

WING GROUP RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING

England & Wales · Charity number 1195853

Details

Other names	WING GROUP RDA
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2021-09-20
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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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 SOUTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AREA

Activities: Riding for disabled children

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

Geography

- Buckinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,340	£2,513	-	-
2024-03-31	£2,610	£1,867	-	-
2023-03-31	£1,218	£470	-	-
2022-03-31	£262	£839	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Susan Hampton	Chair	2021-03-05
Caroline Sarah Dallas CAMPBELL		2021-03-05
Denise Jane Trenzinger		2022-11-16
Emma Charlotte Kepinski		2023-05-24
Janice Dorothea Mitchell		2021-03-05
Lucy Lawson		2024-07-03
MARY ELIZABETH ESSEX		2021-03-05

Accounts

Trustees Report July 2025

We've had a good year since last year's AGM and have been pleased to continue working with Furzedown School (Winslow) and Woodlands School (previously, Walnuts School, Bletchley). Both schools have given positive feedback over the year, commenting on the children's behaviour being very different when riding to the classroom, including a reduction in 'stimming' and seeming less anxious. Volunteers have also commented on the change in individual children from their initial ride, as they gain in confidence and relax on the pony. Sometimes its simply enough to see their enthusiasm and smiles once on the pony.

As in previous years, we have had a few sessions cancelled due to poor weather conditions or there being insufficient teaching staff available in the schools to enable the children to be brought along. At the end of the Summer Term in 2024, we almost had to disallow a child from riding as he was wearing shorts (in line with RDA safety guidance). Fortunately, we found a pair of trousers (albeit not the best fit!) and have subsequently invested in two pairs of joggers and sweatshirts for emergency use (kept in the RDA cupboard at Mursley Hall Farm).

The children from Furzedown School have been consistently working towards greater independence on their ponies. During the Spring and Summer term they have been confident in collecting and placing items while mounted and following the coaches instructions. Some are even confident to 'steer' the their pony with only the coach waling alongside them. Watching the smiles on those progressing to trot is an absolute joy!

The children from Woodlands School have very individual needs. The teaching staff who accompany them are constantly watching, responding to the behaviour of individual children when needed, and suggesting ways in which we can help individuals. They have made laminated picture cards for side-helpers to show those children who benefit from visual instruction. This has proven very helpful to communication and has helped the children with their riding.

We could not run the RDA sessions without our team of dedicated volunteers (including our coaches!). We have seen new volunteers join in the course of the year, and while a couple have not been able to continue due to changes in their lives, we now have a fairly substantial team. We will be continuing the training sessions to develop individuals awareness of what do in specific situations when leading a pony or walking as a side-helper. We would also like to encourage volunteers to participate on-line training provided on myRDA, especially those on Health and Safety, and understanding autism.

We have been very fortunate for the continued experience and enthusiasm of Jenny Bonham and Sarah Bradbury. This particularly shows through their ability to adapt their planned activities to the individual child. We are grateful to Jenny (and Jane Bridewell) for providing suitable ponies that are presented tacked up and ready for the rides.

Irene Purse (RDA Buckinghamshire County Chair) has continued her contact and support for our group. Irene continues to be very positive about us and has introduced a new volunteer who had previously been at Irene's RDA group.

Once again, we were welcomed into Jenny's house for a delicious Christmas lunch. It gave a lovely and warming end to the Autumn Term after the last ride, as well as a great opportunity for socialising.

As we are coming towards the last session of the year, preparation is underway for the Wing RDA stall at the Winslow Show. Libby and Denise are already asking for contributions to the raffle and for cakes/savouries to sell. Winslow Show is a good fundraiser and we hope to repeat this again in 2025. It is also a very sociable day in terms of team work to prepare produce for sale and to spending time together while sitting up and running the stall.

While it is good to reflect on the past months, it leads us to think about the next school year and to start thinking about new children who will be selected by the schools.

Anne Hampton,
Chair, Wing Group RDA

2nd July 2025

Wing RDA – AGM 2 July 2025

Treasurer's Report

Cash Summary:

Income 1/4/24 – 31/3/25

£295 from donations (note 1) & Winslow Show £648 (note 2)

£396.52 generated from interest deposit account (note 3)

Total £1339.52

Expenditure 1/4/24 – 31/3/25

As indicated on cash summary page such as pony hire, certificates, badges and rosettes (note 4), sundries (note 5, see breakdown of sundry expenses)

Total £2513.36

£1339.52 income versus **£2513.36 expenditure**

= an excess of expenditure over income of **£1173.84**

Balance Sheet:

Balance as at 1/4/24:

Business Acct £1635.69

Deposit Acct £27,044.50

Total Assets £28,680.19

Balance as at 31/3/25:

Business Acct £1065.33

Deposit Acct £26,441.02

Total Assets £27,506.35

(total assets, ie money in business at end of financial year 2025 after expenditure)

(£28,680.19 – £27,506.35 = £1173.84 balances to the excess of exp. over income).

Accounts

Trustees Report October 2024

Since the last AGM in November 2023, we have had a successful 7 months. The Trustees decided to bring the AGM forward to July, as it is closer to the financial end of year and it should ease the focus on the year we in, rather than from the perspective of looking back after the long summer break

We have continued to work with Furzedown School (Winslow) and Walnuts School (Bletchley). Both schools report positive differences in the behaviours they see whilst the children are riding on the ponies, from being more calm, being able to sit still for more than a few minutes, to relaxing and smiling! Clear evidence of the immediate benefits the children get during the sessions. We also can see how some of the children have gained confidence when riding and in themselves.

It was disappointing to have to cancel a few sessions in January and February 2024 because of very bad or cold weather. We are aware that it is extremely cold in the barn at Mursley Hall Farm and we didn't feel it was fair to let the children get too cold, or indeed our volunteers. Since then, however, we have had a good attendance and have seen new children joining the riding sessions from both schools.

This Summer Term the children from Furzedown are working towards achieving more independence on their ponies. They are aware of long and short diagonals, and happily respond to the coaches questions about where to go next, or which rein is needed. Over the last few weeks they have been 'steering' their ponies between the cones and have progressed from being on a lead rein, to being on a loose lead rein, to having only Jenny or Sarah walk with them. Most of them have said they want to be able to do this totally alone in their last session.

The children from Walnuts School have very different individual needs. We have been working closely with the teaching staff to establish the best ways to deal with each child. Some need little or no eye-contact, some are non-verbal and most need support in balance when they are placing items on the cones. They have been working well in holding then placing rings, cups and balls on the cones.

We continue to be aware of how important our volunteers are in making the sessions run smoothly. It feels that our volunteers are all contributing to sessions and are so helpful in undertaking tasks, such as moving the mounting block or replacing the equipment for the coaches. We have been joined by two new volunteers in 2024. All have completed their initial training and we are trying to ensure that those wishing to lead ponies as well as walk as side-helpers will be given training and experience.

Our two coaches, Jenny Bonham and Sarah Bradbury have continued to demonstrate good awareness of the children's individual abilities and develop appropriate activities for them. We are particularly grateful to Jenny for her

thoughtfulness in providing suitable ponies each week, and that they are all tacked up and ready for us. We were very pleased that Sarah had successfully completed her second RDA coach assessment and now has three years before being re-assessed.

We have also had a couple of visits from Irene Purse, the Buckinghamshire County Chair, who has noted the enthusiasm and caring nature of our group. Indeed, on one occasion Irene even lead a pony for us. Irene continues to stay in touch and is keen to continue to liaise with all groups in the County. It is good to have a local point of contact and who can feed views back to Regional and National levels.

On a social level, we were given a warm welcome into Jenny's home for an enjoyable Christmas Lunch. It was a good opportunity to talk together in a much warmer environment than our usual coffee gatherings in the barn or yard. This reminds me that I should also thank Libby Wass for the fantastic job she does each week in providing tea/coffee and biscuits for us all. This is much appreciated at the end of a busy morning.

We are currently preparing for the Wing RDA stall at the Winslow Show. Over the next few weeks Libby and Denise will be creating and circulating lists of items for the raffle; people willing to cook cakes, savouries and produce to sell; as well as volunteers to man the stall on show-day. Last years Winslow Show raised a considerable sum and we would hope to replicate this in August 2024.

While it is good to reflect on the past few months, it leads us to think about the next school year and to start thinking about new children likely to be selected by the schools.

Anne Hampton,
Chair, Wing Group RDA

3rd July 2024

**RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION, WING GROUP - CHARITY NO. 1195853
REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2024**

Cash Summary	Start of Financial Year	4/1/2023	End of Financial Year	3/31/2024	Balance Business Account	£ 1,635.69	Balance Deposit Account	£27,044.50
Income Business Account			Note					
Donations	£	258.00	1					
Winslow Show	£	753.60	2					
Events	£	1,288.50	3					
Gift Aid	£	-						
Total	£	2,300.10						
Income Deposit Account								
Interest	£	309.98	4					
Total	£	2,610.08						
Expenditure								
Pony Hire	£	1,120.00						
Certs Badges and Rosettes	£	-						
Insurance	£	230.00						
Printing Postage & Stationary	£	-						
Training	£	-						
Equipment	£	81.02	5					
Sundries	£	435.50	6					
Total	£	1,866.52						
Excess income over expenditure	£	743.56						

Accounts

Trustees Report October 2023

This is the second AGM of Wing Group RDA since we attained Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status on 20th September 2021.

It has been another busy year for the group, with new children benefiting from the weekly riding sessions, as well as a number who have been able to continue for a little longer. There have continued to be some weeks where one of the two schools were unable to attend because of illness or other staffing issues, which has meant everyone needing to be flexible with last minute adjustments. We have tried to use such additional time for training sessions with volunteers to develop knowledge of leading ponies, positioning of leaders and side-helpers, and how to work with the needs of the children. Volunteers say they have found these training sessions very useful. We plan to continue with these on an ad-hoc basis with different themes. Thank you to Jenny Bonham for leading these sessions.

Unfortunately, Chestnuts School had to stop coming after half-term in the Summer because the Teaching Assistant who organised and brought the children had resigned and, unfortunately, the school resources prevented them being able to assign a new staff member to bring the children. Thankfully, Walnuts School were able to bring additional children and come a little earlier, so we were able to continue to run two smaller sessions in the second half of the Summer Term, which enabled our independent child to continue with lessons as well.

Over the year we have seen children become more confident and relaxed on their ponies and seen them get a great deal of enjoyment and satisfaction from their individual achievements. As in previous years, the children have enjoyed collecting coloured hoops, shapes and other items to improve mobility and balance, and have improved their ability to steer their ponies through cones off the lead rein. Some of the children have also enjoyed having a short trot – which usually brings a big smile to their faces (and everyone else's!) and helps develop strength, coordination and balance. A few even achieved some steps of rising trot.

We are pleased that Furzedown School in Winslow have been able to join Wing RDA from the third week of the Autumn Term. They are bringing 4 children to ride each week, and we had a successful first ride with 3 out of 4 children getting mounted. By the end of the session, the fourth child clearly wanted to join in and said he will sit on the pony next time! The teacher is quietly confident that he will.

We are especially pleased to welcome our new volunteers who have made significant contributions to the running of sessions each Wednesday. They have all completed their initial training, and have proven to be enthusiastic and committed to supporting the instructor and riders each week, either as a pony leader or as a side helper. Some were initially happy to be side-helpers and are now eager to lead ponies as well. We are planning to include training on this during the Autumn Term 2023.

Twelve volunteers, trustees and instructors completed the Medi-K First Aid Training session held in March at the Mursley Sports Pavilion. This took place over a full day, so was a big commitment from our volunteers, but everyone agreed it was a good

investment of time and energy. It was definitely a worthwhile activity as well as a requirement. It means that we have a good number of trained first-aiders present each week.

The Buckinghamshire County Chair, Julia Hayes, stepped down and we have since had two visits from our new County Chair, Irene Purse. Irene commented how impressed she was with the volunteers' enthusiasm and seems keen to support us. Irene organised a course on Autism for Buckinghamshire RDA Groups in early October 2023. Eight of our volunteers, trustees and instructors participated and all agreed it was helpful in further developing our knowledge on Autism both at a practical level and theoretical perspectives. We were reassured that activities in our weekly sessions are fully in line with current professional views.

Following on from this comment, we continue to benefit from the experience, enthusiasm and knowledge of our Instructor, Jenny Bonham. She has provided suitable and sensible ponies for the rides, coached the children with enthusiasm, and has given them encouragement to try their best. This fits in with the RDA philosophy of "its what you can do that counts". This approach is continued by our second RDA Coach, Sarah Bradbury. Sarah has built a great rapport with the children through her coaching and encourages them to enjoy riding and have fun while learning to ride.

Jenny also organised an excellent Handy Pony competition which raised substantial funds for Wing RDA. The children who participated had to gain sponsorship to enter the competition, which they seemed to enjoy doing as well as having good fun on the day! Our other major fundraiser has once again been the Winslow Show. Our volunteers produced large quantities of homemade cakes, savouries and produce that sold very well, as did the raffle tickets for two hampers and bottles of wine. Thankfully, the weather was very kind to us, and a large number of volunteers (together with the support of a few husbands!) manned the stall for the day. A big thank you to all for the hard work and coordination that went into making these a success.

On a social note, Jenny invited us all into her home for a super Christmas Lunch that she had prepared, together with drinks, mince pies and satsumas provided by the Trustees. It was a very sociable gathering and we were all extremely pleased to meet in the warm having had to hold the previous years celebration in the barn under Covid restrictions.

While it is interesting to reflect on the past year as a whole, it also leads us to focus on the year come and what we might achieve by October 2024.

Anne Hampton,
Chair, Wing Group RDA

4th October 2023

**RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION, WING GROUP - CHARITY NO. 119!
REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023**

Cash Summary	Start of Financial Year	4/1/2022	End of Financial Year
Income Business Account			Note
Donations	£ 482.00		1
Winslow Show	£ 574.00		2
Events	£ -		
Gift Aid	£ -		
Total	£ 1,056.00		
Income Deposit Account			
Interest	£ 161.73		3
Total	£ 1,217.73		
Expenditure			
Pony Hire	£ 1,680.00		
Certs Badges and Rosettes	£ 30.38		
Insurance	£ 230.00		
Printing Postage & Stationary	£ 18.71		
Training	£ 696.40		4
Sundries	£ 470.23		5
Equipment	£ -		
Total	£ 3,125.72		
Excess expenditure over income	£ (1,907.99)		

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3/31/2023	Balance Business Account	£	202.11	Balance Deposit Account	£27,734.52
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RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION, WING GROUP - CHARITY NO. 11958
REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023

Balance Sheet	Start of Financial Year	End of Financial Year 4/1/2022
Business Account	£ 202.11	
Business Account Closing Statement Balance	£ 202.11	
Difference	£ -	
Deposit account	£ 27,734.52	
Deposit Account Closing Statement Balance	£ 27,734.52	
Difference	£ -	
Total Current Assets	£ 27,936.63	
Net Assets	£ 27,936.63	
Reperesented by		
Accumulated fund as of 1/4/22	£ 29,844.62	
Excess of expenditure in the year ending 31/3/23	£ (1,907.99)	
Total	£ 27,936.63	

3/31/2023

**RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION, WING GROUP - CHARITY NO. 11958
REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023**

NOTES ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023

Note 1	Donations Received		
	R J Pownell	£	75.00
	K Blunt	£	20.00
	Chalton Village Assoc.	£	187.00
	Winslow Show Assoc	£	200.00
	TOTAL	£	482.00

Note 2	Winslow Show Aug 22	£	
	Cake & Raffle Sales	£	574.00
	TOTAL	£	574.00

Note 3	Bank Interest Received		
	TSB Deposit (Gross)	£	161.73
	TOTAL	£	161.73
		£	1,217.73

**RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION, WING GROUP - CHARITY NO. 119585
REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023**

NOTES ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2023

Note 4	Training		
	First Aid	£	626.40
	Mursley Hall Hire	£	70.00
	TOTAL	£	696.40

Note 5	Sundry Expenses		
	DBS checks	£	75.00
	Winslow Show 22 Stall Fee	£	30.00
	RDA Membership	£	230.00
	Xmas - Gifts & Refreshment Supplies	£	43.35
	Session Refreshments	£	45.68
	Refreshments AGM	£	26.20
	Mursley Hall Hire (AGM)	£	20.00
	TOTAL	£	470.23

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Trustees Report October 2022

This is the first AGM of Wing Group RDA since we attained Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status on 20th September 2021. The decision to seek approval as a CIO was an important one in terms of the group moving forward positively. We have also strengthened our relationship with the RDA National Office and the local Regional representatives.

It has been a busy time for the Trustees since July 2021. Firstly, we gained approval from RDA National Office to resume operating riding sessions after being prevented from running at all during the various Covid restrictions. It was a major achievement to be given permission to restart under the RDA Road to Restart Scheme in September 2021, as many groups did not manage to do this. The process had involved 2 trustees attending a training session on how to operate under the guidelines issued by RDA National Office, and the completion of additional Covid Risk Assessments, as well as many other forms. We even followed the guidance to purchase sufficient lead reins for each volunteer to have their own, kept in individual plastic wallets! A training session was held in mid-July 2021 for all volunteers to ensure that everyone in the group understood the need for social distancing, the wearing of face masks, hand-sanitising and the use of wipes to sanitise touch points on tack.

We also followed RDA National Office guidance to start small when returning after the long break, and so the decision was taken to only operate on one morning each week rather than two mornings as prior to Covid. This proved to be wise, as both schools experienced difficulties in bringing four children each week, and sometimes one or other of the two schools were unable to attend at all. We all had to be flexible with last minute adjustments to the ride.

Both schools continued to experience illness and staffing issues until the end of the Spring Term. However, it was definitely good to continue where possible as the children were clearly enjoying riding and were beginning to become more confident.

However, in the Summer Term the regular attendance of both schools improved. From this point it became apparent that the children began to benefit more from regular weekly riding sessions. We were also able to welcome two "independent" children to join the first ride and have increased each ride from 4 to 5 riders.

There were a few special achievements for the children, such as a child that by the end of the term was remaining mounted for the whole session (having initially only managed to stay for 10-15 minutes); several children became more verbal over the term; but most notably the confidence gained by all in walking off the lead rein whilst "steering" through a series

of cones. Most of the children also enjoyed having a short trot on their ponies too.

Over the year we have been joined by five new volunteers. They have all completed their initial training, and have proven to be enthusiastic and committed to supporting the instructor and riders each week. We have held a number of informal training sessions and volunteers say they have found these useful. A Safeguarding Course was organised at Mursley Hall Farm in June 2022 and was run by Anne Coney (a long-standing RDA trainer). Attendance at this was excellent, with good participation, and many comments that volunteers had found it both interesting and helpful.

We could not have achieved such a successful year without the experience, enthusiasm and knowledge of our Instructor, Jenny Bonham. She has provided us with suitable ponies for the rides, prepared and delivered the riding sessions for the children, and has given them encouragement to try their best. In addition, Jenny has been key to the training of volunteers and in providing us all with a very welcome Christmas lunch in December 2021. We were pleased that Sarah Bradbury agreed to be re-assessed as an RDA instructor and were thrilled that she passed her assessment with flying colours in the Summer term. Sarah has already given our group good support and has developed an excellent rapport with the children.

What began as a challenging year has ended with a number of achievements:

- the children have benefited from riding and have made good individual progress
- the rides have increased from 4 to 5 children per ride
- two 'independent' children now join the first ride in alternate weeks
- new and enthusiastic volunteers have joined the group
- the majority of the volunteers attended the RDA Safeguarding Course
- the group has another instructor to lead the rides

And to top it all we had a very successful stall at the Winslow Show selling cakes, home produce and a raffle for a luxury hamper – raising £540 on the day!

Anne Hampton,
Chair, Wing Group RDA

11th September 2022

**RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION
WING GROUP 1073728
(New Charity No. from 21.9.2021
1195853)**

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDS
31 MARCH 2021
20 SEPTEMBER 2021
31 MARCH 2022**