



SARDA Tails End of Year Edition

December 2023

Dear SARDA Friends

The wonderful SARDA lessons have ended, the schools have closed and some SARDA staff and most volunteers are on leave. Three fundraising events are still happening and the mower is giving the land one last clean up for the year and thereafter horses and people will have well deserved quality time with their loved ones. Every volunteer, staff member and SARDA friend can be proud of the wonderful work done at SARDA. We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

Dates to Remember:

1. Volunteer Refreshers: Thursday, 25 January 2024 either 9am to 11 am or 2.30pm to 4.30pm
2. New Volunteer Training: Monday, 29 January 2024 either 9am to 11am or 2.30pm to 4.30pm
3. Lead Up International: Sessions for Volunteers: 23 January 2024 (Please diarize and speak to Bee after 9 January to confirm)
4. Monty Roberts Course: 15,16, and 20 January 2024 Any equestrians wanting to attend, speak to Bee or Teri about details.



**BEGINNING OF SARDA LESSONS IN 2024:
WEDNESDAY, 31 JANUARY 2024!**

Fundraising Events:

Thank You to all Volunteers who helped at these events!



OPEN GARDENS

14 October 2023

at Water Oak Farm

Convenor: Jenny Blackburn

Once again, we are so grateful to Wendy Floquet for opening her garden to SARDA to raise funds. The event was well attended, the garden magnificent and Winston's wine tasting hugely popular. The Open Garden at Water Oak Farm has become iconic. As usual, the SARDA Team, Wendy and Winston deserve a huge Thank You for their hard work.

MZANZI BALLET'S THE QUEEN SHOW

27 October 2023 at Theatre on The Bay

Convenor: Susie Marsden



SARDA Volunteers and patrons filled the house at Theatre on the Bay . Everyone greatly enjoyed their favourite Queen songs and marvelled at the glorious performance of Mzanzi Ballet dancers. It was a wonderful Fundraising event that promises to be repeated in the next year.

THE GIFT FAIR AT THE BAXTER THEATRE:

1ST to 5th November 2023

Convenor: Bee Lukey

The well-known Constantia Gift Fair was held for the 4th year at the Baxter Theatre. This year's Pancakes stall, so beautifully presented and decorated and its adorable merchandise and books written, selected and donated by Candice Noakes Dobson were a huge success and are becoming a recognized feature at the fair. We are so grateful to Carryn Wiltshire, CEO of the Gift Fair, for her support of SARDA and for keeping us as beneficiaries. The Pancakes stall was managed ably and with great charm by Lise Giliomee, SARDA volunteer. Thanks to her and all the volunteers who manned the stall.



THE LUCK OF THE DRAW: The ALLIED STEEL RODE CHARITY RACE 28 October 2024, Turffontein, Johannesburg SARDA Representative: Steven Lukey

SARDA, one of 21 Charity Organisations chosen by Allied Steelrode as beneficiaries in this prestigious race, drew the winning horse, Puerto Manzano, and received a large cheque. Thank You to Allied Steelrode, 4 Races and Steven Lukey.



TIN COLLECTION AND BARGAIN SALE

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to Pippa Richardson, Camilla Todd and their team for their effort every second month throughout the year with bringing in much needed cash from Tin Collections.



And the same goes for the monthly stalwart Bargain Sale team organised by Margaret Morgan and the lovely ladies: Thank you! It is hard work that is much appreciated and valued as great publicity for SARDA!

CHRISTMAS CARDS Convenor: Mandy van Dugteren First week of November

Every year Mandy Van Dugteren never fails to astound us all with the success of the Christmas Card Stand. Thank you to Mandy and her team!

Now Happening:



GIFT WRAPPING

Convenor: Bee Lukey

17 to 24 December 2023

Constantia Village Shopping Centre

What an effort is being put into this fundraising event! Thank you to Stasa Mladjenovic for managing the table under such pressure together with the SARDA team.

THE COUNTRYSIDE CHALLENGE November 2023

With stormy weather predicted ahead of this year's Country-side Challenge, Teri Smith designed a course that included tasks for Riders both on and off the horse. This new dimension to the riding lesson that all were used to heightened the 'Excitement and also showed off the mobile and cognitive skills refined during the year of therapeutic horse-riding lessons at SARDA. Teachers, parents, families and, most of all, all the SARDA riders loved the challenge and proudly received the Rosettes, specially made for SARDA's 50th anniversary year. Gift bags were handed out together with specially designed And personalized certificates. Despite the strong winds that Prevailed for half of the week, every SARDA rider had the Opportunity to show of their riding skills to family and friends, either on and off the horse, in the stable or in the arena.

Teachers and family of the riders took the opportunity to relax on SARDA's beautiful lawn and enjoy the moment when the weather allowed.



END-OF-YEAR-CELEBRATION

On a warm and windless November evening SARDA volunteers gathered to celebrate the end of a good year at SARDA. Carol Beukman, Mel van der Spuy and Amanda Koen were responsible for the tasty bites and the festive drink. Leigh de Beyer was the wonderful benefactor of the very welcome bubbles to add to the sparkle. Dawn Goodley thanked all the volunteers and staff for the work done over the course of the year. As usual, the centre stage was taken by the Pony of the Year Announcement: this year shared equally by Bingo (Horse of the Year) and Dandy (Pony of the Year).



OTHER NEWS:

CAF INTERNATIONAL VALIDATION

Thanks to the initiative of Mary Glasser, SARDA underwent a process with Charities Aid Foundation, based in the USA, determining SARDA's eligibility to apply for American and other funding. Not only was SARDA validated, but the organisation received a wonderful grant. The validation allows SARDA to apply for funding from the USA for the next three years.



LAUREUS SPORT FOR GOOD CERTIFICATE

Laureus, a benefactor of SARDA's this past year, invited SARDA to participate in a 9-month-long course with modules covering (specifically for Non-Profit Organisations) governance, financial management, child protection, sport in the community, Employment law for non-profit organisation and monitoring and evaluation. Bee Lukey and Teri Smith received the Certificate of Attendance at a Ceremony in the Markötter Function Room in Stellenbosch.

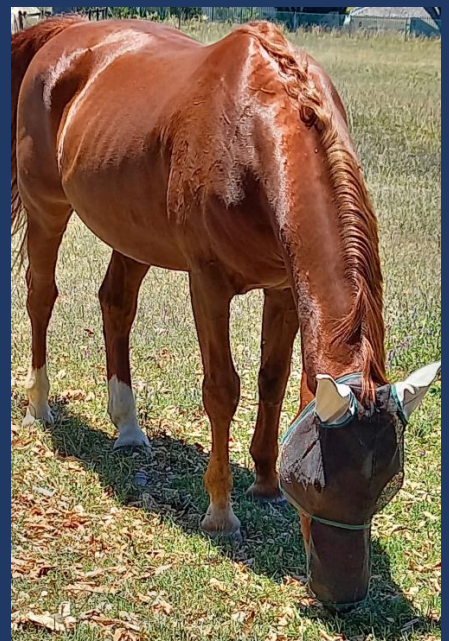
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Herewith are the portfolios of the Committee Members:

- Dawn Goodley: Chairperson and School Liaison
- Carol Beukman: Vice Chairperson and RDA Instructor Representative
- Mel van der Spuy: Physiotherapy Representative
- Amanda Koen: Stable and RDA Lesson Representative
- Chloe Longmore: IT and Youth Committee Representative
- Jenny Blackburn: Fundraising Representative
- Brian Gardner: Honorary Treasurer
- Bee Lukey: Honorary Secretary

AND FINALLY,

In anticipation of SARDA's therapeutic horse-riding classes in 2024, meet Alonso, the newest addition to our "therapists" in the stables.



SOME SARDA IMAGES TO TAKE YOU INTO 2024.....

Pictures courtesy of Natalie Goldsmith




Happy Holidays
The Staff and Management
Committee thank you for your support
of SARDA and look forward to
seeing you in 2024!