

Dear Everyone

Greetings from windy San Francisco. Last week was a busy one for the riding school. First, we participated in the district's disability sports bonanza. This was organized by the local government's sports and recreation department, with participating groups from several towns around the area. Between the different schools, days centres, and clubs involved, over a thousand people took part. The event was based in the *Sociedad Rural* (Rural Society) in San Francisco. These *Sociedades Rurales* are found around the country, something akin to the UK's county

showgrounds in size and function, and in San Francisco is also where we have been loaned our piece of land in one corner. So, we spent the day showing people around, and giving seaside-style horse rides around the paddocks. It was a joyful day with an element of chaos, and all participants and staff were presented with (survivors') medals. The image (right) is from our local paper *El Periodico's* coverage.



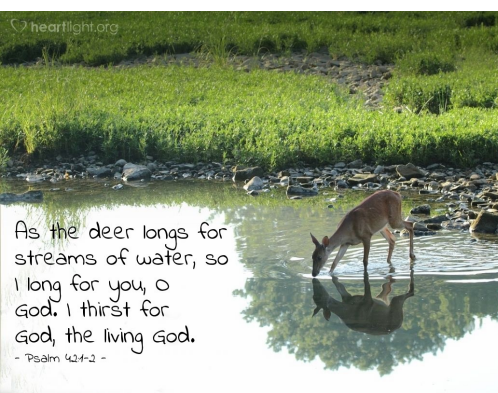
Hot on the heels of the disability sports event, we held our own horse-jumping competition at the weekend. Most of our members took part, including a couple of our riders with disabilities. Between home members plus invitees, there were some 50 riders competing in categories with levels ranging from those who are beginning to guide a horse round a course and walk over some low crosses, to experts jumping up to 1m 20cm, with some fierce rivalry, especially amongst those who know each other well(!). The event was also good for our funds, as we sold hot-dogs and hamburgers to friends and family. The spinoffs from both events are that we have made contacts with some day centres interested in organising joint activities for their members, and we also have another jumping competition date in November, with a couple more clubs interested in participating.



We both continue to preach regularly on the church rota. I (Hazel) have been taking a not-ever-so-disciplined ramble around Luke's Gospel which has more than enough to keep me in sermons for a life-time. We had a first attempt at

the beatitudes last Sunday, which was fairly terrifying and we barely scratched the surface. Martin preached the previous week on Psalm 42. He talked about how at least a third of the psalms are laments, and that the Bible absolutely encourages us to be honest to God about our feelings, despite the traditional discomfort too often displayed by churches when people try to do so. Hazel has an invitation to preach at Pastor Ramon's church in Buenos Aires next month, so she is starting to think about that one, which may or may not involve a passage from Luke's Gospel.

Thank you for all your prayers and support. We hope you have a good month.



Hazel X Martin



Joni & Daniel

Latin Link 

