The fourth Tocal Australian Stock Horse Sale will be held at Tocal College on Sunday 4 November 2012.

“Staff and students have put in a lot of work to prepare horses for our annual sale and we have a great offering for the 2012 sale,” Tocal Principal, Cameron Archer said. “There has already been strong interest from prospective buyers and we are expecting good results again this year.”

The majority of the horses listed have been bred and trained at Tocal. There will also be a small number of horses available from local breeders who have been involved with the College Horse Husbandry program.

This year there will be over 20 horses bred and trained at Tocal and about 6 horses from other vendors. The catalogue is available on www.tocal.com
Many ex-students have reached management positions on large farms or with companies that service agriculture. To demonstrate their appreciation for Tocal training, some firms offer scholarships to assist current and prospective students to prepare for careers in agriculture.

For example, Paspaley Pearls Properties in NSW are managed by ex-student Stuart Hughes who has organised a scholarship from his company.

Robert Quinn works for Case New Holland (CNH) and provides 2 scholarships each year from his company. He has also assisted the college by providing machinery on loan to use on the college dairy which gives students experience in the use of modern tractors and implements.

The late Deputy Principal, Bruce Urquhart was very popular with students and helped establish the farms and the college beef herd. To honour his contributions to Tocal, some ex-students have joined forces to set up the Bruce Urquhart Scholarship in his memory and the first award will be presented to a student in 2013.

Other scholarships sponsored by ex-students include: the Stacy Family, Hunter Manning Hereford Club (Bill Stacy), Cropcare Australia (Simon Adam), Margo and Bruce Duncan and Tocal Ex-students Association.

"I had grown up with horses and cattle before moving into town at Inverell but it was Tocal that kindled my interest in Stud cattle, which went on to become a huge part of my life. Since leaving Tocal in 1978 I worked as a stud groom on a Poll Hereford Stud at Kingstown. I started doing junior judging and herdsman competitions and in 1979 I won the National Junior Judging competition at The Sydney Royal Easter Show. Two months later I was offered my first managers position at only 21 years of age. I have managed studs across 6 different breeds and had significant success in all breeds. I am also a National and International judge, having judged at Royal shows around Australia and the Beef Expo in Rockhampton as well as numerous National shows and sales.

Internationally I have twice judged at the New Zealand Royal Show, once in Canada at Red Deer (just north of Calgary) and twice in the USA.

Previous Tocal Deputy Principal, Bruce Urquhart, was undoubtedly the driving force behind my determination to make it to the top of my industry and we remained in contact up until he died. A highlight for me was judging at the Sydney Royal Easter Show the year they made the presentation to Bruce. I spent 12 months teaching Certificate III to Diploma level agriculture and equine studies at McMillan campus Warragul and it was a pleasure to be able to pass on to students some knowledge that I have gained in the industry over the past 35 years."

More information:
www.karrabapark.com.au
www.premierlivestock.com.au
ENROLMENTS FOR 2013

While many agricultural colleges around the world have struggled to fill enrolments at times, there has always been strong interest in Tocal courses.

Next year is no exception with full enrolments expected in all 3 full time courses. This is good for rural industries of NSW as it can be difficult to find keen young people wanting to work in the agriculture and horse industries.

Tocal has a good reputation, which our graduates have helped to develop as they go through their careers around Australia.

Graduates of the college look back on their time at Tocal as the best years of their lives. They certainly appreciate the opportunities that a Tocal education provides.
Past Student - Brian Clancy


Brian worked on a mixed farm in Alberta and lived with a German-Canadian family. The farm had cattle, feed lotting, hay production and spring and summer cropping.

When he returned to Australia, Brian worked with an Inverell rural merchant as a salesman.

Over the next 21 years Brian worked with other businesses in Inverell including Elders, Landmark and privately owned firms and became a Merchandise Manager for several of these businesses.

Brian studied and completed the external Tocal Advanced Diploma of Rural Business Management. This Advanced Diploma is recognised by Melbourne University and after three years study he gained a Bachelor of Applied Science (Rural Management) in 2001.

He decided to look for opportunities to learn more about natural resource management and moved away from retailing. Tocal offered this training through their Diploma in Landcare and Natural Resources.

In 2000 he graduated and successfully applied for the local Landcare Coordinator position in Inverell. Staying with Landcare for 5 years he continued on his goal of becoming a teacher. To achieve this goal, he completed an external Graduate Diploma in Education through University of New England.

In 2005, Brian joined the Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (CMA) as a Regional Landcare Facilitator. The CMA provided training in the Project Management and other areas to develop the skills of their staff.

In 2012 he completed the Diploma of Conservation and Land Management (Environmental Leadership Program) through Recognition of Prior Learning.

Brian is now the Catchment Coordinator, Works and Services Team, with the CMA. He and his staff deliver training in natural resource management to landowners and land managers.

Brian said: “Tocal has provided me with opportunities that were not available anywhere else at that time. The College and staff provided great support with external study and a wide variety of subjects and courses that helped me achieve my goals.”

Tocal Brochure Out Now!