

WINTER 2020

Photo Credit: Samarah Park Clydesdales

CCHS NSW
NEWSLETTER



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2019/2020



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CONTACT



President - Erin Lewis

0416 820 322



Secretary - Colin Brown OAM

(02) 6367 4741

WINTER 2020

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President's Report From Erin Lewis



Welcome to the fourth season Newsletter.

I would like to wish all that are breeding this season luck and good fortune. It's always an exciting time of year, whether you're expecting 1 foal or have multiple mares due or ready to be bred to the stallion of your choice.

As a committee even though COVID has put our plans on hold we have been busy with the organisation of the Clydesdale Ring in conjunction with Hawkesbury Spring Show, this is our second attempt due to the September show being postponed. We look forward to this show going ahead on October 18th with a variety of classes and prize money and a garland up for grabs being for Supreme Clydesdale. The Glen Denholm Perpetual Junior Handler Trophy is also to be awarded.

In line with COVID-19 recommendations from Department of Fair Trading, as a committee we voted on rolling over the current committee until post June 2021 and it was unanimous that is what we do.

I hope to see many members enjoying their horses and starting to get back to exhibiting at the Hawkesbury Spring Show.

Regards,
Erin Lewis
CCHS NSW President



A letter from the Secretary

Under advice from the NSW Fair Trading Department the AGM has been postponed until at least June of 2021. The Covid crisis has indeed impacted on all of us and hopefully we will all be back on track by that time.

Our activities have been overwhelmingly affected. The cancellation of our 2020 Royal, local shows and our traditional events such as our Annual Foal Show, have seen a state of inertia prevail.

By June next year we will then be in line with all States to report to our Federal Incorporated body and contribute to our CCHS Annual Meeting and AGM, hopefully in person at the Melbourne Royal in September.

Thanks to the efforts of our Publicity Officer and contributors we have steadfastly reported back to our members each season with our Newsletter.

It is most pleasing to see the list of new members as we distribute each edition. With no local show results we have attempted to maintain the role of educational segments. Many thanks to Glen Denholm for his articles as they are most informative. Our annual rebate from Federal Council has supported this fundamental role of promoting our Clydesdale Horse.

Our Federal President reports that planning for the Annual Heavy Horse Festival 2021 at Werribee is in progress. Again, all depends on the Covid situation in Victoria. They are certainly doing it hard down there and we all hope they can overcome this crisis. This event is indeed a highlight in the Clydesdale Calendar and if you haven't taken the opportunity to attend, you are certainly missing out on a tremendous event.

The Federal Secretary Rod Bowles reports that there is a very sound uptake with those breeders getting on board with the voluntary DNA'ing of their mares. By having your Vet take a DNA sample from your mare if not already done, the breeder can from that point onwards take the sample themselves from any subsequent fillies from that initial line. Given that all breeding Stallions are registered as DNA tested, by completing the Females the breeder is providing assurance of their pedigree. It is advantageous to provide this added accreditation for your potential purchasers when promoting your progeny. The DNA Kits are available from our Federal Secretary.

Foaling season should be well in motion at present. The article by Orange Equine Specialist David Searle, has been reproduced as support for all experiencing this busy time. At least in most regions we face a more optimistic season and look forward to some worthy foals hitting the ground.

CB.



COMMONWEALTH CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY NSW

~ PRESENTS ~

Returning to Hawkesbury Showgrounds
as part of Hawkesbury Spring Show

The 2020 NSW Clydesdale Spring Show

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER 2020

\$300 AND PRESTIGE GARLAND FOR SUPREME CLYDESDALE EXHIBIT!

Sponsored By: Elemer Clydesdales

❖ Ridden Clydesdale
Classes

❖ Groups of 3 class

❖ Classes for Mares, Geldings,
and Stallions

❖ Classes for Fillies and Colts

❖ Glen Denholm Perpetual Junior
Handler Trophy

❖ 5 Championship awards

To be judged by Ineke Kuiper

Entry Conditions

- Open to all members & non-members
- All exhibitors must complete a "record of attendance at Horse Event" form before competing, and an insurance waiver must be signed by all persons entering the ring.
- All horses competing must be registered with the Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society.
- Horses must be presented in good, clean condition
- Exhibitors must be suitably attired while in the ring. Colts and Stallions, 1 year and over, MUST be shown in suitable headgear and bit.
- Competent Adult (18 years and over) must be in charge of the Colt/Stallion at all times.
- Exhibitors requested to have Copy of Registration Papers with them on the Day

Entry Process - entries can be made by:

- Online at www.globalentriesonline.com.au/
Equestrian Showing/Hawkesbury Show, by 9.00am on Monday 12th October 2020;

Best Presented, Delivery and Turnout and Working Classes – Please refer to www.hawkesburyshowground.com.au/show/schedules for class details

Stabling - Stabling is available on the Showground and, if required, bookings should be made direct with the Hawkesbury Showground Office by completing the Hawkesbury Show Stabling form, and emailing or posting to the Show Office

Rules & Regulations – Can be found online at <http://www.hawkesburyshowground.com.au/show/schedules>

Chronic Progressive Lymphedema or "CPL" is a lifelong disease that affects horses with feather such as cobs, belgian drafts, shires, clydesdales, freisians and some percherons, mules and Poitou have also been reported.

It is essentially a failing of the lymphatic system in the lower legs, caused partly by the fact that equines do not have muscles there to support the lymph vessels and collectors.



Moderate CPL in a 15 year old gelding



Researchers suspect that CPL is a "multifactorial process" involving an underlying genetic cause (not yet identified) and triggers from the horse's environment or husbandry. There also appear to be differences between genders:- stallions seem to get CPL more severely, mares develop it earlier.

In one study, horses with CPL were shown to lack a protein called 'elastin' which normally helps squeeze the lymph collectors to make them work. This is the action that Manual Lymphatic Drainage and compression bandaging can replicate.

When the lymph fluid builds up in the lower legs, there are more toxins and less oxygen. Inflammation begins which makes the capillaries (tiny vessels) open up. That then causes edema (fluid becomes trapped) and a lot of protein that is very attractive to bacteria is held in the tissue.

Next, the body tries to fix the edema and toxins by making lots of collagen fibres, in a process called fibrosis. It causes the scar tissue that makes the skin folds and nodules.

Feathered horses are prone to an over-production of keratin (hyperkeratosis) which makes skin crusts that feather mites love to feed on. Their bites can cause more scars and make holes that bacteria can get into.



The same gelding aged 19 with advanced CPL

Member Profile

-Stud Name and Location

Ahern Shires and Clydesdales – Manar, NSW

Stud Principals - background, prior involvement with horses



While we had never owned horses before we both had a passion for horse riding. I (Nathaniel) have always been involved with horses since the age of 9. Being involved with a riding school meant I had some involvement with medical treatments, breaking and training, and riding hunter horses and jumpers under several highly experienced trainers. Matthew, on the other hand, came to horses a bit later. But that doesn't mean his enthusiasm is less. He loves working with the horses and is studying furiously so that he can become a judge in the near future. This has involved him studying under, and judging alongside some of Australia's greatest Federal and State Judges in NSW and VIC. While COVID has meant a temporary stop to horse shows he keeps up his knowledge by reading everything he can.

It was a chance encounter with a heavy horse at the Murrumbateman Field Day that turned that passion into something more tangible. When we decided to start the stud, our initial aim was to be small-scale breeders and showing enthusiasts. Of course, as all horse owners know, it doesn't take long before that passion grows, and we were no different. Ahern Shires and Clydesdales has turned into a larger operation with a real focus on breeding and showing.

While we are both professional consultants who work off-farm, and travel for long periods of time for work, we have managed to establish a work-life balance that is focussed on our stud programme and the work on the farm.

Our future goal is for Ahern Shires and Clydesdales to breed exceptional quality Clydesdale and Shire horses, focusing on multiple disciplines including Show, Harness and Show and Leisure riding styles.

How would you describe your passion for Clydesdales and Heavy Horses in general

We have a very strong passion for heavy horses and are dedicated to sharing and growing the enthusiasm for the breeds in younger generations. We are both involved in Breed Societies and have been on the Shire Horse Breeders Australia Committee and the Clydesdale Horse Committee in NSW. My background in fundraising, events, design, sales and strategy have helped to provide insights in promoting the breed across wider networks.

Matthew is similarly driven to work alongside senior breeders across Australia to promote the breed. He currently sits on the Shire Horse Breeders Committee working as part of their committee to promote Shires and Heavy Horses across Australia. On top of this we are dedicated followers and members of societies across the world, including the Commonwealth Horse Society (CHS Scotland), and life-members of Shire Horse Society (SHS United Kingdom).



Member Profile Cont.

How has your own family supported your interest in your Stud programme and development

Our family has been incredibly supportive throughout establishing our stud and the development of our programme. Both our parents have invested a lot of time into helping us when we first started showing and continue to come to shows, when they are on, to show their support and help us as needed.

My parents have become increasingly involved in the stud and have done property improvements on their own farm to support the stud as it grows. Christine, my mum, currently sits on the Shire Horse Breeders Committee and is a retired communications and marketing specialist who has helped the society grow their market and improve their reach into Australian communities.

As a whole, both families are extremely supportive and have helped in any way they can, to ensure that we can put the effort in to achieve our goals and aspirations for our stud.

How important is the heritage and history of the Clydesdale in your promotion of the breed

The importance of heritage plays a very strong part of how we promote our breed. We are driven to breed horses that remain true to the traditional conformation of the breed and can be used for traditional and modern disciplines without exception. We value the origins of the breed but recognise the lack of current-day work for the breed, so we breed horses that are suitable for a range of owners and disciplines.

What number of horses do you currently have / expected number of foals this season

We currently have 16 horses made up of 1 Clydesdale Stallion, 9 mares (6 Clydesdales and 3 Shires), 1 Female two-year old (Shire), 2 Filly Yearlings (Clydesdales) and 3 Filly Foals (1 Shire, 2 Clydesdales), with 2 foals (Clydesdales) still to arrive. Additionally, we have a large stockpile of foundation Shire Stallion semen, including Walton Supreme, Nottage Trump Card and Moorefield Edward, which is yet to be used, but will assist in defining our Shire stud programme in years to come.



Member Profile Cont.



What criteria did you use in the choice of animals you have purchased (Ref to conformation, soundness, movement and pedigree.)

When we were establishing our stud and looking to purchase mares and young female stock to be part of our foundation herd, we talked to many breeders and investigated a range of pedigrees. Very early on in the establishment of our stud, we were lucky enough to visit some of the most notable multi-generational breeders and learn from their programmes and talk to them about our goals and aims for our own programme. These insights helped us focus our searches for foundation mares and young stock to horses that met our goals for conformation, soundness, movement and pedigree.

We have been extremely lucky to purchase some high-quality stock from breeders across VIC, NSW and QLD, and have even been lucky enough to incorporate a mare in our stud programme who is from only Scottish bloodlines and the only Australian progeny of the pairing before they passed on.

What support and advice have you sought in the formative stages of developing your stud (Ref to individuals, society etc.)

As we mentioned earlier on, we were lucky enough to visit some of the most notable multi-generational breeders and learn from their programmes and talk to them about our goals and aims for our own programme. Our first heavy horse was a shire purchased from Darkmoor Shires and Clydesdales. Cai and Emma Thomas were sensational in helping us in starting out and hitting the ground running with our stud programme and with learning to show heavy horses, they have since become very close friends and we thank them greatly for their continuing advice and support, especially so in the early days.

We have also sought advice and talked with many older generation breeders, including the Marriotts', Colin and Karen Brown, Paul and Lisa Cooper, John and June Smith, Maurice and Jutta Irvine, Tim and Julie Peel, and many more – many of which Matt has had the opportunity to probationary judge under in the 2018 and 2019 show seasons.



Member Profile Cont.

What levels of stud management do you find difficult and rewarding (Ref to foaling, time management, access to vet etc.)



It's always hard to say what things are more difficult than others, especially as farm work and managing multiple farms across a stud programme is full of so many time taxing activities. For us, it is rewarding beyond compare, but time has always been our major issue. With working full-time with high stress and high workload jobs, we have less time than most to work on the farm to do the things that need doing and constant upkeep. This has been the struggle we have had to manage and have honed the work-life balance to accommodate the peak times we are needed to focus on the farm and the horses, versus when we can be present but the farms manage themselves.

The most rewarding part of stud management is by far foaling season! It is a long wait to see the culmination of the pairings we have selected for the breeding season, and after 11 months of waiting, we get to see what direction our stud programme is taking and how it is shaping up.

How important is the showing and exhibiting of your stock- what shows do you support

Following on from stud management, it is so important to talk about the benefits, excitement and rewarding experience of showing and exhibiting stock. We have had a very successful start to our showing career with many of our foundation mares being successful at the highest levels receiving first place, champion and supreme champion accolades.

We are thankful for the breeders who have allowed us to purchase these stunning mares for our stud programme, and we have shown our mares including McMurchie Lucinda, Aarunga Gem, Darkmoor Michelle and our own stock to promote not only our breeding, but to also promote the mares in our herd and demonstrate the strength of breeding that is the backbone of our stud.

What plans for future development are in place

We have so many plans for the future! Our stud has only been operating since late 2016 and we have only scratched the surface of what we are capable of and what our future breeding programme will be. We have made all our breeding choices for the 2021 season, with 2 successful pairings already.

As with any growing stud, there are many decisions and plans to be made, but you can keep up to date with all our progress and the newest happenings with Ahern shires and Clydesdales via our Facebook page.

What basic advice would you give to aspiring Clydesdale owners

Our advice for aspiring Clydesdale and Heavy Horse owners is simple... have fun and enjoy yourselves! We will always stress that if you aren't having fun, you aren't making friends and you aren't feeling rewarded by what you are doing then stop doing it. That's why we always look for the positives in every situation on the farm and always try to make each outing and show a joyful experience, a party and a time to celebrate the horses and everyone involved who supports or has supported us!

2020 NSW AGM- Whats Happening???

Upon advice from the Fair Trading and on their website, associations such as ours were advised Statewide that AGMs could be carried over until the COVID situation improved.

This is similar to the Federal AGM being rolled over until next year. We will have to link in with them so that we hold ours prior to them.

<https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/publications/coronavirus-covid-19/co-operatives-and-incorporated-associations>



Financial reporting requirements

Incorporated associations don't have to apply for time extensions to hold 2020 annual general meetings (AGMs) or submit annual summaries of financial affairs.

Associations may conduct their 2020 AGM when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted or present 2020 financial information to members at the 2021 AGM.

CCHS Federal Council

All federal enquiries should be directed to:

The Secretary

Mr Rod Bowles

PO Box 1053, Bendigo VIC 3552

Phone: 03 5442 8890

Fax: 03 5442 5264

Email: fedsec@clydesdalehorse.com.au

Web Site: www.clydesdalehorse.com.au



<i>Federal President</i>	Robert Ronzio	03 9746 1488	ronzio12@active8.net.au
<i>Vice President</i>	Colin Brown OAM	02 6367 4741	cmkgbrown@wesnet.com.au
<i>Vice President</i>	Russell March	08 8387 4407	kamarch@marchconsulting.com.au
<i>Federal Secretary</i>	Rod Bowles	03 5442 8890	fedsec@clydesdalehorse.com.au

Foaling Season

IS YOUR FOAL NORMAL? What to look out for from birth

A normal foal should:

- stand within an hour of being born.
- suckle within 2 hours of being born.
- Pass meconium within 4 hours.



Colostrum is very important to the newborn as this is its first immunity provided by the mare. There are two main reasons a foal may not receive enough colostrum. Firstly, the mare may not have enough or any – this can be due to failure to make enough or the foal being born prematurely or the mare has run milk. Secondly the foal may not drink enough, this can occur for several reasons. When drinking, it is very important to see the foals tongue latching on as this is how you know they are drinking properly. A normal foal will suckle, sleep, suckle, for the first 24 hours of its life.

When your foal is 24hrs old you can do an IgG test to check the level of immunity it has received from the colostrum. A result of <4mg/dL is classed as failure of passive transfer and ideally an IV plasma transfusion should be administered. A result of 4-8mg/dL is considered partial failure and plasma may be recommended. An ideal result is >8mg/dL. Foals stomachs can no longer absorb any immunoglobulins after 24hrs old and minimal after 6hrs, this is why the process is critical. If your foal does not receive adequate immunoglobulins, then it is more prone to infection at a young age as it doesn't start developing its own immunity until 30 days of age.

A normal foal's temperature is 37.3° - 38.6°C. Your foal should have pasty yellowish faeces. If your foal has diarrhea it can become dehydrated and sick very quickly so **call your vet**. The most important thing to monitor with foals is their suckling. As a general rule if a foal is suckling it is ok and if it isn't - it is sick. Remember you can watch the mare's udder to assess how well a foal is drinking.

Dipping of the umbilicus 3-4 times daily with chlorhexidine 10% is very important as this area is the first route for infection to enter the foals body.

If you have any questions regarding your new born foal, please ring the clinic to discuss as time is often critical with these foals.



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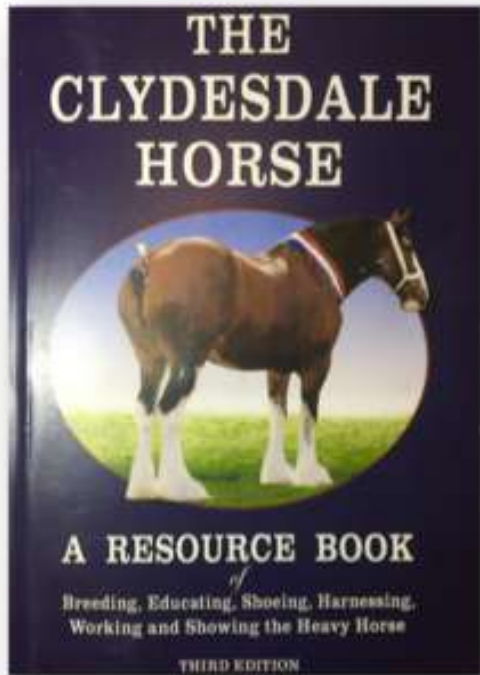


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(02) 6367 4741 or cmkgbrown@westnet.com.au

Editors Contact Details

Newsletter Editor

Elizabeth Lewis
elemerclydesdales@outlook.com



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