

## Hello from Hastings RDA team

At this time of year, we often remark on how quickly the months are passing, and once again it is hard to believe that we have already reached the end of Term 3.

It has been a long, difficult winter term, with illness affecting both volunteers and riders. At times, this has disrupted our programme, so we appreciate your understanding and patience as we have managed these challenges.

Organisations and charities like ours rely heavily on people who generously give their time and energy to keep us running. In this newsletter, we recognise two such individuals, Ruth Holmes and Coleen Davy, whose contributions have made Hastings RDA a much better place.

We wish you all a relaxing few weeks break and look forward to an exciting Term 4, beginning on Monday, 12 October.

For more regular updates follow us on Facebook:

**Hastings Group Riding for the Disabled**



Ruth receiving her  
award from  
Hastings RDA  
President  
Dawn Voyce

## RUTH HOLMES - Life Membership Award

This term, we gathered for a very special morning tea to celebrate one of our longest-serving and most cherished members, Ruth Holmes.

It was a privilege to present Ruth with a Life Membership Award in recognition of more than 20 years of remarkable service, unwavering commitment and wholehearted dedication to Hastings RDA.

Over the years, Ruth has given so generously of her time, energy and care. Her steady presence, kindness and encouragement have touched countless lives and helped shape Hastings RDA into the special community it is today. We are deeply grateful for all she has done.

Ruth, from all of us, thank you for everything you have given—and continue to give—to Hastings RDA and NZ RDA. Your contribution means more than words can express and this award is a small but heartfelt reflection of the enormous appreciation and affection we all have for you.

## OBITUARY - Coleen Davy

We acknowledge the recent passing of Coleen Davy and recognise her many years of generous support for Hastings RDA.

Coleen first supported the organisation when it was known as the Riding for the Disabled Northern Hawke's Bay Group and was run by Mary Short from her riding stables on Railway Road. Coleen helped to raise funds by organising Country and Western concerts in Heretaunga Street as part of the Blossom Parade celebrations.

Coleen reconnected with Hastings RDA in 2009 and offered to organise street collections on our behalf. These collections supported our fundraising and strengthened our connection with the wider community. In 2016, she gifted the Coleen Davy Shield for the Most Improved Rider, creating a lasting tribute to the riders she supported and encouraged. In 2020, she was honoured as a Life Member in recognition of her outstanding contribution.



## FUNDERS - SPONSORS - DONORS

I'm sure every parent, teacher and carer who has endured the cold wind, rain, and hot sun while watching riders from the viewing platform at the edge of the arena will be delighted with the new shelter, which now offers a much more comfortable place to sit and observe.

This wonderful addition to our arena was kindly donated by the **Kale family**, whose daughter Grace is one of our riders.

On behalf of everyone who will benefit from this shelter, a very big **THANK YOU**.



*Thank you to our fabulous supporters*

