

TERM 4 2023

# RDA NEWSLETTER

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



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**TO OUR RDA FAMILIES,  
VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS,  
MAY YOU HAVE A PEACEFUL  
FESTIVE SEASON. WE WILL SEE YOU  
IN 2024!**



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# PEBBLE BENEDICT DONATION

The ongoing maintenance of the Sensory Garden was given a boost when on Tuesday 10 October, 3 ton of mixed 20mm and 40mm white pebbles were donated by one of our major sponsors, Benedict. The pebbles will be used to brighten and tidy up the three old pebbled areas. The different sizes and textures of the pebbles will be great for our riders to touch and feel.

Pictured:

- 1) Benedict vehicle with RDA in the background.
- 2) Brad from Benedict and Lesley Anne from RDA with the pebbles
- 3) The dump of pebbles

Thank you to Benedict for coming onboard and supporting this request. A huge thank you to Brad for all his hard work in helping to source these pebbles and making this happen – he did an amazing job!



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3

# ADDITIONS TO SENSORY GARDEN

Anne accompanied our new gardener Michael and his assistant Liam to visit Bev at Bunnings Heatherbrae to start our search for new additions for our Sensory Garden. Michael selected two Lemon Myrtle trees. He has insisted since his first day that we had to have these.

He spoke with Bev and he is to draw up some plans for his sensory wall he would like to do and give her a list of materials and plants need for this project.

Upon return to RDA Michael planted his new babies and gave them a big drink. By the way, their names are Michael and Myrtle.



# MONDAY GROUP

Our Monday group is a very engaged and happy team!

One of our riders who has only been with us for 18 months was awarded the Rider Encouragement Award. When asked what she wanted to achieve, her reply was, "ride off lead and trot." Congratulations Dakota, you are a well deserved recipient of this award.

Oh dear, I almost forgot someone without whom none of this would have been possible. Our coach Judy has been working her magic with her riders for 25 years. I am sure there are many families out there whose lives you have a huge impact on. Congratulations Judy!



# TUESDAY GROUP

## Introducing Ava!

Ava is a lovely black Standard Bred mare, approximately 14.3 hands, and is 12 years old. She passed the trial program in time to join RDA in Term 4. Her first riders were Scarlette (Group 2) and Sonny (Group 3) in the Tuesday program.

Ava has been leased to us by Anita, who also happens to be a team member of the Tuesday program and is part of the Centre Management Committee.

Ava has a sweet temperament and tries her hardest to please her riders. In the past Ava was kept busy with trail rides and even had a foal.



# SATURDAY GROUP

Our two latest stars for our Super Saturday group are Lachlan and Aidan. They are having an awesome time building a strong relationship with their horses, Chase and Tiger. These furry ponies are ever so patient as these riders find their balance and confidence. The smiles on Lachlan and Aidan's faces as they ride Chase and Tiger are why the volunteers turn up each Saturday!



# THANK YOU WOOLWORTHS

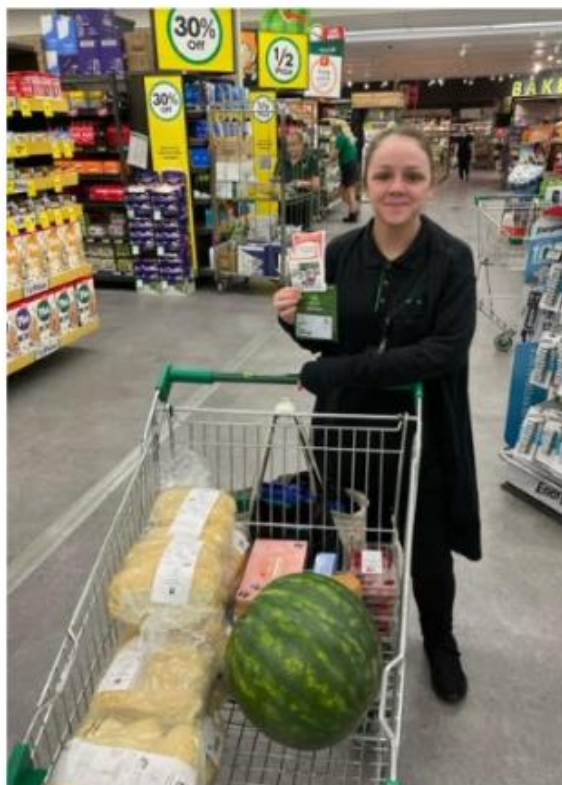
A BIG thank you from all at Riding for the Disabled Raymond Terrace to the fabulous and generous team at Woolworths Raymond Terrace who kindly donated a \$50 Gift voucher to purchase party food.

The celebration took place on Saturday 24 October 2023 to recognise and our hard working and valued volunteers.

An Awards Celebration with trophies, appreciation certificates and long service badges were presented to the lucky and very deserving recipients. Followed by a scrumptious sausage sizzle with yummy cakes and fruit to follow.

Without the help and support of local businesses like Woolworth Raymond Terrace, we would find it difficult to survive the rigours of funding a not for profit association like ours. Therefore, enabling RDA to keep the amazing horse related programs running with the our wonderful, special horses and tireless volunteers. Ultimately, benefiting and improving the abilities and enjoyment of our unique riders.

Thank you.



# WINE DRIVE

Earlier this year we applied for a grant to assist with some of the many costs that are incurred looking after our wonderful and amazing horses.

In August we received some very exciting news that we had won a Clubs Grant which gave us enough money for 2 deliveries of hay plus basic horse feed for one year

Thank you to all those involved in researching and applying for the grant.

RDA are partnering with Tamburlaine Organic Wines.

These organic wines are sulphur free  
The RRP is \$25 per bottle, however through RDA you can purchase for \$16 a bottle - \$9 per bottle saving.

Orders are by the dozen – if you don't want to purchase a dozen, club together with a few friends or family.

\$192 per dozen including freight (delivered to your house) and \$50 from every dozen sold comes back to RDA.

You can order by:

using the order form and scan in (or take a photo of the form and send to Lou), OR  
phone and speak to Lou Davidson and mention RDA  
p: 0249 984 217  
m: 0415 252 573

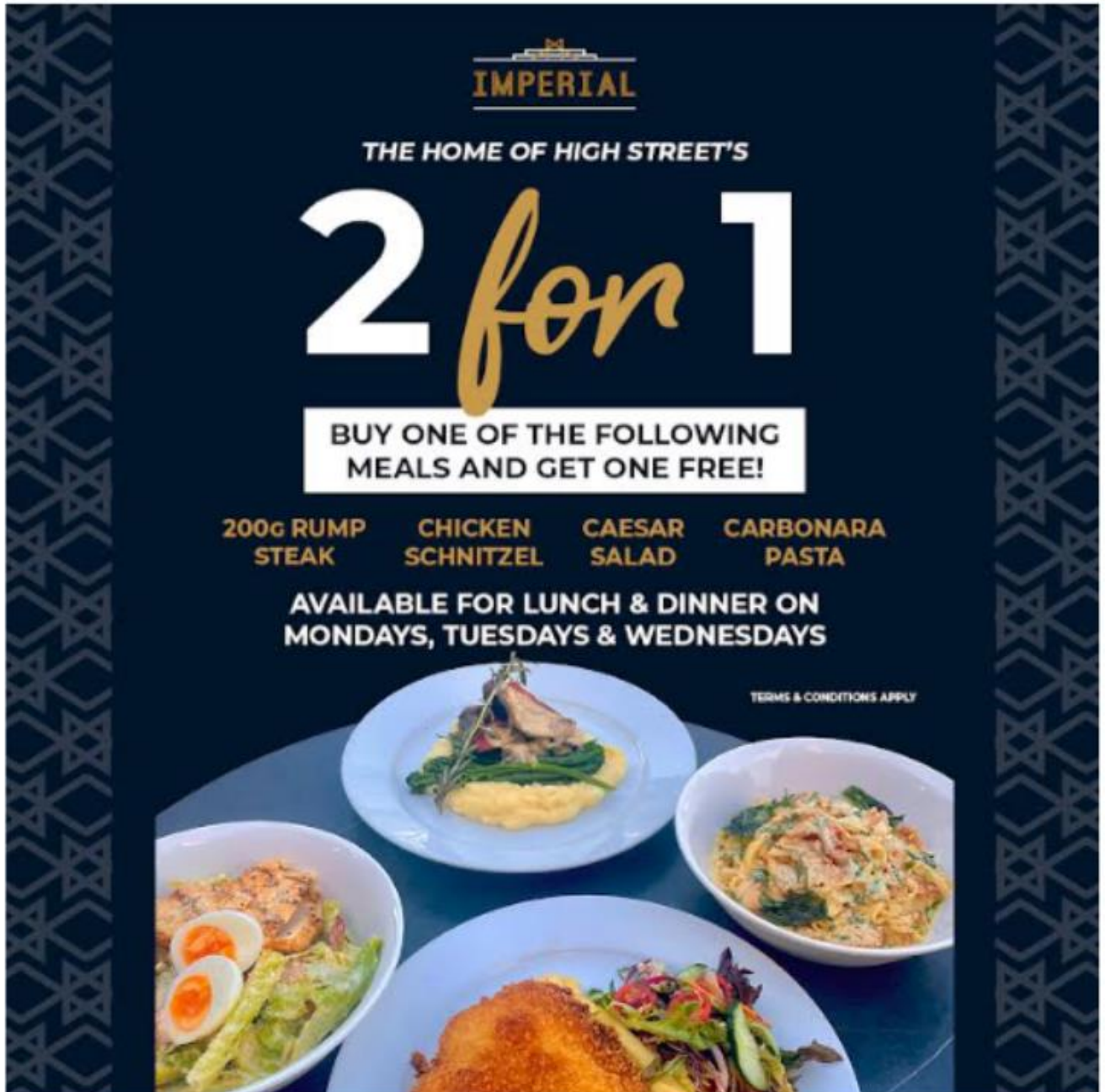
If there are any questions, please contact Lesley Anne on 0416 00 5242 or via e-mail [lac270366@gmail.com](mailto:lac270366@gmail.com)





# IMPERIAL HOTEL

Let's support one of our major sponsors who have helped RDA with numerous fund-raising activities this year. If you are in the Maitland area, please support Imperial Hotel.



The poster features a dark blue background with a repeating geometric pattern on the sides. At the top center is the Imperial Hotel logo, which includes a crown icon above the word "IMPERIAL". Below the logo, the text "THE HOME OF HIGH STREET'S" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The main offer, "2 for 1", is displayed in large, bold letters, with "2" and "1" in white and "for" in a gold, cursive script. A white rectangular box contains the text "BUY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MEALS AND GET ONE FREE!". Below this, four meal options are listed in gold, uppercase letters: "200g RUMP STEAK", "CHICKEN SCHNITZEL", "CAESAR SALAD", and "CARBONARA PASTA". Underneath the list, the text "AVAILABLE FOR LUNCH & DINNER ON MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS" is written in white, uppercase letters. At the bottom right, the text "TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY" is written in a small, white, uppercase font. The bottom half of the poster shows four photographs of the meal options: a rump steak with vegetables, a chicken schnitzel with a side of pasta, a Caesar salad with two hard-boiled eggs, and a carbonara pasta dish.

**IMPERIAL**

THE HOME OF HIGH STREET'S

# 2 for 1

BUY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MEALS AND GET ONE FREE!

**200g RUMP STEAK**    **CHICKEN SCHNITZEL**    **CAESAR SALAD**    **CARBONARA PASTA**

AVAILABLE FOR LUNCH & DINNER ON MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

# MELBOURNE CUP DAY

On Tuesday 7 November, RDA and Imperial Hotel in Maitland worked together to raise funds for our Centre. A team of volunteers worked tirelessly selling raffle tickets and running competitions and we were very fortunate in making just over \$1 500 which will help with the many expenses that RDA incur.

We had a large raffle with all prizes donated; guess how many lollies are in the jar; closest gold coin to the bottle wins; best dressed lady and best dressed man. For a \$10 donation at the door, patrons were given a free glass of champagne and a ticket in our lucky door.

Once again, I'd like to thank our major sponsor, Imperial Hotel. Plus, a huge thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who gave up so much of their time to help on this hugely successful day. We have been invited back to do it all over again next year

Photo 1: L-R – Marie, Judy, Anne, Susan, Lesley Anne, Judy, Polly, Jenny, Anita with the table of raffle prizes

Photo 2: Our lucky door prize winner and Anne



# BUNNINGS TOOL KIT DONATION

On Sunday 1 October at our 3rd term Bunnings BBQ, RDA were presented with a Tool Kit to put towards the raffle on Melbourne Cup Day.

Pictured is Judy (Monday coach) receiving the prize from Ben at Bunnings.

Thank you to Bev at Bunnings Heatherbrae for once again supporting our Centre, RDA Raymond Terrace and Lower Hunter.



# RDA AWARDS



Volunteer of the year Cherie Mason



Horse of the year - Tinker



Rider/driver of the year Tim Henman

The Annual Volunteer Awards were held on 21st October to celebrate the selfless devotion of our many volunteers who ensure our RDA Centres can continue to offer equine therapy to those living with a disability. Thank you to all who attended the day, and to those who helped to make it a success.

## **Saturday Group**

Sheri Thomas - 3 year award  
Elsie Sprakel-Thomas - 3 year award  
Margaret Brooks - 3 year award  
Sheree Richardson - 5 year award  
Janet Bristow (also Grants Officer) - 5 year award  
Judi Purdon - 5 year award  
Diane Golledge - 5 year award  
Michelle Bullen - 25 year award

## **Monday Group**

Maree Rizzo - 3 year award  
Brett Gilroy - 5 year award  
Anne Armitage - 5 year award  
Alison Stone - 5 year award

## **Tuesday Group**

Lesley Anne Clifton - 3 year award

## **Tuesday Group**

Richard Hayter - 5 year award  
Jenny Gunter - 5 year award  
Allen Swan - 10 year award  
Terri Peart - 10 year award  
Mike Peart - 10 year award

## **Finance Team**

Lee Power 3 year award

## **Maintenance Team**

Robert Markey - 5 year award

## **Stroud Carriage Drving**

Cherie Mason - 20 year award

**Horse of the Year** – Tinker of Stroud Carriage Driving

**Rider/Driver of the Year** – Tim Henman of Stroud Carriage Driving

**Encouragement Award** – Dakota Marks of Monday Group

**Volunteer of the Year** – Cherie Mason of Stroud Carriage Driving

I was thrilled to be able to present the relevant awards to the Stroud Carriage Driving Group on 31 st October after their program had completed. Riders and volunteers alike were very excited to know they had won the majority of awards this year CONGRATULATIONS to all our winners, what a wonderful achievement, and to all our volunteers for your dedication to RDA and our riders.