



Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc. (PHHWV) is a non-profit organisation committed to providing hope for equines through education, rehabilitation and advocacy.

PHHWV PURPOSES

- To provide assistance to horse owners through education, advice and support to rehabilitate their own horses.
- To rescue and rehabilitate any horse found abandoned, sick, injured, mistreated or neglected or likely to become in such condition in the imminent future.
- To provide emergency care, treatment and assistance to horses.
- To educate the community on the plight of neglected horses; and
- To contribute to the development of improved government legislation and policy relating to the welfare of horses.

A very big thank you to all our volunteers who make this possible.

Committee

Executive

Rhonda Petschel, President
Renee Neubauer, Vice President
Karen Davies, Secretary
Shirley McPherson, Treasurer

Ordinary

Silvija Footner
Toni Harris
Angela Smith
Mandi Herauville
Noelle Vine
Vaso Elefsiniotis
Tessa Reimers

Contact us

Stay in touch

 1300 881 606

 0419 515 931

 info@phhww.org.au

 GPO Box 1991
Melbourne VIC 3001

 phhww.org.au

Follow us



REG: A0027152D
ABN: 96 820 500 367

President's report



As my native grasses are heavy in seed, I am excited to see the mild summer has improved the seed bank in my pasture. I remember the moment I recognised loving horses meant I had to become a pasture specialist too. It has been a good year for me with non-improved pastures, but I know many have had to be on alert with a high risk of laminitis. Over the Festive Season, the Project Hope Committee balanced their lives with the must do's and a little rest time. We came together for a luncheon in January and are fresh and ready to trot on through the year.

There is a change of guard for the Horse Report Coordinator as Noelle Vine has decided to step down after four years volunteering in the role. She has worked tirelessly, and we cannot thank her enough for her dedication to the horses and to the organisation. We are thrilled that she is staying on as a member of the committee. However, thanks to a members call out, we now have three members volunteering to become Horse Report coordinators in their region, and will be providing induction to them over the next month. If anyone would be happy to pick up this role in their region let us know through info@phhvw.org.au.

There are currently 20 horses in short term care, however this number is like moving sands. The Horse Welfare Working Group and social media team are keeping on track with advertising, and coordinating the matching of horses with people expressing interest in our horses. Our aim is always to ensure that the home and horse are a good fit.

Events and merchandise are heating up with two events in the calendar: The Berwick Show and Farm World at Lardner Park. There has been a wonderful response to volunteering at our stands and we will be having PH horses representing us too. I am thrilled our membership represents us with such pride.

Operation Reconnect is moving forward. We are so proud of this project, linking our members and every single PH horse. If you have a PH horse stay tuned, as you will have opportunity to show them off and explain all their quirks. My husband advises friends not to ask about my horses if they do not want to have their ear chewed off. Horse lovers do indulge one another.

The Energy, Environment and Climate Action Department is inviting the public to comment on the *Draft Animal Care and Protection Bill*, which will replace the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986. This is the final opportunity to contribute to the Bill for a new Act. Project Hope will be submitting feedback as a key animal welfare organisation. If any individuals would like to also provide feedback, you can find further information through Engage Victoria, here: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/project/new-animal-welfare-act-victoria/page/animal-welfare-faqs> Consultation is open until 25th March.

I hope you all stay cool over the coming weeks and your horses are living a good life. I will be representing PHHVV at the International Society for Equine Science conference in New Zealand in March: "A Good Life for Horses". This may well be our catch cry for 2024. I will report back in the next newsletter.

Regards for now,

Rhonda Petschel
President

Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc.

AUTUMN
NEWSLETTER
2024

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MEET OUR MEMBERS

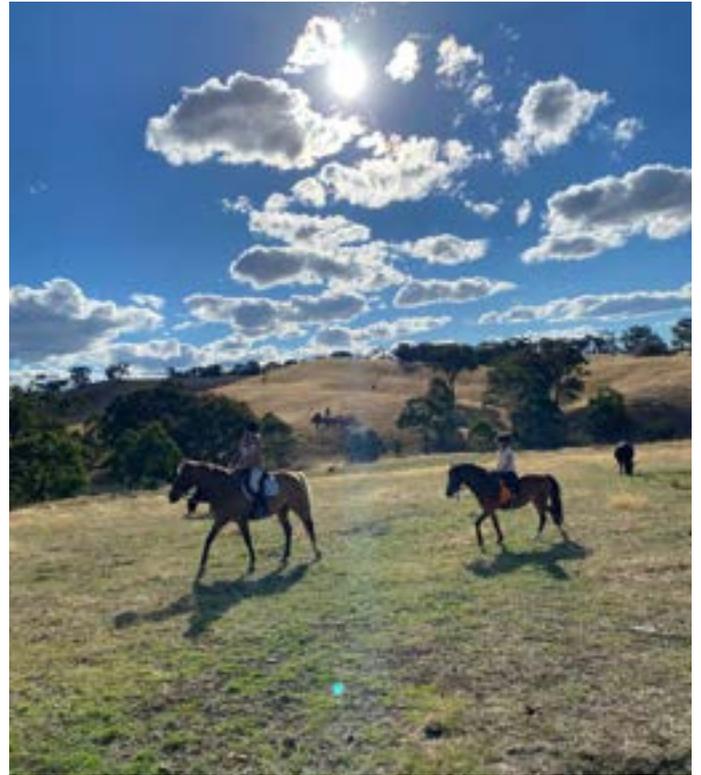
Brooke Ayres

I started as a five year old with a pony, who grew into a young lady with ponies, and finally I became a woman with ponies. Until recently my life was filled with Australian, Walsh and Riding ponies. Unfortunately due to life, I sadly had to say goodbye to my last pony Maramelda Storm (Victor) in 2019.

I remember as a young girl shopping at one of the many saddlery shops my mum would take us to during school holidays and coming across a Project Hope newsletter, I took it home and decided to become a member.

I have been a member now for as long as I can remember at least 20 years if not more, and the reason I started is still the same reason. I continue to donate and renew my membership every year.

If I can give just one pony or horse the opportunity to find their human to build ever-lasting memories with and to know kindness and love, then I am prepared to go without that new dress or shoes because the memories I was lucky enough to have will be forever with me and out last any new item.



Patrick Manusco & Velvet

My family and I love and support Project Hope. Project Hope brought me my first riding pony, Fanta. We brought so much love back into her life after she didn't have a family anymore, and she brought so much happiness into our life as well. We loved the idea and feeling of rescuing horses and giving them a much better life, so we went back and rescued my next riding pony Roux. We love and care for both our ponies so much.

Project Hope provides great trainers for the horses and always makes sure a horse will go to a loving and caring home. Without Project Hope so many horses would be without a home. With their love, care and knowledge they have been able to rehome so many horses, which is truly amazing. By Velvet

Some six years ago Patrick Manusco whilst speaking to one of our members mentioned that he was looking for a pony for his daughter. No time was wasted in telling him about PHHWV and that they could help. Patrick became a member, Velvet got her pony and later a second pony. Velvet, now 15, is a keen member of pony club but also enjoys riding around their 200 acre farm with her younger sister.



Me with one of my ponies Rhonda Edward, when I was a little girl. We got him when he was 3 until he passed at the age of 31.





MEMBER NOTICES

I was asked why is PHHWV membership so cheap? After answering, "Because it is" I thought about it later and realised it is because Project Hope members are valuable. Every member is important. We not only contribute \$50 to the horses but we help just by being members - the more the merrier - there is strength in numbers.

Members give their time, effort and skills in so many ways with incredible energy and tenacity, I do so admire you all. I too help by being part of the Communication admin team and the Committee Horse Welfare Working Group. We are all a part of an incredible organisation.

It is the sum total of ALL the members of Project Hope Horse Welfare Vic. which makes it a powerful practical organisation and voice for equines. A big NEIGH thank you to all our members.

Angela Smith

BEQUEST from the late Julie Douglas

Project Hope was very fortunate to receive a bequest from the estate of the late **Julie Douglas** of Queensland. Julie was not a member; however, she recognised the importance of horse welfare and we are very grateful for her generosity.

Bequests are critical to Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria and the animals we support. They enable us to safeguard vital community support services, ensuring we can continue to stand with horses in need. By leaving a gift in your Will to PHHWV you can help horses in need and our organisation can continue to provide the care and support we do to surrendered and neglected horses throughout Victoria.

For more information about bequests, visit our website: <https://www.phhwv.org.au/get-involved/make-a-bequest/>.



FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE

All PHHWV members are welcome to join our Private Members Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/386122952118831>

On this page, you can share your stories, get advice and have first insights into PHHWV horses available for Long Term Care. Please ensure you answer the questions when joining.

We would appreciate you sharing posts, inviting friends to the page and sending us requests. Please hit the share button and spread the good work of PHHWV.

PHHWV also has a YouTube channel for members and the broader community to find out more about Project Hope and some of our horses. Check it out here, share and subscribe:
<https://www.youtube.com/@phhwvinformation6247/featured>

MEMBER NOTICES

After many years as Project Hope Horse Report Coordinator, **Noelle Vine** has stepped down from the role. When asked about her involvement in Project Hope, the role itself and any advice to future Horse Report Coordinators, this is what she had to say:

I have had two terms at being Project Hope's Horse Report Coordinator, each time for two to three years. It can be quite intense at times, particularly if there are several cases ongoing at one time. Some of the cases I have personally attended to have been very hard to witness, and the feeling of not being able to help can sometimes be a bit overwhelming, but at least if we can ease the suffering, it is a small comfort. For every one that cannot be helped, there is another that can have a second chance, and that is what keeps us all positive.

Both times I have taken on the role, it has been to fill a gap that no one has wanted to do and I had a close relationship with members of the executive committee at the time and knew how many jobs they all covered.

I first called on Project Hope around 35 years ago after reading one of their newsletters and having a bad experience with the RSPCA. I have been a member off and on since that time. I have also been on the executive committee for quite a lot of the last fifteen to twenty years.

If we didn't make a difference, we would not still be around. I think a lot of the horse community has heard of us, and it can only grow, particularly as we are attending a lot more events and public awareness is growing. There is still a long way to go though.

My advice to anyone willing to take on the role of coordinator is be patient, don't take things personally, have good communication and listening skills and above all, trust your PH horse reps who are your eyes and ears.

There have been a number of cases over the years that stand out for me. One I personally attended where five horses had to be euthanised. All were in extremely poor condition and there were two stallions that had not been out of a small yard for years. On the bright side, another I was personally involved with concerned a lovely family who had lost a family member and were trying their best to care for his four horses. They had no horse knowledge and called out for help. This resulted in four horses living great lives. I personally rehabbed all four, and kept in touch with the family until all the horses were placed in new homes. That would be my most satisfying horse report..



PHHWV President Rhonda Petschel formally thanking Noelle for her time as Horse report coordinator at the committee luncheon in January.



MEMBER NOTICES



Operation Reconnect

Operation Reconnect is a project to reconnect with PHHWV members who have PHHWV horses in care. Being a state-based organisation, PHHWV has members spread all across Victoria and even some interstate. There are currently just under 200 horses in long term care and we would like to reconnect with each and every horse and their carer. In order to get all of these visits done, we are asking our members to get involved.

If you are interested in assisting with Operation Reconnect or have any questions, please contact Kathryn Wren at kathryn@phhwv.org.au or 0421 337 432.

As PHHWV approaches its 50th anniversary, we are keen to obtain current photographs of PHHWV horses and members. We also want to ensure that our records are up to date and accurate, and help connect members with each other so that networks of local PH communities can be created.

Have your say on Victoria's new animal care and protection laws



Public feedback is sought on the Draft Animal Care and Protection Bill and its supporting regulations, with consultation period now extended.

If the draft Bill is passed by the Victorian Parliament to become an Act, the new Animal Care and Protection Act would replace the current Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 (the POCTA Act).

A new Act would not come into force for at least 2 years to enable the development of supporting regulations. The regulations would set more detailed requirements for specific species and activities involving animals (where needed).

This is the last opportunity to provide feedback before the Animal Care and Protection Bill is finalised for consideration. This is the first consultation on the regulations and seeks feedback to inform the priorities and the approach to developing the regulations. PH has made an organisational submission.

To read the draft Bill and make a submission and to complete the regulations survey, click on the following link. You can just make a submission on the draft Bill, or complete the regulations survey – or you can do both:
<https://engage.vic.gov.au/new-animal-welfare-act-victoria>

This public consultation has been extended and closes at 11.59 pm Monday 25 March 2024.



Events

THE BERWICK SHOW 24-25TH FEBRUARY, 2024



2024
BERWICK
SHOW

By Mandi Herauville, Events Coordinator

The Berwick Show, celebrating its 175th year this year, is an annual Agricultural Show held at Akoonah Park in Berwick. As well as traditional livestock judging & horse events, the steam engine operators, rides & sideshows were all present.

We were fortunate to be granted two spots this year, one in the main stall area, where we set up information & merchandise booths, interacted with the public & sold raffle tickets and merchandise to raise funds for Project Hope. Memberships and short term carers, long term carers and other Project Hope roles were discussed with passers by, and donations collected.

The weather was fine and warm with a lot of interest in our stalls and the live horse displays. Dr. Traci Coventry and helpers brought along PH Opal & PH Dakota. They were the true stars of the show attracting a lot of attention and educating the public about their former plights, rehabilitation & long term care, and showing people that horses are “not just for riding” but can be companions for humans & other animals too.

It was great to spend a weekend with others with a passion for horse welfare. A bunch of very knowledgeable, committed & caring people! Special thanks to all who helped bring this weekend together. Our horses and their carers did an amazing job too & were a massive hit with the crowd! Thank you all for being such awesome members & supporting our work, goals & vision in horse welfare!





UPCOMING EVENTS



Leader Equine Farm World Equestrian Festival

The Leader Equine Farm World Equestrian Festival runs in conjunction with Farm World and has done for 4 years now. With equestrian events on every day, it's a must see event for horse lovers.

Dates 22-24 March, 2024

Location Lardner Park, 155 Burnt Store Rd, Lardner



Seymour Alternative Farming Expo

Explore the latest technology, practices and trends in small and backyard farming, visit the animals and enjoy the market style shopping, food and entertainment.

Dates 12-14 April, 2024

Location Kings Park, Seymour



horse education

Tips for keeping horses cool in summer

Adapted from an RSPCA blog article

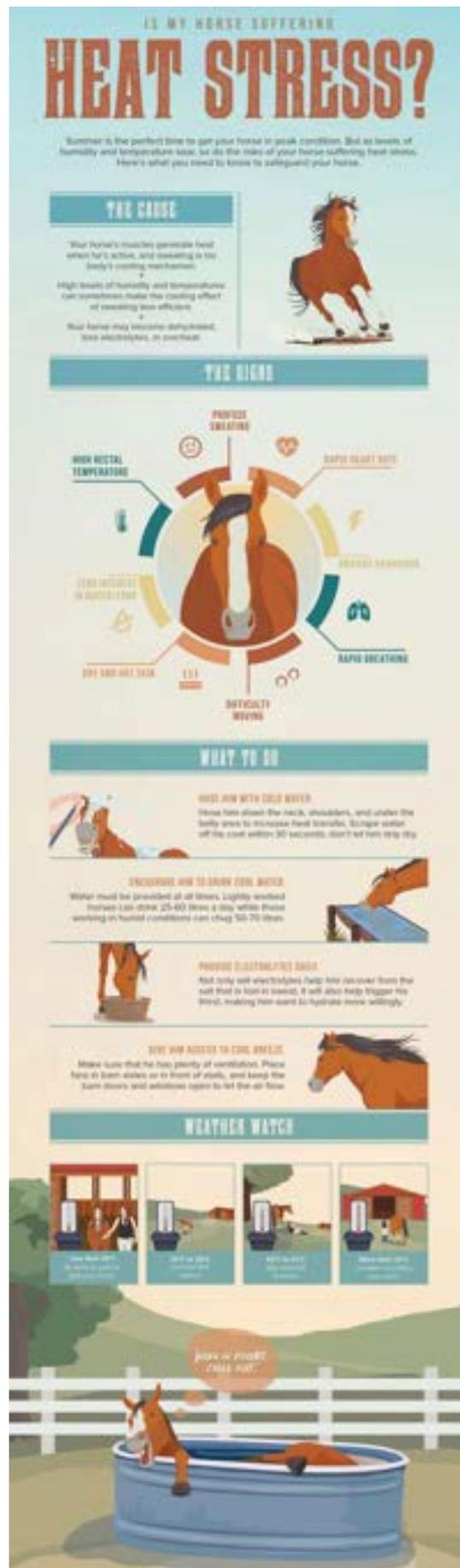
With temperatures soaring across the state, it's timely to consider the best ways to protect your horses from heat exhaustion and heat stress. The hot weather and humidity can take a physical toll on all animals, but it particularly affects horses as their large muscle mass and comparatively small body surface area makes it difficult for them to cool themselves. According to the RSPCA, there are plenty of ways you can help keep your horse safe, happy and cool during these warmer months. Read on for some tips to help prepare and guide you during this hot weather.

Plenty of water and access to shade

It's important to provide your horses with plenty of clean and accessible drinking water (it's always better to have more than not enough so ensure abundant supply is available at all times). Did you know horses drink up to 30-50 litres per day? Horses will consume even higher amounts on warmer days as they tend to sweat more and use up water reserves in their body.

It is also important that horses always have access to shade (trees or shelter) as they will become stressed and overheated if they're not able to find shade. This is especially important for horses who have white skin over areas such as the nostrils and, therefore, get sunburned easily.

RSPCA: *Tips for Keeping Horses Cool in Summer:*
<https://www.rspca.org.au/latest-news/blog/tips-keeping-horses-cool-summer/>
Image source: *Is my horse suffering heat stress:*
<https://www.horseland.com.au/blog/is-my-horse-suffering-heat-stress/>



horse education

If you have the resources, consider building one very large shade or shelter (rather than a small one in each paddock) that all of the horses can get to on a daily basis. This can be situated in an area that is linked by laneways to the various paddocks and means the shade/shelter can be used all year round. Paddocks can then be rested and rotated whilst allowing horses to socialise. Stables tend to be too hot for the use of shade in hot weather (due to the enclosed sides) and should have a shaded outside yard attached so that the horse can get outside.

What about rugs in summer?

Many people rug horses in summer in order to prevent their coat from fading in the sun, however this is not advised as it may trap heat and reduce the horse's ability to cool themselves.

When temperatures exceed 25°C, horses are at risk of heat stress. Using rugs on horses in summer can be a welfare issue and it's important to remember that rugs do not keep horses cool. A horse naturally has a sleek coat which reflects the sun and a horse will seek shade when they are hot as a natural response. Rugs prevent any cooling breeze from cooling the body. Also, horses are one of the few animals that rely on sweating to cool down and rugs impede this process (by preventing air from passing over the body, evaporating the sweat to regulate temperature).

Ride during the cooler times of the day

During the hottest part of the day in summer (often between midday and 3pm) it's best to avoid riding or working your horse to reduce exposure to heat and physical exhaustion. When riding in hot weather, it's best to stick to shaded areas, keep rides short and take frequent water breaks. It's important that horses are not exercised on very hot days, as they are prone to high water loss through sweat and overheating.

After your ride, ensure you cool your horse down by hosing them down with cold water and giving them plenty to drink. Riding in the heat can make horses sweat profusely so in addition to water, providing a salt block to replace lost electrolytes may assist in their recovery.

With these tips, no doubt you are on the track to keeping your horse healthy, safe and cool. For more info click here: [https://www.rspca.org.au/latest-news/blog/tips-keeping-horses-cool-summer/`](https://www.rspca.org.au/latest-news/blog/tips-keeping-horses-cool-summer/)



Horse cooling off during a bath, photo: Creative Commons



Hanging in the shade together, photo: Creative Commons



TAP INTO HORSE BEHAVIOUR & MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

E-BARQ, a University of Sydney study in partnership with the University of Queensland and New England, investigates how horse training and management interact with behaviour. Participation is free and available to all horse owners and carers, including groups. PHHWV is a registered member. Over time, the project will provide researchers with invaluable information on how our training and management affects behaviour and how, in turn, behaviour affects horse welfare.

The Equine Behavior Assessment and Research Questionnaire

Since ancient times, horse behaviour and the bond between horses and humans, have been a source of intrigue and fascination. The horse-lore that has accumulated over the centuries is a rich mix of both useful practice (approaching horses from their left side, making them slightly less reactive) and unsubstantiated myth, such as the one that chestnut horses are especially difficult to handle. This is why the University of Sydney has launched the Equine Behaviour Assessment and Research Questionnaire (E-BARQ), an ongoing global database of horse behaviour.

The study explores how horse training and management interact with behaviour. It will reveal invaluable information on how our training and management affect behaviour and how, in turn, behaviour affects horse welfare.

Beyond the immediate and direct research outcomes, E-BARQ also has benefits to horse owners, riders and trainers. On completion of the questionnaire which can be repeated over time, contributors receive a graph that compares their horse with 1000s of other horses across various categories. They also receive a private dashboard where they can log each of their horses and view their E-BARQ results. This tool is free of charge. For more info including study results such as "Age-Related Changes in the Behaviour of Domestic Horses as Reported by Owners" see: <https://e-barq.com/>.



CITIZEN SCIENCE, E-BARQ & PROJECT HOPE

To support PH's long term contribution to improving horse welfare we have signed up to this citizen science project – Equine Behaviour and Research Questionnaire, a University of Sydney study, investigating how horse training and management interact with behaviour.

We have joined the study under the pathway for rescue, re-homing or adopter groups. With this tool we can compare our horses results and:

- see their strengths and weaknesses which will assist us with training
- provide objective reporting to long term carers.
- if we find our horses have difficulties that we do not know how to address we can seek support and education from other members who have expertise.

We can also repeat the questionnaire every 6 to 12 months to monitor change in the horse's behaviour. This will give us objective feedback on training and will showcase the wonderful work done by our PH volunteers.

We need a minimum of ten potential group members which we will collect over the year. PH Ava has been signed up to start the process.

Sign up via <https://e-barq.com/> and then on your membership page add the Group Code: GRH7309. This is a wonderful opportunity to advance horse welfare, for us and for all horse owners in Australia.



horse reports

By Noelle Vine, Horse Reports Coordinator

The following is a summary of welfare concerns received from members of the community about a horse or horses that PHHWV has then investigated.

Baw Baw

Call received for assistance in rehoming a very traumatised St/Bred 9yr old gelding. He had had a very bad start to life and the property he is on is being sold. The owner has tried everything to try to rehome him but is concerned about his future. Given the horse's history of past trauma and difficulty in rehoming, euthanasia was discussed as the kindest thing to do for this horse.

Casey

We received a call asking for assistance in rehoming 3 Welsh ponies - 2 mares, 5-10 yr old. and a 15 yr old gelding. The elderly carer is unable to look after them any longer. Through follow up calls, we were informed that homes may have since been found.

Gippsland

A report was received asking for help with a neglected stallion. It concerned a Whaler stallion that has a large sarcoid on his back right leg appeared lethargic and was drooling, with inadequate feed available. Case is being reported to the RSPCA.

Gippsland 2

We received a report through our online platforms concerning 3 horses with severe mud fever, bad feet and untreated injuries on an agistment property. When the owner was contacted about the horses, they were moved to another paddock where they could not be seen. Photos were taken and a report sent to the RSPCA. Follow ups by PH included visiting the property, inspecting the horses, discussing improvements to the property with the agistment owner, care concerns and capacity with the horse owner, and discussions with the RSPCA. The case is currently being investigated by the RSPCA.

Greater Geelong

Email received regarding rehoming a pony that was part of an aged care centre being sold. Other animals held at the facility had been rehomed. PHHWV agreed to a surrender and for a short-term care home to be arranged. Transport was arranged and short-term care found.

Knox

We received a call and an online report seeking help with an injured horse. The horse had cut her leg, and the caller had contacted the RSPCA who advised contacting PHHWV. The RSPCA visited the horse with a vet, treated the wound, and discussed assisted wound care with PHHWV if the horse was able to be kept at the property. Following further enquiries, we were informed that the RSPCA removed the horse from the property.

Macedon Ranges

A PH member reported a pony with a history of getting out that has not had its feet attended to in a long time. We followed up with a call to the owner and the pony's feet have since been trimmed. Our member will continue to monitor the horse.

Mitchell

We received a call regarding a dehydrated 1-day old foal who was not drinking. The caller was contacted by the neighbour of the horse whose owner was not present asking for assistance as the foal had not drunk. The caller fed the foal and called a vet. She then contacted the RSPCA who advised that because she had called a vet, assistance had been rendered, and to contact PH for additional help. The vet fed the



horse reports

foal and administered antibiotics. There was talk of euthanising the foal, but as it had survived a hot day already, it was decided to move the foal to a stable where it could be cared for. We requested a follow up call regarding the foal's status, with no further contact.

Nillumbik

Call received from the RSPCA asking if we could assist with four unhandled ponies. The current owner had taken over the care of six ponies while their owner was in a nursing home and was seeking assistance in rehoming four. They are in good condition apart from one being unhandled and 2 are stallions. A request made to local PH members for assistance in re-familiarising the ponies with people was taken up by two of our members. One pony may be rehomed and the other three still need homes.

Murrindindi

We received a report asking for help and advice regarding a horse leased in poor condition. A follow-up call was made by PH, and we were informed that while the horse's condition had improved, there were still concerns. The horse appeared dull and lethargic, and the reporter could not afford the cost of a vet to investigate the cause. PH offered to send an experienced horse rep to have a look and have since learnt that the original owner has taken the horse back.

Murrindindi 2

We received an email asking for assistance to help rehome 2 T/Breds following the sudden death of their owner. The horses had been used in equine therapy and while others had been rehomed, the two elderly horses remained. Enquiries were made through our wider networks. A family member has since taken on the care of the 2 T/Breds needing homes.

Yarra Valley

Email received seeking assistance in rehoming 4 ponies. PH offered to help through our wider networks outside of Project Hope in the event of homes not being found.

Yarra Valley 2

We received a message on Facebook and a call about a 3-year-old paint Clydie x Quarter horse mare in very poor condition after the unhandled horse ran through handheld electric tape and into a barb wire fence while trying to herd it onto a float. A PH Horse rep revisited the property and the neglected horse. The horse was very scared and had a bad laceration to her face making it hard to eat and lower her head. Following an evaluation, there was agreement that the mare was in pain, that treatment would be almost impossible, and that euthanasia was the best outcome for the horse. Follow up contact informed us that the horse had been euthanised. PH has offered \$100 towards the cost of euthanasia.

Contact us with any concerns about the well-being of horses and ponies. Our trained members follow up the reports, visiting the property to talk to the owners, to look at the horses and check their surrounds. PHHWV representatives look for signs of a horse not thriving including: inspecting the paddock for safety, checking on a horse's condition, and ensuring there is access to water and shelter.

PHHWV has no power to help unless owners are cooperative. Some horse owners lack the knowledge or means required to have a horse. When we look at the horse with them, we share our knowledge and experience to improve a horse's health. When a horse is at serious risk we ask for permission to rescue the horse on the spot. If surrender is refused, we contact RSPCA Vic. as it has the authority to remove a horse. If you are concerned about a horse, contact us or report online here: <https://www.phhwv.org.au/education-and-health/report-neglect-or-abuse/>



horse updates

PHHWV Beau

by Wendy

Hi Team,

Here's a couple of shots taken of Beau while I was admiring a stunning sunrise in early January. One of his goaty pals JJ makes an appearance too.

He still needs to be mildly sedated in order to have his hind feet done safely, and still needs that bloody head collar - aaaaargh I hate it. He'll actively seek out my company and even let me scratch him all over now. Just don't try and pick up a hind leg and all is fine. He's come such a long way. Other than still being distrustful of hind leg handling, he's in great health. Blood work done late 2023 all within normal parameters. No sign of Cushings. Annual dental will be done in April. Hoof trim continues to be done every 6 weeks.

He has his old mate Smokes still around for horse company, and the two goats Uno and JJ to harass. Which he does with enthusiasm lol. Very funny watching 2 old horses chasing 2 old goats - they really do have a great play, the horses gently nibbling the back or legs of a goat to make them run, then they chase. Hee hee! Never have a camera/phone on me when it happens though.

He turns 29 this year. Not bad for an old fella.

Cheers
Wendy



Beau and JJ the goaty pal

Back when: PHHWV Report, April 2021

He is still quite reactive, however we have had a very generous offer by a member who is currently studying for his diploma in horse behaviour. This members has volunteered his time to work with Beau ... and he is responding well. We will maintain contact ... to monitor his progress, but at this stage I don't see Beau being ready to be re-homed in the immediate future. He was abandoned on a property for a significant amount of time and is slow to trust humans right now.. Hopefully his training will help him to relax in the near future.



Beau in the sunset



horse updates

PHHWV Maggie May

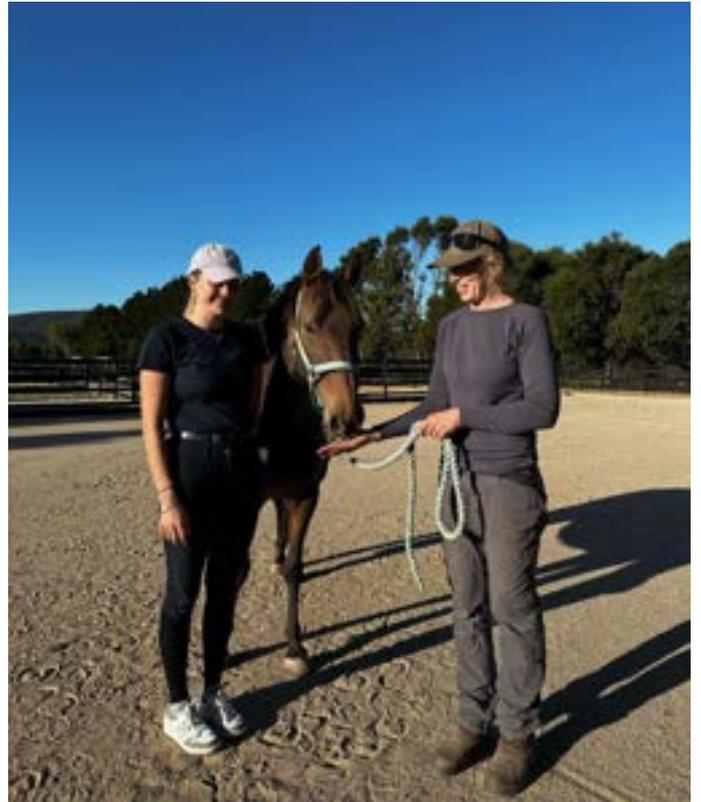
by Renee Neubauer

Maggie May's Journey: From Paddocks of death to one of kindness and safety.

Back in early 2016 a member of the public reported concerns about the condition of many horses at a property in Warrak. Some 100 horses were discovered and a graveyard of up to 30 horses, all in different stages of decomposition. Some of the remaining horses were given a body score of zero. 65 animal charges were laid against the offender.

Maggie May was one of 30+ horses that Project Hope Horse Welfare took in and an intensive management plan was immediately put in place for Maggie May and the others.

After rehabilitation and assessment, a wonderful experienced family came forward offering a home for Maggie May. Sadly, due to an unexpected death of one of their horses, it left no companion for the other horse left behind. So, Maggie May fitted the requirements beautifully and had over 5 years at a kind and loving home.



We do not sell horses or adopt them out. They remain a Project Hope horse with a lease attached. This is of great benefit to the new carer of the horse. There was a change in the family's circumstances, and therefore fortunately, under our lease agreement a new home was sought.

It did not take long until a new Long Term Care home (LTC) was found. Upon the Meet 'n Greet, all parties were very happy and satisfied with the new arrangements for Maggie May. We know that the five years put into Maggie May made it easier to rehome her.

Maggie May now has another important role and that is to keep several other horses company, and will be slowly integrated into her new home and friends.

Update from LTC - "Maggie May had her first day in the big girl's paddock. She is happy and settled with her pals and enjoying all of the human attention."

Doesn't get any better.

If you can offer a Long-Term Care home to any of our horses, please contact us via info@phhwv.org.au and have a look at our website <https://www.phhwv.org.au>



HORSES FOR LEASE

These PHHWV horses have completed their rehabilitation with their Short Term Carer and are now ready to find their Long Term home.



Aster

Aster is a 12yo, 15hh Chestnut Arabian X gelding. His first hoof trims, teeth float, vet check and vaccinations have all been completed, and he has gained weight well. Aster is gentle but nervous and seems to have some knowledge / memory of basic groundwork. He can now be easily caught and groomed, and leads and ties up well. Aster is curious and calm with other horses, has a kind nature and is a fast learner. He is comfortable in his body and bright and alert.



Bessie

Bessie is a 16yo, 16hh Standardbred mare. She has been difficult to catch, however recent training has seen an improvement here and she leads, ties up and stands quietly once caught. Bessie responds well to signals; her reactions are calm and considered. She is happy either in a paddock on her own or with other horses. She is confident to wait quietly until other horses return and will nicker in greeting. Due to the long-term neglect of her feet, she is not suitable to be ridden.



Captain Carrot & Star

Captain Carrot is a 25 yo, 9hh Strawberry Roan gelding who enjoys interacting with people (and carrots!). He is easy to catch, lead, trim and handle. He is used to dogs and not fazed by loud vehicles or machinery.

Star is a 10 yo, 11hh bay mare who is bright and inquisitive. She is easy to catch, brush and trim and shows affection. However, she can frighten easily with sudden movements around her, hence she is not safe to be around children and should be supervised with people unfamiliar with horses.



HORSES FOR LEASE



Friday & April

Friday is a 10yo, 9hh Liver Chestnut Mini mare, and April a 10yo, 8hh Shetland Pony mare.

April is easy to do anything with and enjoys being around people including children that have handled and patted her. She requires good pony-proof fencing as she will lean on fences to get any feed outside her paddock when on restricted diet.

Friday can be a little timid until she knows you and benefits from positive reinforcement. She is becoming more people focused each day. Both lead, tie, pick up their legs for hoof care and float well. With no observed signs of anything negative. April is perhaps the lead mare. The two will benefit from staying together as they have been friends for many years. We see them as chill out buddies or possibly therapy ponies.



Jazz

Jazz is a 25 yo, grey Arab mare standing at approximately 14.2hh. Due to dental neglect, she will require 6-9 monthly checks. Catching and leading is now a comfortable action for her, however she remains wary with rugging. Jazz is great with the farrier and to worm. Due to her age, she is not suitable for riding.



HORSES FOR LEASE



Paris

Paris is a 17yo, 15hh brown Standardbred mare. Paris is not a ridden horse and seeks to be part of a mob that will always have horse/s with her to keep her company. Paris has a gentle disposition and enjoys being groomed. She is well-behaved for the farrier, is good to catch, tie up and worm. Paris is not fazed by cars, tractors or dogs.



Petal

Petal is a 13yo 14.2hh Stockhorse x Thoroughbred mare. Currently, Petal is with one of our experienced horse carers/trainers and continuing rehab both in hand and under saddle. Petal has a lovely temperament and is well-mannered on the ground. She gets along with other horses and prefers to be in a herd than alone. She has been gently saddled and lightly ridden and will require more time to slowly bring her back under the saddle, but no doubt will be a nice riding horse for a confident experienced rider. She is up to date with teeth, hoof trim and worming. Looking for an experienced and understanding carer.

Netty

Netty (left) is a 15 yo, 15hh bay Clydesdale X mare. She is good to handle on the ground and responds to voice commands. Her work under saddle needs consolidating and it appears that she was not mouthed correctly, which is being addressed by the trainer.



HORSES FOR LEASE



Scarlett

Scarlett is a 15.1hh chestnut Thoroughbred mare estimated at 15 years old. As her level of training was unknown, she is being managed as a newcomer to being handled and ridden. Scarlett has commenced her training/education and reports from the trainer are that while she was a little tense initially there was no adverse reaction or bucks when ridden for the first time. Certainly an encouraging sign. She is wary and can be assertive to other horses. She will need an experienced and patient carer.



Scout

Scout is a 12 yo, 13hh chestnut mixed pony gelding. Scout's short-term carer has been making some positive advancements in his ability to be handled with his legs being touched and a brief introduction to some lunging. Scout is now becoming more accepting of being brushed. He adores children and actually nudges other horses away to get the attention. He leads and learns well with consistent kind and calm training.

Find out more about each of our horses and leasing arrangements via our website here:
<https://www.phhwv.org.au/our-horses/ready-for-a-home/>

If you are interested in giving a Project Hope horse a long term care home, get in touch with us by emailing info@phhwv.org.au



horses farewelled

It is never easy. This season we farewell PHHWV Suede aka Peggy Bam Bam, Barney, Fred and Lily and send our heartfelt wishes to their rescuers and carers. RIP.

Suede



Barney



Fred



Lily



PHHWV Bulletin Board

CEN AMBASSADORSHIP UPDATE

As Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria members, you are eligible for a **10% discount and free delivery** (on any two supplements or more) by simply going to their shop on their website: <https://cennutrition.com.au/horses/shop/>. At checkout, enter **HOPE10** to claim your discounts. PHHWV is then given a 10% commission on all sales from those who enter the **HOPE10** coupon code. CEN has also generously matched all commissions dollar for dollar, so PHHWV gets a double donation.

CEN now also support all our horses coming into Short Term Care by providing a Starter Pack which is dispatched directly from CEN head office to the Short Term Carer. The Starter Pack contains CEN Oil, CEN CF50 and Cen XtraBalance and lasts approximately two weeks.

We send a huge thank you to those who are using this all Australian-owned and made supplement and feed, and also to Bryan and Peter from CEN Nutrition for your wonderful support.

PROJECT HOPE HORSE WELFARE VICTORIA ADVOCACY

The horse's advocate

19% of horses reported to PHHWV in 2022-2023 were from a deceased estate.

Have you given thought to what you wish to happen to your horse in the event of your passing?

Speak to family and friends about your wishes.

Record your wishes in writing, however, only a Will can provide legal assurance that your wishes will be followed.

A Will that considers your horse can mean the difference between your horse being cared for or being neglected.

Please note that Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria does not offer a legacy programme and therefore is unable to accept any horse gifted in a Will.

Contact us for more information:
Email: info@phhwv.org.au
Tel: 1300 881 606
www.phhwv.org.au
HQ: 40071520 HQ: 16 829 500 347

The above information does not constitute legal advice and PHHWV recommends that you consult a solicitor for specific estate planning advice.



FOOTNER WREN LEGAL

Injury Compensation, Wills & Probate, Conveyancing

Discounted services offered to PHHWV Members.

Contact Kathryn Footner
(03) 9602 5761, 0421 337 432
kathryn@fwlegal.com.au
www.fwlegal.com.au



WISHING ALL OUR MEMBERS
A GOOD EASTER BREAK

