



# Managing Animals in Disaster (MAiD)

Research advisory forum / Hobart

**24 September 2019**

Dr Mel Taylor / Macquarie University



 @bnhcrc     @mel\_taylor48



# Managing Animals in Disasters (MAiD) Project Overview

(2014 – 2017)

## Phase 1 – Animal Emergency Management (AEM) in Australia

- Scoping phase
- What are the issues for end users and other stakeholders?
- Laying down a knowledge/research base in Australia

## Phase 2 – Different perspectives on AEM

- Suite of small projects
- PhD (Rachel Westcott)
- Supporting community-led AEM

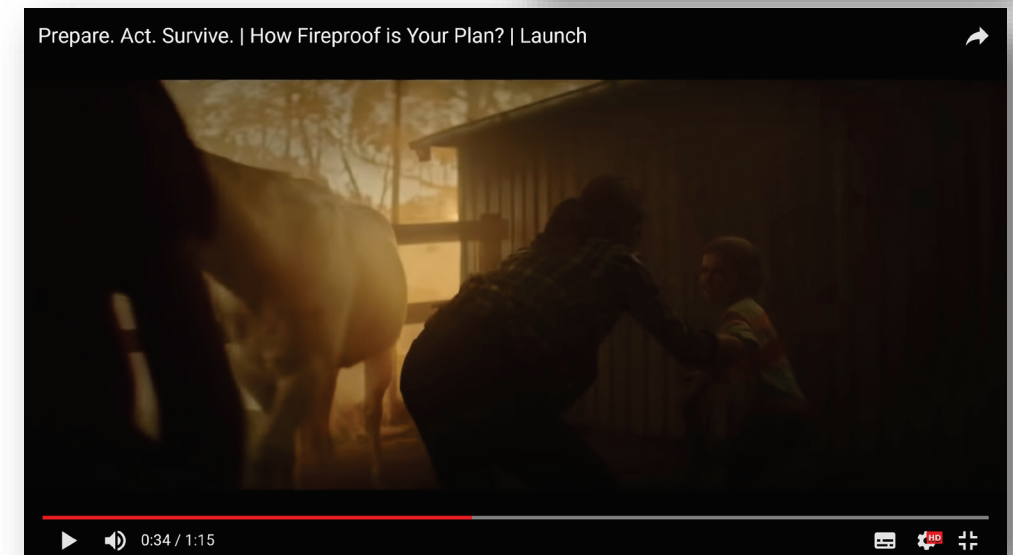
## Phase 3 – Project utilisation/outreach



# Emergency preparedness – Engagement with animal owners

Animal ownership is a great motivator for emergency preparedness

- The idea of engaging animal owners in emergency preparedness through their bond with their animals is not new
- Blue ARC and new ‘Animal Ready Community’ projects



How Fireproof is your plan? NSW RFS 2018. <https://www.youtube.com/user/NSWRFS>





**Dr Katrina**

· 17 hrs · 🌐



**BUSHFIRE EVACUATION PLAN FOR PETS** Fire authorities are predicting a very challenging bushfire season ahead and are urging Australians to be prepared with an evacuation plan. This should include your pets!

Things you can do now

\* Ensure all pets' microchip details are up to date....  
[See More](#)

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**Alicia Russell** I actually started making up a plan about a month or 2 ago and what supplies I would need for each animal, we have bunnies cats dogs a lizard and a horse. Studying vet nursing at the moment and someone suggested some saline solution for if the need to rinse eyes etc,

Like · Reply · 15h



1



**Liz Warren** Roger Keenan

Like · Reply · 14h



👑 Top Fan

**Mary Young** I have cages for my cats and Guinea pigs. Dog in the car. Horses at a friends place and the turkey well. That's gonna be fun having him flapping around the back seat lol

Like · Reply · 13h · Edited



2

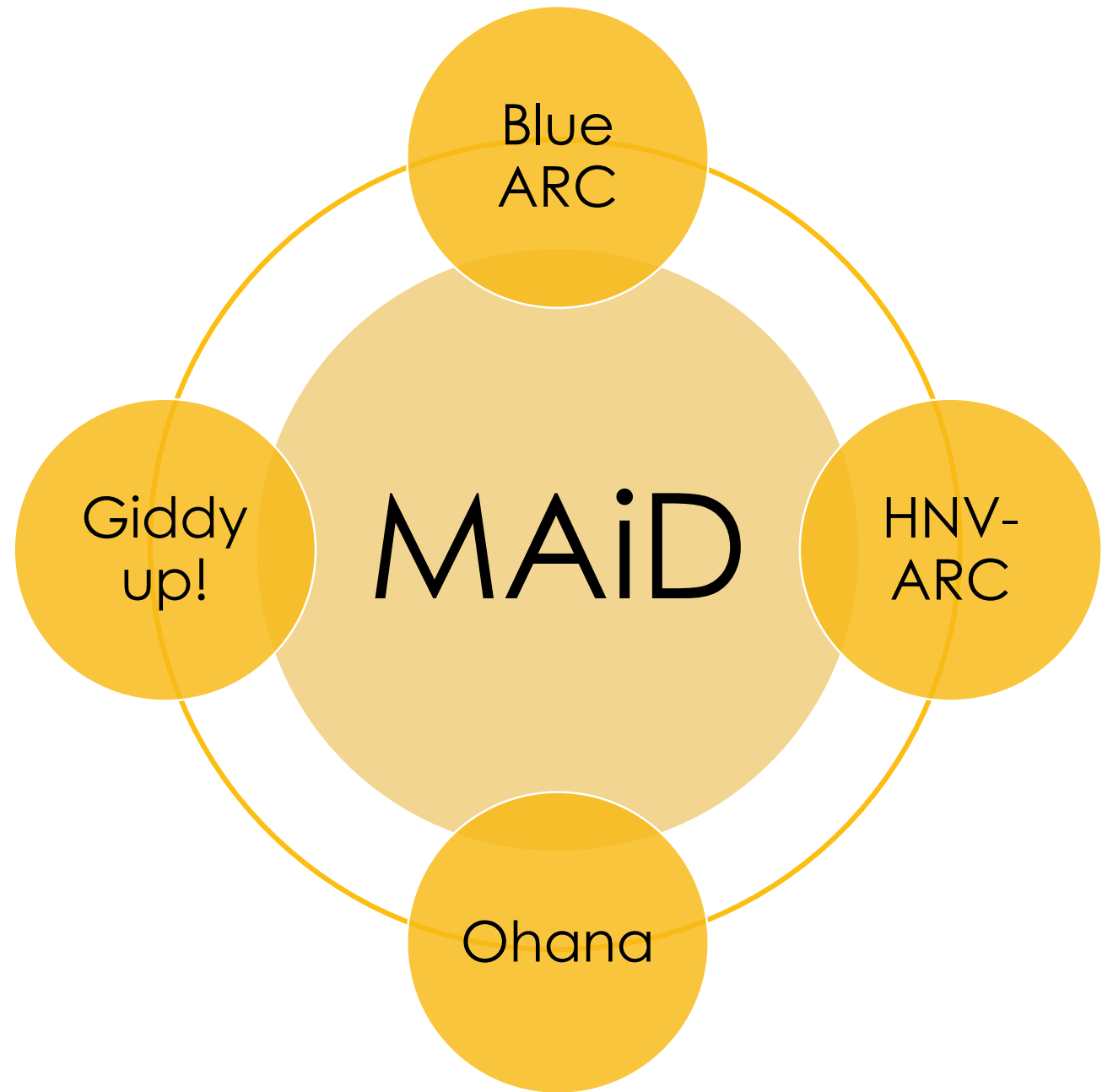


Write a comment...





# How and where is the research being used?



# Blue ARC – Animal Ready Community

Community-led action

- The aim of Blue ARC is to support community resilience in emergency events through better awareness, preparedness, planning and response for companion animals, livestock, and native wildlife
- Developed resources, training, run social media page, connect with official emergency management structures through Resilience and Preparedness Working Group



NSW Resilient Australia Awards 2018  
Highly Commended – Community Award



**Are you ready?**  
**Make a plan for ALL your family**

**Keeping Your Animals Safe in an Emergency**

in the Blue Mountains region



## Keeping your horse safe in an emergency

### Evacuation Kit for Horses\*

- Feed for at least 3 days, including any special dietary needs
- Water, minimum 5-10L/horse for evacuation (average requirement is 30-50L/day)
- Halters, leads, rug and other required saddlery
- Medications & applicators
- Documentation & photographs
- First aid kit
- Bucket
- Wool blankets & towels (burn/ember protection)
- Wire cutters and a sharp knife
- Torch

\*NSW DPI Horse Safety in Disasters Fact Sheet



### Kennels & Catteries

It is important to contact kennels, catteries & vet clinics well before the time you may need them to discuss vaccination requirements, boarding fees etc.

All cats and dogs housed in boarding facilities must have been vaccinated in the previous 12 months. It is important they are fully vaccinated well ahead of the boarding period.

### What to take with you:

- Proof of vaccination
- Information about any health or behavioural issues your animals may have.
- Medication to be administered and details of the dose, frequency and name of medication. If your animals are on long term medication, make sure to bring along extra just in case.
- Contact details of your vet
- Food, if on a special diet.



Blue ARC Animal Ready Community is a Blue Mountains based group which aims to improve community awareness of the need for companion animals, livestock and native wildlife to be included in local emergency preparedness, planning and response.



To contact Blue ARC:  
 Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/7045349658940536](https://www.facebook.com/groups/7045349658940536)  
 Email: [jennybigelow@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jennybigelow@yahoo.com.au)

## Boarding for Animals in the Blue Mountains & Surrounding Areas

This publication contains general information only and should not be construed as advice. It does not take into account individual circumstances. Blue ARC cannot recommend, guarantee or endorse any of the facilities listed for the purposes of these facilities. Whilst we try to ensure the accuracy of the information we accept no responsibility for the accuracy or content of this information. We should do your own research when seeking accommodation for your pet(s). Please refer to the information on our website for Blue ARC website for the latest facility permitted at facility whenever for any loss or damage arising out of the use of this information.



# PLANNING FOR ANIMALS IN EMERGENCIES SEMINAR

MAKE A PLAN. PREPARE A KIT. BE INFORMED.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6TH**

**SPRINGWOOD SPORTS CLUB,  
 83 MACQUARIE RD, SPRINGWOOD**

**OPENS AT 9.30AM FOR A 10AM START**

### PROGRAM\*

10 - 10.50am	<b>Household &amp; Property Preparedness</b> Michael Biber, SES; representatives from RFS & Red Cross
10.50 - 11.10am	Morning tea
11.10 - 12pm	<b>Managing Domestic Pets in Emergencies</b> Dr Robert Johnson, South Penrith Vet Clinic; representative from DPI
12 - 12.30pm	<b>Assisting Injured &amp; Displaced Wildlife</b> Greg Keightley, wildlife carer
12.30 - 1pm	Lunch break
1 - 1.30pm	<b>Emergency First Aid for Domestic Pets</b> Caroline Outred, VN, Richmond TAFE
1.30 - 3pm	<b>Managing Large Animals in Emergencies</b> Dr Christine Smith, Agnes Banks Equine Clinic; Misty Stebbing, Equine Disaster Coordinator; representative from RFS

\*Program may be subject to change

**COST: gold coin donation**

Come for the day, or drop in for individual sessions.  
 Morning tea provided. Lunch can be purchased at the club.

**TO REGISTER OR MAKE ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Blue ARC  
 Facebook: search Blue ARC;  
 Email: [jennybigelow@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jennybigelow@yahoo.com.au)  
 Winmalee Neighbourhood Centre  
 Ph: (02) 4754 4050

Early registrations would be appreciated for numbers.

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Blue ARC Facebook





# Hawkesbury-Nepean Animal Ready Community

Large Animal Focus

- Funded by the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Working group - INSW-led, with support from NSW SES, NSW DPI, GS LLS, BNHCRC, Local Equine Veterinarian, Local Council, NSW RFS, Blue ARC





# HNV ARC – Horse Care & Safety Open Day

- Mix of stalls and events in arena.
- Focus on care of horses and horse behaviour – with consistent emergency preparedness messages

- Evaluation

- 58% had emergency plan that included horses
- Issues for relocation – where to go, how to move horses
- What to do if not home

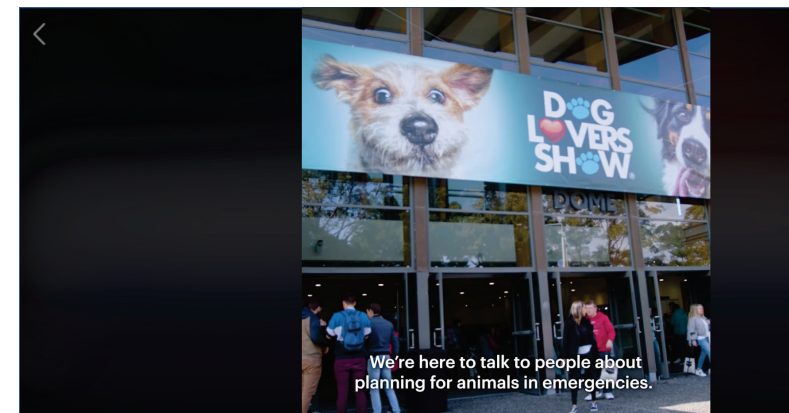


*“[Bushfire prone horse owners] you can ring those mates and say, “can you come up and help me move my horses down to your place, down in the lowlands?” Or conversely, you may get a flood warning.. But wouldn't it be nice to know you've got some friends who live up there - Kurrajong, Kurrajong Heights, ...all that area is nice and high and dry. That I could take my horses up to your place.” David King, NSW SES*

# NSW SES Project 'Ohana'

All animals – Network Focus

- Community Resilience and Innovation Program (CRIP)-funded grant
- Led by Sue Pritchard, NSW SES. Supported by NSW DPI, AVA, BNHCRC, Local Councils, NSW RFS
- Developing messaging and behavioural strategy (with The Behavioural Architects)
- Next steps...



SES Dog Lovers Show

Like Comment



251 32 Cor

49K Views · about a week ago · C





# 'Ohana' – Encouraging building an ARC

- Engaged high level stakeholder groups, helping to co-develop a resource kit to use, to help them build resilience
- Leveraging networks such as pony clubs, breeders, fancier groups and associations to establish their own Animal Ready Community
- Resource kit could include
  - Pet Emergency Plan template
  - Pet Chat Talking Points
  - How to build an ARC
  - Link to Get Ready Animals Website
  - Magazine Article for their newsletters
  - Video Testimonials

## Building an ARC (Animal Ready Community)

### Why build an ARC?

As an organisation where animals are a focus, having a plan for emergencies where you have an existing network that can readily support each other makes good sense.

Establishing an *Animal Ready Community* (ARC) within your organisation involves identifying resources and goodwill from within your membership to prepare ahead of time and developing agreed arrangements to support each other quickly and effectively in times of need.

### What's your plan?

It's important for members to first develop individual plans for their own household/facility. This

# 'Giddy Up! – Get Ready Huon

All animals – emergency preparedness

- TFS-led event – Huon Valley
- DPIPWE, Huon Valley Council, Agricultural Society, BNHCRC, Australian Red Cross
- Morning – talks / stalls, BBQ lunch, Afternoon - demonstrations



# What's next?

Potential for use in the sector

- Further advocacy and network building
- Continued gathering of best practice approaches
  - Identification of evacuation centres
  - Lessons identified (Huon)
- Animal Welfare in Emergencies (AWIE) Handbook

“This could assist States in evaluating their progress in this area and to assist in better integration into normal emergency management arrangements.

...The addition of a handbook for AWIE could centralise the supporting information and existing handbooks could reference to this material.”

**Amanda Nardi-Wallace**

State Animal Welfare Emergency Coordinator  
Department of Primary Industries and  
Regional Development (WA)