

# ANNUAL REPORT



PHHWV 'Lucky'

# 2024

PROJECT HOPE HORSE WELFARE VICTORIA INC.

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

## PROJECT HOPE HORSE WELFARE VICTORIA INC.

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

We provide education to both the equine community and the general public. Our aim is to improve the well-being of horses and safeguard against neglect by educating people about horse welfare issues.

Our educational work takes many forms: we respond to queries received through email, phone and Facebook. We produce and provide publications, conduct training days, webinars, demonstrations and have information available on our website. Essential aspects of horse health that we address include feed and nutrition, hoof care, worming, teeth maintenance and end of life options.

Upon receipt of a report about a horse potentially in trouble, we ask one of our trained Horse Representatives to attend and see what assistance PHHWV can provide. In some cases, advice or support to the owner can resolve the issue. In other cases, the owner will surrender the horse to PHHWV, whereupon we address welfare and rehabilitation needs with the help of our Short Term Carers. We then seek to place the horse into Long Term Care through a lease agreement with our members. Beyond basic care, we aim to work in accordance with the five domains of animal welfare.

## PURPOSES OF PROJECT HOPE HORSE WELFARE VICTORIA INC.

1. Assist horse owners through education, advice and support to rehabilitate their own horses;
2. Rescue and rehabilitate any horse found abandoned, sick, injured, mistreated or neglected or likely to become so in the imminent future;
3. Provide emergency care, treatment and assistance to horses;
4. Educate the community on the plight of neglected horses; and
5. Contribute to the development of improved government legislation and policy relating to the welfare of horses.

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**PROJECT HOPE, Bringing Lucky Smiles**

PROJECT HOPE  
**HORSE**  
WELFARE VICTORIA

# Our Team



**President**  
Rhonda Petschel



**Vice-President**  
Renee Neubauer



**Secretary**  
Karen Davies



**Treasurer**  
Shirley McPherson



**Committee**  
Angela Smith



**Committee**  
Vaso Elefsiniotis



**Committee**  
Toni Harris



**Committee**  
Tessa Reimers



**Committee**  
Noelle Vine



**Events & Merchandise  
Coordinator**  
Mandi Herauville



**Membership Secretary**  
Silvija Footner



**Horse Database  
Coordinator**  
Anita Romleigh



# President's Report

**In the words of Helen Keller,  
 "Alone we can do so little; together  
 we can do so much".**

The principles that Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc upholds recognises the complexities that lie with the love of horses, their unique care needs, the difficulties of human life and the importance of community support. Our strength lies in our members who live all across the state, being willing to provide assistance and education to horse owners, responding to emergencies and raising awareness about horse welfare within their communities. Beyond that we unite to contribute to the development of improved government legislation and policy. All in all, we are providing practical solutions, safeguarding our horses and raising the standards of welfare.



2024 has been a busy year. For the first time in many years, we had a full committee of 12 members. We began with a strategic planning day which assisted in the welcoming of two new committee members. The agreed vision was to ensure organisational sustainability. The structure created in 2022 with a Governance subcommittee and Horse Welfare Working group reporting to the full committee is

well established now. The committee also agreed to completing the "Applying the Five Domains to the Welfare Assessment of Sport and Recreation Horses" online course from the University of New England which has created a consistent level of knowledge regarding international horse welfare standards. We continue to have members involved in projects and activities reporting to the committee. Operation Reconnect is one such project with the coordinators planning to visit every Project Hope horse and thank their carers. This is in action and being rolled out across the state as I write. Our social media presence has raised a notch or two and we have been working on the "usability" of the website. The Newsletter has soldiered on with a changing of the guard throughout the year. We continue to review and build on good governance to support those who "pick up the reins" in the future.

Membership continues to trend upwards with 23 new members in January alone. Our financial performance continues to be strong. We successfully completed the Hope for Horses Equine Rehabilitation Government Funding Grant and have received further support from the Bunderra Foundation.

We had a little of the old linked with the new regarding our education sessions. Dr Lesley Hawson hosted a webinar on "How Horses Learn" which was our final webinar from the 2022/23 series. The new approach was to link with horse clubs, our first club being the Ballarat Social Trail Horse Riders Club (BSTHRC) which was very successful. Ian Shaw led a horsemanship clinic and Peter Borgdorff from the Australian Equine Dental Practice provided dental care to the horses and a presentation on dental care. Peter also presented and treated at the Bellarine Riding club. The partnerships were very successful and this led to the BSTHRC hosting a Horse Representative training day.

Our Events and Merchandise Coordinator, Mandi Herauville, has done a sterling job this year and we attended the Seymour Alternative Farming Expo, Elmore Field Days and the Berwick show. The weather at Elmore was torrential and yet our volunteers stayed the distance. Renee Neubauer and Mandi stayed for the four days drying out items and shovelling mulch. Lynne Brehaut our long term member invites us to the Bairnsdale Show every year and we were thrilled when Karen Davies was able to support her this year.

This year we have had the most horse reports since 2015 with a high number of surrenders and we cannot thank the short-term carers enough who support these horses through their rehabilitation. As many may know, once their rehabilitation is completed, we find a suitable long term home and sign a long term care agreement with the carer. This year there have been some members needing to end

# President's Report

their long-term lease due to changes in circumstances. These horses return to short term care and we use our network to find a new and safe home. We are very proud of this process as it safeguards our horses from neglect. As we have found homes, more horses have come in so our numbers in short term care are still high as we continue the search for suitable homes. This takes up considerable volunteer hours and can be emotionally difficult. As with all organisations working in welfare, we are very aware of vicarious trauma and as such, we work to support the wellbeing of all our volunteers involved. The Horse Welfare Working Group are wonderful leaders and have worked tirelessly all year. We thank them for their efforts.

The Victorian Government is reforming Victoria's animal care and protection laws which will replace the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (POCTA) dated 1986. In fitting with our purposes, we have contributed feedback to the Bill and Regulations. We look forward to this becoming legislation and having an improved regulatory framework.

In relation to emergency relief, we had a number of members within the regions affected by bushfires this year. Our Membership Secretary was able to make contact with everyone who advised us they were under control. Even so, we recognise it is not the end when the fire passes so we will keep in touch. Further to our direct contact we have continued our membership with the Animal Emergency Incident Management Network Australia and New Zealand (AEIMN ANZ). All states and New Zealand are represented and presenting at their regular meetings. This has provided not only a great opportunity to learn about animal rescue and prevention during natural disasters and emergencies but is also invaluable networking. Overall, this network will improve our policies and procedures for emergencies and guide us in our contribution to advancing animal rescue standards.

I would like to acknowledge the Team who make all of these achievements and successes possible. To Renee Neubauer, Shirley McPherson, Karen Davies, Noelle Vine, Angela Smith, Toni Harris, Silvija Footner, Anita Romleigh, Mandi Herauville, Lucy Fairs, Trish Hartshorn, Tessa Reimers, Vaso Elefsiniotis, Gina Harris and Kathryn Wren I extend my sincere thanks for your hours of volunteering and contributions to the organisation.

Further to the team I wish to thank the membership, the short-term carers, long-term carers, events volunteers and Horse Representatives. Thank you for the difference you make to the horses in our care and the conversations with our community.

Finally, I would like to thank those who are guiding us with their commitment to horse welfare. Australia can be so very proud of Paul McGreevy, Andrew McLean, Julie Fiedler, Lesley Hawson, Cristina Wilkins and David Mellor to name a few who are world leading educators in their field. May PHHWV continue to keep our minds open and advance our knowledge as we support our community and our horses through education, rehabilitation and advocacy.

**Rhonda Petschel**  
 President



# Did you know?

## History of Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc.

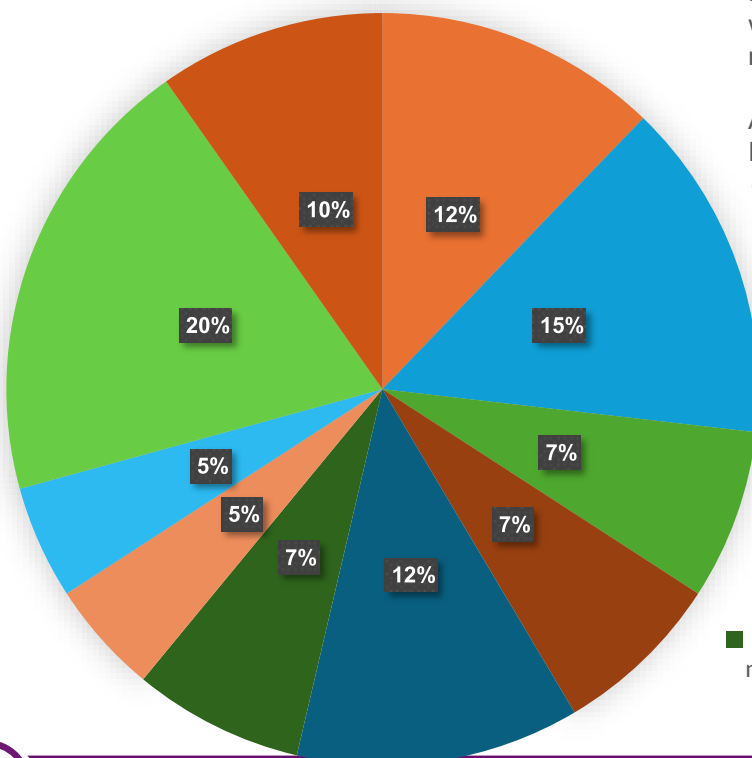
It all started with a letter to Rider magazine in October 1976 from Val Collingwood, a keen horsewoman from Wallan in Victoria.

She had come across a severely neglected horse that was supposedly aged, however she soon discovered that he was in fact only three years old. Val named the horse "Hope". Despite her best efforts, he died three weeks later due to complications arising from a massive worm infestation. Hope's plight prompted Val to write to Rider magazine to share Hope's story and express her concern about the severity of the situation faced by other neglected equines. Val put forward a proposal whereby horses in need could be rescued and rehabilitated.

Readers of the magazine responded with offers of encouragement and support and Val proceeded to co-ordinate the scheme under the name of Project Hope Horse Rescue Australia, in memory of the young horse.

Over the years, the need for assistance grew and so did Project Hope. In 1993 the organisation became a registered incorporated association and changed its name to Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria. In 2005 it became a registered charity, in addition to obtaining Gift Deduction Status from the ATO.

## Causes of Horse Reports and Surrender



# Horse Reports

## The PHHWV year runs from 1 March until 29 February.

During the 2023-2024 year we received 84 reports involving 206 horses. Although the number of reports is up from last year, the number of horses involved is less. Surrender was needed for 18 horses which is down from last year, and unfortunately 6 of these needed to be euthanised due to welfare issues.

### Our data indicates that the predominant causes for horses and/or owners needing assistance are:

- Deaths in the family or close personal friends where there is no one to continue the ongoing care for their horses
- Advanced age or incapacity of either horses and/or owners
- Insufficient feeding, hoof care knowledge and horse care in general
- Mental or physical health issues affecting horse owners
- Owning too many horses to care for them adequately
- Horses being abandoned by either owners moving or leaving them unattended on agistment.

We would like to thank everyone who helps to care for our horses, from the people who report them to us, to our Representatives who attend to those reports, our short-term carers and also our long-term carers. As well as these people, many others help in the background. Thank you to our transporters, vets, farriers, specialist dentists, feed providers and those who provide Pro Bono or reduced fee services. Also thank you to our hard-working volunteers who set up and attend our community stalls to share our message to the general public.

A special thank you goes to our hard-working Representatives who give their valuable time and energy to do this work which can be quite heartbreaking at times. Without the help and dedication of everyone involved, we would not be able to provide this valuable service to horses and owners in need.

**Noelle Vine**  
Horse Reports Coordinator

- Horses left on other people's property
- Unpaid agistment
- Mental health issues
- Death to owners
- Older owners unable to care for their horses
- Large numbers of neglected of horses
- Breeders with injured or neglected horses
- Following posts on social media
- Insufficient horse knowledge for the situation
- Member help via call out on Facebook



Education,  
 Rehabilitation & Advocacy

# Education

## Horse Rep Training 2024 Improved equine welfare services and education

The Horse Representative training day provides an opportunity to talk about what good welfare means, how we fit into the legal framework of the state and how we go about our frontline services and is suitable for all members. Once completed, the attendees are invited to join our Horse Representative team.

In line with the current advancements of horse welfare we conducted a review of our training and now include discussions on social licence, safeguarding and the 5 domains of animal welfare.

This year we held a training event in Eltham, then in partnership with the Ballarat Social Trail Horse Riders Club and for the first time an online session in January. We registered five new “Reps” this year and now have 50 trained Representatives across the state.

Thank everyone who attended the training this year. I learn with every session and I am sure all who participate walk away with a deeper understanding of Project Hope and have the opportunity to contribute to conversations about how we improve horse welfare.

**Rhonda Petschel**



**Alan Salter**  
 Ballarat Social Trail  
 Horse Riders Club

## Horse Rep Training Day – Ballarat Ballarat Social Trail Horse Riders Club

On Sunday, 19 Nov 2023 the BSTHRC hosted a Project Hope Horse Representative Training Day at Magpie. Project Hope President, Rhonda Petschel, had attendees actively involved with her interactive presentation. The aim of the day was to provide an overview of Project Hope’s objectives and to equip prospective “Horse Representatives” within the Club, with the knowledge and skills required in the role. Issues discussed included welfare of horses, legal issues, codes of practice, insurance, the role of Horse Representatives, assessment of horses (including a practical session after lunch with three of Alan’s horses), managing case outcomes, support and self-care.

Many of our Club members are extremely aware of our obligations regarding the welfare of our horses, and the horse generally. Today’s session was a practical and proactive way of providing members with the ability to also pass on valuable information to others involved with horses.

The Club provided a sumptuous lunch laid out and presented by our host Carole. Steve and Alan have already indicated that they intend volunteering as “Horse Representatives”, and it is hoped that others in the group will give this serious consideration.

Thank you to Project Hope and all attendees for your active participation. Special thanks to Carole who set up our learning room, lunch and other refreshments. Thanks to those who brought along treats, cakes, etc for the group.



Education,  
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# Education

## Ian Shaw Horsemanship Clinic

On 27 May 2023 PHHWV sponsored a clinic for its financial members at Springfield Equestrian Centre in conjunction with Ian Shaw Horsemanship.

Ian has a strong focus on building connections and relationships with horses through ethical teaching methodologies. In Ian's words – "Educating you, Educating your horse."

The success of the Ian Shaw Horsemanship Clinic was easily gauged by the number of smiles on everyone's faces and the positive comments thanking PHHWV for this free one-day clinic. What an absolute professional Ian is along with his kind and easy-going attitude to allow horse/rider/handler to learn new ways.

The magnificent venue of Springfield Equestrian Centre was the perfect place to have such an event and accommodated everyone and every horse so well. Morning and afternoon tea were provided by Kathryn – so thank you for keeping us fed.

In total there were six participants with their horses and sixteen fence sitters. The event was opened with a brief intro by Vice President Renee Neubauer, followed by a lecture from Ian. Participants were broken up into two groups of three in the morning, then each rider and horse combination had a private one on one session with Ian.

We moved outside for a session of float training which was good for those who had been experiencing some difficulties.

The whole day ran smoothly and effortlessly. We thank those who donated on the day and for those who became new members. There was an added bonus of having Yvette Frahn (Spirit of Equine) come along. She observed and drew in her sketching book, no doubt attracting quite a few wows.

Thank you so much to all those who attended and particularly Ian for providing such knowledge. It would be fair to say that everyone left with a great sense of achievement.

**Renee Neubauer**  
 Vice President



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## Education

### Peter Borgdorff Dental Days

Animal Welfare, Agriculture Victoria supported PHHWV in hosting two dental days with Equine Dentist Peter Borgdorff, from the Australian Equine Dental Practice.

Peter and his student provided dental care for 14 horses and a very interesting presentation to members of the Ballarat Social Trail Riders Club at Clarendon and at Bellarine Peninsula Pony Club. Everyone was intrigued with his specimen and stories that highlighted the importance of regular dental care and the impact of food choices for their horses. Many horses on both days would be eating and accepting the bit with great relief after their treatment.



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# Rehabilitation

## Lucky

In December, we received a call from an aged care facility which had been looking after a collection of animals for interaction with their residents. Unfortunately, due to the facility closing down, they needed to find new homes for their animals. All the other animals in their care had been rehomed, but they had not been able to find a new owner/carer for Lucky.



He is a nice elderly pony and had been well looked after, but he had no horsey friends. He was taken for walks using his halter and lead, and was quite happy to be patted. His diet needs to be strictly monitored as he has Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS), so it was important that visitors did not slip him too many carrots on the side.

As part of his health report and history, it was revealed that Lucky had fallen from a moving horse float in 2008 which is why he has a large scar on his left flank. Lucky by name, lucky by nature it seems. He recently had a benign skin cancer removed from near his scar and also required a tooth extraction. Thankfully his wounds healed well.

We are so grateful to Julie who has taken Lucky into long term care to live his best life. Julie says "he is an absolute

delight. He gets on well with his friend Ronnie, although makes it clear that he gets first dibs at eating time. He often gives a little welcoming snicker when I come out, and is the easiest of horses to handle.

He is terrific with the grandkids and lets them fuss over him. He really is a sweet little guy."

**A wonderful outcome for Lucky.**

## Dylan and Sizzle Where are they now?

Many of our members will remember in February 2016 when the RSPCA seized more than 100 emaciated horses and ponies from a property in Warrak. Project Hope took many of them into care and our wonderful members nursed them back to good health.

Dylan and Sizzle were two of the lucky ones saved from the hell hole. They were just foals at that time and grew up within the family of Project Hope. As fluffy youngsters, they were at Kerryn's place where she taught them to lead and introduced them to the good life. The years have gone by so "Where are they now?"

**Angela Smith**



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# Rehabilitation

## Dylan

**Dylan (aka Jack) lives in Nyora with his paddock mate Bruce who used to be a racehorse.** Occasionally they will go for a ride at the beach or down the trail, but mostly they live their best lives being horses and racing each other around different paddocks.

Every morning, they come cantering to their gate and neighing if they're not already there stomping for their breakfast, and it's the same in the evening. They love getting hosed in the summer and generally enjoying life.  
**(by carer Rachel)**



## Sizzle

**I first met Sizzle at Pony Club with his young rider as a very young horse, over the next year or so I saw him at rallies and other events.** I spoke to his young rider a couple of times about him being quite anxious and uptight and did some work with them a couple of times. Anyway, to cut a long story short, his young rider had grown up and moved away for work. Sizzle was left with the rider's mum to look after him.

Sizzle didn't want for anything while there and was always very well looked after. He just didn't cope with life in general. After a short while he became quite difficult to manage so I was asked if I would take over and lease him.

In June 2022, Sizzle came to live with me. He was quite rude on the ground at times, so we worked on that and then began with some ridden work. I quickly realized he was very anxious under saddle and tight through his body, so the journey began to rehabilitate his mind and body. He has had lots of body work done and in hand training to get him relaxed under saddle. Still a work in progress, but he has come a long way.

He now attends long reining days, dressage days and working equitation practice days which he is super at. A sweet horse that is really coming into his own and I look forward to his progress in the future.  
**(by carer Tracy)**



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# Rehabilitation

## Redmond (aka Red 2021)

**On the day Redmond arrived at his short-term care home in Newham, Toni Harris watched in anticipation as the horse transporter doors opened and out came the mighty Redmond, a solid Chestnut lad with a barrel belly.**

His reputation had preceded him and it was not entirely favourable. Toni was expecting a kicking, squealing beast and was very surprised at his composure as he took in his new surroundings. Redmond was a complex character, very quick to shake his head at you if he felt too pressured and he had a rather nasty habit of rearing up if you looked at him sideways. Toni, an old hand with troubled horses, quickly realised that Redmond was displaying this behaviour out of fear and pain rather than aggressiveness.



She called upon the services of Monika Haller, our local Trust Technique guru who has worked gratis with several PHHWV horses. On the whole Redmond responded well to Monika's therapies but in one early session of 'lifting the layers' he tried his 'I'm going to run at you and eat you' trick! As Monika turned Redmond stopped dead in his tracks and coiled himself up, dropped his head and nickered an apology. They stood for a while each zoned in on the other, then moved on with the session. Each session revealed the softness in him and as his confidence grew, his anger and fear dissipated.

Redmond and I established a bond whilst he was in rehabilitation with Toni and he would come for walks with me, unbidden, around the paddock as I said my hellos to all the other horses. He was a very good listener! He also had a rather cute habit of wrapping his head around my neck, I called him the boa constrictor.

In September 2021, a close friend of mine and PHHWV member, Annie Hamer, qualified as an equine assisted

learning practitioner and was looking for another horse to complement her therapy crew. We introduced her to Redmond who we felt certain would excel as a therapy horse. And excel he did. Days after he arrived at Annie's property, friends with a neuro-diverse son came to visit. The young lad wanted to take Redmond for a walk around the paddock. I must admit to watching cautiously from a distance I felt I could cover if everything went pear-shaped! With no pressure at all Redmond, first on a leading rein, then at liberty followed the boy around, close to his shoulder. Redmond was on his way to great things.

One of Annie's first clients, Jaydan, was a 13 year old boy who suffered anger management and behavioural issues. He did not go to school and would dissolve into a rage when life became too much for him. His mother was at her wit's end. Jaydan was introduced to Redmond and from that day to this, they have an unshakeable bond. Jaydan had no prior experience with horses when he first arrived at Annie's property, yet it seemed that boy and horse recognised a deep need in each other. Redmond has helped many other clients through their journeys. I was particularly moved with a story Annie told me about a young man in drug and alcohol rehabilitation who was motivated to recover when he learned of Redmond's early traumas - if he can do it, then so can I, he said!

In August 2023 Redmond, together with Annie's other three therapy horses, featured in a Sky Racing Television production. They were running a programme called 'Love the Horse' which featured other ways in which horses are involved in people's lives.

The mighty Redmond is just one of the many success stories that PHHWV can boast. Our amazing short and long term carers have truly worked miracles. Some horses arrive devoid of trust and completely broken, to watch them shed their fears and reconnect is panacea for the heart.

**Tricia Hartshorn**



Education,  
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# Advocacy

## Woodend Community Farmers' Market (5 Aug 2023)



## Elmore Field Days (3-5 Oct 2023)



## Bairnsdale Show (11 Nov 2023)



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# Advocacy

## Berwick Show (24-25 Feb 2024)



## Farmworld (22-24 Mar 2024)



## Seymour (12-14 Apr 2024)



# Horses in Care

Abbi	Domino	Honey II	Mary	Pocahontas
Abella	Dozer	Hooby	Matilda	Pocket
Alex	Dylan	Hunter	Meg	Poppy
Ally	Dynamite	Ivanna	Mia	Presto
Amie	Echo	Jack IV	Mickey	Princess
Amiira	Fanta	Jane	Midnight	Priscilla
Aster	Feisty	Jasper	Miles	Rain
Axel	Fergie	Jazz	Milo	Rascal
Axl	Flicka	Jet	Mimi	Red
Aztec	Flukey	Jill	Mischief	Redmond
Angel	Frankie II		Miss Mary	Renni
Applejack			Molly Mule	Ripple
April			Neddy	Romeo
Athenrai				Rosie
Aurelia				Roux
Aurora				Rozie
Ava				Rutherglen
Banjo II				Sabrina
Beamer				Sadie
Beau				Sammy
Belgrave				Sapphire
Belle				Scamp
Bellebutton				Scarlett
Benson				Scooby
Bentley				Scout
Bert				Sebastian
Bessie				Shakisma
Betty				Sharnie
Birch				Silver
Black Swan				Sizzle
Blinky Bill				Skittles
Boss (Mystic Park Tiny Dancer)				Snag
Bruce				Snip
Buck				Sonny
Bunny				Spike
Campaspe				Star Jazmyn
Candy				Star1
Captain Hook				Star2
Caramel				Stella
Casper				Sultan
Caviar				Sunday
Cedrick	Freddie			Sweet Honesty Czar
Charcoal	Free Spirit			Syd
Charlie Brown Dark Army	Friday	Joey	Netty	Ted-E Bear
Cisco	Frodo Hest	Junior	Nugget	Thatcher
Cleopatra	Fudge	Lady	Olivia	Tia
Cloud	Gambian	Laine	Ollie	Tiny
Connie	Gandalf	Larissa	Opal	Tommy Lee
Cressy	Gina Hanover	Licorice	Paris II	Torah
Crumpet	Ginger	Lou Lou	Patches	Torry
Dakota	Gingernuts	Louis	Peanut	V8
Destiny	Goose	Lucky	Penny	William
Dexter	Gunslinger	Ludi	Perri	Wynstan
Digger	Gypsy	Luna	Petal	Xena
DJ	Hank	Lux	Pete	Yani
Doc	Harmony	Maggie May	Phillippe	Zack
Dock	Honey	MaySu	Phoenix	
			Pirate	





# Horses in Care



# Horses Farewelled



**Transfer of Ownership**

Bella  
Katie

**R.I.P.**

- Barney
- Chancey
- Darnum
- Fred
- Lily
- Lucky Mouse
- Molly
- Perry
- Shadow
- Suede
- Nikita
- Peg



# Vice President's Report

**Having 23 years of volunteering with Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria has certainly led to a better understanding of how horses are the most forgiving creatures on earth.** One of my aims this year was to highlight the importance of making meaningful changes to equine welfare. To do this better, we need to have a clear understanding of world's best practices and how to apply them to achieve this goal.

Our committee members have been offered a course available through the University of New England (UNE) – Applying the Five Domains Model to the Welfare Assessment of Sport and Recreation Horses. Completing this newly launched course will help support our dedicated volunteers. I must say I enjoyed being back learning in a formal way. Yes, I did pass.

The framework of the course is by UNE alumnus Professor David Mellor and created by Director of the One Welfare Academy, and Editor in Chief Cristina Wilkins – Horses and People Magazine.

## The course covers areas such as:

- Understanding contemporary animal welfare
- Recognising optimal conditions for horses
- Classifying all areas of horse management into the Five Domains
- Applying a Five Domains based welfare assessment checklist using reliable and feasible indicators
- Identifying specific aspects of a horse's existence that compromise welfare
- Reflecting on opportunities to make incremental improvements in a horse's lived experience.

With a view to forming a new relationship with other areas of the horse industry, I reached out to CEN Nutrition to let them know of the wonderful improvements I have personally seen with surrendered horses in my care whilst using their products. After seeing the incredible results, the directors offered sponsorship and generous discounts to our financial members. Each horse surrendered to Project Hope now receives a free 'Starter Kit' which provides them with access to equine nutrition. It really is a Win/Win.

Increasing our social media presence has been a target this year and there have been some fabulous results to show improvement in that area: an increase of 235.3% in our reach, 377.6% increase in page visits and 94.9% increase in followers over the last year. We hope to engage even more people with our work in equine welfare.

It has been a year of working alongside some really awesome committee members to keep the almost 50-year-old charity going. I say let's keep on our journey to help make life better for horses and people too.

**Renee Neubauer**  
 Vice President

# Treasurer's Report

## Financial Year 1 March 2023 – 29 February 2024

**It has been an absolute pleasure to work with the people at Project Hope again this past year.**

**The dedicated Committee Members, our Short and Long Term Carers and all the other members are just incredible.**

Even though I say every year how amazing everyone is to achieve the outcomes they do, it has to be repeated. You all know that we couldn't do it without your membership, donations and of course your paddocks.

We have expended the second round of the State Government Grant and so our President, Committee and fundraising extraordinaires are busy scouting around for other Grants to apply for to support our work.

Having these two grants has enabled us to "boost" our coffers to a very healthy \$301,840,95.

Our members have really shined this financial year with their donations of \$17,314.29 along with amazing general and periodic donations of \$52,735.66 from members and non-members alike. We have also been fortunate to receive bequests totalling \$17,818.29.

In a "nutshell":  
 Income \$149,237.05 – Expenses \$144,305.15  
 = A Net Income of \$4,931.90.

As our Balance Sheet looks very healthy, we are in a sound financial position to carry us forward into the new year.

Thank you all once again.

**Shirley McPherson**  
 Treasurer



# Financial Report

**Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc**  
**Profit & Loss**  
March 2023 through February 2024

	Mar 23 - Feb 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Donations & Bequests	
Bequests	17,818.29
Donation Boxes	229.00
General Donation	29,895.18
Member Donation	17,314.29
Periodic Donation	22,611.48
Total Donations & Bequests	87,868.24
Fundraising	
Trivia Night 2023	113.40
Total Fundraising	113.40
Grants	
Grant Monies Received	29,800.00
Total Grants	29,800.00
Interest Received	294.30
Memberships	22,613.04
Merchandise Sales	2,068.22
49900 - Uncategorized Income	6,479.85
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>149,237.05</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>149,237.05</b>
Expense	
Accountancy Fees	1,117.73
Admin Travel Reimbursement	719.69
Bank Charges	
Merchant Fee	237.33
Online Transaction Fee	365.90
Total Bank Charges	603.23
Cat Repairs	10.00
Central Animal Records	9.09
Companionate Fund	2,024.32
Education	6,617.27
Google data storage	103.67
Graphic Design	2,475.00
Insurance	
Cyber Event Protection	795.45
Farm Motor Insurance - Float	115.78
Personal Accident Insurance	977.27
Public Liability Insurance	5,790.91
Total Insurance	7,679.41
Membership Subscriptions	0.00
Merchandise Costs **	11,444.80
Miscellaneous Admin Expense	
Reckon annual Subscription	1,663.64
Miscellaneous Admin Expense - Other	1,033.25
Total Miscellaneous Admin Expense	2,696.89
PayPal Expenses	228.21
Phone / Internet	
Phone - Directory Charges	177.35
Phone - Mobile	601.81
Phone - Priority 1300 Service	1,688.60
Zoom / subscriptions	346.25
Total Phone / Internet	2,814.01
Plastic surgery and costs	3,877.87
Post Box Rental	374.34
Postage	578.77
Printing	2,160.54
Rep / Admin Training	1,906.12
Repairs & Maintenance	2,218.18
Software Costs	302.97

\*\* Prior period(s) accounting correction of \$10,325.80 has been made to align with the cash accounting method that Project Hope Horse Welfare is registered for.



# Financial Report

**Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc**  
**Profit & Loss**  
March 2023 through February 2024

	Mar 23 - Feb 24
Stationery	1,545.78
Storage Unit	2,872.76
Venue Hire & Catering	2,702.71
Web	
Web Hosting	1,625.45
Total Web	1,625.45
63300 - Depreciation	4,911.73
66900 - Reconciliation Discrepancies	4.84
Total Expense	63,625.38
Net Ordinary Income	85,611.67
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
Chiropractor-other Alternative	640.00
Dentist	4,247.25
Disaster Relief	1,924.05
Euthanasia	400.00
Farrier	4,147.36
Feed	16,221.18
General Horse Expenses	1,838.63
Horse assessment	1,353.27
Horse Training	16,524.69
Horse Transport Costs	9,478.03
Microchip Implant	259.00
Travel - horse Rep reimbursement	547.33
Vet Fees	19,854.52
Wormer and Medication	3,244.46
Total Other Expense	80,679.77
Net Other Income	-80,679.77
Net Income	4,931.90

# Balance Sheet

## Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc

### Balance Sheet

As of February 29, 2024

	<u>Feb 29, 24</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Bank - BBL Term Deposit #1.	42,336.51
Bank - Bunderra Foundation	228.42
Bank - Debit Card Account	477.13
Bank - Gift Account	77.82
Bank - KABE Equity Trusees	30,985.91
Bank - Main Account	227,735.16
Total Chequing/Savings	301,840.95
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	-180.10
Total Accounts Receivable	-180.10
Other Current Assets	
12000 · Undeposited Funds	268.46
Total Other Current Assets	268.46
Total Current Assets	301,929.31
Fixed Assets	
13000 · Equipment at cost	15,905.08
13100 · Less accumulated depreciation	-15,905.08
Total Fixed Assets	0.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>301,929.31</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Tax Payable	-1,636.96
Total Other Current Liabilities	-1,636.96
Total Current Liabilities	-1,636.96
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>-1,636.96</u></b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>303,566.27</u></b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	
Opening Bal Equity	111,351.54
Retained Earnings	187,273.21
Net Income	4,941.52
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b><u>303,566.27</u></b>



# | Acknowledgements



We thank Mary-Anne Thomas MP for her support in printing our quarterly newsletter from her electoral office in Gisborne.

**Mary-Anne Thomas**

Member for Macedon and  
Minister for Health,  
Health Infrastructure &  
Ambulance Services  
State Government of Victoria

**Thank you to all the individuals and organisations who have supported us and the vital work we do.**



PROJECT HOPE  
**HORSE**  
WELFARE VICTORIA