

HUNTINGDON AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1186377

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-11-15

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

Contact

Address Warren Grange
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Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE OBJECTS OF THE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE-DRIVING A CHARITY REGISTERED UNDER CHARITY NUMBER 244108 BY PROVIDING DISABLED PEOPLE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RIDE AND/OR CARRIAGE DRIVE TO BENEFIT THEIR HEALTH AND WELL BEING IN THE HUNTINGDON AND DISTRICT AREA

Activities: The Group offers children with a range of disabilities the opportunity to ride to benefit their health and well being.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Cambridgeshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£11,040	£6,949	-	-
2024-03-31	£4,175	£6,783	-	-
2023-03-31	£11,272	£6,969	-	-
2022-03-31	£3,272	£5,389	-	-
2021-03-31	£5,927	£1,532	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Margaret Lambert	Chair	2023-06-29
Gillian Margaret Linnette		2019-06-27
Leanne Burton		2025-09-16
MARION DAVIES		2019-06-27
Margaret Elizabeth Shiner		2022-07-07
Melissa Kate Giggs		2022-07-07
Patricia Ellen Leighton		2025-09-16
Susan Jane Sheard		2019-06-27
Tracy Lee Dixon		2019-06-27
Wendy Anne Parker		2021-07-22

Accounts

Chairman's and Instructor's Reports
as presented at the AGM of Huntingdon & District RDA Group on 16 September 2025

Chairman's Report

I am happy to report a successful year with many more Volunteers and a change of venue in June. It was a shock to find out that our riding school in Offord Cluny was closing, but with due diligence and lots of hard work we managed to secure our future at Hilltop Equestrian Centre in Yelling. My heartfelt thanks go to all those who made it happen. We had a trial run on June 3rd and ironed out a few teething problems before the children joined us the following week. Unfortunately the change of venue meant a change of day from Thursday to Tuesday so we had to say Good-bye to two of our longstanding members Sue and Fiona. Sue has been volunteering for RDA for well over forty years and she has been a Trustee for many of those years. I would like us all to give her a hearty round of applause to show our appreciation of her dedication over the years. Anne

Instructors' Report

What a year! Who would have guessed, when we began our autumn term last year? Everything began as normal. Great riding and such obliging ponies. A few little problems with some riders, but with great results after perseverance.

Our volunteer numbers were a concern, and we were looking to find another two, if possible, and Wendy suggested putting an advert in the local magazine.

In the past this has occasionally interested someone to check us out.

This time, we were amazed by the response. Enquiries kept coming in. Some couldn't come on Thursdays, others had issues to sort out first, but we still found ourselves with lots of willing applicants who all had special qualities to offer.

We decided to invite them all to come and watch a session. Would it be what they expected?

By the following week some of them were taking part, under guidance from our existing team.

What a bonus they all are. They are all suitable, and are all lovely ladies who fit in so easily with the rest of us.

Thank you to all the volunteers in question. (I can't call you 'new' anymore!)

The spring term was progressing normally, when, out of the blue, we received an email from Northbrook notifying us that the riding school was closing with effect from the end of May.

We immediately applied to the other two riding schools in the area. No replies, so we tried again and were invited to Hilltop at Yelling to discuss the situation, and we were offered the chance to relocate.

Despite a change of heart at Northbrook, it was clear that the situation there was tenuous and could change again at any time, and we made the decision to move.

Hilltop isn't perfect. Storage is a problem, but we can cope.

They couldn't accommodate us on Thursdays, and we had to change the day of our sessions to Tuesdays, which has unfortunately meant that some of our volunteers can no longer take part.

It was also a challenge for Samuel Pepys to rearrange their timetable to accommodate things.

However, after a couple of weeks missed, we were able to resume our sessions on the well behaved ponies at Yelling.

The riders adapted very quickly to their new surroundings, and apart from being asked 'Where is Splash?', they settled very well.

This year, we hope that Mel will be assessed and be able to call herself a fully qualified coach.

Perhaps others will consider taking on the role?

Our thanks go to Tracy and Mel who have led some really good sessions, and also, of course, to leaders, side walkers, and poo pickers all who make it possible for us to continue.

Our thanks must also go to Anne for her continued support as Chair, and who hosted a summer lunch at her home during the summer.

Also, thanks must go to Pat for taking on the role of fundraiser, which has already proved to be very valuable to us.

Altogether an interesting year, and a milestone in our journey.

Gill Linnette

September 2025

Accounts

Huntingdon & District RDA Group
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 27 June 2024 at Northbrook
Equestrian Centre, Offord Cluny, commencing 12.00 pm

- 1) **Present:** Jane Briggs, Marion Davies, Melissa Giggs, Anne Lambert, Gill Linnette, Wendy Parker, Sue Sheard, Maggie Shiner, Hazel Bimson
- 2) **Apologies:** Anita Benfield, Robyn Brack, Dionne Brookes, Carol-Ann Burge, Leanne Burton, Tracy Dixon, Fiona Everest, Janice Gore, Janet Greiller, Tracy Hall, Sue Sewell, Chris Taylor, Liz Tinley
- 3) **Minutes** - The circulated minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 29 June 2023 were signed and dated by Jane Briggs having been taken as read and agreed to be a true record.
- 4) **Matters Arising**
 - a) **First Aid Training** - Undertaken by Janet. Mel to attend the next available course.
- 5) **Approval of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024** - The circulated audited Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet were approved and a copy follows these minutes. Although there is still a healthy bank balance, it was noted that expenditure exceeded income by £2608.52. To 'break even' requires income of around £7000 and while fortunate to receive regular donations from the Strangward Trust and via EasyFundraising, these cannot be taken for granted. Jane to invite Strangward to an RDA session. Other sources of income to be investigated include The Round Table and Kimbolton Castle Rotary.
- 6) **Chairman's Report on the Group's Activities since the 2023 AGM**

The year has seen us offer riding to 10 children per week of the school term.

We have seen the children gain confidence and progress often after much patience and skill shown by our coaches and volunteers. Parents and the staff of Samuel Pepys school have expressed their appreciation of the sessions but it is the smiles from the children that make us all want to continue.

The summer Teresa Scott-Petrie Funday was once more a success and a visit from Father Christmas, was a wonderful end to 2023. Finding enough volunteers has again been tricky at times but we have an amazing core of skilled and committed people and have managed to provide safe cover each week despite our numbers being depleted due to accidents and illness. I hope everyone is making a good recovery and we will be back to full strength before too long.

Northbrook EC has continued to be supportive and have provided us with suitable ponies throughout the year. Volunteers have completed training in Safeguarding and First Aid and been kept up to date with the opportunities available on the MyRDA learning platform.

We have been extremely fortunate to benefit from generous financial support from the Strangwood Trust, Leanne's charity ball and Liz's contribution to the new ground rent we are charged for the storage shed. There hasn't been much fundraising this year but we are aware of the importance of this both to boost funds to cover ever increasing costs and raise awareness of our charity in our communities. A big thank you to Maggie for arranging the replacement cones and to her husband for the modifications to secure the poles. They are a big improvement and will certainly help protect our backs so we can volunteer into our old age!

A great year so thank you to everyone for making Thursday mornings such fun for us all.

7) **Coach's Report**

Another successful and satisfying year for us.

We had our challenges; reluctant riders who were too anxious to actually sit on their pony, and over protective staff who made us anxious! Then we had our rewards; smiles, giggles and bonding with ponies.

We have had several 'natural' riders, who really take control of their ponies and enjoy themselves. And Oscar, who despite his condition, was a ray of sunshine, and tried so hard to hold himself up.

As ever, my sincere thanks go to everyone. We couldn't do this without any one of you. Tracy and Mel have been brilliant; our leaders have been reliable and attentive, but it is the sidewalkers who are there keeping their child safe and stimulated, who should be recognised for their huge input. Special thanks to Wendy for setting up every week, providing that welcome coffee and biscuits, as well as helping me mount the riders, sidewalking and keeping our records straight.

Most importantly, we must record our thanks to Jane for all her leadership and dedication to the Group, despite all her domestic challenges.

I almost forgot.....Thank you to our ponies.

- 8) **Retirement of Committee Members** - In accordance with clause 6.4 of the Standard Group Constitution, Jane Briggs and Wendy Parker retired from the Committee. Both confirmed they would be happy to stand for re-election.
- 9) **Election of Group Chairman** - Anne Lambert. Proposed by Marion Davies, seconded by Gill Linnette. All in favour. Anne asked it to be noted that future grandchildren commitments may involve overseas travel and periods of absence.
 - a) **Appreciation** expressed to Jane for the huge amount of work involved during her term as Chairman: change of status to CIO, Covid, introduction of numerous policies, etc
- 10) **Committee Elections**
 - a) **Re-elected Committee Members** - Jane Briggs and Wendy Parker. Proposed by Marion Davies, seconded by Gill Linnette. All in favour.
2024/25 Committee: Jane Briggs, Marion Davies, Tracy Dixon, Mel Giggs, Anne Lambert (Chairman), Gill Linnette (Vice-Chairman), Wendy Parker, Sue Sewell, Sue Sheard, Maggie Shiner
 - b) **Officers** - Secretary: Wendy Parker; Treasurer: Marion Davies; Safeguarding Officer: Sue Sheard; School Liaison Officer: Gill Linnette
- 11) **Independent Examiner of the Group's Accounts** - C J Dyke & Company, Chartered Accountants. All in favour.
- 12) **Theresa Scott-Petrie Fun Day** - Thursday 25 July 2024, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
Hire Fee paid to Northbrook (four ponies, riding school facilities, use of portacabin): £200
Return of paperwork and confirmation of children awaited from Samuel Pepys School.
Children's Picnic - Sue; Adult Sandwiches - Anne/Wendy; Cold Drinks - Maggie
- 13) **Prestley Wood Academy** - Enquiry received from a new Special School in Alconbury Weald, opening September 2024, wishing to offer riding from November onwards. Following discussion, it was agreed to consider offering one 45 minute session for up to five pupils from 11.45 am on Thursdays. NEC to be approached initially and depending upon response, all volunteers to be canvassed on their availability/willingness to cover an extended session. Additional hire costs likely to be charged to the Academy.
- 14) **Summer Social** - Jane's offer to host accepted with alacrity. Possibly a Thursday in August
- 15) **Young Volunteer** - Request received from a volunteer to bring her 19 year old autistic brother along to help at one of the sessions. After some discussion, and receiving assurance she will supervise her brother throughout, it was agreed to welcome C to the term's final session. Duties to include poo picking but not sidewalking.

Meeting Closed 1.00 pm

HUNTINGDON AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Charity No: 1186377

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Opening Stock	238.76	Donations: Various	54.50
Hire of Pongies	5,825.00	Donation: Strangward Trust	2,000.00
RDA Membership & Insurance	460.00	Donation: Heartsense Folk Group	500.00
Theresa S-P Fun Day	130.00	Donations: via easyfundraising.org.uk Website	579.83
DBS Checks x 5	44.70	Donations: via smile.amazon.co.uk Website	22.99
Storage (RDA Shed)	151.62	Donations: School Christmas Concert Collection	43.00
Equipment: Hat x 1	46.00	Sales: Christmas Cards	48.00
First Aid Training Course	60.92	Fundraising: Jewellery Sales & Bromswood Bike Fest	77.90
Christmas cards	35.00	Shed Sponsorship: Cambourne Self Storage	260.00
First Aid Kit	14.14	Gift Aid Donations	300.00
Flowers	16.00	Gift Aid Repayment: 2023/24	75.00
	<u>7,022.14</u>	Bank Interest	213.64
		Closing Stock	238.76

Excess of Expenditure over Income (2,608.52)

£4,413.62

£4,413.62

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

Accumulated Fund as at 1st April 2023 23,252.30

Co-op Bank Community Directplus Current Account 7,372.14

10,225.52

Excess of Expenditure over Income (2,608.52)

Co-operative Bank Savings Account 2,807.36

238.76

£20,643.78

£20,643.78

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The foregoing Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet have been prepared from the books and vouchers of the Association and are in accordance therewith.

C J DYKE & COMPANY,
THE OLD POLICE STATION
PRIORY ROAD, ST. IVES, CAMBS



Date 21.5.2024

Accounts

Huntingdon and District RDA

Chairman's Report

July 2022-July 2023

This year has seen us return to a more normal post Covid life and we have provided 290 rides for 53 children ,quite an achievement for such a small group and a great tribute to our coaches and volunteers.

In August we held the Teresa Scot-Petrie fun day which was a great success and saw 4 children enjoy an extended morning of riding, pony care and picnic. Parents were in attendance and were amazed to see what their children had achieved, one family has continued with riding independently. It was particularly nice that Teresa's husband and son were able to come along and see the pleasure their generosity had brought.

On the social front ,in September we gathered in the sunshine at Steeple Gidding for lunch and once again retired to The Wheatsheaf at Perry for our Post Christmas lunch. Thanks must go to Carl-Ann for organising both activities.

Coaches and volunteers have been keeping up to date with a variety of courses and on line learning modules and zoom lectures . Gill and Tracy have been re- approved as coaches and we are delighted that Mel is now well on her way to becoming a qualified coach.

We have complied with all the regulations and advisory notices that have been sent by RDA UK including the purchase of new riding hats to comply with the new standards and a review of all our policies .

Financially our funds are in a healthy state thanks to generous donations from Strangwood trust and the amazing donations we received last year from SDC and ClopWeston Angels Charity ball .

Our biggest problem has been recruiting volunteers, we only have 21 members so with 15. + and at least one coach required every session, it has been a little tight at times. Hopefully our recent attendance at the Bromswold Bikefest and interviews on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire will bring a few more potential volunteers along to see us.

All in all it has been another excellent year and a pleasure and privilege to see the amazing children from Samuel Pepys made such progress and have so much fun. It is a special treat to attend the school's end of term celebrations to present the achievement cup and meet some of the parents, an experience I recommend to everyone.

Lastly, a huge thank you to everyone, especially Gill, Tracy and Mel for taking the sessions with such skill and enthusiasm, Marion for keeping the books straight and her calm and clear business guidance. Wendy for her secretarial skills and keeping the coffee flowing and Sue Sheard for continuing to take on the very necessary but often frustrating role of Safeguarding officer .Thank you to all the committee for their support and for sharing the responsibilities of keeping everything running . We are a great group and it's such a pleasure to work with you all.

Jane Briggs
27/06/2023

**HUNTINGDON AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
 ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Charity No: 1186377

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Opening Stock	162.76	Donations: Various	156.50
Hire of Ponies	5,250.00	Donation: SDC Builders Ltd Charity Walk	5,000.00
RDA Membership & Insurance	460.00	Donation: Clon Weston Angels Charity Ball	5,000.00
Theresa S-P Fun Day	150.00	Donations: via easyfundraising.org.uk Website	382.45
DBS Checks x 3	18.60	Donations: via smile.amazon.co.uk Website	29.17
Hats x 5	420.83	Donations: School Christmas Concert Collection	104.10
Equipment: Lead Rein Attachments/Safety Stirrups	126.64	Sales: Polo Shirts & Sweat Shirts	113.00
First Aid Training Course	54.15	Fundraising: Jewellery Sales	25.00
Grooming Kit/Chairs	43.48	Gift Aid Donations	150.00
Travel Expenses	25.20	Gift Aid Repayment: 2022/23	37.50
Retirement Gift & Cards	44.80	Bank Interest	35.54
Polo Shirts & Sweat Shirts	213.00	Closing Stock	238.76
	<hr/> 6,969.46		

Excess of Income over Expenditure

£11,272.02

£11,272.02

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023

Accumulated Fund as at 1st April 2022	18,949.74	Co-op Bank Community Directplus Current Account	10,194.30
Excess of Income over Expenditure	4,302.56	Co-operative Bank Savings Account	10,041.98
		Scottish Widows Bank Deposit Account	2,777.26
		Stock as at 31st March 2023	238.76
	<hr/> £23,252.30		

£23,252.30

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The foregoing Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet have been prepared from the books and vouchers of the Association and are in accordance therewith.

**C J DYKE & COMPANY,
 THE OLD POLICE STATION
 PRIORY ROAD, ST. IVES, CAMBS**



Date 3 - 5 - 2023

Accounts

HUNTINGDON AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Charity No: 1186377

Expenditure

Opening Stock	162.76
Hire of Ponies	4,222.00
RDA Membership & Insurance	381.00
Christmas Cards	148.00
DBS Checks x (8 @ £6.00)	48.00
Tack Wipes/Sanitiser/Stationery	65.31
Equipment: Loop Reins x 7/Peacock Rings x 2	113.05
First Aid Training Course (2 @ £56.50)	113.00
RDA Training Day (3 @ £10)	30.00
Travel Expenses	56.00
Retirement Gifts x 2	50.00
	<u>5,389.12</u>

Income

Donations: Various	36.70
Donations via JustGiving in memory of Theresa S-P	229.21
Donation: The Strangward Trust	2,000.00
Donations: via easyfundraising.org.uk Website	188.43
Donations: via smile.amazon.co.uk Website	37.42
Sales: Christmas Cards	183.10
Fundraising: Jewellery Sales & Bike Fest	108.60
Gift Aid Donations	240.40
Gift Aid Repayment: 2021/22	60.10
Bank Interest	15.28
Refund	10.00
Closing Stock	162.76

Excess of Expenditure over Income

(2,117.12)

£3,272.00

£3,272.00

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

Accumulated Fund as at 1st April 2021

21,066.86

Co-op Bank Community Directplus Current Account

6,003.28

Co-operative Bank Savings Account

10,012.99

Excess of Expenditure over Income

(2,117.12)

Scottish Widows Bank Deposit Account

2,770.71

Stock as at 31st March 2022

162.76

£18,949.74

£18,949.74

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The foregoing Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet have been prepared from the books and vouchers of the Association and are in accordance therewith.



**C J DYKE & COMPANY,
THE OLD POLICE STATION
PRIORY ROAD, ST. IVES, CAMBS**

Date **5 . 5 . 2022**

Accounts

Huntingdon and District RDA

Chairman's Report for Year June 2020-June 2021

Covid 19 has curtailed normal activities for Huntingdon and District RDA along with the rest of the UK and indeed World.

The last AGM was held on 25th June by Zoom and a year later almost to the day, we were able to welcome the children of Samuel Pepys School back to Northbrook Equestrian Centre for their first riding session in over 12 mths.

In the interim period the trustees were able to meet via Zoom and finally in person to discuss the recommendations and requirements issued by RDA UK and the government to fulfil the criteria for safe restarting of riding sessions.

In March Northbrook E.C. was in serious financial trouble and it was agreed to purchase new rugs for our RDA ponies to assist and help in a small way to make sure there was an establishment for us to return to. This small gesture was greatly appreciated by Andrea and David.

Northbrook survived and on 17th June with risk assessments, check lists, consent forms and Covid precautions all duly completed and approved by RDA UK we were able to hold a "dry run" at Northbrook before welcoming two groups of three children back to ride, the smiles on their faces proved all the navigating red tape had been worthwhile. The four sessions we were able to run went smoothly and the riders all left pleased with their rosettes and having gained confidence and made progress even in the short time available.

We are very fortunate that all our volunteers have been willing to return and have welcomed a further three volunteers with two more waiting to join in September. This will allow us considerable flexibility when we increase the number of riders next term.

Thank you to everyone for staying in touch, putting up with my numerous emails and believing in the values of RDA.

I am sorry to deliver this report by Zoom yet again but having had a volunteer recently test positive for Covid and with the uncertain effects of unlocking against a rising incidence of Covid 19, it was felt, following discussion with RDA UK that this was the safest way to meet the requirements of our organisation and the Charity Commission

Let's hope that when we return in September service is a bit more back to normal.

HUNTINGDON AND DISTRICT RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Charity No: 1186377

Expenditure

Opening Stock 162.76
 Donations: Northbrook Equestrian C. £600 + £400 1,000.00
 RDA Membership & Insurance 450.00
 Christmas Cards 76.00
 DBS Check x 1 @ £6.00 6.00

1,694.76

Excess of Income over Expenditure 4,395.02

£6,089.78

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

Accumulated Fund as at 1st April 2020 16,671.84

Excess of Income over Expenditure 4,395.02

£21,066.86

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The foregoing Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet have been prepared from the books and vouchers of the Association and are in accordance therewith.

**C J DYKE & COMPANY,
 THE OLD POLICE STATION
 PRIORY ROAD, ST. IVES, CAMBS**

CJ Dyke & Co

Date 17.5.2021

Income

Donation: Manor Yard Stables, Hemington 130.00
 Donations via JustGiving in memory of Theresa S-P 1,405.52
 Donations: The Strangward Trust (2 @ £2000) 4,000.00
 Donations: via easyfundraising.org.uk Website 127.31
 Donations: via smile.amazon.co.uk Website 44.98
 Sales: Christmas Cards 93.60
 Fundraising: Sale Donated Stock 11.02
 Gift Aid Donations 70.00
 Gift Aid Repayment: 2020/21 17.50
 Bank Interest 27.09
 Closing Stock 162.76

£6,089.78

Current 'Community Directplus' Account 8,135.68
 Co-operative Bank Account Savings Account 10,000.48
 Scottish Widows Bank Deposit Account 2,767.94
 Stock as at 31st March 2021 162.76

£21,066.86