



2013



Riding for the Disabled Association NSW

# "Bits 'n' Pieces"

Summer/Autumn 2013



"A Picture of my RDA Horse"

by Michael Alwan from "Tall Timbers" Centre

Computer generated - 9 years to 14 years age group

## The 6<sup>th</sup> Combined RDA(NSW) AGM/Administration Workshop

Hosted by RDA(NSW)

held on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 at the "Ken Brown" room, Sports House, Sydney Olympic Park .

### RDA(NSW) Administration Workshop

The Workshop ran from 10am until 5.45pm with 53 members attending.

The morning Program had the following Presentations:-

Changes to Working with Children Check – Presenter - Morgan Lander spoke on the Government changes that have and will also be occurring to this Check.

New Governance Structure for Constitution - A Power Point presentation, prepared following several meetings with our pro bono lawyers Holding Redlich was given by Jaci Armstrong. This was followed by the Board of Directors answering questions from member Centres. Holding Redlich are providing expert advice on the options and implications for our Centres and members to consider. These documents will be circulated shortly and will take into consideration the significant changes facing our organization with the introduction of the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission and other legislative and regulatory changes currently underway.

A delicious Lunch, was partly catered by Subway with A BIG THANK YOU to our Chairperson, Jaci Armstrong, who made the goodies for our Lunch and afternoon tea breaks, especially the yummy soups and sweets. Many went back for seconds!!!

The afternoon program had the following presentations:-

My Paralympics Experience presented by Hannah Dodd, spoke on her many experiences leading up to and during the Paralympics. Hannah is an amazing young woman who provide inspiration to many of our up and coming aspiring competitors across NSW.

Marketing & Promotion was presented by Margaret Norman and Fundraising & Grants presented by Margot Bulger. They spoke on the many topics that cover these fields. All members present received a copy of both presentations.

Accident/Indent Reporting – Insurance Clarification - Presenters were Eric Lengling, Jan Sharp and Wendy Torr. Many questions were asked and clarified by the Presenters.

Trial Revamped Website - Margie Lewis presented this session showing the new website design, setting out the changes that will occur.

Workshop closed at 4.45pm with members were invited to mingle and have drinks and nibbles prior to the commencement of the RDA(NSW) AGM.

*Margaret Norman* OAM  
Marketing/Promotions Director

## RDA(NSW) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM commenced at 5pm Officially opened by our Vice Patron Don Eyb. 67 Members attended from 14 Centres who proudly displayed their Centre colourful emblems in the Banner parade.

*Congratulations went to:-*

Regional Representatives who were appointed to their respective Regions

<u>Metropolitan</u>	Dinah Barron	<u>North Coast</u>	Clarry Quirk
<u>Hunter</u>	Jenny Cameron	<u>Riverina</u>	Bev Amery
<u>North West</u>	Jenny Whiteford	<u>South West Slopes</u>	Olwen Smith
<u>Mid North Coast</u>	Sue Harding White	<u>Southern Highlands</u>	Angus Malcolm
<u>Western Region</u>	No appointee at present		

Centres celebrating a milestone in RDA(NSW) were presented with plaques:-

Narrabri and Cowra for 20 years and Nepean for 30 years.

Winners of the 2006 State Awards –

- *Pearl Batchelor Volunteer of the Year Award* - to **Maureen Turner** from Manning Great Lakes
- *Young Volunteer of the Year Award* – to **Michael Norman** from Wagga
- *Rider of the Year Award* - to **Ryan McNeil** from Manning Great Lakes
- *Encouragement Award* – to **Jenny Nicholls** from Raymond Terrace/Lower Hunter Centre
- *Shush Memorial Award* – to **"Wedge the Palomino"** from Raymond Terrace/Lower Hunter Centre

Drawing and Photo competitions. Photos of the winners are in this edition of BNP.

With all the formalities completed, it was time to sit down and enjoy our Dinner which was once again, catered by Family Affair Catering who prepared and served the delicious menu of Rotisserie meats, vegies, salads with delicious sweets of Pavlova and lime tart.

THANKS TO:

All the members who helped set up the room ready for Dinner.  
Lucy, who organized the merchandise for sale throughout the day.

2014 RDA(NSW) AGM The Host Centre for this AGM will be announced shortly.

*Margaret Norman* OAM  
Marketing/Promotions Director

# DRAWING COMPETITION 2013

## "a picture of my RDA horse"



The wonderful display of drawings received from our riders

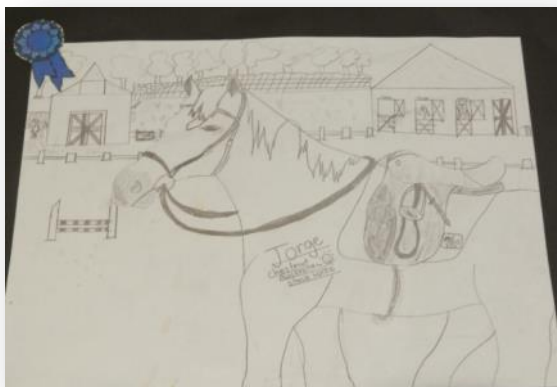


Over 21 years: Caitlyn Morrissey  
Coonabarabran Centre

### WINNERS



15 years – 20 years: Zoyie-Lee Newham  
Young Centre



9 years – 14 years: Tayla Coad  
Wagga Wagga Centre



4 years – 8 years: Brianna Palamara  
"Tall Timbers" Centre





Computer generated: Michael Alwan  
"Tall Timbers" Centre

## PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2013

# "Celebrating RDA"





Congratulations to the Centres and individuals for a superb lot of photographs celebrating the spirit of RDA

## WINNER





"Shush"

## Horse/Pony Memorial Award 2013

The letter from Julie regarding her choice  
for the 'Shush' Memorial Award



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Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW)  
Post Office Box 710  
Sydney Markets NSW 2129

1 April 2013

Dear Members

### **Re: Shush Memorial Award to Best RDA Horse/Pony in NSW**

A pinch and a punch for the first of the month! Yes, today is the first day of April and I decided that I would judge this award earlier this year whilst still in judging mode from the RDA Horse of the Year at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Of course, my usual difficulties lay in all 5 contenders being equally deserving of winning the Shush Memorial Award this year. However, this time I approached it in an entirely different manner. All of my family have been inducted into the horse world, whether liking it or not, from my own involvement which began so many years ago. Therefore, I decided to get each member of my family to judge this award with me. With their input, I arrived at a worthy winner. Each of the 5 nominations received at least two votes from family members, however, it came down to just two entries – Sir Dawson and Wedge the Palomino.

Special mentions this year go to the sweetest and beautiful Charffie from Wagga, who I would love to own and ride myself and to dear Sandy from Tall Timbers who so much reminds me of my beloved little Denim (the only horse I ever bred) who, by coincidence, ended up spending nearly his whole wonderful life at Tall Timbers. Then, there is the supremely handsome Maguire's Banjo

from Coffs Harbour and Districts, who, if I am not mistaken, stole my heart at the Sydney Royal Easter Show this year.

There was very heated discussion amongst the family while trying to arrive at the winner. Would it be Dawson, the absolute gentleman with impeccable manners or would it be Wedge the Golden Palomino, who passed the test with flying colours to become a hippotherapy horse? I then read the letter from Miss Victoria Robinson to the family.

Hereinafter I quote:

“My name is Victoria Grace Robinson, I am 5. I go to school most of the time, it’s my first year. I also go to the hospital for chemotherapy, but not all the time.

Last year I went to Riding for the Disabled with my mum and my little sister, Alexandra. I met Wedge and Veronika and Catherine and Jeremy. They helped me ride Wedge. He is my favourite horse. Veronika helps me do exercises on Wedge, sometimes I ride backwards. It’s to help my legs and my back. But, it’s lots of fun too.

I love Wedge. He is golden and shiny. I want Wedge to be the horse that gets the Award, he deserves it because he works hard all the time. It’s not easy being a horse with your head down for a long time, if I was a horse I would run around all day.”

After reading this letter from young Victoria we had another vote and it was unanimous – Wedge the Palomino from Raymond Terrace and Lower Hunter is this year’s winner of the Shush Memorial Award with the wonderful runner-up being Sir Dawson from Coffs Harbour & Districts.

Thank you to all the Riding for the Disabled centres who nominated such fabulous horses and ponies. As always, I would be proud to give the Award to every one of them and only wish I could. Have a wonderful year ahead experiencing the joy and love that horses bring into your lives.

My kindest regards and best wishes to you all.

Yours faithfully

*Julie Higgins*  
**Julie Higgins OAM**



# NEWS FROM THE CENTRES

## Cowra



Cowra Centre volunteers



Len Crowe started Cowra RDA Centre 20 years ago. The plaque was presented by Olwen Smith

## My story about RDA by Esther Vincent May 2013

# Manning Great Lakes



Hello my name is Esther I'm 14 years old, I have 3 big sisters and I live at Wallibi Pt with my mum Carol. I started riding at Central Coast RDA when I was 6 years old on Saturday mornings. My coach's names were Gary and Peter. I used to play lots of games with them and my friends too. They taught me a lot of things and I loved it.



Last July I started riding at Manning Great Lakes when I was 13 years old. I do riding on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday and sometimes I ride different horses. My favorite horse is Octave.

Now I'm the Rider Representative. Coach Maureen is my Mentor and Trainee Assistant Coach Mikaela is my friend and helps me too. I write a report to take to the committee to tell them about what the Riders would like and how they feel about RDA.



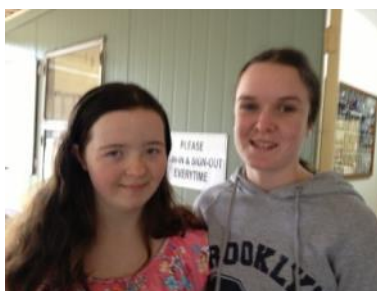




When I went to the last Committee Meeting as I stepped into the room I felt very Nervous and uncomfortable. When I was walking with my mum and a friend of ours Jenny my Coach Maureen went up from the white long table and strode me away as I sat next to her.

After all the Adults stopped talking it was my turn to read my rider's report everyone looked at me and I felt like I wanna the floor to sink, take me home. I sat up straight put my head up high, trusted my heart and read my report. I Felt very proud and Confident. like God was smiling at me and I felt very blessed when Coach Maureen encouraged me. Mikaela encouraged me a lot more and Jenny mum's friend encouraged as I breathed in and out slowly before I read my report.

I like to help Coach Margi write in the newsletter about the things that are happening and the Riders. So, I am getting to know our Riders. I'm also learning about all the Volunteers and the different jobs they do to help us.



My Coach Maureen is the winner of the 'RDA State Volunteer Award' and I am really proud of her. Coach Maureen is always thinking about ways to help us Riders and looks after the Horses too.

Coach Maureen is the Horse Manager too so that means she makes sure the Horses have plenty of care. Coach Maureen explained I monitor the condition of each horse and then workout their individual diets. I call the vet when needed. I work with the saddle fitter to ensure all the gear is comfortable. I order all the feed. I work with the school of veterinary science in Gatton University by sending samples of faeces which I collect to be tested to determine who needs worming. I check and wash rugs and saddle cloths. I report monthly to the other coaches. I keep an eye on the workload of each horse to ensure no one is overworked. In general I just look after the most important horses in the area.

On Wednesday I ride with some other girls in my class Vicki, Amber and Tara. Our coach Maureen is helping us and teaching us dressage and we are hoping to learn Musical ride at a trot.



Coach Jeff loves to help with all the riders and likes being their Coach. So he decided to build a Ramp, a Gate and an obstacle course. All us Riders loves Coach Jeff's ideas because he smiles a lot and we like that.



I ride every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 10am with Coach Margi. We are learning a Musical walk ride to the music "You raise me up" By Josh Gorban. Durning the day there lots of Riders and Coaches. The other Coaches names are Jeff, Noel and Mikaela and they all help each other and the Riders.





Some of the Ladies meet in the Kitchen and they all surprise the Coaches, Riders and Volunteers with yummy Lunch and morning tea.



We have just started to learn about Carriage Driving on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month. My friend Tara and I get to learn carriage riding with a Volunteer Jim who is teaching us. Last Saturday when Jim finished explaining about the carriage and Monty the horse Tara and I hopped on the Cart and Jim pulled us along. Then Coach Maureen and another Volunteer pulled us along until Jim told me to pick up the long whip and whip Coach Maureen.



Jim was thinking that Coach Maureen was really a horse, so I did just that and Tara and I laughed because it was so funny when I whipped Coach Maureen while Jim was walking behind doing nothing instead laughing and telling our Coach off. Coach Maureen was laughing too. We loved it so much.

On Thursday's my group is planning to do a Musical Trot. Coach Maureen said. "We need a name for our group." Tara picked the word stars and I picked the word shining. So we decided to call our group Shining Stars. That's how our decision word was born.





At the moment we are doing Dressage to get ready for the State Dressage Competition on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of August.



I do dressage with 3 other girls Amber, Vicki and Tara. Sometimes Coach Margi and Mikaela ride with us too

We think we could be great friends by helping each other out while riding and make RDA a better place by learning with our Coach Maureen. This is why we choose Shining Stars.

Coach Maureen said: We can reach for the stars and we may touch the tree tops.

My Mum said: Shining stars are about being the best we could possibly be.

Musical rides and Dressage is our Game

There's not a star in heaven that we can't reach and you know the world can see us in a way that's different to who we are. To get to that place to be all that we can be now's the time so We're breaking free. (Breaking Free from HSM)

We can let our hearts fly and soar.

We are shining so bright for the whole world to see and we aim to make you all so proud and happy. So all may know RDA Manning Great Lake is the place to be.

Thank you to all the Coaches and Volunteers who help us at RDA. Thank you to my big Sister Kylie and Mum for helping me put my story together.

*written by Student Rider Esther Vincent*

## THANK YOU HALLIDAYS POINT GARDEN CLUB

**Riding for the Disabled (NSW) Manning Great Lakes  
was the designated Charity for the  
Hallidays Point Garden Club's  
Open Garden weekend  
on the 4th & 5th of May.**

At their monthly meeting the Garden Club presented a cheque to the RDA Manning Great Lakes Centre for \$11,719.70. RDA President Jacqui Nuttall, Coach and founder of the centre Jeff Patterson and other hard working members were present to enjoy the occasion.

RDA MGL centre ran lunch and refreshments at three of the Open Gardens. Sales of sandwiches, soups, tea, coffee, slices, scones, jam and cream and cold drinks raised a total of \$2,755.00.

The organisation of the Open Garden weekend was a massive logistics exercise. Hallidays Point Garden Club should be commended on the way they publicised the event and represented the community. It truly was a community event on a large scale. The King, Horsburgh and Linden families opened up their homes to invasion by RDA volunteers, members and their families all through the weekend.

There are many, many people to be thanked for supporting this event, especially from other local community groups.

The end result: **WE CAN NOW BUILD AN ARENA FLOOR!**





# Raymond Terrace & Lower Hunter

## Volunteers Receive New Award

In 2012 I introduced the Maitland Parliamentary Award to encourage more people to think about how they can contribute to their community through volunteering.

The inaugural presentation of six medals was made to local volunteers who were the Maitland Electorate's nominees for the Hunter Volunteer of the Year Awards.

Recipients included Wendy Harrison, Rosalie Wynn and Greg Harris for volunteering with the Baptist Community Services Food 4 Life program.

Chris Vollmer was nominated for being a NSW Cancer Council Relay for Life volunteer, Hayden Spearpoint for assisting Riding for the Disabled and Dennis Soper for his work with Maitland Park Hunter River Social Bowls.

I would also like to congratulate Maitland Neighbourhood Centre's Daycare volunteers, The Maitland Hospital Rehabilitation Unit volunteers and the Tenambit-Morpeth Probus Club Host Committee's volunteers who were also finalists for the awards.



Robyn Parker and the inaugural  
Maitland Parliamentary Award recipients

February 2013 – Hayden Spearpoint  
Hayden (R) is RT&LH  
Junior Volunteer of the Year

## CENTRAL COAST

### RIDING AND CAMPING WEEKEND May 2013

In his wisdom our revered President Garry and Vice President Peter wanted to do something different !! So they organised a sleepover for their Saturday riders, who as you can imagine do not get a chance to do these sort of activities .

The arena became "tent city" ( the parents had to accompany the children ) the brothers and sisters came. It became a big adventure with all the arena to run around in. The families brought all their own food and medications ....Garry brought his in a bottle (a hot water bottle, that is... )!

The children rode on Saturday and during the evening they had a marvellous entertainer, Shane Edwards, who sang anything you wanted. It was his only free Saturday for the next six months and he happily donated his talents. Garry gave us a demo on whip cracking - that wore him out! Peter, our Vice President, took over and organised games on Garry's instructions to wear the children out!!!

The following morning with the help of many volunteers they all set off on a big trail ride after a good breakfast.

Garry is still resting but in all seriousness it was so enjoyed by the riders and the parents that if any other Centres would care to do it, may we suggest that the warmer months might be better .....it was cold at Somersby!





## LIFE AS A VOLUNTEER...

My journey with RDA began shortly after I moved to the Central Coast from Sydney in 1994, when I responded to an article in the local newspaper seeking volunteers for Riding for the Disabled. At that time, RDA was located at Mt Penang, near the Juvenile Justice Centre, where detainees from the centre had constructed horse stalls, tack room, feed shed and a cement mounting block. (No indoor arena here - lessons had to be cancelled if the weather was grim). Although I lacked experience in working with children with a disability, I did have some knowledge of horsemanship from early days when I trained with Dianna Gould of Willow Park, learning dressage and also when I played polocrosse with Liverpool Club on my own mare "Lindy Lou". The idea of making contact with horses again appealed to me, as well as the possibility that I may be able to help in some way. After an interview with the coach on duty who explained the rules, safety and horse-handling guidelines and being firmly instructed that "we do things the RDA way", I was pleased to be accepted.

Since that day, RDA has become a great part of my life. It has been a learning curve in many ways and somewhat of a challenge at times, however I do look forward to my days at RDA. In 2002 we moved to Somersby when our indoor arena was officially opened and what a great change it has been now that we are able to operate in any weather which is much appreciated by our riders, volunteers and the equine team as well. Our Coaches do a great job organising the lessons each day, sometimes alternating serious riding with fun games or trail rides when the weather permits. It is very rewarding for me to see how the children respond to their four-legged friends and become more confident each riding day. The children make us laugh with their comments, especially if it relates to the poo or wee pick - up - they seem to be fascinated by this task. Some of their drawings tell a story too.

During my journey with RDA, I have met many caring people and enjoy the friendships made along the way. People with a great sense of humour sharing a common bond in doing what we do as volunteers.

*Pauline O'Brien*

Life Member





## Wauchope/Port Macquarie

### "RIKI"

Over the 2012 Christmas period we were lucky enough to adopt a lovely horse named "RIKI". "Riki" is a Standard Bred approximately 16hh, 9 years old gelding. His breeder's name is Tony Gorrell who also trained "Riki" in his 85 race starts. Tony made an offer to give "Riki" to an RDA Centre because of his beautiful temperament. He contacted State Office with the offer, and they sent it around the Centres. He has been training trotters for 40 years, and said "Riki" is the nicest natured horse he has had. Our Centre was lucky enough to adopt "Riki".

He had not been ridden prior to his arrival at our Centre. A number of our volunteers rode "Riki" and were extremely surprised at his pleasant nature and acceptance of being ridden in different situations. "Riki's" outstanding nature is evident around our riders. He is familiar with riders with wheel chairs as his trainer Tony, is wheel chair bound. Below are some pictures of Thomas Wade, from West Port High School, riding "Riki" on "Riki's" first day as one of our "RDA" horses.



# TAMWORTH

Tamworth Centre commenced riding and other horse activities for 2013 on 8 March. The weather was still hot but not as bad as the extreme heat earlier in the year. Our clients, both children and adults, were happy to be back. Our Regional Representative, Jenny Whiteford, who is a Coach at our Centre organised a two day Regional Workshop at the Tamworth Centre on 20 and 21 April. There were about forty Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Whips and volunteers from, Coonabarabran, Narrabri, Gunnedah, Armidale and of course, Tamworth in attendance. The time went very quickly as we chatted to other participants and listened to the interesting guest speakers. Steggles Childrens Nest have generously donated to us the money to replace our front fence. This will ensure the security of the horses and our horse activities. We are grateful to be able to do this fence and some other improvements after Tamworth Regional Council made the decision not to continue with the plan to have the land our Centre is situated on, re-zoned. We had not been able to do anything while we were waiting for a result as we did not know whether we would be moving. North Tamworth Bowling Club held their annual Bowls Day in aid of our Centre on 19<sup>th</sup> May, The day was very successful raising money and those attending enjoying themselves. Our volunteer and Centre Life Member, Duncan Martin, spent many hours and a lot of effort helping to prepare for the day. A few years ago a young man, Lachlan Elliott, tragically died in a road accident near Tamworth. His friends from the Sydney area now hold an annual cricket match, the Elliott Cup Cricket Day in his honour. The match is held in Centennial Park Sydney and the proceeds from the day are donated to our Centre by the organisers, players and spectators. Our Centre is most grateful to all those involved for the kind donation.



Jenny Whiteford's regional workshop held on 20 & 21 April





Young Centre on the South West Slopes has started the year with great conditions. Being very dry our 10 horses, with supplementary feeding, are doing well and coping with our 52 participants and 23 volunteers.

We congratulate two of our volunteers, Kathy and Dave, who have been awarded their Whip qualifications. Also to the three participants who took part in the 2012 Carriage Driving Competition. Other participants have done well in the colouring and drawing competitions.



Fiona and Helen (Assessors) and Dave, our new Whip



Kathy (our new Whip) going through her paces with Alyssa helping out



Min (Young Centre President) presenting First Prize in drawing competition to Zoyie-Lee



to: **Kerry (life member RDANSW)**  
**Wal (Ryde Centre) &**  
**Judith (life member RDANSW)**

*Congratulations!*

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## Reward for work with people with a disability.

KERRY Johnston was named the **Ballina Electorate Woman of the Year** at a ceremony at NSW Parliament House last week.

Mrs Johnston, from Teven, founded the Ballina and District Riding for Disabled Association in 1979.

State Member for Ballina Don Page congratulated Mrs Johnston on her award, describing her as an inspirational and dedicated worker for the disabled community.

"Kerry Johnston has made an outstanding contribution to her community for over 30 years and I was proud to see her recognised for her achievements," Mr Page said.

"Kerry has been a senior coach and assessor with Riding for the Disabled Association for 33 years. She was a member of the Coaching and Safety Panel for RDA and was a co-ordinator of the Equine Facilitated Mental Health sub-committee.

"The work Kerry has done with the disabled over a long period of time has changed lives.

"I have had the privilege on many occasions to see first-hand the wonderful work that Kerry does with the RDA.

There is nothing like seeing the look of sheer joy of a disabled person experiencing the freedom of riding one of the magnificent, gentle RDA horses. " Mrs Johnston is now directing her expertise and energy as a therapist and horsewoman in a program being run the USA, specialising in helping troubled youth.

"Kerry Johnston has made an enormous contribution over a long period through her work with the RDA. Despite retiring from her official position in 2012 with the organisation, her commitment and work continues," Mr Page said.



**WOMAN OF THE YEAR: Kerry Johnston** receives her Ballina Electorate Woman of the Year award from State Member for Ballina Don Page.



## One of three Anzacs of the Year...

"Wal" Scott-Smith has been the chief custodian of the Martin Place Cenotaph for the past 67 years and was announced as one of three Anzacs nationwide. His award was given in recognition of 60 years of service to the community of Sydney, particularly through his services as caretaker and chief Cenotaph custodian at the Cenotaph, the Scouting Association and Riding for the Disabled.



Wal Scott Smith (L) on duty at the Cenotaph, Anzac Day 2013

Wal has stood guard over the sacred spot for a total of 4355 services, with 65 services held at the site each year. He has never missed a dawn service.

Since he began his duties in 1947 after appointed by the RSL, Wal and his team have tirelessly tended to the sombre memorial rain, hail or shine, cleaning it and arranging the floral tributes, standing guard and providing a friendly face for those who come to pay their respects to the fallen. When asked for his age, Wal said that he was 90 "but I tell everyone I'm only 21".

One year, Wal turned up to a dawn service with a drip still in his arm, having a fortnight earlier undergone triple heart bypass surgery. Doctors said he could not attend, largely because of the drip and dressings had to be changed every six hours, but "I was determined to make it....So I turned up, and when the dawn service was over, I raced home, had it changed and was back for the sunset service". An ex-serviceman himself, Wal said his workplace was quiet, but an enjoyable place

providing a sanctuary for people to remember "our friends that are not about with us anymore".

He said he met some wonderful people, seen people grow up as their faces return year after year.

As dawn broke over Martin Place on the 98th anniversary of the battle of Gallipoli on Thursday, he recalled meeting "One fellow that comes from the country, Junee, in the NSW Riverina, and puts a red ribbon the soldier's right hook. One year he brought his mother, the next year, the whole family.

Reprinted from The Sydney Morning Herald

Post Script by Gerard Murphy:

I met Wal during my time at RDANSW Ryde Centre. On his 89<sup>th</sup> birthday he informed me that he had around another 10 years of volunteering at RDANSW Ryde Centre, after that he was unsure if he would still be driving.

## *The Quest for Victory*

There are horses galloping, in me  
Leaving thousand miles of footprints behind  
They race on with gusto  
The crimson mane flutters  
As they embark on the self – fulfilling pursuit  
To catch the wind and trail the sun...



## **Castle Hill Woman of the Year**

reprinted from a local newspaper article....

"This month I was proud to present [Judith Adam](#) as the 2013 Castle Hill Woman of the Year. Here is a little excerpt from her nomination in recognition of her service to the Hill's community.


"Judith Adam embodies the values that made our local community such a great place to live. She has made a significant contribution through her continued support to a number of local organisations, most notably the Castle Hill Show, the Castle Hill Arts Society and Riding for the Disabled Association".

Judith has served our local community with distinction, and thoroughly deserves the recognition that comes from receiving this prestigious reward..."

Well done, Judith





		Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW)	
CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013			
MONTH	DAY	EVENT	VENUE
All year round		Carriage Driving Competition	RDA Centres
July	Entries Close (12 July) 24 (6.30pm)	2013 State Dressage Video Competition Council (Teleconference)	
	27 & 28	Board Meeting	Pacific Room - Sports House
	28	Hunter Region Mounted Games	Central Coast Centre
	29 July - 4 Aug	RDA(NSW) Awareness week	RDA NSW Centres
August	1	Horses Birthday	All Centres
	24th - 25th (date to be confirmed)	State Dressage Championships State Coaching Workshop	SIEC Albury/Wodonga
October	Entries close 4 Oct 12 & 13 12 & 13 26th - 27	Musical Ride (DVD) Competition (winners announced) Board Meeting Council Meeting (face to face) Senior Coach Workshop	RDA Centres Pacific Room - Sports House Pacific Room - Sports House Tasman Room - Sports House



Riding for the Disabled Association NSW

# CARRIAGE DRIVING COMPETITION 2012

## Results

### 1. PHOTO CLASS

**"Best on Parade" Judge:** Marilyn Taylor (Samford QLD)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jason Madden (Upper Hunter) with Anne Marie Williams (CD Whip) and "Annie"
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Michelle Harris ("Tall Timbers") with Janet Muspratt (CD Whip) and "Nicholas"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Melinda Holden (RT&LH) with Rosemary Laing (CD Whip) and "Tinker"
- 4<sup>th</sup> Linda Ongley ("Tall Timbers") with Warren Ricketts (CD Whip) and "Max"
- 5<sup>th</sup> Cory Borrow (RT&LH) with Rosemary Laing (CD Whip) and "Tinker"
- 6<sup>th</sup> Penny Nielsen (RT&LH) with Rosemary Laing (CD Whip) and "Tinker"

#### Highly Commended

Zoyie Lee Newham (Young) with Reigh McCoy (CD Whip) and "Billy"  
 Katelyn Johnstone (Young) with Reigh McCoy (CD Whip) and "Billy"  
 Meg Johnson (Young) with Reigh McCoy (CD Whip) and "Billy"  
 Jake Ballard (Upper Hunter) with Anne Marie Williams (CD Whip) and "Annie"  
 Katrina Webb (Tall Timbers) with Janet Muspratt (CD Whip) and "Nicholas"

### 2. PHOTO CLASS

**"Carriage Driving in Action"**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tracie Leslie (RTLH) with Rosemary Laing (CD Whip) and "Busy Lady"
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Ongley (TT) with Warren Ricketts (CD Whip) and "Max"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Christian Walsh (TT) with John Wright (CD Whip) and "Boris"
- 4<sup>th</sup> Katrina Webb (TT) with Janet Muspratt (CD Whip) and "Nicholas"
- 5<sup>th</sup> Meg Johnson (Young) with Reigh McCoy (CD Whip) and "Billy"
- 6<sup>th</sup> Katelyn Johnstone (Young) with Reigh McCoy (CD Whip) and "Billy"

#### Highly Commended

Melinda Holden (RT/LH) with Rosemary Laing (CD Whip) and "Tinker"  
 Zoyie Lee Newham (Young) with Reigh McCoy (CD Whip) and "Billy"  
 Michelle Harris (TT) with Janet Muspratt (CD Whip) and "Nicholas"  
 Corey Borrow (RT/LH) with Rosemary Laing (CD Whip) and "Tinker"  
 Jason Maddon (Upper Hunter) with Sue Ivory (CD Whip) and "Annie"  
 Penny Nielsen (RT/LH) with Rosemary Laing (CD Whip) and "Tinker"  
 Jake Ballard (Upper Hunter) with Sue Ivory (CD Whip) and "Annie"





## Carriage Driving Results 2012

### 3. PRELIMINARY BENDING RACE

NAME	CENTRE	CD WHIP	HORSE	PEN.	TIME	OVERALL TIME	PLACING
Corey Borrow	RT/LH	Rosemary Laing	Tinker	-	37.00	37.00	1st
Ruth Davies	RT/LH	George Sinclair	Zane	10	32.03	42.03	2nd

### 4. OPEN BENDING RACE

NAME	CENTRE	CD COACH	HORSE	PEN.	TIME	OVERALL TIME	PLACING
Melinda Holden	RT/LH	Rosemary Laing	Tinker	-	37.60	37.60	1st
Terry Smith	RT/LH	George Sinclair	Zane	10	28.00	38.00	2nd =
Tracey Leslie	RT/LH	Rosemary Laing	Tinker		38.00	38.00	2nd =
Linda Ongley	TT	Janet Muspratt	Nicholas		49.07	49.07	4th
Michelle Harris	TT	Janet Muspratt	Nicholas		49.82	49.82	5th

### 5. PRELIMINARY PRECISION CONES

NAME	CENTRE	CD WHIP	HORSE	1	2	3	4	5	6	PEN (sec)	TIME	OVERALL TIME	PLACING
Terry Smith	RT/LH	George Sinclair	Zane	x						3	45.40	48.40	1st
Ruth Davies	RT/LH	George Sinclair	Zane	x						3	49.07	52.07	2nd
Corey Borrow	RT/LH	Rosemary Laing	Tinker								58.90	58.90	3rd
Jason Madden	Upper Hunter	Sue Ivory	Annie								104.12	104.12	4th
Ian Killen	Upper Hunter	Sue Ivory	Annie								105.60	105.60	5th

### 6. OPEN PRECISION CONES

NAME	CENTRE	CD WHIP	HORSE	1	2	3	4	5	6	PEN (sec)	TIME	OVERALL TIME	PLACING
Melinda Holden	RT/LH	Rosemary Laing	Tinker				x			3	67.00	70.00	1st
Linda Ongley	TT	Warren Ricketts	Max						x	3	80.72	83.72	2nd
Michelle Harris	TT	Janet Muspratt	Nicholas					x	x	6	92.25	98.25	3rd





**RDANSW CARRIAGE DRIVING PHOTO COMPETITION 2012**

**CLASS 1 "ON PARADE"**



1<sup>st</sup> place: Jason Madden



2<sup>nd</sup> place: Michelle Harris



3<sup>rd</sup> place: Melinda Holden



4<sup>th</sup> place: Linda Ongley



5<sup>th</sup> place: Corey Borrow



6<sup>th</sup> place: Penny Neilsen



**RDANSW CARRIAGE DRIVING PHOTO COMPETITION 2012**

**CLASS 2 "RDA CARRIAGE DRIVING IN ACTION"**



1<sup>st</sup> place: Tracie Leslie



2<sup>nd</sup> place: Linda Ongley



3<sup>rd</sup> place: Christian Walsh



4<sup>th</sup> place: Katrina Webb



5<sup>th</sup> place: Meg Johnson



6<sup>th</sup> place: Katelyn Johnstone



# EQUITANA AUSTRALIA SYDNEY

7-10 November 2013 • Sydney Showground

*Exciting news - RDANSW has once again been chosen as the Official Charity of Equitana Sydney 2013. Enthusiastic Volunteers from our Centres have put up their hands to man the RDANSW Stand. Further details will be sent later in the year.*



**EQUITANA Australia is very excited to announce the Riding for the Disabled Association - RDA(NSW) as the official EQUITANA Sydney 2013 charity! RDA(NSW) aims to provide people with a disability the opportunity to ride and enjoy all the activities connected with horse riding and carriage**

**driving. RDA(NSW) encourages, supports and assists RDA centres in providing riding therapy, sport, recreation, training and safety programs for people with disabilities. Formed in 1975, RDA(NSW) has grown to 35 centres across New South Wales. There are now over 1300 volunteers who generously contribute their time and expertise to support the RDA centres and assist over 1,700 riders with disabilities. RDA identifies horse riding as a unique form of exercise and rehabilitation. The complex movement of the horse helps to improve coordination, balance, muscular development and fitness. Horse related activities have been found to greatly assist with the restoration of personal confidence, self-esteem, communication skills, leadership and trust. RDA has worked with many people with challenging behaviour and found that horses offer a powerful medium for restoring a sense of personal control which significantly improves behaviour towards family, teachers and friends. RDA(NSW) is very excited to be presenting as part of our EQUITANA Education Program and will also have a stand at EQUITANA so you can find out more information on this wonderful organisation! Help get behind this amazing association that turns dreams into reality!**

Reprinted from the EQUITANA website