

2023

RDA NEWSLETTER

Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW) Raymond Terrace and Lower Hunter Connections



Our new Management Committee

Secretary – Jenny Gunter. Jenny is a Tuesday volunteer and the Volunteer Co-ordinator. If you know of someone who wants to do volunteer work at RDA, then please let Jenny know. We are always keen to have people assist in our programs, with maintenance work, gardening, or washing, grooming, feeding our horses



Treasurer – Anne Armitage. Anne is a Monday volunteer and took on the Treasurer role recently. If you have any queries relating to the finances, please see Anne.



Committee Member - Chris Batch. Chris is a parent of an ex-rider, Lachlan. Lachlan now volunteers on a Tuesday. Chris is looking at general maintenance and working with David on WHS.

Committee Member – Lesley Anne Clifton. Lesley Anne is a Tuesday volunteer and training as an assistance coach. Lesley Anne looks after fund raising and donations. If you know anyone who would like to make a donation or become a sponsor, then please let Lesley Anne know.

Committee Member – Jane Musgrave. Jane is the Parent Representative on the Committee. Her daughter Amelia is a Monday rider. Please see our other article on Jane's role



Committee Member – David Swan. David is the husband of a Tuesday volunteer and is also known as Judge David at our Mounted Games day. David is working on Workplace Health and Safety (WHS).

Newsletter Editor - Sheridan Thomas. Sheridan is a Saturday volunteer who is a full-time working mum on a busy farm.



Grants Officer - Janet Bristow. Janet is also a Saturday volunteer and working mum who does an amazing job completing paperwork for grants, a number of which have been successful!



The position of President is currently vacant. If anyone is interested in applying, please speak to one of the Committee members who will guide you in the right direction.

All follow up information, queries or comments can be sent to rdartandlh@bigpond.com

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FAREWELL JULIA

Julia was a good friend of our Carriage Driving team for many years before her retirement, assisting at both RDA Raymond Terrace and RDA Stroud.

Julia was always willing to stand-in when any RT&LH Whip, George Sinclair, Rosemary Laing and Helen Huckerby, were away due to illness or other commitments. This meant that carriage driving participants were still able to enjoy their weekly or fortnightly programs.

Julia was really amazing with, and always had a ready smile for, our RDA drivers under her care, be it on a casual basis, bringing another dimension to their experience.

Julia passed away in early June after a long illness. We at RT&LH Centre remember her with appreciation and our condolences go to her family and friends in their loss.

JULIA
ENJOYING A
CARRIAGE
RIDE WITH
GOOD FRIEND
AND RDA
STROUD WHIP,
ROSEMARY
LAING, AT
SHEPHERD'S
GROUND, LAST
YEAR.



MAITLAND & PORT STEPHENS TOYOTA

Maitland and Port Stephens Toyota are well recognised for supporting their local community and are pleased to become a sponsorship partner with RDA Raymond Terrace & Lower Hunter to support people living with a disability to achieve their life goals.



Maitland & Port Stephens Toyota 
TOYOTA

SPECIALISTS IN GUEST SERVICE

Maitland Toyota
104-124 Newcastle Street
East Maitland NSW 2323
T 02 49338383
maitlandtoyota.com.au
khall@maitlandtoyota.com.au

Port Stephens Toyota
70 Port Stephens Drive
Taylors Beach NSW 2316
T 02 49163333
portstephenstoyota.com.au

**MULTIPLE WINNER OF TOYOTA AUSTRALIAN
DEALER OF THE YEAR!**

MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE

Our Mother's Day Raffle got off to a bit of a slow start then I'm thrilled to say, galloped away

With almost \$2 800 worth of prizes we were very happy to raise a little over \$3 000 for the Centre.

The winning tickets were drawn in front of an excited crowd at 10am on Mother's Day than all winners were notified via text and a link was posted on the RDA Facebook site.

Thank you to all the people who purchased a ticket and many thanks to all those who donated prizes – Tamburlaine Organic Wines; Maitland & Port Stephens Toyota; Hunter Outdoor Equipment; Adnama Beauty; Toni Crombie Hair Design; Stockland Greenhills; Dan Murphy Greenhills plus many others.

The funds raised will go a long way towards helping the Centre to continue to provide horse related activities for people living with a disability.

PHOTO – AMELIA ON CHASE WITH CAROLINA (OUR "PIN UP TEAM" FOR OUR RAFFLE 😊)



DONATIONS

Once again Bev at Bunnings Heatherbrae came to the rescue and donated 10 x 26L buckets / tubs plus 25m of yellow plastic chain. The tubs are the perfect size as a water bucket as they fit inside the tyres we have in our stalls thus preventing the buckets from being tipped over . The yellow plastic chain is required at our Stroud Centre.



Earlier on this year, RDA were fortunate enough to win a volunteer's grant. We asked the maintenance volunteers what we could buy to make their volunteer work a little bit easier and a brush cutter was requested.

The brush cutter was purchased through Hunter Outdoor Equipment who gave RDA a discounted price. Thanks 😊

On Monday 19 June, Mr Norm Burton (snr) visited RDA.

Maitland and Port Stephens Toyota had recently donated gift cards to RDA to purchase a new lawn mower and whipper snipper. Norm came to "test drive" the new equipment and have a look around the Centre. He was very impressed with what he saw and thrilled to hear that his company has been able to support our Centre in so many different ways.

A huge thank you to Maitland and Port Stephens Toyota 😊



BUNNINGS BBQ

ON SUNDAY JUNE 2 WE HELD OUR SECOND BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE FOR 2023. MANY THANKS TO THE IMPERIAL HOTEL MAITLAND FOR SPONSORING THIS EVENT AS IT MEANS THAT ALL PROCEEDS GO TO RIDING FOR THE DISABLED.

WHILST THE DAY WAS FAIRLY OVERCAST AND RAIN THREATENED, WE WERE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE MANY HUNGRY AND THIRSTY CUSTOMERS.

THANK YOU ALSO TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO TURNED UP TO ASSIST ON THE DAY

OUR NEXT BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE IS ON SATURDAY 12 AUGUST FROM 9AM TO 4PM AT BUNNINGS HEATHERBRAE. PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT OUR CENTRE.



MONDAY GROUP

It has been an up and down term with both riders and volunteers being sick as well as away on holidays. One of our riders has not been able to join us as he has been really unwell. However his mum thinks if his improvement continues he should be able to join us. Get well Yuko.

We had our mounted games on the last day of term. I must say it was very professionally done with special guest judges and time keepers. All riders seemed to enjoy the day and they all were able to better their previous times. Well done riders.

A big thank you also to our volunteers, as without them there would be no riding.



TUESDAY GROUP

On Tuesday 27 June, our Centre received a visit from a group of ladies (Maxine, Jan, Paula and Sandra) representing Port Stephens Busy B's.

Busy B's has been around for 30 years and is a Not For Profit Charity who raise funds for disabled children.

Our Centre was thrilled to be the recipient of a donation of \$1 500 - this will go a long way towards helping us support our horses and riders.

This lovely group of ladies were able to watch our class and were happy to pose for a photograph.

Thank you Port Stephens Busy B's 😊☐



SATURDAY GROUP

It has been lovely seeing our horses and riders bonding throughout Term 2 with a few different activities and new challenges. Our riders have really enjoyed getting out to experience the horse play land and working on their control and balance. Our Mounted Games was a huge success with Cheryl judging. Xavier and Waffles are forming a new relationship and it was great to see Xavier smiling and laughing through the activities. Ben and Andrew worked hard on Schooner and Supa to make some good times. Shannon was very proud of her achievements with Flame. They have a special bond and Flame just whizzes through the activities with Shannon expertly guiding her. Thank you so much Cheryl for joining us on the day.



CASP STATE TRAINING

RDA (NSW) Coach Workshop was held on the 17th and 18th of June, at the RDA Ryde Centre, Sydney.

Eight Coaching Staff attended – Judy Edwards and Susan Schmidt Coaches from Monday Programme. Hayley Bell Coach, Alex Howell Assistant coach and Assistant coaches in training Lesley-Anne and Cheryl Cooper from Tuesday Programme. Stroud Carriage Driving was represented by Whips Faye Barnes and Helen Murrell.

Raymond Tce Coach Judy presented the RDA (NSW) Hippotherapy section along with other RDA NSW Coach representatives presenting Connections, Carriage Driving, Dressage, Mounted Games, Riding Techniques and Horse retirement to name a few.

To maintain qualifications to be an RDA (NSW) Coach all RDA Centres must attend these Workshops.

RDA Raymond Terrace would like to say Thank You to the Ryde Centre for hosting this event. Their volunteers did an amazing job all weekend, your hospitality, facilities and catering was second to none.

Another benefit of attending other centres is to gain ideas for our WISH LIST.... I would like some of these lightweight barrier options!



MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE WINNERS

Description	Ticket #	Name	Surname
Case of Tamburlaine Reserve Wine	649	Libby	White
Whipper Snipper	806	Stephen	Abercrombie
\$200 Bunnings Gift Card	789	margaret	murnane
Adnama Beauty Gift Card	256	Lisa	Helmers
\$150 Stockland Gift Card	38	Lou	Davidson
\$100 Wish Card	708	Judy	Edwards
\$100 Wish Card	104	Annette	Pulbrook
\$100 Wish Card	426	Denise	Evans
\$100 Wish Card	35	Lou	Davidson
\$100 Wish Card	632	Katie	Clifford
\$100 Wish Card	526	Karen	Monteath
\$100 Wish Card	21	Eilis	Corrigan
\$100 Bunnings Gift Card	231	Karen	Hodson
4 bottles of Tamburlaine Wine Lovers wine	44	DELYS	DEEGAN
4 bottles of Tamburlaine Wine Lovers wine	417	Carole	Hussain
4 bottles of Tamburlaine Wine Lovers wine	698	Lischke	Coleman
Pamper Pack	11	Terri	Peart
Hair care pack	509	Marie	Rizzo
\$50 Dan Murphy Gift Card	820	Nathan	Clifton
Sim Starter Pack	390	DELYS	DEEGAN
6 clear red wine glasses	411	Belinda	Gibbons
\$25 Gift Card	228	Karen	Hodson

SENSORY GARDEN

We have now completed three working bees in our Sensory Garden and it is looking sensational!!!!

Many, many thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that have either worked in the garden; provided morning tea / lunch; cut up wood; loaded skips / trailers; dumped rubbish; provided mulch and/or plants. Basically, anyone who has given up their time and effort to make this happen – A HUGE THANK YOU 😊

We are still planning some final jobs – new stones in certain areas; more mulch and more edging however the garden is now able to be used by our amazing riders.



GARDEN BEFORE



GARDEN IN BETWEEN WORKING BEES



THE RESULT



VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

YOUR MOUNTED GAMES REPORT 2023

The Beyond Bank Mounted Games for 2023 was held early this year in Term 2 using an Individual Program format.

18 Riders registered for the event, with another 6 Riders joining in.

A big thank you goes to the Coaches for the time and effort they put into their riders and the event on their Program Day. Thank you to the 'Official Judges / Timekeepers' - the extra effort was appreciated. To all the volunteers and Families, a big clap to you - you all showed amazing cheering skills, and finally 3 x big Hip Hip Horray's to the Riders and their horses - they all showed great enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

The Riding for the Disabled (Raymond Terrace & Lower Hunter) Mounted Games Encouragement Award Perpetual Trophy is awarded to Shannon McGee - (Saturday) . "Well done Shannon - keep up the great work".

Once again, thank you for the SUPER effort in making the Mounted Games 2023 Beyond great and it shows that MAGIC can happen when we are all part of the TEAM.

Hayley Bell
Mounted Games Co-Ordinator