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APRIL 30TH 2021, ISSUE 12

# Ride On!

*RDA Victoria Update E-Newsletter*



A new instalment of the monthly newsletter to keep you 'in the know' about all things RDAV.

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# RDA Victoria Autumn Show and Special Olympics Event at Tooradin Estate

We're back! Our first event post COVID was held on Sunday 18th April 2021. The RDA Victoria Autumn Show and Special Olympics event was held in the front paddock of the lovely Tooradin Estate.

12 riders, support teams and spectators attended the event, along with the fantastic crew from the Law Enforcement Torch Run and Special Olympics Victoria. We even had a special demonstration from the Mounted Police, who showed off their death - defying skills in their precision riding drill.

A beautiful, still day and the green pastures made for a stunning backdrop for riders to make their first foray back into competition. Events began with English Equitation, a Special Olympics events to ensure riders are suitably paired with their mounts, are riding at the appropriate level for their skills and to display their riding skills and control of the horse at their designated gait (walk, trot or canter). A Best presented class was run in conjunction with the English Equitation.

Trot riders were first into the arena. Sarah Beck, Luke Kirby, Maddison Cooke and Abby Vidler showed their horses to their best advantage. The judges had a difficult time deciding the placings, especially after the lovely individual workouts. However, after much deliberation, results were:

## English Equitation Trot Section

Rider	Horse	Place	SO Place
Sarah Beck	Luke	1st	1st
Luke Kirby	Elm Tree Sensation	2nd	2nd
Madison Cooke	Byalee Magic	3rd	3rd
Abigail Vidler	Harkaway Lodge Moon Stone	4th	

Walk riders, Luke Eaton, Yesim Simseker, Liam Purcell, Alicia Klahm, Jessica Galea and Bianka Ragalova, were next into the ring. Judges were impressed by their impeccable presentation and riding skills.

## English Equitation Walk Section

Rider	Horse	Place	SO Place
Liam Purcell	Coriander	1st	1st
Luke Eaton	Ruched	2nd	
Bianka Ragalova	Lacey	3rd	2nd
Yesim Simseker	Croftnoc Royce	4th	
Jessica Galea	Cleo	5th	

Canter riders Mickayla Prindable and David Rak rode well, and it was a close contest between Mickayla on Coriander and David on his horse, TS Leroy. Mickayla won both the Best Presented and English Equitation, however David took out the first place for Special Olympics.

## English Equitation Canter Section

Rider	Horse	Place	SO Place
Mickayla Prindable	Coriander	1st	
David Rak	TS Leroy	2nd	1st

The dressage was a close fought competition. Canter Championships went to Mickayla, Champion, and David, Reserve Champion. Walk and Trot Dressage Champions were Maddison Cooke, Champion, and Yesim Simseker, Reserve Champion.

Liam Purcell was first in the Special Olympics Dressage, with Bianka Ragalova in second. Special Olympics trot winner was Maddison Cooke, with Sarah Beck and Luke Kirby filling the placings. David Rak won the Special Olympics Dressage for Canter riders.

Working Trails involves a test of horse and rider partnership and skills in negotiating obstacles in an open area. All combinations performed well, with no refusals or missed elements. Contestants were judged on approach and line taken to and through obstacles, whether or not they knocked an obstacle or whether there was a hesitation or change of rhythm as they negotiated the course. Competitors were also timed.

Working Trails Champion was Maddison Cooke, with David Rak reserve.

Class	Name	Place	SO Place	Class	Name	Place	SO Place
Dressage Walk	Yesim Simseker	1st		Working Trails Walk	Liam Purcell	1st*	1st
	Luke Eaton	2nd			Yesim Simseker	2nd	
	Liam Purcell	3rd*	1st		Jessica Galea	3rd	
	Alicia Klahm	4th			Luke Eaton	4th	
	Jessica Galea	5th			Bianka Ragalova	5th *	2nd
	Bianka Ragalova	6th*	2nd				
				Working Trails Trot	Madison Cooke	1st*	1st
Dressage Trot	Madison Cooke	1st*	1st		Luke Kirby	2nd *	2nd
	Sarah Beck	2nd*	2nd		Sarah Beck	3rd *	3rd
	Abigail Vidler	3rd			Abigail Vidler	4th	
	Luke Kirby	4th*	3rd				
				Working Trails Canter	David Rak	1st	
Dressage Canter	Mickayla Prindable	1st			Mickayla Prindable	2nd	
	David Rak	2nd*		Working Trails Champion	Madison Cooke		
				Reserve Champion	David Rak		



Several perpetual trophies are awarded at this event annually. The Jean Greaves Encouragement Award was awarded to Mickayla Prindable, Coriander was the recipient of the Libby Webb Best RDA Horse or Pony and the Best Performed Rider and Horse Combination was awarded to Liam Purcell and Coriander. Luke Eaton and his horse, Robbie (racing name Ruched) was the best performed Off The Track Thoroughbred for the event.

Many thanks to Racing Victoria's Off The Track Program for supporting our event. Thank you to Equilink Horse Transport for generously donating their services to transport a team of five horses and riders to the event. Without the generosity of sponsors and supporters, we could not provide such wonderful opportunities to riders. Thank you must also go to Sally Francis for all her support and the use of Tooradin Estate, all the wonderful volunteers who helped the day run smoothly and judges Andy Rouget, Carol Clauge and Meredith Torpey.

Our next Special Olympics events is being held at RDA Melton on Sunday 23rd May – we look forward to seeing you there!





## **“Better than Sliced Bread”- RDA Daylesford Volunteers Receive Their Service Badges**

RDA Daylesford volunteer service badges that should have been awarded at the end of 2020 instead were held over (another consequence of COVID) until the end of Term 1, 2021.

Wendy Hogben, Daylesford RDA President presented service badges to the following volunteers:

**3 Year Badge – David Rak.** David volunteers at Maryborough and Daylesford RDA. David, who has represented Victoria at both RDAA National Championships and Special Olympics National Games assists with RDA horse training, gets the horses ready for the farrier and leads the Daylesford end of term trail rides through the Wombat Forrest.

**5 Year Badge – Sally Armstrong.** Sally joined RDA 5 years ago after she saw an advertisement in the local paper. Sally has been the treasurer since 2019 and is a skilled and generous volunteer with non-verbal riders. The COM knew Sally was a keeper, when she started shovelling horse manure on her first day...without being asked!

**10 year Badge – Jeanette Oakes.** Jeanette was the treasurer and stable manager for many years. Jeanette also led the RDA catering team, a mighty fund-raising effort. Her wisdom and insights were valued but decided to retire during COVID. A downside of COVID> and is missed.

**10 year Badge – Lainey Curr.** Lainey who started riding at Daylesford when she was 8 is the Vice President, Rider Representative on the Committee of Management and an assistant coach. Lainey was acknowledged as a great role model for younger riders, showing them what they can achieve if they work at it. Lainey has recently featured in newspapers and on TV as part of Daylesford's volunteer drive.

**20 years – Lesley Hewitt.** Lesley, who is the secretary and one of the coaches at Daylesford has also volunteered at RDA Moorabbin, RDA Doveton and RDA Collingwood. Lesley is an RDAV life member.

Wendy Hogben was then presented with her 25 year service badge by Vice President Lainey Curr. Wendy was one of the founding members of RDA Daylesford. In those 25 years Wendy Hogben has led by example, being positive, enthusiastic and utilising the skills she has to the benefit of the Centre. In 1995 Wendy was working as an integration aide at Daylesford Secondary School and along with Stephanie Ashley the secondary school Integration Coordinator at the time, was instrumental in starting Daylesford RDA. Wendy has remained a volunteer serving as coach and on the Committee of Management for all of the 25 years since. Wendy is the only foundation member to have remained involved for the entire time. Wendy has served as Centre President since 2008. As Wendy said “RDA is better than sliced bread...if it wasn't I wouldn't have turned up rain, hail or shines”.

In 2021, RDA Daylesford is going strong with 12 new volunteers joining the seven who returned after COVID. Several volunteers decided not to come back and the COM were worried that we would not be able to get going again. We had a really successful newspaper and TV campaign and have had some wonderful people turn up – sensible, committed and kept coming to training even when it poured rain. Their commitment has meant that the program could re-commence, having been missed by all the riders.



# Photos: RDA Daylesford Volunteers & Riders





# RDA Knox Opening Event

RDA Knox had a 'soft' opening event on April 10th with officials from Pick My Project, Minister Shaun Leane, Mayor of Knox Lisa Cooper, Parks Victoria, RDAV, RDAA, Equine Pathways Australia and demonstration riders.





## President Update

Andrea Lucas and RDAV Board Member Sally Francis will be attending the RDAA National Delegates Meetings & Planning weekend on the 1st & 2nd of May. Andrea will report back to centres as to the outcome of those meetings as part of the May issue of our newsletter.

**Andrea Lucas**

President & Interim Executive Officer

RDA Victoria





# Competitions from Lyndsay Davies

We are continuing along with our exciting competitions for the year:

- **Melton RDA Centre on the 23rd of May**
- **The State Championships and 50-Year Anniversary are set to run at Werribee on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of August.**

This year we will be opening up our State Championships to Equine Australia Pathways with Para Equestrian dressage and also to riders from other States and New Zealand. This should be a fabulous event, with carriage driving, show jumping, dressage, working trails, games and the Special Olympics qualifier.

We will also be celebrating our 50th anniversary on the Saturday evening with dinner with live music and entertainment.

- **Glen Lyon on the 23rd October**



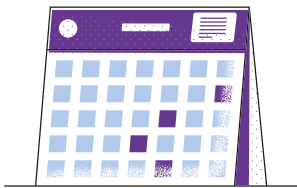
# Training Updates

With the RDAV October Show coming up, the competition team - manned by Edwina Bose-Stratford and Lyndsay Davies - are looking for volunteers, especially entire Centre's to team up to help out with:

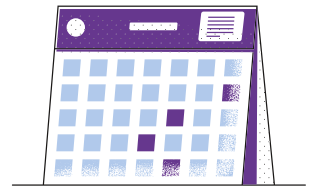
- Catering
- Marshalling
- Set-up
- Marshalling

Feel free to reach out to Edwina (e) [edwina@rdav.asn.au](mailto:edwina@rdav.asn.au) or Lyndsay (e) [lyndsay.davies@rdav.asn.au](mailto:lyndsay.davies@rdav.asn.au) for further details.

PLEASE NOTE: Keep an eye on your centre emails and Facebook for notifications of events and share with your community.



## Event Calendar



### 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR FOR RDA VICTORIA

- Sun 23rd May – Special Olympic Event at Melton RDA - TBC
- 13th-15th August 2021 – State Championships At Werribee Park and 50th Anniversary Dinner
- 23rd October – Glen Lyon



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](mailto: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