

# GREEN HEDGES GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales · Charity number 1185227

## Details

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**Other names** GREEN HEDGES GROUP RDA

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2019-09-09

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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## Activities

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**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 [ ] AREA.

**Activities:** To promote the objects of the Riding for Disabled Association incorporating Carriage Driving a registered charity number 244108 (RDA) by providing disabled people with the opportunity to ride to benefit their health and well-being in the Cambridgeshire area.

## Classification

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

## Geography

- Cambridgeshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£960	£1,160	-	-
2024-03-31	£2,012	£1,446	-	-
2023-03-31	£766	£1,091	-	-
2022-03-31	£150	£597	-	-
2021-03-31	£159	£1,091	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Elizabeth Duncan</b>	Chair	2019-09-09
Alexandra Jane Hill		2021-10-19
Amanda Jill Hopewell		2023-01-10
Lydia Jane Walding		2023-01-10
Lynda Murphy		2019-09-09
Michael Elliott Duncan		2021-10-19
PRISCILLA BARLOW		2021-10-19

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# Accounts

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## **Green Hedges Group Riding for the Disabled**

Charity No. 1185227

### Report 2024/2025

In the year from April 2024 to the end of March 2025, the group has provided 9 sessions of riding lessons for secondary age students from Castle School in Cambridge. These were all between April and July 2024, as unfortunately after that Castle School were unable to resume in the September term. Early in 2025 Castle School informed us that unfortunately they would no longer be able to resume the sessions at all due to difficulties with transport. Since then the trustees endeavoured to find another school to offer the sessions to, and we took on a new school (the Martin Bacon Academy) with riding sessions starting at the end of April 2025.

The overall volunteer numbers, including trustees, have remained largely stable at 12 to 13 people. The Treasurer resigned (and as a trustee) of the group from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, which resulted in a move of roles on the committee. The Chair moved into the Treasurer role, and an existing trustee moved into the Chair role. We also welcomed a new trustee (an existing volunteer). The secretary and the other trustees remained the same.

The training effort has been maintained in this period including:

- First Aid training (1 volunteer) in March 2025
- One volunteer completed coach training in July 2024

Over the reporting year there were 3 meetings of the trustees held on zoom.

The group's income level has remained steady, but funds were boosted by two donations with the result that the group had a surplus in the current account over the year of around £800. Given that all expenditure other than the specific costs of providing ponies for the sessions are borne by the group, these donations were significant and welcome.

## GREEN HEDGES GROUP RDA

Charity No: 1185227

### Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025

#### Unity Bank Current

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>Balance brought forward as at 31st March of previous year</b>	<b>1099.26</b>	621.48
<b>Income £</b>		
Fund raising	399.00	775.14
School donations	0.00	0.00
Other donations	0.00	214.82
Gift Aid	0.00	13.32
Riding income:		
Castle School	468.00	920.00
Gretton School	0.00	0.00
Refund bank charges	0.00	0.00
<b>Total income</b>	<b>867.00</b>	<b>1923.28</b>
<b>Expenditure £</b>		
Riding fees	612.00	848.00
RDA membership	477.00	460.00
Equipment	0.00	0.00
DBS checks	0.00	65.50
Fund raising	0.00	0.00
Training	0.00	0.00
Bank charges	71.40	72.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1160.40</b>	<b>1445.50</b>
T/f to Unity Bank Saver	0.00	0.00
T/f from Unity Bank Saver	0.00	0.00
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>805.86</b>	<b>1099.26</b>
<b>Unity Bank Saver</b>		
Balance brought forward as at 31st March	3435.02	<b>3346.44</b>
Interest	92.91	88.58
T/f to Unity Bank Current	0.00	0.00
T/f from Unity Bank Current	0.00	0.00
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>3527.93</b>	<b>3435.02</b>
<b>Total value as at 31st March</b>	<b><u>4333.79</u></b>	<b><u>4534.28</u></b>

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# Accounts

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## **Green Hedges Group Riding for the Disabled**

Charity No. 1185227

### Report 2023/2024

In the year from April 2023 to the end of March 2024, the group has provided 23 sessions of riding lessons for secondary age students from Castle School in Cambridge. A new set of children started in September 2023 and has settled in very well. A few sessions had to be cancelled due to very cold weather and staff absence but otherwise the sessions have been regular with six riders, each riding for half an hour, and three ponies. The group has welcomed two new volunteers during the year; they settled in quickly and with some former volunteers moving on, the overall volunteer numbers, including trustees, have reduced slightly to 10 or 11 people. The trustee body has remained unchanged through the year though new trustees are now being sought.

The training effort has been maintained in this period with:

- Two attendees at the RDA National Coaching Conference
- One volunteer continuing in coach training throughout 2023/4.

Over the period of this report there were three meetings of the trustees, one of which included the AGM which was held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024, all on Zoom. In addition to meeting at riding sessions, there was an opportunity for trustees and volunteers to meet for a picnic at the chair's home in July and this was a much appreciated chance to get together 'off duty'.

With a steady level of activity during this 12 month period, the group's income has increased and funds were significantly boosted by two donations with the result that, the group had a surplus over the year of £566.36 after several years of losses. Given that all expenditure other than the specific costs of providing ponies for the sessions are borne by the group, these donations were significant and welcome.

## GREEN HEDGES GROUP RDA

Charity No: 118227

### Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

#### Unity Bank Current

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>Balance brought forward as at 31st March of previous year</b>	621.48	981.18
<b>Income £</b>		
Fund raising	775.14	0.00
School donations	0.00	136.00
Other donations	214.82	51.50
Gift Aid	13.32	0.00
Riding income:		
Castle School	920.00	544.00
Gretton School	0.00	0.00
Refund bank charges	0.00	0.00
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1923.28</b>	<b>731.50</b>
<b>Expenditure £</b>		
Riding fees	848.00	472.00
RDA membership	460.00	460.00
Equipment	0.00	56.00
DBS checks	65.50	31.20
Fund raising	0.00	0.00
Training	0.00	0.00
Bank charges	72.00	72.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1445.50</b>	<b>1091.20</b>
T/f to Unity Bank Saver	0.00	0.00
T/f from Unity Bank Saver	0.00	0.00
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>1099.26</b>	<b>621.48</b>
<b>Unity Bank Saver</b>		
Balance brought forward as at 31st March	<b>3346.44</b>	<b>3312.18</b>
Interest	88.58	34.26
T/f to Unity Bank Current	0.00	0.00
T/f from Unity Bank Current	0.00	0.00
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>3435.02</b>	<b>3346.44</b>
<b>Total value as at 31st March</b>	<b><u>4534.28</u></b>	<b><u>3967.92</u></b>

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# Accounts

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## **Green Hedges Group Riding for the Disabled**

Charity No. 1185227

### Report 2022/2023

Throughout the year from April 2022 to the end of March 2023, the group has been providing riding lessons for secondary age students from Castle School in Cambridge; for part of the year, pony management lessons were provided for one or two students for whom riding was not the right option at the time. The group has been successful in recruiting new volunteers through the year which, with some former volunteers moving on, has meant that overall numbers have remained largely stable at 14 or 15 people. Most encouragingly the group has been able to elect new trustees and by the end of the year there are a new chair and secretary in place.

The training effort has been maintained in this period including:

- First Aid training (1 volunteer)
- Attendance at the RDA Regional Study Day (4 volunteers)
- Volunteers observing Mounting and Dismounting training
- One volunteer being close to completing pre-coach training.

Over the year there were six meetings of the trustees in addition to the AGM which was held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023; these were all conducted on Zoom. While the use of Zoom for meetings has been beneficial in many ways, the value of 'in person' meetings is recognised. In addition to meeting at riding sessions, a number of volunteers met socially at the end of August, ahead of the 2022 autumn term.

With the growing level of activity during this 12 month period, the group's income has increased significantly. Though funds were boosted by a small donation, the group again suffered a loss over the year. It is therefore important to note that two fundraising opportunities have been identified for early in the coming 12 months and two trustees are actively following these up.

## GREEN HEDGES GROUP RDA

Charity No: 118227

### Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

#### Unity Bank Current

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Balance brought forward as at 31st March of previous year</b>	981.18	728.18
<b>Income £</b>		
Fund raising	0.00	0.00
School donations	136.00	30.00
Other donations	51.50	0.00
Gift Aid	0.00	0.00
Riding income:		
Castle School	544.00	120.00
Gretton School	0.00	0.00
Refund bank charges	0.00	0.00
<b>Total income</b>	731.50	150.00
<b>Expenditure £</b>		
Riding fees	472.00	120.00
RDA membership	460.00	381.00
Equipment	56.00	0.00
DBS checks	31.20	24.00
Fund raising	0.00	0.00
Training	0.00	0.00
Bank charges	72.00	72.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	1091.20	597.00
T/f to Unity Bank Saver	0.00	0.00
T/f from Unity Bank Saver	0.00	700.00
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>621.48</b>	<b>981.18</b>
<b>Unity Bank Saver</b>		
Balance brought forward as at 31st March	<b>3312.18</b>	4010.18
Interest	34.26	2.00
T/f to Unity Bank Current	0.00	700.00
T/f from Unity Bank Current		
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>3346.44</b>	<b>3312.18</b>
<b>Total value as at 31st March</b>	<b><u>3967.92</u></b>	<b><u>4293.36</u></b>

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# Accounts

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## **Green Hedges Group Riding for the Disabled**

Charity No. 1185227

### Report 2021/2022

The first half of the year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 saw a continuation of the suspension of activity as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Even when the restrictions were lifted it took a little while for normal service to be resumed and it was only in the second half of the autumn term that the first riding session of the year took place. Sadly the impact of Covid-19 continued to be felt through the year with some sessions having to be cancelled because either school staff or enough volunteers were not available. For the time being the group is working with Castle School and it is not clear when and if sessions with Gretton School can be re-established.

In the meantime the group has worked hard to recruit new volunteers, with some success. We are also looking to find new trustees who can take the group on and build it up over the next few years. The training effort has been maintained with representation at:

- First Aid and Safeguarding courses; March 2022
- CPD (Continuing Professional Development) - Communication course; 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022
- How to recognise your coaching superpowers; September 2021
- Five 'Zoom' sessions provided by RDA National, one of which counted as CPD for coaches.

Over the year there were five meetings of the trustees in addition to the AGM and there were two occasions when volunteers were able to meet socially.

The past two years have seen only a small income from activities and no fundraising events with the result that the group has had to rely on savings. There is no immediate problem as there is a substantial reserve relative to the size of the charity; also as the level of activity increases, so the level of income will increase. However, with the number of riders as it is, expenditure is likely to exceed income and therefore the group should plan to restart fundraising events during the coming year.

## Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

<b>Unity Bank Current</b>		
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Balance brought forward as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March	728.18	1660.40
<b>Income £</b>		
Fund raising		
School donations	30.00	46.50
Other donations		
Gift Aid		
Riding income:		
Castle School	120.00	64.00
Gretton School	0.00	48.00
Refund bank charges		
<b>Total income</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>158.50</b>
<b>Expenditure £</b>		
Riding fees	120.00	224.00
RDA membership	381.00	450.00
Discretionary payment (SCEC)	0.00	296.00
Equipment	0.00	48.72
DBS checks	24.00	
Fund raising	0.00	
Training	0.00	
Bank charges	72.00	72.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>597.00</b>	<b>1090.72</b>
T/f to Unity Bank Saver		
T/f from Unity Bank Saver	700.00	
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>981.18</b>	<b>728.18</b>
<b>Unity Bank Saver</b>		
Balance brought forward as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March	4010.18	4006.18
Interest	2.00	4.00
T/f to Unity Bank Current	700.00	
T/f from Unity Bank Current		
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>3312.18</b>	<b>4010.18</b>
<b>Total value as at 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b><u>4293.36</u></b>	<b><u>4738.36</u></b>

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# Accounts

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## Green Hedges Group

Charity No 1185227

### REPORT 2020/2021

In the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021, the group was unable to run any sessions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. In the meantime, there were regular updates from the national Riding for the Disabled Association organisation (RDA National) and the group maintained contact with volunteers, the schools served by the group, the equestrian centre where sessions are held and other local RDA groups. In addition to webinars and 'Zoom' sessions provided by RDA National to maintain skills and interest for RDA volunteers, coaches and trustees during the height of Covid, the group organised the following training:

- A First Aid course on 09.09.2020
- Safeguarding courses using 'Zoom' on 07.10.2020 and 18.03.2021.

The potential for and viability of re-establishing sessions was kept under review. Through the year, the trustees kept in touch with each other, mostly by way of email and text; in addition to the AGM, three trustee meetings were held using 'Zoom' as well as two general meetings to connect with volunteers.

As might be expected when there was no income generated from activities and no fundraising, there was minimal income in the year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. In the same period some costs such as RDA membership remained the same with the result that the net worth of the charity has fallen and was £4738 at year end. While the charity retains a substantial reserve relative to its size, some attention will therefore need to be given to fundraising in the coming financial year. At the same time there remains scope for the trustees to use some of the reserve to promote the work of the charity as noted by the previous treasurer.



# Green Hedges Group

Charity No 1185227

## Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021

### Unity Bank Current

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020*</u>
<b>Balance brought forward as at 31st March</b>	1660.40	5545.40
<b>Income £</b>		
School donations	46.50	180.00
Riding income:	112.00	720.00
Refund bank charges		12.00
<b>Total income</b>	158.50	912.00
<b>Expenditure £</b>		
Riding fees and stables payment	520.00	720.00
RDA membership	450.00	
Equipment	48.72	
Fund raising		41.00
Bank charges	72.00	36.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	1090.72	797.00
T/f to Unity Bank Saver		4000.00
T/f from Unity Bank Saver		
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>728.18</b>	<b>1660.40</b>
<b>Unity Bank Saver</b>		
Balance brought forward as at 31st March	4006.18	0.00
Interest	4.00	6.18
T/f to Unity Bank Current		
T/f from Unity Bank Current		4000.00
<b>Balance carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>4010.18</b>	<b>4006.18</b>
<b>Total value as at 31st March</b>	<b><u>4738.36</u></b>	<b><u>5666.58</u></b>

\* figures from 9th September 2019 to 31st March 2020