

Whip Around

March 2014



A Publication of the NSW Branch of the ACDS Inc

www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au

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Kimberley Allport & her father Damon in the Cones Competition
at the Crookwell Show (J Knight)

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT 'WHIP AROUND' May 21 2014

(Note: This is earlier than usual)

Next NSW ACDS Meeting is AGM and General Meeting June 28 2014 at Manilla

Registration from 9.30 am. AGM to start at 10 am

Usual charge for morning tea and lunch payable on the day

Please notify the Acting Secretary Chuckie Radnedge of intention to attend by June 20 2014

0413 953 414 or carriagedrivingnsw@live.com.au

NSW ACDS CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

| DATE | EVENT DETAILS | CONTACT |
|-------------|--|------------------------------|
| Mar | | |
| 15 | Orienteering Drive at Grenfell Ellmore Club | Kookie Engelsman 0263433292 |
| 16 | Pleasure Drive at Bicentennial Park Camden tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 22-23 | Kate Wholagan School & Graded Dressage and Cones at Murrumbateman Canberra Club | Hannah Becchio 0412 240 382 |
| 22-23 | Interclub Challenge Weekend at Muswellbrook Hunter Club | Rosemary Laing 0408 662 257 |
| 23 | Water Obstacle Practice at Murrami Murrumbidgee Club | Robyn Schmetzer 02 69552331 |
| 29-30 | Joe Hawkins Cup Level 3 CDE at Marrar Riverina Club | Sue Fraser 02 6920 2330 |
| 29-30 | Driving Weekend at Bendemeer Liverpool Range Club | Peter Honeyman 02 6767 1555 |
| Apr | | |
| 5-6 | Pleasure Drive & Novelty Events at Aria Park Temora Club | Sharon Beattie 02 6973 1924 |
| 5-6 | Driving Weekend at Dunedoo Gulgong Club | Warrick Leeson 0427 751 245 |
| 6 | One Hour CDE at Attunga Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 10-23 | SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW | |
| 12-13 | Dressage Qualifier & Bryce Maw Cup Dressage Day at Murrami Murrumbidgee Club | Robyn Schmetzer 02 69552331 |
| 13 | Graded Dressage & Southern Cones at Bundanoon Sthern Highlds | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |
| 19-20 | Graded Dressage,Obstathon,BuySwapSell at Grenfell Ellmore Club | Kookie Engelsman 02 63433292 |
| 19-27 | Fifield Enduro at Fifield Central West Club | Gaye Lees 02 6864 5129 |
| 27 | Pleasure Drive at Oakville Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 27 | One Hour CDE at Yass Canberra Club | Hannah Becchio 0412 240 382 |
| May | | |
| 3-4 | Pleasure Driving Weekend at Wirrima Temora Club | Sharon Beattie 02 6973 1924 |
| 3-4 | Tri Series Level 3 CDE at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |
| 4 | Le Trec at Manilla Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 17 | BlueDog Fences National ACDS Show Driving Championships at Manilla Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 18 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 24-Ju8 | Henry Lawson Pilgrimage Drive Gulgong Club | Chris Hills 6374 1818 |
| 25 | Activity Day at Rossmore Reserve Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| June | | |
| 1 | Graded Dressage Day at Attunga Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 14-15 | Charlie Phillips Memorial Drive Liverpool Range Club | Peter Honeyman 02 6767 1555 |
| 15 | One Hour CDE at Moonbi Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 15 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 22 | Heavy Horse Day at Murrami Murrumbidgee Club | Robyn Schmetzer 0269552331 |
| 22 | Winter Gymkhana at Rossmore Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 28 | NSW Branch AGM and General Meeting at Manilla | Chuckie Radnedge 0413953 414 |
| 30-Ju6 | Endurance Drive at Marrar Reedy Creek Club | John Moyes 02 4837 3023 |
| July | | |
| 4-6 | ACDS Federal Conference and AGM at Geelong | Sue Waters 03 5983 6629 |
| 6 | Social Drive at Moonbi Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 11-12 | Small Farms Field Days at Mudgee | Chris Hills 6374 1818 |
| 13 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 13 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 19-20 | Come and Try Days at Gulgong Gulgong Club | Carol Hills 6374 1818 |
| 26 | CDE Forum at Yass NSW CDE Panel | Rob Robertson 02 6862 2876 |
| 27 | AGM & Anniversary Lunch at RDA Box Hill Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 27 | Graded Dressage and Southern Cones at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |
| Aug | | |
| 3 | Interclub Challenge Day at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |
| 3 | One Hour CDE at Attunga Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 7-10 | St Heliers Heavy Horse Field Days at Muswellbrook (TBC) | Chris Hills 6374 1818 |
| 10 | Course Building & Activity Day at Rossmore Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 16-17 | Training Day & Level 4 CDE at Grenfell Ellmore Club | Kookie Engelsman 02 63433292 |

| | | |
|-------------|---|------------------------------|
| 17 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 23 | NSW Branch Meeting venue tbc | |
| 24 | Indoor Dressage Workshop at Bundanoon S'thern Highlands Club | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |
| Sept | | |
| 6-7 | Tri Series Level 3 CDE at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |
| 7 | Harness Gymkhana at Attunga Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 13-21 | Liverpool Range Club Charity Drive Liverpool Range Club | Peter Honeyman 02 6767 1555 |
| 14 | Dressage Cones & Mini Marathon Day at Rossmore Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 14 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 27 | Social BBQ at Box Hill Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 20-21 | NSW Driven Dressage Champs at Witwood Bungendore Club | Dot Willcoxson 02 4842 7164 |
| Oct | | |
| 4-6 | Mini Enduro at Spring Ridge Hunter Club | Rosemary Laing 0408 562 257 |
| 4-5 | Social Drive & Campover at Goolhi Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 12 | NSW Show Driving Championships at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |
| 12 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 18-19 | Level 3 CDE at Grenfell Ellmore Club | Kookie Engelsman 02 63433292 |
| 26 | Dressage & Cones Training Day at Rossmore Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| Nov | | |
| 1-2 | NSW CDE Championships at Witwood Bungendore Club | Dot Willcoxson 02 4842 7164 |
| 2 | Rally Day at Attunga Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 8 | Trivia Night at RDA Box Hill Hills Club | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 |
| 16 | Pleasure Drive venue tbc Camden Club | Lou Lyons 02 4654 5558 |
| 22 | NSW Branch Meeting venue tbc | |
| 22-23 | Concours d'Elegance & Drive at Murrurundi Hunter Club | Rosemary Laing 0408 562 257 |
| Dec | | |
| 7 | Christmas Lunch venue tbc Tamworth Club | Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 |
| 7 | President's Cup at Bundanoon Southern Highlands Club | Debbie Davis 02 4443 5139 |

NSW PANEL CONVENORS 2013-2014

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| P & E | Robert Allport 02 4832 1860 |
| Show Driving | Janet Muspratt 02 9606 6085 jmuspratt@ozemail.com.au |
| Dressage | Dot Willcoxson 02 4842 7164 witwood2@bigpond.com |
| CDE | Rob Robertson 02 6862 2876 robannel@optusnet.com.au |
| Historical | Dennis Casper 02 9450 2748 dc520742@bigpond.net.au |



McKenna sporting Australian flags (G Mathews)

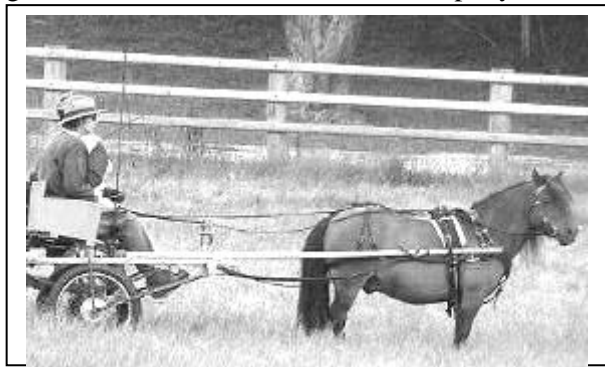
CLUB NEWS

NORTH COAST CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

Jim McKenna: Australia Day 2014 was a fantastic experience enjoyed by many locals as well as visitors, all meeting at Gladstone, near Kempsey. What a picture perfect setting it was, amongst heritage buildings that made the horse drawn carriages appear as in days gone by, flying the Australian pride. Everyone was delighted by the

spectacular parade of flags as they travelled over the bridge to Smithtown. All attending members and friends of the North Coast Club had a great time, including Karen Anderson with Chelsea drawing a sulky, and myself with Clancy in a green carriage bearing the Aussie and Boxing Kangaroo flags. We are definitely all meeting back at Gladstone next year, as the day was so good. Rowena Walker: Several North Coast Club members attended the fundraiser driving weekend at Ebor on February 22/23. It was a Liverpool

Range Club event which attracted drivers from many clubs. Organiser Christine O'Rourke arranged both short and longer drives to accommodate different skill, horse size and fitness levels. Jim McKenna went on the longer drive on Saturday but unfortunately lost a rubber tyre off a wheel on the return trip, so was unable to go out on Sunday. Echah Wright and Thea Eves were there as spectators. I attended on Sunday with my pony Danny and went on the shorter drive. It was my first pleasure drive as a driver. Tamworth Club member Dee Hillard driving Buckwheat was very glad to see someone else with a small pony.



Riverina Carriage Driving Society

There were rocks and fallen branches to dodge, tussocks to bump over and a river to cross. My husband Lloyd was with the lead car. He got out, took his boots off, rolled up his trousers and helped me get Danny across the water. We got left well behind on the gravel road (unshod pony) so stopped and waited for the others to come back. Dee soon turned around too, so we both came back early through the town of Ebor and crossed back over the river the easy way over the traffic bridge. The rest of the group was not far behind us. I hope everyone else enjoyed their day as much as I did. I am looking forward to next year's drive. photo
RIVERINA CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY
 Susan Fraser: There has been a lot happening lately with all twelve members of our club. Entries are coming in for the Joe Hawkins Cup CDE on March 29/30. The course has been mapped, working bees are planned and the dinner at the Marrar Pub organized. It is sure to be another successful Level 3 CDE. There is a free welcome BBQ on the Friday night in keeping with the traditional friendly atmosphere of the event. At a club rally recently at Marrar a good day was had by all. A couple of members drove their new horses, and it was a great learning experience for them to be out with other horses and drivers. Debbie Dunn, Janice Reynolds, Beth Tayler, Kate Young, Michael Jones, Mal Welsh and I attended the Temora Dressage and Cones School on February 23. Garry and Judy Harris were the instructors. All who attended had a fabulous time and came home thinking of how to put into practice what they had learned.

Mal Welsh is heading up to the Munro Cup with his newly trained horse Ruby (Andalusian x Standardbred). We wish him all the best there. Everyone is very pleased to see him driving.



Mal Welsh driving his new horse Ruby (B Roberts) On March 9 Sharon Beattie has kindly agreed to teach members how to take their horses' pulses during training so that recovery rates and fitness can be monitored. A 10km course has been mapped and members have been advised to buy their own stethoscopes for the purpose. In April several members will be attending the Aria Park weekend of driving.

REEDY CREEK EQUESTRIAN CLUB

The new year saw the start of the Headlands Clydesdale Stud's showing season with Club members Bob and Jan Pierce campaigning with Headlands Kinmont Willie (better known as Monty) at the local shows, on the way to presenting him at the Sydney Royal. Bob was able to further Monty's harness career by taking part in the school conducted by Mike Thill over the Australia Day weekend.

The same weekend saw John Moyes, Kath Cole and Cath Felber participating in the Southern Highlands Level 4 CDE at Bundanoon. After both John and Kath rather bombed out in the dressage it was up to Cath Felber to uphold the club name. She drove a lovely test and achieved an equal first – well done! They then proceeded to the cones to gain a little more experience – some good, some bad! The next day only John and Kath tackled the marathon, achieving better results than they had in the dressage and cones. John was accompanied by Renae Quinn as groom. She loved the experience, and hopefully will take part again in the future. Southern Highlands and Goulburn Clubs organized a cones demonstration at the Crookwell Show. Unfortunately Bob Pierce and Monty had to withdraw due to a harness malfunction, but Kath and John took part. Bob stayed to cheer them on despite the heat. John drove the pony pair and with the help of two teenage motorcycle enthusiasts on the back of the four wheeler was able to drive it like a scurry event. Not to be outdone, Kath with Bojangles adopted the same approach.



Despite the heat, everyone enjoyed the day and would like to thank the people who put the event together, including organising trophies to be awarded recognising the varied achievements of the participants. The onlookers seemed to really enjoy the demonstration, and one result has been a Crookwell couple enquiring about joining the ACDS. John has been able to supply them with enough bits and pieces to start building a sulky and it sounds as though their unsuspecting pony is soon to start learning about the world of harness.



Cath Felber in the Cones at Bundanoon (J Knight)

ELLMORE HARNESS CLUB

Kookie Engelsman: Like most clubs around NSW, there has not been much in the way of club events over the past few months. With endless heat and such dry conditions, driving has not looked too inviting. I am sure the horses were all glad for the lack of demands put upon them. I know mine were happy to stay under the trees and doze. As for us humans, we spent a lot of time in the pool and indoors with the air con on at full revs.

However, Ellmore members got together for our first meeting of 2014 on the first Tuesday of February, kicking off with a very nice dinner at the Railway Hotel in Grenfell.

We planned our coming events, starting off with an Orienteering Drive on March 15 in and around Grenfell. Members from other clubs are very welcome to join Ellmore for the drive. We will be meeting at the Grenfell Showground. The drive will be about 12km. Bring your lunch as a picnic at the racecourse is planned. Orienteering is great fun. You will be given a list of clues, some a bit cryptic, to find your way around the route. The going is easy with no steep hills. For more information call me on 02 6343 3292.

A Graded Dressage Day will be held on Easter Saturday, with a BBQ that night. On Easter Sunday there will be several forms of Cones Competitions and an Obstathon. There will also be a Buy, Sell and Swap. This is a great way of getting rid of all the rugs, harness and general horse stuff you never use. Bring along all your stuff, pay the club \$10, set up your stall / car boot / back of your trailer and start trading. Entry forms for this weekend will be out soon.

In the spring Ellmore will stage the 'Hinemoa Frog Trophy' Training Weekend. This may be brought forward to the end of August, as September is shaping up to be quite busy, and we are holding a Level 3 CDE at Hinemoa on October 18/19, two weeks before the State CDE Championships at Witwood.

By now all those with competition in mind should have their horses and ponies well into their work and getting fit. Tip of the day – if you feed your equine friend correctly, not only will he/she feel better, they will perform better and look amazing. Happy driving.

MURRUMBIDGEE CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

On December 14 the club held its Christmas Party at the Yanco Club with good attendance and members sharing a great meal. It was good to get together without the horses and talk about everyone's plans for the new year.

The club held a practice day on January 11 with a large attendance and five new interested people there, getting information about the club. A cones course was set up and members practiced the course. Improvements in times were shown by all drivers as more runs were done.

The next club rally is on March 23 at the Murrami grounds, when everyone will get together for an early breakfast of bacon and egg rolls, before practicing water obstacle driving.

In April the club will hold its annual dressage weekend at Murrami. Any competitors wishing to drive at the National Dressage Championships at Koonoomoo on May 3 will be able to drive their two qualifying drives at the Murrami weekend, with the dressage qualifier on Saturday April 12, followed next day by the Bryce Maw Dressage Cup. For further details contact Robyn Schmetzer on 02 6955 2331

CANBERRA CARRIAGE CLUB

The Canberra Club will be holding a driving weekend at Murrumbateman Recreational Grounds on March 22/23 2014, with individual lessons with Kate Wholagan on the Saturday and Graded Dressage and Cones on the Sunday. On April 27 the Club will be running a One Hour CDE at Yass. Enquiries to Hannah Becchio 0412 240 382 or hannah_harris@hotmail.com

CAMDEN HARNESS CLUB

The Camden Club drive set down for Rossmore Grange in mid February had to be cancelled due to rain – rather ironic after such a long time with any sign of rain. Hopefully the next drive planned for March 16 at Bicentennial Park Camden will go ahead without any problems. This is a wonderful all off road driving venue. Prospective participants for this drive need to contact Lou Lyons on 02 4654 5558 for further details.

Greg McDonald took his new Morgan horse to the Hills Club drive based at The Vines Pony Club grounds on February 9, for some long reining experience. There were lots of horses and ponies and different vehicles, so plenty for the new horse to see.

Congratulations to Carol Fitzpatrick who has been appointed an ACDS Show Driving Judge Examiner, ratified at the Branch Meeting at Queanbeyan on February 22. Carol has been an Assistant Examiner with Jan Muspratt on a number of occasions over the last few years in NSW and Tasmania.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CARRIAGE CLUB

Southern Highlands Club has begun the year with the first of its Tri Series CDEs – a Level 4 event which was well attended and enjoyed by all. There were competitors from Tamworth to Bega and all places in between, with everyone celebrating Australia Day with a traditional Aussie event dinner on the Saturday evening, then setting out on the marathon, with carriages adorned with flags flying in the breeze.

The next Tri Series CDE will be held on May 3/4 with good entries already having been received via the discounted Entry for the three Events.

A Cones Demonstration was run at the Crookwell Show by Southern Highlands and Goulburn Clubs early in February, with thirteen drivers in attendance. The crowds certainly seemed to enjoy the thrill, including watching Kath Cole churn up some dust, as well as the team of four Shetlands driven skillfully around the course by Amanda Kettlestring.

The temperature at the Show was not pleasant, but all the horses and drivers were able to stand in the shade between heats, interspersed by the trotting races and mini trots. Everyone enjoyed the experience despite the heat, and felt it was worth

all the effort to showcase the sport of carriage driving on behalf of the ACDS.



Alexander McGuire in the Level 4 CDE (J Knight)

In March the Club is conducting a Dressage Clinic/Protocol Day, whilst a Graded Dressage Event and the Southern Cones Competition between NZ, South Africa and Australia will be held on April 13. If you are keen for competition, there is plenty on offer in the Southern Highlands.

Results Level 4 CDE January 2014

Novice Pony 91-121cm 1st Lyn Dominish 2nd

Kath Cole 3rd Tracey Ellis

Novice Pony 121-149cm 1st Yvonne Wood 2nd

John Moyes 3rd Lisa Harrington

Open Pony 91-121cm 1st Sarah Keevers

Open Pony 121-149cm 1st Amanda See 2nd Keri Izzard 3rd John White

Open Horse 1st Jennifer Nicholls



Lyn Cunnew driving Taresh Park Monteya in the Level 4 CDE at Bundanoon (J Knight)

TEMORA CARRIAGE CLUB

Sharon Beattie: Temora Club held its first event of the year at the Temora Showground on Sunday February 23. It was a sunny day with mild temperatures. Garry and Judy Harris came to give the members a hand with dressage, cones and driving a marathon obstacle. Two dressage arenas and an MO were set up. Garry gave a great talk about the basics a beginner needs to know about dressage, after which, drivers harnessed up.



Sl (berts)

Garry got each driver to practice a few moves, before the next one had a turn. Judy in the other arena did a 15 minute lesson with each driver. Everyone had several drives in Garry's arena and at least two sessions with Judy. When not having a lesson, people had a few goes at the cones course or the MO or just went for a drive on the very wide trotting track. Bailey Roberts was given the camera and took many pictures.



Hercules at Temora (B Roberts)

During lunch the cones and MOs were discussed. The courses were then walked, before horses were harnessed again. Everyone had several goes at each and learnt some interesting points from Judy and Garry on how to drive them better. Judy also gave some extra lessons on the dressage arena for those who wanted more.

There were three drivers from the Temora Club and seven from the Riverina Club, together with three grooms. It was a great day, with lots learnt and the venue was fantastic.

The next Temora Club drives coming up are the Horse Power event on April 5/6 at Aria Park and the Iandra Castle Drive from Wirrima on May 3/4

GULGONG HERITAGE HARNESS ASSOCIATION

Unfortunately the year started with Tony Stafford's funeral on January 17 at Gilgandra. Tony was the second youngest of twelve children and has a large family who all keep in contact with each other. There was a large turnout at his funeral, including eleven members of the Gulgong Heritage

Harness Association. Tony's family members were very pleased to have them attend as he had often talked about how much he enjoyed pleasure drives and events including the Henry Lawson Pilgrimage Drive and the Fifield Enduro. At various times on these and other drives Tony was groom, support vehicle driver, camp commandant, fire lighter and chief billy boiler. His cheerful and happy go lucky nature will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

On January 18/19 the Come and Try event was held at Carol and Chris Hills' property. Despite the hot weather, both days were well attended, with twenty people and thirteen horses, including several new participants. Saturday morning saw harness fitting, long reining and groundwork, plus some exercises in achieving flexion and softness in the horse. The early afternoon saw a general meeting and some more horse work until it became too hot. Late in the afternoon there was an 8km drive through the vineyards and a BBQ followed. Those with horses included Jim Loveday with his young Standardbred filly, Mark and Jody Johnson with Standardbred Blossom, Jim Gilby with Shetlands Mia, Sebastian and McGregor, Chris Hills with his new Australian Draught Horse Missy as well as Sterling and Sambucca, Carol Hills with Shetland Jamie, John Black with Standardbred Lizzie and Philip Griffin with Clydesdale Montana. Several of these horses were driven for the first time, whilst others were able to be driven by some of the less experienced drivers or newcomers, under supervision.

Others in attendance were Hayley and Riley Fagerstrom, Chris and Pauline Hannaford, Emily Sears, Donna Birchall, Eunice Marskell, John Hetherington, Marianne Griffin, Richard Bowd, Kerrie Miller, and Samantha and Kelly Minors.

HUNTER HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY

Janet Muspratt (Hills): The Hunter Club held a very enjoyable mid week drive at Pokolbin on February 13/14 based at Possums Retreat, at a well appointed campsite tucked away in the bush and specially set up for horse people.



George and Doreen Sinclair with Zane at Pokolbin

Those there for the Wednesday drive were Hunter members Rosemary Laing with Tinker, Helen Huckerby with Ruby, Joy Hawkins with Grayson, and George and Doreen Sinclair with RDA driving pony Zane, and Hills members Bob and Karinne Goodchild with Lucky and June Malmberg with me as groom driving Sam. On the Thursday the group was joined and led by Frank Lovett driving his Clydesdale Nitro. Michael Huckerby called in on the Wednesday afternoon to leave a large container of icy water, much appreciated in the hot weather. Brian and Julia Leaver, who are currently living at Hawkes Nest, met the group down the road on Wednesday and hopped in as grooms with Rosemary and Joy.

Helen Huckerby led the group on Wednesday on a wonderful drive through the vineyards, hardly any of it on roads, most being along tracks and trails through properties with vines, but some with olives and others just big grassy expanses. Some huge dams with lots of waterbirds enhanced the beautiful views from the tops of the ridges. Though the land was undulating it was quite easy going for the horses and ponies, with a good spread of trots and walks and some spells here and there. The lunch stop was at a big vineyard with a cellar door, where horses were unharnessed and watered, and lunch eaten in the shade of trees on neatly mown lawns. Some drivers returned from the cellar door visit with some purchases to be stowed in their vehicles. About 20km was covered on the Wednesday drive. A relaxing evening was spent sitting in the cool together having a BBQ.



Frank Lovett leading the way driving Nitro on the Pokolbin Drive (J Muspratt)

After an excellent breakfast of bacon and eggs also cooked on the BBQ, the Thursday drive got off to a start with Frank leading the way this time. We went over mostly different ground, again largely 'off road'. It was interesting at one stage to go through part of the highly manicured Hunter Valley Gardens complex and arrive at the back of

a winery with its loading bays and machinery, and then drive down through the bush – lots of contrasts. We had a break at the Olive Centre, familiar to a number of ACDS members as the place where the first Concours d'Elegance events were held by the Hunter Club. For a very small fee, samples of many different olive oils, condiments, chutneys and relishes could be tried in the air conditioned showroom. It was a cool and delicious little break. It was time then to move on and eventually arrive back at Possums mid afternoon. The camp/drive was over far too soon but everyone is keen to do it again before long. Many thanks to the Hunter Club and especially the Huckerbys and Frank Lovett for the organization of this excellent drive.

GOULBURN DISTRICT HORSE DRAWN VEHICLE SOCIETY

Robert Allport: With the continuation of heat wave conditions, the planned pleasure drive in January was cancelled. However, Damon, Robert and Kimberley Allport competed in the light harness section of both the Crookwell and Gunning Shows. Kimberley won the Junior Driver class at the Crookwell Show. The same three also took part in the Cones Competition on the Sunday at the Crookwell Show, where Kimberley again had success, winning the Junior Driver trophy and the Youngest Driver Award.

Allen Smith, Robbie Baxter, Judy Emerton, and Trevor and Shirley Mills enjoyed the cooler weather for a pleasure drive in the Yalbraith area on February 22/23 with a creekside camp on the Saturday night. The creek actually had running water after recent rain. The next drive is planned for sometime in March.

HILLS DISTRICT HARNESS CLUB

The Hills Club started the year with twenty members enjoying a very pleasant evening BBQ at the Ongleys' home at Marayong on February 1. There was also a good roll up to the first club drive of the New Year held on February 9, based at the Vines Pony Club at Oakville. Ten turnouts took to the roads, whilst three people long reined their young horses around the pony club grounds. Those driving were Bob Goodchild, Karen Silvester, Pat and Damian Mannix, Tony Ingersole and Lynne Childe, June Malmberg, Dennis Casper, Anneriek Favelle, Lynne Buckingham, Ailsa and Ross Adams and Linda and Steve Upton, whilst Camden member Greg McDonald and One Activity Members Sue Boyd and Dionne Wilson long reined their horses at the pony club grounds. Former Hills members Natalie Morrison and Lisa Clarke drove with Karen Silvester and Anneriek Favelle, respectively, whilst Steve Carne was June Malmberg's groom. Lilian Mannix and Janet Muspratt followed the drivers in Jan's 4WD with hazard lights flashing to warn the traffic of what was ahead. It was an interesting drive around

Oakville past some beautifully maintained properties, attractive gardens, a residence with a substantial 'lighthouse' (about 50km from the sea) on a big trotting stud, and at least one garage sale. Meanwhile, Karinne Goodchild and Andrea Casper 'minded the camp.' After the drive, when all the horses had been attended to and given a feed in the shade, everyone adjourned for lunch under the verandah of the clubhouse. This time it was to get into the shade, a big contrast to the last drive at Oakville, held in late November, when shelter was sought from the rain.



Linda and Steve Upton with Chrissy (J Muspratt)

LIVERPOOL RANGE HARNESS CLUB

Donna Grace: The question was asked 'Would you come to Ebor for a Drive?' 'Yeah, sure!' And yes they did! Six clubs were represented - Liverpool Range, Tamworth, Hunter, Gulgong, North Coast and Warwick in Queensland with everyone travelling to the top of the New England Ranges to the village of Ebor. Some arrived early hoping to explore, fish or just relax in the cool after the blasting heat and dry of an endless summer.



Liverpool Range members Bruce and Ken Hill on the Ebor Drive (S Jones)

The weekend drive held on February 22/23 was organized by Liverpool Range member Christine O'Rourke and her partner Donny. The aim was to raise some money for the Ebor Sport and Recreation Reserve Trust, to do an upgrade of the

club's toilet and shower facilities. Expecting the worst, we were pleasantly surprised to arrive at grounds with nice shade and ample camping space, with yards for horses and an oval covered in abundant *green grass*. Whilst the locals remarked that they were doing it tough, most of us were in heaven. However, to go from 42°C down to 20°C was a bit of a shock, with many reaching for jumpers, coats and mud boots.

Christine had gone to a lot of trouble in the organization of the weekend. Dinner on Saturday evening and breakfast on Sunday were catered by the Trust Committee. Entertainment was provided on Saturday night by a talented karaoke singer and a great table of donated goods was distributed as lucky door prizes.

All drivers and abilities were taken care of, with two drives on both days, one for the larger horses and one for smaller ones or those not quite fit enough at the beginning of the season. Quad bikes both front and back accompanied the drives ensuring safety and looking after the gates. The misty rain and enveloping fog did not hamper the drivers. The first group headed to the ranges on the eastern side of Ebor. After crossing the Guy Fawkes River, the drivers proceeded to 'The Laurels' owned by Brian Hillier. Some 30km was covered, over cattle country, along valleys following water channels, then rising to cross steep hills, sometimes making their own tracks. The views could only be imagined as mist enshrouded them. However, the challenge of the drive was thoroughly enjoyed.



Some of the drivers on the road at Ebor (S Jones)

The other group headed west following the gorge country along a great meandering gravel toad. They also crossed the river, with hesitation from some, and eventually covered about 15km. The Sunday drives were reversed, with some changes to distance, and some smaller horses joining the larger ones. A further 28km and 12km were travelled. The morning drive saw some sun at last, and everyone was able to take in the breathtaking views of the high country.

Visiting drivers were confronted with the challenges faced in raising stock in the high country, when two dingo carcasses were witnessed hanging from a tree, and mauled lambs were seen. The vagaries of the weather must also be a challenge, especially in winter.

Our own club member Geoff Skewes sought inspiration from the Man from Snowy River as he ventured down a gully, instead of across! Completely unscathed, he then had to endure the heckles from fellow drivers, who were nevertheless relieved all was OK. It was not so for our President Peter Honeyman who managed to collide with a steel mesh door. Needless to say, he led with his nose for the rest of the weekend. After the bracing cold outside, it was lovely to enter the clubhouse and be greeted by a large open fire. The room was packed with people enjoying catching up with other club members. Doug Jones entertained us with his poetry and his rendition of 'Me and Mrs Jones' whilst the ladies joined together to sing up a storm!

Horse were only a part of the weekend, with many taking in the tourist sites, including the famous Ebor Falls, trout hatchery, PT lookout, river walks and historic cemetery as well as visiting the Fusspots coffee shop for scones and cream. Keen fishermen ventured out each day hoping to catch the elusive trout only to resort to buying a smoked one at the hatchery. Next time Doug!

The people of Ebor were impressed to have twenty four sulkies travelling around their little village, as were the passing motorists. The Trust was pleased with the funds raised and Christine was overwhelmed by all our support.

'Will you come back next year?' 'Yeah sure!'

The next Liverpool Range Club Drive will be held on March 29/30 at The Retreat in the back country of Bendemeer on roads were travelled by Cobb & Co coaches. Camping is by the McDonald River and will welcome all those interested in joining us. Contact Peter Honeyman on 02 6767 1555

TAMWORTH REGIONAL HORSE DRAWN CLUB

On 2nd February members gathered for the first club day of the year, at Attunga. Some informal sporting events were enjoyed, including cones, bending poles and barrels. The hot summer's day dictated that it be a short session, with events winding up at lunch time. A barbeque was followed by a raffle with some visiting campers on the grounds coming over to join in the fun.



Pam D Hudson at the Attunga Rally Day (L O'Brien)

A well attended general meeting was held afterwards, with a discussion on the Bluedog Fences National Show Driving Championships. Arrangements are well in hand for this show, and all members are encouraged to either compete or assist on the day. Bluedog Fences are the major sponsors and are generously funding advertising on television again. Other sponsorship is coming in from all states, with the major champion classes already sponsored. There are still classes to be sponsored so anyone interested in doing this should contact the secretary Liz O'Brien on 0427 766 726 or myeyor@yahoo.com.au as soon as possible.

Apart from running the Bluedog Fences National Show on May 17 at Manilla, Tamworth has a busy calendar with a variety of activities to suit all interests, including the Interclub Challenge with the Hunter Club at Muswellbrook on March 22-23, a Tri Series of 'One Day Combined Driving Experiences' starting with Round 1 on April 6 at Attunga, a Le Trec Event at Manilla on May 4, dressage and sporting events on June 1 at Attunga and Round 2 of the Tri Series on June 15. For further details see the club's website www.trhdc.webs.com.au or contact Liz O'Brien on 0427 766 726

The NSW Branch AGM will this year be hosted by the Tamworth Club and will be held on June 28 at the Manilla RSL Club. Early booking of accommodation is recommended.

BUNGENDORE CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY

A number of Bungendore Club drivers have been out supporting the harness classes in ag shows over the last couple of months. Carolyn and Amanda Blakeley competed at the Canberra Royal in late February with Flemington Dee in the Light Harness, Peggy in the Delivery Horse classes and Kevelle Lee Fallon in the Shetland harness classes, whilst Sarah and Jane Kevers and Lyn Dominish have kept the light harness flag flying at the Cobargo and Bega Shows.



Sarah Kevers at the Bega Show (L Harrington)

BEGA VALLEY HARNESS SOCIETY

Lisa Harrington with her daughter Samantha as groom competed at Bundanoon on the Australia Day weekend, doing her first Novice CDE. They had as wonderful time driving around the beautiful Bundanoon district. There were a couple of

challenging MOs, especially No. 5 in the trees, but they got around without being eliminated which they were very happy about. Lisa would like to send a huge thank you to the Southern Highlands Club for their wonderful event and to the catering volunteers for looking after her, with her restricted diet. She is really looking forward to the next two CDEs in the series.

Lisa is now off to Witwood for the Graded Dressage and Munro Cup weekend on March 1/2. The Bega Valley Club had some lovely ribbons made up for the local ag shows in the hope of keeping carriage driving in the spotlight. There were three exhibits at Cobargo Show, with Sarah Keevers from the Bungendore Club taking out Champion with her beautiful Welsh A mare and Lyn Dominish, also Bungendore Club, taking out Reserve with her handsome little mini. Lisa Harrington won the Encouragement Award with her Welsh B pony.

Bega Show only had one exhibit, that being Sarah Keevers, who looked amazing in her viceroys turnout. Her mum Jane jumped in and had a drive and received the Encouragement Award from the club.

There is one more show to go - the Bemboka Show on March 9. It would be wonderful to have more harness exhibits there for everyone to see.



Lisa and Samantha Harrington in the Level 4 CDE at Bundanoon (J Knight)

CENTRAL WEST HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY

The annual Fifield Enduro will be held from April 19 to 27 2014 based as usual in the tiny village of Fifield northwest of Parkes, 30km west of Trundle. The event committee is Wayne Teale, Gaye and Colin Lees and David Walker and they have once again organized an excellent program. The Enduro will be conducted over seven days on mainly unsealed roads and involves up to 350km of travel for Class 1 (over 14.2hh) and up to 240km for Class 2 (o12 ne 14.2hh) and Class 3 (ne 12hh). Class 1 competitors will do two sections per day, each of up to 30km, whilst classes 2 and 3 will do one section of up to 40km per day. Vetting on the first Saturday has been moved forward so that

those who wish to may attend the 5pm Easter Service at the Fifield Church. For those unable to compete over the whole event, there are also Day Tripper opportunities to take part. Closing date for entry form and fees: March 29 2014. Contact Gaye Lees on 02 6864 5129 or gaye@ipstarmail.com.au for more information.

THE REINSMAN

This issue I will take us back to 1876. In November the iron steam schooner "Georgette" bound for Adelaide from Fremantle was dashed on rocks during a raging storm off the SA coast. The pumps were failing and a lifeboat was lowered but it too smashed on the rocks.

Watching from a cliff above whilst all this was happening was Sam, an aboriginal stockman. He then turned and rode desperately about 12 miles to the Bussell family homestead to raise the alarm. Mrs Bussell prepared the homestead whilst 16 year old daughter Grace (what a beautiful name) and Sam raced back to the scene.

At the site were women, men and children in the water. Down the cliff face rode Grace in a ride equal to the 'Man from Snowy River'. She rode across the rocks and coaxed her horse through the breakers to the people. This she did several times, returning with two or three survivors at a time, clutching the saddle and stirrups. Over the time, Grace and Sam rescued all the remaining survivors in the water – about twenty persons.

Grace then left Sam in charge and rode back and forth bringing food and blankets.

Grace received the Royal Humane Society silver medal in 1878. Sam Isaacs was awarded the bronze medal. The Board of Trade in its wisdom handed out a gold watch. Even the state government stumped up 100 pounds for feeding, housing and clothing the survivors.

What a pair and what a horse!

VALE: LANCE THOMAS 1938 – 2014

A GENEROUS AND DEDICATED LIFE MEMBER

by Tony James

Many ACDS members across Australia were saddened to learn that after a determined and at times hopeful fight against cancer, Lance Thomas passed away during the night on January 28 2014. Lance was a much loved, highly respected and valued member of the Australian Carriage Driving Society. His contribution to the sport of carriage driving in Australia as well as to the ACDS itself was immeasurable and was duly recognized in July 2012, when he and his wife Barbara were awarded Life Memberships. Due to Lance's illness, they were unable to attend the Federal Conference to receive their awards. The ACDS sent then Past President Trevor Brand to Western Australia to present the awards to them both. Lance was noticeably moved by this gesture. Trevor was Federal President and Vice President during a

number of years that Lance was on Federal Council.

Although Lance and Barbara have been prime movers of carriage driving in Western Australia, they also travelled to the south eastern states on five or six occasions to compete with their pony team and/or pair in Australian CDE Championships and other events along the way. In addition, they occasionally travelled east to officiate at major events. That the ACDS is blooming in WA is largely due to the uncompromising dedication to excellence and energy they have injected over many years. The building and maintenance of a championship marathon course and arenas on their property has been a major growth contributor, providing a valuable facility for the society and its members to develop their knowledge and skills. Some may say Lance and Barbara set the bar too high, but others will point to the current high standards of driving, presentation and event organization in WA that was built on the setting of lofty goals. Our sincerest sympathy goes to Barbara and her family, as Lance will be greatly missed. A more complete Valediction for him is to appear in the March issue of the ACDS Journal.

DRIVEN CONES COMPETITION THRILLS CROOKWELL SHOW GOERS

Jan Denney (Southern Highlands)

This year's Crookwell Show featured a new event on the Sunday afternoon. In a first for Crookwell, show goers were treated to a very exciting invitation 'driven cones' competition organized and presented by the Southern Highlands Carriage Club, with assistance from the Goulburn and Reedy Creek Clubs. Trevor Leibowitz designed the course and was the event referee. He was ably assisted by Ron Cunnew as scorer, Lyn Cunnew as announcer and Elva Macpherson as Safety Officer. Lyn's announcing kept the crowd informed about the sport and the backgrounds of the competing horses and drivers.



Yvonne Wood with groom Alexander McGuire in the Crookwell Show Cones Competition (J Knight)

The event was conducted in conjunction with the afternoon's trotting and mini trots program and was a great success. Despite the extremely hot afternoon, when the temperature exceeded 40°C, horses and drivers performed well and put on a top demonstration of this component of our sport. There have already been a number of enquiries from spectators investigating the possibility of taking up carriage driving.

In all there were twelve competitors including a team of ponies driven by Amanda Kettlestring from the Hills Club and a pair of ponies driven by John Moyes from the Reedy Creek Club. Kath Cole (Reedy Creek) kept the crowd on its feet and cheering with a couple of very fast and daring rounds behind her pony Bojangles. Ian and Jan Denney (Southern Highlands) put their 18 year old pony Gus through the testing course separately, with Jan making the final. Gus has not long recovered from severe laminitis but performed very well! Yvonne Wood (Southern Highlands) was also very competitive driving Zane.

Crookwell's Allport family (Goulburn Club) was well represented with three generations competing – Kimberley with her dad Damon, Damon with Kimberley as groom, and then Robert, Kimberley's grandfather, competed with his standardbred – a truly big family event.

The Sunday afternoon crowd became very involved and enthusiastically cheered the competitors on as the horses and drivers competed against the clock.

The Show Society greatly appreciated the contribution the Clubs made to the Sunday afternoon program. The event was very well run. The horses, their drivers and carriages were turned out looking a picture and were a real credit to all those involved.

Prizewinners were:

Champion Horse: Jane Knight (SH) driving Belle

Champion Pony: Tracey Ellis (SH) with Jet

Junior Driver: Kimberley Allport (Goulburn) with Lulu

Senior Driver: Kath Cole (Reedy Creek) with Bojangles

Multiples: John Moyes (Reedy Creek) with Nicholas and Reggie

Best Presented: John and Jennifer White (SH) with Maestro

COMING EVENT

BLUEDOG FENCES ACDS NATIONAL SHOW DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS & Static Vehicle Show & Display Saturday May 17 2014 at Manilla Showground, River St MANILLA NSW Hosted by the Tamworth Regional Horse Drawn Club *Wide variety of classes to cater for all carriage driving interests. *Includes ten Champions, a Supreme Champion, and a Concours d'Elegance Award. *Stables and camping (toilets/hot showers) on the grounds. *Walking

distance to feedstore and shops. Contact Liz O'Brien 0427 766 726 or myeyor@yahoo.com.au
Schedule and entry form on website www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au or www.trhdc.webs.au **Entries close April 28 2014**

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE BEARERS 2014/15

Nominations for 2014/15 Executive Office Bearers, Panel Members and Appointments (Young Driver Rep, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor) are now being called. A Nomination Form is attached. Nominations must be **returned by post** to the State Secretary by **May 3 2014**. Faxed or emailed nominations not accepted.

What better way to contribute to the Society than to show you are willing to be involved in one of these essential volunteer jobs !

NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE in 2013

Nominations for the Annual Awards for Excellence in 2013 in the following categories (Show driver, CDE driver, Dressage driver, Pleasure and Endurance driver, Junior driver, Service to Carriage Driving) are now being called for. A Nomination Form is attached, which includes a Supporting Statement. Nominations may be submitted through clubs, by panels or by individual members.

Nominations to be sent to the State Secretary and close on **May 31 2014**.

We all know a member who deserves to be nominated in at least one of the categories. Give him/her recognition by completing a Nomination Form and sending it in.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR 2015 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Clubs interested in hosting one or more of the following NSW ACDS Championships in 2015 are requested to submit Expressions of Interest (including proposed date/s, venue and brief outline of event plans) to be in the hands of the NSW Branch Secretary by **June 28 2014**. Members at the general meeting to be held immediately after the AGM on June 28 2014, will then consider the submitted EOIs and vote to choose the successful applicants.

- * 2015 NSW Show Driving Championships
- * 2015 NSW Driven Dressage Championships

Note: it was decided at the February Branch Meeting to allow the Southern Highlands Carriage Club to continue to run the 2015 NSW CDE Championships (awarded at the November 2013 Branch Meeting – which since then has been deemed incorrect procedure), as the SHCC has now invested time and effort in planning for the event. However, this break with protocol should not be allowed to happen in the future.

NOTES FROM BRANCH MEETING at

Queanbeyan on February 22 2014

28 members present **Clubs represented:** Camden, Goulburn, Hills, Ellmore, Bungendore, Hunter, Southern Highlands, Temora, Canberra, Riverina.

Panel reports:

P & E

- *The late Tony Stafford acknowledged as a valuable former member who will be missed
- *Members interested in registering for Ground Jury duties at endurance events should contact P & E Convenor Robert Allport
- *Entries for Fifield Enduro close soon
- *Thanks to clubs and members for running of successful cones competition at Crookwell Show
- *Three day mini enduro at Spring Ridge (on Liverpool Plains) on October long weekend
- *Regular pleasure drives by a number of clubs
- *Gulgong Club's Come and Try days – popular and attract new members.

CDE

- * Vic CDE schedule changed on request from NSW Convenor to reflect no need for Hendra vaccinations
- * Re rule stating only Level 4 CDEs can be held on same weekend as National CDE Championships. Fed Council approval is being sought for this rule to apply only to states bordering the state hosting the Nat Champs.
- *Successful Level 4 CDE run by Southern Highlands Club at Bundanoon. Dressage/cones class was a success but only available at a 'training event' not a graded CDE.
- *New CDE Dressage matrix proposal to provide a more gradual progression in dressage tests from Level 4 through to Level 1. Done in response to members' concerns.

- *CDE Forum - emphasis on incoming rule changes on July 26 at Yass – open to all interested people.

Show Driving

- *Successful SD School & Judge Prac Exam hosted by Hunter Club on Jan 19 at Tenambit
- *2014 National SD Championships to be hosted by Tamworth Club at Manilla on May 17
- *2014 NSW SD Championships to be hosted by Southern Highlands Club at Bundanoon on Oct 12
- *Anne Ferris, Elizabeth O'Brien, Denese Ward and Trevor Brand now eligible for ACDS General (Light and Heavy) Show Judges List following attendance at appropriate schools.
- *Carol Fitzpatrick appointed as a NSW ACDS Show Driving Judge Examiner.

Historical no new information to report.

Dressage

- *Kim McGregor ratified as Novice level Dressage Judge
- *Graded Dressage – horses now need to accumulate 10 points to upgrade.
- *Dressage grading list is on NSW website. Sue Plath will collect results and maintain the list.

*Hoof boots that only cover the hoof will be allowed in dressage.

*New FEI rule re groom can speak to driver and receive 10 penalties once only. Dressage Panel feels test should be driven from memory.

Young Driver Coordinator Report

*New draft 'Handbook for New Drivers' circulated. It is a working document to be taken back to clubs and discussed.

Other Business

* Draft TPR fitness monitoring cards distributed by Fed P & E Convenor Sharon Beattie – to be taken back to clubs for discussion.

* Online harness show run by Tamworth Club generating a lot of interest and good fundraiser.

* Clubs requested to send their latest AGM Minutes to State Secretary

* **All horses competing in CDEs, regardless of level, must be ACDS registered.** Application forms are available to print off from the NSW website www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au or via club secretaries

* Not necessary to put so many 'rules' in Conditions of Entry in Event Schedules. Suggested event organizers highlight new clauses, and clauses particularly relevant at that event, rather than stating known rules. Competitors generally sign to say they will abide by the ACDS Rules (which are on website or in published rule books)

* Correct procedure needs to be followed for the awarding of Championships – a. Expressions of Interest called in the 2 months leading up to AGM/General Meeting in year prior to the proposed event b. vote at AGM on EOMs c. Championships awarded.

* New Club based at Albury is in process of being formed and affiliated with ACDS NSW Branch.

* Victorian proposal re a CDE Intermediate class not supported at this time. NSW members need time to properly consider it.

* NSW proposal of new matrix of dressage tests for CDEs was well received. Dressage and CDE panels both in favour. May mean more Level 2 CDEs would be scheduled. To be presented and discussed at Federal Council in March.

* Calendar Coordinator for NSW (instead of Event Coordinator) position – Garry Harris. Will involve all disciplines. Clubs organizing events need to check with Calendar Coordinator so that date clashes may be avoided.

* Concerns raised re FEI CDE rule changes which do not always suit Australian conditions. New Australian Variations book will be released soon.

Next Meeting: AGM and General Meeting to be held at Manilla on June 28 2014 hosted by the Tamworth Club Accommodation information now available. Book early as accommodation in Manilla is limited.



Line up of the drivers at Ebor (S Jones)

2014
Bluedog Fences
ACDS National
Show Driving Championships
Saturday 17th May 2014
Manilla Showground Manilla NSW

Program available from www.acds.org.au www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au www.trhdc.webs.com

Show Secretary: Elizabeth O'Brien
Ph: 042 7766 726 email: myeyor@yahoo.com.au
Proudly hosted by the Tamworth Regional Horse Drawn Club Inc.
Catering: Tamworth Riding for the Disabled
Spectators always welcome