

AUSTRALIAN HEAVY HORSES

News Letter



Sept 2015 to April 2016

Some of Queensland's Heavy Horse happenings from Spring toward the Summer break



Lavereen Banjo, Coolibah Ridge Jasmine, Lavereen Clem and Coolibah Ridge Gambler, working out as a team of four-abreast. *N. Martin pic - more photos page 13*



John Bradford driving three abreast in Mick Bradford's reaper and binder at their annual field day at Yangan, Qld in mid October. *More photos page 10-11*



Two Collinsville mine workers unveiling the newest town statue: a bronze memorial to the pit pony and its contribution to the mining industry. *More photos p.6-7*



Keith Cross and Murroka Harrison giving a hay raking demo at the terrific Appletree Creek working heavy horse day in early October. *More photos p.8-9*

Editorial

Welcome to this latest 'new' newsletter.

This has happened as a result of much prompting over many years, as well as support from many contributors and readers. This issue features mainly Qld based articles, but not totally: Sydney and Adelaide get a mention also. Future issues can contain whatever people wish to submit. This is not 'breed specific.'

Much has been happening in the sunny state as will be seen in several reports and photos ahead, and many people have been out and about working their horses over what was the summer break. This newsletter covers the tail end of 2015, and the start of the 2016 show season.

Contributors:

T Barton
NEhrich
L Erwin
B Ford
M Geissler
K Gibson
C Gorwyn
G Green
M Hughston
W Jones
C Kenny
N Martin
T McCoombes
M Porter
Stewart-Koster
family
C Thomas

If you have something to add to a future newsletter, please get in touch, and if you'd like to read about something in particular, please contact us with ideas also - not that there is a shortage of ideas, but sometimes it is easy to overlook something simple.

Generally we'd like to try to cover some aspect of breeding, showing, harness or driving in vehicles, and working in implements, show results, as well as some history and perhaps something thought-provoking; all essentially relating to heavy horses.

I did set up the website www.aussieheavyhorses.com nine years ago, to help people and to become a 'gateway' to finding heavy horse information and societies in Australian and worldwide. That website is a work-in-progress, and I update it and add to it when I can.

I had also set up the Australian heavy Horse Forums in 2007, long before Facebook became popular, and the forums were in effect an early kind of 'social media.' Sadly the hosts shut their servers down in August 2015, taking with them 'our' forums, and thousands of others. We were not given an opportunity to buy a data backup. (I did try!) Fortunately Facebook has filled a big gap in that aspect!

Queenslanders, from a 'homework' perspective, don't forget to complete your annual Queensland Brands Return- DPI website: <http://ibrands.dpi.qld.gov.au/horse.aspx> That is supposed to be done each January, but *better late than never!* The DPI can reallocate your brand to someone else if they do not think you are using it. The brands return is to let them know you still want to continue using it.

There will be new Qld rules for paperwork for travelling stock as of July - that can wait for the next edition of this newsletter.

Thank you sincerely to supporters, contributors and photographers who have assisted with this issue!

Happy reading- we hope you enjoy it, and please get in touch if you'd like to add something for the next issue!

Ian Stewart-Koster ian@aussieheavyhorses.com 0407 928 292

Book Reviews

Four books have been recently released which will be of particular interest to readers.

Firstly, the Victorian Branch of the CCHS assembled a tremendous Yearbook showcasing A Centenary of Clydesdale Royal Melbourne Show Champions. This 96 page book is a great addition to any breeder or enthusiast's bookshelf, and even moreso because the photos contained within are of horses that would feature somewhere in the pedigrees of most Australian clydesdales.

Another significant and fascinating chapter is 'Pioneering Women of the Pavilion'. Order details for this book are overleaf - contact Barbara Ford- special price \$13.50 inc post.

The CCHS Victorian Branch are excited to present the

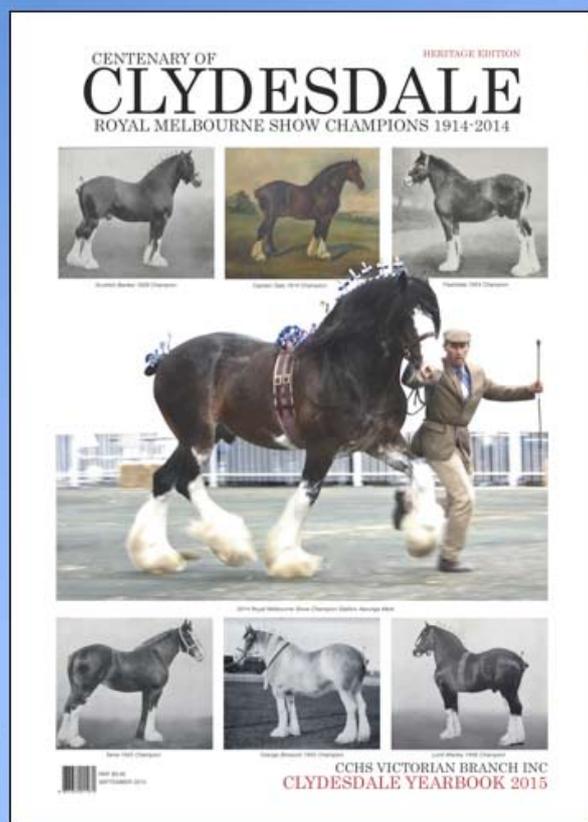
2015 CLYDESDALE YEARBOOK – HERITAGE EDITION

Celebrating 100 Years of Clydesdale Champions at the Royal Melbourne Show 1914-2014, you can't afford to miss out on this special edition yearbook – a walk through the ages of where the Australian Clydesdale began and how they have become the breed they are today. Stories complimented by countless photographs of the horses and people that brought the pavilion at the Royal Melbourne Show to life each September.

A commemorative 96-page colour edition made possible by the support of the Victorian Government and Public Records Office

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW! \$9.95 or \$13.50 Inc. postage
Available from 25th September 2015

Contact Barbara Ford at clydesdaleyearbook@gmail.com
or mob 0425 111 570 for more information.



In 2016, the Vic Branch CCHS Yearbook will feature historic of Parades and Harness exhibits as well as the usual quality content, significant show results and photos from Victoria's major Clydesdale shows.

Secondly, the NSW Branch of the CCHS has published the THIRD edition of the very popular 'The Clydesdale Horse - A Resource Book' which was launched at Sydney Royal Show in March 2016.

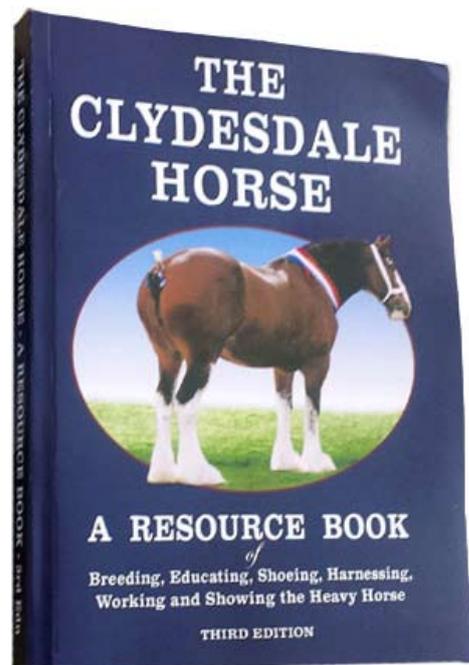
This edition has been significantly revised, updated and edited as well as 50+ new photos added, new pedigrees included, updated and new lists, and some new chapters have been written too.

This third edition is 332 pages, and weighs 3/4 kg - considerably bigger than the old 'green book' it replaces, which is now 18 years old.



The NSW Branch sells it for \$40, plus postage.

We have copies in Qld which will save readers some interstate postage costs - just enquire info@aussieheavyhorses.com
CCHS Branch secretaries also have some copies.



The resource book has long been regarded as the 'Bible' of Clydesdale information in Australia, and this edition helps maintain and perpetuate that standard.

Pictured above is NSW Branch patron Dick Adams APM RFD giving a very interesting talk during the launch of the book

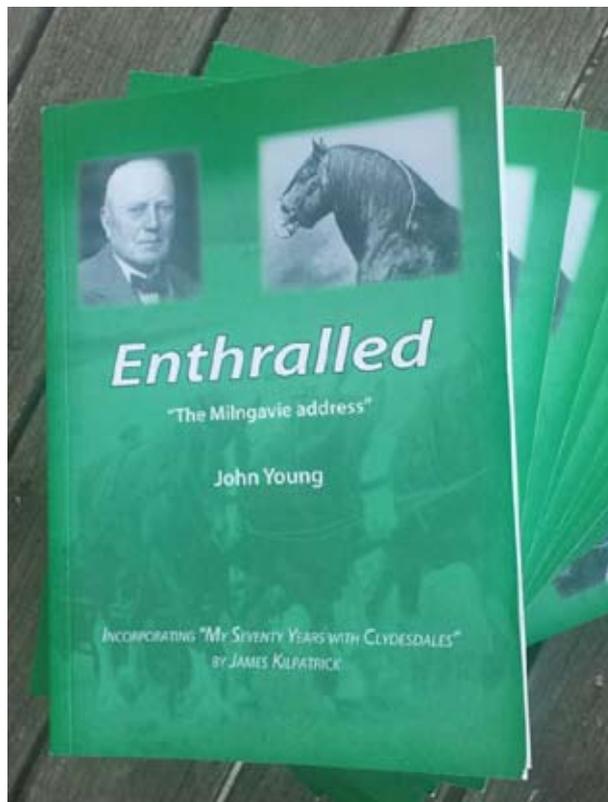
“Enthralled” is the title of the new book by John Young, published in July 2015.

This book is unique in that it includes verbatim the six-hour speech by William Dunlop known as the Milngavie Address of 1935, and well as an entire reprint of James Kilpatrick’s famous and scarce book “My Seventy Years with Clydesdales” published in 1948.

Dunlop and Kilpatrick were of course, the owners of the famous Scottish horse *Baron of Buchlyvie* who went to auction in 1909, fetching £ 9500 - a world record at the time, (and the subject of an article I wrote in the newsletter about three years ago.) Baron of Buchlyvie then became sire of the famous Dunure Footprint.

Original copies of Kilpatrick’s ‘70 years...’ can occasionally be found, but they generally sell online at auction or well over \$100 plus post. This new book puts it in the ‘affordable’ price bracket for most enthusiasts and students of clydesdale history.

This book can be bought from Scotland for about £15, plus postage, but we have it here (in Qld) for \$32 plus post. It has been very popular to date. Contact us on info@aussieheavyhorses.com or 07 - 4692 8292



“Seasons of Erewhon” is a massive tome of 288 pages, full of lovely photos, published by Penguin books in November 2015 in New Zealand.

Erewhon Station in the South Island of NZ is a 13 500 hectare (33 750 acre) property in mid Canterbury, run by Colin Drummond and Erin Cassie.

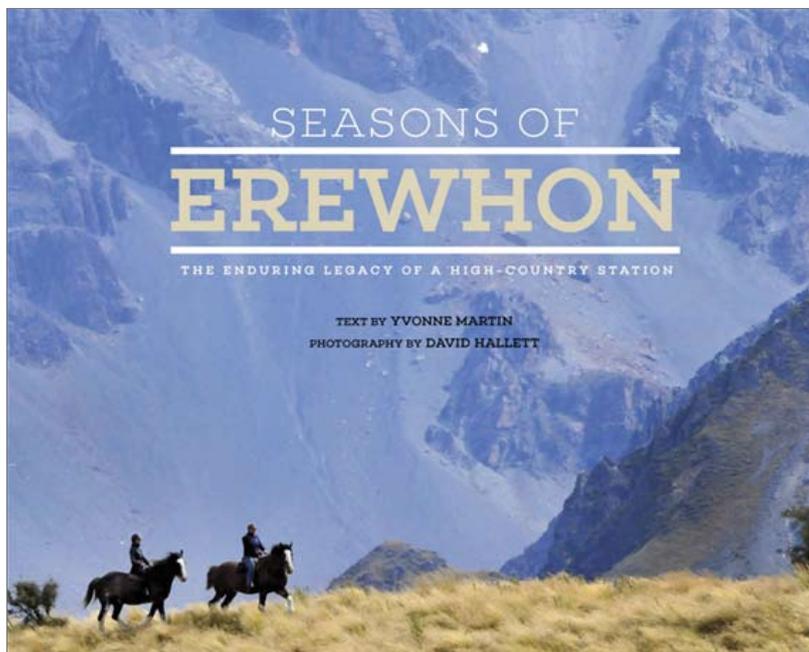
They run about 80 pure and partbred clydesdales on the property, foaling about 20 each year, making themselves New Zealand’s largest Clydesdale breeders.

Erewhon Station uniquely brings its past into the present — most ‘tractor work’ is done with their big team of beloved Clydies and all stock work, including the traditional autumn muster, is carried out on horseback or on foot. Despite technological advances, these gentle giants are still used to work the soil, harvest crops, muster sheep and provide transport around the station, by wagon or under saddle.

For Erewhon, the Clydies also tick the sustainability box, with their dinner-plate-sized hooves having a light carbon footprint on the land— they’ve become the glossy brand ambassadors for the station. Their two impressive five-horse-team show-ring performances deftly driven by Colin and Erin are always crowd-pleasers, and the station is popular with coaches of tourists.

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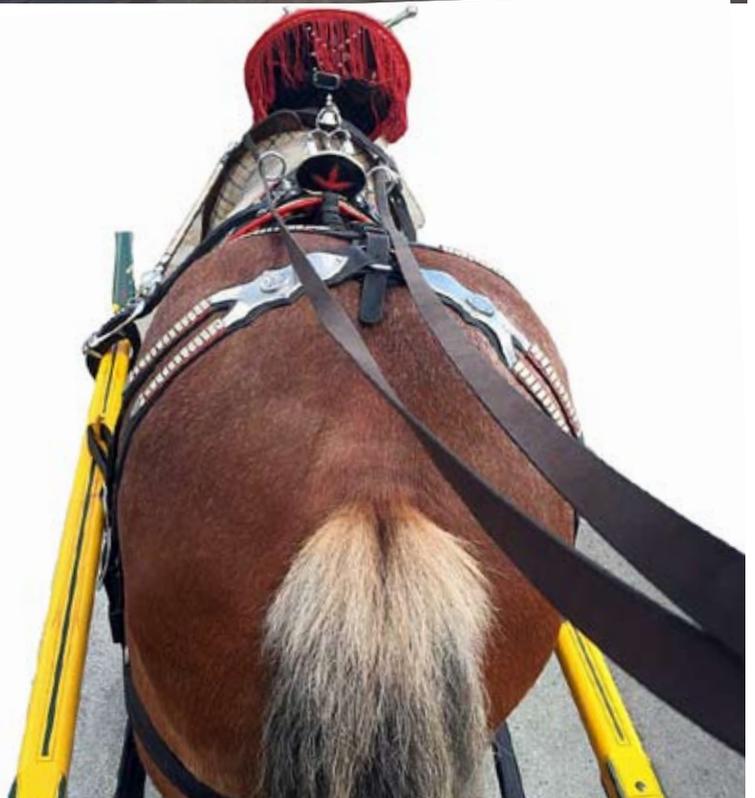
This book retails for about \$65, and is a wonderful record of a life many of us just dream about!



Local Events in Qld

Jacaranda Day at Goodna, Nov. 2015

Toby and Alexis Barton with the Mayor of Ipswich, Cr Paul Pisasale, and the President of the local RSL, and gelding Clancy, (Rosbercon Casanova) with an appropriately purple backdrop, in the Jacaranda Day parade in November.



Collinsville The 'Pit Pony' Project – by Lynda Erwin

In March, 2015 we received a phone call from the Collinsville Connect Centre asking some questions about our Clydesdales, sizes proportions, what's 'hands high' etc. Once we got to the bottom of the story, we started us on a wonderful journey learning about the last Australian Pit Ponies, Mr Ed & Wharrier.

In the Beginning: The Collinsville community had gathered to come up with an idea to celebrate this incredible piece of history by building a life-size, bronze, 'pit pony' statue, situated in the centre of the town-Sonoma Park to be exact. The statue will have a life span of hundreds of years! The Pit Pony Experience project came to life on 5th Feb 2015. The project was to have a two pronged effect:

Collinsville was to be recognised as the "Pit Pony Capital of Australia", as they retired the last working 'ponies' from underground coal mines in Australia. This is a unique claim to fame and truly belonged to Collinsville.

1. The small community needed a distinct identity and an alternate industry beyond coal mining.
2. They needed to raise \$150,000 in 60 days (via crowd funding) or the project would simply NOT go ahead!!!

Amazingly they raised almost \$122,000 in the first 45 days from the project launch.

That was when we, Shiralee Clydesdales were contacted! The excitement in their voices at what they had achieved was contagious. It looked like their incredible goal of \$150,000 in 60 days might be met and they needed a 'model'. Shiralee Highland Guard (aka Sherman) our 12yo stallion was measured in every facet of his body, and photos were sent to the artists who were going to make the clay sculpture which was to be sent overseas to be bronzed.

We certainly had some fun explaining points of a horse, equipment and harness used.

Finally the clay model was done, photos were sent for confirmation that all was correct and we OKed it. It was only then, that one of the old horse



handlers who used to be in charge of Mr Ed and Wharrier looked at the photo and then commented that stallions didn't work underground – D'oh, how could I have missed that!

Sherman's clay model was quickly gelded!

The opening day for the celebration was planned around the arrival of the bronze statue and were asked to help celebrate. How could we ever refuse – we were honoured!

On Saturday, 27th November 2015 we travelled to Collinsville with two geldings, Dave & Dudley. Sherman was supposed to go but had come down with colic a few weeks beforehand.

Have you ever had one of those trips from hell where you think you're just not supposed to be

going? This was it.

To start with, a couple of days before, Rod had flushed his only set of car keys down the toilet, so had to borrow a mate's car. We left early on the Saturday to give us heaps of time to get there – celebrations weren't until 11am. Just outside of Mackay we stopped for coffee, jumped back in the Rod's mate's car, and there was no way that engine would turn over: the battery had died. A local drove back to his place, grabbed jumper leads and jump started us – no turning the car off until we could by a new battery.



I drove through Bowen and I still had about 100 km of fuel left in the tank – it was about 58 km to Proserpine. Thinking I'd get fuel and a battery from there I kept going. The only issue was the fuel gauge was going down twice as fast as the km left to travel!



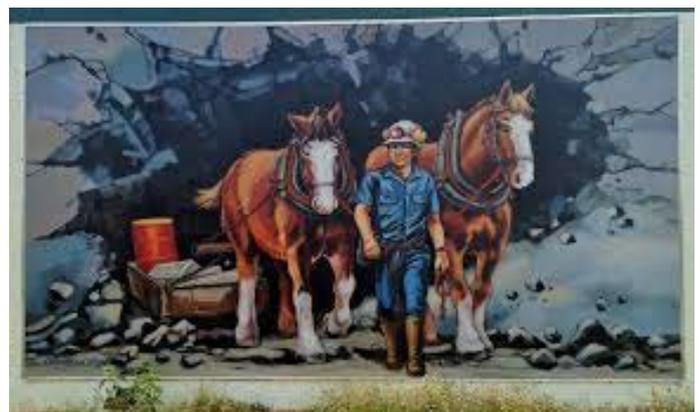
We were 10km out of Proserpine when the gauge flashed we were empty – we thought we'd just keep going – surely we'd make it. Then there was a HUGE random breath test line up on the highway. REALLY? We limped through that, blew on the bag and kept going. We were 500 m from the servo when the car died. Off Rod went and returned with a battery and a jerry can of fuel. YAY, we were on the road again!

We arrived in Collinsville at about 10:50am – at least we weren't late. We harnessed the horses in leader harness (best we could do) and then realised that the trace chains were in the other car still coming with the carriage for rides later on... Jumping on the phone to see where they were, I exhaled a huge sigh of relief when I heard "Turn around, we've just pulled up behind you!"



Off we went, long reigning into the crowd, the geldings behaved beautifully, we talked to the guys who used to handle Mr Ed & Wharrier. We could have listened to their stories all day. The people loved Dave & Dudley and I think the whole town and all its visitors had photos with them.

After the lunchtime celebrations, we were able to view what Collinsville had to offer. I'd heard a lot of 'stories' of Collinsville and let me assure you, it's well worth the trip there. Not only to see Sherman bronzed statue but also their displays and monuments to the underground mining history- a real eye opener!! But we ran out of time and didn't get to see it all.



That evening we harnessed up again and did carriage rides from the Pit Pony Pub around the streets of Collinsville.

Believe it or not, I can't wait to go back!

A town mural featuring Mr Ed and Wharrier - the last two.

Apple Tree Creek

is a small community on the Bruce Hwy near Childers, where Ollie and Maryann Geissler and



friends have hosted two very successful and informative heavy horse working or demonstration days in the first weekend of October for the last two years featuring all breeds of draught horses.

If you are in the area, don't miss it!



Top, and above left, Ron Cross and family set up a horseworks to cut chaff and grind corn throughout the day. Above, Bob Rattray drives his pair in the offset discs, while below Keith Cross takes a brief rest from ploughing .





Taking it in turns, and sometimes all at the same time, Les Roe was also demonstrating single-furrow ploughing, while outside the ring were static displays of assorted implements, horse-drawn vehicles, and breed displays featuring clydesdales, percherons, suffolks, cobs and draughts, whilst Dave Pitstock gave a fairery demonstration at midday, and rides and obstacle courses were being driven. A GREAT local day!



Yanqaq





Mick Bradford and friends set up and demonstrate working horses annually at his property at Yangan, near Warwick. The proceeds from the day are donated to Careflight. It is a photographer's paradise! Details of the few snaps here are: preceding page, top, a team of horses tied to the fence being harnessed up as the crowd watches, middle, Mick driving the stallion in the superphosphate spreader, while Col Christensen drives a pair in the little cultivator. Bottom, John B binding oats - note they are not using backbands. This page: top, a rare sight of four horses in the 4-horse works, operating a multitude of lineshaft-connected machinery, from a pump, to a bandsaw, to a winnower, chaff cutter and a and corn thresher. Below, the team of eight in pulleyblock traces coming in from having worked a Gaston cultivator.



Collecting Hay at Gowrie Junction *Photos by Nicola Martin.*



*Above & Right
Lavereen Banjo &
Coolibah Ridge
Gambler bringing
home some hay.
6km round trip*



*Lavereen Clem &
Coolibah Ridge
Gambler mowing the
footpath at home.*

Lawgi



Heritage Day

The annual Heritage Day held at Jack Rackham's Heritage Park at Lawgi was held on Easter Saturday 2016, with all proceeds going to the local SES. The weather was perfect, and a large crowd turned out to enjoy a day in the sun, enjoying the glorious views and browsing through the huge array of antique machinery, tools and household goods. Local people also brought along vintage cars and working machinery, and there were demonstrations of rope making, as well as a blacksmith's shop.



One of the highlights is the working horse demonstrations. About a dozen horses worked on the paddock this year, with Clydesdales, draughts, light horses and ponies all working, pulling slides and giving buggy and sulky rides. Another 4 or 5 horses operated the horse works cutting chaff.

Wendy Jones



Top: Shane Krafft stands beside the team of three abreast. Centre: Sandy Russell with a pair in the monkey-tail cultivator. Left: whilst not 'overly heavy,' Tamara Warner's team of three from Rockhampton raise a smile!

Some photos from The National Carriage Driving Championships - Sept 2015



**Left: Bill Lark and
Corinthian Dixie Belle
before the Trade
Turnout**

*Photo: T J McCoombes
Photography*

**Below: Clare Gorwyn
and Montana Park
Damon winning
Champion Medium or
Heavy Horse in Harness
ahead of Trevor Kohler
with Albert**

*Photo: T J McCoombes
Photography*



Interested in Driving Your Clydesdale....

The Australian Carriage Driving Society (ACDS) has affiliated clubs nation-wide including many in Queensland. They cater for all interests and all equines. Whether you're into Pleasure Driving, Trekking, Show Driving, Driven Dressage or Combined Driving, ACDS clubs have something to offer.

For more information about the ACDS visit their website <http://www.australiancarriagedrivingsociety.org/> or the Queensland Branch website <https://sites.google.com/site/acdsqueenslandbranch/Home> which has links to the State clubs. If you are in SE Qld, Jimboomba Pleasure Drivers has their "Starlight Show" on 4 & 5 June which also has working classes for Heavy Horses. Find them on Facebook for more info <https://www.facebook.com/Jimboomba-Districts-Pleasure-Drivers-Inc-546025172099771/?fref=ts>

Scale Model Horse-drawn Vehicles

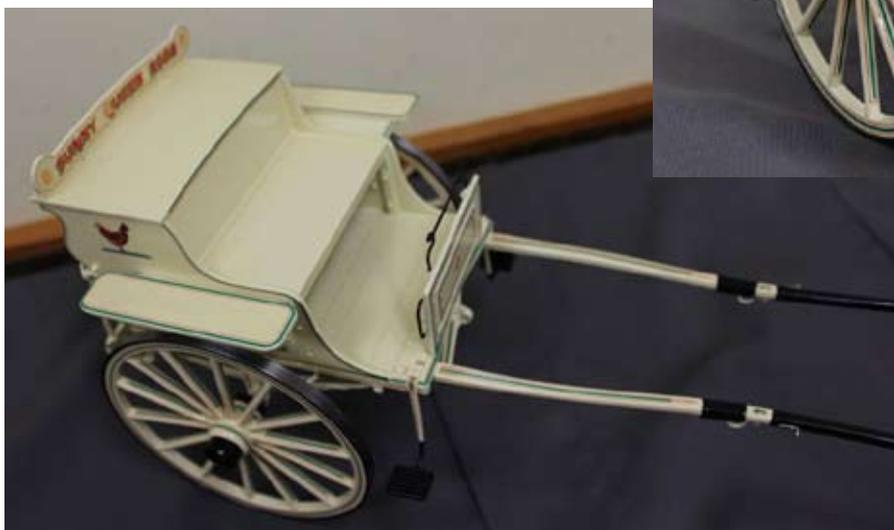
Seeing the photo of Bill Lark and the Sunny Queen egg cart on the previous page, readers might be interested to see these photos of some extremely accurate and detailed 1/12 scale models made by Graham Green late last year and early this year.

Graham's attention to accurate detail is applaudable and amazing.



Graham says: *Here's one of Bob Bone's old carts, which now belongs to Bill Lark. It is another 1/12th scale model. I had to take heaps of photos and get plenty of measurements and draw it all to scale, then made it to the drawing.*

Bob bought it as a bit of a wreck and had it rebuilt as a Milk Cart, but Bob had no cows as he had an egg farm, so it became an Egg Cart. The original vehicle still has all of Alex Hamiltons scrolling and painting on it, been touched up a tad by Ian Stewart-Koster, but still very close to Alex's original paint job though.



However, you could be forgiven for thinking it is full-sized, when in reality it will fit in a shoebox!

The Arnotts model on the next page has a ruler beside it for scale comparison.

Graham says: Here's another one for the cupboard... I suppose most people have seen this Arnotts biscuit tin somewhere or other.



I decided to try my hand at making the Light Spring Cart, this is what it turned out like. After plenty of conversations with Ian Stewart-Koster to try and get the dimensions as close as possible to what it would have been, here is the result.

It's made to 1/12th scale once again, and the hardest part was making and applying the decals.

(Mick Stapleton used to say the cart in the picture was NOT laden with biscuits, but was actually carrying empty tins back to the factory.)

Below is Graham's model beside a 12" or 30cm ruler.



(P.S. Graham makes these for his own amusement, not for sale!)

Around the Downs

Clare Gorwyn

The Queensland Agricultural Show circuit kicks off at the end of January/beginning of February each year with Stanthorpe Show. This starts a very busy time for competitors on the Darling Downs (and those prepared to travel a bit) with a number of show societies including heavy horses in their programme. They know that the heavies are a crowd pleaser and are keen to increase the number of competitors. It's a great way to get your horses out and about and share your love of these special animals with those that are not so lucky as to have their own.

The season is almost over for this region (just Crows Nest to go) although some of us will travel down the Range to attend other shows. Here's a wrap-up of the year so far...

Stanthorpe Show: A lovely show to start the season and one that used to be well attended. Numbers have fallen but it has a great programme of led, working and harness classes. We hope to see more heavy horses in future years.

This year Glengallan Mystic Maiden won Champion Heavy Horse ahead of Montana Park Damon and a Gypsy cross. The two Clydesdales then fought it out in the working events with MP Damon (Sonny) coming out ahead of Mimi.



Clare Gorwyn with Glengallan Mystic Maiden, Peter Lowry with Montana Park Damon and judge, Scott Goodall, after the working classes at Stanthorpe Show.

Allora Show: Allora puts on just three led classes for heavy horses which makes it hard to attract many competitors, however, for us it is our local show and only five minutes down the road so we always try to take a couple of horses to put the breed on show. This year the honours went to "Sonny" ahead of "Mimi".

Clifton Show has led classes for Heavy Horses and **Killarney Show** has leds, working and harness events. Unfortunately, this year, no heavies attended either show.

Pittsworth Show: This year Pittsworth Show put Heavy Horse classes back in their schedule after many years without them. Thank you to Carolyn & Trevor Kohler for all their work in getting the programme up and running. It was a great show and well supported with 13 heavy horses. Barry & Kath Pearce brought three Clydesdales and a very pretty Clydie cross, Pete & I took three, Keith Dodds brought along his Clydesdale stallion, Robyn Chapman travelled up from Tarampa with three Shires and the Kohlers had their two Belgian draughts. The mare class (6 horses) in particular gave judge, Craig Wass something to think about with the blue ribbon going to Valhalla Melody. Champion Heavy Horse was Robyn's Shire filly, Ingleside Melinda with Trevor Kohler and Archie taking the Reserve Champion sash. Harness classes were hotly contested between Trevor Kohler (singles & pairs), Kath Pearce (singles and pairs) and Sonny & I. Kath & I finished the day with plenty of laughs in the under saddle class where we both took home a blue ribbon. I know everyone is keen to go back next year 😊



Above: Keith Dodds and his stallion, Oscarville Major, finding some shade on a warm day at Pittsworth Show. *Photo: Carolyn Kohler*
Below: Heading for the ring. The three Shires from Belleview Shires followed by three Clydesdales from Glengallan made an impressive entry into the main ring at Pittsworth
Photo: Drew Chapman



Oakey Show: In between Pittsworth and Warwick Shows is Oakey – another favourite for heavy horse competitors. It has a full programme starting with led classes followed by under saddle and working events and then harness classes for both light and heavy horses. This year there were 7 heavy horses shown by Dave & Nicola Martin and Maria Hughston with her two juniors, Morgan Hughston and Jack James. Judge, Trevor Kohler awarded Coolibah Ridge Charlotte Champion Heavy Horse and Coolibah Ridge Jade Reserve Champion. Morgan and Jack were the riders on the day and Maria and Dave fought it out in the working classes with Dave winning the battle.

Warwick Show: This is now a major show on the heavy horse calendar and a CCHS Qld Branch sponsored event. A full wrap up of Warwick is a little further on in the newsletter.

Toowoomba Royal: Heavy Horse classes are no longer included in the Toowoomba schedule however the Clydesdales were represented by Montana Park Damon in the harness events. He won Champion Horse or Pony in Harness against some pretty spiffy opposition.

Goombungee-Haden Show: Two years ago heavy horse classes were re-introduced to coincide with their 150th show. It was a great success with about 20 Clydesdales competing. This year there were only 10 heavies – all Clydesdales - but it was one of the most enjoyable shows I have been to. Everyone helped everyone else and we all kept an eye out for Maria Hughston's young son Morgan (*pictured*) who very capably showed their 2 year old filly Balgowan Rumour to win Champion Mare or Filly – beating his



mother with Duneske Pride. All the horses were a credit to the breed. We had to walk past the pigs and sheep (strange strong smell) to get to our ring which was next to the dog ring as well as the hit-and-miss engines and not far from the chainsaw races (I think the chainsaws could be heard wherever you were). Side show alley was also nearby – which all sounds pretty off-putting but it wasn't really. All the horses were very well behaved and seemed to take it in their stride. Led classes were followed by junior handler, under saddle, decorated harness, harness events for vehicles and slides (singles & multiples), lady driver long reining, obstacle course, log snig and ploughing – plenty for everyone. Alan Taylor did a terrific job organising it all and Roy Fleetwood had a full day of judging.

Nicola Martin became our 'official photographer and all photos of this show are thanks to her. The following page tells the story of the day.

Still to come... **Crows Nest Show – 7 May.** This is the last show for the Darling Downs region and another that has a full programme for heavy horses once again organised by Alan Taylor. It also has great harness events which run adjacent to the Heavy Horse ring. For the full schedule and all show details go to their website <http://www.crowsnestshow.com.au/manage-documents/2016-show/schedule-1/42-ring-schedule-2016>

Goombungee-Haden Show

All photos courtesy of Nicola Martin



Above: (Left to right, by row) Maria Hughston log snigging with Duneske Pride; Clare Gorwyn & Peter Lowry waiting for their turn with Sonny; Morgan Hughston on Pride; Dave Martin taking it easy with his team of three – Coolibah Ridge Gambler (Kenny), C R Jasmine and Lavereen Clem; Neil Hall working out with Carseldine Liberty; Peter Lowry with Sonny in the Sunshine Fertiliser Spreader; and Neil Hall with Carseldine Opal.

Below: Dave Martin watches on as Alan Taylor has a turn at ploughing with Clem and Kenny.



Warwick Show

Heavy Horse & Harness Spectacular

Clare Gorwyn

The Heavy Horse and Harness Spectacular is really a 'show within a show'. Held in Evans Paddock, separate to the main ring, it is a full 2-day programme of harness events (for both light & heavy horses) on Saturday, and led, under saddle and working events for heavy horses on Sunday. Many competitors camp over the weekend and Saturday night has become a 'social event' around the camp fire. The area is self-contained with camping facilities, horse yards and wash bay within easy access to the ring. The ADHS Southern Qld Branch has 'adopted' us and come each year to make sure competitors are well 'fed and watered'.

Saturday's 'Parade of Horse Drawn Vehicles' – judged as a Concours d'Elegance – has replaced the Grand Parade in the main ring and has become a major feature of the show.

The feedback after this year was positive and gratifying with exhibitors commenting that it was the way showing should be, friendly but competitive, "the way shows used to be" with everyone enjoying themselves, helping others and looking forward to next year. As organisers, we can't ask for much more. We have a terrific team that run the show and the backing of many sponsors, both from the Warwick business community and the horse fraternity. We are also very thankful that the Breed Societies have chosen to back Warwick Show and support us generously. Without the wonderful support from all of these people this event would not happen – a huge "Thank You" to each and every one of you. 😊

This year there were just over 30 heavy horses competing in Sunday's events. Clydesdale numbers were down a bit due to a couple of 'regulars' having a clash of dates but Percheron exhibitors were vastly greater than previous years. We had a number of new competitors – both to Warwick Show and new to showing – so the future looks encouraging and we know that this will remain a major event on both the harness and heavy horse calendars.

Another 'first' for this year was the awarding of the "Herbert Evans – Rump and Stump" Perpetual Trophy to the Supreme Heavy Horse Led Exhibit. This has been generously donated by Dr Anna Cameron of Verdmont Estate at Blackbutt and has huge historical significance to this show. Anna is a great, great granddaughter of Herbert Evans and this fascinating story will be told in the next newsletter.

Full results are on our Facebook page – as are many, many photos from the weekend – so please find time to have a look if you are a 'Facebooker' <https://www.facebook.com/Warwick-Show-Qld-Heavy-Horse-Harness-Spectacular-507966989244554/> Feel free to 'Like' the page to keep informed about next year's event 😊



Clare Gorwyn and Montana Park Damon flew the Clydesdale flag in the Parade of Horse Drawn Vehicles held in the main arena. They were also a Runner Up in the Concours d'Elegance.

Photo: Clint Kenny

The Clydesdale judge was Mr Brian Eichmann and the Champions (kindly sponsored by the CCHS Qld Branch) were:

Champion Stallion or Colt: *Carseldine Liberty* – Neil Hall

Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly: *Glengallan Midnight Sapphire* - Clare Gorwyn & Peter Lowry

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly: *Coolibah Ridge Jade*- David & Nicola Martin

Champion Clydesdale Gelding: *Glengallan Montana Sun* - Clare Gorwyn & Peter Lowry

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Gelding: *Montana Park Damon* - Clare Gorwyn & Peter Lowry

GRAND CHAMPION CLYDESDALE EXHIBIT: *Glengallan Montana Sun*

SUPREME LED HEAVY HORSE EXHIBIT: *Glengallan Montana Sun*



Left: *Glengallan Montana Sun* and Peter Lowry receiving the Grand Champion Clydesdale award from judge, Mr Brian Eichmann

Photo: T J McCoombes Photography

Montana and Pete then went on to win the Beres Eastwell Memorial Trophy for the Supreme Local (Southern Downs Region) Led Exhibit.



Below: Neil Hall with his 3 year old mare, *Carseldine Opal*, about to be judged.

Photo: T J McCoombes Photography

Above: Dave & Nicola Martin's *Coolibah Ridge Jade* about to receive the blue ribbon from Mr Brian Eichmann. C R Jade went on to win Reserve Champion Mare or Filly

Photo: Nicola Martin





Above Left: Rob Petith of Canning Downs with the lovely mare Woodlands Park Layla. This was Rob's first time showing heavy horses.

Photo: T J McCoombes Photography

Above Right: Champion Mare or Filly, Glengallan Midnight Sapphire with Peter Lowry and Marian Bangay. Marian runs the office each year at Warwick Show and is also the sponsor of the Mare class.

Photo: T J McCoombes Photography

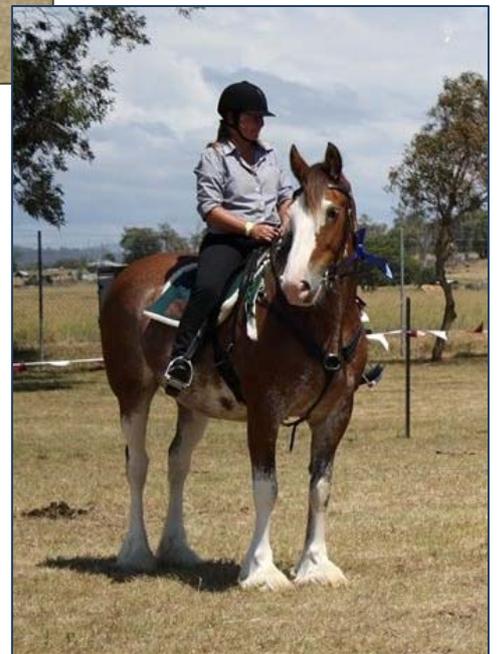
The working classes were hotly contested with Dave Martin and his Coolibah Ridge Clydesdales given a run for their money by Helen & Christine Perry and others. Clydies were also successful in Junior Handler classes as well as under saddle. It shows what a versatile breed it truly is.



Left & Below Left: Dave Martin's pair, Lavereen Banjo & Coolibah Ridge Jasmine working in unison through the slide obstacle course - and eating in unison when they think no one is watching.

Photos: Nicola Martin

Below: Clare Gorwyn on Glengallan Mystic Maiden with the blue ribbon for the Under Saddle class.



A random selection of Clydesdale photos from Warwick Show. The collage is created by my computer so I can't alter what gets chopped off. The photos were taken by a selection of people – Teresa McCoombes, Nicola Martin, Clint Kenny and Kirsty McKenna.



Montana Park Damon – “Sonny”

While putting together the three stories that I have for this newsletter, it occurred to me that our gelding, Sonny, featured in more than his fair share of photos. Partly because one always has more photos of one's own horses to draw on but mostly because he is out on the show circuit more than most horses. This year he has been to 6 shows already and has up to 6 more to go. He competes in harness, led, and working classes and he is often called upon for Junior Handler duties. We go to Ag Shows, Heavy Horse shows and ACDS events. Sonny wins hearts wherever he goes and is easily recognisable since he rubbed a haematoma in his ear which is now permanently damaged. This has not stopped him achieving success in the harness ring winning Champion In Harness and Turnouts against some quality opposition. He has been the ideal horse for my introduction to harness driving and is a wonderful representative of the breed. *(I don't think I need to put another photo of him here – he appears twice in the collage above.)*

On another note... Thank you to Nicola Martin for letting me 'steal' photos from her Facebook page and for being so generous with the pics she takes of our horses at shows. Thank you also to Teresa McCoombes who sends Warwick Show a disc of photos from the weekend for use on Facebook, their web site and newsletters. And thank you to all my other friends who take photos to share.

Clare

Recent Royal Results

Being Royal Shows
from September
2015 to April 2016

2015 Royal Melbourne Show Led Clydesdales Judge: A Riley – NSW.

S.E. Jorgensen Novice Clydesdale Exhibitor
1 Edwin Bradley: YULONG RAINON, Reg: CCHS:8949, Bay, 1 Oct 2012, Colt, Sire: Murroka Macduff, Dam: Myrtle Park Karen Joy

Clydesdale Stallion, 4 years old or over.

1 AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA MARK, Reg: CCHS:8169, Brown, 17 Oct 2004, Stallion, Sire: Melaleuca Matthew, Dam: Aarunga Lady Gretel
2 N J Brooks: NORBROOK MCALISTER, Reg: CCHS:8928, Bay, 27 Oct 2011, Stallion, Sire: Hillside Lorton Legend (GBR), Dam: Norbrook Tina Louise

Clydesdale Colt, 3 years old.

1 Bruce Hamblin: NARIOKA KILBRIDE, Reg: CCHS:8978, Brown, 3 Nov 2012, Colt, Sire: Narioka Kingsley, Dam: Narioka Caralina
2 Edwin Bradley: YULONG RAINON, Reg: CCHS:8949, Bay, 1 Oct 2012, Colt, Sire: Murroka Macduff, Dam: Myrtle Park Karen Joy

Clydesdale Colt, 2 years old.

1 Meadow Lane Clydesdales: MEADOW LANE SOUTHERN CROSS, (Owned by G. Capewell) Reg: CCHS:9087, Bay, 15 Oct 2013, Colt, Sire: Aarunga Mastermind, Dam: Valmont Mystique
2 Cox Family: VALMONT CAMBRIDGE, Reg: CCHS:9082, Bay, 19 Oct 2013, Colt, Sire: Valmont Daktari, Dam: Valmont Monique
3 Narioka Clydesdale Stud: NARIOKA CAVENDISH, Reg: CCHS:9067, Bay, 9 Nov 2013, Colt, Sire: Narioka Kingsley, Dam: Narioka Caralina
4 AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA KUBA, Reg: CCHS:9094, Bay, 9 Nov 2013, Colt, Sire: Collessie Motivator, Dam: Aarunga Fairley

Clydesdale Colt, 1 year old.

1 Trevor McDonald: WAVERLEY BAILEY, Reg: CCHS:9143, Bay, 28 Aug 2014, Colt, Sire: Narioka Kingsley, Dam: Waverley Scarlet
2 Narioka Clydesdale Stud: NARIOKA CARLYLE, Reg: CCHS:9160, Bay, 3 Nov 2014, Colt, Sire: Narioka Kingsley, Dam: Narioka Caralina
3 Meadow Lane Clydesdales: MEADOW LANE TED, Reg: CCHS:9234, Bay, 16 Nov 2014, Colt, Sire: Aarunga Master Ben, Dam: Meadow Lane Harmony
4 AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA TODMAN, Reg: CCHS:9187, Bay, 7 Nov 2014, Colt, Sire: Aarunga Mastermind, Dam: Aarunga Sarah

Clydesdale Brood Mare, 4 years old or over with foal at foot or visibly in foal.

1 Meadow Lane Clydesdales: MEADOW LANE HARMONY, Reg: CCHS:18068, Black, 16 Apr 2006, Mare, Sire: McMurchie Ramsay, Dam: Meadow Lane Heirloom
2 Cox Family: VALMONT LA BELLA, Reg: CCHS:18450, Brown, 2 Nov 2010, Mare, Sire: Valmont Daktari, Dam: Valmont Mirabella

Clydesdale Dry Mare, 4 years old or over.

1 Daphne Talbot: NORTHDAL PARK RUBY ROSE, Reg: CCHS:18477, Bay, 4 Jul 2010, Mare, Sire: Greendyes Benjie (GBR), Dam: Northdale Park Summer
2 AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA DESTINY, Reg: CCHS:18539, Bay, 9 Aug 2011, Mare, Sire: Collessie Moti-

vater, Dam: Aarunga Fairley

3 Anthony & Donna Ronzio: TALOUMBI LODGE FLASH GRACE, Reg: CCHS:18537, Bay, 30 Dec 2011, Mare, Sire: Aarunga Flash Nicholas, Dam: Jendalyn Annabelle
4 William Jackson: LOCH LINNHE LIBERTINA, Reg: CCHS:18095, Bay, 24 Oct 2007, Mare, Sire: Greendykes Monty (GBR), Dam: Valmont Alexandra
5 Box Valley Clydesdales: BOX VALLEY LUCIE, Reg: CCHS:18242, Bay, 21 Aug 2008, Mare, Sire: Aarunga Dexter, Dam: Box Valley Loretta

Clydesdale Filly, 3 years old.

1 AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA MIRANDA, Reg: CCHS:18657, Bay, 18 Oct 2012, Filly, Sire: Aarunga Mark, Dam: Aarunga Treasure
2 Cox Family: VALMONT ISADORA, Reg: CCHS:18643, Bay, 4 Oct 2012, Filly, Sire: Hillside Lorton Legend (GBR), Dam: Valmont Soprano
3 Roy Woolley: HOMEWOOD PARK ROSEMARKIE, Reg: CCHS:18627, Bay, 16 Nov 2012, Filly, Sire: Aaringsa Flash Nicholas 8404, Dam: Homewood Park Gretna Green 17994
4 Heather Linwood: BUNDY PARK TRILOGY, Reg: CCHS:18642, Brown, 24 Aug 2012, Filly, Sire: Valmont Independent, Dam: Valmont Celebrity

Clydesdale Filly, 2 years old.

1 Beereega Clydesdale Stud: BEEREEGA LADY COLOGNE, Reg: CCHS:18846, Bay, 7 Nov 2013, Filly, Sire: Beereega Fenton, Dam: Beereega Celtic Lass
2 Box Valley Clydesdales: BOX VALLEY EMILY, Reg: CCHS:18772, Bay, 25 Oct 2013, Filly, Sire: Benwerrin Scottish Banjo, Dam: Box Valley Laila
3 Mathy Hyder: MOONRISE AMBUSH, Reg: CCHS:18792, Bay, 9 Oct 2013, Filly, Sire: Valmont Daktari, Dam: Valmont Symphony
4 Narioka Clydesdale Stud: NARIOKA LADY VIOLETA, Reg: CCHS:18754, Bay, 5 Sep 2013, Filly, Sire: Narioka Kingsley, Dam: Narioka Vivienne
5 Trevor McDonald: WAVERLEY ELLA, Reg: CCHS:18767, Bay, 18 Aug 2013, Filly, Sire: Aarunga Mark, Dam: Waverley Carley
6 B.M & S. Filbay & N.Kerlin: BEN KOI SHELLEY, Reg: CCHS:18789, Bay, 26 Nov 2013, Filly, Sire: Haylands Souvenir, Dam: Ben-Koi Scotsburn Star

Corrie S. Rodda Memorial Trophy.

Beereega Clydesdale Stud: BEEREEGA LADY COLOGNE, Reg: CCHS:18846, Bay, 7 Nov 2013, Filly, Sire: Beereega Fenton, Dam: Beereega Celtic Lass

Clydesdale Filly, 1 year old.

1 William Jackson: LOCH LINNHE PRINCESS KATE, (Owned by W&BJ Jackson) Reg: CCHS:18896, Roan, 27 Aug 2014, Filly, Sire: Benwerrin Petes Inspiration, Dam: Loch Linnhe Libertina
2 Meadow Lane Clydesdales: MEADOW LANE IVY, Reg: CCHS:18944, Bay, 2 Nov 2014, Filly, Sire: Aarunga Mastermind, Dam: Meadow Lane Cascade
3 Beereega Clydesdale Stud: BEEREEGA CRESSIDA, Reg: CCHS:18901, Bay, 21 Nov 2014, Filly, Sire: Fordhill Rising Star (GBR), Dam: Beereega Casablanca
4 B.M & S. Filbay & N.Kerlin: BENKOI MARIE, Reg: CCHS:18895, Bay, 22 Nov 2014, Filly, Sire: BenKoi Starstruck, Dam: Lavereen Lady Flora
5 AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA PARIS, Reg: CCHS:18910, Bay, 26 Aug 2014, Filly, Sire: Aarunga Prince, Dam: Aarunda Christina

Clydesdale Gelding, 6 years old and under.

1 Cox Family: VALMONT JEREMIAH, Reg: CCHS:8876, Bay, 3 Nov 2011, Gelding, Sire: Valmont Daktari, Dam: Valmont Symphony

2 Joshua Taylor: BENWERRIN DUNDEAL, Reg: CCHS:9075, Bay, 14 Dec 2013, Gelding, Sire: Greendykes Monty (GBR), Dam: Box Valley

3 Brenton Taylor: NARIOKA MONITOR, Reg: CCHS:8977, Bay, 20 Oct 2012, Gelding, Sire: Rosbercon Irish Storm, Dam: Narioka Verina

4 Heather Linwood: BUNDY PARK NAPOLEAN, Reg: CCHS:9084, Bay, 11 Nov 2013, Gelding, Sire: Valmont Independent, Dam: Bundy Park Brandy

Clydesdale Gelding, 7 years old and over.

1 AT Marriott and Family: OSCARVILLE SERGEANT, Reg: CCHS:8575, Bay, 11 Oct 2008, Gelding, Sire: Valmont Pegasus, Dam: Benwerrin Park Reanna

2 AT Marriott and Family: MEADOW LANE GUINEAS, Reg: CCHS:8557, Bay, 9 Oct 2008, Gelding, Sire: Meadow Lane Sterling, Dam: Meadow Lane Heirloom

3 Brenton Taylor: MCMURCHIE BLAIR, (Owned by Brenton Taylor) Reg: CCHS:8339, Bay, 13 Nov 2005, Gelding, Sire: Dillars Lesmahagow (GBR), Dam: Linley Park Ebony Rose

4 James Doug Stewart: DENZILDON BUSTER BOY, Reg: CCHS:7653, Bay, 13 Feb 2001, Gelding, Sire: Dahlen Clancy, Dam: Mannapark Becky

Group Prize, Three Clydesdales (any age), bred and owned by Exhibitor. (Special)

1 AT Marriott and Family: MARRIOTT TEAM

2 Meadow Lane Clydesdales: MEADOW LANE STUD

Group Prize, Clydesdale Mare, any age, and one of her progeny. (Special).

1 William Jackson: Group out of LOCH LINNHE LIBERTINA

2 Meadow Lane Clydesdales: Group out of MEADOW LANE HARMONY (CCHS:18068)

Australian-Bred Clydesdale Stallion, 3 years old and over. (Special).

1 AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA MARK, Reg:

2 N J Brooks: NORBROOK MCALISTER, Reg: CCHS:8928,

3 Bruce Hamblin: NARIOKA KILBRIDE,

Junior Champion Clydesdale Colt, 2 years or under.

Meadow Lane Clydesdales: MEADOW LANE SOUTHERN CROSS,

Junior Reserve Champion Clydesdale Colt.

Cox Family: VALMONT CAMBRIDGE,

Champion Clydesdale Stallion or Colt, 3 years old or over.

AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA MARK,

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Stallion or Colt.

N J Brooks: NORBROOK MCALISTER,

Junior Champion Clydesdale Filly, 2 years or under.

William Jackson: LOCH LINNHE PRINCESS KATE,

Junior Reserve Champion Clydesdale Filly.

Meadow Lane Clydesdales: MEADOW LANE IVY,

Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly, 3 years old or over.

Daphne Talbot: NORTHDALE PARK RUBY ROSE,

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly.

AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA DESTINY,

Champion Clydesdale Gelding

AT Marriott and Family: OSCARVILLE SERGEANT,

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Gelding.

AT Marriott and Family: MEADOW LANE GUINEAS, Clydesdale Grand Championship.

AT Marriott and Family: AARUNGA MARK,

2016 Sydney Royal Led Clydesdale Results. Judge: J O'Sullivan - Vic.

Males, 7 paraded from 12 entries, Geldings, 8 out of 8, and Females, 19 were exhibited from 30 entries

Clydesdale Colt, 3yrs.

1 2436 Woodlands Park Imperial Crescent Mr Steven John Wilkinson

Clydesdale Colt, 2yrs.

1 1988 Hollydeen Thomos Mr Cathal O Leary & Ms V Cheng & Miss R Janssen

2 1803 Jeanal Summer Solstice Mr Erin & Mrs Elizabeth Lewis

Junior Clydesdale Colt, 1yr & Under.

1 1899 Samarah Park Sovereign Mr S & Y Moloney

2 1722 Murroka Black Duke Miss Jessica Jonkmans

3 1215 Mcmurchie Kinloch Colin M & Karen G Brown

4 2155 Demore park Final Tribute Mr Dean & Esmay Rheinberger

Champion & Reserve Champion Clydesdale Stallion Or Colt

Champion Samarah Park Sovereign Mr S & Y Moloney

Reserve Champion Hollydeen Thomos Mr Cathal O Leary & Ms V Cheng & Miss R Janssen

Clydesdale Broodmare, 4yrs & Over.

1 2096 Headlands Sylvia Mr Robert & Janette Pierce & Amanda Taylor & Headlands Clydesdales

2 2418 Valhalla Regal Rose Ms Sam Weir

Clydesdale Dry Mare, 4yrs & Over.

1 2047 Farleton Classic Caviar Peel & Watson

2 2161 Murroka Harmonica Mr Dean & Esmay Rheinberger

3 2274 Beereega Classic Lady Mr Kelvin Smith

Clydesdale Filly, 3yrs.

1 1307 Oscarville Tamara Mr Paul Cooper Werombi

2 1749 Tamoshanta Ruby Mrs Kerry King Castlereagh

3 2419 Kyabra Lady Clancee Sam Weir & Thomas

Clydesdale Filly, 2yrs.

1 1210 Juzta Star Mr Paul & Mrs Susan Brooks

2 2275 Mcmurchie Josephine Mr Kelvin Smith

3 1302 Oscarville Charisma Mr Paul Cooper

4 2014 Benwerrin Park Sydney P & H Oxenham

Junior Clydesdale Filly, 1yr & Under.

1 1305 Oscarville Jade Mr Paul Cooper Werombi Nsw

2 1301 Oscarville Amie Mr Paul Cooper Werombi Nsw

3 2091 Headlands Avalon Mr Robert & Janette Pierce & Amanda Taylor & Headlands Clydesdales

4 1214 MCMurchie Kendall CM & KG Brown

5 2416 Misty Park Highland Skye Ms S Weir

Champion & Reserve Champion Clydesdale Mare Or Filly

Champion Farleton Classic Caviar G Watson & T Peel

Reserve Champion Juzta Star Mr Paul & Mrs Susan Brooks

The Annaburne Gold Perpetual Cup, Winner Farleton Classic Caviar G Watson & T Peel

Best Clydesdale Yearling Colt Or Filly Samarah Park Sovereign Mr S & Y Moloney

Supreme Champion Clydesdale Winner Farleton Classic Caviar G Watson & T Peel

Clydesdale Gelding, Over 3yrs.



Farelton Classic Caviar, Supreme Champion Clydesdale, Sydney Royal Show, paraded by Lynette Fritsch.
Photo courtesy Julie Wilson.

(The first prize winner of this class is not eligible to compete for the supreme champion clydesdale.)

- 1 2157 Murroka Compass Mr Dean & Esmay Rheinberger
- 2 2361 Deep Creek Rhuben Vaughan's Hay Supplies
- 3 1661 Aarunga Buddy Mr John & Mrs Sandy Hunter
- 4 1561 Warralinga Charlie Miss Kanadah-Le Geuder
- 5 2093 Headlands Kinmont Willie R & J Pierce & A Taylor

Clydesdale Gelding, 3yrs And Under.

(The first prize winner of this class is not eligible to compete for the supreme champion clydesdale.)

- 1 2013 Benwerrin Park Prestige Mrs Heather & Mr Philip Oxenham
- 2 1216 McMurchie Ingraw Colin Mc Intyre & Karen Gai Brown
- 3 2238 Samarah Park Leonardo Mr John Sercombe & Ms Kylie Vernon

Best Clydesdale Gelding Benwerrin Park Prestige Mrs Heather & Mr Philip Oxenham

Group Of Three Clydesdales by the same sire or out of the same dam.

- 1 Mrs Heather & Mr Philip Oxenham Benwerrin Park Lady Audra/ Benwerrin Park Prestige/ Benwerrin Park Miss Annabelle/ Benwerrin Park Sydney
- 2 Mr Robert & Janette Pierce & Amanda Taylor & Headlands Clydesdales Headlands Kinmont Willie/ Headlands Indigo/ Headlands Avalon/ Headlands Sylvia
- 3 Mr Paul Cooper Oscarville Tamara/ Oscarville Jade/ Oscarville Amie/ Oscarville Summer

Three Clydesdales, Any Age, owned but not necessarily bred by the exhibitor. Group to consist of one male and two females or three females only. To be judged as a group.

- 1 Mrs Heather & Mr Philip Oxenham Benwerrin Park Lady Audra/ Benwerrin Park Prestige/ Benwerrin Park Miss Annabelle/ Benwerrin Park Sydney
- 2 Mr Paul Cooper Oscarville Tamara/ Oscarville Jade/ Oscarville Amie/ Oscarville Summer
- 3 Ms Sam Weir Vahalla Regal Rose/Misty Park Highland Skye/ Kyaba Lady Clancee

Clydesdale Mare Or Gelding, Driven. Complicated workout not required. To be driven by a senior, 18yrs & over. Minimum equipment is blinkers & reins, collar & hames, backhand & chains.

- 1 2237 Distant View Tanja Mr John Sercombe & Ms Kylie Vernon
- 2 2007 Benwerrin Park Lady Audra Mrs Heather & Mr Philip Oxenham
- 3 2093 Headlands Kinmont Willie Mr Robert & Janette Pierce & Amanda Taylor
- 4 2013 Benwerrin Park Prestige Mrs Heather & Mr Philip Oxenham
- 5 1721 Leisure Lee Gypsy Rose Kate Miss Jessica Jonkmans

Clydesdale Mare Or Gelding, Driven. Complicated workout not required. To be driven by a junior under 18 years of age. Minimum equipment is blinkers & reins, collar & hames, backhand & chains.

- 1 1721 Leisure Lee Gypsy Rose Kate Miss Jessica Jonkmans

Ridden Clydesdale Stallion, Mare or Gelding, Any Age.

Horse to be judged on conformation, manners and paces. Approved safety helmet and English attire must be worn.

- 1 1721 Leisure Lee Gypsy Rose Kate Miss Jessica Jonkmans
- 2 1734 Asham George Miss Ashley Kelly



Above, Samarah Park Sovereign, 1st Yearling Colt, and Champion Stallion or Colt

Below, final contenders in the Ridden Clydesdale class
Photos I.S-K





Clydesdale breeders would be reminded in days past "Do not forget the lorry," or don't lose sight of what this great horse breed was bred for. Above, Heather Oxenham's entry (2nd), and below Dave and Julia Cranwell's entry (1st) in the single Lorry Turnout.



Grahame Ware's two class winning Turnouts - both contenders for the prestigious Ware Memorial Trophy - the Butter Cart at left, and Milk Cart at right





Above, Kevin Collins and Family's Butcher's Cart turnout in action competing for - and the ultimate winner of - the Ware Trophy for Best Single Horse Turnout, with Worella Park Monty



While on the subject of heavy horse turnouts, here is a picture which came to light recently. It is of 'Warwick Lass,' a mare belonging to Queensland Brewery, which had just won 1st place and a championship at the Brisbane Exhibition in 1913. This photo is valuable for the detail it shows:

Leaning against the wall at left is the ramp or skids used to roll the barrels on or off the vehicle.

She wears a heavy cart saddle, but dray breeching and belly strap - plus breast drop and brasses.

The sizeable collar matches the weight of the harness. The winkers have a 2-ring Wilson snaffle bit.

The shafts have prop-sticks to bear the load while waiting. Despite its weight and load, there are no brakes.

The heavy springs are slung UNDER the axle, to help keep the load lower than if they'd been over the axle.

She is relatively clean legged and jointed for the era, with well defined pasterns and fetlocks, and a great sloping shoulder. Under all the ribbons she won, her mane has been plaited.

Ian S-K.

2016 Sydney Royal Show Led Percherons

Results: (3 horses entered)

Class 373 Percheron Gelding any age

1st Southern Cross Jacob, *Black*
S: JP Starship Commander (Imp)
D: Belle View Joy (Imp)
Miss Brooke Carrington

2nd Little Rock Maximus, *Grey*

S: Kailas Arjuna
D: Kailas Ida
Ms Janine Beard

Class 371 Percheron Mare or Filly any age

1st Ballara Donnatella, *Black*
S: Ballara Le Roi
D: Daniki Diamond
Mr. Peter Devenish & Polly Devine

Class 372 Best Percheron
Ballara Donnatella

Contributed by Clint Kenny
clintkenny@me.com



Both photos courtesy Allira Fontana photography: Little Rock Maximus, above, and Ballara Donnatella, below.



2016 Sydney Royal Show Led Shires

Judge: Louise Beer, Vic.

Class: 465 - Shire Colt, Under 2yrs.

1 1247 Brooke Carrington & Colleen Carrington Shandell Park Lionheart
2 1146 Ms Ann-Maree Bergan Ingleside Trademark

Class: 466 - Shire Colt, 2yrs & Under 4yrs.

1 1248 Brooke Carrington & Colleen Carrington Shandell Park Lucius

Class: S468 - Champion Shire Stallion Or Colt :
Shandell Park Lucius
Reserve Champion Shandell Park Lionheart

Class: 471 - Shire Mare, 4yrs & Over.

1 2229 Mrs Helene Scarf Cedars Winifred
2 1249 Brooke Carrington & Colleen Carrington Shandell Park Sarina
3 2230 Mrs Helene Scarf Luscombe Joy

Class: S472 - Champion And Reserve Champion Shire

Mare Or Filly: Cedars Winifred

Reserve Champion: Shandell Park Sarina

Class: S473 - Supreme Champion Shire and Perpetual Trophy in memory of Kathryn McKay and Greg Hosa Winner Brooke Carrington & Colleen Carrington - Shandell Park Lucius

Class: 474 - Shire Gelding, 3yrs & Under.

1 1929 Miss Rachel Morgan Shandell Park Eli
2 1779 Ms Somone Landry Hadrians Wall Baroque
3 2228 Mrs Helene Scarf Cedars Stormy George

Class: 475 - Shire Gelding, 4yrs & Over.

1 1435 Miss Sarah Dooley Ingleside Lucky Chance
2 1177 Blakeley Family Southern Cross Nickolas
3 2417 Ms Sam Weir Southern Cross Caledonian Dragon
4 2430 Mr John White Southern Cross Wesley



The ridden Shire class, marshalling before the start of the class.



Champion Male, and Supreme Champion Shire: Shandell Park Lucius. Photo courtesy Allira Fontana



Champion Shire Mare: Cedars Winifred
Photo courtesy Allira Fontana

Class: S476 - Best Shire Gelding and The Shire Horse Society Australia Perpetual Trophy
Winner : Ingleside Lucky Chance



Champion Shire Gelding: Ingleside Lucky Chance
Photo courtesy Allira Fontana

CLASS: 477 - Shire Stallion, Mare or Gelding, any age. Horses to be judged on conformation, manners and paces. Approved safety helmet and English attire must be worn.

- 2 1177 Blakeley Family Southern Cross Nickolas
- 3 1217 Louise & Noel Brown Tullymore Sir Edward
- 4 2229 Mrs Helene Scarf Barrengarry Cedars Winifred
- 5 1249 Brooke Carrington & Colleen Carrington Shandell Park Sarina

1 1435 Miss Sarah Dooley Ingleside Lucky Chance

Thanks to Cai Thomas for assistance

Royal Adelaide Autumn Horse Show 2016 results :

LED Clydesdales – Judge:

Class 222 - Colt, 1 year and under

428	Caversham Clydesdales	First
236	Piotrowski, Kerry Landeau Park Handsome Harley	Second

Class 224 - Stallion, 4 years and over

238	Piotrowski, Kerry Highgate Flash Benjamin	First
237	Caversham Clydesdales Caversham Chester	Second

CHAMPION LED CLYDESDALE STALLION OR COLT

238	Piotrowski, Kerry Highgate Flash Benjamin	First
RESERVE CHAMPION LED CLYDESDALE STALLION OR COLT		
237	Caversham Clydesdales Caversham Chester	First

Class 225 - Filly, 1 year and under

239	Blewit, Ross Carpolac Jessica	First
242	Blewit, Ross Wheelabarraback Flash Jean	Second

Class 226 - Filly, 2 or 3 years

243	Caversham Clydesdales Caversham Millie	First
244	Tickity Boo Clydesdales Larvistryn Jemmilliam	Second

Class 227 - Mare, 4 years and over

248	Hinkley, Roy and Marj Wheelabarraback Flash Bonnie	First
245	Caversham Clydesdales Aarunga Delta	Second
249	Ellis, Katrina Wheelabarraback Flash Molly	Third

CHAMPION LED CLYDESDALE MARE OR FILLY

248	Hinkley, Roy and Marj Wheelabarraback Flash Bonnie	First
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RESERVE CHAMPION LED CLYDESDALE MARE OR FILLY

245	Caversham Clydesdales Aarunga Delta	First
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SUPREME CHAMPION LED CLYDESDALE

238	Piotrowski, Kerry Highgate Flash Benjamin
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Class 229 - Gelding, 4 years and over

251	Hinkley, Roy and Marj Ben Koi Spitfire	First
252	Hinkley, Roy and Marj Glenquarry Montys Boy	Second

CHAMPION LED CLYDESDALE GELDING

251	Hinkley, Roy and Marj Ben Koi Spitfire
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..... Stud Mare Breeding Record Sheet

Mare: _____ Registration # _____ Age: _____ Color: _____ Year: _____

Farm / Owner: _____ Contact: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Fax/E-mail: _____

Arrived: _____ Departed: _____

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
JAN																															
FEB																															
MAR																															
APR																															
MAY																															
JUN																															
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OCT																															
NOV																															
DEC																															

Legend: 1 = resistance, 2 = indifferent, 3 = interested, 4 = winks vulva, urinates, 5 = urinates profusely
 a = arrived, b = bred/served, d = departed, f = foaled, pg = in foal, r=running, u = ultrasound, v = vaccinated, w=wormec

Comments: _____

Date	L Ovary	R Ovary	Ut/Cx Tone	Endo Folds	UT Fluid	UT Cysts	Bred	Comments

Breeding Draught Horses



With the current foaling season past us now, the table on the page at left is a useful one to duplicate and use *next* year, to keep track of a mare's progress during service.

If anyone would like it as an Excel spreadsheet file, which can be then customised with your own stud name and address and details, just send me your email address, and I'll forward a copy for you to edit as you wish. (Email me on ian@aussieheavyhorses.com)

We have been using it for a few years now, and find it very worthwhile, compared with other methods of writing on a calendar, or using a notebook etc.

And on the subject of breeding, or moreso the subject of inbreeding, line-breeding and outcrossing, the following article is as good an explanation as I have found in recent years, and is worth reading, in spite of the fact it was written pertaining to a different breed of animal from a horse.

Outcrossing: If, When, and Why?

By William Given, Nov-Dec 2015

Inbreeding and linebreeding facilitate our ability to establish our own strain within our chosen breed. These breeding systems afford us the opportunity to more easily fix the characteristics we desire most within our strain. They are, however, not the only methods of breeding available to us.

Outcrossing is defined as the mating of two animals that are totally unrelated. There are some breeders who would define outcrossing as the breeding of two animals with no common ancestors in a four generation pedigree. That definition seems reasonable because the genes affecting the resulting progeny are concentrated in the first four generations. Outcrossing does offer its advantages, but any breeder who is mulling over the idea of an outcross breeding should do so only for a specified purpose.

There are some very good reasons why an experienced

breeder would choose to make an outcross. The first is to bring into their line a characteristic that is absent. And, akin to the first reason, to build on a strength and make a good trait – an exceptional one. The second is to mitigate any faults that are provoked by homozygous recessive genes. And third, outcrossing is absolutely necessary when a breeding program shows a loss of vigor (sometimes referred to as inbreeding depression) as demonstrated by a lack of disease resistance or infertility.

The Results of Outcrossing

Perhaps more often than not, the progeny of a first-generation outcross of two excellent show animals display many outstanding traits of their parents. That is why, when a good number of the first-generation progeny from outcross matings are doing so well in the show ring, their breeders and others who have noted this, rush to conduct similar breedings.

It is after the first generation of an outcross breeding that a breeder stands to lose everything gained from

a successful outcross unless he or she breeds back into his or her established line. To be successful as a breeder, one must seek to produce progeny which are genetically dominant for all of the qualities required by the breed's standard. The closer a breeder gets to the ideal, the more uniform in type the progeny and animals the breeder produces will be. When a breeder uses more distantly related animals or animals with no common ancestors in their breeding program, he or she must expect less uniformity in the offspring.

Any virtues that are obtained through outcrossing cannot possibly be considered a part of the genetic constitution of a breeder's strain until those traits have been fixed within the line through inbreeding or linebreeding. A breeder should consider outcrossing, quite simply, as a means to an end. Contrary to the belief of some breeders, a successful outcross cannot and will not cure all imperfections in a bloodline in one generation.

The inevitable tragedy is the young of the succeeding generations of outcross breeding will be a comparably heterogeneous lot, displaying what could easily be an absolute lack of uniformity. This will not only prevent the breeder from maintaining proper type, but will subject their line and the breed to an increase in differing types in size and structure.

These breeders do a disservice to their breed, and in as much as they are the ones primarily responsible for the increased differentiation in type, open up themselves for damage to their reputation. Uniformity and predictability in the quality of the progeny produced is the goal and the trademark of a good breeder.

When To Make an Outcross

If you were to ask me, "After how many successive generations of inbreeding or linebreeding should I make an outcross?" I would respond by asking you, "What will be the six winning lottery numbers for Saturday's drawing?"

There is an old wives' tale that says it is not safe to inbreed or linebreed more than three generations without the introduction of an outcross. Virtually every colleague that I queried on this matter has had an anecdote to share with me about when the "golden words of wisdom" were shared with them and by whom. When the fallacy originated that it is not safe to inbreed or linebreed more than three generations without an outcross nobody seems to know, but it is just not a valid premise. Breeders who believe that an outcross needs be made at some finite point as, for

example, the previously mentioned third generation are giving credit to the old wives' tale, and it is one to which some breeders seem to be particularly devoted.

There is also a popular belief that, "It is just plain good to bring in fresh blood to a line every now and then." Nothing could be further from the truth. It is inbreeding and linebreeding that (if correctly utilized) facilitate the elimination of recessive factors that produce faults, and provide for the purification within a line or strain. It is the close-up breeding on the blood of one or more superior animals that allow breeders to rapidly minimize the influence of the more faulty forebears and contribute to the establishment of distinct type.

Dangers of Continued Outcrossing

When superior results are obtained in the first generation of an outcross, many breeders think the breeding was an unprecedented success and all that needs be done thereafter is to continue such outcrossing to become a great breeder with an established type of their own, producing a high average of very exceptional progeny. They could not be more mistaken, since the exact opposite is surely to occur.

As a general rule, the progeny of first-generation, outcross breedings are very often quite uniform in appearance. Many of the progeny being even more correct than the sire and dam. However, if not bred back into the original line, it is the progeny from succeeding generations of such outcrosses that can be particularly disappointing. This is because they carry so many genes for all of the characteristics in which their parents differed, that those progeny show great variation. This includes a sizeable portion of progeny of less than show and breeding quality.

I would inform some and remind others that, genetically, outcrossing and cross-breeding (Labrador Retriever to Poodle, for example) differ only by the measure of degree. Both involve the breeding of two individual animals whose genetic composition varies so widely that there must be a significant rearrangement of genes in the offspring produced.

As breeders, we must be concerned not only with the physical conformation of the sire and dam, but also with the genes inherited from all of their more direct progenitors. It must be remembered that outcrossing is just as likely to weaken or diminish positive traits that are already fixed as to add those which were lacking and highly desired.

Reaching Out Through Outcrossing

It is my belief that, when outcrossing, to obtain a desired characteristic not present in his or her line, or to correct a fault a breeder has not been able to eliminate through linebreeding, he or she should make the outcross as close as possible. I strongly recommend an attempt to obtain the desired trait or improvement by securing the services of a stud possessing the needed characteristic, and who is also if possible in the fifth- or sixth-generation of the pedigree or even partially related closer in the line. Using this method, a breeder may save himself or herself from the need to breed several succeeding generations in order to fix the traits obtained through the outcross.

The matter of what to do after making an outcross is important. If you were fortunate, and secured the desired characteristic or corrected the fault you wanted to eliminate through the outcross, your next step is to inbreed or linebreed with careful selection so that the benefits derived from the outcrossing may be fixed in your line. If the results of your outcross were less than you had hoped for, you may be faced with the need to cull and start over, or attempt to negate the poor results through inbreeding or linebreeding.

There are a couple of reasons why some breeders obtain very positive results through outcrossing. The first is that what initially looked to be a total outcross may actually be the result of breeding two animals that are not as unrelated as it appeared when simply looking at a three or four generation pedigree. There may be common ancestors farther back.

The second reason is due to prepotency. A successful breeder sincerely desiring to produce high quality progeny usually searches for a prepotent stud animal with an established history of siring outstanding progeny. It is generally accepted that these animals pass on dominant genes because they are, in almost every case, the result of solid inbreeding or linebreeding. Because of this, they have the ability to impose their own characteristics over the recessive genes of the dams.

Breeding Up

A good many breeders have started with a very average bitch from a good bloodline. They then invest their time thoroughly analyzing pedigrees and their money in breeding to an outstanding sire. They keep the best pups in each litter, continue to refine their breeding practices, and become well-known as highly successful breeders.

There are also many examples of breeders going astray and producing average or inferior animals as a result of a loss of focus on breeding to the standard. Instead of success, they achieve failure due to their desire to chase the latest fad or fancy.

The Failing of Experience

The number of novice breeders who know virtually nothing about the third- and fourth-generation ancestors in their animals' pedigrees is truly alarming. Far too many experienced breeders cannot even name the grandsires and granddams of the animals they own. I wager that only a select few of the most successful breeders could complete a four-generation pedigree of just one of their animals from memory.

It seems appropriate for me to state here and on the record that unless a breeder has a full and complete knowledge and understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of all of the animals through at least the third generation of the pedigree (and farther back is preferable) he or she will very probably not become a good breeder, let alone ever be acknowledged as a great one. A breeder must know from where came specific traits, both desired and unwanted, if he or she expects to retain the good and eliminate the bad. This cannot be accomplished with casual breedings, whether they be inbred, linebred, and most certainly by outcrossing.

Newcomers to the sport often lack a full understanding of just what constitutes a truly good specimen of their breed. Unless they can quickly develop a special relationship with an experienced mentor, the learning process can be painfully slow. Many novice breeders begin breeding before they have acquired any real understanding of the principles of genetics or gained any experience researching pedigrees.

Experienced exhibitors and breeders far too often fail to acknowledge the importance of novices and fail to take an active role in ensuring they are a success in the show ring and in the whelping box. We must remember that they will be the ones replacing those of us in my age group (and older) who are, for a wide variety of reasons, constantly disappearing from the game.

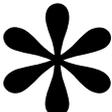
High standards, the careful selection of good breeding stock, thorough pedigree analysis, choosing the proper system of breeding, and an honest evaluation of the progeny produced are all tools that a breeder may use to build a successful breeding program.

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From Tassie:

Old readers may remember Kathy from when she was living here. She sent up this snippet of recent life in Tasmania:

Glengowrie Glenfiddich and Glengowrie Chevas Regal were purchased by me in 2001 from Nicky and Graham Ehrich. These two were my 'babies,' and still are. We lived in the Caboolture area for approximately 14 years and recently moved to Tasmania about 15 months ago.

During the 2 big floods in Qld in 2011 and 2012, Whisky had rain scald so badly that after spending hundreds of dollars in trying to fix him I was on the verge of putting him to sleep. I couldn't bear the sight of his back being raw.

He had lost all his feather his mane and tail. I started aromatherapy and homeopathic medicines and with moving to Tasmania everything came good.

These two are inseparable, and I mean inseparable. It is a nice ending to a story that could have been so sad but with love, perseverance we can sometimes overcome what is impossible. I encourage everyone to try other methods before giving up.

Whisky and Glen have received a blue ribbon or Champion ribbon in every show that they entered. They are almost 15 years old now and are in show quality. I take them to shows now only to hear the stories of old farmers talking of the days when they had to hook up a pair of clydes to farm with.

Here in Tasmania they are already well known as one of the nicest pair of clydesdales in the state. I don't care, I just love them because I know what almost happened.

Kathy Gibson



Above, two recent photos from Deloraine Horse Show, sent from Kathy in Tasmania, and below, Graham Ehrich when he was mousing and starting to break Glenfiddich in aged 3-1/2.



Treating Feather Mites

Rain scald, as mentioned on the previous page, and feather mites, are occasionally popular subjects of conversation amongst feathered horse owners. Thanks to Nicky Ehrich for sending this article in-from a gypsy cob website:

It's a question you see time and again on forums and in groups "How do I deal with feather mites?" Feather mites – aka Chorioptic mange mites – can be common in feathered breeds of horse - no exceptions!

Once the horses have them it is very difficult to get rid of them; most likely, it is thought, because they can survive in the environment (pasture, stables, bedding) and so reinfestation is common. *Adults can survive for months wherever skin debris accumulates (e.g., bedding, stable floors, saddle blankets).* (1) They can also be transmitted between animals and via grooming equipment.

Evidence of mites is more commonly seen in summer months on horses kept outdoors.

Chorioptes mange mites live in the build up of dirt and dead skin cells that collect on the surface of the skin. Mr David Rendle and colleagues at the Glasgow vet school noted that *"Their mouthparts are adapted for chewing and they feed on skin debris. Although they do not burrow into the skin, they can cause considerable irritation."* (2)

According to S. Paterson and K. Coumbe *"Chorioptic mange caused by Chorioptes bovis is a common pruritic skin condition of the horse. This surface-browsing parasite usually affects the lower legs (leg mange) but can present as a generalized skin disease."* (3)

The mites cause Pastern Dermatitis, also commonly called Scratches, and if left untreated can develop into a nasty condition called Chronic Progressive Lymphodema. Anecdotal evidence suggests however that while some horses with only small infestations go on to develop CPL other more heavily infested horses show barely any sign of mites at all and never develop CPL so it is thought that mites only play a small role in the development of the condition.

Bites from the Chorioptes mites cause severe irritation, itching and discomfort. Infected horses can be seen scratching their legs against objects or using their teeth, licking their lower limbs and stamping

their hind legs repeatedly. A reluctance to let owners handle lower limbs (especially when washing or oiling) is also sometimes evident.

"Signs and symptoms of infestation include reddening of the skin (erythema), papules, crust formation, hair loss, skin thickening, lower limb edema or swelling, and other irregular skin lesions" according to vets at Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities, USA. (4)

Obtaining a skin scraping is by far the best method for diagnosing mite infestation. Ask your vet to do this for you. Diagnosis is important prior to treatment because there are *"other diseases that look similar to chorioptic mange are other types of mange, lice infestation, and allergy to fly bites."* (5)

Treatment

Although the mites are most noticeable in feathered horses infestation can occur in all horses, including those with no feather, so any treatment must be applied to all horses on your farm at the same time.

Cleaning the skin, especially round any lesions and crusty areas, is a vital part of successful treatment and most experts recommend fully clipping your horse's legs prior to washing and applying a topical treatment. *"Clipping or shaving the long hair or feathers on the pasterns makes checking the skin easier, lesions more visible, cleaning of affected areas more thorough, and penetration and exposure for direct application treatments better. While owners may prefer not to clip the feathers, particularly in show horses, doing so will drastically improve the chances of treatment success,"* say vets at Alabama A&M / Auburn Universities. (6)

Treatment should also coincide with moving animals to uninfected areas, or thoroughly cleaning premises (eg stables) prior to returning the horse after treatment. In the case of pastured horses, turning them out onto fresh, rested pasture might be beneficial. *The mite's life cycle is approximately 3 weeks and is completed on the host; however mites can survive for up to 69 days away from their host making environmental contamination a potential source of reinfection or infection of other horses.* (7) Once horses have been moved from infected pasture it should be rested for at least 10 weeks.

Shampooing and scrubbing the skin area clean is advisable to remove scale and dead skin cell build-up before treatment; essentially this action takes

away the mite's food source and reduces their places to hide. Selenium sulphide shampoo (eg. Selsun) is one choice; another is benzoyl peroxide, a keratolytic shampoo; a third is Acetic acid/boric acid shampoo. Most researchers also recommend shampooing and scrubbing the horse from head to toe as chorioptic mites are known to venture well beyond feathers and legs in some horses. This is sometimes thought to be another avenue of reinfestation – the legs are treated but the mites survive on other parts of the body.

Plan for multiple treatments. Repeating the wash and topical treatment for several cycles will greatly increase your chances of stamping mites out. Repeating the treatment every seven days for four weeks is recommended.

Topical (external) Treatments

Pig Oil

The most common treatment used around the world for Gypsy Horses is “Pig Oil” – a mix of white oil (paraffin) and yellow sulphur. As a treatment for mites it was used as far back as Edwardian times by pig farmers who coated the skin of their pigs with the mixture to get rid of mites. It is still used today in the poultry industry for the same reason. *“Sulphur is recommended by Scott (Scott DW, Miller WH. Parasitic disease. In: Equine Dermatology. Philadelphia: WB Saunders, 2003; 321–75.) as an inexpensive effective treatment of infestations of nonfollicular mites in the horse. He describes it as being fungicidal, bactericidal, keratolytic and antipruritic. Its ability to penetrate lesions due to its keratolytic action, as well as its antiparasitic and antipruritic action makes sulphur an excellent potential topical medication to treat chorioptic mange,”* note S. Paterson and K. Coumbe in their research on Lime Sulphur Dip treatments. (8)

The oil has the additional advantage of protecting the feather during wetter months.

Sulphur:



‘Pig oil’ is made by adding a good handful (around 1/2 a cup) of yellow sulphur per litre of white oil. It can be applied directly to the skin from the coronet band to above the knees and hock, taking care to achieve 100% skin coverage and massage well into thickened skin areas and lesions.

Ivermectin / Doromectin

Ivermectin and Doromectin are commonly recommended in forums and groups as treatments for Chorioptic mange mites however there's limited research to back this up. A 2007 study found they were useful in helping reduce the symptoms of chorioptic mite infestation but they did not eliminate the mites completely. *“A comparative study using fipronil spray in a 0.25% solution and doramectin given at a dose of 0.3 mg/kg on two occasions 14 days apart by subcutaneous injection revealed both drugs to be effective in eliminating behavioural signs in affected animals. Although mite numbers were significantly reduced in both groups neither drug completely eliminated mites and there was no improvement in the appearance of the lesions themselves. In a further study, ivermectin paste, given orally, was investigated using three different protocols. All of the horses improved. However despite waiting 3 weeks after therapy to assess the horses there was no significant change in their clinical scores. The advantage of systemic medication is that it negates the need to clip off hair from the pasterns and overcomes the difficulty of applying topical applications on what are often fractious horses. Despite the improvement seen in these studies, none of the drugs completely eliminated mites.”* (10)

The limited effect of the drugs may be due in part to the surface feeding habits of the mites – they don't absorb the full effect of the drug when it is given systematically (by injection or orally); in this respect there is no advantage of injecting the drug over giving it in paste form.

The mythology surrounding Ivermectin and Doromectin being suitable treatments for Chorioptes mites might stem from the drugs' usefulness combating other mange mite species such as *Sarcoptes* sp., *Psoroptes* sp., and *Demodectic* sp.; producing similar symptoms these mites are rarely found in horses due to their vulnerability to macrocyclic lactone dewormers (ivermectin and moxidectin).

Fipronil

Fipronil is the ingredient in Frontline spray and for a while it became the recommended treatment for Chorioptic mites in horses. It is not rated for use on equines however and is also an expensive treatment with a 500ml bottle costing upwards of \$90 here in Australia. *“Although therapeutic trials have shown it is successful in alleviating clinical signs, it has been shown to significantly reduce but not eliminate parasites and in studies has not produced any statistical improvement in lesion score.”* (11)

Selenium Sulphide Shampoo

A pilot study (12) conducted in 1999 on seven horses – one shire and six feathered cobs – in the UK tested whether Selenium Sulphide shampoo (Selsun Gold here in Australia; Seleen in the UK) would effectively treat horses with chorioptic mange.

The horses were washed head to toe and had the shampoo applied from head to toe on days 0, 5 and 10 of the study. The shampoo was diluted one part shampoo to two parts water and was left on the horse for ten minutes of each treatment before being rinsed off.

After the first treatment the horses were turned out into fields that had been rested for two to three months; two of the horses in the study were stabled in cleaned and disinfected stables.

After day 11 no evidence of living mites were found in skin scrapings taken from the horses. Further scrapings and follow up with the horses over 15 months has found no evidence of reinfestation.

The key to making this treatment a success is:

- treat the horse from head to toe
- make sure to do at least 3 treatments five days apart
- treat all horses, even non feathered ones
- turn the horse back out onto clean rested pasture – minimum it should not have had horses on it for 69 days
- make sure to wash and disinfect all brushed, rugs, halters etc

Lime Sulphur dip

In a study to evaluate the treatment of chorioptic mange with shampooing and lime sulphur solution researchers tested various methods on 22 horses that

had previously unsuccessfully been treated with both Fipronil and either Doromectin or Ivermectin (or both).

In the study some were clipped, shampooed and had the solution applied; others were shampooed and had dip applied; and some only had the dip applied. Of the 22 horses, 20 achieved the lowest pruritus score after treatment 1 – Nonpruritic. The remaining 2 horses achieved the next pruritus score of 2 – Very mild pruritus rare signs of rubbing and chewing without signs of alopecia or excoriation.

All horses shampooed or not, clipped or not, were treated with the Lime Sulphur solution and researchers noted *“some horses in group A were neither clipped nor shampooed, and were treated only with lime sulphur. The fact that these horses also responded to treatment suggests that the lime sulphur may have been the most important element of treatment.”* (13)

Using a Lime Sulphur solution of 97.5% diluted to a 5% wash (50ml Lime Sulphur solution diluted in one litre of water), researchers first washed the horses and then applied the Lime Sulphur wash via a spray bottle to the wet hair. The solution was not rinsed out. They repeated this treatment every 7 days for four weeks.

Horse owners reported no adverse affects to the horses during the study.

Skin scrapings taken after the four weeks of treatment failed to find any evidence of mites and pruritus (itching) was reduced to nil in all but 2 of the horses; those 2 showed only very mild itching after four weeks of treatment.’

Lime sulphur dip for animals can be bought from the US or UK via various online stores. However, it is not currently approved for use in Australia. You can obtain a permit from the [APVMA](#) to import the product for personal use. It is recommended that you obtain a ‘prescription’ from your vet to support the permit request.

Lime Sulphur is sold in Australia as a gardening product; the sulphur component is of a slightly different chemical structure (Thiosulphate sulphur, a clear crystalline structure) to the one described in the dip (sulphur, yellow sulphur) above and I have not found any literature to describe its use and effect on animals.

Lime Sulphur dip is made from Calcium Hydroxide,

Sulphur and water to form a solution.

I will include future topical treatments when there is peer reviewed research to support them.

Use a Wholistic Approach

Whichever method an owner chooses for dealing with feather mites it is clear that a wholistic approach is desirable to achieve successful mite eradication.

Cleaning the horse's premises – be it a stable, yard or pasture – is as important as the treatment itself to prevent reinfestation. Turning a treated horse back out onto infested pasture will just perpetuate the cycle so resting pasture and rotating horses across the property is good practice. Tack, rugs and grooming kits should also be cleaned.

Treating all horses at the same time is another important aspect to consider. Just as turning horses back out on infested pasture will keep the cycle going, so will running stock back out with carriers who don't exhibit any signs of mite infestation.

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Handy Hints...

This 'hint' is a simple one, prompted by seeing or hearing of several heavy horse breeders or enthusiasts concreting in nice biggish wash-bays upon which to clean their fine feathered friends before heading to a show or parade.

This idea suits someone who has not yet decided on an ideal position for a wash bay, or does not want to yet spend money on a few cubic metres of ready-mixed cement.

It takes about 1.5 cubic metres or two small trailer loads of 10mm to 20mm 'metal' or graded basalt rock from a garden or landscaping supplier. Total cost about \$100 plus fuel. The rock is put down about 15cm thick OVER some heavy black plastic, and at the front-leg end, it can be useful to put some corrugated iron, aluminium, colorbond or steel down first, in case you have young horses that like to paw and dig holes while being impatient.

The benefit of the coarser 10-20mm gravel is that it drains water away fast, and the concrete-slab underlay plastic does not allow mud to come back up and dirty any now-white feather.

The secondary benefit is if you DO happen to have a young horse prone to pawing the ground, they end up giving themselves a hoof trim wearing their hooves away on the gravel while you watch, thus saving a farrier's visit!

This wash bay pictured is three years old, and it is easy to mow (or spray) grass at the edge - and it does not infringe much on the gravel. (The log in the foreground is just sitting there after it had been snigged through a gate- it is not actually part of the washbay)



A Very Special Show and Tell

Last week Morgan provided a very unusual 'Show and Tell' experience for the students of Kulpi, when his Clydesdale and Draughthorse came to visit the school.

Morgan had shown the children his model horses during our morning session, but surprised his classmates with the real animals just before the end of the day.



With assistance from his mother Maria, Morgan spoke about the differences between the horses, and the sorts of jobs these huge horses did in years gone by. As one of the History units for the upper year levels is about the European settlement of Australia, it was really interesting to see the animals that completed so much heavy work in logging, farming and building roads. Special thanks to Maria for taking the time to bring along the horses for the children to see and pat.

THE HORSE DRAWN HEARSE

© 1.6.2004 Jack Drake

Hazel was a big old girl, tattooed and rough as guts
Who lived on forty acres over run with cross bred mutts,
Angora goats and geese and chooks and twenty bloody cats
And a skinny little boyfriend who was known as "Ralph the Rat".

They'd grown up in the suburbs working welfare for a quid.
Hard work never featured in what Ralph and Hazel did -
Always looking for an angle, onto every lurk and rort.
Every district's got some, so I guess you know the sort.

She bought herself a black draught horse as big as half a whale
Some place 'round the ridges at a cocky's clearing sale.
Then a dodgy situation got potentially much worse
When somewhere, Hazel came across a big, black horse-drawn hearse.

She'd rode a horse-drawn carriage on her mother's wedding day
And she knew how much her step-Dad's loving family had to pay.
Hazel reckoned if they'd pay for splicing like they seemed to do,
They'd be handy with the cheque book when it came to planting too.

She named the big horse "Satan" and you'd have to wonder why
You'd want the devil for an engine on a journey to the sky.
She bought top hats and tail coats. She wasn't gunna stint
But Ralph the Footman still looked like a rodent with a squint.

Bronco Harry was an old bloke about eighty in the shade
Who'd spent his whole life skiting of the mighty rides he'd made.
You'd dodge him like the black plague when he got outside a rum
'Cause his outlaw riding exploits were a huge pain in the bum.

Time caught up on Bronco Harry. He made his final ride.
The bar stool buckjump champion of half the country died.
His family were all gullible. They'd swallowed Harry's bull.
Hazel sold the grieving relatives a horse drawn funeral.

They got the bit done at the church and took the graveyard track.
"Satan" prancing in the shafts with Bronco Harry in the back.
The horse went plunging sideways when some grieving sheila wailed.
Then Hazel started screaming "Whoaaa!" and Ralph the Footman, bailed.

The pace was getting hotter with the headstones flashing by.
A speed hump shot old Hazel nearly half way to the sky.
The front wheels fouled a monument. It spun the back about
And with the action of a woomera, it launched the coffin out.

Hazel hit the gravel and the big horse hit the track.
Wind pressure bent the winkers and he got a look out back.
He saw that coffin flying at him faster than a shooting star
Then a handle caught a trace hook on the broken swingle bar.

Now Harry in his pine box was hooked behind the black
And "Satan" didn't go too much on coffins up his back,
But he couldn't lose that bouncing box no matter how he tried,
So he kicked the thing to smithereens, and Harry was...outside!

Well. It stonkered all the mourners. They just stood gaping there
As the corpse of Bronco Harry went cartwheeling through the air
To perform the feat of horsemanship that finally brought him fame.
He landed square astride the black horse, belt hooked around one hame.

"Satan" was barely broken to harness. He had no career plan
For a job description built around the carrying of man
And he sure had no intentions of packing 'round the dead,
So he bucked like seven "Curios" and fourteen "Rocky Neds".

The re-born buckjump rider stuck to "Satan's" plunging back
With the grip of rigor-mortis, Harry hung up on the black
And though Harry never had been any better than he said,
He never made a ride while living, like he did when he was dead.

That flabbergasted funeral watched Harry and the horse
Go sunfishing through the tombstones and across the water-course.
With old "Satan" getting stronger as Harry fanned the breeze,
They ploughed through Murphy's chook shed and vanished in the trees.

They couldn't kill old Harry twice, but "Satan" died of fright
'Cause when they found the corpse and carcass, his hide had turned dead white.
Ralph and Hazel are still paying off the fines the court enforces,
And they both get sorta twitchy when someone mentions horses.

Now, when frost bejewels the grasses and the moon hangs cold and low,
Spirits rise to sit on headstones for a ghostly rodeo.
Big "Satan's" eyes glow evil through his tangled, tossing mane,
As buckjumping through the grave yard, Bronco Harry rides again!