

Pre- RDA	
1975	The Group, then known as the Aldershot Group, was formed by Lance Bombardier Chris Livett, 7 th Para Reg RHA in conjunction with Aldershot Society for Mentally Handicapped Children. Col Eric Ridgeway was Chairman. Col. Pat Skinner (South East District Paymaster - later known as Commander Finance SE) acted as Treasurer, Miss Prior as Secretary (?). Riding took place at Beaumont Barracks using CL's own horse and horses belonging to the Army Garrison Saddle Club (AGSC). Brigadier Thorpe offered the AGSC horses.
1975	Chris Livett was told of posting to Germany. Group in a state of collapse. CL made application to RDA for membership.
RDA	
1976	<p>EGM called in May by Eric Ridgeway who was elected Chairman; Col. Skinner as Treasurer, Joan Baines as Secretary. Sue Hanmer as Instructor needed collector of Saddle Club horses. Committee formed. Christine Pike had joined in answer to ad. posted in Fleet Library headed 'Aldershot RDA'. Quote from Christine: "<i>After the meeting closed Chris [who had been acting as organiser] explained to me that the Committee had no idea of the situation and the paperwork involved and the need to restart the Group from scratch, and he doubted I would manage it. I gave it a try, and we were up and running by the time we held the first AGM in [April 1977]. Early days as Organiser. Only about six Helpers able to return, no pony owners willing to help, too many Riders. Saddle Club horses and the Indoor School still available.</i></p> <p><i>Decisions accepted by Committee over the next two years: (i) To use the large caravan owned by the Group and kept at the AGSC as a tack room. It had been intended as a class room for teaching theory but was too cold and damp and presented a towing problem because of its size. (ii) To fund raise and buy a horse box to carry five ponies. (iii) To discontinue teaching HTI adults.</i></p> <p><i>Fund Raising: Continued with collections at Farnborough Air Show. To collect, run stalls, and run a tombola from our caravan after Brigadier Thorpe invited us to the Aldershot Horse Show. Marion Draper had enlisted the help of colleagues at The Welcome Foundations to put aside money so that they could give the Riders a Christmas Party with gifts and to take them on a Summer outing. This they continued to do for many years. The RMP became happy to associate with the Group and provided a horse each year until Father Christmas decided he had reached the age for walking. Marion also introduced us to Captain Micky Munn and the Red Devils. They raised funds for us and arranged for us to receive three minibuses in total as they bought replacements. These were used to transport tack as the caravan rotted."</i> Formal constitution written and submitted to the Riding for the Disabled Association. Full membership of the RDA was granted in Oct. Sue Davies helped.</p>
1977	The first horse box, a 6 cylinder Commercial, was purchased in August.

1978	Rachel Plumbe joined as helper with Snowy - daughter's pony.
Year?	The Spraybridge Unit at Badshot School found Tuesday riding difficult so that we began riding on Thursdays at their school instead.
1992	Graham Plumbe took over as Treasurer, using army books.
1993	Riding continued at the RMP Indoor School, Beaumont Barracks, until it was closed for repairs in 1993. Riding moved to Velmead Farm, Watery Lane (Di Longson). Ponies used were borrowed and collected by horsebox. First pony owned was Sultan. The Viscount Tenby (Bill Tenby) succeeded as Chairman.
1994	Group Constitution signed (original?)
1996	Jenny Edmonds became Secretary (following Joan Baines, Barbara Hall and Rachel Plumbe)
1997	Rachel Plumbe took over as Group Organiser. Retirement party for Christine at Lords & Ladies, Dogmersfield, courtesy of Bianca and Jeremy Robson.
1998	The Group became an independent charity (1074282) within a federation, RDA National. Standard Constitution applied to member groups. Move from Velmead Farm; started riding at Albany Farm (Sept) by courtesy of Reg and Bev Potter.
2000	Our 25 th Anniversary celebration at Redfields Cottage Farm by courtesy of Pat Dobbin was attended by Col Amedee Mieville OBE (the Garrison Commander at the time). The Army presented the Group with rosettes and some equipment. Attendants also included our founder, Chris Livett, the Rushmoor Mayor, the Chairman of Hart DC and the Fleet Lions Chairman.
2001	Spring term's riding lost through foot and mouth disease.
2002	RDA changed titles - Group Organisers became Chairmen, as did Rachel. Bill Tenby became President by invitation.
2003	Replacement horsebox acquired at a cost of £20,000.
2004	Constitution re-written.
2004	Van donated by Plume of Feathers (Crandall) triathlon team, in 2004 at a cost of £18,000, retained for carrying equipment. Surplus funds (£2000) given to us for expenses
2007	Beacon Hill (to which a move had been made since 1998) was awash; Group returned to Albany Farm on Tuesdays. New owner and new tenant (Stuart Luff).
2012	In Oct, the group changed its name to Hampshire and Surrey Borders Riding for the Disabled Association
2013	Constitution amended.
2014	Eric Ridgeway died; also (in July) Sue Davies, County Chairman. Rachel Plumbe retired as Chairman and was succeeded by Fiona Rice. Retirement party for Rachel held in July 2014 at Crandall Village Hall. Presentation made of reconstructed (inherited) garden seat and many other gifts.
2015	Riding moved from Albany Farm to Beacon Hill (Farm) in January.

	Lesley Bull was elected Chairman in June, succeeding Fiona Rice.
2016	Bill Tenby retired as President. Beacon Hill management folded. Agreement reached with Four Seasons Hotel to take Tuesday rides.
2017	<p>Rachel Plumbe was elected as President (Jan). Pat Dobbin retired as pony keeper. Four Seasons agreed to take Thurs rides as well. Arrangements made to convey Badshot Lea School children.</p> <p>Ponies were re-homed thus: <u>Smokey</u> had been with us since being lent in 2004. Retained by Pat. <u>Merlin</u> - had been in service since purchase in 2006 . Retirement home provided by Jenny Healey but sadly, on advice, was put down in May. <u>Pablo</u> - had been in service since purchase 2009. Put to good use by Emily, daughter of Neil Nicholson (Odiham resident).</p> <p>The horsebox, written down to under £500 over 14 years, was gifted to Pat for her immense contribution in the form of free pony care over many years.</p>
2018	Rachel was diagnosed with a brain aneurysm in June 2017 and suffered a series of ruptures, the 4 th in April 2018 causing her death on 9 March. In her memory, a cup bearing her name was given to South Region for presenting to the highest achiever in the Annual Qualifiers, the winner at Wellington in 2018 being 'Ben' of the Newbury Group.