

# Erme Valley RDA

Offering opportunity by opening doors



## December 2023

This time the snowy weather has meant the newsletter can be written! Thank you to those that checked Facebook today, please remember that it is up to you to check in if the weather is questionable.

Thank you very much for the £310 from the Slade family following Maureen's celebratory cream tea. Also thank you to Becky Skelley for raising us £681 from her charity boxing match, very gratefully received.

A reminder to all riders (and any volunteers that would like to) to collect their sponsor forms from the office. The participants Christmas sponsored fundraiser will be taking place throughout December, it is expected that everyone that uses our facilities takes part and raises at least £20. Every ride and session that takes place at the Brook is subsidised by the charity by at least 50%. For example a ride costs you £15, the actual cost to the charity is £40. As we are coming into our 40th year this year, the theme will be 40!!! Eg. 40 jumps, 40 words, 40 mins, 40 miles!! Sponsor forms available from the office in December.

A huge well done to all our participants that took part in the virtual national we had some fantastic results all-round. The first places and class champions went to; Kirsty, Ysabel, Cara, and Lexi. Also placed; Janice 2nd, Anthony 3rd and 4th, Rachel 5th, Goodie 8th. Then receiving competitor rosettes Josie, Patrick, Skye and Lizzie.

The happy hoof Finlake weekend was a huge success those that follow us on Facebook would have seen some brilliant photos. The activities included walking swimming, team building and cooking. We hope to go again next year.

The accessible social club had a lovely time visiting the Aquarium and Christmas wreath making. Please get in touch with Sophie if you would like to join us. We meet fortnightly on a Tuesday.

We will be running a stable management fun day on Wednesday 27th Dec from 10.30am - 2.30pm depending on interest. It will be £25 per person. I please let us know if you would be interested in this.

There is another ASDAN course beginning in January, this runs for 12 weeks on a Thursday afternoon from 1.30pm - 3pm. Please ask Sophie for more information. We are also looking forward to running the BHS Changing lives through horses accredited programme in the spring.

A reminder that Saturdays only happen when we can if we are not committed to our own competitions. It has become hard recently to get volunteers to cater for the growing number of riders. Please make sure that parents are supporters are willing to help. We are doing our best but please bare with us on this one.

As most of you are already aware Lesley and Annoushka passed away recently. We are all thinking very much of Lesley and Annoushkas family at this sad time. We remember them fondly as they were both a great part of Erme valley for so long.

Lastly, Father Christmas is going to be visiting the Ugborough village on Friday 15th December at 5pm! This is raising money for us so please come along and support the event if you can.

Donations of biscuits, tea, coffee, cleaning products, toilets rolls hot chocolate, cat food! etc. Would always be gratefully received.

### **Dates:**

3rd Dec 4pm invite to dress rehearsal of Ugborough pantomime  
4th Dec Mulled wine, Raffle and Christmas singing from Girls night out  
8th Dec Christmas Lunch, Ship  
11th Dec Happy hoof club at Nias 6pm - 8pm  
12th Dec Tea with a Pony and Accessibility Social Club, Ring Feeder  
15th Dec Father Christmas visit to Ugborough  
16 th Dec Term ends at the Brook and Christmas challenge fundraiser  
17 th Dec London Horse Show  
21st Dec No access to the Brook  
27th Dec Stable management fun day  
3 rd Jan Term Starts  
9th Jan Accessible social club  
23rd Jan Accessible Social club  
6th Feb Accessible Social Club  
12th Feb - 18th Feb Half Term  
20th Feb Accessible Social club  
5th March Accessible Social club  
7th March Regional training day, NO SESSIONS or WORK EXP.  
29th March -12th April Easter Holiday  
23rd April Regional show jumping, Art and Countryside challenge @ The Brook.  
5th and 6th May ICC at Bicton Arena  
14th May Regional dressage at Lakefield  
12th 13th 14th July Nationals at Hartpur