



ANNUAL REPORT

2020 . 2021

RDAT : 2020.2021

Well, as I sat down to write the President's report for 2020.21 (with significant help from Claudia), I reflected on the report we wrote this time last year and how it held so many questions about where we could be in 12 months' time. On this basis then, I am very pleased to be able to report on some significant positives over the past year, particularly things that are setting RDA Tasmania up for bigger and better things in future years.

To mention the obvious first, whilst COVID did have an impact on our operations, especially in our ability to undertake face-to-face meetings and sessions, we were very pleased to welcome riders back at RDA Kalang and Kingborough in September, nearly six-months after close down. Unfortunately, COVID significantly limited our ability to undertake fundraising activities, however, the move to online meetings did mean we could also reduce our expenditure and travel time.

Held every two years and a key requirement for the ongoing accreditation of our coaches but open to all volunteers, the State Workshop was held over a weekend in March 2021 and we were able to have 25 attendees. On the Friday night Karen Asprey, at the time the Executive Officer of RDA Australia, presented remotely from Adelaide to governance, everything from committee and coaching roles, to managing social media. With all respect to Karen, the "dry" information was broken up with a constitution and 'know your horses' quiz and we very much appreciated Karen taking time out of her evening to present to us.

Saturday saw two presentations, the first from locum vet Dr Steve Dennis presenting on Horse First Aid, the second from Roger O'Meagher from Autism Tasmania, a four hour workshop on autism spectrum disorder (ASD). As part of the workshop Roger brought along Donna & Dan, who shared their story and experience as people living with ASD. Thank you Steve, Roger, Donna & Dan. Our Sunday presenter was Angie Howard from Stepping Stones Equine Hoof Care, a presentation and hands on learning about welfare, care and management of horses and their hooves. Thank you Angie.

In Centre news, Kalang and Kingborough officially amalgamated at the start of 2021 to form RDA South. Kingborough lost their temporary home in Kingston four years ago and had been looking for new home since 2002, but with no suitable venue in the Kingborough area, have been operating from Kalang since late 2017. RDA South continue to enjoy their new arena and sensory trail funded through a Federal grant in 2019, with additional work on the sensory garden still a work in progress. St Helens have been in recess since the end of 2018, however they have now moved premises from council sporting grounds to private property, as they prepare to commence sessions again later in 2021.

Both of the Centres are always on the lookout for new volunteers, horses, and volunteers willing and able to train as a coach in all Centres/areas. With waiting lists at all centres, they are in desperate need for more coaches and suitable horses to be able to operate more days per week.

After a year of exchanging ideas between Variety EO, Mohammad Aldergham, and the RDA Tasmania EO, the Board of both organisations approved a scholarship program where Variety sponsors riders up to the age of 18, who are not eligible for NDIS and are unable to meet the session costs themselves. Funding is about 70% of the session fee and would cover about seven or eight riders per annum. This is a very exciting partnership for RDA Tasmania and we are hugely appreciative of the support from Variety, support that will enable us to assist those who may have missed out in the past due to financial limitations.

This year we were in a fortunate financial position to be able to continue the Enhanced Rider Experience (ERE) internal grant to support Centres again this past financial year with expenses related to small infrastructure, maintenance, coach training & horse equipment.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Honourable Professor Kate Warner AC as, in line with her term as Governor coming to an end, we saw the conclusion of her Patronage of RDA Tasmania. Governor Warner was a huge supporter of all things RDA, including, in addition to judging the Christmas Card competition, inviting RDA Tasmania to have a stall and horses in the stables at Government House for the Government House Open Days over a number of years and enabling our members to tour Government House. We sincerely thank former Governor Warner for her support of RDA Tasmania and wish her all the very best for the future. We also welcome The Honourable Barbara Baker AC as the new Patron of RDA Tasmania and thank her for continuing with the Governor being the Patron of our organisation.

So, we again look to the future and it looks bright – RDA South's amalgamation streamlining activities in the south, the reopening of RDA St Helens, the development of our new three-year strategic plan, our strong financial position and the delivery of State Championships in March 2022 following the postponement of the National Championships.

To all our volunteers, and from me personally to the members of the RDA Tasmania Board, thank you all for everything you have done in support of our fantastic organisation and I look forward again to 2021.22.

Mark Purcell—President - Riding for the Disabled Association of Tasmania Inc.

RDAT STRUCTURE

Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia (RDAA)

Riding for the Disabled Association of Tasmania Board
President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Directors

State Office
Executive Officer & State Coaching Coordinator

State Subcommittees
Centre Delegates & Program Delivery Delegates

State Centres
RDA Kalang & RDA Kingborough (now RDA South)
RDA St Helens

RDA Tasmania Patron
Her Excellency Professor the
Honourable Kate Warner, AM
Governor of Tasmania (to June 2021)

RDA Tasmania Ambassador
Rachael Treasure
Author, mother, regenerative
agriculturist and lover of life

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

OUR MISSION

RDA Tasmania supports our stakeholders to enable people living with disabilities to experience enjoyment, challenge and a sense of achievement through equestrian activities to improve their quality of life, attain person goals and develop life skills.

OUR VISION

To be Tasmania's foremost authority, advocate and resource for Equestrian associated activities for people living with disabilities or additional support needs.

OUR VALUES

RDA is Excellence

RDA is not always about competition but is always about striving for the best; personally, professionally and practically.

RDA is Inclusive

RDA is a welcoming place where we strive to include all Australians from different backgrounds, genders and abilities.

RDA is Respect

RDA is a safe environment, where individuals are treated with respect and are respectful towards others and the organisation they care about.

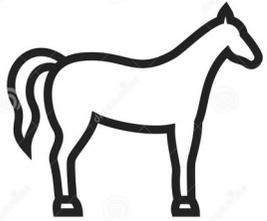
RDA is Innovative

RDA is always demonstrating that looking at things differently can change a life; RDA encourages new ways of thinking and doing in every field.

RDA is Community

RDA is made up of many communities, working together towards enriching the lives of people with disabilities, locally, nationally and worldwide.

RDAT BY THE NUMBERS



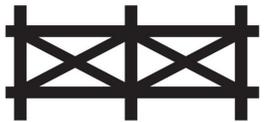
12 HORSES



22 RIDERS



8 COACHES



2 CENTRES



50 VOLUNTEERS



Winning Christmas card design by Lizzie Reid

OUR CENTRES

RDA SOUTH

We officially held our first meeting as RDA South last November. We are still tidying bank accounts and paperwork but are getting there!

Volunteers: We have a number of great and loyal volunteers that enable us to coach, lead and side-walk, maintain the grounds and care for the horses. A huge thank you to everyone who helps RDA to function and grow. I wish we could duplicate you all to have double the number of great volunteers so we could share it around some more and take new riders.

Coaches: A big thank you to Pauline and Claudia who continue to coach full time and have needed to meet new NDIS requirements, in other words means more preparation and more paperwork! Thank you also to Sue for running the volunteer training days, Lenka, Andrea and Danielle for their training towards their Level 0 finally Diana for soldiering on and completing her Level 0.

Horses: We have swapped and changed so many horses trying to find the 'special' ones that suit RDA that I could fill the entire page. We do have a team of eight at the moment who work with riders two days a week. They are capable of more work and hopefully more riding days will eventuate with more coaches.

Fund Raising: We have had generous support from the Vintage Car group who have used their contacts and friends along with their trucks and machinery to help tidy up RDA, deliver fencing, lay and spread gravel and move hay. They have also sourced \$1200 of donations that we have used to purchase gravel and \$1200 worth of fencing material from AG Warehouse Deloraine – all very needed to get the sensory garden underway and to extend our paddocks onto flatter ground. The Llanherne Lady Golf members held a fund raising golf day and chose us as the charity to raise money for – a wonderful \$1450 was raised. We recently held a BBQ at Bunnings which raised about \$700 again another worthwhile fund raiser – thank you Raelene and Beki for organising it. The ERE grants through RDA Tas helped keep us afloat through Covid and have since been used for horse equipment and upgrades of facilities – we are very grateful for your assistance.

Financial: It is taking a while to stabilise ourselves again financially after Covid but we are are looking positive now that the year is well underway.

Lisa Dolliver—President, RDA South

RDA ST HELENS

Whilst RDA St Helens has been in recess through 2020.21, there has been no lack of activity in making sure the Centre continues to be active in getting ready to up and running at the new premises.

July 2020: successful with a My State Grant to commence development of the new Centre

August 2020: signed lease on land for Centre

September 2020: received funding from community group to purchase new horse

October 2020: leased Jasper, 12.2hh pony to replace Tyson

January 2021: hay arrived

February 2021: Casper advertised for sale and sold

March 2021: State Workshop, three attendees, informative and well organised, enjoyed by all

April 2021: Swimcart Fishing Comp Fundraiser – we raised \$1,000 selling food at the local fishing competition which ran for 24 hours. Well done Sam, Geoff and Kelly.

June 2021: material purchased and onsite for arena and horse yards

Geoff Gatt—President, RDA St Helens





FINANCE

RDA Tasmania understands that it is important for all of our stakeholders to know how their money is used in support of our programs that contribute to the organisational goals. We appreciate all the financial contributions and strive to ensure that funds are used wisely, efficiently and in line with our governance policies.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM

Donations & fundraising	\$2,566	4.0%
Grants & Sponsorship	\$256	0.4%
COVID-19 cash boost and JobKeeper	\$28,750	49%
National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)	\$20,429	34.8%
Interest	\$1,295	2.2%
Rider registrations and insurance	\$2500	4.3%
Other	\$2,914	5.3%

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO

Distribution of grants & sponsorship	\$1,963	4.0%
Coaching, program elivery, workshops	\$3,300	6.7%
NDIS distribution	\$13,777	28.1%
Wages, JobKeeper & superannuation	\$23,922	49%
Insurance	\$575	1.2%
RDAAs rider registrations	\$743	1.5%
Administration/other	\$4590	9.4%

THE BOARD



Mark Purcell
President



Andrea Shoobridge
Secretary



Conor Hallahan
Vice President



Givantha Sam Naragala
Treasurer



Madeleine Figg
Director



Claudia Nevah
Executive Officer

THANK YOU

- **All our volunteers, donors & supporters** - in all capacities, including our volunteer coaches. None of the coaches in RDA are paid.
- **Mike Derbyshire from Bentley's** – auditing our books
- **Pauline Perry**, our Honorary Life Member, who still supports RDA, especially in her role of National Assessor
- **Sue Cole** for Facebook & website
- **Jordan Bush** for ongoing IT support
- **Variety** for scholarship
- **ScootBoot** for ongoing Giving Back Program donations.
- **Shiploads Community** for donation of hand sanitisers and disinfectant
- **Cancer Council Tasmania**– meeting space
- **Midlands Pony Club** for Donation through their Annual State Trials Event
- **Claremont Golf Club** ladies for their donation
- **Orford Golf Club** Ladies for their donation through their fundraising Christmas Giving Bowl
- **Midway Point Seniors Club** for their donation
- **PetStock Assist** for their fundraising for RDA for their Home State Heroes program during the month of August
- **RDA Tasmania Board Directors**

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