

Narelle Anderson – leading the race

AS THE FIRST FEMALE COMMITTEE MEMBER OF NSW RACEHORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION NARELLE ANDERSON JOINS AN EVER GROWING LIST OF 'HIGH POWERED' LADIES ENTERING INTO THE THOROUGHBRED INDUSTRY

WORDS: SHARON HUNT [EXECUTIVE OFFICER – NSWROA]

Narelle is no stranger to being first past the post. In 2001 she was elected by her peers as the president of the Sydney chapter of The Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO) a dynamic, global network of more than 7,300 business owners in 42 countries.

She became the first female elected to presidency in Australia, and comes to the NSWROA Committee to serve with previous board experience.

In 2000 she brought a fledgling waste management business, CBD Enviro Services, with a partner (whom she bought out seven months later) and went on to become the only woman in Australia to solely own a waste management company.

Over the next seven years she went head-to-head against waste management giants to create one of the most innovative waste collection companies in Sydney that focused on waste minimisation for blue chip clients.

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In 2006 Narelle expanded this business by building a material recovery facility at Botany for the purpose of recovering the recyclables from the CBD Enviro Services waste collection vehicles. She sold this business to a public company in 2007.

Following the sale of CBD Enviro Services, Narelle decided she needed yet another challenge and founded Envirobank Recycling Pty Ltd.

Envirobank owns the sole distribution rights for Envipco Reverse vending technology in Australia and New Zealand.

Envirobank provides a service that solves a growing problem, contaminated public place recycling that both population and consumption continue to increase.

Envirobank is set to change the face of public place recycling by engaging consumers with rewards and

incentives and solving the problem of contaminated public place recycling.

Envirobank also offers business the opportunity to engage and interact with a new breed of consumer through its Interactive touch screens. Envirobank provides innovative public place recycling solutions using retail incentives to reward consumers for recycling.

Signing onto the NSWROA Committee in November last year, Narelle has come out of the boxes running and her enthusiasm for the industry has proven quite contagious.

Narelle, who has been a racing fan for as long as she can remember, has fond childhood memories of studying the form guide with her father on Saturday mornings.

She recalls: “It was a Saturday morning ritual – I would sit down with Dad and wait for the scratchings to come on the radio. We would then ‘mark’ our selections for the day and discuss who would be carrying our investment.”

Her father would go off to work or to the races and she and her grandmother would listen to the races together with their tomato and onion sandwiches.

She remembers they either had hamburgers or Chinese takeaway for dinner on a raceday depending on how well her father's selections went for the day.

Over the years her interest intensified and in 2001 she bought her first horse in a syndicate with the late Harry Lawton. Sadly the horse never made it to the track due to injury.

This first experience, however, did not deter Narelle and she continued to invest in the industry purchasing a couple of horses with a friend from Adelaide in a syndicate with a small Adelaide trainer.

In 2003 she met her current partner Bryan Rutter at Randwick Racecourse. This was a ‘match made in heaven’ or at least the bookie stand, which is where they both were when they met.

Bryan shares Narelle's passion for racing and comes from a family with a racing background. Together they now own shares in more than 15 horses and race with both the Anthony Cummings and



TOP: Narelle Anderson and partner Bryan Rutter at the races MIDDLE: (L-R): NSWROA director Narelle Anderson with Redkite's CEO Jenni Seton at a NSWROA cocktail function at Canterbury Park Racecourse ABOVE: Teranaba wins the AJC Spring Champion Stakes at Royal Randwick. Picture by Mark Smith

Barbara Joseph stables.

To date their most successful horse has been Teranaba (Anabaa (USA)-Tristera) who won the Group 1-AJC Spring Champion Stakes at Randwick at paying \$118.

Teranaba also recorded Black Type with a second placing in the Gr 1-AJC Randwick Guineas, a third placing in the Gr 1-VRC Victoria Derby and a third placing in the Gr 3-NJC Spring Stakes.

"Words cannot describe how amazing that day was," said Narelle. "There are so many great stories to tell just from that day.

"Bookies that asked if we would take a cheque, friends who backed the horse and cheered him home with us paid for wedding shoes, took their families to dinner, brought that dress they had been eyeing off, we got so many congratulations and then thank you texts that Teranaba is a bit of legend amongst our friends; he certainly brought a lot of joy to us and others that day."

Narelle is a member of the Sydney Turf Club and the Australian Jockey Club, and is a regular race attendee at both city and country meetings.

Nothing beats a day at the races according to Narelle: "We have a Friday night ritual of studying the form, off to the races on Saturday, and then we watch racing review on Sunday morning, and normally head down to the Anthony Cummings's stable to visit our horses and have a coffee."

When speaking to Narelle you can clearly see how passionate she is about the industry.

NSWROA president, Ray McDowell, stated: "Since her appointment to the committee in November last year, Narelle has continually proven that she is a most valuable addition to NSWROA."

When asked what best describes her time in the racing industry to date Narelle replied: "I have so many great childhood memories of chatting to my Dad and Nan about our selections and picking trifectas.

"I still do trifectas and actually struck the trifecta when Teranaba won at \$118 so it was a pretty nice result.

"My Nan and Dad have both since passed away but I still do the form using the same method my Dad used mixed with some of Nan's little quirks – like first run after a spell, five each-way, and my Dad's consistent reminder to never gamble what you can't afford to lose still rings true.

"There is nothing like that feeling when your horse wins a race, especially a Group One. I am looking forward to sharing that joy again with other owners and I am passionate about recruiting new owners to the thrill of owning a racehorse."

If you are interested in participating in the wonderful world of thoroughbred racing and would like to become a member of NSWROA, simply visit our website - www.nswroa.com.au - or phone the NSWROA office on (02) 9299 4299. **RNSW**