



SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

Forging the future of the Shire Horse in Australia

JUNE 2005
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



'Ingleside Elizabeth' Best Shire Exhibit 2005

PATRON:

Mr. Rob Vickery President Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales



Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated

www.shirehorsesociety.com.au

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Deadlines for including information in Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated newsletter are listed below. Any material you have to submit for printing can be forwarded to the Secretary.

May 20, 2005
November 20, 2005

August 20, 2005
February 20, 2006

President's Report

It's June already and this is our third newsletter. The numbers of new members are rolling in. We received 28 new membership applications at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and another 6 at Gatton Heavy Horse Field Day in Queensland. We heartily welcome our new members, the Shire horse owners as well as our new associate members who are Shire horse enthusiasts and fans.

This year's Royal Easter Show was a huge success, not only was there nineteen horses exhibited from 10 different studs, but the standard of entry was excellent according to our English Judge Terry Gardner. Terry was also in Australia in 2003 and he said we are definitely on the right track with our breeding programme and that our horses would do very well in UK show rings. Terry visited a number of Shire and Clydesdale studs in NSW, Victoria and Queensland and made a special point of spending some time with several Federal Clydesdale Judges discussing with them the points of judging Shires.

Our first General Meeting was held at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and was an enormous success. The attendance at the meeting was in excess of 45 people. We were very honoured and grateful to have a brief visit from our Patron Mr. Rob Vickery who made a special effort to attend our meeting. Rob is also the President of the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales whose responsibility it is, to put on the Sydney Royal Easter Show so he was literally run off his feet. Also in attendance were the English Judge Terry Gardner and some very well respected Federal Clydesdale Judges. We also had forth generation coachmen and showmen of the first degree. In fact they are the very backbone of the Royal Easter Show exhibitors in the heavy horse sections of both led and harness classes.

I accompanied the English judges Phillip Moss and Terry Gardner at Gatton Heavy Horse Field Day in Queensland where nearly two hundred heavy horses were exhibited. It was marvellous to see so many working horses. In fact the highlight for me was seeing eight horses, harnessed abreast in the Grand Parade pulling a sled for the Australian Draught Horse Society, Queensland Branch.

Lastly, I have been in touch with Andrew Mercer Chairman of the Shire Horse Society UK regarding Stallion Inspections outside the UK. He said at the meeting of 10th May, the committee reviewed all of the material they were given, including a video (DVD) that our Society provided in order to help formulate a fair and reasonable solution to future Stallion Inspections. He said "the proposals regarding Stallion Inspections are progressing well". However to date nothing has changed, but we will keep you informed.

Again, welcome to our new members and thank you to all of those who attend shows. With the drought and increasing petrol prices it is becoming more difficult for people to exhibit our marvellous Shire horses and promote our wonderful breed.

This is your Society so please share your horse stories with us to be included in future newsletters.

Helene Scarf

The Society would like to express its sympathy to John Miles over the loss of his stallion. We all know how much John will miss him.

Kathryn our secretary is back in the land of the living after her accident thanks everyone for their well wishes.

Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated

Inaugural meeting March 2005

At Sydney Royal Easter Show



English Judge Mr. Terry Gardner gets a congratulatory kiss from one of our lady members they are all sporting their very fashionable new Shire Horse Society Australia Inc. t-shirts.

Sydney's Royal Easter Show is the venue for Australia's largest agricultural show. Shire horse led classes were introduced in 1991. The Shire breed had died out in Australia until a Shire colt Ladbrook Edward was imported in 1981. Since then the breed has grown to numbers of almost 100 registered Shires. (mostly U.K registrations and one American registration). This year 19 Shires were exhibited at Sydney Royal Easter Show from 10 different breeders.

The very new "Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated" was formed in October 2004 and had its inaugural meeting at this year's show. Mr Rob Vickery who is the President of the Royal Agricultural Society, which is responsible for putting on the Sydney Royal Easter Show agreed to become Patron of The Shire Horse Society Australia. Rob brings many years of horsemanship and dedication to the agricultural industry, with him to the new Society.

The meeting marked a new beginning for heavy horse enthusiasts as owners of Shires and Clydesdales all enjoyed trading ideas and stories and suggestions for forging the future of the breed.

The Society was honoured to have in attendance along with their Patron Rob Vickery and English judge Mr. Terry Gardner: Tim Peel a most well respected third generation Clydesdale breeder, harness maker and Federal Judge of Clydesdales, Col Brown a Clydesdale breeder and past president of the Federal Clydesdale Assoc. Mike Keogh a well respected driver of the Cooper's Brewery wagon all over Australia. Mr. Grahame Ware from Ware's Livery Stable a forth generation horseman, horse trainer for movies and coach driver, Grahame also has a private collection of over two hundred horse drawn vehicles believed to be the largest collection in the Southern hemisphere and lots of breeders and enthusiasts from all over Australia. A lot of horse talent all at the one meeting. The owners of the 'Best Shire Exhibit' Ineke Kuiper with 'Ingleside Elizabeth' and 'Supreme Champion Clydesdale' Tim Peel with 'Stanhope Park Moss Rose' were also present. The feelings at the meeting was vibrant, there was talk of a dinner next year at the Sydney Royal combining Shire and Clydesdale people and also talk of getting together for an informative field day to discuss judging, showing and shoeing. All in all it was a huge success. The new Society has made a pledge to have fun, first and foremost with our horses, to help new comers with showing and shoeing technics and work together for the betterment of the

horses and our enjoyment. The meeting was followed with champagne, gourmet sandwiches, newly formed friendships and lots of fun and laughter. Some photo's below of the meeting.



Mr. Rob Vickery, Patron of Shire Horse Society Aust. Inc. with English judge Mr Terry Gardner







Show Report & Results Sydney Royal Easter Show 2005

This years Sydney Royal Easter Show was very successful for all Shire breeders in Australia. There were 19 horses exhibited from ten different studs. The newly formed Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated had their inaugural meeting at this years' show which was a huge success and seven of the ten breeders who exhibited are keen supporters of the new Society. The slogan of the new Society is "*Forging the future of the Shire horse in Australia*" The future looks very promising with this number of studs participating in Australia's largest gathering of Shire horses.

An English Shire horse judge Terry Gardner came over from England this year to judge at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and made the following comment: "It's obvious that the breed in Australia is going forward. I noticed a big improvement from two years ago. But there's still quite a way to go for some. I think that the champion and reserve could compete with most of the Shires in England. It was an honour and a privilege to judge Sydney Royal. I enjoyed it very much and I found the Australian breeders to be very friendly and hospitable".

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Best Shire Exhibit:

Ingleside Elizabeth K & H & I Kuiper

Shire colt or filly 2years & under:

1st Hillmoor Diamond Queen (Imp. UK) P & M McKeon
2nd Luscombe Joy Mrs H Scarf
3rd Southern Cross Supreme P & M McKeon

Shire Colt or Filly 3 years

1st Ingleside Felicity K & H & I Kuiper
2nd Southern Cross Kylie P & M McKeon

Shire Stallion 4 years and over

1st Cedars Majestic Mrs H Scarf

Shire Mare four years and over

1st Ingleside Elizabeth K & H & I Kuiper
2nd Gronant Beachgirl (Imp UK) P & M McKeon
3rd Longcopy Sovereign Pearl Mr R & J Hood

Shire Gelding any age

1st Luscombe Nodram Mrs J E H Greenman
2nd Cedars Archibold Mrs H Scarf
3rd Binnaway Bentley Mr G K Collis

Ridden Classes

1st Cedars Archibold Mrs H Scarf
2nd Southern Cross Kylie P & M McKeon
3rd Ingleside Matilda K McKay & G Hosa

FIRST PRIZE at 2005 Sydney Royal Easter Show

Cedars Archibold Ridden Side-Saddle

Archie, Australia's tallest horse and the gentlest of all giants, is an English Shire Horse. He stands at nearly 19 hands and weights eleven hundred kilos. His girth measurement is eight feet six inches.

He is Australia's first born registered Shire horse since the turn of the century. The breed died out after the First World War.

In 1981 Archie's father Ladbrook Edward was flown to Australia in a jumbo jet that had been especially converted to carry livestock. He grew to a full 19 hands and was later joined by four mares to start Australia's first Shire Horse Stud. Archie was the first born at

the stud from imported stock and he comes from a long line of giant horses, his great grandfather Ladbrook Invader was in the Guinness Book of Records as the tallest horse in the world.



Samantha Weir wins first prize riding Archie side saddle at 2005 Sydney Royal Easter Show

Archie's colorful life has included working for the mounted Police Academy as their Drum Horse and he has done many traffic patrols in Redfern. He has also been used for vaulting carrying up to six big policemen on his back at one time.

He is quite a celebrity and has appeared on television with Don Burke on 'Burkes Backyard' and with beautiful Katrina Rowntree on 'Getaway' and Sammy on 'Totally Wild'. He was recently the star of "Horse Tales" on the Disney Channel and was on display at the 2003 Royal Easter Show as a celebrity guest being Australia's Tallest Horse. He has done many radio interviews through his mentor and assistant Helene Scarf and

spreads the word that horses are mans best partner and friend.

Archie had the good fortune of meeting Macca from ABC's radio programme 'Australia All Over' in the middle of a hail storm at Mount Kembla when Archie was there to lead their Centenary Parade. It was love at first sight and Macca has become one of Archie's biggest fans. He talks about Archie all the time on his Sunday morning program. The lovely thing is that now lots of Australians can share in some of Archie's stories

This year at Sydney's Royal Easter Show Archie was ridden side saddle in the Shire Ridden class which is a first for a Shire horse at the Sydney Royal Easter since its beginning. His rider Samantha Weir is wearing full English attire.

Samantha has done very well for herself in riding and driving heavy horses. She has competed in Scotland riding and driving Clydesdales in singles, pairs and teams and has taken out numerous awards in both driving and dressage. She won 'Young Stockman of the Year' on a Clydesdale at the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh, Scotland 2003. Drove a team of four at the 2004 Sydney Royal Easter Show and came second to Carlton Brewery and she has competed in 'Show Hunter' classes in Scotland on Clydesdales. She is always doing what she loves most and that is working with heavy horses. With Archie under her saddle this year she is on top of the world as Archie is Australia's tallest horse.

Gatton Heavy Horse Field Days Queensland

The field days at Gatton was where the Shires in Australia had their first Shire classes, back in 1986. Shires from studs such as the Cedars and Longcopy travelled their horses the 1000 kilometers to compete.

Not so long ago there were record entries of 11 Shires there, but this year there was only one lone Shire. She was Luscombe Lady Grey, owned by Donna and Victor Hammett. She is the daughter of Luscombe Whats Wanted (or Ted as he is more widely known.) Ted has retired from the showing as a led horse, after winning the All Breeds Supreme Champion

Led Exhibit at Gatton for the past 2 consecutive years there is nothing for him to prove as led horse. To win this he competed against 190 other heavies such as Clydesdales, Australian Draught Horses and Percherons. Ted is now going to be trained to pull the slide, ploughing and possibly the vehicle, then he will make his debut all over again as a working horse.



Supreme Champion Shire - Luscombe Lady Grey show by owner Victor Hammett

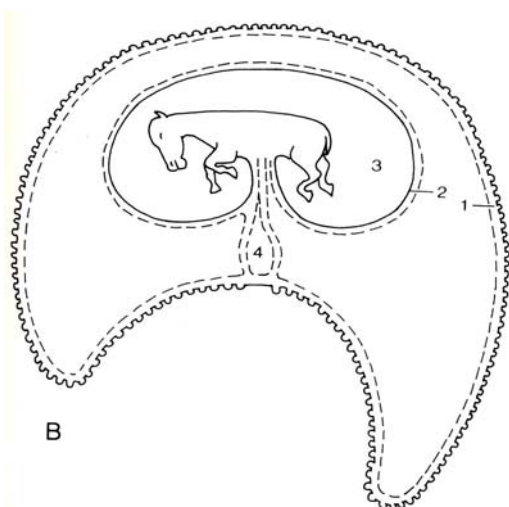
Luscombe Lady Grey (Misty) is a young mare with a big future. She is one of only 6 grey Shires in Australia. Misty received a wonderful compliment from the judge, who also commended Victor for his gentleness when handling Misty.

Donna and Victor are a great example of how the novice Shire owner can take part in shows with their horses. I am sure we will see much more of this mare in the future.

IS YOUR MARE ABORTING LATE TERM?

Mares which pass a 45-day preg test and then fail to produce a foal, are most likely losing their foal because of problems associated with the placenta.

The placenta is the foal's lifeline; it provides the foal not only with nutrients to grow but oxygen to live. Therefore any problems, which arise in the placenta, can cause varying effects on the foal from abortion to septicemia at birth. Pictured below is the mare's placenta, which starts to form at conception and continues to grow with the developing fetus.



- 1/ Chorioallantios: this part of the placenta meshes with the uterine wall and allows exchange of nutrients; it is the reddish/brown membrane at foaling.
- 2/ Amnion: this is the clear membrane that covers the foal at birth.
- 3/ Ammonitic Cavity: this is the fluid that surrounds the foal.
- 4/ Umbilical Cord.

Problems with the placenta usually don't occur until towards the end of the second trimester as the foal start to become heavier and pull the uterus forward. Signs of placental disease are normally associated with mares preparing to

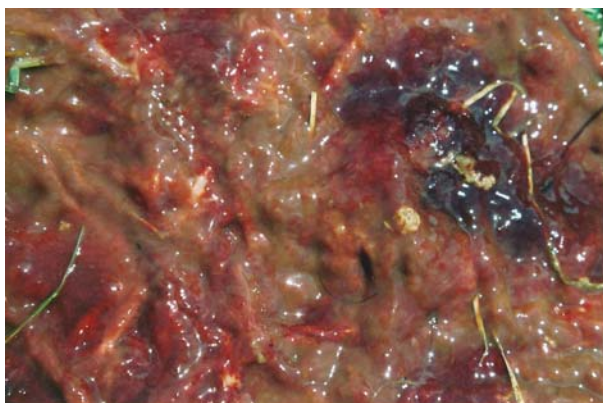
foal early, for example premature udder development, dripping or running milk, relaxation of pelvis muscles etc. These changes are often seen in association with a vaginal discharge and generalized depression and fever. What is occurring is the mares hormones are preparing to give birth because her body has sensed that there is a problem and that the

foal may be coming out early. Prevention and early treatment is paramount with mares with placental disease because by the time you realize that there is a problem the fetus is often infected. In general there are two causes of placentitis, the first is related to cervical insufficiency allowing normal bacteria flora into the normally sterile placenta thus creating infection. The second is placentitis caused by Nocardia bacteria.

Right: Picture of an entire placenta with localized areas of placentitis.

Prevention: as with most things is better than a cure. Mares with a history of late term abortion, poor vaginal conformation or vaginal discharge are best caslicked to minimize any infection entering from the environment. Treatment with antibiotics on a monthly base also seems to greatly reduce the incidence of abortion. Our practice generally treats mares at high risk with a 5 day course of Neomycin-Penicillin every month.

Treatment: once a mare develops a vaginal discharge and becomes systemically unwell there is often a considerable amount of placentitis present and examination by your vet is strongly recommended. Taking a sample of the discharge is ideal but not always possible, by doing this it gives you the best chance of successfully treating the infection. Mares with placentitis are often treated with strong antibiotics; other treatments such as regumate, clenbuterol and isoxuprine have all been used.



Left: Close up of the affected areas.

Foal born to a mare, which has had placentitis, should be checked and monitored closely as they are often born septic and look normal for 24-48 hours and then become ill.

Always check the placenta after birth to make sure that it is intact, especially in mares with placentitis, as the placenta tends to tear easily.

Good luck with your mare this year and remember act early with placentitis, as prevention is better than cure.

Dr David Searle
Illawarra Equine Centre
Mob 0409 341 313

New Blood Down Under



The Kuiper family of the Ingleside Shire Horse Stud have just purchased a new stallion in England, Oakridge Speculator, for export to their stud just outside of Sydney

Oakridge Speculator is a black, 2 year old colt, and was owned by Cadfan and Wendy Slade. He entered quarantine in April, and will arrive in Australia in time for their breeding season later this year.

Ineke Kuiper and her husband Byron have been living in England for the past year. "We were always on the lookout for a stallion that would suit our mares" says Ineke. "Oakridge Speculator caught our eye as a yearling, and we have been very happy with his development over the last 12 months. He has excellent quality, lovely movement and a great temperament.

"We have been buying decorations from Wendy for the past 12 years, and both Wendy and Cadfan took care of us when we arrived in the UK, giving us a home away from home. We are really pleased that they had a colt that suited our needs so perfectly, as we have always been impressed with their stallion, Blackden Charlie, and his progeny, especially with their success as harness horses."

Speculator is sired by Lancashire Supreme, and out of a Blackden Charlie mare called Oakridge Charity. The Kuiper family are planning to breed with him for both show and harness horses and hope that he will be a valuable addition to the Shire breed in Australia

Noddy goes to Sydney – just

After a year of preparation and only 3 weeks to Sydney Show, Noddy and I decided to part ways – literally! I ended up in Emergency while Noddy sulked in his pasture looking mortified.

The day began with his usual training to saddle. I threw a leg over and started to mount. Noddy spooked and with only one foot in the stirrup, I knew it was downhill from there. Falling from a first floor balcony would have been safer. I ejected without a parachute.



I ended up having a wonderful holiday in Hospital with an endless supply of morphine cocktails and all the jelly I could handle. Surgeons found all the bits and correctly put them back where they belonged. My only recollections are medical staff and my family hovering around me. People asking if I could walk again or save the arm, then long periods of just dreaming.

Meanwhile, Noddy had friends in his camp. Shire and Clydesdale people heard of our plight. They banded together to get Noddy (and I) to Sydney.

Kevin, Peter and Marylou continued Noddy's harness and show training, with Mark Marriott as rider and strapper.

And off they went! Sue and Chris Bailey (breeder) plaited and warmed up, while John Mulinger (Vic. Clydesdale judge) took Noddy into the ring. Noddy was gentle and well behaved. The Show was the best education for him. He loved it ... the fireworks, the rodeo, the fairy floss and the crowds! Like a proud mother I was happy to be there to cheer him on.

Show Day dawns and all the wonderful helpers went into action, each contributing their area of expertise. Noddy looked a picture. 'My little baby, just 2 years old, going out into the big, wide world' – that's what it felt like.

Knock me over with a feather – Noddy (and all those lovely people who put him there) WON!! First Prize, Sydney Royal Open Gelding.

Meanwhile, on the health front, 3 months later the bones have finally started to knit and I can't wait to get back in the saddle.

Free Service Directory

This is a free classified section for members wishing to advertise horse associated items.

- **Equine Supplies** (02) 9688 3220
- **Farrier Errin** - 0423194752
- **Weddings** - Ware's Livery Stables 02 9679 1255
- **Cedars Cottages**- Secluded self contained cottages for your weekend away with the Shire Horses. Contact Helene Scarf 0412 400 886.
- **Retford Equine Veterinary Bowral Clinic:** Vet Karim Kooros experienced with heavy horses. Ph: 02 48611166 Fax: 02 48621740 email kooros@optusnet.com.au
- **Camden Signs** at Narrellan NSW Ph: 02:46461819
Banners and Signs

Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated Merchandise



MESH HAT - Black only with SHSA LOGO
\$20.00 (Including postage)

Men's and Women's polo shirts are also available but the Society needs to accumulate minimum orders of at least twenty shirts per order.

Contact Secretary Kathryn McKay if you are interest in merchandise

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Spring cart in good condition, recently restored, used in local shows. Suit 17+hand horse (used for a shire) \$3000.00

Champaign Shires are breeders of registered Shires and Shire sport horses, foals available for sale Contact Kathryn McKay 02 4421 5031 or 0411 248 031



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Note from the editor:

Sadly this will be the last newsletter I collate as editor. I have been producing the newsletters since June 2001 when it was first known as ***Shire Horses and the People Interested in Them*** for the informal group of breeders and enthusiasts then known as Shire Breeders Australia which was formed in the late 1990's.

Past newsletters have included stud profiles, show results, and what owners have been doing with their horses and it has grown to be the official newsletter for the Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated.

As most of you are aware I have a growing young family, work full time and have 11 horses to look after. Unfortunately finding time to be able to devote to the newsletter is becoming harder.

The factor which was the decider to my resigning as editor was when my little son Caleb aged 20 months was bitten by a snake on the eve of Mothers Day. This as you can imagine scared the willies out of me and I have decided to give more time to the children and cut back on the horse side of my life.

So the horses have all retired from the show ring, though I will still breed them and I will pick them up again with some vigour when the children are older.

It has been good communicating with you over the years and I hope you have enjoyed the newsletters.

Please always feel free to pick up the phone or email as you have done in the past. I will still be involved with the Shires in Australia, and am always willing to help where I can.

Keep well.

Sue
The Shires of Luscombe
suebailey@ozemail.com.au
07 55 464 106

Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated

(Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)

www.shirehorsesociety.com.au

I,
(full name of applicant)

of
(address)

..... hereby apply to become a member of the above named incorporated association. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.

.....
Signature of applicant

.....
Date

I, a member for the association, (full name) nominate the applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the association.

.....
Signature of proposer

.....
Date

I, a member for the association, (full name) second the nomination of the applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the association.

.....
Signature of seconder

.....
Date

Type of membership applied for-(please tick appropriate box)

Ordinary Member \$10.00
(a person who is over 18 years of age and who is the owner of Registered Shire horse)

Associate Member \$5.00
(a person who may or may not be the owner of a Registered Shire Horse and includes junior members under the age of 18 of age)

Hard copy Coloured newsletter posted to address. Please add \$20.00 (3 per year)

Hard copy Black/white newsletter posted to address Please add.\$10.00 (3 per year)

E-mailed newsletter - nil additional cost.

Annual subscriptions are renewable on January 1st of each year, irrespective of date of joining.

Copies of Rules of the Association are available on request from the Society.

Cheques are payable to 'SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED'

Please return this form and cheques to -
Secretary, SHS Australia, 133 Albatross Road, Nowra NSW 2541
www.shirehorsesociety.com.au

Proof of current Shire Horse ownership may be requested.

Horses name _____ Registration no. _____

Shire Horse Society Australia Incorporated

(incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984) www.shirehorsesociety.com.au

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NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE(home) _____ (fax) _____ (mobile) _____

E-MAIL: _____

STUD

NAME: _____

STUD Address: _____

STUD phone :(home) _____ (fax) _____ (mobile) _____

WEBSITE address: _____

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I DO / DO NOT consent to my stud details and contact number to be listed and to be given to people enquiring about purchase or breeding of Shire Horses.

Signature: _____ Date: _____