

# DIGSWELL PLACE GROUP RDA

## March 2021

### **Our road to restart!**

With spring on the way, the recent Government "roadmap", vaccination rollout gaining pace and with guidance from RDA UK & County we're delighted to announce that we're now planning our own roadmap for restarting activities at Digswell Place Group RDA.

### **Safely & carefully - step by step**

We recognise that after so long without our regular routines, attitudes to returning may vary from huge excitement to perhaps some trepidation but please rest assured that we will take things gradually and at a pace that suits our coaches, volunteers and riders and of course our ponies. We'll also be driven by safety and prevailing Government advice, which as we know may change.

### **First Step - from 29th March**

From 29th March we plan to start welcoming back some independent riders and those who were participating before the latest lockdown. As this is the start of the Easter holidays our minders, who've done such a good job of keeping our ponies exercised, will still be on the Yard, so we'll still need to be mindful of numbers on the Yard at any one time and ask that you wait to be contacted before visiting the Yard.

### **What happens next - Volunteers**

Your session coach will be in touch with you over the next couple of weeks to talk through outline plans for your session and your readiness to return. We do appreciate that everyone will have their own comfort levels and personal circumstances, please feel free to discuss these with your coach, together we'll take it step by step.

### **What happens next - participants**

Your usual session coach will be in touch over the coming weeks to discuss when we may be able to get you back in the saddle. We know this can't come soon enough for some but please bear with us so that we can ensure a safe return for you and our volunteers in line with current advice.

### **A message from HRH The Princess Royal**

There's a lovely personal message of support from our President for all in the RDA community on the link below;

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCrI8v8J0WoEXN-Cu25ktkm0Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrI8v8J0WoEXN-Cu25ktkm0Q)

### **Funding & Fundraising**

Nearly a year on from the first lockdown and the funding challenges the year has brought, it's reassuring that thanks to; hard work behind the scenes, grants, new fundraising campaigns and generous donations, our finances are steady and we're ready & able to re open.

Our art competition, in partnership with Odyssey & Mather Marshall is still open. If you'd like to share the link or indeed enter just visit [www.art.digswellplacerda.org.uk](http://www.art.digswellplacerda.org.uk)

### **Looking forward**

We can't wait to get everyone back and look forward to seeing you all again gradually over the next few months. Meantime thank you for your patience and don't forget to check our Face book page and website for news and updates.

*With very best wishes from DPGRDA  
Trustees & Management Committee*