



Horses in Drought at Equitana

Horses in Drought were given the wonderful opportunity to exhibit at Equitana Asia Pacific from the 19th to the 23rd November, 2003. We would like to thank the team at Definitive events for all of their support.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their generosity in providing us with sponsorship and products for Equitana; Farmwide Apparel, Tuxedo Bookshop, Waproo (Joseph Lyddy) and MacDonalds Pakenham.

The team arrived at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre late on Wednesday afternoon to set up. We were greeted by a hive of activity, people gearing up for what was to be an exhausting, but exciting four days.

The exhibition was a huge success, with the busiest day being Saturday. Our raffle proved to be a hit, with over 620 tickets being sold (thank you to Sarah Venamore for drawing the raffle for us). Our show bags also proved to be popular as did our books, selling over 200 of these. All funds raised will go towards the purchase of more hay and feed for horses in need.

In addition to raising funds, Equitana gave us the opportunity to raise a greater awareness of the areas that are still effected by drought. We have registered a number of new temporary homes in VIC, NSW and even a couple in WA, along with receiving nominations for people that require assistance (*and boy have we got some work to do*).

Sunday bought us all to the point of exhaustion, and just when we thought it was all over, we were visited by several exhibitors from feed companies, bearing donations of left over bags of feed. A big thank you to Stablemate, Sweetbulk, and Hygain for their generosity in donating this feed. All up we received approximately 2 tones of feed and supplements, that have been distributed in VIC.

Also a thank you goes to Lauren from Horsepower Magazine, and also Horse Hub Magazine for supplying us with "showbag stuffers" at the last minute. (*Keep an eye out for us in these magazines in the coming months*). We have made some great contacts in the equestrian industry, through this we envisage that HID will be able provide a lot more assistance, to a great number of horses, over the coming months.

One final thank you goes to the volunteers that made it all happen. Sam (*with her never-ending energy to burn*), the networking & coffee queen. Nicole, (*who traveled down from Sydney*) who answered everyone's questions, and kept us all focused. Richard and Mark, chief (*sprukers*) raffle ticket sellers and pack horses!! Caroline, who busily greeted everyone with her enthusiasm. Melissa, for sending us all on well earned coffee/lunch breaks. Eden for helping stuff show bags. You were all great.

We would also like to thank everyone that visited the Horses in Drought stand, and made a donation. Without the continued generosity of people like yourselves we wouldn't be able to keep assisting those in need.

Merry Christmas All—Nicole Pearce, President

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Special points of interest:

- Horses in Drought has now opened its Membership register for 2004. Contact us to find out how to become a member!! ...p2
- Spring/Summer cleaning?? Why not donate those old winter rugs that are taking up too much space in the corner of the tack room!! ...p4

What's been happening!!!

HID Officially Registered

The Horses in Drought team are proud to announce that as of August 8, 2003, we were officially registered as an Incorporated Organisation in NSW, our registration number is INC9880430. As at 5 November, 2003, Horses in Drought were issued with an Authority to Fundraise in VIC.

Stay tuned for news about our pending registrations in QLD, ACT and WA.

VIC Team Report

Team VIC have had an extremely busy couple of months. Organizing and attending Equitana, took a huge effort, and the VIC team congratulate Definitive Events on such a successful event. We met some great people and look forward to new opportunities for Horses in Drought.

On Saturday 6 December, 2003, Sam and Mark loaded up their float and headed to Charlton to distribute some

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much needed feed to 40 miniature ponies.

All up we delivered approx 2 tone of feed that was generously donated by Equitana exhibitors. A bag of chook feed managed to slip into the load, along with a frozen chook, and some Christmas goodies kindly donated by team VIC. This feed should see the recipients out for the summer, and with 100 bales of hay being sent in the next week, hopefully they will have a good Christmas.

Team VIC wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous new year.

Check out our Website at

<http://www.horsesindrought.org.au> on-line January, 2004

Fundraising/Calendar December 2003—February 2004

2003/2004

- STALLION SERVICE TENDER—EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (see right)
- MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FOR 2004—contact us now for a nomination form and further information.

Membership Fees for 2004:

Single Members—\$15.00

Family Membership—\$25.00

Business Membership—\$100.00

- THE GREAT HAWKESBURY DUCK RACE—Have you got your ticket?? Join us in supporting Kurrajong (NSW) and Tennyson (NSW) Rural Fire Services & Kurrajong (NSW) Rotary.

Tickets \$5each

January, 2004

- TRIVIA NIGHT—Venue & Date to be confirmed
- COMMITTEE MEETING/TELECONFERENCE— Monday 12 January, 2004 , 7pm, Kurrajong NSW. (Contact Nicole Pearce for more information).

February, 2004

- RUG MAKING WORKSHOP— Saturday, 28 February, 2004. Volunteers needed to help us make rugs for the coming Winter.

Stallion Service Tender— Expressions of Interest

As one of our major fundraising initiatives for 2004, HID have now opened Expressions of Interest to donate Stallion Services for Tender for the 2004 stud season.

We have a number of stallion services donated from VIC and NSW, and would like to thank, all owners for their generosity.

We would love to hear from any stallion owners that are interested in donating stallion services. All money raised from these services will go towards purchasing more hay and feed for those in need.

Mare owners stay tuned, stallion nominations will be released on March 1, 2004.

Info packs for stallion owners will be available end of January, 2004.

For further information, please contact Nicole Pearce, President.

Living in the Pilbara

I live in Karratha – it's a little mining town in the North West of Western Australia mostly known for the companies that make the town – Woodside, Dampier Salt and Hamersley Iron – three of the major contributors to Australia's economy.

Having horses in the Pilbara is certainly an interesting experience. It never rains, when it does – it floods, there is no pasture, our land consists of compacted clay and with a fine silt cover, on top of which lays scattered rocks and pebbles, and a sea of Spinifex mixed in which a few Stuart peas and the purple mulla mulla plants.



Our paddocks are cleared and graded to remove excess rocks and stones and to remove Spinifex. In its place, we make an effort to plant shrubs and eucalypts to stop the land from eroding. Never the less the land is still barren and green pick for the horses is a rarity. Sand is brought in by the truckload for regularly used areas.

Feeding consists of lots of roughage. Oaten hay is a main feed and these days it is fairly expensive with the drought. Its important though as the area is extremely dusty and sandy and colic is kept at bay by the important high fibre content.

Most feed ordinary hard feeds twice daily. Copra and Rice Pollard are common feeds to keep weight on, especially during the extra hot conditions during summer. Temperatures often reach up to 50 degrees Celsius or more from November to March.

Keeping a balanced diet is especially important to keep feet and joints in excellent condition. The hard, rocky ground saps all moisture from hooves and without proper supplementation and 'feet soaking' hooves will crack and chip away. Joints take a bashing, as most areas are as hard as concrete, most horses have their legs iced or hosed after every ride for prevention of splints and/or wind galls.

Riders are really confined to riding in our club arena, or pony club grounds, which is a fenced off area that the equestrian club here fills with truck load after truck load of sand just so we can ride on decent ground. (see picture) Otherwise you float to the beach. The process of trucking in sand is repeated at the beginning of every season as most is either blown or washed away. Sprinklers to keep the dust down and keep the sand from blowing away (as you see in most centres down south), don't exist as our water supply is limited and we aren't allowed to waste it on such things as dust control or even irrigation for pasture.

Thank you Farmwide Apparel

Horses in Drought thank Sue Farey from Farmwide Apparel for her wonderful support and generosity. Sue has donated 20% of all sales referred by HID from Equitana. Please support this great business and enable us to continue to support those in need.

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Most horses owned are generally bought and trucked up from around Perth so certainly have not been raised to be accustomed to the climate or conditions. In preparation for summer most owners will send their horses away for spell down south, to escape the heat and potential cyclones and also for a well-earned break on a green paddock.

Generally I think most horses handle the conditions extremely well – it certainly shows how easily adaptable they are. All the horses in our area are healthy and shiny and rarely do we have a sick horse, which is lucky as vet facilities for equines are almost non-existent up here.



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ALL DONATIONS ARE GREATFULLY ACCEPTED

Horse Rug Appeal

In the middle of Spring/Summer cleaning?? Running out of room in the tack shed.....why not donate all those old winter rugs that are piled up, collecting moth balls.

We are getting in early so that we will be able to organise and deliver rugs to those in need, before the 2004 winter season begins.

We are also on the look-out for any cotton lined sleeping bags (thank you Jeanie for inspiring us!!) So if you have any old ones lying around, or stumble across them in the op-shop, please consider donating them, they make fantastic horse rugs.

Thank you

Horses in Drought would like to thank the following people and businesses for their support.

Donations

Ms M Williams- hand drawn picture (raffle prize), Ms C Wiltshire—Horse rugs, Hygain Feeds—Feed, Sweetbulk—Feed, Stablemaster—Feed, Horsepower Magazine—discount vouchers, Ms Sue Farey, VIC—embroidered framed picture, Ms Nicole Pearce, NSW—ribbon browband.

Ms G Pizzi, Melbourne—VIC, Ms K Virgoe, Cobar—NSW.

Sponsorships

Definitive Events, Tuxedo Bookshop—NSW, Farmwide Apparel—VIC, Waproo (Joseph Lyddy) -VIC, MacDonalds Pakenham—VIC.

Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following raffle winners:

HID Raffle

Ms W Reilly, VIC

Picture (donated by M Williams).

Equitana Raffle

1st Prize— Ms L Shone, VIC

\$195 Joseph Lyddy Products (donated by Waproo)

2nd Prize—Ms B Britton, VIC

Embroidered Arabian Picture (donated by Sue Farey, Farmwide Apparel)

3rd Prize—Ms J Burns, VIC

Ribbon Browband (donated by Nicole Pearce, President HID)

*Merry
Christmas*

From the team at Horses in Drought, we wish you an enjoyable Christmas, and a happy and safe New Year.



!!!!Important Note - Our NEW bank account!!!!

Please note that HID has a new bank account now held in NSW with CBA, please DO NOT deposit funds into the old QLD CBA account as your money will not reach us. Please contact Caroline Taylor ,Treasurer , if you require the new bank details to make direct deposits.