



April 2024



Rice Lane Community Association has been awarded a three year grant of nearly £40,000 annually by the National Lottery Community Fund. With this we can do more activities, for local people, helping to improve health and wellbeing by means of social contact, constructive activities and learning creative skills. We are preparing a new programme to begin these projects shortly. There will be an emphasis on children, young and elderly people.

We will have to keep good records, to show that we have met the aims of the grant. There is also a new duty for RLCA, since we have to raise matching funds, on top of the usual running costs. This will come to more than £160,000 a year. As well as our normal monthly events, we are organising quarterly 'big' events, looking to increase our self funding. Even at our most optimistic, these might increase our income from about 10% of costs to 15%, still leaving a large gap to fill. So any help our friends and supporters can provide will be very welcome.

## **Easter Holiday Playscheme**

We are again providing fun and food for local children during the Easter School Holidays. We hope to be able to provide for all the children who attend. As we are on the Liverpool/Bootle border, many of children come from Bootle. Thanks to the efforts of our Farm Manager, Lucy, we have for the first time been granted £1600 by Sefton Council to cover the costs for Bootle children.

## **Easter with "Alice in Wonderland ?"**



We hope that all bases are covered, to have something to interest everyone or to excite appetites with different gastronomic delights. There will also be a mini fun fair. Fun will kick off at 10am and run through to 4pm. We are doing our best to make sure all those coming will have a good time. We cannot guarantee the weather but will do our best to ask for the sun to shine. More info on:

<https://www.facebook.com/RiceLaneCityFarmOfficial/>

## New Lambs due soon

Last autumn our daddy sheep was busy and we are looking forward to the arrival of new lambs. As a sample here are some of the lambs born last year.



## February Fun and Food week

We had planned to run for the full week of the February school holiday but drain blockages meant that we had to close on Friday. So apologies for any disappointed children. But we hope you liked what happened on the four days the doors were opened.



## Thinking caps on – 6<sup>th</sup> April ?

Any good at Pub Quizzes ? This is one with a difference. There will be seasoned quiz master, and we will be in good humoured teams. The intention is to raise money to keep us running. Look out for teasing questions and dig in your memory for obscure facts. The last one was before COVID and was great fun. So join us for a nice evening helping the Charity, which has been giving service to the local community for more than 40 years.



## Trees – growing on us.

Recently the Council Tree Officer visited the site, as it is entirely covered by a Tree Protection Order (TPO). He pointed out some problems that we are looking at. He also said that if a tree branch is growing over into your garden, you will need to get approval before it can cut off. Apply on line: <http://www.planningportal.co.uk>. Cutting a live tree without permission can be fined up to £1000.

## Egging you on !

Our new flock of chickens are laying eggs galore. They are free range and 6 eggs only cost £2.50. The ducks also lay eggs but not so many – 6 for £3. Both are very tasty and healthy. The egg money helps feed our other animals.

May Newsletter. Contributions before 19<sup>th</sup> April please.

Patrons: Lady Anne Dodd, Rosalind Exton, Roger Phillips & Rector LPC  
Rice Lane Community Association Charity No. 517465 No. 2 Lodge Rawcliffe Road L9 1AW  
[www.ricelane-city-farm.co.uk](http://www.ricelane-city-farm.co.uk) Donate at [www.gofundme.com/rice-lane-city-farm](https://www.gofundme.com/rice-lane-city-farm) Tel 0151 530 1066  
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