



Address: PO Box 710 Sydney Markets NSW 2129 Phone: 02 8736 1256
email: stateoffice@rdansw.org.au **website:** www.rdansw.org.au

2 December, 2024

Dear RDA (NSW) family and Community,

Wow, can you believe it? 2024 is almost behind us! As we approach the end of the year, I wanted to take a moment to reach out to all of you—the incredible individuals on the ground who not only put in the hard yards but also make our work so enjoyable and rewarding for our riders, participants, volunteers, and, of course, our beloved horses.

I know it's been a challenging time recently, and there's been some negativity surrounding our discussions. I want to be completely open with you.

We just had a face-to-face board meeting (28th November 2024) with your regional representatives, including Jenny from CASP wearing 2 hats also as RR, and many of our directors. We addressed the “elephant in the room” regarding the SGM—The first meeting has occurred, and while the second has been postponed due to mediation scheduled for December 17, we are committed to working together for our centres and riders.

We are actively engaging with those of you on the ground, which has truly opened our eyes to what needs to be done moving forward. It's crucial for all our centres, to reach out to your regional reps with any concerns or issues you may have. Our RR's are invaluable and **must** be the ones our centre go to first and foremost with centre issues. Please remember these people know their stuff and are here to help you.

Who are our RR's and what do they do.

Metropolitan – Vacant – Please if you know someone, tap them on the shoulder and ask them.

Hunter – Jenny Cameron – 0412393452 – hunter@rdansw.org.au

Northwest – Jenny Wilkinson – 0429826936 – northwest@rdansw.org.au

Mid north Coast – Sue Hardinge -White – 0402050505 – midnorthcoast@rdansw.org.au

North Coast – Clarry Quirk – 0413972234 – northcoast@rdansw.org.au

Southern Highlands – Angus Malcolm – 48877239 (home) – southernhighlands@rdansw.org.au

Riverina – Heather Baker – 0400830046 – riverina@rdansw.org.au

Central West - Jan Pike – 0416525192 – centralwest@rdansw.org.au

In the spirit of transparency, we must share that there was a vote of no confidence regarding our chairperson, Greg Urand and that Allan Burton from the Wollondilly Centre has stepped into Chairpersons role. Appointed director James Van- Lane has stepped down.

However, let's also take a moment to celebrate the amazing accomplishments we've achieved this year!

Our focus on mental health has been recognized with the Way Ahead Awards, and we had eight centres participate in this year's musical rides—what a fantastic achievement! I'm also excited to announce that our website is getting a redesign by Lizzie Pickering, and we hope to roll it out in early 2025. Our annual report needs centres to send their info in too.

Additionally, two of our centres—Griffith Leeton and Mudgee—have been recognized in the UK musical, coming in first and second place respectively! And let's not forget the wonderful achievements in dressage and mounted games this year. The NSW Champions of sport -was brilliant!



Address: PO Box 710 Sydney Markets NSW 2129 Phone: 02 8736 1256
email: stateoffice@rdansw.org.au **website:** www.rdansw.org.au

As we wind down this year, I encourage you to take a moment to reflect on what RDA (NSW) means to you and the incredible community we've built together. Our volunteers are the heart of this organization, and together, we strive for the best outcomes for all involved.

Lastly, let's remember that while we have work to do—especially in fixing our constitution—we must do so the right way. Thank you for all the smiles, joy, and memories you've shared this year. We love seeing the pictures you post on Facebook and the joy radiating from our centres.

As we enter the final weeks of 2024, enjoy the last riding days and the festive spirit. If you do one thing, let it be this: Be kind, to yourselves and to each other.

Take care and see you soon!

Kind Regards

Tracy Lucas HON; Director Executive Officer / Grants Officer and Assistant communications
For and on behalf of RDA (NSW) directors
Mob: 0488727085
Email: tracy.lucas@rdansw.org.au