

AUSTRALIAN



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CARRIAGE DRIVING

The Australian Carriage Driving Society is also back again in 2018 with one of the most exciting competitions of the event, the highly anticipated Carriage Driving Obstacle! This must-see event will consist of a course of 10 cones and 2 marathon obstacles, all numbered with drivers required to navigate the course in sequential order. The course will be built as a fast flowing course to show the speed, agility and sure footedness of the ponies and horses and skill of the drivers. Time on the course is converted to penalty points as are other penalties such as knocking a ball off the cones, putting a groom down, rolling a carriage over, with the lowest score the winner of the competition. The competition will consist of single ponies and horses, pairs of ponies and horses and teams of four ponies and horses.

SCHEDULE:

Rowville Competition Arena -

Saturday 3:15pm - 5:00pm Carriage Driving

*Available on a General Admission Ticket



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SCHEDULE:

Rowville Competition Arena - Saturday 6:00pm - 7:00pm

*Available on a General Admission Ticket

Australian Carriage Driving Journal

President's Report

I WOULD LIKE to take the opportunity to welcome you to the September 2018 journal. Last year, based on feedback from members, Federal Council took the decision to make some changes to the journal to increase the colour section and photos for the journal. The June 2018 journal included these changes and was well received by members. Hopefully, this journal will meet your expectations also.

The Federal Conference and Annual General Meeting, which were held in the picturesque Handoff in the Adelaide Hills, was well attended by members. At the Annual General Meeting, our outgoing President, Brendan Dwyer, announced that Federal Council had awarded Honorary Life Membership to Sue Waters. Sue has been Federal Secretary for over 10 years and her service to the ACDS has been outstanding. The award of Honorary Life Membership was an appropriate recognition of Sue's service.

I would also like to thank Brendan Dwyer, our outgoing Federal President for all of his hard work over the past 3 years. Brendan will be a hard act to follow and hopefully we will see him back in the driver's seat soon. Thanks also go to Dot Willcoxson, our outgoing Federal Driven Dressage Convenor who has passed on this role to Cheryl Dowling, after 17 years at the helm.

The Conference agenda was full with presentations from a number of specialists in the equine industry, sessions conducted by our discipline convenors and visits to local attractions. At the same time, Federal Council had a busy weekend with two formal meetings and many other discussions. All in all, a very well run and interesting Conference and thank you to Southern Driving Club for organising the conference..

At the Conference, Federal Council announced a new initiative for juniors whereby we will offer bursaries to help our junior drivers develop their driving skills. There is a separate article on this initiative which provides further information.

At the time of writing, Federal Council has not received any expressions of interest to host the 2019 Conference so if any States, Clubs or members are interested in hosting the Conference, please contact out Federal Secretary for further information.

I note that over the past few months that many members have been out and about driving, be it at the Indoor/Outdoor series conducted in both Victoria and NSW, dressage championships in Queensland, Triple Crown in SA, or pleasure drives throughout various States.

Since my election, I have been invited to both Tasmania and Queensland to attend their annual general meetings. It was a pleasure to attend and meet some of the members who I only knew by name. A number of new members were elected as office bearers in those States and I congratulate them for stepping up and taking a role in their States.

Our Federal Vice President has been busy on our Facebook page keeping members aware of the many grants that are available to sporting clubs – this is an opportunity to further your Club and the sport so take advantage of the information flow. In addition, Kate has been overseeing the new website which will be on-line shortly.

The ACDS would like to congratulate Gail Bain on qualifying for and her performance at the World Singles Championships that were held in Kronenberg in late August/early September 2018. It has been many years in the planning and several seasons overseas getting the necessary experience and qualifying that has got Gail to this stage to compete for Australia at these Championships.

The World Equestrian Games commence in Tyron USA in September 2018 and we congratulate all people who will be representing Australia, no matter which equine discipline they are involved in. Obviously out key interest is following Boyd Exell as he defends his title. I believe a number of members are travelling to Tyron so I am sure he will get tremendous support from the "Aussie Crew".

On a final note, it is heart breaking to see the results of the drought in many States of Australia and bush fires that have already started in other States, even though it is late winter. Many of our members are effected by the drought in particular, and our thoughts are with them.

Safe driving.

Peter Lee
Federal President

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Front Cover: At the Queensland State Show Driving Championships held at Caboolture, Champion Multiples was Sharon Clarke and Carbery Estate Believer in Dreams and Carbery Estate Holly Achiever. Photo by Debbie Clyne.

President's Report Australian Carriage Driving Society 2018 Annual General Meeting



WELCOME TO THE 47th AGM of the Society and thank you for your attendance. I would like to particularly acknowledge our Life Members present here today. I would also like to pay tribute to three previous Federal Office Bearers who sadly passed away this year;

past-President Peter Anderson, past-Secretary and Life Member Janet Gilmour, and past-Treasurer John Munro, each of whom contributed a great deal to the development of the ACDS. Our condolences and appreciation go to their respective families.

Looking back to when I first came into this role three years ago, one of my first tasks was to work with Federal Council to develop a strategic plan for the organisation; it was apparent to me that in addition to the general management of the Society, Council needed to also look beyond dealing with the immediate issues at hand and give some more structured thought to the direction of the organisation and addressing some of the significant external risks we face.

Since that time, identifying potential risk / opportunity and planning for the future has been an integral part of Federal Council's activities.

Our original strategic goals set back in 2015 were:

1. To retain and grow the membership base.
2. Secure the long term sustainability of the organisation.
3. Cement the ACDS' position as the principle carriage driving organisation in Australia.

These goals were supported by an Action Plan designed to help the ACDS adapt to a changing regulatory and social environment, and to identify and implement key projects to enhance benefits to ACDS members.

We set, and progressively added to, an ambitious list of tasks and when I look at the status of that Action Plan now I can see that over 85% of the items have been completed or are substantially underway, which taking into consideration this was in addition to all the normal day to day business of the Society is a pretty remarkable achievement, given we are all volunteers.

These actions included a range of measures to improve governance and understanding of our management obligations; upgrading our systems to streamline administration; revamping accreditation processes for CDE and Dressage Officials; supporting coaching activities around Australia; collecting and reporting data to better understand risk; empowering Discipline and other Sub-committees to more effectively manage their respective areas; developing child safety and member protection policies; and a variety of initiatives to improve communication and engagement with members, including the member survey, Facebook page, attendance at State Branch meetings and the revamped Federal Website.

Some aspects we managed very well, some perhaps not so well and we have learned from those. Many improvements are largely invisible to the general member, but go a long way to ensuring the organisation operates efficiently and on a sound and ethical basis.

So how have we fared against our original strategic goals?

MEMBERSHIP on a national basis has grown at a modest rate, with an overall increase of just under 4% last membership year. We still have challenges in retaining some of our first time members and some States have seen shifts in membership types which does have a financial impact, but generally I think our efforts to highlight membership benefits and value are having a positive effect. This bodes well for our growing focus on marketing and promotion.

Our attention to governance and risk management may have frustrated some members who "just want to have fun" but I make no apology for the enhancements made in this area – it is absolutely critical for the organisation's sustainability that the ACDS can demonstrate the ability to effectively manage the sport and the associated risks. Our efforts in this area have allowed us to build a very strong relationship with Insurers

through our Brokers, Affinity. This has in turn meant that annual placement of insurance is now relatively straightforward and we are able to minimise premium increases when much greater rises are occurring across the market.

A heightened awareness of good governance practices and increased professionalism in managing the administration has also enhanced our ability to deal with the unforeseen and unexpected matters which arise from time to time, in a logical and effective manner.

This has all combined to ensure the organisation is on a sound footing and well positioned to take advantage of future opportunities.

Whilst we have not yet achieved some key targets in terms of the ACDS' recognition as 'the' carriage driving body in Australia, we continue to work in that area - the integrity of our management systems means we are well placed to negotiate from a position of strength and to demonstrate our admirable track record for management of the sport.

Recently I came across some minutes of early AGMs of the ADS (as was then known) and other associated correspondence; amongst the usual procedural matters there was also evident a real passion for growing the sport and the organisation. Those early pioneers worked hard to see the Society flourish and whilst they certainly didn't always agree on every aspect, there was a common purpose and a remarkable energy that we perhaps lose sight of at times. In the days before mobile phones, email and facebook they built an Australia-wide Society of harness enthusiasts and I would like to think we can and will continue to do justice to their legacy.

The ACDS faces some challenges however, not the least of which stem a little too frequently from our behaviour towards one another; we all need to be conscious of how our actions and words may be perceived, and consider what effect our behaviour and attitudes may be having on the people around us (and the ACDS more broadly).

By all means we should challenge ideas, debate the pros and cons and argue our views – that makes for better outcomes; but doing so with respect for the other party, and for their contribution, also makes for a better outcome. Poor behaviour on the other hand can be incredibly destructive both for the individual's experiencing it, and for the organisation. Codes of Conduct and Disciplinary Rules are important for defining acceptable standards of behaviour in any organisation but they are not there to take the place of personal responsibility – our behaviour is up to us as individuals. Maybe the old adage of 'if you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all' will make a comeback.

In closing, I would like to particularly acknowledge and thank the members of Federal Council, and Council Appointees, past and present, who I have had the pleasure of working with during my time in office. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as the Society's President and I count myself as being very fortunate to have had such a committed and capable group of people to work with.

I am proud of what we have achieved on behalf of members. There are some exciting opportunities ahead for the ACDS, especially if we can harness that common purpose and positive energy.

I wish the incoming Executive and Council every success in their endeavours.

Brendan Dwyer

ACDS Federal President - 14th July 2018

Att. Judy Dwyer

My congratulations to you, Judy, Brendon, and the other amazing committee, on producing such a magnificent magazine! It truly is wonderful! So many talented drivers/ponies and stewards doing such a wonderful job!!!! Not forgetting the photographers. This edition outclasses all other horse magazines, THANK YOU, from your Readers, and past drivers!!!!

Virginia Jones, Tabletop. Now retired!



How Clubs Try to Increase Membership

- ❖ Run a Come and Try Day prior to the start of the season
- ❖ Advertise through Community News
- ❖ Ask all of your members to place a club recruiting message on their face book or social networking pages
- ❖ Run a Bring a Friend Open Day - buy one get one free,
- ❖ Host an introductory evening for potential members
- ❖ Place information in school newsletters
- ❖ Survey members to find out why and how they came to club
- ❖ Show off your strengths, take and post photographs
- ❖ Have induction strategies - introduce new members to others and look after them
- ❖ Make new members familiar with the club and how it runs
- ❖ Conduct specific programs / activities for women, beginners, veterans
- ❖ Target specific groups - age / gender - offer different versions of your sport e.g. social competitions
- ❖ Conduct open facility days
- ❖ Link up with after school activities already conducted in local schools
- ❖ Run holiday program activities / clinics at the club prior to season start
- ❖ Social days - promote family involvement - could have activities away from usual venue, and not necessarily a fundraiser
- ❖ Conduct trial or taster days - try before you buy
- ❖ Conduct free coaching clinics
- ❖ Run Family Fun Days - BBQ - play sport - advertise in local paper
- ❖ Ring and invite people personally
- ❖ Provide incentives to join
- ❖ Link with schools
- ❖ Link merchandise with membership e.g. give juniors hats and t-shirts that form their uniform
- ❖ Develop reciprocal membership arrangements with other clubs
- ❖ Work together with other sporting clubs / groups
- ❖ Change culture of club to one that is supportive of all people
- ❖ Develop activities to encourage corporate involvement - business teams
- ❖ Adopt a step by step approach e.g. conduct a one off event that leads into a short supported season (low cost, no uniform...) and lead this into a full membership
- ❖ Get quotes from members - testimonials
- ❖ Invite grandparents and grandchildren
- ❖ Offer side-line participation at half time for spectators, parents etc
- ❖ Have kids as ambassadors
- ❖ Invite a guest speaker of community interest to your club and invite the community
- ❖ Track success - "How did you hear about us?"

By-Law 2.11 Notice

Federal Council resolved the following be adopted as new By-Law 2.11:

"An office bearer being either the President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer of a State Branch or Local Club must be 18 years or older and be either a Single Member, be part of a Family Membership, be an Associate Member or an Honorary Life Member, subject to compliance with the State Branch or Local Club Rules."

The above By-law represents a clarification of policy in direct response to feedback from Clubs and means that someone who may not be an active driver, but who wants to still contribute to the running of the organisation, may hold office as a Club or State Office Bearer under an associate membership (subject to the Rules of the Club or State Branch allowing this).

This move will possibly assist Clubs and State Branches to find office bearers by providing greater flexibility. Clubs and States will need to refer to their own Rules to determine if those Rules also allow an Associate Member to hold office.

Planning input sought for ACDS 50th Anniversary

Those of us who remember the fantastic ACDS 40th Anniversary events hosted by Southern Highlands Carriage Club at Bundanoon in 2011 will possibly be surprised to learn that the ACDS' 50th Anniversary is only three short years away!

Federal Council is seeking to appoint interested members to a working group whose task will be to carry out preliminary planning for 50th anniversary celebrations – possible events and activities, venues, organisers etc – all ideas are welcome but we need to start the planning process now.

If you are interested in contributing your time and ideas to the working group, please contact the Federal Secretary.

Federal Conference Wrap-up



Right: New ACDS publicity banners on show at the Conference, supplied by Scribblelegion Design and Print.

Above left: Outgoing Federal President Brendan Dwyer presents Sue Waters with a Welsh Pony mare and foal bronze in appreciation of her service as Federal Secretary. Sue was also awarded Honorary ACDS Life Membership by Federal Council and presented with her Life Members badge at the AGM.

Above right: Newly elected Federal President Peter Lee, presenting Brendan Dwyer with an ACDS Wheel, in appreciation of service to the ACDS as Federal President.

Photos: Bernadette Lewis.

THE ACDS HELD a very successful Federal Conference and AGM at the Adelaide Hills Convention Centre in Hahndorf, South Australia on the weekend of 14th and 15th July. The venue's beautiful outlook over the Adelaide Hills and the attractions of the historic town of Hahndorf added to the appeal and made for a very enjoyable weekend.

A welcome BBQ on Friday evening, hosted by Southern Carriage Driving Club members was a great opener for the conference allowing for some socialising and relaxation, particularly for those of us on Federal Council who had a long, but productive meeting during the day.

The various Forums provided an opportunity over the weekend for members to engage with the administrative aspects of the Society and thank you to our Discipline Convenors for the effort put into their respective presentations. Trade stands in attendance also provided a great excuse for some 'retail therapy'!

It has been evident from recent conferences that providing some additional appeal by way of visits to attractions is appreciated by attendees, and this year was no different; a visit to The Cedars, home of renowned Australian artist Hans Heysen, provided an insight into a remarkable life and work. Heysen is best known for his works depicting the Australian landscape, particularly magnificent eucalypts. However the tour also revealed his fondness for painting scenes of working life, particularly working horses, in the period just prior to rapid mechanisation of farming and life in general.

The AGM not only dealt with the business of Office Bearers, setting fees etc, but also provided an opportunity for me as outgoing Federal President to announce an exciting new initiative for the ACDS – the establishment of a Junior Driver Bursary scheme (see information elsewhere in this edition). It was also the chance to make some important presentations in recognition of service to the ACDS; Dot Willcoxson retired as Federal Driven Dressage Convenor after a remarkable 17 years in the role, having overseen the development and growth of Driven Dressage from its early days to an important discipline in its own right. Peter Lee was presented with an ACDS Award of Merit for his dedicated work as Federal Treasurer, having done much to put the Society on a professional and strategic footing; and I was delighted to be able to present Sue Waters with not only an award for her service as Federal Secretary, but also to present Sue with Honorary Life Membership of the ACDS; Sue has served two terms as Federal Secretary totalling 10 years, plus a period as Assistant Secretary and has contributed enormously to the de-



velopment and operation of the ACDS in that time. Her commitment and dedication to the sport is unmatched and all in attendance I'm sure agree, is a very worthy recipient of the ACDS' highest honour. I was very humbled to receive a limited edition 'ACDS Wheel' in recognition of my time as Federal President.

I welcome our incoming Federal Executive of Peter Lee (President), Kate Wholohan (Vice President), Sue Waters (Secretary) and Leonie Hartshorne (Treasurer) and thank them for their commitment to the organisation and the membership.

Our guest speaker on Saturday was Annette Willson who specialises in human biomechanics and core strength training for equestrians. Annette tailored her presentation to relate to Applied Posture Carriage Driving and her entertaining delivery of a very complex subject had those present on the edge of their seats (literally!) The concept of building core strength has quite a lot of relevance to us as carriage drivers – being able to maintain our balance in the seat without the need to 'brace' against the reins is a key contributor to achieving soft and supple horses and responsive contact. For those interested in learning more, Annette can be contacted through her facebook page – search for @appliedpostureriding.

Guest Speaker on Sunday was Dr Elizabeth Woolsey-Herbert of the Adelaide Plains Equine Veterinary Clinic, who provided a remarkable insight into the treatment of severely burned horses following the Pinery Fire in SA in 2015. This fire was the fastest moving open range fire in recorded history, burning some 225,000 acres in around five hours. Consequently the nature of injuries to horses were somewhat unique and Dr Woolsey-Herbert and her team had limited information on the treatment of burns in horses to draw upon; however their dedication and commitment over many months saw a considerable number of horses completely recover. As horse owners we all hope that we never have to experience such a situation, but if you do, then having a team as amazing as Elizabeth's involved in treatment would be a godsend.

With just under 70 members in attendance at the AGM, this conference was one of the most strongly supported in recent years, and thanks go out to Leonie Hartshorne for her efforts in organising the conference and guest speakers. It was a very enjoyable weekend combining both education and interest in a terrific setting. EOIs to host the 2019 Federal Conference are still open, so if you have an idea for a venue and format, please get in touch with the Federal Secretary.

Brendan Dwyer

VALE Robert Allport



Robert Allport driving New Penny at the Yalbraith Enduro in January 2018. Photo: P Fitzpatrick.

THE ACDS recently lost a passionate participant and advocate for Pleasure and Endurance Driving with the passing of Robert (Rob) Allport on 8th July 2018, aged 70.

Robert William Allport was an active member of the Crookwell community in NSW, particularly through the Crookwell AP & H Society. It was through his involvement with the local show that Rob became involved with Harness Racing, becoming a Steward for the Crookwell Harness Racing Club in 1985 and Chief Steward for the 1988 and 1989 Shows. In 2001 Robert was elected President of the Crookwell AP&H Society. At completion of his 2002 term, he stepped down to concentrate his energy on Harness Racing both in Crookwell and in Goulburn.

Between 2004 and 2008 harness racing was banned from shows. During this time Rob became involved in mini-trotting, as this was not affected by the ban. This sport is now playing an important role in training young drivers to progress onto harness racing.

Around this time Rob also became interested in Pleasure Driving, joining the Goulburn District Horse Drawn Vehicle Club and as a result

becoming enthusiastic about the discipline of Endurance Driving, seeing it as an ideal sport for Standardbreds retired from racing.

Rob loved the camaraderie of carriage driving, particularly the family aspects. As organiser of the Yalbraith Enduro, Rob enthusiastically encouraged the participation of junior drivers, and as ACDS New South Wales Pleasure and Endurance Convenor, he was a strong advocate for the discipline, working hard to raise the profile within the ACDS. In the role of NSW Junior Driver Coordinator, Rob worked to further encourage participation by junior drivers. Rob was also an ACDS Show Driving Judge, officiating regularly at Country Shows.

Rob was described as "Very much his own man, and extremely caring towards his family". The strong turnout by members of Crookwell community and the Harness Racing and Carriage Driving fraternities at his funeral demonstrated the high regard in which Rob was held.

Rob's contribution to the ACDS will be greatly missed; our deepest condolences are extended to Rob's family, particularly his son Damon, and granddaughter Kimberly, who are both enthusiastic carriage drivers and ACDS members.

Federal Council update – New initiatives

ACDS Junior Driver Bursary Scheme

IN RECOGNITION of a need to provide opportunities for more structured support to Junior Drivers, ACDS Federal Council has established a Junior Driver Bursary Scheme; Junior Drivers aged 6 to 17, who are part of an ACDS membership can apply for financial support in pursuit of their carriage driving interests. Federal Council has set aside an initial budget of \$3000 for the first year of the scheme. Individual Bursaries may be awarded up to an amount of \$1000 subject to the individual's application and the number of applications received.

Applicants are encouraged to set out their carriage driving plans and to identify the specific activities they are seeking support for. It may be that they are seeking to access coaching, or assistance with travel for educational or competitive opportunities – the aim of the scheme is to encourage and support junior drivers to maintain their interest in the sport.

Applications will be assessed by an independent panel which will recommend the awarding of Bursaries by Federal Council. A strong focus of the review process will be that the Junior Driver has

been involved in completing the application (not just Mum or Dad on their behalf), that there is a clear plan of what they would like to do and that there is an element of age-appropriate contribution at an ACDS Club level demonstrated. Juniors are encouraged to be creative with their applications.

Bursary recipients will be asked to provide regular feedback on their progress for inclusion in the Journal and other promotional material. The application period will run from 1st to 31st October 2018 – application form and further details will be available on the ACDS website.

Junior Drivers Zoe (L) and Bailey-Jane (R) with mums Jen and Leonie at the recent Munro Cup run by Bungendore Club. Photo by Tess Smith.



Come & Try Participation

THROUGH DISCUSSIONS with our Insurance Brokers Affinity, Federal Council has introduced a new mechanism whereby participants at a 'Come & Try Day' run by an ACDS Club can handle the reins and drive under supervision, without having to pay a one activity membership.

The participant will be covered by ACDS Insurance for the period of their involvement but don't need to pay a fee – there are of course some appropriate risk management aspects to be implemented by the organisers, but it is hoped this initiative will help Clubs to better engage with prospective new members.

The relevant form to be completed by the participant, and organiser's checklist will be available from the ACDS Website.

Volunteers – they give a little but change a lot

VOLUNTEERS. They are the backbone of every sporting club or association, and often the biggest stakeholder, yet limited resources often result in a lack of direction or structured program to support their engagement and management.

Research has shown the huge impact and contribution of volunteers to the community. In fact, more than 6 million Australians volunteer annually across hundreds of thousands of organisations and contribute more than \$290 billion annually to the Australian economy.

These figures demonstrate how important this workforce is and how important it is to provide the right environment to help volunteers fulfil their roles. And this starts with providing support for those who recruit, train and lead teams of volunteers.

The Australian Carriage Driving Society recognises the crucial role volunteers play in supporting the sport, from grass roots participation through to competition level.

The Society couldn't do the work they do without the dedicated and passionate team and they understand the importance of these programs and the people that make them happen.

Volunteers have many commitments in their lives and it is important that when they are volunteering as part of the equestrian family, it is an enjoyable role that not only sees them returning but creates memorable, fulfilling and positive experiences. This in turn creates an encouraging and welcoming environment which will continue to retain and attract volunteers.

There is no doubt how beneficial volunteering is. This year's National Volunteer Week, held in May, celebrated "Give a little. Change a Lot"

and highlighted research regarding the impact of volunteering to the Australian community. This included:

- An estimated total of 932 million hours was volunteered during 2016.
- The State of Volunteering in Australia report found that 93% of people saw positive changes as a result of their volunteering efforts.

However, volunteering is not just beneficial to the community. In fact there is clear research that highlights the benefits of volunteering to the volunteer themselves:

- A strong correlation exists between the well-being, happiness, health and longevity of people who are emotionally kind and compassionate in their charitable helping activities.
- Altruistic emotions and behaviours are associated with greater well-being, health, and longevity.
- Volunteering results in a "helper's high" a powerful physical and emotional feeling experienced when directly helping others.
- Just a few hours of volunteer work makes a difference in happiness and mood.

The Australian Carriage Driving Society is committed to supporting their volunteers and volunteer managers to assist with strategies to engage, train, retain and recognise the immense work of volunteers.

Join us for a Volunteer Engagement and Management workshop on Sunday 21st October where we'll equip you with the resources and top tips in leading your team of volunteers as well as how to address any challenges you are currently facing. To register, contact Kate Wholagan - P: 0408 357 749 E: katewholagan@icloud.com

Australian Carriage Driving Society Inc

2018 Annual General Meeting



Held at 2pm on Saturday 14th July, 2018
Adelaide Hills Convention Centre
145A Mount Barker Road Hahndorf South Australia

1. Welcome

The President welcomed those in attendance to the 47th Australian Carriage Driving Society Inc Annual General Meeting.

The President acknowledged Life Members present: Dot and Doug Willcoxson and Peter Harkness.

2. Present

New South Wales: D & A Casper, B Dwyer, C Ffrost, C Fitzpatrick, B & L Hammond, G & J. Harris, C Hyles, P & P Honeyman, G & A McDonald, J Muspratt, P Salter, J & J. Tonkiss, D & D. Willcoxson

South Australia: V Blows, D Frahn, C Gibbons, E & M Grivell, D & L Hartshorne, G Jones, L & R King, D Norris, K Norris, W Payton, R Rainey, D Thompson, J Van Raalte, C Wallis, M Wheaton

Queensland: V Camac

Tasmania: J Cawsey, P Kentish, M MacDonald

Victoria: P Armstrong, R & M Bowen, R Clarke, B Drury, G Hack, P Harkness, J Henderson, D & D Hoffrichter, B & J Kinblad, P Lee, B Lewis, S McIntyre, P Marshall, M Morgan, M & K Rogers, P Silver, M Sperrin, J Tumney, L Waters, S Waters, K Wholagan

Western Australia: M Langan

3. Apologies

L Barrey, H Betts, J & W Bourke, T & B Brand, A Cain, L Cairns, M Cropper, H & S Crossley, E Crossley, R & L Dominish, T & C Dowling, J Dwyer, T Dwyer, K Frahn, S Ffrost, D Fuller, D Gibbons, G Gilroy, P Grieves, J Guihot, B Hack, D Hawkins, M Hayler, S Henderson, J Horsburgh, K & P Jacobs, A James, D Jones, V Lee, S MacDonald, G Marshall, C Marshall, B Morgan, H Murrell, G Norris, A & L Ongley, D & N Potter, K Robinson, G Robson, W & T Smith and H & E Trigg

4. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 24th June, 2017

MOTION:

MOVED: P Harkness, J Cawsey

That the Minutes of the Australian Carriage Driving Society Inc Annual General Meeting held on 24th June, 2017 be accepted.

RESOLVED MOTION CARRIED

5. President's Report

The Federal President Brendan Dwyer presented his President's Report for 2017-2018 to the Meeting. Included as part of the report was the launch of the ACDS Junior Driver support scheme.

MOTION:

MOVED: FedPres, P Honeyman

That the Federal President's Report to the 2018 Annual General Meeting be accepted.

RESOLVED MOTION CARRIED

6. Notices of Motion

Special Resolution to amend the ACDS Rules and Regulations

That: Clause 16.10 of the ACDS Rules and Regulations be amended to read as follows:

"A person may not hold office as Vice President or Treasurer for more than five consecutive years and thereafter is ineligible for election as any such office bearer for a period of one year.

There is no term limit applicable to the position of Secretary."

Moved: Douglas Willcoxson Seconded: Dorothy Willcoxson

The Federal President advised the Meeting that the Ballots received in relation to the Special Resolution have been counted and the Resolution has been approved by more than the required

75% majority. Accordingly the Special Resolution was declared carried.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Federal Treasurer provided commentary and additional explanation on the ACDS Financial Reports tabled and the 2018-19 Budget:

(a) Tabling of Annual Report of the Australian Carriage Driving Society Inc for the year ended 30th April, 2018

MOTION:

MOVED: FedTreas, C Gibbons

That the tabled Annual Report of the Australian Carriage Driving Society Inc for the year ended 30th April, 2018 be accepted.

RESOLVED MOTION CARRIED

(b) Budget for 2018-2019

MOTION:

MOVED: FedTreas, Douglas Willcoxson

That the tabled 2018-2019 Budget for the Australian Carriage Driving Society Inc be accepted.

RESOLVED MOTION CARRIED

(c) Setting of Fees for 2018-2019

MOTION:

MOVED: FedTreas, P Silver

That the 2018-2019 Membership Fees for the Australian Carriage Driving Society Inc be as follows:

i.	Family Membership	\$245.00
ii.	Single Membership	\$165.00
iii.	Junior Membership	\$80.00
iv.	Associate Membership	\$90.00
v.	Journal Subscription	\$70.00
vi.	Officials Membership	\$90.00
vii.	One Activity Membership	\$30.00

RESOLVED MOTION CARRIED

8. Election of Office Bearers (Nominations received by 15 April, 2018)

The Chair declared all positions vacant:

President:

Peter Lee Nominated: Karen Rogers Seconded: Lorraine Cairns

As only one Nomination received, Peter Lee is elected as Federal President.

Vice-President:

Kate Wholagan Nominated: Phil Marshall

Seconded: Cody Marshall

As only one Nomination received, Kate Wholagan is elected as Federal Vice-President.

Secretary:

At the close of time for the receipt of nominations for the position of Secretary, no nominations had been received.

Accordingly, nominations for this position were called for off the floor.

Sue Waters Nominated by M Bowen, C Gibbons

No further nominations were received.

Therefore Sue Waters is elected as Federal Secretary for 2018-2019.

Treasurer:

At the close of time for the receipt of nominations for the position of Treasurer, no nominations had been received.

Accordingly, nominations for this position were called for off the floor.

continued overleaf

Leonie Hartshorne Nominated by K Wholagan, M MacDonald

No further nominations were received

Therefore Leonie Hartshorne is elected as Federal Treasurer for 2018-2019.

9. Appointment of Public Officer

Nomination received from: Anne Eldridge

As only one Nomination received, Anne Eldridge is elected as ACDS Public Officer.

10. Presentations

The outgoing Federal President, Brendan Dwyer, made several presentations on behalf of Federal Council and members in acknowledgement of the contributions made by the following persons to the ACDS.

- Dot Willcoxson – on her retirement as Federal Dressage Convenor.
- Peter Lee – An Award of Merit on his retirement as Federal Treasurer.
- Judy Dwyer – on her retirement as ACDS Journal Editor.
- Leonie Hartshorne – a thank you gift for her efforts in organising the 2018 Federal Conference.
- Sue Waters – for her service as Federal Secretary.

Incoming Federal President, Peter Lee, on behalf of Federal Council and Members acknowledged the retirement of Brendan Dwyer as Federal President with a presentation in appreciation of his service to the ACDS.

Outgoing Federal President, Brendan Dwyer, on behalf of Federal Council and Members presented Sue Waters with an Honorary Life Membership of the ACDS.

11. Meeting Closed at 2.52pm

Sue Waters – ACDS Federal Secretary



ACDS National Show Driving Championships

Hawkesbury Show Ground, Clarendon NSW
11th November 2018

Prizes for All Classes including special awards for:
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DRESSAGE
Cheryl Dowling
Federal Dressage Driving Convenor
<p>I FEEL BOTH HONOURED and excited to step into the role of National Driven Dressage Convenor (NDDC).</p> <p>Dot Willcoxson has been the 'National guardian' of driven dressage for 17 years – what an amazing achievement. Her commitment and dedication over these years sees dressage in such a healthy condition and at the Federal Conference held in Hahndorf in July, she was presented with a gift in recognition of her hard work and loyalty to the ACDS.</p> <p>It is pleasing both from a National and State perspective that clubs are embracing the Graded Driven Dressage concept. After the recent National GDD Competition hosted by Victoria, it would be great if this event could continue either annually or bi-annually.</p> <p>Presently, the focus is on the update of the Graded Driven Dressage Manual and it is anticipated this will be available in October.</p> <p>In my role as NDDC I look forward to working with the State Dressage Convenors (and their panels) collectively and would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their support of the ACDS and in particular the dressage discipline.</p> <p>Have FUN</p> <p>Persistence, Patience & Perseverance = PROGRESS</p> <p><i>Cheryl Dowling NDDC</i></p>



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The German TRAINING SCALE

Part 6: Straightness which includes Bending Part 2

by Hardy Zantke



We have covered the first four steps of the German Training Scale:

First- TAKT = RHYTHM and REGULARITY

then - LOSGELASSENHEIT = FREEDOM which includes RELAXATION.

then - ANLEHNUNG = CONTACT which includes ACCEPTANCE OF THE BIT and SEEKING THE CONTACT

then - SCHWUNG = IMPULSION and ENGAGEMENT

We started in the last issue on - GERADERICHTUNG = STRAIGHTNESS which includes BENDING

This is the second part of that subject.

AFTER WE HAD THE HORSE TRAVELLING reasonably straight, we started to work on bending with large circles, preferably first at the walk. We must watch the inside hind leg of the horse. As long as that inside hind leg is travelling underneath the body, we are fine, but once it tracks to the inside of the circle, that means away from the body with the hind footprint not in line with the print of the inside front foot, but more towards the centre of our circle, then that means the circle was too small for the training stage of our horse. He could not balance himself making such a circle with his hind foot underneath his body because he could not or did not bend his body accordingly.

We can encourage the inside hind leg with our whip, with careful whip aids - no beatings! - to track underneath the body. But we must be careful when touching the hind leg with the whip so that we don't have a horse that will answer with a kick, which could get us in trouble in the carriage. We can also use the whip on the inside of his barrel. That would be the position a rider would have his inside leg around which he can bend his horse. We find here that we do need our whip in driving to accomplish this bending, as we don't have our leg on the inside of the horse as a rider does.

Without having something there to bend or pivot the horse around, we cannot get a good bend. So it is important that our horse is trained to accept whip aids, and it is equally important that we actually do use the whip for this. We cannot accomplish this with the reins alone. The reins, for the most part, influence the head and neck of the horse, from the ears to the withers. In Germany, they call that 'positioning' (Stellung) of the horse and only call bending (Biegung) the rest - the body from withers to tail.

Let me interject here: There is a discussion going on around medical and other experts about how much, if any indeed, the horse's spine can bend, or if it is not really fairly rigid in that respect, and rather than actually bending the spine, the horse creates what we see as a bend by movement and elasticity in his ribcage. Other experts disagree and say that there is some bending in the spine, however, very little. Well, I am no expert in that field so I will not enter that discussion. Let me just say, I think if it looks like bending, then I take it as bending, even if it may be an illusion.

But I do agree that when we look along the spine of the horse, we can see only very little, if any, bending; however, the entire body does look bent to me. So I accept that as bending, and we should not use this medical discussion as an excuse to say that the horse can't bend anyhow, so we don't need to work any further in trying to make him bend. Keep trying and working on it, until it looks like bending, regardless if it's in the ribcage or in the spine.

Also, there is sometimes confusion about bending among some people who have heard the dressage term 'straight on a circle.' To me, that does not mean that the horse travels 'straight' as in unbending; to me that means that he indeed is bending - or looks like it - along the arc of the circle. That's why we have 'bending' as part of 'straightness' in this entire discussion.

So with these concepts in mind, let us now go back to what we think is proper bending and how to get there. Proper rein aids with a properly

trained horse will go through to his entire body, but not much for bending, and especially not for a young horse in training.

There, the rein aids for a turn to the right will either bring only the head and neck over to the right or will bring the entire horse straight over to the right without any bending, but in both cases, will not give us any bending of the body. I believe we can get that only with our whip, either at the barrel to bend the horse around the whip or at the hind leg to get that hind leg to track underneath his body so he then can bend properly.

You can try this yourself with your own feet: Just walk in a straight line. Now make a circle to the right by turning your right foot also to the right. With turning that foot, your leg turns, and with that, your spine bends. You have bending, now you can stay bent and do a large circle to the right, by having your right foot turned to the right more so than your left foot, and you can even put the right foot in front and to the outside of the left foot (slightly crossing over), not to the inside of the circle. Thus, you can make the circle larger and still stay properly bent.

Hold this thought, this is very important, and I will come back to it shortly:

But first, let us do the opposite demonstration: When you walk straight and you want to make a turn to the right and you do not bend your spine and do not turn your right foot with the toes to the right but still want to go to the right, then you can only do so by setting your right foot further to the right, away from your body, otherwise you would lose your balance and fall. But moving that right foot to the inside of the circle will keep your spine straight and your body stiff. Try it. I hope I described it well enough that you can follow my example. (It's easier for me to actually demonstrate it than to describe it in words.)

So this is the same with the horse. If he does not bend his body, in order to not lose his balance, he needs to set his inside hind foot to the inside of the circle away from his body. If, on the other hand, he moves that inside hind leg underneath his body and turns the toe to the side to which we want to turn, then he gets his body nicely bent, and that is what we want to accomplish.

Now back to the thought on hold from above: As long as we have our body bent properly and that inside foot crosses over (for us) or the inside hind foot of the horse moves underneath his body, we can make the circle always larger and still stay properly bent.

We can also make the circle smaller by just changing our direction more to the inside. This is very important because we see so much in driving that the driver who has not understood that he gets the bend with the hind leg concentrates only on getting the neck to turn into the direction he wants to go with the reins (positioning, but not bending).

So then, as he wants to show the judge what he thinks is good bending, he keeps turning the neck, and with that, his circle gets usually much smaller than intended. Now, our driver is in trouble.

How can he get his circle larger again? OK, since he does not know how to use his whip properly, he tries to get the circle larger by pulling on the outside rein, trying to steer the horse to the outside. But the problem with that is that immediately the horse takes his head to the outside, and the bend that the driver was so eager to show is now turned into a counterbend and all is down the drain.

What should he have done when the circle got too small? He should have used his whip on the inside of his horse to push that hind leg further underneath his horse and actually, with that, to bend the horse. That will make the circle larger and keep his bend proper.

But the above perhaps would only happen in a dressage test for which the size of the circle is designated. So, for home training, the inexperienced driver would not even think of making the circle larger again; instead, in order to get what he thinks is the proper bend, he keeps cranking that head and neck to the inside, only to have the horse make

the circle smaller and smaller and pushing that inside hind leg more and more into the circle to balance himself, thus getting less and less of a chance of ever getting his bend in the body, getting the horse upset and frustrated in the meantime.

As the horse realises that he can't do this and is frustrated. So is his driver and, before they know it, both our horse and driver become afraid of the corner as both know that they cannot do bending properly. That's when the horse starts throwing himself through the corner counterbent and over the shoulder, and that's when the driver starts hating dressage.

The same happens not only when the circles are too small, but also when the footing is too deep, the pulling is too hard, or we go too fast. All that will throw the horse out of his balance, which we should be so careful in developing. So let's not do that; it's counterproductive.

Let's do large, easy circles on good footing where the carriage rolls easily and starting at a slow speed, at the walk where we can also watch that hind leg so much better and see where it tracks. Then, let's use the whip on the inside and get the circle larger. For this reason, training level starts with 40-metre circles, and only at Advanced level, do we have 15-metre circles. It takes years for the horse to develop the balance and muscle for enough push from the inside hind leg to properly do the bending for such small circles.

Some of us make the mistake that we want too much too quickly. We set our goals too high and then are disappointed when not reaching them. When we are disappointed, naturally our horse feels that too, so we then have an unhappy horse and an unhappy driver. No good learning can come out of that. Instead, we need to break our goals into smaller pieces and build the house by laying one small brick on top of the previous one in many small steps, but each time explaining the small step properly to the horse and then working on it.

Then, we can reach the small goals better and we are happier, and so is our horse. We need to create a positive working and learning environment and attitude, but at the same time, always keep pushing for the next small step in the learning curve. And, as we were talking about the whip use in the circle when trying to make it larger, the same also holds true each time a horse drifts away from the rail of the arena. You cannot get him out there again with the reins. He would only then turn his head and

neck to the outside before he goes there, and our horses are not allowed to look to the outside - you would get a lower mark if he does. So instead of using the reins to get him back to the rail if he drifted to the inside, what would a rider do in that situation? Yes, he would use his inside leg to push the horse back out to the rail. We don't have our leg on the horse, instead we have our whip; so use the whip on the inside and push him out. That way, he can continue looking straight or even a little to the inside, which is always allowed. And with all this, we see that we must have our horse trained to accept the whip as an aid and not fear it as a punishment.

But we have a few more problems to overcome before we can use our whip aids properly. Our horse must learn and understand, and we must learn and differentiate when our whip aid is meant as a help in bending, which doesn't mean he should go more forward, and when it's meant to encourage him to go more forward. And, finally, when it's meant to encourage more engagement, more collection, as the whip can have all three meanings.

Unless we teach the horse and he understands what we mean with the whip, we will not be able to master this. If our horse only thinks the whip means he has to pick up speed, we will not be able to use it to get him bending properly.

On the other hand, when we are going on a straight line and he is crooked, it usually helps to use the whip to straighten him. Also to encourage him to go more forward with engagement as that way his hind legs should reach more underneath his body, more toward his centre of gravity, which helps in getting him straight.

While doing that from behind with the whip, we must be careful with maintaining even contact with the reins on both sides of the mouth to not get him crooked in front.

So much for today. I will continue in our next issue still further on STRAIGHTNESS and BENDING as this topic is so important.

After that, we will cover the final two items of the German Training Scale:

VERSAMMLUNG = COLLECTION including Roundness and

DURCHLAESSIGKEIT = SELF CARRIAGE including Confidence.

SHOW DRIVING Janet Muspratt Federal Show Driving Convenor

SHOW DRIVING is in a very healthy condition across all states as indicated by the activities that have been run over the last few months and those in the planning stage. This is in no small part due to the enthusiasm of our Show Driving Convenors – Natalie Morris (WA), Cate Goodall (SA), Alexander McGuire (Vic), Norma Potter (Tas), Carolyn Blakeley (NSW) and Debbie Clyne (Qld).

In Western Australia some great initiative was shown when the WAHDS Classic Show, to be judged by Robyn Anderson from SA, was 'stormed out' at the last minute. Instead an impromptu clinic with Robyn and a static display of the competitors' vehicles and harness were held. Both were a great success.

Other shows on the calendar over winter and spring are a 'Harness Extravaganza Show' run by the WAHDS and the Working Heavy Horse WA Society in early August and the 'Step Back in Time Show' at Dwell-inup in September, run by the Murray Club. The WA Show Driving Championships will again be hosted by WAHDS in November, in conjunction with the WA Driven Dressage Championships.

In NSW a very successful Park Drive was run in April at Mayfield Garden near Oberon on the NSW Central Tablelands, organised by the Ellmore Club. It was a very well supported event entrywise, despite the challenging cold and windy weather, and many beautiful vehicles and turnouts were on display. There are photos and a report on page 20.

The NSW Show Driving Championships hosted by the Southern Highlands Club were held at Bundanoon on May 6, and attracted some top quality entries. Standardbred classes were included for the first time and had good support. A Light Harness Show Judges and Drivers School and Judges Exam was held at Gunning in early June, hosted by the Reedy Creek Club. Presentations on various aspects of showing and judging from Heidi Stevens, Rick Jones and Richard Bensley were much appreciated by the 28 attendees. The Prac Exam was held in the afternoon, with judge candidates appraising the turnouts and workouts of four com-

petitors in four different types of classes. Organisation is well underway for the 2018 National Show Driving Championships to be hosted by the Camden and Hills Clubs on November 11 2018 at Hawkesbury Showground at Clarendon.

In Queensland the State Show Driving Championships were again a success. The Show was held on July 15, 2018 at the Caboolture Showgrounds. Competitors were very well served by sponsors, and everyone went home with lots of useful items. Convenor Debbie Clyne reports that harness classes at Ag shows have been well supported.

In Tasmania the Campbell Town Show committee was persuaded by the SD Convenor Norma Potter to hold harness classes after not having them for some years, and were pleased with the good support from drivers. The Tasmanian State Show and d'Attelage for 2018 will be run by the THDVF Club and will most likely be held at Entally House at Hadsden late in the year.

The SA Show Driving Championships had not been held for many years, but were reinstated in June, as part of a Triple Crown weekend, together with the SA Dressage Championships and SA Obstacle Championships. A Static Display of vehicles was also held. It was a very successful weekend. South Australia will be hosting the 2019 National Show Driving Championships, and Convenor Cate Goodall already has organisation under way.

In Victoria SD Convenor Alexander McGuire has been part of meetings with the RASV on improving entry numbers and competitor experiences at the Melbourne Royal. Plans are under way for the Victorian SD Championships at the end of the year, and a Show Judges Seminar and Refresher is also in the pipeline.

The Convenors, together with club committees, are working hard in the cause of show driving and I urge all drivers, no matter what your principal interests are, to give as much support as possible to their endeavours. After all, they have volunteered to do it for you, the ACDS members!



Gail Bain - From Rooster to Feather Duster and Back

Lahden Marathon. Photo: AmyMundel

May/June 2018

WITH OUR KRONENBERG EXPERIENCE behind us we started working towards our first British National competition, which was to be held at our home base at Ashfields. Not having to pack the truck and caravan and deal with all the associated away game stuff was bliss! In preparation, one item of our turnout had to be dealt with. Before leaving Australia, Mahbrook milliner Barbara Burton had made a special hat to complement my new jacket and apron. It sported a discrete 'slouch' in recognition of the traditional digger style while the trim incorporated material from the jacket and genuine emu feathers, courtesy of the Burton family's pet emu 'Klonk' - so named for the sound of her feet on the concrete paths as she circled their house. Evidently, Klonk had become a bit wary about plumage theft and Barbara was forced to wait until the bird was asleep before snatching a fist-full of feathers on the run. As Barbara was just about to have a knee replacement (possibly emu wrestling had been a contributing factor) time was short. Luckily, she already had a blank felt hat of approximately the right colour and was able to decorate it accordingly but having seen the photographs taken at Kronenberg the overall picture showed my hat as a couple of shades too light. Enter Minta Winn and the Newmarket milliner.

Minta is also based at Ashfields and during my stay has been a wonderful source of information on correct turnout, rules, the history of English carriage driving (and drivers) - and where to buy groceries in the middle of the night. She had seen us at Kronenberg and observed that I had to either wear a taller, darker hat or sit on a cushion or find a shorter groom. Turnout rules dictate that if a horse is wearing a collar - *Michael's* is patent leather with brass fittings - the groom must wear a full top hat and it seemed Sarah, in her beautiful silk topper was dangerously close to appearing taller than me. I took the bait and opted for a taller, darker hat to which Minta replied, "Excellent! I know just where to find one". A visit to a Newmarket milliner was organised at suspiciously short notice and I found myself, accompanied by Minta, heading for Newmarket feeling nervous and out of my depth, anticipating a frightfully posh establishment near the famous racecourse. I couldn't have been further from the mark.

The lady in question operated out of a double garage in nearby Ely, more like a cave than a milliners shop. It was stuffed from floor to ceiling with the most delicious collection of hats imaginable ranging from delicate and discrete, to 'out there', to fabulous, to utterly ridiculous - and in every hue. They were displayed according to colour rather than style and the whole effect was like wading through a rainbow. As a bonus, the milliner (whose name I can't remember) had a background in driving so understood the perils of too big a brim, too jaunty an angle or simply appearing to be all hat. She listened to our version of what we thought was

needed then disappeared to yet another hat cave where she thought she could find just the thing and left Minta and me to have the time of our lives trying on fabulous though totally inappropriate headwear. In the course of our experiments Minta came to the conclusion son Rupert, (of marriageable age but as yet unattached) would have to marry twice to compensate for his mother's inability to choose between two fabulous hats. My favourite resembled a brown and orange peacock which had roosted on a church roof and exploded!

But, back to our reason for being there. I wanted to keep the trim and feathers of the original model for sentimental reasons. This didn't faze the milliner one tiny bit. As soon as we found the required shape and colour in an already decorated hat she sat on the floor armed with scissors and a glue gun, stripped the original trimmings and re-assembled the new model within 20 minutes.

Barry-the-wimp, having admitted to not having sufficient intestinal fortitude to cope with two females let loose in a hat shop, was sent pre-purchase photos for his approval.

DUE TO THE RELENTLESSLY AWFUL WEATHER, Ashfields National CDE was in danger of cancellation up until a couple of days before the event and we had to be satisfied with only one brief obstacle lesson since Kronenberg which left no advantage to being on home ground.

Michael won the dressage but it was the marathon that was our most pleasing result. Up until then Sarah, my very experienced groom and back-stepper must have had to grit her teeth on a few occasions but this time, as we exited the first marathon obstacle she slapped me on the shoulder hard enough to knock me sideways and yelled, "That was %\$!%*! Awesome!" so I knew we had got it right. We were fastest in two obstacles that day and went on to win our first National competition at Advanced level.

WILF HAD PLANNED to take his team to Lahden in Germany a few weeks after Ashfields to compete in an invitation only Teams competition run bi-annually by the Sandemann family. The German National Singles Championships were run in conjunction at the same venue and, unbeknown to me, Wilf had successfully applied to the organisers to accept an entry from a non-national single (guess who?)

Sadly, before we left Wilf's team had a mishap and couldn't start but he couldn't see any reason why that should stop me and we found ourselves aboard his ginormous truck bound for Lahden. Barry flew in a couple of days later. The trip took 15 hours, half of which was by ferry. Poor *Michael* had to stand for the whole time without a break and despite regular visits from Sarah and me, he was quite agitated by the time we arrived, to be greeted with high temperatures and humidity and squadrons of

large, biting horse flies. Just the kind of conditions *Michael* hates.

With hindsight, we should have arrived a day earlier to allow him to recover fully. Our dressage was in the middle of the day. The warm-up arena was out of sight of the main arena, a bit uneven and had sandy patches which slowed the vehicle down mid movement. We had to share it with another competitor who seemed hell bent upon carving us up at every turn. It was very disconcerting and before I had a chance to settle him we were waved into the main arena. Apparently, the steward between the two arenas had been deep in conversation and hadn't realised the previous competitor had finished. For the first time ever *Michael's* special 'performance' switch failed and he performed a lack lustre test. I dropped a rein in the first one-handed movement which didn't help and we ended up finishing twelfth. As we left the arena Wilf cycled over and, in the style I have come to love and respect announced, "That were the worst test I've ever seen yer do". All I could do was agree with him.

The marathon course was beautifully constructed and decorated, massive, long and according to anyone who had driven it before, the hardest marathon course in the world. I questioned Wilf about this and he agreed; a small detail he had neglected to mention before we left! Wilf the sports psychologist had struck again. Section A was predominantly on sandy ground and drove easily. Section B really took its toll in the heat and soft, sandy going and before we had even started Wilf radioed back to say all the horses were stalling. The obstacle routes were very long and just remembering them was exhausting in itself. By the time we reached No. 5 *Michael* had begun to flag and his usual second wind just didn't happen. We were hitting posts in every direction and when I asked for more power he simply didn't have it to give. For the first time ever we were held at the finish and it was a long time before he recovered. He was better the next day and our cones round was probably the best element of our competition although it didn't lift us in the overall placings and we finished thirteenth. We returned to Ashfields chastened but having learned a lot.

- a) Allow an extra day to recover if the journey exceeds 10 hours.
- b) Take a fly sheet and mask even in the dead of winter and twice as much fly repellent than you could possibly use.
- c) For dressage, make sure you can see the steward at A in the main arena from the practice arena. If you can't, get a spotter to relay the message.
- d) Spotter to make sure the gate steward is awake and not deep in conversation unrelated to the moment.
- e) It is a waste of time trying to demonstrate good manners or foster international relationships in the practice arena.
- f) Hold your line till you can see the whites of the other drivers' eyes.
- g) The cones warm-up area is a bear garden – see (e) and (f) above.
- h) Family Sandemann run a truly efficient and wonderful show, even if their course is the hardest in the world!
- i) When your coach recommends starting at an unfamiliar venue – MAKE SOME ENQUIRIES FIRST!
- j) In spite of all that, the experience was worth every minute.

ONCE BACK AT Ashfields *Michael* underwent a full veterinary examination which showed nothing out of the ordinary. (Refer again to (a).) We reviewed and increased his feed in the quest for a bit more energy. So far it seems to be working.

(FYI) A few years ago *Michael* was diagnosed with Equine Metabolic Syndrome which I understand is similar to Type 2 diabetes in humans. His weight and diet has to be very carefully monitored and sugar levels are taken regularly. He is turned out at night into a small paddock with very short grass and stabled during the day with only one net of soaked hay. He is bedded on shavings for obvious reasons. Liquorice, carrots and apples have been banned – replaced with sugar free Polo mints and low sugar vegetable biscuits – the kind I had always regarded (up until now) as a triumph of marketing over product. At Ashfields his feed is divided into three and offered at 8am, 12pm and 4pm. If we are at a competition the feed is split six ways to keep him interested and he is walked out for a few five minute picks of grass during the day. He nickers at anyone passing his box just in case he can con them into breaking the rules.

The next National competition in the UK was Cricklands (Wales) but as it was just a week after Lahden we only visited as spectators. It is held at the David Broome Equestrian Centre where James Broome, unlike his famous show jumping father, drives a horse team in preference to jump-

ing anything. It was a well organised competition with nicely constructed obstacles and is to be the site of the British National Champion Championships in September.

THE WEATHER finally changed and the ground turned rock hard in no time. In an attempt to do as little as possible on hard ground I took *Michael* once a week to a water treadmill in Billericay about an hour away. It was a new concept to us both. The treadmill stall starts dry and is slowly flooded as it rotates until the water has risen to just below the horse's knees. Once the horse is comfortable with the process a session lasts about 20 minutes in a very active walk. In the case of the treadmill we were using, the operator was an equine physiotherapist who gave a running commentary of the physiological effects as they occurred. It was a fascinating process and one I would recommend to anyone looking for a low impact fitness program.

AND SO TO SANDRINGHAM. There is a big Coaching and Attelage de Tradition event run in conjunction with the CDE and as we were stabled in the same area were treated to the spectacle of a large number of exquisitely turned out teams and vehicles of yesteryear on a daily basis. Just for the record, as we were in the FEI compound, all horses had to have their temperature checked and recorded daily.

The previous year the trot-up had nearly been our undoing when I left *Michael's* studs in and he spent some anxious time in the holding box. This year we were better prepared and the trot-up went without a hitch. As I think I have mentioned before, the running has been taken over by Super-groom Sarah on the basis that I am likely to break down half way. In accordance with her instructions, last minute spares such as fly spray, hoof pick, baby wipes etc., need to be on hand – and preferably in a smart container – not a Tesco shopping bag. To this end, I have a discrete but generous leather handbag that serves well although, as I dumped the contents on my bed in order to vacate it for that purpose, I couldn't help wondering what an un-horsey person would think should they ever have to search for identification in case of an accident because, apart from the usual make-up, comb, wallet etc., there was a couple of curb chains, a spare horse shoe, a copy of the Horse & Hound, stud spanner and a rectal thermometer.

I was really pleased with our dressage test and although I had to put both hands on the reins in the first one handed movement (again), for a change I came out thinking we were going to be hard to beat. Unfortunately, the judges hammered me for that one error and we finished second by .2 of a penalty to a horse that didn't have the quality of *Michael* but had done a super accurate test and whose driver didn't have the beginnings of arthritis in one hand. The outcome was less than ideal as we always need a decent margin to stay ahead in the marathon.

As we exited the arena, an official approached us and told me *Michael* had been selected for swabbing. I was confident there was nothing to worry about as we had reviewed everything in his feed when we changed his diet. But half way through the process I remembered the Polo mints, (which I hadn't checked) and had given on several occasions that morning, eg., two for a good morning, two before putting the bit in his mouth, and occasionally one for just being nudged. I thought I had better come clean to the vet, just in case. He laughed and assured me (and I quote), "If Polo's were swabbable the British racing industry would grind to a halt!"

The general opinion is that the obstacles close up at Sandringham and this year was no exception. We drove a better round than last year to finish sixth which put us down in the overall placings. However, for the first time at FEI level we won the cones with the only double clear in the class. *Michael* was on fire and even Wilf later described our round as beautiful; high praise indeed from someone who rarely even grants us a good or 'orright. The only downside was that they usually play a blast from 'Can Can' when a double clear is driven and is the first indication of success. In our case the music failed and I was left dithering about thinking we must have picked up a penalty somewhere. It wasn't until Barry shouted from the sideline that I realised we had done it. We finished the competition in second place by less than three penalties. A very satisfying result although I would have liked first better!

Michael finished fit and well and is having a few days off before we start working towards the World Singles Championships in Kronenberg at the end of August and where we will officially represent Australia as an individual. Watch this space.

Team Michael

New edition of the ACDS CDE Rulebook

THE SECOND EDITION of the ACDS CDE Rulebook is now in place. The rulebook is available on our Federal Website under publications. There are two copies available – a marked-up version with the updates in red, and a plain version.

The conference in July was a terrific venue for members to hear the details of the proposed rulebook changes and to have final input before implementation. The forum was most constructive.

A big thank you to all our members who sent feedback to inform the rulebook review. Special thanks to all our state CDE convenors – Helen, Tracey, Phil, Gwenda, Leonie and Athol – and their committees for their tireless work in ensuring the new edition of the rulebook reflects current needs.

The scoring system is being updated to reflect the new edition of the rules, and should be available in time for the first CDE of the season at Murrumbidgee in NSW in mid-September. Thank you to David Armstrong for maintaining and updating his program.

Article 935.1.4 clarification

THERE HAS BEEN SOME QUESTION whether hooves may be painted (black or clear) for the first horse inspection at CDEs, Article 935.1.4 First Examination and Inspection. The Federal CDE Committee wishes to clarify this to state that hooves must not be painted in any way for this first horse inspection.

National CDE Championships 2019

THE NATIONAL CDE Championships are in Western Australia next Easter – April 20th to 22nd, 2019. Consider competing, volunteering or coming over to watch and have a holiday. The welcome will be warm, and

the venue is an ex-golf course in the beautiful jarrah forest at Dwellingup.

A brand new MO has been constructed and many of the existing MOs have been improved by hardworking club members.

Dwellingup has renowned mountain bike tracks, a beautiful river, is surrounded by state forest and is only an hour from Perth. Easter Saturday is the popular Dwellingup Pumpkin Festival, and the town is very busy at Easter. If you plan to book accommodation locally you will need to do so soon. If there is enough interest, some day excursions may be organised to tourist areas of interest in a mini bus.

As WA is physically isolated there are some specific requirements for livestock and feed coming into the state to stop the inadvertent introduction of pests, weeds and diseases. Horses travelling to compete must be liver fluke drenched and faecal tested by a vet before travelling into WA and may require treatment for cattle tick. Feed cannot be imported past the quarantine station at Kalgoorlie. However, WA certified feed can be ordered ahead for both Kalgoorlie and Dwellingup.

Contact Sandy Elliot with any questions on 0417 982 545. Remember, it is no further to take your horses to WA than it is for the WA drivers to bring their horses over to the eastern states to compete! See also <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-movement-identification/importing-equines-western-australia> or contact the entry inspection point at Kalgoorlie ph 0417 957 234.

Remember, your State CDE Convenors are there to help you and contact details are at the rear end of the journal.

Looking forward to the coming CDE season. Happy driving.

Karen Rogers
Federal CDE Convenor
fedcdeconvenor@gmail.com

HISTORICAL

Michael MacDonald Federal Historical Convenor

SYDNEY TWO-WHEELED MILK CARTS

PRIOR TO 1954 Sydney's metropolitan area was serviced with bulk milk delivered by horse-drawn cart. The milk was contained in tanks completely covered at the rear. A box or sometimes two boxes was on the top of the cart above the taps.

The measures used were of tin plated steel with a lid that was operated by the thumb on a lever attached to the hinged lid. The sizes used were 2 quart, 1 quart, 1 pint and ½ pint.

The householder left a billycan or a jug out to collect the milk.

The tanks were made in the sizes required by the milkman, from 10 gallons capacity up to 20 gallons. The average cart would only take two 20 gallon tanks.

In the days before milk runs were zoned in 1942 (as a war-time measure to conserve man power) milkmen would perhaps only have a few customers in most streets of the town. It was common to see four or five milkmen serving in the same street at the same time.

Most people wanted their milk delivered for breakfast as refrigerators in homes was practically unknown until the late 1940s. Some people did have the old ice chest for perishable foods but certainly not all. The milkman's main aim each morning was to meet the 7am deadline. To help achieve this the milkman used horses that were staunch and active, similar to a well bodied trotter. The horses would often cover 10 to 15 miles on the round. These horses were fit and worked as a team with the man on the job. The horse would watch the man as he came out of the house gate and move off to be trotting when the man hit the step and climbed aboard the cart.



The carts used were mostly of the same construction, cart wheels were fairly heavy with iron tyres and mail-patent axles. These would only need heavy oil in the hub-caps every two weeks. Rubber tyres were on Show Carts.

The seat was set on top of the body and was provided with a slatted wooden frame to sit on as this style let the rain go through and did not cause the carter to sit in water.

Harness used was known as a light delivery set with a cab saddle or square saddle, the square saddle was most commonly used. There were no excessive mounts, such as bells on the saddles (bells were only used on heavy dray harness) in Sydney.

To enable the milkman to correctly fill his measures in the dark the cart lamps fitted each side in brackets at rear bottom corners. The lamps were used contrary to normal use with the left hand lamp on the right back corner and the right hand lamp on the left corner. This enabled the side glasses to shine on the taps. This is definitely the way the lamps were fixed but seldom does one see them this way on show carts these days. In days gone by some show carts would have a pair of lamps on the seat as well as a pair at the back of the cart.

Article & photo supplied by Michael MacDonald
and attributed to David Jones.

Driving clinic at Alice Springs NT

THE WORD was sent out, we need another clinic at Alice Springs! For several years, I have had the pleasure to Judge and help the local drivers in Alice Springs. It is a small but enthusiastic group of drivers who really did need some instruction on correct fit of harness, and 'the reasons why' the first time I was there.

We have come a long way from those days, indeed Jacquie Lines brought her horse *Coniston Izzi* all the way to the State Championships in Victoria to compete. Because Izzi was inexperienced and it was Jacquie's first event, we decided to swap horses, putting Jacquie behind my experienced pony *Roblea Coppelia*. Jacquie came second in the Dressage but unfortunately missed a gate on the marathon.

Jacquie also took a new Coyaltix carriage and a small sulky back to Alice Springs with the hope that more people in Alice would take up our sport. Since then Jacquie has been working with drivers in the area and they are doing really well. She felt that a clinic was required, and sent me a request.

With assistance from the ACDS I arrived in Alice Springs, and took the first lesson that afternoon. Melinda Griffiths, drove a lovely mini horse named *Saphire Park Buckin Awsome*. We worked on contact, correct bend and how to drive a serpentine correctly. Great excitement when the correct bend and serpentine was achieved!

Melinda, after having two lessons on my arrival had to leave town before the clinic. So she loaned me her pony to drive at the Alice Springs Show. The next lesson with Brigid Gregory was postponed due to the pony not being well.

The Clinic on Sunday was well received, with lots of laughs and lots of learning. Again by request we worked on serpentines, corners and 20/40 metre circles. I took the opportunity to drive the beautiful *Coniston Izzi*, doing some dressage and then a few nice figures of eight around a bush and a drum at the canter. He didn't miss a beat changing legs in a beautiful balanced rhythm, giving my groom Alice Bird a thrill, and hopefully sucking her into the Sport of Carriage Driving!

We spent the week getting together to prepare for the Alice Springs Show, washing trimming and practising. Learning what to wear, how to salute the judge etc. Up early on show day, preparing and loading two floats and a trailer load of carriages! Melinda Griffiths had loaned me her pony and carriage, ute, and float so I could get to the show.

There had been scratchings, due to a sick pony and other issues, which was very disappointing. But the show must go on and it did, with two of us competing in the Harness, Jacquie Lines driving *Coniston Izzi*, and myself driving the great little Mini horse *Sapphire Park Buckin Awsome*. The judge was a hack judge, and had read every-

Harness competitors at Alice Springs Show with Judge Helen Whittle; Jacquie Lines with Coniston Izzi (L) and Margie Bowen driving Sovereign Park Buckin Awsome (R). Photo by Jasmine Anderson.

thing she could about judging Harness and she did a great job. It was a hard job for her, because there were two good animals and drivers, but totally different in paces, and attitude, and size being eight hands and 14.2 hands. *Bucky* worked his little heart out, showing great impulsion and didn't miss a beat and won overall Champion Horse or Pony in Harness. *Coniston Izzi* won Reserve Champion Horse or Pony.

Sunday afternoon I gave a driving lesson to a lady I've been trying to 'catch' for three years, Fiona Whan. Last time I saw Fiona, I was judging, and couldn't advise her at the time. Fiona achieved a lot driving Izzi and learning contact, and what the horse can do, going from walk, collected trot, working trot and extended trot without losing rhythm, or balance. *Izzi* is a fabulous horse to teach with, because his reaction is instant, and shows the driver how, and what they can achieve. Fiona said she felt empowered after the lesson, so I think her horse has a lot to look forward to!

Next day I was called to help fit new harness for the RDA. A beautiful Percheron mare that used to work in Melbourne CBD was the lucky equine to receive the harness. Alice Bird works for the RDA as a harness coach, but asked me to check the fit, which was quite good.

Alice came to the Sunday Clinic, and drove little *Bucky*. She then climbed up to back step for me driving *Izzi* around some obstacles. Afterwards I gave her the longreins behind a future harness horse belonging to Brigid Gregory. Alice is very in tune with the concept of driving, and managed the horse very well. During the week Alice came out and had a lesson with *Izzi* learning soft contact, and forward movement within the frame. The lesson went very well and Alice is very enthusiastic to learn more. Hopefully I'll see her down here for the school holidays at Christmas time.

Fiona Whan after her lesson driving Coniston Izzi. Photo: Margie Bowen.



Above: 'Bucky' driven by Melinda Griffith, Roxy driven by Bridgid Gregory and Jacqui Lines driving Coniston Izzi. Photo: Penny Todd, Below: Melinda Griffiths driving Sovereign Park Buckin Awsome. Photo by Jacquie Lines & Alice Bird.



After landing in Melbourne and sitting in a bus heading home, I truly believe the trip was needed and well worth it. We have two new members and two potential members, all joining the Goyder Plains Club South Australia. If there is enough interest a small club may start in Alice Springs.

Thank you to all involved in my trip to Alice Springs.

Margie Bowen

Mike Thill Darwin Clinic

IT ALL STARTED WITH A DREAM which quickly became a goal 17 years ago, and that was to drive a horse and carriage. This wasn't such an easy quest, as at the time, I lived in Darwin, which is a challenge for horse enthusiasts full stop, let alone the requirements needed for a harness horse, due to the remoteness and the weather conditions.

At that time I was lucky enough to meet Mike Thill, who kindly came to Darwin and judged at the Fred's Pass Rural Show. It was at this show that I was incredibly lucky to take out grand Champion after six months of self coaching and one professional lesson.

After leaving Darwin three years ago and winding up in New South Wales, my passion was renewed for harness driving, and having been away from it for some time, I needed some help finding the right pony. Mike Thill came to mind, and *Ember*, my registered Shetland and I have now come together as a team.

After closing a business and selling a house in NSW, we decided to spend six or seven months with our military son and family in Darwin, for their last year. We packed up the animals, their gear and our clothes and headed to Darwin for yet another adventure.

Even though the break between my initial harness experience and this trip was 17 years, I found an old friend who had also missed her harness days and was inspired to buy a new pony and get stuck into it again.

My intention this time round was to join a club and spend whatever time and money I had on enjoying the sport. My husband and I did extensive research and discovered the Tamworth Regional Horse Drawn Club, and, after speaking to the secretary Liz O'Brien, we decided that Manilla would be the town for us, 25 minutes out of Tamworth, when we returned from Darwin.

Meanwhile the need and craving for lessons was overwhelming, so I decided to ask Mike Thill to journey to Darwin and bring the love of harness driving to the Top End once again!

As soon as I told Liz, she pulled out all stops and looked into how the Tamworth Club could help. I had recently become a member, and I was overwhelmed with the instant reaction. Before I knew it, Tamworth was offering to host the event, and the ACDS was waiving fees and offering a grant to assist with the costs involved with bringing Mike to such a remote locality.

I got stuck into the event coordination and very soon we had ten students looking forward to ten days of harness excitement!

We had beginners who didn't have a pony or a vehicle, so I lent my pony *Ember*, so they could enjoy the experience. Mike also taught long reining, which had at least three students totally in awe of their newfound skills!

All in all it was a fabulous experience for local Northern Territory people, and a great way to start my membership off and running with the Tamworth Club. I look forward to helping in any way I can when we arrive in Manilla in August.

There are photos and video interviews on the Tamworth Regional Horse Drawn Club face book page and website www.trhdc.webs.com

Yvonne Furner



Above: Mike Thill teaching the art of long reining to Melanie Brenton. Below: Carolyn Dennis TRHDC's newest member reaping the benefits of having an instructor like Mike Thill to help them fine tune her driving skills.



Below: Robyn Purtill having her very first driving lesson and loving it. Photos: Yvonne Furner.



CLUB NEWS from NEW SOUTH WALES



Bungendore Graded Dressage Day, special test for junior drivers: left: Junior driver Harry McIntyre, with his father Byron, driving Pumpkin. Right: Junior driver Zoe Collier, with her mother Jenny alongside, driving Dalpura Parasol. Photos: D Willcoxson.

Bungendore Carriage Driving Society

BUNGENDORE CLUB held a Graded Dressage Day earlier this year and a special test was used for our two junior drivers, Harry McIntyre (9) and Zoe Collier (10). Each youngster was accompanied by a parent, holding a second set of reins. The club is holding another Graded Dressage Day in early August and Harry and Zoe will be joined by yet another junior, Bailey Jane Hass (8) in the junior driver class. Club members are looking forward to mentoring our juniors, as well as our more senior newcomer drivers.

Dot Willcoxson

Tamworth Regional Horse Drawn Club

Mike Thill Carriage Driving Clinic in Darwin

WHO SAID Darwin was too far away for us to run an event? All we needed were willing people to do the hard yards, and before we knew it, a great driving school was on the agenda. See report elsewhere by new Tamworth Club member Yvonne Furner, soon to be resident of Manilla, and the event coordinator of the Mike Thill Clinic in Darwin.

There are photos and video interviews on the Tamworth Regional Horse Drawn Club face book page and website www.trhdc.webs.com

The Club's June rally day was well attended with eager drivers wanting to learn what this Indoor/Outdoor Series was all about. Under the guidance of Marg Neely, Liz O'Brien and Michelle Major everyone had the opportunity to drive the Precision and Paces test, negotiate the cones course and tackle the obstacle arena. All were then looking forward to the upcoming Series Qualifier.

For the Indoor/Outdoor Qualifier weekend later in June, competitors came from Queensland and the NSW North Coast, Central Coast and Hunter Valley, as well as closer to home. They included three junior drivers, all of whom qualified for the Finals. It was a great success, thanks to the support of drivers, judges, stewards, helpers and grooms.

July 1 saw a good roll up attending the club's

show driving clinic at Attunga. Sandy Hunter was the presenter. Sandy has an extensive knowledge of both heavy and light harness show driving, and has many Royal wins to her credit. An array of her driving apparel was displayed and explained by Sandy to give participants a good idea of what is expected in the show ring, before the group moved outside to harness up for some practical instruction.

Sandy then helped the drivers with how to get the best from their horses and ponies. Amongst the group were five young horses, and they all showed they have great potential in the show ring. They behaved beautifully and were a credit to their trainers and drivers.

Coming up on the Tamworth Club calendar are the annual Gymkhana at Attunga at the start of August, with the northern NSW Indoor/Outdoor Series Final at Moonbi on August 19 and the Harness Boot Camp at Tamworth Pony Club grounds on September 22/23 2018. There has been a huge amount of interest in the Boot Camp and numbers may have to be limited. For further information see the Tamworth Regional Horse Drawn Club website (www.trhdc.webs.com) or contact Liz O'Brien on 0427 766 726 or trhdc.secretary@gmail.com

Liz O'Brien

Temora Carriage Club

SHARON BEATTIE hosted a Girl Guide Scamp at her farm on the first weekend in June. As a special treat Sharon gave everyone a ride in her sully. There were six girls and three leaders, and each had a round trip of a kilometre along Sharon's driveway.

Currently Sharon has two teenage girls from Temora High School, who are experienced riders, coming to her place to learn about driving. They have been riding an ex-trotter mare that Club President Harry Hol gave to Sharon, and are keen to put her back into harness, once they become junior members.

The club will be running harness classes at the Temora Show on Saturday 22nd September 2018, with a wide variety of classes on offer. The

classes will start after lunch. Saddleworld Wagga Wagga has donated \$25 gift vouchers for the Champion Harness Exhibit and for the Concourse d'Elegance award. Drivers are invited to camp at Sharon Beattie's farm on the Saturday night and go for a pleasure drive on the Sunday.

Camden Harness Club

CAMDEN CLUB MEMBERS Lou Lyons, Greg McDonald, Charlotte Hyles and Sally Crowell drive regularly midweek in Camden's Bicentennial Equestrian Park, whilst they are joined from time to time by fellow members Carol Fitzpatrick, Sue Wright and Maxine Saliba, and Faye Cairncross from the Southern Highlands Club. A popular place to visit on the drives is the water in one of the ridden eventing obstacles. It is very good for building horses' confidence going through water.

On Sunday July 1, the Club had a drive at historic Camden Park estate, where Australian wool pioneers the Macarthur family first ran their merinos. Those who drove included Lou Lyons accompanied by Suzi Hodge, Carol Fitzpatrick with Charlotte Hyles grooming, Carolyn Kinleyside, Annette Campbell, Greg McDonald with Lew McDonnell, Faye Cairncross, and Hills Club members Vicki Connelly and Max Ridge. Jeanna Kinleyside rode her horse. Roger Kinleyside stayed back at camp keeping an eye on things. With eight drivers and one rider, it was a great turn up. The group traversed the roads within Camden Park estate, as well as the roads in the neighbouring Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute. Lots of cattle and kangaroos were encountered along the way. Approaching one of the gates, Lou rounded up the cattle with trusty steed *Gumpy* in the four wheeler, and moved them away so that the group could get through the gate. Lew McDonnell commented that it was the first time he had seen cattle being put together and moved along by a horse and vehicle.

Once back at camp, everyone unharnessed and attended to their horses before sitting down to enjoy lunch and admire the view of the stately Camden Park House.



At the Indoor/Outdoor Qualifier at Moonbi: Above left: Karl Olsson with his niece Fiona, driving Soho Eros. Above right: Liz O'Brien with groom her granddaughter Keira, driving Bundy Bear and Prince Rebel. Below: Junior drivers Lucy French with Kristy French, Tully Naylor with Heidi Naylor, and Keira O'Brien with Margaret Neely. Photos: K O'Brien.



On the Camden Park Drive: Below left: Lou Lyons leading the way through cattle. Below right: Carol Fitzpatrick with her pair. Photos: L Lyons.



The Henry Lawson Heritage Drive

ANOTHER HENRY LAWSON DRIVE is over, or 'down the hatch' as Henry might have said! The drive was from 2-9 June 2018, from Tooraweenah to Gulgong.

Great driving this year with no rain until the last day, although we sure wouldn't have minded, seeing as we haven't had nearly as much rain as we need. It was great to see Dave and Craig Cockcroft, and Sharon and Jim Shirlaw all of whom travelled a long way to be on this trip. Dave came from Victoria, Craig from Kempsey and Sharon and Jim from Queensland.

Peg Upton was ever reliable as the rear escort again, with the only trouble being an almost lost wheel! Once again there were no complaints about the cooking, although I am sure there were some partners who might have been hard to please! We had two paid meals along the way, one at Tooraweenah and one at Mendooran. It was good to see the people of these towns pleased to help us out and see us return, with proceeds helping maintain their showgrounds.

We had some good fires at Tooraweenah Showground and in a bush camp at Mendooran, with everyone gathered around in a big group telling stories. We also camped at Dunedoo Polocrosse Ground, made possible through the work of Wazza (Warwick Leeson) who fixed burst water pipes so that showers could be had. Some went to the pub for meals and to watch the State of Origin. Jim from Queensland chose not to go. Perhaps he knew what the result might be! Dave from Victoria could not get his head around the rules. In Aussie Rules you can dribble the ball and still score!

From Dunedoo we travelled along Railway Line Rd to Birriwa for lunch. Then we stopped for a bush camp on 'Birriwa' (Stuart Bowman's property). Next day we moved on to Robbies Nest (Robby and Vicki Bennett's) for lunch, before arriving at the Gulgong Showground in the afternoon.

It was a great six days on the road and the horses all went well. The 10 o'clock starts made it very easy for everyone to get all packed up each day and ready to move on. Next year, some things may be different depending on what the police and some of the councils allow us to do. We will discuss this at our meeting August.

As a very sad footnote, we must say Vale to our mate Robert Allport, who has recently passed away. Robert drove on the Henry Lawson Drive for many years.

John Hetherington

THE LADIES DRIVE AT SPRING RIDGE 2018

THE LIVERPOOL RANGE Club Ladies Drive was held from 15 to 20 May 2018 for its second year.

There was a great turnout with 28 sulkies and 36 ladies attending. The group comprised members from eleven different ACDS clubs.

Participants travelled from as far north as the Gold Coast and as far south as Wagga Wagga. Some ladies travelled in groups and pairs and many brave ladies made the trip alone. Making a long trip alone with your horse in tow, driving through country you have never travelled before

to meet up with a group of total strangers could be a daunting task for some, but we were thrilled that many ladies did just that to attend this year.

After all, this is just what the Ladies Drive is about - building confidence and friendships, learning, laughing and crying, and helping each other out. Mixing so many unknown personalities coupled with nerves could have been a disaster but once again this year's group bonded well and a great time was had by all. Many requests were made to both Vicki and myself to run the event twice a year (sorry ladies NO, lol) and a lot of requests and even good natured bribes were offered to gain a place in next year's event.

Two daily drives were held, each between 10 - 15km, and a 25km Champagne Luncheon drive was held on the third day. These provided lots of driving for everyone. We did 110km all up for the ladies that participated in every drive. All drives were conducted at walking pace (6 - 8kph). It was a challenge to keep 16hh horses and 9.2hh ponies all travelling together, but somehow it all worked, and many stories were exchanged and songs were sung as we travelled the beautiful Liverpool Plains in our horsedrawn convoy. Grooms were swapped around daily so everyone who wished had a mate for the day. Those who just wanted to chill out and drive alone were given the space to do so as well. Nervous drivers were given L plates to display on their sulkies and their space was respected. However, a watchful eye was kept out by all and help was always close by if needed. A few personal milestones were achieved and congratulations and encouragement were the height of each night's campfire talk.

Many times we were photographed and admired from the very courteous passing traffic, with the occasional trucks slowing right down to an idle and the local farmers waving wildly as they passed by.

Nights were passed around the campfire. A few had coffee and a few had wine but all had lots of laughs, with some hidden talents emerging on the karaoke night. Friendship parcel pass was played with most ladies getting a small gift or memento to take home.

Interesting and informative talks and demonstrations were held each day at lunchtime and many thanks must go to Ailsa Adams for her willy washing demo, Heidi Naylor for her helmet talk and basic English clarification of some ACDS and insurance rules. Many ladies are now feeling confident about purchasing and wearing a compliant helmet, but I'm unsure how many will attempt sheath cleaning ... Thanks also to Joel Bassett from Sydney Carriage and Harness Supplies for demonstrating and fitting harness. Joel offered a generous discount to all attending ladies and there will be many horses sporting shiny new harness getting about shortly!

Carol Ryan of Horzesinstitches, donated three lovely harness pads which were given out as prizes at the final dinner and a quite a few were ordered from Carol as well. Thanks must also be given to Carol for sourcing our pink shirts and staying up late many nights to embroider them all in time for the drive.

Thanks also to those who catered, drove escort

vehicles and just helped out around camp. You made Vicki Donnelly's and my jobs a little easier, and are all appreciated.

We will be holding the Ladies Drive again next year and look forward to some new and some familiar faces joining us again.

Vicki and I would love to see other ACDS clubs follow this format and hold Ladies Drives. We are happy to provide information, guidance and help to any club thinking about it. Please contact us. It's fun and rewarding. This is our sport and we all need to promote and encourage new drivers to help it grow.

Christine O'Rourke

Hunter Horse Driving Society

THE STROUD SAFARI was held at the club's regular rally day in May. There was a great turnout of drivers, with eight horse, driver and groom combinations heading out across a pre-marked course to spot the hidden animals along the way. The horses were all beautifully behaved. Evelyn Roberts was warmly welcomed, along with her pony *Spike*, for their first outing with the club.

The first animal on course turned out to be the most elusive of all. It was a fluorescent orange snake, entwined around a fluorescent orange cone. A tricky hiding place, in retrospect! Some drivers reported that their horses shied at that particular cone - perhaps the equines did spot the snake, even if the drivers didn't! A bonus animal was hidden out on course, a teeny koala concealed on a branch, metres off the track. Joy Hawkins was the only person to spot this critter and was duly rewarded with it, as her prize for having eagle eyes.



Evelyn Roberts driving Spike, with groom Helen Murrell, at the Stroud Safari. Photo: J Cook.

Helen Huckerby driving *Ruby* won the overall champion of the Safari by a whisker (animal pun intended), with Kylie Dos Remedios and *Banjo* and Rosemary Laing and groom Faye Barnes with *Tinker*, hot on her tail.

No animals were harmed in the wrangling for the Safari, except for the inflatable giraffe who sustained some life threatening puncture marks from a tree branch.

Many thanks to Michael Dos Remedios whose assistance with time keeping was much appreciated, and thanks to Kevin Fayth for cooking everyone a delicious lunch.

Continued on page 27

PLEASURE & ENDURANCE Peter Honeyman Federal Pleasure & Endurance Convenor

THE LADIES DRIVE was another huge success. Held from 16th to 20th May, in its second year, proved very popular with the Girls. 28 sulkies and 36 women attended and eleven clubs were represented. The drive was designed to build confidence and help lady drivers, it is the brain child of Vicki Donnelly and Christine O'Rourke from the Liverpool Range Harness Club NSW. Well done Girls!

The 18th annual Henry Lawson Drive, held by the Gulgong Heritage Harness Club NSW, was held from Toraweenah to Gulgong on the 2nd to 9th June, covering 194kms over the week, with nine sulkies on the drive including David Cockcroft from Victoria and Jim and Sharon Shirlaw from Kingaroy, Queensland. My wife and I attended and had a fantastic time again, being our seventh Lawson Drive. This is the longest running drive in Australia, 18 years, originally held over two weeks with cook's van, feed and water truck, portable loos, generator and 40 entries, give or take a couple each year. A huge feat and an incredible experience. It alternated between Gulgong and Grenfell each year for the Henry Lawson Festival. Due to declining numbers and the logistical problems etc, the last three years have been one-week drives and next year they may try two camps and loop drives, the same as Liverpool Range Harness Club Charity Drive.

This will be the next big drive for the year being held at Werris Creek and Quirindi from 15th to 23rd September 2018. Loop drives will be done each day from 18 to 35kms, with a 29km move from Werris Creek to Quirindi on Wednesday 19th. This is the ninth year being held with an average of 30 horse drawn vehicles each year and a great time assured. This year will bring



money raised for The Royal Far West Children's Scheme to over \$ 100,000, a remarkable effort for a small ACDS Club, getting good publicity on TV, newspapers and radio, promoting carriage driving and the ACDS over the nine years.

It has been very good to see Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland Clubs holding Pleasure drives. I need Convenors from each State to try and push clubs to hold at least one drive a year. It's not hard and members would enjoy it as a change from competition. Pleasure and Endurance is a Discipline also in it's own right, with over 75% of the membership of the ACDS. The Society needs a Convenor for Victoria, and for South Australia. This would then cover each State.

As I write this report from Gawler, South Australia, about to attend the ACDS Conference and AGM at Hahndorf, I am looking forward to meeting new and old members I have not seen for some time and promoting Pleasure and Endurance driving in this great country of ours, Australia.

Peter Honeyman Federal Convenor

Henry Lawson Heritage Drive group. Photo: P Honeyman



Top: Enthusiastic Ladies Drive participants. Above: Some of the turnouts on the Ladies Drive at Spring Ridge. Photos: C O'Rourke. Below: Wide open spaces on the Henry Lawson Heritage Drive. Photo: P Honeyman.



Margaret Kiem and her pony at the Central Coast Club rally. Photo: M Grant.





Above: Jo Dorman driving Yarra Heights Little Bee with Emily and Max in the Dorman Family's beautiful governess cart, which took out 1st place in the Traditional Class.



Above: Chuckie Radnedge with Hudson Gucci and Hudson Vamoose in front of the Mayfield Garden Obelisk Lake.



Above: Thelma Nichols and Tinjarra the Magician sporting the first place ribbon for Pleasure / CDE Turnout.



Mayfield Garden Park Drive

Photos courtesy of Linda Mace

THE ELLMORE DRIVING CLUB hosted a Park Drive in mid-April at the remarkable Mayfield Garden, near Oberon NSW.

Mayfield has been inspired by the great gardens of Europe. Owned by the Hawkins family, Mayfield Garden and The Hawkins' Family Garden together cover more than 64 hectares (160 acres), making it one of the largest privately owned cool climate gardens in the world.

Club Member Heidi Stevens put the hard work into organising a Park Drive in this unique venue and for a first outing it proved very successful. We are fortunate that Mayfield is also developing an equestrian events venue adjacent to the garden, and we were one of the first groups to make use of this facility.

Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us with strong, cold winds on the day, however competitors were remarkably resilient and we were treated to a fine display of horses and carriages not often seen at the one venue; everything from a Private Drag and a George IV Phaeton, both drawn by teams of four, to small pony turnouts kitted out for a picnic drive.

The first class of the day was a static vehicle display and the range of vehicles on show presented a definite challenge for Judge Richard Bentley. Ultimately the class was taken out by a Private Drag owned by Byron and Leah McIntyre, from the Blakeley Family's George IV Phaeton, and third place to a Sydney Brass Sulky owned by the Dwyer Family.

The Park Drive concept requires participants to complete a short workout before the judge, then undertake a drive through the 'park' – in this case a 4km drive around the edge of Mayfield Garden, to return once more to the judging area, thus combining both a show class with an element of fitness and an opportunity to present turnouts to the general public visiting the garden.

The Traditional Class was hotly contested, again with a wide variety of turnouts before Judge Marjory Stuart-Smith; The Dorman Family's Yarra Heights Little Bee to a beautiful Governess Cart took out the class, from the McIntyre Family's team of four to a Private Drag, and Penny Jacobs driving Rocky in a restored spyder sulky in third place.

In the Pleasure / CDE Turnout Class strong competition saw Thelma Nichols driving Tinjarra The Magician take out first place, from Amy Woodfield and Midnight Secret in second, and Cazzie Hedge with Talgarth Pacific Princess taking third.

Class winners were presented with unique handmade trophies, along with beautiful ribbons to all placegetters donated by Heidi Stevens and Lyn Callaghan. Best Four In Hand award went to the McIntyre Family team, Lady Driver pamper-packs to Carolyn Blakeley and Debbie Dowling, and the Shetland Society of Australia prize for best Shetland was awarded to the Blakeley Family team of four.

The Club is very grateful to the Hawkins Family and Staff at Mayfield Garden for allowing us access to their amazing property; to the NSW Branch of the ACDS for its support of the event; and to our sponsors Freightmaster Transport, Scribblegum Design & Print, Edinburgh Horse Rugs, Springmead Farmyard Saddlery and Bathurst Tack Box. Thank you also to all the competitors who made such an effort to present themselves to a very high standard.

At left: Debbie Dowling with Blue Valley Dressed to Impress. Photo: Linda Mace.



Above: Byron & Leah McIntyre's Private Drag on the return stage of the drive, awarded 2nd place in the Traditional Class. Below left: Tess Smith and Koriana Absolute Star. Below centre: Amy Woodfield and Midnight Secret took out 2nd in the Pleasure / CDE Turnout.



Above right: Carolyn Blakeley and the Blakeley Family Shetland team drawing a George IV Phaeton. Below left: Jen and Sophie Brennan with Fairlight Acres Mason. Below right: Penny Jacobs and Judy Dwyer with Rocky.



New South Wales Show Driving Championships



Above: Melisa Bensley driving Cherry Farm Alarick, Supreme Champion Horse or Pony. Below: Carolyn Blakeley driving Southern Cross Nickolas, Champion Turnout.

ON SUNDAY 6th May 2018 the Southern Highlands Club hosted the New South Wales Show Driving Championships at their home ground at Bundanoon. The always dubious weather did the club proud this time, with the most perfect day anyone could wish for.

Much behind the scenes activity was carried out beforehand. The grounds were a picture, flags and banners fluttered, entries and scoresheets were sorted, ribbons, prizes and trophies were laid out, the rings were marked out, and food and beverages prepared. Many thanks to John and Yvonne Woods and their helpers for all the preparation.

Stewards were Elva Macpherson, Tracey Ellis and Amy Woodhouse. The announcer was Nola Robertson and the very efficient judges were Wendy Ragg and Amanda Proctor. Sue and Dave Plath helped out everywhere, and Lorraine Wharton and Yvonne Wood were in charge of the kitchen.

Non hackney horses and ponies, hackneys, Standardbreds and heavy horses all featured. Some were woolly, some had a half clip and others from warmer climes were still glossy.

Photos: Rodney's Photography,



Above centre: Winner of the Gentleman Driver class, Peter Dunn driving Nanardine Danny Boy, receiving his award from the judge Amanda Proctor. Below left: Jen Brennan driving Fairlight Acres Mason. Below right: Linda Ongley and Kath Cole with Avanti, Champion Pleasure Horse or Pony.



New South Wales Show Driving Championships

The Supreme Champion was the beautiful Hackney stallion *Cherry Farm Alarick*, driven by Melisa Bensley. This combination also won the Concours d'Elegance trophy.

The Champions were: Turnout: C Blakeley's *Southern Cross Nickolas*; Non Hackney Pony ne 10.2hh: K Brammall's *Mirabella Lady Lass*; NH Pony o10.2hh: J Bensley's *Stillbrook Bellbird*; Standardbred: A Blakeley's *Flemington Benny*; Non Hackney Horse: K Feddersen's *Shepherds Hills Yowie*; Hackney Horse: M Bensley's *Cherry Farm Alarick*; Delivery Horse: C Blakeley's *Southern Cross Nickolas*; Pleasure Horse or Pony: L Ongley's *Avanti*; Driver: K Brammall. The Best Dressed Handler award went to Steve Brammall.

The 'most fun' class was the Drive and Ride as the finale to the show. Tracey Ellis and Amy Woodhouse dashed back to Tracey's place to harness up their ponies and return to take part. They came first and third! By then the shadows were lengthening and the air cooling down, on what had been a very enjoyable day.

Faye Cairncross



Above: Kirsten Feddersen with *Shepherds Hill Yowie*, the Champion Non Hackney Horse. Below: Champion Driver, Kathy Brammall, with *Mirabella Lady Lass*, Champion Pony ne10.2hh.



Below left: Tracey Ellis with *Louie*, winner of the Drive and Ride. Below right: Junior driver Jeanna Kinleyside, with her mother Carolyn as groom, receiving the Reserve Champion Driver sash from judge Amanda Proctor.



2018 Classic SHOW DRIVING Championships Western Australia

Photos: Horseplay

*Photos: Top down:
Donna Reader & One More Smile;
Natalie Morris driving
London Park Fame;
Liza Doney & Rowallan Precedence;
Sarah Suvaljko & Glen Avon Jackman.*



W E HAD TO POSTPONE this event in April due to horrendous weather (the positive of the day meant that judge Robyn Anderson from Victoria was able to share her vast knowledge with us in an informative showing harness training day). The weather was a lot kinder to us on the second try at this event with a lovely sunny day being perfect conditions and the grounds at the Perth Polo Club were pristine to drive on.

Debbie McCosh stepped in to judge the show and had a good variety of exhibits to choose from.

Grateful thanks to all the helpers on the day that made this show run so smoothly... including Gill Woodstock, Jock Whittington, and Merle Turner.

RESULTS: WAHDS members were high on the list for the major awards: Champion Turnout – London Park Fame / Natalie Morris; Reserve - Glen Avon Jackman / Sarah Suvaljko; Champion Small Pony – Yarraman Top Montana / Di Hunter; Reserve - Glenrowan Precedence / Liza Doney; Champion Large Pony - Glen Avon Jackman / Sarah Suvaljko; Reserve – London Park Fame / Natalie Morris; Champion Horse & Champion OTT – One More Smile / Donna Reader; Reserve & Reserve OTT – Black Cyril / Agatha Prior. Supreme Exhibit - Glen Avon Jackman. Champion Driver – Donna Reader; Reserve – Natalie Morris. Concors D Elegance – One More Smile / Donna Reader.

Queensland State Show Driving Championships Caboolture 2018



Above: Supreme Champion in Harness, Graeme Wass and Kar-Trice Tammara with Judges Cliff Kroesen and Sandy Hunter. Below left: Tracey Bavinton and Welsh Mountain pony Arcadian Patriot, 1st in the Novice Pony. Photos: Debbie Clyne - story on page 34.



Above right: Reserve Champion Whip Michael Lenihan driving Mariposa Tradesman. Below left: Nicole Kimlin and Garwon -Tucker Reserve Champion ne 10.2hh. Below right: Champion Turnout Jan Young and Cwmkaren Welsh Rhapsody with Judge Cliff Kroesen. Photos: Debbie Clyne.



George IV Phaeton



GEORGE IV (George Augustus Frederick; 12 August 1762 - 26 June 1830) was King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and King of Hanover following the death of his father, King George III, on 29 January 1820, until his own death ten years later. From 1811 until his accession, he served as Prince Regent during his father's final mental illness. George IV led an extravagant lifestyle that contributed to the fashions of the Regency era. He was a patron of new forms of leisure, style and taste. He commissioned John Nash to build the Royal Pavilion in Brighton and remodel Buckingham Palace, and Sir Jeffry Wyattville to rebuild Windsor Castle. His charm and culture earned him the title "the first gentleman of England", but his poor relationship with both his father and his wife, Caroline of Brunswick, and his dissolute way of life, earned him the contempt of the people and dimmed the prestige of the monarchy.

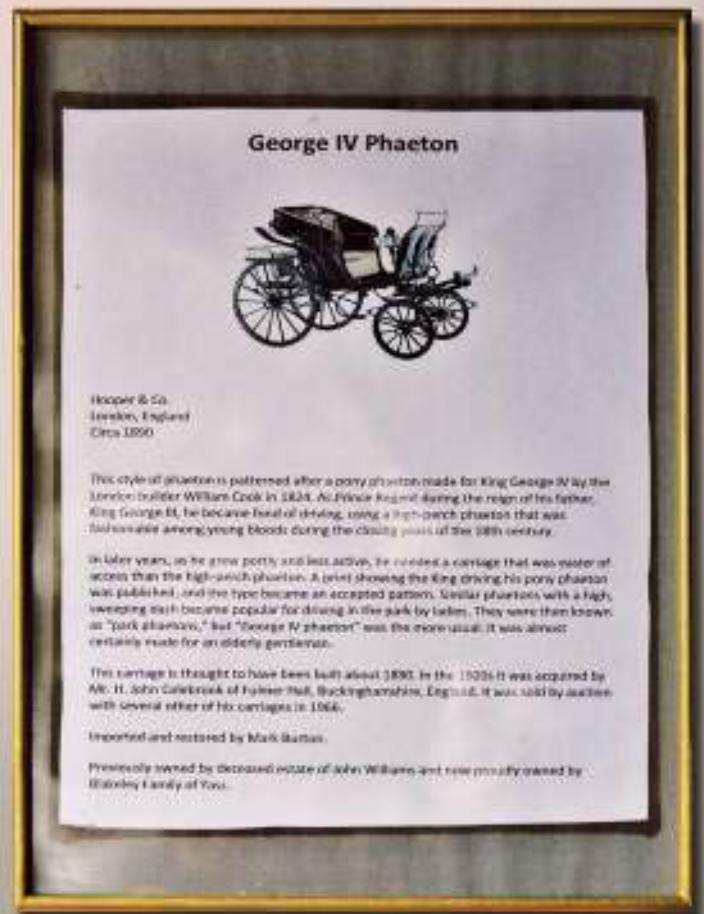
A George IV Phaeton is a low, very elegant, four-wheeled horse-drawn, usually owner-driven carriage. It is easily identified by its low slung elegant design and the enormous, gracefully curved, patent leather dash.

In his latter years King George the Fourth of England became very portly and suffered from gout. He requested a low, easily entered vehicle be constructed that he could drive himself. Thus, the George IV Phaeton was born out of the desire and necessity of the King.

This vehicle, whilst beautiful to see properly turned out, can be tricky to drive. Because of the need to keep the entry low, the front wheels had to be moved far forward of the passenger seat. This moved the horses further away from the driver. Hence the reins for the horses are exceptionally long. It is usually owner driven, however, this type of vehicle can be driven postilion (coachman riding the horses) on formal occasions.

In the mid-nineteenth century, this vehicle was modified by adding a coachman's box (seat) and renamed the Victoria after the then reigning monarch who very much favoured it.

Sources: Wikipedia and www.definition-of.com





Above: June Malmberg with Thomas on a pleasure drive in 2013. Photo: J Muspratt. Below: Lynn Coles with Casper, recounting the animals spotted on the Stroud Safari to Lily Cook. Photo: J Cook.



Joy and Allan Hawkins flew the flag for the Hunter Club at the Liverpool Range Club driving weekend at 'The Dip' near Breeza in April, hosted by Kate Wilson. There were nine sulkies with various sized horses and ponies, and the two drives were 26km on the Saturday and 28km on the Sunday. A very enjoyable time was had by all. This is koala country and an interesting feature that was pointed out on one of the drives was a 'Blinkie drinker' for the koalas and other animals. This consists of a large blue plastic drum of water set several feet off the ground up a suitable tree. It is monitored by cameras to see what animals use it, and is kept topped up by property owner Sam Clift.

On a sad note, June Malmberg recently had to have her lovely big pony Thomas put down, after he sustained a paddock injury. June drove the ever reliable Thomas on many long distance pleasure drives such as the Henry Lawson Drive and Endurance runs at Fifield, as well participating in many club drives and gymkhanas when June was a member of the Hills Club, and later at Hunter Club rallies. June also regularly rode Thomas exploring the hill country surrounding the Putty Valley, where she lives.

Jules Cook

Reedy Creek Equestrian Club

CLUB MEMBER Carolyn Blakeley in her capacity as NSW Show Driving Convenor organised a Show Judges and Drivers School at Gunning Showground in early June, with a crowd of about 25 participants coming for the day. The catering was offered to the Reedy Creek Club. This tested members' skills to multi task but helped club finances along. Club members John Moyes, Kath Cole, Joan McLennan, Jan Murray and Steve Kearns as well as Carolyn and Amanda Blakeley were all there supporting the day.

Joan, Kath, Carolyn and Amanda sat in for the morning talks given by Heidi Stevens, Rick Jones and Richard Bensley on turnouts, harness, and training and conditioning of the show harness horse. It was a morning well spent. In the afternoon, judge candidates had a Practical Exam where they, along with Examiners Janet Muspratt and Trevor Brand, judged performances by four horses and vehicles driven by Amanda and Carolyn Blakeley, Melisa Bensley and Max Pearce. Kath, Joan and Jan watched the proceedings from a good vantage point outside the ring, and enjoyed testing their own judging skills.

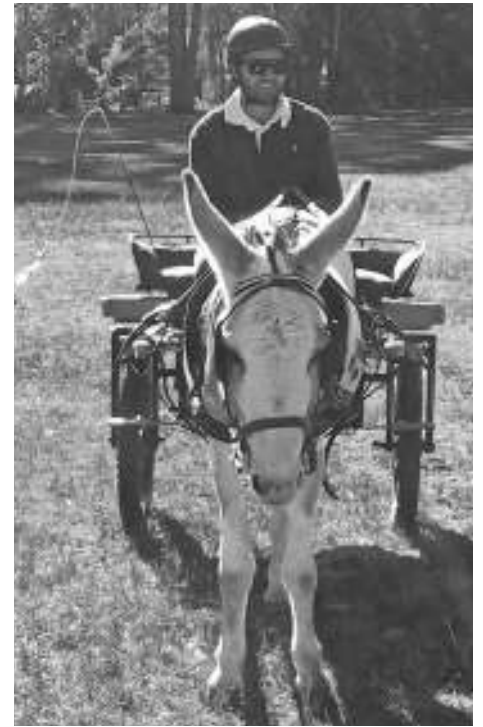
John Moyes and Kath Cole participated in the weekend of back to back Indoor/Outdoor competition run by the Southern Highlands Club at Bundanoon, which gave them a clearer idea of how this type of event is run. This will help them put together their own club unofficial Indoor/Outdoor event in July at the Wallgrove Indoor Arena at Yass. John White will be judging the dressage, with his wife Jennifer pencilling, whilst Sue Plath and Lorraine Wharton have volunteered to come and give assistance wherever it is needed. Offers like this are very much appreciated.

Kath Cole

Central Coast Carriage Driving Club

THE CLUB has had a busy few months. Mary Grant went to the Indoor/Outdoor Qualifier at Moonbi and enjoyed the first time experience of sleeping in the float over three days, as well as the fun of the whole weekend. Lots of questions were answered by the helpful Tamworth Club organisers and everyone had a blast. Mary and her pony Oakey qualified, and the Central Coast Club came first in the club class.

The Club has welcomed a couple of new family members in recent months, and already they are out and about harnessing up and getting involved. Welcome aboard to Hayley and Ryan Blackman and Margaret Kelly and Linda Bagnall. Hayley and Ryan had previously attended several of our events, and now have time to join us with their donkey Pirate. Margaret and Linda came to see what all the fuss was about at one of our rallies, and are now looking for a vehicle to put their beautiful pony in, so they can drive at our next meet. Linda has years of experience on the track and her knowledge with Standardbreds is most welcome.



Ryan Blackman with his donkey Pirate at the Central Coast Club rally. Photo: M Grant.

We had a club day on 17th June 2018. A big number of people attended, with plenty of new faces, drivers and spectators. Thank you to all who came along and helped set up the two arenas, and pack them up again afterwards. It was a beautiful sunny day, but the occasional gusts of polar air meant we had to pack up the arena letters a little early due to them becoming free flying objects. However, the cones remained in place and everyone was able to either practice dressage tests, cones or long reining, or just enjoy driving around the grounds. Noeline Cassettari came along with her little pony and her very creatively designed light carriage. It was great to see this initiative in carriage design. Ryan Blackman and Pirate had a good practice run around the grounds, with Pirate improving all the time. Barbara Smith brought her pony



Above: Margaret Kiem and her pony at the Central Coast Club rally. Photo: M Grant. Below: Mary Grant and Oakey at the Indoor/Outdoor at Moonbi.



Dream out of the paddock, and both performed beautifully, as if they had never had a day off. Karen Pryor long reined her pony *Tommy*, but decided to 'end on a good note' without putting him in the vehicle, due to the fresh conditions. Robert Pankhurst drove his new donkey *Oliver*, who also performed better each trip out. In the club meeting afterwards, many ideas were discussed including a Park Drive, pleasure drives and cones competitions. Plenty of pleasure driving locations were also put forward. The next club day will be a pleasure drive at Wollombi on 2nd September 2018, which will be followed by the AGM. A Kitchener pleasure drive and a Congewai pleasure drive are being organised, with dates still to be finalised. They will be displayed on the club's facebook page.

The Club's annual Cones Competition will be on 28th October 2018. This is a friendly day of driving, with prizes on offer as well as a BBQ in operation. Contact the secretary on central-coastcdc@gmail.com or 0434 584 490 for more information.

Mary Grant

Gulgong Heritage Harness Assoc

On May 11 2018 twelve drivers and supporters arrived at the Carnival Grounds at Ballimore, about 50km east of Dubbo, in very cold and sleety weather. The only thing stopping everyone from packing up and going home there and then, was the threat of damage to vehicles from the huge number of kangaroos on the roads.

The weather still had not improved by the Saturday morning, but things began to get better and by 10am we were able to leave the grounds on our first drive. We reached our lunch stop after travelling 17km through severely drought affected properties. Two mm of rain had settled the dust and made a slightly brighter outlook.

After lunch we returned to Ballimore on the same track. The ladies drove the support vehicle and kept warm opening and closing the ten gates.



Henry Lawson Heritage Drive: Above: Following a farm road. Below: Drivers preparing to start another section of the drive. Photos: Peter Honeyman.



Having so many gates kept the horses together and used to standing waiting for the gate openers. Saturday night saw everybody proceed to the Hair of the Dog Inn for a most enjoyable meal. John and Janet Hetherington joined us there for the meal.

We awoke to a beautiful fine and sunny day on Sunday, and were able to leave at 9.30am for another drive along a quiet country road, over a low level bridge and an empty Talbragar River. We travelled for 10km and returned to the camp for lunch. We only saw three motor vehicles over the entire weekend!

The drivers and supporters were Geoff Skewes, Mark Murphy and Trish and Peter Honeyman from the Liverpool Range Club, and Gulgong members Sam Williams, Vicki and Rob Bennett, Rosemary and Neil Munn and Jo and Le-Roy Trengove.

Le-Roy Trengove

North Coast Carriage Club

SHARON CLARKE came home with many Champions from the Gatton Heavy Horse Field Days in Queensland. One of her horses (*Carbery Estate Hollywood Achiever*) won the Supreme Led Draught Horse and also the Heavy Horse in Harness trophy. Her beautifully matched pair was only narrowly beaten in the pair turnout class.

Rowena Walker

Sharon Clarke with Carbery Estate Hollywood Achiever at the Gatton Heavy Horse Field Days. Photo: Trudy Durda.



Liverpool Range Harness Club

The Charlie Phillips Memorial Drive at Round Hill, Piallaway was held from Friday June 22 to Sunday June 24 2018. Bill Greer, Sam Williams, Geoff Skewes, John McKee and Sharon Wheeler, Donna Grace and Peter and Trish Honeyman arrived on Friday afternoon to set up camp and spend the night around the camp fire. It was another huge log that our host Darcy Richards had organised. His wife Alison was at their property at Singleton, after just getting out of a month's stay in hospital. It is great to know she is on the mend.

On Saturday morning Bill, Sam, Sharon and John and Trish and Peter went for a 10km drive before the club meeting from 11.20 – 12.40. We were joined for it by other members, including our secretary/treasurer. After a productive meeting and a quick lunch, we harnessed up for a 22km drive. Bruce and Vicki Donnelly and Darcy Richards joined the group, making a total of seven sulkies. Another great night followed, spent around the camp fire.

On Sunday morning the drive was 22km, before lunch. Then it was time to pack up and go home. It was good to see Sharon and John attending, all the way from Casino on the NSW North Coast. Rosemary Laing from the Hunter Club was also there, planning the course for the Mini Enduro to be held a couple of weeks later.

Another great time was had at Round Hill. Big thanks to the Richards family for their legendary hospitality.

Murrumbidgee Carriage Driving Club

THE MURRUMBIDGEE CLUB held its first Indoor/Outdoor Series event on 19/20 May 2018 with a double qualifier. Saturday's competition winners were: 1A Single pony 91-121cm: 1st Phil Rosetta, 2nd Tess Smith; 1B Single pony 121- 149cm: 1st Ben Rosetta, 2nd Maaikie Van Dam, 3rd Peter Dunn; 1D Multiple any height: 1st Robyn Schmetzer; 1E new competitor: 1st Nicole Barry. It was interesting to see that all placings were exactly the same in the Sunday competition, so everyone was very consistent. Special thanks must go to Rob and Anne Robertson and Garry Harris who kindly came to judge our event.

Nicole Barry and Robyn and Ian Schmetzer joined the Canberra Club on their pleasure drive held on June 2. We met on the Old Jindalee Road near Cootamundra and drove about 8km to the Wallendbeen Hotel, where we had a beautiful hot lunch. The weather was perfect and the food and company was fantastic. After lunch, drivers went on guided tour around the old fashioned village. We are looking forward to the next Canberra Club pleasure drive.

The Murrumbidgee Club will be hosting the first of the Spring CDEs in NSW, with its Level 3 event to be held on September 15/16 2018. All classes will be catered for. There is a change in the sponsorship this year, although the prize is similar to last year. All competitors will go into a draw to win a week's accommodation and boat hire at the beautiful Amaroo Resort at Sussex inlet worth \$2000. For further information contact Kerrie Rosetta on 0428 414 518 or rosymoon@bigpond.com

Robyn Schmetzer

Goulburn District Horse Drawn Vehicle Society

THE GOULBURN CLUB and indeed the whole ACDS community lost a wonderful stalwart of the pleasure and endurance driving world when Robert Allport died in early July, after battling illness over the last year. Robert liked nothing more than driving standardbreds and camping out on long pleasure drives and taking on the challenge of long distance endurance events. He also went to great lengths to encourage junior drivers to take up endurance driving, as well as promoting pleasure and endurance driving in the ACDS to all members. He will be sorely missed.

Peter Honeyman

Southern Highlands Carriage Club

CLUB ACTIVITIES for June included another coaching clinic of four days with Phil Marshall, from June 8 – 11. Thirty eight lessons were run and the clinic was fully booked out. The next event with Phil will be in August, with costs of \$75 per lesson and \$3 a night for camping.

Southern Highlands hosted two qualifying rounds for the Indoor/Outdoor Series on June 23/24 2018. Camping in the ice took some doing, but lovely hot soup from the canteen, hot showers, hot water bottles and ski gear for the humans and at least three rugs each for the equines made it bearable.

It turned out to be good fun. The small arena was tight for the larger ponies and horses, with one brave driver trying it with a Friesian pair. A speed cones competition filled out the program, with the first cones course being scored as nearest to a set time.

Those who qualified can compete in the Southern Finals at Cootamundra or the Northern Finals at Moonbi in August. Another qualifying round will be held the day before the Finals, for those who need it.



Robert Allport on the Liverpool Range Club Charity Drive in 2013. Photo: P Fitzpatrick.

Members enjoying lunch at the historic Wallendbeen Hotel during the Canberra Club Pleasure drive. Photo: R Schmetzer.



Winners of the classes were: Small Pony: Jane Keevers (both rounds), Large Pony: Tamara Abed (both rounds), Horse: Col Ffrost (2nd round only), Multiples: Martyn Minns (1st round only). First time competitor: Nikki Flynn (both rounds). The Speed Cones were won on both days by Jane Keevers.

Bram Chardon will be visiting the club early in October for another session of coaching, and to help with the cost of airfares the club is running a raffle at \$5 per ticket for a lovely canvas print of a horse's head, donated by Scribblegum Printing. Tickets are available from Yvonne Wood (ph 0497 603 424).

After the club's President's Lunch at the end of July we will be busy preparing for our weekend event on September 23/24, with Graded Dressage and Cones on the Saturday and a Mini CDE Teams Challenge on the Sunday. Here's hoping for warmer nights by then!

Faye Cairncross

Hills District Harness Club

TOWARDS THE END OF MAY the Hills and Camden Clubs held the annual Sports Day and Junior Challenge at Rossmore. This year there were three Junior drivers, all members

of the Camden Club. Jeanna Kinleyside drove her pony *Chocolate*, and Callum and Isla Meads shared their grandmother's pony *Lucy* to complete their events.

They had six activities to do over the course of the morning – the Novice AA dressage test (judged by Sue Plath), the cones course, the pleasure driving course, a marathon obstacle, a timed walk and the square bending course. It was a good test of all round ability and skill. All three drove very well, with the overall winner being Jeanna Kinleyside, with Isla Meads runner up, and Callum a close third. Other people who came to drive the activities (non competition) were Linda Upton with her pony pair, Kirsten Feddersen with *Zed*, Danni Katon with *King*, Kim Glinkowski with *Fred*, Alan Robertson with *Bob*, Greg McDonald with *Fingal*, Martyn Minns with a horse pair, Emily Thompson with *Buzz* and Faye Cairncross with *Bucko*. A large group of Hills and Camden members helped run the day and cheer on the junior drivers.

The Hills Club June rally was an afternoon pleasure drive held in Scheyville National Park, organised by Angela Eberle and Jenny Conquest. Drivers arrived in time to harness up and be on the way by a bit after 1pm. It was a sunny day with a cold wind blowing but everyone was rugged up and the horses took it well. Angela, driving her pony *Mal*, led the way along the bush tracks crisscrossing the forested and occasional open grassy areas of the park. The others on the drive were Jenny Conquest with *Mannie*, Wayne Webster with *Sunny*, Dee Webb with *Pebbles*, and Melody Kraay and Catherine Charteris and several passengers with *Molly*.

The annual Winter Gymkhana was held on 8th July at Rossmore Reserve, with 15 horses and ponies on show. Paul and Marilyn Austin were judge and steward respectively of the show classes, whilst Eddie Dobbin ran the cones competition. The drivers were Karen Silvester with *Ziggy*, Jeanna Kinleyside with *Chocolate*, Carolyn Kinleyside with *Charlie*, Margaret Moore with *Perry*, Martyn Minns and Sandra Shaw with *Hilwert*, Kathy Brammall with *Penny*, Emily Thompson with *Buzz*, Maxine Saliba and Isla Meads with *Lucy*, Christine Dunn with *Patches*, Nigel Burton with *Ion*, Noeline Cassettari with *Thumbelina*, Greg McDonald and daughter with *Fingal*, Alan Robertson and junior member Juliana Dearnley with *Bob*, and Sue Wright with two ponies *Polly* and *Patrick*.

Others there on the day helping run the event or supporting the drivers were Janet Muspratt, Angela Eberle, Charlotte Hyles, John Moore, Roger Kinleyside, Helen Robertson, Rhonda Dobbin, Lynne Buckingham, Leanne Perceval, Carol Fitzpatrick, Alison McDonald, Steve Brammall, Karen and Mark Thompson, and Bill Wright.

The turnout champion and horse champion were awarded to Martyn Minns and *Hilwert*, whilst the pony champion went to Emily Thompson's *Buzz*. Christine Dunn with *Patches* won the hotly contested pleasure horse or pony class, and the two cones winners were Jeanna Kinleyside with *Chocolate* (ne12hh) and Emily Thompson with *Buzz* (o12hh). Nigel Burton was the delighted winner of the Encouragement Award. All in all it was a most successful day.



Above: Angela Eberle, Jenny Conquest, Dee Webb, Melody Kraay and Catherine Charteris and Wayne Webster on the Scheyville Drive. Photo: A Eberle. Below left: Juniors Jeanna Kinleyside, Isla Meads and Callum Meads who competed in the Junior Challenge run by the Hills and Camden Clubs. Photo: C Kinleyside.



Above right: Line up of ponies in a class at the Hills Gymkhana. Photo: C Fitzpatrick. Below left: Danni Katon with *King* at the Hills/Camden Sports and Junior Challenge Day. Photo: J Muspratt.



Hills/Camden Sports and Junior Challenge Day: Above right: Kim Glinkowski driving Fred. Below: Linda Upton with her pair Rocket and Chrissie. Photos: J Muspratt.



Riverina Club *celebrates* 40 YEARS

THE RIVERINA CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY celebrated its 40th anniversary on 30th June with a tour and lunch at Monte Cristo Homestead, Junee – the very same venue where the inaugural meeting of the Club was held in 1978.

Monte Cristo is a beautiful two-story Victorian stately home built in 1884/5 by William Crawley. Crawley had taken up land in Junee in 1876 and with the coming of the railway two years later, his wealth, and subsequent patronage of the town, grew significantly, leading to the construction of this grand home on the highest point overlooking the town.

Monte Cristo remained in the Crawley family until the 1960's however family disputes, vandalism and a lack of interest had resulted in all the furnishings being sold off and the buildings falling into disrepair.

Reg and Olive Ryan purchased the dilapidated buildings in the mid-1960's and set about restoring the estate to its former glory. Reg was a tailor by trade but had a remarkable ability to turn his hand to almost any trade or skill and thus over the next 40 odd years, Monte Cristo was rebuilt and re-born as a living museum. To see the home today and compare to photos of its condition when the Ryans first moved in demonstrates an incredible transformation. It is a truly remarkable testament to Reg's drive and passion, and an amazing legacy.

Reg maintained an interest in horse-drawn carriages (collecting quite a few including several landaus originally built for the Maharajah of Mysore), and so it was on 23rd April 1978 that a group of driving enthusiasts from the region met at Monte Cristo with the intention of forming 'The Riverina Horse Driving Society' (later to become RCDS).

Sue Fraser, who organised the anniversary tour and lunch had sourced copies of the minutes of that inaugural meeting, which provided an interesting read for those present, and Judy Dwyer recounted the early days of the Club and early events run in a period of great energy and enthusiasm for harness driving, albeit with lots of experience gained along the way! ACDS Federal President, Brendan Dwyer, congratulated the Club on achieving 40 years.

It was great to see visitors from far and wide join with RCDS Club members to celebrate the milestone!



Above: Judy Dwyer speaking at the Riverina Club 40th Anniversary Lunch at Monte Cristo, Junee. Below: Guests at the Riverina Club 40th Anniversary Lunch at Monte Cristo, Junee. Photos: S Fraser.



Below: Judy Dwyer driving Ellmore Hackneys to a Five-Glass Landau owned by Reg Ryan. Seated beside Judy is Bob Rutland, a foundation member of the RHDS. The photo was taken during show classes held in conjunction with the 1979 NSW Combined Driving Championships at Wagga Wagga, run by the Riverina Horse Driving Society. Photo: Les Jones Enterprises.



CLUB NEWS from QUEENSLAND

2018 Queensland Graded Driven Dressage Championships Report

THE INTRODUCTION of graded dressage in Queensland has bought a new dimension to dressage driving in this state and although numbers were down at this year Championships the standard of dressage that was on display was quite outstanding and congratulations needs to go to those drivers who have obviously put a great deal of work into the training of their horses.

The Queensland State Equestrian Centre provided us with a beautiful driving arena for this year's championships and many thanks must go to them for their cooperation.

This year's judge's were Cheryl and Tom Dowling from Victoria and Debbie King from Queensland. Cheryl and Debbie judged the dressage whilst Tom prepared and judged the cone course that followed the dressage championship. Nothing seemed to be too much trouble for our judge's this year, they were so co-operative that it was a pleasure to run the event in one of the most friendly atmospheres I have come across. I cannot thank them enough for their cooperation. To our scorers, Tony and Janelle Hawkins, I thank you very much for your work on the day.

Of course this event would never have happened if it hadn't been for the dedication of the states dressage convenor Helen Baskerville who has worked tirelessly towards dressage in the state and to this event. Many thanks to her.

The results of the day: Graded Dressage: Preliminary Level - 1st Nicole Kimlin, 2nd Jan Young. Novice Level - 1st Nicole Kimlin. Elementary Level - 1st Deanna Hibberd. Ungraded - Tania Ball. HC - Tor Van Den Berg. Cones - Single - 1st Deanna Hibberd, 2nd Nicole Kimlin. Multiples - Tor Van Den Berg.



Above: Tor Van Den Berg. Below: L to R: Vivienne Camac, Helen Baskerville, Cheryl Dowling and Tom Dowling. Photos: Jim Cassidy.



Above left: Nicole Kimlin. Above right: Jan Young and judge Cheryl Dowling. Below left: Tania Ball. Below right: Deanna Hibberd. Photos: Jim Cassidy.



Range Carriage Club - 3x3 Series



Left: Angie McHugh driving Dazle n Sonita- overall winner Horse. Centre: Rachael Cooper driving Princess Kyludi - overall winner Small Pony. Right: Nicole Kimlin driving Edge Hill Christopher Robin - overall winner Large Pony. Photos by Emma Bowdler and Mark McHugh.

THE RANGE CARRIAGE CLUB is the only club in Queensland that has hosted a Combined Driving Event CDE) in recent years. Faced with a lack of volunteers and wanting to do something new we decided to rethink our regular 3 Phase Event warm up for a CDE followed by the Queensland CDE Championships. The Range Carriage Club coordinated a 3x3 Series competition. It was a blend of Dressage, Cones and an Obstacle. All of these events are in the ACDS handbook although combined they are not listed as an official event.

As the 3x3 Series is not currently an official ACDS event, we could be flexible with judges, which presented an opening for learning and growth to members of the Club who have never been able to have this opportunity. In the Dressage, we had an accredited Dressage Judge at C who could mentor the Judge at B. This gave people the opportunity to 'give judging a go' in a supportive environment.

CDEs are volunteer heavy, requiring up to 30 individuals per event, and there is a lot of manual setting up and organisation that goes into them. Technology has slightly reduced printing and posting costs, but there is still a huge amount of work, printing and energy invested in setting up these events and putting paperwork for competitors and judges together.

With the 3x3 Series, 8-12 volunteers were required. The Range Carriage Club 3x3 Series ran on three separate days, one day per month, in May, June and July. The courses were set up the day before the event by different teams of people;

again with the idea to encourage members to take leadership roles and learn what is involved in the running of these events. For this Series, competitors did not receive any paperwork on arrival. They walked the course on the day without maps and diagrams and the competitor draw was sent by email, messenger and text earlier in the week with reminders put on Facebook. The only printed paperwork was for the judges.

As the Series progressed, there was an advancement in the degree of difficulty. The dressage tests varied, using the tests that Queensland used for their Graded Dressage Competition. The distance per minute for cones increased making the time to complete the course shorter, and the number of gates in the Obstacle increased. All of these aspects tested the ability of not only the horse but the driver as well.

Competitors had to complete two of the three events to qualify for an overall prize, which were whips for first in each class and feed for second

and third. There were four classes that competed - Small Pony, Large Pony, Horse and Multiples. Over the series, the Range Carriage Club received nominations from 24 different people and horse combinations from four Clubs around Queensland. One competitor joined the Range Carriage Club so that they could compete in this Series.

The real winner of this Series was carriage driving. To witness competitors, watch and support one another drive the Obstacle, encouraging each other and their grooms was a delight and it created a very positive atmosphere around each event. Grooms/Back-steppers learnt new techniques from watching and networking with other drivers and grooms. There was wonderful feedback on the Obstacle, courses and the friendly supportive club environment. Thank you to all the organisers, volunteers and competitors who made this Series such a success.

Article by Jenni Murphy and Megan Bowdler



ACDS Horse Registration process

- ACDS Horse registration is required for participation in CDEs, Graded Driven Dressage and Indoor Competitions – the one registration number covers all activities.
- Application Form is available from the ACDS website – to avoid processing delays, please ensure all relevant details are completed clearly and legibly, including the marking of both diagrams.
- Application and payment / evidence of payment may be sent directly to the ACDS Horse Registrar. (If paying by direct deposit into the ACDS bank account, please ensure you reference your name and reason for the payment). Processing will not begin without payment / evidence of payment.
- It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure they have obtained a horse registration number for their equine/s and to provide this to event organisers on their entry form – 'pending', 'tba' etc are not valid responses. Organisers may at their discretion ask for evidence of horse registration.
- Competing in the above activities without a valid horse registration is a breach of the rules and may result in elimination from that competition.

Queensland State Show Driving Championships Caboolture 2018

AS USUAL the day started with a rush and frantic look to find everything and get things up and running. The Caboolture Show grounds were the perfect venue for the QLD Show Driving Championship, lots of spectators, a great ground to work out on and plenty of stabling. Still was a very cold morning which turned into a beautiful warm sunny day and with help from supporters and friends the day begins.

Our Judges were Sandy Hunter, who with husband John travelled from Armidale NSW, and Cliff Kroesen who came from the Gold Coast. Our Steward Peter McAdam is from Kandanga.

I would like to thank our sponsors Mi-Feed, Equilibrium and Olsen's. Sharon Rhoades made the beautiful garland for the Supreme Champion in Harness. Laura Forest donated two bales of hay and two embossed feed bags for Champion / Reserve Pony over 10.2hh ne 14hh. Two garlands were donated by Jan Young for Concours D'Elegance and Turnout. A special mention to Meta and Yohanna Cook for all their help with Sponsorship which meant no one went home without a prize or ribbon. I also would like to thank Tanya Ronson for canteen on the day and Sue O'Brien for the delicious lunches for the Judges.

Our day started with the Turnout classes and there was a stunning variety of vehicles. Tracey Bavinton was driving a beautiful Meadow Brook Road Cart with *Arcadian Patriot*, a lovely grey Welsh Mountain pony. Lynda Shultz in a Ladies Bent-Shaft Sulky was driving the colourful *Shawnee Rainmaker* with her beautiful little dog Pixie sitting by her side. Lex and Jan Young with *Cwmkaren Welsh Rhapsody* took out the Champion Turnout in a stunning White Chapel Buggy. Reserve Champion was Sharon Clark with her beautiful Belgian pair, *Carbery Estate Believe in Dreams* and *Carbery Estate Hollywood Achiever* in a CDE Vehicle, working superbly together. So awesome to see these two beautiful chestnut Belgians. Sharon travelled with her husband Billy and daughter Bree Cranfield all the way from Kempsey NSW.

The Concours D'Elegance was won by Jan Young and *Cwmkaren Welsh Rhapsody*, in their very elegant White Chapel Buggy with her always smartly dressed handler Lex.

The Champion Pony in Harness ne 10.2hh was Yohanna Cook and her stunning Miniature *Trabyrne's Freedom's Sex On Legs*. Reserve Champion was Nicole Kimlin and her beautiful Shetland *Gar-Won Tucker*. The most hotly contested class was the over 10.2hh ne 14hh. Graeme Wass took out the Champion with his home bred grey mare *Kar-Trice Tamara* and Reserve Champion was Jan Young and *Cwmkaren Welsh Rhapsody*. Champion Medium Heavy was Sharon Clark and *Carbery Estate Hollywood Achiever* driven in a beautifully turned out Heavy Horse Show Vehicle. Sharon also did the hat trick and was Champion Multiples in Harness with *Carbery Estate Believe in Dreams* and *Carbery Estate Hollywood*



Junior Whip Lucy Doneathy, driving Kar-Trice Tamara, co-Whip is Graeme Wass and Judge Cliff Kroesen and wonderful helper, Loretta Seary.

Achiever. Supreme Champion in Harness was *Kar-Trice Tamara* and Whip Graeme Wass, who worked the house down.

The Welsh Bronze Medal was won by Welsh Section C *Cwmkaren Welsh Rhapsody* and Jan and Lex Young. Thank you Sunshine and Fraser Coast Regional Promotional Group for sponsoring the medal, and for helping to make the show the great day that it was.

Best Presented Handler on day was Tanya Ronson, who handled for Paul Clyne and *Moonlight Sweet Destiny*. Lucy Doneathy was our Junior Whip driving *Kar-Trice Tamara* with Graeme Wass as co-Whip. Lucy drove *Tamara* like a true professional. Champion Whip was awarded to Sharon Clark and *Carbery Estate Hollywood Achiever*. Reserve Champion Whip went to Michael Lenihan and *Mariposa Tradesman*.

Thank you to our Judges Sandy Hunter and Cliff Kroesen and Steward Peter McAdam for helping to make the show into the wonderful day it was. The whole show was over by 3pm which was marvellous for those needing to travel any distance. I would also like to thank and congratulate all Competitors, those who placed and those who didn't, "Well Done". All of you have made a great contribution to the show, as without you all there would not be one. Presentation of your horses and vehicles second to none. Thank you for coming. *More photos on page 25.*

*Story and photos: Debbie Clyne
QLD ACDS Show Driving Convenor*

CLUB NEWS from TASMANIA

WELL NOT A LOT to report this issue unfortunately; the cold wet weather has kept most inside, seems crazy doesn't it? Half the country is in drought and we just about need flippers just to walk outside. The days are getting longer though, so next issue we should be back on track.

TCDS AGM.

THE TASMANIAN Carriage Driving Society held its AGM at Deloraine on Saturday 28th July and had, as special guest, our illustrious new President Peter Lee in attendance. The new committee comprises: President : David Potter (THDVF); Vice President : Michael MacDonald (THDVF); Secretary : Jill Cawsey (NTDS); Treasurer : Perina Kentish (NTDS). Thank you to the past President, Tamara Butler and Vice President, Maryl Cropper for a job well done.

Formalities over, Peter brought us up to speed on changes within the ACDS, where it's headed, and an update on some new rules. It was great to have him along, and even better to be able to 'pick his brains' a little on what's happening within the ACDS. Thanks Peter.

Both the NTDS and THDVF have had their AGMs and the Executives for each are :

NTDS

President : Maryl Cropper ; Vice President : Andy Dean; Treasurer : Perina Kentish; Secretary : Jill Cawsey

THDVF

President : David Potter; Vice President : Norma Potter; Secretary : Michael MacDonald; Treasurer : Chis Viney. Congratulations to all, I'm sure both clubs have an exciting year ahead planned.

Coming Events.

A CDE OFFICIALS training day was held on the 1st September, conducted by Trevor Brand and Peter Lee. The course was well attended and hopefully many new skills were attained. Thanks to Trevor and Peter for putting up their time to come down and conduct the course, and filling everyone's heads with knowledge.

A training weekend has been arranged with Rachel Haslau coming down to put us through our paces in late October with everyone quite excited about that. Looking forward to getting the ponies out and back into shape (round is a shape isn't it) in time for the Show season, and our State Show in November.

Until next issue

David

CLUB NEWS from VICTORIA

Carriage Horse Driving Trials Club Inc

CARRIAGE HORSE Driving Trials Club members are taking a big breath after hosting the Sallan Realty Victorian CDE Championships, as any of the clubs who have run events of this level will understand it is a huge undertaking for its members, stewards and volunteers. We would like to thank all involved in the running of the event, our sponsors were fantastic and it was wonderful to be able to present every one of our starting competitors with a bag of feed. One of local orchardists, Merv, provided free apples and plums, freshly picked and delivered every morning, great to see our drivers happily munching on locally grown fruit.

As a club we continue to grow, with enquiries re driving being received we will focus on our new members and members getting their young horses / ponies working well.

Our members have been out and about competing at this year's Indoor Series, dressage competitions breed shows and hunting; our members are a versatile group with multiple interests. We are looking forward to what the coming season will bring, good luck to everyone with their driving.

An interesting note, our local driver / trainer extraordinaire Bernie Rice together with his wife Heather have successfully broken in their team of eight chestnut Welsh A ponies. The ponies are driven in the combination of two wheelers, three abreast x two, just a fantastic training / breaking story. Many of our drivers will know of Bernie and Heather as they have been responsible for the breaking in of many of the horses / ponies competing within our sport. (Google Bernie Rice to watch this combination in action).

Merryn Byers

Central Highlands Pleasure Harness Club Inc

OUR CLUB kicked off the late autumn with a carriage driving demonstration to the Kerang Pony Club on a lovely Sunday, the 29th of April. Hilary Billett brought a ute full of her show equipment to explain the finer points of show driving. Eileen Perry's two minis (*Ace* and *Shadow*) provided some practice long-reining for the kids (and adults). Jan Moore with her mini pair (*Tinker* and *Mason*), and Vic Jerman and her Standardbred (*Casper*) demonstrated some cones and obstacle driving, and gave some of the Pony Club members a chance to see the course from a groom's perspective. Perhaps we

Central Highlands Club's Vic Jerman at Kerang Pony Club's carriage driving demonstration day.



Jan Moore, Central Highlands Club, and Mattie at Elmore (Victoria) Indoor competition.

have inspired some young riders to try driving!

Club members Jan Moore, Hilary Billet, and Eileen Perry enjoyed driving the Oz Trec hosted on May 5th at the lovely Oxley Reserve. It was a gorgeous day, and hats off to the Benalla Club for organising the event.

This winter some of our club members have been competing at the indoor series events. Vic Jerman, Laraine Blume, Jan Moore, and Eileen Perry competed at the Elmore event the 23-24 of June, and Laraine and Jan also competed at the Indoor series at Koonoomoo 28-29 July.

While we welcome the winter rains, the relatively dry weather has meant fantastic driving tracks around the Huntly grounds. The club hosted a pleasure drive the weekend of the 23-24th of June. A schooling long reining / driving course with a few challenges was the theme for the rally on the 22nd July. On August 5th we hosted our popular Nav Ride / Drive through the Huntly grounds, and parts of the Whipstick Forest for those who chose the longer drive.

Eileen Perry

Eastern Vic Pleasure Harness Club Inc

IN APRIL our club hosted the very successful Victorian and Skye Park Equine Tailors National Graded Dressage Championship. As many of the drivers would agree we have the best dressage surface in Australia and fantastic facilities to boot! The 'Freestyle Spectacular under lights' was a much-applauded event and a challenge to both horse and driver. Thank you to all our sponsors for their support which has facilitated such a successful event and made the organisers job that much easier. A special thank you must go to our President Tom Dowling and event secretary Cheryl Dowling for the many hours of planning and delegation of members in the club. We couldn't have done it without your experience and skills.

May was a welcome rest, then on the Queen's Birthday weekend many of us joined in with Southern Cross Harness club for a camping weekend in the Mullungdung Nature Reserve Forrest. The weather was spectacular with crisp mornings and nights and sunny days. The evenings were spent around the camp fire with our ponies and dogs surrounding us. What bliss! Then at the end of the month we held a practice day for the Indoor/Outdoor season. Drivers who have never attempted the cones and MO were able to have a go with no pressure of competition



Above: Members of the EVPHC discussing the course.



Above: Anne Berrett and Cabonara. Below: Leanne Prosser and Domino Downs Coffee Liqueur at the Vic Dressage Championships.



and some were inspired to perhaps compete in the future.

Leanne Prosser

Geelong and District Carriage Drivers

NEW NAME, NEW LOOK, we were Bellarine Harness for Pleasure Club, our new name is Geelong and District Carriage Drivers, this better indicates our location and the area serviced by our club.

What's been happening at GDCCD:

April 22 – A pleasure drive at Deans Marsh from Gail and John Hoiles' property. A foggy start to a 13 km drive through gum plantations on super driving tracks with a shared lunch.

May 27 - Elsa Avery Instruction – Successful show ring competitor and club member, Elsa instructed members on how to get the best show performance from your horse. Elsa shared long-reining and show preparation tips followed by driving tuition in mock show ring workouts. As

a bonus Jenny Heath of Pixie Wash came along to shampoo and spruce up member's pooches, Jenny kindly donated all proceeds to the Club.



Above: Elsa Avery demonstrating long reining at a club day.

June 24 – The Annual General Meeting – An informative discussion with guest speaker, veterinarian, Simon Pearce from Golden Plains Vet Clinic included the topics of colic, equine dentistry – pros and cons of manual versus mechanical tools, founder, and cushings, this was followed by the AGM where members' input was voted on to select the new club name and a new look, with a change of logo and club colours. Look out for our members soon to be smartly turned out in navy blue and white.

Congratulations to Nicole Linic who was awarded a life membership to the club, to Pixie Heath, winner of the President's Award, and to Rodney Lane, who received the 'Hans on' Award this year, rewarding their dedication and contributions to the club.

Congratulations also go to GD CD member Ned Andrew who won the ACDS Vic. Branch's 2018 Young Driver Award, this award was sponsored by City Bus and Trucks.

July 15th – Christmas in July, a rally without horses, celebrated in Rodney Lane's magnificent Duckpondslane dining hall. Members came in 'bogan costume' (or for some it was just come as you usually dress *wink, wink*) for a fabulous feast punctuated by rounds of bogan bingo. The speed bingo was just a little too challenging for some of us bogans.

July 22 – Phill Marshall tuition at Inverleigh with long reining and driving lessons for members.

Coming up at GD CD:

August 18 & 19 – Indoor Series qualifiers at Inverleigh

September 23 – GD CD bi-annual Gymkhana at Inverleigh, a warm up event for the coming show season and our local Royal Geelong Show in October.

October 28 – Rally TBA. Watch our Facebook page and the ACDS Vic Branch Calendar for details.

November 24 & 25 – Graded Driven Dressage Qualifiers to be held at Leighdale Equestrian Centre at Teesdale.

Madeleine Bentley

Gippsland Pleasure Harness Society Inc

GIPPSLAND Pleasure Harness Society has had a couple of quieter months with most

members giving their horses and ponies a break and now are gearing up for an eventful program of Indoors and Adelaide and Melbourne Royal Shows. Good luck to all of these members of the Club. Looking forward to using our new arena for Club Rallies which is coming along slowly.

Jenny Cummins

Lakes and Craters Horse Driving Club Inc

DUE TO MANY MEMBERS being able to holiday in warmer climates our drives have been cancelled recently. June saw two of our riders join a Memorial ride through the Otways with the weather being very favourable. The weather in our area is certainly very cold, wet and windy at this time. Due to this we are having a Horseless Navigational Drive around the Smythesdale area for August. It will be followed with a three course lunch at Teacup Capers Cafe as the points are tallied and the stories unfold from the morning's adventure.

Karyn Kelly

Mornington Pleasure Harness Club Inc

GALE FORCE WIND and driving rain was no deterrent for the 13 competitors who braved the elements for the double header Indoor Qualifier held recently at Balnarring on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria. Slippery conditions made for challenging dressage movements and careful consideration was needed through the cones course, with paces slowed to accommodate the changing conditions. The rain kept falling and by afternoon the marathon obstacles had a sheet of water over the ground and the decision to abandon the timing of the obstacles was made for safety reasons with competitors advised to walk or slow trot only.

Bernadette Lewis and Westbury Dandino driving into gale force wind and heavy rain during the dressage phase. Cheryl Sheddan and Morning Mist Maeve tearing up the Marathon phase on Day 2 of the Indoor Qualifier at Balnarring.



Day two saw the sun shining and the ground a little less soggy. Some lovely dressage tests were produced and all smiles on competitors faces after the cones course as the speed was up and the spirits were high. The marathon obstacles

were repositioned to higher ground and it was game on. The course was tight catching some competitors by surprise. Speeds were fast and provided great entertainment for the gallery of spectators that had gathered.

Sally de Vent

Pioneer Country Carriage Drivers Inc

VALE - ROBERT DACEY

SADLY, I report that my very good friend and Neighbour, Robert 'Dace' Dacey passed away on Tuesday morning surrounded by family.

'Dace' was a very early member of Pioneer Country Harness Club, always involved in any activity that needed his skills. Some may recall him at those great riverside Pioneer Country CDEs at Nyah, always willing to help and generally taking on more than one job to just achieve that.

'Dace' bred and raced Standardbreds, but at club activities he chose to drive the 'Kyalite pair' that belonged to Pom and Jan Hodgson, usually with a wagonload of kids behind!

Members of the Pioneer Country Carriage Drivers send condolences to Rob's wife Gayle, and his family in Nyah West.

Margie Morgan

Southern Cross Harness Club Inc

THERE HAS BEEN A LOT of wet weather and gale force winds before and after our two harness drives and a long weekend camp from May to July 2018. But on the days we went out, we have been devilishly lucky with the weather. In May, it rained steadily before and after the 12km drive but not actually during it. A trio of Jane Reid driving *Manuka*, Robyn Jones driving *Bella* and Fiona Mottram driving *Daisy* jumped plenty of puddles in the flat, coastal bushland at Hedley. The sand drifts were quite deep in some places making hard work for the equines. *Bella* deserves a medal for calmness displayed when a frightened wallaby jumped out from behind a bush right under her nose before dashing across the track. We all wore multiple layers over thermals to keep warm and laughed a lot during the outing. We're a bit mad!

In June the Club camped for three days over the Queen's Birthday long weekend in the Mullungdung State Forest at Darriman. There was a changing population of driving members, visitors, equines and dogs throughout this time. In all, six drivers, one passenger, nine equines, eleven dogs and seven visitors attended. Unfortunately a few people were absent due to sickness. We held our AGM by firelight, with the same people being returned without audible protest to the Committee and Officer positions, regardless of their presence or absence at the meeting. The outings were terrific – fairly lengthy and with plenty of climbs and descents, creek crossings and varying types of bush. Jane even showed us a cave where a kidnapped teacher and group of students had been hidden. The nights were very cold and a number of dogs shared the bed with their owners. Dogs proved more reliable than hot water bottles which got cold and couldn't be reheated if the camping gas had run out! Some birthdays were celebrated so there was plenty of cake to eat over the weekend. Drivers: Jane Reid, Robyn Jones, Celia Down,

Jenny O'Bree, Leanne Prosser and Fiona Mottram; passenger Mia Jones. Horses/ponies: *Dixie, Manuka, Diesel, Bella, Manny* and *Volsung*. Mules: *Daisy, Callie* and *Bobby Sox*.

We love driving in the Mullungdung Forest so we returned there again in July but travelled through an area further west than the previous month. Four carts, two passengers and one rider went for a 25km circuit outing on a jewel of a day. The terrain was varied with plenty of steep climbs and long descents, as well as flat to gentle sections. Mostly the tracks were sandy with occasional gravel. Robyn Jones (driving *Bella* with *Amber* on the lead rope and Buttons under the seat), Jenny O'Bree (driving *Volsung* and with Teddy under the seat) and Fiona Mottram (driving *Daisy* and with Texta, Ruffi and Miele in the cart) got briefly misled when they took the wrong turn at an intersection of minor bush

tracks. They should have taken the overgrown 'road less travelled'. Consequently Jane Reid (driving *Ginger* with Steve and Jackson Tiller plus Sooty on board) and Lisa Rowley (riding *Dixie* and accompanied by Kaiser) returned to the vehicles first.

Fiona Mottram

Northern Country Carriage Driving Club Inc

NCCD MEMBERS ran their first Indoor/Outdoor Qualifier at our new grounds Koonoomoo Recreation Reserve, Koonoomoo. The local Moira Shire has encouraged the club to move to Koonoomoo which is an exciting prospect, as they envisage the grounds will become a local Equestrian Centre. The equine groups using the grounds at this time are the Camp Drafters, Adult Riders, two Carriage Driving clubs with another group about to join.

The event was well attended considering the cold weather we have experienced over the last couple of months, and thankfully the rain held off for both days. It was great to see new drivers enjoying themselves and going home with smiles on their faces as well as prizes and ribbons. The Saturday night barbecue dinner was enjoyed by many with lots of laughs and amazing clues given while playing the fun filled game of charades. Thank you to all club members who put in so much work and the many helpers and supporters who came along to make it such a successful event.

We look forward to our next event which will be a driven Dressage Qualifier which will be held at our new grounds later in the year.

Dawn Walter

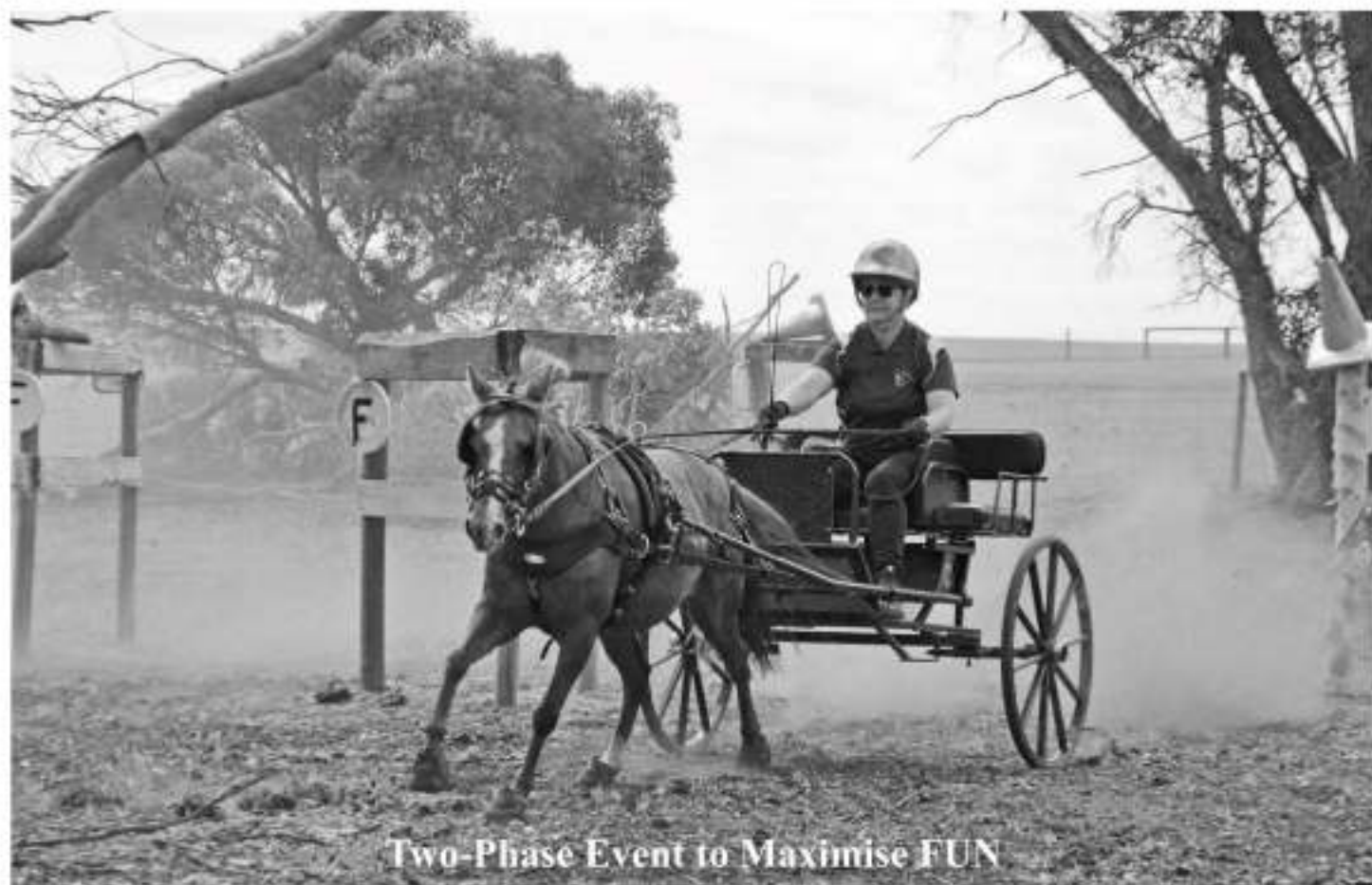


Above left: Celia Down with her pony *Diesel* about to depart Sunday morning - SCHC camp. Above right: Jane Reid and Sooty setting off behind *Manuka* at Hedley - SCHC May 2018. Below: NCCD Members at the Indoor/Outdoor Qualifier: Left: Isabelle Beecroft enjoying her first competition.



Above right: Jenny Demaio driving *Monndale Onyx*. Below left: Vicki Stevenson driving at the Northern Country Carriage Driving Club's Indoor event. Below right: Zander Maguire driving *Shepherds Hill Jasper* at the Indoor Qualifier at Koonoomoo.





Two-Phase Event to Maximise FUN

Teresa McAllister driving Violet Park Baleka. Photos of the Two-Phase by Ginnie James.

THERE ARE CDEs, there are 3 Phase Events and now there are 2 Phase events. Albany Carriage Driving Club over in Western Australia finally worked out what drivers really want. In a word – FUN. So in response to driver demand (and a lack of able volunteers) the tiny Albany Club staged a TWO phase event – Cones and Marathon. It was held at Jim Oversby and Carol Hammond's 'The Snuggery' between the Poronup and Stirling ranges in the WA Great Southern. The two phase event lived up to its promise – great infectious enthusiasm and fun. It could have been even better if the weather had co-operated in the Great Southern.

Saturday was a shocker. Hot March winds just blasted sand across the Great Southern WA wheatbelt. Experienced drivers have all felt it at some time – the sort of day when the wind is so strong that ponies get rattled and listening is the last thing on their mind. It would have been a disaster for Dressage but we do not do dressage in 2 phase events (Thank the Lord). Somehow the howling blast just added to the cones atmosphere for ponies and competitors although officials had to use their discretion when balls were blown off cones.

On Saturday everyone lined up for three cones contests over two separate courses. First, a standard cones course, followed immediately by an Odds and Evens competition over the same course.

Then pre-picked teams of two drivers drove a separate timed course – the most cones in a set

time. The first driver completed the first five cones, the second driver cones six to ten and so on – the most successful cones driven wins. This contest is not for timid drivers as it appeals to hoons driving fast gutsy ponies – and its enormous fun. Despite the weather it was tremendous fun.

By sunset the wind had died down and we all dined and camped under a beautiful calm starry canopy and mentally rehearsed the course and obstacles we were to face next day.

Despite our apprehension Sunday dawned perfectly. Not a breath of wind, not a cloud, calm and cool – the sort of day when you know God is on your side. Perfect. Four obstacles to be completed twice – that could not be hard could it? Carol designed a tricky course to test drivers – Obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 in that order then 1 became five, 3 became six, 4 became seven and 2 became eight – tricky. Eventually everyone worked it out – well almost – one old timer managed to eliminate himself by completing nine obstacles.

But no-one seemed to mind as prizes were not the point of the 2 phase weekend but two competitors deserve special mention – Therese McAllister and her much loved Caspian pony *Violet Park Baleka* just blitzed the pony results. It was lovely as Therese does not get the chance to compete very often down at Albany.

The other special mention goes to 14 year old Niamh Tester who showed her seniors how it's done in the horse competitions.

Almost everyone went home with a ribbon apart from the two old geezers who had to console one another with their presentations of stress balls. But ribbons and trophies were not the point it was about great fun, mateship and enjoying good hearted competition. We could all tick that box thanks to Jim Oversby, Carol Hammond and the Albany Club – we look forward to it again next year.

Dennis Wise

Pony: 1st – Teresa McAllister – Violet Park Baleka, 2nd Sandy Elliot – Narcoola Park Dylan, 3rd Cheryl McCall – London Park Welsh Dragon.

Horse placing: 1st – Niamh Tester – Trapalanda Quo Vadis, 2nd – Merryn Bojan – Shepherds Hill Zali, 3rd – Jorgen Nielson – Kinney MacGuinness.

Pony Champion – Teresa McAllister – Violet Park Baleka.

Horse Champion – Niamh Tester – Trapalanda Quo Vadis

Overall Champion for the whole weekend Teresa McAllister.

Thanks to Great Southern Stockfeeds for prizes.

Thanks to those club members who were a great help setting up and dismantling. Special thanks to Paul Tester who came and assisted earlier in the week and worked tirelessly over the weekend to ensure we had a great event.

Carol Hammond



Above: Naimh Tester and Trapalanda Quo Vadis. Below left: Cherryl McCall driving London Park Welsh Dragon. Bottom left: Jorgen Neilsen and Kinney MacGuinness. Bottom right: Sherone Clayton driving Silverbrook Morgwyn. Photos: Ginnie James.



Brian Nicholas

WA ACDS

Life Membership Award

6th May 2018



THE WA ACDS Branch awarded Brian Nicholas Life Membership on 6th May 2018 for his contribution to the sport of carriage driving in Western Australia. Brian and his wife Diana were awarded life membership of the Albany Carriage Driving Club in 2013.

Brian was born on the family farm 'Mongup' south east of Borden at the foot of the magnificent Stirling Ranges in Western Australia into a life with horses and animals. He spent his working life farming after attending the Denmark Agricultural College. During those early farming days he worked the farm with Clydesdale horses until tractors and mechanical farm machinery took over.

Brian and the family moved to 'Takalarup Farm' before retiring from the land to Lower King near Albany in 1991. Brian and Diana have a beautiful property on the outskirts of the city and close to the picturesque King River where they operate an agistment centre for horses and ponies.

Brian and Diana have three children and they were also keen riders attending the local pony club and when their interest waned their first pony was broken to harness by Frank Orschott who also made Brian's first set of leather harness and a jogger to suit the pony. This pony was the beginning of a long term interest and passion in the sport of carriage driving.

Brian and Diana were some of the first members to establish and join the Albany Harness Driving Club in 1981. The club affiliated with the Australian Driving Society in 1987.

Brian has owned and trained many very successful ponies over the years and competed in all carriage driving disciplines. *Parattah Old Custom*, bred by renowned Welsh Pony Breeder the late Mrs Joan Frost of 'Parattah' at Narrikup in WA was a multi champion winner especially in the show driving arena being awarded Champion

Pony at State Championship shows and major shows on many occasions.

Narranga Geronimo was known as 'The King of the Cones', he was a small piebald pony with whom Brian was very successful at the Combined Driving Events during the 1980s around the state. *Geronimo* was the fastest and most accurate cone driving pony in WA for about a decade.

During the 1990s Brian put a pair of 12.2hh Welsh Section B ponies together for show driving and to use commercially for local weddings and events. Such a lovely sight to see about the city and always beautifully turned out for shows by Diana and the family.

More recently Brian has been very fortunate to have the lovely Welsh B Pony *Fontwell Finale*. For 17 years '*Whiskas*' as he is known has taken Brian to many Supreme Championships in the show driving arena and he has been awarded multiple Dressage Championships up to Intermediate level. Brian has won so many Gentleman Whip Classes, he cannot recall exactly how many. In 2005 and 2013 *Whiskas* was awarded Champion Turnout and WA Show Pony of the Year, both awards Brian is particularly proud of.

Brian has been President and Vice President of the Albany Carriage Driving Club from 1987 to 1992 and a WA ACDS State Branch delegate, since then he has maintained and transported the club's equipment to events across the Great Southern Region of WA. He is an expert at setting up a dressage arena in a very timely fashion, always straight and fanatically accurate.

Brian and Diana travelled around the huge state of WA during the 1980s and 90s competing at Combined Driving Events taking care of the WA Branch Timing Clocks, setting up dressage arenas and cone courses. He has designed and built marathon obstacles and courses at events in the south of WA and built and designed some of the

very first marathon courses in WA together with Joan Frost and Harley Webb. Brian became one of the first Cone Driving Judges and Cone Course Designers in WA and his cone courses are always designed to bring out the best in horses and drivers to show their skill, accuracy and speed.

During his retirement Brian joined the Riding for Disabled Driving Group at 'Thorne Park' near Albany with two of his beautifully trained ponies *Geronimo* and *Louie*. He became a Nationally Accredited Level 1 Whip in 2010 and then became the Chief Coach of the RDA Driving Group at Albany. His lovely pony *Fontwell Finale* is now also an accredited RDA Driving Pony. Brian has volunteered with the RDA Driving Group for many years now and regularly floats the ponies to the rally days to drive with disabled children and adults. This has given him an enormous amount of pleasure and satisfaction.

Many drivers in WA owe their introduction to carriage driving to Brian who has always been keen to help get people started, to share his knowledge and experience.

A formal presentation of the Life membership Award to Brian was not possible as Brian's health has not been so good lately and has been spending time at home with family and very close friends supported by the local palliative care team.

Brian is thrilled and humbled to receive the award and says it is one of his proudest achievements.

Merryn Bojcum

President Albany Carriage Driving Club and WA ACDS Dressage Convenor for an on behalf of the WA ACDS Branch.

Footnote: Sadly Brian passed away on 16th August 2018 – our deepest condolences are extended to Diana and Family.

Dryandra Level 3 CDE and 3 Phase Event

MURRAY DISTRICT Carriage Driving Club held the McKenzie Transport Combined Driving weekend at the wonderful Cuballing - Dryandra Equestrian Grounds. The weekend did not disappoint, amazing weather, great company, good competition and great sportsmanship. Competitors had to compete in both competitions to be eligible to win the McKenzie Transport prizes, which was a beautifully embroidered rug.

The weekend started with the Level 3 CDE, Saturday with dressage and cones. The drivers that have been having regular lessons proved to be the winners of the dressage in each class. The cone winners are similar to the dressage results, again lessons prove to be a positive outcome. Saturday night was clear sky and cold but the men in the club fixed the problem with an amazing bonfire and barbeque dinner.

Sunday morning the marathon commenced at 8am with a challenging course design. The winners of the Level 3 NH: Niamh Tester, *Trapalanda Downs Quo Vardis*; LP: Sandy Elliot - *Narcoola Parc Dylan*; SP: Ginnie James - *Toby Le Rone*; Pony Pairs: Doddy Neilsen - *Minstral Moonglow / Minstral Bagatell*; Intro Multiples: Ben Neilson - *Lewis Park Linus / Lewis Park Luca*.

Sunday afternoon the 3 Phase event started with the dressage and cones. We had a ridden dressage judge which was a refreshing change. Monday morning the marathon started at 8am with drivers only doing section E. The winners of the 3 Phase: Horse - Niamh Tester, Large Pony - Sandy Elliot, Small Pony - Ginnie James, Pairs: Amanda Colli.

The winners of the McKenzie Transport best performance in each class were Niamh Tester, Sandy Elliot, Ginnie James, Amanda Colli, and Vera Sulc.

The weekend was self-stewarding for both events. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped the weekend run to plan.



Above: Amanda Logan and Woodridge Jilly Bug. Below: Jane Johns driving Summertime Pearl.



Below left: Judy Pope and Narcoola Parc Rowena. Below right: Vicki Lee driving Millee.



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Gippsland Lakes Harness Club Inc

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Gippsland Pleasure Harness Society Inc

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Grampians Carriage Drivers Inc

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Lakes and Craters Horse Driving Club Inc

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Southern Cross Harness Club Inc

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Avon & Hills Carriage Driving Club

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Murray Districts Carriage Driving Club

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West Australian Harness Driving Society

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Young Drivers in Action



Murray District Carriage Driving Club held the McKenzie Transport Combined Driving weekend at the wonderful Cuballing – Dryandra Equestrian Grounds - pictured, Sophie Pope driving Wendamar Nixon. Below: North Coast Club junior driver Tully Naylor, with his mother Heidi, enjoying the challenge of the Indoor/Outdoor competition at Moonbi. Photo: K O'Brien.



WELSH Ponies & Cobs

THE BREED FOR ALL THE FAMILY



Lisa Harrington and gelding of Section A breeding Le Flirtour Valet (Kinkora Masterpiece Imp NZ x Osory Valencia by Weston Park Talisman) at the ACDS 2018 Skye Park Combined Driving Championships, conducted by the Bungendore Carriage Driving Club assisted by the Southern Highlands Carriage Club. Photo: Linda Mace.

The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Australia Inc

A National organisation registering and promoting the Welsh Breeds for all disciplines.

There are Regional Promotional Groups throughout Australia

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