

Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society Australia Inc.



Dear Member,

It's that time of the year again for Membership Renewal. It has been sent in the mail to you so keep an eye on your mail box for your renewal. The Society appreciates your support as a member and welcomes you to continue your involvement to maintain the Clydesdale breed. It is important that you are financial when competing at events for insurance purposes or attending CCHSA meetings to have the right to vote and for the registration or transfer of any horses. The Society has a good number of complimentary members that are given initial membership when purchasing their first Clydesdale in the hope that they will maintain an association with the breed into the future.

Your Membership fee is \$85.00 and is due and **payable by 1st July 2025**. If payment is not received prior to the 30th September 2025 or if you have been a member previously and have let your Membership lapse there is a rejoining fee of \$20.00 applicable.

Payment of your membership can be processed by Direct Deposit

BSB: 633 000 **Account Number:** 130 462 211 **Account Name:** CCHSA

Bank: Bendigo Bank **Reference:** Your Membership No & Surname

or Cheque, or Money Order. Please note the CCHSA cannot process credit card payments. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU DEPOSIT INTO THE FEDERAL ACCOUNT NOT A STATE BRANCH ACCOUNT.**

If you do not provide the reference requirements your Membership will not be processed as there is no other way of identifying your payment.

Please Note: CCHSA Membership of \$85.00 covers the nominated person only under a single or joint membership for insurance and entitles one vote per membership only at CCHSA meetings.

Would you like a membership card?

It is optional to receive a Membership card, and if you require a Membership card to be posted, make sure you provide your current address and you must tick the relevant box on your membership renewal slip requesting a card to be sent. This can be done by either emailing a request for a card or posting back your renewal with a yes ticked in the box. Some members last year put a note in their direct payment reference send a card please. If you have not received your requested membership card in the mail within 2 – 3 weeks of payment received, please contact the Federal Office to have one sent.

Has your Personal Contact Information Changed?

It is important that you check all your personal details to keep your Membership information up to date as this information is passed on to State Secretaries.

Please contact the Federal Office to update your details at anytime when they change or adjust them on your renewal and email to fedsec@clydesdalehorse.com.au or send in via the post.

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CCHSA Federal President Update - Russell March



Dear Members,

Conditions couldn't be more extreme and different with flooding in many eastern parts and the driest drought on record for the south and west. Having said that I have attended great events like the National Heavy Horse Festival in Victoria and other states continue to grow and improve their show programs. Some have preferred to not run events while constitutional changes were taking place, though the risks to them were unfounded, we won't have to be concerned about that for much longer.

Constitution changes are at the final stages, I noted when writing this report that the same time last year we were processing these changes. The amount of work our secretary Mr Rod Bowles has had to put into the constitution over years is excessive. But I am pleased we are near the end. The financial effect of having to make these changes has impacted on our budget significantly. The sales of ties and scarves and the shift of the studbook to tri-Annual, has largely offset these costs but we continue to operate very close to break even. Reviewing our financial position is a priority this year.

The changes to the by-laws of state judge nomination and assessment processes, has improved the speed at which candidates can be nominated, assessed and approved. We are critically low on federal Judges within the society. I feel this was a result of our processes and not that our members weren't willing to apply. It is a small step in the right direction. I encourage members to consider potential candidates, and I would ask that existing Federal judges foster and promote the learning of our members.

There is a proposal to be discussed at council regarding DNA testing of females. This topic I have discussed at length with members across Australia. I had hoped that all states have circulated this, but I have found many members either didn't have much information, wrong information or all rumours. This is a notice of motion to be discussed at the next federal Council meeting. Not a motion that has already been implemented. I find most people reject change, especially if they are not sure of the facts, and that is where we stand currently. Any changes will need to be made at the next AGM, so at this point your state delegates are discussing the Pro's and Cons, and how it could be implemented.

Sydney Royal didn't disappoint with solid numbers in the breed classes. The harness classes were very well attended, and the standard was extremely high. The way the Royal shows are run now, it is very difficult for competitors to attend federal meetings at the Sydney Royal. The long-standing tradition of a meeting in person is sadly now another 'Zoom' meeting. I still travelled to Sydney, not just to watch our horses in action, but to meet and chat with fellow breeders and exhibitors.

The shining light in the last twelve months has been the progression of the 'Next Gen' committee. Delegates from each state were nominated. The committee is running separately to the controls of state or federal body, with the concept that new, progressive ideas are created for the benefit of the Clydesdale society. They have created their own working documents, named the committee and have developed a structure.

Many of the Delegates, Presidents, Secretaries and Committees across Australia donate their time for the breed. Please remember we are all volunteers, and we often must deal with issues outside of our expertise. I would ask that committees are treated with respect and simply be given the common courtesy they deserve. It is very hard to find volunteers these days and losing valuable contributors to petty disputes is unacceptable.

As a final note, I would like to recognise the help Eileen Jorgenson and Nicky Erich have been on the executive this year and the professional work and guidance of our federal Secretary Rod Bowles. It has not been an easy year again and trouble seems to pop up when least expected. Having such a great group of people to work with is an honour. By the time we get to the AGM in September the foaling season will be well underway, so I wish all our members all the best for the season.

Russell March
Federal President

CCHSA Next Gen Committee



It is exciting that there has been significant progress in creating a Next Generation group. Initially an advisory group was formed with representation from the various states to initiate a youth group of likeminded, enthusiastic, future Clydesdale leaders to assist with promoting the breed and fostering the youth within the CCHSA. Each State was asked to nominate 2 young people as representatives to form a National Next Generation group.

State Representatives are as per the following: Alisha Perry (Qld), Christopher Parnell (Qld), Kristian March (SA), Caitlin Armstrong (SA), Andrew Lakin (VIC), Claire Marriott (VIC), Nathaniel Arthur-Ellis (NSW), & Montana Rheinberger (NSW). Profiles of the representatives included.

Further to a range of meetings and outcome thus far the following has been achieved:

- *Name of the Group* – “CCHSA Next Gen Committee”
- *Mission Statement* – “To encourage & foster an enjoyable environment for the Next Generation of Clydesdale enthusiasts with activities that may include but not limited to training days, feature classes, social events, & scholarships”.
- *Leadership Positions* – Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Social Media/Newsletter, Facebook
- *Membership Levels* (Proposed but not endorsed yet) – Age limit of up to 35 years, Membership fee of approximately \$25 or \$30 for the over 18 – 35 age group, Juniors up to 18 years \$11 per year. (As per current rates) and proposed that Casual Day participants for Next Gen age group be funded by State Branches to encourage youth.
- *Ideas* – Filming of training days to use on social media, Open day for anyone to come along and compete and learn, Youth gathering at shows & events, Junior Presentation training workshops, Judging training workshops & stewarding, Horse knowledge, & confirmation
- *Long Term Goals* – Scholarship, Service Fee sponsored, Fundraising, Photography Training & Promotional Package
- *National Competition* – Plans are well under way for an inaugural National Competition to be held at the Melbourne Royal Show in September 2025, where a team of 2 Next Gen age members will prepare and present a horse in the judging ring and answer some questions on confirmation by an over judge and points scored accordingly. It is proposed that a perpetual trophy be created, and the group is looking for a major sponsor for this award and welcomes potential sponsorship offers or proposals. It is also proposed that the competition move around the various states in sequence with the federal Max Fowler Gelding award.
- *Fundraising* – To make this group prosper further, fundraising is required to assist with expenses related to the delegates travel to a national competition proposed at the Royal Melbourne Show in September and develop merchandise to promote the Next Gen group. If you would like to make a small or significant donation there is a form included in your membership renewal.

CCHSA Next Gen Committee Delegates



Alisha Perry - QLD Branch Next Gen Delegate



Hi everyone, I would like to start off by introducing myself, I am Alisha Perry. I am currently a committee member of the CCHSA – QLD Branch.

I have been a part of the Clydesdale world ever since I was 10 years old. I got my very own Clydesdale back in 2017, Briarbrook Lady Ann. I became so eager to learn and breed my own Clydesdales.

After many years, I finally bred my own Clydesdale Filly, Blue Poppies Esther. With Poppy being so young we both learnt together along the way with help from the society and competitors in and outside the ring. We mainly exhibiting at our local agricultural shows, we have been to many breeds displays and I have helped at many merchandising stalls promoting our breed. With now having knowledge about the Clydesdale breed in the future, I wish for Poppy to finally have an offspring to add to our upcoming stud.

My aim as a youth committee member is to help encourage more juniors to be involved and to help them gain experience and knowledge from all the lifetime opportunities I had as a child.

Christopher Parnell - QLD Branch Next Gen Delegate

I have a big passion for all Equus, but more so, I'm passionate about the breed that helped build a nation. The mighty Scottish Clydesdales, having Clydesdales myself, I am extremely familiar with the breed. In preservation of the quality of the Standard (breeding), Showing, Training, Riding and Driving these magnificent animals. I am honoured to be a part of such a historical monument.

Formally being a committee member of the QLD branch, currently a Vice President of QLD, state delegate for the federal body and Trainee Judge within QLD to be assessed this year, I make a good judgement on these animals as I have an eye for good conformation, detail and the perfections of the standard of the breed, as well as knowledge of the faults that can accrue, I have been actively involved with the organisation preparation and running of training days and shows here in Queensland under the CCHSA QLD Branch banner. Also successfully showing Clydesdales for other members within our society.

I am always willing to volunteer my time and help where I can, as that's passion. This is a breed that needs to be preserved and nurtured and to do that we need to share our awareness and knowledge with people of the future that's how preservation is maintained. Personally, I have owned, bred, ridden and shown horses for 25 years. Horses are my passion and play a vital role in my life. I believe that my judgement is sincere, honest and fair, I'm an asset to the society and more so I am an ambassador for the Clydesdale Horse.



Caitlin Armstrong - SA Branch Next Gen Delegate



Hi everyone, my name is Caitlin Armstrong. I'm 20 years old and I live in Monarto, South Australia. I've been working with light horses since I was born.

My journey with Clydesdales started about 15 years ago with the purchase of our first Clydesdale Barisente Leilani. I help my mum in training and exercising our small herd of Clydesdales.

We have strong connections with both the CCHS and our local Working Draught Horse group. Looking forward to meeting the youth ambassadors from around Australia.

CCHSA Next Gen Committee Delegates



Kristian March - SA Branch Next Gen Delegate



I am the next in a multigenerational Clydesdale breeding stud based in Lonsdale, South Australia. My grandparents, Roy and Marj Hinkley, started the Glenquarry Clydesdale Stud in the late 1980s and my parents are currently managing the stud with the intention of passing down the management to my wife and I in the future.

Saying this, I have always been involved in Clydesdales and other heavy horses from an extremely young age, where I have assisted with training, showing, working and breeding. I extended this past my home ground by working further in training and showing under Howard Moss of the Caversham Clydesdale Stud, and a brief stint working at the Victor Harbour Horse Trams in 2015 where I was responsible for the transport and safety of the wonderful horses. Having been a Committee Member of the SA branch for 15 years, I have had the pleasure to serve as the Vice-President in 2022-23.

Alongside this, I also serve on other Committees including the South Australian Working Draught Horse Committee, the Heavy Horse Festival of SA subcommittee, and the Australian Steel Institute Committee. I have attended the Royal Adelaide Show as an exhibitor for most of my life and have exhibited at several Agricultural Shows across SA including Mt Pleasant, Gawler and Murray Bridge. I strive to compete at a high standard when exhibiting in Led Breed, Ground-driven, Tradesman Turnout and Delivery horse classes wherever possible and encourage others of my generation to achieve the same confidence and respect for the Clydesdale as I do

Andrew Lakin - VIC Branch Next Gen Delegate

My name is Andrew Lakin. I am 28 years old, from Allanwood Clydesdales. I am a second-generation Clydesdale breeder in central Victoria. My passion for Clydesdale started when I joined the annual pilgrimage with my family to Melbourne Royal every September, a highlight of the calendar every year. My parents showed numerous horses from the early 90's to the mid 2000's.

In the mid 2000's, I became involved in the stud sheep world which to date has grown to just over 300 breeding ewes. This led the horses to take a backwards step a bit. My partner (Lauren) and I annually compete with a team of sheep at the Australian Sheep and Wool Show, Hamilton Sheepvention, Bendigo Elite and Royal Melbourne (sometimes exhibiting up to 22 sheep at a single show) with a few broad ribbons won along the way.

Over the years in the sheep game, I've become a member of various committees. Which have led me to be a vice president and then president of the Suffolk society of Victoria (youngest in its history), as well as a state representative on the Australian Suffolk Society committee. While the sheep were taking the main attention in the show ring, we still kept breeding a few horses over the years.

In 2020 the stud was signed over to myself from my dad. My dad Rob is still lightly involved with the horses but is passionate about his photography of them at various shows. A few foals have been bred over the last few years with a couple being shown at Melbourne Royal and various other heavy horse shows. Our greatest achievement yet was winning the 2024 Junior Champion Colt with Allanwood Sir Oscar.



Claire Marriott - VIC Branch Next Gen Delegate



I have been around Clydesdales with my family at the Aarunga stud from a young age. In reflection, it has been such a great hobby to do as a family and taught me many valuable life skills. I first learnt to plait and prepare a horse in 2008, as part of the Wee Willy Junior Presentation & Handler class at the Royal Melbourne Show. Nowadays, I enjoy teaching others, especially juniors, the art of plaiting and show ring preparation.

Apart from showing Clydesdales, in my spare time I also enjoy riding my stock horse and playing netball. I am looking forward to meeting the rest of the youth committee and encouraging more juniors in our great breed.

CCHSA Next Gen Committee Delegates



Nathaniel Arthur-Ellis - NSW Branch Next Gen Delegate



For those who don't know me, let me introduce myself - Nathaniel, 34, proud owner of Ahern Shires & Clydesdales. I have been actively involved in breeding Clydesdales and Shires for almost 10 years, though my involvement and passion for horses extends back throughout my life. As co-owner of led, ridden, harness, and leisure pursuits.

Previously, I served as Vice President and Federal Delegate for the Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society (CCHSA) NSW Branch and Vice President of the Shire Horse Breeders Association. I am also the Treasurer and co-founder of the Braidwood & District Heavy Horse Association. Each of these roles has allowed me to contribute actively to promoting and advancing heavy horse breeds both regionally and nationally.

In addition, I am currently planning on pursuing state accreditation through the CCHSA to further my involvement in the breed, and to become a state judge in the next 12-24 months. My commitment as a breeder is to continually improve and refine the standard of Clydesdales and Shires in Australia, blending traditional breed characteristics with contemporary versatility.

As a member of the CCHS Next Generation Committee, I am enthusiastic about fostering new ideas, encouraging younger generations to get involved, and promoting initiatives that will ensure the long-term growth and success of our beloved breed.

Montana Rheinbergeer - NSW Branch Next Gen Delegate

As a second generation of Demore park Harness Horses my involvement in the Clydesdale breed is quite extensive, I have grown up with the Clydesdale breed doing everything from breeding, Harness, riding, breaking and training my own horses.

Although my involvement extends outside of the Clydesdale breed and into the complete heavy world my heart lies within the Clyde's, they have given me opportunities and successes I never thought I would have at the age of 18; from royal show championships to competing internationally and placing in the top 10 amongst the most talented heavy horse men and women of the world And currently still the only Australian family to compete at the world Percheron congress.

With already being given judging opportunities within the heavy horse world I hope to become a NSW state judge within the next few years and further extend and share my current knowledge with the Clydesdale community, young and old.

I am honoured to be a NSW state delegate for the youth committee of the CCHSA and hope to encourage other young members and give them the opportunity to learn and have fun with this amazing breed!



Next Gen Mission Statement

"To encourage & foster an enjoyable environment for the Next Generation of Clydesdale enthusiasts with activities that may include but not limited to training days, feature classes, social events, & scholarships".

Fees & Charges as of 1st July 2025

Membership Fees

- Membership (1st July – 30th June) - \$85.00
- Re-joining Fee (Additional Fee if a Previous Membership has lapsed) - \$20.00
- Junior Entitlement Levy (Under 18 years) (1st July – 30th June) - \$11.00

Registration Fees

- Registrations (Male & Female) - \$70.00
- Registrations (Geldings) - \$40.00
- Cross Bred Recording (Male, Female & Gelding) - \$60.00

Transfers

- Transfers (Current Members only) - \$30.00
- Transfers (Non-member within 60 days) - \$70.00
- Transfers (Non-member after 60 days) - \$90.00

Stallion Service Certificate Book

- Service Certificate (book of 10) - \$30.00

Duplicate Certificates

- Issue of Duplicate Registration Certificate - \$30.00

DNA Testing

- DNA Kits - \$100.00 (Inc DNA testing kit, Lab Results & updating registration details)

Late Registrations

- Male or Female Late Registrations - \$190.00 - (Inc Registration & Penalty Fee - if registered during the following two seasons)
- Gelding Late Registrations - \$110.00 - (Inc Registration & Penalty Fee - if registered during the following two seasons)



Stud Book Volume 43

Stud Book Volume 43 will be produced this year and this stud book will include 3 years of reporting.

Stud Book 43 is available for purchase at \$60.00 including postage if pre ordered and paid before 1st October 2025.

Payment can be made by direct deposit as per the account details below:

BSB: 633 000 **Account Number:** 130 462 211

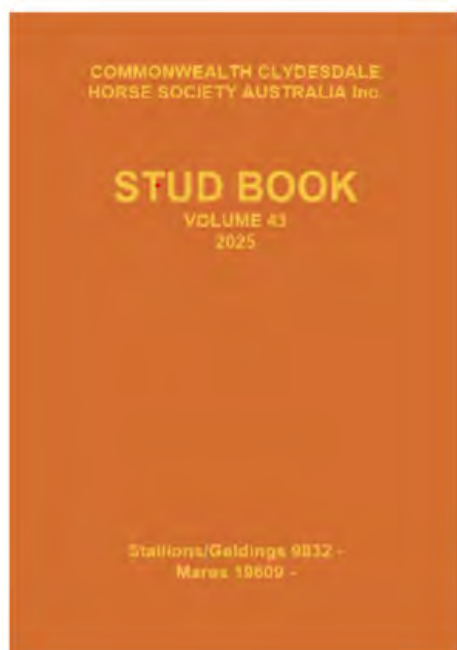
Account Name: CCHSA **Bank:** Bendigo Bank

Reference: Studbook 42, Your Membership No & Surname
or Cheque or Money Order

Please note the CCHSA cannot process credit card payments.

Please note the price will be \$75.00 after 1st October.

Volumes 15-42 are also available, please contact the CCHSA Office or use the website for an order form for any of these editions. Volumes prior to No 15 are electronically available by contacting the Queensland Branch Secretary.



NSW Branch Report - State President Steve Wesselink



Sydney Royal Easter Show

The NSW branch was approached by the NSW Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) to set up a display of Clydesdales for the public at the recent Sydney Royal Easter Show. The RAS built a heritage display with all sorts of farm animals that Australia was established with. There were dairy cattle with actual milking times for the public to have a go, beef cattle, donkeys, goats, sheep and shearing, pony rides, ducks, chooks, alpacas and right in the centre were 2 Clydesdales. The display was open from 9am to 6pm for the entire 12 days of the show and the public absolutely loved the Clydesdales.

There were media presentations with the Governor of NSW, the President of the RAS and ABC Radio National all with the Clydesdale as the background. The crowds were non stop from opening at 9am through to 6pm. The amount of young children that just wanted to touch the Clydesdale was so refreshing. The branch have been invited back next year and look forward to further represent and promote the breed. We were the only horse breed invited.



NSW Branch - Sydney Royal Led Class Results



Champion Clydesdale Stallion or Colt

Oscarville Pegasus - Mr Paul Cooper (Pictured to right)

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Stallion or Colt

Benwerrin Park Governor - Mrs H & Mr P Oxenham

Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly

Volo Shirley - Elemer Clydesdales (Pictured to Bottom Right)

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly

McMurchie Odette - Elemer Clydesdales

Champion Junior Clydesdale

Samarah Park Elouise - Samarah Park Clydesdales (Pictured bottom left corner)

Reserve Champion Junior Clydesdale

McMurchie Unice - Mr Clinton Sanders (Pictured Right)

Best Clydesdale Gelding

Duneske Range - Mrs Rosemary Watson

Supreme Champion Clydesdale

Volo Shirley - Elemer Clydesdales (Pictured Below)



SA Branch Report - State President Ross Blewit



We started the year off on the Saturday 1st of March we had the Mundulla show with about 12 horses competing. The judge was Mrs Emma Kilpatrick from Victoria who was accompanied by her parents Peter and Eileen Jorgenson. We had led classes, long reining and harness. Supreme Champion led was Natalie Blewit's 2yo filly Wheelabarraback Isobel. The harness was a great mixture with Rob Fairchild with his team of 5.

On the Sunday the Mundulla A H & F Society put on an all breed show with one of our members Linda Smith taking Supreme Champion All Breeds with her Clydesdale mare Bess.

Unfortunately The Mount Pleasant show scheduled for the 15th of March was cancelled due to extremely hot weather and luckily as it reached 43 degrees on the day.

On Sunday the 30th March the SA Riding Pony Stud Book Society held an all breeds show at Strathalbyn. Several of our members attended and had a great day. Supreme Champion Clydesdale was Katie l'Anson's gelding Lowen Vale Angus.

Since then, all attention by our HHF Sub-Committee was put towards planning the 3rd Heavy Horse Festival of SA which was held on 17th & 18th May. There was a very short lead up time due to the fact that a new venue was needed for the 2025 Show which took time, but eventually they were able to negotiate a booking with the Strathalbyn Polo Grounds which was able to offer great grounds and facilities including over 90 good undercover stables, camping facilities for competitors and had much better access for interstate people wanting to attend.

Judges were booked - Peter Jorgensen for Clydesdale & Shire Led Classes; Joe Lawrence for Other Heavy Breed Classes, Tradesman's Turnout & Harness; Robert Chmielinski for Working Draught Horse; Rhondda Strafford for Ridden Classes, Rose Piscioneri (Light Harness) and of course Andrew Lavis providing an entertaining, informative and much appreciated commentary over the whole weekend.

Other breed classes were very light on unfortunately with only Unregistered Draught Horse, Gypsy Cobs and Halfingers represented on the day but there was a good turnout of Clydesdales in both Led and Harness Classes. Saturday morning brought rain that lasted most of the day which, although it made conditions out in the ring uncomfortable, who would dare to complain considering the drought conditions that have affected the country for months. Competitors and horses took it all in their stride and the general public poured in the gates, thankful for the undercover verandah & marquees available.

Led Breed Classes, Tradesman's Turnout Classes and Ground Driven Working Horse classes featured in the main rings, with a Light Horse Harness ring also running in a side ring enabling the public to also view different styles of harness. A very popular Merchandise Stall meant visitors could purchase mementos to remind them of the beautiful heavy horses featured during the weekend.

Saturday night provided a substantial BBQ dinner, live music and of course a very fun filled fundraising Auction hosted by none other than Andrew Lavis with his side kick Joe Lawrence. Nearly \$3,800 was raised for the HHFSA show group, thanks to some wonderfully generous donations.

Sunday turned out to be a much better day with the sun shining although cool temperatures still prevailed. The program for day two featured Delivery Harness Horse Classes, Ridden Classes, a Novice Guest Encouragement Long Reining Class, Log Snigging & Sled Classes finally followed by the Championship Presentations.

Ultimately a fantastically successful weekend that will definitely be back again at the same venue in 2026, including more attention to areas that we know we can improve on to make it an even better event. A massive thank you to all the hardworking Committee and the many Volunteers (some who travelled from Victoria to help out) who made the show run so well.



Julia l'Anson - 1st in Junior Handler

Heavy Horse Festival of South Australia



Lowen Vale Yvonne shown by Lynette Fritsch

Champion Clydesdale Mare/Filly
Supreme Champion Led Clydesdale
Supreme of Supreme Purebred Led Exhibit



Benwerrin Louis shown by Scott Marr

Champion Clydesdale Led Gelding
Supreme Champion of Show Led Gelding



Caversham Flossie shown by Katrina Klemm

Champion Single Turnout



Wheelabarraback Flash Bonnie shown by Kristian March

Reserve Champion Mare/ Filly & Supreme Champion Harness Exhibit



Caversham Charles / Caversham Henry shown by Howard Moss

Supreme Champion Turnout



Oscarville Barney shown by Brittany Jablonski

Supreme Champion Ground Driven Draught Horse



To the left: Bimbadeen Hugo by Carla Fullgrave

Champion Clydesdale
Stallion or Colt

VIC Branch Report - State President Eileen Jorgensen



2025 has been a busy year to date for the Victorian Branch, with a number of events already being planned & held.

Celebration of the Horse - Australian Stakes

The Victorian CCHS Branch was invited to promote and display the Clydesdale Horse at the Australia Stakes "Celebration of the Horse" at Moonee Valley Race Course on Friday January 24th 2025. Our younger generation of members, Scott Wells and Vanessa Wells of the Wellsford Clydesdale Stud from Wy Yung, Victoria put on a professional display with their horses and butchers cart. They also promote the Clydesdale operating the Wellsford Heritage Farm and are members of the International group - ALHFAM (Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums)

2025 NC&HHF

2025 NC&HHF was a great success. Bill & Beryl Jackson along with the sub-committee did an enormous amount of work leading up to and on the day ensuring the success of the 2025 Festival. Terry Edge (UK) did a great job judging led & harness. We were grateful for the support received from Wyndham City Council / Visit Werribee in sponsoring & promoting the 2025 NC&HHF. They did a lot of work with Win TV, the Herald Sun, Social Media. Overall sponsorship was up on the previous year.

The support from the public was also up with an opportune segment with Macca on ABC Radio (Australia All Over) on the Sunday prior to the event. There was a chill out area for children and Mum's with young babies, which was well used. This area had an education theme based on the Clydesdale Horse. The children were excited to being given free "show bags" to take home.

Royal Melbourne Show

The Branch Committee have been working with Royal Melbourne in the planning and timing of events for the show later this year. We are lucky to have a family member of one of our exhibitors on the Horse Committee and also to have a good relationship with the staff in Melbourne. It also helps that some of us know these people from their previous employment or connections. They gave us a good overview of things that need to be considered and a proposed program for the 2025 RMS. The proposed timetable at present is: Saturday evening - Junior Judging, Led horses to be judged on Sunday, Tradesman & Delivery on Monday, Harness Clydesdales on Tuesday. For those travelling long distances there is the option to come in on the Friday but this needs to be communicated when making entries.

Successful State Judge Assessments

We have 3 new State judges in Henry Thorn, Claire Marriott & Will Lewin who were assessed by Bill Mahncke, Barb Ford and Lynette Fritsch. They made the comment that there was a lack of ability to speak to breed character. They recommended that there is a need for another Judge Training Day which is planned for later this year.

Update of Vic Branch Representation

I was saddened to receive the resignation of Beryl Jackson from both the Federal and Victorian Committees. Beryl is a very well organised person and will be sadly missed. On Beryl's resignation the Branch appointed Bill Mahncke to fill the casual vacancy on Federal Council.

Heavy Horse Herald Yearbook 2024

To date becoming the agent for the distribution of the UK Year Book has been a success, with many of them being sold prior to our February meeting. We have made more sales already than we had made in 2024. Most of the UK Yearbooks have now been sold.

Upcoming Events

The Victorian Branch has a number of events planned for the coming months! Please see our website for more details. <https://www.clydesdalesvic.org.au/events>

VIC Branch - Moora & Benalla Events



Moora Working Draught Horse Muster & Long Reining Day

A successful event was held on Sunday, 20 April 2025 at Moora Reserve near Rushworth. There was also a parade on Saturday, 19th April through the main street part of the Rushworth Easter Heritage Festival.



Benalla Driving Day

A successful event was held on Saturday, 3 May 2025. It was great to see lots of members participate and enjoy their day. What an incredible day celebrating the strength, skill and beauty of heavy horses in action. A huge thank you to everyone who participated, supported and spectated

Senior Ring - Max and Kristin Marriott Memorial Trophy - Champion Horse of the Day (highest points scored)

Aarunga Spot On, driven by Julie Barber

Best Purebred Clydesdale Horse of the Day

Aarunga Spot On, driven by Julie Barber

The Spirit Memorial Trophy - Best Heavy Horse - Any Other Breed

Fashion, driven by Matt Fitzgerald

Novice Ring Ross Hillis Memorial Trophy - Highest point scorer novice driver

Amy Scott, driving Bethany



Junior Ring Nance and Dave Weavers Junior Driver Encouragement Award

Maddie Van Der Zalm, driving Jasper



QLD Branch Report - State President Bradley Wood



23rd Junior Championships & Gelding Show 2025

This year is our 23rd Junior Championships & Gelding Show which will be held on the 5th July at Boonah Showgrounds, a little later than hoped but the change of venue left us with only one date. In 2000 a group of Queensland Branch members conceived an idea and formed a committee with the aim of creating a show similar to the foal shows in other states. Thus the Junior Championships was born, our very first show in 2001 was held in Boonah, where we have returned to this year for our 23rd Anniversary. The missing years due to El & Covid.



The Branch originally had a separate show for the Geldings, which was later joined to be included with the Junior Championships. The Junior Championships has moved to different venues for the 23 years of it running, and with the Geldings included it is great to be back in Boonah, which has always been thought of as the home of the Clydesdale Horse here in Qld, with many breeders in the area keeping the breed alive in the 60's & 70's. In the picture below you can see Clydebuilt a sculpture created by Scotsman Andy Scott and given to the people of Boonah, to honour the dedication to the breed and for keeping it alive in Qld.



To the Right: Clipping from the local newspaper at our third show in 2003. Pictured from left, Anne Blackburn, Grant Teatoff, Marian Bangay, Leanne Rayner, Rhonda Harnell, Nicky Ehrich, Deb Teatoff, Kath Pearce, Neil Hall and Terry Rayner. With Col Ehrich (Patron) seated at the front.

To the Left: Danny & Jane Baldwin with Oscarville Maverick & Jane with Earlsfield Lionheart. Bradley Wood (Qld Branch President) Nicky Ehrich (Qld Branch and Federal Vice President)



Training Day October 2024

The Branch held a very successful Training Day in October, with 47 people attending, some existing members and quite a few new members and non member attendees. There were 10 horses in attendance, mostly horses that attendees brought along, which is great for those wishing to learn skills on their own horses.

SUBJECTS COVERED, How to get your horse started, as in what bit to use, long reining, how to get your horse used to chains around its legs, fitting harness, horse prep, plaiting manes & tails. fitting collars, correct size for horse. putting a vehicle to the horse.

Thanks to our two Patrons, Don Ross, Terry Goodear for their knowledge, also to Maria and Morgan Hughston for bringing their two horses for people to practice on, thanks also to Dave Martin, Graham Ehrich, Chris Parnell, Alisha Perry, Sharon Betts and many others that shared their knowledge during the day. Thank you to Lorraine Page, Kylie Johnston, & Emily Johnston for catering and putting on an amazing lunch, also to Bradley Wood for allowing us to have the day at his property and to the rest of our hard working committee for all their work towards this. The cost to participants was Nil, apart from non members paying day insurance. It was an extremely successful day. It was so good to see many new faces.



Dave Martin helping with instructions on long reining.



Listening to the Master (Don Ross) so much knowledge to share and so much to absorb

QLD Heavy Horse Horse - Allora & Gatton



Darling Downs Heavy Horse Festival - Allora

It has been a couple of busy months for Clydesdale Exhibitors at shows recently, we are fortunate to have a couple of great shows for Clydesdale breeders and exhibitors to attend. The first being the Darling Downs Heavy Horse Festival, held at Allora, a wonderful show with a great atmosphere and to finish the day on the Saturday night a great meal with entertainment. A well run show with great classes.

Clydesdales were very well represented at the festival with about 38 entries in the led classes (and quite a few more that only competed in working or ridden events) so even with a few scratching's there were good numbers parading before the Judge, Mr Tony Riley.

Champion Clydesdale Stallion or Colt (To Right)

Duneske Promise of Reign - Stewart-Koster Family

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Stallion or Colt

Earlsfield King of the Castle - Stewart-Koster Family

Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly

Duneske Flash Pearl - Stewart-Koster Family

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Mare or Filly

Balgowan Rumour - Balgowan Clydesdales

Champion Clydesdale Gelding

Carseldine Stargazer - Neil Hall

Reserve Champion Gelding

Duneske Discovery - Stewart-Koster Family



Grand Champion Clydesdale (To Right)

Duneske Flash Pearl -
Stewart-Koster Family



Clydesdale & Heavy Horse Field Days - Gatton

Another great show on our Heavy Horse show calendar, perfect weather, a great turnout of horses and competition. A full two days of Clydesdales competing in Led, Harness, ploughing, ground driven classes and ridden.

Champion Clydesdale Stallion

KJ Patriot - Grant & Debbie Teatoff

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Stallion

Earlsfield King of the Castle - Stewart-Koster Family

Champion Clydesdale Mare

Glengallan Ruby Tuesday - Stewart-Koster Family

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Mare

Glengallan Crown Alliance - Amy White

Champion Clydesdale Gelding

Duneske Discovery - Stewart-Koster Family

Reserve Champion Gelding

Earlsfield Lionheart - Danny & Jane Baldwin

Champion Clydesdale Junior Colt

Kaiyale Hillview Tennessee Reign - Lisa Hughes

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Junior Colt

Duneske Promise of Reign - Stewart-Koster Family

Champion Clydesdale Junior Filly

Granadeb Park Poet - Grant & Debbie Teatoff

Reserve Champion Clydesdale Junior Colt

Brookeleigh Lodge Constance - Brookeleigh Lodge



Supreme Clydesdale Exhibit

Mel Clausen holding KJ Patriot pictured with the three deciding judges Ian Scarborough (Percheron Judge) Mathew Marriott (Clydesdale judge) Terry O'Brien (Shire Judge) holding the rug Montana Rheinberger, trainee judge



Champion Clydesdale Mare

Glengallan Ruby Tuesday - Stewart-Koster Family

Vale Robert Ronzio



The late Robert Ronzio passed away suddenly in October 2024 which was a shock to the Clydesdale world.

Robert was President of the CCHSA for 9 years from 2012 – 2021 and during this time he also served as a committee member of the Vic Branch from 1993 and the Victorian Branch President from 2011 to 2023 and was a founding Member of the National Heavy Horse Festival established in 2008 held at Werribee annually which is now a well-established event.

Robert's leadership style may have been described as forthright, passionate, shared, innovative, determined and sincere but importantly, successful and appreciated. Under Robert's Presidency major restructuring of the Society was initiated bringing the CCHSA into the 21st century with a new constitution and by-laws structure, restating the role of the Federal Council and each state branch re the rights and responsibilities of the Members.

Robert was the founder of "Taloumbi Lodge" Clydesdale stud which breed several horses to success and exhibited in both led & harness events over many years.

Robert was confirmed as a Life Membership of the Society at the CCHSA AGM in September 2023 and was presented his Life Membership at the 2024 National Heavy Horse Festival surrounded by family and friends. Vale Robert Ronzio

Vale Ron Judd



Ron passed away late March at 95 years of age. He was a Horseman from the time he left school at age 14 he worked with his Brother's Clearing Mallee, sinking dams and farming with 8 and 12 horse teams, competing at shows and travelling around the district with a sire to other stud and breeders.

Ron with his Brother Reg first registered the Aurora Clydesdale stud in 1943 and have maintained the breed standards ever since. The stud is one of the oldest continuous breeding studs in NSW. Ron competed in many local and royal shows Winning the First land cup Outright in 1958 and later the Second Land cup Outright as well as many Champions and Grand Champions including Sydney and Melbourne Royals achievements of which he was very proud.

Ron was a State and Federal Judge and was also made a Life member of the Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society in recognition of outstanding dedication and promotion of the Clydesdale breed and Society.

Vale Donald Ross



Late December 2024, the Ross family sadly lost the Patriarch of their family.

The Qld branch lost our Patron, a man with so much knowledge of the horse world, and a friend. He will be greatly missed, for those that did not know Don there is not enough room on this page to cover what he did in his life, but here are a few, Stockman at Cannon Hill sales yards, Gathering teams of horses together one of which was a 42 horse team, 20 horse team for the movie the Irishman, Cobb & Co Coach reinsman, taking part in Cobb and Co reenactment, German Wagon races, Chariot Races (seen at many Royal Shows). Redcoat at Albion Park Raceway along with his son and grandson.

Both Don and Judy were great supporters of the CCHSA Qld Branch when it was reformed in 1974, we used to have after judging BBQ's at their home at Belmont.

A few words from Don's family:

Don was a huge presence in our lives and where he led, we followed. We will miss him, and he has left a huge Don Ross size hole in our lives and hearts...he has given us a lifetime of amazing memories. Our Don, Dad and Pop.

Scarves & Ties Available for Purchase

Scarves & Ties are still available and you need to contact your State Branch as they have the remaining stocks of ties & scarves.

Its great to see the ties and scarves out about amongst exhibitors & judges as per the picture.



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Find us on 

Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society Australia

Check out the website for all the information you require including forms, state contact details, judges list and more....

The database is updated regularly and the search for details of horses, owners, breeding etc can be accessed via the website.

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