



# NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

## RDA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The National RDA Board is in the process of making some significant changes to its operations. After extensive consultation and tendering from State Offices, the national office has relocated to Adelaide, to share resources and accommodation with RDA South Australia. It is indicative of the growing strength of the National Organisation that RDASA is offering its resources and support to improve the functioning of the National Body.

Another example of this support is RDA Queensland's plan to host the next face to face Company meeting to be held in Brisbane on 21 -22 August, when the Board and Company meetings will be supported with a social evening event, to give delegates and Board members a chance to mix informally. The new model of the National Company requires that States take more responsibility for the successful function of RDA, and I applaud the Member States for working positively towards making this happen.

Still another example of co-operation is the combining of resources by Rideability Victoria and RDA Australia for the approaching Equitana Exhibition, to be held at the Melbourne Showgrounds on 18-21 November. RDA is the recognised charity for this huge event, where equestrian disciplines from far and wide will demonstrate and display their vast array of skills and resources. This major event is a must for all of those interested in the many equestrian interests available to us in Australia.

Apart from the highlights and features, such as those mentioned above, the most remarkable of all is the continuity of service being offered by the RDA Centres all around the country. The dedication of volunteers in providing opportunities guidance, encouragement and support for thousands of children and adults, all of whom live with varying levels of disability, is simply extraordinary. The offering by community members of their acquired skills, experience and wisdom, is rewarded with a sense of fulfilment, and appreciated by those in need of the support.

RDA is constantly working on developing its resources with coach training, professional advice,

community support and infrastructure building, in order to provide a satisfactory service, with practical outcomes for its riders and participants. It does, however, continue to seek financial backing for the many projects planned for the future.

*Ross Goulden* (RDA Chair)

## NATIONAL OFFICE NEWS

The RDA national office has moved! New contact details for RDA are as follows:

Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia Ltd  
PO Box 280 Kent Town SA 5071  
215 Portrush Road Maylands SA 5069

and is being staffed by a new Administrator, Theresa Moore. She is contactable by telephone on (08) 8364 4444 or you can email Theresa at [admin@rda.org.au](mailto:admin@rda.org.au). RDA website [www.rda.org.au](http://www.rda.org.au)

The position of National Coaching Coordinator has been vacant for some time. Funding is being sought to fill this critical position. Karen Aspery has been seconded from RDA South Australia for six months (16 hours a week) until ongoing funding for the position can be sourced and a full selection process initiated. Karen is currently the RDA SA State Coaching and Volunteer Coordinator (4 days per week); a Level 2 NCAS RDA Coach and National Assessor.

Karen will be working for RDA Australia on Fridays. She can be contacted by email at: [kaspery@bigpond.net.au](mailto:kaspery@bigpond.net.au) and will respond to your email within the week. If you would like to speak to her please include your phone number and she will call you on the next Friday.

Pauline Perry (Chair of Program Delivery) will continue to assist the RDA National Office and is currently working with the Australian Sports Commission to review the RDA Training Syllabi.

## 2010 DIARY DATES

July 21 Board Meeting Teleconference  
Aug 21/22 RDA Board & State Presidents Meeting  
Sept 15 Board Meeting Teleconference  
Oct 13 Board Meeting Teleconference  
Nov 13 Volunteer Awards Dinner  
Nov 14 RDA AGM  
Dec 15 Board Meeting Teleconference

## COACHING UPDATE May - June 2010

The Coaching Department has been working hard in the past month preparing the National Coaching Workshop at Marcus Oldham College, Geelong, Victoria. We are pleased to announce that Dr Andrew McLean will be our Guest Speaker at the dinner on Saturday 3 July 2010. The dinner will be a formal 3-course dinner with a twist - the theme is "Black Tie and Gumboots". Dinner guests are invited to decorate their gumboots to match their outfit. Prizes awarded for best decorated gumboots!

**80 RDA Coaches** have registered for the National Coaching Workshop to be held on 2-5 July 2010.

Adam Horner from the Australian Sports Commission will be presenting on Presentation Skills for Coach Educators and Assessors and we are aiming for representatives from each state to be able to take this knowledge away with them and pass on.

Another big job on our list has been the completion of the *Level 1 Manual* which has been the topic of many late night discussions and review of the written material. We hope to give everyone a 'sneak preview' at the workshop. This will be one of the topics presented at the National Workshop. We will also welcome two Victorian riders, David Rak and Amy Harrison, who are recently returned from the *Special Olympics National Games* in Adelaide and hear them speak of their experiences and show off their medals.

After the National Workshop we will take a deep breath and then launch whole-heartedly into finalizing the coaching syllabus review for the Australian Sports Commission. We hope to present a final document to the ASC by the end of July.

Relocation of National Office is happening as we speak and we are expecting about 100 boxes to arrive and be unpacked in the South Australian Office. For those of you who are awaiting manuals, this will be the first box unpacked so we can dispatch those to you quickly!

We are also looking forward to hearing feedback from the participants and State Associations who are running the Coach training courses under the Ian Potter Foundation money and will report on those outcomes in the next Spotlight issue.

*Karen Aspery*, Acting Coaching Coordinator  
*Pauline Perry*, Chair Program Delivery

## RDA 2010 COACHING WORKSHOPS

- **National Coaching Workshop**  
Marcus Oldham College, VIC, 2 - 5 July 2010
- **Combined OTC/L1 Intensive Workshop**, WA,  
13 July – 16 July 2010
- **Combined OTC/L1 Intensive Workshop**, QLD,  
25 - 26 July 2010
- **RDA Carriage Driving Workshop**, VIC,  
14 - 15 August 2010
- **Level 2 National Coach Training Intensive Workshop**, SA, 27 Aug - 1 Sept 2010
- **RDA National Dressage Video Competition** is now open! Closing date for entries 5 Oct 2010. Results announced 1 Dec 2010. For entry forms and further details visit [www.rda.org.au](http://www.rda.org.au).

## RDA National Coaches Workshop

**2010 National Coaches Workshop** will be held at Marcus Oldham College, Geelong, VIC., on **Fri 2 July to Mon 5 July**. Program activities will include:

- Roll out of new Coach Training system
- Presentation Skill Course
- Level 1 Polework
- Level 2 Introduction to Jumping
- Guest Speakers

## Carriage Driving Workshop – New Dates!

The Carriage Driving Workshop dates (formerly advertised in the Coaching Newsletter for 12 - 13 June) has changed to 14 - 15 August, 2010. This workshop will be convened by Rideability Victoria. It is open to interstate participants (up to 3 participants will have the costs of their transport covered). The aim of the workshop is for at least 10 participants to complete their next level of Carriage Driving qualification. Registrations of interest to: - Rikki Raadsveld, [rikki@rdav.asn.au](mailto:rikki@rdav.asn.au)

## NEW COACHES PORTAL LAUNCH!

The new secure online Coaches' Portal developed with a generous grant from **The Sidney Myer Fund** has



been launched! Over 100 RDA Coaches have registered their details to date. RDA is encouraging all RDA Coaches to sign up for this amazing free information service.

RDA Coaches must first sign up and then log on to access the online secure coaches' portal. Coaches can update their details online at any time (only RDA can update Coaches qualifications) and access coaching information 24/7.

For instructions how to sign up to the portal go to [www.rda.org.au](http://www.rda.org.au) watch the [Coaches Portal](#) sign up explanatory DVD; then click on the Coaches [logo](#) to sign up. It's as easy as that!

## ASC NEWS UPDATE

### ASC Supporting Coaches Online



New coaches have the opportunity to learn and develop their skills at their own pace and in their own time through a new online training course offered by the Australian Sports Commission 'Beginning Coaching General Principles Course'.

The Beginning Coaching General Principles Online Course has been developed to assist coaches to improve their basic coaching skills, in particular, those coaches working with children and is aimed at first time and beginner coaches (e.g. parents). For those coaches working in regional and remote areas, this course is particularly useful as access to face-to-face coaching courses is not readily available.

The course features interactive tutorials that cover all the basics of coaching, including how to run training activities, manage young people and create a fun and safe playing environment for all participants.

The training course, which takes approximately six hours to complete, provides the first step for aspiring coaches to gain Level 1 coach accreditation. The training course is currently available 'free of charge' for the benefit of all Australian coaches.

For those coaches who wish to become accredited, the Beginning Coaching General Principles course provides the first step towards accreditation.

The next step is to complete a sports specific coaching course in order to achieve accreditation as a coach. For further information on this free course visit:

<https://learning.ausport.gov.au/jportal/Courses/tabid/62/Default.aspx>.

## 2010 SPECIAL OLYMPICS REPORT

A wonderful week of competition, excitement and companionship was enjoyed by all at the Special Olympics National Games - the sporting competition for athletes with an intellectual disability - in Adelaide, South Australia, in April 2010.



Our 26 Equestrian athletes were over-awed by the experience of marching in the Opening Ceremony with 900 other athletes and officials and watching the lighting of the cauldron.

The next day included a visit to the Zoo to see the new Panda Exhibit followed by the Haighs Chocolate factory. Wednesday morning was the day riders were matched to the 17 borrowed RDA horses and had their first chance to practice. In the afternoon was the preliminary round of



competition for English Equitation. Riders were given three free-style movements to perform for the judge.

Riders compete in English Equitation Class – Trot Intermediate

Thursday was a full day of competition with Prix Caprilli (dressage over jumps or poles on the ground); Texas Barrel race and a Working Trails course. All the horses coped well with the water obstacle, the jumps, the letterbox, even the airplanes flying overhead (the venue was adjacent the Adelaide Airport).



Amy Barnes (WA) rides "Sugar" through the water obstacle



The highlight of each day was the official medal presentations with lots of guest presenters including RDA National President, Ross Goulden, Board Members Bill and Katy Ash, Judith van Unen, SA State Manager Kay Milton, Saddleworld Managing Director,

RDA Chair Ross Goulden congratulates Rebecca Alison (QLD) and Kate McDonald (QLD)

Gary Slack, MP Duncan McFetteridge, Horse SA CEO Julie Fiedler and Gold Medal Winner Gillian Rolton. Here are some comments from riders:

*“Opening and Closing Ceremonies were a great experience and I would love to do it again.”*

Sara (WA)

*“Kate came home to Brisbane the richer for this wonderful opportunity and experience. She will continue her riding at the McIntyre Centre where she also works as a volunteer.”*

Carol Marsh (QLD)

*“David and Amy had a great time - both still on a quiet high. Amy's Mum is also thrilled with Amy's experience and the self confidence that she sees in Amy.”*

Lesley (Coach) VIC

*“Congratulations on doing such a great job we all has a ball and everything was so well organized. I know that it is, and will be, a talking point in our house for many years to come.”*

Watts Family (NSW)

*“Andrew achieved 3 gold medals and 1 silver medal for his rides. I would like to thank the Special Olympics Australia for allowing the Equestrian athletes to be part of the Opening and Closing ceremonies and also being involved with this year's incredible event.”*

Ray Tanner (SA)

Hear more from David and Amy when they speak at the National Coaching Workshop about their experiences at the SO Games and bring along their medals to show. Special Olympics Australia will present at the National Coaching Workshop and answer questions about how RDA can continue this wonderful partnership into the future.

[Karen Aspery](#) (State Coaching Coordinator, RDASA)

## **SPECIAL OLYMPICS RESULTS:**

### **English Equitation**

- **Walk C Division**
  - Gold – Cassandra Ryan
  - Silver – Ashley Matthes
  - Bronze – Jamie Richardson
- **Trot Novice**
  - Gold – Andrew Tanner
  - Silver – Amy Harrison
  - Bronze – Aimee Prout
- **Trot Intermediate**
  - Gold – Zara Suliman
  - Silver – Andrea Penny
  - Bronze – Sara Cann
- **Trot Advanced**
  - Gold – Dian Thalbourne

- Silver – Janet Nourse
- Bronze – David Rak

### **Texas Barrel**

- **Walk C Division**
  - Gold – Ashley Matthews
  - Silver – Cassandra Ryan
  - Bronze – Ian Gelley
- **Trot Novice**
  - Gold – Andrew Tanner
  - Silver – Aimee Prout
  - Bronze – Chanelle Woodhead
- **Trot Intermediate**
  - Gold – David Rak
  - Silver – Kate McDonald
  - Bronze – Kate Marsha
- **Trot Advanced**
  - Gold – Chantal Simpson
  - Silver – Amy Barnes
  - Bronze – Andrea Penny

### **Working Trials**

- **Walk C Division**
  - Gold – Jamie Richardson
  - Silver – Katelyn Spencer
  - Bronze – Cassandra Ryan
- **Trot Novice**
  - Gold – Aimee Prout
  - Silver – Andrew Tanner
  - Bronze – Chanelle Woodhead
- **Trot Intermediate**
  - Gold – David Rak
  - Silver – Kate Marsh
  - Bronze – Kate McDonald
- **Trot Advanced**
  - Gold – Sara Cann
  - Silver – Zara Suliman
  - Bronze – Andrea Penny

### **Prix Caprilli**

- **Walk C Division**
  - Gold – Cassandra Ryan
  - Silver – Katelyn Spencer
  - Bronze – Jamie Richardson
- **Trot Novice**
  - Gold – Andrew Tanner
  - Silver – Aimee Prout
  - Bronze – Amy Harrison
- **Trot Intermediate**
  - Gold – Kate McDonald
  - Silver – Rebecca Allsion
  - Bronze – Dian Thalbourne
- **Trot Advanced**
  - Gold – Sui Watts
  - Silver – Andrea Penny
  - Bronze – Chantal Simpson

## STATE NEWS UPDATES

### RDASA

It is a busy time in the RDA SA office as we assist RDA Australia through their office move.

We delivered an extremely successful National Games for Special Olympics and are still hearing the good news stories from that special event.

SA will be represented by 6 participants at the National Coaching Workshop and will hold our own State Coaching Workshop the following weekend, 10 – 11 July. Topics include a half day manual handling course; equine dentistry; Riding for Competition (EA Coach Vicki Price); Achieving a successful Work/Life/RDA Balance; visit from Royal Society for the Blind and a presentation on new centre facilities & equipment from 3 RDA centres.

Six new OTC trainees participated in intensive training at Pt Pirie Centre on 19 - 20 June. A series of 3 lungeing workshops will be held at Jennibrook Farm RDA on 29/09/10; 12/09/10 and 17/10/10.

#### - RDA News Round Up -

Has your State, Centre or RDA Discipline any good news stories it would like to share with the rest of RDA, our supporters & funders? Please email your stories and photos to [fundraising@rda.org.au](mailto:fundraising@rda.org.au).

### Para-Equestrian Sport Update

On 1 Jan 2009 Equestrian Australia (EA) assumed responsibility for managing the Para-Equestrian High Performance (HP) Program. Information and news now available at [www.equestrian.org.au](http://www.equestrian.org.au)

### PARA-EQUESTRIAN EVENT CALENDAR

24-27 June 2010

2010 Para-Equestrian National Championships,  
Toowoomba QLD

14-18 July 2010

2010 WEG Selection Event, SIEC, Horsley Park

### International News

12<sup>th</sup> International IAHAIO Conference on Human-Animal Interactions, People & Animals for Life will take place on 1-2 July 2010 in Folkets Hus, City Conference Center, Stockholm. For further information:

E: [iahaio2010@congrex.com](mailto:iahaio2010@congrex.com)

W: <http://www.iahaio2010.com/>



## FRDI NEWS



FRDI have agreed on a new name! After hours of going through many suggestions from FRDI members and considering the translation in different languages FRDI has embraced a new name and logo and will now be known as **The Federation of Horses in Education and Therapy International** with the acronym **HETI**.

### XIII International Congress

13<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Therapeutic Riding was held in Muenster, Germany on August 12 -15 2009. The old university city of Muenster is the centre of Germany's horse world and was therefore an ideal choice to stage the Congress and the Gala Horseshow.



800 congress participants from 39 countries came to Muenster to share their knowledge and further their understanding of "Horses for Body, Mind and Soul", the healing effect of the horse for humans.

The German Kuratorium, together with the Federation of Riding for the Disabled [FRDI], was responsible for the congress's scientific program and organisation. During the four days specialists and practitioners of Therapeutic Riding made over 150 presentations grouped in scientific programs under the following headings:

- Hippotherapy
- Remedial work with horses
- Riding as sport for people with disabilities
- Occupational Therapy with the horse
- Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy (EAP)
- Equine Assisted Therapy (EAT) topics
- Therapeutic horses

The 2009 Congress Summary Report by Lelia Sponsel (CanTRA Coach, Examiner) can now be downloaded at:

[www.frdi.net/pdfs/Congress/LeliasreportMarion.pdf](http://www.frdi.net/pdfs/Congress/LeliasreportMarion.pdf)

The next International Congress is the:

**XIV International Congress of Therapeutic Riding and will be held in April 2012 in Athens, Greece**

## FUNDRAISING AND AWARENESS

### Silver Brumbies trek across Australia in aid of RDA

The RDA Silver Brumbies are two very special grey nomads Joan & Bob Lemmon, who are currently travelling around Australia sharing their skills and experience with local RDA Centres across Australia to:



- Volunteer their time, skills and expertise to local RDA Centres
- Help raise awareness and funds for RDA
- Carry out general maintenance and administrative tasks
- Support RDA coaches and volunteers



Joan & Bob Lemmon

*"We love what we do & are passionate about RDA and the benefits it brings to families across Australia."*

Visit the new Silver Brumbies website at [www.silverbrumbies.com.au](http://www.silverbrumbies.com.au) to find out more about their journey and how YOU can play a part in helping RDA.

The Silver Brumbies website was developed with a generous grant from The Myer Foundation and The Sidney Myer Fund Capacity Building Grant 'Celebrating our Partners Project'.



### RDA Volunteers

Each week 3000+ volunteers at RDA centres across Australia donate their time to assist 4000+ children and adults with disabilities enjoy the therapeutic benefits of horse related activities. If you would like to volunteer for RDA please visit our website [www.rda.org.au](http://www.rda.org.au) for more information.



### Invitation to all RDA Centres

The PETstock Foundation has extended an invitation to all RDA Centres to link up with their local PETstock Store to raise awareness and funds for their local RDA Centre. To find **PETstock Store** locations visit: [www.localstore.com.au/stores/2953/petstock/](http://www.localstore.com.au/stores/2953/petstock/)

## RAISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RDA

### RDA is the Official Charity of EQUITANA Melbourne 2010

Spotlight readers will be delighted to know that the Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia (RDAA) has been selected as the *Official Charity of EQUITANA Melbourne 2010*. Readers can visit RDAA at EQUITANA Melbourne. RDAA will be located in the Ranvet Horse Health Pavilion, Booth #204.



Visit [www.equitana.com.au](http://www.equitana.com.au) for event information and ticket bookings.

### RDA AUSTRALIAN STORY

RDA Australia wants to capture people's stories to highlight some of the achievements and the lives that have been touched and improved through their connection to RDA. This will help us raise awareness and funds for RDA.

In order to do this, we are asking for stories, photos and case studies from you, which we can publicise and include in a book or booklet, upload on to the website or download as a podcast.

Whatever your role or connection with RDA, it is likely that you can recall at least one incident or activity, or you have a comment that sums up your feelings for the organisation.

Your stories will capture the essence and strength of RDA. Please do not dismiss your story as not being of any interest to anyone. It may be ten words or two pages (preferably not more than that), and, if necessary, RDA will edit it to suit a particular use.

If you have a RDA story you would like to share with us, please email it to [fundraising@rda.org.au](mailto:fundraising@rda.org.au).

### SOCIAL NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

The term "**Web 2.0**" is commonly associated with web applications that facilitate interactive information sharing and collaboration on the World Wide Web. A Web 2.0 site allows its users to interact with each other as contributors to the website's content. Examples of Web 2.0 include web-based communities, hosted services, web applications, social networking sites, video-sharing sites, wikis and blogs.

RDA is harnessing some of these new applications to spread the word of what we do and who we help - how people can help us help others.

All these forums provide opportunities for meeting like-minded people, organizations and potential supporters to find out about the work of RDA, help raise funds, and provide a medium for spreading our message beyond the immediate community.

RDA now manages and operates 3 websites:

1. **RDA National Website:** [www.rda.org.au](http://www.rda.org.au)  
56,444 visits to website, 2,500 visits per month
2. **RDA Coaches Portal** a dedicated Wiki site for registered and affiliated RDA coaches:  
[www.rda.org.au/coaches/coaches-login.aspx](http://www.rda.org.au/coaches/coaches-login.aspx).
3. **RDA Grey Nomads dedicated website - the Silver Brumbies:** [www.silverbrumbies.com.au](http://www.silverbrumbies.com.au)

RDA also has its own dedicated Facebook page (social networking site) and You Tube video station. Find out more about these exciting new initiatives below:

### RDA's FACEBOOK

Among other networking sites, **facebook** is becoming a social phenomenon. RDA now has its very own **facebook** page and has already attracted **265** fans over 4 weeks.

We would like to extend an invitation to **ALL** of our members, riders and volunteers alike to keep updated and show your support by joining RDA **facebook** page as a 'fan'. Through **facebook** we hope to accomplish a number of things:

1. Create Awareness of RDA
2. Educate the Public
3. Share Stories
4. Create new Pen Pals

So check out Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia (RDA) **facebook** page, tell your friends and family to join as fans & stay tuned for more updates and stories soon. The RDA **Facebook** Page is now available at:  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Riding-for-the-Disabled-Association-of-Australia-RDAA/135449168732>

It is now more important than ever to get our message out about what we do and why we do it!  
*Megan Lockran* (RDA Volunteer)

## You Tube

### Film Stars required for RDA

RDA has just registered its own dedicated 'You Tube' website. RDA's You Tube video has been viewed by over **6,000 people**.



We would like to develop and put together a selection of short video clips to help raise awareness of what RDA in Australia does.

In addition, we would like to develop a series of short teaching and education video clips to help build an dedicated informative video library for riders, coaches, volunteers' and to help raise awareness of what RDA does.

Can you create a short information /teaching video from your centre? And send a copy to the national office or email: [fundraising@rda.org.au](mailto:fundraising@rda.org.au).

This video can then be uploaded onto the national coaches' portal for all RDA coaches to share and onto the RDA's dedicated You Tube website. The best videos can also be used for fundraising and awareness raising purposes. [NB: Please ensure that you have the person's permission to film.]

Here are some examples that are available to download from You Tube on the benefits of Equine Assisted/Activities Therapies (EAAT) from the USA:

#### Adaptive Horse Riding: Mounting

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=JD77egf1KrY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JD77egf1KrY)

#### Adaptive Horse Riding: Horse Temperament

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7nfP0eAvT4&feature=channel](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7nfP0eAvT4&feature=channel)

#### Hippotherapy: Hippotherapy Team

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIJu4nI0Tkg&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIJu4nI0Tkg&feature=related)

#### Hippotherapy: Hippotherapy Benefits

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGL9m1StjF0&NR=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGL9m1StjF0&NR=1)

#### The Benefits of Therapeutic Horseback Riding

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKjn0PVtgQE&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKjn0PVtgQE&feature=related)

RDA would like to compile a similar collection of RDA videos with your help to showcase the great work of RDA Centres, volunteers and coaches.

## EQUITANA MELBOURNE'S TRIUMPHANT RETURN TO THE MELBOURNE SHOWGROUNDS!



Following the success of the 2008 event, EQUITANA Melbourne will return to the Melbourne Show-grounds from 18-21 November 2010 with many improvements and exciting additions for all attendees.

EQUITANA Melbourne 2010 promises to be jam-packed full of elite competition, exciting entertainment, informative education sessions and of course, an extremely busy exhibition. The 2010 exhibition will be spread over 3 pavilions boasting 15,000sqm of space. EQUITANA Melbourne is expecting over 300 exhibitors as well as 55,000 patrons to descend on the event, again making it the largest equine event of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere! Don't miss out on the biggest four days of equine action and excitement in Australia.

### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- The inaugural EQUITANA Australian Open competitions
- 4 days of exhibition showcasing over 300 international and Australian companies
- 16 different horse competitions
- 4 nights of entertainment in our purpose built 4,500 seat Equestrian Arena
- Specialist clinics with Steffen Peters & Ian Francis
- 200 session Education program lead by 70 leading international and Australian presenters
- The Way of the Horse – The Australian Horsemanship Challenge
- Breeders Village displaying 40 different horse breeds from around Australia

### TICKETS ON SALE FROM JULY 1

One day is never enough to see what EQUITANA Melbourne has to offer! With 4 days of non-stop program of education, competition and entertainment there is something for everyone!

The *EQUITANA Super Ticket* encompasses both the best value for money and the opportunity to see all that EQUITANA Melbourne has to offer, giving you access to all competitions, clinics, education sessions, exhibition and the nightly elite competition program, EQUITANA Australian Open.

For those who cannot attend all four days, there are daily tickets available, although choosing which day to attend may be difficult! With not to be missed events such as the All Star Showcase, Steffen Peters Dressage Clinic and Ian Francis' Horsemanship Clinic plus all EQUITANA Australian Open programs this is certainly not an easy choice. Visit [www.equitana.com.au](http://www.equitana.com.au) for all event information and ticket bookings.

### RDA is the Official Charity of EQUITANA Melbourne 2010

Visit RDA at EQUITANA Melbourne! Spotlight readers will be delighted to know that the Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia (RDA) has been selected as the *Official Charity of EQUITANA Melbourne 2010*. RDA will be located in the Ranvet Horse Health Pavilion, Booth #204.



### VOLUNTEERS AWARDS REMINDER

RDA Australia depends almost entirely on the efforts of some 3,000 volunteers throughout the country to assist with the delivery of programmes, administer centres and care for the horses on who so much depends.

*'Each week over 3000 volunteers at RDA centres across Australia donate their time to assist 4000 children and adults with disabilities enjoy the therapeutic benefits of horse related activities.'*

Each year RDA holds its national volunteer recognition and awards night to honour those volunteers without whom the organisation simply could not function.

### 2010 Volunteer Awards

- [The Michael Field Memorial Volunteer Award](#)
- [The RDA Young Volunteer of the Year Award](#)
- [The National Volunteer Encouragement Award](#)

If you would like to nominate a volunteer for the 2010 Volunteer Recognition Awards please download and fill in the relevant nomination form from the RDA national website [www.rda.org.au](http://www.rda.org.au) and email, fax or post your nomination to your local State Office by 31 July 2010.

Each State office is responsible for nominating one person from their state for each award. These nominations are submitted to the National Office. A panel of judges will then choose the recipient for each National Award.

Closing dates for nominations are as follows:

- 31 July 2010 Nominations to State Offices close
- 31 Aug 2010 Nominations for National Awards to be submitted to the national office

### Volunteer Information Booklets

Since the RDAA national office relocation to South Australia we have unearthed three boxes of 'Volunteer Information Booklets'. Previously thought to be out of print, you can now order these for a limited time only. Work has begun on updating these booklets and a new print run will be completed in the next few months.

### Incident Report Books

Similarly, a box of 'Incident Report Books' have been located during the office move and these can also be requested.

### Disability News & Support

#### Tardive Dyskinesia

Tardive Dyskinesia is a condition that may develop in patients who use metoclopramide, a drug sold under brand names such as Reglan in the USA. When a patient has been taking certain prescription drugs over a long period of time, often in high dosages, involuntary, repetitive tic-like movements can result, primarily in the facial muscles or limbs, fingers and toes. The hips and torso may also be affected.

Dyskinesia refers to the involuntary nature of muscular movements or the difficulty in performing voluntary muscular movement. Tardive means a condition has the tendency to appear late. Symptoms of Tardive Dyskinesia can develop and persist long after use of the medication causing the disorder has been discontinued. Tardive Dyskinesia can appear similar to other types of disorders (e.g. Tourette's Syndrome).

For more information on this distressing condition visit [www.tardivedyskinesia.com](http://www.tardivedyskinesia.com) where you can download a free support book on the condition.



## Other Forms of Equine Related Therapy

### Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP)

EAP incorporates horses experientially for emotional growth and learning. The focus of EAP is not riding or horsemanship; rather it involves setting up ground based activities involving horses. EAP can be a powerful and effective therapeutic approach which may impact on individuals, youth, families and groups. EAP addresses a variety of mental health and human development needs including behavioral issues, attention deficit disorder, PTSD, substance abuse, eating disorders, depression, anxiety, relationship problems and communication needs.

### Equine Assisted Growth & Learning Association

EAGALA is dedicated to improving the mental health of individuals, families, and groups around the world by setting the standard of excellence in Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Equine Assisted Learning, also known as "horse therapy". EAGALA provides education, standards, innovation, and support to professionals providing services in Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Learning around the world. [www.eagala.org](http://www.eagala.org)

### EAGALA Information & Resources

**You Tube Video** - Check out the You Tube video to learn more on EAGALA Model Equine Assisted Psychotherapy & Equine Assisted Learning EAGALA Model Equine Assisted Psychotherapy: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u715h4VhJfk&feature=Playlist&p=68319E063C4F84B0&playnext\\_from=PL&index=0&playnext=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u715h4VhJfk&feature=Playlist&p=68319E063C4F84B0&playnext_from=PL&index=0&playnext=1)

**EAGALA Research for Dummies** by K. Anderson a comprehensive guide to help you get started.

### Free Fun Downloads for Readers

- **Free Horse Game**  
<http://howrse.com>
- **Free Horse Animation**  
[www.lipizzan.com/horsepics.html](http://www.lipizzan.com/horsepics.html)
- **Free Horse & Animal Photos**  
[www.horses-photos.org](http://www.horses-photos.org)  
[www.copyright-free-photos.org.uk/horses](http://www.copyright-free-photos.org.uk/horses)
- **Free E-Horse Cards**  
<http://alove4horses.com/>

If you have fun ideas to share please email them to [fundraising@rda.org.au](mailto:fundraising@rda.org.au).



## RIDING WAVE OF SUCCESS WITH HORSE TALK TV

Horse Talk TV's recent developments are taking the program to ever larger audiences nationally and internationally, dramatically increasing its profile and that of our sponsors and advertisers.

**Series 2 Starts Sept 2010** - following the unbridled success of Series 1, which aired in Oct-Nov 2009, the new national launch date for Horse Talk TV Series 2 on C31 (free-to-air community TV) is Wed 8 Sept at 8.30pm - a prime time slot, repeated later in the week.

**C31 Goes Digital** - each C31 stations has now gone digital! C31 can now be found as Ch 44 on your digital spectrum. All viewers need to do is to tune Ch44 into their digital receiver (which can easily be done by 'auto-tuning') and it will be available as a station choice along with the other major digital stations such as Ch 7, Ch 10, Ch 9, ABC, SBS.

**Series 1 Repeated** - each of the C31 stations in Australia will be re-airing Series 1 of Horse Talk TV in July-Aug 2010. This will create greatly increased viewer awareness in both Australia and NZ of Horse Talk TV and is a tailor made vehicle to boost viewer numbers & heighten audience anticipation of the launch of the new Series 2 in Sept 2010.

### 18 million USA viewers

Horse Talk TV Series 1 is currently being screened to a viewer base of 18 million in the United States on HRTV. Have a look at the wonderful show-reel promo of Horse Talk TV which HRTV are running on their home page [www.hrtv.com.au](http://www.hrtv.com.au).

A full sample Episode 4 from the show can also be seen at HRTV online (see links below). This gives Horse Talk TV Series 1 sponsors not only a massive USA TV audience but a huge international Internet audience as well. To view a sample episode of Horse Talk TV click on this link to HRTTV.com:

<http://www.hrtvlive.com/hrtv/>

- Click on "Equestrian"
- Go to page 2
- Then click on HorseTalk4

## FBT Changes Threat to Charity Workforce - No Change for NPOs in Henry Tax Review -

Australian NPOs can breath easier after Federal Government pledges *not* to implement any of the Henry Tax Review recommendations affecting the NPO Sector including a reconfiguring of the FBT tax or lifting gift deductibility threshold from \$2 to \$25

The nonprofit sector was warned it could lose its fringe benefit tax (FBT) concessions and be forced to lay off staff if the Federal Government accepted the recommendations of the Henry Review.

In the Treasurer's lengthy response to the 138 recommendations the Government rejected out of hand what it describes as changes to the tax system that harm the NPO sector, including removing the benefit of tax concessions, raising the gift deductibility threshold or changing income tax arrangements for clubs. Government advised that it will not implement these recommendations at any stage.

The Government also rejected a Henry report recommendation that was also recommended by the Productivity Commission report - the establishment of a National Charities Commission. It did accept to keep the status quo on GST concessions.

The Henry Report recommended that categories of NFP organisations that currently receive income tax or GST concessions should retain these concessions and NFP organisations should be permitted to apply their income tax concessions to their commercial activities.

For more information:

[http://taxreview.treasury.gov.au/content/Content.aspx?doc=html/pubs\\_reports.htm](http://taxreview.treasury.gov.au/content/Content.aspx?doc=html/pubs_reports.htm)

Source: *Pro Bono Australia*  
[www.probonoaustralia.com.au](http://www.probonoaustralia.com.au)

**NB:** Spotlight is produced every 2 months. If you have any submissions for Spotlight please email them to [fundraising@rda.org.au](mailto:fundraising@rda.org.au). The deadline for submission for the remaining 2010 issues will be 15 August, 15 October and 15 December.