The Pembroke Centre News

Home of The Wilton RDA

Issue 3
November 2026

We have a new roof!

Most of us will have had the chance to admire our new indoor school roof this term. But as the days shorten and the temperature drops we will really appreciate it's lighter interior, insulation from the cold and damp, and new bright LED lighting. It will make a real difference for our riders, volunteers and our horses with a more comfortable, warmer and brighter environment this winter.

However, we have only raised just over 60% of the £125,000 total cost (£7,000 from the Barn Dance, £15,000 from Sport England and £50,000 from the Stephenson James Charitable Trust) and we still have £48,000 to find. See inside for fund-raising inspiration.

We need you to help us reach the finish line – here's how you can help:

Do you know of any grant-giving charitable trusts or individuals who might like to support this project, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Jackie Worrall (Chair of Trustees) chair.pembrokecentre@gmail.com

Wilton RDA volunteer recognised at Volunteer of the Year

We are hugely proud of **Jade Riley** who has been reconised as the volunteer who has shown exceptional dedication and commitment through their volunteer role within RDA in this country.

"Jade is an exceptional RDA volunteer whose kindness, empathy and determination make a lasting impact on riders, fellow volunteers and horses alike. Through her calm and intuitive approach, Jade helps riders build confidence, overcome anxieties and achieve goals they never thought possible. She is equally dedicated to the welfare and development of RDA horses, patiently supporting new ponies as they settle into their roles.

Despite managing significant health challenges of her own, Jade gives her time, energy and expertise with unwavering commitment, embodying RDA's belief. She is a truly inspiring role model and a cherished member of the RDA family"

Pembroke Centre AGM

Tuesday 24th November
4pm in the Clubroom
Be involved in shaping our future



Nativity Christmas Craft Stall

Riders, Parents & Carers
Are you, or is someone in your family, a creative talent?

Could you help us raise funds for our wonderful Wilton RDA by contributing a homemade Christmassy gift to sell at this year's nativity?

If you would like to get involved and create and contribute something we'd love to hear from you.

Some ideas 💡 include : Christmas decorations, jewellery, art works, biscuits, Christmas stockings, knitted socks, hats or scarves …
Many thanks!
Sally Finn
Riders' Representative, Wilton RDA
ridersrep.pembrokecentre@gmail.com

Welcome Duke!



Duke is 16 yrs old and 14.2 hh and almost as wide!

He came from Staffordshire.

He is currently settling in and getting used to the routine.

He has a sweet nature and we hope he will become a valuable member of the team.

Thank you to everyone who helped and took part in the Autumn Fayre

Despite the rain we had a great day and made over £2500 towards our new roof. We had a buzz in the cafe serving sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee. As always our ponies were fabulous and gave lots of rides to children and adults who loved the opportunity to ride again. We gained five more adopt a ponies, 4 more 200 Club members. Everyone loved the Hobby Horse course and a Chase Me Charlie at the end of the day on foot.



Lily (with Jackie) winner of the Chase-me-Charlie

Introducing our Horse Care Programme

There's so much more to being around horses than riding! From learning how to care for our ponies to understanding their needs and getting involved in their daily routines, our Horse Care Programme opens up a whole new world of opportunities at The Pembroke Centre.

Designed for both clients and volunteers, the programme offers a fun, practical and supportive way to develop new skills, build confidence and enjoy time with our ponies and each other. Activities are tailored to suit individual abilities and experience, so everyone can take part, whether they ride or not.

Sessions run weekly over six-week terms, combining a short introduction to each topic, hands-on experience and a fun activity or game to put learning into practice. We currently have groups running on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays with about 25 attending including non-horsey volunteers wishing to build confidence around horses.

It's all about learning, friendship, teamwork and enjoying time with our wonderful ponies!

Get in touch with **Fi** if you would like to take part.









Poppy – 20 years at the RDA



♡ 1990 – 2026 Loved by all ♡

Many children remember their first ride on Poppy. In her younger years she was a typical Welsh Mountain pony and could put in a buck or two. Her behaviour was so bad she was expelled from the Nativity!

As her eyesight declined and she was retired from riding Poppy remained an amazing therapy pony for cuddling and leading. She was always kind and never grumpy.

She was put to sleep peacefully in September.
Thank you, Poppy, for all you gave to us all at the Wilton RDA.

A special tree



This tree was planted to remember the cats who lived and were loved at the Pembroke Centre.

Each of them brought joy, comfort and companionship to so many of us, and they will always be a special part of our story.

May this tree stand as a lasting tribute to their happy lives and the love they gave.

Congratulations to **Isla Chalk Martin** passing her grade 1 horsecare and Riding proficiency

Here are some ideas how you can support us:

Organise your own fundraiser – why not take on a sponsored challenge, host a coffee morning, run a raffle or organise a fun event? Let us know your plans so we can support you with promotion.

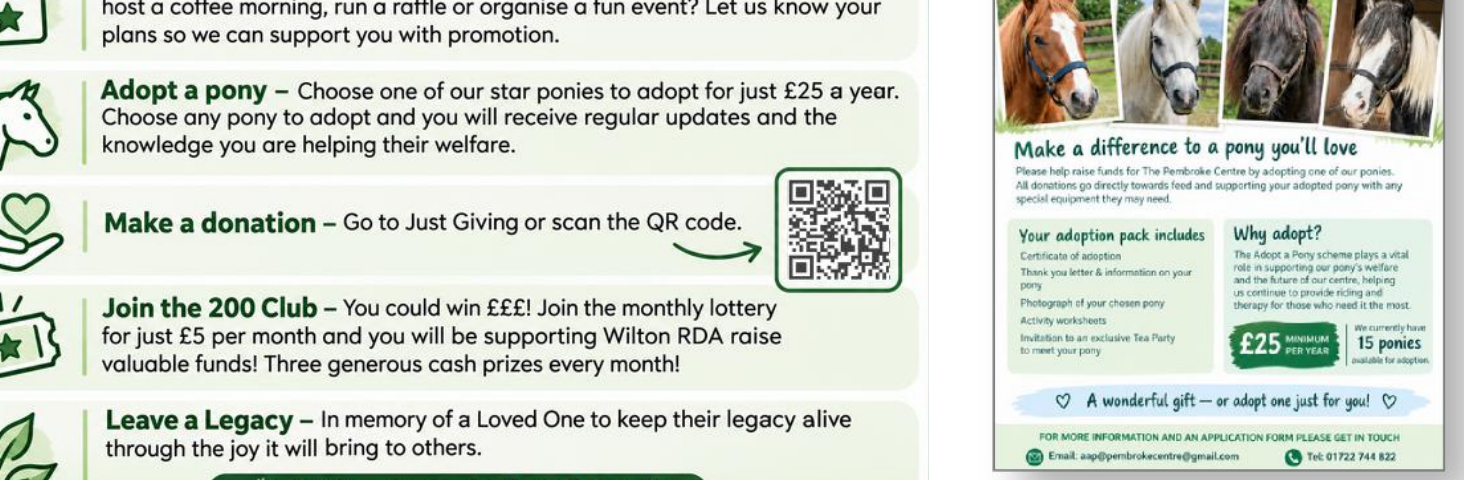
Adopt a pony – Choose one of our star ponies to adopt for just £25 a year. Choose any pony to adopt and you will receive regular updates and the knowledge you are helping their welfare.

Make a donation – Go to Just Giving or scan the QR code.

Join the 200 Club – You could win £££! Join the monthly lottery for just £5 per month and you will be supporting Wilton RDA raise valuable funds! Three generous cash prizes every month!

Leave a Legacy – In memory of a Loved One to keep their legacy alive through the joy it will bring to others.

Visit our website for all details.



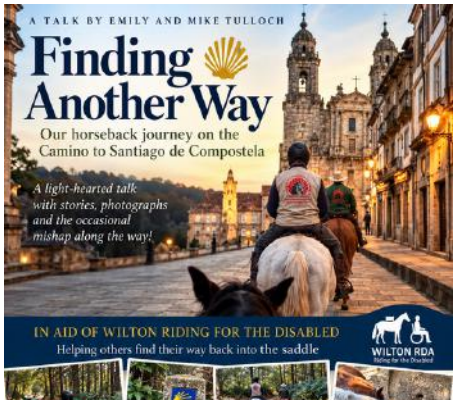




Toby Sales - carpenter extraordinaire!

Toby has raised £258 for the Wilton RDA by making and selling beautiful wooden presentation boxes. He wrote to Wicks and asked for their support and they agreed to donate some wood. He then learned, with the help of some willing adults, to make wooden presentation boxes which he decorated then sold. Thank you Toby!





Finding Another Way

A talk by Emily and Mike Tulloch

all proceeds go to the Wilton RDA

Emily rode George on a few Thursdays following her skiing accident. When she first arrived we thought her task would be impossible but her resilience, determination, humour & the patience of George proved otherwise. An amazing achievement!

This is going to be a fascinating talk.

Tickets £16 including a glass of wine from https://www.trybooking.com/uk/event/126419



Thursday Volunteer, Sasha, is singing in this festive concert and would love our support. Although it is after the Nativity, all proceeds will go to the Wilton RDA so it would be fabulous if some of us can attend.

MEET OUR TRUSTEES

The people who volunteer their time, skills and experience to guide our charity....



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SALLY FINN
Trustee (Rider Representative)
ridersrep.pembrokecentre@gmail. com



Jackie is standing down next year. We are looking for her successor with the skills to be Chair of Trustees. We are also looking for a Trustee with overall responsibility for Fund Raising and specifically identifying and managing grant applications. email chair.pembrokecentre@gmail.com

Term Dates

ChristmasTerm:
Saturday 31st Oct -Thursday 10th Dec
Spring Term:
Tuesday 5th Jan to Saturday 20th March
Half term 15th - 21st February
Summer Term:
Tuesday 13th April - Saturday 29th May and
Tuesday 8th June - Saturday 17th July
The Centre is closed during school holidays

Hire the Pembroke Centre

Full details,facililites and T&Cs on our website
E: bookings. pembrokecentre@gmail.com

Our Fantastic Team on the ground



Claire Hacker
Our Centre Manager and Head Coach.
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Fi Larkin
Our riding co-ordinator. If you want to book a session contact Fi.
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