

President's Report –2025

At year's end I again take this opportunity to thank your hard-working Committee for their commitment throughout the year. With fewer and fewer volunteers coming forward, it is becoming more and more of a demanding task.

During the year, further improvements were completed in the toilet area with new facilities installed in the lady's toilet area.

Again, further improvements were undertaken on the cross-country course, with two additional portable fences being built, and the others painted. Our menagerie now only needs 'eyes' before they can be used. Thanks to a kind sponsorship, the elephant trap fence will be remodeled during 2026 and a new Trakehner fence will be installed in its place.

Our largest expenditure for the year was again on the indoor arena, where more new purlins were installed. This alone cost just on \$10,000 and is an ongoing issue.

Additionally, more work has been undertaken on our external fencing, and we had a new obstacle built to add to our obstacle course, and the grass arena has been levelled and upgraded.

For 2026, we are proposing to upgrade the clubroom's verandah which needs some much-warranted love and care.

We have continued our partnership under the Adult Offenders Community Work Program which helps to keep our grounds neat and tidy. This partnership will be further strengthened during 2026.

Again, ground maintenance continues to be one of our major expenses (\$12,700 during the year), as does insurance, which now exceeds \$7,500 pa.

To help fund these ongoing expenses, during 2025, the Centre conducted 5 fundraising events: Three more Eventing Grand Prix events sponsored by Albany Horeworld; and two AEC Combined Training events. These events raised just over \$9,000 for the Centre and have proved very popular. Depending on the level of sponsorship we manage to secure, they will be continued into 2026.

Peter Madigan
President
Albany Equestrian Centre