

PROJECT HOPE

HORSE

WELFARE VICTORIA

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2022

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



president's report

As we prepare for the leaves to fall and the evenings to grow cooler, I take a moment to reflect on the way in which we have come to interact. There is a Chinese saying “may we live in interesting times” – and so it seems we do. Technology has taken over and my email inboxes are overflowing, whilst my letterbox is only host to the occasional bill. Even now the telephone rings less and is more often than not someone wanting to offer me discounted electricity. Then of course there is the world of Facebook and Instagram (of which I know little, being one to still listen to cassette tapes). What does this mean for Equine Welfare and importantly, Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria?

Moving away from more personal interaction brings with it the risk of losing our interpersonal skills that have in the past helped us assist horse owners. I recently met with several Project Hope members for coffee and the topic of member interaction came up. In this era, how do we ensure that our Project Hope community maintains its bonds? I believe that we need to promote membership engagement and build our network. It is our membership base that is our greatest asset and without it, we cannot exist, which in turns means we cannot help any horses. Therefore, time and effort need to be put in to nurture relations and encourage dialogue with our Project Hope family.

We have a busy couple of months ahead with Project Hope attending the Farm World Expo at Lardner, Central Victorian Equine Market at Lancefield and Seymour Alternative Farming Expo at Seymour. Your help with and at these events would be warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated. These days present a wonderful opportunity for us to educate the community about equine welfare, encourage new members and spend time with existing members. Please see page 4 for more detail.

The Grassroots project is well underway and January saw the first Horse Representative Training Day for the year at Majorca, followed by a Horse Education Day led by Ian Shaw at Smythesdale. Dr Lesley Hawson spoke to attendees of the Training Day about equine welfare and recognising a horse in trouble. She also presented a Webinar to Members in February focusing on the Overweight Horse.

The end of February brings the close of the Project Hope financial year and thanks to the hard work of our fundraising team, we have recovered sufficiently well from the negative impact that COVID had on the organisation. The AGM is scheduled for 30 April 2022 and will be conducted by Zoom to encourage attendance. Importantly, there will be a Special Resolution to adopt new Statement of Purposes and Rules, in order to ensure compliance with the ACNC requirements. More to come on this, however I invite anyone to contact me directly to discuss should you wish.

Kathryn Wren
President
Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc.

Mobile: 0421 337 432 Email: kathryn@phhvw.org.au

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PROJECT HOPE HORSE WELFARE VICTORIA INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 30 April 2022 at 11 am

via Zoom

(link details to be forwarded via email closer to the date)

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr Lesley Hawson

Please note that the AGM will include a Special Resolution to alter the Rules.

PHHWV GRASSROOTS PROGRAM NEEDS YOU IN 2022!

WHAT TWEAKS YOUR INTEREST?

Do you enjoy community development, project management or events planning?

Would volunteering in community development, project management or events planning look good on your CV?

Do you enjoy working in a team sharing and learning new skills?

If the answer is yes to the above, Grassroots and “Hope Horse Welfare Project” needs YOU. One good thing that COVID has taught us is the ability to communicate with each other, distance is no longer an issue. So wherever you live we can team up and make a difference ... and I promise it will be both fun and inspiring.

If you are interested in joining Rhonda to work on community development projects please send through an email to: info@phhww.org.au

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

2022 HORSELAND FARM WORLD EQUESTRIAN FESTIVAL

Dates: Thursday 24, Friday 25, Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 March 2022

Venue: Baw Baw Equestrian Centre, Larnder Victoria

Thursday 24th March	Showing and Barrel Racing
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Friday 25th March	Interschool Dressage Day
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Saturday 26th March	CPH EA Dressage Day
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Sunday 27th March	Working Equitation
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Project Hope will be in attendance with other vendors in the exhibitor's village. Our aim will be to meet local people, gain new members and raise our profile in the horse community. If you are keen to help out with the stall and promote the work that Project Hope does, please get in touch with Rhonda at rhonda@phhww.org.au

CENTRAL VICTORIAN EQUINE MARKET

Date: Saturday 26 March 2022

Venue: Lancefield Park, Lancefield Victoria

Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria will have a stall at the Central Victorian Equine Market (www.centralvictorianequinemarket.com.au). This event, held at Lancefield Park in Lancefield, is aimed at all equestrian enthusiasts and disciplines. The market provides consumers a full day of shopping and buying their essential needs in one spot, whilst supporting equestrian businesses and organisations. If you are able to staff the stall and help with sales or educating people about equine welfare issues and what we do, please contact Toni at toni@phhww.org.au

SEYMOUR ALTERNATIVE FARMING EXPO

Date: Friday 1st April – Sunday 3rd April 2022

Venue: Kings Park, Seymour Victoria

Held at Kings Park, Seymour, the Expo features approximately 400 exhibitors and attracts 20,000 visitors across three days. This event is the perfect opportunity for Project Hope Horse Welfare to raise its profile in the farming and wider Victorian community. Volunteers are needed to help with sales, answer questions and generally educate people about what we do. If you would like to spend a few hours promoting PHHWW in this bustling, vibrant environment please contact Toni at toni@phhww.org.au

PHHWW ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Saturday 30th April 2022 at 11AM

Venue: Online via ZOOM

fundraising update

ANNUAL REPORT MAILOUT

In February 2022 PHHWV selected a random sample of Victorian Adult Riding and Pony Clubs to mail the 2021 annual report. We have personalised each letter with a request to become a member or host a fundraiser.

We will be interested to see what comes back to us in the way of new club members and those clubs that choose to host a fundraiser.

You can also help by approaching your club to host a morning tea or raffle when you attend your club rallies. Riding clubs are also welcome to donate funds to PHHWV via a charity competition.

This is where a certain percentage of competition profit is donated to a chosen charity. On competition entry forms, riding clubs can provide competitors with the option to include a donation to the chosen charity with their entry fee's.



Above photo: Upper Yarra Adult Riding Club presenting cheques to charity representatives from Victorian Animal Aid at their April 2017 rally. Upper Yarra Adult Riding Club ran a charity dressage day and raised \$7,062.54. UYARC committee managed this by; raffles on competition day, donating a percentage of the competition profit, plus allowing members and competitors to donate via their entry fees or donation buckets at the competition.

A great idea from this HRCV club in the Yarra Valley. PHHWV would appreciate any other clubs wanting to support our rescued horses.

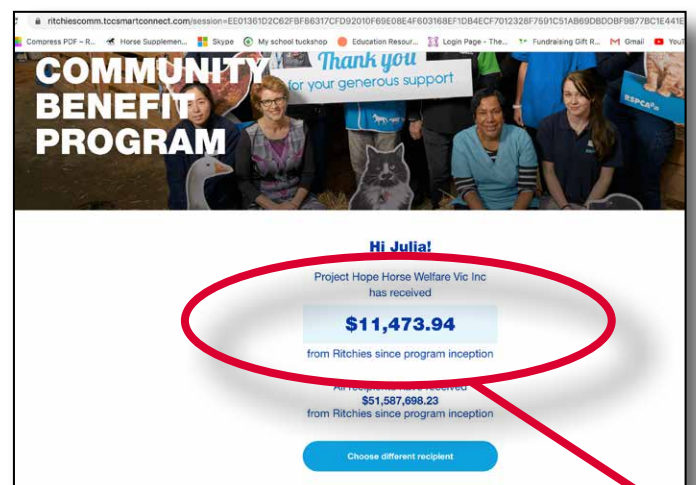
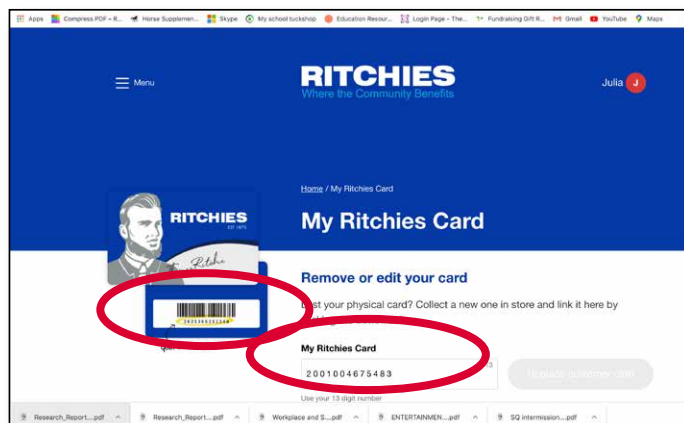
For information on hosting a PHHWV fundraiser at your club please reach out via email: busybee@phhvw.org.au

RITCHIES IGA CARD

Please remember by scanning your Ritchies IGA member card you can raise much-needed funds for Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc. To register your card and select PHHWV follow the prompts outlined below.

To ensure your shopping points count you'll need to register your card online following these easy steps:

- 1) Go to Ritchies IGA website <https://www.ritchies.com.au/#/signup>
- 2) Register your card number to your email address
- 3) You can select the community tab in your account and select Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria.



You can proudly know that every point your earn will go on to earn much-needed funds to help support the work of Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria.

grassroots project

AKA “HOPE HORSE WELFARE PROJECT”

By Rhonda Petschel, *Grassroots Co-ordinator*
February 2022

In Smythesdale we partnered with the pony club and planned to have an Open Day and presentation by Dr Lesley Hawson on “Managing the Fat Horse”. With the Omicron spread early in the year we decided to postpone the open day and move the presentation to a webinar on 16th February. We plan to return to the pony club during the year to meet our commitment, however.



The first step was to have a get-together for members on the 26th February. There were 12 attendees. It provided an opportunity for long term horse representatives to have a refresher and for new members to learn what the role entails. Dr Lesley Hawson provided a presentation on recognising the horse in trouble which added valuable information to the day.

Our final event in the region was also our very first Horse Training Day for horses who have experienced trauma presented by Ian Shaw. There were 19 attendees which included five horses. The fence sitters, horse owners and horses learnt and worked in a positive environment that will improve the lives of all.



The next phase of the project will be in the Shire of Baw Baw. The first step is to have a get-together for members on the 26th February.

We are planning to link the Open Day with the 2022 Horseland Farm World Equestrian Festival then later in the year hold the Horse Training Day and Horse Representative Training. We have many active and long term members in the area so it will be great to get together, increase our membership and raise our profile in the horse community.

Dr Lesley Hawson will be providing education seminars, Ian Shaw will present the Horse Training Day and Rhonda Petschel will be the Horse Representative trainer.

Our members support horses in trouble across the State by working with owners or rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming horses found to be neglected or abused. The aim of the project is to continue to advance the purposes of PHHWV by providing support and relevant education to our members and horse owners wherever possible.

..... Until we meet somewhere near you.

horse rep training

By Tricia Hartshorn

A glorious January day in the small town of Majorca (pronounced Ma Jaw Ka) in the Shire of Central Goldfields was the setting for the PHHWV Horse Representative Training Day (thanks to Jasmine for organising the venue).

In 2021 PHHWV (with Rhonda as Project Manager) successfully applied for an Equine Rehabilitation Grant from Agriculture Victoria which enabled us to enhance our education programs. Although Horse Representative training has always been a part of our management to address horse reports, the funding provided the opportunity to include a presentation by Dr Lesley Hawson.

Eleven members took part with one participant travelling all the way from Parkdale for the event. Rhonda gave a very interesting presentation on the following topics:



With body condition score sheets in hand we were set the task of assessing two of Jasmine's five horses as well as the overall condition of the property; paddocks, fencing, shelter, access to water etc.

- Overview of PHHWV – purposes and procedures
- Legal overview
- Codes of practice
- Insurance
- Role of Horse Representatives
- Assessment of horses
- Managing the case outcomes
- Home check
- Support and self-care







The group learned that there are approximately* 660,000 horses in Victoria and 135,000 owners (Approximately 4 horses per owner).

In any year there are 1000 +/- contacts made with 40-70 of those becoming horse reports, only 10+/- horses are surrendered.

What is significant about these figures is the small number of cases that eventuate in the surrender of a horse.

This would suggest that Project Hope's primary aim, education, is working.

The afternoon saw us relocating to the nearby property of Jasmine Samson who has PHHWV Echo.

0 Very poor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very sunken rump • Deep cavity under tail • Skin tight over bones • Very prominent backbone and pelvis • Marked ewe neck
1 Poor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunken rump • Cavity under tail • Ribs easily visible • Prominent backbone and croup • Ewe neck - narrow and slack
2 Moderate		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat rump either side of backbone • Ribs just visible • Narrow but firm neck • Backbone well covered
3 Good		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rounded rump • Ribs just covered but easily felt • No crest, firm neck
4 Fat		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rump well rounded • Gutter along back • Ribs and pelvis hard to feel • Slight crest
5 Very fat		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very bulging rump • Deep gutter along back • Ribs buried • Marked crest • Fold and lumps of fat

Once back in the classroom we had to deliver our findings with three body parts, neck, body and rump being scored from 0-5 (0 being excessively underweight – 5 being seriously overweight) then divided by 3 to deliver the overall score. And our findings: Whilst Ben can eat as much hay as he likes, Tajo is now on Lean Cuisine!

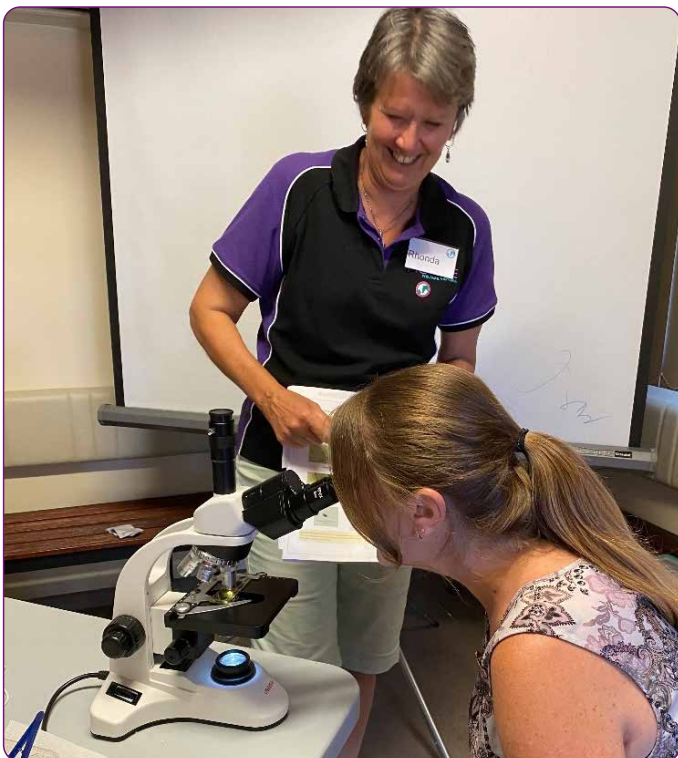
*There is no real data on this. Animal Welfare Victoria use estimates compiled by researchers.

horse rep training



Lesley Hawson's presentation complemented Rhonda's and expanded on some of the topics, eg, the serious health risks for thin and fat horses, the importance of paddock condition and hoof and skin disease. The first slide was a reminder to us all that 'more is missed by not looking than by not knowing' (Thomas McCrae). 'Use your eyes and hands and don't doubt yourself.'

Another highlight of the day was the opportunity to study a sample of poo from Jasmine's paddock under the microscope to learn how to assess levels of worm infestation! See below.



Rhonda and Lesley both emphasised the need for support and self-care for all those involved in horse welfare. Exposure to the neglect we see can, over time without processing and self-care, become symptoms of Vicarious Trauma.

'If your compassion does not include yourself, it is incomplete.' (The Buddha).

Some key phrases we took home from the day:

- Be more Buddhist than Buddha
- Compassion
- Non judgemental
- Anonymity

The day concluded with dinner at nearby Talbot Provedore and Eatery. An excellent way to conclude an excellent day!



christmas party '21

By Tricia Hartshorn

What a brilliant day we had at the PHHWV Christmas Party held at the Williamstown Horse and Pony Club. It was quite literally a whip-cracker with Leigh Wren delighting the audience with his prowess with the stock whips. Of course it looked very simple when performed by a master of his art but gutsy Rhonda Petschel, despite waving the thing all over the place, cracking till she was blue in the face (with thanks to Charlie Drake and his boomerang that wouldn't come back!) could not get a whistle let alone a crack but bravo for trying.

We originally planned to take horses along but the logistics were against us so the party games were for two-legged's only. We were all transported back to our childhood years with hobby horses for the PHHWV Melbourne Cup stakes. And what a fine line up of Australian and overseas champions we had: Archer, Winx, Maykebe Diva, Phar Lap, Black Caviar, Arkle and Model. (Model was the racing name of my dearly departed T/B mare PH Bonnie.) It was a tight finish between Maykebe Diva and Model (given I was unseated at the starting post I think it was a courageous run on my part to come second!). There was an apple bobbing competition won (under suspicious circumstances) by Toni Harris. The Gum Boot throwing competition easily taken out by Sue Kirkegard. And a party without an egg and spoon race is like a Birthday Cake without candles! Our star guest Lois ably assisted by Toni Harris won in very blustery conditions with Angela Smith in second place. Overall winner on the day was Sue Kirkegard who was placed in nearly all the events, silver medallist Angela Smith and yours truly with the bronze medal.

There was also an information session about Short Term Care given by Rhonda. Food galore (thanks to Kathryn) and camaraderie in abundance.



what is concussion?

By Mandy Macartney & AIS position statement 2021

Concussion is a traumatic brain injury, induced by biomechanical forces to the head, or anywhere on the body which transmits an impulsive force to the head. Concussion causes short-lived neurological impairment and the symptoms may evolve over the hours or days following the injury.

In most cases symptoms should resolve without medical intervention. Rest, followed by gradual return to activity, is the main treatment. Brain rest is extremely important in order for the brain to fully recover and reduce the risk of developing post concussion syndrome (PCS).

RECOGNISING CONCUSSION

Recognising concussion can be difficult. You do not specifically need a direct knock to the head or to even lose consciousness to have a concussion. For horse riders, it does not necessarily occur from a fall, you could be knocked over in the paddock or crushed in the horse float. Concussion symptoms and signs are variable, non-specific and may be subtle. Onlookers should suspect concussion when an injury results in a knock to the head or body that transmits a force to the head. A hard knock is not required, concussion can occur from minor knocks.

There may be obvious signs of concussion such as loss of consciousness, brief convulsions or difficulty balancing or walking. However, the signs of concussion can be more subtle. The Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT5) identifies 22 possible symptoms, listed below.

CONCUSSION SYMPTOMS

- headache
- 'pressure in the head'
- neck pain
- nausea or vomiting
- dizziness
- blurred vision
- balance problems
- more emotional
- irritability
- sadness
- nervous or anxious
- 'don't feel right'
- difficulty concentrating
- difficulty remembering
- fatigue or low energy
- confusion
- drowsiness
- sensitivity to light
- sensitivity to noise
- feeling slowed down
- feeling like 'in a fog'
- trouble falling asleep

As horse riders, we have a culture of toughness. But we only have one brain and any impact to it affects your whole biological function. If you have a knock, please get checked by a medical professional so you may recover correctly and get back on the horse (pun intended).

CONCUSSION RECOGNITION TOOL 5[©]

To help identify concussion in children, adolescents and adults



FIFA[®]

Supported by



FEI

RECOGNISE & REMOVE

Head impacts can be associated with serious and potentially fatal brain injuries. The Concussion Recognition Tool 5 (CRT5) is to be used for the identification of suspected concussion. It is not designed to diagnose concussion.

STEP 1: RED FLAGS – CALL AN AMBULANCE

If there is concern after an injury including whether ANY of the following signs are observed or complaints are reported then the player should be safely and immediately removed from play/game/activity. If no licensed healthcare professional is available, call an ambulance for urgent medical assessment:

- Neck pain or tenderness
- Double vision
- Weakness or tingling/burning in arms or legs
- Severe or increasing headache
- Seizure or convulsion
- Loss of consciousness
- Deteriorating conscious state
- Vomiting
- Increasingly restless, agitated or combative

Remember:

- In all cases, the basic principles of first aid (danger, response, airway, breathing, circulation) should be followed.
- Assessment for a spinal cord injury is critical.
- Do not attempt to move the player (other than required for airway support) unless trained to do so.
- Do not remove a helmet or any other equipment unless trained to do so safely.

If there are no Red Flags, identification of possible concussion should proceed to the following steps:

STEP 2: OBSERVABLE SIGNS

Visual clues that suggest possible concussion include:

- Lying motionless on the playing surface
- Slow to get up after a direct or indirect hit to the head
- Disorientation or confusion, or an inability to respond appropriately to questions
- Blank or vacant look
- Balance, gait difficulties, motor incoordination, stumbling, slow laboured movements
- Facial injury after head trauma

STEP 3: SYMPTOMS

- Headache
- "Pressure in head"
- Balance problems
- Nausea or vomiting
- Drowsiness
- Dizziness
- Blurred vision
- Sensitivity to light
- Sensitivity to noise
- Fatigue or low energy
- "Don't feel right"
- More emotional
- More Irritable
- Sadness
- Nervous or anxious
- Neck Pain
- Difficulty concentrating
- Difficulty remembering
- Feeling slowed down
- Feeling like "in a fog"

STEP 4: MEMORY ASSESSMENT

(IN ATHLETES OLDER THAN 12 YEARS)

- Failure to answer any of these questions (modified appropriately for each sport) correctly may suggest a concussion:
- "What venue are we at today?"
 - "Which half is it now?"
 - "Who scored last in this game?"
 - "What team did you play last week/game?"
 - "Did your team win the last game?"

Athletes with suspected concussion should:

- Not be left alone initially (at least for the first 1-2 hours).
- Not drink alcohol.
- Not use recreational/ prescription drugs.
- Not be sent home by themselves. They need to be with a responsible adult.
- Not drive a motor vehicle until cleared to do so by a healthcare professional.

The CRT5 may be freely copied in its current form for distribution to individuals, teams, groups and organisations. Any revision and any reproduction in a digital form requires approval by the Concussion in Sport Group. It should not be altered in any way, rebranded or sold for commercial gain.

ANY ATHLETE WITH A SUSPECTED CONCUSSION SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM PRACTICE OR PLAY AND SHOULD NOT RETURN TO ACTIVITY UNTIL ASSESSED MEDICALLY, EVEN IF THE SYMPTOMS RESOLVE

By Noelle Vine

BITTERN

We were contacted by someone who goes past a paddock where there are several thin horses behind a cyclone wire fence. I was sent some photos and while the horses were still quite thin, they had on fly veils and all had a shine to their coats. The reporter then sent me some facebook comments. One was saying that the RSPCA had been in attendance. I contacted the RSPCA through email and received a reply. I was informed that they had been in attendance six times and there had been a slight improvement each time. I informed the reporter, who is still going to monitor.

SUNBURY

A report from someone who was visiting a friend about a very skinny buckskin horse with its ribs and hips showing. The horse was only visible from the neighbours property and was behind the house. It had hay, a shelter and was on a treed fairly steep block. There was also another horse with it. Our rep went to the property but it was locked and she could only see a little of the property from the next street, so she could not see the horses clearly. She left a letter for the owner. The owner contacted Angela and said that the horse was elderly and was being fed with good feed and had access to hay but did not eat it. He had wormed the horse but had not had the dentist out for years as he had no teeth. He was very happy for our rep to give him a call which she did. He was very approachable and was feeding the horse but was unaware of the necessity of wetting the feed so that it could be eaten more easily. She advised him on the better products available for an old horse and the need to feed the horse up to 3 times a day.

BEACONSFIELD

Neighbour reported an aged chestnut pony that was never rugged and had belonged to the daughter around thirty years ago. It had a very sway back. Our rep went to the property but there was no one home. She left a letter and took several photos that she sent to me. I showed a vet the photos. She said she had no concerns as the pony had a good coverage over the hips and ribs. It just looked awful because of the big dip in its back.

SKYE

We received a report from a friend of a friend who agists at a full board centre where the horses are apparently not being given morning feeds and some medicines that are required. She asked me not to proceed until her friend had moved her horse. I said any photos or proof of not feeding or other information would be needed before I could do much else. She was going to contact me when her friend had moved. I have not had any further communication from her.

WALLAN

A neighbour has reported a horse that has a body score of zero (0). The horse does not appear to be given any additional feeds or hay. It has a chestnut companion. The horse appears to be alert. Our rep visited the property and made contact through the intercom system at the gate. She was told they did not own the horse and they would get the owner to call. The owner contacted us a little later and told her that the horse was a rescue and that it was in much better condition than when he first got it. He was happy for our rep to call him. When she spoke to him, he was very pleasant and told a very plausible story that our rep knew was incorrect as she has been watching the horse for a while. This horse has also been reported to the RSPCA with a very strange reply to a request for information, saying that "as it was a rescue horse, there were underlying health problems with it" no vet report had been presented. Renee is going to call him again on Tuesday when he is supposed to be getting back blood test results. *UPDATE:* The horse now has a round roll of hay and there is a green bucket in the paddock, presumably for feed. The chestnut companion has been moved to another property.

BROADFORD

I had an anonymous call on my private number from someone reporting an old skinny chestnut horse on a property that always had a rug on, even on very hot days. She said she went past one day and the horse was on the ground with heat exhaustion. She would not leave a name or number or anything else as she told me that I knew her and she knew the owner of the horse. Our rep is going to visit ASAP. *UPDATE:* It appears the report relates to a personal grievance of some sort. Our rep tracked down the owner eventually and discovered the horse is close to forty and being fed and under vet care. It is bright and alert and has a shiny coat. More suitable agistment is being sought.

BULLA

From a farrier attending to other horses on an agistment property where she noticed an old pony that according to the agistees, was not fed regularly. He shared a paddock with another pony. Our horse rep attended and left a letter as there was no one on the premises. The owner contacted us saying that the pony was being seen by a vet and was being fed regularly. The pony is very aged and she acknowledged that the end was near.

OMEO

Update on a horse that was on school grounds in Omeo with no water, we contacted the local police. The person I spoke to was very helpful and spoke with the owner who has arranged for the horse to be moved to a friend's property.



PHHWV OLIVIA

PHHWV Olivia had a very important role recently.

Representing the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA), Doveton branch with rider Sam at a major funding announcement by the State Government, Olivia was the perfect example of a well behaved child's pony.

The announcement was made at Myuna Farm, which is a public community farm where adults and children can experience hands on contact with farm animals and native wildlife. Situated in Doveton, Victoria, Australia, set alongside the Dandenong Creek.

PHHWV Olivia is a team member at RDA Doveton, which operates from an indoor riding arena at Myuna Farm.



PHHWV TICKETTY BOO

By Jenna Gilbee

Since the last report on Boo many things have changed. I am now 21 and spend my time working, studying and riding every chance I get.

Boo has become an incredible pony and will try his hand at anything. He can be given a break from work for months and then have a beginner jump on him for a riding lesson. He is the most gentle, well-natured little pony which makes it hard to believe that he was once practically afraid of his own shadow!



Boo now has a twin brother (Copper) who loves him very much and would happily live his life going wherever Boo goes, which can be annoying for Boo except for when it suits him, for example while I'm trying to ride Copper, Boo gets jealous that he doesn't have all the attention

and calls out for Copper to come back and when Copper drags me over to him, Boo walks away almost smug because he knows he has distracted Copper from work.

Boo has been to a handful of shows where he does really well and always comes home with ribbons. He loved going to the pony club Loudon Shield as there were also games events which he absolutely excelled in. Since I began working full-time I can no longer go to pony club but this has given me the time to work with both my horses. Boo loves jumping and clears most fences like they're nothing. I take my horses up to the high country where they share the paddock and go on long trail rides together as well as interact with other horses in the area.

Boo has been to the beach a couple of times and was a major help to Copper on his first beach experience. He happily led into the water and pranced along the sandy beaches with Copper right behind him.

When I started working full-time I really wanted to ride for my work but needed experience so Boo became my practice pony for galloping. He loves to gallop. For Christmas I got my own racing saddle for him which he loves. He loves a good race and has put some big horses in his dust while galloping.

I have now begun using Boo to give a family friend riding lessons and despite how strong and fast he is for me and people he knows can ride, as soon as a beginner sits on his back he walks out calm and quiet and slows down his pace to make it easier for the beginner to ride.

Boo has become an exceptional pony and I'm so glad to have come across him and to have worked with him to get to where he is today.

PHHWV TEDDY

Hey everyone, It's me, Teddy. I also go by the names of Teddy Bear, Teddles, Teddykins and the more formal Teddy Edward when I pull the hose pipe out of the trough whilst it's filling up. I'm not supposed to play with the hose but it's too much fun not to wave it around and try to splash people!

I've been enjoying some Teddy Bare time. See what I did there?! My friend George and I are almost twins! I'm the one at the back – sometimes it is hard to tell us apart. In other news, I've been practicing my carrot stretches, perfecting my mid morning naps and making friends with my new neighbours. Oh, I crack myself up – neighbours, get it?

Until next time,

Teddy



in memoriam

PHHWV RAFIQ

In memory of PHHWV Rafiq (Raf). Born: Spring 2006 – Died: 3/2/2022 By Lynne Brehau on 13-2-2022

It's so hard to say goodbye to a dear friend.

Raf, you were my friend, my riding partner, my beautiful, eye-catching horse.

When I was on your back, the years fell away and I felt as if there was nothing we couldn't do, nowhere we couldn't go. You carried yourself with elegance and grace and I felt proud to be on such a beautiful, majestic creature. You transformed me from an "older lady" to someone who felt like she could fly, or at least conquer any mountain in my way!



We had lots of rides together. In the bush, you would go anywhere I asked of you, except when you sensed it was not safe. I learnt to trust you when you hesitated, or reacted to something I couldn't see, and we would go another way. Trail rides, rides with friends, camps in the High Country – we had a lot of good times didn't we, Raf?

Your paddock mates spent a couple of days waiting for me to bring you back, just standing and staring across to where the empty float was parked. You were the herd leader, but not a bossy one, and all the other horses liked you. Now they have gone back to grazing, but I know they feel your absence, as I do. There is a space in the paddock and a gap in my life, which is not going to be filled by any other horse.



For 5 years you were my mount in the 13th. Gippsland Light Horse. You had a real "presence" in the many parades we did – your beauty, your stately way of walking, while looking as graceful as any dancer. My Light Horse Captain summed it up : you had "pride in your stride". I felt proud to be honouring our Light Horse heritage on such a horse as you, Raf.

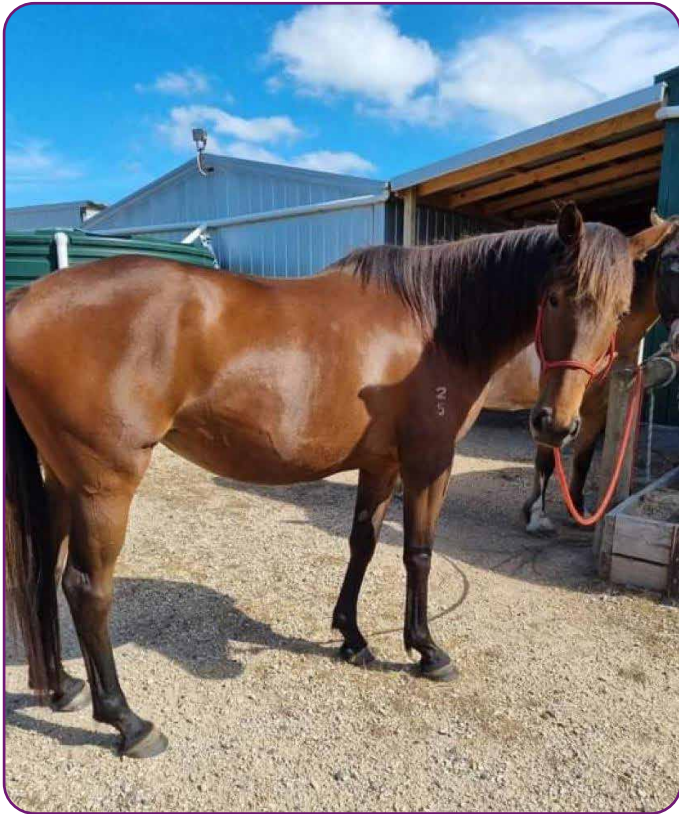
We attended various shows and field days, with you proving a big attraction in your Project Hope rug.

You were a Public Relations Officer of the highest order!



We had a special relationship, such a bond as I have never had with any of my other horses, though I loved (and love) them too. I will remember the good times – and there were so many – and that will help me to move forward without my best equine mate.

Goodbye, my darling Rafiq.



PHHWV BELLEBUTTON

Bellebutton is a 6 year old Thoroughbred (TB) mare, approx. 16.2 hh, unregistered and **never raced**. She is a “clean canvas” with little emotional baggage. With kind horsemanship training she could be moulded into the horse you’ve always dreamed of. She is sensible, intelligent and ready to start work under saddle.



PHHWV GINA HANOVER

Gina Hanover is an attractive Standardbred (SB) mare. This 16.2hh, 6 year old is now a picture of health and the nasty wound on her hind leg is slowly healing. Gina is ready for a long-term home and we are inviting expressions of interest to train her under saddle.

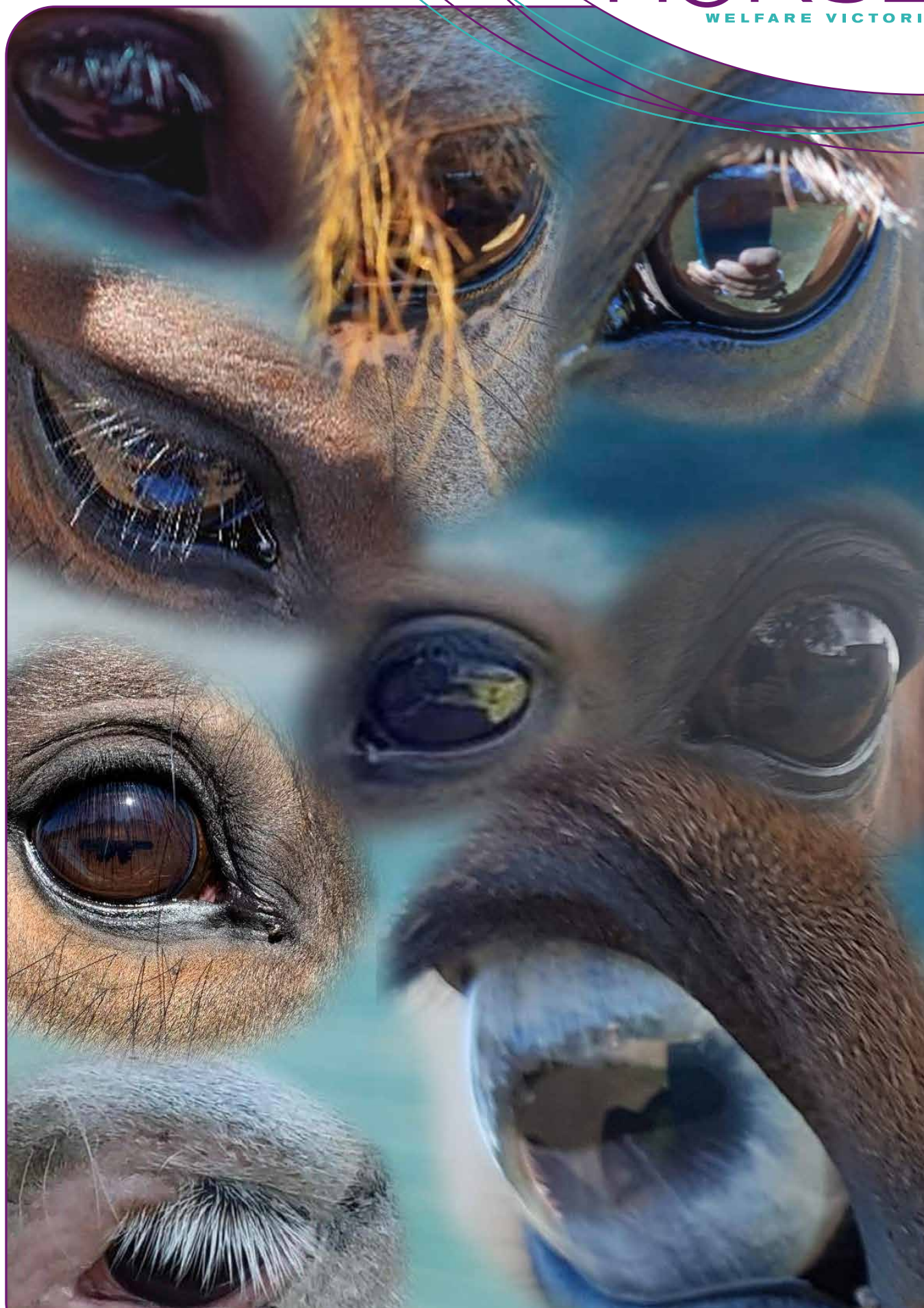
PHHWV HONEY

Honey is a striking and attractive 13 hh 6 year old chestnut pony requiring a long term home. She is best described as a “special needs” pony as she requires patience and time to build trust with those who care for her. Honey has made some great strides in groundwork and handling but due to her start in life is not suitable for riding or for handling by children.

Ideal homes would be where she is a companion pony and just allowed to be a horse with no human expectations imposed upon her, or a home where she can continue her education with someone who is interested in developing their equine partnership skills but with no fixed deadlines or outcomes. Honey’s current trainer and carer is willing to offer support for the transition to a new home.



the 'ayes' have it



equine gut health

GUT BACTERIA BADDIES -V- GOODIES



- Cause disease, colitis, colic, gastric ulcers and inflammation.
- Overgrowth of bad bacteria are common, caused by changes in diet, stress, medication for ulcers (omeprazole) and pain (bute).
- An overgrowth of bad bacteria creates an imbalance within the hind gut community.
- Good bacteria make vitamins and allow minerals to be better absorbed.
- They mend the gut wall, help prevent ulcers and hind gut inflammation.
- They defend against the invasion of bad (pathogenic bacteria).
- They produce energy and promote a good immune response.

PROJECT HOPE

HORSE

WELFARE VICTORIA

Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc.

www.phhwv.org.au

PHHWV Social Media

Members, don't forget to follow us on social media, we are on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.



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