



SARDA Tails

April
2026



Dear SARDA Friends,

The first term of SARDA has come to a lively close during these beautiful autumn days. Young volunteers, both local and international, have been busy exercising horses, tidying up, and preparing for the upcoming second term.

We are proud to welcome an additional Special Needs School, Mary Kihn School for Partially Hearing Children, for popular vaulting classes with Teri Smith.

We bid a fond farewell to extra-ordinary international volunteers from Germany and Sweden: Indira Assad, Alma Hensen, Sofia Lennermo and Leonie Ullrich. We are happy that Radu-Andrej Maldea will still be with us for several weeks.

A great "thank you" goes to all volunteers for a successful first term.

We wish all our riders, schools and volunteers a safe and enjoyable holiday and a happy Easter to all who celebrate it!

SARDA Members Recognized



At SARDA's Annual General Meeting in 2025, Hillary Lane, serving as Chairperson, awards an RDA Instructor certificate to Margaret Morgan. Margaret was honored for her many years of dedication in SARDA's therapeutic horse riding lessons and demonstrating extensive experience and knowledge with horses, volunteers, and riders.

Mel van der Spuy was presented with a certificate of appreciation for her contribution to the training and qualification of RDA instructors in South Africa and further afield.



SARDA Members proudly attended the Humanity festival, where our Chairperson, Hillary, was honoured with an award for her activism for people with disabilities in the Western Cape. The award was presented by the CEO of Artscape, Marlene le Roux, and Premier Alan Winde.

Collaboration and Sharing of Experience and Ideas.....



SARDA collaborated with Stellenbosch University Marketing Students during a feedback and familiarisation session on a project for SARDA. It was wonderful to get a fresh perspective these future changemakers brought to the table.



Standard and Poor Global dispatched a group of their young professionals to volunteer at SARDA. They dedicated a day to preparing props for the Countryside Challenge, followed by another day assisting with the event itself. SARDA expresses its heartfelt gratitude to S&P Global for their generous contribution of time, as well as for sponsoring the innovative props and specially designed tee-shirts provided to each rider. Their involvement truly enhanced SARDA's commitment to inclusivity!

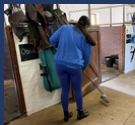
And the Culmination of a Year of Therapeutic Horse Riding - the Countryside Challenge.....



A week filled with joy, pride, accomplishments, and, most importantly, recognition from family, friends, and teachers—that's what the Countryside Challenge at SARDA embodies. Riders get the chance to showcase their achievements to peers, siblings, and loved ones. The smiles they wear are a testament to all the hard work that has gone into making this event a success.



More Collaboration and Community Spirit

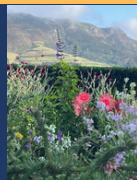


Learners from Springfield Convent School so community service at SARDA



SARDA Volunteers attend a talk by Kirsty Bastable, on Communicating with Neurodiversity Riders. Kirsty is a Speech Therapist and Audiologist and SARDA Volunteer.

SARDA'S OPEN GARDEN FUNDRAISER



We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Wendy and Winston Floquet for so generously opening their beautiful garden to the public in support of SARDA. This event has become a beloved tradition, bringing joy to all who take part.

**And Now
For
Something
Completely
Different
and Further
Afield...**



SARDA CX supported Masithandani's annual kite festival in Sedgefield, WC. A fun-filled day of community and the incredible SARDA Sedgefield ponies spreading smiles and superhero spirit.

A Winning Day at the Races...



Bee Lukey from SARDA Cape Town and Adale Brown, SARDA trained RDA Instructor from the Earth Centre in Gauteng, show off the horse names and numbers running for their organisations in the Allied Steelrode Charity Mile. SARDA received R40 000. Thank you, Allied Steelrode!

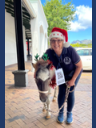


End of Year Fundraising and Events



A Thousand Thank You's go to Candice Noakes Dobson for her generous donation of the proceeds of the sales of the iconic Pancakes Books at the Gift Fair at the Baxter Theatre. The Pancakes stand received a new eye-catching look. The SARDA Community is also thankful to Carryn Wiltshire for the donation of proceeds of the Gift Fair to SARDA.

SARDA's Bi-Monthly Tin Collection at The Constantia Village Shopping Centre receives a heart-warming Boost from the beloved Koki and Kole, two miniature horses generously provided by the Alphen Veterinary Clinic, have significantly enhanced SARDA's bi-monthly Tin Collection. Their delightful presence brings countless smiles and fosters greater support for SARDA. We are so grateful to the Alphen Clinic. The SARDA team deserves a huge pat on the back for their dedication to this iconic SARDA project.



The Gift Wrapping Stand at the Constantia Village Shopping Centre was a tremendous success this year. A heartfelt and sincere "Thank you" goes out to all the volunteers who contributed to this initiative. It was a remarkable year for SARDA! The Christmas Card Stand also enjoyed great popularity, and special thanks to Mandy van Dugteren for convening this cherished tradition! We truly appreciate the generous proceeds that benefited SARDA!

**SARDA thanks The
Constantia Shopping
Centre for their loyal
support.**

End of Year Celebration



SARDA Volunteers gathered at the end of the last term to celebrate their hard and rewarding work and each other. Hillary Lane handed out certificates of long service to various volunteers and Maverick was voted the Pony of the Year.



AND THESE WERE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FIRST TERM IN 2026!



We've added an extra lesson to our weekly timetable! On Thursdays, students from the Mary Kihn School for Partially Hearing Children join us for vaulting lessons with Teri. These sessions are becoming increasingly popular, and the riders are making remarkable progress.

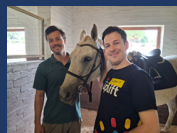
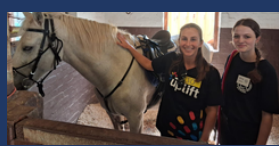
The Three Musketeers, Radu, Alma and Indira, from Germany, have made a lasting impression. They were joined by Leonie Ullrich and Sofia Lennermo from Germany and Sweden respectively. We are very grateful for their wonderful help, enthusiasm and knowledge.



What a delightful experience our Valentine's Day Fundraiser was! The Bob Mowday Band entertained an appreciative audience at the Mainstream Amphitheatre in Hout Bay. A heartfelt thank you to both the band and the venue for making this fundraiser such a resounding success!



For the second year in a row the Bloodstock Yearling Sale hosted by SARDA was a tremendous success. Thank you to Bloodstock for this wonderful opportunity.



A wonderful and engaging team from Capitec Bank spent a day volunteering at SARDA. This commitment to community work by corporate companies is highly appreciated.



Bidding Farewell to Three Remarkable Ladies

The SARDA family were greatly saddened to hear of the passing of Kate Hurst, Margaret Bowman and Margaretha van der Meijden.

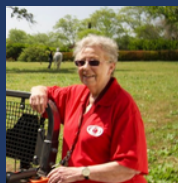
All three ladies played significant roles at SARDA and will be greatly missed.

Margaret Bowman was an exceptional fundraiser for SARDA, devoting countless hours and every third Saturday for many years to the Car Boot Sale and later the Bargain Sale. She was a cherished and valued member of a remarkable group of women committed to raising funds for SARDA while also increasing awareness at the monthly Bargain Sale.



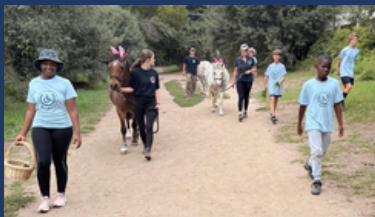
Kate Hurst contributed significantly to the training of our therapeutic horse riding instructors and assisted in developing a training programme and syllabus for our RDA Instructor Assessments held annually at SARDA.

Margaretha van der Meijden was among the inaugural group of RDA instructors qualified at SARDA and has made significant contributions to SARDA's therapeutic horse riding lessons. She also organized the Mounted Games for SARDA's 40th Anniversary.

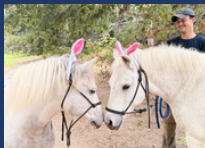


PLEASE DIARIZE

- The first day of SARDA lessons in term 2: Wednesday, 15 April 2026
- New Volunteer Training: Monday, 13 April 2026, 3pm to 5pm OR Tuesday, 14 April 2026, 9am to 11am



Poncho, Spirit, Dandy and SARDA volunteers walked the Green Belt, handing out brochures and Marshmallow Eggs to delighted passers by.



**We wish
you a
blessed
Holiday
Weekend**