



# Kim Duffy

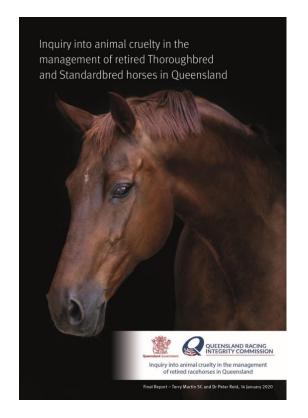
Senior Animal Care Manager Racing Queensland



## **Martin Inquiry**



- A key recommendation of the Martin Inquiry was for Racing Queensland to establish and govern a retraining/rehoming program for Thoroughbred and Standardbred horses, bred for the racing industry, and domiciled in Queensland at the time of their retirement.
- The Martin Inquiry also found that the racing industry is be held accountable for ensuring a high-quality first transition out of racing and breeding, for all retired racehorses.
- In terms of the design of the OTT program, it was recommended that the program:
  - contain provision for horses that are bred for racing but never make it to the track; and
  - contain provision for retired racehorses located in regional areas of Queensland.





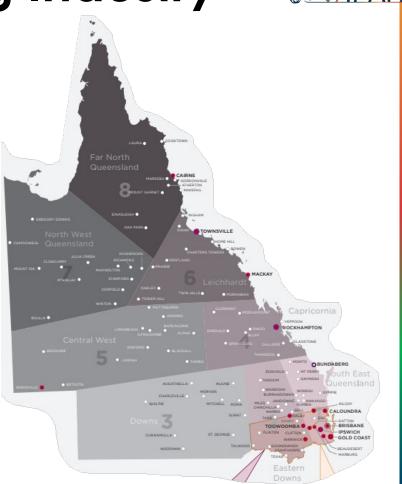
### **Queensland Racing Industry**

IFAR

- There are a total of 116 Thoroughbred race clubs and 3 Harness race clubs across Queensland, separated into 8 racing districts.
- There are approximately 15 Thoroughbred race meetings and 6 Harness race meetings held in Queensland every week, with over 7,000 unique Thoroughbred starters per annum and on average 1,500 unique Standardbred starters per annum.

Thoroughbreds	FY20	FY21	FY22
Unique Starters	6982	7202	7311
Harness	FY20	FY21	FY22





# Queensland Off-The-Track Program



#### **OUR VISION**

To maximise post racing opportunities for Queensland's racehorses by delivering a sustainable and responsible QOTT Program.

### **OUR MISSION**

To deliver a multi-faceted QOTT Program that gives horses leaving the racing industry a fresh start.

- Follow Through to deliver on Martin Inquiry recommendations
- R Positive social and moral Responsibility in all dealings with horses from the racing industry
- Promote Excellence and Focus on QOTT Program initiatives
- **S** Stimulate Demand for retired racehorses by promoting adaptability and versatility
- H Deliver **High Quality** rehoming and retraining initiatives
- S Develop strong Stakeholder & Partnership Relationships to deliver QOTT program outcomes
- **Train and Educate** industry participants
- A Ensure Accountability and Good Governance in the delivery of the QOTT Program
- R Advocate for national Rules of Racing to support aftercare of racehorses
- T Ensure a smooth **Transition** for horses from racing or breeding activities to retirement



# Queensland Off-The-Track Program 👊



- The Queensland Off-The-Track Program (QOTT Program) has been established to support a high-quality first transition for Thoroughbred and Standardbred horses, bred for the racing industry and domiciled in Queensland at the time of their retirement from racing or breeding activities.
- The QOTT Program architecture has six Focus Areas that are underpinned by the 'Principles of Aftercare', as set by IFAR.
- A structured program of actions and initiatives has been established under the six focus
  areas to maximise aftercare outcomes for Queensland's retired racehorses.



### **FOCUS AREAS**

- TRANSITIONING STRATEGIES
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- STIMULATING DEMAND & SUPPLY FOR OTT HORSES
- PROVIDING A SAFETY NET
- TRACEABILITY
- STRONG GOVERNANCE



# Queensland Off-The-Track Program William



### QOTT's objectives are to:

- Support the placement of retired racehorses into second careers:
- Promote life after racing options and identify retirement pathways;
- Stimulate demand for retired racehorses and increase awareness of their adaptability and versatility of use;
- Support the longevity of retired racehorses in their new homes:
- Provide education and support for racing industry participants and the domestic horse community to optimise racehorse aftercare;
- Advocate for the lifelong traceability of retired racehorses beyond their first exit from the racing industry.



### Subsidised Lessons Program



- The Subsidised Lessons Program is an initiative to support retired racehorses as they transition from the racing industry into the domestic horse community.
- The program enables owners and riders of retired racehorses to receive tailored support across a range of areas including feeding and nutrition, general care, groundwork, behaviour and ridden components.
- The program operates through a voucher system, with approved participants issued vouchers to subsidise the cost of lessons. Approved participants are eligible for free individual lessons of up to 45 minutes in duration with a QOTT Approved Coach.





# Acknowledged Retrainers Program 📆



 The Acknowledged Retrainers Program is Queensland's first formal retraining and rehoming program. The program currently supports a network of 15 QOTT Acknowledged Retrainers, with further expansion of the network set to occur in 2023.

 QOTT Acknowledged Retrainers are supported by a range of business, marketing and financial support options, including an equine care subsidy, which reimburses retrainers for eligible horse management costs, including veterinary, feed, farrier,

worming, vaccination and equine dental expenses.

 A Retraining Transport Subsidy is also provided to reimburse owners/trainers for the transportation costs associated with transporting a retired racehorse to a QOTT Acknowledged Retrainer.

 Once a horse has been rehomed via a QOTT Acknowledged Retrainer, ongoing support is provided to the new owner/rider via the Subsidised Lessons Program.



### **Event Sponsorship Program**



 The Event Sponsorship Program is an initiative to create more competition opportunities, drive demand and support the visibility of retired racehorses in their postracing lives via sponsorship of equestrian and horse sport events, across all disciplines, from beginners to advanced.















### **Aftercare Clinics**



- Aftercare Clinic sponsorship has been developed by QOTT to encourage equestrian and domestic horse sport clubs to facilitate interactive (non-riding) education clinics to promote best practice equine welfare and horsemanship to support members who own or care for retired racehorses.
- A total of eight Aftercare Clinics have been held in Queensland so far, providing valued education on equine health, hoof care and horsemanship.









### Royal Queensland Show

IFAR

- The Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) had over 345k people attend the 2022 show.
- Dedicated "Thoroughbred and Standardbred Day" to showcase the breeds.
- Acclaimed horse trainer David Manchon partnered with Racing Queensland to showcase the QOTT Program in a twice daily educational show called 'Horsing Around'.
- David was joined by some well known OTT stars as he talked about his training methods and how they can apply to retired racehorses.
- The 'Horsing Around' show was one of the Ekka's most visited activations in 2022 with capacity crowds at every show.









### **QOTT Grants Program**



- The QOTT Grants Program was launched to support not-for-profit organisations and charities that provide equine rehabilitation services, or second careers as therapy horses, for retired racehorses that have previously transitioned from the racing industry into the domestic horse community.
- Under Round 1 of the QOTT Grants Program, more than \$100,000 has been provided to 7 successful organisations across three different grant categories.







### What's Next?



- Expand support offered under the FY22 initiatives.
- Owner/trainer engagement with our post-racing programs.
- Incentivise driven traceability via the QOTT Clubhouse.
- Equine Business Grants.
- Acknowledged Retrainer Grants.
- Programs/support for vulnerable horses, including end-of-life.
- Keep learning and improving!



### **THANK YOU**





"The Architect"

