizes needed

Tombolas and raffles have an important role to play at most of our fundraising events and around 100 prizes are needed each time to make the activity viable.

There are a number of events coming up where we would like to run a tombola but we are currently running low on prizes. If anyone has anything that they could donate, please contact Veronica Robson on 01748 824218.

Round-up of events

There have been a number of events held over the past few months, which have raised valuable funds for the Trust (figures given below). Thank you, as always, for your continued support and commitment. Without your help these events could not go ahead.

Town Hall Coffee Mornings - £635
Erica Dillon Fashion Show - £407
Temple Lodge Garden Party - £701
Richmond Castle Run Catering - £346
Christmas at St Nicholas - £751

This brings the fund to a current total of £101,400 towards our purchase target of £120,000.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 1 March – Town Hall Coffee Morning

ROSA will be holding a coffee morning in the Town Hall (8.30am-12 noon). Any offers of help on the day or donations for the cake stall, raffle or tombola would be much appreciated. Please contact Veronica Robson on 01748 824218.

Sunday 9 March – Market Hall Fundraising Day

ROSA is having two stalls at a fundraising day in the Market Hall from 10am-4pm. Offers of help on the day and contributions of books, videos, DVDs and bric-a-brac would be most welcome. Please contact Veronica Robson on 01748 824218.

Saturday 22 March – Easter Egg Hunt

Now a firm favourite in the fundraising calendar, a family Easter egg hunt will take place on Westfields from 2-4pm. Each child will receive a chocolate egg and refreshments will be available. Tickets cost £4 and are available in advance from the Tourist Information Centre and Stuart Parsons, Tel: 01748 823456 or at the start of the event on the day.

Saturday 12 April – Northallerton Silver Band Concert

Northallerton Silver Band will be performing at the Zetland Centre at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £6 on the door (concessions £5) or £5 if bought in advance from the Tourist Information Centre or Margaret Hodgson, Tel: 01748 829416.

Thursday 19 & Friday 20 June – North Country Theatre performance at Temple Lodge

Helping hands

One of the fantastic things about ROSA is the amount of support that has been received from the community – not just amongst our own members but also from other local groups and organisations.

One recent example of this was in November when members of the town's scout, cubs and beaver groups helped plant trees on Westfields and Southbank.

Varieties included horse chestnuts, hornbeams, silver birch, rowans, maples and wild cherries.

Two donations have also been gratefully received from the Richmond Meet (£250) and another sum of £400 was given from the Swaledale branch of the CPRE to buy tree guards that will help protect the recent plantings.

Further information

This newsletter has been published by ROSA. For more details, contact Stuart Parsons, Publicity Officer, 7B Newbiggin, Richmond.
Tel: 01748 823456.
Mobile: 077142 17162.
