

HAMMERIN' STEEL

FEBRUARY, 2009 ISSUE

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Disclaimer: *The opinions and views expressed in Hammerin' Steel are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the policies and views of the A.F.B.A.*



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2nd Vice-President: Steve Riggs - 07 4128 0783, 0417 428 005
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Queensland: Steve Riggs - 07 4128 0783, 0417 428 005
South Australia: Tim Hill – 08 8388 6256, 0411 480 253
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Secretary/Treasurer: Brooke Graham - 07 5464 5771



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2.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello again!

We are well into the new year already and with the buzz of new comps starting up it looks like we are going to have a busy 2009. Just waiting to see the programs and the structure of the new competitions at Beaudesert, Caboolture, Toowoomba, Tamworth, Brisbane and Adelaide.

As we said last month, now is the time to think about giving competing a go. It's not all about winning; there is the learning and camaraderie of meeting other farriers from all over the country. There is no doubt there are many new things out there to learn about and be used in every day circumstances. With so many new products coming onto the market, usually there is someone who has used them and experienced the good or bad of them and has that information to share with the rest of us. So having these competitions and gathering of everyone in one spot for the same reason works great for all involved.

Seventeen years ago when attending my first shoeing competition, I was a little overwhelmed and didn't really know what to expect or what was expected of me. But as years rolled by and I persevered, the learning I absorbed stood by me in my day to day shoeing jobs. The friends I met and made along the way have also stood the test of time; we all look forward to getting together at each competition or clinic to chat about different methods and products. It's what learning is all about. So don't dismiss competitions as being just a bit of fluff. Use it as a networking tool and also a learning tool for the future. They really are a huge amount of fun.

I would like to thank QLD for their invitation to attend the clinic held at Tom Affleck's forge in January. I think that everyone got something out of the 2 days to take away and think about. I sure hope it helps you with the Brisbane program. If what I saw over the weekend was any indication of the calibre of competition we will see this year, then it should be a great year for some.

Till next time,
Bob Sim
President



IMPORTANT - 2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The membership renewal form has been included in this newsletter. Membership forms for each state can also be printed off the AFBA website. Please note: you will not be receiving Membership Renewal forms in future issues of Hammerin' Steel as we are trying to cut down on printing costs. Membership must be paid by the **31.03.09**.

QUEENSLAND NEWS

Delivery of Coke

Please be advised that the truck load of coke will arrive here in mid-February. Anybody else wanting any please get in touch with Tom Affleck Ph: 5497 0674 Mobile: 0427 934 420 immediately.

Apology

I wish to apologise for the confusion surrounding the 'Mini-Comp' which had been advertised as being held in November last. Because of the apprentice competition it was not practical to have the mini comp as well. I am sorry for not advising everyone about the change and for any inconvenience it caused.

Keith Swan

Farrier Accreditation through Recognition of Prior Learning

University of Queensland, Gatton Campus will be instigating an RPL programme early in 2009. The exact form the programme will take is presently being formulated and a brochure with all relevant details will be circulated as soon as possible. All farriers considering undertaking this programme should immediately contact Keith Swan on 07 5464 5218.

Keith and Camilla Sell

Keith and Camilla Swan have sold their property and are now looking for a new property north of Brisbane. Congratulations Keith and Camilla.

Format for AFBA Qld Skills Clinics for 2009

January	No clinic
February to July	Clinics
(August RNA competition)	No clinic
September/October	Clinics
November	Mini Competition (no charge). Competition to include All those who have attended throughout the year plus Apprentices.
December	No clinic
<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Payable in advance</u>
	Members: \$600.00
	Non-Members: \$800.00
	Apprentice Members: \$320.00

All those wishing to attend Skills Clinics for 2009 must pay in advance thus ensuring a constant remuneration for the clinician. If you wish to attend the clinics next year please contact Camilla or Keith Swan on 07 5464 5218. **Please make sure you contact Keith or Camilla as soon as possible, the clinics may not continue if there is insufficient interest.**

AFBA Qld & Master Farriers Qld

Not many have answered the memo sent out in December regarding the interest within the two associations to become one association sometime in the future. It would be appreciated if you could take time to think about this and let the Secretary or President of AFBA Qld know if you have any ideas or concerns about this happening, or even if you just agree or disagree.

4.

QLD NEWS—CONTINUED

Calendar of Events

2 February, 2009	General Meeting , Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield commencing at 7.30 pm.
18 th February, 2009	Skills Clinic . Contact Keith or Camilla Swan on 07 54645218 to advise of your attendance. Casual attendees contact Keith or Camilla if you wish to attend.
2 March, 2009	General Meeting , Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield commencing at 7.30 pm.
2-3 May, 2009	Gatton Heavy Horse Two-Man Draught Competition . Judge John Dillon (NSW). <u>Entries close in 31st March, 2009</u>
13 June, 2009	Beaudesert Country Horse Festival Competition . Details to be published at a later date.
14 th June, 2009	Caboolture Competition .
July, 2009	Competition at Toowoomba .
12-14 August	RNA Competition – Queensland Championships .



WA NEWS

Perth Racing has just completed its Summer Carnival so while most of the population was enjoying season festivities plenty of the WA boys were busy at work making sure horses were well presented at our major carnival meetings.

The final event for 2008 was the Matt Smailes Clinic held at the Armadale TAFE. Matt showed us all the skill he learnt in England which led to him being named Dux of the Worshipful School of Farriers.

Alex Sirr has just arrived home to Perth after an experience no one would envy. Alex's wife, Elin returned home to her native Norway in September and delivered their daughter three months premature. Mother and daughter had to remain in Norway, Alex travelling back and forth keeping his farrier business going. In true style of the man it has not ruffled his feathers and now all three are back safe in Perth.

Our next meeting, the first for 2009 will be held at the Belmont Tavern on Tuesday 10th February at 7.30pm. Plans for the year will be outlined. All very welcome.

Thought for discussion ... *You're only as good as your last effort.*

Cheers

Drew Brierty (WA)



AFBA WEBSITE

You can now access Hammerin' Steel online. If you click on the heading Members Section, you will find the newsletter there. Because many farriers are having trouble using the AF BA website, I thought I would write an article on how to navigate the site, as there is quite a lot of information there that many farriers are unaware of.

If you have access to the internet please spend the time reading this article, with the AFBA webpage in front of you.

The AFBA website address is: www.afba.org.au The page that comes up on the screen when you type this address in is the main page or home page. On the left hand side are headings such as: About Us, Events, Membership, Members Section, Trade Directory and Links. What seems to be confusing members is that for some of these headings there are two different lots of information. For example if you left click once on the *About Us* heading you will see information about the Association. However if you put the mouse on the heading *About Us* you will see subheadings on the right such as *Contacts* and *Useful Articles*, which you need to left click on to read.

The *Events* page is really important for the members who compete and participate in clinics. If you left click on the heading *Events* you can read more about Competition Rules, Pool of Shoes, Entry forms, 2009 Competition Calendar and Clinics. **If you hold the mouse** over the *Events* heading you will see subheadings to the right including: Comp Status, Results and a Photo Album.

When you click on *Membership* you can download membership forms for all branches. The subheadings include Code of Conduct and a Membership form (to apply over the internet..

The Members Section requires a password. This is the part of the website that most people are having problems with. Some people have had trouble getting into the members section, this is because of the default security settings in Internet Explorer. Here is what you can do to correct this:

1. Open Internet Explorer Window and bring up the AFBA website.
2. Click *TOOLS* then *INTERNET OPTIONS* from the menu up the top of the screen.
3. Click *SECURITY* from tabs along the top of small window that appears.
4. Highlight *TRUSTED SITES* zone and click on "Sites" button.

Where it says "Add this website to the zone" type www.afba.org.au (if it's not already there). You may need to remove a tick from "Require server authentication for all sites in this zone". Then click *ADD*.

Click "Close" then *OK*.

You should only have to do this procedure once. If you don't have a menu bar up the top (where it should say File, Edit, View, Favourites and Tools) you can bring it up by holding Alt and F at the same time. When you click on *Members Section* you will need to type the password **forge** in. Once you've done this and you click on the heading *Members Section* you will see Newsletters, Score Sheets and Members Articles. The subheadings in the Members Section includes old material such as shoe articles and Certification.

6.

I hope this article has been of some help, and not too confusing. If you have an email address, please consider having your copy of Hammerin' Steel emailed to you. The benefits include getting your newsletter early and the AFBA saving on printing and postage costs. Please email me at secretary@afba.org.au to receive your copy via email

*Brooke Graham
Secretary AFBA*



THE SPOILED UNDER-30 CROWD!!!

When I was a kid, adults used to bore me to tears with their tedious diatribes about how hard things were. When they were growing up; what with walking twenty-five miles to school every morning... Uphill... Barefoot.... BOTH ways Yadda, yadda, yadda. And I remember promising myself that when I grew up, there was no way in hell I was going to lay a bunch of crap like that on kids about how hard I had it and how easy they've got it!

But now that... I'm over the ripe old age of thirty, I can't help but look around and notice the youth of today. You've got it so easy! I mean, compared to my childhood, you live in a damn Utopia. And I hate to say it but you kids today you don't know how good you've got it! I mean, when I was a kid we didn't have the Internet. If we wanted to know something, we had to go to the damn library and look it up ourselves, in the card catalogue!! There was no email!! We had to actually write somebody a letter, with a pen! ...Then you had to walk all the way across the street and put it in the mailbox and it would take like a week to get there!

There were no MP3's or Napsters! You wanted to steal music, you had to hitchhike to the damn record store and shoplift it yourself! Or you had to wait around all day to tape it off the radio and the DJ'd usually talk over the beginning and @#*% it all up!

We didn't have fancy crap like Call Waiting! If you were on the phone and somebody else called they got a busy signal, that's it! And we didn't have fancy Caller ID either! When the phone rang, you had no idea who it was! It could be your school, your mum, your boss, your bookie, your drug dealer, a collections agent, you just didn't know!!! You had to pick it up and take your chances, mister!

We didn't have any fancy Sony Playstation video games with high-resolution 3-D graphics! We had the Atari 2600! With games like 'Space Invaders' and 'asteroids'. Your guy was a little square! You actually had to use your Imagination!! And there were no multiple levels or screens, it was just one screen forever! And you could never win. The game just kept getting harder and harder and faster and faster until you died! Just like LIFE!

You had to use a Little book called a TV Guide to find out what was on! You were screwed when it came to channel surfing! You had to get off your backside and walk over to the TV to change the channel and there was no Cartoon Network either! You could only get cartoons on Saturday morning. Do you hear what I'm saying!?! We had to wait ALL WEEK for cartoons, you spoiled little brats!

And we didn't have microwaves, if we wanted to heat something up we had to use the stove ... Imagine that! That's exactly what I'm talking about! You kids today have got it too easy. You're spoiled. You guys wouldn't have lasted five minutes back in 1980!

Regards,
The over 30 Crowd



MEMBER GET MEMBER

The AFBA has an incentive program for members to introduce new members to the association. So far 22 people have introduced 33 new members. Join in and help your association grow by encouraging someone to join. Incentives are:

1 member:	Cap (value \$15)
2 members:	Polo Shirt (value \$30)
3 members:	Showerproof Jacket (unlined) (Value \$40)
4 members:	Showerproof jacket (polar fleece) (Value \$55)
5 members:	Rugby Top & Polo Shirt (Value \$70)

HAMMERIN' STEEL - ADVERTISING RATES

- Full Page \$100
- 3/4 Page \$75
- 1/2 Page \$50
- 1/3 Page \$35
- 1/4 Page \$25
- Classified \$2/line

To place an advertisement contact the Secretary on: (07) 5464 5771 or email: secretary@afba.org.au **Deadline for March Newsletter: 15th February.**

8.

A.F.B.A. CAPS, BADGES, LOGOS, POLO & SWEAT SHIRTS

For orders please contact National Secretary on 07 5464 5771. As stocks held are very limited, there may be a short wait while items are ordered.

Postage and Packaging: \$8.00 – one item, \$15 – more than one item.

Caps	\$15.00 + Postage	Rugby Tops	\$40.00
Polo Shirts	\$30.00 + Postage	Logos	\$7.00
Sweat Shirts/Jumper	\$40.00 + Postage	Badges	\$6.00

Shower proof unlined Jackets \$40.00 + Postage or Water proof Jackets lined with polar fleece for winter \$55.00 + Postage.

The caps are bottle green with gold trim, and have the AFBA logo embroidered on front. Polo Shirts, Rugby Tops & Sweat Shirts are bottle green with the Logo embroidered on the front left side, and are available in other colours. Shower proof jacket is navy, red or yellow and designed to fold into its own pocket. The lined jackets have nylon rainproof outer with polar fleece lining and logo embroidered on left front they are available in Dark Bottle Green, Black, Maroon, Navy, Royal.

A.F.B.A. CAR STICKERS and TRUCK STICKERS

Car stickers showing the A.F.B.A. logo are available for purchase at a cost of \$5.00 each. Truck stickers are 220 x 220 mm and cost \$15.00 each. Contact Brooke Graham. Ph/Fax: 07 54645 771.



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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If any member is changing his/her address would you please fill in the form below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile No: _____ Fax No: _____

Email: _____

Return to: A.F.B.A. Secretary
Brooke Graham
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