

A message from coaches...



Elisabeth Curtis Centre, Riding for the Disabled

Dear Riders / Carers / Volunteers

I wanted to write to you all to update you on the ongoing situation regarding Covid-19 and the Elisabeth Curtis Centre, Riding for the disabled.

On Friday 13th March, the Trustees took the decision based on what was current advice to suspend rides from Thursday 19th March until the end of the Easter holidays when the situation will be reviewed. Hopefully, a decision can be made as to when riding can re-commence.

Due to the escalating situation and following updated guidance from RDA UK, NHS and Government reports we updated our decision on the evening of Monday 16th March to suspend rides with immediate effect. Our team of coaches and trustees have worked hard over the last few days to try and contact you all to let you know. I appreciate that some did not get the message in time and attended the centre and I do apologise for any unnecessary journeys that were taken.

I know that to riders this can be an upsetting time, not understanding why they are unable to visit their favourite pony; this decision was not taken lightly. However, the health and safety of all is paramount at this time.

As the Centre has suspended riding lessons, riders will not be charged for the remaining lessons for this half-term. The amount will be deducted when the next payment is due.

RDA UK has now also confirmed that the Regional Qualifiers and National

Championships have been cancelled and we will work to return any monies paid to enter. Please do bear with us while we work through this; we will be in touch with those affected.

Our Coffee morning on Sunday 29th March has been postponed and our monthly poo-pick has been cancelled until further notice.

Supporting our Riders

RDA UK is in the process of creating some learning material on horse care which can be used as practice towards grades, or simply a bit of fun. We will work with coaches to make sure these are available to you soon.

Supporting our Volunteers

We value our entire volunteer group and understand the social aspect this brings to many, whilst also doing something amazing for our riders. We have currently suspended all volunteer activity and depending on how the situation continues we may be able to bring back some voluntary work. We will also explore new ways of helping you stay in touch. RDA continues to have a number of online e-learning available at <http://rda-learning.org.uk/> and I would encourage you to take a look whilst we are closed.

Keeping in touch.

I would ask that, where possible, you “like” our Facebook page to keep up-to-date with the latest news and developments. www.facebook.com/elisabethcurtiscentre We are also working on updating our website so do visit us at www.elisabethcurtiscentre.co.uk

I would recommend, if you need to get in touch, you do so via email at elisabethcurtiscentre@gmail.com or message us on Facebook. You can also contact us on 01234 604063, but there may be a delay.

Supporting the Centre

Whilst closed the Centre continues to care for our ponies, which remains a key priority for the Centre. We rely very heavily on our rider fees along with a number of key fundraising events and generous donors. As we will be losing a significant proportion of our income, anything you are able to do to help support us during this difficult period is very gratefully received.

We appreciate all the support of our ECC family and the wider community and would ask that if you are able to help at this time by making a donation or simply share our links below it would very much appreciated.

You can donate on our Facebook page – click [HERE](#)

Or via Virgin Money Giving - click [HERE](#)

And support through everyday purchases by using

Amazon smile - Click [HERE](#)

And purchasing through easyfundraising.org.uk – click [HERE](#)

We also have an Amazon “Wish list” if you’d prefer to donate an item – click [HERE](#)

I would like to close by saying a massive thank you to all of you for your ongoing understanding and support and a huge thank you for the extra work from the grooms, coaches, volunteers and board of trustees in responding to the ongoing situation. Please look after yourselves and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to the Centre as soon as we are able to.

Thank you,

Victoria Liston

Chair of Trustees – Elisabeth Curtis Centre
(Volunteer)

Click the links below to find more:



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