

W.A. Horse Council *News*

September 2017



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LARGE ANIMAL RESCUE MASTERCLASS SUCCESS

The very successful Large Animal Rescue Masterclass was held in May at Brookleigh Estate in the Swan Valley. The WAHC brought British Animal Specialist Rescue Instructor, Anton Phillips, to Australia to deliver the Masterclass in WA. He then continued on to Victoria and NSW for courses in both those states.

The Masterclass was booked out, with attendees from a variety of organisations, including government and local government emergency departments, and people travelled from Melbourne, Queensland and New Zealand to attend.

Large Animal Rescues are recognized as one of the most potentially dangerous activities a person can get involved in. It is a well-known fact that animal's in distress can essentially provoke the same response in an owner, as if it were a member of their family.

Releasing an animal is one of the most dangerous aspects of the rescue operation if not properly planned, and Anton explained in great detail how to do each phase of an Animal Rescue Operation very carefully.

The WA Horse Council will be holding further Large Animal Rescue courses for 2018, covering training for 'first timers' and also a refresher course for those people who achieved their AR3 Masterclass accreditation

If you would like to be kept up to date with these courses, email your details to diane@horsehotline.org

Below and left: Participants work with LARry, the WAHC demonstration horse.



Above: Robert Hawes, Deputy President presenting a group photograph from the LAR class to Angelo Francesca from the Sales Department of McIntosh & Son, Redcliffe in recognition and appreciation of the loan of a Merlo Telehandler.



Peter Fredericks - Horse Play photograph.

The WAHC would like to thank all those who supported the large Animal Rescue Masterclass.

Many volunteered their time in one way or another to ensure this event was a success and that this vital information was made available to the equine community and support industries within Western Australia.



SKILLS IQ TRAINING

Diane Bennit represented the WAHC at a meeting in June that was presented by Skills IQ, under the direction of the Sport and Recreation Industry Reference Committee, which is undertaking a thorough review of all Equine Related training package products within the Sport, Fitness and Recreation Training Package.

A key and significant focus of this review work will be addressing recommendations made with the ASQA strategic review work. These meetings are being held in each state, which gives the states the opportunity to discuss/comment and make suggestions on the equine units within the Sport, Fitness and Recreation Training Package. The major discussions in June covered risk management, fundamental skills and trail riding.

A key and significant focus of this review work will be addressing recommendations made within the ASQA strategic review 'Training in equine programs in Australia'.

The meeting was held at the Future Now Offices in Balcatta and was presented by Liz Horne the Skills IQ Engagement Specialist from the eastern states.

In attendance was Dwight Pedlow CEO EWA, Sara Botton EWA Hi Performance and Education, Jamie Bennett Outdoors WA, Karen Nicoletto and Theresa Okley from Bindoon Agricultural College, Rob Fleming RWWA, Gail Simms Zia Park, Anna Thomas Industry Manager, Sport and Recreation, Print and Graphic Arts, Racing and Farriery and Diane Bennit.

COMPULSORY IDENTIFICATION IN NSW?

NSW Department of Primary Industries is considering compulsory identification for horses to improve disease control and traceability, but recognise there could be other benefits, such as reducing horse theft and misrepresentation, improving horse welfare and rider and handler safety.

One area they are looking at is, evident by the question, is national registration of horses.

Should it be compulsory for all horses nationally to be micro-chipped or identified in some other way? Another question refers to a central database and further into the questionnaire it asks if a small payment would be appropriate for the recording of this info. The survey closes 1st December so it will be of interest for West Australians to follow this up and see what horse owners thought on the subject.

For those wishing to view the survey you can go to <https://surveymonkey.com/r/HorseID>

10 YEARS SINCE EQUINE INFLUENZA WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT?

From the Australian Horse Industry Council newsletter.

24 August 2017 marks the ten year anniversary of the equine influenza outbreak in Australia. The outbreak cost Australian governments at least \$350 million in direct costs. Additionally, there was another \$1.5 billion expended in indirect costs to the horse industry and the nation.

The AHIC played an important industry role in the management of the EI response but was poorly supported by fragmented non-racing sectors of the horse industry.

All equestrian enterprises and events, large and small, need to develop biosecurity plans for disease outbreak/suspicion supported by rules. Spread of EI before movement controls were imposed was NOT facilitated by race meetings but by equestrian events.

Emergency response managers need to know where horses are located. Every horse property in Australia should have a Property Identification Code.

The AHIC continues to be a signatory of the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) between industry and Government. The AHIC also makes sure that numerous individuals are trained and committed to step in to take the important roles to help with eradication. Preparing for an emergency is one of the many unseen jobs that AHIC is continually working on for your benefit."

The ten year anniversary is a time to celebrate the fact that Australia is free of EI, but complacency is the real enemy.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ALLSTOCK COMPETITION WINNERS.

The WAHC Talking Horses radio program, presented by Diane Bennit at 91.3 Sport FM congratulates the first three winners (of 26) Allstock Stores Barastoc Horse Block competition winners - Judith Odgaard, Alison Logan and Robyn Macmillan.

The \$40 blocks are a protein and mineral supplement for grazing horses, and contain all true protein from vegetable protein meals. they are the ideal solutions for times when pastures are not of optimum quality.

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Renewal

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DONATIONS are accepted to help the Horse Council continue their work with the horse community.

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The Horse Council portfolios includes Membership and Funding, Equine Research and Environment, Marketing and Public Relations, Legislation and Policy. Please tick if you would like to be involved in a working group for one of these.



W.A. Horse Council

Representing a united horse community in Western Australia.

WA HORSE COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At 'THE BUNKHOUSE'
Brookleigh Equestrian Estate
235 Great Northern Highway, Upper Swan

**Thursday
14th SEPTEMBER**

6pm for wine and cheese tasting
AGM starts 7 pm. Closes 7.45

GUEST SPEAKERS ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- **MEGAN RICHARDS** - the Grants and Services Manager from the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes. Megan will be talking about the planning and implementation of the 300km Warren Blackwood Stock Route.
- **CLIFF SIMPSON** - Road Safety Advisor from (Wheatbelt North) WA Local Government Association. Cliff works with 24 local Government and communities to promote road safety and he will be clarifying rules for horses being ridden on the road.
- **GRAHAM MCALPINE** - currently the Regional Landcare Facilitator within the Perth NRM National Landcare program, which assists land managers to improve their management skills. A brief overview of the capacity building activities the Perth NRM Sustainable Communities group do, will be given. Following will be information on how to apply for the most likely Grants that are available for various equestrian activities, the times that Grants are available and how to apply for Grants applications. Questions from the floor are invited for any of the three presentations.



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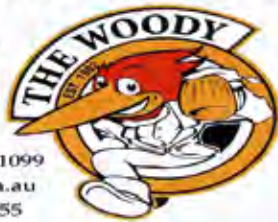


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