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Warwick Daily News

Farming in style of days gone by

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May 5, 2014 - 6:13AM

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Heavy horses in action at Mick Bradford's fundraiser for RACQ CareFlight.

AT 79 years of age, Mick Bradford has no intention of taking it easy.

He plans to be back for the 15th annual Heavy Horse Day on his Yangan property next year.

He estimated the crowd at yesterday's event at 1000 and is proud to support RACQ CareFlight.

"CareFlight used to fly over here a lot when they were based at the Gold Coast," Mr Bradford said.

"The days have raised in the vicinity of \$100,000 for charity over the years.

"The first one was for the fight against cancer and the beneficiary has since been CareFlight, an organisation which is really important to people in the country."

Age is not going to stop Mick Bradford.

"I will keep going as long as my volunteers do," he said.

Yesterday, Mr Bradford had 11 horses at work reproducing many farm activities from yesteryear.

"We used two young clydesdale horses for a Heavy Horse Day for the first time," he said.

"My son Mick was one of the main drivers. He has become more involved over the years.

"Mick lives at Wyreema and came down three or four times to help in the lead-up to the event.

"We would have had half a dozen volunteers all week."

The horses and drivers cut a crop of oats yesterday with the mower and reaper.

"The rain made it a lot better for the Heavy Horse Day," Mr Bradford said.

Warwick

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"We weren't quite as dry as other places six weeks ago but the rain made it easier for us to do the organisation."



GENTLE GIANTS: The heavy horses were the drawcard for a crowd of 1000 at the annual Heavy Horse Day at Yangan yesterday. Picture: Casandra Garvey

He is full of praise for all his volunteers.

"They all did a great job," Mr Bradford said.

"The Killarney Lions Club had all their helpers and there were all my helpers on the horse side.

"There is more interest all the time in all the old things. People like the antique stuff."

Of the 50 volunteers, 20 were with the Killarney Lions Club in the canteen.

RACQ CareFlight had their usual stall providing information on their services.

People came from as far away as the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane, and as always, there was strong local support from those on the Southern Downs.

Hugh Huston from Mt Marshall was the main announcer at this year's event.



Gary Olsson Private Collection of photos 2014



