

January 2026

Elisabeth Curtis Centre



It's what you **can**
do that counts

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SPRING DRESSAGE
22ND MARCH 2026 – ECC

**RDA REGIONAL
QUALIFIERS – 24TH MAY
2026**

**RDA NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS**
10TH – 12TH JULY 2026

Pony Updates

Welcome Archie!



We're thrilled to announce that Archie is now owned by the Elisabeth Curtis Centre. After a successful loan period and a lovely introduction to the team and herd, the Trustees have made the decision to purchase him.

Archie still has lots to learn, but with patience, consistency, and plenty of encouragement, we're confident he will grow into a fantastic addition to our pony team.

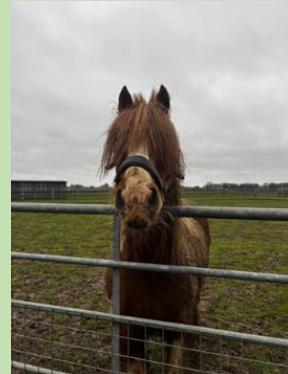
Romeo's Update

Sadly, Romeo will not be staying at the Centre, as he did not pass his vetting. While this is disappointing, the search for the right ponies continues — and we remain optimistic.

Trojan arrives at Blue Cross!

Trojan has officially arrived at Blue Cross and has settled in incredibly quickly. He's already become quite the swamp monster, as the photos clearly show!

We wish him all the very best in his new adventures.



Participating & Volunteering

Spring Dressage Competition at ECC

March 22nd, 2026 - Open to All Participants!

Spring is just around the corner, and with it comes one of our favourite events of the year: the ECC Spring Dressage Competition! This friendly and inclusive competition is open to all our participants.

This year, we're bringing back the much-loved classes—and adding a few extra fun ones to make the day even more enjoyable for everyone. Alongside our standard walk-and-trot and walk-only tests, we'll feature a selection of fun classes designed to celebrate confidence, creativity, and partnership with our wonderful horses.

As always, the emphasis is on encouragement, achievement, and enjoyment, with rosettes for all classes and a warm, supportive atmosphere throughout. Families, carers, and volunteers are very welcome to come along and cheer, and you can expect plenty of smiles, good-natured competition, and maybe even some spring sunshine.

Volunteer Sign in Sheets

Following recent requests, sign in sheets for all extra sessions will soon be available on the Volunteer Board in the Office.

If you're able to offer your time, even for a single session, it makes a tremendous difference. We truly value and appreciate your support.

Fundraising

Amazon Wishlist

We're excited to share that our Amazon Wishlist has had a full revamp and is now officially live!

You can view it here:

<https://amzn.eu/00yCzOqK>

The Wishlist includes a range of items that help support the daily running of the Centre — from yard essentials and pony care supplies to enrichment items and office necessities that we use every day.

If anyone would like to donate through the Wishlist, we would be incredibly grateful. Every item purchased, no matter how small, directly contributes to the wellbeing of our ponies and the smooth operation of the Centre.

Your generosity genuinely makes a difference — helping us keep the yard functioning, the ponies cared for, and our sessions running.

Thank you for supporting us in such a practical and meaningful way. ❤

New Equipment for Our Riders

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of our supporters, we have been able to purchase new stirrups and stirrup leathers, ensuring our riders have safe, comfortable, and reliable equipment.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to RB Equestrian for providing a generous discount on these items — your support is truly appreciated.

A Musical Gift from the Bedford Messiah Choir

Following their performance of Messiah in late November, the Bedford Messiah Choir has raised an incredible £2,500 in support of the Centre.

Join the ECC

200 CLUB

Have you ever considered joining the **Elisabeth Curtis Centre 200 Club**?

The 200 Club is a monthly **Private Society Lottery**, with up to 200 tickets entered into each draw. It's a simple and enjoyable way to support the Centre, while also giving yourself the chance to win cash prizes every month!

Please follow the link below to join in for our 'February Draw' where the next winners will be drawn - all welcome - and perhaps you could be one of them whilst supporting our charity too for just £5.00 per month!

<https://www.elisabethcurtiscentre.co.uk/fundra.../200-club/>



Thank You for Your Donations

We are incredibly grateful for the generous support we have received over recent months. Donations make a real and immediate difference to the day-to-day running of the Centre.



Exciting News: A New Coach May Be Joining the ECC Team!

We're absolutely delighted to share that — provided all paperwork is completed successfully — we have found an additional Coach to join the team at ECC.

Laura comes to us with a wealth of experience as a part-time Group Coach at Gaddesden Place RDA, and we're thrilled about the skills, energy, and insight she can bring to our sessions. Once she completes her assessment, the plan is for Laura to also become a Group Coach here at ECC.

Even more exciting is the possibility that her joining us could allow the introduction of more weekend sessions, something many participants and families have been hoping for. Expanding our coaching capacity will help us accommodate more riders, offer greater flexibility, and continue strengthening our programme.

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.

- **Brand & Marketing**

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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