Welcome to our first issue of 2018. Looking back, 2017 was an eventful year for REACH, the most significant thing being our move to Chelmsford Equestrian Centre with two of our ponies Annie and Fuzz. The ponies, staff and volunteers have all settled in well and adjusted to slightly different routines and different working environment. With the new venue we have lost some volunteers who were unable to make the extra drive but gained some lovely new volunteers local to Chelmsford Equestrian Centre. We are lucky to have retired physiotherapist Jenny who is great to have with her experience as a physio working in neurology. Tish Woulds, physiotherapist, continues to support REACH giving up her time on a Wednesday morning and covering for Louise. Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to some of our trustees. Pam Holmes who has been instrumental in getting REACH to where we are today. Pam started as a volunteer side walker / leader and later became a trustee. She served 3 years on the board and for the last 2 years was secretary. Pam’s hard work and dedication to the charity will never be forgotten. We are very grateful to the many hours of her time she gave up as volunteer coordinator, safeguarding and DBS officer as well as all her regular secretarial duties. She is ‘one in a million’ and will be sadly missed.

In addition to Pam going we have also had to say goodbye to Kay Brown Who was also with us from the onset. Kay also assisted with the sessions and later became a trustee. She was also involved in the ASDAN programme that we ran. As a retired teacher, Kay helped 3 of our participants to complete their ASDAN portfolio in animal care. We are very grateful to all she has done for REACH. We also say good bye to Les Rosewarne. Les joined REACH as a volunteer in early 2017, soon after he started volunteering Les became a trustee and then took on the role of Chairperson. We would all like to say a big thank you to Les wish him well in his retirement.

We do however have some new Trustees to fill their boots and we welcome Victorian Lian, a mum of two and accountant who is our new treasurer, Victoria Dutton, mum of Layla one of our hippotherapy children. Vikki who is a member of the WI has also taken on the role of Chairperson and Lisa Bailey our new secretary and amazing volunteer. Lisa likes wearing many hats, fundraising committee coordinator, volunteer leader/ side walker and most recently secretary. We welcome Lisa and her enthusiasm to help REACH achieve its goals.
Lots of exciting changes in 2017 not least for Annie and Mr Fuzz who made the big move from Crown Farm to Chelmsford Equestrian Centre. Both ponies have been amazing and have settled into their new routines well. The livery girls are very fond of them and so too are the new volunteers. The move was a massive step for REACH, but all the hard work is paying off as we are now more accessible to new clients and with an indoor arena, sessions can take place no matter what the weather throws at us.

Back at Crown Farm Flora and Trixie have been keeping children entertained with pony party days and have been doing their bit for raising valuable funds for REACH.

We are excited about the future there are lots of things planned for 2018 so watch this space!

We are planning intensive hippotherapy sessions for Easter and summer holidays. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for information on this and other upcoming events.
Pilgrims Hatch Co-op

Massive thankyou goes to the Pilgrims Hatch Co-op Branch who have donated £4,200 pounds to REACH. The donation is from the Co-op members as part of their Local Community fund and the sale of their 5p carrier bags. Volunteers Helen and Linda took Flora and Trixie along to say thank you and receive the cheque.

If you shop in the Co-op, please become a member by visiting [www.coop.co.uk/membership](http://www.coop.co.uk/membership) and 1% of everything you spend on co-op items goes to the local community fund.

Curry Night Indian Night, Chelmsford.

Our charity curry night in December raised £610. Big Thank you to India Nights Restaurant in Chelmsford for hosting it and thank you to all those who came along. Next curry night will be in May 2018.
Buttsbury Infant School

Wow! We would like to say a MASSIVE THANK YOU to Buttsbury Infant School for their huge donation of £900 to REACH. Before Christmas, they had a school play and the parents that came to watch gave a donation. The cheque was presented to us at their assembly in January and we cannot thank them enough😊

In June Waitrose presented REACH with cheque of £411 from their Community Matters fund. Thank you, Waitrose.

Charity Golf Day at
BENTLEY GOLF CLUB

Tuesday 5th September 2017

Following the glorious success with our first one in 2016, we were chuffed to repeat this event raising £700! Mercedes-Benz – Chelmsford had cars on display & entered a team. Our thanks to our other supporters & players with results:

- **18 holes competition**
  - Winner’s Trophy was John Wild
  - Winning Team Trophy with 2 American Golf Vouchers & 2 John Lewis Vouchers was The Wild Bunch

- **Putting Competition**
  - Trophy - Alex Piccolo (Mercedes 4)

- **Nearest the Pin**
  - Trophy - Edward Fisher (The Winners)

- **Longest Drive**
  - Trophy - Daniel Everingham (The wild Bunch)
IN OTHER NEWS!

Trixie one of REACH’s miniature Shetlands has made it to the front cover of East Anglian rider magazine. Photo taken by Louise’s eldest daughter Charlotte. Talented Pair!

Winter Pony Day at CEC

It was a busy afternoon at our Winter Pony Day - lots of crafts, sensory play, storytelling and pony rides, along with refreshments too. Thank you to all who helped and to the attendees for a lovely afternoon.
In December we had to say goodbye to one of our most valuable members. Dandy was the mature boy of all the REACH ponies he was Louise children’s first pony and taught them and many of their friends to ride. In his later years he was the main REACH pony he was there at the start of REACH and helped many children. His calm laid back temperament made him ideal as a therapy pony. He used to love our pony days where he would stand still for hours being groomed and painted! He is irreplaceable. He will be sadly missed. It was all very sudden, but he is now resting in peace and walking over Rainbow Bridge. Dandy loved his walks his happiest moment was being on a hack. Sleep well Dandy you will be in our hearts forever.

Farewell to sweet natured dapple grey, Dandy Favourite with so many as he walked and hailed Standing still with such care in the manège Whilst hippotherapy took place on top of him He loved walking up and down the lane Where he would show off and strut his stuff keeping up and sometimes out pacing His bigger friends all having ‘such fun’ He took being lunged in his stride Whilst being painted was alright Being groomed was even better Especially if there were treats.

Poem By Linda Poole
Volunteering can be both fun and rewarding. REACH’s volunteers are made up of people from all walks of life who give up their time for a couple of hours each week. Without its volunteers REACH would not be able to operate.

Today’s volunteer Q & A is Linda Poole

So, Linda what made you want to volunteer at REACH?

Having met Louise, seen Hippotherapy in action and learning more about what it involves, I came to have a look for myself and never left.

Horses/ponies have always been a passion of mine, as well as cats.

As a child and young adult, I had a lot of physiotherapy (including basic donkey rides), but would have greatly benefited from what we do here at REACH.

Now I am retired I have more time to volunteer and to use my professional expertise and transferable skills. This includes my business experience; and as well as being a lecturer and trainer for adults I have a teaching qualification too.

What’s the best thing about volunteering at REACH?
A bit of a cliché, but seeing the wonderful progress most children achieve whilst thoroughly enjoying themselves and at the same time the REACH team spirit thrives as we have fun too.

What do you do when you’re not volunteering at REACH?

I am also a long-standing volunteer at Barrow Farm RDA and so split my time between them.

I am a member of Business and Professional Women (BPW) as I have always been interested in women’s issues. This, like my previous career as a Housing Professional, takes me all over the world.

As a retired Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Housing I have kept up my membership and am still involved with my professional body.
I have Tuesdays and Sundays off, so I do yoga, gym and swim; play golf and spend time with my two Siamese cats;

(My cup of) Princess Tia and (I luv) Lucy

My family and friends plus, travel more and enjoy holidays abroad and in the UK.

I also love music (opera); play the violin and piano, but not at the same time.

I go regularly to the cinema and theatre.

What’s the one bit of advice you could give someone who’s thinking about becoming a volunteer at REACH?

Come along, see and experience for yourself the wonderful work REACH does.
Annmarie
Volunteer & Trainee Hippotherapist

Linda - Volunteer

Mags - Volunteer

Terri - Volunteer

Lisa - Trustee & Volunteer

Jane - Volunteer

Trixie & Flora Therapy Ponies

Mr Fuzz - Therapy Pony

Annie - Therapy Pony

REACH
Charity Number 32556754
A Charity Specialising In Equine Assisted Therapy
As is the case in many charities, volunteers are our backbone and without them we would cease to function. Our volunteers allow us to use their time to not only care for our horses, but also to fundraise, do administration and other necessary roles within our charity.

Can you or anyone you know, friends, family, colleagues spare us a few hours each week to enable us to continue to deliver our beneficial programme of therapies. No experience is necessary as training is given – you just need to be enthusiastic and prepared to help.

We especially need people with Social Media experience, Website designers, Fundraising, photography and Admin skills. If you want to help us, we’ll find a role to suit you!

Email: reach.hippotherapy@gmail.com
Or telephone 07519 169913
May 15th  
Curry night at India Night Restaurant

£20 per person which includes:
A starter,
Curry main,
Rice,
Naan bread,
+ Raffle
+ Licenced Bar 7:30 till late

To confirm your place call REACH on 07519 169913
Saturday 27th October 2018

CHARITY BALL
At
Ivy Hotel Chelmsford
IN AID OF

Tickets £55
Includes drink on arrival
3 Course meal
Dancing
Family friendly Burlesque Dancers.
Also available
Licenced Bar
Raffle with Some Awesome Prizes

Accommodation is also available which can be booked separately via the venue

For Tickets please call 07519169913
7pm till late minimum age 16 years.
Dates for your diary 2018
Easter egg hunt and fun afternoon. Date to be confirmed keep an eye on our Facebook page for details.

May Day show Monday 7th May

India Nights Curry Night Tuesday 15th May

The Fun Walk Trust 2nd September Barleylands

Golf Day 4th September details to follow

Autumn Ball Sat 27th October

For information on all these events please see our Facebook page.