

Allegra's Ambition Newsletter May 2019

From ALLEGRA

We are very excited to announce a new project that we have been working on for a few years now. As many of you who live in the Hampshire area know, Winchester is building a “state of the art” Sport and Leisure Centre at Bar End. Allegra's Ambition is a partner in the project and will be building an **outdoor gym** and **trim trail** adjacent to the centre which will offer a free fitness facility for everyone. Bar End is next to the athletics track where Allegra trained with WADAC. We feel it is a fitting project and one Allegra would have wholeheartedly supported. We are still in the planning stage and will keep you updated. If you are interested in finding out more or have any fundraising ideas please get in touch. You can also go online at youtube.com/winchestercc to take a virtual tour of how the centre will look.



In February **Ebony** Horse Club (<http://www.ebonyhorseclub.org.uk>) hosted members of the Hampshire Hunt pony club, supported by Allegra's Ambition, for a fun day at their yard.



The sun shone and there were rides, games and an outdoor picnic. It was great to see the ongoing relationship between the young people continuing to develop and offered a great insight into Ebony's work. Thank you to Ebony for hosting the event.

Allegra's Ambition's fourth annual Ebony Day will be held on 23 July with the support of Hampshire Hunt PC. It is a brilliant day enjoyed by everyone who attends. It wouldn't be possible without a fantastic team of volunteers and above all by those who kindly bring along their ponies. Please put **July 23** in your diaries and lend us your ponies!

We are continuing to fund Friday night football with **Street Reach** (<https://www.winchesterstreetreach.org>). It is a great initiative which not only offers a regular football kick about, open to anyone aged 11 – 17, but also a safe informal space for young people to get advice and support from the Street Reach team of experienced youth workers.



A number of you have sent us pictures of the Street Reach/Allegra's Ambition minibus out and about. We love seeing our work in action so please do keep them coming.

Our Allegra's Ambition break run by **CHICKS** – Country Holidays for Inner City Kids (<http://chicks.org.uk>) is taking place in Derbyshire from 29 July to 2 August. Thank you to all the young people who are volunteering for us this year.

We have been supporting an after school tutoring project for young people in Years 10 and 11 who attend **Carneys Community Project** in Battersea (<http://carneyscommunity.org>), a boxing club which works with young offenders and other disadvantaged young people. Allegra's Ambition have sponsored a project to enable a number of students to receive regular academic support through the year with the aim of raising their attainment at GCSE. We wish them luck and every success in their exams.



Youth Options (<http://www.youthoptions.co.uk>) is continuing to build on their Bushcraft project initially funded by Allegra's Ambition. This year we are funding an outdoor learning programme for 30 children from Newlands Primary School, a school in the middle of a large disadvantaged area to the west of Southampton. Youth Options are close to achieving planning on their new Outdoor Learning Centre in Eastleigh where we plan to fund an onsite classroom to enable more young people to benefit from engagement with the natural world.



For Allegra

An incredible team of volunteers worked tirelessly at the Mary Howard Christmas Fair (<https://maryhowardfairs.com>) selling our merchandise and promoting the charity. Thank you so much to Amanda and Amelia who worked for a whole week there, as well as Isabel, Charlotte, Jo, Shoonagh, Sarah, Georgina, Catherine, Sarah and Camilla who all volunteered a long day – we are immensely grateful. Thank you to everyone who came to support us and to Mary Howard Fair for choosing us as one of their charities.



Friends and supporters were also busy over Christmas at a number of other fairs and coffee mornings helping sell our water bottles, bracelets, aprons, shopping bags, t-shirts and hair ties. **We are so grateful to everyone who helped us.** We have a few items still available on our website and are launching some new products in the autumn.



Do get in touch if you would like to hold a sale or make a purchase and keep following us on Instagram to find out more.



In January Jules Flory hosted a flower arranging class with florist Clare Rogers with all proceeds going to Allegra's Ambition. It was a wonderful event - even the cupcakes were Allegra's Ambition themed and raised a brilliant £700. Thank you so much.

Tudor Hall selected Allegra's Ambition as their school charity last year & raised an amazing £2,865 for us over the year undertaking a number of challenges including a Pink Run and some of the girls climbing Mount Snowdon. A huge thank you to all the girls who challenged themselves and went above and beyond.

Wellington College's Hopetoun House also chose Allegra's Ambition as their charity of the year. They hosted an entertainment evening in February with a fantastic auction. We are so grateful to those who generously donated the amazing prizes and everyone who attended the evening. An extra thank you to Mr Gutteridge, Hopetoun's housemaster who also ran the Henley Half Marathon in May with sponsorship going to Allegra's Ambition. Congratulations and many thanks.

St Swithun's selected Allegra's Ambition as one of their charities for 2018/19. In January our patron Julie Montagu went to talk to the girls about Allegra's Ambition and how giving back can make you happier as well as how young people can get involved within the charity.

Alicia Dent and Daisy Crone hitchhiked from Edinburgh to Paris for Edinburgh University's rag week: 48 hours and many rides later they made it to the Eiffel Tower. Thank you both so much for raising £1,400 for us and challenging yourselves. Maddie Lewin hitchhiked from Leeds to Amsterdam raising over £500. A big thank you to Sue Godwin, an assistant house mistress at St Swithun's, who has for the last few years made a donation to our charity in lieu of sending Christmas cards. Thank you also to Alice for making and selling popcorn at her school to raise money for us: what a fantastic effort. Catherine Ewart-Smith and Georgina Fowle held another very successful tennis tournament to raise money for Allegra's Ambition. We were delighted to receive several donations including one from Hanford School, from the Brandean and Hinton Ampner Women's Institute and also the Lenten Lunch in Medstead organised by Cathryn Hewett. Thanks to Alex Gregory for representing the charity and talking about Allegra's Ambition.

We are so touched and proud of everyone who has supported us volunteering, fund raising, cheer leading etc. A big thank you to everyone who donated. We couldn't do what we do without you. Every penny raised goes directly to the projects we support. Thank you and keep challenging yourselves.

Please do follow us on Instagram and Facebook to keep up with all our activities.