



ATC's Chairman Laurie Macri with ATC Director Julia Ritchie and NSWROA President Ray McDowell

NSWROA farewells autumn carnival

NSW RACEHORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION WAS DELIGHTED TO ONCE AGAIN WELCOME MEMBERS & GUESTS TO OUR ANNUAL AUTUMN CARNIVAL FUNCTION AT ROYAL RANDWICK ON 21 APRIL

WORDS: **SHARON HUNT** (EXECUTIVE OFFICER – NSWROA) PICTURES: **TERENCE HO**



Dennis Pitman with Maureen McCarthy, winner of NSWROA Jane Pitman Memorial Award with judge NSWROA Director, Shirley McGrath

NSW Racehorse Owners Association's Sydney Autumn Carnival Raceday was held on the last day of the carnival – All Aged Stakes Day – which had six Group races on the card highlighted by the Group 1 All Aged Stakes and the Group 1 Champagne Stakes.

As we have come to expect at this event, the catering was again a highlight.

My thanks to all at Australian Turf Club who provided a wonderful array of food for the buffet style function and particular thanks, as always, to Roger Brassington for his valuable assistance.

As well as enjoying some wonderful racing, which I will talk about later in the article, various competitions were held throughout the day including the Best Tie and Tipping Competitions, a raffle and the coveted NSWROA Jane Pitman Memorial Award (the former Best Hat/Headpiece Competition) renamed last year in honour of longstanding NSWROA Member and Autumn Carnival Function devotee, Jane Pitman, who sadly passed away in February 2017.

Our lucky competition winners were Michael Avery (Best Tie) and Maureen McCarthy (NSWROA Jane Pitman Memorial Award and Raffle).

The Tipping Competition was a very close contest that went 'down to the wire' with Tony Favero finishing with a flourish to score with 14 points, just one point clear of the dead-heaters Isobel Johnstone and John Johnstone on 13 points.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank: -

- ATC Chairman, Laurie Macri for addressing our guests;
- Our judges for the NSWROA Jane Pitman Memorial Award & Best Tie Competition – Shirley McGrath and Ann Marie O'Neill;
- Ken Callander for his tipping advice to guests;
- Max Presnell for his tipping advice to guests;
- Tony Brassel for his tipping advice to guests;
- Antony Surace for running the tipping competition;
- Mitchell Stone & Blake Matthews for assisting with the raffle draw; and
- Terence Ho for kindly taking the photographs which have appeared in this article.

As mentioned previously, All Aged Stakes Day is the last day of the Sydney Autumn Carnival and is a racing smorgasbord with two Group 1 races (All Aged Stakes and Champagne Stakes) and four Group 3 races on the card.

Success in the 2018 Group 1 All Aged Stakes went to Trapeze Artist who scored most impressively from Le Romain (part-owned by NSWROA member, Antonio Carusi) with Showtime in third place. The Group 1 Champagne Stakes was taken out by the Victorian visitor Seabrook (NZ) from Bondi (part-owned by NSWROA member China Horse Club Racing) with El Dorado Dreaming third.

NSWROA members recorded black type winners on the day in the Group 3 Frank Packer Plate with Higher Ground (owned by Paul Kepitis and Mrs Debbie Kepitis), the Group 3 J H B Carr Stakes with Moss Tripp (part-owned by John Allen) and the Group 3 Japan Racing Association Plate with Tally (owned by Godolphin).

In addition, our members also recorded black type wins interstate in the Listed BRC Mick Dittman Plate at Doomben with Whypee (part-owned by Kevin Maloney) and the Listed MRC Bel Esprit Stakes at Caulfield with Sprightly Lass (part-owned by Wilf Mula and Mrs Rosemary Mula).



Judge Ann Marie O'Neill with the winner of Best Tie Competition, Michael Avery

NSWROA members also recorded wins during the day at Hillston, Kembla, Randwick (three) and Tomingley.

In closing, my thanks to all who attended the NSWROA Autumn Carnival function this year and I look forward to welcoming you to the 2019 function.

The next function on the NSWROA calendar is a raceday function at Rosehill Gardens on 28 July 2018, the last Metropolitan race meeting for the season.

This function is held in conjunction with the running of the NSW Racehorse Owners Association Trophy race – an initiative of the Association introduced with the co-operation of the ATC in 2016 which serves as a 'thank you' to all involved with the industry for the year that was and is conducted each year as the last race of the Metropolitan season.

The Association's flagship event and the NSW Racing Industry's Night of Nights, Racing's Night of Champions, will be held on 16 August 2018 at Royal Randwick.

Save the date for this fantastic function and watch this space for further details.

NSWROA is proud to again be supporting the Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation (POWHF) as our charity of choice at this year's event.

POWHF is an established charitable organisation supporting and promoting research, education, health promotion and patient care for and at the Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick.

For more information regarding the raceday function at Rosehill Gardens, the 2018 Racing's Night of Champions or if you are interested in becoming a member of the NSW Racehorse Owners Association, simply contact the NSWROA office by telephone (02) 9299-4299, by email nswroa1@ozemail.com.au or visit the NSWROA website www.nswroa.com.au **RNSW**