Dear Group Contacts and Chairs,

Following on from Ed’s email updating you on the RDA guidelines as at 17 March 2020 ([www.myrda.org.uk/about-rda/latest-news/](http://www.myrda.org.uk/about-rda/latest-news/) ) we wanted to share some useful resources with your group.

Please find attached a Press release template that has been produced to assist your group in continuing to raise funds. These can be completed and sent on to the press. It is always a good idea to attach a couple of high res photos so that the journalists have a full package they can quickly publish. If you need further assistance with completing the template or sending it out please do get in touch. There is also a Social Media toolkit with some examples of posts that you could use and some helpful tips for how to reach a wider audience and increase fundraising at your group.

We also understand that some participants may want to continue with RDA activities, and although they won’t be able to ride, we have attached some training aids that can be used for at-home learning. If you need any further guidance on how to support participants with educational activities that they can participate in from home please contact Marisa at marisa@rda.org.uk

Lastly, Regional vet Tess Fordham, has also put together some guidance regarding looking after Equines during the Coronavirus outbreak. This has been circulated to all Group Equine Contacts already but is a very useful document for everyone at groups, who help to look after Equines, to read through. For groups that employ staff it is worthwhile becoming familiar with the moral and legal obligations of employers which has been shared on the Equestrian Employers Association website: <https://equestrianemployers.org.uk/news/433/advice-for-employers-on-coronavirus>

The National office remains open and will continue to support groups, but will be operating with a skeleton staff in the office, with the majority of staff working from home. Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you need support or advice but please try to email wherever possible.

Best wishes,

Beth Randles

Communications co-ordinator

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