



NSW RACEHORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

OCT 2004

NSWROA DIRECTORS

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

SPRING DEVONSHIRE TEA

Members who have renewed for 2005 and any others intending to, in time to enjoy the Association's 'Spring Devonshire Tea' on the members lawn at Royal Randwick on Saturday, **16th October 2004** from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, please note that we have to provide the AJC with final numbers on Wednesday 6th October. Call or email Caroline at the office prior to this date to confirm your attendance.

QUICK SURVEY RESULTS

Racing NSW's proposal to introduce a voucher system for payment of metropolitan BOBS bonuses, to run parallel with cash payments has been a subject of a specific survey through this Newsletter and our website. The results to date are as follows:

- A. Cash - 38%
- B. Voucher - 10%
- C. Voucher used more widely within racing - 52%

Clearly the voucher to be used only for a stallion service or towards purchase at auction is the least popular option.

The survey has also prompted much feedback from members. This will be reviewed and together with the survey results inform a submission to Racing NSW shortly. For anybody who has not yet responded to the survey and would like to do so, the cut-off date is 8th October 2004.

DOWNGRADING THE METROPOLITAN

The Association has received very positive feedback to the views expressed by Rob Albon in an interview with Ray Thomas in the Daily Telegraph of 24 September 2004 on the downgrading of The Metropolitan from Group One to Group Two status.

It is also understood that the AJC is appealing against the downgrading.

In all submissions to racing authorities the Association has put the case for increased opportunities for stayers as part of a logical hierarchy of racing. Indeed, Racing NSW has responded to this by requiring race clubs to programme more races over a distance.

If a policy of downgrading staying races and reducing race distances continues then the Melbourne Cup will become an anomaly in the programme, merely a three-ring circus staged for the benefit of overseas owners and trainers.

More detailed information can be found on our website.

CHRISTMAS RACE DAY

Don't forget the Association's **race day luncheon** at Rosehill Gardens on **Saturday 4 December 2004**, Festival Stakes Day.

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

Cost for **members is \$90** and for **non-members \$100** inc. GST.

Bookings may be made by ringing the office or through our website.

NSWROA WEBSITE ACCESS

Members now need a **username** and **password** to access the revamped website so if you haven't already done so call **Caroline Fara** on t: **9299 4299** to obtain your username or **email your password** to **caroline@nswroa.com.au**.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

To assist in increasing the Association's membership Racing NSW are to send out an NSWROA Membership Application Form in all of its mail outs to owners.

This will explain why those who are already NSWROA members will receive these forms.

Please pass them on to any of your fellow owners who may not be members of the Association.

The more members we have the more we are able to achieve.

NEW CONTACT DETAILS

Please note our new telephone number is **9299 4299** and fax **9299 3212**.

ELECTION TIME

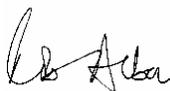
Usually talk of elections is because one of our members is standing for a race club committee. In the forthcoming general election, however, James Harker-Mortlock, an NSWROA member, is standing as an Independent Senate candidate, on the platform of "A Big Push for Small Business". James has identified racing as a sector of the economy dependent upon small business, deserving of relief from red tape. He states that he hopes to be a voice in Canberra that understands racing's contribution to the economy and its role as an employer, especially in regional Australia.

FREE ENTRY - OCT

1 st	Moruya, Tamworth
2 nd	Broadmeadow, Grafton
3 rd	Cootamundra (Cup), Muswellbrook
4 th	Ballina
5 th	Bathurst
6 th	Wyong
7 th	Hawkesbury
8 th	Goulburn
9 th	Albury, Kembla Grange Quirindi, Wellington, Young (Picnic)
12 th	Grafton
14 th	Gosford
15 th	Taree (Cup)
16 th	Ballina, Broadmeadow, Corowa (Picnic)
17 th	Hawkesbury, Nowra
18 th	Scone
19 th	Orange
21 st	Wyong
23 rd	Albury, Kembla Grange, Sapphire Coast
24 th	Lismore
25 th	Coonabarabran (Cup)
26 th	Taree (Cup)
27 th	Gosford
29 th	Goulburn

30th Ballina, Balranald,
Broadmeadow

Yours in Racing



Rob Albon
President

JAMIE WALTER'S COLUMN

As the build up to the major cups escalates, many owners and trainers remain perplexed by the vigorous efforts of Racing Victoria to attract foreign competitors. Sure, it's great to have a race on the world stage and to attract quality opposition. However at what cost?

Twenty of the top thirty horses weighted in the Melbourne Cup will be arriving by jet, were they all to accept the invitation to run. Now, that will dwindle to 5 or 6 by race day but that is a quarter of the field. So half a dozen fit and healthy locals will be home in the box when the nation's stellar event is run. And that means a bunch of owners, six trainers and a similar number of jockeys will be sitting in the stands.

A couple of points to be made here. When Vintage Crop cleaned us up a decade ago, the cry was loud and long that overseas visitors would dominate the race. Not so. Michael Kinane's dodgy navigation and Taufan's Melody's Caulfield Cup notwithstanding, the foreigners didn't salute again until Media Puzzle's heart-warming victory nine years on.

What's become apparent is that travelling finely tuned, fragile racehorses around the world and expecting them to perform at their optimum is fraught with risk. Just ask the connections of Exceed and Excel. It ain't that easy.

Only a special horse with a hardy constitution and temperament can make the necessary adaptations

after a long flight to compete at his or her best. Choisir was one such exceptional animal. His blitz of Britain probably won't be repeated for another decade.

So given the enormity of the task, should we not be more selective in our pursuit of foreign runners? For every outsider, a domestic horse misses out and I'd suggest that fact has not been accorded the significance it warrants. What's wrong with a limit of 3?

PARTNERS REQUIRED

Shares available for purchase/lease in a rising 2YO filly by **ARENA** from **BOISTEROUS LADY**. To be trained by Gary Portelli at Warwick Farm. BOBS qualified. Please contact Graeme on 0407 948 483 for details

PARTNERS REQUIRED

Shares available for purchase/lease in a rising 2YO chestnut colt by **LOCHRAE** from **MISS KIDMAN**. To be trained by Geoff O'Brien at Quirindi. Please contact Graeme on 0407 948 483 for details

aap • **RACINGSPORTS**

FREE FORM ANALYSER!

The form and ratings service that professional punters use. Register by October 15, 2004 and go in the draw to receive a free \$100 block of Form Analyser.

Call 1800 811 358, quote reference number SHO, and provide us with your contact details for your chance to win. **AUTHORISED UNDER PERMIT NUMBERS: NSW TPL04/10537 ACT TP04/4118**

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