

MAY 2003

NSWROA DIRECTORS

Chris Keogh - President
Benedict Chan - Vice President
Max Whitby - Secretary
John Leslie - Treasurer
Rob Albon
Michael Kissane
Noel Bracks
Reg Richardson
Stephen van Eyk

Caroline Fara - Office Manager

NSWROA RACING'S NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS 2003

Mark your calendar. Thursday, 7th August 2003 has been confirmed as the date for the most prestigious racing function of the year, the NSW Racehorse Owners Association Gala Awards evening or as it is now better known "Racing's Night of Champions".

The Pavillion at Randwick Racecourse will again be the venue for what promises to be a fantastic night of awards, prizes, entertainment and dancing all complemented by fine food and wine. We are pleased to once again be able to support the "Mathew Talbot Hostel Appeal" as the major financial beneficiary of the evening.

Our annual harbour cruise held on Tuesday 6 May also acts as the official launch function for Racing's Night of Champions. The highlight of the day was the unveiling of one of the paintings, generously donated by Alister Simpson which will be auctioned on the night.

OWNERS SURVEY

As mentioned previously, we have included a survey with this newsletter which we hope will enable NSW ROA to better understand owners' wishes and needs. Once compiled, this information will be invaluable in our dealings with the various racing bodies.

I urge all members to take the few minutes required to fill out the survey and, as an incentive we are offering a prize of two free tickets to this years Racing's Night of Champions (value \$330) to one lucky member selected at random.

RACEDAY LUNCHEON

Our annual Randwick Race Day luncheon was held on "OAKS Day" on Saturday, 26 April, and I am sure all who attended would agree what a fabulous day it turned out to be.

Beside the great racing and the excellent food, the day was filled with guest tipsters, prizes and entertainment which all combined to give the room a feeling of real excitement. Thank you to our Director, Rob Albon who did an excellent job as MC and thanks also to our Secretary, Max Whitby who did a lot of behind the scenes organising for that day.

I must thank our Celebrity Judge, Miss Maria Venuti, who selected the winners of the Best Hat and Best Tie. Her presentation of the awards was a performance in itself. Thank you also to our

Celebrity Tipsters, Terry Bailey, Ken Callender, Ian Craig and Max Presnell for taking time out from what would have been a busy work day to give members the benefit of their considerable knowledge.

Congratulations to our prize winner on the day, Marina Delhunty won the award for the Best Hat and Ray McDowell was judged the Best Dressed Gentleman. Thank you also to Wilhelmena McLean for donating the Yves St. Laurent prizes for the Ladies Award, and to Vince Maloney Menswear in Elizabeth Street for the Men's Award. Their generosity is most appreciated. Congratulations also to Kim Dyer who won the tipping contest and a \$100 bet in the last race courtesy of Bookmaker Henry Noonan.

As a result of the success of this function on one of the major days of the AJC Carnival, your Directors have decided to make "Oaks Day" a permanent fixture for our annual Randwick Race Day Luncheon.

BMI Test

Recently, we wrote to the Chairman of Stewards, Mr Ray Murrhly seeking clarification of a Body Mass Index (BMI) test for jockeys which the Stewards were considering in order to establish safe riding weights.

BMI is the measurement of weight divided by height in metres squared and is therefore a measure comparing an individual's weight to their body surface area. BMI is used extensively as an overview for body fat in relation to height.

The full reply from Ray Murrhly can be viewed on our website but it appears that there are problems in its application in the racing industry. From discussions with health

professionals, the Stewards have been advised that BMI may not be the best way to measure minimum body weights for jockeys and therefore are currently looking into other options.

We will keep you posted of any further developments in this area but, we must have a system that both looks after the welfare of the jockey and ensures that, from an owners perspective, the ability of the jockey they employ to ride a particular horse is not inhibited by excessive wasting.

MEMBERS DISCOUNTS

We thank members for their feedback on the good deals that they received through **Thrifty Car Rental**. Members were pleased to discover the rates they received through NSWROA are more favourable than other motoring organisations. We thank Thrifty for their continued support of our members. Please contact us for your rate code.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewals are now overdue for 2003, so please send your subscription **ASAP**. We need your renewals so that we can continue to be a strong and active advocate for owners' rights in NSW.

FREE ENTRY

Yet more race clubs have agreed to offer free admission to NSW ROA members. This month we welcome Taree-Wingham Race Club and Leeton Jockey Club to the considerable number of race clubs that admit NSW ROA members free of charge upon production of a current membership ID card. Thank you to the Committees of both clubs for their generosity.

RACING TO THE MAX

On the 1st Saturday of every month one of our Directors appears on radio 2SM 'Racing to the Max' at approximately 7:45 am. So tune into 1269AM and if you have any matters you wish raised publicly let us know.

FREE ENTRY - MAY

1st Wyong
 3rd Grafton, Moree, Newcastle
 4th Orange, Tamworth
 6th Hawkesbury
 8th Gosford
 9th Canberra
 10th Albury, Ballina, Illawarra, Quirindi
 12th Murwillumbah
 13th Goulburn
 15th Wyong
 16th Scone
 17th Grafton, Leeton, Newcastle, Scone
 18th Tamworth
 20th Ballina
 22nd Hawkesbury
 23rd Muswellbrook
 24th Grafton, Illawarra, Moree, Tamworth, Wellington
 25th Canberra
 26th Nowra, Taree
 27th Scone
 29th Gosford
 30th Bathurst
 31st Newcastle

15th Albury
 17th Scone
 19th Hawkesbury
 20th Canberra, Grafton
 21st Kembla Grange, Lismore, Muswellbrook, Wellington
 22nd Coonabarabran, Goulburn
 23rd Tamworth, Taree
 24th Wyong
 26th Gosford
 27th Quirindi, Murwillumbah
 28th Broadmeadow, Grafton
 30th Narrandera

Free admission on a monthly basis of about 10 provincial and 26 country meetings sure gives value to your membership.

Yours in Racing

Chris Keogh
 President NSWROA

FREE ENTRY - JUNE

3rd Muswellbrook
 5th Hawkesbury
 6th Canberra, Grafton
 7th Corowa, Kembla Grange, Lismore, Tamworth, Taree
 8th Gosford
 12th Wyong
 13th Ballina, Goulburn
 14th Broadmeadow, Leeton