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## Newsletter August 2014

Great news for the Cowra Showground Racecourse and Paceway Trust with the announcement of a \$230,000 grant from the NSW Government to build a new Grandstand and planning is underway.

The Trust hopes to build a concrete and steel structure in two stages. The first stage will be the base shell, which will incorporate plumbing and electrical wiring underground and have seating and a roof on top. The second stage will be the fitting out of the function rooms. The Trust will be looking for feedback from user bodies and further funding support for stage 2 of the construction. Reinforced concrete beams and sheets, made for the restoration of the old grandstand will be used in the new structure.

Cowra Shire Council has been a great supporter of the project, donating more than \$15,000 for the new engineering plans.

The Cowra Men's Shed rescued some Oregon timber and bricks from the old grandstand. They have used the timber in a number of projects and the Trust hopes to use the old bricks in a feature wall in the new grandstand.

The Trust also appreciates the help of the user bodies who are continuing to upgrade their facilities so we can have a more usable community centre. We have had productive discussions with all the major groups over the past six months but if any other organisation would like to discuss something with the Trust please contact Secretary Lyn Grace.

### **Camping Area**

The Trust has applied for a NSW Community Partnership Grant for \$35,000 to upgrade the Camping area facilities and will apply to the Reserves Trust again for help with this area.

As part of this development and following discussion with the Harness Racing and Jockey Clubs, they will fence off a path along the western and southern end of the area for access by horses travelling to the racetrack. The present access gate will be closed to horses. This will provide a safer area for campers and horses.

In the past six months there has been a number of major and minor works finalised:

- Demolition of the old grandstand, due to safety concerns, after a great deal of investigation
- A grant was received from CMA to control weeds in the river paddock and this has been fenced off and the dumped rubbish cleaned up. This area has been leased out to a private operator and there is no public access.



## COWRA SHOWGROUND RACECOURSE AND PACEWAY TRUST

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- There will be continual monitoring of water usage and we encourage users to be aware of the increased cost of water and make sure taps are turned off securely.
- The Show Society with Trust members will extend the water line from the campdraft area to the western end of the centre ring for horses competing at the show.
- Cowra Show Society Members will paint the ticket boxes with a new colour scheme which has been adopted for the whole area.
- The Cowra Jockey Club will be calling for volunteers to help resurface the betting ring in the warmer weather.
- Work is continuing, as funds become available, on upgrading the power boxes and fixing the old stables and other plumbing issues as they arise.
- The Cowra Camp draft Club will build a fence to separate the spectators from the competitors
- The Cowra Campdraft Club will host the ABCRA NSW Campdraft Championship's at the Ground on October 10, 11 and 12.
- New signs have been installed at the entrances to the Showground
- A Masterplan for the Maintenance of the whole area is being developed by the Trust.
- All user Bodies are reminded they need to contact the Trust before carrying out any work on the Showground, Racecourse and Paceway so they can be approved and included in the plan for future projects

### Regards

*Cowra Showground, Racecourse and Paceway Trust Members*

**Chairman Peter Ryan, Ian Donges, Chris Cummins, Ces Petersen, Peter Wilson, Ruth Fagan and Council representative Judi Smith**