

# HAMMERIN' STEEL

JANUARY, 2010 ISSUE

**Editor:** Brooke Graham  
110 Harwoods Rd  
WALLOON QLD 4306  
Ph: 07 5464 5771  
Email: secretary@afba.org.au

**Advertising & Copy Deadline:** 15th of each month.  
For February Issue — 15th January, 2009

**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.*



## A.F.B.A. EXECUTIVE

President: Tom Affleck - 07 5497 0674, 0427 934 420  
1st Vice-President: Steve Riggs - 07 4128 0783, 0417 428 005  
2nd Vice-President: David Cookson - 02 6373 3617, 0427 253 925  
Past President: Bob Sim - 02 4990 9779, 0408 437 818  
Victoria: Dean Lewis - 03 9746 1368, 0402 905 128  
Western Australia: John Godwin - 08 9525 2478  
Queensland: Jonathan Oehm - 0432 182 873  
South Australia: Tim Hill - 08 8388 6256, 0411 480 253  
New South Wales: Adam Morris - 02 6767 1395, 0427 671 396  
Secretary/Treasurer: Brooke Graham - 07 5464 5771



## A.F.B.A. BRANCH SECRETARIES

P.F.A NSW Desarae Sim, Lot 505 Ferguson St, Abernethy NSW 2325  
Ph: 02 4990 9779 Email: bsim@bigpond.com  
F.B.A.V. Donna Lewis, 2087 Coimadai Rd, Toolern Vale 3337  
Ph: 03 9746 1368, Mobile 0402 905 128.  
Email: ddlewis@bigpond.com  
A.F.B.A. (Qld) Tricia Court, 48 Schulz Rd, Coolana, Qld. 4311  
Ph: 07 5426 8276. Email: trish.court@bigpond.com  
S.A.F.B.A. Ben Trueman, 0427 341 908  
W.A.F.A. Robert Smith, 20 Acheron Rd, San Remo, WA 6210  
Ph: 08 08 9581 7118 Mobile: 0448 895 725  
Email: farriersmith@bigpond.com

2.

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone.

More on the Mustad ODwyer Conference — for those who attended and competed it was very enjoyable though very different. There has been a lot of positive feed-back. Chris Gregory was outstanding as both a judge and a presenter as well as at the hands on clinic on the Saturday. O'Dwyers and Mustad are already planning a similar event for next year which I'm sure will have a larger attendance.

There are a lot of changes on the horizon through the mergers of the Master Farriers Association and the Australian Farriers and Blacksmith's Association in both Victoria and Queensland. I think this will be very positive for the farrier industry overall with one recognized group. I will keep everyone informed as things progress.

Dave Cookson is still trying to work something out with Sydney Royal next year. It is very frustrating for him but hopefully he will prevail.

I would like to wish you all the best for the New Year.

Tom Affleck  
16.12.09



### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

**Please note: Membership renewal is due by the end of February.** Renewal forms will be sent out in the February issue of Hammerin' Steel. They are also available on the AFBA Website, click on Members, then scroll down and click on your State's form. Late membership renewal causes extra work for both the State and National Secretary as member details are deleted from the files after the renewal deadline. This includes the members contact details, mailing list and web directory listing.

*Brooke Graham, National Secretary.*



**WANTED - Farrier Apprenticeship**

My name is Sean Rains and I am 28 years old. I am looking for a Master Farrier to take me on as an Apprentice Farrier. I currently live at Camp Hill, on the Southside of Brisbane, however, I am willing to travel anywhere in Australia for the right opportunity. I am a hard working, honest person with a passion for Farriery. I have several years experience working with horses, and am very confident I would be an asset to any potential boss. Please feel free to contact me any time. My contact number is 0423 630260.

**FARRIER WORK WANTED**

My name is Pascal Marcheteau. I am French, I am 29 year old, and I live in New Caledonia at the moment.

I am farrier since 13 years, I pass my exams in France(cap,bep,btm). I finished school in 2000.

I worked in France until 2005 mainly in race horses industry in Normandie and Paris.

In 2005,2006 I went in Australia for a year with a working holiday visa. I worked with some farrier in Adelaide and Melbourne, and in racing stable in Sydney and Brisbane.

In the summer 2006, for 3 months I was in Spain for a big event of show jumping, working for a friend farrier.

From November 2006 to April 2009 I had my business in Scotland, I lived in Lockerbie, I worked for some racing stable in north England and South Scotland. I sold my business to a young farrier there in April.

In June I arrived in New Caledonia for helping a friend who is a farrier too.

I would like to find a job in Australia with a farrier between 3 mouths and a year, it don't really matter the area. I have a good experience in race horse industry but of course done a bit of everything else (pony, showjumping,etc.)

I know as well how to run a business, take appointment and looking after apprentice.

\*phone number in New Caledonia: 0687 875321

\*mail adresse: marchett@hotmail.fr



4.

#### **QUEENSLAND NEWS**

##### **Skills Clinics – 2010**

I have been notified that seven or eight people are interested in coming to the clinics in 2010, so it looks as though they will continue, but this depends on whether the fees come in as expected. This year the fees for the whole year need to be sent to Tricia Court or paid into the AFBAQ Bank Account before the clinics start. Fees need to be received from at least six people for the clinics to go ahead.

##### Fees are:

\$75.00 per clinic	AFBAQ Members
\$100.00 per clinic	Non-members
\$40.00 per clinic	Apprentices
\$100.00 per clinic	Casual members
\$125.00 per clinic	Casual non-members

##### Dates:

17 February, 2010	21 July, 2010
17 March, 2010	No clinic in August
21 April, 2010	15 September, 2010
19 May, 2010	20 October, 2010
16 June, 2010	17 November, 2010

Fees need to be sent to the Secretary, Tricia Court, AFBA Qld, 48 Schulzs Rd, Coolana, Qld. 4311 or paid into the AFBAQ Bank Account BSB number 484799 Account number 000003691 by 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2010.

Total fees are \$675.00 for 9 clinics for AFBAQ members, and \$900 for non-members.

We are giving an early bird discount for fees received before 30<sup>th</sup> January - \$600 for members and \$800 for non-members.

##### **Membership 2010**

You are reminded that your Membership is due for renewal, you should have all got membership forms by now, but if you haven't got one you can download one off the AFBA website. Membership needs to be paid by the end of February for you to remain financial.

##### **Special General Meeting for Amalgamation of AFBAQ and QMF**

At the December meeting it was moved that a Special General Meeting be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February at Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield at 7.30 pm to vote on the amalgamation, the name of the new association, and to elect interim officers for the new association upon incorporation.

Suggestions for the name are as follows:

Queensland Master Farriers & Blacksmiths Association

Queensland Farriers & Blacksmiths Association

Queensland Farriers Association

Trade Recognised Farriers & Blacksmiths Association

Pro Farriers & Blacksmiths Queensland

(the word Pro being short for prospering or progressive – not professional)

It was brought to the notice of the meeting that the word Professional cannot be used in a trade association name.



### **Ponderings on the Amalgamation**

Sitting down having a night cap, winding down after driving home from the AFBAQ meeting. Pondering over what discussions went on, thought I should put pen to paper (can't let Steve do it all).

Looks like it is at last going to happen, the merging of the two associations in Queensland. I am sure it can only be for the good of the industry to have the numbers under one banner, especially when issues have to be taken to Government etc. and our goals remain the same, skills upgrading, public education, well being of the horse.

The decision on naming the banner, come and have your vote at the meeting or if anyone can come up with a name make it clear to someone before the meeting. But whatever it ends up being be proud to work under it and promote it.

As Des Bosworth said after receiving his memento for time and effort and Life Membership at the Christmas Party (which was a nice relaxing afternoon on the Donaldson's verandah. Thanks again.) It is easy to give something back to something you have got so much out of.

Personally I would like to see the word Blacksmith stay in the name as those skills play a big part in the farriering trade.

As for the scoresheet debacle, it is good to see where you have done good or bad, but surely a well fitted balanced job should be placed higher than a near perfect shoe nailed on a foot that is too big or small for it. Judges should call on stewards in those cases and if deemed unsafe the shoe should not be nailed on, meaning NO SCORE. It is the association's name on the job.

To me our show jobs should be our every day job with a bit of spit or sweat and polish. So if you're not coming up with the results you want, time and time again, have a good look at your every day work.

My opinion only. Proud to be part of it.

Russel J. Roberts, Qld ??.... or ??.....Qld

PS: Better finish my night cap, it is 1.00 am.



6.

### **UQ GATTON—APPRENTICES**

The apprentices wound up their year of technical training on Friday the 11th of December at Gatton. The day started as normal with all the lads (and lass) jumping on the fires and making shoes for the horses in the stalls or making tools for their own use. I know I have sung the praises of these apprentices before and at the risk of being boring I will do it again. Each time I see them in action I see great improvements. The attitude of the entire group is what impresses me the most. The media always gives you a negative description of today's youth. They are either rude or spoiled or sometimes both. I think our trade weeds these types out very quickly. If you are bit of a sook you won't last too long in this caper. I guarantee there are no sooks in the Gatton Farriery program. The day was blisteringly hot, but all you saw all morning was intense concentration and grins on faces. These people actually love what they are doing. This must be why the standard is so high. I spent a bit of time watching a few of the first year apprentices make shoes and already you can see the tell tale signs of Craig and Wade's influence. My own apprentice was among these first year boys and I had deliberately up until this time not told him anything about shoe making. I feel it is crucial to make sure that in learning any skill you must get the initial basic principles absolutely correct. I know my own shoe making knowledge is far inferior to these two instructors and to give my apprentice the best possible chance of excelling in this field I felt it important that the first information he receives be from the most skilled. It would be unfair on my part to maybe give him the wrong information and then create bad habits that he must break later on. This way he will only know one way, the right way.

After morning tea Allan Bruce from G-Vec gave all interested parties an insight into how the program is working and what things may be in the pipeline in the future. With the building of a new facility for the Veterinary students and the possible movement of the Farrier Workshop to a site close to the Vet Department the future apprentices will have even better facilities to work with. The afternoon saw the apprentices receive some hard fought awards. The Malcolm Paine Award has become a highlight of the year. To get your name on this award is no easy feat. This year's winner, Colten Preston has proved himself to be among the best young tradesmen around this country having already been crowned Australia's Top Apprentice at the competition held in Melbourne. The Encouragement Award was won by a first year apprentice this year. While Matt Davis has only been in the program since earlier this year his eagerness to learn as much as he can was quickly noticed by the instructors and I feel he was a popular choice.

The afternoon concluded with the apprentices making their own presentation to their instructors. Glen Lefoe was chosen as their spokesmen and he conveyed their gratitude for the effort that Craig and Wade put in for the year. This was the second Malcolm Paine Award ceremony I have attended and last year the apprentices also presented a gift of gratitude to Keith Swan who had been the instructor since the program started in Queensland. Both years you could see the admiration these students have for their mentors. It was something I hadn't really thought about until now, but the relationship between these apprentices and their instructors is something that can't be underestimated. Experienced farriers don't just show apprentices how to do something, but show them that the skills and knowledge are within themselves and they just need the confidence to apply what they have learned and they can do it.

To those apprentices that have now finished their time at Gatton I wish you all the best in your future career. It will be interesting in the coming years to see these former apprentices come to Gatton under the Mentor Program. Maybe as they come back and mentor new apprentices a few of us older farriers will be left out of the program. This is as it should be. The future of the trade should not be in the hands of old arthritic hands with a slippery grip but in the firm steady grip of the young men in their prime.

Many Thanks  
Steve Crosbie



### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE HORSE INDUSTRY: HENDRA VIRUS**

It is important that all sectors of the horse industry understand the risks posed by Hendra virus. Hendra virus is carried by fruit bats, and may cause fever, respiratory and/or nervous illness when it infects horses. While horses rarely become infected, infected horses may infect humans, and the disease has severe consequences. It is usually fatal in horses, and four of the seven people known to have become infected have died, despite intensive therapy in hospital.

Minimise the risk to yourself and your horse by:

- preventing horses from eating or drinking feed or water that may be contaminated by body fluids from fruit bats roosting, feeding or flying overhead and
- knowing the signs of Hendra and what to do if you suspect infection.

The following links provide information on Hendra virus that will assist you to understand the disease and how to minimise the risk of infection. I&I NSW strongly recommends that you pass this information on to your members and industry contacts and/or staff who may handle horses.

**A Primefact on Hendra virus is available on the NSW DPI website at**

**<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/horses/health/general/hendra-virus>**

**CSIRO, the organisation responsible for identifying the virus has published summary information at**

**<http://www.csiro.au/science/Hendra-Virus.html>**

**The Queensland Government Primary Industries and Fisheries website provides comprehensive information on Hendra virus**

**[http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/dpi/hs.xsl/27\\_2900\\_ENA\\_HTML.htm](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/dpi/hs.xsl/27_2900_ENA_HTML.htm)**

**What is Hendra virus? (includes reducing the risk to horses)**

**[http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/dpi/hs.xsl/4790\\_15093\\_ENA\\_HTML.htm](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/dpi/hs.xsl/4790_15093_ENA_HTML.htm)**

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 5464 5771.



✂-----

**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  
110 Harwoods Rd  
WALLOON QLD 4306