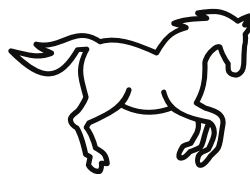


Ride On!

RDA Victoria Update enewsletter



RDA Doveton's Aero enjoying a good roll in the sand at Myuna Farm while RDA Oakland's Stuart Little looks for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

KAYCI RIDES HIGH - PAGE 2

FROM THE PRESIDENT -
PAGE 3

RDA VOLUNTEER AWARDS
- PAGE 3

NATIONAL WEEK FOR DEAF
PEOPLE 2020 - PAGE 4

MRC FOUNDATION
RACEDAY FASHIONS ON
THE VIRTUAL FIELD - PAGE
4

RDA KNOX MAKES
PROGRESS- PAGE 4

INTRODUCING THE HORSES
OF RDA: OSCAR AND
JACKSON - PAGE 5

TRAINING UPDATES- PAGE
6

CALENDAR OF EVENTS-
PAGE 6

Looking Forward

Well, hasn't there been changes in the weather! From sultry and warm, to windblown and wet, we've experienced it all during the past fortnight.

Centres have been sending in applications for the Horse Welfare Fund, with \$7,000 of submissions for Centre Horse Welfare being paid and another \$15,000 being processed. Thanks to our donors for helping ensure the ongoing welfare of our horses.

As encouraging news of reducing COVID-19 case numbers continues, we look forward to assisting riders "get back in the saddle" over the coming months and into 2021.

Just like Stuart Little, we are looking towards the end of the rainbow for hope and ongoing good health! In the meantime, enjoy this next edition of Ride On.

Kayci Rides High

Kayci Westwood joined RDA Bairnsdale when she was 16. Thirteen years on and she has never looked back.

She leased her first horse, an off the track thoroughbred Casino (Bargo Diamond) when she was 18, purchasing him a year later.

Six years on, she bought Raffa (High Street Road), a handsome bay thoroughbred gelding. Raffa may have not been a champion in his racing career, with 2 starts, 2 mid field finishes and a grand total of \$500 prizemoney, however he is proving a champion in his second career with Kayci.

The pair have attended 2 RDAV State Championships, 2 RDAA National Championships and the St Andrews Pony Club RDA Dressage event in 2016. The combination won the walk/trot championship at the 2019 RDAV State Championships. Unfortunately, COVID has curtailed any competitions in 2020, however Kayci is looking forward to getting out and about again in 2021.

“RDA taught me about being around horses. When I started I didn’t know much. RDA gave me confidence to ride different horses”.

Since then, she has registered as a licenced stable hand and has worked in racing stables.

Kayci has regular lessons with Mary Longden and has a goal of one day competing at the Paralympic Games. She enjoys working towards that achievement.

She is not just a champion equestrian. Kayci is in her tenth season of competitive swimming. She competes at Victorian State level and is working towards representing the State at National level.

In 2020, GippsSport invited Kayci to be their Ambassador for the All Abilities Physical Activities Challenge, a program to encourage more people into sport. She has enjoyed this role and looks forward to mentoring others.

We look forward to seeing Kayci once competitions are back and running!

Left: Kayci riding Raffa with Tim Bull MP; Right: Kayci promoting the All Abilities Physical Challenge



From the President



This week's newsletter is a special one. It is not often you get to focus on a colleague but the time has come! You will all recognise this smiling face...

Edwina Boase-Stratford joined RDA Victoria as State Coaching Coordinator in 2010 and this year celebrates 10 years with the organisation. In that time, she has given her heart and soul to the horses, coaches, riders and Centres and for that we thank her.

In a true case of serendipity, the RDA Victoria Board received a lovely email this week from one of the RDA Victoria volunteers at Maryborough. This extract of his email beautifully sums Edwina up:

"... We at Maryborough recently had a situation that needed help from RDAV. A horse we had on loan became very un-well, after local vets tried with no success it was decided that he needed to go to the equine hospital at Miners Rest, sadly he was a lot worse than we expected and had to be put down, this was a huge loss to us and all involved through RDA. This horse was O'Reilly's Chief ... The reason for this email is to let the RDAV Board know how much Edwina is appreciated. Edwina was a perfect choice to see just where we stood seeing we were dealing with a horse that belonged to another Centre ... the help and knowledge of RDA was then and is always appreciated. We hold Edwina in very high regard because over the many years as every instructor and Centre does, we have many different problems that need outside knowledge and for us this has always been available."

I know you will all join the RDA Victoria Board in thanking Edwina for her many years of dedicated service to the organisation. Edwina, please know you and your efforts are appreciated.
Andrea Lucas, President

RDA Volunteer of the Year Awards

The RDA Australia National Volunteer Awards are closing soon. Nominations need to be submitted to the RDA Victoria State Office **by email to admin@rdav.asn.au by 5pm Friday 2nd October 2020** be eligible. There are four categories for the National Volunteer Awards.

- Young Volunteer of the Year for RDA registered volunteers under the age of 18 as of 1 January 2020.
- Volunteer Encouragement Award for those who have volunteered between 1 and 5 years and made an outstanding contribution to their local Centre.
- Volunteer Service Excellence Award for those who have volunteered for longer than 5 years and demonstrated outstanding contribution to RDA above and beyond expected volunteering activities.
- Michael Field Award - a prestigious award for those who have demonstrated considerable work at local, State and National level, promoting a harmonious and collaborative organisation.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from <http://www.rda.org.au/volunteer-awards.aspx>

National Week of Deaf People 23-29 September 2020



This week is National Week of Deaf People. RDAA, in conjunction with RDAV, Vicdeaf and with the generous assistance of Will and Helen Heagney, developed the Let's Go Horse Riding resource in 2016. This DVD and booklet is designed for equestrian coaches and includes equestrian terminology. This can be purchased from RDA Australia and is invaluable for developing and enhancing communication with riders who are hearing impaired. Let's Go Horse Riding can be purchased from <https://secure.dmsw.com.au/rda/shop>



MRC Foundation Cup Charity Race Day Wrap Up



Twelve tiara and top hatted volunteers and riders joined us at the virtual races to watch the Chris Waller trained Kinane run for RDA Victoria in the MRC Foundation Cup. If Kinane won or placed, money was to be donated to RDA Victoria. Unfortunately for us it was not Kinane's day, however the horse finished the race well and is working on putting his best hoof forward another day. All attendees enjoyed meeting and chatting with each other! Prize for best dressed went to Mary Longden for her magnificent hat and Sally Francis for her stunning ensemble.

RDA Knox Developments

Exciting work has been undertaken at new RDA Centre Knox. This photo, taken pre 2nd lockdown, is of the accessible toilet being installed next to the office overlooking the brand new arena. We can't wait to feature all the exciting developments the next edition. Watch this space!



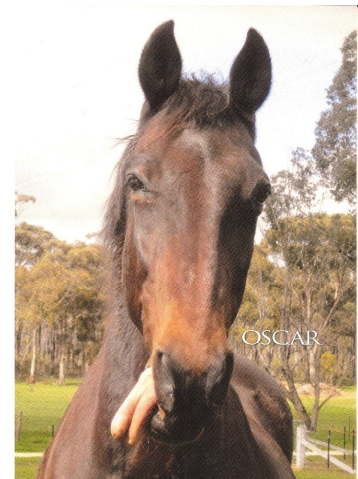
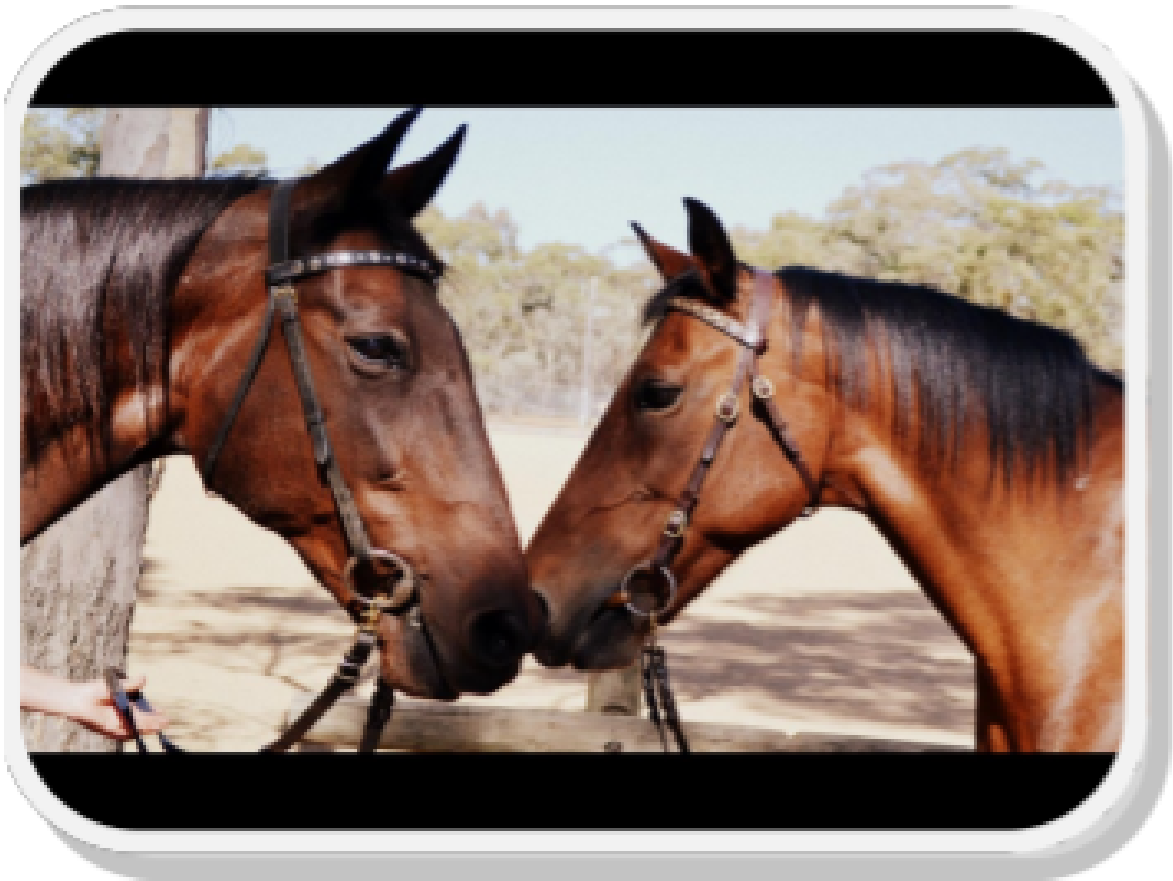
The Horses of RDA

Meet the horses of RDA Bendigo!

These two wonderful horses are used in both RDA Bendigo's carriage driving and riding programs. Oscar has a habit of letting his tongue hang out of his mouth, and flicking it round—much to our riders amusement. Oscar has been with RDA Bendigo for over 10 years, and Jackson for 5 years. Jackson won several harness races during his career on King Island where both gallops and harness events are run on the same grass track!

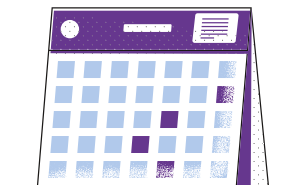
Both geldings are standardbreds - such versatile horses!

Jan King, RDA Bendigo



Training Updates

RDAV's Zoom "Managing Laminitis" starring Rebecca Ham from KER was a huge hit, with over 70 people joining in to hear Rebecca share her expert knowledge. Thank you Rebecca and Kentucky Equine Research! The Competition and Training Committee are continuing to organise zoom sessions. We hope you have enjoyed our sessions so far and please let us know what else you would like to know more about. Details regarding upcoming sessions are listed in the calendar below.



Event Calendar



Saturday 26 September 2020, 9am: RDAV Board Meeting via Zoom (third Saturday of every month). If you would like anything raised at the monthly RDAV Board Meeting please email president@rdav.asn.au

Monday 28th September 2020, 7pm: RDAA Webinar for Coaches: Risk Management. via Zoom. Contact admin@rda.org.au to book your place.

Wednesday 30 September 2020, 4pm: RDAV Competition and Training Committee Meeting via Zoom.

Email events@rdav.asn.au to offer any training or competition suggestions!

Friday 2nd October 2020, 4pm: RDAV Webinar: Creating a COVID Safe Centre. Email events@rdav.asn.au to book your place.

Friday 2nd October 2020, 5pm: RDAA Volunteer Awards - close of nominations to RDAV State Office.

Nomination forms available at <http://www.rda.org.au/volunteer-awards.aspx>

Tuesday 13th October 2020, 6pm: RDAV Webinar: Adapting with the Two Sals - Adaptive Equipment with Sally Francis and Sally Watson.

Email events@rdav.asn.au to book your place.

Editorial Deadline for next newsletter: 5pm Thursday 8th October.



RDA Victoria is supported by the Victorian State Government

RDA Victoria Patron The Honourable Linda Dessau A.M., Governor of Victoria

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