

NSW ACDS NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2018

The number of June Whip Arounds sent out in the last nine years shows: 2009: 250, 2010: 289, 2011: 300, 2012: 309 2013: 306 2014: 310 2015: 323 2016: 282 2017:281 2018: 269. Just over 100 of these are Family memberships, so the actual number of members is somewhat more than these figures show. The cost of printing and posting Whip Around is still very reasonable, being about \$1.20 per individual copy.

I receive regular newsletters from the Hills, Hunter and Tamworth Clubs, whilst the secretaries and publicity officers of most other clubs can always be relied upon to supply me with news and photographs at the designated times. This of course makes putting together the Whip Around and the NSW news for the Journal very much easier. On the other hand, there are still a few clubs from whom it is very hard to get news, even those with designated publicity officers. I hate to leave these clubs out of the Whip Around and Journal news and feel it must be very disappointing for their members, when their club fails to get a mention.

Clubs should always try to have someone taking photos at their events, even if just one or two photos. When being sent to me, each photo should be at least 1MB for the Journal. Smaller sizes for the Whip Around are OK. Photos titled with the names of drivers and the photographers' names are very much appreciated and many contributors are now doing this. Having to chase up names and photographers' names is very time consuming.

Being a carriage driving society, I consider photos of members driving their horses are the most significant to publish. Of paramount importance is that photos *depict safe practices* and if juniors are shown in vehicles, they must be wearing helmets, as per the ACDS rule. Written 'permission to publish' from parents or guardians regarding photos of children under 18, is essential. Some clubs include a section for this on their membership forms which saves a lot of potential chasing up of permission. I have a list of juniors for which this permission has been given, but new juniors are constantly cropping up in photos.

Carriage driving publicity during the year has been provided by many clubs and their members. For example, Gulgong members held a stall at the Mudgee Small Farms Field Days, Temora members regularly gave carriage rides at local fetes and street parties, Hunter Club members performed displays at the Hunter Horse Festival at Cessnock, and Murrumbidgee and Riverina members took part in the Melbourne Cup Parade at West Wyalong. In addition, Liverpool Range and Tamworth Club members participated in the Beersheba Remembrance Ride and Drive on the north coast, and the Commemoration of the Charge of Beersheba at Murrurundi was also supported by members. More recently, the Park Drive at Mayfield Garden attracted great backing from drivers, with many interesting turnouts taking part.

The thirty or so turnouts in the week long Liverpool Range Club's Charity Drive again drew much attention to carriage driving, this time in the Manilla and Somerton districts. As well, the Liverpool Range Club held regular fund raisers in local service clubs over the year, contributing to the \$10000 donation made to Royal Far West.

The NSW Branch and the Hills Club again supported Light Harness classes at the Sydney Royal, with the NSW Branch sponsoring the Junior Whip class. In addition, the Hills Club provided sponsorship of harness at State Miniature Pony Show and the Hawkesbury Show, and Camden Club continued to sponsor harness classes at the Camden Show.

Thank you again to all the people who have contributed to the Whip Around and to the Journal. Clubs are very fortunate to have so many reliable and enthusiastic members who rarely fail to come up with the goods, on the eight occasions per year that they are asked to contribute. NSW always gets lots of pages in the Journal because there is always plenty of news.

I am looking forward once again to receiving many interesting stories and photos from clubs and members for the coming year. I thoroughly enjoy contributing to the ACDS in this way and hope that members continue to find the Whip Around and the NSW sections of the Journal worth reading.

June 2018

Janet Muspratt