

# Newsletter

# January

# 2019

Happy new year to you all.

## Quiz Night

Hope you are all swatting up for our fund-raising quiz night on 9th February at 7 for 7:30 in Chiddingly Village Hall. £5 includes teas/coffee, rolls etc. Bring your own alcohol if you think it will help! Either make up a team of 6 or come and make up teams on the night. Let Liz Major know you are coming.

## Committee Members

2 more photos:

Christina Fowden (Safety officer)

and

Rosi Mummery (Publicity leaflets)



## RDA Web Site

RDA National have reorganised their web sites.

There is one site for the general public, [www.rda.org.uk](http://www.rda.org.uk) this will have publicity and information about RDA and the groups.

Another site, [www.MyRDA.org.uk](http://www.MyRDA.org.uk) will have information, guidance and rules for volunteers and administrators.

## Events

We are running the [Bluebell Walk](#) on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April this year. Jo Anger and Liz Major will be setting up a rota of volunteers to man the café and other duties and Susanne is looking for volunteers to make cakes. Let's hope we can break last year's fund-raising record at the bluebell walk.

[Training for volunteers](#) is an important part of our commitment to RDA. We are running a training session on 21 March which all volunteers should attend. Susanne has kindly said we may use her school for this. The focus will be on safety. RDA National will be putting on coach training sessions during the year. Our coach training session has been postponed.

## Drivers Fees

The £3 weekly fee and £5 membership paid by drivers has been unaltered for 25 years! A survey last year led by Stella Hancock RDA Driving Group has shown we charge much less than other groups.

The committee has decided to increase our fees this year to £10 per year membership and £5 per driving session. The new fees are still below the average charged by other groups. If any member is unable to afford the new fee they should talk to Angela, our treasurer, who may make an exception in case of hardship.

## Carriages.

The design of carriages suitable for people with a disability has improved dramatically over the years. Some of our old carriages are heavy or unstable and we now avoid using them.

We have reviewed our stock and are disposing of some carriages (if they are safe, we will try to sell them). We need an additional modern carriage. After looking at the price and suitability we have asked a local carriage builder to supply a new carriage which will be adapted to take drivers with a disability.

## Horses

Unfortunately, we were unable to find someone to look after and house Prince for us. We understand he is no longer available.

We are actively looking for volunteers who would allow us to use their horse, or who would look after a horse we had purchased. If we find a horse suitable for RDA in our group, we will need to have someone ready to look after it for us. We own Charlie and Diesel and use other horses courtesy of Anthea, Bella, Sandra, and Sue. We do now need to look for a strong animal with a good temperament, to take our heavier drivers.

If you have any items you would like to see in future Newsletters please let me know.

Looking forward to a successful new season.

Doug Pochin.