

Erme Valley RDA

Offering opportunity by opening doors



December 2024

Christmas Fundraiser – Join Our Christmas Celebration!

**** Join us on Saturday 7th Dec - 4pm - 6pm!! ****

We're thrilled to invite you to a festive evening at *The Brook* to celebrate **40 wonderful years of RDA** and the Christmas season! This event is also a fundraiser, so all proceeds go back to support our programs.

How You Can Help:

- **Raffle Prizes:** Donations welcome!
- **Volunteers:** We need extra help on the day.
- **Christmas Goodies:** Edible and handmade items to sell.

There is also a Christmas Market in Ugborough village hall on Sunday 8th Dec, please see the attached poster for more details.

Our fundraising event for all riders this year is to **fill a jar of coins!** Please remember that as charity we subsidise all riders, so please take part in the fundraising so they we can carry on providing riding for all.

Christmas Cards – On Sale Now!

Pick up a few festive RDA Christmas cards, available for just **£1 each!** Perfect for spreading festive cheer while supporting our centre.

Survey Update – Thank You!

The results of the survey is on the board outside the office - please have a look.

Winter Routine Reminder

With winter approaching, please remember to **call ahead** if weather conditions are uncertain to confirm that your session is running. We'll post any updates on our *Facebook page* first. Please also make sure you are aware of the other routes in to get to us as there is often flooding, but there are a few routes around that don't add much time.

Social Groups Highlights

- **The Happy Hoof Group:** Had a wonderful if slightly damp trip to Finlake, lots of swimming, life skills, games and cooking. Their next trip out is to London International horse show on 22nd December. Then the next date in February, January is looking a little full! But it would be lovely if you could join us for the Makaton course.
- **The Accessible Social Club:** Had a brilliant wreath making session and are looking forward to their Christmas get together at the Ring Feeder.

Horse News

- **New Horses:** Mo and Zanti have joined the RDA team. Mo is in training in will hopefully be ready for session in the not too distant future. Zanti has been there and done it so we are hoping she will enjoy RDA work.

Thank you for your understanding as we continue finding the right matches for our riders.

Training Updates

We had a really successful few days training; safeguarding, coaching counts and Back to Basics. A huge thanks to Mel Tomlinson for delivering such informative sessions.

On the Monday 18 enjoyed a very informative presentation from Harriet Hughes who is newly qualified on Hippotherapy.

Coming Soon: Makaton is scheduled for 27th January at 6pm and first aid sessions are scheduled for in the spring. Please let us know if there is any training you would like us to put on.

Great results at Virtual Nationals

Well done for all the fantastic results at the nationals. We had two class champions, and loads of placings.

Workshops

Cara W Smith is a PhD student at Bath Spa University who also volunteers and rides at Erme Valley RDA. Cara is looking into how puppetry and the materials they are made out of can support children's sensory wellbeing. She will be running a series of 5 puppet-making workshops in January 2025, with a group of 5-8 children, aged 5-8. In these workshops the children will explore the materials used to make sock and glove puppets and encouraged to play with pre-made puppets, in the final session they will take part in a show and tell with a puppet of their choosing. The workshops focus on what materials the children use, the importance of this in puppetry and play, and how this can transfer to sensory wellbeing. Please let us know if you would be interested in your child taking part or finding out more. Sessions will take place on Saturday mornings.

Donations

Thank you for the recent donations from Ernest Jackson Cadburys Crediton for £1000, and to BD for £500, and to Ivybridge Rotary club for £150.

Driving Program

The driving training is underway and directors are working with headquarters and the south west driving rep.

Events and Tickets

- **Finlake:** For those attending, please finalise your payment with Peggy.
- **London Horse Show:** 2 Tickets are still available. Let Peggy know if you're interested, as we'll soon offer remaining tickets to others. 6am leave Ivybridge park and ride. Please if your name is on the list make sure you have paid your remaining balance.

Notice board

Please make sure to look at the notice board and to check Facebook for updates on what is happening and for any changes.

Wish List

We're in need of a few items to keep our centre running smoothly:

- Raffle prizes
- Cleaning products
- Tea, coffee, and biscuits
- Felt tips
- Marker pens
- Glue sticks

Any donations would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to Erme Valley RDA.

The Erme Valley RDA Team

Dates:

- **6th December** – Christmas Lunch @ The Ship Ugborough 12.30pm
- **7th December** – Christmas Concert & Table Top Sale (4pm - 6pm)
- **8th December** – Christmas Market (Ugborough village Hall) – help needed
- **10th December** – Tea with a pony 3pm
- **17th December** – Accessible Social club - Christmas Meal @ The Ring Feeder 12Noon
- **19th December** – End of Term
- **22nd December** – London International Horse Show - 6am Meet at Ivybridge Park and ride.
- **8th January** – New Term Begins
- **14th January** – Accessible Social Club
- **27th January** – Makaton training at The Brook 6pm
- **28th January** – Accessible Social Club
- **11th February** – Accessible Social Club
- **17th - 21st February** –Half Term

