



The happy managing owner of Melito, 2010 Luxbet.com NSW Champion Horse of the Year, John Rippon with trainer Gerald Ryan (at lectern)

## *Events a'plenty in 2011*

THERE IS A VAST ARRAY OF EXCELLENT FUNCTIONS PLANNED THIS YEAR BY NSWROA, BOTH ON AND OFF THE RACETRACK WORDS: SHARON HUNT (EXECUTIVE OFFICER - NSWROA)



ABOVE: (L-R): Gina Kotzoulas, Lisa Wellings and Sharon Lenton at last year's Golden Slipper Hats and High Tea LEFT: Former ace racecaller Ian Craig describes another 'hard fought finish' of The Racing Game

“ This year guests will be dazzled with millinery inspired from Europe, autumn fashion trends with accessories to match, and a makeup artist to demonstrate how to complement your look. ”

Another year at hand and NSW Racehorse Owners Association (NSWROA) will again have very a busy schedule of exciting events in store for members and guests in 2011 – some highlights of which follow.

Last year we celebrated 200 Years of Racing in New South Wales and this year the Association will celebrate “A New Era in Racing” in various functions throughout the year.

The 2011 calendar kicks off with a Night Racing Cocktail Function at Canterbury Park Racecourse on Friday, 18 February 2011.

As readers may be aware, these very popular functions were formally conducted on Thursday nights but in September last year the change was made to Friday nights; much to the delight of fans.

The Night Racing Cocktail Function will be the fourth night racing function and second Friday night event the Association has held – the first Friday night function was a “Welcome to Friday Night Racing” event on 24 September 2010 which was attended by members, friends and supporters of the Association and proved popular indeed.

The night was primarily an informal function which provided members and guests with a chance to relax whilst enjoying the wonderful food and beverages on offer and the excitement of night racing itself.

NSWROA president, Ray McDowell, made a short speech highlighting the achievements of the Association throughout the year as well as individually thanking supporters and sponsors of the 2010 NSWROA Racings Night of Champions.

The Golden Slipper Hats and High Tea will be the second function for NSWROA for the year.

This event, which is held in conjunction with Sharon Lenton Events, will take place on Sunday, 20 March 2011 at Dockside at Cockle Bay.

One of the glamour events leading into the Sydney Carnival, this is the third occasion the event has been held.

This year guests will be dazzled with millinery inspired from Europe, autumn fashion trends with accessories to match, and a makeup artist to demonstrate how to complement your look.

Female race caller Victoria Shaw will be the event compere and there will be surprises to

entertain guests throughout the event.

Also to be showcased on the day will be the latest collection from Lindsay Clare, who is now based in Europe, and Kim Fletcher, last year’s ambassador for the Melbourne Carnival who jets all over the world to bring the world to Melbourne, and who will for autumn, bring the look to Sydney.

As this event has been sold out every year and well in advance of the function, it would be wise to purchase your ticket early to avoid disappointment.

If you love your fashion, this event is a definite must on your calendar.

The third function for the Association will be a cocktail luncheon which will follow the AAMI Golden Slipper Barrier Draw. This function, again in conjunction with Sharon Lenton Events, will be held at Bar 333 on Tuesday, 29 March 2011.

The inaugural function was a huge success last year with guests having a wonderful time savouring drinks and a cocktail style lunch as well as enjoying themselves with the various entertainments on offer.

Guests were treated to a Phantom Call of the Golden Slipper by the legendary Ian Craig – who made a special return to the microphone for this event.

In fact Ian was kind enough to lend his dulcet tones to call one of the many races conducted with ‘The Racing Game’ which had such turf greats as Tie The Knot, Octagonal, Bonecrusher and Kingston Town matching strides in many exciting finishes.

The barrier draw for Sydney’s premier weight-for-age event, The BMW, was also conducted at the function, with many cheers from the gathering of owners as they ‘picked up a car’ and sealed their fate.

This event also sold out last year so book your place early to ensure you don’t miss out.

The very popular Sydney Cup Day Luncheon will be the next event on the agenda for NSWROA taking place at Royal

Randwick on Saturday, 23 April 2011.

This event is one of our favourites with members and guests combining fine wining and dining with the best of the best in the equine world as they battle it out for honours on the last day of the Sydney Carnival.

Sydney Cup Day is a very special day indeed for the NSWROA as each year the Association holds a Sydney Cup Day Luncheon and members and guests flock to Royal Randwick for our regular sojourn.

Highlights at the function include:-

- a Tipping Competition, with Guest Tipsters on deck. Last year we were most fortunate to obtain the services of Stephen Brassel, Tony Brassel, Ken Callander, Henry Noonan and Max Presnell as our Guest Tipsters for the afternoon;
- the Best Hat and Best Tie Competitions – both very keenly contested events every year; and
- the Most Elegant Woman Award, kindly sponsored by Sharon Lenton Events, and conducted for the first time at last year’s event.
- This is another sell-out function for the Association and again early bookings are advised.

And of course Racing’s Night of Champions, the Association’s flagship event, and the NSW Racing Industry’s night of nights.

As readers would be aware this celebrated event pays homage to the best NSW racing has to offer in recognising achievements for both horses and their humans.

The feature award at this function is the Luxbet.com NSW Champion Horse of the Year. Some truly remarkable horses in recent years have taken out this prestigious award including Lonhro (2004), Grand Armee (2005), Takeover Target (2006), Desert War (2007), Tuesday Joy (2008), Theseo (2009) and Melito last year.

At this stage I cannot disclose details of the extraordinary event currently being arranged for 2011, but I can say it will definitely be an event not to be missed. Stay tuned for further details.

For more information regarding NSWROA events to celebrate a ‘New Era in Racing’ in 2011, contact the NSWROA office via telephone (02) 9299-4299, by email [nswroa1@ozemail.com.au](mailto:nswroa1@ozemail.com.au) or visit the NSWROA website - [www.nswroa.com.au](http://www.nswroa.com.au) **RNSW**