## Rice Lane NEWS

## December 2023



Established 1980



What an outcome from our Halloween spooky walk! Well over 750 people came, with the queue going right down Rawcliffe road while waiting for us to open. Everyone had a great time, with some fantastic costumes on the kids, and we're going to make this a bigger and better event next Year.

Thank you to all those who either helped directly, or dressed up on the night to get into the 'spirit' of things. Our special thanks go out to Blazin Balloons

for arranging for Pennywise to come and take part for free.



We loved all the pictures we've been sent, and with all the food, drink and soup selling out on the night we also chalk this up as a very successful fundraiser. Everything we make from events like this goes toward keeping the farm open and free all year round.



For those who entered the guess the weight of the pumpkin competition, firstly, our apologies for the misleading posts everyone received. Persons unknown created a Facebook account in our name and using our logo and sent a spam link to every entrant telling them they had won, with a dodgy link to click.



Even the sheep got into the Halloween mood!

This wasn't us, and as soon as we found out, we deleted all the posts and blocked the sender, who was also reported to the Facebook police. The pumpkin was actually won by Tayla D who had the closest guess after it was weighed on 31 Oct.



The newest addition to the farm is Lexi, a full-sized horse. Lexi is friendly and loves attention, especially cheek scratches. Come along and say hello between 10am and 3.30pm. Lexi will be in the fields, or in the lambing pens on the farm yard. Work is under way to build a new stable that will be home for Lexi, as soon as it is ready. Lexi will be a companion for Guinness (Ness) our donkey, and you can already see them together. Freddie the pony, although a great favourite with many visitors, has gone back to his owners.

During the Autumn half-term, children enjoyed a range of crafts and activities, including spooky cake and biscuit making with professional baker Emma. Activities ran from 30 October until 3rd November, and were almost exclusively indoors due to the driving

rain throughout, which resulted in numbers being lower than usual. Everyone who braved the elements though had a lovely time. Some pictures overleaf.



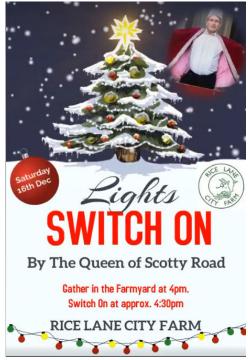


**During December**, we will be holding our Xmas Fayre on 16th, with visits from Santa (our very own) at 1pm, the Queen of Scottie Road (who will be switching on some Xmas lights, L20 Hub Childrens Choir and the Time Step Dance School. (see the poster below!)



We'll also be running our own winter activity playscheme on 21st and 22nd December in the Chapel, followed by Xmas activities between Xmas and new year follow us on our Facebook for details:





## @ricelanecityfarmofficial



December 21st & 22nd 11-3 in the Old Chapel Activities, free food & fun!



## Our thanks to local suppliers who support the Farm

The City Farm team would like to express our gratitude to our patrons, volunteers, donors, sponsors and to a number of local suppliers, who help us keep the Farm open and free to visit. Selco Builders Merchant has provided materials for a new stable that we are building for Lexi. Orrell Park DIY has for a number of years given us an amazing range of help with lots of practical things, ironmongery etc. and Farrer & Sons Butchers do our school holiday play scheme proud with the excellent sausages and other supplies. We would also like to make a special mention of Sainsburys in Rice Lane for continuing to support us with their surplus veg and fruit, which helps keep the animals fed and happy all year round.

Merry Xmas All

And

The very best for 2024!