



Whip Around



December 2015

A Publication of the NSW Branch of the ACDS Inc

www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au

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2015/2016

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Maxine Saliba (Camden Club) driving Katut at the Dressage, Cones and Mini Marathon Day at Rossmore (P Fitzpatrick)

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT 'WHIP AROUND' February 20 2016

Next NSW ACDS Branch Meeting at Macksville on February 20 2016

Venue and time: contact NSW Secretary 02 4845 8298 carriagedrivingnsw@live.com.au

Usual charge for morning tea and lunch payable on the day

Please notify the Secretary Amanda Blakeley of intention to attend by February 14 2016

(02) 4845 8298 or carriagedrivingnsw@live.com.au

NSW ACDS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

IMPORTANT ! Club Secretaries – Always submit proposed calendar dates to the Calendar Coordinator Garry Harris (gjharris@live.com.au or ph 02 6942 6762) for checking, to avoid clashes with other events, particularly similar nearby or close interstate events.

DATE	EVENT DETAILS	CONTACT
Dec		
13	Obsthon at Laggan Reedy Creek Club	John Moyes 02 4837 3023
	2016	
Jan		
16-17	Come and Try Days at Gulgong Gulgong Club	Chris Hills 0428 292 777
24	CDE Officials Clinic at Singleton NSW CDE Panel	Tracey Ellis 0402 854 696
24-26	Three Day Enduro at Galbraith Goulburn Club	Robert Allport 0427 916 524
27-28	King of the Ranges Weekend at Murrurundi	Peter Honeyman 02 6767 1555
30	BBQ at Londonderry Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
31	CDE Officials Clinic at Jugiong NSW CDE Panel	Tracey Ellis 0402 854 696
Feb		
7	Rally Day at Attunga Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
13-14	Level 4 CDE at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club	Yvonne Wood 02 4883 6859
13-14	Beginners Day and One Day Event at Temora	Sharon Beattie 02 6973 1924
19-21	Club Drive Liverpool Range Club	Peter Honeyman 02 6767 1555
20	NSW Branch Meeting at Macksville	Amanda Blakeley 02 4845 8298
21	Graded Dressage Day Murrumbidgee Club	Robyn Schmetzer 02 6955 2331
27-28	Graded Dressage and Munro Cup Bungendore Club	Dot Willcoxson 02 4842 7164
28	Activity Day at Rossmore Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
Mar		
5	Museum Open Day and Drive at Temora Temora Club	Sharon Beattie 02 6973 1924
5-6	Ann Synnot Cup at Murrumbateman Canberra Club	Judy Harris 0438 880 458
5-6	Wybong Pleasure Drive Gulgong Club	Neil Munn 02 6547 8108
6	Charity Carriage Driving Experience Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
TBA	Joe Hawkins Cup at Marrar Riverina Club (new date being sought)	Sue Fraser 02 6920 2330
17-30	SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW	
TBA	Bram Chardon Clinic at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club	Yvonne Wood 02 4883 6859
Apr		
3	Social Drive at Goolhi Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
3	Pleasure Drive at Maraylya Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
9-10	Dressage Workshop & Graded Dressage Day at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club	Yvonne Wood 02 4883 6859
9-10	Horse Power Weekend at Ariaiah Park Riverina Club	Sue Fraser 02 6920 2330
16-24	Fifield Enduro Central West Club	Gaye Lees 0427 624 984
16-17	Level 3 CDE at Witwood Bungendore Club	Dot Willcoxson 02 4842 7164
TBC	Pleasure Drive at Dunedoo Gulgong Club	Warwick Leeson 0427 751 245
May		
1	NSW Show Driving Championships at Hawkesbury Hills Club	Kim McGregor 0433 777 763
1	Carriage Driving Experience at Attunga Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
7-8	Graded Dressage/Mini CDE at Witwood Bungendore Club	Dot Willcoxson 02 4842 7164
14	Painting School at Temora Temora Club	Sharon Beattie 02 6973 1924
15	Pleasure Drive Southern Highlands Club	Yvonne Wood 02 4883 6859
22	Sports Day / Junior Challenge at Rossmore Hills & Camden Clubs	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
28-29	Level 3 CDE at East Gresford TBC Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
28- Ju5	Henry Lawson Drive Gulgong Club	Chris Hills 0428 292 777
June		
5	Rally Day Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
11-12	Charlie Phillips Memorial Drive at Piallaway Liverpool Range Club	Peter Honeyman 02 6767 1555
18	NSW Branch AGM & General Meeting at East Maitland	Amanda Blakeley 02 4845 8298
26	President's Lunch at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club	Yvonne Wood 02 4883 6859
26	Pleasure drive venue TBC Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
July		
8-10	Federal ACDS AGM and Conference at Hurlstone H/S Glenfield	Sue Waters 03 5983 6629

9-11	Endurance Drive at Spring Ridge Hunter & Liverpool Range Clubs	Rosemary Laing 0408 562 257
10	Carriage Driving Experience at Moonbi Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
15-16	Mudgee Small Farms Field Days	Chris Hills 0428 292 777
17	Winter Gymkhana at Rossmore Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
24	Anniversary Lunch and AGM at RDA Box Hill Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
30-31	Come and Try Days at Gulgong Gulgong Club	Chris Hills 0428 292 777



Rob Nichols driving Charlie at the Hills Club Dressage, Cones and Mini Marathon Day at Rossmore (P Fitzpatrick)

NSW PANEL CONVENORS 2015-2016

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dc520742@bigpond.net.au

CLUB NEWS

CENTRAL WEST HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY

The Central West Club's annual Fifield Endurance event will be held from Saturday April 16 to Sunday April 24, 2016. The usual endurance classes will be held again, with the new rule that a groom is not mandatory, as per the trial guidelines. Pleasure drivers are especially encouraged to also attend. They will follow the pony course but will not be timed. For further information contact Gaye Lees on 0427 624 984

REEDY CREEK EQUESTRIAN CLUB

Kath Cole: A Dressage Tri Series over the year seemed a good way to reward excellence in this discipline and to encourage the gradual improvement we would all like to achieve. With Gail Bain and Shepherds Hill Michael the eventual winners we felt we had certainly been able to reward excellence. Gail was also able to share with us that she and Michael will be travelling to England. We will certainly be keen to follow their progress there and wish them well.

The Tri Series was aimed at all shapes and sizes and dressage levels. With Bronwen Pratt's Shetland pony Domino Downs Evening Showtime (the name seems bigger than the pony!) in second place and competing at Preliminary level we felt we had achieved our goal in that respect. Bronwen also took out third place with her other pony Raminco Tribune, so how's that for consistency? Leonie Hass was not far behind in fourth place,

and I think Bronwen organized some sharing of her two awards with Leonie.



Bronwen Pratt driving Rominco Tribune in the Tri Series Dressage at Laggan (A Ongley)

We would like to thank Mahbrook Carriages for their support which enabled a small club such as ours to put up enticing awards and give credibility to the event. Why else would you want to travel to Laggan three times in the one year? One of the problems we encountered was that not everyone could get to all three events, and we had a very thoughtful donation of a bottle of champagne to be awarded for the best of two competitions. This was won by Joanne Dorman driving Westbury Shadowman, with Molli Mercer second driving Beauwood Rocky Road.

Thank you to all the judges, pencilers, helpers and competitors who came and supported the event and made all the grass cutting worthwhile.

Now to quite a different event. Club members Ray and Carol Roach were able to participate in the Goulburn section of the Kangaroo March. They enjoyed both the driving, and the social activities in the evening. The significance of being part of this re enactment meant a lot to Ray and Carol. It looks as though we can't stop yet with the grass mowing, as we still have our Christmas Obsthon and BBQ this year. The plan is for a relaxed, fun event, with the weather being as kind to us as it has been for all of this year's activities.

ELLMORE CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

Ellmore Club members have been seen at a number of carriage driving activities over the last few months including several CDEs. Chuckie Radnedge and Kookie Engelsman with entourages and chargers headed to Bundanoon in early October for the Festival of Driving. Kookie was very pleased driving Ashwood Black Magic to receive Reserve Champion in the Intermediate class of the NSW CDE Championships, whilst Chuckie won Champion Tandem driving her boys Hudson Gucci and Hudson Gambler. Ellmore hosted a Navigation Drive around Grenfell in mid October. Whilst only a small number of drivers participated and subsequently got waylaid in the back blocks of this pretty little country town, they eventually found their way home and were rewarded with Chuckie's delicious award winning pumpkin scones (2nd prize at the Grenfell Show).

It was then on to the NSW Dressage Championships at Marrar in early November. It was a very well organized event, unfortunately thwarted by the weather gods who brewed up a terrific downpour towards the end of the first lot of dressage tests. Penny Jacobs did very well to secure Reserve Champion in the Preliminary class driving her pair Rocky and Zac. It was also good to see Brendan Dwyer driving Ellmore Black Velvet, achieving Reserve Champion Novice. Kookie Engelsman was Reserve Champion in the Intermediate class with Ashwood Black Magic and Chuckie Radnedge won Reserve Champion Open driving Hudson Gambler.

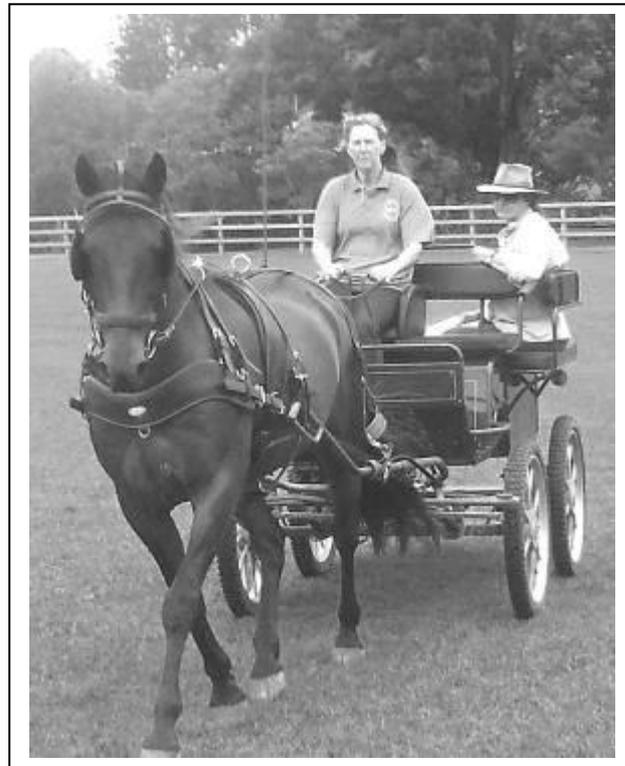
Some of the club's CDE drivers then went south of the border to attend the Level 2 CDE at Longwood, where Chuckie Radnedge won Best Horse Tandem with Gambler and Gucci and the Ellmore Club came second in the Teams Trophy.

NORTH COAST CARRIAGE CLUB

After a great deal of difficulty locating keys to get into the showground at Coffs Harbour for the October 24 activity day, members finally were able

to get in and enjoy a day of driving, long reining and log snigging.

Hilary Graham brought along her young Shire x Percheron, Bessie, for Bessie's first club outing. It would have been a great start for any young horse's driving experience, being long reined around a safe arena, watching proceedings and learning the patience of being tied up, whilst activity was going on all around.



Hilary Graham driving Mickey, with groom Rowena Walker at Nana Glen (S Graham)

There was a huge storm the night before the Club's day at Nana Glen on November 14, with more rain forecast over the weekend. However several members forged ahead without cancelling and were rewarded with a lovely day.

The weather did frighten away some of the longer distance members, but those who were there thoroughly enjoyed themselves in jovial company. Heidi Naylor set up one of her interesting cones courses, which are always a delight to participants. This time, in keeping with the time of the year, the cones were in a Christmas tree pattern. Trying to remember the course, and negotiate the tight corners, soon blew out the cobwebs in the grey matter.

Congratulations to Echah Wright who has recently been accredited as an ACDS Light Harness Show Judge, following an exam done at Moonbi in July. Echah has since been travelling in Europe and fulfilled her dream of seeing Lipizzaner horses at studs in Slovenia and Austria.

The North Coast Club will be hosting the next NSW Branch Meeting to be held on February 20 at Macksville.

RIVERINA CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY

Debbie Dunn and Cherry Bomb have been busy over the last two months attending the NSW CDE Championships at Bundanoon, the NSW Driven Dressage Championships at Marrar and the CDE at Longwood in Victoria. These events were all lots of fun and well worth travelling to for the great company and the experience of competing at events at these levels.

At the NSW CDE Championships Debbie and Cherry won the Novice Small Pony class, which included winning their marathon and cones phases. Unfortunately rain interrupted the NSW Driven Dressage Championships, with only one round able to be completed. The Obsthon on the Sunday proved to be lots of fun, with some very speedy rounds.

The Longwood CDE was very well attended. There were eleven in the Novice Small Pony class. Cherry Bomb tried very hard in the marathon where there were some big complex obstacles, and came through successfully. Her cones run was very fast, but unfortunately there were two balls down. They finished mid field.

Janice Reynolds and Griffin completed the Marrar Enduro winning the Small Pony class, and Janice won the prestigious damper cooking competition. The weather was perfect all week and the roads around Marrar are excellent for pleasure and endurance driving.

Sue Fraser and her pony Archie attended the last of the Driven Dressage Tri Series events at Laggan, run by the Reedy Creek Club on November 15. The day started out very cold and windy but turned into a perfect driving day. Sue and Archie completed two dressage tests and two cones runs, with both showing improvement each time. Many thanks to Reedy Creek members for running such a welcoming event.



Sue Fraser and Archie at the Tri Series Dressage at Laggan (A Ongley)

CAMDEN HARNESS CLUB

Camden Club members, Greg Fitzpatrick, Greg McDonald, Sally Crowell and Maxine Saliba drove at the Hills Club Dressage, Cones and Mini Marathon Day in October, whilst Martyn Minns

was there grooming for Greg, and Charlotte Hyles stewarded on the marathon obstacle.

On November 21 the Camden Club hosted the State Branch Meeting at the Cawdor Uniting Church Hall. The weather was kind and the club rallied around to help the day go well.

The next day a low key pleasure drive was held from the Sharpe's dairy farm at Brownlow Hill.



Greg McDonald and Gerbe at the Hills Club Dressage, Cones and Mini Marathon Day (P Fitzpatrick)

Carol Fitzpatrick drove Ned and Lou, with her husband Peter and Sylvia Biffin as passengers, and Charlotte Hyles drove Ziva. As Charlotte had not been there before, they visited the Glendon area in one direction and the Round House in the other. Everyone enjoyed the drive even with the light misty rain and the hordes of flies that accompanied them. When they returned Carol took Sue Sharpe (Sylvia's daughter) for a short run with the boys. Then, as Charlotte had to work in the afternoon, they finished up early and headed home.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CARRIAGE CLUB

Southern Highlands members are taking a well earned rest after conducting the extremely successful Festival of Driving in early October. Many letters of thanks have been received from competitors, which makes the huge effort to run events like that all worthwhile.

In late November there is a seven day Bram Chardon Clinic, which will hopefully be as successful as the previous one in March. Bram is already in the country and has completed clinics in SA and WA. Reports are that these have been fantastic and participants want to have him back again, so they can continue on the correct path with their training.

A Christmas get-together is being held on December 13. Drinks, nibbles, pizzas and cones will be the order of the day, so that no one has to do any cooking or washing up.

In 2016 the club is commencing the calendar of events with a Graded Dressage Day and Mini CDE on February 13/14. This will be hopefully followed in March by another Bram Chardon

Clinic, depending on his availability. On April 9/10, the club is hosting a Dressage Clinic followed by another Graded Dressage Day. Other activities are planned for every month, with a Winter Seminar being proposed for July, and maybe a bus trip to visit some place of interest to members and invited guests.

TEMORA CARRIAGE CLUB

On Saturday November 21 Temora Aviation Museum held the second day of the two day Warbirds Downunder Expo. People flocked to the Museum in thousands. Army barrack style tents set up like the aviation training camp there in the 1940s, together with caravans and campers, filled a twenty acre paddock across from the airport. People arrived in army vehicles, and historic and modern military and private planes flew in from across Australia.

Sharon Beattie had two horses and a pony in the showground paddock two kilometres away. They had seen the Spitfires, Hudsons, Meteor, Sabre and many other planes before, but this was the first time they had the RAAF Roulettes and F/A-18 Hornets zoom over their heads. They looked up as the jets flew over, then went back to grazing. That afternoon the main street of Temora was closed off for a street fair. All the local shops opened up together with stall holders. There were sheep shearing demonstrations, a chocolate wheel, go carts and laser tag in a side street. The Temora stage on a truck was set up and a band played. Temora Club members had arranged to give rides at the street fair so Harry Hol and Sharon Beattie harnessed Sharon's chestnut mare Zoe at the showground and drove her down the main street to where Veronica Chown and Allen Partridge were waiting near the Shell Service Station, ready to assist with the loading of passengers. Harry did all the driving because Sharon then was occupied doing three sets of ballroom dancing demonstrations.

In between dances, Sharon stood at the middle roundabout in Temora, to ensure all went well at the turn for Harry and his passengers. Though the street was closed off to traffic, the barriers were opened at one stage to let a double bogie petrol tanker through to deliver fuel. Zoe was moved to the side as the tanker turned into the petrol station, but remained calm and sensible – a great horse. They started at 5.30pm and finished at 8pm, when Harry and Allen took Zoe back to Harry's place, after a successful evening of driving interested passengers.

BORDER CARRIAGE CLUB

The Border Carriage Club has been relatively quiet due to members competing elsewhere, building houses or parting with their current driving horses. Pam Salter has been busy competing at a number

of events with her pony Dalgangle Horatio. The pair won the Preliminary Championship at both the National Dressage Championships at Bundanoon and the NSW Dressage Championships at Marrar. Pam has also competed in a number of CDEs and enjoyed learning the associated skills required with that discipline.

Club President Angela Gray has been building a new house, which is due for completion in the new year. She is looking forward to moving in and having spare time to prepare and compete at some upcoming events in 2016.

Jayde Whitehead has sold her pony with foal at foot, but has had great success with her new cob filly, including winning Supreme Champion Led Exhibit at the Welsh Youngstock Show at Tatura in Victoria. Jayde is looking forward to having the filly broken to harness.

The club held a pleasure drive as part of its Christmas Party on Saturday November 21.

Angela Gray, Linda Porter and Pam Salter had a very enjoyable drive around the dirt tracks adjoining Angela's property, after which they joined Jayde Whitehead, Bruce and Pat McNally, Ian Rough and Prue Jones for a fabulous lunch at the well known Pickled Sisters. The day couldn't have been better, with a delicious meal accompanied by some lovely wines.

The next rally is planned in the new year, with lessons booked with Mike Thill.

HILLS DISTRICT HARNESS CLUB

The Hills Club held its annual Dressage, Cones and Mini Marathon Day on October 25 at Rossmore Reserve in beautiful weather. A total of sixteen drivers were there on the day, doing the ACDS Novice CC dressage test under judge Sue Plath, and completing the cones and mini marathon course. The latter consisted of two laps of the grounds plus a marathon obstacle.



Sue Boyd driving Jack at the Dressage, Cones and Mini Marathon Day at Rossmore (P Fitzpatrick)

The drivers were Jenny Conquest, Christine Dunn, Jessica Casper, Belinda Casper, Karen Silvester, Andrea Casper, Lynne Buckingham, Thelma Nichols, Rob Nichols, Sue Boyd and Angela Eberle from Hills, and Maxine Saliba, Greg McDonald, Sally Crowell and Carol Fitzpatrick from the Camden Club. Others there on the day helping to run the event were Eddie Dobbin, Kay Rose, Danuta Paxton, Dennis Casper, Molly Paxton, Warren Ricketts, Charlotte Hyles, Katherine Egorov, Peter Fitzpatrick and Janet Muspratt. The competitors were divided into two groups by height and the overall winners were Christine Dunn with Patches in the small pony class and Belinda Casper with Indi in the big pony and horse class. It was good to see Rob Nichols driving in his first event with his mini horse Charlie and having a great time.

The annual Trivia Night at the RDA at Box Hill was the next outing on the club calendar, with Eddie Dobbin presenting his usual wide ranging and often tricky set of questions. Each round started off with a quote from a Banjo Patterson poem, which Eddie read with great enthusiasm. The question was to name the correct poem from which the quote came. Some tables could only think of one Banjo poem so they took a punt and wrote it down every time, hoping they'd strike the jackpot at least once – which they did. New members Catherine Charteris and her sister Melody Kraay together with their families, were welcomed to the Hills fold for the first time. Catherine and Melody have Australian Draught horses and are just starting to get them going as pleasure driving horses.

The next two Hills events were scheduled on the same weekend – a 20 minute Cones Driving Challenge as part of the Saturday Night Extravaganza at the Equine Lifestyle Festival at Hawkesbury Showground, and a pleasure drive next day at Maraylya, but they were not to be. Continuous rain and the resulting very muddy conditions led to the organizers reluctantly deciding to cancel the night Extravaganza events, including the Cones Challenge. Soon afterwards, the club cancelled the pleasure drive next day for similar reasons. It was very disappointing for all concerned. Twenty two people from the Hills and Camden Clubs had been lined up to be involved in the staging of the Cones Challenge, either as drivers or ground crew and stewards, and it was shaping up to be a great crowd pleaser.

LIVERPOOL RANGE HARNESS CLUB

Donna Grace: Club members Bruce and Vicki Donnelly hosted a most enjoyable driving weekend at their home in Spring Ridge on October 17/18/19 2015. Those who arrived early on the Friday waited until late afternoon before heading out for lovely sunset drive. Afterwards, a delicious

BBQ dinner was provided by Bruce and Vicki under an incredible starlit sky.

With the following days predicted to be very hot, an early morning drive before breakfast was suggested, but only the ladies committed to it. True to their word they headed out for what they described as a great little outing, thoroughly enjoying the drive in the cool of the morning. Those ladies included Vicki Donnelly and Tom, Christine O'Rourke and Bill, along with passenger Kate Wilson, Cherry Steel and Beau and Donna Grace and Bob. Bruce Donnelly led the way by motor vehicle before leaving the ladies to follow the tracks through the farm paddocks. The quiet of the morning was broken by the chatter of the girls as they trotted and ambled along, before returning to breakfast at the camp.



Kate Wilson with Bailey at Spring Ridge (V Donnelly)

Whilst waiting for others to arrive for the weekend, we relaxed in the shade of the garden, enjoying a lovely morning tea which lingered into lunch before it was decided to venture out into the heat. We thought the State Forest would offer some shade, but were dismayed to find the heat was actually more oppressive in the forest. However it was still a good drive. Eight sulkies travelled 25km along the sandy trails of the forest. Sunday saw another early morning drive taking in some spectacular views from Coolanbilla Hill across the valley to Spring Ridge. It was then time to return to pack up for going home. It was really good to have Cherry Steel returning to driving after her horse Beau had suffered an eye injury. It was also good to welcome Kate Wilson who came for her first outing with her horse Bailey. He had a shaky start, but with great encouragement from Bruce Donnelly and Geoff Skewes, Bailey improved over the weekend, gaining confidence within the group. He has the makings of a good driving horse and we look forward to having Kate join us for more club activities in 2016.

The weekend of November 28/29 will see a drive and Christmas celebration at Eulo, home of Malcolm and Donna Grace. This will be the final drive before club activities resume in January 2016. Plans are for a camping trip to Bingara in January and a drive at Ebor in late February, as well as the King of the Ranges at Murrurundi on its new date January 27/28. A Coolah Tops drive is planned for March and a drive in the Woolbrook area for April. Looking further ahead, the annual Charity Drive for 2016 will be held from September 17-25 2016.

The Charity Drive last September was once again a wonderful success. A donation of \$7200 has been made to the Quirindi Royal Far West Auxilliary. Thank you again to all those who participated in the drive. Your contribution has been very much appreciated.

TAMWORTH REGIONAL HORSE DRAWN CLUB

Several members competed at the 37th Annual APSB Show at Manilla on October 11 and almost everyone came away with a ribbon. Liz O'Brien and Karl Olsson did particularly well. Also on the show scene, Trina Redgewell had very successful results when she drove her pony Rohan at his first Welsh Show at Tamworth on November 6.

Rachael Bryce and Amanda See competed in the FEI CAE 2* held at Tamworth's AELEC and also did well. Amanda's pony Harley gained an overall first place, whilst Rachael's pony Toby got a third. The Club's Dressage and Show Driving Clinic at Attunga on November 1 was held in lovely fine weather. Judy Tonkiss was the very patient and knowledgeable instructor for the six drivers and four other members. In the morning she gave the group valuable tips on how to get the best out of their horses in the dressage arena, whilst in the afternoon drivers were put through their paces in the show arena. All were eager to learn and practice what they learnt.



All managed to get some lengthening from their horses, some better than others. With more than half the class driving young horses, it was an excellent opportunity to see where they were up to regarding training and ability. Within the security of the enclosed grounds, drivers got to push their horses that little bit further than they might have done at home, with Judy watching closely to make sure things were not overdone.

Two new members Chris Maher from Currabubula and Evol Atkins from Manilla were welcomed on the day. Chris drove his pony mare named Snowflake, and Evol joined as a social member keen to enjoy the activities and camaraderie of the club.

The Club is planning to hold a Level 3 CDE at East Gresford Showground on May 28/29 2016.



Liz O'Brien driving Lone Star at the Attunga Clinic (M Major)

GOULBURN DISTRICT HORSE DRAWN VEHICLE SOCIETY

Robert, Damon and Kimberley Allport represented the club at the recent Marrar Endurance event.

Kimberley, driving her standardbred mare Thelma won the Horse Section, and also the Junior Driver award. The three Allports were also the recipients of the John Moyes perpetual trophy for horsemanship during the event.

In addition, Fergus Finn was announced as the inaugural winner of the Michael Finn Memorial perpetual trophy for Junior of the Year in Pleasure and Endurance events. The trophy was kindly donated by Ron and Jenny Guihot, and presented to Fergus at Marrar.

The planned club pleasure drive in November was cancelled due to other commitments of club members. The next drive will be in December at Golspie which includes the club's Christmas party on the Saturday night.

January will see the club hosting its Mini Enduro at Yalbraith on January 24-26 2016. For more information contact Robert Allport on 0427 916 524



John Moyes with Robert, Damon and Kimberley Allport after they were presented with the Marrar Enduro Horsemanship Trophy (A Ongley)

BUNGENDORE CARRAGE DRIVING SOCIETY

Max Pearce, along with Molli Mercer, Leah Montefiore and Carolyn Blakeley were involved with the RAAHC (Royal Australian Artillery Historical Company) Gun Team and the Kangaroo March when the re enactment march passed through Gunning on a cold and wet September 22 afternoon.

The club was well represented at the Festival of Carriage Driving hosted by the Southern Highlands Club at Bundanoon in early October. Carolyn and Amanda Blakeley, Lyn Dominish, Sarah Keevers and Byron McIntyre all took part. Bungendore Club President Dot Willcoxson has recently been to Hungary to judge at the FEI World Pairs Championships at Fabiansebestyen. A pleasant surprise has been received from the former ACDS club, Bega Valley, which unfortunately has disbanded. Bega Valley donated \$1000 to the Bungendore Club and it has been decided to use the money to purchase rails for the second arena. Bungendore Club would like to express its gratitude to, and publicly thank, the former Bega members for this very generous donation.

MURRUMBIDGEE CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

The Murrumbidgee Club will be having a few working bees over the next couple of months to finish setting up the new kitchen in the clubhouse at the Murrumbidgee Sportsground. A general clean up of the grounds will also be done as storms over the winter months have brought down trees and branches.

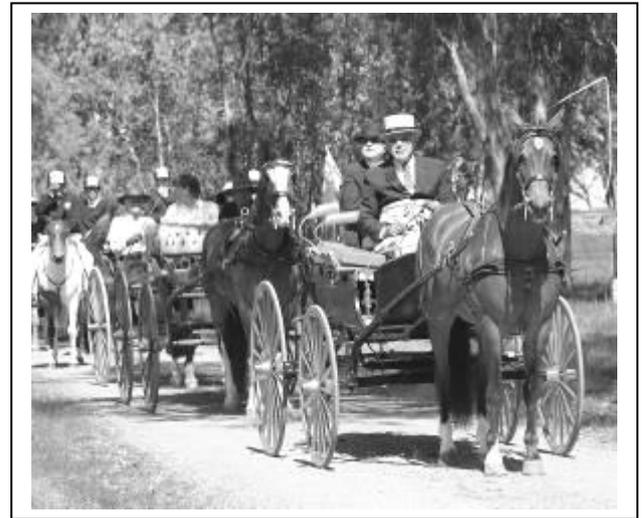
Members Ben, Kerrie and Phil Rosetta attended the obstathon at the Riverina Club grounds at Marrar on November 1 to give their stallion some extra experience. They had a wonderful day.

The Club is holding a Dressage Training Day on Sunday February 21 and an Obstathon on Sunday March 20 2016. Entry fee will be \$15 which includes lunch, and everyone is welcome to bring their horses along for a run in preparation for competition events in the autumn. For more information contact Robyn Schmetzer on 02 6955 2331

CANBERRA CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

Canberra Club members are once again indebted to Gail Bain and Barry Toppie for their offer to host the Club Christmas Party. This time the horses and any members' reindeer are included. A drive on the property 'Beckford' will commence at 10 am with lunch scheduled for 1pm. This is always an enjoyable occasion and everyone is looking forward to it. Last year the Christmas function was held at the Wallendbeen Pub after a short drive around the town.

Some members harnessed up and supported the 1915 Kangaroo March Re Enactment celebrations at Wallendbeen on Sunday September 13. The Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove was the guest of honour and laid a wreath with Lady Cosgrove at the town's War Memorial. Garry and Judy Harris dressed formally and brought along their buggy for the parade. Penny Jacobs rode with a large Light Horse contingent and Brendan Dwyer drove Penny's pair to boost numbers in the parade. The Kangaroo Re Enactment marchers started at Wagga Wagga and finished in Sydney, as did their 1915 forebears.



Garry and Judy Harris in the Kangaroo March Re Enactment Parade at Wallendbeen (Leonie Bell ART)

HUNTER HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY

Rosemary Laing and Tinker made the trip south once again for the Marrar Enduro and thoroughly enjoyed the week in the company of fellow endurance driving enthusiasts. The Muswellbrook Show, to be held on March 11-12 2016, has a wide ranging harness program with many sponsored classes and trophies on offer.

Hunter Club member Michael Carey has worked hard to keep the harness classes on the schedule at Muswellbrook. Drivers in the region are strongly encouraged to support the classes and keep carriage driving in the public eye at this Upper Hunter show.

THE REINSMAN

Christmas Greetings to all from the Reinsman. He will be back next year.

VALE: Owendale Max (1983 – 2015)

Pam and Noel Fisher (Camden Club) very sadly lost their lovely white Section A Welsh pony Owendale Max this year when he died suddenly in July. He was 31 years old and still looking good. A week before he died, Pam used him to drive her granddaughter a short distance to her wedding. Max was bred in Victoria and was bought as a colt by Gordon Ball. One of his progeny is Margaret and John Moore's very good chestnut pony Sunny. Pam acquired Max over 20 years ago and had him gelded. Many happy years of driving ensued. Pam and Max always looked immaculate, especially in period turnouts, in her beautiful sulky and harness. Pam is very proud to say that Max never came home without a ribbon from all the shows and other events he competed in. He was a great all rounder and was equally at home doing show classes, cones courses or going on pleasure drives.



Pam Fisher and grand daughter Erin with Max at a Fagan Park Private Drive in the late 1990s.

According to Pam: 'Max was a most loveable and trustworthy friend and a perfect gentleman. He went to the Royal for several years with us and our other pony Fozzie Bear. They both did well, but Max always came home with a ribbon. He never came first but always was well placed.

Max used to come to the farm at Rylstone with us, and when we drove down the dirt roads people would offer him a carrot and give him a pat. The day before he died he was washed and all ready to go to a local drive. Next day Noel was walking him down to the float in his blue rug when

he leant on Noel's shoulder and quietly passed away – just like a gentleman and with little pain. We will never forget our wonderful Max.'

VALE: Moorak Elle (1976 – 2015) by Janet Muspratt (Hills Club)

Many long time ACDS members will remember my chestnut Section B Welsh pony mare Moorak Elle competing in shows including the Sydney and Canberra Royals, dressage and CDEs, as well as being a regular at Hills Club events in the 1980s – 1990s. Elle died recently just a month shy of 39 years. Although she had been retired from driving for many years due to some arthritis in a hip, she was active and her usual feisty self almost to the end.

Elle was purchased as a yearling at a reduction sale at the Moorak Stud at Windellama near Goulburn, and showed talent as a harness pony as soon as she was broken in by Andrew Gray and my late husband Richard Muspratt.



Janet Muspratt and Elle in the dressage at the 1986 NSW CDE Championships at Gresford (R Griffiths)

Elle became my first driving pony and she really excelled in CDEs, being very skilled in dressage and always keen to gallop through marathon obstacles and cones courses. One memorable achievement was at the 1986 NSW CDE Championships at Gresford where Elle, by then an Open Pony, had the fastest clear cones run of all the competitors. There were big numbers competing in those days so Elle probably beat at least 40 – 50 others, including several teams. Elle was very obedient to the voice, but she was quite strong and definitely never a beginner's pony, even when she was older. She was very bold and smart and loved the challenge of a marathon obstacle. Consequently I always tied knots in my reins as we approached the first of the marathon obstacles in CDEs, so that Elle's enthusiasm didn't get out of hand.

As Elle got a bit older she doubled as an RDA driving pony whilst still continuing to perform successfully in CDEs, shows and club events. Her obedience but willingness to go forward made her very suitable for RDA.

Elle's indomitable spirit and talent made her an exciting pony to drive – the sort I think are the best!

MARRAR ENDURO 2015

by Rosemary Laing (Hunter Club)

Can this be the same place, with glorious sunshine and lush green grass? What a difference a change of dates from mid winter to spring makes! The only downside was that we were walking very carefully through said grass as there were a few brown snakes about.

It was the first endurance event to trial the optional groom (apart from juniors and multiples) rule, and all went well. I'm sure Tinker appreciated not having the extra person, especially on the hills. The country looked beautiful with dazzling paddocks of canola everywhere.

I was a bit anxious for the first two days as the farrier who was booked to shoe Tinker for me before the event, was a no show, and she had to go on paper thin shoes. We had just done 200+ kms on the Liverpool Range Charity Drive. I must have phoned every farrier within a 50km radius of Marrar when at last I got onto Darren Coote, who actually lives at Marrar! He put shoes on just in time for me to get to the start for Wednesday's drive.



Kath Cole and Linda Ongley with Avanti and Linda's dog Hendrix (A Ongley)

It was great to see Linda Ongley driving at the event with Kath Cole as groom. Linda's husband Alan acted as steward at the water stop and was able to take plenty of video footage. Her guide dog Hendrix had the important role of judge of the damper making competition and it was Janice Reynolds' effort that took his fancy – it obviously tasted better to him than his dog food !

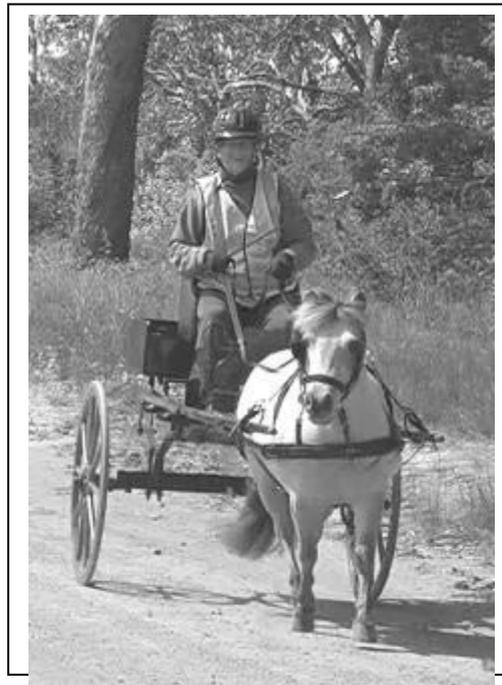
We had our usual day out at Coolamon on the rest day, with coffee and cakes followed by lunch, and a bit of shopping in between. Janice, Dee Hillard

and I found some great clothes bargains, and they weren't from the op shop this time.

The week finished with the presentation dinner at the Coolamon pub. The winners of the Pony and Half Enduro sections received beautiful pottery plates made by Kath Cole from clay she had collected at Fifield, definitely something to treasure.

Marty Boyce had his lovely new horse Barney there for his first event, and composed a great poem about the activity going on just before the start. Kimberley Allport's Thelma looked a picture of fitness. John Moyes and Kath Cole's standardbred Avanti took Linda safely around the course. The ponies were represented by Janice Reynolds' Griffin, Dee Hillard's dear little Buckwheat (who is now to be retired from enduros) and of course Tinker. It was a pity there were no more entries to enjoy this great event. Try to get there next year if you can !

A big thank you goes to Kath Cole and John Moyes for all the work they put into making this Enduro such a success.



Dee Hillard driving Buckwheat at Marrar (A Ongley)

NSW ACDS DRIVEN DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS & OBSTATHON

by Sue Fraser

The Riverina Club hosted these events over the weekend of October 21/November 1 2015 at Marrar. The grounds looked a picture and club members had worked very hard to make the weekend a success. Many thanks to tireless worker Mal Welsh, who was responsible for making the arenas such a pleasure to drive on.

The weather was not kind to us and the heavens opened up at lunch time on the Saturday. It was decided that it was too dangerous to continue

driving with torrential rain falling and lightning hitting the ground. Luckily everyone had completed their first tests so it was decided to make the awards based on those scores. Thank you to all the competitors, judges and officials for being so understanding and patient in the circumstances. Congratulations to Pam Salter from the Border Club who won the Pony Section with Dalgangle Horatio and Gail Bain from the Canberra Club who won the Horse Section with Shepherds Hill Michael.

On Sunday the rain stopped at about 9am and the sun came out. It turned into a beautiful day for the Obsthon and six drivers took part, doing four rounds each. An Obsthon is a cones course incorporating marathon obstacles and it was a lot of fun.



Gail Bain with Shepherds Hill Michael competing in the Tri Series Dressage at Laggan (A Ongley)

COMING EVENTS

CDE Officials Clinics

North

January 24 2016 at Singleton Showground,
York St Singleton

South

January 31 2016 at Jugiong Showground, Old

Hume Highway Jugiong

Both commencing at 9.00am

These clinics are *both the same* and are for any members wishing to become TDs, Course Designers and/or Cones Judges as well as for those members requiring re-accreditation (or refreshing). There will be Theory indoors and Prac work outdoors – bring pens, note pad and new CDE manual (may be printed from website).

BYO lunch or access nearby food outlets in Singleton or Jugiong. Morning and afternoon tea provided.

Very important to advise of attendance to Tracey Ellis 0402 854 696 or scribblegum64@gmail.com

NSW ACDS Show Driving Championships

May 1 2016 at Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon near Richmond.

Hosted by the Hills District Harness Club.

Big range of classes to suit all drivers. Good stables and camping facilities. Schedule out in early March 2016.

Enquiries to Show Secretary Kim McGregor

Mob: 0433 777 763 or kim1021@hotmail.com

Federal ACDS Conference & AGM

July 8-10 at Hurlstone High School, Glenfield.

Easy to reach by train and road, good accommodation, great program being planned. Come and be part of it!

More information in the coming Journals.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Clubs interested in hosting the 2016 NSW ACDS Driven Dressage Championships are requested to submit Expressions of Interest (with proposed date, venue and brief outline of event plans) to the Branch Secretary as soon as possible.

NOTES from NSW BRANCH MEETING at Camden November 21 2015

23 attendees from Hunter, Southern Highlands, Hills, Goulburn, Reedy Creek, Bungendore and Camden Clubs

Panel Reports

Show

*Six new Light Harness show judges have recently been accredited in NSW

*2015 NSW Show Championships on Nov 29 at Gunning

*2016 NSW Show Championships at Hawkesbury Showground on May 1 2016

*Heavy Horse Show Judges and Drivers School is being organized for 2016

Dressage

*Anne Robertson has resigned from the NSW dressage panel as she and Rob have moved to Victoria – many thanks for her very worthwhile contributions over the years.

*New accreditation and assessment procedures and standards have been presented to Federal Council.

*Australian Dressage Champs at Bundanoon very successful. Jaap Boom (NL) was head judge.

*NSW Dressage Championships at Marrar also very successful

*Reedy Creek Club's Dressage Tri Series was well supported.

*Many thanks to the Southern Highlands, Riverina and Reedy Creek Clubs for hosting the above events.

*The Dressage Manual is now available for downloading from the ACDS website – recommended reading for all drivers and judges.

CDE

*Two CDE Officials Clinics to be held in NSW in January 2016 – January 24 at Singleton Showground, January 31 at Jugiong Showground.
*Every qualified TD, Course Designer and Cones Judge needs to attend a refresher Clinic within 3 years of first sitting exams to keep the qualification current. Contact Convenor Tracey Ellis if unsure of status.

P & E

*Risk management a priority at recent Liverpool Range Club Charity Drive – pre drive briefing, risk management guidelines discussed, sign on sheet completed by all. Contact Robert Allport for more information on the paperwork.

*Many clubs were represented on the Liverpool Range Drive including some from Queensland. Cloverleaf format worked well.

*Marrar Enduro saw first use of the optional groom trial, with no problems encountered. Traffic management, risk assessment, safety guidelines and plans were advised and sheets signed.

NSW Webmaster report

*Many activities on the calendar for the coming year

*Important that all dates are sent to the calendar coordinator Garry Harris before being placed on the calendar.

*Classified page has seen many sales and purchases, with new advertisements regularly appearing.

*Updated manuals and rule books, together with membership and insurance information all on the NSW website

*ACDS NSW Facebook page supplies updated information

Other

*Reminder that annual fees need to be paid to stay covered by ACDS insurance.

*Clubs need to ensure that members' details and fees are promptly submitted via Form A to the NSW Treasurer, and that Affiliation forms have also been submitted.

*The 2016 Federal Conference will be held in NSW at Hurlstone Agricultural High School, Glenfield on July 8-10

*Very Small Equines- feedback being sought by Federal Council on managing their participation in all ACDS activities.

*Office of Communities, Sport & Recreation 'Running Your Club' resource workbook issued to reps of each club present

*NSW Show Driving Championships – date will continue to be the choice of the club running the event.

Funding and Grants – presentation by John Wood (Southern Highlands Club) – many types of grants are available and well worth applying for, there is a list (ask State Secretary to email it to club secretary), get someone skilled in writing submissions to do applications. Ask State and Federal MPs for letters of support if necessary. Good idea to have own club facilities preferably on government land as funding for improvements harder to get if on private land; facilities such as hot showers and proper toilets should be high priority. It is worth asking the local council to carry out improvements to grounds – a request like this could be successful.

Next Meeting February 20 2016 at Macksville

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

One pair of brown/black aged Standardbred geldings approx 15+ hands. Have done weddings, funerals, street parades, Henry Lawson Pilgrimage Drive and many club pleasure drives.

Won't split. \$550.00 the pair

Bay Standardbred gelding, approx 10 years old, 15.2hh. Has done pleasure drives.

\$300.00

All the above horses are quiet, easy to catch, float and shoe, and are good in traffic and are for sale as I need to reduce numbers.

One 12'6" long x 7' wide body for truck, spring loaded ramp with hand winch, dog box in front, with lifting legs for easy removal. Needs a coat of paint \$1500.00

CONTACT Robert Allport at Crookwell on 0427 916 524