

NEWSLETTER

Elisabeth Curtis Centre

Riding for the Disabled

April 2025



Welcome back to the summer term, which promises to be a busy and exciting one!

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you at the Centre over the coming weeks and hopefully welcoming as many of you as possible to our 50th celebrations.

If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the other Trustees, as we really value your comments.

Kyle Palmer

On Behalf of the ECC Trustees

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27TH APRIL 2025
CRAFT FAYRE - ECC

17TH PREP - 18TH MAY –
COMP - RDA REGIONAL
QUALIFIER 2025 –
MILTON, CAMBS

20th JUNE 2025 – BARN
DANCE - ECC

22nd JUNE 2025 – OPEN
FUN DAY - ECC

Spring Dressage 2025

This year's Spring Dressage Competition was a resounding success as we were blessed with beautiful weather and a fantastic turnout. Riders, coaches, staff, supporters, and volunteers came together to create a day full of fun, with riders showcasing their skills and ponies strutting their stuff!

There was some truly inspiring riding on display, demonstrating the talent and dedication of our participants alongside the support of their coaches. Some fantastic scores were achieved with some of our riders receiving their personal bests! Well done to them all.

Dixie, Muscadeu, Sam and Trojan were immaculately turned out, with some special floral touches to add to the occasion. We must therefore put a shout out to our incredible team of volunteers, who deserve a huge thank you, as their hard work and positive energy helped the day run smoothly from start to finish.

Thank you again to everyone who took part and contributed to create a memorable day for all involved.



Your Volunteer Experience

Admin reminders

Assemble

In the last newsletter, we announced the launch of our new volunteer app, Assemble.

Sherie is supporting volunteers to download and access the app, so if you haven't already downloaded it, Sherie will be in touch soon.

The Respect Charter

As outlined in our previous newsletter, the Centre always strives to create a positive and supportive environment where everyone feels valued and respected. To reinforce our commitment to respect and mutual understanding, the Trustees developed a **Respect Charter**.

Thank you to those of you who have signed up to this. If you have not yet done so, please click on the link below to read the Charter, fill out your details, confirm that you have read and understood its contents, and then click **Submit**.

<https://forms.office.com/e/qAxe12uggJ>



Welcome to our new groom!

We are delighted to welcome Sam Harris to our Equine Team. Sam has extensive experience, having worked in a variety of equine and animal welfare organisations. She will be working closely with Bex and Kristina to continue the fabulous care of our ponies. Please make sure you say hello when you meet her in the yard.

Pony Update

In the last newsletter, we introduced you to Smartie and Rolo. Their integration into the Centre continues and you should see them in lessons in May/June which will be exciting.

You may have seen another pony, Candy, at the Centre. She was brought to the Centre to assess her suitability to join our herd. Unfortunately, this was not to be and Bex will be giving her a good home where she can enjoy her retirement. The safety of our participants and welfare of the ponies is our main priority and as you will appreciate, sometimes these things do not work out and there has been no financial implications for the Centre.



ECC 50th Birthday Celebrations

We are delighted to be celebrating the golden anniversary of our Centre, we have two exciting events planned and we would really appreciate your support by attending and buying tickets.

Barn Dance – Friday, 20th June 2025

Dust off your cowboy boots and hat and join us for a square dance or two! This promises to be a fun evening with live music, a dance caller, hog roast and bar.

Tickets are £22 per person and are available to purchase from the Centre office alternatively.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/elisabeth-curtis-barn-dance>
(Booking fee applies)



Open Fun Day – Sunday, 22nd June 2025

We will be opening the Centre to visitors between 12 and 4pm, offering tours of our facilities and a musical pony ride to showcase the talents of our ponies and participants.

There will also be fun games, ice cream and more, all for £1. Look out for further details and please encourage your family and friends to visit.

Trustee Vacancies

We are always keen to ensure our Board has a varied skill set to best meet the needs of the Centre. We would like to talk to anyone who is interested in becoming a Trustee, particularly if they have experience in the following.

- **Treasurer/Finance**
- **Social Media and Marketing**
- **Corporate Fundraising**

If you, or anyone you know, is interested, we can arrange for an informal chat to find out what is involved.



A member group of the Riding for the Disabled Association Incorporating Carriage Driving Riding for the Disabled Charity Number: 244108

President: HRH The Princess Royal K.G., G.C.V.O.



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