



Issue 2 August 2003

# Welcome

The **Horses in Drought** team is proud to welcome you, to this, our second newsletter. We hope that you find our newsletter useful and informative.

The team has been working extremely hard over the past three months, and we have achieved some great results.

The organisation has grown considerably in what we have been able to achieve, and as such we have made the decision to disassociate with Equine Care Group and register as our own identity.

We believe that this will be of benefit for both organisations, and will provide us with greater opportunities for our future growth.

Our new Registration is currently in progress in QLD, NSW and VIC and we will be seeking members through a membership drive upon it's completion.

Due to the resignation of our QLD Coordinator, Ms Carroll Weaver, we are now seeking volunteers that would like to be considered to represent Horses in Drought in QLD. Anyone interested should contact Nicole Pearce, National Coordinator.

# NSW Team Report

It has been an exhausting three months for the NSW team. We have been busy, busy, busy.

Tuesday, 13 May, was a day to remember, after a lot of negotiation, and many phone calls, our 40 foot container load of hay all the way from WA (rail freight courtesy of **Pacific National**) pulled into my street in Kurrajong NSW for sorting and distribution. We couldn't believe the irony of it all though, we were about to send all this lovely hay to drought effected areas, and it was raining cats and dogs in Kurrajong.

The morning kicked off without a hitch, with the **Hawkesbury**



**Gazette** in attendance to capture all the action. A barbecue lunch was kindly donated by **Kurrajong Butchery** and the **Kurrajong Bakery**.

The hay has been donated to five families in the Dubbo and Cobar areas in NSW and I am pleased to inform you that the hay arrived in good order (and thankfully did not get rained on) and all recipients and their horses are extremely appreciative. In fact one recipient commented to me that –

“I feel like I have won the lotto, only this is ten times better”.

This, I feel, reinforces how much of a desperate situation some of the farmers in the drought effected areas, really are in, and how valued this relief is, to them and their stock.

We sincerely thank the members from **Kurrajong RFS**, and a number of other locals for their assistance in unloading/loading the hay.

In conjunction with the QLD team, we have also managed to achieve our main aim in that we have temporarily re-located a large number of horses from Peelwood near Bathurst in NSW over the past few weeks. We were contacted by the distressed owner who was very concerned about the welfare of his horses and desperately needed assistance. Due to the number of horses on his property it was agreed that the most effective way to assist him was to temporarily re-home the majority of them, and so the fun began.

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## NSW Team Report Ctd — QLD Team Report

Unfortunately, many of the properties that had been on our register for some time were no longer available to us, and this made the logistics of the project quite frustrating. However, several wonderful people came to the rescue, and horses have been placed all over NSW, from Kangaroo Valley, to the Hunter Valley, through to Byron Bay and Nimbin.

It has been reported that all horses are settling in very well, and are loving the lush green paddocks that they will call home for a few months.

A big thank you to all involved in assisting with the care of these horses. It has been a mammoth effort, but one that we should all be very proud of.

In amongst all the excitement, we conducted our Mars chocolates Fundraiser. With the assistance of Mary from the **Riding for the Disabled Blaxland**, we were able to sell 10 boxes, giving the RDA and Horses in Drought \$120.00 each. This was a great effort, and we look forward to helping out the RDA in any future planned fundraisers.

The NSW HID team have put in a pretty good effort as well with profit from sale of chocolates being \$168. I am sure we have all gained a few extra kilo's too.

The NSW Team have also been busily working on the content of our Web site, soon to be on line. We are looking forward to it's completion, and hope that it will provide readers with some great information, as well as keeping everyone in touch and up to date. Stay tuned.....

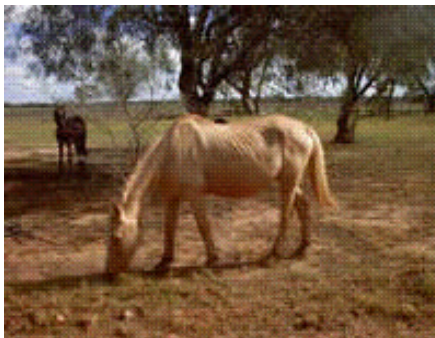
(Picture Top Right : Unloading the container onto the FCL truck bound for Cunnamulla, from the Pacific National locomotive.)

### Carroll Weaver represents Horses in Drought at Cunnamulla.

Carroll was given the opportunity to represent HID in Cunnamulla ( her rail ticket was kindly donated by QLink) she reported.....

375 Bales of Meadow Hay brought across to Queensland from Western Australia by Horses in Drought have reached drought effected horse owners in Cunnamulla.

The township of Cunnamulla has approximately 160 horses belonging to approximately 20 families. Fifty five of these horses are racehorses, the others are working horses used on the land in good times for ploughing, mustering and hauling feed.



(Picture Above: Horses in Cunnamulla)

Cunnamulla is also known for sheep and cattle production, which are also decreasing rapidly in numbers. There are also a number of horses on the outskirts of Cunnamulla needing help. Not many of these horses are privately owned (as in used for personal use pony club etc) out of the 20 approximate families only a handful are able to pay the high price of feed.

Cunnamulla's local feed barn was forced to close their doors due to the high increases of the price of feed, leaving Primac the only place to purchase horse feed. The average bale of hay is \$23 and chaff is non-existent due to the high price. Other feeds are also becoming hard to come by.



Some of these families are also struggling to buy the simple things in life let alone feed themselves.

**Horses in Drought** would like to extend a huge thank you to **Pacific National, FCL, and QLink** for their generosity in transporting the hay to Cunnamulla, without their help it would have never been delivered.

*Note from Nicole: Ms Carroll Weaver has resigned as the QLD Coordinator for HID. We thank her for her assistance with our projects.*

## VIC Team Report

The VIC Team have been hard at work, sourcing sponsorship, and also getting the word out that Horses in Drought are here to help.

We have just completed a very successful Mars Chocolates Fundraiser, and would like to thank Katy at **Rare Breeds Trust VIC** for her assistance in selling the truck load of choccy's that were delivered.

It has been brought to the attention of the VIC team that there are quite a lot of horses that are in need of assistance, and so we are again on the lookout for temporary homes that we can move these horses too. Please contact us if you can lend a hand.

*Note from Nicole: I would like thank Sam Merritt for all her hard work as the VIC Coordinator over the past few months. She has been unwell, and we all hope she is feeling better soon.*

## Some Exciting News from VIC!!!

Horses in Drought VIC Team are very proud to announce that we have been given the opportunity to attend **EQUITANA** in Melbourne from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2003.

We would like to extend our thanks to the team at Definitive Events for giving us the opportunity to be involved in such a prestigious event.

The HID team hopes that this will considerably raise the profile of our organisation and we hope to also encourage a greater awareness of drought effected areas to the general public, and horse-lovers alike.

Please come and visit our stand, and meet the team, we have some exciting initiatives that we would love to share with you. We hope to see you all there.



# EQUITANA

Asia Pacific - Melbourne



In November, EQUITANA Asia Pacific converges on the **Melbourne Exhibition Centre**, in a huge equine celebration that Australians have come to love!

There will be **hundreds of presentations and demonstrations** from the world's leading equine specialists, including world leading dressage trainer, **Klaus Balkenhol**, renowned natural horseman, **Pat Parelli**, Olympic Gold Medallists – **David and Karen O'Conner** and leading dressage star, **Martina Hannöver**.

The **Mane Event** entertainment spectacular promises a brand new experience this year in a 90 minute 'Variety Special'. A thrilling spectacle featuring performing horses, special effects, music and dance – a night of unforgettable entertainment for all!

There will also be **over 200 Australian and International retail stands**, offering you everything from riding wear to stockfeed, educational material to

grooming products – you'll find everything and more that you are after.

The 2003 competition program is set to be the best ever, with a unique mix of events that are new to Melbourne audiences, including two World Cup Qualifiers - Dressage and Showjumping, Indoor Polo and Australia's only Indoor Cross Country competition.

Also catch the Cutting Series Grand Final, Reining Masters, Barrel Racing, Saddlehorse and Combined Driving - all indoors, all in comfort, and all promising to inspire and excite!

Call **13 28 86** or visit your nearest RACV Shop

Buy online:  
<http://www.equitana.com.au>



Don't miss this huge event, put the **19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November** in your diaries now!

For more information visit  
<http://www.equitana.com.au>





### *Contact the HID Team*

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<mailto:victteamHID@horsemagazine.com> (Currently Under Construction)

## Horse Rug Appeal

As the seasons change, the effect of the drought is slowly taking its toll on horses all over the country.

The battle to save horses in these areas is continuing at an alarming rate.

Heading the fight for this battle, **Horses in Drought** volunteers all over Australia are struggling to keep up with the increasing numbers of calls for assistance coming in each day.

**Horses in Drought** are urgently calling for donations of much needed fodder, horse rugs and horse wormers to get these poor, drought stricken, cold animals through the despair of the winter months.

Anyone who is able to provide help, or who needs assistance to care for drought affected horses is urged to contact **Horses In Drought**.

All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact the relevant Coordinators or team members in your state for drop off points.

**Horses in Drought** would like to

## Thank you

thank the following people and organisations for their generosity in assisting us.

### **Donations**

10 bottles of Rescue Remedy, Ms Barbara Fuguia—NSW, GW Blacker— Sydney NSW, and a number of other very generous donors who wished to remain anonymous.

**Kurrajong Butchery** (2kgs sausages) - Kurrajong NSW,  
**Kurrajong Bakery** (bread) - Kurrajong NSW.

### **Assistance with Fundraisers**

Ms S Isaacs—Rouse Hill NSW,  
Ms K Brown, - **Rare Breeds Trust VIC**,  
Mary - **Riding for the Disabled Blaxland** NSW,  
Ms C Minster, Charlton VIC.

### **Temporary Homes for Horses**

Ms J Ormsby—Yumungerie NSW,  
Ms D Dagle - Wallarobba NSW,  
Ms M Morris - Tamworth NSW,  
Ms M Connor & Ms L Lehany—Kangaroo Valley NSW,  
Ms J McLean—NSW,  
Graham - Nimbin NSW,  
Vanessa—Byron Bay NSW.

### **Assistance with loading hay**

Mr Brian Hodgson & Family—Karnup WA  
Ms Christie Kenny—WA  
Ms Emma Luck & Sister—Wilson WA  
Ms Sylvanna Miller—Serpentine WA  
Mr Wayne Stoneman ,  
Ms Jeanette Stoneman,  
Mr David Horne,  
Mr John Hacking, Mr Paul Kinnon,  
Mr Richard Pearce—**Kurrajong Rural Fire Services** NSW.  
Mr A Schoer—Auburn NSW

### **Transport**

Mr Wayne Kent, **Wayne Kent's Transport—NSW**  
Mr Chris White, **Pacific National. FCL—WA & QLD**  
**QLink—QLD**  
Mr Frank Catalano—**K & S Freighters** WA.

### **Media**

Mr Arthur Muhl—**Sonshine FM** Perth WA  
Ms Gail Knox **Hawkesbury Gazette—NSW**