

Kyre Group Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving. (Charity No.1173097)



51st AGM REPORT – JULY 2025

Chair's Report – Andrew Brazier, Chairperson

As the world seeks to self-destruct around us, we continue to do what we do best! Twelve month's on, as we start our summer recess, it is hard to believe it is only a year since our anniversary party and it feels as if the last year has been one 'heads down' and getting on with things. We put in our usual appearance at Tenbury Show and Applefest last year. It is important to keep a presence at these local events not just to fly the flag for RDA but to remind people that our activities are on their doorstep and we'd love them to engage.

It has been good to get back to driving with a fully accredited pony and carriage and Helen Munro has more to say on the topic in her driving report.

Riding goes from strength to strength as we continue to receive the support of local schools – both state and private. It is busy at Grafton on a Friday! Jackie has expanded on these activities below.

We have another change of trustee at the group. Jane Robinson has done sterling work as our treasurer this past year but has decided it has taken too much of her time when other commitments beckon, but we are delighted to welcome back Margaret Bradley to take on the role from Jane. We know Margaret will be inheriting some well-kept books and look forward to her joining us back as a trustee.

Lisa Hill has accepted the position of Secretary to the Group and we are very grateful for her input to date. As is our normal practice, and required under our constitution, three trustees must seek re-election on rotating basis. With Jane stepping down, and Margaret stepping up we need two other trustees to resign and I am pleased to say that Mandi and Anna have both confirmed their willingness to remain as trustees for the foreseeable future.

This year's AGM will return to Little Hereford Village Hall on the Friday the 25th July at 3.00pm.

Time for me to say thank you to our other contributors for their reports and to hand over to Jackie, Helen and Jane.

Riding Coaches Report – Jackie Forrester

For the period July 2024 (previous AGM) to July 2025 (this AGM)

Riding sessions recommenced in September following the summer break.

Riders

During the period we have provided:

Riding sessions on 33 days – usually 2 sessions each day (approx.66 sessions).

Number of attendees – 210 (2-6 riders per session)

New riders – 12

Schools attending this year:

Tenbury Primary School

Burford Primary School

Clifton Primary School

Rowden House School

Independent x 1

Horses

Group owned horses, Tikka and Kira continue to provide good service. Tikka has some mild lameness and is being managed under veterinary advice on Bute. She is a great asset for our larger riders. Kira is well and is a very useful pony for our more able riders as she is very forward going. She also proved herself as a reliable RDA pony when she stood stock still for half an hour whilst she was painted by three very enthusiastic boys!).

Grafton owned horses consist of Bess, Lily, Billy, Lucky, Madge, Andy and Dusty. They are all aged but continue to provide suitable riding for our participants. The opportunity to discuss replacements with Sue has not arisen yet.

Coaching

Jackie and Mandi have shared the coaching. Jackie continues to manage volunteers and allocate ponies to riders. Both have attended various training days for CPD and self-development as well as visiting other groups. Jackie successfully renewed her Coaches Certificate this year and the group received compliments on the standard of helpers and volunteer training.

Volunteers

In addition to the coaches, we had a group of twenty very keen and enthusiastic helpers. This is currently reduced to seventeen due to ill health and personal commitments. We gained two new helpers this year and will be actively seeking new helpers at Tenbury Show and the Applefest.

There are now ten Trained First Aiders.

The Riding Organiser role (Carolyn) continues to work well, ensuring a smooth communication system with the schools/riders as well as an efficient yard.

Training/Interest Days

We have focussed on short training sessions for volunteers during free riding slots. These have covered subjects such as leading, side helping, mounting and dismounting and dealing with the characteristics of Autism.

Following the success of our Anniversary Celebration – Party with a Pony, we held a similar Fun Day this year. This was attended by sixteen children with their school staff and one set of grandparents. Ponies were groomed and painted and kindly judged by Claire Wall. This was followed by light refreshments making use of the gazebo. The event was very well received.

Equipment

No changes to equipment.

Carriage Driving Report – Helen Munro

We made steady progress during our 2024 season following our RDA assessment in July. Jackie successfully passed as a driving coach and was able to share the sessions with Helen. Blodyn settled into her role and proved to be an asset to our RDA activities. Our new 4-wheel Twingo - built for us by John Hillam was also well received by our participants.

2024 driving sessions:

During our returning year we worked with 4 participants (two new to us and two returning), all ambulant and ranging from 54-61.

We were able to offer 16 driving opportunities during our 13 x weekly sessions between August – November 2024.

We are one of the smaller RDA groups and with us starting so late into the driving season it was true team effort to have achieved so much during our 50th anniversary year. With some better weather heading into autumn we were also able to offer drives into November for the first time.

Changes in 2025:

Our aim was to return in 2025 and continue to offer ambulant driving opportunities; our pre-season training began as planned in March. However during May, Helen advised the trustees that for personal reasons she had decided to step down as driving organiser and coach. With Jackie already fully committed as riding group organiser and lead coach this left a vacancy for this role within the group. The trustees were not aware of anyone able to take on this responsibility and took the difficult decision to put driving activities on hold with the plan for this to be reviewed again in the future. Although our driving may be suspended, we would like to thank all of our volunteers for their endless enthusiasm and support during our activities over the years - we could not have achieved so much as a team without them and the time they have committed to us – in all weathers!

We would like to thank Derek and Carolyn for kindly allowing us the opportunity to drive from their private home. We appreciate it has been a huge commitment to host us, all of our kit and agreeing for us to work with Blodyn. Our thanks also go to Jackie and Mike for offering to store all of our kit while driving takes a break.

We would especially like to recognise Blodyn who has been a total superstar for our RDA driving group. She took to the job like a duck to water and although we've had a busy couple of years training & preparing her for assessment, she has always been a joy to work with. We hope that this won't be the end of her RDA journey and she may be able to have some more driving adventures in the future.

Financial Report – Jane Robinson

For the period April 2024 to March 2025

Please see the accounts for the period set out below.

Grafton is often late with billing us for services which is why Summer-23, Autumn-23 and Spring-24 are a carry-over from the 2023 /2024 accounts. To date, we have not received the Spring-25 invoice from Grafton.

£10,000 is held on account in an investment account and produces a small amount of interest. It originally was £20,000 but we have needed to transfer £10,000 which is reflected in these accounts.

KYRE GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION CHARITY NUMBER 1173097
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

		Year to 31/03/202		Year to 31/03/2024	
Income					
	Bromyard Lions	250.00		0.00	
	Burford Trust	1500.00		1500.00	
	Tenbury Masons	300.00		500.00	
	Godson Charity	300.00		250.00	
	Neville Parry	100.00		0.00	
	Leominster Masons	500.00		0.00	
	Goodenough Trust	500.00	3450.00	1000.00	3250.00
	Riders Payments	510.00		552.00	
	Driving payments	80.00		0.00	
	Collection boxes	27.18		23.55	
	Fund Raising	112.20		74.00	
	Investment Income	1529.57		1497.94	
	Deposit Account				
	Transfer	10021.92			
	Loan H Herdman	2000.00			
	Deposit account				
	interest	311.31		358.19	
	Apple fest	35.00			
Total income			<u>18074.18</u>		<u>5755.68</u>
	True Income	6052.26			
	Donations and				
	interest	5290.88			
Expenditure					
Driving					
	Expenses	157.39		396.99	
	Carriage assessment	122.52		Debbie Boston	90.00
	High viz jackets first aid kit	66.54		equipment	67.53
	Carriage repairs	281.31			279.04
	Gift to J Hallam	23.19		bike	750.00
	Gift to C & D Yates	181.05			25.00
	Farrier	540.00			756.00
	Mineral/Mites	84.00		Vet fly wash	132.60
	Seats	207.60		misc	10.00
				insurance	180.00
		1663.60	<u>1456.01</u>		<u>2687.16</u>
Riding					
Grafton	Summer 23	1681.00			
	Autumn 23	1096.00			
	Spring24	727.90			
	Summer 24	1118.78			
	Autumn 24	866.50	5490.18		1966.29
C Thomas Dentist	2023	180.00			
	2024	200.00			
Osteopath		100.00			
Mortimer vets		303.48			938.91
DBS		100.00	883.48		117.20

Equipment					
	Headcollars	12.80			
	Paints Poles	147.74			
	Halters	33.58			
	Poles and rack	460.00			
	Flag cones	62.35			
	Stirrups	61.70			207.65
	Pony paint	57.06			
		390.01	1225.24		
General					
First Aid training		366.00			180.00
		540.00	906.00		
Coaches assessment		27.20			
Apple fest		35.00			
Loan repayment to H					
Herdman		2000.00			
Insurance		477.00			280.00
AGM		115.00			
Fundraising		81.80	2736.00		
50 th Celebration		1885.64	1885.64		
Capital					
Disabled loo		1960.00	1960.00	Mirror	510.00
Total Expenses			16696.15		
Opening Balance			26359.49		27979.53
1st April					
Plus Receipts			18074.18		5755.68
			44433.67		33726.21
Less Payments			16696.15		7366.72
Closing Balance			27737.52		26359.49
Balance per bank 31st March			6958.09		6001.30
Closing Balance					
Deposit Account			10,757.51		20,358.19
			(10,021.92)		
			<u>17,715.60</u>		<u>26,359.49</u>

Also held 23,520.56 units Royal London Sterling Extra

Yield Bond		25000.00
Value at 31 March	(unknown)	22473.00

Petty Cash	
Opening balance (from 2019)	49.10
Carriage driving	10.00
Burford church	15.00
Cash in hand	25.18
Stationary	-2.00
Total	97.28