

# NSWROA *gears up* for an eventful 2010

NSWROA HAD A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN '09 BUT 2010 IS BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE BEING EVEN BIGGER & BETTER

WORDS: SHARON HUNT [EXECUTIVE OFFICER – NSWROA]

NSW Racehorse Owners Association (NSWROA) had a very busy and successful events schedule in 2009 and the same will surely occur again in 2010. Hereunder are some of the wonderful events that will be conducted.

The calendar in 2010 kicks off with a Night Racing Cocktail Function at Canterbury Park Racecourse to celebrate the closure of the night racing season, scheduled for Thursday 4 March.

The Night Racing Cocktail Function will be the second event of this kind that NSWROA has held. The inaugural Night Racing Cocktail Function, which was held in December, was attended by members, friends and supporters of the Association and, in following with the other functions held by NSWROA throughout 2009, it was another 'sell-out' success.

The night was primarily an informal function which provided members and guests with a chance to relax whilst enjoying the wonderful food and beverages on offer and the excitement of night racing itself.

NSWROA president, Ray McDowell, did, however, highlight the achievements of the Association throughout the year to members and guests whilst a 'thank you' electronic presentation was made to supporters and sponsors of the 2009 NSWROA Racings Night of Champions.

The 'Enchanted' Golden Slipper Hats and High Tea will be the second function for NSWROA in March. This event, which is held in conjunction with Sydney Turf Club and the Sir Stamford at Circular Quay, will take place on 21 March at the fabulous Sir Stamford at Circular Quay.

As was the case with the Night Racing Cocktail Function, this is the second occasion this event has been held.

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The inaugural Golden Slipper Hats and High Tea was an outstanding success and another sell-out function. Held in the Elizabeth Room at the Sir Stamford at Circular Quay, which features hand-made crystal chandeliers and antique paintings, it provided the classical elegance essential for a function of this type.

The Sir Stamford also features 18th Century Louis XV and Georgian antiques and houses one of Australia's largest private collections of fine art and has regularly been awarded for its outstanding service and facilities.

The 2010 'Enchanted' Golden Slipper Hats and High Tea will feature all the latest millinery trends from the Sydney Couture Milliners showcasing their fabulous designs.

There will be entertainment and a viewing of hats followed by a traditional high tea with a parade.

There will also be prizes for best dressed. If you love your fashion, don't miss this fabulous event.

As this event was sold out last year well in advance of the function, it would be wise to purchase your ticket(s) early to avoid disappointment.

The very popular Sydney Cup Day Luncheon will be the next event on the agenda for NSWROA taking place at Royal Randwick on 24 April 2010.

This event is one of our favourites with members and guests combining fine wining and dining with the best of the best in the equine world as they battle it out for honours on the last day of the AJC Autumn Carnival.

Last year this event fell on Anzac Day and it was a fantastic day. We had an inkling that the Luncheon was going to be something extra special when it was scheduled to take place on Anzac Day.

As readers would be aware, racing on Anzac Day is an Australasian tradition and one which NSWROA was very proud to be involved with.

So much so that when some of the many servicemen on course for the day came collecting, they were invited to stay. The highlights at the function included:-

- a Tipping Competition, with Guest Tipsters on deck. Last year we were most fortunate to obtain



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the services of Stephen Brassel, Tony Brassel, Ken Callander, Henry Noonan and Max Presnell as our Guest Tipsters for the afternoon; and

- the Best Hat and Best Tie Competitions – both very keenly contested events.

And of course, no year would be complete without our much anticipated flagship event, and the NSW Racing Industry’s Night of Nights, the ‘Racing’s Night of Champions’.

When it comes to racing awards nights, they don’t come any bigger than the NSW Racehorse Owners Association’s Racing’s Night of Champions.

This prestigious event pays homage to the best NSW racing has to offer in recognising achievements for both horses and their humans and also supports Australia’s leading cancer charity for children – Redkite.

The feature award at this function is, of course, the NSW Champion Horse of the Year. This prestigious award has been taken out by some truly remarkable horses in recent years including Lonhro (2004), Grand Armee (2005), Takeover Target (2006), Desert War (2007), Tuesday Joy (2008) and Theseo last year.

At this stage I cannot disclose details of the fantastic event currently being arranged for 2010, but I can say it will definitely be an event not to be missed. Stay tuned for further details.

For more information regarding NSWROA events in 2010, contact the NSWROA office via phone (02) 9299-4299, by email – nswroa1@ozemail.com.au – or visit the NSWROA website – www.nswroa.com.au **RNSW**



TOP: Judith Foley, Caroline Searcy and Rosemary Mula – some of the racing guests MIDDLE: NSWROA president, Ray McDowell, with servicemen at the Sydney Cup luncheon ABOVE: Connections receiving the 2009 NSW Champion Horse of the Year for Theseo