

Ride On!

RDA Victoria Update enewsletter



RDA Mornington Carriage Driving ponies are taking Spring Cleaning very seriously. Scotty (right) scrubs up while Louie (left) gets stuck into the housework.

Spring is Sprung

Spring has brought longer days, plenty of sunshine and a sense of hope we are pulling together to get through this next stage of restrictions.

RDA Victoria has been working with Equestrian Victoria, Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria and Pony Club Victoria, along with various Government Departments, to safely navigate our way back to COVID-19 normal operations. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and the News and Events page on our web site for updates. Thanks again to our many dedicated volunteers who are out keeping the horses and ponies in the very best of condition and health.

In the meantime, enjoy this next edition of Ride On.

**RDA VICTORIA AND THE
MELBOURNE RACING CLUB
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Catanach's Jewellers MRC Foundation Charity Race Day

RDA Victoria is looking forward to being a part of Catanach's Jewellers MRC Foundation Race Day.

All donations made to MRC Foundation in the lead up to and on the race day will be split evenly and donated to all charity partners.

Virtual tickets to the race day can be purchased through the MRC Foundation Raffle for \$10 per ticket, with profits from each ticket to go towards the nominated charity at checkout. Exciting prizes are up for grabs in the MRC Foundation Raffle, including diamond earrings worth \$2,500 from Catanach's Jewellers, a return racing Black Caviar Dining package, Godolphin Jockey silks signed by James Cummings, and many more. Virtual raffle tickets can be purchased from <https://mrc.racing.com/calendar/2020-09-19/catanachs-jewellers-mrc-foundation-race-day>

All funds raised from ticket sales will go towards the RDA Victoria Horse Welfare Fund. In absence of the corporate and hospitality packages on course, the MRC has created the Super Box which features some of the best-loved dishes from Caulfield's springtime marquees paired with bubbles, wine or beer, all delivered direct to customers' doors on the morning to enhance the race day experience.

The MRC Foundation Super Box will be available to order from Thursday 10 September. For more information visit <https://mrc.racing.com/dining/superbox>

Each charity will be allocated a horse in the Catanach's Jewellers MRC Foundation Cup (Naturalism Stakes) with a monetary prize for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placegetters generously donated by ANZ, Sportsbet, Beteasy and Catanach's Jewellers. The winning horse of the race gains automatic entry into the Stella Artois Caulfield Cup on Saturday 17 October.



MRC FOUNDATION RACE DAY

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

SUPER BOX
open, eat, drink & cheer!



From the President

It is lovely to see the sun shining and feel the warmth of spring. It has given the RDA Victoria Team a sense of a new beginning and has encouraged us to keep looking to the future rather than dwelling on the past. To that end, with spring comes preparation for RDA Victoria and its Centres' AGMs.

I would encourage everyone who has not previously done so to consider joining their Centre Committee of Management. While we have all worked very hard to navigate our way through the hurdles of the 2020, the reality is that there is so much more to do to ensure each and every RDA Victoria Centre comes out of 2020 ready and able to resume operations in 2021.

Centre AGMs ordinarily need to be convened by the Committee of Management within 5 months of the end of the Financial Year, that is, by the end of November.

RDA Victoria Rules are silent on whether an AGM must be held 'in person' but are clear on the requirement that each Centre must hold an AGM.

It has been recognised by the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) that given the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, charitable entities with a June 2020 year end which would normally be holding an AGM in October/November, may struggle to hold their AGMs within the required timeframe.

As a result, the ACNC has stated that any charitable entity that cancels or postpones its AGM because of social distancing requirements will have 'no action' taken against them.

However the Victorian regulator has suggested deferring the usual meeting date for an extra three months rather than simply not holding it (though it is asking that Associations seek permission first).

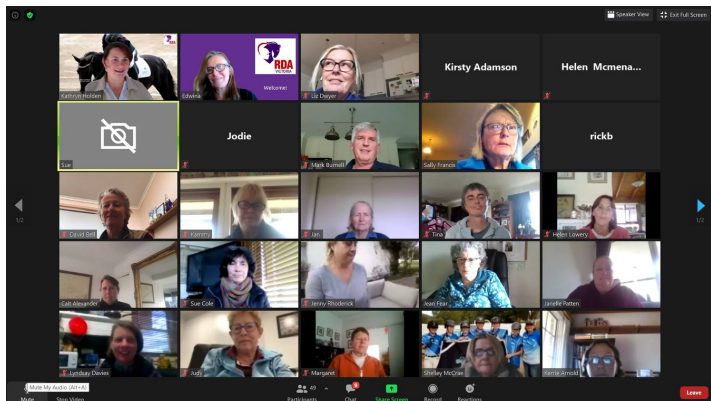
Therefore, while each RDA Victoria Centre must hold an AGM, they can choose to do so by zoom or other electronic means and if this is not possible by telephone conference call rather than 'in person' OR they may write to the RDA Victoria Board seeking permission to defer their AGM for up to 3 months. The RDA Victoria Board looks forward to working with each and every one of you to ensure a successful start to 2021.

Regards, Andrea Lucas president@rdav.asn.au





PPE packages being boxed up and being sent to RDA Centres. The Victorian Government Department of Health chipped in with another 1700 free masks!



RDA Victoria's Zoom Extravaganza on 4 September was fully booked, with 100 people in attendance. Thank you to presenters and those who spent Friday afternoon listening and learning!



RDA Warragul's ponies, Badger (front) and Cheeky (rear) have developed webbed feet due to all the rain.

Vale O'Reilly's Chief

Our much beloved Chief was laid to rest in late August due to colic. He was a mainstay of the RDA Officer program before the Centre underwent a relocation and renaming to RDA Pakenham.

Chief has spent the past 18 months with RDA Maryborough under the dedicated care of Aileen and Kevin Marshall and Julie Stork, where he spent his time between RDA work and enjoying exploring the bush around Maryborough.

Chief introduced many riders to the joys of RDA and took many of his riders to State and National Championships. He was one of those special horses that knew his job and took incredible care of his riders.

Regular rider, David Todd (pictured below riding Chief), remembers him:

"He was a brilliant horse. He would do everything you asked him to do and we had such a connection. He loved his riders and loved his competitions."

Our sincerest condolences to those who love and were close to Chief.





The Horses of RDA



Introducing Pepper from RDA Bundoora Park....

After finishing her racing career as a harness horse, Pepper made her way to becoming a trusted and reliable part of our RDA team.

Pepper has a beautifully quiet and respectful nature, perfect for relaxing a troubled mind. Pepper brings joy to all her riders and her quirky personality will always spark a laugh. Her favourite things to do are playing in the sprinklers and splashing in the dam (quite often in the middle of winter!).

Oh! And let's not forget her much loved morning coffee shared with Jenny!

Being a standardbred, Pepper's riders enjoy her smooth and therapeutic stride however, we must select the bravest and the fittest of volunteers to keep up with her enormous trot!

We are so very lucky to have the pleasure of having this beautiful mare. There is no volunteer or rider who does not fall in love with her.

Jenny Field, RDA Bundoora Park

RDA Centre Updates Seymour and Moorabbin

RDA Seymour had a terrible start to the year with a break in and theft of helmets, halters and other gear. News spread and from the publicity we had some kind offers to replace the gear, some donations plus offers of new volunteers. One of our generous donors was the Law Enforcement Torch Run - Victoria who kindly gave us a \$1,500 Horseland voucher. In between lockdowns they came and presented us with the voucher (see photo). We have also been the recipient of an incredibly generous donation from the Gaudry Family Foundation of \$10,000. This will go towards ensuring we can replace all equipment and the ongoing care of our horses. We are incredibly grateful of all of our wonderful donors. We are very much missing our RDA sessions, our children, and seeing each other. We are planning to expand our sessions to include adult participants and are currently searching and trialling horses for this. Wishing everyone a safe time and speedy reopening!

THANK
YOU

Through Clarinda Recycling Facility's Community Benefits Program, Alex Fraser has long supported RDA Moorabbin with products and services to maintain their grounds, improve safety and access resources. This year, an extra \$5000.00 has been donated to assist Moorabbin "ride out" the pandemic. This generous donation will cover 20 weeks of horse feed - thank you Alex and Clarinda Recycling! Plans for the horses to return to work post lockdown are in place, with riding currently scheduled to recommence in 2021



Moorabbin being presented with a donation pre COVID

RU OK?

Just checking in to see how you are going.



Friday 18 September
10am

presented by Rebecca
Ham from Kentucky
Equine Research

RDA Victoria Zoom Webinar

Laminitis

What is It?

Risk factors?

Managing horse and ponies with a history of laminitis.

Q & A Session

email events@rdav.asn.au to register

If you have anything you would like to share with our community please email events@rdav.asn.au
Remember to like us on Facebook and to check in for further updates and information!



RDA Victoria - Riding for the Disabled Association of Victoria