

# Newsletter

## February 2019

### RDA 50

This year is the 50th anniversary of RDA. Head office have asked us to celebrate the anniversary so this year our annual Winkle Fun Day will also be "a celebration of RDA 50".



### Training session

There will be a safety training session for all volunteers at 10am on 21<sup>st</sup> March at Burchett's Farm. It is very important that volunteers attend this session. Horse driving is an intrinsically dangerous activity. Imagine how you would feel if someone at RDA had an accident and you did not know what you were meant to do.

Susanne will also be inviting the newest volunteers to her yard to get some practice before we start.

### Quiz Night Success.

The evening made over £500 and was enjoyed by all those taking part. Well done to the winners, Pat and her team. Many thanks to Jan & Terry Curd and Martin & Pip Holgate, for running the quiz and to Liz, Pat, Margaret & Hilary for arranging evening.



## Volunteer log books

Our helpers now have to keep records of their training and assessments (including the certificate given after the safety training). We have decided to give each volunteer a folder to hold their records. This will make it easy to produce records when we are inspected.

## Horsemanship awards.

These are qualifications open to drivers with a disability. Many of our drivers have said they would like to work towards an award. We will be offering them training and assessment this season. If you are interested, talk to Tracey or Helen at one of the driving sessions.

## More Drivers Need More Horses.

We have had several applications from people with a disability who wish to join our group. We will be asking some of them to come and see what we do on Thursday mornings. If you see a new face, please make them welcome. It is RDA policy to look for ways of helping all applicants and to only turn them away as a last resort if we are unable to help them.

To meet the demand, we do need another horse and someone to look after it and bring it each week. We have had some potential horse carers talk to us and are looking for a suitable horse. Keep your fingers crossed!

## Contact.

As well as this newsletter you can find out about group activities on line at <http://heronsghyll-rda.co.uk/> and on Facebook, Herons ghyll RDA carriage driving group.

Doug Pochin  
dougpochin@icloud.com