

# ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR DISABLED

England & Wales · Charity number 291623

## Details

---

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1985-04-24

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

## Contact

---

**Address** Arrow Riding Centre For The Disable  
Darenth Park Avenue  
Dartford  
DA2 6LZ

**Phone** 01322294390

**Email** [arc@arrowridingcentre.com](mailto:arc@arrowridingcentre.com)

**Website** [arrowridingcentre.com](http://arrowridingcentre.com)

## Activities

---

**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE GROUP ARE TO PROMOTE THE OBJECTS OF THE RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION INCORPORATING CARRIAGE DRIVING A CHARITY REGISTERED UNDER CHARITY NUMBER 244108 ("THE ASSOCIATION") BY PROVIDING DISABLED PEOPLE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO RIDE AND/OR TO CARRIAGE DRIVE TO BENEFIT THEIR HEALTH AND WELL BEING IN THE KENT & SE LONDON AREA

**Activities:** providing a unique form of therapy through horse/pony riding and the opportunity for disabled people to learn to ride up to national and international levels

## Classification

---

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** People With Disabilities

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** KENT & SE LONDON AREA
- Bexley
- Bromley
- Greenwich
- Kent

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£168,264	£186,877	-	-
2024-03-31	£155,090	£174,220	-	-
2023-03-31	£137,837	£147,935	-	-
2022-03-31	£110,580	£134,526	-	-
2021-03-31	£118,132	£118,132	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CHRISTINE LUCKINGS		2011-08-08
KENNETH WYNDHAM BLAKE		
MARILYN STAPLEY		2011-08-08
Noelle Basten		2018-04-05
PAT MCMILLAN		2011-08-08
VALERIE ANN BLAKE		

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR DISABLED**

England & Wales - Charity number 291623

---

# Accounts

---



## ARROW RIDING CENTRE

Darenth Park Avenue  
Dartford  
Kent DA2 6LZ  
Tel: 01322 294390

Email: [arc@arrowridingcentre.com](mailto:arc@arrowridingcentre.com)  
Web: [www.arrowridingcentre.com](http://www.arrowridingcentre.com)

---

### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

Pages 1	Trustees Report for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025
Pages 2-11	Accounts and notes thereon for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025
Page 12	Independent Examiner`s Report on the accounts for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025

**TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2025**

Although we increased the price of our services during the year – costs of essential supplies rose faster and with a fall in donations we incurred a deficit of £18,613. As in previous years since “covid” this sum will be covered by our reserves.

With the services we provide for our riders every effort is made to keep prices at an affordable level. Unfortunately with the budget changes which came into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – namely the substantial increase in the National Living Wage. This resulting in us having to make further increases in the cost of therapy and riding lessons as well as the price of other services we offer. The increase in Employer’s National insurance should largely be off-set by the increase in the small business relief.

The other services we provide - include hiring out our facilities for meetings, examinations, elections, dog club, horse events, pony days, tea with a pony and special events for Easter, school holidays and Christmas. We still look to provide our facilities for other uses that increase our income.

During the year our equine team lost “Jack” who died suddenly and “Dolly” who has gone into retirement. With the earlier loss of “William” leaving the rest of the team having to work harder. Once again charity Shelby Newstead came to our rescue and purchased “Eric” for us with the promise of help for a second horse or pony.

We are extremely grateful to them and would also like to thank Dartford Borough Council, Kent Masonic Lodges, many other organizations and individuals for their financial and help with projects. Not forgetting the essential work and dedication of our volunteers, staff and yard manager/chief instructor Natalie Scott.

Our condolences to the family of a long time member of Arrow – Joan Styles who died suddenly

Ken Blake hon. chairman/treasurer

**Establishment and property**

**2024/25**

The Centre was founded in 1982 by the Dartford Lions. This following permission being given by the Local Health Authority for Arrow to use for riding for the disabled, free of charge, the old farm buildings and land which formed part of the original Darenth Park hospital complex.

During the 1990's a Public Finance Scheme was established whereby the District Health Authority agreed to release land for housing in exchange for the construction of a new hospital – Darent Valley

The grounds and buildings which we had been using being transferred to Dartford Borough Council (DBC) under a 99 year lease from the Secretary of State for Health. This document stipulating that the property can only be used as public open space/country park and associated uses with the exception of the existing cemeteries and riding school or for agricultural use. No rental sum being charged.

With grants DBC obtained from English Countryside and the Millennium Fund, together with not insignificant sums raised by ourselves through the Bluewater contractors golf day, a loan, other donations and matched funding, DBC has upgraded the parkland areas, our indoor arena, main building and barn

To remain in occupation, however, DBC required us to enter into a lease to include the reconstructed main building, indoor riding arena, barn, some grazing together with two stable wings originally built in 1875

We now hold the property under a lease from DBC for a term of 30 years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007. The current rent is £3,000 a year subject to five yearly rent reviews. We are responsible for insurance of the buildings and repairs to the reconstructed parts. With the restrictions on the use of the property being reflected by the rental charge. We also hold under licence from DBC around 20 acres of grazing at a rent of £1 a year. With our being responsible for the internal fencing

DBC makes small grants to local charities run by volunteers. Since 2000 we have been fortunate enough to benefit from such awards for which we are extremely grateful. The sums having completely off-set any rent due.

In addition this year DBC have awarded us a community grant of £5,000 and we are also upgrading our electrics from a further grant of £5,000 instigated by DBC.

As HRH the Princess Royal commented on a visit to us – “you are really lucky to have a Council that gives you so much support”

**Objects of the Centre**

**2024/25**

To help children and adults with physical or learning difficulties by the following:-

Improve head – spine control – eye and hand co-ordination – circulation and muscle relaxation using the pony/horse to provide a unique form of therapy (Hippotherapy).-

Teaching to horse or pony ride. With the opportunity to progress in dressage to competing at National and International levels.

Increase confidence and self-esteem and for us to see that every one who finds a visit to the Centre to be both physically beneficial and enjoyable.

To comply with our health & safety policy and liability insurance – every rider must first have completed an application form. This can be downloaded from our website.

**Rider`s safety**

We are licenced by DBC under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018. We have been given a 5 star rating.

We employ a small team of very capable people who have RDA or British Horse Society teaching qualifications as well as considerable equine experience. Also we have two experienced RDA volunteer instructors who give their time to us.

We are also very fortunate to have an extremely talented volunteer Chartered Physiotherapist who gives her services to us and arranges programmes of therapy for both mature and our youngest from 18 months of age.

It is necessary in nearly all lessons to have volunteer horse leaders and side helpers. Each has undergone RDA training and both volunteers and staff have been cleared under our Safeguarding Policy.

Employer and public liability risks are covered under a group policy implemented by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA)

**Ponies and horses**

Our team have been specially trained for the work we do and are:-

Beline Bertie Blue Champ Eric Mia Truffles Wilma Rosa and Jeremy (our mechanical horse)

**Membership**

**2024/25**

Membership is made up from people involved with our development. Currently we have 7 members who are entitled to attend and vote at general meetings either in person or by proxy.

Of that number we have a committee of five persons (trustees) who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Centre. Each being a volunteer who is “hands on” assisting with lessons, taking care of our ponies and horses – various tasks on the yard – repairs – administration – fund raising etc. The current members being as follows:-

Kenneth Blake	FCG	hon chairman/treasurer	Marilyn Stapley
Valerie Blake	BEM	hon group organizer	Patricia McMillen
Noelle Basten		hon secretary	

During the year none of the committee members received any honorarium, attendance allowance or payment of any kind

**Insurance**

Of buildings based upon valuations made by Chartered Surveyors acting for DBC (Landlords) who currently insure the buildings and our tack and other equipment with Zurich Insurance plc

Our ponies and horses are not insured the average cost of each being £6,000

Liability insurance is covered under an RDA group policy. The RDA provides us with support and training including safeguarding where our staff and volunteers have been security cleared. In addition none of our trustees are barred or prevented by legislation from acting in that capacity.

During the financial year there were no serious accidents or incidents leading to claims under our policies.

**Continuance**

Our accounts are prepared on the basis that we shall continue to operate in the future despite the present difficulties. In the event of our closure any remaining assets would have to be transferred to another charity with similar objects to our own.

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025**

<u>2023/24</u>	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>2024/25</u>
48,226	Donations & sponsorships	(note 1)	44,748
23,465	Fund raising	(note 2)	27,005
49,156	Riding lessons		61,132
27,221	Donations from stabling		28,528
7,022	Miscellaneous income	(note 3)	6,851
<u>155,090</u>	<b><u>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<b>£ <u>168,264</u></b>
<u>2023/24</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>2024/25</u>
116,406	Salaries & NIC instructors & grooms	(note 4)	127,953
3,248	Buildings & liability insurance		4,782
13,081	Heat, light & water		13,539
3,453	Repairs & renewals		5,328
1,635	Stationery, telephone, broadband		1,846
1,600	Training, transport & subscriptions		2,008
12,378	Horse/pony – feed and bedding		10,797
11,301	Veterinary & farrier services		11,847
<u>3,168</u>	Tack, hygiene & yard expenses		<u>3,777</u>
166,270			181,877
<u>7,950</u>	Special expenditure	(note 5)	<u>5,000</u>
174,220	<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR</u></b>		<b>186,877</b>
<b><u>(19,130)</u></b>	<b><u>DEFICIT FOR YEAR</u></b>		<b>£ <u>( 18,613 )</u></b>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

<u>2023/24</u>	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>2024/25</u>
112,372	Bank accounts	(note 6)	£ 94,920
50	Cash in hand		101
<u>6,527</u>	Debtors	(note 7)	<u>5,143</u>
<b>118,949</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>100,164</b>
16,812	Creditors & accruals	(note 8)	16,640
<u>80,000</u>	Reserves	(note 9)	<u>70,000</u>
<u>96,812</u>			<u>86,640</u>
<b><u>22,137</u></b>	<b><u>ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		£ <b><u>13,524</u></b>
	Represented by:-		
16,867	Accumulated funds at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		22,137
<u>(19,130)</u>	Deficit for year		<u>(18,613)</u>
(2,263)			3,524
4,400	Balance of RDA loan waived	(note 10)	—
<u>20,000</u>	Transfer from reserves	(note 7)	<u>10,000</u>
<b><u>22,137</u></b>			£ <b><u>13,524</u></b>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

## NOTE 1 DONATIONS &amp; SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE

2024/25

Adams	Jackie	400
Barclays	Thames & Gateway	150
Barnes	Ron & Eileen	400
Blake	Ken & Val	600
Bexley	Group Therapeutic Riding	595
Bluewater	Forum	238
Bowles	Charitable Trust	1,000
Bramwell	Michael & Henrietta	240
Bristow	Lynn	120
Buttress	Alan	35
CBRC	Chelsham & Bromley Riding Club	1,090
City	Central Cleaning Company	1,000
Crossways	Limited Dartford	405
Currans	Rosanna	31
Dartford	Borough Council community funding	5,004
	Borough Council low emissions funding - upgrading electrics	5,000
	Cricket Club	120
	Ladies Probus	162
Fox	Estate Agents - Dartford	25
Healthcare	Retirement Group	122
Hunnisett	Derek and Linda	100
Jefferies	Diane	30
Kennedy	Celia	980
KRB	Consultant Ltd	100
LAMBARA	Longfield	1,992
Lock	Jackie	100
Maison	Maurice Ltd	600
Mannion	Michael & Mary	7,895
Mathews	Brian	1,000

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

## NOTE 1 DONATIONS &amp; SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE (continued)

			<u>2024/25</u>
Masonic Lodges	Burnt Ash	No 6285	489
	Beauchamp	1422	500
	Chapter of Emulation	299	250
	Grand Mark Lodge Kent	857	675
	Ideal Endeavour	7379	150
	London Borough of Woolwich	6610	80
	Mark Mason & Mariners	1494	150
	Meridian	9202	1,500
	Richard of Bordeaux	8333	240
	Saye & Seal	1973	250
	Walsingham	2148	200
	Westwood Chapter Rose Croix	764	250
Rooke	Jodie		148
Sheldon	Charlotte		150
Sittingbourne	& Milton Regis Ladies Golf Club		50
Smithy's	Mobile café		1,067
Southfleet	WI		60
Three Pillars	Gravesend		464
Vaughan	Joan		25
Wanstall	Mike & Sally		500
Ward	Trina		1,000
Warren	Helen		100
Whelan	Mrs Elizabeth		150
White	Debbie		30
Write	Trak Ltd		5,200
Other Donations	via Kindlink - towards hay, raffles etc		330
	Small sums		162
In Memory of	Maurice Barlow		500
	Carol Larbey		290
	Much Beloved	anon	254
	TOTAL DONATIONS		<u>£44,748</u>

**NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIP CONTINUED**

	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2024/25</u>
Total Donations	£ <u>48,226</u>	£ <u>44,748</u>

-

**NOTE 2 FUNDRAISING**

Carol concert, dressage, shows, events etc	£ 5,158	£ 5,219
Hiring – out our facilities	19,632	22,396
Collection boxes/collections	<u>346</u>	<u>1,126</u>
	25,136	28,741
Less: cost of fund raising	<u>1,671</u>	<u>1,736</u>
	<u>23,465</u>	<u>27,005</u>

**NOTE 3 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME**

Gift aid recovery	£ 4,163	£ 3,742
Bank interest (net of chgs)	2,859	3,074
Sale of sundry items	<u>---</u>	<u>35</u>
	<u>7,022</u>	<u>6,851</u>

**NOTE 4 SALARIES & NIC**

Salaries	£ 112,601	£ 122,583
Employers NIC	3,200	4,765
Work place pension	<u>605</u>	<u>605</u>
	<u>116,406</u>	<u>127,953</u>

During the year we employed an average of three full-time and three part-time instructors/horse carers  
Employers NIC was only payable on sums due to HMRC above £5,000 in the 2024/25 tax year.  
All employees are paid above the National Living Wage.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

	<u>2023/24</u>		<u>2024/25</u>
--	----------------	--	----------------

**NOTE 5 SPECIAL EXPENDITURE**

Purchase of Rosa	<u>£ 7,950</u>	Upgrading of electrics	<u>£ 5,000</u>
------------------	----------------	------------------------	----------------

**NOTE 6 BANKING**

Current account with CAF Bank Ltd	32,372		24,920
Charity Deposit account	<u>80,000</u>		<u>70,000</u>
	<u>£ 112,372</u>		<u>£94,920</u>

**NOTE 7 DEBTORS & REPAYMENTS**

Gift Aid	634		
Hire of Facilities	1,020		
Fund raising	210		
Interest on deposit account	1,330		
March receipt banked April	1,007		
Sundry Debtors	<u>942</u>		
	<u>£ 5,143</u>		

**NOTE 8 CREDITORS & ACCRUALS**

HM Revenue & Customs	1,986		
Nest pension scheme	118		
Marjorie Mc Clure lessons	5,000		
Feed & bedding	1,716		
Electricity	695		
Building insurance	964		
Stabling in advance	1,150		
Sundry creditors	<u>5,011</u>		
	<u>£16,640</u>		

**NOTE 9 CHANGE IN RESERVES**

Building fund	20,000	General reserve	80,000
Transfer above from reserve	(20,000)	Transfer from above	(10,000)
General reserve	<u>80,000</u>		
	<u>£ 80,000</u>		<u>£ 70,000</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

## OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION SINCE COVID

Deficit 2020/21	£23,603
21/22	23,946
22/23	10,098
23/24	19,130
24/25	<u>18,613</u>
	95,390
Covid reserve created 20/21	<u>45,243</u>
Balance of deficit to date	£ <u>50,147</u>

## ASSETS

Ponies & Horses at cost	£32,946	(2023/24 £29,796)
Saddles at yard manager`s valuation	6,250	(2023/24 £ 6,000)
New Holland Tractor purchased 2014/15	18,995	( Major part of funding donation from QBE European Insurance Group UK)
Mechanical horse at cost 2018/19 -including Mounting blocks and installation	47,194	( purchased from various donations)

Other assets – mainly s/h furniture and tack

All of the above assets have been purchased from donations and gifts. With our charitable status the Trustees do not see any purpose in their inclusion within the balance sheet and having to provide provision for depreciation. In the case of our ponies and horses – this would necessitate write-offs in the event of retirement or the death of an animal.

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2024 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025**

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED:**

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). Under Section 145(1) (a) of the Act the trustees have elected for the accounts to be examined by an independent examiner. I have been appointed by the trustees to undertake that task.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust`s accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission Under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner`s statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :-

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Alan Buttress

109 Coombfield Drive  
Darenth  
Kent DA2 7LE













**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR DISABLED**

England & Wales - Charity number 291623

---

# Accounts

---



## ARROW RIDING CENTRE

Darenth Park Avenue  
Dartford  
Kent DA2 6LZ  
Tel: 01322 294390

Email: [arc@arrowridingcentre.com](mailto:arc@arrowridingcentre.com)  
Web: [www.arrowridingcentre.com](http://www.arrowridingcentre.com)

---

### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

Pages 1	Trustees Report for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
Pages 2-11	Accounts and notes thereon for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024
Page 12	Independent Examiner`s Report on the accounts for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024

**TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**

During the year we increased our therapy and riding lessons. Enrolled a number of new riders and started to reduce our waiting list. However we have not as yet managed to get back to the amount of lessons we provided prior to Covid. This is due to a number of volunteers not returning since that time and our not being to recruit and train sufficient replacements.

Initially for the safety of an individual rider we need the help of three volunteers. One to lead the pony/horse with the two further people - one on each side of the rider. Prior to new volunteers assisting with lessons they have to successfully complete a training course. It can therefore be appreciated that our continuous progress is dependent our enrolling and training further volunteers – which is our priority task.

Like everyone we have the burden of increases in the price of almost all goods and services. In our case particularly that of horse feed, bedding, salaries and utilities.

Although we have increased the price of a number of our services we have not increased the price we charge for therapy and lessons. We are of course a non-profit organization and compared with a commercial riding establishment we clearly subsidise our charges. Our raison d`etre is that we want everyone with a disability to be able to benefit from our services whilst being mindful of the strain on many families finances particularly when they have to support those with disabilities.

As will be seen from our accounts – since covid we have not been able to recover our costs and this year we have incurred a deficit of £19,130. Fortunately we had built up reserves to cover these shortfalls. However this is clearly a situation that cannot continue indefinitely and our best efforts will be made to turn things around.

In addition to the very generous donation from the Mark Masons Benevolent fund for the purchase of “Rosa” we were honoured to be chosen as one of the Mayor of Dartford`s charities (Cllr Paul Cutler) and benefitted in the sum of £3,325. A long time supporter Peter Long and his family raised the magnificent sum of £7,745 for us. Our thanks to all the other kind people and organizations that made donations to us. Not forgetting Dartford Borough Council who through grants allow us to occupy our premises rent free,

A thank you to our staff and volunteers for their enthusiasm which has gone into creating a professional and happy workplace for our riders and visitors to enjoy. On a sad note we recently lost William, the long time leader of our equine team.

Ken Blake honorary chairman/treasurer

**Establishment and property**

**2023/24**

The Centre was founded in 1982 by the Dartford Lions. This following permission being given by the Local Health Authority for Arrow to use for riding for the disabled, free of charge, the old farm buildings and land which formed part of the original Darent Park hospital complex.

During the 1990`s a Public Finance Scheme was established whereby the District Health Authority agreed to release land for housing in exchange for the construction of a new hospital – Darent Valley

The grounds and buildings which we had been using being transferred to Dartford Borough Council (DBC) under a 99 year lease from the Secretary of State for Health. This document stipulating that the property can only be used as public open space/country park and associated uses with the exception of the existing cemeteries and riding school or for agricultural use. No rental sum being charged.

With grants DBC obtained from English Countryside and the Millennium Fund, together with not insignificant sums raised by ourselves through the Bluewater contractors golf day, a loan, other donations and matched funding , DBC has upgraded the parkland areas, our indoor arena, main building and barn

To remain in occupation, however, DBC required us to enter into a lease to include the reconstructed main building, indoor riding arena, barn, some grazing together with two stable wings originally built in 1875

We now hold the property under a lease from DBC for a term of 30 years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007. The current rent is £3,000 a year subject to five yearly rent reviews. We are responsible for insurance of the buildings and repairs to the reconstructed parts. With the restrictions on the use of the property being reflected by the rental charge. We also hold under licence from DBC around 20 acres of grazing at a rent of £1 a year. With our being responsible for the internal fencing

DBC makes small grants to local charities run by volunteers. Since 2000 we have been fortunate enough to benefit from such awards for which we are extremely grateful. The sums having completely off-set any rent due.

We only have one area of dispute with DBC. We originally were given occupation of a further building (known as Bailiff`s cottage) with a further cottage that was to be refurbished for a resident warden. Unfortunately through lack of funding the second building was never completed and prior to entering into a lease we were asked by DBC to make Bailiff`s cottage available for the park warden.

As after some 20 years the warden retired and DBC decided not to replace him – an empty cottage is left with our not being able to re-obtain possession – where we would like a staff member or volunteer to reside - to oversee the protection of our ponies and horses as required under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018

**Objects of the Centre**

**2023/24**

To help children and adults with physical or learning difficulties by the following:-

Improve head – spine control – eye and hand co-ordination – circulation and muscle relaxation using the pony/horse to provide a unique form of therapy (Hippotherapy).-

Teaching to horse or pony ride. With the opportunity to progress in dressage to competing at National and International levels.

Increase confidence and self-esteem and for us to see that every one who finds a visit to the Centre to be both physically beneficial and enjoyable.

To comply with our health & safety policy and liability insurance – every rider must first have completed an application form. This can be downloaded from our website.

**Rider`s safety**

We are licenced by DBC under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018. We have been given a 5 star rating.

We employ a small team of very capable people who have RDA or British Horse Society teaching qualifications as well as considerable equine experience. Also we have two experienced RDA volunteer instructors who give their time to us.

We are also very fortunate to have an extremely talented volunteer Chartered Physiotherapist who gives her services to us and arranges programmes of therapy for both mature and our youngest from 18 months of age.

It is necessary in nearly all lessons to have volunteer horse leaders and side helpers. Each has undergone RDA training and both volunteers and staff have been cleared under our Safeguarding Policy.

Employer and public liability risks are covered under a group policy implemented by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA)

**Ponies and horses**

Our team have been specially trained for the work we do and are:-

Beline Bertie Blue Champ Dolly Jack Mia Truffles Wilma Rosa (purchased from a donation from the Mark Masons Benevolent Fund) and our mechanical horse – Jeremy

**Membership**

**2023/24**

Membership is made up from people involved with our development. Currently we have 10 members who are entitled to attend and vote at general meetings either in person or by proxy.

Of that number we have a committee of six persons (trustees) who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Centre. Each being a volunteer who is “hands on” assisting with lessons, taking care of our ponies and horses – various tasks on the yard – repairs – administration – fund raising etc. The current members being as follows:-

Kenneth Blake	FCIS	hon chairman/treasurer	Marilyn Stapley
Valerie Blake	BEM	hon group organizer	Patricia McMillen
Noelle Basten		hon secretary	Christine Luckings

During the year none of the committee members received any honorarium, attendance allowance or payment of any kind

**Insurance**

Of buildings based upon valuations made by Chartered Surveyors acting for DBC (Landlords) who currently insure the buildings and our tack and other equipment with Zurich Insurance plc

Our ponies and horses are not insured the average cost of each being £4,500

Liability insurance is covered under an RDA group policy. The RDA provides us with support and training including safeguarding where our staff and volunteers have been security cleared. In addition none of our trustees are barred or prevented by legislation from acting in that capacity.

During the financial year there were no serious accidents or incidents leading to claims under our policies.

**Continuance**

Our accounts are prepared on the basis that we shall continue to operate in the future despite the present difficulties. In the event of our closure any remaining assets would have to be transferred to another charity with similar objects to our own.

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**

<u>2022/23</u>	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>2023/24</u>
44,708	Donations & sponsorships	(note 1)	48,226
20,907	Fund raising	(note 2)	23,465
40,215	Riding lessons		49,156
27,645	Donations from stabling		27,221
4,362	Miscellaneous income	(note 3)	7,022
<u>137,837</u>	<b><u>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<b>£ <u>155,090</u></b>
<u>2022/23</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>2023/24</u>
102,644	Salaries & NIC instructors & grooms	(note 4)	116,406
4,622	Buildings & liability insurance		3,248
11,498	Heat, light & water		13,081
2,994	Repairs & renewals		3,453
1,501	Stationery, telephone, broadband		1,635
1,596	Training, transport & subscriptions		1,600
7,631	Horse/pony – feed and bedding		12,378
8,656	Veterinary & farrier services		11,301
<u>4,593</u>	Tack, hygiene & yard expenses		<u>3,168</u>
145,735			166,270
<u>2,200</u>	Special expenditure	(note 5)	<u>7,950</u>
147,935	<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR</u></b>		<b>174,220</b>
<u>(10,098)</u>	<b><u>DEFICIT FOR YEAR</u></b>		<b><u>( 19,130 )</u></b>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

<u>2022/23</u>	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>2023/24</u>
127,850	Bank accounts	(note 6)	£ 112,372
431	Cash in hand		50
<u>5,970</u>	Debtors	(note 7)	<u>6,527</u>
<b>34,251</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>118,949</b>
12,984	Creditors & accruals	(note 8)	16,812
<u>100,000</u>	Reserves and allocated funds	(note 9)	<u>80,000</u>
<u>112,984</u>			<u>96,812</u>
21,267	<b><u>ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		22,137
<u>4,400</u>	Less: long term liability	(note 10)	<u>-----</u>
<b><u>16,867</u></b>			<b><u>£22,137</u></b>
	Represented by:-		
11,965	Accumulated funds at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		16,867
<u>(10,098)</u>	Deficit for year		<u>(19,130)</u>
1,867			(2,263)
---	Balance of RDA loan waived	(note 10)	4,400
<u>15,000</u>	Transfer from reserves	(note 7)	<u>20,000</u>
<b><u>16,867</u></b>			<b><u>£ 22,137</u></b>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

## NOTE 1 DONATIONS &amp; SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE

2023/24

Albany	Park Chapter No 7432	35
Barnes	Ron & Eileen	400
Blake	Ken & Val	85
Baden Powell	Lodge 1907	500
Bramwell	Michael & Henrietta	240
Bristow	Lynn	120
Buttress	Alan	50
Clark	Diane	50
Coke-Cola	Drinks Company	1,000
Dartford	The Mayor of Dartford's Charity (Cllr Paul Cutler)	3,325
Dartford	Masonic Fellowship	349
Fox	Estate Agents - Dartford	300
Gearly	Martin (for Rosa's Dentistry)	200
HASARA	Sutton-at-hone	300
Harry's	Maternal grandmother	40
Honor Oak	Lodge	250
Hunnisett	Derek and Linda	125
Jeremy	Our mechanical horse (repairs via Kindlink)	1,310
Kennedy	Celia	200
LAMBARA	Longfield	135
Lock	Jackie	160
Long	Peter (via Kindlink - London 10 Peak Challenge)	2,910
Long	Kirsty as above	660
Loriners	Worshipful Company (via Peter Long)	1,725
Mark Masons	Benevolent Fund (for purchase of Rosa)	7,500
MacDonald	Lodge	130
Maison	Maurice Ltd	600
Mannion	Michael & Mary	7,750

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

## NOTE 1 DONATIONS &amp; SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE (continued)

		<u>2023/24</u>
Oldcorn	David	60
Parker	Mrs GM	50
Priory	Chapter 5819	300
Radiant	Star Chapter	500
Redlibbets	Golf Club	800
Rennie	Mrs JM and Miss NL	1,000
Residents	of Brent Lane	291
Rosa	towards dental treatment via Kindlink	670
Saint	Thomas Becket Conclave	400
Sheldon	Charlotte	62
Sittingbourne	& Milton Regis Ladies Golf Club	50
Southfleet	Independent Retirement Group	198
Stapley	Marilyn	270
Styles	Joan	40
Sundridge	Park Golf Club (via Peter Long)	3,450
Walsingham	Lodge No 2148	335
Wanstall	Mike & Sally	500
Ward	Trina	40
Whelan	Mrs Elizabeth	300
Wilmington	Retirement Group	206
Woodward	Ian & Emma	1,000
Write	Trak Ltd	5,200
Other Donations	via Kindlink - towards hay, raffles etc	389
	Small sums	40
In Memory of	Aunt Zoe (Felix – via Kindlink - London 10 Peak Challenge )	1,525
	Emily Campbell	10
	Mrs Ann Harris	20
	Misc donations Lewis Solomon Funeral Service	71
	<b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b>	<b><u>£48,226</u></b>

**NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIP CONTINUED**

	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>
Total Donations	£ <u>44,708</u>	£ <u>48,226</u>

-

**NOTE 2 FUNDRAISING**

Carol concert, dressage, shows, events etc	£ 4,733	£ 5,158
Hiring – out our facilities	16,468	19,632
Collection boxes/collections	<u>1,690</u>	<u>346</u>
	22,891	25,136
Less: cost of fund raising	<u>1,984</u>	<u>1,671</u>
	<u>20,907</u>	<u>23,465</u>

**NOTE 3 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME**

Gift aid recovery	£ 4,054	£4,163
Bank interest (net of chgs)	154	2,859
Sale of sundry items	<u>154</u>	<u>- -</u>
	<u>4,362</u>	<u>7,022</u>

**NOTE 4 SALARIES & NIC**

Salaries	£ 100,632	£ 112,601
Employers NIC	1,407	3,200
Work place pension	<u>605</u>	<u>605</u>
	<u>102,644</u>	<u>116,406</u>

During the year we employed an average of three full-time and three part-time instructors/horse carers  
Employers NIC was only payable on sums due to HMRC above £5,000 in the 2023/24 tax year.  
All employees are paid above the National Living Wage.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>
<b>NOTE 5 SPECIAL EXPENDITURE</b>		
Purchase of Rosa ( Bertie 22/23)	<u>£2,200</u>	<u>£7,950</u>

**NOTE 6 BANKING**

Current account with CAF Bank Ltd	£47,850	£32,372
Charity Deposit account	<u>80,000</u>	<u>80,000</u>
	<u>127,850</u>	<u>112,732</u>

**NOTE 7 DEBTORS & REPAYMENTS**

Gift Aid	735
Hire of Facilities	1,320
Fund raising	280
Electricity deposit	1,287
Building insurance	1,655
Interest on deposit account	1,250
	<u>£6,527</u>

**NOTE 8 CREDITORS & ACCRUALS**

HM Revenue & Customs	1,991
Nest pension scheme	118
Marjorie Mc Clure lessons	2,053
Shenstone School lessons	2,115
Feed & Bedding	2,581
Stabling in advance	500
Veterinary fees	342
Electricity	1,237
DBC	5,875

£16,812**NOTE 9 CHANGE IN RESERVES**

Building fund	20,000	Transfer from reserve	(20,000)
General Reserve	<u>80,000</u>	Building fund	20,000
	<u>£100,000</u>	General Reserve	<u>80,000</u>
			<u>£80,000</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**NOTE 10 LONG TERM LIABILITY**

The RDA have very kindly agreed to write-off £4,400. Being the balance of the long term loan

**OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION SINCE COVID**

Deficit 2020/21	£23,603
21/22	23,946
22/23	10,098
23/24	<u>19,130</u>
	76,777
Covid reserve created 20/21	<u>45,243</u>
Balance of deficit to date	£ <u>31,534</u>

**ASSETS**

Ponies & Horses at cost	£29,796	(2022/23 £25,346)
Saddles at yard manager`s valuation	6,000	(2022/23 £ 8,000)
New Holland Tractor purchased 2014/15	18,995	( Major part of funding donation from QBE European Insurance Group UK)
Mechanical horse at cost 2018/19 -including Mounting blocks and installation	47,194	( purchased from various donations)

Other assets – mainly s/h furniture and tack

All of the above assets have been purchased from donations and gifts. With our charitable status the Trustees do not see any purpose in their inclusion within the balance sheet and having to provide provision for depreciation. In the case of our ponies and horses – this would necessitate write-offs in the event of retirement or the death of an animal.

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2023 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED:**

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). Under Section 145(1) (a) of the Act the trustees have elected for the accounts to be examined by an independent examiner. I have been appointed by the trustees to undertake that task.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust`s accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and In carrying our my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission Under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner`s statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :-

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set our in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Alan Buttress  
20<sup>th</sup> May 2024

109 Coombfield Drive  
Darenth  
Kent DA2 7LE













**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR DISABLED**

England & Wales - Charity number 291623

---

# Accounts

---



## ARROW RIDING CENTRE

Darenth Park Avenue  
Dartford  
Kent DA2 6LZ  
Tel: 01322 294390

Email: [arc@arrowridingcentre.com](mailto:arc@arrowridingcentre.com)  
Web: [www.arrowridingcentre.com](http://www.arrowridingcentre.com)

---

### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

Pages 1	Trustees Report for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
Pages 2-11	Accounts and notes thereon for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
Page 12	Independent Examiner`s Report on the accounts for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023

## **ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

From the legacy we received from the late Simon & Lesley Goldsmith, referred to in our report for last year, we set aside £45,243 as a Covid recovery fund. Unfortunately this sum and a further £2,306 was absorbed in meeting our deficits for 2020/21 and 2021/22. In this financial year with an increase in fund raising and lessons we have managed to reduce this year`s deficit to £10,098.

With a fall in donations as experienced by most UK charities, we are having to concentrate on bringing back our riding and therapy sessions to the level we had prior to 2020. This financial year we have made a good start but still need to find and train more volunteers to continue to make progress.

Under our yard manager Natalie Scott we have been building a new team of horse experienced people and trained instructors. As a pointer to our high standards we have been awarded first place by SEIB for being the best kept yard in the Riding for the Disabled Association. This goes along with the five star rating for a riding establishment given to us by Dartford Borough Council,

These achievements have only been made possible through the help we receive from organizations and individuals in the community. With a special thank you to the members of the Redlibbets Golf Club. And to the people who answer our appeals by donating money through “Kindlink” The latest of which to raise over £1340 for the replacement of our mechanical horse “Jeremy`s” computer when mice decided to take up residence with him. We are in striking distance of this target being reached.

We also thank individuals and local organizations who carry-out projects and repairs to our premises. Currently The Shelby Newstead Charity has arranged for our lighting and electrical system to be upgraded, supplied a new saddle and rugs and have money set aside for the purchase of a new pony or horse. We also have “Emcor UK “ about to start a number of building projects for us.

The demand for our services still continues and will undoubtedly increase with the amount of new property being built in the Dartford area.

Ken Blake

For and on behalf of the Trustees of

Arrow Riding Centre for the disabled.

**Establishment and property**

The Centre was founded in 1982 by the Dartford Lions. This following permission being given by the Local Health Authority for Arrow to use for riding for the disabled, free of charge, the old farm buildings and land which formed part of the original Darenth Park hospital complex.

During the 1990`s a Public Finance Scheme was established whereby the District Health Authority agreed to release land for housing in exchange for the construction of a new hospital – Darent Valley

The grounds and buildings which we had been using being transferred to Dartford Borough Council (DBC) under a 99 year lease from the Secretary of State for Health. This document stipulating that the property can only be used as public open space/country park and associated uses with the exception of the existing cemeteries and riding school or for agricultural use. No rental sum being charged.

With grants DBC obtained from English Countryside and the Millennium Fund, together with not insignificant sums raised by ourselves through the Bluewater contractors golf day, a loan, other donations and matched funding , DBC has upgraded the parkland areas, our indoor arena, main building and barn

To remain in occupation, however, DBC required us to enter into a lease to include the reconstructed main building, indoor riding arena, barn, some grazing together with two stable wings originally built in 1875

We now hold the property under a lease from DBC for a term of 30 years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007. The current rent is £3,000 a year subject to five yearly rent reviews. We are responsible for insurance of the buildings and repairs to the reconstructed parts. With the restrictions on the use of the property being reflected by the rental charge. We also hold under licence from DBC around 20 acres of grazing at a rent of £1 a year. With our being responsible for the internal fencing

DBC makes small grants to local charities run by volunteers. Since 2000 we have been fortunate enough to benefit from such awards for which we are extremely grateful. The sums having completely off-set any rent due.

We only have one area of dispute with DBC. We originally were given occupation of a further building (known as Bailiff`s cottage) with a further cottage that was to be refurbished for a resident warden. Unfortunately through lack of funding the second building was never completed and prior to entering into a lease we were asked by DBC to make Bailiff`s cottage available for the park warden.

As after some 20 years the warden retired and DBC decided not to replace him – an empty cottage is left with our not being able to re-obtain possession – where we would like a staff member or volunteer to reside - to oversee the protection of our ponies and horses as required under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018

**Objects of the Centre**

To help children and adults with physical or learning difficulties by the following:-

Improve head – spine control – eye and hand co-ordination – circulation and muscle relaxation using the pony/horse to provide a unique form of therapy (Hippotherapy).-

Teaching to horse or pony ride. With the opportunity to progress in dressage to competing at National and International levels.

Increase confidence and self-esteem and for us to see that every one who finds a visit to the Centre to be both physically beneficial and enjoyable.

To comply with our health & safety policy and liability insurance – every rider must first have completed an application form. This can be downloaded from our website.

**Rider`s safety**

We are licenced by DBC under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018. We have been given a 5 star rating.

We employ a small team of very capable people who have RDA or British Horse Society teaching qualifications as well as considerable equine experience. Also we have two experienced RDA volunteer instructors who give their time to us.

We are also very fortunate to have an extremely talented volunteer Chartered Physiotherapist who gives her services to us and arranges programmes of therapy for both mature and our youngest from 18 months of age.

It is necessary in nearly all lessons to have volunteer horse leaders and side helpers. Each has undergone RDA training and both volunteers and staff have been cleared under our Safeguarding Policy.

Employer and public liability risks are covered under a group policy implemented by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA)

**Ponies and horses**

Our team have been specially trained for the work we do and are:-

Beline Bertie Blue Champ Dolly Jack Mia Truffles William Wilma Jeremy (our mechanical horse)

Unfortunately after many years of service and with so many friends Sam reached the end of his life. A great loss to the Centre. During the year and through The Albury Charitable Foundation we purchased Bertie

**Membership**

Membership is made up from people involved with our development. Currently we have 10 members who are entitled to attend and vote at general meetings either in person or by proxy.

Of that number we have a committee of six persons (trustees) who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Centre. Each being a volunteer who is “hands on” assisting with lessons, taking care of our ponies and horses – various tasks on the yard – repairs – administration – fund raising etc. The current members being as follows:-

Kenneth Blake	FCIS	hon chairman/treasurer	Marilyn Stapley
Valerie Blake	BEM	hon group organizer	Patricia McMullen
Noelle Basten		hon secretary	Christine Luckings

During the year none of the committee members received any honorarium, attendance allowance or other payment of any kind.

**Insurance**

Of buildings based upon valuations made by Chartered Surveyors acting for DBC (Landlords) who currently insure the buildings and our tack and other equipment with Zurich Insurance plc

Our ponies and horses are not insured the average cost of each being £4,500

Liability insurance is covered under an RDA group policy. The RDA provides us with support and training including safeguarding where our staff and volunteers have been security cleared. In addition none of our trustees are barred or prevented by legislation from acting in that capacity.

During the financial year there were no serious accidents or incidents leading to claims under our policies.

**Continuence**

Our accounts are prepared on the basis that we shall continue to operate in the future despite the present difficulties. In the event of our closure any remaining assets would have to be transferred to another charity with similar objects to our own.

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

<u>2021/22</u>	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>2022/23</u>
42,056	Donations & sponsorships	(note 1)	44,708
12,962	Fund raising	(note 2)	20,907
25,545	Riding lessons		40,215
26,033	Donations from stabling		27,645
3,984	Miscellaneous income	(note 3)	4,362
<u>110,580</u>	<b><u>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<b>£ <u>137,837</u></b>

<u>2021/22</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>2022/23</u>
92,387	Salaries & NIC instructors & grooms	(note 4)	102,644
3,911	Buildings & liability insurance		4,622
7,117	Heat, light & water		11,498
1,230	Repairs & renewals		2,994
1,911	Stationery, telephone, broadband		1,501
2,432	Training, transport & subscriptions		1,596
6,960	Horse/pony – feed and bedding		7,631
8,743	Veterinary & farrier services		8,656
<u>2,203</u>	Tack, hygiene & yard expenses		<u>4,593</u>
126,894			145,735
<u>7,632</u>	Special expenditure	(note 5)	<u>2,200</u>
134,526	<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR</u></b>		147,935
<u>(23,946)</u>	<b><u>DEFICIT FOR YEAR</u></b>	-5- (note 6)	<u>( 10,098)</u>

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

<u>2021/22</u>	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>2022/23</u>
136,849	Bank accounts	(note8)	£ 127,850
250	Cash in hand		431
3,725	Debtors	(note 9)	5,970
-----			-----
<b>140.824</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>134,251</b>
9,459	Creditors & accruals	(note 10)	12,984
<u>115.000</u>	Reserves and allocated funds	(note 7)	<u>100,000</u>
<u>124,459</u>			<u>112,984</u>
16,365	<u>ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		21,267
<u>4,400</u>	Less: long term liability	(note 11)	<u>4,400</u>
<u><b>11,965</b></u>			<u><b>£ 16.867</b></u>
	Represented by:-		
14,271	Accumulated funds at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		11,965
<u>(2,306)</u>	Deficit for year		<u>(10,098)</u>
<u><b>11,965</b></u>			1,867
	Transfer from reserves	(note 7)	<u>15,000</u>
			<u><b>£ 16,867</b></u>

**NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE**

		<b><u>2022/23</u></b>
Adams	Miss Jackie	1,000
Alburys	Charitable Foundation	4,200
Albany	Park Chapter No 7432	50
Atkins	Mrs FP	50
Attwater	Derek - 80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday	80
Barnes	Ron & Eileen	400
Bluewater	Forum	100
Bowdler	Mrs Ann	35
Bramwell	Michael & Henrietta	240
Bristow	Lynn	170
Bennett	Dave & Jo	80
Chick	Mr EJ	75
Chillingsworth	Gwen	100
Connell	Sheila	75
Dartford	The Mayor of Dartford`s Charity	3,000
Dartford	Active Retirement Association	286
First Give	Awards	1,000
Fox	Estate Agents - Dartford	300
Ginn	Miss Shirley	700
Greenfield	Janice	100
Hunnisett	Derek and Linda	100
Inner	Wheel of Dartford – District 12	50
Jubilee	Lodge of North Kent	621
Kennedy	Celia	72
Ladies	Leisure Centre Dartford	100
Lock	Jackie	100
Loriners	Worshipful Company	900

-7-

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023****NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE (continued)**

**2022/23**

MacDonald	Lodge	250
McMillan	Pat	105
Mannion	Michael & Mary	8,275
Maison	Maurice Ltd	400
Parker	Mrs GM	50
Read	Mr & Mrs CH	50
Redlibbets	Golf Club	] 11,381
Redhead	Mrs Olive	250
Rowhill	WI	100
Saint	Thomas Becket Conclave	250
Shorne	& Thorne WI	132
Sittingbourne	& Milton Regis Ladies Golf Club	83
Stapley	Marilyn	30
Styles	Joan	140
U3A	Bromley	238
Walmer	Jessica	50
Wanstall	Mike & Sally	300
Ward	Trina	200
White	D & G	70
Wilmington	WI	70
Wirefire	Cork Lodge	200
Write	Trak Ltd	5,200
Other Donations	CAF Bank	45
	Via Kindlink fund raising Easter raffle, quiz night, egg hunt etc	719
	Anon. donations	320
	Small sums	70
In Memory of	Jack Diamond	518
	Larry Cork	300
	Valery Fry	50
	Charlotte Hill	553
	Luke Tierney	325
	<b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b>	<b><u>£44,708</u></b>

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023****NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIP CONTINUED**

	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>
Total Donations	£ <u>42,056</u>	£ <u>44,708</u>

-

#### **NOTE 2 FUNDRAISING**

Carol concert, dressage, shows, events etc	£ 4,984	£ 4,733
Hiring – out our facilities	8,538	16,468
Collection boxes/collections	<u>638</u>	<u>1,690</u>
	14,160	22,891
Less: cost of fund raising	<u>1,198</u>	<u>1,984</u>
	<u>12,962</u>	<u>20,907</u>

#### **NOTE 3 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME**

Gift aid recovery	£ 3,728	£4,054
Bank interest (net of chgs)	106	154
Sale of sundry items	150	154
	<u>3,984</u>	<u>4,362</u>

#### **NOTE 4 SALARIES & NIC**

Salaries	£ 91,445	£ 100,633
Employers NIC	337	1,407
Work place pension	<u>605</u>	<u>605</u>
	<u>92,387</u>	<u>102,644</u>

During the year we employed an average of three full-time and three part-time instructors/horse carers. Employers NIC was only payable on sums due to HMRC above £5,000 in the 2022/23 tax year. All employees are paid above the National Living Wage.

-9-

#### **ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

#### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

#### **NOTE 5 SPECIAL EXPENDITURE**

	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>
Fencing	£ 6,982	
Purchase of (Wilma) Bertie 22/23	<u>650</u>	<u>£ 2,200</u>
	<u>7,632</u>	

**NOTE 6 COVID LOCKDOWN RECOVERY FUND**

	£ 45,243
Less : deficit 2020/21	23,603
2021/22	<u>23,946</u>
	<u>47,549</u>
Balance not covered by fund written off against reserves	<u>2,306</u>

**NOTE 7 CHANGES IN RESERVES**

New stable block	£ 30,000	Transfer from reserve	£ ( 15,000)
General Reserve	<u>85,000</u>	Building fund	20,000
	<u>115,000</u>	General Reserve	<u>80,000</u>
			<u>100,000</u>

**NOTE 8 BANKING**

Current account with CAF Ltd	£ 52,484	£ 47,850
Charity Deposit account	<u>84,365</u>	<u>80,000</u>
	<u>136,849</u>	<u>127,850</u>

-

**NOTE 9 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS**

Gift Aid	1,118
Hire of facilities	2,735
Fund raising	590
Electric supply deposit Octopus	1,287
Sundry debtors	240
-	
	<u>£ 5,970</u>

**NOTE 10 CREDITORS & ACCRUALS**

HM Revenue & Customs	1,592
Nest Pension scheme	118
Marjorie McClure lesson fund	3,940
Feed & Bedding	1,948
Electricity	1,318
Stabling in adv	530
Building insurance	3,538

£ 12,984

**NOTE 11 LONG TERM LIABILITY**

In the year 2000 the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) loaned us £10,000 towards the cost of building Improvements. This sum being interest free and repayable at £400 a year. The balance currently being £4,400.

The repayment of the balance is in contention with the RDA as the whole sum should have been made as a grant. Our premises being used by other RDA Centre`s and for regional competitions

**Assets**

Ponies & Horses at cost	£25,346	(2021/22 £23,296)
Saddles at yard manager`s valuation	8,000	(2021/22 £ 8,000)
New Holland Tractor purchased 2014/15	18,995	( Major part of funding donation from QBE European Insurance Group UK)
Mechanical horse at cost 2018/19 -including Mounting blocks and installation	47,194	( purchased from various donations)

Other assets – mainly s/h furniture and tack

All of the above assets have been purchased from donations and gifts. With our charitable status the Trustees do not see any purpose in their inclusion within the balance sheet and having to provide provision for depreciation. In the case of our ponies and horses – this would necessitate write-offs in the event of retirement or the death of an animal.

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED:**

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). Under Section 145(1) (a) of the Act the trustees have elected for the accounts to be examined by an independent examiner. I have been appointed by the trustees to undertake that task.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust`s accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and In carrying our my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission Under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner`s statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :-

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set our in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Alan Buttress  
14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Alan Buttress  
109 Coombfield Drive  
Darenth  
Kent DA2 7LE













**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR DISABLED**

England & Wales - Charity number 291623

---

# Accounts

---



## ARROW RIDING CENTRE

Darenth Park Avenue  
Dartford  
Kent DA2 6LZ  
Tel: 01322 294390

Email: [arc@arrowridingcentre.com](mailto:arc@arrowridingcentre.com)  
Web: [www.arrowridingcentre.com](http://www.arrowridingcentre.com)

---

### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

Pages 1	Trustees Report for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
Pages 2-11	Accounts and notes thereon for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
Page 12	Independent Examiner`s Report on the accounts for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023

## **ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

From the legacy we received from the late Simon & Lesley Goldsmith, referred to in our report for last year, we set aside £45,243 as a Covid recovery fund. Unfortunately this sum and a further £2,306 was absorbed in meeting our deficits for 2020/21 and 2021/22. In this financial year with an increase in fund raising and lessons we have managed to reduce this year`s deficit to £10,098.

With a fall in donations as experienced by most UK charities, we are having to concentrate on bringing back our riding and therapy sessions to the level we had prior to 2020. This financial year we have made a good start but still need to find and train more volunteers to continue to make progress.

Under our yard manager Natalie Scott we have been building a new team of horse experienced people and trained instructors. As a pointer to our high standards we have been awarded first place by SEIB for being the best kept yard in the Riding for the Disabled Association. This goes along with the five star rating for a riding establishment given to us by Dartford Borough Council,

These achievements have only been made possible through the help we receive from organizations and individuals in the community. With a special thank you to the members of the Redlibbets Golf Club. And to the people who answer our appeals by donating money through “Kindlink” The latest of which to raise over £1340 for the replacement of our mechanical horse “Jeremy`s” computer when mice decided to take up residence with him. We are in striking distance of this target being reached.

We also thank individuals and local organizations who carry-out projects and repairs to our premises. Currently The Shelby Newstead Charity has arranged for our lighting and electrical system to be upgraded, supplied a new saddle and rugs and have money set aside for the purchase of a new pony or horse. We also have “Emcor UK “ about to start a number of building projects for us.

The demand for our services still continues and will undoubtedly increase with the amount of new property being built in the Dartford area.

Ken Blake

For and on behalf of the Trustees of

Arrow Riding Centre for the disabled.

**Establishment and property**

The Centre was founded in 1982 by the Dartford Lions. This following permission being given by the Local Health Authority for Arrow to use for riding for the disabled, free of charge, the old farm buildings and land which formed part of the original Darenth Park hospital complex.

During the 1990`s a Public Finance Scheme was established whereby the District Health Authority agreed to release land for housing in exchange for the construction of a new hospital – Darent Valley

The grounds and buildings which we had been using being transferred to Dartford Borough Council (DBC) under a 99 year lease from the Secretary of State for Health. This document stipulating that the property can only be used as public open space/country park and associated uses with the exception of the existing cemeteries and riding school or for agricultural use. No rental sum being charged.

With grants DBC obtained from English Countryside and the Millennium Fund, together with not insignificant sums raised by ourselves through the Bluewater contractors golf day, a loan, other donations and matched funding , DBC has upgraded the parkland areas, our indoor arena, main building and barn

To remain in occupation, however, DBC required us to enter into a lease to include the reconstructed main building, indoor riding arena, barn, some grazing together with two stable wings originally built in 1875

We now hold the property under a lease from DBC for a term of 30 years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007. The current rent is £3,000 a year subject to five yearly rent reviews. We are responsible for insurance of the buildings and repairs to the reconstructed parts. With the restrictions on the use of the property being reflected by the rental charge. We also hold under licence from DBC around 20 acres of grazing at a rent of £1 a year. With our being responsible for the internal fencing

DBC makes small grants to local charities run by volunteers. Since 2000 we have been fortunate enough to benefit from such awards for which we are extremely grateful. The sums having completely off-set any rent due.

We only have one area of dispute with DBC. We originally were given occupation of a further building (known as Bailiff`s cottage) with a further cottage that was to be refurbished for a resident warden. Unfortunately through lack of funding the second building was never completed and prior to entering into a lease we were asked by DBC to make Bailiff`s cottage available for the park warden.

As after some 20 years the warden retired and DBC decided not to replace him – an empty cottage is left with our not being able to re-obtain possession – where we would like a staff member or volunteer to reside - to oversee the protection of our ponies and horses as required under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018

**Objects of the Centre**

To help children and adults with physical or learning difficulties by the following:-

Improve head – spine control – eye and hand co-ordination – circulation and muscle relaxation using the pony/horse to provide a unique form of therapy (Hippotherapy).-

Teaching to horse or pony ride. With the opportunity to progress in dressage to competing at National and International levels.

Increase confidence and self-esteem and for us to see that every one who finds a visit to the Centre to be both physically beneficial and enjoyable.

To comply with our health & safety policy and liability insurance – every rider must first have completed an application form. This can be downloaded from our website.

**Rider`s safety**

We are licenced by DBC under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018. We have been given a 5 star rating.

We employ a small team of very capable people who have RDA or British Horse Society teaching qualifications as well as considerable equine experience. Also we have two experienced RDA volunteer instructors who give their time to us.

We are also very fortunate to have an extremely talented volunteer Chartered Physiotherapist who gives her services to us and arranges programmes of therapy for both mature and our youngest from 18 months of age.

It is necessary in nearly all lessons to have volunteer horse leaders and side helpers. Each has undergone RDA training and both volunteers and staff have been cleared under our Safeguarding Policy.

Employer and public liability risks are covered under a group policy implemented by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA)

**Ponies and horses**

Our team have been specially trained for the work we do and are:-

Beline Bertie Blue Champ Dolly Jack Mia Truffles William Wilma Jeremy (our mechanical horse)

Unfortunately after many years of service and with so many friends Sam reached the end of his life. A great loss to the Centre. During the year and through The Albury Charitable Foundation we purchased Bertie

**Membership**

Membership is made up from people involved with our development. Currently we have 10 members who are entitled to attend and vote at general meetings either in person or by proxy.

Of that number we have a committee of six persons (trustees) who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Centre. Each being a volunteer who is “hands on” assisting with lessons, taking care of our ponies and horses – various tasks on the yard – repairs – administration – fund raising etc. The current members being as follows:-

Kenneth Blake	FCIS	hon chairman/treasurer	Marilyn Stapley
Valerie Blake	BEM	hon group organizer	Patricia McMullen
Noelle Basten		hon secretary	Christine Luckings

During the year none of the committee members received any honorarium, attendance allowance or other payment of any kind.

**Insurance**

Of buildings based upon valuations made by Chartered Surveyors acting for DBC (Landlords) who currently insure the buildings and our tack and other equipment with Zurich Insurance plc

Our ponies and horses are not insured the average cost of each being £4,500

Liability insurance is covered under an RDA group policy. The RDA provides us with support and training including safeguarding where our staff and volunteers have been security cleared. In addition none of our trustees are barred or prevented by legislation from acting in that capacity.

During the financial year there were no serious accidents or incidents leading to claims under our policies.

**Continuence**

Our accounts are prepared on the basis that we shall continue to operate in the future despite the present difficulties. In the event of our closure any remaining assets would have to be transferred to another charity with similar objects to our own.

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

<u>2021/22</u>	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>2022/23</u>
42,056	Donations & sponsorships	(note 1)	44,708
12,962	Fund raising	(note 2)	20,907
25,545	Riding lessons		40,215
26,033	Donations from stabling		27,645
3,984	Miscellaneous income	(note 3)	4,362
<u>110,580</u>	<b><u>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<b>£ <u>137,837</u></b>

<u>2021/22</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>2022/23</u>
92,387	Salaries & NIC instructors & grooms	(note 4)	102,644
3,911	Buildings & liability insurance		4,622
7,117	Heat, light & water		11,498
1,230	Repairs & renewals		2,994
1,911	Stationery, telephone, broadband		1,501
2,432	Training, transport & subscriptions		1,596
6,960	Horse/pony – feed and bedding		7,631
8,743	Veterinary & farrier services		8,656
<u>2,203</u>	Tack, hygiene & yard expenses		<u>4,593</u>
126,894			145,735
<u>7,632</u>	Special expenditure	(note 5)	<u>2,200</u>
134,526	<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR</u></b>		147,935
<u>(23,946)</u>	<b><u>DEFICIT FOR YEAR</u></b>	-5- (note 6)	<b><u>( 10,098)</u></b>

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED****BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

<u>2021/22</u>	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>2022/23</u>
136,849	Bank accounts	(note8)	£ 127,850
250	Cash in hand		431
3,725	Debtors	(note 9)	5,970
-----			-----
<b>140.824</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>134,251</b>
9,459	Creditors & accruals	(note 10)	12,984
<u>115.000</u>	Reserves and allocated funds	(note 7)	<u>100,000</u>
<u>124,459</u>			<u>112,984</u>
16,365	<b><u>ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		21,267
<u>4,400</u>	Less: long term liability	(note 11)	<u>4,400</u>
<b><u>11,965</u></b>			<b><u>£ 16.867</u></b>
	Represented by:-		
14,271	Accumulated funds at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		11,965
<u>(2,306)</u>	Deficit for year		<u>(10,098)</u>
<b><u>11,965</u></b>			1,867
	Transfer from reserves	(note 7)	<u>15,000</u>
			<b><u>£ 16,867</u></b>

**NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE**

		<b><u>2022/23</u></b>
Adams	Miss Jackie	1,000
Alburys	Charitable Foundation	4,200
Albany	Park Chapter No 7432	50
Atkins	Mrs FP	50
Attwater	Derek - 80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday	80
Barnes	Ron & Eileen	400
Bluewater	Forum	100
Bowdler	Mrs Ann	35
Bramwell	Michael & Henrietta	240
Bristow	Lynn	170
Bennett	Dave & Jo	80
Chick	Mr EJ	75
Chillingsworth	Gwen	100
Connell	Sheila	75
Dartford	The Mayor of Dartford`s Charity	3,000
Dartford	Active Retirement Association	286
First Give	Awards	1,000
Fox	Estate Agents - Dartford	300
Ginn	Miss Shirley	700
Greenfield	Janice	100
Hunnisett	Derek and Linda	100
Inner	Wheel of Dartford – District 12	50
Jubilee	Lodge of North Kent	621
Kennedy	Celia	72
Ladies	Leisure Centre Dartford	100
Lock	Jackie	100
Loriners	Worshipful Company	900

-7-

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023****NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE (continued)**

**2022/23**

MacDonald	Lodge	250
McMillan	Pat	105
Mannion	Michael & Mary	8,275
Maison	Maurice Ltd	400
Parker	Mrs GM	50
Read	Mr & Mrs CH	50
Redlibbets	Golf Club	] 11,381
Redhead	Mrs Olive	250
Rowhill	WI	100
Saint	Thomas Becket Conclave	250
Shorne	& Thorne WI	132
Sittingbourne	& Milton Regis Ladies Golf Club	83
Stapley	Marilyn	30
Styles	Joan	140
U3A	Bromley	238
Walmer	Jessica	50
Wanstall	Mike & Sally	300
Ward	Trina	200
White	D & G	70
Wilmington	WI	70
Wirefire	Cork Lodge	200
Write	Trak Ltd	5,200
Other Donations	CAF Bank	45
	Via Kindlink fund raising Easter raffle, quiz night, egg hunt etc	719
	Anon. donations	320
	Small sums	70
In Memory of	Jack Diamond	518
	Larry Cork	300
	Valery Fry	50
	Charlotte Hill	553
	Luke Tierney	325
	<b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b>	<b><u>£44,708</u></b>

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023****NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIP CONTINUED**

	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>
Total Donations	£ <u>42,056</u>	£ <u>44,708</u>

-

#### **NOTE 2 FUNDRAISING**

Carol concert, dressage, shows, events etc	£ 4,984	£ 4,733
Hiring – out our facilities	8,538	16,468
Collection boxes/collections	<u>638</u>	<u>1,690</u>
	14,160	22,891
Less: cost of fund raising	<u>1,198</u>	<u>1,984</u>
	<u>12,962</u>	<u>20,907</u>

#### **NOTE 3 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME**

Gift aid recovery	£ 3,728	£4,054
Bank interest (net of chgs)	106	154
Sale of sundry items	150	154
	<u>3,984</u>	<u>4,362</u>

#### **NOTE 4 SALARIES & NIC**

Salaries	£ 91,445	£ 100,633
Employers NIC	337	1,407
Work place pension	<u>605</u>	<u>605</u>
	<u>92,387</u>	<u>102,644</u>

During the year we employed an average of three full-time and three part-time instructors/horse carers. Employers NIC was only payable on sums due to HMRC above £5,000 in the 2022/23 tax year. All employees are paid above the National Living Wage.

-9-

#### **ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

#### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

#### **NOTE 5 SPECIAL EXPENDITURE**

	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>
Fencing	£ 6,982	
Purchase of (Wilma) Bertie 22/23	<u>650</u>	<u>£ 2,200</u>
	<u>7,632</u>	

**NOTE 6 COVID LOCKDOWN RECOVERY FUND**

	£ 45,243
Less : deficit 2020/21	23,603
2021/22	<u>23,946</u>
	<u>47,549</u>
Balance not covered by fund written off against reserves	<u>2,306</u>

**NOTE 7 CHANGES IN RESERVES**

New stable block	£ 30,000	Transfer from reserve	£ ( 15,000)
General Reserve	<u>85,000</u>	Building fund	20,000
	<u>115,000</u>	General Reserve	<u>80,000</u>
			<u>100,000</u>

**NOTE 8 BANKING**

Current account with CAF Ltd	£ 52,484	£ 47,850
Charity Deposit account	<u>84,365</u>	<u>80,000</u>
	<u>136,849</u>	<u>127,850</u>

-

**NOTE 9 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS**

Gift Aid	1,118
Hire of facilities	2,735
Fund raising	590
Electric supply deposit Octopus	1,287
Sundry debtors	240
-	
	<u>£ 5,970</u>

**NOTE 10 CREDITORS & ACCRUALS**

HM Revenue & Customs	1,592
Nest Pension scheme	118
Marjorie McClure lesson fund	3,940
Feed & Bedding	1,948
Electricity	1,318
Stabling in adv	530
Building insurance	3,538

£ 12,984

**NOTE 11 LONG TERM LIABILITY**

In the year 2000 the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) loaned us £10,000 towards the cost of building Improvements. This sum being interest free and repayable at £400 a year. The balance currently being £4,400.

The repayment of the balance is in contention with the RDA as the whole sum should have been made as a grant. Our premises being used by other RDA Centre`s and for regional competitions

**Assets**

Ponies & Horses at cost	£25,346	(2021/22 £23,296)
Saddles at yard manager`s valuation	8,000	(2021/22 £ 8,000)
New Holland Tractor purchased 2014/15	18,995	( Major part of funding donation from QBE European Insurance Group UK)
Mechanical horse at cost 2018/19 -including Mounting blocks and installation	47,194	( purchased from various donations)

Other assets – mainly s/h furniture and tack

All of the above assets have been purchased from donations and gifts. With our charitable status the Trustees do not see any purpose in their inclusion within the balance sheet and having to provide provision for depreciation. In the case of our ponies and horses – this would necessitate write-offs in the event of retirement or the death of an animal.

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED:**

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). Under Section 145(1) (a) of the Act the trustees have elected for the accounts to be examined by an independent examiner. I have been appointed by the trustees to undertake that task.

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust`s accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and In carrying our my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission Under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner`s statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :-

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set our in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Alan Buttress  
14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Alan Buttress  
109 Coombfield Drive  
Darenth  
Kent DA2 7LE













**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR DISABLED**

England & Wales - Charity number 291623

---

# Accounts

---



## ARROW RIDING CENTRE

Darenth Park Avenue

Dartford

Kent DA2 6LZ

Tel: 01322 294390

Email: [arc@arrowridingcentre.com](mailto:arc@arrowridingcentre.com)

Web: [www.arrowridingcentre.com](http://www.arrowridingcentre.com)

---

### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021

Page 1	Trustees Report
Pages 2 - 12	Accounts and notes thereon.
Page 13	Independent Examiner`s Report

Arrow Riding Centre for the Disabled  
Registered Charity No: 291623

Member of the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA)

## **ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLE**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

With the help of our riders and parents who have continued to pay for lessons. The generosity of our volunteers and friends of Arrow who made direct donations to ourselves or through our Virgin Giving account (which we have not detailed by donor) - and the work and dedication of our group organizer - we have managed to survive.

Although we were able to reduce our expenditure - we still have had to meet the cost of care of our ponies/horses and those stabled with us (in all 21 animals). Provide a small team of staff to look after them ( two members per day). As well as paying for the services and maintenance charges of our land and buildings.

These costs leaving us with a monthly shortfall of some £5,000.. During the period we have had an almost complete change of staff. As many of our volunteers are aged over 70 in the vulnerable category - they were unable to continue to give us their help. We are now going through a complete reorganization to enable us to restart and build-up to the amount of lessons we provided prior to covid. We would just ask the parents of our riders to continue to be patient.

Val and myself have each been volunteers with Arrow for more than 30 years. During that time when we have been faced with serious difficulties - something always seemed to have "turned up" to help solve the problem.

This time our guardian angels are the late Simon and Lesley Goldsmith. Long time supporters of Arrow. Lesley having been a senior executive at Darent Valley Hospital. They bequeathed to us the unbelievable sum of £90,243. We do not have enough words to express our gratitude.

Of this amount we have transferred £45,000 to our general reserve. Bringing this to £85,000 to guard against any further unforeseen events. With the balance to continue to meet our monthly shortfall. We do not expect to reach a break- even situation for at least another 12 months. We have planning permission to erect further stables with a reserve put in place last year of £30,000 to cover the costs. We will decide over the next 12 months whether to go ahead with the project.

During the period our new staff members have been exercising our ponies and horses, managing a few lessons for riders with special therapeutic needs aided by their family members, training and with our volunteers carrying out re-planting, re-decorating of the whole of the interior of the main building various maintenance throughout the grounds and buildings.

We have now booked a few conferences and have every reason to feel positive for the future.

Many thanks to all our friends, staff and volunteers who have helped see us through lockdown and beyond.

Ken Blake  
For and on behalf of the Trustees -1-



## **Establishment and Property**

The Centre was founded in 1982 by the Dartford Lions. This following permission being given by the local Health Authority for Arrow to use for riding for the disabled, free of charge, the old farm buildings and land which previous had formed part of the old Darent Park Hospital complex.

During the 1990`s a public finance scheme was established whereby the District Health Authority agreed to release land for housing in exchange for the construction of a new hospital - Darent Valley.

The ground and buildings which we had been using along with adjacent open land being transferred to Dartford Borough Council (DBC) under a 99 year lease from the Secretary of State for Health. The document stipulating that the property and land could only be used as a public open space/country park and associated uses with the exception of the existing cemeteries and riding school or for agricultural use. No rental sum being charged.

With grants DBC obtained from English Countryside and the Millennium Fund, together with not insignificant sums raised by ourselves through the Bluewater contractors golf day, a loan, matched funding, land fill etc - DBC through their contractor Groundwork Kent Thameside upgraded the parkland areas, our main building, indoor school and barn,

To remain in occupation however, DBC required us to enter into a lease to include the reconstructed main building, indoor riding arena, barn, some grazing together with two stable wings originally constructed in 1875 for farm animals.

The property is currently held under a lease from DBC for a term of 30 years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007. The current rent is £3,000 a year subject to five yearly rent reviews. We are responsible for the insurance of the buildings and repairs to the reconstructed parts. With the restrictions on the use of the property being reflected in the rental charge. We also hold under licence from DBC around 20 acres of grazing at a rent of £1 per year. With our being responsible for internal fencing.

DBC makes small grants to local charities run by volunteers. Since 2000 we have been fortunate to have benefited from such awards. Which have helped us enormously with our establishment. The sums having completely off-sets any rent due.

We have one area of contention with DBC. We originally had occupation of a further building (known as Bailiffs cottage). There was also another adjacent cottage which was planned to be refurnished for a resident warden. Unfortunately through funds running out the second property was never completed and prior to entering into a lease we were asked by DBC to make Bailiff`s cottage available for the park warden.

After some 20 years the warden retired and DBC decided not to replace him. The Council will not allow us to reoccupy the building. In which we would like one of our volunteers or staff members to reside to oversee the safety of our ponies

and horses. A person on site outside normal hours being a requirement under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018. Instead the building is being allowed to fall into disrepair

-2-

**ARROW RIDING CENTE FOR THE DISABLED**

**2020/21**

## **Objects of the Centre**

To help children and adults with physical or learning difficulties by the following:-

Improve head – spine control – eye and hand – co-ordination – circulation and muscle relaxation using the pony/horse to provide a unique form of therapy (Hippotherapy)

Teaching to horse or pony ride. With the opportunity to progress in dressage to competing at National and International levels.

Increase confidence and self-esteem and for us to see that everyone visiting the Centre finds it both a physically beneficial and enjoyable experience.

To comply with our health & safety policy and the terms of our liability insurance – every rider must first have completed a rider application form. The document can be downloaded from our website.

## **Riders Safety**

We are licenced by DBC under the Animal Welfare Regulation 2018 for the period 1/1/2019 to 31/12/2021 as a riding establishment. They have given us a 5 star rating.

We employ a small team of very capable people who apart from experience have RDA of British Horse Society teaching qualifications. Also we have three experience RDA volunteer instructors who give their time to us.

We are also extremely fortunate to have a talented volunteer Chartered Physiotherapist. Giving her services to the Centre and arranges programmes of therapy for both our mature and youngest riders from 18 months of age,

It is necessary in nearly all lessons to have volunteer horse leaders and side helpers. Each will have undergone RDA training. Volunteers and all staff have been cleared under our Safeguarding policy.

Employer and Public Liability risks are insured under a group policy implemented by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA). A copy can be seen on our yard notice board together with a list of our First Aiders.

## **Ponies and horses**

Our team has been specially trained for the work we do and are:-

Beline Blue Champ Dolly Jack Mia Sam Truffles William Wilma and

Gyp (on loan) Plus our mechanical horse - Jeremy



## **Membership**

The membership of the Centre is made up from people involved with our foundation and development. Currently we have eleven members who are entitled to attend and vote at general meetings either in person or by proxy.

Of that number we have a committee of six persons (trustees) who are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Centre. Each being a volunteer who is "hands on" assisting with lessons, taking care of our ponies and horses - carrying out various tasks on the yard - administration and fund raising.

The current members being the following:-

Kenneth Blake FCIS	hon chairman/treasurer	Marilyn Stapley
Valerie Blake BEM	hon group organizer	Patricia McMillen
Noelle Basten	hon secretary	Christine Luckings

During the year none of the committee members received any honorarium, attendance allowance or other payments.

## **Insurance**

Of buildings based upon valuations made by Chartered Surveyors acting for DBC (landlords) and placed with Zurich Insurance plc through Weald Insurance Brokers. Also insured is our mechanical horse and tack. Our ponies and horses are not insured. The average price paid for each being £4,500

Public and employer`s liability insurance being covered under an RDA group policy.

During the financial year there were no serious accidents or incidents leading to claims or possible claims under our policies.

Our accounts are prepared on the basis that we shall continue to operate in the future. In the event of our closure any remaining assets would have to be transferred to another charity with similar objects to our own

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

<b><u>2019/20</u></b>	<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		<b><u>2020/21</u></b>
54,962	Donations & sponsorships	(note1 )	77,997
32,197	Fund Raising	(note 2)	4,499
75,092	Riding Lessons		6,135
21,596	Donations from stabling		23,380
4,931	Miscellaneous income	(note 3)	6,121
<b><u>£188,778</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<b><u>£118,132</u></b>

#### **EXPENDITURE**

123,525	Salaries & NIC instructors & grooms	(note 4)	85,030
4,317	Buildings and liability insurance		4,098
10,375	Light, heat & water		7,253
4,441	Repairs & renewals		2,713
1,778	Stationery, telephone, broadband		1,802
3,661	Training, horse transport & subscriptions		2,027
1,963	Horse/pony feed & bedding		2,427
11,232	Veterinary & farrier services		8,311
<u>10,070</u>	Tack, hygiene & misc. yard expenses		<u>3,078</u>
171,362			116,739
<u>10,796</u>	Special Expenditure	(note 5)	<u>1,393</u>
<b><u>182,158</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<b><u>118,132</u></b>
<b><u>£ 6,620</u></b>	<b><u>INCOME FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<b><u>-----</u></b>

**ARROW RIDNG CENTRE FOR  
THE DISABLED BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

<u>2019/20</u>	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
90,69 3	Bank accounts (note 6)	164,8 71
181	Cash in hand	133
5,926	Debtors (note 7)	1,801
<hr/>		
<b>96,80</b> <b>0</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>166,8</b> <b>05</b>
8.129	Creditors & accruals (note 8)	11,494
<u>70,00</u> 0	Reserved & allocated funds (note 1)	<u>136.64</u> 0
78,12 9		148,13 4
18,67 1	<b><u>ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>	18,67 1
<u>4.40</u> 0	Less: Long term liability (note 9)	<u>4,400</u>
<b><u>£14,2</u></b> <b><u>71</u></b>		<b><u>£14,2</u></b> <b><u>71</u></b>
Represented by:-		
7,651	Accumulated funds at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	14,271
<u>6,620</u>	Excess of income over expenditure year to 31/3/21	-----
<b><u>£14,2</u></b> <b><u>71</u></b>		<b><u>£14,27</u></b> <b><u>1</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021 NOTE 1 DONATIONS &  
SPONSORSHIPS OF £25 AND ABOVE**

		<u>2020/21</u>
Adams	Sue	590
AJA	Legal Services	250
Atkins	Mrs FP	40
Barnes	Ron & Eileen	400
Basten	Noelle	100
Bennett	Mr & Mrs	100
Beeden	Family	180
Bluewater	Shopping centre	700
Bluewater	Forum	200
Bowdler	Mrs Ann	100
Bramwell	Michael & Henrietta	240
Bristow	Mrs Lynn	120
Buttress	Alan	60
City	Central Cleaning & Support Services Ltd	1,000
Clarke	Sue	50
Connell	Peter & Daryl	500
Connell	Sheila	100
D&G	Over 50`s Friendship Centre	230
Dartford	Choir	220
Donnerley	Debbie & Amy	30
Fox	Estate Agents Dartford	850
French	Students	75
Friendship	Quilters	685
Ginn	Miss Shirley	600
Godfrey	Mr PWP	500
Groombridge	Family	90
Hammock	Mike	100
Harvey	Bill & Jill	200
Harvey	Jason & Nicola	160
Horder	David	100
Howell	Bert	500
Hunnisett	Derek & Linda	25
Hurn	Rev. June	250
Inner Wheel	of Dartford District 12	605

-7-

### **ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

#### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup>**

#### **MARCH 2021 NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS OF**

#### **£25 AND ABOVE (continued)**

		<b><u>2020/21</u></b>
Jackson	Rose	25
James	Ian	1,000
Jensen	Family	50
John	Lewis Partnership	600
Kamber	Mandy & Ray	576
KCC	Towards pony/horse Winter feed	1,980
Kennedy	Celia	918
Kingsford	Jane	120
Lock	Mrs Jacky donations & sponsorship (£120)	900
Longmarsh	Halloween	270
Lorriners	Worshipful Company	1,000
Magness	Family	200
Maison	Maurice Ltd	200
Mannion	Michael & Mary	7,760
Marilyn	and friends	130
Masonic Lodges	Baden Powell No 1907	500
	Scrutator No 9379	140
	Stellar Polaris No 6780	750
McCaffrey	Annabelle & Mum	200
Munn	Family	48
Order	of St George	250
Parker	Mrs GM	50
Pascoe	Rob	100
Pennell	Amanda & Martin	500
Pullman	Richard	240
Redhead	Mrs OM	100
Rennie	Jane & Nicky	1,000
Rolleston	Family	672
Saint	Nicholas Church Chislehurst	100
Sittingbourne	& Milton Regis Ladies Golf Club	100
Stapley	Marilyn & John	600
Styles	Mrs Joan	1,020
Thomas	Gary & family -8-	100

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup>**

**MARCH 2021 NOTE 1 DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS OF**

**£25 AND ABOVE (continued)**

**2020/21**

UK	Shrine Club	250
Wanstall	Mike & Sally	300
Ward	Julie	338
Ward	Mrs KM	1,000
Ward	Mr RE	1,000
Warren	Helen & Ian	1,000
Wells	Teresa & Ken	50
Whelen	Mrs EM	140
White	John	200
Worthington	Kerry	810
Write	Trak Ltd Gravesend	7,200
In Memory of	Arthur Ashenden	50
	Simon & Lesley Goldsmith	90,243
	Orlagh Keene	105
	Susan Thomas	150
Other donations	Charities Trust	200
	Paypal	149
	Virgin Just Giving	7,727
	Anon sums	1,576
	<b><u>Total donations</u></b>	<b><u>£144,637</u></b>

	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
Total donations	£ 51,462	£144,637
Deferred income (reserved sum) b/fwd	<u>73,500</u>	<u>70,000</u>
	124,962	214,637
Less:- reserved and allocated sums:-		
Covid lockdown recovery fund		21,640
New stable block (planning granted)		30,000
General reserve	<u>40,000</u> 70,000	<u>85,000</u> 136,640
	£ <u>54,962</u>	£ <u>77,997</u>

## NOTE 2 FUNDRAISING

Carol concert, dressage shows, events etc	7,778	1,611
Hiring out our facilities	26,213	2,828
Collections	<u>2,250</u>	<u>389</u>
	36,241	4,828
Less cost of fund raising	<u>4,044</u>	<u>329</u>
	£ <u>32,197</u>	£ <u>4,499</u>

## NOTE 3 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME

Gift aid recovery	4,433	5,863
Bank interest	383	258
Sale of misc items	115	-
	£ <u>4,931</u>	£ <u>6,121</u>

- 10-

## ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021

## NOTE 4 SALARIES

2019/20

2020/21

Salaries	£ 116,352	£ 83,448
Employers NIC	5,243	1,102
Work place pension	<u>1,930</u>	<u>480</u>
	<u>£ 123,525</u>	<u>£ 85,030</u>

During the year we employed an average of two full time and three-part time instructors/horse carers.

#### **NOTE 5 SPECIAL EXPENDITURE**

Fencing	1,447	1,393
Purchase of ponies - Dolly & Champ	9,745	
Wayleave (refund)	(396)	
	<u>£</u>	<u>£ 1,393</u>
	<u>10,796</u>	

#### **NOTE 6 BANKING**

Current account with CAF Bank Ltd	£ 50,693	£ 80,613
Deposit account with Virgin Charity	<u>40,000</u>	<u>84,258</u>
	90,693	164,871
Less: reserves & allocated funds	<u>70,000</u>	
	<u>136,000</u> (note 1)	
	<u>£ 20,693</u>	<u>£ 28,871</u>

-11-

#### **ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

#### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

#### **NOTE 7 DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS**

#### **NOTE 8 CREDITORS & ACCRUALS**

Gift Aid	1,527	BT	67
Building insurance	274	Water	227
	<u>£1,801</u>	Electricity	545
		Feed & Bedding	2,013
		Yard equipment	140
		Disclosure service	150
		Fencing	1,393
		Stabling	1,000
		Marjorie McClure	5,959
			<u>£ 11,494</u>

## NOTE 9 LONG TERM LIABILITY

In 2000 the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) loaned us £10,000 towards the cost of improvements to our buildings. The sum is interest free. Repayable at the rate of £400 per year. This being conditional upon us remaining members of the RDA. The balance due now being £4,400. Repayment for 2020/21 has been deferred until next year.

## ASSETS

Ponies & horses at cost	£23,296	( 2019/20 £23,296)
Saddles & tack at yard manager`s valuation	8,000	( 2019/20 £8,000)
New Holland Tractor purchased 2014/15	18,995	( mainly from donation by QBE European Insurance group)
Mechanical horse at cost 2018/19	47,194	(purchased from various donations)
Including installation & mounting blocks		
Other assets - s/h furniture and yard hand tools		

All of the above have been purchased from donations or gifted to us. With our charitable status the trustees do not see any merit in their inclusion in the balance sheet and then having to provide provision for depreciation. Which in the case of our ponies and horses would result in write-offs in the event of the retirement or the death of an animal

-12-

**ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2020 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021**

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARROW RIDING CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED:**

The charity Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). Under Section 145(1) (a) of the Act the Trustees

have elected for the accounts to be examined by an independent examiner. I have been appointed by the Trustees to undertake that task.

I report in respect of that examination of the trust`s accounts carried our under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 135(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner`s statement:**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set-out in the Charities (accounts and reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a “true and fair view” which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

signed  
Alan Buttress  
..... 8/5/2021  
dated.....

Alan Buttress  
109 Coombfield  
Drive Darenth  
Kent DA2 7LE











= C



