

- Singapore National Para Games 2016 at RDA
- Volunteer Feedback & Upcoming Training
- Care & Share Funds Usage
- RDA's 35th Anniversary Celebrations in 2017
- Our Charity Ball returns to RDA Centre on popular demand, see you there!

HRH PRINCESS ANNE MEETS RDA SINGAPORE



It was bows and curtsies aplenty at Jurong Port on 3rd November 2016, as Her Royal Highness Princess Anne met members and beneficiaries of the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) of Singapore and the Mission to Seafarers Singapore (MTSS). The Princess Royal is known for her charitable work, she is the president of both RDA UK and Mission to Seafarers worldwide. She kindly took time off to lend her support to the two local charities.

The Princess Royal is known for her equestrian talents and is the first member of the British Royal Family to compete in the Olympic Games.

Upon her arrival at Jurong Port, HRH Princess Anne was greeted by a 43-strong RDA Singapore contingent, including Paralympians Maximillian Tan, 29 and Gemma Rose Foo, 20, and RDA therapy horse, Amorcita. RDA beneficiaries each met with and were presented with rosettes by the Princess.

"I am so excited to meet a real princess, she's so kind and nice," said M, RDA beneficiary.

HRH Princess Anne then toured the MTSS drop-in centre. The Princess also attended a reception on the *Royal Albatross* yacht, where a charity auction was held to raise funds for RDA and MTSS.





THE RDA TIMES

RDA HOSTS SINGAPORE NATIONAL PARA GAMES



RDA hosts a national para-equestrian competition yearly as part of the **SINGAPORE NATIONAL PARA GAMES (SNPG)**. This multi-sport tournament is a great platform for individuals to participate recreationally and competitively. It creates greater awareness of disability sports and is an avenue to identify athletes who can represent Singapore at regional and international competitions.

"The level of competition is very good, and the riders competed with lots of enthusiasm and confidence," said Mike Mahendran, one of the dressage judges.

RDA hosted SNPG's Equestrian competition on the morning of 24th September 2016, which saw 25 riders competing in 6 events – 2 of which were competing for the first time. Proud to announce that most riders obtained at least 60% in their tests, a fantastic score!

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS



RDA relies extensively on volunteers to help run our free of charge horse-riding therapy program, so thank you very much to our hardworking volunteers! To better engage with our volunteers, a feedback survey was conducted in September 2016 which found:

- ✓ **99% Found their volunteering experience with RDA to be meaningful & rewarding.**
- ✓ **96% Expressed that they received the necessary information and guidance needed**
- ✓ **99% Felt that they are part of the team helping to fulfil the mission of RDA.**
- ✓ **97% Expressed that they would like to continue volunteering with RDA.**
- ✓ **97% Expressed that they would recommend friends & relatives to volunteer with RDA.**

During the survey, many volunteers requested for more structured training so as to better serve our special needs riders. We are happy to share that volunteers can look forward to these upcoming trainings in 2017:

- **Working with Special Needs Workshop (March 2017)**
- **Training & Certification of Volunteers Side-walkers, Leaders & Instructors (Q2 2017)**
- **Overseas RDA Expert's Training Workshop (June 2017)**

If you are interested in volunteering in the RDA therapy sessions, the RDA barn, or helping out at our fund-raising events, please contact our Volunteer & Admin Coordinator at:

volunteer@rdasingapore.org.sg

RDA COMMITTEE 2016/2018

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 26th September 2016. At the AGM, the following members are elected to the RDA Committee for the 2016/2018 term:

Honorary Chairman	Mr Eugene Yong Kon Yoon
Honorary Vice-Chairman	Mr Simon Leong Kai Chong
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Justin Boyd
Honorary Secretary	Ms Cindy Quek
Committee Members	Ms Daphne Ong
	Mrs Deborah Gilles
	Ms Emma Jarman-Jones
	Ms Jessamine Ihrcke
	Ms Lin Zhi An
	Ms Sian Gillies
	Ms Wanda Wang



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CARE & SHARE @ SG50 THANK YOU DONORS



The "Care & Share" was a national fund-raising and volunteerism movement for the social service sector, in celebration of SG50.

With the support and generous donations from our donors that was matched dollar-for-dollar by the government, we raised more than \$2million!

The funds go towards building our capabilities and capacities, supporting us to meet rising needs.

Some of the recently completed initiatives were:

- ✓ **Expansion of riding therapy, with evening and additional afternoon therapy sessions, so that more special needs beneficiaries are served**
- ✓ **Expansion of barn from 18 to 22 horse stables, enhancing premises and paddock**
- ✓ **Re-surfacing of the riding arena, to enhance the safety and riding experience for riders & horses**
- ✓ **New riding gear and therapy equipment bought to enhance safety and service delivery**

Upcoming & on-going initiatives include:

- **Acquisition of new therapy horses & ponies to support service expansion**
- **Premises improvement works to enhance RDA facilities**
- **Training & Certification of RDA volunteers and instructors, to enhance human capital and competencies, so as to improve service outcomes**
- **Expanding outreach to enhance sustainability**

To donate or fund raise for us, please contact, RDA Community Partnership Executive, Ms Karen Lim @ 6250-0176 or email: karenlim@rdasingapore.org.sg

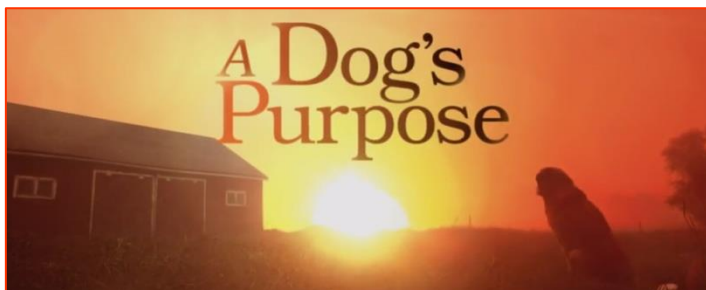
RDA 35TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Founded in 1982, with just five riders and whole lot of heart – RDA is the only charity locally to provide free therapeutic and rehabilitative horse-riding for children and adults with disabilities.

Social Impact of RDA Therapy Program:

- ✓ **More than 80% of our riders achieved improvement in their physical functioning**
- ✓ **More than 90% of our riders achieved improvement in their psycho-social functioning**
- ✓ **More than 90% of parents, caregivers, teachers & therapists found our programme beneficial**

RDA was able to serve 307 riders and provide 4304 therapy rides in 2016, and we also support 16 SPED schools and VWOs by providing free therapy. Please support our upcoming events so RDA can continue to provide, enhance and expand our free therapy program for those with disabilities.



CHARITY MOVIE "A DOG'S PURPOSE"

Date: 2nd March 2017 (Thursday)

Time: 7.00pm (to be confirmed)

Venue: Shaw Lido Theatre

Tickets @ \$50



RIDING FOR THE
DISABLED
ASSOCIATION
SINGAPORE

RDA 35TH ANNIVERSARY CHARITY BALL

Date: 10th June 2017 (Saturday)

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: RDA Centre, back by popular demand!

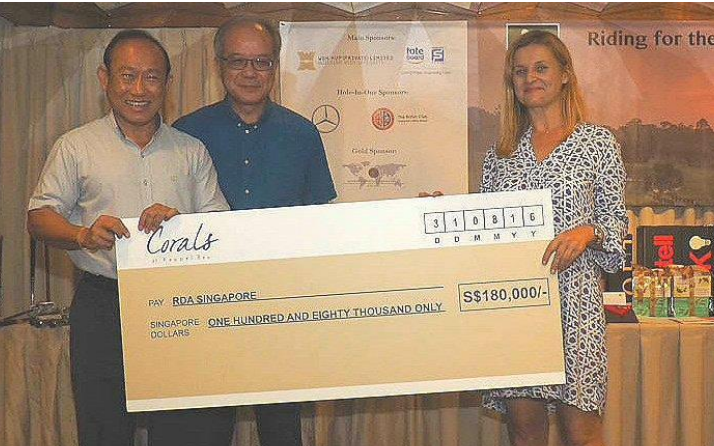
Tickets from \$250

For enquiry, please email: mail@rdasingapore.org.sg



THE RDA TIMES

RDA CHARITY GOLF was held on 31st August 2016 at scenic Seletar Country Club—the event saw participation from 72 avid golfers, plus some 200 guests attending the post-golf dinner.



The event was supported by our corporate partner, Woh Hup (Private) Limited, in conjunction with their project completion - *Corals at Keppel Bay*.

RDA CHARITY GOLF



More than \$180,000 was raised at the event. A special congratulation to Mr Chris Taylor from the British Club who scored a "Hole-in-One".



RDA OPEN HOUSE



RDA OPEN HOUSE was held on 10th July 2016, the public outreach programme welcomed over 800 guests to RDA Centre. Guests were treated to pony rides, met our horses, played carnival games, ate at

yummy food stalls, while at the same time learned more about RDA's horse-riding therapy program for children & adults with disabilities.

GOOD BYE & WELCOME

In 2016, we bid farewell to therapy horses Rama, Alfred and Fraggie.

In November, we welcomed a 10 y.o. gelding, Casper, to the RDA family. Casper is an Irish Cob who has smoothly adapted to RDA life and is now serving in sessions.



Rama



Alfred



Fraggie



Casper