June 2026

NEWSLETTER

As we head into another busy half term, we'd like to thank all our riders, volunteers, families and supporters for everything you do. We have lots going on over the coming weeks, from competitions and training events to fundraising activities, and we look forward to seeing many of you involved.

Fundraising Update

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts recently.
Congratulations to Kirsty, who raised an amazing £300 by taking part in Ten Tors. What a fantastic achievement!
Thank you also to everyone who supported the recent Ukulele Fundraiser, which raised an incredible £550 for the group.

Helping us to Help you

In order for us to continue providing the services we offer here at Erme Valley, we are appealing for your help.
We currently support:

- Over 150 participants
- Around 109 volunteers
- Friends and families of our riders
- Community support groups and other service users

In total, our reach extends to well over 500 people.
We are a small committee carrying out a huge amount of work behind the scenes. If everyone helps a little, together we can make a big difference.
Every ride we provide costs approximately £45, and your £20 donation per session helps enormously. Like many organisations, our costs continue to rise, and fundraising is becoming increasingly important to ensure we can continue offering the opportunities that make Erme Valley so special.



Mechanical Horse Appeal - Freedom to Ride

Many of you will know our much-loved mechanical horse, Jack, who has transformed opportunities for riders over the last 10 years.
Now aged 17, Jack is beginning to show his age, and we are starting the journey to raise £70,000 for a replacement. A new mechanical horse will ensure we can continue providing accessible riding opportunities, therapy sessions, rider assessments and confidence-building experiences for many years to come.
We already have a GoFundMe page, and we would be incredibly grateful if you could support us by donating, sharing the appeal, or helping us find potential sponsors and grant opportunities.
Every donation, no matter how small, helps secure this vital piece of equipment for the future of Erme Valley RDA. Thank you for your support.

Please support our upcoming Coffee Morning Week.
We are looking for:

- Cakes and bakes
- Raffle prizes
- Volunteers to sell raffle tickets
- Helpers to make teas and coffees
- People to help show visitors around
- Support with the cake stall

We will also be running a Nearly New Stall, so please bring along any suitable items and don't forget your pennies!
This event raises vital funds that help keep the group running. If everyone helps a little, we can make it a great success.



Competitions Update

We had a fantastic day at the Lakefield Dressage Regionals.
A total of 22 participants attended, and we are delighted that 20 riders have qualified for the RDA National Championships at Hartpury!
Congratulations to everyone who took part.
We have now submitted our entries for Hartpury Nationals, with:

- 22 riders attending
- Numerous Arts & Crafts entries
- Several horses representing the group

A huge good luck to everyone involved.
Invoices are now ready for collection.
Please arrange payment as soon as possible.

Visitors to The Brook

We have lots of visitors expected over the next half term. They will be observing sessions in the arena, classroom, on the mechanical horse and around the yard.
Please make sure you give everyone a warm Erme Valley welcome and take the opportunity to tell visitors about the fantastic work that goes on here.
Many visitors become future supporters, volunteers or fundraisers, so these visits are incredibly important to the future of the group.

Helper Training Week

15th – 20th June
Please see the Helper Training Week poster for full details and remember to sign up.
The week is open to:

- Volunteers, Riders, Parents, Coaches, Supporters

It is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the different activities we offer and counts towards CPD for coaches.
The more support we receive, the more successful the week will be.

Drumming sessions

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On 15th June, we are excited to be running two drumming taster sessions:

- 6pm – 7pm: Primary Age Group
- 7pm – 8pm: Older Group

Places are limited, so please sign up with Peggy if you would like to attend.
AGM & Committee Members

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As we approach our upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM), we will be looking to elect committee members for the coming year.
The committee plays a vital role in helping Erme Valley RDA continue to provide opportunities for our riders and participants. We are always keen to welcome new people with fresh ideas, skills and enthusiasm.
An up-to-date list of current committee members will be displayed outside the office. If you would like to find out more about what is involved or are interested in joining the committee, please speak to Peggy or a member of the current committee.
Your support can make a real difference to the future of the group.

Looking Ahead

With Nationals, Helper Training Week, fundraising events and summer activities fast approaching, the next few months promise to be exciting and busy.
Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Erme Valley RDA. Together, we can continue to provide life-changing opportunities for our riders and participants.
We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Dates

11th June: No evening riding session
15th June – 20th June: Helper training week (Details to follow)
15th June – Happy hoof Drumming sessions – 6pm -7pm Primary please register info in office 7pm – 8pm Happy hoof Drumming
16th June: Accessible social club
29th June – 4th July : coffee morning week All week please bring cakes raffle prizes and money to spend. We do need to help to run this as it raises vital funds.
30th June: Accessible social club
10th, 11th, 12th July : RDA NATIONALS at HARTPURY COLLEGE
14th July: Accessible social club
16th July : AGM and BBQ
20th July: Happy hoof Drumming sessions – – 6pm -7pm Primary please register info in office 7pm – 8pm Happy hoof Drumming
20th JULY : Last day of Term
21st July: Tea with a pony
Working parties Monday and Wednesday mornings 10am – 2pm throughout the summer holidays.
3rd October: Barn Dance
13th – 16th November – Finlake