

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

For orders please contact National Secretary by email at secretary@afba.org.au. 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 Alayna Hausfeld by phone on 02 6760 5176 or email at secretary@afba.org.au

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Phone # changed? Y/N : _____

Mobile # changed? Y/N: _____

Email address changed? Y/N: _____

Return to: A.F.B.A. Secretary
Alayna Hausfeld
PO Box 92
MOONBI NSW 2353
E: secretary@afba.org.au

HAMMERIN' STEEL

JANUARY, 2012 ISSUE

Editor: Alayna Hausfeld
PO Box 92
MOONBI NSW 2353
P/F: 02 6760 5176
E: secretary@afba.org.au

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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.*



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
Western Australia:	Matt Smailes	08 9397 6277, 0400 219 362
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South Australia:	Ben Trueman	0427 341 908
New South Wales:	Adam Morris	0427 671 396
Secretary/Treasurer:	Alayna Hausfeld	02 6760 5176



A.F.B.A. BRANCH SECRETARIES

P.F.A NSW	David Cookson, "Harrington" 658 Hill End Road, Mudgee, NSW, 2850. P: 02 6373 3617. E: cooko1@bigpond.com
P.F.B.A.Q.	Tricia Court, 48 Schulz Rd, Coolana, QLD, 4311. P: 07 5426 8276. E: trish.court@bigpond.com
S.A.F.B.A.	Mike Parker, PO Box 266 Uraidla, SA, 5142. P: 08 8390 3309, 0438 616 358. E: mparkshill@westnet.com.au
W.A.F.A.	Ebony Kain, 63 Tyers Rd, Roleystone, WA, 6111. P: 08 9397 677. E: esamkain@bigpond.com

President's Report January 2012

Hello Everyone

A start to a New Year. I hope everyone managed to have time off over the Christmas - New Year period and you are refreshed and ready for the challenges of the coming year.

January and February is usually the busiest time for me up here in Queensland and I think it is the same for most Farriers. Let's hope this year is not plagued with any more natural disasters and we all have a prosperous year.

By the time you get this Newsletter I hope to have caught up with all the State Delegates. Our new Secretary is well on top of things now and the Newsletter will very shortly be on track. Hopefully we will continue to get input from different people regarding everyday work or anything else concerning our industry.

This Year we will also try to rotate photographs on the front of "Hammerin' Steel" each month. So if you have anything interesting or have a great photo of anyone please send it along to our Secretary so we can get the ball rolling.

I hope everyone is well and I look forward to catching up with you in the near future.

Catch you next time.

Tom Affleck
08.01.12

MEMBER GET MEMBER

The AFBA has an incentive program for members to introduce new members to the association. 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)

MEMBERS SECTION ON WEBPAGE

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
2. Click TOOLS then INTERNET OPTIONS from menu at top.
3. Click SECURITY from tabs along top of small window that appears.
4. Highlight TRUSTED SITES zone and click "Sites" button.
5. Where it says "Add this website to the zone" type www.afba.org.au
And click "Add" (you may need to remove tick from "Require server authentication (https:) for all sites in this zone").
6. Click "Close", then OK.

The password for the members section is **roadst3r**

*A farrier stood at the golden gate his head was bent and low.
He meekly asked the man in white "Which way mate, do I go?"
"What have you done", St Peter said, "that you should come up here?"
"I used to shoe horses below for many and many a year."
St. Peter opened wide the gate and gently pressed the bell
"Come inside and choose a harp you've had your share of HELL!"*



Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.

I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather. Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.

I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way. So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

We live in a society where pizza gets to your house before the police.

The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on the list.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

If I agreed with you we'd both be wrong.

QUEENSLAND NEWS

Calendar of Events

15 January, 2012

Skills Clinics Applications need to be in for "Early Bird Discount"

6 February, 2012

General Meeting, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield commencing at 7.30 pm. All members are invited to attend.

SKILLS CLINICS 2012

The requirement for clinics to go ahead is a minimum of **Six (6)** regular attendees who have committed to attend the 9 clinics for the year. The Secretary P. Court, PFBAQ, 48 Schulz Rd, Coolana, Qld. 4311 should be notified no later than December 2011 by members who wish to attend in 2012. Contact: 07 5426 8276 or email:

trish.court@bigpond.com

Regular attendees need to pay the full amount for the year by January 2012 to be eligible to attend. Those who wish to attend on a casual basis pay before the date of the clinic that they will be attending and must notify either the Secretary or Clinician Terry Drennan of their intention.

If you know of anyone else who wishes to attend please let them know to contact the Secretary before the end of December.

Clinics Held: Third Wednesday of Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, Sept, Oct and Nov.

<u>Costs per Clinic:</u>	Members	\$ 80.00
	Non-Members	\$120.00
	Apprentices	\$ 45.00
	Casual members	\$120.00
	Casual non-members	\$145.00

If those indicating that they wish to attend on a regular basis have not paid for the clinics by the end of January 2012 the clinics may be cancelled.

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT OF \$80.00 FOR THOSE WHO PAY BY
15th JANUARY, 2012.**

New South Wales News

By now we should all be over Christmas, have seen the New Year in and back at work. That four letter word that that we all need to do to pay the bills.

By the time we receive the January issue NSW should have finalised the program for the HEAVY HORSE WORLD CUP in May. So look out for it I will send a copy to Alayna so she can put in on the national website and if I haven't worked out our website will be asking Desarae to place it on the NSW website. Alternatively you can send me an email at pfansw@hotmail.com and I will email you a copy.

All NSW members can email me on that address and they will receive meeting minutes as well as the Agenda for our meetings. Shelagh and I are now the Secretary for NSW and we can be contacted by email pfansw@hotmail.com , Home Phone 02 6373 3617, or Mobile 0427 253 925.

Happy 2012. David Cookson



South Australia News

Western Australia News



January Cover:

Pat Burns—retired QLD Member

Thank you to Steve Crosbie from QLD for providing the photo.

Photo for February cover has been received and approved. Thank you to and John Dillon (NSW) who contributed. Please keep photos coming so we can have something interesting on our covers.

FROM MY DESK

Happy New Year!

Most contributors are on hiatus over the Christmas period and there doesn't seem to be much happening in the industry outside of normal work routines so I've delved into the Archives and transposed some articles for you. The first article that caught my eye was one on starting out on your own and as we have some newly qualified Farriers I thought this one might have some useful information. Found the Farrier's tale (opposite) on the web and thought you might enjoy that too.

I got into a bit of a pickle in trying to find you something relevant to the Industry because my knowledge is so limited. It concerned me that what I found interesting might be totally useless, irrelevant or out-dated to/for you. We are going to have to work to remedy my lack of knowledge. How about naming some respected peers in the industry who have published works you may be interested in reading?

We are always looking for articles, comments or ideas for the Newsletter, as well as photos (.jpeg or .tif for best results). I don't mind if articles are handwritten (I can transpose) or emailed.

Where possible please format articles in Word using Arial Narrow 11 font and sized to A5 paper. It would be a great help but not essential.

If you are emailing please be very clear in the subject line ie, AFBA: Member Name: Email Details, because the info@ and secretary@ email addresses receive monumental amounts of spam that get electronically junked so if I am easily able to recognize your legitimate emails I can save them.

Kind regards

Alayna Hawsfeld
Secretary AFBA



A Farrier's tale...in another place far, far away (we hope)

He said he was just finishing up with school to be a certified Farrier when a lady called the school and wanted to know if they could recommend someone to come out and trim weanlings that they just bought.

So, the school sent out our Farrier. He goes out to their house and the horses are weanlings and the people made them a pasture that was mostly swamp/swamp land.

Clue number one they don't know what they are doing

So he walks out in the pasture and he asks the owner to put halters and leads on the weanlings. The lady looks at him and says, "What's a halter?"So our farrier asks "Did they come with something on their head?"So the lady says, "yes these things" and grabs the halters.

So our Farrier caught the weanlings, which was difficult because they had no handling. They were very rowdy, so he tied them to a tree and let them settle down and he trimmed them.

So he tells the owner "You really need to work with them at least every other day, if not every day so they are comfortable around people and can be handled so I can trim them" ... The owners says "Okay"Our Farrier goes on to say to the owner... "If you don't handle them regularly, it's going to be really hard once they are older and bigger"

The lady goes... "THEY ARE GOING TO GET BIGGER?!"

Our farrier says..."Yes, they are horses (*he said they looked like Quarter Horses), they are going to get around 400-500kg. What do you think all of the things down your road are, and when you drive past other people's places are?"

The lady says... "Those are Draft horses"

Our farrier... "No, those are 'regular' horses. Same as yours are. Weanlings mean they are fresh off their mom."



WANTED: FARRIER APPRENTICESHIP

24yr old female seeking Farrier apprenticeship. Living in the Sydney metro area.

Have completed first year of Certificate III in Farriery at Richmond college and have several months work experience in racing at Warwick Farm.

Reliable and has a fantastic work ethic.

Contact Matthew Hall for a reference on 0412 582 285

Contact Kylie on 0420227753 or email kylie@johnnyapple.com.au



Coke For SALE

A load of Coke is being organised to come up to Queensland. Anyone wanting to put any orders in please get in touch with Tom Affleck 0427 934 420.



Toowoomba Farrier Competition

Toowoomba Showgrounds – 29-30 March 2012

Judge: Jeff Pagden, Victoria

Event 1: Novice Shoeing: 60mins

Competitors to shoe 2 feet with appropriate concave barstock. Shoes may have either a hammer drawn or bob punched toe clip. Fireman and hot rasping permitted. Both feet must be completed to be judged.

Specs: 6 nails, nails to suit.

Barstock: 20mm x 10mm concave.

Event 2: Intermediate Shoeing: 60 mins

Competitors to shoe 2 feet – front using concave barstock, hind using flat barstock. Front shoe must have a hammer drawn toe clip, hind shoe must have hammer drawn ¼ clips. Fireman and hot rasping permitted. Both feet must be completed to be judged.

Specs: Front shoe- 6 nails, nails to suit.
Hind shoe – ¾ fullered, 6 nails, nails to suit.

Barstock: Front shoe – 20mm x 10mm concave
Hind shoe – 20mm x 10mm flat

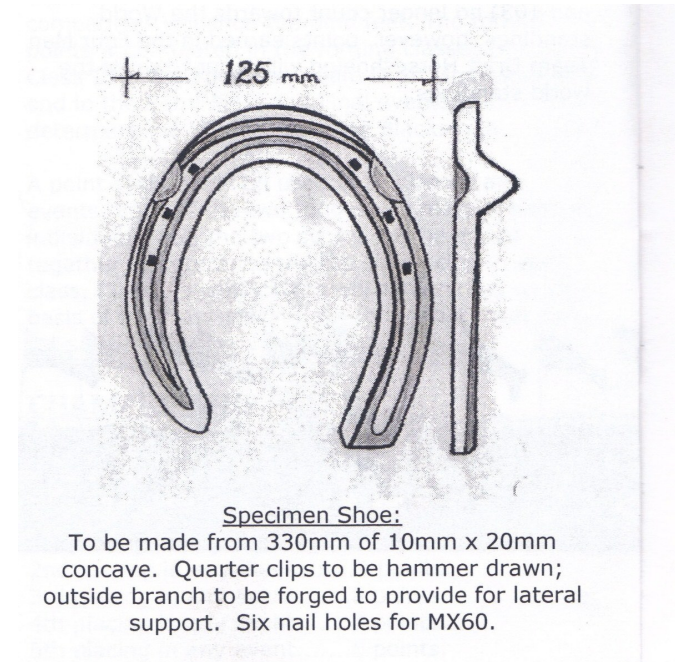
Event 3: Open Shoeing: 70 mins

Competitors to shoe 2 feet using flat bar stock. Front shoe must have a hammer drawn toeclip, hind shoe must have hammer drawn ¼ clips. Hot rasping permitted. Both feet must be completed to be judged.

Specs: ¾ fullered, 6 nails, nails to suit.

Barstock: 20mm x 10mm flat

Mail In Shoe



As there are no competitions for about six months I thought this exercise might be a good opportunity to keep people practicing their forging skills. The blueprint at left is from the Calgary Stampede programme (I apologise for the quality but it has been scanned and then enlarged). This will be a 'Mail In Shoe' but with a slight difference. Normally everyone sends in their shoe by the specified date and the shoes are judged at the same time and the winner announced. This event will be a bit different. Send in your shoe to the address below, as the shoes come in the judge will put aside the current leader. A photo of the current best shoe will be displayed here on the Professional Farriers and Blacksmiths Association www.pfbag.org.au website together with the name of the shoemaker. Each week you can see who is leading and if you think you can make a better shoe, make one and send it in. The cost is only \$10 per entry. The entry fees will go into a pot and the winner will take all. Overseas entries welcome.

Judge: Shane Turner

Entries: Send to Stockmans Supplies 193 Hedley Avenue, Hendra 4011 or Centaur Farrier Supplies 36 Liquidamber Street Toowoomba, 4350.



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Name: _____ Contact No _____ State _____

(✓) Preferred Contact Time: 7am – 12 12 noon - 5pm After Hours 5 – 8pm

Please call me to discuss my requirements in respect of my Income Protection/Life/Trauma Insurance needs. Areas which I require information are related to:

1. Occupation type _____
2. Business type _____
3. Equine Activity / Amateur Competition Activity Detail _____

Event 4: Two Person Light Draft: 70 mins

Teams consisting of 2 members will shoe a front and hind foot of a light draft horse using appropriate flat barstock. Any team member can perform any task. Both feet must be completed to be judged.

Specs: ¾ fullered with toe clips drawn from masselotes. 6 nails, nails to suit.

Barstock: 25mm x 12mm flat

Event 5: 4 Man Draft Shoeing: 120 mins

Teams consisting of 4 members will work together to shoe a draft horse. Each team member must complete one foot; trim foot, forge shoe, mail shoe on and finish foot. Team members may work simultaneously or in relay. Striking, hot rasping allowed. Horse handler must be a team member.

Specs: ¾ fullered flat shoe, toe clip front and hind to be hammer drawn, shoes to have definite inside and outside branches, 8 nail holes.

Barstock: 32mm x 12mm flat

Nail: Mustad E10

Judging: Will be individual and team. Prizes for both categories.

Time permitting:

A Judges Choice Forging event for Novice, Intermediate and Open.

Match Play Forging event

Match Play Forging Event

Competitors will be drawn from a hat, each competitor will be allotted a time based on their ability and status as a competitor. Competition to be run as a two (2) player/person match play (same as a tennis tournament) with each winner progressing to the next round. Each round winner will have their time reduced by 30 seconds. Hot rasping allowed.

Specs: Plain stamped offside shoe, 130mm wide x 135mm long, 6 nails, centre dot.

Barstock: 20mm x 8mm flat

Nail: Mustad E4 slim

It's a New Year and we have newly graduated Apprentices ready to embark on their solo careers so here is an article borrowed from the NZ Farriers Association Inc Newsletter circa June/September 2000 that may be of interest. Written by Richard Thompson (Wellington)

Tips on Starting a Shoeing Run

Before you start think carefully about:

1. What type of horses you want to shoe?
2. Distance you will need to travel to obtain a full time run.
3. Price of shoeing in that area ie, country compared to city.

The most important thing might be to consider shifting to where the horses are in a condensed area and owners are used to paying at the top end of the market.

Charge what you think you are worth and don't give discounts. Charge for all extras eg, stud holes, fitting pads, etc. It's all extra work and time.

Ring up local farriers in your area of work, as most established farriers turn away work and are happy to have someone to recommend who wants new work.

Introduce yourself to local Veterinarians and find one you like to work with. This is a great way of getting work, learning and getting paid, but you will need to have respect for each other's ability.

Take time selecting the right shoeing vehicle and set it up to suit you. Don't cut costs setting up your truck as it can make a hard job a lot easier if you have everything you need in the right place. I like to carry plenty of stock in my truck ie, fronts, egg-bars, straight bards, etc, and a wide selection of standard shoes.

I carry a lot of extra weight than I need to but it makes life easier when you get a job and they want stud holes all round and haven't advised you, or a horse would benefit from bar shoes etc. Don't forget to charge for extras.

I am a great believer in trying to make things easier if I can.

1. I won't push a blunt rasp (it's hard work).
2. Don't be scared to get a shoe hot.
3. Good equipment and tools, eg, stainless steel water bucket with flip lid, leg vice, stud tap machine, good forge and anvil which is solidly mounted on my truck. I've found lifting anvils in and out unnecessary and also anvils on stands or on tailgates tend to vibrate which caused problems with my arm.

Bookings

In my opinion this is where you will make a profit or not. My wife Jackie does all my bookings, as if left to me I would have five (5) days off and work two (2) days a week!! We use a pre-book system for 95% of my customers, on a six (6) weekly cycle. Customers in the same location are done on the same day, which saves on driving time and expenses and increases profit. Customers are phoned one week before to confirm their appointment, which is usually the same day and time they had six (6) weeks before. You may think this would not suit your customers, but mine love it. They don't need to ring us, unless they lose a shoe or have a new horse and we can plan things ahead, like time off, or shoeing competitions, etc. The other benefit you need less horses on your run as they are all getting shod regularly. It is important to be on time to appointments, if you are running late you are not allowing enough time. Remember travelling takes time!!

Cell Phones

We use a tandem system and my wife has the primary phone, this means the only calls I get are urgent or my mates organising the weekend motorbike ride!

If a customer has an urgent shoe to be replaced I offer them the choice to bring the horse to my workshop, if I'm not in their area on that day. I find 90% suddenly become not urgent after all and are happy to wait until I'm passing.

I never count how many horses I do a week, but how much I've earned. If you can shoe 30 horses a week and earn the same as someone who does 40, who's the clever one?

It is best to always get paid at the time the job is done. I only run accounts for two large customers.

Three things that are important to customers and unfortunately in order are:

- Reliability
- Friendliness to horses and owners
- Workmanship

I've got the first sorted out and hope to improve on the other two before I'm 70.

Regards, Richard Thompson (Wellington, New Zealand)

