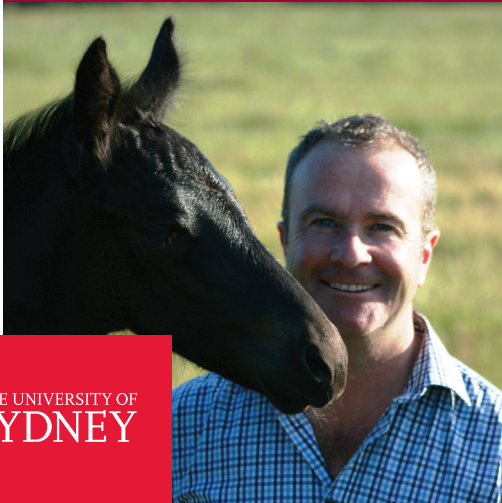


A GIFT TO SUPPORT THE HORSE RIDER SAFETY RESEARCH FUND



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Horses in Australia play a unique role in work, sport and leisure contexts. However, they also kill more Australians annually than any other animal. The same is true in all developed countries.

This paradox reflects the tendency of horses to show 'flight' responses. Most casualties and fatalities can be traced back to inappropriate flight responses that could not be stopped. This emphasises the importance of being able to 'put the brakes' on any ridden horse reliably, chiefly by putting pressure on the 'bit' in the horse's mouth, via the reins.

Professor Paul McGreevy* of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, is a world-renowned expert in Equitation Science. Professor McGreevy and his team will spearhead this ground-breaking research project to identify the distribution and causal factors of a diminished response to bit pressure – the most critical aspect of rider safety.

*Professor McGreevy is President of the International Society for Equitation Science; and one of only three veterinarians recognised by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as a specialist in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine.

For more information regarding how to make a gift to
The Horse Rider Safety Research Fund, please contact
Jackie Dalton, Faculty of Veterinary Science
The University of Sydney NSW, 2006
jacqueline.dalton@sydney.edu.au
9351 8024

The Horse Rider Safety Research Fund has been established to dramatically improve horse welfare and rider safety for children and adults around the world who ride horses.

All experienced riders know the importance of having 'good hands' and confirm that the most important question before riding an unfamiliar horse is whether or not it 'has brakes'. No person would voluntarily get into a car without brakes, and the same can be said of horses.

This research will work towards identifying the risk factors for dangerously compromised deceleration responses in horses. It will also work towards identifying the factors required to ensure that horses do not habituate to bit pressure, and hence retain 'the brakes'.

Animal Welfare Benefits – Although we have referred here to the horse's brakes, we certainly do not mean to imply that horses are machines. Horses are sentient beings. We owe it to them to ensure they are treated ethically. So, it is of critical importance to recognise that more violence is perpetrated at the level of the ridden horse's mouth than to any other part of its body. By using the minimum necessary pressure, we can ride ethically and preserve the sensitivity to the bit.

Economic Benefits – by reducing injury rates in children and adult horse riders, and indeed horses, from uncontrolled flight responses, the economic benefits to society will be significant.

Social Benefits – rider safety will be enhanced immediately because a rider will have an objective measure of a horse's responsiveness. Trainers will educate horses appropriately; and novices can be assigned horses that are most appropriate to their skill level.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Title

Family name

First name/other names

Address (number and street)

Suburb

State

Postcode

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Country

Preferred phone number

Email address

GIFT DETAILS

Please accept my tax deductible gift to the University of Sydney in support of **The Horse Rider Safety Research Fund**:

- \$50
 \$100
 \$250
 Other (Please specify)

I would like to make my gift in three (3) equal annual instalments.

PAYMENT DETAILS

- Cheque (please make payable to the University of Sydney)
 Visa MasterCard American Express Diners Club

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Card number

Expiry date

Signature of card holder

I would like to receive a Stewardship Report, updating me on the progress of my gift.

You can download a copy of this Gift Form:

sydney.edu.au/vetscience

THANK YOU - YOUR GIFT IS SINCERELY APPRECIATED

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO

Jackie Dalton
Level 6, Jane Foss Russell Building
The University of Sydney, NSW 2006 Australia
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