



THE FEED SHED

RIDING FOR DISABLED QLD

www.rdaq.org.au

newsletter summer/spring 2019

Hello Every-one and welcome.

It has been both a busy and productive year and now is the time for us all to wind down and enjoy a well-deserved break!

To our Volunteers, I would like to thank you for all you have contributed in 2019. From caring for our horses, equipment and grounds to behind the scenes organisation and operations – the role of the Volunteer is very diverse and RDAQ could not do what it does without each and every one of you.

I hope that everyone has a truly wonderful Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in 2020.

Toni

RDAQ President



RDAQ—LOOKING BACK TO ITS BEGINNINGS

What a pleasure it was to attend the AGM at Samford last Saturday—in the company of so many hardworking enthusiasts. I have had an association with horses most of my life, but I am definitely not a horseman. I always find it interesting and fascinating to learn more, such as the Guest Presenter explained so well about girths, saddles and the fitting of bits. Having served in the Light Horse (mechanised) I wonder just how much the troopers knew about these issues when they rode across the veldt in South Africa chasing Boers, or then in WW1 across the sands of Palestine chasing Turks. Many of these men had been born in the saddle, and the Walers they rode were very compliant.

I was invited to join the committee of PRDA in 1981 by its founders, Peter and June McIntyre soon after I had left managing the Montrose Home for Crippled Children to work at the Qld Spastic Welfare League. Both had been sending children to the McIntyre's own home each week using ponies the McIntyre's children no longer rode. This continued, and then the property at Pinjarra Hills was acquired. The disastrous floods are a story for another day. My contribution to PRDA came through my understanding of funding assistance available through the Dept. of Social Services. In due course, after Peter died, I became President and initiated the naming of the Centre in honour of the McIntyre's.

It was not long before I was approached by other groups, such as Bundaberg and Toowoomba to form a State association. Most of these groups had their origins in the Pony Club movement, inspired by the McIntyre's. The National President of RDAA flew up from Melbourne to chair the meeting of Qld groups (held at the McIntyre Centre) which formed RDAQ. My wife, Mavis and I travelled to Melbourne to attend the AGM of RDAA which admitted RDAQ as a member.

RDAQ adopted the Model Rules prescribed by the State Govt and applied for Charitable Status to enhance fundraising. It had been the intention that membership of RDAQ would be limited to the entity of the Group, not to individuals. Approval of Charitable Status required individuals to be eligible for membership. Once this was understood and accepted all went well, and we developed a model for each Group to use, and for them to become incorporated. This was important for insurance reasons. Getting appropriate insurance was difficult and probably still is, but through unity comes strength.

You will all know that there is so much more to RDAQ than getting people together with some horse and riders, and I commend you all for the commitment you all give.

In closing I would like to put on record my appreciation for the work that John Handcock, our first secretary made. John came from Arundel Park on the Gold Coast and was tireless in setting up the framework for the organisation you enjoy today.

With my best wishes, Miles W farmer OAM

2019 RDAQ State Championships



Our state championships were held at Maryborough showgrounds and equestrian park on 31st August and 1st September. On Saturday we held our dressage competitions which included assisted and unassisted classes from novice to para equestrian and walk, trot and canter. On Sunday we held our working trails competition for all abilities and group and a special pirate themed Father's Day race. Sponsorships and donations enabled us to have a 'prize table' for all competitors in first place and ribbons for 1st to 3rd place with a special Mary Longden "Ride Towards Excellence" boxed DVD set for the best performing horse. All competitors received a rosette.

Many wonderful RDAQ volunteers helped make the weekend very successful and empowered our riders to achieve their best.

The Championship was attended by over 150 people and 32 competitors.



A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR OF RDAQ STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

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RIDING INTO THE FUTURE:



Bundaberg Riding for the Disabled culminated an eventful year with the opening of their new facility at the Bundaberg Regional Precinct. Mayor Jack Dempsey, supported by fellow Councillors, Wayne Honor, John Learmonth and Steve Cooper, performed the Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, as well as taking the opportunity to present Certificates and Awards to Bundaberg RDA riders. RDA was also pleased to have the Bundaberg Pony Club President Cameron Wesche and Community Life Style Support representatives Joe and Chris in attendance for the celebrations.

The new building, a five-bay shed that was purchased with funds from the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund, will provide ample space for our Centre needs. This includes, office and meeting spaces, an outdoor seating and barbecue are adequate storage for our specialized equipment including our purpose-built mounting trailer that has been up until now kept off-site due insufficient safe storage areas at the Precinct.

Following the ribbon and cake cutting the Centre volunteers were recognised for their efforts with Appreciation Certificates and thankyou's from the Committee, Families, Carers and Riders.

The day continued with fun and games as the younger coaches demonstrated their flare for fun and creativity with games such as musical saddle-clothes and hobby horse races, this was capped off with a sausage sizzle lunch and social time for all in attendance.

The Centre will recommence activities In 2020 with Coach CPR updates, Rider sign-ons and volunteer inductions planned for February.

Megan Wray,
Secretary

RDA NATIONAL YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

I'm thrilled to tell you that Jade O'Grady, one of our young volunteer's/horse whisperers at Valley RDA,

has been awarded Young Volunteer of the Year 2019 by RDAA. We are all so proud of her and couldn't be

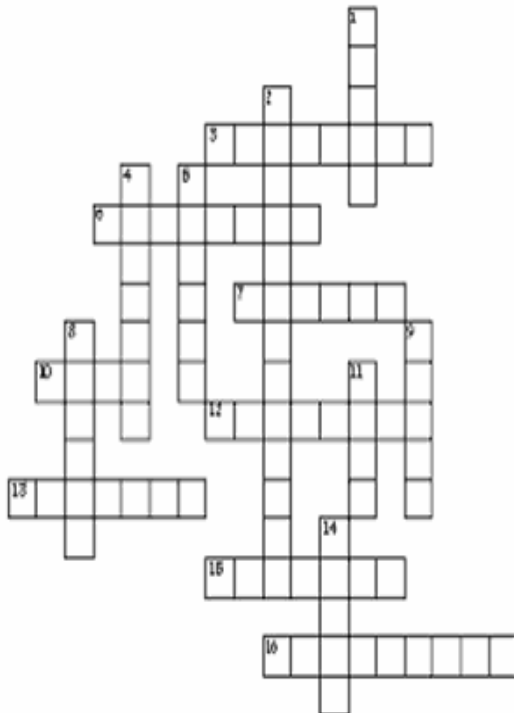
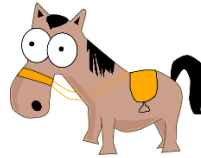
more pleased to see this delightful young lady recognised for her dedication and passion for all things RDA.

Sanya Cawson, VRDA



VALLEY RDA FRIDAY VOLUNTEERS

Horse crossword



Across

- 3. Your position when jumping
- 6. Golden coat with flaxen mane and tail
- 7. Should always be worn while mounted
- 10. The offspring of a male donkey and female horse
- 12. The left side of a horse
- 13. A pony with black and white patches over his coat
- 15. This is done to control internal parasites
- 16. A grooming procedure done after a ride

Down

- 1. When your horse or pony has belly pain
- 2. When the horse leads with the outside foreleg
- 4. They should see your pony every 6-8 weeks
- 5. Two fences with no strides between
- 8. The canine teeth of a horse
- 9. A pony who is untrained or inexperienced is this
- 11. Used in grooming for promoting circulation and for massage

Thank you to our 2019 supporters

