



Whip Around



June 2017

A Publication of the NSW Branch of the ACDS Inc

www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au

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2016/2017

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An American Studebaker buggy which was the Best 'Back of Shed' exhibit at the Static Vehicle Show held in conjunction with the NSW Show Driving Championships at Manilla. Owned by Ashwood Stud. (photo: A Ongley)

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT 'WHIP AROUND' August 20 2017

Next Meeting: NSW Branch AGM and General Meeting
at Bathurst RSL 114 Rankin St Bathurst on June 17 2017

All members welcome !

Usual charge for catering payable on the day

Please notify the Secretary Amanda Blakeley of intention to attend by June 8 2017

Ph: 0417 228 814 or carriagedrivingnsw@live.com.au

NSW ACDS CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

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
June		
16-18	Charlie Phillips Drive Liverpool Range Club	A & D Richards 02 6744 8272
17	NSW ACDS Branch AGM & General Meeting at Bathurst	Amanda Blakeley 0417 228 814
18	Club Picnic Drive Bicentennial Park Camden Camden Club	Carol Fitzpatrick 0438 066 306
18	Sunday Funday at Gulgong Showground Gulgong Club	Carol Hardaker 0427 094 481
23-25	Federal ACDS AGM & Conference at Sovereign Hill Vic	Sue Waters 03 5983 6629
27-30	Putty Social Drive Hunter Club	June Malmberg 02 6579 7003
July		
2	Club Rally Day Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
8	Fun Day at Yass Bungendore Club	Jen Brennan 0403 062 340
9	Winter Gymkhana at Rossmore Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
8-10	3 Day Endurance Drive at Piallaway Hunter & Liverpool Range Clubs	Rosemary Laing 0408 562 257
14-15	Mudgee Small Farms Field Days	Carol Hardaker 0427 094 481
15	Dressage Judges Refresher/Clinic at Bundanoon NSW Dressage Panel	Sue Plath 02 4841 0636
16	Anniversary Lunch and AGM at RDA Box Hill Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
23	Club Fun Day Camden Club	Carolyn Kinleyside 0466907482
Aug		
1-6	Leisure Drive at Gulgong Hunter Club	June Malmberg 02 6579 7003
6	Club Rally Day Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
6	Interclub Challenge Day at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club	Yvonne Wood 02 4883 6859
13	Sunday Funday at Gulgong Showground Gulgong Club	Carol Hardaker 0427 094 481
19-20	Spring Ridge Drive Liverpool Range Club	Vicki Donnelly 02 6747 3711
27	Sports Day and Junior Challenge Hills and Camden Clubs	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
27	Come and Try Day Hunter Club	Rosemary Laing 0408 562 257
Sept		
9-10	Level 3 CDE at Murrumbidgee Club	Kerry Rosetta 0428 414 518
9	Winery Drive Gulgong Club	Jim Gilbey 02 6372 1996
10	Dressage Cones and Mini Marathon Day at Rossmore Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
10	Club Rally Day Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
16-24	Annual Charity Drive Liverpool Range Club	Judy Tonkiss 02 6760 3018
23	Social Dinner Hills Club	Linda Ongley 02 96261373
24	Club Drive, Dressage & Presentation Demo Camden Club	Charlotte Hyles 0412 120 685
30-Oct1	Level 3 CDE at Hinemoa Grenfell Ellmore Club	Kookie Engelsman 02 63433292
30-Oct2	Mini Enduro at Marrar Reedy Creek Club	Kath Cole 02 4838 3023
30-Oct5	Full Enduro at Marrar Reedy Creek Club	Kath Cole 02 4838 3023
Oct		
8	Club Rally Day Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
8	Sunday Funday at Gulgong Showground Gulgong Club	Carol Hardaker 0427 094 481
13-15	Thornthwaite Drive Liverpool Range and Gulgong Clubs	Leroy Trengove 02 6375 9629
14-15	Pleasure Drive Bungendore Club	Jen Brennan 0403 062 340
22-23	Level 3 CDE at Murrumbateman Canberra Club	Judy Harris 0438 880 458
28	Trivia Night at RDA Box Hill Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
31-No4	Charge at Beersheba Remembrance Drive at Tabulam	Jim McKenna 02 6569 9466
Nov		
4-5	NSW CDE Championships venue TBA	
5	Club Rally Day Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
18	NSW Branch Meeting venue TBA	Amanda Blakeley 0417 228 814
25	Christmas Party Liverpool Range Club	Peter Honeyman 0438 741 140
26	Club Day Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
26	Social Drive at Morpeth Hunter Club	Helen Huckerby 0401 738 353
Dec		
3	Christmas Lunch Tamworth Club	Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726
10	Christmas Lunch and Auction Hills Club	Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085
2018		
May 6	NSW Show Driving Championships Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club	Yvonne Wood 02 4883 6859

NSW PANEL CONVENORS 2016-17

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Junior Drivers: Robert Allport
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Steven Lord competing in the ColTect Cones Classic at Manilla in April (K O'Brien)

OPEN LETTER TO ALL CLUBS AND MEMBERS

Shortly the ACDS NSW Branch Annual General Meeting will be held in Bathurst.

As a long time member of the Society it is very frustrating to see the lack of members and clubs represented at our State Meetings.

At the last AGM it was decided to hold all future meetings in Bathurst, which is as close to the centre of the state as we can get, but still there has been no improvement in attendance numbers.

We only hold three State Meetings per year, so I believe it is not a huge task to request that ALL clubs are represented at the AGM.

One club has never had any members at a State Meeting, whilst another club has only been represented once in five years.

With this in mind, hopefully we will see *all* clubs represented at the AGM on June 17 2017.

John Wood

NSW ACDS Branch Vice President

CLUB NEWS

REEDY CREEK EQUESTRIAN CLUB

Kath Cole: Reedy Creek's latest endeavour has been a 'Come and Try, Come and Learn, Come and Buy, Swap and Sell and Come and Drive Day' at Crookwell Showground. For the Come and Try we had Ray Roach driving Shadow, who is well seasoned to this sort of thing, Carol Roach with their pony Bandit and Kath Cole with Avanti. John Moyes was going to use the pony pair of Nicholas and Peggy Sue, but after severely squashing his finger and having it stitched, he was put onto barbeque duties, instead.

We were bracing ourselves for a rush of joyriders but were pleasantly surprised to find that the offer of a ride was not abused and the people who took advantage of it were interested in what it was about. John McLennan did a sterling job organizing everything for the barbeque beforehand, and keeping it running on the day. The Come and Learn was a lecture given by Robert Allport on the Standardbred from Track to Pleasure Horse. The right Standardbred can be such a good option for someone starting out in

harness, but it always helps to know what they have or haven't experienced in their racing training.



Robert Allport talking about the Standardbred from Track to Pleasure Horse (J McLennan)

The Come Buy, Swap or Sell actually grew into a car boot sale which included horse drawn and equestrian items, nicknacks of general interest and home cooked items which always appeal. Goulburn Riding for the Disabled was one group who took advantage of the day to sell excess items and were very happy with the outcome.

The Come and Drive was an introduction to endurance driving aimed at helping newcomers. Unfortunately there were no newcomers, but we were very grateful to the seasoned drivers who took part. Maxine Saliba took the opportunity to give a delightful newcomer pony called Bing-bong a run. The event was not timed but we had a draw for starting order, sending the horses out at two minute intervals, and they had to present to the TPR steward within 30 minutes of completion. All participants' horses passed the required heart rate of 60 bpm or less, and seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed the run.

NORTH COAST CARRIAGE CLUB

The North Coast Club was well represented by two of our members at the NSW Dressage and Show Driving Championships at Manilla, run by the Tamworth Club. Sharon Clarke drove a magnificent pair of Belgian mares put to a beautiful carriage in the unofficial dressage tests (ACDS AA and BB) and was awarded champion in her class. This was followed by a very successful cones drive on a technically challenging course over undulating terrain. On the Sunday Sharon competed successfully in the show classes. These horses were only recently broken in and had only had a few drives as a pair prior to the event.



Sharon Clarke driving her pair of Belgian mares at the NSW Dressage Championships at Manilla (K Bullen)

Sharon Oughtred's grey mare Warralee Heiress also competed successfully in the pony unofficial dressage class. She won the class and was then awarded the Champion Pony Dressage rosette. On the Sunday Sharon won the sulky turnout class using her Sydney brass sulky. She also won the period turnout class, as well as being placed highly in other classes. There was strong competition from some magnificent vehicles and horse or pony combinations.

Echah Wright: Here are a few words regarding the NSW Championships at Manilla at the end of April. It was a very good show up of carriage drivers. As a spectator it was fun to watch the cones course and the dressage. The carriage driving attracted a large audience from the surrounding district and afar. People were thrilled by what they saw. Sunday's show driving had a smaller audience but those who were there were

enthusiastic. Congratulations to Liz O'Brien and her team for a weekend that was well coordinated and presented.

On behalf of the North Coast Club competitors and spectators, many thanks to the Tamworth Club members for their kind hospitality and for a very well run event.

RIVERINA CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY

Sue Fraser: The Horse Power Event at Aria Park, the town of Wowsers, Bowsers and Peppercorns, was a lot of fun. On the Saturday there was a pleasure drive of approximately 20km from the showground to Lake Arbortree, on perfect driving roads, mostly dirt. The lake was full and presented a wonderful vista whilst everyone was having their picnic lunch. There were horses and ponies and a range of vehicles from sulkies to antique buggies, on the drive.



Heavy horse turnouts on the pleasure drive to Lake Arbortree (C Fitzpatrick)

Sunday started with show classes judged by Carol Fitzpatrick, with her sister Barb as steward. Champion was Robyn Schmetzer driving her pony pair Bella and Rina. Smartest on Parade was Lyn Callaghan driving Erinskay Correlli. Thank you Carol and Barb for doing a very efficient job in the ring. An Obsthon was then set up and participants had a lot of fun racing around the course. On another arena the heavy horses were competing in the Pumpkin Snatch, Log Snigging and Long Reining.

A big thank you to Country Carriages Bed and Breakfast for the donation of two nights' accommodation for Carol and Barb.

Peter Dunn driving Tinny, Debbie Dunn driving Cherry Bomb and Janice Reynolds driving Big Red went to the pleasure drive at Fifield at the end of April and had a great time. Janice and Big Red, and Sue Fraser with Banda then went on the Ellmore Club's navigation drive at Ben Hall's Cave near Bimbi. These drives are always great fun following the clues, and this year there were also items to gather on route. The 'bottlebrush' was brilliant with empty drink bottles pushed onto branches. A picnic with fellow pleasure drivers is my idea of bliss. I am looking forward to next year's navigation drive.

Riverina's next rally is Christmas in July, on July 23, at Country Carriages near Temora. A pleasure drive followed by a BBQ and Christmas pudding and brandy cream is the plan. The Barellan Heavy Horse Weekend is on the long weekend in October. It is always worth a visit. Last year there were 23 heavy horses pulling a wool wagon. Maybe they will break the Guinness Book of Records with this year's massive team.



Janice Reynolds (Big Red) and Sue Fraser (Banda) on the Ben Hall's Cave drive (T Smith)

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CARRIAGE CLUB

The first Trial Indoor Series Event in NSW was held at the Bundanoon grounds on May 20/21 2017. Two days of beautiful sunshine were enjoyed by all who attended, despite the predictions of bad weather the previous week. An impressive turnout of ACDS members came along on the Saturday to look, listen and learn about this new type of low stress event for organizers, and lots of fun for drivers. The object was for everyone to take back to their clubs all the information they gleaned from the day of firstly discussion /question /answer time, followed by a practical session in learning about the actual set up and conduct of the three phases of the competition. On the Sunday, all trepidation about the 50m x 20m arenas used for this competition, proved to be unfounded. All competitors sported smiles and there was much laughter from the fun they were having.



Elva Macpherson and Lyn Callaghan at the Trial Indoor Event at Bundanoon (T Ellis)

Phil Marshall from Victoria presented all the information and help, in a relaxed and friendly manner, which made everyone comfortable about asking questions. A big thank you to Tracey Ellis (NSW CDE Panel Convenor) for bringing Phil to Bundanoon. It means that in 2018 when the real Indoor Series Competition is to begin, everyone will be starting off with the correct information and Clubs will be on the same page to conduct Qualifying Events leading to the Final. Many thanks to Phil Marshall for giving his time and expertise over a period of four days, so that NSW members now have the opportunity experience this new type of fun event in the coming years.

The Southern Highlands Club has a Pleasure Drive, Historical Presentation, President's Lunch, Dressage Panel Refresher Clinic and the Interclub Challenge Day on the agenda for the next couple of months, which will keep everyone out of mischief. The next Bram Chardon Clinic is planned for early October and expressions of interest are already being sought. Contact Yvonne Wood on 02 4883 6859 or woodsies2@bigpond.com) as soon as possible if interested in having a lesson/s with Bram.

HILLS DISTRICT HARNESS CLUB

The Hills Club has held two activity days at Rossmore Reserve over the last couple of months. The first was on April 23, termed an Activity Day with a Difference.



John Moore driving Jack at the Hills Day with a Difference (J Muspratt)

Members were asked to pair up and think of (or find from various sources) some new sporting activities, set them up and run them on the day. So that everyone had a chance to drive, a shared system of stewarding was devised. For the first hour or so half the group stewarded whilst the others drove, then they swapped over. Luckily there were several non drivers amongst the group, so they filled in with stewarding where needed.

The new activities included a daisy flower obstacle set up like a clock face with drivers completing it as a series of 'petals' from the centre to the outside around the circle, half of the 'petals' going clockwise and the rest anticlockwise. Another obstacle was a 'twelve cones maze' set on a rectangular grid of three rows of four. Cones was set about three metres apart. The aim was to drive between every pair of cones in both directions in as short a time as possible. Other activities included a combined flag and bending race, a water race, an unlettered MO of five gates, a pleasure course which included a reinback into a U bay, plus an ever popular trees MO and the self timed mini marathon around the perimeter fence. It was a very well supported day. The drivers were Melody Kraay, Catherine Charteris, John Moore, Karen Silvester, Thelma Nichols, Lynne Buckingham, Max Ridge, Vicki Connelly, Louise Bayliss, Dennis Casper, Andrea Casper, Christine Dunn, Belinda Casper, Jenny Conquest, Angela Eberle, Sally Crowell and Greg McDonald, whilst ground helpers were Marg Moore, Nathan Moore, Tamara Winter, Kay Rose, Rob Nichols and Janet Muspratt.



Vicki Connelly with Mickey at the Hills Day with a Difference (J Muspratt)

As expected, only a small group came to drive on May 14 as it was Mothers Day, but it was a great opportunity to combine forces to plan and set up an Obsthon for the first time at a Hills event. The group consisted of Karen Silvester, Sally Crowell, Paul and Marilyn Austin, Lynne Buckingham, Janet Muspratt and Kathy and Steve Brammall and family. Five horses were harnessed up and put through their paces in the Obsthon or just exercised around the extensive grounds. When all had had enough, a very pleasant lunch was enjoyed together in the sunshine.

The Club was very sorry to farewell its treasurer Sue Boyd in April. Sue and family (together with ponies and new sulky and harness) have had to move to Melbourne due to work commitments. Sue has been a very popular and committed club member since she joined several years ago, after arriving from South Australia. Since moving she has done some driving, has made contact with the local ACDS club and has even helped with

stewarding at the Victorian Driven Dressage Championships.

Two members totally new to show driving recently competed at the Hawkesbury Show in the light harness classes, with their standardbreds. The first was Pat Mannix driving Melba, enthusiastically supported by his wife Lilian and son, daughter in law and grandchildren, together with Kimberlee McGregor. The other was Tony Ingersole, with Helen Tudor as groom, driving his endurance horse May in his grandmother's restored varnished sulky. Both drivers did very well against strong competition, with several blue ribbons amongst the spoils.

TAMWORTH REGIONAL HORSE DRAWN CLUB

Lizzette Ferguson: Our year has been going fast with many Tamworth Club members attending local shows like Tamworth, Upper Hunter and Gunnedah to gain experience and practice before polishing the harness for our Bluedog Fences NSW ACDS Dressage Championships and ColTect Cones Classic on April 29 and the Bluedog Fences NSW ACDS Show Driving Championships on April 30 2017.

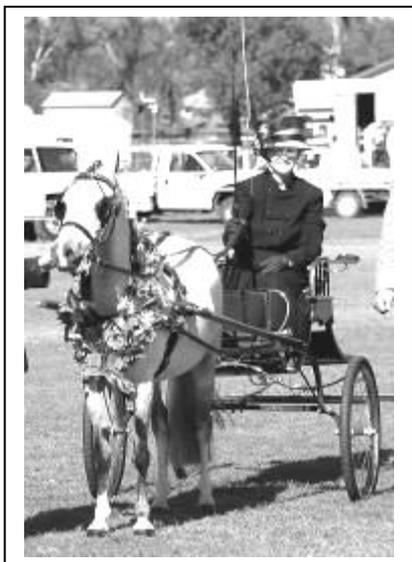


Tamworth member Debbie Eather in a class for small ponies at the NSW Show Driving Championships at Manilla (A Ongley)

The weekend was jampacked for drivers, judges and organizers and our ever helping family and members, all of which resulted in a very successful weekend. The Saturday started with Dressage and our judges were Warren Ricketts (head judge), Madeleine Bentley, Tony James and Kimberlee McGregor. The entries were high. The Best Official Test was done by Amanda See. The Cones Course was up next in the afternoon. As the weather was still warm, but with a nice breeze, the course was well placed amongst the trees. It ran over undulating ground and incorporated trees and a railing fence. Thank you to Rodney Lane for being the judge. The overall winner was Amanda Blakeley.

Alan Ongley was the judge for the Static Vehicle and Harness Show, which ran in conjunction with the weekend events. There was a good turn up of different types of vehicles and harness of yesteryear. The Judge's Choice went to Val Dewsbury and her Cob & Co Coach. Sunday's Bluedog Fences Show Driving Championships saw an early start for organizers in sunny but brisk conditions. They soon had the two rings and the many prizes ready for the first classes. The judges were Madeleine Bentley and Rodney Lane, both from Victoria. They worked efficiently and managed to get through the big program by mid afternoon, which gave competitors who had travelled from Queensland and Victoria a chance to make an early start for their long journeys home.

The Supreme Champion Horse or Pony was Nagero Porcelain driven by Kerrie Barlow. Thelma Nichols driving Tianjarra the Magician was awarded the Concours d'Elegance trophy and Warren Barlow was chosen as the Best Presented Groom / Handler.



Kerrie Barlow with Nagero Porcelain, Supreme Champion Horse or Pony at the NSW Show Driving Championships (K Bullen)

Very many thanks to the judges, to the exhibitors who supported the weekend's events and to the organizers and their helpers for such a big effort over the weekend.

The next few months will see a few members travelling away to Obstathon events, whilst many will be attending home ground rally days in preparation for the Club's Gymkhana in August.

ELLMORE CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

Chuckie Radnedge: I am proud once again of the Ellmore Club members doing lots of things and achieving exceptional results.

Two members competed at the Sydney Royal over Easter, with Heidi Stevens taking her lovely young part Clydesdale gelding for his led and ridden heavy horse classes and Louise Wass showing her

pretty grey pony in the harness classes. Both did a great job and each came home with a swag of ribbons.

Also over the Easter break club member Auburn Carr headed down to Monarto in South Australia for the National CDE Championships with her pony RB Jetstar. Auburn did very well to finish 4th in the very strong Novice Small Pony class.

As a club, we hosted Mark Peel at Hinemoa for a two day clinic in late April. The weekend was a great success with all participants agreeing Mark is a wonderful coach. We will definitely invite him back for another clinic soon.

At the beginning of May I headed down to Witwood for the Level 2 CDE hosted by the Bungendore Club. Once again this was a well run event, but I was disappointed there were not more entries in most of the classes. As a community we do not run enough events of this calibre or at this level, to not support the ones that are on. Please, if you want events to run, enter those that are organized.

We took both Hudson Gucci and Hudson Vamoose to the event and I was lucky to have Brendan Dwyer hop on the back for me, as Dad had booked himself out to talk at an air show that weekend. Both horses were fantastic with Gucci being super competitive winning his Intermediate class and ending up with the second best overall score for the weekend. Vamoose was there to go nice and steady and learn what CDE is about, after a lifetime in the show ring. He is obviously really enjoying his change in career and won the Novice Horse.



Chuckie Radnedge driving Hudson Vamoose at the Bungendore Club Level 2 CDE (A Eldridge)

Last weekend our resident pathfinder and cryptic clue master, Peter Lotherington (ably assisted by Tess Smith) set out a drive track through the forest just below Ben Hall's Cave, in the stunning Weddin Mountains. A new record was set, with

every driver getting lost! However everyone had a great time and remarked on what a brilliant venue it is for future drives.

GOULBURN DISTRICT HORSE DRAWN VEHICLE SOCIETY

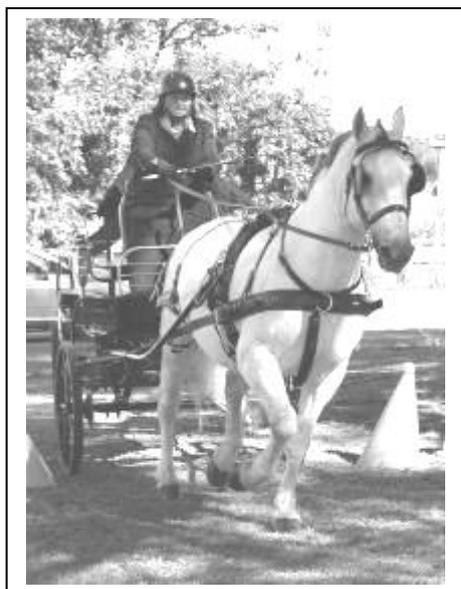
Patrick, Tom and Fergus Finn, together with Robert, Damon and Kimberly Allport went to Fifield for the annual Central West Club's Enduro in April, but unfortunately the Enduro had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. They instead enjoyed the perfect weather conditions for a leisurely week of pleasure driving with other Fifield Enduro enthusiasts.

On Sunday April 30, Robert gave a talk at the Reedy Creek Club's Information Day at Crookwell Showground, on the Standardbred from Track to Pleasure Horse. Topics such as work methods, gear adjustments and shoeing were covered, as well as some safety hints for drivers. In the afternoon an 'enduro chicken run' was enjoyed by Kimberly and Damon Allport driving Thelma and Robert driving New Penny.

Robert and Damon, together with Colin Simon, will be taking part in the Henry Lawson Heritage Drive in early June, run by the Gulgong Club. Robert will be driving New Penny, with Damon doing back up vehicle duties, whilst Colin will be in charge of the food and water vehicle.

BUNGENDORE CARRAGE DRIVING SOCIETY

Several members recently attended the Trial Indoor Event at Bundanoon. Members are now looking forward to Bungendore Club's pleasure drive to be held at Gunning on May 27/28 2017. Amanda and Carolyn Blakeley have been really busy in the last couple of months, including competing with success at the Heavy Horse Spectacular at SIEC and then the NSW Dressage and Show Driving Championships at Manilla.



Carolyn Blakeley with Peg in the ColTect Cones Classic at Manilla (K O'Brien)

Carolyn also arranged a moving tribute on Anzac Day to her late father Ron L'Strange. He usually led the Anzac Day March in Condobolin, and as a final mark of respect to him, Carolyn led a saddled horse with 'reversed boots' in the Condobolin March this year. A riderless horse with boots reversed in the stirrups signifies a warrior has fallen in battle and will ride no more. Rick Jones, Wesley Leseberg and Lucy Thompson helped with the supply of the correct Light Horse gear.

MURRUMBIDGEE CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

Robyn Schmetzer: The Murrumbidgee Club will be holding a Trial Indoor carriage driving competition on June 3 and 4 2017 at Murrumbidgee. It has been reported that the training involved for this form of competition will boost both the level of the horse's ability and the accuracy of the dressage test. If there is a lot of interest in this type of competition, traditionally held during the winter, the Club will hold an Indoor Qualifier in 2018. Kerrie Rosetta has recently been successful in gaining another grant for the club – this time \$3200. It will be used to purchase a new refrigerator and safety equipment.

A reminder that the Club is running a Level 3 CDE at Murrumbidgee on September 9/10 2017, with a holiday package prize worth \$2000 consisting of holiday accommodation and boat hire from the major sponsor Alonga Waterfront Cottages, Sussex Inlet. (alongacottages.com.au). Coprice Feeds has also been very generous by donating bags of cool conditioning pellets for the winners of each class. Contact Kerrie Rosetta on 0428414518 or rosymoon@bigpond.com or Robyn Schmetzer on 0458552331 or robyn_schmetzer@yahoo.com



Robyn Schmetzer with her pony pair on the pleasure drive at the Horse Power Event at Ariah Park
(C Fitzpatrick)

GULGONG HERITAGE HARNESS ASSOCIATION

The Henry Lawson Heritage Drive will take place from June 3 to 10 2017. It will start at Ballimore which is north west of Gulgong, near Dubbo, and

finish at Gulgong showground, ready for the Henry Lawson Festival Street Parade the next day. June 18 will be a Club Funday at Gulgong Showground and July 14/15 will see club members taking part in the Mudgee Small Farms Field Days.

CANBERRA CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

The new dressage arenas at the Murrumbateman grounds will be completed by the end of July. There will be three arenas, one of which will be 150m x 90m with a compacted sand surface, suitable for carriage driving. The club has booked the new facility, which it shares with other sporting groups, for October 22/23 2017. A final decision is yet to be made on what type of event/s will be conducted on those days.

LIVERPOOL RANGE HARNESS CLUB

Donna Grace: With a lot of club members caravanning as well as harness driving it has been hit and miss the last few months with attendees. That is the joy of pleasure driving though, as with very little preparation for horse and gear you can be on your way for a catch up weekend any time it suits, with no pressure to have your horse or yourself to be in show condition. Some feed for horse and human, a swag and maybe if you so desire a toddy to enjoy by the campfire is all you need. Simple really and throw in some good company – what more could you ask?

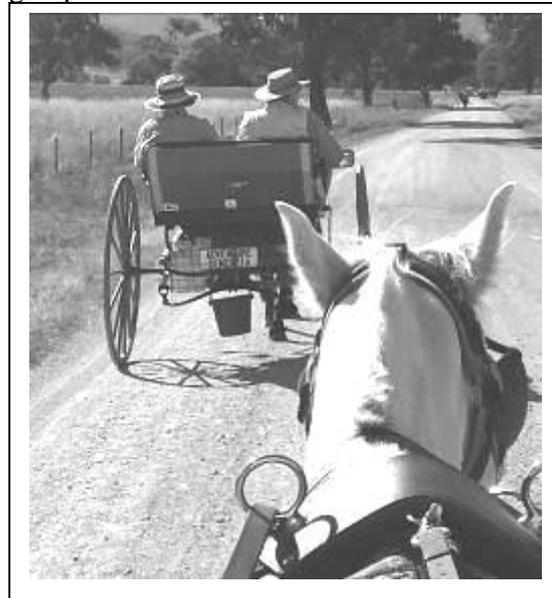
The recent Werris Creek pleasure drive hosted by Don Thomas and Geoff Skewes over the weekend of April 22/23 was just that. It was based at the Horse and Rider grounds in Werris Creek. The camping area was freshly mowed, a huge pile of wood sat waiting to be lit and our two hosts were there to greet everyone as they arrived.



Mark Murphy and Donna Grace pausing on the Werris Creek drive (V Donnelly)

Those who attended were Liverpool Range Club members Bill and Trish Greer, Kate Wilson, Ray Morris, Mark Murphy, Bruce and Vicki Donnelly, Donna Grace, and Darcy and Allison Richards along with their granddaughter Lacey, and Darcy's great sidekick Rhiner. From the Gulgong Club were Leroy Trengove, Neil and Rosemary Munn and Sam Williams.

Saturday's drive was approximately 22km through the property Purlough and Sunday's drive of 25km was through another property Glen Alpine. Both properties are owned by Anthony Tisch who kindly gave us full access to his land. The countryside reflected the good season the Werris Creek district has been enjoying so far. Lyn Thomas, Allison Richards and Neville Davies did a great job manning the gates and escorting the group.



Vicki Donnelly following Rosemary and Neil Munn, with sign on back of sulky 'adventure before dementia' on the Werris Creek drive (V Donnelly)

Don and Geoff are an adventurous pair and we always knew that a few rough hills would be there to be conquered. True to form, some steep inclines tested a few unfit horses and some sulky springs. However, we secretly knew that the view from the top looking towards the Liverpool Ranges and Mullaley were spectacular and worth the toil. On Saturday evening the Werris Creek Bowling Club's courtesy bus called in and picked up a few for an early evening beverage. As great supporters of our Charity Drive, it was a good opportunity to return the support. It was a merry group who returned a short time later to cook up dinner and relax by the fire. Birthday celebrations were also shared, with Lyn Thomas organizing a cake for Murph, who was very touched by the moment. Whilst everyone was packing up on Sunday, Geoff whizzed around on his Quad bike delivering pumpkins. No doubt pumpkin soup was soon on the menu in many members' households after that. Though Peter and Trish Honeyman were unable to attend the Werris Creek drive, they travelled over to Leroy Trengove's and took part in the Gulgong Club drive on May 6/7. Covering 48km over the two days, Peter commented they were lovely drives at a relaxed pace and shared with good company. Peter and Trish are looking forward to the Club's Henry Lawson Heritage Drive from Ballimore to Gulgong from June 3 – 11 2017.

Peter Honeyman: On May 20/21 members and ventured out onto the plains, for a drive hosted by Kate Wilson at Sam Cliff's property The Dip, Breeza. Donna Grace, Allan and Joy Hawkins, Rosemary Laing and Peter and Trish Honeyman arrived on the Friday afternoon in light rain, and John McKee arrived at midnight. They joined Kate and Sam for a very enjoyable evening in the workers' cottage warmed by a combustion heater. Saturday saw the skies clear as predicted to turn into a perfect weekend for driving. A club meeting was held before the drive. Six sulkies set off for the 15km drive, along soft black soil tracks through spectacular farming country, led by Kate in an escort vehicle. The drivers were Darcy and Allison Richards, Joy Hawkins, Rosemary Laing, Donna Grace, Peter and Trish Honeyman, and Michelle Major driving Kate's horse. John McKee was the rear escort. An added thrill was seeing two koalas in the trees. That night everyone sat around the big bonfire built by Sam, and yet another koala was seen close by.



Drivers having a break on the drive through Breeza Forest (P Honeyman)

On Sunday the group was joined by Ken and Bruce Hill, so seven sulkies did the very enjoyable 28km drive through the Breeza Forest. Kate drove this time, whilst Sam became the lead escort driver. Many thanks to Kate for her organisation and Sam for the use of his property, making the fire and doing escort duty.

HUNTER HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY

Jules Cook: The weekend of May 20/21 saw Joy Hawkins with Grayson and Rosemary Laing with Tinker make the trip to Sam Cliff's beautiful property The Dip, just north of Breeza for a drive organized by Kate Wilson of the Liverpool Range Club. The rain cleared on Saturday afternoon and the drivers headed out for a drive along the quiet flat roads. Sunday's drive was partly through the Breeza Forest. The roads were again flat and

practically devoid of traffic, something members in the Hunter are very envious of. Many thanks to the Liverpool Range Club for inviting our members to join this driving weekend. May also saw our much anticipated Working Bee occur. The heatwave earlier in the year had put a pause on our plans, so club members made the best of the cooler weather and now the club shipping container at Kevin Fayth's house is meticulously organized. The equipment is neatly arranged, catalogued and ready to be well utilized in our upcoming events. The next event for us is the Molli Mercer Clinic and Fun Day on May 28 at Stroud.

Sunday June 25 will be a Rally Day at Stroud Showground. The next club meeting will be held there at 9.30 am together with morning tea and scones, before driving commences.

CAMDEN HARNESS CLUB

Camden members Sally Crowell and Greg McDonald drove their horses as well as helping to run the Hills Club Day with a Difference in late April at Rossmore. Sally also went to the Hills Obsthon Trial Day and worked with Kathy Brammall and Karen Silvester to plan and build the two obstacles in the course. She then tried out the Obsthon course driving Pepsi.

Camden was represented by Greg McDonald and Martyn Minns at the Trial Indoor Event at Bundanoon a couple of weeks ago, getting the information about the running of Indoor Events before driving Martyn's Friesian horse Hilwert on the Sunday.

Bicentennial Equestrian Park in Camden often sees several Camden and Hills members driving mid week through its extensive grounds. Regulars include Sally Crowell, Charlotte Hyles, Lynne Buckingham, Greg McDonald and Lou Lyons. A Club picnic drive will be held in the Park on Sunday June 18 2017.



Charlotte Hyles, Greg McDonald, Lynne Buckingham and Sally Crowell at a recent get together in Bicentennial Equestrian Park (C Fitzpatrick) Maxine Saliba and Carol Fitzpatrick are off to take part in the weeklong Henry Lawson Heritage Drive from Ballimore to Gulgong, with Maxine driving and Carol doing back up duties.

CENTRAL WEST HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY

Gaye Lees: (Event Director) Fifield Enduro – The Event that Wasn't!

For those of you who don't know much about the Fifield Enduro, I will give you a brief background to the event. The Enduro was first held in 1998.

For the last 16 years it has been held at Fifield and the Full Enduro distance has always been approximately 300km.

Fifield is a very small township (pop 70) almost in the dead centre of NSW. The district has a wonderful myriad of quality dirt and gravel roads, with very little traffic, and there is the attraction of the Fifield Hotel, within walking distance of the camping grounds.



Fifield devotee June Malmberg and groom enjoying the Fifield Enduro in 2014

The first indication I had of any problems was less than three weeks prior to this year's event when a representative of the Lachlan Shire rang me to say I had not submitted a Major Events application, and, as this application needed to be submitted a minimum of three months prior to the event, we would not be able to proceed. As much as I would like the Fifield Enduro to be classified as a Major Event, I explained that our event could hardly be described as Major, and that I had never submitted this particular application previously. Once this confusion was cleared up, it appeared that things were all in place to continue.

Less than two weeks prior to the event I was contacted by a police officer from the Lachlan Area Command who advised me that we needed to submit a Traffic Control Plan. This officer then also advised me that this should have been submitted a minimum of three months prior to the event, and, even if I could produce this, it was doubtful it would be approved.

I accepted that a Traffic Control Plan was now to be part of my application, but how could I meet such a deadline if I didn't know anything about it? Let me advise that the Lachlan Shire went way above and beyond for me that week. Their assistance was magical and greatly appreciated. They actually produced the document from my paperwork so they knew it contained every bit of

'overkill' needed. I went without many hours of sleep and was in a constant state of distress, and our local signwriter worked after hours to make signs for me.

Unfortunately after many attempts to get final police approval from Lachlan Area Command we received no response at all, no returned phone calls or replies to emails to either me or to Lachlan Shire Council.

The Fifield Enduro was due to commence at 4pm on Saturday April 15 2017. I held a special meeting at the grounds at 3pm to explain the whole situation. To say I was distressed was an understatement. I could have cancelled the event earlier and not have everyone travel such long distances, but not for one minute did I think that we would end up in this situation!

I often refer to the Fifield Enduro as better than a family reunion, because it is just like an annual family reunion but with a handpicked family – only the good ones get to be there! This was really proved to me this year at this meeting. What a wonderful bunch of people, my beautiful caring Fifield family!

There was no other decision to make. The 2017 Fifield Enduro was cancelled.

So, what would we do now ?

Well, everyone stayed and we had a wonderful week together, doing pleasure driving and other fun activities.

I personally want to thank everyone who came to Fifield this year. Your friendship means so much to me and how you all accepted this bad outcome made it so much easier for me.

I am honestly not sure what will happen for next year. At this point I will say there will be a week at Fifield and the dates are April 21-29 2018. What format the week will take, at this point, is unknown.

TEMORA CARRIAGE CLUB

Temora Club members have provided rides at the Aria Park Fete and loaned cones and helmets to the Riverina Club for the Horse Power Event at Aria Park in April. Sharon Beattie went to Wombat to attend the Equestrian Combined Ride and Drive Day but could not find the venue so returned home! The following week she went to Witwood to do TPR stewarding at the Bungendore Club Level 2 CDE. Sharon hopes to introduce Allan Partridge to the wonders of the Federal Conference in late June.

CDE PANEL REPORT Tracey Ellis

The CDE National Championships were hosted by South Australia this year in Monarto over Easter, with a fantastic 55 entries. There were drivers from every state, which is an amazing effort, especially from Tasmania and Western Australia.

Unfortunately in comparison to the number of entries, NSW was poorly represented with only

five members travelling from NSW to the event. Congratulations to Amanda See who won the Open Large Pony class. Auburn Carr, graham and Debbie Dowling, Bruce and Elizabeth Hammond and I also competed.

It is NSW's turn to host the National CDE Championships in 2018 and Bungendore Club with the assistance of the Southern Highlands Club has put forward an application to host the event. Bungendore Club is also hosting the NSW CDE Championships on the first weekend in November this year. What a great opportunity this will be to try out the course in the lead up to the Nationals next Easter.

The first of the Indoor/ Outdoor Trial Series was held at Bundanoon by the Southern Highlands Club on May 20/21 2017. Phil Marshall from Victoria kindly gave up his weekend to teach us all the how to run an Indoor event. Victoria has been doing Indoor/Outdoor events for some time. Saturday was open to all to learn the rules and physically set up the arenas required, with the actual trial competition taking place on the Sunday. A very successful weekend was enjoyed by all. The next trial is being held by the Murrumbidgee Club on June 3/4 2017. Merry Byers from Victoria will be there to oversee the running of the event.



Debbie Dunn, Graeme Dowling, Peter Dunn and Tracey Ellis at the Trial Indoor Event at Bundanoon (T Ellis)

COMING EVENT

THE CHARGE OF BEERSHEBA REMEMBRANCE DRIVE/RIDE Oct 31 – Nov 4 2017

This will be a ride and drive over three days from Tabulam to Copmanhurst on NSW's north coast to honour the Upper Clarence Light Horse who took part in the heroic Charge of Beersheba in October 1917. The Charge was led by General Sir Harry Chauvel, who came from Tabulam. It resulted in the capture of Beersheba and its vital water supplies, which was a turning point in the war in Palestine. The Charge is regarded as one of history's last great cavalry charges.

The 2017 commemorative ride and drive will commence with a service to be held at the Harry Chauvel Monument at Tabulam on Tuesday October 31 at 6pm. The ride and drive will move

off the next morning. It will finish at Copmanhurst on Friday November 3, with another service to be held at 9am on Saturday morning at the Copmanhurst Memorial.

The program is as follows:

Tues Oct 31 Arrive and set up camp to be ready for the 6pm service, followed by dinner prepared by the CWA and Lions Club

Wed Nov 1 Mount up and harness up for the ride /drive to Broadwater - 33km

Thurs Nov 2 Ride/drive to Hassans Creek – 38km

Fri Nov 3 Ride/drive to Copmanhurst – 26km

Sat Nov 4 Beginning at 9am another service at the Copmanhurst Memorial, with mounted riders and drivers and sulkies lining the street. Brunch to follow at the hotel.

Additional information:

Each morning floats and trucks to be driven to the next overnight camp and riders and drivers brought back by bus, for the start.

Toilets and hot showers available at each camp.

Food at reasonable prices available all the way, with a hot food truck travelling with the group.

A truck with float will go along as a breakdown vehicle for horses and sulkies.

Two mounted vets will be travelling with the group.

Water for horses will be supplied every 14km by local fire brigades.

Two hundred + saddle horses are expected, and hopefully 20 + horse drawn vehicles.

**** A number of Liverpool Range Club drivers will be taking part in this historic event. Why not make plans to join them and the 200 riders in what without doubt will be a memorable experience ?**

For more information contact Jim McKenna on 02 6569 9466 or horsesandcarriages@hotmail.com (be sure to leave name and phone number in any messages)

There are no Branch Meeting Notes as there has not been a Branch Meeting since the last Whip Around.

Next Meeting: AGM and General Meeting June 17 2017 at Bathurst



Weekend at Aria Park (C Fitzpatrick)

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR EXCHANGE

Cob size Show Winkers, black leather with brass trim, fitted with headcheck.
Excellent condition. Not used.

Exchange for smaller size Winkers (headcheck not necessary) in
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Contact Barbara on 02 4377 1196



Vintage Sleigh for Sale

This beautiful vintage sleigh is for sale and although we have no paperwork to support the sleigh's age, we have been advised by a London coach maker that it dates back to the late 1800's.

The sleigh has a coachman and driver seat as well as seating for 6 passengers. One of the seats inside the sleigh has a removable top for storage.

The sleigh is in excellent condition and also comes with the horse or reindeer harness.



\$15,999.00 Contact: Liz 0413 282 387



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