EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales · Charity number 1180061

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2018-09-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	St Ebba's Farm Hook Road Epsom Epsom Surrey KT5 9EY
Phone	01372743690
Email	info@epsomrda.org.uk
Website	http://www.epsomrda.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS FOR WHICH THE CIO IS ESTABLISHED ARE TO PROMOTE THE OBJECTS OF THE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING A CHARITY REGISTERED UNDER CHARITY NUMBER 244108 ("RDA") BY PROVIDING DISABLED PEOPLE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RIDE AND/OR TO CARRIAGE DRIVE TO BENEFIT THEIR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN THE SURREY/SOUTH EASTERN AREA.

Activities: The Group works with people with a range of disabilities and reasons for taking part. The Group providesspecialist tuition, training and support for people with disabilities to ride. Without this support most of our participants would be unable to take part in these activities. The service is based in Epsom and serves the surrounding area

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

Geography

- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£119,022	£107,739	-	-
2024-03-31	£122,021	£93,588	-	-
2023-03-31	£97,964	£118,501	-	-
2022-03-31	£55,216	£62,302	-	-
2021-03-31	£53,608	£60,694	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Raymond John Lee	Chair	2025-11-16
A.M. WILSON		2018-09-28
Allie Philpin		2024-12-01
Ann Margaret Stuart		2024-10-18
Elizabeth Clark		2022-04-01
Neil Chawla		2026-01-12

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EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1180061

Accounts

Epsom RDA

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st March 2025

Vision & Objectives

Epsom RDA's mission is to provide disabled people with the opportunity to improve their health and well-being through the therapeutic power of horses.

We are a thriving charity providing therapy, fun and achievement for nearly 200 disabled participants delivered by a team of over 250 volunteers and our own herd of ponies.
We hold riding sessions every day; each one is unique in terms of the people we support, and coaching is adapted to the needs of each participant.

The therapeutic benefits of interactions with horses are well recognised. Riding helps exercise and strengthen muscles, mobilises joints, and helps participants develop their balance, independence, and sensory perception. Being able to spend time caring for horses also has a positive impact on confidence levels, relationship building, and communication skills be it for riders or our team of dedicated volunteers. Each session, whether it is riding or learning about caring for horses, is planned to encourage our participants to enjoy themselves, and from that enjoyment gain emotional, social, educational, and physical benefits.

We have faced a number of challenges over the last 12 months. These have included strains on two of our most valuable resources; our herd and our volunteers. For the second year running, illness affected the majority of our herd in winter 2025 and this meant we had to stop riding for nearly three months. We are also seeing challenges in volunteer retention which means that we have not been able to increase the number of people we support, nor have we been able to broaden our offer.

Our over-arching ambition remains to increase the number of people we support, broaden our offer and increase our impact. With an ageing herd and finite volunteer resources, we must think creatively about how we achieve this and this will be our focus for the year ahead.

Whatever the challenges, our goal is that even more disabled people benefit from the therapeutic power of horses.

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Chair Foreword

Thank you to everyone that has worked so hard over the course of a challenging year. For the second year in a row, our herd have been out of work due to a liver problem which has meant that we have had to stop all sessions for nearly three months. We are truly sorry to all our riders and participants that have been unable to come to their sessions during this time.

At the time of writing, we are cautiously but optimistically welcoming our riders and participants back. Whilst the challenges of an ageing herd remain, we hope that the plans we have put in place around ongoing professional care will ensure that the issue does not return.

Recognising our herd as one of our most important assets, we employed a horse and pony welfare manager in 2024-25. Our first paid member of staff, we see this professional expertise as essential to maintaining a healthy herd and so ensuring that our riders and participants can enjoy their experience of Epsom RDA for years to come.

On a positive note, the herd being unfit for ridden work did enable us to offer stable management and pony care sessions to some of our participants as an alternative to riding. It was a real highlight to see the benefit of our participants spending one-to-one time with 'their' equine and deepening that human-horse connection that we know is so valuable.

Some entrenched challenges remain, most notably in terms of our waiting list, with many more disabled people needing us than we have places available. We are still unable to open our waiting list to new participants and will be exploring ways that we can broaden participation, perhaps through one-off sessions for people on our waiting list and developing pony care sessions as a more regular and structured activity.

Thank you to all of you that have made Epsom RDA such a worthwhile and enjoyable place to be for our riders and participants. I am looking forward to working with you over the coming year to ensure that we continue to enable our riders and participants to benefit from the therapeutic power of horses.

Laura Hales - Chair

Participants

In 2024-2025 we delivered 2,327 sessions of therapy for 233 people.

This is a very slight drop in the number of therapy sessions in comparison the last year, which is not what we were aiming for. The number of sessions provided has been impacted by the health of the herd, preventing us from having participants attend for a couple of months.

During 2023-24 we took the decision to close our waiting list to update and move the list to a new database. Everyone on the list was contacted, and their details confirmed, along with the ongoing desire and suitability to be on the waiting list.

We currently have 32 people on our waiting list, down from 55 following the review last year. We have placed some people from the waiting list into spaces as they have become available resulting in the number of participants this year being slightly higher than last year.

The waiting list remains closed due to the lack of availability of suitable places to allocate new participants to. This is due to most new applicants wishing to attend on weekends and evenings, resulting in high demand for few places. We hope the provision of places to new participants will pick up as our herd returns to full strength.

Competition

Last year due to the ponies' health we were unable to run our usual dressage competition or to enter riders into the regional and national championships. However, in the Autumn, six riders entered the Virtual National Dressage Championships and did brilliantly, all attaining a place in the top ten for their class, with one rider winning the Introduction to Dressage Class on Shannon.

Volunteers

Our wonderful volunteers continue to be the backbone of all we do. As a pre-dominantly volunteer managed and staffed charity, we could not do it without them.

We were delighted to be able to acknowledge the commitment and achievements of a few of our special volunteers during our Annual Prize Giving in November. We presented Over and Above Awards to several volunteers in recognition of them taking on far more than we normally ask of volunteers. This included a special shout out to the maintenance team for being an absolutely wonderful team, often staying on late to finish jobs, putting up new shelters and keeping the muck heap safe and accessible. We also presented length of service awards to volunteers who have dedicated 25, 30 and 35 years to Epsom RDA!

To support our volunteers, we have delivered full stage one and two training sessions as provided by our training team provide annually. In addition, this year we hosted a very special lecture on Autism. This training was organised in response to requests from volunteers Autism is a condition common to many our participants, both from specialist schools and attending independently.

We have 255 volunteers and still need to keep recruiting more; we still need more session helpers and have a couple of trustee positions to fill, notably, we very much need a trustee to represent the participants on the board.

In return for their hard work, we aim to continue to ensure that our excellent volunteers receive the recognition and training they deserve and require.

Horse and Ponies

This year we have successfully welcomed and settled in two new horses to the herd. River, a Clydesdale mare, has come to us on loan and Shannon Pie was offered to us for purchase in December. Both quickly became part of the Epsom RDA team taking to their new jobs well and enjoying life with us. Unfortunately, we lost two of our existing herd this year.

In December we lost our longest serving herd member at the grand age of 30, our beautiful Marigold, the matriarch of our herd.

Monreith Marigold, was a 13.2hh Highland pony and came to us in 2000 when she was just five years old. She was the longest serving member of the Epsom RDA herd and over her exceptionally long career, she gave countless people the opportunity to experience the joy of riding. She took many of our participants to Regional and National Championships, winning Nationals not once but twice!

She was a determined, spirited lady and certainly kept the volunteers on their toes, especially when it came to picking out her back feet! But she loved her job, loved a pamper (especially her gorgeous long mane) and particularly liked extra strong mints!

Rags was affected by the liver infarction last year and, on the advice of the vet, he was put to sleep after a week of cuddles from all who knew and loved him.

This gives us a total herd of 15, although Tandi remains on loan to continue her driving training with a view to re-homing her in future.

Whilst the first few months of 2025 being so challenging, we are optimistic that the action we have taken will mean we can offer a full programme of riding and events over the coming year.

Grounds & Property

Our gardening and maintenance teams continued to work hard to keep our site safe and welcoming for our riders and participants.

Once again, we hosted several companies for corporate volunteering sessions during the spring and summer months. These included Axa Health, Blueprint Partners, Epsom College, ICM Investment Management, Nuffield Health, Petplan, Pfizer, SGN, Surrey County Council and Zoetis.

The corporate volunteer days are a mutually beneficial in providing us with labour to keep our site well maintained as well as providing valuable team building exercises for companies taking part. Jobs included tidying of our sensory track, cutting grass, strimming, weeding and demolishing and rebuilding field shelters for our herd.

We are particularly grateful to SGN once again for bringing their plant and delivering more complex work.

We are enormously grateful to our team, not only for the larger projects but also for keeping everything in sage working order for our riders, participants, and everyone at Epsom RDA.

Fundraising and Events

Our events fundraising continues to grow consistently this year. Our highly committed and imaginative fundraising and events team delivered a range of well-attended and extremely popular events including a summer open day, a dog show, dressage, working equitation, pole work clinics and an extraordinarily successful Christmas Carols at the Stables.

Our open day in September 2024 was the showstopper of our events programme where we hosted over 1,000 people. This year, we hope to build on that success and host an Open Day to remember on 31st May. Volunteers from every session are involved in making all our events a success, as well as non-session volunteers from our maintenance, gardening, and IT teams – we thank them all for their continued massive support and dedication.

In addition to these events, the team has also hosted educational events and lectures delivered by guest speakers, including our well-attended feed presentation. As well as raising funds through ticket sales to the public, these events continue to prove popular training opportunities for our volunteers. Likewise, our regular pole work and dressage clinics, and our working equitation clinics, are also popular with the public and serve to both increase our income and raise our profile in the community.

Our tack sales draw in many from outside Epsom RDA. So much is the demand that we now host monthly tack sales on the second Friday of the month. Thanks to the many donations we receive, it ensures that we always have plenty of stock to sell and many of our visitors return every month. Funds from our tack sales continue to increase, in some cases achieving revenues of over £400 in one evening.

In December 2024, we hosted our annual Carols at RDA and as in previous years, it proved to be extremely popular. Last year we made the decision to sell tickets online – the first time we have trialled this option – and it proved to be a success! The majority of attendees had purchased their tickets online prior to the Carols, ensuring we had much smaller queues at the entrance and we raised over £600 in tickets alone.

As always, we continue to review our ongoing events over the calendar year and look to optimise the opportunities where we can. As always, we are also continually thankful for the donations we receive from various organisations and individuals over the year and 2024 was no exception.

Communications

The focus of our communications in 2024-25 has been to develop more regular and structured communications for our riders, parents and carers so that they feel part of the wider Epsom RDA community. A carer for one of our riders has taken on the task of creating Hoofbeats, a regular newsletter for our riders, parents and carers. We hope that improved communications will create an environment where our rider, parent and carer community feel able to express their ideas, suggestions for improvement and become more involved in Epsom RDA life.

Planning for the Future

2025 will see continuation of our work in terms of delivering on our strategic objectives which are to:

- To deliver a varied and worthwhile experience to enhance health and well-being; **this includes ensuring participants have activities suitable to their level and opportunities to progress, broadening our offer to include non-ridden activities and improving the volunteer experience;**
- To maximise the number of participants able to benefit from being with horses; **this includes improving the management of our waiting list, maximising the number of riders at each session and investing in volunteer recruitment, training and retention;**
- To be an excellent organisation that is financially robust with a mixed revenue funding model; **this includes developing a fundraising strategy, ensuring that we meet our obligations on governance and health & safety, communicating effectively and committing to being a diverse and inclusive charity.**

With the pressures on our two most important assets; our volunteers and our herd, we will need to think very carefully about how we deliver our objectives over the course of the coming year and beyond.

Financial Review and Accounts

The financial year ended 31st March 2025

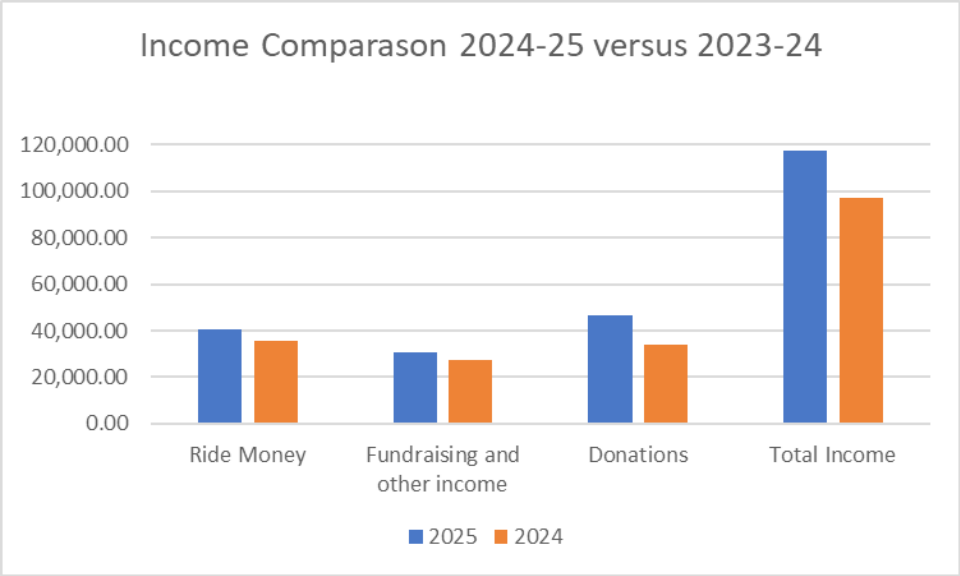
Overview

For the year ended 31st March 2025 the charity showed an annual operating surplus of c. £11.3k (c.£3.4k surplus in 2023-24). These figures do not include any income or expenditure related to the Future Strategy which is classed as non-operating expenses and income. This comprised total operating income of c.£119k (c.£97K in 2023-24) with operating expenses of c.£108k (c.£93k in 2023-24). Income has increased since last year, however, costs have seen a significant increase. The cost increases are seen mainly in the rising cost of feed and in pony care. The rise in pony care costs includes increased vet bills but also the strategic decision taken by the trustees to bring in a paid Horse and Pony manager. Initially this was a self-employed role but, after an initial review period, it was agreed that this was a paid post and it has been an employed position since February 2025, funded from designated funds. The total surplus for the year was c.£11.3k (against a surplus of c.£28k in 2023-24). Operationally this is a c.£8k increase on 2023-24 but recognises that pony purchase in 2024-25 was less than 2023-24.

Income

The trustees took the opportunity to review the fee level for 2023-24 and agreed to hold it at £10 for the third year running against a cost per ride of £45(£40 in 2023-24). Our aim is to cover the cost of running the herd (less the cost of buying new herd members and the cost of the Horse and Pony Manager), however, due to rising pony care and feed costs the income of c.£41k was slightly less than the cost of maintaining the herd at c.£48k. The remaining cost of running the charity relies on donations and our regular income from livery (this has reduced in 2024-25 as we sadly said goodbye to Charlie after a long and happy retirement with Jane), use of the school and letting space to Austin & Jenkins builders.

The total income for the year is standing at c.£119k which is increase on the c.£97k in 2023-24. Donations for 2024-25 were much higher at c.£47k against 2023-24 which were c.£34k. Events during the year netted c.£7k a slightly up against £6.5k last year. This reflects the work the events team have put into getting a regular programme of events as well as the Open Day and Carols at the Stables. Income has also benefitted from a rise in interest rates during the year with interest at c.£4.9k against c.£2.5k in the previous year.



2024-25	2023-24

We have also received support from generous donors including: -

- Annette Emery Gemstone Jewellery who continues to make and sell jewellery with the profits used to buy items we need for our ponies
- Epsom and District Caledonian society
- Epsom Fireworks
- Former Participants who continue to donate monthly
- Harold Bell Infiel Charity
- HOGGS golf club
- John Lewis
- Papillon School
- Rotary Club of Ewell St Mark's and Mitcham Buffalos
- The Thompson Family Trust for their ongoing regular monthly donation
- Lucy Morris who was sponsored to raise the c.£2k we needed to buy a sit on mower for the sensory track
- Tricia Goodwin for her contribution to Marigold's bills
- Laurence Anastasi
- Sarah Chadwick at Banstead Waitrose
- Leatherhead Golf Club
- Heather Powell

Of course, we are also grateful for all the donations we receive from volunteers, friends and relations of participants, the local allotments and gardeners who donate when collecting our quality manure, hot chocolate reindeers and pocket money as these unrestricted funds go directly to supporting the upkeep of the herd and their home to the benefit of our participants. We are also grateful for the volunteers who never claim expenses, donate carrots and cotton wool pads and organisations who give us time and labour.

Expenditure

The upkeep of the herd forms a major part of our outgoings. This year our herd (15 ponies at year end – 14 of which are part of our active herd with Tandi being on a loan for re-schooling) cost c.£68k (c.£39K in 2023-24 when we had the same number of ponies) which includes expenses for feed, hay, farriers, dentist, vet, Horse and Pony Manager and various equipment including our new bits, saddle pads and other essential tack. The increase in expenditure continues to be driven the rising costs of hay, feed (including new supplements for all our herd) and services (we remain grateful for those services who have held their prices lower for ourselves). We have started to source our medicines online to reduce costs. A further c.£3.9k was donated by the organisers of the Epsom fireworks and Annette Emery Gemstones all of which was used to purchase new equipment. This excludes the cost of purchasing new herd member Shannon Pie with River coming to us on loan. (2023-24 the cost of purchases was c£16K in 2024-25 this was c.£3.6k).

The average cost of keeping a herd member during the last year was £3,786 an increase from the previous year where it was £2,720 per annum (this excludes the cost of the Horse and Pony Manager who is funded from designated funds). This is the equivalent of £73 per week which is a c.40% increase on the prior year. So, a donation of £6 can buy a bale of hay, £74 pays for a most ponies to be visited by the farrier (Romeo though is a draft size and comes in at £168 every 6-8 weeks so do consider if you would like to buy him some new shoes!) and £50 pays for a visit from the equine dentist.

Our next expense is in keeping the site safe, secure, and well maintained. The cost of maintaining the buildings and grounds in 2024-25 c.£25k (2023-24 was c. £29k this reflects the investment made on site in 2023-24).

Other expenses include insurance, utilities, training, security, and general office expenses. All essential to our operation but the rise for 2024–25 reflects the general economic position as all costs have increased during the year. To mitigate this the trustees have ensured all contracts for maintenance of the site have been reviewed to ensure best value for money.

As always, we are grateful to Steve and the maintenance team for all their hard work keeping our site safe and well maintained. Also, to the gardening team for maintaining the sensory track and general garden spaces.

Reserves

As a charity we are in the fortunate position that we have always been prudent with our use of incoming funds versus expenditure. At the end of 2024-25 we had c £250k cash in hand in various bank accounts (c.£239k in 2023-24).

The Trustees have several ringfences in place on this money:

Future Strategy Fund (formerly Indoor School Project) - £25k
Trustees have re-prioritised the updating and improving of the site so we can have dedicated fund raising and maximise our service provision by investing in smaller projects. The £25k legacy received during the 2023-24 year was ringfenced to this fund and will be held against future strategic investment in the charity.

Minimum Reserves as required by the Charity Commission - £120K
All charities have a statutory duty to set minimum reserves to ensure their continued status as a going concern. Our minimum reserves were set some years ago to be held at a year running costs. The trustees reviewed these during 2024, as we do on an annual basis, and agreed that £120k was still the appropriate amount to hold. These funds are there for dire emergencies and can only be utilised for general running costs should our status change and we need to use them to remain a going concern.

Funds available for use as at 31st March 2025– c.£105k (in 2023-24 c.£64k)
This is the cash we have in hand that we can use to keep our herd fed and well, to maintain our land and buildings and to make improvements for the safety, wellbeing, and enhancement of our offer to our participants. We also keep a further amount to funds in the designated funds account mentioned above for major works to ensure our site is safe and secure for our herd and our participants. During 2025 we will be reviewing our pasture maintenance and will be investing in more shelters to allow us to make the best use of all our lands.

The employment of the Horse and Pony Manager during 2024-25 has proved to have added considerable value to the charity. As we have an aging vintage herd and continuing health issues it was impossible to ask that this role be carried on in a voluntary capacity (and we are extremely grateful to those volunteers who continue to support this role). Given the success of this the trustees have agreed that we need to appoint a deputy in 2025-26. Having trained individuals focusing on the care of our herd it gives our volunteers more time to concentrate on our participants. The health and availability of our herd is key to us being able to offer equine therapy and, as such, has been prioritised as essential expenditure. The trustees have agreed to fund this from designated funds in 2025-26.

During 2023-24 the Trustees delegated authority to the Finance, Performance and Governance Committee (FPGC) to manage the running of the charity by allocating budgets to designated Trustees who have the responsibility for property management, health, safety and cleaning, the upkeep of the herd and general running costs (e.g., insurance, rubbish removal, utilities, professional services including the bank account, audit fees etc). FPGC had full authority to spend within their budgets and there is a procurement policy which was agreed by the Trustees which gives us a framework to ensure we spend wisely and get the best value for money we can. Towards the end of 2023-24 the number of trustees reduced so the committee was suspended with decisions reverting back to the trustees under the same terms as FPGC. The governance remains in place.

In addition, Epsom RDA owns:

- The freehold of St Ebba's Farm, which cost £84,657 (inclusive of legal fees).
- Equipment including two tractors, a trailer, three harrows and sundry other tractor attachments,
- A hand operated motor mower, a strimmer and various workshop tools, competition fences, poles, and games
- equipment with an approximate current value of £15,000 (2024 - £15,000)

Notes to the accounts

Restricted Funds

We have had £6,541 added to our restricted funds during the year in addition to the £25k held for the strategic improvement fund. £2,427 of the added funds has been utilised during the year. Of the remaining funds £1,986 has been raised by Lucy Williams in our gardening team for the purpose of purchasing a sit on mower for the sensory track and there is a further £2,128 available from the fireworks donation to fund the purchase of more equipment for the ponies.

Designated Funds

The Designated Fund is £60,107 (closing balance as at 31st March 2024 £40,880). The trustees added a designated sum of £35,000, including £20,000 designated for major works (total of £3,583 spent in the year from designated funds) towards the purchase of new herd members and the costs related to said purchases. The remaining £12,190 was used to provide maintenance to the site including the provision of a new sewage pump, new field shelters and other essential site work. This designated fund represents amounts set aside by

the trustees out of the general fund to meet the cost of future improvements to the property, provision of paid staff for horse and pony care and the purchase of new herd members. The interest on the balance in the Fund provides income for general purposes to help meet the charity's running expenses.

The following projects have been identified by the Trustees, for implementation as and when funds become available: -

- To purchase equipment necessary for maintaining the estate.
- To maintain or expand our herd which, although it has been added to over the past year, will need to be expanded further as participants return and in recognition of the age of the some of the current herd members.
- To fund the care of our herd by employing a Horse and Pony care team (in 2024-25 this was the Horse and Pony Manager)
- Future Strategy initiatives have been identified and the trustees have agreed these will be funded through specific fundraising and the legacy received during 2023-24.

During the year, the trustees carried out work as held on the capital project list. This included:

- essential maintenance work needed to ensure the safety and upkeep of our buildings and ground
- provision of equipment for the herd and participants

as well as a list of other projects where donors require a specific use for the funding being offered.

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025 TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts, under Section 145 of the Charities Act, following the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners, (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 any 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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(a.) 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 Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

T W Slater ACA,CTA
Shaw Gibbs Limited
79a High Street
Teddington
Middlesex TW11 8HG
30th June 2025

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Income and Expenditure
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Ride Money	41,484.00			41,484.00	35,811.00
Livery Fees	4,818.00			4,818.00	5,640.00
Use of School	2,475.00			2,475.00	2,400.00
Interest income	4,856.00			4,856.00	2,498.00
Total Regular Income	**53,633.00**			**53,633.00**	**46,349.00**
Gross Income					
Plus Other Income					
Donations	25,344.00			25,344.00	12,617.00
Online donations	14,859.00			14,859.00	12,181.00
Ring fenced Donations	0.00	6,541.00		6,541.00	9,337.00
Tack sale	3,220.00			3,220.00	4,269.00
Events	12,382.00			12,382.00	8,359.00
Other revenue	3,043.00			3,043.00	3,909.00
Total Other Income	**58,848.00**	**6,541.00**		**65,389.00**	**50,672.00**
Total Income	**112,481.00**	**6,541.00**	**0.00**	**119,022.00**	**97,021.00**
Less Herd Upkeep Costs					
Pony care	43,196.00			43,196.00	18,645.00
Pony costs-equipment	2,337.00	1,756.00		4,093.00	6,836.00
Pony feed	20,003.00			20,003.00	12,824.00
Pony purchase	0.00		3,583.00	3,583.00	15,607.00
Pony schooling	260.00			260.00	1,335.00
Total Herd Upkeep Costs	**65,796.00**	**1,756.00**	**3,583.00**	**71,135.00**	**55,247.00**
Gross Profit	**46,685.00**	**4,785.00**	**-3,583.00**	**47,887.00**	**41,774.00**
Expenses					
Cost of running site					
Maintenance of grounds	1,423.00			1,423.00	3,449.00
Repairs & maintenance - building	2,144.00			2,144.00	2,731.00
Light, Power, Heating	2,385.00			2,385.00	1,296.00
Cleaning and sanitary costs	622.00			622.00	2,209.00
Fuel costs and servicing	683.00			683.00	699.00
Motor vehicle expenses	0.00			0.00	100.00
Gardening	790.00			790.00	939.00
Health, Safety and Safeguarding	95.00	0.00	0.00	95.00	54.00
Insurance	2,791.00			2,791.00	2,733.00
New Works	1,360.00	219.00	12,190.00	13,769.00	14,594.00
Telephone and Internet	613.00	0.00		613.00	481.00

Other Running Costs					
Fundraising					
Competition costs	79.00			79.00	1,804.00
Event costs	4,771.00	452.00		5,223.00	2,092.00
Prize Giving costs	984.00			984.00	633.00
Fundraiser Partner costs	360.00			360.00	446.00
Total Fundraising	**6,194.00**	**452.00**	**0.00**	**6,646.00**	**4,975.00**
Finance and Legal costs					
Audit & Accountancy fees	2,434.00			2,434.00	2,131.00
Bank fees	6.00			6.00	215.00
Subscription costs	299.00			299.00	235.00
Total Finance and Legal cost	**2,739.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**2,739.00**	**2,581.00**
Training					
Training - coaching and busary	0.00			0.00	20.00
Training - first aid	492.00			492.00	840.00
Staff Training	120.00			120.00	0.00
Total Training	**612.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**612.00**	**860.00**
Other Administrative and Misc costs					
IT Software and consumables	264.00			264.00	380.00
Printing & stationery	459.00			459.00	173.00
General expenses	569.00			569.00	87.00
Total Other Administrave and Misc	**1,292.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**1,292.00**	**640.00**
Total Other Running Costs	**10,837.00**	**452.00**	**0.00**	**11,289.00**	**9,056.00**
Total Operating Expenses	**23,743.00**	**671.00**	**12,190.00**	**36,604.00**	**38,341.00**
Operating Surplus (Loss)	**22,942.00**	**4,114.00**	**-15,773.00**	**11,283.00**	**3,433.00**
Future Strategy Costs Fund and Income					
Future Strategy Costs Project					
Future Strategy costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Future Strategy funding	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-25,000.00
Total Future Strategy Costs Project	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**-25,000.00**
Total Non-operating Expenses	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**-25,000.00**
Net Surplus (Loss)	**22,942.00**	**4,114.00**	**-15,773.00**	**11,283.00**	**28,433.00**
Transfer of funds	**-35,000.00**		**35,000.00**		
Balance at 1st April 2024	**173,007.00**	**25,000.00**	**40,880.00**	**238,887.00**	210,454.00
Balance at 31st March 2025	**160,949.00**	**29,114.00**	**60,107.00**	**250,170.00**	238,887.00

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Balance Sheet
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Bank Accounts	Opening Balance	Cash Received	Cash Spent	Closing Balance
ERDA CIO current account	32,678.00	116,944.00	116,648.00	32,974.00
ERDA old charity	3,682.00	720.00		4,402.00
ERDA Virgin	382.00	15.00	397.00	0.00
National Counties Building Soc	97,689.00	3,734.00		101,423.00
Accessible savings account	102,429.00	7,098.00		109,527.00
Metrobank savings account	2,027.00	21.00		2,048.00
Metrobank credit card	0.00		204.00	-204.00
Total	**238,887.00**	**128,532.00**	**117,249.00**	**250,170.00**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank Balances at 31st March 2024 held by Epsom Riding for the Disabled (1180061)	**173,007.00**	**25,000.00**	**40,880.00**	**238,887.00**

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2024
Net Receipts/ (payments) in year	-12,058.00	4,114.00	19,227.00	11,283.00
Bank Balances at 31st March 2025	**160,949.00**	**29,114.00**	**60,107.00**	**250,170.00**

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 30th June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

L Hales
Chair

A Wilson
Trustee
For and on behalf of the Management Committee

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2025
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Restricted Funds

	Donor	Fund as at 1st April 2024	Received	Spent	Fund as at 31st March 2025
		£	£	£	£
PA System donation	Ray Lee	0.00	452.00	452.00	0.00
Heated towel rail	Donations from saturday sessions	0.00	219.00	219.00	0.00
Pony equipment	Annette Emery Gemstones	0.00	84.00	84.00	0.00
New bits and saddle pads	Donations at Epsom Fireworks	0.00	3,800.00	1,672.00	2,128.00
Sit on mower	Lucy Kelly	0.00	1,986.00	0.00	1,986.00
Strategic improvement fund	Anonymouse legacy	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
		25,000.00	6,541.00	2,427.00	29,114.00

2. Designated Funds

	£
Opening balance	**40,880.00**
Allocation of funds for new herd	15,000.00
Allocation of funds for major works	20,000.00
Total receipts	**35,000.00**
Less	0.00
Purchase of new herd - Shannon Pie	-3,583.00
Replacement washing machine	-290.00
New field shelters	-11,630.00
Installation of new fire monitoring system	-954.00
Mudslabs for fields	-722.00
Japanees Knotwood treatment	-847.00
Pump replacement	2,253.00
Total spent	**-15,773.00**
Closing balance	**60,107.00**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2024 continued
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2025

3. New Works (Improvements and Equipment) Purchased in year

New Works (Improvements)	£	
Water pump repair	206.00	
Water pump replacement(shared cost)	-2,253.00	(designated)
Replacement washing machine	290.00	(designated)
New field shelters	11,630.00	(designated)
Installation of new fire monitoring system	954.00	(designated)
Mudslabs for fields	722.00	(designated)
Japanese knotweed treatment	847.00	(designated)
Pigeon control and clean of indoor school	514.00	
Fencing	106.00	
Additional security	234.00	
Heated towel rail	219.00	(restricted)
Preparation of faraway fields for pasture	300.00	
Total New Works (Improvements)	**13,769.00**	

Equipment		
Saddles	1,660.00	
Saddle Pads	881.00	(restricted)
New bits	623.00	(restricted)
Reins,stirrup leathers lead ropes	216.00	(part restricted)
Rugs/flymasks	596.00	
Haynets for fields	46.00	
Other equipment	71.00	
Total Equipment	**4,093.00**	

Total new works (Improvements and equipment)	**17,862.00**

GOVERNANCE

Epsom RDA is currently managed by six elected trustees including the Chair. Within the group and with the changes in Trustees there is a wide range of skills and experience bringing well rounded expertise to manage the charity on a day-to-day basis and plan and deliver for the future. We are currently recruiting for two further trustees.

The changes to the trustees during the year are listed below:

We welcomed three new trustees:
Gill McPherson joined as Horse and Pony Trustee in October 2024;
Ann Stuart joined in October 2024 as Honorary Secretary
and Allie Philpin joined in December 2024 as Fundraising trustee.

Louise Jackson, Communication Trustee stood down in September 2024
Jo Lee, Horse and Pony Trustee stood down in September 2024.
Gill McPherson who took over the role of Horse and Pony Trustee from Jo also stood down in January 2025.

The Board now operates in a hybrid fashion meeting remotely and in person. The Board met eight times during the year. Lindsay Bright has been invited to the trustee meetings as official minute taker.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 10th November 2024. Our thanks to the kind support of Epsom Downs Racecourse who once again hosted our meeting.

Safeguarding

Everyone within Epsom RDA has the right to report any issues which cause concern about another person in confidence, this can be done to the appointed Safeguarding Officer or direct to our National body, RDA UK.

At Epsom RDA we have a

- Safeguarding Policy Statement
- Safe recruitment – standardised application form, requirement for two references and disclosure checks
- An appointed Safeguarding Officer who can be contacted by email: safeguarding@epsomrda.org.uk

All in the Group are aware of who to contact if there is a safeguarding concern with the details sign posted on our coffee room noticeboard as well as detailed on our website.

All Coaches that run Sessions have a current (within 3 years) safeguarding certificate and are required attend a formal training course provided by RDA UK to renew their certificate.
More information on safeguarding guidelines and policy can be found at RDA National Safeguarding.

Trustees as at 31st March 2025

Laura Hales, appointed Chair on 2nd March 2023 re-elected 10th November 2024

Angela Wilson, Treasurer re-elected at AGM on 26th November 2023.

Liz Clark, Volunteering, appointed 14 February 2022

Rebecca Courtman, Health, and Safety and Safeguarding re-elected 10th November 2024

Ann Stuart, Honorary Secretary, and Governance joined 18th of October 2024 and was ratified at the AGM on 10th November 2024

Allie Philpin, Fundraising and Covering Horse and Pony, joined on 1st December 2024.

Reference and Administration

Formal name: Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association

Charity Registered Number: 1180061

Registered Office: St Ebba's Farm, Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8QW

Honorary Officers:

Chair – Laura Hales

Treasurer – Angela Wilson

Secretary – Ann Stuart

Objects:

Providing disabled people with the opportunity to participate in equine therapy to benefit their health and well- being in the Surrey / Southeast area.

A Member of the Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving

Registered Company No 5010395 Registered Charity No 1180061

For more information:

Website: www.epsomrda.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/epsomrda

Instagram: www.instagram.com/epsomrda

Twitter: www.twitter.com/epsomrda

Enquiries:

info@epsomrda.org.uk

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1180061

Accounts

Epsom RDA

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st March 2024

Vision & Objectives

Epsom RDA's vision is to improve health and well-being through the therapeutic power of horses.

We are a thriving charity providing therapy, fun and achievement for nearly 200 disabled participants delivered by a team of over 150 volunteers and our own herd of ponies.
We hold riding sessions every day; each one is unique in terms of the people we support, and coaching is adapted to the needs of each participant.

The therapeutic benefits of interactions with horses are well recognised. Riding helps exercise and strengthen muscles, mobilises joints, and helps participants develop their balance, independence, and sensory perception. Being able to spend time caring for horses also has a positive impact on confidence levels, relationship building, and communication skills be it for riders or our team of dedicated volunteers. Each session, whether it is riding or learning about caring about horses, is planned to encourage our participants to enjoy themselves, and from that enjoyment gain emotional, social, educational, and physical benefits.

Our over-arching ambition for the coming year is to increase the number of people we support, broaden our offer and increase our impact. We will do this by offering more opportunities to ride for people on our waiting list as well as developing more non-ridden activities including pony care and hippotherapy.

Our goal is to ensure that even more disabled people benefit from the therapeutic power of horses.

Content

Foreword from Epsom RDA Chair Laura Hales

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Trustees as at 31st March 2024

Administration and contact details

Chair Foreword

Our riders enjoyed huge achievements in 2023. It was a joy to celebrate the success of so many at the Annual Awards held in November at Epsom Downs Racecourse. Over 50 trophies, cups and certificates were awarded to our riders which marked their achievements in dressage, stable management and horse care. Our volunteers were also honoured at the event with prizes awarded in terms of going 'over and above', success in fundraising and events as well as long and dedicated service to Epsom RDA.

2023 also brought challenges with most of our herd suffering with a liver disorder. Thanks to the efforts of our pony welfare team and session leaders, most of our herd were showing signs of recovery by the end of 2023-24. With the perseverance, dedication and teamwork that Epsom RDA is known for, we were able to minimise disruption for most of our riders and continue to deliver therapy and fun throughout 2023.

Our fundraising events have gone from strength to strength as we opened our doors to the wider community for both the Open Day in September and our Carols at the Stables in December. As well as raising funds for Epsom RDA, our riders were able to show their talents by performing dressage tests at the Open Day and a nativity play at Carols at the Stables. Both events were real highlights; thank to all the riders, volunteers, parents, carers and supporters that made our events so enjoyable.

Challenges remain in terms of our waiting list, with many more people wanting to ride with us than we have places available. Despite considerable effort and progress on reducing the waiting list, we were not able to re-open it in 2023 and our efforts to offer therapy to more of those that need it will continue in 2024.

Thank you to all of you that have made Epsom RDA such a worthwhile and enjoyable place to be for our riders and participants over the last year. From session leaders and helpers to gardening, fundraising, pony welfare, maintenance, training, IT and admin teams; without you none of our achievements would have been possible. Thank you also to the individuals, volunteers and families of our riders that have generously donated funds this year.

I am looking forward to delivering even greater outcomes for our riders and participants over the coming year; thank you for being a part of it.

Laura Hales - Chair

Participants

In 2023-2024 we delivered 2,411 sessions of therapy for 224 people.

This is a great achievement but also something we wish to continue to improve upon.

During 2023-24 we took the decision to close our waiting list to update and move the list to a new database. Everyone on the list was contacted, details confirmed along with the ongoing desire and suitability to be on the waiting list.

Following the review, we have 55 people on our waiting list wanting to ride or participate in our sessions, for whom we currently do not have places available. The health problems that our herd experienced during 2023-24 has meant that we have not been able to offer places to as many participants as we would like this year but we hope this will pick up as our herd returns to full strength.

In the final quarter of 2023-24, following the waiting list review, we launched a new participation group. Consisting of riders, parents of riders and volunteers, the participation group aims to develop opportunities for existing riders and develop groundwork activities for non-riding participants, ensuring that as many participants as possible can benefit from therapy through horses.

Competition success

We were pleased to offer our full competition programme this year which started out with Epsom RDA's longstanding Harold Newton Dressage Competition in March. The ten highest placed riders went on to compete at the RDA Southeast Regional Dressage Competition at Hickstead in May. Seven of our ten riders went on to qualify for the RDA National Championships at Hartpury in July. The RDA National Championships is the biggest of its kind in the world for disabled horse riders with over 350 participants taking part. We were delighted to take seven riders plus one arts and crafts competitor. Five of our competitors were placed in the fields of dressage, countryside challenge and arts and crafts. We are extremely proud of all of our riders, all of whom did extremely well do qualify in what is a highly competitive event.

Hippotherapy

In 2023 we started offering Hippotherapy sessions. These sessions are delivered by the Saturday Session Leader, RDA Coach and Occupational Therapist, Kate El Bizanti, who has undertaken post-graduate training to provide therapy

using Hippotherapy techniques. Kate established a hippotherapy team, arranging RDA and specialist training for both the human team and the equine! The first pilot session was undertaken in June 2023 and in the Autumn term Kate and her team were able to provide four children with up to eight weekly intensive therapy sessions, with some amazing feedback. The role of Hippotherapy equine is a specialist one and was skilfully fulfilled by Taffy; unfortunately, with the illness throughout the herd, we have been unable to undertake Hippotherapy sessions in early 2024, but we hope this offer will be back up and running as our herd continues to recuperate.

Volunteers

Our wonderful volunteers continue to be the backbone of all we do. As a 100% volunteer managed and staffed charity, we literally couldn't do it without them.

We were delighted to be able to acknowledge the commitment and achievements of a few of our special volunteers during our Annual Prize Giving in November. We presented Over and Above Awards to several volunteers in recognition of them taking on far more than we normally ask of volunteers. This included managing the recruitment of new volunteers, being part of the training team and the team responsible for revitalising the sensory track, fundraising and events organisation, all round dedication (fixing leaks, broken pipes and all the jobs no-one else notices) and supporting corporate volunteer days.

To support our volunteers, we have delivered full stage one and two training sessions as provided by our training team provide annually. In addition, this year we have rolled out a series of extra training sessions. In 2023-24 we hosted special lectures on rider biomechanics, equine behaviour and an equine chiropractic demonstration.

We aim to keep recruiting volunteers; we still need more help with maintenance roles and have a couple of trustee positions to fill. In return for their hard work, we aim to continue to ensure that our excellent volunteers receive the recognition and training they deserve and require.

Horse and Ponies

This year we have successfully purchased and settled in three new horses to the herd. Griffin, Millie and Blue arrived in quick succession during the summer months and quickly became part of the Epsom RDA team, all taking to their new jobs well. These additions took the total herd to 15, although Tandi is currently on loan for training to drive with a view to re-homing her in future.

The first few months of 2024 were challenging with most of the herd affected by a liver disorder. The pony welfare team worked closely with the vet and forage suppliers to eliminate the source of the issue and to reverse the effects, however, this limited our ability to provide a full programme of riding and events for participants during the first few months of 2024 whilst the affected ponies have been on light duties.

Grounds & Property

After an enormous amount of work from our expanded gardening and maintenance team, we were delighted to open our refurbished sensory track and garden at our Open Day in September 2023. The purpose of the sensory track is for our riders to experience hacking out by interacting with a range of stimuli including a sand track, gates, hills, woodland, trees and flowers. The sensory track is extremely popular with our riders, giving them the opportunity to enhance their riding skills in an enriching and safe environment.

Many thanks to the team that has worked so hard to make the sensory track a really special place for our riders.

We hosted a number of companies for corporate volunteering sessions during the spring and summer months. These included SGN, Zoetis, Nuffield Health, Blueprint Partners, ICM Investment Management, University for the Creative Arts (UCA) and Epsom College. The corporate volunteer days are a mutually beneficial in providing us with labour to keep our site well maintained as well as providing valuable team building exercises for companies taking part.

We are particularly grateful to SGN who have supported us for a number of years with some of the more difficult jobs such as digging, laying cables and running water pipes. In summer 2023 the SGN team made a significant dent in the sensory track work, clearing several layers of stone and replacing it with a new surface. Our riders, ponies and volunteers are extremely grateful.

Our maintenance team continue to do a fantastic job of keeping the Epsom RDA grounds safe and in excellent working order. The particularly wet weather has been challenging this winter and we are enormously grateful to the team for making repairs and delivering preventative maintenance.

Finally, we have made a number of small investments in our property this year including new fencing, an asbestos survey and remedial works for our indoor school, installation of new lighting for the yard and fitting of mud slabs to address the wet and muddy conditions in the fields.

Fundraising and Events

Our events fundraising has gone from strength to strength this year. Our highly committed and imaginative fundraising and events team delivered several well attended and extremely popular events including a coronation picnic, summer open day and Christmas Carols at the Stables.

Our open day in September 2023 was a real jewel in the crown of our events programme where we hosted over 1,000 people. Volunteers from every session were involved in making the event a success, as well as non-session volunteers from our maintenance, gardening and IT teams.
Highlights included dressage tests delivered by our riders who competed at the National Championships, a display from our own schooling team as well as the grand opening of our newly refurbished sensory track by actor and disability advocate Lenny Rush.

We raised over £2,000, all of which is thanks to the volunteers who baked, staffed the bar, ran the tombola & raffle, managed the parking and much more. Thank you to everyone involved.

In addition to these events, the team has also delivered a number of educational events and lectures delivered by guest speakers including Sarah Sjoholm Patience and Caroline Baldock. As well as raising funds through ticket sales to the public, these events are also proving to be popular training opportunities for our volunteers. Likewise, our regular pole clinics and dressage tests are proving popular with the public and serve to both increase our income and raise our profile in the community.

We are also continually thankful for the donations we receive from various organisations and individuals.

Health and Safety

We continue to review our processes and procedures to endeavouring to follow best practice in all of our health and safety measures. This year we have started to introduce Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans for all our participants as part of our Fire Safety Policy. The teams have been working hard to collate this information and understand how to use it.

Communications

The aim of our communications continues to be twofold;

1. To encourage external support for our activities; from fundraising to recruitment, and to tell the wider story of what we do and its impact.
2. To see that our volunteers are kept up to date with what is going on, ensuring they feel part of one Epsom RDA community.

In July, we appointed a new marketing trustee. Her focus has been to bring creativity and consistency to our brand and messaging across all communication channels, as well as develop marketing content in order to widen awareness of Epsom RDA.

Working together with our stakeholders, marketing content has been produced for both print and online; the latter enabling our stakeholders to readily share in real-time, via word-of-mouth. To support the effective dissemination of online content, a social media content planner has been produced, which weaves in our posts and stories and their relevance to national awareness days and key events. Flyers for both the recruitment of volunteers and trustees have been produced, as well as volunteer and participant case studies for print and social media channels. Posters have been developed for the yard to highlight costs and where funds are allocated. This has been to show both existing and potential supporters the efficient and effective way donations are used, as well as why funds are so vital to the work we do.

We have also widened our reach to develop relationships within the community e.g. with local residents' groups and organisations such as u3a, to educate and inform them of what we do, simultaneously highlighting volunteer and trustee vacancies. Donations from local businesses, including Waitrose, Banstead and Epsom Cross Fit have also provided content highlights for our communications channels. We continue to work with Epsom Downs Racecourse, who support us through the use of their venue for our AGM, as well as supporting us financially through entry fee donations from The Derby Walk 2024.

In collaboration with the fundraising team, opportunities for promoting and raising funds for Epsom RDA have included an Open Day and Manure Sale. Both were promoted on and offline, in particular using our social media channels that have continued to grow in followers and reach. A particular highlight was the very successful tack sale in January, which saw attendees come as far as Ascot and take over £600.

Internal communications continue to take the form of a monthly update from the trustees' email to all volunteers, a noticeboard at the stables, as well as more regular posts on social media. Volunteer involvement in social media content and case study development ensures that their contributions are valued and their impact shared with a wider audience.

Planning for the Future

2024 will see continuation of our work in terms of delivering on our strategic objectives which are to:

- To deliver a varied and worthwhile experience to enhance health and well-being; **this includes ensuring participants have activities suitable to their level and opportunities to progress, broadening our offer to include non-ridden activities and improving the volunteer experience;**
- To maximise the number of participants able to benefit from being with horses; **this includes improving the management of our waiting list, maximising the number of riders at each session and investing in volunteer recruitment, training and retention;**
- To be an excellent organisation that is financially robust with a mixed revenue funding model; **this includes developing a fundraising strategy, ensuring that we meet our obligations on governance and health & safety, communicating effectively and committing to being a diverse and inclusive charity.**

Financial Review and Accounts

The financial year ended 31st March 2024

Overview

For the year ended 31st March 2024 the charity showed an annual operating surplus of c. £3.4k (c.£31k surplus in 2022-23). These figures do not include any income or expenditure related to the Future Strategy which is classed as non-operating expenses and income. This comprised total operating income of c.£97k (c.£98K in 2022-23) with operating expenses of c.£94k (c.£67k in 2022-23). Income has stayed mainly static since last year whereas costs have seen a significant increase. The cost increases are seen mainly in the rising cost of feed (recognising we also have increased herd numbers), pony care where we have had a rise in vet costs and in major works.

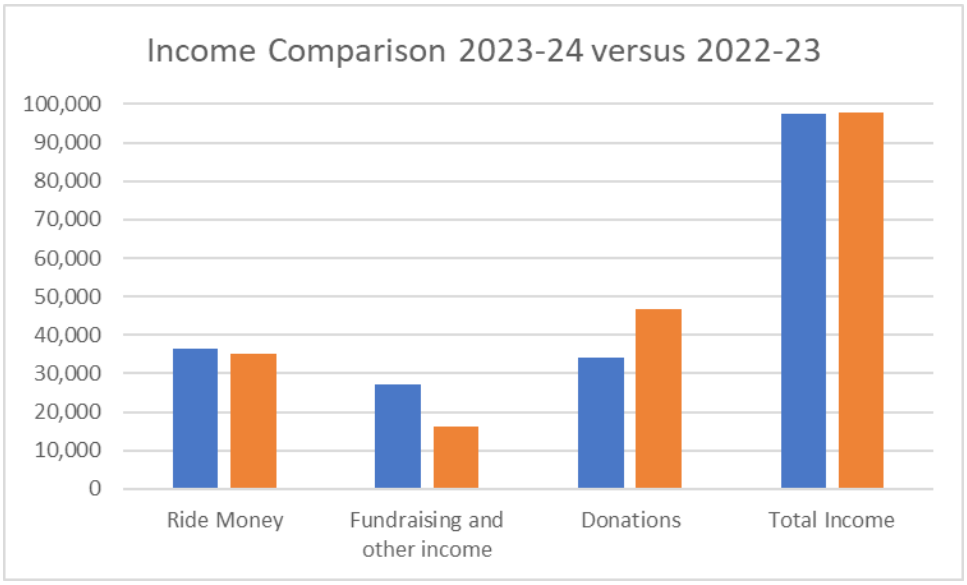
In addition, we have received a sum of £25K from a legacy which the trustees have agreed to hold in the Future Development scheme towards new infrastructure and projects to move the charity forward which could include infrastructure projects such as building a new mounting block or strategic investments in rider experience, volunteer development or equine well-being. The total surplus for the year was c.£28k (against a loss of c.£58k in 2022-23).

Income

The trustees took the opportunity to review the fee level for 2023-24 and agreed to hold it at £10 against a cost per ride of £30 (based on 2022-23 costs). Our aim is to cover the cost of running the herd (less the cost of buying new herd members), however, due to rising pony care and feed costs the rise income of c.£36k was slightly less than the cost of maintaining the herd at c.£38k. The remaining cost of running the charity relies on donations and our regular income from livery, use of the school and letting space to Austin & Jenkins builders. The current cost of delivering a session for a participant, be that riding or a pony care session, is c.£41.

The total income for the year is standing at c.£97k which is broadly the same as the c.£98k in 2022-23. Donations for 2023-24 were lower at c.£34k against 2022-23 which were c.£47k. Events during the year netted an additional c.£6k a good increase against a net loss last year. This reflects the work the events team have put into getting a regular programme of events as well as the Open Day and Carols at the Stables. Income has also benefitted from a rise in interest rates during the year with interest at c.£2k higher than the previous year.

Tack sales continue to attract good levels of interest contributing c.£4k in 2023-24. Donations of goods for the tack sales remains strong and the trustees agreed to fund the base for a shed donated by John Jenkins, a local builder, which allowed us to increase our storage space at the yard to enable the team to have a permanent home for tack sales. We also replaced the asbestos roof on the old garage which also houses tack. The cost of this was covered by the income.



We have also received support from generous donors including:-

- Annette Emery Gemstone Jewellery who continues to make and sell jewellery with the profits used to buy items we need for our ponies
- Banstead Waitrose
- Epsom CrossFit
- Epsom and District Caledonian society
- Epsom Fireworks
- Ewell and Worcester Park club 41
- Former Participants who continue to donate monthly
- Friends, family and the Thursday session who collected in memory of Teresa Jones a previous volunteer
- Graham Ball for a donation towards the purchase of Griffin in memory of his wife Lynda Ball
- Harold Bell Infiel Charity
- HOGGS golf club

- Jo Hancock for donating in memory of her father followed by a further donation towards our vet's bills
- John Lewis
- Papillon School
- Reday for their contribution towards the cost of Hartpury
- Rotary Club of Ewell for their contribution towards our AGM and Prizegiving
- Peter Clarke for the donation of the Mary Clarke award for the most improved rider on the Tuesday session to be awarded annually at the Prizegiving
- St Mark's and Mitcham Buffalos
- The Thompson Family Trust for their ongoing regular monthly donation and the payment of Moss's vet's bills
- Sunray Ladies Club

Of course, we are also grateful for all the donations we receive from volunteers, friends and relations of participants, the local allotments and gardeners who donate when collecting our quality manure, hot chocolate reindeers and pocket money as these unrestricted funds go directly to supporting the upkeep of the herd and their home to the benefit of our participants. We are also grateful for the volunteers who never claim expenses, donate carrots and cotton wool pads and organisations who give us time and labour.

Expenditure

The upkeep of the herd forms a major part of our outgoings. This year our herd (15 ponies at year end – 14 of which are part of our active herd with Tandi being on a loan for re-schooling) cost c.£39k (c.£25k in 2022-23 when we had 11 ponies) which includes expenses for feed, hay, farriers, dentist, vet, and various equipment including our new ergonomic bridles and other essential tack. The increase in expenditure is due the rising costs of hay, feed and services (we remain grateful for those services who have held their prices lower for ourselves). A further c.£7k was donated by the organisers of the Epsom fireworks, friends of Teresa Jones, Annette Emery Gemstones, The Thompson Family Trust, Jo Hancock and an anonymous donation all of which was used to purchase new equipment or towards pony care costs. This excludes the cost of purchasing new herd members. (2022-23 the cost of purchases was c£12K in 2023-24 this was c.£16k) which includes the return of c.£9k in funds against a pony purchased in 2022-23 and a donation of £2,400 towards the purchase of Griffin from Graham Ball.

The average cost of keeping a herd member during the last year was £2,720, an increase from the previous year where it was £2,150 per annum. This is the equivalent of £52 per

week which is a c.27% increase on the prior year. So, a donation of £6 can buy a bale of hay, £35 pays for a pony to be visited by the farrier (with thanks to our farrier who gives us a discount) and £25 pays for a visit from the equine dentist.

Our next expense is in keeping the site safe, secure, and well maintained. The cost of maintaining the buildings and grounds in 2023-24 c.£29K (2022/23 was c. £22K with an additional c.£96k for the car park build)

Other expenses include insurance, utilities, training, security, and general office expenses. All essential to our operation but the rise for 2023 –24 reflect the general economic position as all costs have increased during the year. To mitigate this the trustees have ensured all contracts for maintenance of the site have been reviewed to ensure best value for money. As always, we are grateful to Steve and the maintenance team for all their hard work keeping our site safe and well maintained. Also, to the gardening team for maintaining the sensory track and general garden spaces.

Reserves

As a charity we are in the fortunate position that we have always been prudent with our use of incoming funds versus expenditure. At the end of 2023-24 we had c £239k cash in hand in various bank accounts (c.£211k in 2022-23).

The Trustees have several ringfences in place on this money:

Future Strategy Fund (formerly Indoor School Project) - £25k in (2022-23 £0)
Trustees have re-prioritised the updating and improving of the site so we can have dedicated fund raising and maximise our service provision by investing in smaller projects. The £25k legacy received during the year has been ringfenced to this fund and work is currently underway to determine the possibility and cost of redeveloping the current mounting block.

Minimum Reserves as required by the Charity Commission - £120K
All charities have a statutory duty to set minimum reserves to ensure their continued status as a going concern. Our minimum reserves were set some years ago to be held at a year running costs. The trustees reviewed these during 2023 and agreed that £120k was still the appropriate amount to hold. These funds are there for dire emergencies and can only be utilised for general running costs should our status change and we need to use them to remain a going concern.

Funds available for use as at 31st March 2024– c.£64k (in 2023-24 c.£91k)

This is the cash we have in hand that we can use to keep our herd fed and well, to maintain our land and buildings and to make improvements for the safety, wellbeing, and enhancement of our offer to our participants. We also keep a further amount to funds in the designated funds account mentioned above for major works to ensure our site is safe and secure for our herd and our participants.

During 2023-24 the Trustees delegated authority to the Finance, Performance and Governance Committee (FPGC) to manage the running of the charity by allocating budgets to designated Trustees who have the responsibility for property management, health, safety and cleaning, the upkeep of the herd and general running costs (e.g., insurance, rubbish removal, utilities, professional services including the bank account, audit fees etc). FPGC have full authority to spend within their budgets and there is a procurement policy which was agreed by the Trustees which gives us a framework to ensure we spend wisely and get the best value for money we can. This is all part of our enhanced Governance and has continued to work well. Towards the end of 2023-24 the number of trustees reduced so the committee has temporarily been suspended with decisions reverting back to the trustees under the same terms as FPGC. The intention is to restart the committee once we have filled our trustee vacancies.

In addition, Epsom RDA owns:

- The freehold of St Ebba's Farm, which cost £84,657 (inclusive of legal fees).
- Equipment including two tractors, a trailer, three harrows, a grass cutter and sundry other tractor attachments,
- A hand operated motor mower, a strimmer and various workshop tools, competition fences, poles, and games
- equipment with an approximate current value of £15,000 (2023 - £15,000)

Notes to the accounts

Restricted Funds

We have had £34,337 added to our restricted funds during the year, of which £25k is for the strategic improvement fund. The remainder of the £9,337 added has been utilised during the year.

Designated Funds

The Designated Fund is £40,880(closing balance as at 31st March 2023 £44,595). The trustees added a designated sum of £15,000 (total of £13,207 spent in the year from

designated funds and £2,400 from restricted funds and netted against this is £8,700 refunded in April 2023 against a purchase included in the 2022-23 accounts) towards the purchase of new herd members and the costs related to said purchases. The remaining £14,594 was used to provide maintenance to the site including tree removal, removal and replacement of an asbestos roof, the provision of a new sewage pump and other essential site work. This designated fund represents amounts set aside by the trustees out of the general fund to meet the cost of future improvements to the property and the purchase of new herd members. The interest on the balance in the Fund provides income for general purposes to help meet the charity's running expenses.

The following projects have been identified by the Trustees, for implementation as and when funds become available: -

- To purchase equipment necessary for maintaining the estate.
- To maintain or expand our herd which, although it has been added to over the past year, will need to be expanded further as participants return and in recognition of the age of the some of the current herd members.
- Future Strategy initiatives have been identified and the trustees have agreed these will be funded through specific fundraising and the legacy received during 2023-24.

During the year the Finance committee carried out work as held on the capital project list. This included:

- essential maintenance work needed to ensure the safety and upkeep of our buildings and ground
- provision of equipment for the herd and participants

as well as a list of other projects where donors require a specific use for the funding being offered.

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024 TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts, under Section 145 of the Charities Act, following the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners, (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 any 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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(a.) 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 Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

T W Slater ACA,CTA
Harmer Slater Limited
79a High Street

Teddington
Middlesex TW11 8HG

31st May 2024

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Income and Expenditure
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income	£	£	£	£	£
Ride Money	35,811.00			35,811.00	35,238.00
Livery Fees	5,640.00			5,640.00	5,450.00
Use of School	2,400.00			2,400.00	1,875.00
Sale of ponies	0.00			0.00	0.00
Interest income	2,498.00			2,498.00	617.00
Total Regular Income	46,349.00			46,349.00	43,180.00
Gross Income					
Plus Other Income					
Donations	12,617.00			12,617.00	22,300.00
Online donations	12,181.00			12,181.00	18,696.00
Ring fenced Donations		9,337.00		9,337.00	5,490.00
Tack sale	4,269.00			4,269.00	5,072.00
Events	8,359.00			8,359.00	1,226.00
Adopt a pony	0.00			0.00	0.00
Merchandise sales	0.00			0.00	0.00
Other revenue	3,909.00			3,909.00	2,000.00
Total Other Income	41,335.00	9,337.00		50,672.00	54,784.00
Total Income	87,684.00	9,337.00	0.00	97,021.00	97,964.00
Less Herd Upkeep Costs					
Pony care	15,672.00	2,973.00		18,645.00	12,864.00
Pony costs-equipment	4,076.00	2,760.00		6,836.00	1,877.00
Pony feed	12,824.00			12,824.00	9,652.00
Pony purchase	0.00	2,400.00	13,207.00	15,607.00	11,947.00
Pony schooling	1,335.00			1,335.00	785.00
Total Herd Upkeep Costs	33,907.00	8,133.00	13,207.00	55,247.00	37,125.00

Gross Profit	53,777.00	1,204.00	-13,207.00	41,774.00	60,839.00
Expenses					
Cost of running site					
Maintenance of grounds	3,449.00			3,449.00	1,646.00
Repairs & maintenance - building	2,731.00			2,731.00	1,314.00
Light, Power, Heating	1,296.00			1,296.00	1,236.00
Cleaning and sanitary costs	2,209.00			2,209.00	2,920.00
Fuel costs and servicing	699.00			699.00	559.00
Motor vehicle expenses	100.00			100.00	243.00
Gardening	939.00			939.00	834.00
Health, Safety and Safeguarding	54.00			54.00	5,071.00
Insurance	2,733.00			2,733.00	2,283.00
New Works	0.00		14,594.00	14,594.00	5,209.00
Telephone and Internet	481.00			481.00	461.00
Total Cost of Running Site	14,691.00	0.00	14,594.00	29,285.00	21,776.00
Other Running Costs					
Fundraising					
Competition costs	900.00	904.00		1,804.00	524.00
Event costs	2,092.00			2,092.00	2,754.00
Prize Giving costs	333.00	300.00		633.00	0.00
Fundraiser Partner costs	446.00			446.00	216.00
Advertising & Marketing	0.00			0.00	77.00
Communications	0.00			0.00	98.00
Total Fundraising	3,771.00	1,204.00	0.00	4,975.00	3,669.00
Finance and Legal costs					
Audit & Accountancy fees	2,131.00			2,131.00	2,049.00
Bank fees	215.00			215.00	220.00
Subscription costs	235.00			235.00	340.00
Total Finance and Legal cost	2,581.00	0.00	0.00	2,581.00	2,609.00
Training					
Training - coaching and bursary	20.00			20.00	27.00
Training - first aid	840.00			840.00	1,380.00
Staff Training	0.00			0.00	11.00
Total Training	860.00	0.00	0.00	860.00	1,418.00
Other Administrative and Misc costs					
IT Software and consumables	380.00			380.00	295.00
Printing & stationery	173.00			173.00	247.00
General expenses	87.00			87.00	0.00
Total Other Administrative and Misc costs	640.00	0.00	0.00	640.00	542.00
Total Other Running Costs	7.852.00	1,204.00	0.00	9,056.00	8,238.00

Total Operating Expenses	**22,543.00**	**1,204.00**	**14,594.00**	**38,341.00**	**30,014.00**
Operating Surplus (Loss)	**31,234.00**	**0.00**	**-27,801.00**	**3,433.00**	**30,825.00**
Future Strategy Costs and Income					
Indoor School Project					
Indoor School costs	**0.00**			**0.00**	**96,487.00**
Indoor School funding	**0.00**	**25,000.00**		**25,000.00**	**-8,000.00**
Total Indoor School Project	**0.00**	**25,000.00**	**0.00**	**25,000.00**	**88,487.00**
Total Non-operating Expenses	**0.00**	**25,000.00**	**0.00**	**25,000.00**	**88,487.00**
Net Surplus (Loss)	**31,234.00**	**25,000.00**	**-27,801.00**	**28,433.00**	**-57,662.00**
Transfer of funds					
Balance at 1st April 2023	**141,773.00**	**0.00**	**68,681.00**	**210,454.00**	**268,116.00**
Balance at 31st March 2024	**173,007.00**	**25,000.00**	**40,880.00**	**238,887.00**	**210,454.00**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Balance Sheet
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2024

Bank Accounts	Opening Balance	Cash Received	Cash Spent	Closing Balance
ERDA CIO current account	34,801.00	89,737.00	91,860.00	32,678.00
ERDA old charity	2,712.00	970.00	0.00	3,682.00
ERDA Virgin	382.00	0.00	0.00	382.00
National Counties Building Soc	96,135.00	1,554.00	0.00	97,689.00
Accessible savings account	74,419.00	28,010.00	0.00	102,429.00
Metrobank savings account	2,005.00	22.00	0.00	2,027.00
Metrobank credit card	0.00	1,728.00	1,728.00	0.00
Total	210,454.00	122,021.00	93,588.00	238,887.00

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Statements of Assets and Liabilities
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2024

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank Balances at 31st March 2023 held by Epsom Riding for the Disabled (1180061)	**141,773.00**	**0.00**	**68,681.00**	**210,454.00**

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2024
Net Receipts/ (payments) in year	31,234.00	25,000.00	-27,801.00	28,433.00
Bank Balances at 31st March 2024	**173,007.00**	**25,000.00**	**40,880.00**	**238,887.00**

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31st May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

L Hales
Chair

A Wilson
Trustee
For and on behalf of the Management Committee

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2024

Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Restricted Funds

	Donor	Fund as at 1st April 2023	Received	Spent	Fund as at 31st March 2024
		£	£	£	£
Cost of Griffen (pony)	Graham Ball	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	0.00
New saddle for Millie	Teresa Jones memorial	0.00	360.00	360.00	0.00
Ergonomic bridles and new bits	Epsom Fireworks donations	0.00	2,250.00	2,250.00	0.00
Blood tests and vets' bills	Anonymous	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Hartbury attendance	Reday	0.00	904.00	904.00	0.00
Stubben girths	Annette Emery Gemstones	0.00	150.00	150.00	0.00
Vets bills for Moss	Thompson Family Trust	0.00	1,473.00	1,473.00	0.00
Vets bills	Jo Hancock	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00
Peter Clark Trophy	Elizabeth Clark	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Strategic improvement fund	Anonymous legacy		25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
		0.00	34,337.00	9,337.00	25,000.00

2. Designated Funds

	£
Opening balance	68,681.00
Additional funding from donations	0.00
Transfer of funds	0.00
Less	0.00
Purchase of new herd	-13,207.00
Pump replacement	-4,560.00
Replace asbestos roof on tack store garage	-2,200.00
Shed base for tack store	-1,620.00

Fence replacement	**-1,007.00**
Japanese knotweed treatment	**-750.00**
Work on oak tree	**-1,740.00**
Mudslabs for field gates	**-1,179.00**
Seal asbestos walls in indoor school	**-898.00**
Lighting for indoor school	**-640.00**
Total spent	**-27,801.00**
Closing balance	**40,880.00**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2024 continued
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2024

3. New Works (Improvements and Equipment) Purchased in year

New Works (Improvements)	£	
Water pump replacement (shared cost)	4,560.00	(designated)
Replace asbestos roof on store garage	2,200.00	(designated)
Shed base for tack store	1,620.00	(designated)
Fence replacement	1,007.00	(designated)
Removal of rotting trees	1,740.00	(designated)
Mudslabs for field gates	1,179.00	(designated)
Seal asbestos walls in indoor school	898.00	(designated)
Lighting for indoor school	640.00	(designated)
Japanese knotweed treatment	750.00	(designated)
Total New Works (Improvements)	14,594.00	

Equipment		
Saddles	3,399.00	(part restricted)
Girths	196.00	(part restricted)
Ergonomic bridles and bits	2,145.00	(restricted)
Reins, stirrup leathers lead ropes	598.00	
Wheelbarrows for dry waste	124.00	
Field trugs for hay	102.00	
Travel equipment for horses	93.00	
Other equipment costs	179.00	
Total Equipment	6,836.00	

Total new works (Improvements and equipment)	21,430.00

GOVERNANCE

Epsom RDA is currently managed by six elected trustees including the Chair. Within the group there is a wide range of skills and experience bringing well rounded expertise to manage the charity on a day-to-day basis and plan and deliver for the future. We are currently recruiting for three roles.

There have been some changes to Trustees during the year:

We welcomed one new Trustee in August: Louise Jackson joined us as the Communications trustee and has made a big impact by addressing our branding and updating all our social media.

Laura McArthur our secretary stood down in January 2024, David Hart stood down in May 2023 and Ray Lee stood down from his fundraising trustee role in October 2023.

The Board now operates in a hybrid fashion meeting remotely and in person. The Board met eight times during the year and held one strategy meeting. The Annual General Meeting was held on 26th November 2023. Our thanks to the kind support of Epsom Downs Racecourse who once again hosted our meeting.

The Finance, Performance and Governance Committee (FPGC)is chaired by the treasurer and comprises secretary, property trustee, fundraising trustee and 1 other trustee as elected. It continued to meet until January when trustee numbers dropped and it will reconvene once we have filled our vacancies.

Safeguarding

Everyone within Epsom RDA has the right to report any issues which cause concern about another person in confidence, this can be done to the appointed Safeguarding Officer or direct to our National body, RDA UK.

At Epsom RDA we have a

- Safeguarding Policy Statement
- Safe recruitment – standardised application form, requirement for two references and disclosure checks
- An appointed Safeguarding Officer who can be contacted by email: safeguarding@epsomrda.org.uk

All in the Group are aware of who to contact if there is a safeguarding concern with the details sign posted on our coffee room noticeboard as well as detailed on our website.

All Coaches that run Sessions have a current (within 3 years) safeguarding certificate and are required attend a formal training course provided by RDA UK to renew their certificate.

More information on safeguarding guidelines and policy can be found at RDA National Safeguarding.

Trustees as at 31st March 2024

Laura Hales, appointed Chair on 2nd March 2023

Angela Wilson, Treasurer re-elected at AGM on 26th November 2023. Acting Secretary since 1st January 2024

Laura McArthur, resigned on 1st January 2024

Liz Clark, Volunteering, appointed 14 February 2022

Rebecca Courtman, Health, and Safety and Safeguarding re-elected 21 November 2021

Jo Lee, Horse and Pony, re-elected at AGM on 26th November 2023

Louise Jackson, Communications trustee joined on 1st August 2023

Ray Lee, resigned as fundraising trustee on 8th October 2023

David Hart resigned on 12th May 2023

Reference and Administration

Formal name: Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association

Charity Registered Number: 1180061

Registered Office: St Ebba's Farm, Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8Q

Honorary Officers:

Chair – Laura Hales

Treasurer – Angela Wilson

Secretary – Laura McArthur resigned 1st January 2024 and the role has been covered by Angela Wilson while we actively recruit

Objects:

Providing disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or to carriage drive to benefit their health and well- being in the Surrey / Southeast area.

A Member of the Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving

Registered Company No 5010395 Registered Charity No 244108

For more information:

Website: www.epsomrda.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/epsomrda

Instagram: www.instagram.com/epsomrda

Twitter: www.twitter.com/epsomrda

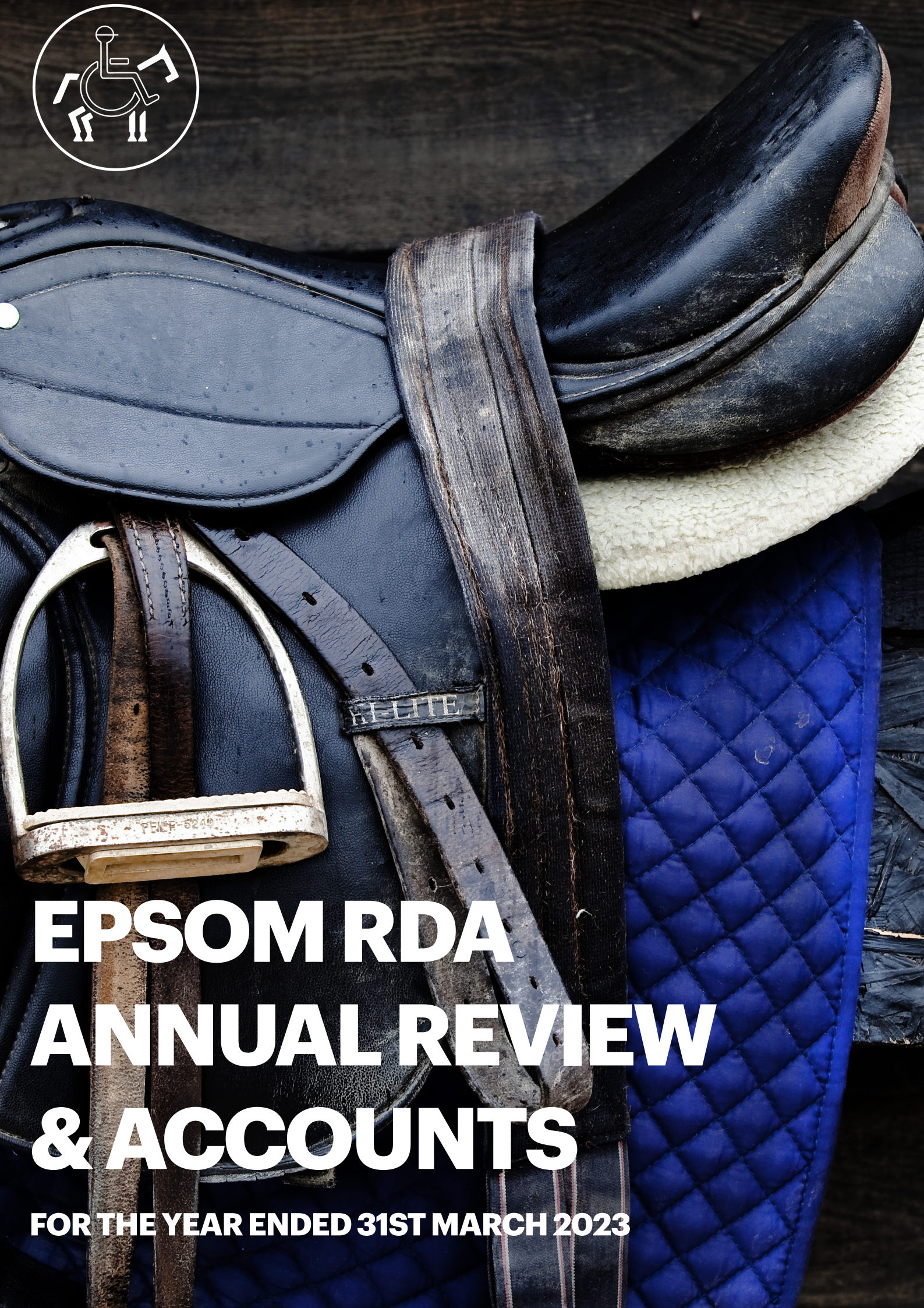
Enquiries:

info@epsomrda.org.uk

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1180061

Accounts



EPSOM RDA ANNUAL REVIEW & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

VISION & OBJECTIVES

Epsom RDA's vision is to improve health and well-being through the therapeutic power of horses.

We are a thriving charity providing therapy, fun and achievement for nearly 200 disabled participants delivered by a team of over 150 volunteers and our own herd of ponies. We hold riding sessions every day; each one is unique in terms of the people we support, and coaching is adapted to the needs of each participant.

The therapeutic benefits of interactions with horses are well recognised. Riding helps exercise and strengthen muscles, mobilises joints, and helps participants develop their balance, independence, and sensory perception. Being able to spend time caring for horses also has a positive impact on confidence levels, relationship building, and communication skills be it for riders or our team of dedicated volunteers. Each session, whether it is riding or learning about caring about horses, is planned to encourage our participants to enjoy themselves and from that enjoyment gain emotional, social, educational, and physical benefits.

Our over-arching ambition for the coming year is to increase the number of people we support, broaden our offer and increase our impact. We will do this by offering more opportunities to ride for people on our waiting list as well as developing more non-ridden activities including tea with a pony and hippotherapy.

Our goal is to ensure that even more disabled people benefit from the therapeutic power of horses.

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CHAIR FOREWORD

It has been an exceptionally busy and productive year at Epsom RDA.

On a sad note, 2022 brought the news of the deaths of two of our long-serving colleagues and former session leaders: Hazel Ransome in March, and Mary Clarke in July. In April of this year, we were able to honour Hazel and Mary, along with their fellow trustee, Pauline Humphries, who died in April 2017, by dedicating to their memory new trees in Northside field, recycled from the Hampton Court Flower Show. Together, Pauline, Hazel and Mary contributed over 100 years of service to Epsom RDA.

Trustees have been thinking hard about our priorities. There is a lot we do very well at Epsom RDA as well as so much more that we could do. In 2022 we considered our top priorities and are pleased to have set out the following three:

- ★ To deliver a varied and worthwhile experience to enhance health and well-being; this includes ensuring participants have activities suitable to their level and opportunities to progress, broadening our offer to include non-ridden activities and improving the volunteer experience;
- ★ To maximise the number of participants able to benefit from being with horses; this includes improving the management of our waiting list, maximising the number of riders at each session and investing in volunteer recruitment, training and retention;
- ★ To be an excellent organisation that is financially robust with a mixed revenue funding model; this includes developing a fundraising strategy, ensuring that we meet our obligations on governance and health & safety, communicating effectively and committing to being a diverse and inclusive charity.

2022 also saw the return of our events programme which included tack sales, pole clinics and lectures. We held a fascinating lecture on biomechanics, and animal behaviour with Sarah Sjoholm Patience. This was fantastic opportunity for our coaches and volunteers to learn more about how to get the most from horse and rider. Open to the public, it also raised awareness and funds for our charity. A carol concert was held in December which saw a number of our riders and equines perform in a nativity. We even had snow! We owe a big thanks to the fundraising team for all the effort they have put in.

Investment in our facilities continued and we completed our new car and cycle parking. The facilities are already proving to be essential in terms of accommodating participants as well as guests for our successful events. Safety is also improved by separating cars, riders and the horses. Our thanks to the Peter Harrison Trust and Epsom and Ewell Borough Council for their contributions.

A team of volunteers has also transformed our sensory track. The planting, weeding and painting has turned the space into a highly valued additional activity for our riders.

Laura Hales - Chair

PARTICIPANTS

In 2023-2023 we delivered 2,017 sessions of therapy for 197 people[1]. This is both a reason to celebrate as well as something to improve upon as we look to increase our impact. We currently have 309 people on our waiting list and so must think differently, challenge ourselves and increase our ambition if we are to get closer to meeting this demand over the years ahead.

We were delighted for our participants that were able to compete this year. Epsom RDA had the highest number of qualifiers at the Southeast Region Dressage competition that took place in May 2022 at Plumpton College. Five of our riders won their classes and another two came second and qualified for the National Championships at Hartpury in Gloucestershire. Unfortunately, the extreme heat in July forced the National Championships to be suspended on the Sunday which meant that many of our riders could not take part. Nonetheless, we saw great success on the Saturday with one of our riders being placed 12th in the highly competitive dressage class and another winning the arts and crafts competition and coming second in the photography competition.

Whether competing or not, we are proud of all of our participants and their achievements over the last year.

VOLUNTEERS

As our participants returned, so too did our volunteers and the number of volunteers continues to grow. We are very grateful for the enthusiasm and commitment of all our volunteers.

We have rolled out a series of training sessions which have been well attended by both experienced and new volunteers. We have had full stage one and two training sessions and hosted special lectures on biomechanics, equine behaviour and an equine chiropractic demonstration.

We were delighted to be able to acknowledge the commitment and achievements of our volunteers during our Annual Prize Giving in November. Our Long Service awards included six wonderful volunteers who have each provided over 25 years of devotion and one who has volunteered for an amazing half century! We presented Over and Above Awards to several volunteers in recognition of them taking on far more than we normally ask of volunteers. This included looking after horses when they were unwell, to ensuring that all our ponies receive

[1] RDA National Annual Return 2022-23

the best possible care and attention. Those same volunteers were also willing to help at fundraising events and corporate days.

We aim to keep recruiting volunteers; we still need more help with maintenance roles and have a couple of trustee positions to fill. In return for their hard work, we aim to l ensure that our excellent volunteers receive the recognition and training they deserve and require.

HORSE AND PONIES

This year has seen the continuing challenge of finding new horses to join our herd. We have spent the year actively looking for new horses to buy or loan and in particular, for a weight carrying horse to help out Romeo and Spice. Despite having a few horses on trial from two different dealers, we haven't yet managed to secure that perfect weight carrier to join us. We will continue the search.

Tom

We did find Tom this year. Tom is a 15hh, 15-year-old cob who joined us in January 2023. Tom was previously used in the riding school at Lower Morden Equestrian Centre and is absolutely brilliant with our lead rein riders, providing a safe, steady ride. Off the lead rein he is a little slow but with some encouragement he can be persuaded to join in!

In March, we said a very sad farewell to Moss. Moss had been a part of Epsom RDA for 16 years and at 29 years old was one of the oldest members of the herd. Moss will be missed by everyone and remembered for all the joy he brought to so many lives, from those just starting out and learning to ride to those who had progressed to the National Championships, where he represented us many times and became a national dressage champion.

In May 2022, we took a team of riders and four horses to the Regional Dressage Competition at

Plumpton College and several of our riders qualified for the National Championships. Unfortunately, due to the heatwave in July, the National Championships were cut short by one day resulting in many of our riders competing in a virtual competition instead, but Romeo still made the trip to Hartpury College (along with Dazz as his companion, because who wants to travel without a friend) and both were superstars.

The schooling and hacking teams continue to keep our ponies exercised so that they are fit and ready for their jobs. The schooling team of volunteers work with the ponies weekly and have regular lessons with external instructors to build their knowledge and to make sure the ponies are all benefitting as much as possible from the sessions. Phyl Cambridge, who had been our external instructor for many years, decided to retire this year and we would like to extend our thanks to Phyl for all the work she has done over the years to keep our ponies fit. We were pleased to welcome Becca Vincent as our new schooling team instructor. Becca used to be a Saturday volunteer so knows us well and we are sure that she will keep up the good work that Phyl started. We also continue to work with Sarah Sjoholm-Patience. Sarah is an International Grand Prix dressage rider and is experienced in working with para riders and RDA groups. Her wealth of experience is a great asset to the team.

GROUNDS & PROPERTY

A number of upgrades and investments were delivering in 2022-23 and it continued to be a busy year for our volunteer maintenance and gardening team.

In December 2022 we received a donation of 600 trees from Epsom and Ewell Tree Advisory Board. The idea is to provide shade for the horses as well as screening along our boundary. We were fortunate to have secured the help of around 60 volunteer women and girls from the Ahmadiyya Women's Association who helped us plant the trees on a very cold and wet Sunday afternoon in January.

Summer 2022 saw the completion of our new car park, lighting and cycle racks. Having the car park separate from where our riders and equines move around has improved the safety on site. We are also pleased to be able to offer secure, accessible and dry cycle parking for our participants and volunteers who cycle to Epsom RDA.

Work on our sensory track ramped up in 2022 with a group of volunteers, both existing and new to Epsom RDA swinging into action. We now have a team of around 12 volunteers who regularly work on the track. In addition to weeding, planting, painting and building, they have also secured

donations of materials from local businesses. All of this work will ensure that our riders have a stimulating and interesting space in which to improve their riding skills.

With parts of our site being over 100 years old and with the harsh British weather some of our infrastructure is struggling to cope. Summer saw our water pipes burst, possibly due to the extreme heat and in winter, we had another pipe burst, during a cold spell. A huge thank you to our maintenance volunteers who laid new pipes with characteristic efficiency and competence.

Thank you to all of our maintenance and gardening volunteers who keep our grounds safe and in good working order and a delight to be around.

FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

Just as we were starting to recover from the financial challenges of Covid we have had to face rising prices bought on by the cost-of-living crisis. As ever, Epsom RDA has risen to the challenge in the form of the new Funding Raising Team. Over the last year we have seen the return of our events programme which included tack sales, pole clinics and lectures. The events not only were a fantastic opportunity for our coaches and volunteers to learn more about how to get the most from horse and rider, but they were open to the public which raised funds for the charity. A carol concert was held in December which saw a number of our riders and equines perform in a nativity. We even had snow! We owe a big thanks to the Fund-Raising Team for all the effort they have put in.

Our strategy to fund projects that are in addition to our day to day running costs through grant making bodies and trust funds is still paying dividends as we have received sponsorship from the Peter Harrison Trust and Epsom and Ewell Borough Council who contributed to the new car park and cycle facility. In addition, we received funding from James Jar of Gifts (JJoG) who sponsored the team that attended the National dressage competition at Hartpury.

We are also continually thankful for the donations we receive from various organisations and individuals. In particular, we were offered the opportunity recently to collect donations at the end of a concert by Soundbytes Choir at the Peace Hall in Ashtead. We were so pleased to find that we collected over a £1000.

In August, a team of young people from the National Citizenship Service (NCS) raised over £1,600 for us by doing a sponsored walk from London to Epsom as well as holding a cake sale in the town centre. They also spent a day on site gardening, weeding and tidying the grounds. A huge thanks to the team for this remarkable contribution. We continue to have an on-line fundraising presence including the Easy Fundraising portal, which enables shoppers to raise donations whilst shopping online. We have also had success with the Just Giving portal which gives our supporters an efficient means of donating money from several different sources including sponsored events and memorial collections. We will be continuing to further develop our fundraising partnerships and explore more opportunities for trust and grant funding.

COMMUNICATIONS

The aim of our communications is twofold; the first is looking externally, to encourage support for our activities including on volunteer recruitment and fundraising by telling the story of what we do and how we help to a wide audience. Secondly, within ERDA, our volunteers have told us they want to be more up to date with what is going on within Epsom RDA and to feel part of one ERDA community. We have started to prioritise internal communications, re-launching the volunteer survey and establishing a monthly update from the trustees email to all volunteers. We also welcomed our first dedicated social media and communications manager who is engaging people from all walks of life to help us achieve our participation, development and fundraising goals.

In March 2023, our marketing and communications trustee resigned. Recruitment for her replacement is ongoing and we aim to join up our fundraising and events and communications activities further in 2023

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Throughout the year essential training has continued for our volunteers. We have introduced Fire Marshals to our sessions, with training being held for our session leaders and coaches. We continue to review our processes and procedures to endeavouring to follow best practice in all of our health and safety measures.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

2023 will see the start of our work in terms of delivering on our strategic objectives which are to:

- ★ To deliver a varied and worthwhile experience to enhance health and well-being; this includes ensuring participants have activities suitable to their level and opportunities to progress, broadening our offer to include non-ridden activities and improving the volunteer experience;
- ★ To maximise the number of participants able to benefit from being with horses; this includes improving the management of our waiting list, maximising the number of riders at each session and investing in volunteer recruitment, training and retention;
- ★ To be an excellent organisation that is financially robust with a mixed revenue funding model; this includes developing a fundraising strategy, ensuring that we meet our obligations on governance and health & safety, communicating effectively and committing to being a diverse and inclusive charity.

With work on the new car and cycle parking facilities complete, we are in a much better position to expand and offer more community and fundraising events.

As ever, our focus in 2023 will be on getting the most from, and increasing the herd so that we can improve the quality of experience for our riders.

Measuring and increasing our impact will be a focus for 2023, as will listening to our existing participants and volunteers so that we can offer an even better service in 2023 and beyond.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND ACCOUNTS

The financial year ended 31st March 2023 has Epsom RDA returning to our usual level of participation following the return of all riders since Covid.

Overview

For the year ended 31st March 2023 the charity showed an annual operating surplus of c.£30k (£563 loss in 2021-22). These figures do not include any income or expenditure related to the Indoor School project (now renamed as Future Strategy costs to recognise the rising costs of building work and reprioritisation of future developments) which is classed as non-operating expenses and income. The total loss for the year, which reflects the completion of the car park (cost of c.£96k), was c.£59k (against a surplus of c.£26k in 2021-22) This comprised total operating income of c.£98k (c.£59k in 2021-22) with operating expenses of c.£29k (c.£520k in 2021-22).

In addition, we have received a sum of £8K from the Epsom and Ewell Community Fund which has been awarded for the building of the new car park. The grant received last year from the Peter Harrison Trust (£30k) has been fully utilised in funding the car park which was phase 1 of the future strategy plan and secures our current planning permission. Related to the same project there were non-operating expenses, of c.£96k (c.£6k in 2021-22).

This reflects the support we have had from donors, participants, Epsom and Ewell Community fund, the legacy of Pauline Humphries and the policy of the Trustees to limit expenditure in the year to essential expenses for the upkeep of the herd and buildings and to limit major works spend to those related to safety.

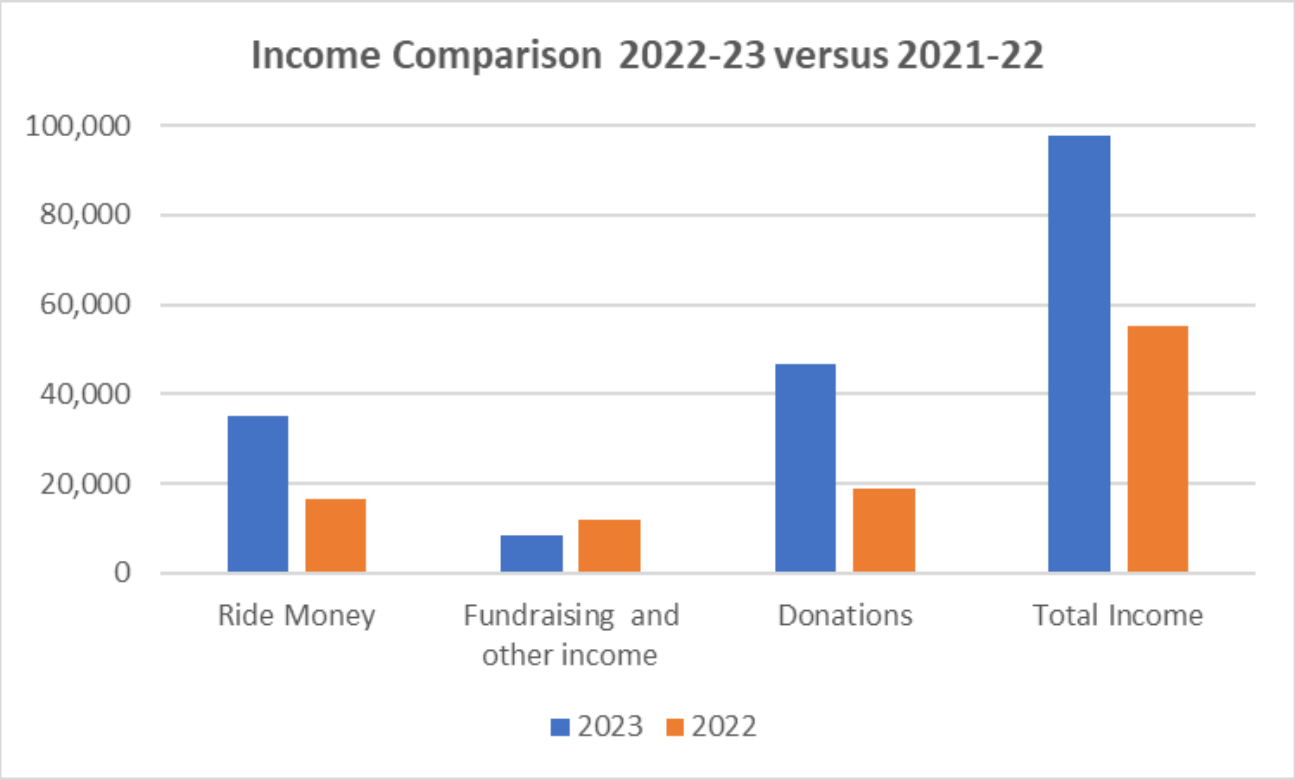
Income

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic funds had decreased in the prior 2 financial years. The trustees took the opportunity to review the fee level for 2022-23. The current cost of delivering a session for a participant, be that riding or a pony care session, is c.£30. The trustees agreed that we would increase the fee to £10 for 2022-23. The policy was also updated so that institutions pay a minimum fee a term in advance. This ensures that the charity recoups expenses and funding is more stable.

The total income for the year is standing at c.£98k which is higher than the c.£59k in 2021-22. This is in contrast with our last full year of riding of c.£79K in 2019/20 and reflects the effect of the increased fee. There was an increase in service fees (ride money) from c.£17k in 2021/22 to c.£35k in 2022-32. Donations for 2021-22 were c.£25k and after a drop from the previous year we have seen donations increase to c.£47k which reflects our ability to be able to hold on site fundraising events as well as participating in other locally arranged events.

Tack sales continue to attract good levels of interest contributing c.£5k in 2022-23. Donations of goods for the tack sales remains strong and the trustees have agreed to repurpose space at the yard to enable Carol Reyes and the team to have a permanent home for tack sales.

We remain grateful to all the individual participants who returned to access our services and were happy to pay the updated fee. Our thanks too to Papillon House School who donated funds over and above the service fee due.



We have also received support from generous donors including: -

- The Thompson Family Trust
- St Mark's and Mitcham Buffalos
- Ewell Club Inner Wheel of Kingston
- HOGGS golf club
- Papillon School
- Leumi Bank
- The family of Joyce Hill a former session leader and volunteer who donated in her memory
- The Ladies from Ruxley Lane Methodist Church
- Probus Club
- Soundbytes choir and all the people who donated
- Former Participants who continue to donate monthly
- Annette Emery Gemstone Jewellery who continues to make and sell jewellery with the profits used to buy items we need for our ponies
- Clare Cooper – after what she described as a "milestone birthday" Clare signed up to the challenge of running a half marathon and raised £1050 for us.

Of course, we are also grateful for all the donations we receive from volunteers, friends and relations of participants, the local allotments and gardeners who donate when collecting our quality manure, hot chocolate reindeers and pocket money as these unrestricted funds go directly to supporting the upkeep of the herd and their home to the benefit of our participants. We are also grateful for the volunteers who never claim expenses, and organisations who give us time and labour.

Expenditure

The upkeep of the herd forms a major part of our outgoings. This year our herd (12 ponies at year end – 11 of which are part of our active herd with Tandi being on a one-year loan for re-schooling) cost c.£27k (c.£18k in 2021/22 when we had 13 ponies) which includes expenses for feed, hay, farriers, dentist, vet, and various equipment including tack. The increase in expenditure is due the rising costs of hay and feed and services. Vet's bills of c.£3k for the care of Moss have been covered by a generous donation from the Thompson Family fund o have also agreed to cover the bill for the remainder of his treatment. A further c.£1.3k was donated by JJoG for a new saddle for Shannon. This excludes the cost of purchasing new herd members. (21/22 purchases of c£15K less sale of c. £1k versus c£12K in 22/23). Following the year end, we have returned a pony that came on trial and a refund of c.£9k has been received.

The average cost of keeping a herd member during the last year was £2,150, an increase from the previous year where it was £1,384 per annum. This is the equivalent of £41 per week which is ac. 60% increase on the prior year. So, a donation of £6 can buy a bale of hay, £30 pays for a pony to be visited by the farrier and £25 pays for a visit from the equine dentist.

Our next expense is in keeping the site safe, secure, and well maintained. The cost of maintaining the buildings and grounds in 2022/23 was c. £22K with an additional c.£96k for the car park build (which included £6k on the future strategy) of which c.£3k (c.£9k in 2020/21) was for major works where investment from previous years led to us being in a position of general maintenance rather than constant upgrading. In January the safety regulations regarding riding hates changed which meant we had to update all our riding hats to ensure rider safety. National RDA secured a discount with a major retailer but, as we have to have a mix of sizes and shapes of

hat, the total charge for renewing all hats was c.£5k. With special thanks to the Thursday session and Annette Emery Gemstones for raising an additional £600 to allow them to have the right hats for their session.

Other expenses include insurance, utilities, training, security, and general office expenses. All essential to our operation but the rise for 2022-23 reflect the general economic position as all costs have increased during the year. To mitigate this the trustees have ensured all contracts for maintenance of the site have been reviewed to ensure best value for money. As always, we are grateful to Steve and the maintenance team for all their hard work keeping our site safe and well maintained. Also, to the gardening team for maintaining the sensory track and general garden spaces.

Reserves

As a charity we are in the fortunate position that we have always been prudent with our use of incoming funds versus expenditure. At the end of 2022/23 we had c £211K cash in hand in various bank accounts (c.£268k in 2021/22).

The Trustees have several ring-fences in place on this money:

Future Strategy Fund (formerly Indoor School Project) - £100k in 2021-22 now £0

Having received several legacies, the Trustees agreed to contribute £100k of funds to the work needed to build the new indoor school. Initial spending was on planning fees and related surveys. The car park, which was due to be completed in 2021/22, was delayed by the need for an additional drainage survey. This has now been completed and the future strategy fund was used to build the car park in 2022/23. During 2021/22 we received a grant of £30k from the Peter Harrison Trust towards the indoor school project which was also used for the car park build. A grant of £8k was received from Epsom and Ewell Community Funds to allow us to provide lighting for the car park but the remainder of the costs were met through using the remainder of the designated funds as stated in the financial statements. In recognition of the changing economic conditions, the trustees have decided not to continue with the indoor school project. The remaining funds will instead be invested in existing assets, and as a result the project funds have been renamed “the future strategy fund”. Trustees have re-prioritised the updating and improving of the site so we can have dedicated fund raising and maximise our service provision by investing in smaller projects.

Minimum Reserves as required by the Charity Commission - £120K

All charities have a statutory duty to set minimum reserves to ensure their continued status as a going concern. Our minimum reserves were set some years ago to be held at a year running costs. This was initially set at £50k but has increased to £60k in 2021/22 to recognise rising costs. Given the current economic climate the trustees have agreed that this should be raised to c.£120k and it

will be reviewed during the year so that it reflects current costs. These funds are there for dire emergencies and can only be utilised for general running costs should our status change and we need to use them to remain a going concern.

Funds available for use – c.£91k

This is the cash we have in hand that we can use to keep our herd fed and well, to maintain our land and buildings and to make improvements for the safety, wellbeing, and enhancement of our offer to our participants. We also keep a further amount to funds in the designated funds account mentioned above for major works to ensure our site is safe and secure for our herd and our participants.

During 2020/21 the Trustees delegated authority to the Finance committee to manage the running of the charity by allocating budgets to designated Trustees who have the responsibility for property management, health, safety and cleaning, the upkeep of the herd and general running costs (e.g., insurance, rubbish removal, utilities, professional services including the bank account, audit fees etc). The Finance committee have full authority to spend within their budgets and there is a procurement process which was agreed by the Trustees which gives us a framework to ensure we spend wisely and get the best value forx money we can. This is all part of our enhanced Governance and has continued to work well during 2022/32. The committee has reviewed its terms of reference and is now the Finance, Performance and Governance Committee (FPGC).

In addition, the FPGC have set up a major works (capital expenditure rather than general running costs which are operational costs) list which logs all the non-essential work needed to improve our environment. They can recommend to the Trustees any major spend e.g., in 2022/23 this included the renewal of riding hats, updating emergency lighting, undertaking a full electrical and fire safety survey of the site. This list is split into those works that will become essential, other work that would be good to do in the right economic climate and projects that could be funded by donors. This list is helpful when we are approached by organisations who express an interest in funding us but wish but wish to invest in a specific project or item.

In addition, Epsom RDA owns:

- The freehold of St Ebba's Farm, which cost £84,657 (inclusive of legal fees).
- Equipment including two tractors, a trailer, three harrows, a grass cutter and sundry other tractor attachments,
- A hand operated motor mower, a strimmer and various workshop tools, competition fences, poles, and games
- equipment with an approximate current value of £15,000 (2021 - £15,000)

Notes to the accounts

Restricted Funds

We have had £13,490 added to our restricted funds during the year. This consisted of £1,828 from JJoG for attendance at Hartpury and a new saddle for Shannon; £315 from Annette Emery Gemstones for a sheepskin saddle; £2,747 from the Thompson Family trust for Moss's vet's bill; £8,000 from Epsom and Ewell Community Fund for the car park; £600 from the Thursday session for new riding hats. During the year these funds have all been fully utilised and we end the year with no restricted funds.

Designated Funds

The Designated Fund is £44,595 (closing balance as at 31st March 2022 £138,764). The trustees designated £20,000 (total of £11,947 spent in the year all from designated funds of which £8,700 has been refunded in April 2023) towards the purchase of new herd members and the costs related to said purchases. A further £49,645 was invested in the car park build. £3,614 was designated to the purchase of new riding hats. The remaining £4,875 was used to provide maintenance to the site including tree removal, new stable roof and other essential site work. This designated fund represents amounts set aside by the trustees out of the general fund to meet the cost of future improvements to the property and the purchase of new herd members. The interest on the balance in the Fund provides income for general purposes to help meet the Group's running expenses.

The following projects have been identified by the Trustees, for implementation as and when funds become available: -

- ★ To purchase equipment necessary for maintaining the estate.
- ★ To maintain or expand our herd which, although it has been added to over the past year, will need to be expanded further as participants return and in recognition of the age of the some of the current herd members.
- ★ Future Strategy initiatives have been identified and the trustees have agreed these will be funded through specific fundraising

During the year the Finance committee carried out work as held on the capital project list. This included:

- ★ essential maintenance work needed to ensure the safety and upkeep of our buildings and ground
- ★ provision of equipment for the herd and participants
- ★ The building of the car park

as well as a list of other projects where donors require a specific use for the funding being offered.

Assurance of Financial position

As Laura Hales stepped up as chair on 1st March 2023 then assurance on the true and fair view of Ray Lee as previous chair was sought on the accuracy of the financial position as well as his assurance that the correct financial processes had been observed.

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023 TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 3 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner
The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts, under Section 145 of the Charities Act, following the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners, (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 any 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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(a) 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 Charities Act; and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

T W Slater ACA,CTA
Harmer Slater Limited
Chartered Accountants
79a High Street
Teddington
Middlesex TW11 8HG

18 May 2023

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Income and Expenditure
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Ride Money	35,238.00			35,238.00	16,066.00
Livery Fees	5,450			5,450	5,048.00
Use of School	1,875			1,875	1,375.00
Sale of ponies	0			0	1,200.00
Interest income	617			617	1,264.00
Total Regular Income	**43,180**			**43,180**	**24,953.00**
Gross Income					
Plus Other Income					
Donations	22,300.00			22,300.00	17,185.00
Online donations	18,696.00			18,696.00	8,353.00
Ring fenced Donations		5,490.00		5,490.00	0.00
Tack sale	5,072.00			5,072.00	4,223.00
Events	1,226.00			1,226.00	1,616.00
Other revenue	2,000.00			2,000.00	5,933.00
Total Other Income	**49,294.00**	**5,490.00**		**54,784.00**	**37,310.00**
Total Income	**92,474.00**	**5,490.00**	**0.00**	**97,964.00**	**62,263.00**
Less Herd Upkeep Costs					
Pony care	10,117.00	2,747.00		12,864.00	9,330.00
Pony costs-equipment	487.00	1,390.00		1,877.00	1,083.00
Pony feed	9,652.00			9,652.00	6,736.00
Pony purchase	0.00		11,947.00	11,947.00	14,889.00
Pony schooling	785.00			785.00	250.00
Total Herd Upkeep Costs	**21,041.00**	**4,137.00**	**11,947.00**	**37,125.00**	**32,288.00**
Gross Profit	**71,433.00**	**1,353.00**	**-11,947.00**	**60,839.00**	**29,975.00**

Expenses					
Cost of running site					
Maintenance of grounds	1,646.00			1,646.00	2,940.00
Repairs & maintenance - building	1,314.00			1,314.00	3,800.00
Light, Power, Heating	1,236.00			1,236.00	1,617.00
Cleaning and sanitary costs	2,920.00			2,920.00	2,785.00
Fuel costs and servicing	559.00			559.00	0.00
Motor vehicle expenses	243.00			243.00	1,867.00
Gardening	834.00			834.00	492.00
Health, Safety and Safeguarding	857.00	600.00	3,614.00	5,071.00	99.00
Insurance	2,283.00			2,283.00	2,162.00
New Works	332.00		4,877.00	5,209.00	9,207.00
Telephone and Internet	461.00			461.00	644.00
Total Cost of Running Site	**12,685.00**	**600.00**	**8,491.00**	**21,776.00**	**25,613.00**
Other Running Costs					
Fundraising					
Competition costs	524.00			524.00	0.00
Event costs	2,001.00	753.00		2,754.00	1,325.00
Fundraiser Partner costs	216.00			216.00	290.00
Advertising & Marketing	77.00			77.00	0.00
Communications	98.00			98.00	0.00
Total Fundraising	**2,916.00**	**753.00**	**0.00**	**3,669.00**	**1,615.00**

Income and Expenditure Continued
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2023

Finance and Legal costs					
Audit & Accountancy fees	2,049.00			2,049.00	1,897.00
Bank fees	220.00			220.00	224.00
Subscription costs	340.00			340.00	295.00
Total Finance and Legal cost	**2,609.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**2,609.00**	**2,416.00**
Training					
Training - coaching and bursary	27.00			27.00	74.00
Training - first aid	1,380.00			1,380.00	0.00
Staff Training	11.00			11.00	0.00
Total Training	**1,418.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**1,418.00**	**74.00**
Other Administrative and Misc costs					
IT Software and consumables	295.00			295.00	702.00
Printing & stationery	247.00			247.00	118.00
General expenses	0.00			0.00	0.00
Total Other Administrative and Misc costs	**542.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**542.00**	**820.00**
Total Other Running Costs	**0.00**	**753.00**	**0.00**	**8,238.00**	**4,925.00**
Total Operating Expenses	**20,170**	**1,353**	**8,491**	**30,014**	**30,538**
Operating Surplus (Loss)	**51,263**	**0**	**-20,438**	**30,825**	**-563**
Future Strategy Costs and Income					
Indoor School Project					
Indoor School costs	0	46,842	49,645	96,487	6156
Indoor School funding	0	-8,000	0	-8,000	-30000
Total Indoor School Project	**0**	**38,842**	**49,645**	**88,487**	**-23,844**
Total Non-operating Expenses	**0**	**38,842**	**49,645**	**88,487**	**-23,844**
Net Surplus (Loss)	**51,263**	**-38,842**	**-70,083**	**-57,662**	**23,281**
Transfer of funds					
Balance at 1st April 2022	**90,510**	**38,842**	**138,764**	**268,116**	**244,835**
Balance at 31st March 2023	**141,773**	**0**	**68,681**	**210,454**	**268,116**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Balance Sheet
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage
For the year ended 31 March 2023

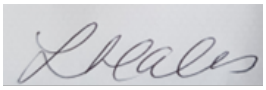
Bank Accounts	Opening Balance	Cash Received	Cash Spent	Closing Balance
ERDA CIO current account	39,119	125,108	129,426	34,801
ERDA old charity	1,922	790	0	2,712
ERDA Virgin	382	0	0	382
National Counties Building Soc	95,748	387	0	96,135
Accessible savings account	129,820	225	55,626	74,419
Metrobank savings account	2,000	5	0	2,005
Metrobank credit card	-875	875	0	0
Total	**268,116**	**127,390**	**185,052**	**210,454**

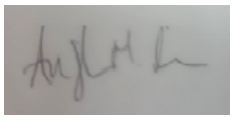
Receipts and Payments Accounts
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank Balances at 31st March 2022 held by Epsom Riding for the Disabled (1180061)	**90,510.00**	**38,842.00**	**138,764.00**	**268,116.00**

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2023
Net Receipts/ (payments) in year	51,263.00	-38,842.00	-70,083.00	-57,662.00
Bank Balances at 31st March 2023	**141,773.00**	**0.00**	**68,681.00**	**210,454.00**

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 18 May and signed on their behalf by:





L Hales

Chair

For and on behalf of the Management Committee

A Wilson

Trustee

Treasurer

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2023
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Restricted Funds

	Donor	Fund as at 1st April 2022	Received	Spent	Fund as at 31st March 2023
		£	£	£	£
Sound System for the riding school	Oxshott Ladies	1,742	0	1,742	0
Lighting	The Livingstone Trust	2,300	0	2,300	0
Lighting for School	Love of Learning	4,800	0	4,800	0
Indoor school project	Peter Harrison Foundation	30,000	0	30,000	0
Hartpury attendance and saddle for Shannon	JJOG	0	1,828	1,828	0
Sheepskin saddle	Annette Emery	0	315	315	0
Vets' bills for Moss	Gemstones	0	2,747	2,747	0
Bicycle sheds and lighting for the new car park	Thompson Family Trust	0	8,000	8,000	0
New riding hats	Epsom and Ewell Borough Council	0	600	600	0
	Thursday session	38,842	13,490	52,332	0

2. Designated Funds

	£
Opening balance	**138,764.00**
Additional funding from donations	0.00
Transfer of funds	0.00
Less	0.00
Removal of rotting trees	-1,980.00
Purchase of new herd	-11,947.00
replacement of fences	-400.00
Roofing of stables	-625.00
Emergency Plumber for tap	-120.00
New riding hats to meet updated standards	-3,614.00
Japanese knotweed treatment	-1,752.00
Car park	-49,645.00
Total spent	**-70,083.00**
Closing balance	**68,681.00**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2023 continued
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2023

3. New Works (Improvements and Equipment) Purchased in year

New Works (Improvements)	£	
Water pump repair	332	
Removal of rotting trees	1,980	(designated)
Replacement of fences	400	(designated)
Roofing of stables	625	(designated)
Emergency plumber for tap in stables	120	(designated)
Japanese knotweed treatment	1,752	(designated)
Total New Works (Improvements)	**5,209**	

Equipment		
Saddles	1,538	(part restricted)
Girths	45	
Other equipment costs	294	
Total Equipment	**1,877**	

Total new works (Improvements and equipment)	**7,086**

GOVERNANCE

Epsom RDA is managed by ten elected trustees including the Chair. Within the group there is a wide range of skills and experience bringing well rounded expertise to manage the charity on a day-to-day basis and plan and deliver for the future.

There have been some changes to Trustees during the year:

- We welcomed one new Trustee in November: Laura McArthur who brings secretariat experience to our list of skills.
- We also saw a change in Chairs with Ray Lee stepping down as chair but remaining an active member of the trustees taking on a new role as fundraising trustee.
- Laura Hales was elected as chair from March 2023.
- Trustees also moved to recruit a new communications trustees following the resignation of Jane Sanders who had held the role for the past 3 years.
- The Board now operates in a hybrid fashion meeting remotely and in person. The Board met five times during the year and held one strategy meeting. The Annual General Meeting was held on 20 November 2022. Our thanks to the kind support of Epsom Downs Racecourse who once again hosted our meeting.

The Finance committee reformed in 2022 – taking on enhanced role in financial governance and performance reporting. It is now the Finance, Performance and Governance Committee (FPGC). It is chaired by the treasurer and comprises secretary, property trustee, fundraising trustee and 1 other trustee as elected.

SAFEGUARDING

Everyone within Epsom RDA has the right to report any issues which cause concern about another person in confidence, this can be done to the appointed Safeguarding Officer or direct to our National body, RDA UK.

At Epsom RDA we have a

- ★ Safeguarding Policy Statement
- ★ Safe recruitment – standardised application form, requirement for two references and disclosure checks
- ★ An appointed Safeguarding Officer who can be contacted by email: safeguarding@epsomrda.org.uk

All in the Group are aware of who to contact if there is a safeguarding concern with the details sign posted on our coffee room noticeboard as well as detailed on our website.

All Coaches that run Sessions have a current (within 3 years) safeguarding certificate and are required attend a formal training course provided by RDA UK to renew their certificate.

More information on safeguarding guidelines and policy can be found at RDA National Safeguarding.

TRUSTEES AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

Ray Lee, Chair re-elected at AGM on 27 September 2020 - resigned as chair on 2nd March 2023 but stays on as fundraising trustee

Angela Wilson, Treasurer re-elected at AGM on 27 September 2020

Tessa Kelly, Secretary elected 17 November 2019 resigned 20 November 2022

Laura McArthur, Secretary elected 16 January 2023

Liz Clark, Volunteering, appointed 14 February 2022

Rebecca Courtman, Health, and Safety and Safeguarding re-elected 21 November 2021

Laura Hales, Property & Grounds, re-elected 21 November 2021, appointed Chair on 2nd March 2023

David Hart appointed 14 February 2022

Jo Lee, Horse and Pony, at AGM on 27 September 2020

Jane Sanders, Communications re-elected at AGM on 27 September 2020 resigned 2nd March 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Formal name: Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association
Charity Registered Number: 1180061
Registered Office: St Ebba's Farm, Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8Q

Honorary Officers:

Chair – Ray Lee until 2nd March 2023 Laura Hales from that date

Treasurer – Angela Wilson

Secretary – Tessa Kelly resigned 20 November 2023, Laura McArthur elected 16 January 2023

Objects:
Providing disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or to carriage drive to benefit their health and well- being in the Surrey / Southeast area

A Member of the Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving
Registered Company No 5010395 Registered Charity No 244108

For more information:

Website: www.epsomrda.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/epsomrda

Instagram: www.instagram.com/epsomrda

Twitter: www.twitter.com/epsomrda

Enquiries:

info@epsomrda.org.uk

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1180061

Accounts

Epsom RDA
Annual Review & Accounts

2021/2022

EPSOM RD

Vision & Objectives

Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association (Epsom RDA) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), Registered Charity Number 1180061. Our aim is to provide disabled people in the Surrey and Southeast area with the opportunity to ride to benefit their health and well-being

Epsom RDA is entirely volunteer run by and managed exclusively for disabled participants.

We hold sessions every day of the week including weekends. The majority take place in the mornings, but we also have evening sessions on a Monday and Wednesday, and a Saturday afternoon session.

Each session is unique in the types of participants they support. The coaching is adapted to be most effective for the individual challenges each participant faces.

The therapeutic benefits of interactions with horses are well recognised. Riding helps exercise and strengthen muscles, mobilises joints, and helps participants develop their balance, independence, and sensory perception. Being able to spend time caring for horses also has a positive impact on confidence levels, relationship building, and communication skills. Each session, whether it is riding or learning about caring about horses, is planned to encourage our participants to enjoy themselves and from that enjoyment gain emotional, social, educational, and physical benefits 333

Our goal is to ensure that all our participants achieve while having fun as part of our community.

Content

Foreword from Epsom RDA Chair Ray Lee

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Trustees as at 31 March 2022

Administration and contact details

Chair Foreword

When I wrote the introduction to last year's review there was a degree of optimism that we were at the end of Covid, and that life was going back to normal. As we know recovery has been longer and more frustrating than we imagined at the time. However, there are signs that everything is nearly back to normal and there has been much to celebrate this year.

With a few exceptions our participants are back and so are our events from Dressage competitions to Tack Sales. The live AGM and Awards Ceremony was back at the Epsom Downs Racecourse and was a fantastic event. Despite Covid we managed to enter riders into the Regional and National dressage competitions albeit virtually. The National competition was live streamed in September, and we had eight competitors across a range of disciplines from Dressage through Countryside Challenge to Arts and Crafts. Congratulations to all for the high standard achieved.

Ray Lee - Chair

In terms of achievements, during this year, in a ceremony at National RDA's headquarters, HRH Princess Anne presented Trustee and Group Coach, Jo Lee, with RDA's most prestigious volunteer award, The President's Award, recognising the exceptional nature of her service over 30 years. It was fantastic for Jo and Epsom RDA as a whole and helps to highlight the hard work and dedication of all our volunteers for which we are all very grateful.

Also, I would like to say a big thank you to all those who have raised funds or made donations during the year, without which we simply wouldn't be able to operate. After much soul searching, we did have to take the hard decision to increase our service fee for the first time in many years. However, with the cost of providing a ride being around £35 and the fee only being £10 we remain dependent on fundraising to continue to try and keep our services accessible as possible.

There is much to be excited about this year with competitions restarting, various developments at the yard and the ongoing search for new ponies. As ever it's going to be an exciting year.

Lastly, thank you to all the Session Leaders and Trustees who work so hard, often on unseen tasks, to provide the quality facilities that our participants enjoy. It is great to see the smiling faces of our participants again. We have missed them.

Ray Lee - Chair

Covid-19

In Spring 2021, following the relaxation of Government and Regional guidelines, Epsom RDA started to get back to riding. We were able to invite volunteers and some participants, including some of those who required close contact support, back onto the yard.

Our Session Leaders continued to follow the Return to Riding guideline document to be able to run their session safely. Guidelines included

- social distancing
- mask wearing for indoor activity and close contact support
- additional cleaning measures
- family members trained to support participants whilst riding or caring for our ponies.

Our Major Incident Team (MIT) continued to adapt our procedures and policies in response to the changing National and Regional conditions with the safety of our volunteers and participants always our first consideration and from September 2021 the decision to invite all participants back to sessions was made. We still had our guidelines in place and Session Leaders and volunteers did well in managing their session back to capacity over the Autumn.

Throughout the year some essential training has continued for our volunteers. Safeguarding training was moved online for our Coaches and Session Leaders, and First Aid training was run in line with our Covid measures, which meant we could run face to face sessions, for Coaches that needed refreshing and our newer volunteers.

Towards the end of 2021/beginning of 2022 many of our sessions were back running to capacity and were able to invite new participants and new volunteers into the Epsom RDA community. We have relaxed some of our Covid measures, in line with National and Regional guidelines, however, the safety of our volunteers and participants still guides our decision making. Volunteers have commented that they have felt safe on our yard during Covid-19. This is due to the hard work from our MIT and Session Leaders in maintaining appropriate guidelines.

Participants

We were delighted to be able to return to riding activities during the year with COVID-19 restrictions being gradually lifted enabling us to welcome back riders.

COVID-19 brought many challenges to Epsom RDA but has also presented some opportunities. When restrictions meant that some participants were unable to ride, coaches and volunteers worked hard to develop activities that could engage participants without getting on a horse. From this, our groundwork sessions have been developed and some sessions are continuing to offer these sessions. These sessions enable participants to benefit from regular contact with our lovely ponies even when they can't ride and adds an important element to our offering in building our participants' love of horses and learning about how to look after them.

Another development has been virtual competition. The RDA National Championships took place virtually in 2021 and Epsom RDA participants entered the dressage, countryside challenge and arts and crafts classes. Our coaches and volunteers had to learn some new skills in videoing and uploading! The top ten in each class were broadcast as part of the RDA National Virtual Championships in September 2021 and we were delighted that our dressage team were all placed in the top 10 of their classes with one class champion. We also had a class champion in the Arts and Crafts section.

Volunteers

Our volunteers have been excited and their spirts lifted to see the participants return to riding through this year. We are always grateful to the enthusiasm and commitment of all our volunteers but this has been especially appreciated throughout this particularly challenging period.

We were delighted to be able to acknowledge their commitment and celebrate their achievements during our AGM and Annual Prize Giving in November 2021. The Mayor of Epsom and Ewell attended the event presenting Long Service certificates and Over and Above Awards to several volunteers. The afternoon also gave everyone an opportunity to celebrate the achievement of long serving volunteer, Jo Lee, in receiving the prestigious RDA Presidents Award.

One of the results of operating a restricted provision during 2020/21 was a build-up of a strong waiting list of people wanting to volunteer with us. At the end of the year with the activities now moving back to normal levels many of those who were on the waiting list have now been able to join our teams and we now have gaps in a number of our sessions and on our support teams, such the maintenance, administration, and fundraising. We are planning a proactive recruitment drive for the early part of 2022/23 to address these issues.

We were delighted to be able to re-start our Volunteer Training programme in the Autumn. Although numbers attending needed to be limited in line with the COVID restrictions in place, the feedback was excellent. We recently returned to full capacity and participation for Stage 1 and 2 Training sessions and have a 2-part Coaches Training event planned.

Horse and Ponies

At the start of 2020/21 we only had 10 horses and ponies in our herd which is the lowest number we have had for some time and is well below our capacity of 15. Acquiring horses and ponies that are suitable for RDA work is a challenging task as they need to be many things including quiet but with an active walk, responsive but not too sensitive and happy to be handled by many people. There are many people across the country, including other RDA groups, commercial riding schools, and private buyers all looking for these perfect ponies. As a result of this, and a drop in supply from breeding and imports, prices have soared over the last few years. A horse who would have cost around £3-4,000 a few years ago will now sell for approximately £8-10,000.

We have therefore been fortunate to have sourced some excellent new horses and ponies this year. To do this we have had to try some new things and travel quite a long way! In April 2021 we bought Tandi from a dealer in Gloucestershire and for the first time, due to Covid restrictions, we conducted a virtual viewing. Our first in person meeting with Tandi was when she stepped off the delivery trailer! Tandi is quite young and is still learning her job but is progressing and we are hopeful that in time she will be a valuable member of the team.

In June, four Trustees and volunteers travelled all the way to Pembrokeshire for the weekend to view and try some horses at a trekking centre that was closing down. The happy result of this was that we bought Spice and Rags who arrived in August and settled in quickly to RDA life. We later also purchased Otto from the same centre but sadly, although his character is just right for RDA, he has been a little lame since arriving. As this shows no signs of improving, he will soon be returning home to Wales. Our final arrival for the year was Shannon who came in July 2021 on loan from her owner who previously kept her at a nearby livery yard. The 3 ponies purchased this year cost a total of £14,740.

Two of our ponies have moved on during the year. We sold Hugo in April 2021 to a local riding school as he wasn't really enjoying the life at RDA. He is now happily working and hacking in the riding school based in nearby Horton Country Park and is often seen by our volunteers grazing in his field. In early 2022, Guinness, who was on loan to us and helped many riders in the last few years, started to show signs that he wasn't really enjoying his job anymore. We agreed he should return to his owners to enjoy a quieter life. This meant we finished the year with a total of 13 horses.

As we have returned to normal services, we were able to re-introduce formal schooling sessions to keep the ponies fit and ready for their jobs. The schooling team of volunteers work with the ponies weekly and have regular lessons with external instructors to build their knowledge and to make sure the ponies are all benefitting as much as possible from the sessions. We have been incredibly pleased to welcome Sarah Sjoholm-Patience as an external instructor this year. Sarah is an International Grand Prix dressage rider and is experienced in working with para riders and RDA groups. Her wealth of experience is a great asset to the team.

Grounds & Property

A number of upgrades and investments were delivering in 2021-22 and it continued to be a busy year for our volunteer Maintenance team.

In October 2021 we carried out some lighting upgrades which included replacement of all our emergency lighting. We also replaced the aging lighting in the indoor school with energy efficient LEDs. The LEDs give a brighter light and will also help to manage our electricity bills.

Storm Eunice arrived in February causing minor damage including the overturning of a field shelter and some damage to our perimeter fence by fallen trees from neighbouring land. We were lucky to have escaped with only minor damage with the repairs being carried out in-house by our Maintenance team.

On a Sunday morning in March 2021, we held the Spring Big Tidy Up. During the morning we planted 20 tree saplings from the Treescapes Fund grant which was awarded to Surrey County Council with a mission to plan more trees in the County. Our volunteers were joined by supporters from the Epsom and Ewell Tree Advisory Board, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and Epsom Footcare. The trees, once fully grown will provide valuable shade and shelter for our herd. The team also helped us to carry out a much-needed tidy up of our Sensory Track, an ongoing task. The track is a valuable asset, where our riders can enjoy being challenged to complete an obstacle course and get the feel of riding in countryside without leaving our site.

Fundraising and Events

Over the last 18 months our fundraising events which play a large part in helping us meet our day to day running costs have been hit hard by the restrictions imposed by COVID, however, with the easing of restrictions from Autumn 2021 we have been again able to plan and hold these events which are so crucial to our income. The first of these saw the return of our Tack Sale which had a tremendous response from the local equine community who helped us raise c. £4k in just over two hours. Our intention is to continue to hold the Tack Sales on a regular basis as a cornerstone of our fundraising events.

In May 2021 we received the excellent news that the newly elected Mayor for Epsom and Ewell had chosen Epsom RDA to be one of three charities to be supported with fundraising activities during his year long term of office. An indicator of the regard with which Epsom RDA is held in the local community.

We are also partners with The Derby Walk: an annual charity fundraising event which celebrates the historic route walked by race goers from central London to Epsom Downs to watch The Derby. We are grateful to the John Sandys and Pat Larkin, and the Jockey Club for their continued support.

We continue to have an on-line fundraising presence including the Easy Fundraising portal, which enables shoppers to raise donations whilst shopping online. We have also had success with the Just Giving portal which gives our supporters an efficient means of donating money from several different sources including sponsored events and memorial collections

Our strategy to fund projects that are in addition to our day to day running costs through grant making bodies and trust funds paid dividends this year when we were successful in securing funding to update of our electrical and fire safety systems. We were delighted our bid submitted into the national SEIB Giving Awards came in second place overall, and first place in the small charities section in resulting a cheque for £8,000 being presented to us.

In the next twelve months we are looking forward to lifting our income from fundraising events as normal life returns although we are aware that the increasing cost of living will impact both on our overheads and on the pockets of those who so generously support us. We will be continuing to further develop our fundraising partnerships and explore more opportunities for trust and grant funding.

Communications

The objective of our communications is to engage and inspire people from all our varied audiences; our participants and volunteers and beyond our own boundaries reaching out to the wider local community. The aim is to encourage support for our activities including volunteer recruitment and fundraising by raising our profile and explaining what we do and achieve.

We use a mix of communication channels to support this aim and make the most of opportunities to tell our stories to as wide an audience as possible through the media and our social media channels.

We focus our social media activity on three channels alongside our website Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We continue to work on improving the accessibility of our social media content and ensure we keep up to date with the latest social media best practice.

Our profile on social media has bought us several opportunities during the year including as a location for the British Horseracing Authority (BHA).

The BHA crew filmed and interviewed our participants and volunteers on a rather cold morning for a future communications campaign raising awareness of diversity and inclusion within the equine industry.

As our level of activities in the year ahead increase and we look towards adding to the range of services we offer we will continue to tell our story

Planning for the Future

Due to Covid and the economic legacy it has left, progress on the development plans has been very slow. There has been some progress in the background such finalising the planning permission and gaining further financial support, but it wasn't possible to progress any of the construction work.

Instead, we continued to focus on getting back to normal operations, bringing on new ponies and maintaining the facilities we have.

However, despite it all we remain optimistic and in 2022/23 we will be building the car park phase of the project following a kind donation of £30,000 from the Peter Harrison Trust. The building of the car park will enable us to separate the flow of ponies and people from vehicles as they travel around the location and so enhance the safety of our site.

We remain committed to our long term aims:

- increase the number of participants
- improve the facilities to the benefit of participants, volunteers and ponies
- improve the quality of the experience for our participants and volunteers

Financial Review and Accounts

The financial year ended 31st March 2022 has been another atypical year for Epsom RDA due to the COVID-19 pandemic which saw us having to close our doors for some of the year with a gradual return of riders as the Covid restrictions eased.

Overview

For the year ended 31st March 2022 the charity showed a small annual operating loss of c.£563 (c£975 loss in 2020-21). These figures do not include any income or expenditure related to the Indoor School project which is classed as non-operating expenses and income. This comprised total operating income of c.£59k (c.£56k in 2020-21) with operating expenses of c.£60k (c.£56k in 2020-21).

In addition, we have received a sum of £30K from the Peter Harrison Trust which has been awarded for the Indoor School Project. Related to the same project there were non-operating expenses, of c.£6k (c.£6k in 2020-21). This left us, in total, with an overall surplus of c.£23k against a loss of c.£7k in 2020-21

This reflects the support we have had from donors, participants, SEIB prize money and the policy of the Trustees to limit expenditure in the year to essential expenses for the upkeep of the herd and buildings and to limit major works spend to those related to safety.

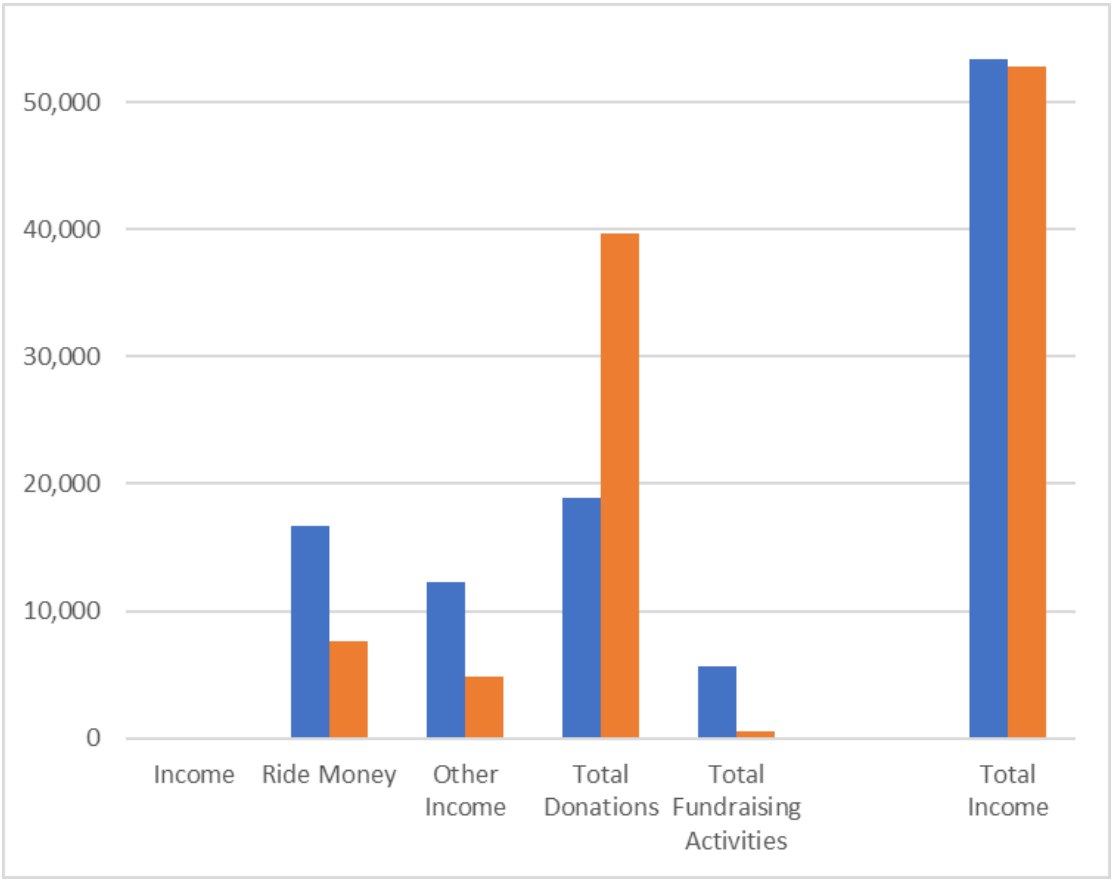
Income

The continuing absence of participants due to the Covid-19 pandemic has continued to have an effect on income.

The total income for the year is standing at c.£59k which is slighter higher than the c.£55k in 2020-21. This is in contrast with our last full year of riding of c.£79K in 2019/20. There was an increase in service fees (ride money) from c.£8k in 2020/21 to c.£16k in 2021-22. However, we have also seen a fall in donations from c.£39k in 2020-21 to c.£25k in 2021-22.

We remain grateful to all the individual participants who continued to pay throughout the year even though they were not able to access our services. Our thanks too to Papillon House School who donated funds over and above the service fee due.

Income Comparison 2021-22 versus 2020-21



Key 2021-22 2020-21

We have also received support from generous donors including: -

- The Thompson Family Trust
- St Mark's and Mitcham Buffalos
- Rotary Club Inner Wheel of Kingston whose President has supported us for several years as her chosen charity
- HOGGS golf club
- Papillon School
- Harrodians School
- The family of Joyce Hill a former volunteer who donated in her memory
- Former Participants who continue to donate monthly
- Annette Emery Gemstone Jewellery who continues to make and sell jewellery with the profits used to buy items we need for our ponies

Of course, we are also grateful for all the donations we receive from volunteers, friends and relations of participants, the local allotments and gardeners who donate when collecting our quality manure, hot chocolate reindeers and pocket money as these

unrestricted funds go directly to supporting the upkeep of the herd and their home to the benefit of our participants.

Expenditure

The upkeep of the herd forms a major part of our outgoings. This year our herd (13 ponies at year end) cost c.£18k (c.£21k in 2020/21) which includes expenses for feed, hay, farriers, dentist, vet, and various equipment including tack. The reduction in expenditure is due to the careful cost management allied to the good health of the herd with the associated reduction in vet bills from the previous year. This excludes the cost of purchasing new herd members. (21/22 purchases of c£15K less sale of c.£1k versus c£3K in 20/21).

The average cost of keeping a herd member during the last year was £1,384 per annum or £26 a week. So, a donation of £6 can buy a bale of hay, £20 pays for a pony to be visited by the farrier and £25 pays for a visit from the equine dentist.

Our next expense is in keeping the site safe, secure, and well maintained. The cost of maintaining the buildings and grounds in 2021/22 was c. £21K (c.£24K in 2020/21) of which c.£9k (c.£13k in 2020/21) was for major works which included a full electrical survey and upgrade to our lighting system. The major works undertaken this financial year reflect the decision of the Trustees to limit our spend to those items that were needed for safety or continuing operation. However, the SEIB Giving Award of £8k offset the cost of all our major works.

During 2020/21 we spent c.£4k to make our site Covid-19 safe for our volunteers and our participants/ visitors. This included additional cleaning by a professional company which continues at c£2k.

Other expenses include insurance, utilities, training, security, and general office expenses. All essential to our operation.

Reserves

As a charity we are in the fortunate position that we have always been prudent with our use of incoming funds versus expenditure. At the end of 2021/22 we had c £268K cash in hand in various bank accounts (c.£245k in 2020/21).

The Trustees have several ringfences in place on this money:

- **Indoor School Project - £100k**

Having received several legacies, the Trustees agreed to contribute £100k of funds to the work needed to build the new indoor school. Some of this has been spent on planning fees and the related surveys. The car park, which was due to be completed in 2021/22, was delayed by the need for an additional drainage survey. However, this has now been completed and the intent is to use these funds to build the car park in 2022/23. During 2021/22 we have received a grant of £30k from the Peter Harrison Trust towards the Indoor School Project and the remainder of the funds we will need will come from dedicated fundraising. This forms part of the designated funds as stated in the financial statements.

- **Minimum Reserves as required by the Charity Commission - £60K**

All charities have a statutory duty to set minimum reserves to ensure their continued status as a going concern. Our minimum reserves were set some years ago to be held at a year running costs. This was initially set at £50k but has increased to £60k in 2021/22 to recognise rising costs. These funds are there for dire emergencies and can only be utilised for general running costs should our status change and we need to use them to remain a going concern.

- **Funds available for use – c.£93k**

This is the cash we have in hand that we can use to keep our herd fed and well, to maintain our land and buildings and to make improvements for the safety, wellbeing, and enhancement of our offer to our participants. We also keep a further amount to funds in the designated funds account mentioned above for major works to ensure our site is safe and secure for our herd and our participants.

During 2020/21 the Trustees delegated authority to the Finance committee to manage the running of the charity by allocating budgets to designated Trustees who have the responsibility for property management, health, safety and cleaning, the upkeep of the herd and general running costs (e.g., insurance, rubbish removal, utilities, professional services including the bank account, audit fees etc.). The Finance committee have full authority to spend within their budgets and we have a procurement process that has been agreed by the Trustees which gives us a framework to ensure we spend wisely and get the best value for money we can. This is all part of our enhanced Governance and has continued to work well during 2021/22.

In addition, the Finance committee have set up a major works (capital expenditure rather than general running costs which are operational costs) list which logs all the non-essential work needed to improve our environment. They can recommend to the Trustees any major spend e.g., in 2021/22 the refurbishment of the electrical system and improvements to the fire safety system. This list is split into those works that will become essential, other work that would be good to do in the right economic climate and projects that could be funded by donors. This list is helpful when we are approached by organisations who express an interest in funding us but wish but wish to invest in a specific project or item.

In addition, Epsom RDA owns:

- The freehold of St Ebba's Farm, which cost £84,657 (inclusive of legal fees).
- Equipment including two tractors, a trailer, three harrows, a grass cutter and sundry other tractor attachments,
- A hand operated motor mower, a strimmer and various workshop tools, competition fences, poles, and games
- equipment with an approximate current value of £15,000 (2021 - £15,000)

Notes to the accounts

Restricted Funds

We have had £31,200 added to our restricted funds during the year. This consisted of £30,000 from the Peter Harrison Foundation for the Indoor School project; £1,200 received for the sale of Hugo and used against future pony purchases as agreed with the Fiona Strong Memorial Fund who funded the purchase of Hugo; £115. During the year we purchased Tandi (new herd member) from the anonymous donation received in March 2021.

Designated Funds

The Designated Fund of £138,764 (closing balance as at 31st March 2021 £130,177) was increased by the award of prize money from SEIB which was designated for the upgrade of all our electrics on site and towards the upgrade of the fire safety system completed in the last financial year. In addition, the trustees designated £20,000 (total of £14,889 spent in the year of which £13,414 came from designated funds) towards the purchase of new herd members and the costs related to said purchases. A further £875 was invested in the purchase of new stable mats for the indoor stalls.

This designated fund represents amounts set aside by the trustees out of the general fund to meet the cost of future improvements to the property. The interest on the balance in the Fund provides income for general purposes to help meet the Group’s running expenses.

The following projects have been identified by the Trustees, for implementation as and when funds become available: -

- Additional development that would result in a new indoor riding school for which planning permission has already been granted. This will include upgrading carparking and other buildings being used for better purpose to promote our services to more riders. The trustees agreed at the outset of the project, to make £100,000 available some of which has already been used for the successful planning application and associated costs. Work on the car park was delayed in 21/22 by the need for an additional drainage survey.
- To purchase other equipment necessary for maintaining the estate.
- To maintain or expand our herd which, although it has been added to over the past year, will need to be expanded further as participants return and in recognition of the age of the some of the current herd members.

During the year the Finance committee carried out work as held on the capital project list. This included:

- essential maintenance work needed to ensure the safety and upkeep of our buildings and ground
- provision of equipment for the herd and participants

as well as a list of other projects where donors require a specific use for the funding being offered.

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2022 TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts, under Section 145 of the Charities Act, following the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners, (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 any 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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(a.) 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 Charities Act; and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

T W Slater ACA,CTA
Harmer Slater Limited
Chartered Accountants
79 High Street
Teddington
Middlesex TW11 8HG

26th May 2022

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Income and Expenditure
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Interest income	1,264			1,264	1,608
Livery Fees	5,048			5,048	4,884
Other Revenue	5.933			5,933	0
Ride Money	16,066			16.066	8,373
Total Income	**28,311**			**28,311**	**14,865**
Gross Income	**28,311**			**28,311**	**14,865**
Plus Other Income					
Donations	9,185		8,000	17,185	25,170
Online donations	8,353			8,353	11,918
Ring fenced Donations	0			0	2,582
Fundraising Activities					
Tack sale	4,223			4,223	341
Adopt a pony	0			0	90
Use of School	1,375			1.375	250
Total Fundraising Activities	**5,598**			**5,598**	**681**
Total Other Income	**23,136**		**8,000**	**31,136**	**40,351**
Less Operating Expenses					
Health and safety	99			99	0
General Expenses	0			0	397

Subscriptions	295	295	295
	394	**394**	**692**
Events			
Event Costs	1,325	1,325	345
Events	-1,616	-1,616	-168
Total Events	**-291**	**-291**	**177**
General Expenses – office			
IT Software and Consumables	702	702	0
Printing & Stationery	118	118	69
Telephone & Internet	644	644	783
Total General Expenses – office	**1,464**	**1,464**	**852**
Professional Services			
Audit & Accountancy fees	1,897	1,897	1721
Bank Fees	224	224	440
Fundraising Partner costs	290	290	101
Legal Expenses	0	0	1,864
Total Professional Services	**2,411**	**2,411**	**4,126**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Income and Expenditure continued
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2022

Property – bills					
Insurance	2,162			2,162	2,162
Light, Power, Heating	1617			1,617	14
Total Property – bills	**3,779**			**3,779**	**2,176**
Property – maintenance					
Gardening	492			492	334
Cleaning	2,785			2,785	3,696
Maintenance of grounds	2,940			2,940	4,048
Motor Vehicle Expenses	1,867			1,867	754
New Works improvement	658	2,550	5,999	9,207	13,155
Repairs & Maintenance - building	3,800			3,800	1931
Total Property – maintenance	**12,542**	**2,550**	**5,999**	**21,091**	**23,918**
Training					
Staff Training	0			0	720
Training - coaching and bursary	74			74	0
Total Training	**74**			**74**	**720**
Upkeep of the Herd					
Pony Care	9,330			9,330	11,489
Pony costs – equipment	1,083			1,083	2,911
Pony Feed	6,736			6,736	6,257
Pony Purchase	0	1,475	13,414	14,889	2,873
Pony schooling	250			250	0
Sale of ponies	0	-1,200		-1200	0
Total Upkeep of the Herd	**17,399**	**275**	**13,414**	**31,088**	**23,530**
Total Operating Expenses	**37,772**	**2,825**	**19,413**	**60,010**	**56,191**

Operating Surplus (Loss)	**13,675**	**2,825**	**11,413**	**-563**	**-975**
Non-operating Expenses					
Indoor School Project					
Indoor School costs	6,156			6,156	6111
Indoor School funding	0	-30,000		-30,000	0
Total Indoor School Project	**6,156**			**23,844**	**-6111**
Total Non-operating Expenses	**6,156**	**-30,000**		**23,844**	**6111**
Net Surplus (Loss)	**7,519**	**27,175**	**-11,413**	**23,281**	**-7,086**
Transfer of Funds	**(20,000)**		**20,000**		
Balance at 1st April 2021	**102,991**	**11,667**	**130,177**	**244,835**	**251,921**
Balance at 31st March 2022	**90,510**	**38,842**	**138,764**	**268,116**	**244,835**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Balance Sheet
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2022

Bank Accounts	Opening Balance	Cash Received	Cash Spent	Closing Balance
Cambridge and Counties Bank	86,795	505	87,300	0
ERDA CIO current account	47,337	90,999	99,217	39,119
ERDA old charity	15,325	0	13,403	1,922
ERDA Virgin	382	0	0	382
National Counties Building Soc	94,996	752	0	95,748
Accessible savings account	0	129,821	1	129,820
Metrobank savings account	0	2,000	0	2,000
Metrobank credit card	0	0	875	-875
Total	**244,835**	**224,077**	**200,796**	**268,116**

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank Balances at 31st March 2021 held by Epsom Riding for the Disabled (1073638)	**102,991**	**11,667**	**130,177**	**244,835**

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2022
Net Receipts/ (payments) in year	7,519	27,175	-11,413	23,281
Transfer of Funds	(20,000)		(20,000)	
Bank Balances at 31st March 2022	**90,510**	**38,842**	**138,764**	**268,116**

In addition, Epsom RDA owns:

The freehold of St Ebba's Farm, which cost £84,657 (inclusive of legal fees).

A herd of 13 horses at 31st March 2022. The current value of the horses owned by the charity is £35,350
(2021 - £22,300)

Equipment including two tractors, a trailer, three harrows, a grass cutter and sundry other tractor attachments,

a hand operated motor mower, a strimmer and various workshop tools, competition fences, poles and games

equipment with an approximate current value of £15,000 (2021 - £15,000)

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 26 May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

R Lee
Chair

A Wilson
Trustee

For and on behalf of the Management Committee

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2022
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Restricted Funds

	Donor	Fund as at 1st April 2021 £	Received £	Spent £	Fund as at 31st March 2022 £
Sound System for the riding school	Oxshott Ladies	1,742	0	0	1,742
Lighting	The Livingstone Trust	4,850	0	2,550	2,300
Lighting for outdoor School	Love of Learning	4,800	0	0	4,800
Purchase of a pony and associated costs plus provision of a plaque	Fiona Strong Memorial Fund	275	1,200	1,475	0
Indoor school project	Peter Harrison Foundation	0	30,000		30,000
		11,667	31,200	4,025	38,842

2. Designated Funds

	£
Opening balance	130,177
Additional funding from donations	8,000
Transfer of funds	20,000
Less	
Electrical upgrade	-5,124
Mats for old stalls	-875
Purchase of new herd	13,414
Closing Balance	138,764

3. New Works (Improvements and Equipment) Purchased in year

New Works (Improvements)	£	
Electrical upgrade	5,124	(designated)
Repair/renew lighting in indoor school	2,550	(restricted)
Beacon for disabled toilet	184	
Mats for old stalls	875	(designated)
Panel Heater for tack room	474	
Total New Works (Improvements)	**9,207**	
Equipment		
Saddles	800	
Girths	168	
Bits for herd	53	
Other equipment costs	62	
Total Equipment	**1,083**	
Total new works (Improvements and equipment)	**10,290**	

GOVERNANCE

Epsom RDA is managed by ten elected trustees including the Chairman. Within the group there is a wide range of skills and experience bringing well rounded expertise to manage the charity on a day-to-day basis and plan and deliver for the future.

There have been some changes to Trustees during the year: Gill McPherson resigned in February 2022 after several years on our Board. We owe Gill a huge debt for her contribution, in particular for steering through the changes in charity status and our constitution which gave us a more solid governance foundation. We are delighted Gill remains with the Group as Session Leader of the Monday morning Session.

We welcomed two new Trustees in the last two months of the year: Liz Clark who has been a volunteer for with the Group since 2018 and David Hart who brings business experience and knowledge to our list of skills.

Covid presented challenges through the year with the Board continuing to meet remotely, an approach we have found to be efficient and effective We will continue to have this option available when conducting our regular Board and Session Leader meetings. The Board met seven times during the year and held one strategy meeting. This year we were very pleased to be able to return to holding our Annual General Meeting as a face-to-face meeting on 21 November 2021. Our thanks to the kind support of Epsom Downs Racecourse who hosted our social distanced meeting.

Safeguarding

Everyone within Epsom RDA has the right to report any issues which cause concern about another person in confidence, this can be done to the appointed Safeguarding Officer or direct to our National body, RDA UK.

At Epsom RDA we have a

- Safeguarding Policy Statement
- Safe recruitment – standardised application form, requirement for two references and disclosure checks
- An appointed Safeguarding Officer who can be contacted by email: safeguarding@epsomrda.org.uk

All in the Group are aware of who to contact if there is a safeguarding concern with the details sign posted on our coffee room noticeboard as well as detailed on our website.

All Coaches that run Sessions have a current (within 3 years) safeguarding certificate and are required attend a formal training course provided by RDA UK to renew their certificate.

More information on safeguarding guidelines and policy can be found at RDA National Safeguarding.

Trustees as at 31 March 2022

Ray Lee, Chair re-elected at AGM on 27 September 2020

Angela Wilson, Treasurer re-elected at AGM on 27 September 2020

Tessa Kelly, Secretary elected 17 November 2019

Liz Clark, Volunteering, appointed 14 February 2022

Rebecca Courtman, Health, and Safety and Safeguarding re-elected 21 November 2021

Laura Hales, Property & Grounds, re-elected 21 November 2021

David Hart appointed 1 March 2022

Gill McPherson, resigned 20 February 2022

Jo Lee, Horse and Pony, at AGM on 27 September 2020

Stuart MacFarlane, Events re-elected 21 November 2019

Gill McPherson, resigned 20 February 2022

Beryl Randall, Fundraising, re-elected 21 November 2021

Jane Sanders, Communications re-elected at AGM on 27 September 2020

Reference and Administration

Formal name: Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association

Charity Registered Number: 1180061

Registered Office: St Ebba's Farm, Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8Q

Honorary Officers:

Chair – Ray Lee

Treasurer – Angela Wilson

Secretary – Tessa Kelly

Objects:

Providing disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or to carriage drive to benefit their health and well- being in the Surrey / Southeast area

A Member of the Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving

Registered Company No 5010395 Registered Charity No 244108

For more information:

Website: www.epsomrda.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/epsomrda

Instagram: www.instagram.com/epsomrda

Twitter: www.twitter.com/epsomrda

Enquiries:

info@epsomrda.org.uk

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1180061

Accounts

Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association

Annual Review & Accounts 2020/21

EPSOM RDA

Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association (Epsom RDA) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), Registered Charity Number 1180061. Our aim is to provide disabled people in the Surrey and South East area with the opportunity to ride to benefit their health and well-being

Epsom RDA is entirely volunteer run and managed exclusively for disabled participants.

During the normal course of events, we hold riding sessions every day of the week including weekends. The majority take place in the mornings, but we also have evening sessions on a Monday and Wednesday, and a Saturday afternoon session.

Each session is unique in the types of participants they support. The coaching is adapted to be most effective for the individual challenges each rider faces.

The medical benefits of riding are well recognised. It helps exercise and strengthen muscles, mobilises joints, and helps participants develop their balance, independence, and sensory perception. In addition, each session is planned to encourage our participants to enjoy themselves and from that enjoyment also gain the emotional, social, and educational benefits that horse riding provides.

Our goal at Epsom RDA is to ensure that all our participants achieve while having fun as part of our community.

EPSOM RDA

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Covid 19 & Epsom RDA

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Planning for the Future

Financial Review

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- Reserves
- Governance
- Safeguarding
- Trustees
- Independent Examiners' Report
- Financial Accounts
- Reference and Administration

Welcome from the Chair

This has been a year like no other. Hopefully one that we will never have to repeat. When Covid first struck I don't think any of us imagined that it would go on for so long. Nor the effect it would have on the riding. **We have missed our participants and that sense of community**. In addition, our income has declined and the cost of maintaining the propety and caring for the herd has outstripped our income.

However, as you will see through this report, **Epsom RDA stepped up to the challenge**. Even when closed, there were a range of things to help keep in touch, improve the stables and keep paying the bills. Sessions devised creative ways to communicate with participants including Zoom walkabouts and videos posted on Facebook so that participants could see the ponies. We were also pleased to be able to **help out a neighbouring Group, Park Lane RDA based in Teddington**, by offering them the use of one of our fields to graze some of their horses. We carried out various improvements at the yard including the fabulous new surface on the outdoor school. From the financial side we had been prudent in the past, keeping reserves in case of emergencies. Therefore, we remain in the black. Lastly an **enormous amount of work has gone into making the yard Covid secure and ensuring everyone is safe.**

A big thank you to all the volunteers who have worked so hard over the last year: to the Session Leaders who have guided them and helped to interpret all the legislation, to all of our supporters who were so generous with their donations and last but not least the Trustees who have had to make difficult decisions in what has been a busy year.

The good news is that we are starting to open up again. The volunteers are all back as a growing number of our participants and we gradually, as regulations allow, are working towards being fully open. Here's to a much better year in 2021/22.

Ray Lee - Chair

EPSOM RDA

COVID 19 and Epsom RDA

In March 2019 following the introduction by the Government of stringent measures to tackle the COVID 19 pandemic **Epsom RDA closed the doors to all our participants and some of our volunteers**. Measures were put in place to reduce the number of volunteers attending the yard to the minimum required to care for our ponies and carry out essential maintenance to our grounds and property.

A Major Incident Team (MIT) was formed to manage the situation on a day-to-day basis appropriately applying the guidelines issued by the Government and our national body, RDA UK, to keep our community safe. We were fortunate to be able to call upon the skills and knowledge of the volunteers forming the MIT to interpret the latest advice from the Government and RDA UK as the situation evolved through the year.

As a result of the work of the MIT and the commitment of our volunteers **Epsom RDA was one of the few from nearly 500 RDA Centres across the UK to be able to re-open to its' participants again in August.** Social distancing requirements meant this was a phased re-introduction for a limited number of participants, but a tremendous achievement in challenging circumstances. The Group needed to ensure we could provide a safe environment meeting the guidelines advised by the Government and RDA UK. **A Return to Riding Guideline** document setting out the detailed Risk Assessment with the resulting processes and procedures was produced and approved by RDA UK. To prepare our Session Leaders, Group Coaches, Volunteers, Participants, and their families/carers for the changes they would encounter at the yard **a series of videos were published on our You Tube channel**. Click on the video above to see the Family Support Bubble edition.

We continued to adapt our procedures and policies in response to the changing national and regional conditions with the safety of our volunteers and participants always our first consideration. In the **Autumn we were able to begin to expand our services to an increased number of**

participants including some who required close contact support. However, the increase in the number of COVID cases in the local area (Tier 3) and surrounding Boroughs (Tier 2) followed by the subsequent further national lockdown at the end of the year resulted with us **ending 2020/21 as we began with our doors closed to all participants** and a return to a minimal number of volunteers needed to care for the herd and maintain our property.

Despite the challenges the year has thrown at us it has also bought opportunities to bring forward some aspects of the plans to change the way we operate. One of these is to expand the range of activities we offer including a chance for participants to focus on pony care. This proved to be more popular than we had anticipated and served as a reminder that it's not necessarily all about riding. **Spending time in the company of our ponies has a therapeutic benefit and is hugely enjoyed by our participants and volunteers alike**.

As we look forward to re-opening our doors again in early 2021/22 the **MIT continue to update our Return to Riding guidelines** in response to the latest stipulations from Government and RDA UK. No doubt COVID will continue to challenge the way we operate in the immediate future, but we are hopeful that we will see **a return to a full service during the year** supported by a **tried and tested monitoring and review system that puts the safety of our participants and volunteers to the forefront.**

EPSOM RDA

Participants

March 2020 brought a halt to so many things for so many people, and to our community it meant no more visits to Epsom RDA. Coming to **Epsom RDA is more than having a ride**. Participating in and access to a mainstream sport for disabled people is at the heart of what Epsom RDA provide, but that is fleshed out by so many other equally important aspects of the reason why our volunteers, participants and carers turn up every week, come rain or shine, often for many years.

Our participants enjoy a sense of community at Epsom RDA where you meet the same people each week, build relationships and make friends; our participants develop skills, gain confidence and visits create a sense of purpose and a framework for their weeks. When we went into lockdown our participants were immediately facing the loss of these important roles, and with very little quantifiable explanation to help them understand.

Our volunteers immediately rallied to ensure our participants remained informed of our activities and involved as much as possible. We regularly updated our social media accounts with pictures and videos of our ponies; we created resources for learning the Grading syllabus; some Session Leaders video called those who were interested; regular email contact was maintained; and Makaton videos were made.

As lockdown was eased in the Autumn, and again this Spring, we have been able to invite our participants back; a few are able to ride, many are able to return to pony-care tasks, however some of our participants do not understand why they cannot ride, so all our efforts to keep participants involved from a distance remain steadfast. We are hopeful that more participants are able to get more involved as time progresses and that **the horizon of all our participants returning is getting closer**.

EPSOM RDA

Volunteers

Epsom RDA is run and managed entirely by volunteers. Our volunteers come from diverse backgrounds and ages bringing a variety of skills and their enthusiasm in support of our goal to ensure that all our participants achieve while having fun as part of our community.

Without our volunteers we couldn't possibly function. This is true in any year but has been brought into sharp focus this year when faced by **exceptionally challenging circumstances** and our volunteers stepped up in style demonstrating their commitment to the Group.

When COVID forced us to suspend our riding sessions in March 2020 we were also obliged to restrict the number of volunteers who attended the yard to the minimum number required to care for the ponies and carry out essential maintenance duties. This was difficult for those volunteers who were unable to attend and **missed the social contact being part of our community brings**. We were delighted to see so many retuning when we were able to partly re-open for a period later in the year.

Some of our volunteers were able to "work from home" taking forward IT related projects. Those volunteers who were able to be at the yard were formed into small daily teams following strict social distancing protocols to provide care for the ponies including feed and exercise. Our Grounds and Property volunteers ensured the site remained safe and in good order.

The restrictions **did not dent our volunteers' creativity or their desire** to support our participants as they reached out virtually with on-line tours of the yard, Zoom calls with ponies and making music videos featuring Makaton signing. But nothing replaces the face to face contact and seeing the joy on the participants' faces. As one volunteer said when we were able to re-open for a while ***"I knew I missed our riders, but I didn't realise just how much until I saw them back on the yard."***

The commitment of our Session volunteers and the volunteer support teams has held our community together over the last twelve months and they are ready to welcome our participants back once again.

EPSOM RDA

Horses & Ponies

At the start of 2019/20 we had 11 horses and ponies in our herd. During the year, one pony who was on a non-permanent loan to us, returned to his owner and we **ended the year with 10 horses and ponies.** In a normal year, we would typically aim to have between 12 and 15 horses and ponies of varying sizes between 13hh and 15.3hh to cater for a wide variety of needs and abilities, however, the **Trustees took the decision not to actively look for new horses** during the pandemic for two main reasons:

- The pandemic created logistical difficulties in sourcing and integrating new horses.
- Reduced income meant that we needed to keep costs associated with the upkeep of the herd such as feed, hay, vets, farrier, saddler, and dentist as low as possible.

Our focus throughout the year has been **to keep the costs of looking after the herd down whilst maintaining their fitness in a safe and COVID secure manner**. A fitness programme was in place for each individual horse considering their age, fitness, and temperament. Our wonderful team of volunteers adapted to the challenges faced and through a combination of ground and ridden work both in the school and out hacking, all the ponies were able to return to work when we first re-opened to disabled Participants.

We ended 2020/21 with a herd who were ready to re-commence work once again with the easing of the second lockdown. However, of our remaining horses and ponies, the youngest is 15 and the oldest 27, with three being over the age of 20 and needing a lighter workload. **Our focus for the early part of 2021/22 will be to bring some younger horses and ponies into the herd** as soon possible.

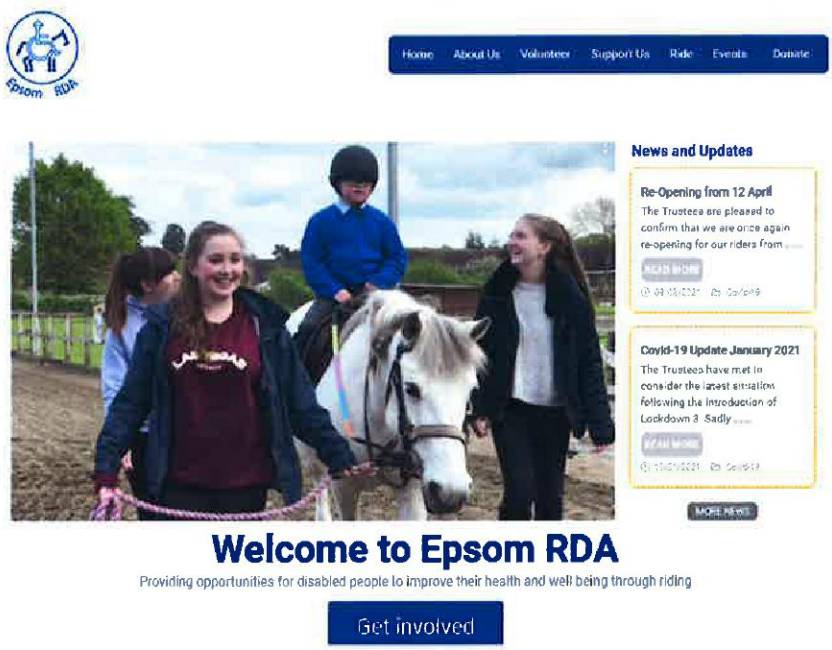
EPSOM RDA

Communications

This year has seen two major projects launched as we modernise our systems to improve our **internal communications**.

Office 365 for Business was launched in early 2020 with **MS Teams** proving invaluable during the year allowing Governance and essential operational meetings to be held virtually. A **SharePoint portal** has been created to enable secure collaborative working on documents, and the roll out of **dedicated epsomrda.org.uk email accounts** was completed.

The end of 2020 saw the re-**launch of our website** www.epsomrda.org.uk As well as a refreshed look the site is compatible with a variety of devices and accessible to those with visual impairments.



The volunteer IT team has begun work on further **developing our databases**. This will ensure that we manage our data securely in line with GDPR best practise alongside providing a means improving our communications with participants, volunteers and supporters.

This year has also seen an increase in our **engagement with the wider community** with regular coverage of Epsom RDA in local and regional media channels including:

radio interviews on **BBC Radio Surrey, Radio Jackie,** and local community radio station **Channel KT4.**

we secured a monthly column in **Pegasus Magazine** (a major source of information for equestrian enthusiasts across the South East of England).

in a first for Epsom RDA, we took part in a live panel discussion as part of **Epsom Mental Health & Well Being Festival**.

our social media channels (**Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and You Tube**) continue to provide us with excellent platforms to engage with a wide range of communities.

EPSOM RDA

Grounds & Property

Several improvements to our property and facilities were delivered in 2020/21, many of which were concerned with making the yard **'COVID safe'**. These included:

- Additional handwashing and sanitising facilities
- Signage to ensure compliance with social distancing
- Repurposing of unused stables to provide a tack and equipment cleaning area

We also invested in a **new surface for the outdoor school**. We replaced the old school surface, which had degraded and become very dusty, with a new sand and synthetic fibre mix. The new surface is much kinder to the horses' legs, less dusty and needs less maintenance.

Our site is maintained by **a team of dedicated volunteers who ensure that our buildings and grounds are safe and attractive**. Daily activities include mending broken fences and gates, maintaining the school surfaces, looking after plants, flowers and shrubs, organizing the muck heap and ensuring that our electrical and water services operate safely.

Priorities for 2021/22 include investing in a new fire detection and alarm system and progressing with the first phase of the new indoor school project, which is to complete the new car park.

We will also be looking **to recruit additional maintenance volunteers** to help address the increasing demands that will come with the new indoor school and increased size of herd.

EPSOM RDA

Planning for The Future

The advent of COVID 19 and the problems it created have not stopped us from planning for the future. In the short term we have been working on developing and delivering a **Return to Riding plan aimed at bringing Participants back safely**. The plan looks at all aspects including how the yard works with social distancing, how we keep the tack and equipment clean and disinfected and how we bring our horses back to full fitness. They appear to have enjoyed their holiday but as the Participants return, they need to be ready for work. The plan is in line with the Government's roadmap and is informed by RDA UK guidance. It will be sometime before we can get everyone back but there does now appear to be a light at the end of the tunnel.

We still have our longer-term ambitions to improve the riding facilities and more importantly **reduce the waiting list.** The priority remains the **development of the new indoor riding school**, car park and stabling. We have planning permission for the works and we have the funds to do the first phase which is the new car park. We hope to start construction in Summer 2021/22. Progress on the rest of the project has been frustrated by grant funding bodies having to withdraw due to COVID and the cancellation of key fundraising events such as the London Marathon. However, **we have had success in getting a grant from Sports England** and we are now pursuing other opportunities including Your Fund Surrey and other potential sources of funding from organisations and individuals.

EPSOM RDA

Financial Review

The financial year ended 31st March 2021 has been an atypical year for Epsom RDA due to the COVID-19 pandemic which saw us having to close our doors for most of the year.

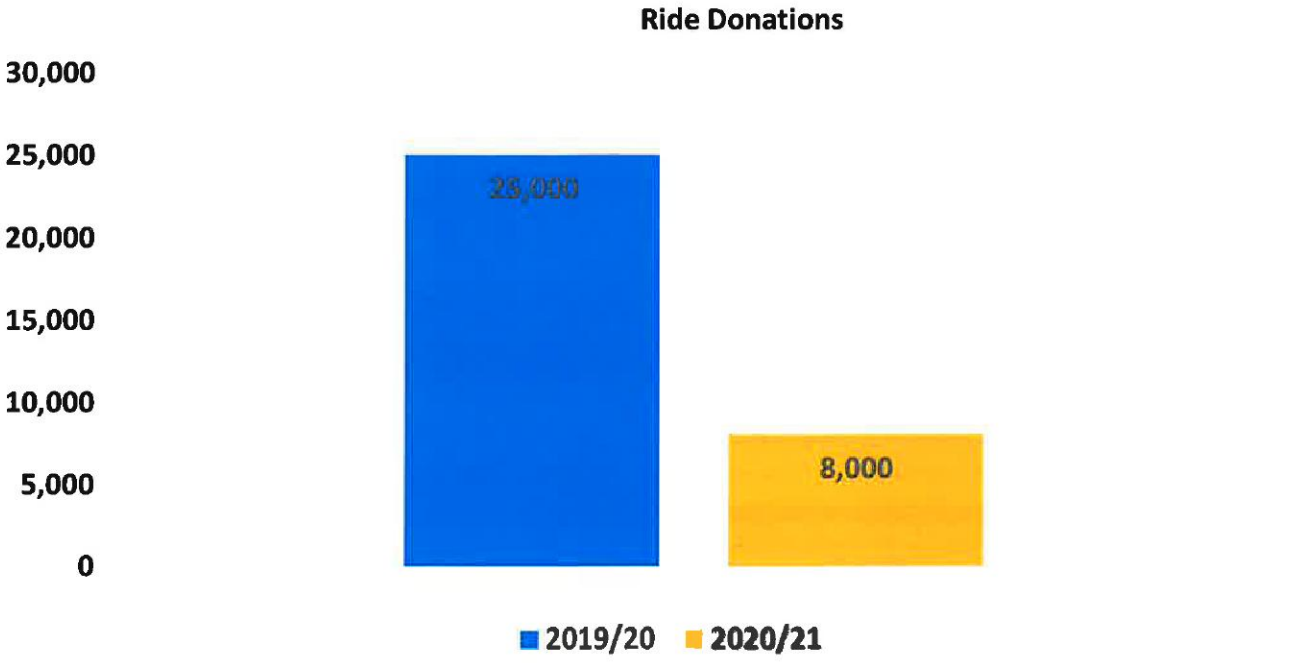
Overview

For the year ended 31st March 2021 the charity showed an annual loss of c.£6K (c.£31K in 2019-20). This comprised total income of c.£53k (c.£79k in 2019/20) with operating expenses of c.£53k (c.£109k in 2019/20) and non-operating expenses, which are related to the new indoor school project, of c.£6k (c.£1k in 2019/20).

This reflects the support we have had from donors and the policy of the Trustees to limit expenditure in the year to essential expenses for the upkeep of the herd and buildings and to limit major works spend to those related to safety.

Income

This had an adverse effect on our income with total income for the year standing at c.£53k as opposed to c.£79K in 2019/20. There was a **decrease in ride money from c.£25k in 2019/20 to c.£8k in 2020/21**. However, we are grateful to all the individual Participants who continued to pay throughout the year even though they were not riding. This accounts for c.95% of the ride income we received in the year. Our thanks too to Papillon House School who donated funds over and above their ride money.



We are also grateful for all the donations we received, a total of c£40K (c.£12k of which was ringfenced) against a 2019/20 total of c. £45k (of which £13k was ringfenced). Other income which is generated from our ability to hire out the indoor school, run fundraising riding events and to hold tack sales dropped from c.£4k in 2019/20 to c.£600 in 2020/21. Our thanks to the volunteer team for sorting all the donated tack we have for sale.

We are also grateful **for the legacy we received from the estate of our good friend and long-term volunteer George Goodwin** who sadly passed away in 2019. The generous donation of £10,000 we received came as we needed to resurface the outdoor school and the Trustees felt that the legacy should be used towards the cost of the resurfacing. A fitting legacy for us all to remember George.

We have also received support from other donors including: -

- The Thompson Family Trust
- Epsom Rotary Club
- St Mark's and Mitcham Buffalos
- Stoneleigh Charitable Trust
- Rotary Club Inner Wheel of Kingston whose President has supported us for several years as her chosen charity
- Former Participants who continue to donate monthly

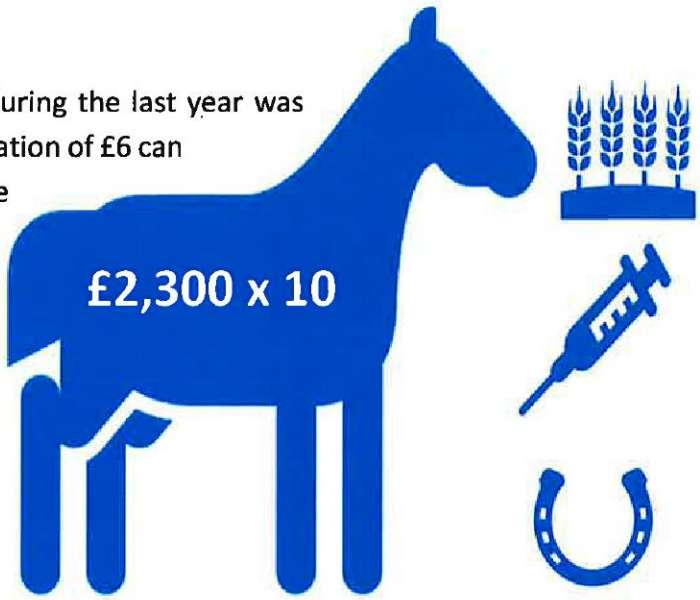
We are also, as ever, grateful to **Annette Emery Gemstone Jewellery** who continues to make and sell jewellery with the profits used to buy items we need for our ponies including hay bars for their shelters and the new string girths amongst other items. Of course, we are also **grateful for all the donations we receive from volunteers, friends and relations of participants**, loose change, and pocket money as everything we get goes directly to supporting the upkeep of the herd and their home ready for our Participants.

Our thanks also to the local allotments and gardeners who help us by taking our manure and leaving donations.

EPSOM RDA

Expenditure

The **upkeep of the herd forms a major part of our outgoings**. This year a herd of between 10-12 ponies cost c.£23k (c.£35k in 2019/20) and includes expenses for feed, hay, farriers, dentist, vet, various equipment which includes tack.



The average cost of keeping a herd member during the last year was £2,300 per annum or £44 a week. So even a donation of £6 can buy a bale of hay, £20 pays for the ponies to have a pedicure from the farrier (a trim of their hooves) or to be shod, and £25 pays for a visit from the dentist to keep their teeth in good order.

Our next expense is in keeping the site safe, secure, and well maintained. The cost of maintaining the buildings and grounds in 2020/21 was c. £25K (c.£65K in 2019/20) of which c.£13k (c.£55k in 2019/20) was for major works which included the resurfacing of the outdoor school which had reached the end of its' useful life, netting to prevent pigeon infestation in key buildings and Mud Control mud slabs for the field shelters. The major works undertaken this financial year reflect the decision of the Trustees **to limit our spend to those items that were needed for safety/ continuing operation.**

In addition, we had outlay of c.**£2k to make our site Covid-19 safe** for our volunteers and our participants/ visitors. This included the provision of a new sink for hand washing, sanitiser dispensers, signage, and additional cleaning by a professional company.

Other expenses include such things as insurance, utilities, training, and general office expenses essential to our operation.

EPSOM RDA

Reserves

As a charity we are in the fortunate position that we have always been prudent with our use of incoming funds versus expenditure. At the end of 2020/21 we had c £252K cash in hand in various bank accounts (c.£254k in 2019/20).

The Trustees have several ringfences in place on this money.

Indoor School Project - £100k – it was agreed that having received several legacies, the Trustees would contribute £100k of funds to the work needed to build the new indoor school. This has not yet been spent but the car park will be started in 2021/22 and we will use these funds for that. The remainder of the funds we will need will come from dedicated fundraising. This forms part of the designated funds as stated in the financial statements.

Minimum Reserves as required by the Charity Commission - £60K – All charities are required to set minimum reserves to ensure their continued status as a going concern. Our minimum reserves were set some years ago to be held at a year running costs. This was initially set at £50k but has increased to £60k to recognise rising costs. These funds are there for dire emergencies and can only be utilised for general running costs should our status change and we need to use them to remain a going concern.

Funds available for use – c.£93k – this is the cash we have in hand that we can use to keep our herd fed and well, to maintain our land and buildings and to make improvements for the safety, wellbeing, and enhancement of our offer to our participants. We also keep a further amount to funds in the designated funds account mentioned above for major works to ensure our site is safe and secure for our herd and our participants.

During 2020/21 the Trustees delegated authority to the Finance committee to manage the running of the charity by allocating budgets to designated Trustees who have the responsibility for property management, health, safety and cleaning, the upkeep of the herd and general running costs (e.g., insurance, rubbish removal, utilities, professional services including the bank account, audit fees etc.). The Finance committee have full authority to spend within their budgets and we have a procurement process that has been agreed by the Trustees which gives us a framework to ensure we spend wisely and get the best value for money we can. This is all part of our enhanced Governance

In addition, the Finance committee have set up a major works (capital expenditure rather than general running costs which are operational costs) list which logs all the non-essential work needed to improve our environment. They have the ability to recommend to the Trustees any major spend. In 2020/21 this has happened with projects like the refurbishing of the outdoor school. This list is split into those works that will become essential, other work that would be good to do in the right economic climate and projects that could be funded by donors. This list is helpful when we are

approached by organisations who wish to fund us but want to have a specific item. This is how we funded Hugo as we received a grant from the Fiona Strong Memorial Fund that was specifically for purchasing a new member for our herd.

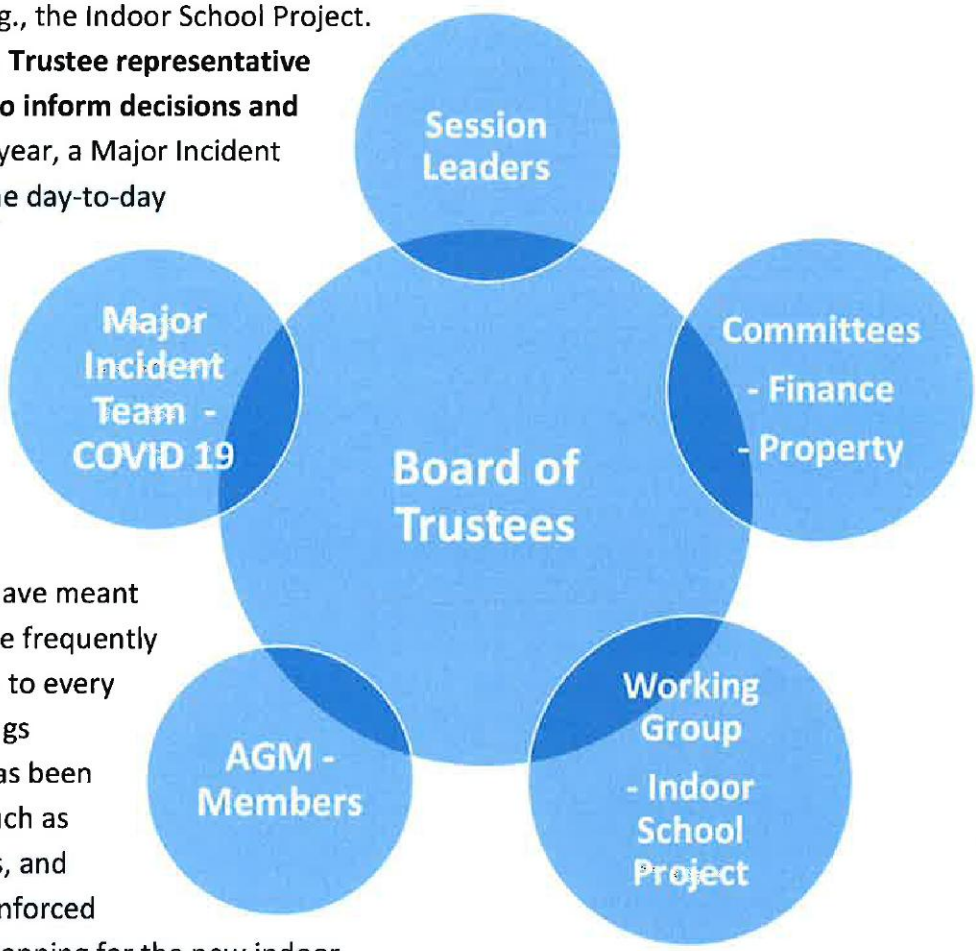
EPSOM RDA

Governance

Epsom RDA is managed by **a Board of ten elected Trustees including the Chair**. Within the Board there is a wide range of skills and experience bringing well rounded expertise to manage the charity on a day-to-day basis and plan and deliver for the future.

There are a two Committees, Finance and Property, that monitor our finances, and escalate major decisions and expenditure requests to the Trustees. These are supplemented by Working Groups as required for large projects e.g., the Indoor School Project.

There is a **formal link through a Trustee representative to the Session Leader's group so inform decisions and yard management**. During this year, a Major Incident Team was formed to manage the day-to-day decisions relating to COVID and bring forward recommendations to the Trustees on the requirements for the Group to operate safely.



The challenges of the year, precipitated by the pandemic, have meant that the Trustees have met more frequently than usual, monthly as opposed to every two months, conducting meetings virtually. Inevitably the focus has been more on short term concerns such as keeping participants, volunteers, and herd safe and coping with the enforced closure of the yard. However, planning for the new indoor school continues, and the opportunity has been taken to upgrade IT systems and undertake general improvements to the yard.

The **Annual General Meeting was held virtually** on 27 September 2020. The AGM is an opportunity for Epsom RDA Members to participate in the CIO's governance by voting, proposing, or speaking on the motions being considered, nominate Trustees and other Officers.

EPSOM RDA

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is an important part of our practice at Epsom RDA. All coaches receive regular safeguarding training and volunteers are aware of who to contact if there is a safeguarding concern.

Epsom RDA has adopted a **Safeguarding Policy and appointed a volunteer safeguarding led** to oversee all things safeguarding at Epsom RDA. They can be contacted on safeguarding@epsomrda.org.uk if anyone has any concerns.

We continue to use a safer recruitment procedure when volunteers are recruited, which includes two references and a disclosure check.

In the next year, we will look at further training for volunteers and appropriate safeguarding training for those volunteers under 16.

EPSOM RDA

Trustees as at 31 March 2021

Ray Lee, Chair
Re-elected 27 September 2020

Angela Wilson, Treasurer
Re-elected 27 September 2020

Tessa Kelly, Secretary
Elected 17 November 2019

Rebecca Courtman, Health and Safety and Safeguarding
Elected 17 November 2019

Laura Hales, Property and Grounds
Elected 17 November 2019

Jo Lee, Horse and Pony
Re-elected 27 September 2020

Stuart MacFarlane, Events
Elected 17 November 2019

Gill McPherson, Session Leaders' representative
Re-elected 27 September 2020

Beryl Randall, Fundraising
Elected 17 November 2019

Jane Sanders, Communications
Re-elected 27 September 2020

EPSOM RDA

Independent Examiners Report

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021 TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts, under Section 145 of the Charities Act, following the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners, (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 any 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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(a.) 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 Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

TW Slater ACA,CTA
Harmer Slater Limited, Chartered Accountants
79 High Street
Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8HG
30th June 2021

EPSOM RDA

Financial Statements and Notes

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Income and Expenditure
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
Income	£	£	£	£	£
Livery Fees	4,884			4,884	4672
Other Revenue	0			0	21
Ride Money	8,373			8,373	24938
Total Income	**13,257**			**13,257**	**29,631**
Gross Income	**13,257**			**13,257**	**29,631**
Plus Other Income					
Donations	11,670		13,500	25,170	27496
Online donations	11,918			11,918	4393
Ring fenced Donations		2,582		2,582	13000
Fundraising Activities					
Merchandise sales	0			0	10
Tack sale	341			341	1745
Adopt a pony	90			90	0
Use of School	250			250	2477
Total Fundraising Activities	**681**			**681**	**4,232**
Total Other Income	**24,269**	**2,582**	**13,500**	**40,351**	**49,121**
Less Operating Expenses					
Direct Expenses	0			0	19
General Expenses	397			397	433
Subscriptions	295			295	305
	692			**692**	**738**
Events					
Event Costs	345			345	4594
Events	-168			-168	-4563
Total Events	**177**			**177**	**31**
General Expenses - office					
IT Software and Consumables	0			0	143
Printing & Stationery	69			69	128
Telephone & Internet	783			783	620
Total General Expenses - office	**852**			**852**	**891**
Professional Services					
Audit & Accountancy fees	1,721			1,721	1332
Bank Fees	440			440	313

EPSOM RDA

Fundraising Partner costs	101			101	371
Interest Received	-1,608			-1,608	-1402
Legal Expenses	1,864			1,864	6617
Total Professional Services	**2,518**			**2,518**	**7,231**
Property - bills					
Insurance	2,162			2,162	2257
Light, Power, Heating	14			14	3317
Total Property - bills	**2,176**			**2,176**	**5,574**
Property - maintenance					
Gardening	334			334	169
Cleaning	3,696			3,696	0
Maintenance of grounds	4,048			4,048	1978
Motor Vehicle Expenses	754			754	480
New Works improvement	-1,354		14,509	13,155	54,749
Repairs & Maintenance - building	1,906	25		1,931	2044
Total Property - maintenance	**9,384**	**25**	**14,509**	**23,918**	**59,420**
Training					
Staff Training	720			720	61
Training - coaching and bursary	0			0	123
Total Training	**720**			**720**	**184**
Upkeep of the Herd					
Pony Care	11,354	135		11,489	15576
Pony costs - equipment	1,464	1,447		2,911	5999
Pony Feed	6,257			6,257	9474
Pony Purchase	873	2,000		2,873	6831
Pony schooling	0			0	743
Sale of ponies	0			0	-3250
Total Upkeep of the Herd	**19,948**	**3,582**		**23,530**	**35,373**
Total Operating Expenses	**36,467**	**3,607**	**14,509**	**54,583**	**109,461**
Operating Surplus (Loss)				**-975**	**-30,709**
Non-operating Expenses					
Indoor School Project					
Indoor School costs	6,111			6,111	3333
Indoor School funding	0			0	-2848
Total Indoor School Project	**6,111**			**6,111**	**485**
Total Non-operating Expenses	**6,111**			**6,111**	**485**
Net Surplus (Loss)	**-5,052**	**-1,025**	**-1,009**	**-7,086**	**-31,194**
Balance at 1st April 2020	**108,043**	**12,692**	**131,186**	**251,921**	**283,115**
Balance at 31st March 2021	**102,991**	**11,667**	**130,177**	**244,835**	**251,921**

EPSOM RDA

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Balance Sheet
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2021

Bank Accounts	Opening Balance	Cash Received	Cash Spent	Closing Balance
Cambridge and Counties Bank	£86,363	£433	£0	£86,796
ERDA CIO current account	£57,180	£52,626	£62,469	£47,337
ERDA old charity	£14,175	£1,149	£0	£15,325
ERDA Virgin	£380	£2	£0	£382
National Counties Building Soc	£93,823	£1,173	£0	£94,996
Total	**£251,921**	**£55,383**	**£62,469**	**£244,835**

EPSOM RDA

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2021

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank Balances at 31st March 2020 held by Epsom Riding for the Disabled (1073638)	**108,043**	**12,692**	**131,186**	**251,921**

	General Purposes	Restricted Funds (note 1)	Designated Funds (note 2)	2021
Net Receipts/ (payments) in year	-5052	-1025	-1009	-7086
Bank Balances at 31st March 2021	**102,991**	**11,667**	**130,177**	**244,835**

In addition, Epsom RDA owns:

The freehold of St Ebba's Farm, which cost £84,657 (inclusive of legal fees).

A herd of 10 horses at 31st March 2021. The current value of the horses owned by the charity is £22,300 (2020 - £34,600)

Equipment including two tractors, a trailer, three harrows, a grass cutter and sundry other tractor attachments, a hand operated motor mower, a strimmer and various workshop tools, competition fences, poles and games equipment with an approximate current value of £15,000 (2020 - £15,000)

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on June 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

A Wilson
Trustee
For and on behalf of the Management Committee

EPSOM RDA

30th June 2021

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2021
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Restricted Funds

	Donor	Fund as at 1st April 2020	Received	Spent	Fund as at 31st March 2021
		£	£	£	£
Sound System for the riding school	Oxshott Ladies	1,742	0	0	1,742
Lighting	The Livingstone Trust	4,850	0	0	4,850
Lighting for outdoor School	Love of Learning	4,800	0	0	4,800
Purchase of a pony and associated costs plus provision of a plaque	Fiona Strong Memorial Fund	300	0	25	275
Purchase of tack	Chessington Horticultural Society	1,000		1,000	0
Purchase of Pony (Tandi)	Anonymous donation	0	2,000	2,000	0
Purchase of Hay bars for Shelters	Annette Emery Gemstones	0	447	447	0
Romeo food costs	Claygate and Esher Riding Club	0	85	85	0
Food Costs	Other small donations	0	50	50	0
		12,692	2,582	3,607	11,667

2. Designated Funds

	£
Opening balance	131,186
Additional funding from donations	13,500
Less	
Outdoor school	-13,440
Mud slabs	-1,069
Closing Balance	130,177

EPSOM RDA

Receipts and Payments Accounts
Notes to the Accounts at 31st March 2021 continued
Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association inc Carriage Driving
For the year ended 31 March 2021

3. New Works (Improvements and Equipment) Purchased in year

New Works (Improvements)	£	
Outdoor School Resurfacing	13,440	(13,000designated)
New fire system	1,920	
Pigeon protection	1,161	
Mud Slabs	1,069	(500 designated)
Field Shelters refund	-4,435	
Total New Works (Improvements)	**13,155**	
Equipment		
Saddle check	1,646	(1000 restricted)
Countryside Challenge electric fence	242	
Hay bars for the shelters	522	(477 restricted)
Other equipment costs	501	
Total Equipment	**2,911**	
Total new works (Improvements and equipment)	**16,066**	

EPSOM RDA

Reference & Administration

Formal name: Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association

Charity Registered Number: 1180061

Registered Office: St Ebba's Farm, Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8Q

Honorary Officers:

Chair – Ray Lee

Treasurer – Angela Wilson

Secretary – Tessa Kelly

Objects:

Providing disabled people with the opportunity to ride and/or to carriage drive to benefit their health and well- being in the Surrey / South Eastern area

A Member of the Riding for the Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving
Registered Company No 5010395 Registered Charity No 244108

For more information:

Website: www.epsomrda.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/epsomrda

Instagram: www.instagram.com/epsomrda

Twitter: www.twitter.com/epsomrda

Enquiries:

info@epsomrda.org.uk