



HoofPrint

HoofPrint Summer 2014 Edition

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Major donors over \$500 from July to December

Our major donors – and their generous donations – help Pegasus make a real difference to those living with a disability in the ACT and local NSW region.

Individual donors:

- Kay Beaton
- Joan Crook
- Catherine E
- Barbara and Tom Harding
- Michael Hutchinson
- Barbara Robinson.

Businesses and organisations:

- Arena Grooming
- Bungendore Veterinary Surgery
- C&E Earthmoving Pty Ltd
- Capital Chemist
- Country Women's Association (Gungahlin Branch)
- Country Women's Association (Canberra Branch)
- Dam Smart
- Department of Finance
- Gungahlin Children's Centre

From the Executive Officer



How quickly time passes when you're having fun!

It is hard to believe that it has been over a year since I started at Pegasus. The time has flown by but, what a year it's been! Filled with plenty of activity, the past 12 months have seen tremendous growth and change.

With this growth and change came a few challenges – mainly in the introduction of the National Disability

Insurance Scheme (NDIS) – but we are conquering these challenges bit by bit. Pegasus is now registered as a NDIS service provider, and the NDIS Organisational Readiness Toolkit has been of great assistance as we progressively move into the new funding regime and its requirements. Thanks to an NDIS Business Development Grant, Pegasus is developing new policies, and work on the Operational Plan is nearing completion.

At the end of October, I attended the RDA Australia Volunteer Awards dinner and AGM at Morphettville Junction in South Australia. It was a great way to celebrate and honour the many volunteers who do such valuable work for Riding for the Disabled all around the country. While there, I also attended the RDA Australia Annual General Meeting, and work on their Constitution is under way, just as our work on Pegasus' Constitution continues.

Along with the challenges that the NDIS and Constitutional review has brought, we've had some incredible successes in the second half of this year:

- We had an extremely positive Annual General Meeting where we voted in a new Committee, inducted new life members and presented the "best ever" Pegasus Annual Report.
- We are accepting applications for our next round of Riding Scholarships for 2015.
- We have worked hard to strengthen connections with the external community, other service providers, the equine community, and the disability sector.
- We've introduced two new members to our precious Pegasus herd – 'Nutmeg' and 'Smartie'.
- We had a fabulous turnout at the Christmas Party – despite the heaven's opening up on us.
- We have been the beneficiary of some fantastic community and business events – showing that we have plenty of support in our local region. Some of these events have included:

- The annual Horse's Birthday in August. Kids and ponies alike delighted in the celebrations; including a clown show, jumping castle, face painting, and a large hay and carrot cake.
- The inaugural Yowani Pegasus Golf Day on 4 September. Twenty-two teams participated in the day – fortified by a sausage sizzle kindly managed by the Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen members. The total amount raised was \$17,663.64. A raffle prize of Penfold Heritage wine was very kindly donated back to Pegasus and immediately auctioned, raising an extra \$750.

- Infinity Kitchens and Joinery
- IP Australia
- Tall Foundation
- Tuggeranong Valley Lawn Bowls Club
- Recon Furniture Sales Pty Ltd
- Shaw Building Group.

Re-adoptions:

- Riverview Group

New Scholarship Supporters:

- Capital Chemist
- Network Electrical Group
- Servcorp
- Tall Foundation.

Term Dates

Pegasus term dates for 2015 are:

Term 1: Monday, 2 February to Saturday, 11 April

Term 2: Tuesday, 28 April to Saturday, 4 July

Term 3: Tuesday, 21 July to 26 September

Term 4: Tuesday, 13 October to 5 December

School holiday programs are available and are often in great demand. Please call us on 02 6254 9190 for more information.

This year's awards

Our Volunteer Awards are held every year to recognise and celebrate the great work our volunteers do. This year's awards were presented at the Christmas party to:

- **Janelle Patten – Overall Volunteer**
- **Lauren O'Neale – 2014 Junior Volunteer**
- **Susana Wynn – 2014 Stable Hand**
- **Kate Taylor – Outstanding Effort**

Our commendable horses are also recognised for their 'service to others' and this year, the 2014 Horse of the Year Award went to **'Taverners Bill'**.

Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients and thanks to our many

- Servcorp and The Doma Group held the Great Minds Trivia Night in October with funds raised being donated to several local charities – of which Pegasus was one. A total of \$5,400 was donated from the evening to us.
- 'Unbridled' debuted in November and celebrated all things horsey. There were some fantastic equestrian displays and horse performances, and Jo Skimmin – our Program Manager and Coach – presented on the 'Movement of the Horse' in the Horse Quarter.
- The ACT Early Intervention and Therapy Services Expo was held in September and provided a great opportunity for people with disabilities, their families and carers to find out more about the range of therapy and early intervention services that are available in the ACT, and how these can be accessed under the NDIS.

Moving forward into 2015, the next steps for Pegasus is to look at ways to broaden the wonderful work we do here. These aims include extending opportunities for volunteer work for people with a disability; broadening our 'unmounted' program to post-school adults; enhancing our 'early intervention' program for three to six year-olds; initiating a school holiday program for siblings of riders with a disability; and growing our presence in the world of social media.

Like a 'horse with a carrot', I will – with the help of our staff, volunteers and community – steadfastly work towards achieving these aims.

As 2014 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have shown us this year, and to wish you and your families all the best for the holiday season and for a safe and happy New Year.

Kind regards, *Jane Thompson Executive Officer*

Our Year, Our Story

On Thursday, 27 November, we proudly presented our Annual Report 2013-2014 ***Our Year, Our Story*** at Pegasus' Annual General Meeting (AGM). The report highlights our successes and challenges from the last financial year as well as some wonderful stories from staff, volunteers, donors and families.

2013-2014 was a year in which we focused our efforts on our core mission of enriching the lives of those living with a disability in the ACT and local NSW community, as well as capacity building to ensure that Pegasus remains a sustainable organisation into the future.

Some of our highlights included:

- increasing our income by \$144,210 or 14%
- providing 2,339 sessions – an increase of 41%
- initiating specific disability training; over and above RDAA accreditation
- increasing our membership base by more than 200%
- introducing new funding programs: Rezorc-a-Horse; Riding Scholarships; an Appeals Program; and Grants Program
- strengthening our connections with the external community, other service providers, the equine community and the disability sector.

The AGM was very positive with a great turnout from our Members. The Committee was voted in, with some familiar faces remaining and some new ones joining us. Returning President, Nick Langley, addressed the proposed changes to the Constitution that the



dedicated and hardworking volunteers that make up the heart and soul of the Pegasus family.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, please call 02 6254 8790 or visit our website:
pegasusact.com.au/volunteer

Our year to December



There were plenty of events held recently where Pegasus was the beneficiary.

The following events donated a portion of their profits to Pegasus:

- **The Department of Immigration and Border Protection** held a 'spooky' trivia night in September, which raised an incredible \$22,000 for Pegasus. One of the largest donations the Department has ever made to a charity.
- **Servcorp** and **The Doma Group** held a 'Great Minds Charity Trivia Night' on 18 October with all funds raised being donated to local charity groups – of which Pegasus was one. Servcorp donated \$5,400 from the evening to us, which will fund riding scholarships.
- **Blue Illusion Belconnen** boutique hosted two special 'shop to support' charity events – one in October and again in December – with 20 percent of all the proceeds from each event being donated to

Committee will continue to work on over the next few months – including changes to make the Committee structure more effective, remove ambiguities and bring the Constitution into line with strong governance frameworks. A special meeting will be held before June 2015 to present the new Constitution for Member endorsement.

To view the entire 2013-2014 Annual Report *Our Year, Our Story*, please visit:

<http://pegasusridingforthedisabled.createand1.com/t/d-l-yddhyuy-l-z/>

International Day of People with Disability

Wednesday, 3 December was the United Nations International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD) – an annual event to come together, recognise and celebrate the contributions made by people with disability to their communities across Australia.



The **Department of Agriculture** invited Pegasus Executive Officer Jane Thompson to attend their workplace forum, to celebrate the day, and to present on the services Pegasus provides to people living with a disability in the local community.

The theme for IDPwD 2014 was 'Sustainable Development: The Promise of Technology', and focused on the role technology plays in helping to break down barriers for people with disability.

The Department's Disability Champion, Deputy Secretary Phillip Glyde, opened the proceedings and spoke about the department's commitment to sustaining a nondiscriminatory workplace that promotes diversity and equality and accurately reflects the broader Australian community.

The afternoon's first presenter, Wilma Stevens, from the Australian Network on Disability, discussed disability etiquette and disability confidence in the workplace. With the recent statistics showing that over four million Australians have a disability (one in five people), or may develop a disability, the importance of fostering a workplace culture which recognises and values individual differences – and implements diversity initiatives to overcome barriers to recruitment, development and retention of people from diverse backgrounds – is imperative.

Jane Thompson then presented on the horse-facilitated programs and activities that Pegasus offers, and the goals for the next three years, which include:

- extending opportunities for volunteer work for people with a disability
- extending the 'unmounted' program to include post-school adults
- enhancing the 'early intervention' program for three to six year-olds
- initiating a school holiday program for siblings of riders with a disability.

Jane spoke of Pegasus' vision of a world that sees ability in people with disabilities; and how our programs support riders and families, and deliver therapy sessions in a safe and encouraging family environment, with a nurturing teacher and friend – the horse.

The day's message was one of highlighting 'abilities' or 'developing abilities' in our case. What was very evident is that Pegasus' current programs and proposed initiatives all align strongly with the IDPwD's

- Pegasus.
- The [Unbridled Festival of Horses, Music and Food](#) galloped into Canberra in November and a portion of the proceeds from the one-day mega festival was donated to us.

The following events donated all profits to Pegasus:

- [Department of Agriculture](#) International Day of People with Disability workplace forum raised \$1070 from staff members (see earlier story).
- [Tuggeranong Valley Women's Bowling Club](#) (combined - men's and women's) presented Jane Thompson with \$2,500 on their club's social event of the year – the 2014 presentation day.
- [The Shiny Bum Singers](#) and their hilarious musical melodrama "Rampant Bureaucracy" raised \$2,675 in November.
- [St. Francis Xavier College](#) chose Pegasus as one of the charities the student body fundraised for this year, and last week presented Jane Thompson with a cheque for \$1,580 at their school assembly.
- Renowned equine performance therapist, educator and coach, [Dianne Jenkins](#), hosted an evening's presentation at Pegasus to regale us with stories from her recent trip to the United Kingdom and Europe in the lead up to the World Equestrian Games (WEG). All profits were donated to Pegasus.
- The evening workshop with [Uwe Spellen](#), which highlighted

aim of ensuring that people with disability have the opportunity for full social and economic participation.

Our thanks to the Department of Agriculture staff for hosting the forum and for choosing Pegasus as the charity of choice for the event. A fantastically generous sum of \$1070 was raised by staff and donated to us.

[National Museum of Australia event](#)

Pegasus also proudly celebrated IDPWd with the National Museum of Australia. The Museum hosted the event, which included craft activities, music, a thrilling dance performance from CDTeens, a special theatre performance by the rodeo queen 'Heidi Hodeo', and 'Smiley' our mascot attended with a couple of wonderful Pegasus ponies – Thomas and Taverners Bill.

The day was a great success with plenty of children greeting Thomas and Bill and plenty of pony pats ensuing!

Thanks to the Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen whose magnificent BBQ skills and chilled refreshments kept everyone happily fed and watered.

Family Week

We recently celebrated Family Week – a much-loved tradition here at Pegasus where parents, siblings, grandparents and carers come and see their loved one in action.

Our rider's families and friends jumped at the chance to attend, with a large number of enthusiastic and supportive family members coming along to watch their loved one ride, meet their horse, take photos, chat with other parents, ask questions, provide feedback, discuss progress with our coaches and volunteers, and to share in some early Christmas cheer.

Family Week is all about having some fun and celebrating the achievements of our program participants. But, it's also a valuable opportunity for coaches to consult with parents and receive insight into their child's personal goals in other areas of their life. Having information about a rider's personal aims allows coaches to tailor riding programs to include and complement these personal goals.

Thanks for such a great turnout! Of course, parents are always welcome to visit Pegasus at any time to watch their child ride, so feel free to visit again soon!

Open again - Pegasus Riding Scholarships

Pegasus' 2015 Riding Scholarships are now open. These scholarships support people with a disability who aspire to develop their potential through horse-related activities and associated therapy, through either a Riding (mounted program) or Horsemanship (unmounted program) scholarship.



Financial support is provided for people who meet the selection criteria and are selected as the successful recipient*.

This initiative is thanks to the generosity of our donors, who wish to develop the abilities of people living with a disability.

Full yearly scholarships:

correct lateral movement techniques, the training scale and good trot extensions donated all profits from the night.

- [Belconnen Tennis Club](#) in Macquarie Club Tennis Day and Official Opening of the resurfaced courts and very kindly donated the profits to us.

Our sincerest thanks to everyone who hosted and supported these events. Your efforts and generous donations are greatly appreciated!

2014 Riding Scholarship Award Winners

The 2014 Riding Scholarship Awards night was held in August, and provided scholarship sponsors with the opportunity to meet and present awards to their scholarship recipients. Congratulations to all who received awards this year.

The Riding Tall Scholarship in Recognition of Excellence in Riding:

Roger Tall (Tall Foundation) has been supporting Pegasus for a number of years and has actively funded the purchase of horses and Adopt-a-Pony, as well as a Riding Scholarship. Recipients of this scholarship were:

- [Sebastian Claessens](#)
- [Christian Moore](#)
- [Jimoien Stakelum-Sibley](#).

The Lions Club of Canberra Woden Scholarship in Recognition of Excellence in Riding:

Members of the Club have previously supported Pegasus, and the opportunity to directly support a rider and their family appealed to them. The Club have pledged the Scholarship for three years. Recipients of this award were:

- [Paddy O'Rourke](#)
- [Mitch McDermott](#)
- [Jessie Younie](#).

The Abilities Scholarship in Memory of William Quinlivan: Marcus Quinlivan – a

- Opportunities Scholarship in memory of Chris Hall
- Core Family Scholarship for Developing Confidence
- Lions Club of Canberra (Woden) Scholarship in Recognition of Riding Excellence
- Capital Chemist Scholarship in Recognition for Excellence in Riding
- Riding Tall Scholarship in Recognition for Excellence in Riding
- Servcorp Scholarship for Developing Riding Confidence.

Half-yearly (Term 1) scholarships:

- Core Family Scholarship for Horse Companionship
- Executive Assistant Network Dept. Finance for Developing Confidence
- Executive Assistant Network Dept. Finance for Horse Companionship
- Executive Assistant Network Dept. Finance for Excellence in Riding
- Servcorp Scholarship for Excellence in Riding.

Applications close on Wednesday, 28 January 2015 with the successful applicants notified by Monday, 9 February 2015.

Pegasus' Awards Night is scheduled for Thursday, 19 February when scholarship sponsors will award a scholarship to selected recipients.

Visit <http://pegasusridingforthe-disabled.createsend1.com/t/d-l-yddhyuy-l-v/> to view the application details.

**Subject to placement offerings*

Want to support a Riding Scholarship?

If you are interested in supporting a scholarship, please visit <http://pegasusridingforthe-disabled.createsend1.com/t/d-l-yddhyuy-l-e/> for scholarship sponsor information.

Young adults 'Horsing Around'

Pegasus and the Belconnen Community Centre will join together to offer six participants the opportunity to attend a four day 'Horsing Around' program in January 2015. The program consists of a one-hour unmounted session each day for four days.

The 'Horsing Around' program is for adolescents and young adults aged 12 years to 25 years and delivered with RDAA accredited coaches and Pegasus trained volunteers. It is a fun, educational, physically-active and challenging alternative to a regular riding program, and provides an introduction to horse management skills such as feeding, grooming, first aid, tack and yard cleaning; as well as horse handling/leading skills – the use of handler's body language, positioning, voice, and lead rope to communicate and make requests of the horse.

Through a reciprocal relationship with the horse, adolescents and young adults learn to work as part of a team; develop their leadership skills; improve confidence, balance, coordination, motor skills and general fitness; and gain an awareness of their body language and how this influences the responses of others.

Once the program is finished, participants have the opportunity to return as volunteers to further develop their skills should they wish to do so.

Please contact us if you would like to know more about the 'Horsing Around' program on 02 6254 9190. If you would like to make a donation to help fund our wide range of horse-facilitated programs and activities, visit

<http://pegasusridingforthe-disabled.createsend1.com/t/d-l-yddhyuy-l-s/> and click on the 'Make a Donation' button.

In control of herself...

Pegasus Life Member – supports a Scholarship in memory of his late father, William Quinlivan, who was quite familiar with horses during his service in the First World War. Recipients were:

- [Isaiah Wandin-Gillies](#)
- [Blake Peardon](#).

The Capital Chemist Scholarship in Recognition of Excellence in Riding:

Melita Flynn represents Capital Chemist and the Tall Foundation. Melita is always on the front foot with donations, raffles, and action items; and takes great interest in the work we do. Award recipients were:

- [Queenie Palen](#)
- [Mackenzie Bennett](#)
- [Ava Norris](#).

Upcoming events



A **'Spirited'** Australia Day Festival

Monday, 26 January 2015 from 10am to 3pm

Pegasus is proudly celebrating Australia Day with the National Museum of Australia. The Museum is hosting the "all things horse-related" event, which is inspired by the Spirited: Australia's Horse Story exhibition. Entry to the Spirited exhibition is free all day.

The event is filled with activities the whole family can enjoy, including horse rides; performances by celebrated country musician Warren H Williams and X-Factor star Caitlyn Shadbolt; bootscooting; demonstrations and exhibition talks; craft activities and more. And, of course, Pegasus' mascot 'Smiley' will be there!

Entry is free but costs do apply for some activities.

Visit <http://pegasusridingforthe-disabled.createsend1.com/t/d-l-yddhyuy-l-a/> for more program information.

When?

Monday, 26 January 2015
10am to 3pm

Where?

National Museum of Australia
Lawson Crescent
Acton Peninsular

Contact us

119 Drake Brockman Drive,
Holt ACT 2615
Phone: 02 6254 9190
Email:
admin@pegasusact.com.au
Web: pegasusact.com.au

Our Christmas Appeal went out in November with a lovely story about one of our rider's, Morgan. Morgan began riding sessions at Pegasus last year and just loves working with her horse 'Hayley'.



Her mother Kirsty said that since attending Pegasus, Morgan's autism "no longer dominates her, and she is learning to develop the gifts she has – of which there are many. She is *in control of herself*."

The personal and self-development skills that Morgan has learned at Pegasus are the most important.

"She's learned responsibility and caring for another being. She started listening and paying attention to instructions. She gained confidence in herself again and she made a friend – Hayley," said Kirsty.

It's success stories like Morgan's, that support the wonderful work the coaches, volunteers and horses do. Last year, we delivered over 2,339 horse-facilitated therapy sessions to more than 100 people. And we want to do more!

Our greatest hurdle is finding more horses that can qualify as Riding for the Disabled horses. Our target is to grow the herd to 25. This would enable Pegasus to support an additional 63 families currently on the program waiting list.

Donations can still be made to our Christmas Appeal. Contact 02 6254 9190 or visit <http://pegasusridingforthe-disabled.createsend1.com/t/d-l-yddhyuy-l-g/> for donation methods/options. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Your generous contribution will help us continue to develop abilities in the lives of children with a disability.

At the Party!

The Pegasus Christmas Party was held on Saturday, 6 December at Pegasus – despite the challenging weather and torrential downpour. Around 100 people attended including riders, families, supporters, volunteers, sponsors and staff, and everyone managed to stay dry under the cover of the Bid Williams arena. It was a very enjoyable evening with activities for the young ones such as face painting, a jumping castle (donated by Clowning Around), music by the wonderful Ruth O'Brien, the singing of Christmas carols, and of course, a much anticipated visit by the 'man in red', Santa.



Attendees all brought a plate to share and the Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen members once again cooked up a storm with a sausage sizzle for all. SupaExpress in Florey donated the bread and ice, and Pegasus Member Christine Gould donated the veggie burgers.

The following organisations generously donated items for the evening's raffle:

- Capital Chemist
- Rock Development Group Pty Ltd
- Kippax Pharmacy
- ActewAGL.

How to donate

Visit pegasusact.com.au and click on the 'Make a Donation' button.

Direct deposit: Pegasus
BSB: 032 712 Account:
112218

Cheque: Pegasus 119
Drake Brockman Drive,
Holt ACT 2615

Credit card: 02 6254 9190

A great night was had by all! Many thanks to the businesses and organisations for their kind donations and for helping to make the night such a success.

Horse corner - new members



Pegasus is thrilled to welcome two new additions to our horse herd. The first is 'Smartie'; a Bay gelding Quarter Horse, 15 years old and 15 hands high.

The second is a lovely mare named 'Nutmeg', who is a 10 year-old brown Stock Horse x Welsh Cob 14 hands high.

Both Nutmeg and Smartie arrived in early November and have commenced their RDA training with vigour. Early reports from our coaching staff suggest that these two are showing great promise and possess lovely attitudes and an eagerness to learn.

We look forward to working with both of them and believe that they will be good long-term prospects for the Pegasus programs.

Vale Woody

Unfortunately, our exciting news of Nutmeg and Smartie is tinged with great sadness as we said good-bye to Woody this year. Pegasus founder, Bid Williams, wrote a lovely memorial to honour him (below):

'The whole Pegasus community is saddened today by our need to say goodbye to Woody – valued by his friends in the Pegasus herd; loved by the riders whose lives he enriched; befriended by the helpers who worked to make his life, and their own lives, better for having been entwined.

Woody deserved the best we could give him, and the best was quick relief from the pain of a twisted bowel. Two vets ran tests and concluded that calm and quick euthanasia was the kindest course. And so it was.

He remains with us as a memory of a good friend, patient and kind, helping many riders to greater self-confidence, physical and emotional stimulus and pleasure, and to a growing empathy and understanding between horse and rider.

We ask the help of parents who best know how to comfort their children who were his riders and his friends. We also owe a debt of gratitude to those who helped to secure him for Pegasus, and of course to generous volunteers who worked in classes and in stables, and many other supporting roles.

From us all, vale Woody.'

Christmas wishes to you and yours

On behalf of the Pegasus Committee Members and staff, thank you all for your generosity and support of Pegasus this year.

Season's greetings and best wishes for the New Year from all of us!

See you in 2015!



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