



**KYNETON DISTRICT RACING CLUB**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Tuesday 16 June 2009**

Welcome to NMIT Kyneton Park – that is the new name for Kyneton Racecourse following a partnership arrangement between Kyneton District Racing Club (KDRC) and Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (NMIT).

From 1 August 2009, NMIT Kyneton Park will be a thoroughbred racing and training facility as well as an education centre.

Kyneton District Racing Club Vice-President John Scott said NMIT Kyneton Park charted new waters for the racing industry in country Victoria, with this the first agreement of its type.

“NMIT have been great supporters of country racing and have had a close association with Kyneton over the past few years,” Scott said.

“This new partnership provides immense benefit to KDRC, NMIT and the local community. It also highlights the commitment of both organisations to work together constructively to enhance racing’s profile in regional Victoria.

NMIT Director Programs David Draper said this association allowed the Institute to raise its profile within a key regional area and to increase public awareness of its education and training programs, specifically to the racing industry.

“Kyneton’s geographic location opens up an exciting opportunity for NMIT to attract a new regionally based cohort of students,” Draper said.

“The excellent racing facilities and associated infrastructure, including garden areas and extensive plantations of shelter trees, will be utilised by NMIT for training.

“With the Club becoming a new NMIT training centre, it permits the Institute to provide training that is flexible in its delivery and duration to cater for the needs of clients and to meet the demands of the training packages.”

KDRC Club Manager Jane Cooke said that NMIT Kyneton Park represented the next exciting stage of the partnership between the Club and NMIT.

“This partnership presents opportunities for racing within the Macedon Ranges as well as providing access for the community in the region to NMIT’s range of courses to enhance their skills,” Cooke said.

Training programs, including short-course and stand-alone modules, that will be delivered from Kyneton include –

- Weed identification and control
- Vermin control
- Garden with natives (recognise small plants)
- Irrigation for the water wise gardener
- Operate and maintain chainsaws to fell small trees
- Tree and shrub pruning techniques
- Horse nutrition
- Pasture production and maintenance
- Wine appreciation
- Native plant identification
- Provide advice on companion animal selection and general care
- Farm chemical course
- Whole farm planning

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