

# Annual Report 2018–19

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# Evolution

## Here's to another 45 Years

# IN MEMORIAM

Pegasus posthumously dedicates this annual report to Pegasus co-founder, Honorary Life Member and RDA Life Member, Bid Williams, and to Honorary Life Member and benefactor, Mr Marcus Quinlivan OAM.



## BID WILLIAMS

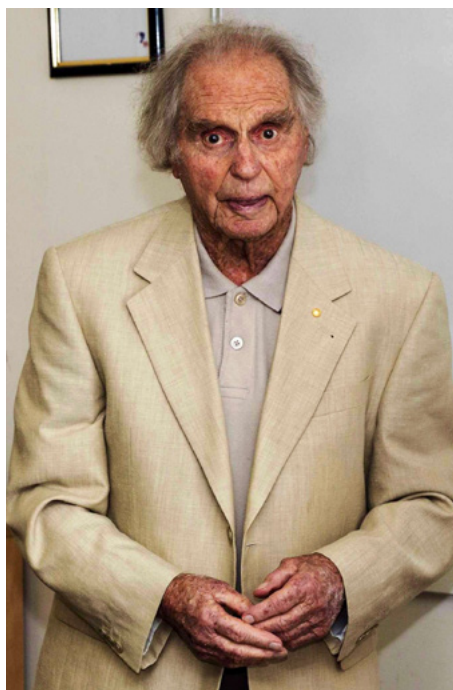
The visionary co-founder of Pegasus, Bid was a friend and inspiration to so many. As a natural-born and very respected horsewoman, Bid appreciated the gentle nature of the horse and understood that the bond between rider and horse could be immensely therapeutic. When approached in 1973 by Judith Burns – a therapist at the Canberra Hospital – to help organise pony rides for a few children living with disabilities, Bid knew that she could be of service, and was instrumental in finding a way to bring those children together with local horses.

As the years went on, Pegasus grew under the nurturing guidance of Bid, and became the iconic charity it is today.

Bid's tremendous passion for Pegasus and her staunch belief in how life-changing the horse-facilitated programs could be, meant that her support for the charity remained constant over the years, as she mentored staff and Coaches; provided astute advice and encouragement; proudly supported events; and advanced the awareness of Pegasus locally and nationally.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to her creativity and tenacity in the creation of Pegasus; for the many lives that were, and continue to be, enhanced and enriched; and for her dedication, thoughtful generosity and unwavering support and patronage over the years.

Bid was a genuinely kind and caring person who will be forever remembered and admired for her compassionate efforts, pioneering spirit, and remarkable contribution to the Pegasus family, the local community, and to those living with disabilities. Bid will be deeply missed, but her legacy will live on through the continued work of Pegasus and the many, many people whose lives she touched.



## **MR MARCUS QUINLIVAN OAM**

Marcus was a much-loved member of the Pegasus family, and leaves an indelible mark on who we are today as an organisation. His remarkable dedication and enthusiasm to enriching the lives of those living with disabilities led to the establishment of the Marcus Quinlivan 'Developing Abilities Fund' – an endowment fund to support, in perpetuity, programs that develop confidence, self-esteem and improve physical well-being and ability through horsemanship, riding skills and horse-facilitated therapy.

His passion for horses was also evident in the many Riding Scholarships he kindly supported each year, and for the Pegasus horses he helped to purchase and adopt.

Marcus will be warmly remembered for his wisdom, wit, compassion, wonderful generosity and lasting legacy.

# ABOUT PEGASUS

Riding for the Disabled of the ACT (Pegasus) exists to provide therapeutic horse-facilitated programs and activities aimed at developing abilities and enriching the lives of those living with a disability.

An iconic charitable organisation founded in 1973, Pegasus operates on 100 acres at Holt, on Canberra's fringe, and proudly serves the ACT and local NSW region.

Pegasus empowers people to develop their abilities in a kind, caring and supportive environment.

## OUR VISION

A progressive community striving for excellence in the delivery of horse-facilitated therapy for people with a disability.

## OUR MISSION

To enrich the lives of people with a disability through the delivery of horse-facilitated therapy.

## OUR CORE VALUES

- Commitment
- Respect
- Quality
- Connection

## OUR DISTINCTIVE CONTRIBUTION

We offer specialised horse and rural activities to people living with a disability in the ACT and local NSW region.

Pegasus has a strong and highly competent cohort of dedicated volunteers and staff who promote inclusion and social opportunities.

Pegasus is an iconic institution in Canberra with a mature history and a highly regarded reputation in the region.

# OUR GOALS

## SETTING THE SCENE FOR 2020 AND BEYOND

Pegasus will continue to broaden the programs and service offerings to people living with a disability. To do this Pegasus aims to be:

## RELEVANT

- Responsive to the needs of our participants.
- Demonstrate and communicate programs and activities.

## ACCESSIBLE

- Increasing capacity to deliver services to meet demand.

## RECOGNISED

- A model disability program and activity provider.
- Provider under the relevant funding frameworks.
- Highly visible within its regional community.

## SECURE

A sustainable charity through a strong:

- business framework
- volunteer base
- financial position.

## STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE

Key strategies to achieve our goals include:

1. Growing and strengthening our funding base.
2. Involving, growing and fostering relationships with key stakeholders.
3. Enhancing, developing or implementing organisational infrastructure, capacity or capability to deliver an expanded service offering.
4. Providing good governance of operations, and compliance with relevant funding frameworks.
5. Broadening, developing and implementing a range of tailored and community-based programs and activities, which are integrated, inclusive and relevant.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**I am pleased to present the 2018–2019 annual report to you.**

Beginning in 1973, this organisation's journey has been one of overcoming challenges, celebrating achievements, defying adversity and welcoming growth. The 2018–2019 financial year was a year of significant change, challenge and complexity. The year saw the introduction of the new Pegasus structure – following an extensive review of the organisational landscape and operations. The review entailed seeking professional advice from Bendelta through Richard Doolan; feedback from members, staff and volunteers; input from the Board; and seven substantial and well thought through submissions from interested parties on the organisational structure of Pegasus. The review was complex and detailed and resulted in a structure that the Board believes is necessary to ensure the ongoing viability of Pegasus into the future. The new structure was presented to members and staff at a meeting in October 2018, at which the revised structure was accepted and subsequently adopted by the Board. The transition to the new organisational structure has seen some adjustment and disruption, but that is to be expected when considerable change is implemented. Matthew Watson and Stephanie Williams have enthusiastically taken up the reins as Executive General Manager and General Manager Programs respectively, and it is safe to say that in 12 months, Pegasus has seen its fair share of transformation. The commitment of the Board, staff and volunteers has been unwavering throughout this process and for that I am extremely grateful.

An organisation like Pegasus cannot possibly survive without tremendous support from individuals, community groups and our donors and sponsors. It is impossible to name the many hundreds, probably thousands, of people who have helped build Pegasus to the point it is at now. The many coaches who have taught over the years, the management and committee members who do all the thankless behind-the-scenes work to keep the place operating, the volunteers who help in classes and with other tasks about the place, the many individuals, community groups, and local businesses who have made donations of time, effort or money for the development of facilities and programs. And of course, we will never forget our participants and their families for constantly bringing joy and copious smiles to our doors, and our beautifully-natured horses who are the agents of change and the medium through which our participant's dreams, hopes, achievements and successes come true.



As members of the Pegasus family, we are fortunate participants in a defining chapter in Pegasus' history... now. 'Now' is a pivotal moment, where possibilities become probabilities, and where focused intent and determined action will see us thrive and flourish into the future. Together, we've been laying the groundwork that will continue to enrich the lives of those living with disability in our region for another 45 years and beyond, and in the following pages, you'll find stories, statistics and highlights that paint a picture of what your generous support and effort has made possible over the last year.

In a year of significant change, what hasn't changed is the belief in our organisation's purpose and vision – that of a progressive community striving for excellence in the delivery of horse-facilitated therapy for people living with a disability.

How proud I am to acknowledge the contributions of the valuable people who make up the Pegasus family. Our strong and highly competent cohort of dedicated coaches, volunteers and staff who willingly give of their time and effort and who work together, united by a common purpose and shared goals, for the benefit of our community. Our network of donors, sponsors, partners, and suppliers who proudly share our ethos, support us on a multitude of levels, and raise awareness on our behalf. Our Board, responsible for the principled stewardship of Pegasus and driving strategic intent, who live our values every day and strive for innovation and creativity in the pursuit of our purpose. Thank you!

I would like to take this moment to pay a special tribute to Pegasus' co-founder Bid Williams. Bid will always be remembered as a caring, genuine, passionate and driven lady whose love of horses and children led her to take a chance on a new venture 45 years ago, when Pegasus was born. A very talented horsewoman in her own right, Bid understood the 'magic' of the horse – the transformative nature of these animals and how therapeutic the bond between horse and human can be. I honour Bid and her bountiful generosity and



significant contribution to making a real difference in the lives of those living with disabilities.

I would also like to honour the memory of Mr Marcus Quinlivan OAM. A remarkable man of true quality, impressive character, humble outlook and unwavering passion, Marcus had a desire for Pegasus to achieve its goals and to flourish. His generosity, benevolence and advocacy over the years has been significant, and his legacy – the Marcus Quinlivan Developing Abilities Endowment Fund – will continue to assist in funding Pegasus' programs and operations into perpetuity. Marcus' spirit will live on in the work we do.

Whilst staff has responded exceptionally well to the restructure, this period of adaption has unfortunately brought with it a budget shortfall of \$390,028. There are a few circumstances that have impacted our fiscal environment.

For much of the last financial year there were fewer opportunities for fundraising activities and sponsorship development work as most of the focus was on enacting and bedding down organisational change. There has been a drop in grant funding for the 2018–2019 financial year, but this is due to Pegasus focusing very specifically on applying for grants that are needed to upgrade, and add to, our facilities. Grants such as the Eldon and Anne Foote Donor Advised Grant for new IT upgrades, that will see many of the old desktop computers replaced and the move from onsite server storage to the cloud, giving us more secure and flexible data storage. A Move It AUS-Community Sport Infrastructure Grant means that we have been able to undertake repairs to our wheelchair access ramps and handrails; and upgrades to include wheelchair accessible doors to the administration building and new lighting for improved safety and security around the building and gardens. Speaking of gardens, another grant from the Stronger Communities Program has meant that we can add a Bushman's Trail to complement the Sensory Garden and provide more opportunities for our program participants to explore our grounds, navigate obstacles, and interact with the different activities on the trail. All of this adds to our asset base over time, and this type of grant funding is welcome as it allows us to complete necessary capital works. We have focused on tailoring our grant applications to grants that will fortify us as an organisation in specific areas rather than using a scattergun approach.

There is no doubt that the nature of the environment we operate in is challenging – and becoming more so, with very minimal government funding (other than the grants we are applying for), and an increased competition for the fundraising dollar. Fundraising, although down in some areas, is still moving in a positive direction with new plans for longer-term relationships with corporate partners. Having these types of multi-faceted, value-driven, partnerships is an important focus for Pegasus to expand our donor base and build our network.

The outlook is very positive, with a fresh leadership team focused on recovering and planning rejuvenated efforts all-round. Despite this financial year's financial loss, Pegasus is in good shape for the future.

Finally, I will step down at this AGM from the role of President as I have new work commitments that preclude me from staying in this role. I will however, remain on the Board and continue to help with fundraising and strategy development.

I'm incredibly proud of the work this organisation does. I'm proud of the foresight, courage and passion of Pegasus' founders and pioneers, and I'm proud of every single person who has contributed to the Pegasus journey since those early days 45 years ago. Every person who has had a hand in our history has built the Pegasus we see today.

Bid Williams, Ruth Squair and Judith Burns may not have dreamed that the simple act of offering riding lessons to a few local children in 1973 would grow into one of the ACTs most iconic and respected charities, enriching countless lives, and developing abilities through the delivery of horse-facilitated therapy. It just proves the power of partnerships!

I would like to acknowledge and thank the following people who contribute in many and varying ways to the success of Pegasus:

- Our two General Managers Matthew Watson and Stephanie Williams for a year of flexible leadership and hard grind to change things at Pegasus for the better.
- The many donors, sponsors and business supporters of Pegasus for their generosity.
- Pegasus Members, participants and their families.
- The coaches and many dedicated volunteers who put in countless hours to support Pegasus.
- Full and part-time staff who have an obvious affinity with Pegasus.
- Richard Doolan – Bendelta.
- Members of the ACT community who support the many fundraising activities promoted by Pegasus.
- The Board for the 2018–2019 financial year comprising of Peter Stubbs (Vice President), Tony Curtis (Treasurer), Sally Bishop (Secretary), Scott Marriott, Michelle Scully, Stephanie Williams (until December 2018) and Nick Langley.

It has been my privilege to serve as President and I am grateful for the support that I have received and encourage us all to look forward and make 2020–2021 a stronger performance together. What I do know is that in this period of our evolution, the Pegasus family is "all in", and that is an impressive force to be reckoned with indeed!

**GERRY CHRISTIAN AM**



**PRESIDENT  
PEGASUS**

# FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGERS

**There's a saying that states: 'It is through change that we evolve into all we were meant to be', and the 2018–2019 financial year – with the implementation of our new organisational structure – has been a time of significant change for Pegasus.**

During the year we delivered 2372 individual sessions through 856 classes to approximately 115 people living with a disability. We had 59 regular participants on average in our classes during our term programs, and over 50 participants attended our three school holiday programs. We have maintained strong relationships with local schools, and welcomed groups from Turner, Weetangera, Malkara, Cranleigh and Black Mountain school communities through our farm gates.

On the event side of things, there have been plenty of wonderful activities held, including our inaugural Pegasus FUN-khana – where riders from Pegasus and the community participated in a day filled with fun activities from dressage and orienteering to obstacles and novelties – as well as our much-loved Scholarship Awards evening, and our annual Open Day and Obstacle-A-Thon. I encourage you to read more about these in the following Programs Report.

A very Happy Birthday was had by all of our gorgeous Pegasus ponies and horses on Wednesday, 1 August 2018. The Horses' Birthday was not only a joyous celebration of our horses, but also a wonderful opportunity to say thank you to our donors and sponsors. Guests were treated to a happy birthday 'Hip, Hip, Hoo-Neigh' sing along, plenty of pony pats, and some cake. Thank you to everyone who came along and celebrated this very special day with us and the Pegasus herd. Thank you also to all of the Beyond Bank branches who set up donation boxes and received birthday donations for our Pegasus ponies in the week leading up the Horses' Birthday. We appreciate your support!

In September, thirteen Pegasus coaches and staff travelled to Geelong for the RDA National Coaches Workshop. This workshop takes place every two years and is a great opportunity for RDA coaches from across affiliated centres in Australia to get together, learn new skills and keep their registrations current. Highlights from the workshop included the presentation by autism specialist Sue Larkey, and the opportunity to network with other coaches. A low point was the emergency trip to hospital by one of our coaches after an unfortunate slip on a wet floor!

In October, Pegasus had the fantastic opportunity to host the National RDA Hippotherapy Workshop. Therapists from all over Australia attended to learn first-hand the real benefits of using horses for a range of therapy treatments. Feedback received from the three-day event, was that participants enjoyed every minute of it and learnt so much by being able to work with and get to know therapists and RDA horse handlers from all over Australia. A huge thank you to Pippa Hodge and Sally Francis for running a fabulous course; to Karen Asprey, Executive Officer RDA Australia; and of course, our wonderful Pegasus ponies who did us proud.



*Photo: Johnny eating the hay and carrot cake at Horses' Birthday.*

We have had three new volunteers sign up to begin their RDA coach training. They bring a range of skills and experience to the coaching team, and add a dynamic energy. We have also had two coaches achieve their Level 1 coaching qualifications, and two others achieve their Coach Educator qualifications. All coaches this year have had access to a professional development fund to enable them to attend workshops and training online and in person. We were fortunate to have the renowned RDA consultant and coach assessor, Sally Francis, dedicate time to training and upskilling coaches again this year, to help us build and maintain a strong coaching cohort into the future. In exciting news for Sally, her significant contribution and service to the equestrian industry and to people with disabilities was officially recognised when she received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours list. Congratulations Sally, and well deserved!





*From left: Jacko, Stephanie, Chris and Johnny with the 4CYTE donation tubs.*

On the farm front, in June 2019, construction of our Pegasus Sensory Trail was completed in the front paddock.

**“The sensory trail has a range of obstacles, structures and activities that stimulate the sight, sound, smell and touch senses in our participants.”**

This trail was made possible thanks to a grant by the St George Foundation. We invite the Pegasus community to come and experience the sensory trail for themselves when they are next in the area.

This year we implemented a land management plan and have begun the process of soil testing, pasture improvement, and pest management to ensure our farm is viable for many years to come. We have also welcomed some new ponies into the herd – Eddie, Buddy and Millie – and they are all settling in well and have commenced their RDA training. Speaking of our wonderful horses and ponies, we received a fantastic donation this year from the generous folks at Interpath. Interpath produces 4CYTE – an equine joint supplement – and our horses and ponies received 24 tubs of the wonder stuff, to help with maintaining their movement and overall wellbeing. So, thank you Interpath for supporting our herd in this way.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the UAE Embassy Australia for their very kind donation which has allowed us to purchase some equipment for our programs – to continue to keep them fun and engaging for our riders and participants.

On a sadder note for us, this year we had to bid farewell to Maya Scott – our Horse Manager of six years – as she moved on to take up an exciting new opportunity in the public

service. I would like to thank Maya for her wonderful work during her time at Pegasus. Everyone learned a lot from her, and she is missed by people and horses alike. We wish her all the very best for her amazing new adventure.

I would like to conclude by acknowledging the hard work and passion of the entire Pegasus team. Our staff has demonstrated amazing team work and dedication in helping each other during periods where we have been short staffed and busy, and our phenomenal volunteers continue to demonstrate passion and selflessness as they give of their time to keep Pegasus running. You are the lifeblood of our organisation and we value you and your contributions immensely.

Thank you.

**STEPHANIE WILLIAMS  
GENERAL MANAGER**



## Never stop evolving! Well Pegasus has definitely heard that message loud and clear.

This last financial year has seen the restructure of our management team following the departure of our CEO in November 2018. With a duumvirate shared between Stephanie and myself, Pegasus was able to focus directly on each area of the two very distinct parts that make Pegasus so successful.

Continuing in the role I was originally engaged for, I am proud to say that we now have a team dedicated to fundraising and building corporate partnerships, and we are focusing on making our existing events more successful while searching every day for new and exciting opportunities and potential connections.

With no foreseeable change in government funding, Pegasus is still required to fill funding gaps in program fees with support from the community. This last financial year saw no new NDIS transitional funding, and Pegasus is now truly on its own. This combined with the restructure did see some difficulties arise and a deficit for the year, however because of the positive initiatives put in place in the years preceding, Pegasus has been able to weather this storm and come out the other side with some very positive measures in place.

The 'Marcus Quinlivan Developing Abilities Fund' continues to grow stronger; the Pegasus facilities continue to be upgraded and improved; and our scholarship program is larger than ever. This year saw 18 scholarships awarded to participants who, without this support, would not be able to attend and would therefore not benefit from the amazing services we offer. Hosted by our then newly appointed General Manager of programs, Stephanie Williams, the scholarship awards evening was described as one of the best ever. Even making the front pages of The Chronicle!



Photo: Matt and Steph colour-coordinating in pink. Sailor didn't get the memo.

Prior to this we held our Christmas Party and Volunteer Appreciation Evening. Combining these into one event made sure we had a wonderful representation from the Pegasus community to celebrate both the year we had, and to show our appreciation to all volunteers. Without the steadfast support from our volunteers, we would not be able to do what we do, and I do believe we have the best volunteers around! I would like to also extend my thanks to the Synergy Group for their generosity in sponsoring our Christmas Party and Volunteer Appreciation event – they not only supported us financially but also provided team members as volunteers for the day so that our very own volunteers could take the time to relax and celebrate. Thank you!

## “Evolve, adapt and move forward, that was our focus for the year and that is what we have delivered.”

July 2018 saw our dedicated bus service start. Beginning this service was necessary as funding cuts to schools meant that the Education Department would no longer fund the transport to and from Pegasus. With the realisation that many children would no longer be able to attend, we were very lucky to receive a 'Variety – the Children's Charity' grant, and with their help and help from Sunshine Coaches, we were able to secure our very own 12-seater Pegasus bus with wheelchair access. Run by volunteers, this much-needed door-to-door service offers a return trip for school groups that cannot fund their own transport and has been well received and well utilised.

In other news, this year saw Pegasus assist at the Royal Canberra Show for the first time. 2019 saw five days of equestrian events scheduled at the Show and Pegasus was there to help with the stable work over the five days whilst also providing many of our volunteers a behind-the-scenes look at how it all works. Even I learned a thing or two!

And it didn't stop there. The year also saw a large number of beneficiary events held for Pegasus. Goodwin Village, European Union Delegation to Australia, Women in Racing Canberra, and the Canberra Comedy Festival, to name just a few, selected Pegasus as their charity of choice and all helped to raise much-needed funds through their own initiatives. Along with the beneficiary events, we have also received some fabulous donations throughout the year.

Thank you to one of our wonderful stable hand volunteers, Eliya, who generously donated funds to our Wish List. The money was raised as part of the 'STAR' program at her school (Lyneham High). Students were asked to nominate a charity they could raise funds for through a bake sale and Eliya suggested Pegasus. Thank you also to Lodge Caledonia of Canberra No. 938 for their kind donation towards some new fence drinkers so that our beautiful Pegasus ponies have uninterrupted access to fresh water in their stables and yards.





*Photo: Eliya with Matt and the very cute Johnny.*

Our Bunnings BBQs in Fyshwick have been incredibly successful this year. Thank you to the Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen for your ongoing support with this initiative and to everyone who has helped. Much appreciated!

One of the biggest compliments I have heard on a frequent basis this last year relates to the gardens and how amazing they are looking. It's no surprise that the gardens are appreciated and admired as much as they are given the hard work our very own Paul Sloane has been putting into them. His tireless work every week pruning, watering and conducting general maintenance has produced stunning results. Paul also oversees all work carried out by the ACT Corrective Services team – a team of men and women of all ages and from many different walks of life, who are required to complete community service. Pegasus does not judge and is always grateful for the help, and we have truly seen how much these teams enjoy coming out to work on the farm.



*Photo: Ron Tattersall and Jim Walden from Lodge Caledonia of Canberra No. 938.*

I would also like to thank Adrian from AG Garden Services. Adrian worked on clearing some of the dead trees from around the tractor shed and cottage, along with cleaning out all the gutters for fire season, and cleaning the solar panels. Thank you Paul, Adrian and all those who have helped in the gardens and around the farm this year.

I would like to make a special mention of our Pegasus Ambassador Michael Milton OAM for attending and speaking so inspiringly at both the Pegasus Charity Race Day and Spring Fling on behalf of Pegasus. Michael is only too happy to raise awareness about our organisation and the work we do to help those living with a disability in our region. His passion about, and dedication to, Pegasus is incredibly supportive and we greatly appreciate his contribution.

In grants news, we were thrilled to have Senator the Hon. Zed Seselja attend the Pegasus Open Day in May to announce funding approval for our new wheelchair access ramps, outdoor security and safety lighting, and other small repair jobs throughout the premises. This funding, through the Move It AUS – Community Sport Infrastructure grant, helps to ensure that we have the quality facilities needed to deliver our services for many years to come. We were also very fortunate to receive grant funding to help transition individuals from our waiting list into programs through a scholarship program. The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation 'Eldon and Anne Foote Donor grant' provided 12 months of program tuition funding for families on the waiting list, but without the financial ability to attend. Unfortunately, a story becoming all too common.

The year that was has seen many challenges, opportunities and more importantly, miracles. I would like to thank my fellow colleagues Steph, Anna, Chai, Angela, Janelle and Liesl, as well as our coaches, staff and volunteers for all of your support; and to the Board for believing in us to carry on the impressive legacy that is Pegasus. Here's to another 45 years!

## **MATTHEW WATSON EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER**



# A MESSAGE FROM RDA AUSTRALIA

**This year, Riding for the Disabled Australia (RDAA) joins with Pegasus to celebrate their incredible 45 years of delivering therapeutic horse-riding activities for people living with disabilities in the ACT.**

Pegasus has enjoyed a long association with the national RDA body and continues to be an integral member of the national RDA Association today. It is a privilege to be able to recognise this milestone, and we congratulate everyone involved in Pegasus' past and in Pegasus today.

In the 2018–2019 financial year, horse riding and horse-related activities were delivered across Australia to more than 3134 riders with disabilities. The most commonly occurring disability in RDA across Australia is Autism, and 62 per cent of our 1483 riders with Autism in 2018 were male. The highest age bracket of riders with Autism is primary school-aged children (six to 12 years) in each gender.

With RDA centres in every state and territory, services are supervised and delivered by 467 trained and registered coaches, who undertake a comprehensive coach education program including horse management; training and selection; volunteer management; safety; disability training; technical horse riding instruction; and adaptive horse riding instruction topics. Services could not be delivered without the commitment and support of dedicated volunteers, who participate in a range of activities from fundraising, and property management to Leading and Side Walking in program sessions with horses and riders. Pegasus' component of the facts stated above is impressive, with 2372 individual sessions delivered through 856 classes to approximately 115 people living with a disability.

In exciting news for Pegasus, two coaches achieved their Level 1 coaching qualifications, and two others achieved their Coach Educator qualifications – all nationally recognised RDA training programs, and all accredited by the Australian Sports Commission. Congratulations!

RDA Australia's premiere event this past year was the National Coaching Workshop held in Geelong, Victoria. It was well supported by RDA ACT with Pegasus representatives attending the four days of training and networking; strengthening the RDA community and collaborative relationships between members.

Pegasus also successfully hosted the three-day National RDA Hippotherapy Workshop, which advanced the therapeutic training of therapists and horse handlers around Australia and further enhanced the national aims of RDA Australia to strengthen our reputation as leaders in this field.

Pegasus continues to deliver high quality services and programs, and high safety standards. RDA Australia extends its sincerest congratulations to Pegasus staff and volunteers on another great year, and for all of the achievements of participants and the wider organisation.

Here's to exciting growth in the years to come.

**RDA AUSTRALIA**



# 2018–2019

*Pegasus by the numbers*

**2,372**

INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS  
DELIVERED THROUGH

**856**

CLASSES TO  
APPROXIMATELY

**115**

PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

OVER

**110**

REGULAR VOLUNTEER  
PLACES PER WEEK (NOT  
INCLUDING SPECIAL EVENTS)

**18**

FULL-YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS  
WERE AWARDED AS PART OF  
OUR RIDING SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM

**112**

DONATIONS OVER \$500

**15**

COMMENDABLE HORSES  
AND PONIES

**45**

MEMBERS, INCLUDING

**16**

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS



# CONNECTION

**This year is the 45th anniversary of the founding of Pegasus.**

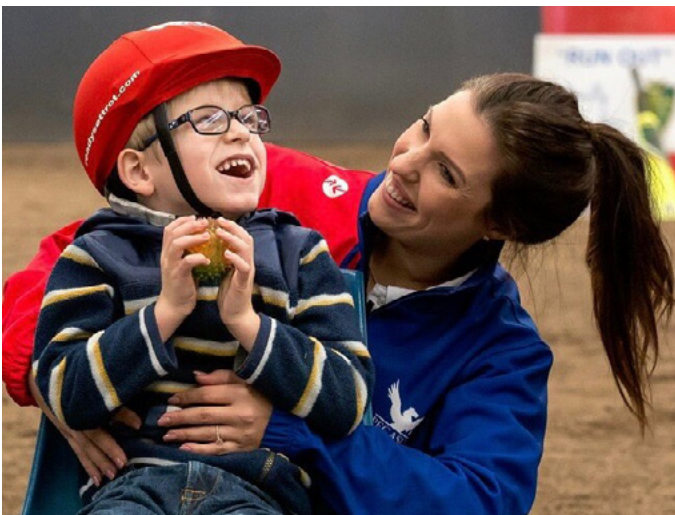
And while this report concerns our financial year, it is worthwhile to connect the remarkable work that was done in the past year with the founding spirit of the organisation. In those early days, it was the connection between the horse and child, a connection which provided those living with a disability the chance to get out of the clinical setting and into nature, surrounded by sights, sounds and smells, and experiencing it all whilst seated up high on a wondrously majestic being – a horse. So much has changed over the years, and yet so much has stayed the same. Today, through our programs, we are still facilitating and honouring that special connection between our program participants and the beautiful Pegasus horses and ponies, and we are still – through our horse-facilitated therapy programs – creating change, celebrating accomplishments, recognising milestones, and continuing to enrich lives, one class at a time.

During 2018–2019, our programs have operated six days a week, Monday to Saturday, during term time and the school holidays. Tuesday to Saturday programs are for our mounted and unmounted sessions. This year, we delivered 2372 sessions to our individual and group class participants. We've also enjoyed connecting with groups from Turner, Weetangera, Malkara, Cranleigh and Black Mountain school communities. In 2018, the Day Program was held on Mondays – a program specifically designed for young adults aged 18 to 25 years living with mental health issues, who are practicing life and social skills together. Overseen by coach Yolanda, the program included a wide range of activities, from learning about horses and how to handle and care for them, to gardening and arts and crafts. In 2019, a Friday unmounted group for young adults has been delivered with participants learning to lead their horse independently.



Connecting to our community through events and activities is an important part of the variety we offer at Pegasus. In October 2018, Pegasus held our inaugural FUN-khana. This event had the theme of 'inclusion', and it was wonderful to see inclusion in action as participants from Pegasus teamed up with riders from the community and local pony clubs to participate in a range of activities including dressage, orienteering, obstacles and novelties. The FUN-khana was such a fantastic success that we are holding it again this year in December. A massive thanks must go to coach Yolanda for organising and facilitating the FUN-khana and for making it such a success.

As always, a highlight for us every year is our Scholarship Awards Night in March, where we have the chance to bring together our generous scholarship donors and the scholarship recipients. This is the sixth year we have offered the Scholarship program, which supports people living with a disability to develop their potential through horse-related activities and associated therapy. In those six years we have seen the scholarship program grow from four donors to 16 donors this year. Seeing as we had more scholarships on offer and the largest number of people attending the awards evening, we decided to move the event from the Pegasus common room to the Eastlake Football Club. Eighteen scholarships were awarded to some very happy and grateful participants, who might not otherwise have the opportunity to experience and benefit from a Pegasus program (mounted, unmounted and Hippotherapy) over a 12-month period. The scholarship program is only possible due to the generosity and support of wonderful donors, local businesses and groups, many of whom have been supporting the program since its inception, and it's wonderful to have our donors at the awards night personally presenting the scholarship certificates to the recipients.





I extend our gratitude again to the very generous donors who make these opportunities a reality, and congratulate all those who received awards:

- Shaelyn Q – Opportunities Scholarship in Memory of Chris Hall
- Shaye M – Riding Tall Scholarship in Recognition for Excellence in Riding
- Ziva B – Capital Chemist Scholarship in Recognition for Excellence in Riding
- Hugo J – Cain Scholarship in Recognition for Excellence in Riding
- Jordan T – Canberra Rotaract Club Scholarship for Excellence in Riding
- Ryan T – The Confidence Scholarship in memory of Helen Heindl
- Nathan H – Quinlivan and Donald Scholarship for Developing Confidence
- Tara S – Quinlivan and Donald Scholarship for Horse Companionship
- Matthew F – Quinlivan and Donald Scholarship for Excellence in Riding
- Allan B – The Lions Club of Canberra, Woden Scholarship in Recognition of Riding Excellence
- Ariana B – St Francis Xavier College Scholarship for Developing Confidence
- Kamea K – Belconnen Bowling Club Courage and Confidence Scholarship in Recognition of Good Horsemanship
- Renee (Jan-Yin) T – Brad Ridley Memorial Scholarship for Horsemanship
- Millie F – The Lord's Taverners Taverners' Bill Riding Development Scholarship
- Christopher F – Scholarship in memory of Dottie Mae
- Geu W – The Lions Club of Canberra, Kambah Scholarship
- Jaimi B – Waying the Stars Scholarship for Perseverance in Working with Horses
- Xavier H – The HenderCare Scholarship for Riding Potential.

Thank you also to the Eastlake Football Club for providing the venue for the Awards Evening; and to the National Zoo and Aquarium for providing a free family entry pass for each award recipient.

In exciting news, we were fortunate to receive an 'Eldon and Anne Foote Donor grant' from the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation to fund Pegasus program places for participants on our waiting list. Due to this grant, we were able to transition another 17 participants from the waiting list and into our programs, so thank you to the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

We often have interested people and members of the public ask what it is we do here at Pegasus, and we were very happy to have the opportunity to open our gates and show off some of our classes, participants, and horses at our Open Day in May. Despite a rainy and meteorologically ominous lead-up to the event, the sun came out on the day and we welcomed a large crowd onto Pegasus farm. All of our demonstration lessons were well attended, as was the Obstacle-A-Thon and horse parade. A big thanks to all the staff and volunteers who worked together to help put our best foot forward and share with the public the opportunities we offer at Pegasus.

Speaking of the Obstacle-A-Thon, it is always a lot of fun to watch our participants embrace the challenge every year. A key feature of our Open Day celebrations, the Obstacle-A-Thon provides our participants with the opportunity to use their leading or riding skills to navigate an obstacle course. Participants can collect donations by arranging individual sponsorship from family and friends for each obstacle they successfully navigate and this year, our fantastic Obstacle-A-Thon participants raised an impressive \$2,651.45 between them. Amazing work! The event is also an opportunity for businesses to support Pegasus by becoming obstacle sponsors and this year, our very generous sponsors (listed next page), jumped on board quickly to support us. Thank you so much – we greatly appreciate it.





Obstacle-A-Thon sponsors:

- Brudine Veterinary Hospital
- Capital Chemist
- Hillross Financial Services
- ISPT Super Property
- King & Wood Mallesons
- Nectar Home Loans and Finance
- Riverview Projects
- Synergy Group
- Tall Foundation
- The Lord's Taverners ACT Branch
- The Walking Clinic.

**“For our programs to be successful and for them to continue to evolve, it takes the united efforts and committed sense of purpose of a wide group of people – from our staff, our coaches, therapists and volunteers who continue to advance the vision and values of Pegasus on a daily basis – who do everything with a smile, and who make such a difference in the lives of our participants.”**

It also takes the support and cooperation from the schools and their teachers; parents, friends and family members; carers and support workers; and everyone who is involved with, and is a member of, our wider Pegasus family. We appreciate all of you, and value the contributions you make to this special organisation.

And last, but certainly not least, are our extraordinary, enthusiastic, and cheerful participants and the gorgeous Pegasus horses – who together share such a beautiful bond as they learn together and grow in our programs. The relationship between our participants and their Pegasus horse is a wonderful thing to witness, as they both work together in unison towards a goal – to conquer challenges, discover new skills, work through tasks, and share achievements.

Well, here's to the financial year that has been and to 45 years of Pegasus. We are 45 years strong and we have a bright future ahead. It has been inspirational to watch so many people within our organisation and beyond, make our mission their own. As abilities are developed and experiences evolve, everyone strives together to enable people to discover and develop their abilities. Thanks to everyone who made this possible.

Thank you.

**STEPHANIE WILLIAMS  
GENERAL MANAGER**



# COMMITMENT

**The 2018–2019 financial year sees us celebrate Pegasus' 45 years of existence, growth and inevitable change.**

As an iconic charitable organisation in the ACT, our evolution has been remarkable and that's thanks in a very large part to the wonderful volunteers we have in our Pegasus family. It has been 45 years filled with wonderful stories and transformative achievements, and I truly feel that our Pegasus volunteers have followed in founder Bid Williams' footsteps, honoured her wishes and proudly continue her legacy.

We are so appreciative to work with such wonderful, honourable and generous volunteers.

**“The endless willingness of our volunteers to go above and beyond, giving up precious personal time to help Pegasus in many different ways, leaves us in awe.”**

Our core value of 'Commitment' is deeply respected and emulated in our volunteers – people who do their very best for Pegasus and regularly demonstrate qualities of integrity, contagious energy, optimism and joy.

It goes without saying (but we want to shout it from the rooftops) that we cannot thank our volunteers enough. As a coach I regularly see the continued commitment, dedication, humility, patience and understanding that is shown by program volunteers and coaches, week in and week out, delighting in the laughter, smiles, smashing of goals, and milestones being met and exceeded by our wonderful participants.

Our participants are the reason we are all here, and without the support of our volunteers, we could not see their dreams become a reality. Without stable volunteers, programs may not happen, as we simply couldn't do it all without your contribution of grooming, tacking up, endless manure collection, cleaning, feeding, and caring for our beautiful Pegasus horses and ponies.

However, this is only one part of the jigsaw that is the volunteer team at Pegasus. The other part of the puzzle consists of volunteers who are on the Board, on various committees, who come out of the woodwork for many of the fundraising activities and events throughout the year to help plan, set up, staff the event, pack up, review, and plan it all again for next year. Events such as the Open Day, Charity Race Day, Charity Golf Day, FUN-khana, monthly sausage sizzles at Bunnings, and the Christmas Party and Volunteer Appreciation evening all require volunteer efforts and we are blessed to have a volunteer cohort with very diverse skillsets and experience. Volunteers also support Pegasus by going along to fundraisers hosted by others where Pegasus is the beneficiary. But it doesn't end there. We also have gardeners, lawn mowers, farm helpers, volunteers that do endless weeding or endless tack cleaning. The jobs never stop, and neither do the smiles!



There is no doubt that Pegasus has been through a period of significant change in the past year, and with that our volunteers have not been immune. Unfortunately we have seen a shortfall in volunteer numbers this year. It takes approximately 120 to 140 volunteers each week to run classes alone, and for the better part of this year we have been operating with 70 to 80 volunteers a week, which is a staggering number of gaps that need to be filled or we cannot safely proceed with a program session. During this time, staff and coaches have stepped in and filled a lot of gaps in order to keep classes running.



A number of our volunteers have really helped out by doing multiple classes a day, or multiple classes a week. Needless to say, during the past year, a concerted effort has gone into advertising, recruitment, training, and retention of volunteers, and I am happy to share that there has been steady growth and steady retention with increasing interest from new volunteers over the past year. I feel confident that numbers are improving, therefore assisting programs to succeed and grow. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have gone the extra mile or more this year to help us navigate this period of transformation, and to ensure our quality classes continue and that safety is maintained to our very high standards. A heartfelt THANK YOU!

In late 2018 we said goodbye to a few of our long-term volunteers, including Mike Crowe, who volunteered for over 31 years. Mike had a real empathy and knack with the kids and has seen many participants progress from their first nervous rides to the end of their riding years at Pegasus. Mike had a way of making participants feel at ease – he knew when to push, when to encourage and when to stand back – and he has had many successful moments at Pegasus. Luckily for us, Mike's other love is photography, so we get to see him from time to time with camera in hand, capturing wonderful memories for Pegasus.

Paul Sloane, how can we thank you enough? Class participation, garden work, and property maintenance is just the start. Not to mention supervising and organising work crews for all manner of property maintenance and that could be any day of the week, including the weekends. Your enthusiasm and energy is absolutely limitless. Thank you!



Ian Senini is a quiet achiever who people might not know – he comes in and helps Brian out around the farm. Ian is a very talented welder/gate maker and we now have several new gates around the paddocks that are finally managing to contain even our most determined of escape artist horses. The horses don't thank you Ian (you've spoiled their fun), but Brian and the rest of us absolutely do.

This year we hosted a rotational group of students from Radford College, who came out every Thursday, rain, hail or shine to help in the stables. A pleasure to work with; we love having these students around. Their smiles and enthusiasm is always appreciated and never goes unnoticed.

Similarly, the incredible help we received from students from St. Francis Xavier College to prepare and set up for Open Day was also greatly appreciated. You all did an amazing job!





At the 2018 Christmas Party and Volunteer Appreciation Evening, we had the pleasure of recognizing some of our volunteers for the following milestones:

### Special recognition

- Mike Crowe – retiring after 31 years service
- Betty Pearson – retiring after 23 years service
- Mary Louise Willheim – retiring after 24 years service
- Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen.

### 10 years of service

- Paul Sloane
- Ashlyn Farrelly
- Kristen Proudfoot
- Valerie Woodward
- David and Sue Robinson

### 3 years of service

- Glenn Elliot
- Lauren Exton
- Gerry Christian AM
- Gayle Herbert
- Carol Blake
- Kamea Skowronski

### 5 years of service

- Denise Druitt
- Michael Hitchens
- Amy Nicholson
- Deb Martin
- Jessica Nott
- Kerrie Flynn
- Tony Molyneux
- Jody Chamberlain
- Lauren O'Neale
- Carol Kelly
- Elizabeth Goldie
- Janelle Patten
- Maya Scott
- Yolanda Rohling-Goorden
- John Riley

### Program Volunteer of the Year: for volunteering in Pegasus' programs

Cathy Murphy

### Services Volunteer of the Year: for volunteering in non-program related roles

Paul Sloane

### Stable Hand Volunteer of the Year: for volunteering in the Pegasus stables

Nicola Semmler

### Young Volunteer of the Year: under 21 years of age

Eliya Neely

### Volunteer of the Year: overall contribution to Pegasus

Ann Howson

It isn't possible to name each and every volunteer in person here, but please know that each and every one of you is highly valued and appreciated – whether you occasionally pull a weed or ten in the garden, work in classes each week, flip sausages once a month, coach classes, work at events, or help Pegasus in any other immeasurable way. Your efforts, working collaboratively together, makes Pegasus the remarkable organisation it is today.

It is only through this incredible commitment from all of our volunteers that Pegasus is able to continue delivering high-quality therapeutic horse-facilitated programs and services to the ACT and surrounding communities. Pegasus volunteers are our lifeblood and have been paramount to Pegasus' success over the last 45 years. I have no doubt they will be a pivotal part of the successful evolution of Pegasus in the next 45 years and beyond.

## JANELLE PATTEN VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR, PROGRAMS



# QUALITY

**Another financial year is complete and with it came another year of wonderful generosity, support and passion for Pegasus.**

This financial year has seen a lot of variety in our fundraising efforts, keeping it interesting and fun – another year of putting the ‘fun’ into fundraising!

## THE FUNDRAISING TEAM

With the increased need for, and focus on, fundraising at Pegasus, this year we warmly welcomed a new member to our fundraising team, Liesl Gordon. Liesl started off as an event volunteer for Pegasus and jumped at the opportunity to become a staff member in the fundraising team in early 2019. Liesl has strong connections in Canberra and further afield, as well as admirable enthusiasm and determination to fundraise for Pegasus, and tackles everything with a smile. Welcome to the team Liesl.

## COMMUNITY AND EVENTS

**“We have been actively connecting and engaging with our community more this year, seeking out and seizing opportunities as and when they arise.”**

Carpe Diem! The aim of this is not only to raise immediate funds, but also to raise more awareness of the work we do at Pegasus and to increase our network. With these connections the possibilities are endless. This attitude is what led us to become involved with the iconic Royal Canberra Show for the first time this year – assisting with the stables during the five days of equestrian events and in return, helping to raise funds and awareness. We all thoroughly enjoyed and learned a lot from this opportunity, fostering community relations while raising the much-needed funds to continue offering our services. Thank you to the Royal Canberra Show for inviting us along and to all of our volunteers who got their hands, faces and clothes dirty helping out.

Through word of mouth, our Pegasus community has expanded this year, with new support and fundraising opportunities arising on a regular basis. We are delighted to have been chosen as the beneficiary for a number of fundraising events and programs including the fundraising preview of Tempo Theatre’s production of Agatha Christie’s ‘Towards Zero’; the European Union Delegation to Australia Trivia Night; the official charity for the Canberra Comedy Festival’s recycling initiative fundraiser; Kingsford Smith School’s High Society Day; Goodwin Village Monash’s Christmas Fete; Women in Racing’s Spring Fling; and HorizonOne Recruitment’s Christmas Party.

Thank you to each individual and organisation that chose to raise funds on behalf of Pegasus this year.

A very unique and special event this year was the sale of some stunning paintings of the Pegasus ponies (and Charlie the farm cat). These beautiful artworks were masterfully painted by three members of the U3A ACT ‘Make-a-Mark’ Group 4 art group – Trevor Doust, Heather Domaschenz and Jay Kottege – and auctioned off over ten days. Bidding was competitive and the result was a fantastic \$1,188 for Pegasus and some very happy purchasers. Thank you to the artists for taking the time to capture our wonderful Pegasus ponies and for helping us raise some much-needed funds for Pegasus.

Of course we can’t forget Pegasus’ own events which, once again, have been a huge success. Our ever-popular Open Day was held in May. A day to showcase to the broader community the benefits of what Pegasus does on a daily basis, show off our fantastic facilities and grounds and, of course, raise a few dollars to keep the Pegasus magic alive. The result? More awareness, more volunteers, more community partnerships and \$14,400 raised. Thank you to everyone who set up stalls and provided entertainment; and thank you to our Obstacle-A-Thon sponsors, our wonderful donors, and our fabulous volunteers for making the Open Day so special.







Yet again, our annual Corkhill Bros Pegasus Charity Race Day and The Walking Clinic's Yowani Pegasus Charity Golf Day events were a huge success raising an impressive \$18,100 and \$18,600 respectively. Thank you once again to our major sponsors (Corkhill Bros and The Walking Clinic) and venue sponsors (Thoroughbred Park and Yowani Country Club Canberra) for supporting these events. And an extended thank you to everyone else who supports these events through sponsorship, donations, raffle and auction items, and volunteering efforts – we really couldn't do it without your support.

Continuing on with the flow of successful events, every third Friday of the month you will find some happy Pegasus volunteers serving up a splendid sausage sizzle (onions on the top of course!) at Bunnings Fyshwick, all in the name of Pegasus. Thank you to our volunteers for supporting this iconic community event and to Bunnings Fyshwick and The Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen for their continued support with our community barbeques and much more.

A special thank you to our fabulous Pegasus volunteers and families for not only sharing their precious time to help us raise funds at Pegasus events but also for regularly promoting Pegasus' name to be a beneficiary charity at events and programs happening within their own networks.

Talking of volunteers and events, our Christmas Party and Volunteer Appreciation Event is a wonderful opportunity for Pegasus supporters, families, staff and volunteers to wind down and reflect on the year that has been. It is also the time we acknowledge the amazing work our 150 plus dedicated volunteers do each year, and recognize those who have contributed above and beyond. This year, for the first time, our wonderful partner, Synergy Group Australia, sponsored this event allowing Pegasus to do so much more than would normally have been possible without taking funds away from our services. Thank you Synergy Group Australia for your support.





## OTHER FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Pegasus through our many programs, including Adopt-a-Pony, Rezorc-a-Horse, Christmas and Tax Appeals, Regular Monthly Giving and our Wish List.

Our wish list is always growing but thanks to our supporters we are lucky to have had a few items ticked off the list this year including water troughs for our horses with thanks to Lodge Caledonia of Canberra No. 938, and some vital equipment to continue to make Pegasus' programs fun and engaging for our participants with thanks to United Arab Emirates Embassy Australia. We extend our gratitude to everyone who has chosen to support Pegasus in this way and grant us these wonderful wishes.

More wishes were granted at our annual Pegasus Scholarship Awards Night in March where 18 full year scholarships were presented to Pegasus participants. This is the sixth year Pegasus has provided the scholarship program, which allows recipients to experience, and benefit from, a Pegasus program over a 12-month period. The scholarships program has grown from four donors in the first year to 16 donors this year. Thank you to all of our scholarship donors for your generosity; to Eastlake Football Club for providing the fantastic venue for our Awards Evening; and to the National Zoo and Aquarium for gifting free family passes to the scholarship recipients.

Another way of supporting Pegasus is through a Beyond Bank Community Reward Savings Account. Thanks to a promotional push scheduled around the 2018 Horses' Birthday celebration and with the support of our friends at Beyond Bank, we were able to increase the number of people who have chosen Pegasus as their beneficiary charity through a Beyond Bank Community Reward Savings Account this year. The impact of this has been significant and we encourage anyone who banks with Beyond Bank (or those who are thinking of changing banks) to get on board and support Pegasus through this win-win initiative. It's at no cost to you and Pegasus reaps the benefits. Thank you to Beyond Bank for its continued support to help make this fundraising initiative reach its full potential and to everyone who participates.



## LOOKING FORWARD

The theme of this year's annual report is a pertinent one – we are 45 years young and firmly focused on the future! At Pegasus, we are continually striving to build long-term, mutually-beneficial partnerships with our supporters. We believe Pegasus has a lot to offer as a charity partner and we also understand that each supporter's goals are different. This year we have started some important conversations with our supporters (both current and prospective) to build and enhance our partnerships. This is a major focus for the coming years and we are excited to see where we can go with this evolving initiative.

## AND FINALLY...

On behalf of everyone at Pegasus, I'd like to just say one final thank you to all those incredible individuals, organisations and associations, businesses, donors and sponsors, families and schools, members and everyone who supported Pegasus this year, whether that support was through financial donations, in-kind donations, volunteer hours, introductions, advice or just some kind words. We really do appreciate you all.

## ANNA COLLINS FUNDRAISING MANAGER



# RESPECT

## There's never a dull moment at Pegasus and 2018–2019 was no different.

Although the financial period started quietly, this year has seen quite a bit of change on the 'horse front' of the organisation.

The remainder of 2018 continued with business as usual, as our beautiful ponies continued their wonderful work in program sessions and activities. We welcomed the very beautiful Millie to the Pegasus herd – a super cute and extremely pretty little Palomino mare (pictured). After some initial friction between Abby and Millie, the pecking order was decided and they are now very good paddock mates. Millie remains quite tentative about her new job description but continues to gain confidence with her RDA training.



Photo: Millie

In October, our horses went above and beyond their normal duties when Pegasus hosted the National Hippotherapy workshop. This three-day bonanza saw Pegasus hosting interstate and international visitors, and our horses shone in both appearance and performance.



We successfully demonstrated the awesome abilities of our participants and ponies at the ever popular Obstacle-A-Thon at this year's annual Open Day. This was a great spectacle and enjoyed by both groups of riders and their volunteers alike, who ably displayed what we do, and how we do it, here at Pegasus. We were extremely proud of our ponies' ability to remain calm and focused in the face of much fanfare, applause and celebration. This was then followed up by a wonderful showing of the herd at the Horse Parade, putting their best hoof forward and sharing some of their day-to-day antics with the crowd via the announcer.

In early 2019, the herd welcomed the arrival of two new ponies to the Pegasus family. Eddie arrived in February – a gorgeous bay riding pony, and Buddy – a handsome black possibly Quarter Horse cross, closely followed in March. The training of these new ponies has been somewhat delayed with the subsequent staff shortages we have experienced this year, but Buddy is into classes and Eddie continues to learn the ropes enthusiastically.

On a very sad note, we bid farewell to our beloved Mia and Thomas in 2019, and remember them both fondly. We will always be grateful to them for their wonderful service to RDA; their special friendship and gorgeous personalities; and the good times shared.



Photo: Buddy



Photo: Eddie





Photo: Smartie sunbaking

Another sad occasion was when Maya – our much-respected and immensely skilled Horse Manager – resigned her position to take up a new opportunity in the public service. It was a bittersweet goodbye for all involved, but we are all excited that this new role will utilize her environmental science degree. Our loss is certainly the ACT public service's gain, and we wish her all the best for this new adventure. In the immediate period following Maya's departure, I was very happy to take on the caretaker Horse Manager role and keep an eye on our precious herd, which numbered 15 at the time, while the hunt for a new suitable Horse Manager commenced.

**“It is always a privilege to do the work we do here at Pegasus, and to be able to work alongside such an amazing, dedicated and highly skilled group of volunteers and staff who assist in the care and welfare of the Pegasus herd. ”**

Without their manpower moving horses around; cleaning up after them; preparing them for class; and a myriad of other chores, we would not be able to get our valuable classes done. Very special thanks again to our wonderful Honorary Life Member and tireless volunteer Sheila King, who cleans and oils all the tack, amongst many other varied and useful tasks. Also to Paul Sloane who sees a job that needs doing and does it. I would also like to thank Ian Senini for his valuable contributions to the upkeep of the property again this year. Also diligently and expediently keeping the property maintained is our Farm Manager Brian Thompson – a godsend who we thank every week.

Another wonderfully supportive individual we are grateful to have with us is Sally Francis. Her cheerful presence, coupled with her sheer breadth of knowledge and experience is respected and appreciated by us all.

This financial year has seen the generous support of a number of professionals and organisations who all enable Pegasus to give our precious herd of horses the very best care and attention possible. We are very lucky to have had assistance from the following incredible individuals and businesses:

- Brindabella Stockfeed – Feed
- Canberra Equine Hospital – Veterinary support
- Bungendore Veterinary Surgery – Veterinary support
- Webb Equine – Veterinary support
- Roy Amos – Saddler
- Tom Smith – Farrier
- Fonze Maleki – Hay Supply
- Kippax Veterinary Hospital – Vet care for Charlie the cat
- Peter Rocca – Arena Maintenance
- GCN Consulting – Donation of new rugs.

As we continue to evolve and adapt in the years to come, one thing will always remain steadfast and true, and that is the respect that we have for everyone who helps us to continue the important work we do at Pegasus. To everyone who has assisted us in any way, we extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation. Here's to another 45 years!

## CHRIS NICHOLLS STABLE MANAGER



# SUPPORTING PEGASUS TO DEVELOP ABILITIES

## Have you ever wanted to give a gift that keeps on giving?

Well, that's exactly what Pegasus supporter and Honorary Life Member, Mr Marcus Quinlivan OAM did. Marcus bestowed upon Pegasus a very significant gift and with this gift, Pegasus established the Marcus Quinlivan Developing Abilities Fund for people living with disabilities – an endowment fund to support, in perpetuity, programs that develop confidence and self-esteem, and improve physical well-being and ability through horsemanship activities and horse-facilitated therapy programs.

Thoughtful gifts to the Marcus Quinlivan Developing Abilities Fund build a strong endowment capable of providing lasting support for Pegasus' mission and vision. Gifts are kept in perpetuity and invested to generate income that is used to further Pegasus' offerings for generations to come – making a lasting impact.

As Pegasus is an Australian Taxation Office approved Deductible Gift Recipient, donors who align with Pegasus' objectives may make a tax deductible gift to Pegasus with a request that it be used to augment the Fund. Interested individuals and donors can add to the endowment fund at any time, and through the investment growth and our donor's generosity, the fund is perpetually sustainable.

If these objectives, and the idea of giving a gift in perpetuity appeals to you, please contact us for more information on 02 6254 9190. Make an impact and help to transform the lives of those in our community who need our services the most.

## WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT?

An endowment is a restricted fund under management. It is made up of gifts and bequests that are subject to a requirement that the principal be maintained intact and invested to create a source of income (interest).

Interest from the fund can then be used to fund priority programs and activities. Building Pegasus' endowment fund is important for the long-term future of our organisation.





# IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

## WHY OUR PARTNERS SUPPORT US

**We have many partners whose support is hard to describe in one word.**

If we had to, it would be 'incredible'. From the gift of volunteering time to financial and in-kind contributions, their actions are generous and impactful. Thank you to all of the compassionate individuals, businesses and organisations who gave to Pegasus this past year. Thank you for caring and thank you for being a part of our Pegasus family. We are truly grateful. So now, in their own words, here are some reasons why our partners choose to support Pegasus...

### HORIZONONE RECRUITMENT

*"We feel proud to have supported Pegasus for many years now, it's a fantastic feeling to be able to partner with an organisation that has such a positive impact on our local Canberra community. From fundraising and golf days to hosting a curry stall at the annual Open Day – our whole team love to get involved with Pegasus events, as it's a chance for us all to give back more than just a financial contribution."*



Photo: Simon Cox, Director and Fiona Grimmer, Marketing Manager, HorizonOne Recruitment serving curry at the Pegasus Open Day.

### CAPITAL CHEMIST

*"Capital Chemist prides itself on supporting the community with various charities and organisations. Pegasus is a charity that we are especially fond of for the exceptional work it does in assisting young people with disabilities become more able. We are extremely proud to be associated with the passionate people and the amazing horses at Pegasus."*



Photo: Melita Flynn, Community Program Manager, Capital Chemist pictured with Ziva, Pegasus participant at the 2019 Scholarship Awards Evening.

## LIONS CLUB OF CANBERRA BELCONNEN

*“Belconnen Lions Club has been involved with Pegasus since it was created. In fact one of our members was a part of the original board. We feel it provides an essential service for improving the lives of children with a disability and as such, receives our club’s ongoing support.”*



Photo: John Webb and Nicola Gray from the Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen cooking up a storm at the sausage sizzle.

## BUNNINGS FYSHWICK

*“We at Bunnings Fyshwick choose Pegasus as a charity partner because of the amazing work they do within the community; for all the families they are able to help and the difference they make in children’s lives. There are some amazing stories of people they’ve helped.”*



Photo: The Bunnings Team from this year’s Open Day.

## KNIGHT FRANK AUSTRALIA AND ISPT

*"Knight Frank and ISPT have been supporters of Pegasus for over five years. The reason we support Pegasus is the wonderful experience they provide, and the local support given to children living with a disability, giving them a unique opportunity like nothing else in the community. From what I have seen and heard from the parents of Pegasus participants, the visible improvement in behaviour and mobility of the children is obvious."*

*Over the last five years we have partnered with Pegasus to provide maintenance at the farm, which has involved introducing our partnering contractors to help with various tasks including but not limited to, upgrading the electricity transformer for the farm (lobbying ActewAGL); providing a demountable office administration space; and bringing in power and air conditioning. This was done by bringing together several trades and our staff to volunteer their time and expertise.*

*We have been involved with the Pegasus Charity Golf Day with several teams over three years as well. We are very keen to continue supporting Pegasus with working bees and helping with anything that we are able to do."*



Photo: The Knight Frank ISPT Portfolio Team.

## BEYOND BANK AUSTRALIA

*"Like Pegasus, we understand that life with a disability can be challenging and at times, isolating."*

*Research has shown that riding can lead to many physical and psychological benefits as well as improved self-confidence and well-being. Beyond Bank Australia is proud to support Pegasus to provide these important programs and activities for people with disabilities. We believe that together we can create more good for those living with a disability."*

**Beyond Bank**  
AUSTRALIA



## THE LORD'S TAVERNERS ACT BRANCH

*"The relationship between the Lord's Taverners ACT and Pegasus is a logical partnership as both organisations have the common goal of supporting young people with a disability and assisting them in developing their capabilities."*

*Our shared belief is that tolerance and inclusiveness are critical factors in helping young people with a disability to build their confidence and achieve greater self esteem.*

*The Taverners/Pegasus partnership commenced in 2011; we are confident our relationship will continue to strengthen because of the capacity Pegasus has to maintain a professional image and to achieve outstanding results."*

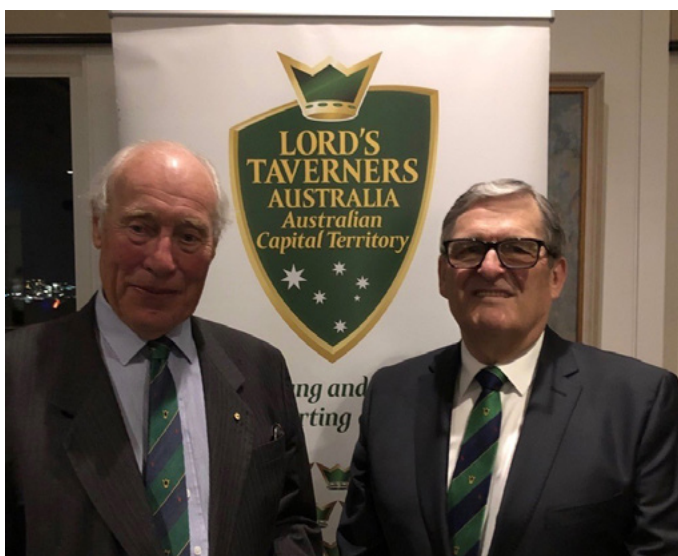


Photo: Rob Laurie, Life Member Lord's Taverners ACT, and Noel Smith MBE Treasurer, at the Prime Minister's XI Dinner at the Commonwealth Club

## CORKHILL BROS

*"Corkhill Bros is proud to be part of the Pegasus family. Pegasus' core values of commitment, respect, quality and connection align with ours."*

*Pegasus makes a real and tangible difference in enriching the lives of people with a disability through horse therapy. As we celebrate our 65th anniversary of business in Canberra we also celebrate our partnership with Pegasus, their great team of staff and dedicated volunteers."*

# CORKHILL BROS

EST. 1954

# 2018/2019 MAJOR DONORS – OVER \$500

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

- Michael Adler
- Constance Aronsen
- Robert Bachmann
- Kay Beaton
- Helen Brown
- T Brown
- R J Campbell
- Wendy Chesworth
- Bernard Clark
- John Churchill
- Robyn Coghlan
- Philippa Curran
- Sally Druhan
- Kevin and Pam Durick
- Leonard Early
- Raymond Edmondson
- Everyl Ellis
- Michelle Grattan
- Katherine Hansen
- Kevin Heindl
- Margaret Henley
- Barbara Hinds
- Iris Hockley
- Sue Howieson
- Michael Hutchinson
- Denise Jaram
- Susan Jones
- Mary Jovanovic
- William Lamond
- Joseph Marks
- Margaret McGovern
- Vanessa Millard
- Eliya Neely
- Christina Nicholls
- Hilary Nicholson
- Jennie Nicholson
- Jane Olesen
- Tony Peacock
- Ros Peacock
- Marcus Quinlivan OAM
- June Riley
- Alison Rudd
- Ross Ryan
- Ray Silburn
- Margery Smith
- Rachel Stephen-Smith
- Kate Stockhausen
- Beth Stone
- Gregory Taylor
- Dorothy Topfer
- Freddy Von Reibnitz
- Ochie and Marie Wallace
- Jann White
- Lisa Williams
- Victoria Withers.

## BUSINESSES & ORGANISATIONS

- ActewAGL
- Beyond Bank
- Belconnen Bowling Club Inc.
- Bungendore Veterinary Surgery
- Canberra Rotaract Club
- Capital Chemist
- Corkhill Bros
- European Union Delegation to Australia
- Goodwin Village Monash
- HenderCare
- Hillross Financial Services
- Horizon One Recruitment
- Kenyon Foundation Pty Ltd
- King & Wood Mallesons
- Lodge Caledonia of Canberra No. 938
- MG Car Club Canberra
- Nectar Home Loans and Finance
- Network Electrical Solutions
- Norman Disney & Young
- Quota International of Canberra
- Riverview Group
- St Francis Xavier College
- Synergy Group Australia
- Tabcorp
- Tall Foundation
- Tempo Theatre
- The Lions Club of Canberra Belconnen
- The Lions Club of Canberra Kambah
- The Lions Club of Canberra Woden
- The Lord's Taverners ACT Branch
- The Tom Efkarpidis Foundation
- The Walking Clinic
- Thoroughbred Park
- UAE Embassy
- Women In Racing Club

## IN-KIND DONATIONS OVER \$500

- AG Garden Services
- AMSA NSW Men's Shed
- Astral Float Studio
- Bernard Clark
- Bodhifit Studio
- Bunnings Fyshwick
- Doma Hotels
- Eastlake Football Club
- EnviroAg Services
- Fifth Lane Photography
- Guitar Cases
- Horizon One Recruitment
- Interpath
- Jamison Travel
- Joseph and Jones Racing
- National Zoo and Aquarium
- Nerida Winters
- Nola Maybury
- McDonalds
- Ovolo Nishi
- U3A ACT 'Make A Mark' Group 4 Art Group
- Yowani Country Club.

## GRANTS

- The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
- ACT Government – Stronger Communities Program
- Australian Sports Commission.

## SPONSORSHIPS

- ActewAGL
- Brudine Veterinary Hospital
- Capital Chemist
- Corkhill Bros
- Denman Prospect
- Hillross Financial Services
- Huon Contractors
- ISPT Super Property
- Jamison Travel
- John McGrath Auto Group
- King & Wood Mallesons
- Knight Frank
- MGI Joyce Dickson
- Nectar Home Loans and Finance
- Riverview Group
- Stonemad
- Synergy Group Australia
- Tall Foundation
- The Lord's Taverners ACT Branch
- The Walking Clinic
- Yowani Country Club.



# HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

- Fran Belairs
- Lesley Christiansen
- Mike Crowe
- Barbara Donald
- Barbara Hinds
- Sue Leitch
- Sheila King
- Pamela McDougall
- Jan McGuinness
- Marcus Quinlivan OAM
- Peter Scardoni
- Geoff Schmidt
- Jo Skimin
- Helen Southwell
- Dave Waite
- Bid Williams

# SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to Cameron Tidy for his donation of graphic design services for this Annual Report and other promotional materials.

Cameron has produced the last four annual reports for Pegasus pro bono, and we greatly appreciate his generosity, time and experience in designing these beautiful reports for us.

Thanks also to our volunteer photographers for the gorgeous images they secure for us each year. We love to look back and see the memories captured in these stunning images, and we thank you for your time and skill in finding just the right moment to celebrate and remember.



# FINANCIALS

## INCOME STATEMENT

### WHAT WE EARNED

Fundraising & Donations	\$312,214
Grant Income	\$90,972
Arena and Stable Hire	\$5,439
Other income*	\$84,642
Programs	\$104,294
Interest & Dividends	\$67,239
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$664,800</b>

### WHAT WE SPENT

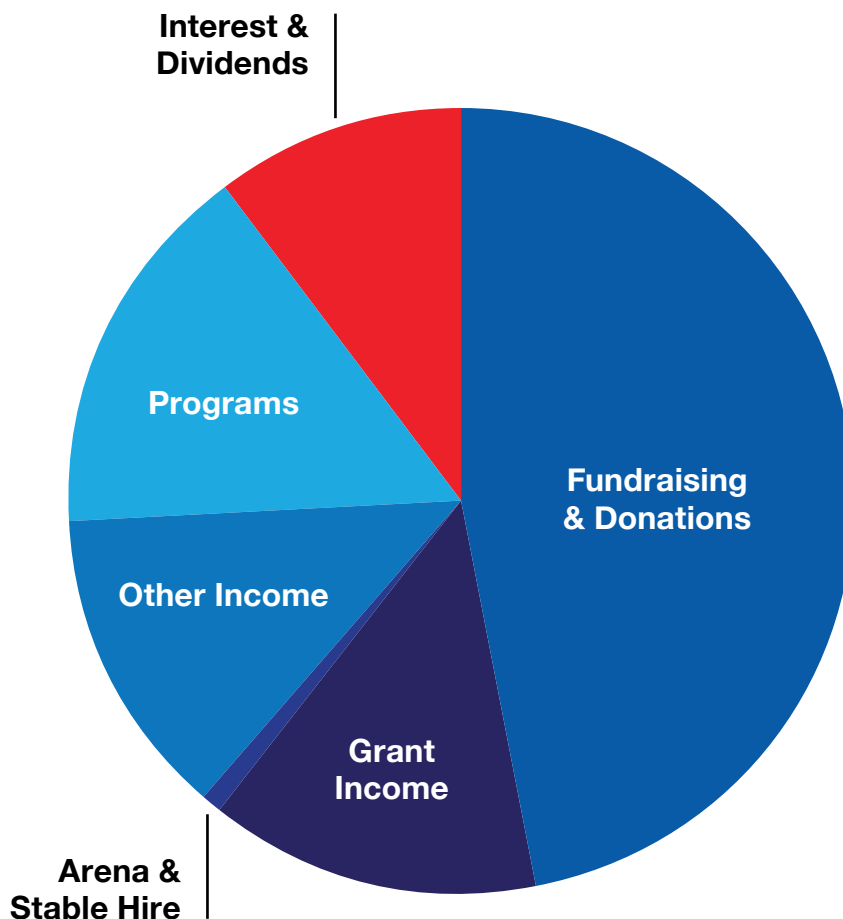
Staff & on costs	\$747,428
General Expenses	\$160,637
Depreciation	\$68,058
Horses	\$43,237
Maintenance	\$23,513
RDAA	\$11,955
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,054,828</b>

\*includes \$62,759 workers comp reimbursements

### DEFICIT

**\$390,028**

### WHAT WE EARNED

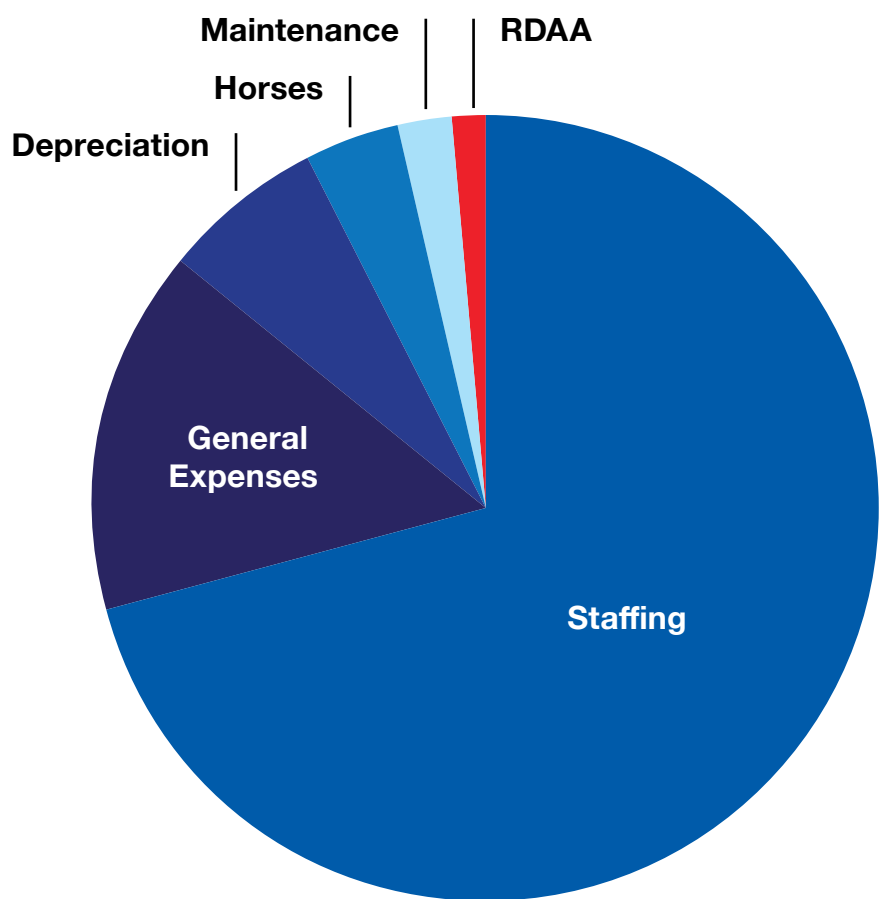


BALANCE SHEET

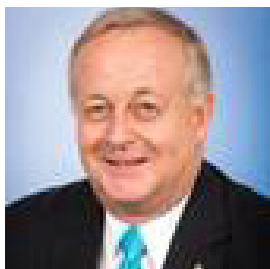
WHAT WE OWN		WHAT WE OWE	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$530,531	Unexpended Grants	\$104,268
Shares in Listed Companies	\$502,251	Grants in Advance	\$0
Debtors	\$11,515	Trade & other payables	\$12,806
Property, Plant & Equipment	\$792,624	Employee Provisions	\$83,142
Other	\$35,718	Other loans	\$3,399
Total Assets	\$1,872,639	Total Liabilities	\$203,615

EQUITY \$1,669,024

WHAT WE SPENT



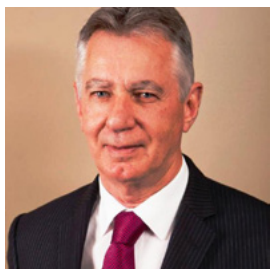
# OUR BOARD



## GERRY CHRISTIAN AM – PRESIDENT

Gerry has served on the Board of Pegasus since November 2015 and brings a wealth of Strategic Planning experience. Born in Auckland NZ, Gerry moved to Australia in 1975 and served 33 years in the Royal Australian Navy. Prior to joining Beca two years ago, Gerry worked for seven years as an International Business Development Director for the Lockheed Martin Mission Systems and Training and fourteen months with the German company Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems. He has extensive experience in strategy, business development and customer relations in both the Australian and New Zealand Government sectors. Since joining the corporate sector in 2009, Gerry has continued to leverage his naval service leadership skills, operational experience and adapt his strategic thinking to the corporate and not-for-profit sectors.

Gerry was a Seaman Officer in the Royal Australian Navy who specialised in Above Water Warfare and rose to the rank of Commodore. He served in command of HMAS NEWCASTLE from 2002 to 2004, including duties as the Multi-National Naval Task Group Commander in Iraq in late 2003. He also commanded HMAS MELBOURNE from 1996 to 1998, the shore establishment HMAS COONAWARRA in 2000 and he was the inaugural Force Element Group Commander for the RAN Patrol Boat Group from 2000 to 2002. Promoted in 2005 to Flag rank, Commodore Christian represented his country and served as Naval Attaché (Washington) for two years. Gerry is a graduate of the Naval Command College at the United States Naval War College, Rhode Island, where he simultaneously completed MBA studies at Salve Regina University in 1999. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts (International Relations) degree from Deakin University. On Australia Day 2005 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for “his exceptional service in supporting operational capability”. Gerry is a Graduate of the Australian Company Directors Course in 2014.



## PETER STUBBS – VICE PRESIDENT

Peter was the CEO of the Canberra Racing Club from 2006 to 2018; an Executive Director of the Australian Racing Board from 2006 to 2015; and on the Board of Pegasus since November 2014. He has a Masters of Management from the Australian National University (ANU), complementing a career in management.

Peter has been the President of Pegasus for the past three years and in 2018, has overseen a major restructure of the organisation, which will set the foundation for the future of Pegasus. Peter stepped down from the President's role at the 2018 AGM and nominated for the role of Vice President, to allow him to join the Growth Advisory Sub Committee under the new organisational structure. It is his intention in this role to assist the General Managers as required in the implementation of the new structure and ensure that the organisation is aligned to Pegasus' strategic plan.

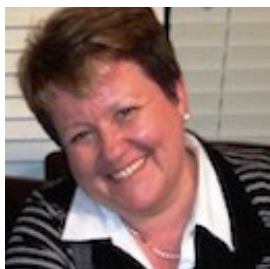


## TONY CURTIS – TREASURER

Tony has been the principal of Anthony Curtis and Co. – a chartered accounting practice – for 27 years. He is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia; was on the board of Sharing Places Inc. for ten years; and is also an inaugural board member with Oncology Massage Ltd, serving on the board for six years and has served on the board of Pegasus for six years also.

His impetus for joining the Pegasus board was to help Pegasus predominantly in its finance and administration areas.





## **SALLY BISHOP – SECRETARY**

Sally is currently a Director with the Department of Health, working in the area of mental health. She has worked in the allied health area for over 20 years, previously in the regional and metropolitan rehabilitation services settings. Sally has also been a member of Rotary for a number of years, and has a strong interest in supporting the work undertaken in the community sector.

Sally decided to join Pegasus as she was keen to support an organisation that provides such valuable services and programs to help individuals grow and reach their potential.

Sally holds a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Psychology and a Graduate Diploma in Health Science.

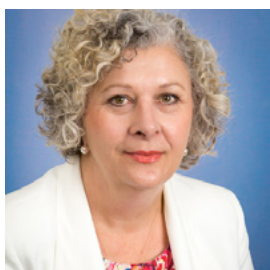


## **SCOTT MARRIOTT**

Scott was appointed as a non-executive Director of Pegasus in November 2015. He is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has served as Deputy Chair of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Australia.

Scott is a Director at the Department of Human Services and his 15 year career in Federal Government spans a variety of strategic policy, program delivery and governance roles. He led the design and implementation of Australia's first national investment for financial education in schools – in response to the 2009 global financial crisis, and has coordinated a range of vocational education and training system reforms through a ministerial Council. Prior to that Scott taught high school health and physical education in urban and regional schools across South Australia and England.

Scott holds a Master of Business Administration with finance and leadership specialisations, a Bachelor of Education and an Advanced Diploma of Human Resource Management.



## **MICHELLE SCULLY**

Michelle is a strategic communication and stakeholder engagement specialist with over 25 years senior executive experience in public affairs, reputation and issues management, change management and corporate communications in the private, government and not-for-profit sectors. She has particular experience in defence, intelligence and national security as well as foreign affairs, international development, agriculture and human services. She is adept at providing advice to Executives on communication programs and strategies to promote and achieve organisational outcomes; maintain and strengthen reputation; and to facilitate effective and lasting change.

Michelle believes the key to success in the strategic communication field is to build collaborative and effective relationships to help organisations identify their communication intent and objectives so as to better understand challenges and more readily develop business solutions.

# OUR BOARD CONT.



## NICK LANGLEY

Nick has worked at senior management levels for over twenty years with an emphasis on the financial and systems management of organisations. His previous role was with the Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre based in Canberra where he was the Chief Operations Officer for over seven years. Prior to this he worked for an Australian Navy welfare organisation as the Chief Financial Officer as his introduction to Canberra.

Previously, Nick spent over 13 years in the central west NSW town of Forbes working for a variety of agribusiness organisations including wool brokers, grain traders and export meat works. He also ran his own business consultancy at this time helping to set up and run a wool broking industry association and a wool auction company used by a variety of small regional wool brokers.

Nick has a passion for people and understands the privileged position he enjoys is not shared by all in the community. As such, and with his family grown, he sought a role that would allow him to contribute to an organisation that was passionate about helping people less fortunate than himself. So, he joined the Pegasus Committee as Treasurer and later on as Chair before becoming the first board President of Pegasus.

Nick enjoys the challenge of setting up new organisational systems and structures and describes himself as a systems builder.



## BECKY LAYTON

Becky has a longstanding relationship with Pegasus, beginning close to 40 years ago, when she first started as a junior volunteer. Since then, she has fulfilled a wide range of roles (paid and volunteer) including being the Administration Manager, Executive Officer, and Level 1 Coach. Becky has also had much broader experience with RDA Australia over the years, including Coach at RDA Top End (Darwin), development of RDAA's first Coach education workbook, attendance at RDAA Council meetings, and in the role of RDAA High Performance Manager.

Becky has been fortunate and grateful to have developed her riding skills under the tutelage of Pegasus founder, Bid Williams, and previous Pegasus Board Member and local EFA coach, Fiona Gruen. The opportunity to work with Franklin Levinson in the area of Equine Facilitated Learning ignited her passion in this field. The principles and practices learnt from Franklin have also been carried through to her work with students who have experienced trauma, and students with disability, when she worked as a primary school teacher.

Becky is currently the Assistant Director of the Strategic Implementation Team in the ACT Education Directorate. In this role, she works collaboratively with Executive staff to build, implement, monitor and review the Directorate's strategic plan. She has recently been asked to step into the role of Executive Officer to the Director General of Education.



## CONTACT US

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ACT 2615

P: 02 6254 9190

E: [admin@pegasusact.com.au](mailto:admin@pegasusact.com.au)

W: [pegasusact.com.au](http://pegasusact.com.au)

## HOW TO DONATE

Visit [www.pegasusact.com.au](http://www.pegasusact.com.au) and click on the 'Make a Donation' button.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT): 'Pegasus' BSB: 032 712 Account: 112218

Cheque: 'Pegasus' 119 Drake Brockman Drive, Holt ACT 2615

Credit card: 02 6254 9190.

## MAKE A BEQUEST

A bequest to Pegasus is one of the best ways to leave a lasting legacy that has the power to transform lives well beyond your lifetime. Bequests may consist of:

- a percentage of your estate
- a nominated dollar amount
- proceeds from a life insurance policy
- shares or bonds
- property or real estate.

You may choose to leave your gift for general use or you may prefer to discuss your gift intention with Pegasus, by contacting the Executive General Manager, Matt Watson on 02 6254 9190 for a confidential discussion.

## LIKE GOOD NEWS?

Connect with us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PegasusRDA](http://www.facebook.com/PegasusRDA)

Connect with us on Instagram: [@pegasusrda\\_act](https://www.instagram.com/pegasusrda_act)

Sign up for our quarterly newsletter 'HoofPrint' by emailing:  
[admin@pegasusact.com.au](mailto:admin@pegasusact.com.au)

## WE NEED YOU TO...

Be a champion for Pegasus by spreading the word about us to friends, family and co-workers. Host a fundraising event for Pegasus at work; invite your friends to our annual events; donate or volunteer. The opportunities are many and the rewards are great. Pegasus makes a difference to so many lives. You can make a difference to Pegasus.