



12<sup>th</sup> May, 2010.

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **The Arena Spectacular is back!**

The Arena Spectacular is back at this year's Goldsteins Bakery Gold Coast Show. The Gold Coast Show Society is proud to announce that they will be performing for the first time as a spectacle, the re-enactment of the 1930 Melbourne Cup, "Phar Lap – Champion to a Nation" at this year's show.

Show manger, Mr Doug Reiser said this year's 104<sup>th</sup> show will be a return to its grass roots. "We'll be providing traditional show entertainment and telling iconic Australian stories about our past, taking an historic and educational journey back to share our nation's stories with the community."

The search is on for actors, dancers, musicians and most importantly the search is on to find the horses to play the main role Phar Lap.

Your horse could play "Big Red", the horse that inspired the nation in the Great Depression and lifted the spirits of thousands.

The production, directed by Mark Eady from Ozworks Entertainment, takes you back to the thirties and into a time of despair and poverty.

It explores the story of a racing legend and how his success brought hope to Australia in a time they needed it most.

Mark Eady said this was a great opportunity for Gold Coast talent and also for someone to have their racehorse play such an important role.

"The story of Phar Lap is something most people know a little about, but is widely recognised as lifting the spirits of all Australians when they needed it most" said Mr Eady.

“Phar Lap” was a chestnut gelding so we are searching for two look a like horses. We require a big chestnut horse approx 17 hands as well as a Chestnut Yearling to play the roles.

“We also need other thoroughbreds and jockeys to fill roles and would be happy to hear from interested people.”

The Show is calling for the Gold Coast community and beyond to take part in this celebration of an Australian icon.

People interested in auditioning for the event or having their horse in the production can contact Mark Eady on 55092842 or register on-line at [www.ozwork.net](http://www.ozwork.net). Entries close: Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2010. Auditions will be held from 5pm Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> July at Parklands Showgrounds.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: **LOUISE JURGS ON 0409 930 143.**