

**STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT  
RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

**TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Charity No. 1074422

**MENZIES**  
BRIGHTER THINKING

**STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Trustees**

I G Shepherd (Chair)  
S Tarbox  
L Campbell-Gray  
H B Ospalak  
J Croxford (Appointed 26/05/2023)  
E Fursland (Appointed 22/05/2023)  
H Stapleton (Appointed 14/04/2023)

**Treasurer**

S Tarbox

**Trust office and registered office**

30 Vicarage Road  
Silsoe  
Bedford  
MK45 4EF

# **STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Registered Charity No. 1074422**

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the accounts for the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

### **CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The groups objectives are to promote the Riding for the Disabled Association by providing disabled people with the opportunity to either ride or carriage drive. The group considers this to be beneficial to both the health and wellbeing of these individuals in the Stevenage area.

The charity trustees confirm that they have regard for the charity commission guidance on public benefit.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT**

The Stevenage and District Riding for the Disabled Association was formed in 1998 and was registered with the Central Register of Charities at no. 1074422 on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 1999.

The charity's governing document is the constitution that was adopted by the charity on 30th November 1998.

Trustees continue to promote and highlight the work of the group to the local community through contacts with Civic Authorities, Businesses, Sporting, Leisure and Service clubs.

The trustees in office and the principal address is detailed on page 1.

### **OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

During this year end period our Group provided over 558 individual rides/horsecare sessions for children and adults. Children from 4 local Special schools and 1 independent horsecare participant attended on Monday mornings, whilst Thursday mornings were dedicated to individual riders, 1 special school, 1 day centre and a rider who is sponsored by our Bursary Fund. Horse care is offered to attendees who cannot physically ride themselves, but who would still benefit from an overall Equestrian experience. Riding/Horsecare sessions are provided by volunteer coaches and helpers, their aim is to give those facing different challenges in life the opportunity to ride for the benefit of their health and well-being.

A total of £34,770 income was received during the year £4,477 more than last year. The majority of this was made up of donations, which totalled £28,279, increasing by £6,391 Gift Aid was reclaimed on all donations where possible.

The remaining income is generated by fund raising which totalled £81, income from riding and grooming sessions which totalled £3,409 and finally bank interest received amounting to £1,903.

The expenditure of £26,077 resulted in a surplus income of £8,693.

# STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

## TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The expenditure covers the rent for the riding school facilities and ponies, purchases of special equipment, volunteer training, insurance, legal requirements, printing, modest administration costs and the Stevenage RDA website. We also purchased our own Shetland therapy pony.

The Bursary Fund has enabled us to purchase a defibrillator, heated cabinet and accessories and continues to allow us to allocate grants towards riding costs, RDA Regional and National events and Dressage On-line competitions. We continue to fundraise to purchase our own Mechanical Horse.

The current bank account and cash position remain strong at £119,861. This comprises of £24,674 invested in reserves, £92,679 held in the 120 day savings account of which £69,390 is a restricted fund. The restricted fund covers the cost of purchasing RDA horses and their upkeep for an initial 2 year period, £10,000 invested for the Bursary Fund and £16,503 that has been raised towards the cost of purchasing a Mechanical Horse. £2,409 is also held in the RDA Investment Account for Bursary Fund use. £100 is held in petty cash.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees actively review the major risks that the charity faces on a regular basis. The trustees believe that maintaining reserves combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient for normal operating risks. Trustees regularly update group policies to reflect new legislation and National guidelines, seeking professional advice where necessary. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which are faced and can confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



I G Shepherd

Date 07/03/24

**STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2023 which are set out on pages 2 - 7.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, you consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiners report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

**Independent examiners statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act 2011;
  - and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

Have not been met; or

2. to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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S L Cuzner  
Menzies LLP  
Richmond House  
Walkern Road  
Stevenage Herts  
SG1 3QP

**STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted		Restricted	Total	2022
	General	Bursary			
<b>Monetary assets</b>					
Bank current account	24,674	-	-	24,674	16,098
Cambridge & Counties 120 day savings	23,289	-	69,390	92,679	90,780
Cambridge & Counties 2 year fixed bond	-	-	-	-	-
Petty Cash	100	-	-	100	27
	<u>48,063</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,390</u>	<u>117,453</u>	<u>106,905</u>
<b>Bursary fund</b>					
Bank deposit account	-	2,409	-	2,409	4,264
	<u>48,063</u>	<u>2,409</u>	<u>69,390</u>	<u>119,862</u>	<u>111,169</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Trade Debtors	-	-	-	-	-
Riding Horsecare Equipment	1,202.00	-	-	1,202	-
Stock	1,000.00	-	-	1,000	-
	<u>2,202</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,202</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Trade Creditors	<u>62</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>2,169</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>50,204</u>	<u>2,409</u>	<u>69,390</u>	<u>122,003</u>	<u>109,000</u>

  
S Tarbox

  
I G Shepherd

Date: 07/03/24



**STEVENAGE AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	<b>Unrestricted</b>		<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>Bursary</b>			
<b>INCOME</b>					
Donations	25,019	-	3,260	28,279	21,888
Bursary fund	-	-	-	-	-
Fund raising	81	-	-	81	182
Riding lessons	3,409	-	-	3,409	1,276
Bank interest	1,903	-	-	1,903	899
Gift Aid	1,098	-	-	1,098	6,048
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>31,510</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,260</b>	<b>34,770</b>	<b>30,293</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Direct costs	5,452	1,855	-	7,307	98
Repairs and Renewals	418	-	-	418	6,637
Equipment costs	276	-	-	276	904
Rent of Ponies & Riding School	14,569	-	-	14,569	13,730
Insurance	1,104	-	-	1,104	934
Travelling	221	-	-	221	10
Computer and software	93	-	-	93	51
Training costs	680	-	-	680	651
Postage and stationery	54	-	-	54	484
Professional fees	647	-	-	647	554
Subscriptions	140	-	-	140	140
Miscellaneous	568	-	-	568	463
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>24,222</b>	<b>1,855</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,077</b>	<b>24,656</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>7,288</b>	<b>(1,855)</b>	<b>3,260</b>	<b>8,693</b>	<b>5,637</b>
<b>Cash balances b/fwd 1st April 2022</b>	<b>40,775</b>	<b>4,264</b>	<b>66,130</b>	<b>111,169</b>	<b>105,532</b>
Transfer between reserves	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash balances c/fwd 31st March 2023</b>	<b>48,063</b>	<b>2,409</b>	<b>69,390</b>	<b>119,862</b>	<b>111,169</b>