



# MAR 2005

## NSWROA DIRECTORS

Rob Albon – President  
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Max Whitby – Secretary  
John Leslie – Treasurer  
Noel Bracks  
Chris Keogh  
Stephen van Eyk  
Caroline Fara – Executive Officer

## AUTUMN CARNIVAL RACE DAY LUNCH

Don't forget the Association's **race day lunch** at **Royal Randwick on Saturday, 2 April 2005**, Sydney Cup Day.

As always, it should be an excellent day at the races with prizes for Ladies Best Hat, Gents Best Tie, guest tipsters, tipping competition, raffle and other assorted prizes and a sumptuous buffet lunch, drinks and afternoon tea. There will also be full tote and bookmaker facilities.

Cost for **members is only \$130 per person** and for **non-members \$150 per person** inc. GST. [The standard cost for lunch at Randwick on this day is \$200 per person.]

A few tables are still available so **BOOK NOW** and don't miss out. Bookings can be made by either calling Caroline on 9299 4299 or downloading a booking form from our website at [www.nswroa.com.au](http://www.nswroa.com.au)

## REPRESENTATION FOR OWNERS

**The Association continues to press its case for direct**

### **representation on the Board of Racing NSW, as originally promised by Minister Face when the TRB was established.**

Compared to other jurisdictions the Australian owner is poorly off. In the U.K., for example, the Racehorse Owners Association has two members on the British Horseracing Board – the equivalent of Racing NSW – out of 10 directors chosen by industry stakeholders. Here we share one appointed Board member with the breeders.

Rob Albon made this lack of direct representation of owners the subject of an article in the Sydney Morning Herald on Friday, 11 February 2005. The published article was a slightly edited version of the following, written for the website:

### **REPRESENTATION FOR OWNERS – WHY DON'T THOSE WHO PAY THE PIPER GET A CHANCE TO CALL THE TUNE?**

At the turn of the year, the attention of racing's devotees is directed to the Gold Coast, where the world's first and by far most successful sales restricted racing carnival takes place. In a marketing and sporting triumph, yearling sales are delivered as theatre and thousands pack a provincial racecourse, usually in almost impossibly sultry conditions. There is no black type, but a lot of hype and the Magic Millions is now but the centrepiece in a series of sales-restricted races worth, from this year, a total of \$4 million across Australia.

The Magic Millions sale also signals the start of a season of yearling and other auctions, in Australia and New Zealand, culminating with the Easter Sales in Sydney. The major studs are out in force, spruiking their wares and all the talk is of the prices

paid, the exploits of closely related progeny and the millions spent by overseas buyers.

For the weeks leading up to Easter, it seems as if the racing industry is the breeding industry. The stallions and their masters are the stars; the auction ring the stage on which the racing community performs.

The perception that the interests of racing and breeding are one and the same is increased and mutually reinforced by the position of breeders in the corridors of power and by their ability to influence the structure and character of racing in Australia.

For example, the Australian Pattern Committee decides on the ranking of races under the Group system and thus the level of prestige that attaches to a victory in any race and the subsequent stud or breeding potential of a horse. Breeding inevitably becomes tailored to the pattern, reinforcing the structure of racing that the Committee favours. On the Committee, aside from those members from the regulatory and administrative arms of the industry, are two breeders representatives and one from the thoroughbred auction houses, who facilitate the sale of the breeders product. There are no members representing the interests of trainers nor of owners.

In NSW the controlling body, Racing NSW, has on its Board a place for a member jointly to represent owners and breeders. Even a person as able as the current incumbent is placed in an impossible position; breeders are the producers, owners are the consumers. It is the breeders objective to sell their product for the highest price possible, as with any competitive business; the owners, as any consumer, to pay as low a price as possible.

Nowadays, the Australian owner is in competition with not only his fellows but with the international market, which inevitably puts prices up.

There is nothing wrong with the way the market operates. The mistake is in assuming that breeders' interests are the same as owners' and that these represent the interests of racing as a whole.

The Racing NSW Strategic Plan recognises the Owner as the most important component in the chain that is the racing industry. Breeders are the ones who supply the stock, but, for this very reason, breeding is not racing and the interests of breeders are not the same as those of the entire racing industry. This needs to be more clearly understood, so that all participants are truly represented and all have the ability to contribute to the management and development of racing in Australia.

### EXCLUSIVE STC OFFER TO NSWROA MEMBERS

Agreement has been reached with the Sydney Turf Club on a reciprocal arrangement to waive joining fees for membership of both organizations.

**With effect from 1 July 2005**, financial members of NSWROA, not already members of the STC, will not be charged a joining fee on application for membership of the race club. Similarly, STC members who are racehorse owners and not currently members of the Association will be exempt from the NSWROA joining fee.

Prospective members will need to complete an STC application form, state their NSWROA Membership Number and lodge the application with the STC Membership Department in order to obtain the member discount.

We are pleased to announce this initiative which we hope will lead to other benefits exclusive to our members.

### RACING'S NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS

**This year's awards night will take place on 11 August 2005 in the Pavilion at Royal Randwick.**

**Full details will be published in coming newsletters and on the website.**

### INJURIES IN TRANSPORT

Horses cover many thousands of kilometers every year in Australia, mostly without incident.

Complaints have recently been received, however, regarding injuries sustained by horses in transit. The responsibility for insuring safe and injury free travel is that of the transporter, who would generally owe a duty of care to the horse owner.

Any arrangement for transport is directly between an owner and/or a representative (e.g. a trainer) and the transport company. The best advice that the Association is able to give is that as soon as any injury is realised, a letter is sent to the transport company, putting it on notice, and that this is followed, as soon as possible, by a vet's report.

It is probably best if a very short timeframe is given for a reply in order that responsibility and any restitution may be established as quickly as possible.

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

The NSWROA Newsletter enjoys a large distribution each month. If you are targeting owners then remember that advertising is

available in the Newsletter. For further information on our rates for boxed ads or one page flyer inserts, please contact Caroline Fara at our offices on 9299 4299.

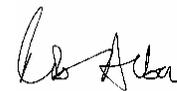
### NSWROA WEBSITE ACCESS

Don't forget that members need a **username** and **password** to access the website so if you haven't already done so either call **Caroline Fara**, Executive Officer on **t: 9299 4299** to obtain your username or email your password to [nswroa1@ozemail.com.au](mailto:nswroa1@ozemail.com.au).

### FREE ENTRY - MAR

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Broadmeadow
2 <sup>rd</sup>	Ballina, Hawkesbury
5 <sup>th</sup>	Balranald, Bathurst, Broadmeadow
6 <sup>th</sup>	Tamworth
7 <sup>th</sup>	Muswellbrook
8 <sup>th</sup>	Wyong
9 <sup>th</sup>	Kembla Grange
10 <sup>th</sup>	Lismore
11 <sup>th</sup>	Cowra, Nowra
12 <sup>th</sup>	Broadmeadow, Coonabarabran, Grafton
13 <sup>th</sup>	Corowa
17 <sup>th</sup>	Hawkesbury
18 <sup>th</sup>	Canberra, Muswellbrook
19 <sup>th</sup>	Kembla Grange, Young
20 <sup>th</sup>	Ballina, Wellington
21 <sup>st</sup>	Albury, Wellington
24 <sup>th</sup>	Gosford
26 <sup>th</sup>	Broadmeadow, Lismore
	Moree, Moruya, Tamworth
27 <sup>th</sup>	Cowra, Nowra
29 <sup>th</sup>	Nowra
31 <sup>st</sup>	Hawkesbury, Grafton

Yours in Racing



**Rob Albon**  
President



For all your Bloodstock  
Insurance Needs

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1800 652 006 or 02 9635 3100

