



ANNUAL REPORT

December 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2019 has been a rewarding and full year for Remount.

Having completed the third full year of operations, the ongoing focus on quality and delivery has continued to realise benefits for our Veteran community. The team delivered on the stretch targets for 2019 catering for ACT Legacy, in addition to the eight regular programs.

The engagement of participants continues to develop as people are returning to volunteer and assist in other ways. This additional connection with Remount enhances the programs, as well as builds their connection to community through the broader Remount team.

Although fund raising still remains a secondary priority for the organisation, donations and in-kind support is a constant source of welcome support.

In spite of the drought our volunteers have maintained and presented a team of horses in excellent condition with continuity and quality of delivery a key outcome.



PROGRAM DELIVERY

A total of nine programs were delivered with over 50 people attending in 2019. Due to the drought and subsequent impact on cattle numbers, the Graduate week did not eventuate. When the season turns this will feature in future program calendars.

All program dates for 2019 were advertised on 1 January and filled by 3 January, showing a high demand. The remaining wait list would fill another full set of programs if resources allowed.

Remount hosted specific programs for Soldier On, Legacy Youth and a Lady Drivers program.

Referrals to Remount continue to come from our on-line enquiries and through previous attendees. The Woden RSL and Soldier On also continue to refer veterans directly to Remount.



MARKETING & MEDIA

The Remount Facebook site has over 3,600 followers and continues to promote a positive and professional image to our community and sponsors. Total Facebook reach for 2019 was 220,000.

www.facebook.com/remount.org.au/

The Remount website continues to be maintained and updated allowing for recognition of sponsors and more up to date information.

www.remount.org.au



TOTAL FACEBOOK REACH 2019



BOOSTED PROMOTIONS

Remembrance Day

22,000 Reach

3,000 Engagements

Anzac Day

9,500 Reach

1,500 Engagements

9 September 2019

8,500 Reach

1,500 Engagements

21 May 2019

33,000 Reach

9,500 Engagements

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Remount Stakeholders, I am pleased to present the financial report for the financial year ending June 2019. Remount continues to be in good financial shape, with \$35,531 in the bank (up \$7,592 from last year) as of 30 June and the addition of \$10,910 in new plant and equipment.

Our sponsorship revenue was \$41,505, and normal operating expenditure was \$23,922 producing a profit for the full year of \$17,723 less \$5,996 of depreciation. Lockheed Martin continued its sponsorship of \$35,000 which is much appreciated as always. Our other notable financial sponsors for the year were The Yass Soldiers Club of \$5,000.

Our strong cash position at the end of 2018 enabled Remount to introduce four new horses to the team; Gemini, Boss, Roy and Taboo including saddles, bridles, rugs and other equipment to ensure horse and riders are well looked after. Our horse team now totals seven and we are on the lookout for more.

In August 2019 Remount became a recognised Charity by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and Designated Gift Recipient (DGR) status from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). This is a significant milestone for the organisation and means that cash donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.* This recognition was made possible by generous pro bono work by Courtney Van Zyl at Findex and the quality of the programs we deliver.



Remount finished the year with no material financial liabilities.

Remount continues to grow the number of programs it offers and acquire horses, tack and other equipment to give our drovers a safe, enjoyable and rewarding experience that contributes so much to their wellbeing.

As always, the financial report only captures a portion of the support and activities that allows the organisation to deliver its much-appreciated programs that support service men and women. Remount continues to rely on the generous contributions made by a wide range of supporters such as donations of hay, food, transport, the use of equipment and the many hours of volunteer labour.

Mark Barber

Treasurer

* <https://abr.business.gov.au/ABN/View?abn=56613108446>

* <https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Income-and-deductions/Deductions-you-can-claim/Other-deductions/Gifts-and-donations/#Keepingdonationrecords>

GOVERNMENT & CORPORATE RELATIONS

- ◆ Lockheed Martin donated \$35,000 to Remount for the third consecutive year.
- ◆ Yass Soldiers Club donated \$5,000 to Remount for the third consecutive year.
- ◆ Woden Valley RSL continue to promote Remount throughout their networks and have been a great support to the Program development over the year.
- ◆ RB Sellars continues to supply embroidered uniforms at cost price.
- ◆ The Hon Darren Chester Minister for Veterans Affairs met with a delegation from the Remount Board and offered in principle support. Remount has applied to the Department Community Grants Fund for \$400,000.
- ◆ Remount presented to the Australian Defence College class of 2019 Defence and Strategic Studies Course at the invitation of Captain Jim Hutton OBE.

***Remount would like to thank all our sponsors
and supporters for your generosity.***

***Without your time and donations our
programs would not be possible.***

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & DONATIONS

Local support for Remount continues to develop as the story grows. Many neighbours and people within the district continue to donate horse feed, home cooking, cash donations and offers of help.

Mark and Anne Ward of Canowindra continue to donate 180 bales of lucerne hay during the year which is essential in the drought conditions.

Yass Valley Veterinary continues to provide discounted services to all Remount owned horses of which there are now eight. They also support Remount at their open day and Christmas gift appeal.

Lindsay & Karen Williams donated Remount branded woollen blankets and BBQ aprons.

The Miller and Kemp families provide additional on-site accommodation.

Matt and Maree Doyle from "Glenryan" donate their land and cattle for mustering experiences.

Lindi Curr and Paul Gallagher donate their land and cattle for mustering experience.

Ryan and Nat Walsh of Territory Agistment provide cattle for mustering experiences.

Steve Hart from Steven Hart Performance Horses continues to provide horsemanship training and mentoring to our Drivers and volunteers.

Cash donations received include:

- ◆ Manton Fire Brigade \$742 (from their Driver Reviver program)
- ◆ Jan Maguire \$500
- ◆ Janny Poate \$100
- ◆ Tori Corcoran \$150



RISK MANAGEMENT

Remount Limited holds a \$20 million public Liability Insurance policy and made no claims against the policy in 2019.

There were no injuries for our Drivers as a result of Remount activities in 2019 and safety remains a high priority for the team. One of our volunteer Stockman experienced a fall whilst mustering in the paddock resulting in hospital treatment though no claim was made on the company.

A first aid training was conducted for our volunteers including the use of a defibrillator, snake bite treatment, and emergency procedures. We would like to thank Emma Ritchard for donating her time and medical expertise to enhance our first aid capability.



DROVER EXPERIENCE

Remount provides a “circuit-breaking” opportunity for people suffering PTSD, depression, isolation or lack of self-esteem as a result of their service. These breakthroughs enable change in their lives which creates positive pathways to follow that has long lasting effect.

Breakthroughs manifest in many ways and include:

- ◆ Increased social connection
- ◆ Reduced signs of PTSD
- ◆ Increased motivation and self-worth
- ◆ Feeling connected and valued
- ◆ Sense of optimism about the future
- ◆ Renewed pride in service history
- ◆ Increased confidence

This primary impact is facilitated by understanding the language of the horse, then building a relationship with the horse – with the Drover being the leader. As a new team, the Drover then undertakes a task to muster cattle, applying the new relationship skills they have developed with the horse.

Secondary Remount impacts are provided by:

- ◆ Valuing and acknowledging their service
- ◆ Reducing bureaucracy and barriers to gain access support
- ◆ Providing a non-judgmental, supportive environment
- ◆ Delivering genuine and excellent hospitality
- ◆ Giving access to nature and rural surrounds
- ◆ Delivering healthy food and drink options and physical activity

Brilliantly designed for instantaneous escape, the horse is a hyper-vigilant walking time bomb wrapped in a defensive shield of sophisticated sensory radar, forever ready to explode into a run with the fastest reaction time of any animal on the planet. The simple fact of knowing this – seeing horses from this perspective and, most important, seeing life from the horses point of view – is transformative. It allows for a level of relationship between human and horse, prey and predator, that would otherwise be impossible. Finally it allows for compassion, the single most important ingredient in any mutually beneficial relationship.

“Riding Home” 2015

Tim Hayes and Robert Redford

TESTIMONIALS

A sample of our Drover feedback is listed below. These excerpts are intended to give the reader a sense of the impact Remount has had on visitors and their families. Names have been removed to remain confidential. We thank all Drovers for showing the courage to come to Remount and appreciate them taking the time to share their thoughts with us.

"But it is I who can't thank both of you enough for what was, for me, a very special weekend. You have developed something quite unique and, with your team of wonderful volunteer stockmen and ringers, deliver a program that truly does assist those who have served to 'get back in the saddle'"

"I wanted to say thank you once again for getting me involved with Remount. It was a really great thing to be a part of! I also wanted to share this with you just to show how valuable and effective the program actually is! I have been tracking my progress (PTSD Monitor) for the past six weeks now and there is a clear change as indicated below"

"Remount was great. I learnt a lot about horses bonding and saddles. I'd love to go back"

"I liked the encouraging nature of the leaders at Remount, they pushed me forward and showed me that I could do things, like cantering, that I thought I would never be able to do"

"I had no riding experience at all and was a bit apprehensive when I offered to fill a last-minute vacant spot on the day, but the Remount staff and volunteers made me feel comfortable immediately and gave me a lot of confidence. Soon I had developed a big grin that didn't leave my face until we got in the car to drive back to Canberra. Thanks very much to Legacy and Remount for a wonderful experience"

"It was my second time back and I loved every bit of it. Everyone there is kind and pushes you to try things that may be out of your comfort zone and is very rewarding. I would love to come back and keep coming back"

"It's heart-warming that people in the community can offer what they love doing, and what they are good at, and provide that experience to the Defence Community in a generous and professional manner"

"Thank you Remount for your generosity and thoughtfulness. It certainly provides an amazing opportunity to spend a day outdoors with horses and have an experience that you'll always remember"

"We can't thank you all enough for such a special experience. Your warm hospitality and kind support made for the most amazing weekend."

"Remount nuff said the ladies and gents well blood needs to be bottled especially Adrian gotta put his in SS lol love to REMOUNT great people fantastic foresight cheers"

"Thank you Remount Family, you have made an incredibly positive difference to my life!"

"I am forever grateful for the opportunity. It has been a weekend I will not forget. I can't thank you enough and I will definitely come back and encourage others who need it to contact you. You guys are amazing. Xx"

"The beautiful Remount continues to grow. Such a joy and honour to be part of it. xx"

“Remount is an amazing place if your curious take the leap you won’t be disappointed”

“You have no idea on how important it is for me being given the opportunity to help during the weekend. I also did not expect it to be so powerful. When I said that you didn't realise that you had 7 drovers instead of 6, I meant every word. Witnessing your hard work, your kindness to others, your skills and compassion made me feel part of something special. Watching how John opened up and suddenly lowered his barriers was unbelievable. Listening to him speaking so openly about his troubled journey made me more aware on how many similarities I have with him and was a real eye opener. If you are still reading this, I can only say thank you. What you do is remarkable and it's truly an honour being able to help in any way. I hope I can assist in your future program and please never ever hesitate to seek me for anything you might need. I am forever grateful”

“On behalf of Canberra Legacy thank you and your wonderful organisation for hosting four Legacy Youth, a Legacy Widow and one of our Legatees at Remount on 26 October. The work that you and your team do in support of veterans and their families is amazing. Your volunteers are a credit to our Nation.”

“For almost ten years now I have battled PTSD, depression and anxiety which has slowly stripped me of a large part of who I am: my confidence, my self-esteem, my strength, my laughter, my happiness and my sense of self... the second 24 hours I felt a sense of peace, happiness and confidence I haven't felt in a long time. But most importantly I felt hope that the old me is still in there. That is what you, your Remount family, Kruger, the other Lady Drovers and your serene property and excellent program did for me...”

“My words cannot describe my thanks and enjoyment over the past two days”

“I can't thank you all enough for your amazing work and making me feel like family. My heart is so full”

“You helped me get my confidence back, thank you”

“When I stopped over thinking what I was doing and just went with it a shift occurred between Darby and I. Then I got it, he got me and I understood. Forever grateful”

“It's made me focus my thoughts on what is possible despite setbacks in life. Positivity abounds aplenty here, which will stick with me. So much has gone on here in two days which will take a while to process, but its all good”

“I don't really have the words to describe how truly thankful I am for such a fantastic weekend... on the mental health side Remount hits the target right in the centre”

“The farm always makes us feel so welcome and the exercises from arena to paddock gave us both the confidence boost needed”

“everything far exceeded my expectations and I have come away from the experience with a quiet mind, something that doesn't usually happen”

SPONSORS

LOCKHEED MARTIN

Remount would like to acknowledge our major sponsor Lockheed Martin who continue to fund the on-going operational expenses of the program.



YASS SOLDIERS CLUB

Remount would like to thank Yass Soldiers Club for the ongoing cash contribution of \$5,000 per annum



YASS VALLEY VETERINARY

Remount would like to thank Yass Valley Veterinary for their discounted services in looking after our horses who are the reason for our success.



RB SELLARS

RB Sellars continues to provide embroidered uniforms at cost price.

RB SELLARS



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Remount is a not for profit organisation fully staffed by volunteers, that provides horsemanship programs to veterans and first responders, their families and carers, at no charge.

Participants stay on farm and learn the language of the horse, and then apply these skills to muster cattle as a team and one on one.

It is our way of saying thank you to those who have served and are currently serving; and in doing so make significant sacrifices for which we are eternally grateful.