

PROJECT HOPE

# HORSE

WELFARE VICTORIA

# WINTER 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 enjoy the last of the magnificent Autumn sunrises and sunsets, we are reminded that Winter is just around the corner. I would like to start by welcoming our 2022/2023 Committee and thank our outgoing Committee Members, Courtney Brockwell and Anita Romleigh, for their efforts over the past year. The Annual General Meeting was again held by Zoom and attendance was pleasing. The Special Resolution to pass new Rules of Association was voted in favour by all. The new Rules will be available on the PHHWV website once lodged with Consumer Affairs Victoria and the ACNC. Dr Lesley Hawson gave an enlightening if not confronting presentation about safety issues around horses, explaining the concept of spatial awareness and giving a whole new meaning to the word arousal. I wish to thank Mandy Macartney and Julia Murray for putting together a high-quality Annual Report, which I urge you to read if you haven't already.

Once again, it has been a busy time for PHHWV. Since the last Newsletter, we have attended the Farm Expo at Lardner Park, the Central Victorian Equine Market in Lancefield and Seymour Alternative Farming Expo. All events proved successful with the sale of merchandise, signing up of new members and providing education to the community on the plight of neglected horses.

In addition to the above, PHHWV hosted a Horse Training Day with Ian Shaw, a Horse Representative Training Day run by Rhonda Petschel and a webinar presented by Dr Lesley Hawson on the overweight horse. Please refer to pages 7 for more details on these events.

Rhonda Petschel, Noelle Vine and I recently met with the Chief Inspector of the RSPCA to discuss how our respective organisations may be able to work together more effectively to achieve our common goal of promoting equine welfare. These discussions are continuing with a further meeting planned for us to gain a greater understanding of each other's operational model.

We have a fundraising dinner planned for Saturday, 13 August 2022 at Boneo Park Equestrian Centre. This will include a three-course dinner and entertainment. Further details will be sent out shortly, however please get in touch with me if you are interested in attending, helping to sell tickets, helping to promote the event, gather items for the silent auction or any other ideas that you may have to make it a great night.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of PHHWV and our mission to provide hope for equines through education, rehabilitation and advocacy.

Kathryn Wren  
*President*

Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria Inc.

Mobile: 0421 337 432 Email: [kathryn@phhvw.org.au](mailto:kathryn@phhvw.org.au)

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## Committee

President

Kathryn Wren

Vice-President

Rhonda Petschel

Secretary

Tricia Hartshorn

Treasurer

Shirley McPherson

Horse Reports Coordinator

Noelle Vine

Horse Liaison Coordinator

Toni Harris

Horse Care Coordinator

Angela Smith

Ordinary Committee

Silvija Footner

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# new committee

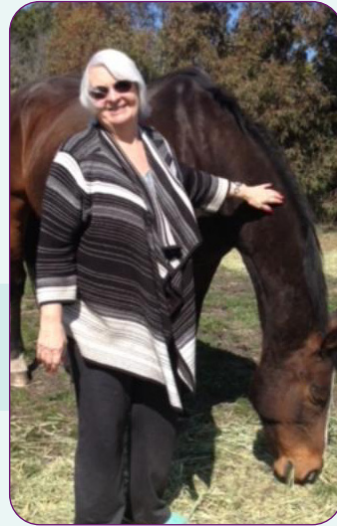
## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**President**  
*Kathryn Wren*



**Vice-President**  
*Rhonda Petschel*



**Treasurer**  
*Shirley McPherson*



**Secretary**  
*Patricia Hartshorn*

## ORDINARY COMMITTEE



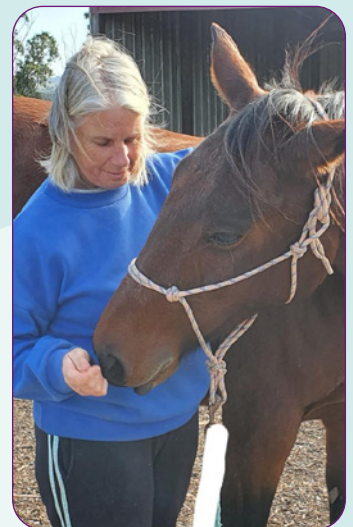
**Horse Liaison Coordinator**  
*Toni Harris*



**General Committee**  
*Silvija Footner*



**Horse Care Coordinator**  
*Angela Smith*



**Horse Reports Coordinator**  
*Noelle Vine*



## FUNDRAISING DINNER 2022

PHHWV have a fundraising dinner planned!

- Saturday, 13th August 2022
- Boneo Park Equestrian Centre
- Includes a three-course dinner
  - Plus entertainment.

Further details will be emailed shortly.

If you are interested in attending, helping to sell tickets, helping to promote the event, gather items for the silent auction or any other ideas that you may have, please get in touch with Kathryn via: [kathryn@phhww.org.au](mailto:kathryn@phhww.org.au)



## "Managing the Overweight Horse"

Many of us struggle to manage our horses weight. This presentation will give you current scientific information and practical tips to keep our horses healthy when on a weight management plan.

**Date:** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 7.30 pm online

## PHHWV GRASSROOTS PROGRAM NEEDS YOU IN 2022! WHAT PEAKS 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](mailto:info@phhww.org.au)



## A SEYMOUR BONANZA

By Tricia Hartshorn

Seymour Alternative Farming Expo - Held in the heart of Victoria at Kings Park Seymour the Expo features approximately 400 exhibitors over three days. Despite early concerns about the designated position of our stall (in a huge shed with cattle, sheep and alpacas) we very quickly realised it was a terrific spot to engage with the crowds. The cheap slow feeders were a real draw card and many customers went away with other goodies as well. Project Hope Ava and Project Hope Cressy were crowd favourites. Merchandise was sold, memberships were bought, questions were answered. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who helped out over the three days.

On the first day of the Expo we were approached by Steve and Ann who had owned and operated a riding equipment business which they had been endeavouring to sell but Covid got in the way and the deal fell through.

What was no doubt a very disappointing outcome for them proved a bonanza for Project Hope because they donated everything from the shop to us. Toni and I drove up to their 100+ acre property on the Pyalong-Seymour Road recently to collect the items which barely fitted into the back of the station wagon.

We are indebted to Steve and Ann for their generous gift which will surely raise a considerable sum for Project Hope. Ann and Steve's B&B property is listed on the back page of this newsletter if you are interested.



## CENTRAL VICTORIAN EQUINE MARKET

Central Victorian Equine Market in Lancefield. We had a very successful day at the Central Victorian Equine Market which was held in Lancefield at the end of March. A lot of Project Hope merchandise was sold (hoodies were the big favourite) so our name can be seen everywhere. We received a number of donations and signed up a few new members. It was heartening to have so many people stopping to chat about our work. All in all a fun and productive day. They will be running another market in Lancefield on August 27 if you missed the last one.



# fundraising update



**Shout out for  
Standardbreds**

## HORSES LIKE MOLLY, NEED YOUR HELP THIS WINTER

Molly is a 14-year-old Standardbred mare. Thanks to Project Hope, she now has a loving forever home but that was not always the case.

Molly was surrendered nearly two years ago to Project Hope, due to her owner abandoning her on a property near Shepparton, Victoria.

Molly's original owners found someone with land and promised to return and take her with them. This never happened and is the plight of many retired working horses like Molly.

After two years of being left on her own, the property owner found out about Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria, and Molly was surrendered into Project Hope's care.

There are many horses like Molly, abandoned, no-one caring for them and waiting for the day that someone notices their neglectful environment.

This year a further twelve horses have arrived in Project Hope's care, eight of these are Standardbreds just like Molly. It costs Project Hope \$2000 to re-train and rehome this gentle horse breed into long term care. A donation can help support horses just like Molly.

Standardbreds are bred and used for harness racing, working an incredibly hard and relentless working regime. Sadly, they are often neglected following the end of their racing career. This is a common plight of the racing career horse, please help us help them.

The Standardbred generally have good temperaments, they have been handled and exposed to horse tasks such as floating, farriers and vets. With your donation Project Hope can re-train these gentle giants that usually make affectionate and loyal horses for those seeking a trusty equine companion.

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Molly did not deserve to be left and fend for herself. Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria will always be there for horses like Molly. All horses deserve kindness and care. Please help us to make a difference to our Standardbred's lives to give them a fresh start and a loving home. See page 15.

*Our annual Winter Appeal email will arrive in your inbox imminently, please donate if you are able to.*

You can visit our website [www.phhvv.org.au](http://www.phhvv.org.au), go to the Donate Now page where there are multiple ways to donate.





## Horse welfare a lifetime job

**Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria, which has more than 400 members, is running a number of free workshops throughout Victoria for horse owners.**

Founded almost 50 years ago, Project Hope recently secured State Government funding for equine rehabilitation and rehoming.

Project manager, Rhonda Petschel, told the Primary Producer that two upcoming workshops could be of interest to Gippsland residents interested in horse or animal welfare.

The first workshop, 'Working with Horses that have Experienced Trauma', will be held at Koo Wee Rup on May 1 at the Koo Wee Rup indoor arena and agistment centre. The second workshop, 'A Practical Approach to Horse Welfare' will take place at Yarragon on May 15.

Ms Petschel said this event is likely to appeal to those "who find it difficult to drive past a horse in trouble".

Project Hope Horse Welfare has been supporting horses in trouble, and their owners, for close to five decades.

The training received in this session will provide a practical approach to addressing horse welfare, particularly for clubs and communities.

Ms Petschel says Project Hope has a unique model.

"People who want to help horses can train with us. We teach, or coach them, to go and visit horses when they're in trouble. To go out and meet the people who own the horses," she said.

"If anyone in the community is worried about a horse that they've seen driving by, they can ring us up or report it to our website.

"We go out to those properties respectfully and kindly to speak with the owners to say 'we're here to help anyway we can'."

She says 'working with the owners' is often the best way to solve an issue around horse welfare.

"It may be that the owners just need information about feeding or caring for horses they don't know about.

"With our membership, it's really a collection of knowledge that has been stored and shared over the years," she said.

Ms Petschel said Project Hope Horse Welfare takes a "current science-based information approach to help people as best we can".

"If owners can't manage, we will find a new home for their horses, or we can provide short-term accommodation before finding a permanent home."

Ms Petschel said "there are lots of reasons why people may not be coping with a horse".

"Horses live for a long time (about 30 years) and they need a lot of physical care.

"Every six weeks their hooves need to be done."

Ms Petschel says people who ride their horses regularly "are generally better looked after".

However, she said "societal issues", like a divorce, "often means a horse is in trouble, because the owner isn't coping".

"Most people though only just need a little bit of advice about how to provide proper care to their horses," she said.

Of the 160 reports Project Hope Horse Welfare receives each year about potential cases of neglect, only about 10-12 horses need to be surrendered.

"The majority of the time, people are just grateful to have received some advice."

Ms Petschel said occasionally "we do come across people who don't want our help".

"We will persevere until there is a satisfactory outcome, however, those who are not open to our support, we can report to the RSPCA, but that is often a last resort."

Ms Petschel has been involved with Project Hope for the past 20 years.

She has three rescue horses herself at her Wallan property, including Ava, who she saved at seven months old from a suburban block where there wasn't enough feed or shelter.

Keeping Ava company is 15-year-old Snip who was surrendered to the RSPCA and 14-year-old Harmony, who had been impounded by a council as a runaway.

Those interested in attending 'A Practical Approach to Horse Welfare' or any of the other workshops being run by Project Hope, such as 'Recognising a Horse in Trouble' and 'Managing the Overweight Horse', should contact Project Hope Horse Welfare Victoria.



Rhonda Petschel with her rescue horse, Ava. (PS)



# grassroots project

## PROJECT HOPE TRAINING DAY WITH IAN SHAW – SUNDAY MAY 1 2022

By Mel Archer

The Project Hope training day for “Horses that have Experienced Trauma” was held at Kooweerup Indoor arena on a beautiful Autumn Sunday. Our teacher was horseman and PH member Ian Shaw(<https://shawhorsemanship.wixsite.com/shaw>), who came all the way from Edenhope to share his wisdom. Despite the workshop title, much of the teaching was focussed on refining foundation work, and most of it could have applied to any horse. The 5 horses present (including a mini) were calm and engaged throughout the day, and benefited greatly from the low stress training environment. I brought Project Hope Sapphire, who really flourished in the flat landscape of Kooweerup due to her love of monitoring things in the distance.

The day started with a short theory talk about how horses learn, and some of the potential training pitfalls that might prevent us communicating effectively with them. We then broke into two groups and had one on one time with Ian (who was ably assisted by Rhonda Petschel). He reinforced the importance of equipment by checking and critiquing the fit of each halter, and pointing out the tendency of metal lead rope clips to hit a horse under the chin and disrupt contact. He also checked the comfort levels of each horse with common training aids, such as a stick and string. We then did some exercises in basic leading and back up, which never fail to uncover some training holes. Ian also spent time addressing issues unique to each horse, and provided a raft of creative solutions for us to put into practice.

The event is part of the Grassroots Project made possible with funding provided by the Victorian Government. It is one of a programme of events planned by Project Hope this year for horse owners.



PHHWW Sapphire



PHHWW Sapphire



# trust technique

By Monika Haller - Trust Technique Practitioner

## TRUST TECHNIQUE (TT) AND THE RESCUED HORSE

Most of the time when we rescue an animal there is very little information what really happened to them. We might get bits and pieces but most of the information is missing. Often we find out the issues, physical and behavioural, when we start to handle them. We find out that there might have been past traumatic events in that animals life. Even if we know the full story we still have to deal with how that animal reacts to certain situations.

This is one of the great applications of the trust technique. It doesn't really matter if we know what happened to that animal, we can work with the situations as they arise and reduce and eliminate that trauma for that animal using TT.

TT was developed by James French, incorporating all his own training and learning experiences with animals. Him and his partner Shelley have founded the Trust Technique where you can either subscribe to a video course or do the practitioner training that I did.

As a practitioner I can teach you how to do the Trust Technique with your animal. TT is very easy to learn for anyone and usually life changing for you and your animal.

It is based on a mindfulness technique that allows the animal to let go of the stress about a certain situation and instead the animal will feel this situation in a new, calm way.

Naturally this will result in a change of feeling, a letting go and a change in response to that situation (behaviour). Here I was focusing mainly on traumatised animals. But this is not where TT stops in application.

We can use it to deepen a relationship with any animal, because we start to feel their inner needs when we work on this level. They also start to feel us in different ways and often start to respond to us very differently.

We can use it to make specific situations easier on the animal and us, for example hoof trimming, nail clipping etc. Just some general examples for TT and horses: - fear of floats, training equipment, haltering, avoiding the person - anxiety, fear of other animals, fear of objects, sleep deprivation - Accepting other animals, aggressiveness, food aggressiveness.

Any animal will respond to TT, domestic, big animals, birds, wildlife..... A \$50 discount applies to all project hope members wanting to learn the Trust Technique with me in a one on one consultation. If you are interested to know more about the Trust Technique: Phone Monika Haller on 0407521397 or visit [www.monikahaller.com](http://www.monikahaller.com) and Facebook





# equine aging

## THE AGING PROCESS OF A HORSE

(with thanks to Vikki Fowler, BVetMed BAEDT MRCVS)

A horse ages roughly three times faster than a human.....

So, a 90 year old human is a 30 year old horse. Both very old, usually arthritic, don't have many of their original teeth left and very likely retired and enjoying the finer things in life.

A 25 year old horse is a 75 year old human. Some are still happily working but some prefer retirement and an easier life. Often depending on just how hard a life they've lived.

A 20 year old horse is a 60 year old human. At that point where the body doesn't work like it use to but the brain is al there and wants to be active.

A 13 year old horse is a 39 year old human. Middle aged, prime of their life where their knowledge and physical ability are about equal.

Now, the babies.....

A 1-1.5 year old horse is getting their first adult tooth, this happens at about 6 years old in a human child.

A 3 year old horse is a 9 year old child. A child. Not ready for work by a long stretch. We have moved past sending children down the mines.

A 4 year old horse is a 12 year old child. Often will do odd jobs for pocket money – maybe a paper round, mowing lawns etc. Basically a 4 year old horse can start a bit of light work experience to learn the ropes.

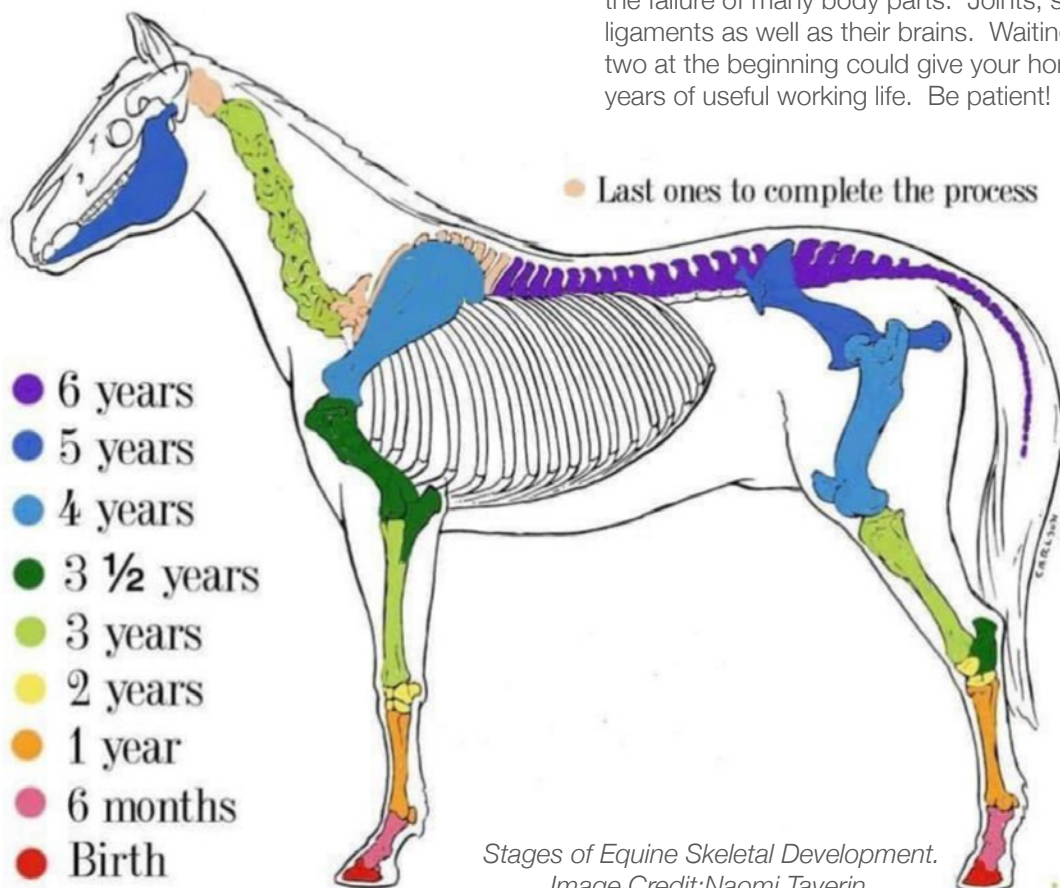
A 5 year old horse is a 15 year old teenager. Think they know it all, cocky and ready to up their work and responsibilities. Still quite weal and not fully developed, so shouldn't be at their physical limit but can start building strength.

A 5.5 year old horse has just cut their final adult tooth, this happens at 17 years of age in a human (wisdom teeth).

A 6 year old horse is an 18 year old human. An adult. Ready to work.

An 8 year old horse has achieved full fusion of their final growth plates. This happens at 24 years of age in a human. This is the age it is safe to push a horse for their optimal performance.

Pushing your youngster too hard too young will result in the failure of many body parts. Joints, spine, tendons, ligaments as well as their brains. Waiting another year or two at the beginning could give your horse an extra 10 years of useful working life. Be patient!





# PHHWV horse reports

MARCH - JUNE 2022

By Noelle Vine

## SEVILLE

A report following on from 2021 where two ponies have been rugged incorrectly and not fed sufficiently. This year the reporter has been keeping a diary of when the horses have been fed and when summer rugs have been left on in the rain. The phone number of the agistment owner has been provided to PHHWV, along with photos of the ponies on the bush block with no pick at all and no evidence of feeding. PHHWV has made contact with the owner who was quite aggressive. They claimed the owners of the ponies were concerned with founder so they were in the bare paddock. PHHWV explained that the ponies still needed to be fed a low sugar, roughage based diet. The agistment owner said he would inform the ponies owner about the concerned raised by PHHWV. It has been noted that the ponies only received occasional small amounts of hay days apart. When the ponies had not been fed for over a week PHHWV escalated a report to the RSPCA. At present the ponies are being fed. A PHHWV reporter is continuing to monitor and document the ponies welfare as we move into an exceptionally cold winter.

## BUFFALO

PHHWV received a report of equine neglect in Buffalo, Victoria. After consultation it was agreed to remove 3 geldings from the property of an 86 year old woman.

2 of the very aged geldings were in extremely poor condition and the 3rd a welsh x was in reasonable condition but also very aged and attached to the other 2 horses. These horses were in a very exposed paddock with no windbreaks and very little pick.

There were also 2 stallions on the property in small unsafe yards. One of these stallions was extremely aggressive.

After days of talking with the owner, we eventually had the horses surrendered to us. Due to their age, condition and the fact that the 2 stallions were well into their 30's, it was decided to euthanise the horses.

## MORWELL

A suspected equine neglect case from Morwell area was also reported to the RSPCA as well as PHHWV. A local person from Morwell phoned to voice concerns for a number of horses and ponies. This included foals that were not being adequately fed or cared for.

The concerned caller attends the property regularly, trying to help the horse owner re-home her horses. The most recent report also included concern for a small flock of sheep, two donkeys with overgrown hooves and a number of cats in cages.

## ADDITIONAL CASE

Project Hope, Racing Victoria and RSPCA seeking best solution for three aged thoroughbreds with absentee owner.

PROJECT HOPE

**HORSE**  
WELFARE VICTORIA

**RSPCA**  
Victoria



### THE PONDERINGS OF MOLLY THE MULE

By PHHWV Molly the Mule

Hello everyone, this is me Molly the Mule from Newham. I've decided to tell you what its like to be a mule sharing a home with long-legged, sweeping maned mares who just think they are 'it and a bit'! They may be taller than me and more beautiful but what I lack in looks I make up for in stealth and cunning. I'll take that one day every five weeks we all hate as an example! Yep! The foot doctor day! I watch them all standing there like goody two hooves (make that four), not one of them daring to put a hoof out of place for fear of the wrath of Trimmer Mel! Oh boy, does she not like naughty neddies when she's sitting underneath you.

I see it all out of my pink eyes. There's that Bellebutton (what sort of a name is that!!) Pretending she's scared. Typical thoroughbred, far too good looking for my liking and just soooooo girly. Then we have Mimi – the drama queen – glory, does she stack an act when she can't get her own way!! Thank goodness for my bestie - Missy the Matriarch. Missy often regales us with the foot doctor story to beat all foot doctor stories, the day Bonnie the Beautiful (now sadly departed) almost broke the high jump record from a standing start.

The farrier escaped by the skin of his leather apron. Rumour has it that Missy might just possibly have fused the situation by giving Bonnie a friendly nip on the backside whilst the farrier was about his business. This unfortunately coincided with the farrier finding a very sore spot on Bonnie's foot and 'whoosh' she was airborne. Missy vehemently denies any wrong doing and of course I believe her.

So, while I've been standing here musing about days gone by, the others have all been done and now it's my turn. 'Where's my favourite girl' says Trimmer Mel. I'm here Melly just waiting for you to slide..... your .....hand .....down .....my .....leg ..... and..... up I go. Regular little circus pony I am dancing around on my back legs.

Yeah OK, I'm not so good myself when it comes to the hoof doctor but I'm only a mule after all – a mule who's been plagued with recurring abscesses and thrushy frogs despite Mum's best efforts! Now when is that toof doctor coming!



PHHWV Molly the Mule

# member in focus

## PHHWV AUSSIE & PHHWV BEAU

By Trish Hartshorn

Wayne and June van Tenac are 'salt of the earth' people who love their horses. Toni, Miranda and I received a very warm welcome the day we visited them last year at their Pantan Hill property. The purpose of the visit was to check on Aussie their standardbred who at the ripe old age of 34 with only half his teeth was having problems keeping weight on and a few other issues and Wayne had reached out for help.

Aussie and his paddock mate Beau needed to be separated for feeding and Toni and Miranda got to work installing individual feeding yards for them to ensure Aussie got his minerals. Toni discussed a new feeding regime for Aussie with Wayne to get him through the winter.

Project Hope member Sarah who lives nearby became Wayne's go to person if he needed any further help or advice. She brought her farrier in and amazingly dear Aussie lived for almost another 12 months with Wayne's loving care but despite all efforts failed to gain weight and in March Wayne knew it was time to say goodbye.

Sarah was there with Wayne and June when Aussie departed for the rainbow bridge, and he was laid to rest in their house paddock overseeing everything. Wayne and June were very concerned how Beau their 26 year old Arab cross would handle the loss of his paddock mate after so many years together. Also, both Wayne and June are not in the best of health and no longer able to provide appropriate care for Beau. The wonderful Wendy (our membership secretary) put up her hand and Beau was safely delivered to her property in April. He settled in very quickly and is making new friends with his paddock mates, Smokes and PHHWV Oaky.

Wayne has a very interesting background we discovered. He served 14 years in a Light Horse/Armoured Regiment rising through the ranks. His grandfather served in the Boer War in the Light Horse. He said his family has continued to serve horses for as long as he can remember but has now reached a stage in life where he has to say goodbye. Wayne knew it would be a very emotional day to see Beau leave and thanked everyone concerned. He and June extended an open invitation to anyone who would like to pay a visit to them.



PHHWV Aussie



PHHWV Beau



# PHHWV horses for lease



## PHHWV GAMBIAN

Gambian is a 16.2hh, 10 year old Chestnut Thoroughbred gelding. He is looking for a home with an experienced rider. He had hoof issues when he came into care with PHHWV, however these have been treated and are now resolved. Gambian will be a fabulous riding partner as nothing phases him, but he does still have a bit to learn.



## PHHWV BELLEBUTTON

Bellebutton an attractive 8 year old, 16.2hh bay Thoroughbred mare. She is a “clean canvas” having never raced and with little emotional baggage. She is a sensible companion looking for a long-term home.





# PHHWV horses for lease



## PHHWV GOOSE

Goose is a 14.1 hh, 7 year old Chestnut mixed pony gelding. He maintained good condition easily and great with the farrier. He is currently undergoing further saddle training and ground work due to previous trauma. He is a truly sweet and gentle pony.



## PHHWV HONEY

Honey is a 13.2 hh 8 year old Chestnut mixed pony mare. Honey has undergone Natural Horsemanship training with an equine educator. She can be caught and haltered in a large herd. She confidently walks, trots when being led and will halt and back up when asked. Honey can be sent through gateways and is happy to jump over obstacles like a 40 cm log. She will walk over a ground tarp and will load onto a float. She has demonstrated that she enjoys the company of someone who has earned her trust.

Whilst Honey will do the things mentioned, she is extremely sceptical of new people and requires small steps of exposure to new people and situations. Once routine and confidence is established she is a pleasure to lead and take on groundwork adventures. As she can elevate quickly to flight mode, it is recommended that there is no attempt to ride her.

Her trainer is very happy to discuss techniques which will facilitate the transition to her new home.





## Shout out for Standardbreds



### PHHWV MOON

Moon is a 15.1hh, 18 year old brown Standardbred mare. She has a very good temperament, but can be pushy if allowed. She arrived with an untreated leg injury which is healing beautifully now. Moon is not 100% sound at trot or canter, but we believe that over time she will be. She was previously ridden, she is fantastic for the trimmer,, drenching and floating. Moon is not 100% with children or dogs, but fine with tractors, trucks, and mowers.



### PHHWV EASY

PHHWV Easy is a bay/brown Standardbred 16hh and 26 years old. He is a very easy going, young at heart but does need to be fed daily. As he has lost a couple of teeth so doesn't utilise grass/hay as well as he used to.



### LONG TERM HOME FOUND!

### PHHWV MOLLY

Molly is a 15 hh, 15 year old bay Standardbred mare. She is a pleasure to look after, a bit quirky and a great soul mate. She has done liberty and lots of ground work. She has had a saddle and bridle on with no problems and been sat on for a walk around the yard. She has a soft mouth and is quite calm, but is quite green so would need an experienced rider to begin with. Regarding being caught, she tends to walk away when she sees the lead rope, but hold the halter open down at the bottom of her nose and she will drop into it.







## Shout out for Standardbreds



### PHHWV GINA HANOVER

Gina Hanover is an attractive Standardbred (SB) mare. 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 CRESSY

PHHWV Cressy bay Standardbred X 7 year old mare around 14.2hh is looking for a long-term home. She is easy to catch, trim, float and handle. Cressy is well mannered and represented Project Hope at two events. She has been started under saddle and is regularly lunged with saddle and bridle. She has a good basic education on the ground and is ready to move to an experienced long term home where her education can be continued.





# horses

farewelled



*PHHW Quizzy*



*PHHW Banjo AKA Gringo*



*PHHW Old Bobby*



*PHHW Scotty*



*PHHW Aussie*

# legal outcomes

## **EVANS V RSPCA (SA) INC [2022] SASC 32**

*By Ashleigh Trotter*

*Jurisdiction: South Australian Supreme Court of Appeal*

This case was an appeal against a previous conviction which found that Ms Evans failed to take reasonable care to obtain veterinary treatment for her horse, Regal Act, and that she allowed Regal Act's condition to progress to a point where the horse was unable to be saved.

### **DETAILS OF THE ALLEGED OFFENCE:**

Ms and Mr Evans were recreational horse owners, and it is alleged that they failed to take reasonable steps to mitigate harm to, and neglected Regal Act. An RSPCA officer was called to the Evans home on 6 Sept 2017 and a vet attended later that day due to welfare concerns. One vet observed that Regal Act was thin, laying down, his hooves were elongated (the vet estimated 6 months+ since last trim), there was oozing from the coronary band and rotted material on the bottom of Regal Act's foot. The vet put pressure on the heel bulb without eliciting a pain response which signified deadened tissue. There was an absence of a solar space in the feet because of a complete collapse of the feet. There were some places of separation of the hoof wall from the underlying tissues. Due to a previous unpaid vet bill of \$10,000+ there were delays in getting Regal Act seen at the clinic where further assessments were done on 12 September to confirm the extent of the damage. X-rays showed further progressed deterioration. On 16 September Regal Act was euthanised. Dr Herbert vet found it 'incredibly uncommon' to see an infection as extensive as that which she saw on Regal Act.

The prosecution had to prove that some time before 6 September a reasonably prudent recreational horse owner would have: spent enough time observing Regal Act to have noticed a shuffling gait and/or excessive lying down, known or suspected that the cause was laminitis, understood that laminitis required prompt or urgent veterinary attention and acted more promptly and effectively to arrange veterinary attention.

Ms Evans' defence was that she did not notice a problem with Regal Act's feet until 24 August and from that same day attempted to procure veterinary attention for him. The 24th of August was several weeks after the date on which multiple vets thought that Regal Act was symptomatic. Another vet, Dr Simon testified that Regal Act needed earlier veterinary care to neutralise the onset of the laminitis attack, but he could not say whether appropriate care had been given in the months before he saw Regal Act. He described laminitis as an aggressive condition.

### **THE APPEAL:**

Ms Evans appealed the decision on two grounds: that the verdict was not supported by the evidence; and that there had been a miscarriage of justice by reason of the Magistrate's excessive examination of her when she gave evidence.

The judge in this case stated that there was evidence that Ms Evans ought reasonably to have appreciated that Regal Act required veterinary treatment before she first took steps to procure a vet. However, the appeal was allowed on the second ground as it was found that the Magistrate's extensive examination of Ms Evans compromised his capacity to impartially judge the matter. It has been set for a fresh hearing.



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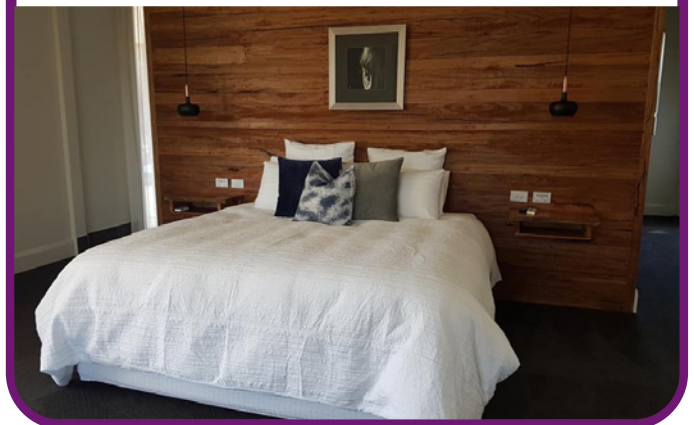


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