

PROJECT HOPE

# HORSE

WELFARE VICTORIA

# AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2021

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



## PHHWV Overview

### Who are Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria?

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

PHHWV Inc. is a registered incorporated non-profit organisation. It is governed by a committee of management as per the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012 (Vic).

The Australian Taxation Office has registered PHHWV as a Charitable Institution that is Income Tax Exempt in addition to having Deductible Gift Recipient Status which means all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

PHHWV is run by volunteers and is self funded though memberships, donations and fundraising activities.

### PHHWV Mission & Goals

Throughout Victoria, whenever and wherever possible:

- To assist owners through education, assistance and advice to rehabilitate their own horses
- To provide emergency care, treatment and assistance to horses
- To rescue and rehabilitate any horse found abandoned, sick, injured or mistreated
- To educate the community on the plight of neglected horses
- To contribute to the development of improved government legislation and policy

### Origins of Project Hope

PHHWV Inc., originally known as Project Hope Horse Rescue, first began in 1973 when a concerned Val Collingwood of Wallan, Victoria, wrote into RIDER magazine regarding the number of neglected horses in Australia.

She outlined a scheme whereby someone could co-ordinate the rescue and rehabilitation of these unfortunate animals and she suggested the name "Project Hope" in memory of a terribly neglected, supposedly aged, buck-jumper from Queensland. She had taken him home to try to save his life, giving him the name "Hope", although he had very little. He died three weeks later from massive worm infestation at the tender age of three.

People responded to Val's letter, assuming that she was to be co-coordinator and the scheme became loosely organised on a district basis.

Gradually, the organisation grew until it became necessary to use newsletters for communication, to introduce memberships fees to help cover costs, and to draw up a constitution. The group steadily grew from there and with the help of a logo and media coverage became a more familiar name in equine circles within Victoria.

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## Committee

### *President*

Miranda Hastings

### *Vice-President*

Kathryn Wren

### *Secretary*

Rhonda Petschel

### *Treasurer*

Shirley McPherson

### *Ordinary Committee*

Toni Harris

Angela Smith

Julia Murray

Anita Romleigh

Noelle Vine

Miriam Orwin

## Contact Us

Project Hope Horse  
 Welfare Victoria Inc.

GPO Box 1991

MELBOURNE 3001

PH: 1300 881 606

Email: [info@phhvw.org.au](mailto:info@phhvw.org.au)

[www.phhvw.org.au](http://www.phhvw.org.au)

# vice- president's report

Autumn heralds the beginning of Project Hope's new financial year. For those members not already aware, our PHHWW financial year starts on 1 March and runs until 28 February. This is why we call out for membership renewals that are due in March and September respectively.

The Committee has been busy focusing on the goals for the coming year. We are excited to be having a presence at the Seymour Alternative Farming Expo, which is being held on the 16th, 17th and 18th April at Kings Park in Seymour. Our Secretary, Rhonda Petschel, is speaking to the Law Institute of Victoria's Animal Welfare Law Committee on 22 April about the need for improved legislation and policy regarding horse welfare. Rhonda and fellow Committee member Noelle Vine are attending a workshop this month being conducted by Animal Welfare Victoria on the proposed national Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines on Land Transport

of Livestock to ensure they are suitable for horses. We are also investigating the change to legislative powers which has resulted in local Councils no longer enforcing the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 (POCTA).

It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of PHHWW member Judy Malmgren, and our Committee wishes to acknowledge her generosity in bequeathing her horse float to PHHWW. Her family said it was a priority for her to ensure that PHHWW received the horse float for the use and benefit of the organisation, for which we are most grateful.

We look forward to an eventful and successful year!

Kathryn Wren  
*Vice-President*

## GRASSROOTS UPDATE

In keeping with two of the purposes of PHHWW, namely 1) to assist owners through education, assistance and advice to rehabilitate their own horses and; 2) to educate the community on the plight of neglected horses, PHHWW has developed the Grassroots Project.

This involves Project Hope members travelling around Victoria, one region at a time, to run Open Days with all local horse-related people such as riding clubs, along with other stakeholders, to introduce and explain what we are about and how we can help the horse community.

The Open Day is followed up with a Horse Representative Training Day, where participants learn more about horse welfare and how to be an effective Horse Representative for PHHWW.

Benalla is the first stop for 2021 on Saturday, 17 April 2021 from 1pm to 4pm at the Benalla Sports & Equestrian Centre. Please feel free to contact Wendy at [members@phhww.org.au](mailto:members@phhww.org.au) or Rhonda at [info@phhww.org.au](mailto:info@phhww.org.au) if you are interested in learning more.

SEE OUR FLYER ON THE NEXT PAGE!



PHHWW POCAHONTAS (AKA ARIZONA)



# For the love of HORSES

*Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria wants to meet the local horse community and “talk all things horse”.*

Project Hope is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the welfare of all horses. We have been volunteering across Victoria for 49 years. We aim to support horse owners through:

- Education and assistance
- Provide emergency care and/or rescue horses who are abandoned, sick or injured
- Raise the awareness of horse welfare in the community
- Contribute to improved government legislation and policy.

**IF THIS IS IMPORTANT TO YOU PLEASE COME AND MEET THE TEAM**

We invite you to our  
**OPEN DAY**  
17th April 1-4 pm  
@ BENALLA SPORTS  
& EQUESTRIAN  
CENTRE

Give us a call on 1300 881 606 or check out our website on [www.phhvw.org.au](http://www.phhvw.org.au)

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# PHHWV horse reports

## YARRA RANGES SHIRE

PHHWV received a call on the 1300 number regarding 3 ponies and 2 thoroughbreds in a paddock of around 2 acres on an agistment property. Whilst the ponies were in good condition, the horses had body scores of around 2. PHHWV Horse Rep attended and advised owner about appropriate feed.

## GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

PHHWV was contacted following the death of a gentleman who had left a horse on his property. The family did not know what to do about the horse. After checking that the horse's immediate welfare was not compromised and that it had basic needs met, PHHWV Horse Rep. made arrangements for a member to attend the property to inspect the horse. Meanwhile, the family made contact with Racing Victoria who agreed to collect the horse and take it into their Reset Program.

## GREATER DANDENONG SHIRE

PHHWV received a call regarding 2 ponies with very long feet. PHHWV Horse Rep. attended the property but was unable to locate ponies. Further call from person who reported, where it was discovered that she had not actually seen the ponies. In the absence of any further information, no further action to be taken.

## MITCHELL SHIRE

PHHWV received a call from a new home owner who found 3 horses left on the property following settlement. The property is known to PHHWV, and the RSPCA has also been involved in the past. PHHWV Horse Rep. attended and observed a chestnut mare with slipper feet, puffiness around the eyes and a thick dull coat. The grey was lame with very poor feet. Vet and farrier advice being sought. Ongoing

## MACEDON RANGES SHIRE

We received a call regarding a mini that the reporter was helping move to its new agistment. The mini was extremely thin and suffering from Cushings which had gone untreated. RSPCA have previously issued a Compliance notice. Reporter concerned the owner will move the pony again. Monitoring.

## MURRINDINDI SHIRE

We received an email report of 2 horses with photos showing long hooves and one horse quite lame. Awaiting further report from Horse Rep. The very lame horse had to be euthanased, while the other horse had its feet trimmed and has been taken into a good new home with a horse trainer, who saw something special there.

## CASEY SHIRE

We received an email report of a skinny gelding, possibly T/Bred, 16.2 in a small yard with only the remains of a round bale that has been raked up into a pile and possibly spoiled. Reporter has seen the horse go from nice and healthy to a body score of around 1.5 to 2.

Our Rep. visited and reported that the horse is a T/Bred and while it is skinny and very wormy, it appears to be cared for. The small paddock was clean and there was hay. Owner rang in response to our note left and was happy to take advice about feeding, worming, rugging and dental needs. He had just bought fresh feed and was quite approachable and seemed to want to do the right thing by the horse.

## PYRENEES SHIRE

We received a call regarding 2 aged Standardbred horses on a property owned by a family member who is unwell, recently lost their partner and has moved.

Caller wanted to surrender the horses to us but we had to explain that they do not fall within our criteria, so suggested where to advertise them, etc.

We are concerned that these horses are left on their own on a sparsely vegetated 10 acre block. To be monitored closely.

# PHHWV horses updates



## PHHWV ROUX

PHHWV Roux has been very happily retrained by member Jasmine Samson, who generously donated her trainer services, including giving several lessons in 'handover' to his new Long Term Carer and rider, young Velvet. We thank you, Jasmine and Roux does, too!



## PHHWV MARYLOU

Although Jasmine has only recently joined Project Hope as a member, she has made great strides with PHHWV Echo, her Long Term Care riding horse, and is making good progress training PHHWV Marylou, who struggles to leave the herd when riding out, but is otherwise coming along well.



## PHHWV SAPPHIRE

Sapphire enjoying some grass after a ride.

Sapphire's Long Term Carer Melanie is doing a terrific job bringing Sapphire along from being a once nervous young Arab mare to a happy and trusting riding horse.



## PHHWV CAMPASPE

As a frighteningly thin, unhandled four year old stallion, he was picked up by Nicola less than 11 months ago with a body score of only 1.5.

After getting the snip, vaccinations, good feed, a vet check and some training, he's landed on his feet with Sue, thriving in his new home and loving the attention.

Congratulations, Campaspe! and thank you to all who played a part in getting him to where he is now (see above!).

# horses for lease

Currently, not many. We have several young horses, and more in training at various stages and levels of need, so ... stay tuned if you're interested in taking a horse into Long Term Care. Or, as mentioned elsewhere, if you have a weanling who could give our Junior some company and some equine etiquette.



**PHHWV JUNIOR**

PHHWV Junior was taken in as a three week old foal in Nov 2020 after his mother was catastrophically injured. He's four months old and looking for a suitable weanling to grow up with. If anyone knows of someone weaning a similar aged foal, please email [info@phhvw.org.au](mailto:info@phhvw.org.au).



**PHHWV ABBI**

Currently in training, Abbi is a sweet 5 yo 13hh chestnut mare who has been out on a few trail rides recently as part of her education. She will soon be ready for her Long Term Home, so please get in touch if you are interested. Email us at [info@phhvw.org.au](mailto:info@phhvw.org.au)



**PHHWV MOLLY**

PHHWV Molly is a Standardbred mare, recently arrived into our care with long hooves. She is walking more comfortably now, having had a good trim. She is undergoing some training with her Short Term Carer, who reports that while she is still a little wary, she is fine once her halter is on and happy to cooperate.



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## PHHW MOLLY THE MULE

When 5 yo Molly mule came into our care 9 months ago, her feet hadn't been attended to for over a year, and consequently will require thorough, ongoing care.

Inquisitive and a real character, she is currently benefiting from Committee member Toni's training and good care while in Short Term Care.



## PHHW APPLEJACK

PHHW Applejack (aka Apples) is looking for a long term home. Apples is a companion pony, standing at 12.3hh. She's 7 years old. Apples is looking for a home that will help her confidence. She has been well trained but needs a bit of a refresher course and someone to give her the attention to allow her to develop into the lovely little mare she is.

# companion horses for lease



## PHHWV BEAU

Big boy Beau is a 17hh thoroughbred gelding currently in Short Term Care with Monica, who is doing a great job treating the mud fever condition on his pasterns that he arrived with. In this photo he is wearing one of the rugs donated by our members. Keep an eye out for further news about Beau on our website.



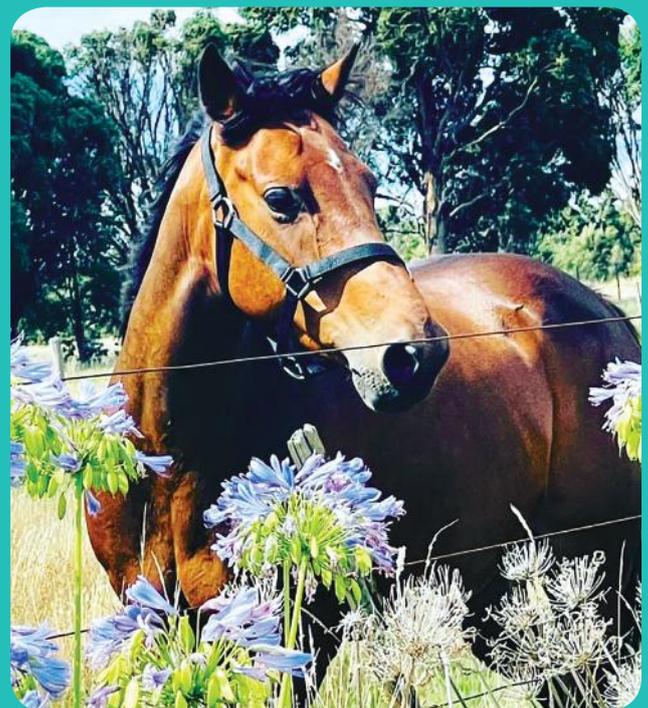
## PHHWV GYPSY

PHHWV Gypsy is an 8yo 14hh bay mare who has had groundwork established with her Short Term Carer, and would ideally suit someone interested in providing Gypsy with Liberty training. Gypsy will be a fine companion horse, so any Liberty trainer members, please get in touch.



## PHHWV TINY

PHHWV Tiny is a 13yo 14.3hh bay Thoroughbred mare who is looking for a Long Term home. Due to an old injury, she will need to be a companion horse, unless ridden by a very light, experienced rider. She hasn't been ridden for at least 3 years, but is a sweet-natured, lovely horse to handle.



# horses farewelled

## IN MEMORIAM

Sadly the following horses have passed away:

PHHWV Creature

PHHWV Rasheem

PHHWV Marnica

PHHWV Shawnee

PHHWV Merlin

Witnessing the death of a horse is a harrowing experience for any of us, and yet it is 'the price of love' and part of life, as we know. It is often difficult to find the words to express the depth of our sorrow and sense of profound loss when it is an animal, rather than a human, that we are grieving.

The Project Hope Committee wishes to convey our deep sympathy and also our gratitude to the members who have looked after, loved and lost their PHHWV horses.

We are including a special tribute to PHHWV Creature, the 'wonder horse' who survived near-starvation to become an extraordinarily gracious therapy horse.

We welcome any members' reflections on their horses, if and when they would like to write a few words or paragraphs, and send a favourite photo.

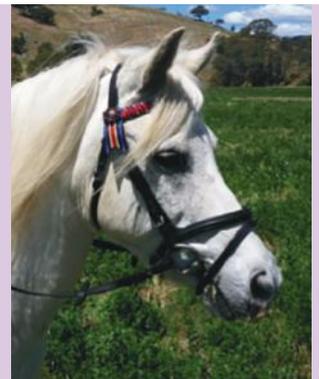
## Creature farewelled

Our 'movie star' of the video, PHHWV Creature had to be euthanised on New Year's Day. For the past year he'd been on a high fibre diet, a daily dose of oil, and considerable pain relief -which had kept him comfortable and happy. But in recent weeks it became apparent this was no longer enough; the melanomas were just too large.

He passed away quietly, eating carrots until his final breath. Creature was 25 years old and lucky to have lived such a happy life – thanks to a caring member of the public who reported his horrendous situation to Project Hope.

Dear Creature became the most wonderful therapy horse, lighting up countless lives while visiting people in nursing homes.

Thank you so much to Nicola and John for believing in him all those years ago and for giving him such a loving and caring home.



PHHWV Creature

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**PHHWW ATHENRAI**

PHHWW Athenrai (Rai) with Courtney

## help required

**WE NEED A NEWSLETTER PRODUCER**

Our quarterly newsletter is mostly emailed but also printed and posted out to some of our members.

We are looking for a member who enjoys writing and editing, and ideally who has graphic design/desktop publishing skills. Let us know if you can share your inner journalistic talents.

Email us at [info@phhww.org.au](mailto:info@phhww.org.au)

**Thank you**

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Victorian State Minister  
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