

HAMMERIN' STEEL

SEPTEMBER , 2010 ISSUE

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2.
PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone.

Another month has flown past. It was another successful EKKA. There were a lot of dramas to start with, the new arena flooded on Tuesday night. There was a top effort put in by all concerned to get ready and too keep it running for three days. It was good to see a lot of young people, both Australian and Kiwis. The standard in both novice and intermediate was incredible. The future of the industry looks good when looking at the young talent in these classes.

It has been advertised in a few magazines now that any funds needed due to another outbreak of Equine Flu etc will be found from levies on processed food and worming pastes. This is a much fairer method than a straight horse shoe levy.

Letters have been sent out to the Master Farriers Association in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia to encourage discussion between all groups regarding the need for a central body. So far there has been some feedback from the New South Wales Master Farriers association and in the near future I will have a chance to speak to representatives from the other states.

Congratulations to Dean Lewis and Fred Savage for their successes at Calgary.

I hope everyone is well. I will talk to you soon. Hopefully I will see some of you in South Australia.

Tom Affleck
17.8.10



2010 COMPETITION CALENDAR

- 9-11 Sept **South Australia State Championships, Royal Adelaide Show.**
Entries closed.
- 18-19 Sept **New Zealand (Gladstone Inn, Wairarapa) Shoeing & Forging Competition.** *Program on Website*
- 9th Oct **Waroona Show Farriers Comp, WA.** *Program on website*

WAROONA SHOW FARRIERS COMPETITION

**Saturday 9th October
At Waroona Showgrounds, WA**

Judge: Carl O'Dwyer (VIC)

Contact: Matthew Smailes 0400 219 362 Email: redgullyforge@bigpond.com

Program is on the AFBA website.

NSW NEWS

Well another EKKA has come and gone for another year. Every one would have been thinking they were back in Tamworth being under a wet marquee and not being able to get started until the bobcat had put some sawdust on the floor. A little late but full steam ahead the day's program was completed thanks to the lights. Congratulations to the QLD committee for holding another great comp.

The draft horses ranged from small young ones to big mature horses and for the fourth year running the winning team has shod the Clydesdale stallion, go the big feet.

I hope QLD have lots of clinics using the supply of 20 x 20 square and 20mm Round before the EKKA next year so we don't have as bigger steel for the blacksmithing, although there were creative things made this year, ranging from tie up rings, hinges to a weed puller.

Each year the top intermediates go up to tackle the open and we think the intermediate section may be a bit weaker but it is great to see the younger guys stepping up to the mark with a high standard in all three divisions at the competitions that I have attended. All classes were strongly attended and great work was handed in. Spectators continue to ask who won which confuses me why we continue to hold off presentations till after the crowd has gone and some competitors are on their way home.

With the weather holding off for the rest of the competition every one got to finish their classes close to time, well done Wade for keeping every thing on the move.

By the time this news letter comes out NSW will have had their AGM better late than never and I hope the committee will then look at putting together clinics and next years comp as this will all come around very quickly.

Thank you David Cookson



4.

QLD NEWS

Brisbane RNA (Ekka) Competition

The competition venue was changed this year from the usual building to a marquee down near the children's sideshows and the St. Pauls Terrace entrance to the grounds. The day before the competition started was very wet and when the boys turned up to get the arena set up for the competition they were faced with flooded grounds, and a place that seemed unsuitable for the competition, however, with a lot of organisation and work the area got drained, sawdust was laid, barriers were changed, and on Wednesday morning the area was all ready for the competition and no one would have known of the drama that had taken place the night before. Well done everyone.

Wednesday was a fine day, though a little cold and cloudy, and on Thursday there were strong winds which caused a bit of consternation with papers blowing about etc, and signs and things outside the arena area banging, and the final day Friday, although cold to start with turned out to be a lovely day. In spite of all this the competition went ahead like clockwork and Wade Graham, the President did a mammoth job in handling many difficult situations so calmly and well.

Peter Suszczynski from Victoria who judged the shoeing and forging was a very thorough and consistent judge, thankyou Peter for a job well done. Thankyou to Alan Morris who judged the blacksmithing events on Friday, also a job very well done.

Thanks to Ian Appleton, who did the writing for the judges and then transferred all the scores to the computer, to Andy Donaldson for his usual job as Chief Council Steward of the competition, Andy does a lot of work before the competition organising the heats etc and liaising with the RNA, as well as working every day throughout the competition. Stewards, Russel Roberts, Jim Urquhart, Des Bosworth, and Ross Chicken all worked tirelessly throughout the event, as did Beryl Bosworth who ran her usual tea and coffee stand, thankyou all. Also thanks to all those who provided home made slices and biscuits for Beryl's stand. Thanks also to Keith Swan who took plenty of photos of the event, which we hope to publish at a later date.

Last but not least, we must thank all of our sponsors, who are so wonderful with their generous support to this event each year. Our main sponsors are Stockmans Supplies, Centaur Farrier Supplies, O'Dwyer Horseshoes, Mustad Australia, Derby Horseshoe Nails, Clarke Horseshoes, GE Tools, Diamond Tools and Victory Elite, the remainder of the sponsorship is provided by generous members of the association, Tom Affleck, Des and Beryl Bosworth, Ross Chicken, Bruce Donaldson, Alan Morris, Jeff Pagden, Steve Riggs, Keith & Camilla Swan and Jim Urquhart. Without all these people there would not be a show.

There were good entries with competitors and all events were keenly contested with the place winners scores being very close in some instances. Competitors came from New Zealand, South Australia and New South Wales as well as Queensland, thankyou to Interstate and New Zealand competitors for making the journey to Queensland, and

thanks to the locals for supporting the competition. Judge Peter Suszczynski mentioned the excellent quality of work which was shown by the contestants. It is so good to see the apprentices and younger farriers competing so successfully and giving some of the older more experienced competitors a run for their money. It is also good for the industry to have so many talented young farriers emerging.

Results:

Novice Blacksmithing: 1st: A. McDonald (27.5), 2nd: T. Wilkinson (26), 3rd: B. Trueman (25.5), 4th: E. McKavanagh (24), 5th: R.Harris-Hayes (23).

Novice Eagle Eye: 1st: A. McDonald (32.75), 2nd: B. Trueman (32.5), 3rd: E. McKavanagh (26), 4th: R. Harris-Hayes (20.75), 5th: T. Wilkinson (20.25).

Novice Shoeing: 1st: A. McDonald (58.25), 2nd: E. McKavanagh (55), 3rd: B. Trueman (54.4), R. Harris-Hayes (54), K. Hahn (50.25).

Novice Forging: 1st: B. Trueman (25.75), 2nd: R. Harris-Hayes (21.5), 3rd: T. Wilkinson (21), 4th: E. McKavanagh (15.25), 5th: K. Hahn (11.75).

Intermediate Blacksmithing: 1st: R. Wighton (37.5), 2nd: M. West (37), 3rd: W. Nugent (34), 4th: M. Brace (33.5), 5th: L. Klan (28.5).

Intermediate Eagle Eye: 1st: L. Cameron (35), 2nd: C. Francis (33.5), 3rd: S. Crosbie (32.5), 4th: W. Nugent (32.25), 5th: L. Klan (32).

Intermediate Shoeing: 1st: D. Philip (95.25), 2nd: L. Klan (94.75), 3rd: S. Crosbie (93), 4th: C. Preston (90.75), 5th: L. Cameron (90.25).

Intermediate Forging: 1st: L. Klan (98), 2nd: S. Crosbie (95.75), 3rd: M. West (94.75), 4th: D. Philip (94.5), 5th: W. Nugent (94).

Open Blacksmithing: 1st: T. Heeb (45.5), 2nd: J. Bryant (43.5), 3rd: D. Cookson (43), =4th: A. Dobbe and T. Affleck (39).

Open Eagle Eye: 1st: J. Bryant (37.5), 2nd: T. Affleck (35.5), 3rd: S. Riggs (31.75), =4th: L. Riding and B. Hinze (31).

Open Shoeing: 1st: C. Jones (96.5), 2nd: B. Hinze (92.5), 3rd: L. Riding, J. Bryant, W. Graham (91.5).

Open Forging: 1st: S. Riggs (95.25), 2nd: B. Hinze (92), =3rd: D. Richardson (91.5), 4th: T. Heeb (90.25), 5th: J. Bryant (87.5).

Three Man Draught: 1st: D. Philip, T. Heeb, R. Wighton (96.5), 2nd: B. Donaldson, T. Wilkinson, L. Klan (96.25), 3rd: S. Riggs, M. Brace, T. Hill (94.75), 4th: C. Francis, B. Trueman, K. Hahn (94), 5th: W. Graham, M. O'Leary, C. Preston (85.25).

Blacksmith's Home Exhibit Traditional: 1st: K. Swan (37.5), 2nd: A. Dobbe (33)

Blacksmith's Home Exhibit Non-Traditional: 1st: I. Appleton (38.5), 2nd: B. Trueman (33), 3rd: I. Appleton (32.5)

Mail-in Shoeing Competition: 1st: S. Riggs (47.75), 2nd: C. Francis (47.5), 3rd: E. McKavanagh (44.75), 4th: D. Richardson (44.5), 5th: A. McDonald (43.25).

Hi-Point Novice: Andrew McDonald & Ben Trueman

Hi-Point Intermediate: Luke Klan

Hi-Point Open: Jim Bryant

Best Prepared Foot: Craig Jones

Encouragement Award Novice/Intermediate: Ryan Wighton

6.

Racing Plates Wanted

P.F.B.A.Q. is carrying on the project of the old QMFA of collecting old racing plates, cashing them in and donating the money made to the Childrens Hospital. It would be appreciated if you could collect your old plates, take out all the nails, put them in a bag and leave them at Stockmans Supplies where they will be collected. The proceeds are for a really good cause, so hope you can cooperate. If you have any queries contact Steve Crosbie 0412 356 993.

Calendar of Events

- 6 September, 2010 **First Annual General Meeting of P.F.B.A.Q.** which will be followed by a **General Meeting**, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield commencing at 7.30 pm
- 15 September, 2010 **Skills Clinic.** Contact Terry Drennan on 0418 209 409 to advise if you are unable to attend. Casual attendees contact Terry to advise of attendance and Tricia regarding payment.
- 4 October, 2010 **General Meeting**, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield commencing at 7.30 pm
- 20 October, 2010 **Skills Clinic.** Contact Terry Drennan on 0418 209 409 to advise if you are unable to attend. Casual attendees contact Terry to advise of attendance and Tricia regarding payment.
- 1 November, 2010 **General Meeting**, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield commencing at 7.30 pm
- 17 November, 2010 **Skills Clinic.** Contact Terry Drennan on 0418 209 409 to advise if you are unable to attend. Casual attendees contact Terry to advise of attendance and Tricia regarding payment.
- 26 November, 2010 **Apprentice of the Year Competition.**
- 27 November, 2010 **Date Claimer: General Clinic with Colin Smith and Craig Jones.** This clinic will be held at Stockmans Supplies. More details will be published as they come to hand.



SPECIAL NOTICE

Congratulations to Ben Trueman, who tied for Novice Hi-Point at the EKKA this year. Unfortunately this result was not acknowledged at the Presentation as the RNA does not recognise equal placings. At the Ekka a count back system has always been used and the scorers were unaware of the recent discussion at the AGM regarding allowing equal placings.

STEVE CROSBIE'S REPORT ON THE EKKA

You can plan all you like but you can't control the weather and so it was with the Brisbane Ekka. After months of careful planning and a move into a new arena in the Exhibition grounds that I'm told had it's fair share of teething problems during the set up the night before. The day before the event a huge low pressure system decided to park itself over the southern part of the state making the mercury plummet and the rain gauge climb.

When you are the organiser of an event everything that doesn't go according to plan seems to be a bigger problem than it really is. I know that is easy for us who weren't involved in the planning to say. But sure we were a bit late to start on the opening day due to the water that had run into the arena but that was quickly resolved by a bobcat and a few loads of shavings to soak up the water. Looking from the outside you can only describe it as a duck on a pond. It all looks calm on the surface but underneath the water line it is all action.

This leads me to the first person that we all need to thank and that is Qld President Wade Graham. Wade kept the whole show moving along for the three days while trying to compete in all the blue ribbon Open events himself. On the Friday as soon as he had competed in the Open shoeing category, while all the others were wiping their brow and taking a few deep breaths after an intense 60 minutes, Wade quickly put his gear to one side and grabbed the microphone and started rallying the competitors in the next event to get ready. All ensuring that the proceedings finished as scheduled.

The Wednesday was Blacksmithing day opening with the Intermediate. With 11 competitors in this event the rivalry was fierce. There was a tong making clinic held the weekend before and few of the competitors had attended that with a view to trying to obtain an advantage. The weekend of relaxation sacrificed paid dividends for Ryan Wighton who managed to come away with the chocolates. Ryan was pretty pumped up before the event as he paced around wanting to get going. I was on the anvil next to Ryan and could see that he had decided this was going to be his event. I on the other hand exuded a calm demeanour in this event which is easy to do when you realise you will probably be a fair way off the pace. I knew I was right the next day when the tongs were all laying side by side and I didn't need to search for very long to find mine (they didn't look anything like the rest of them). Congratulations Ryan it was a well deserved win.

Next on the day was the big crowd puller, The Three Man Draft. This is the event we need to promote to the public. Nobody walking past can resist the big horses when they come out. This was the first chance for the Judge to spell out what he was looking for. Knowing that Peter had shod many of these big horses over many years there would be no where to hide if you made mistakes, he was going to miss nothing (Not that any of them do, I suppose they wouldn't be asked to judge otherwise). In a hotly contested event the young guns of Heeb, Wighton and Philip prevailed. This is a team that has been in a few of these events now as a team and they may well have a long reign if they stay together.

We then went back to the Blacksmithing with the Novice competitors having their first turn of the Ekka. They had the tricky task of making a pritchel in just 30 minutes. With no welding or bending it looks dangerously simple, however any miscalculation could leave you well short or too long with no time to cut and draw out again.

8.

The Open Blacksmiths had their turn late on the first day with a freestyle event where each was given the same sections of steel but allowed to make whatever they wanted. Obviously there was no collusion before hand as we saw everything from hitching rings and anchors to weed pullers. Alan Morris was the blacksmithing judge this year and it must be a difficult task to adjudicate items that are so completely diverse. True craftsmen can see past all the froth and bubble, so what would seem difficult to judge was probably straightforward for Alan. Dare I say it, one of the young guns pulled ahead of the pack again with Tim Heeb winning with his hitching ring.

Bright and sunny finally greeted us on the Thursday, what a difference a day makes. Nothing much to delay us this time and the day got going quickly with the Eagle Eye events. The Intermediate Shoeing is becoming a very competitive event with a few of the competitors close to moving up to Open. The points are so close together that a quarter point lost here and there quickly pulls you out of the placings. This was evidenced by Dan Philip triumphing over Luke Klan by a whopping .5 of a point. Following this the Open boys were back for their Forging. With two intricate shoes to build in 60 minutes with no fireman, no room for pretenders here.

The Friday was a full day with 2 Novice and 3 Open shoeing heats and 2 heats of the Intermediate Forging. Once horses come into the equation it can be difficult to keep events on time but on the whole the horses were well behaved and things kept moving along. In the Intermediate Forging Luke Klan was able to bounce back from just missing out in the shoeing to grab a win in the Forging. The Novice events are dominated by apprentices trying to make their mark in the competition scene. With all of them having the same amount of experience these events are real raffles with nerves and small mistakes changing the order of finishers each time.

This year's Reg Pascoe Award winner was Toowoomba's Wayne Nugent. Wayne appeared genuinely stunned to be given this honour. To say Wayne leads a busy life would be the understatement of the year. Wayne starts his days early getting his horses worked as part of his career as a racehorse trainer, then he goes to his farrier supply business for the morning and then gets a few horses shod in the afternoon. Covering many miles are a regular part of all three activities. Whether floating a runner to Rockhampton chasing a win or delivering farrier supplies across the border or travelling the other side of Dalby to shoe a few horses Wayne is no stranger to long hours on the road. A deserved winner and his name will be etched alongside some notable people.

The Ekka is always an enjoyable 3 days. It is always a chance to meet new farriers from all over Australia. I know the fields could have been even bigger with about 20 enquiries about entries after the closing date. I think next year we should all take the time to ring someone and make sure they have got their entry in. It would be great to see even bigger fields next year.

At the presentations John Gilchrist announced a substantial increase in prizemoney for the Open Shoeing event next year. This should make for big fields and who knows maybe even draw few old competitors out of retirement to chase the big money. Time will tell.

Many Thanks
Steve Crosbie

Editors Note: A special thank you to Steve, who is always happy to write up an article or story on short notice. I know many members love to read about the 'behind the scenes' as well as who won what!



TOOWOOMBA FARRIERS COMPETITION 2-4 July 2010

Once again the big tent was filled with the sounds of hammers on anvils with competitors coming from far and wide to chase glory. Twenty farriers and 6 blacksmiths sweated and stressed for 3 days (or maybe that was just me and Angus Gilmore). Malcolm Paine once again dazzled us with his craftsmanship – his home exhibit of a walking stick was simply stunning and was a deserved winner. Mick Fitzgerald won the overall hi-point award with consistent results. Brad Hinze walked away with the inaugural “Henry Head Memorial Trophy” for the Open Shoeing.

The Mystery Challenge was an interesting event with 2 competitors teamed up and given 4 random pieces of steel – 3 of which had to be used – to design and make any item they desired. Tim Heeb and Dan Phillip were the winners with a hitching ring. Almost every team had a finished item to be judged and auctioned. Tom Affleck & Malcolm Paine’s Dragon Head Candle Holder attracted some spirited bidding .

The Toowoomba Hospice was the charity chosen to receive the proceeds of the auction which was held on Sunday. Over \$1500 was donated to assist this organization with many of the competitors donating a larger % or all of their auction proceeds.


Thanks goes out to Des And Beryl Bosworth who were tireless in their efforts to keep everything ticking over. Des was suffering greatly after coming off worse for wear after an incident whilst shoeing. Thanks also to Evan Horne and Matt Heron for their efforts.

To our judges, Ian Appleton & Dave Adams thank you for your input and feed back , which can only assist in obtaining better results for everyone.

A big thank you also goes out to all the ladies and our judge Dave Adams who kept the BBQ cranked up all weekend.


Hope to see you all again next year.
Wayne Nugent

10.




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FINALLY, A BLONDE GUY JOKE!

Two blonde guys were working for the city works department. One would dig a hole and the other would follow behind him and fill the hole.

They worked up one side of the street, then down the other, then moved on to the next street, working furiously all day without rest, one guy digging a hole, the other guy filling it in again.

An onlooker was amazed at their hard work, but couldn't understand what they were doing. So he asked the hole digger, "I'm impressed by the effort you two are putting into your work, but I don't get it why do you dig a hole, only to have your partner follow behind and fill it up again?"

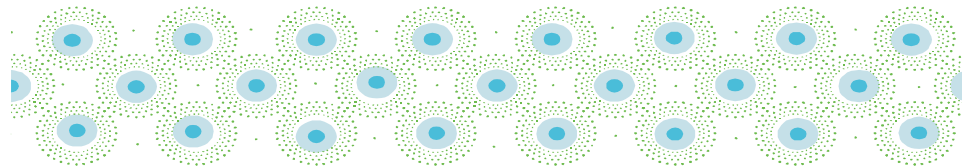
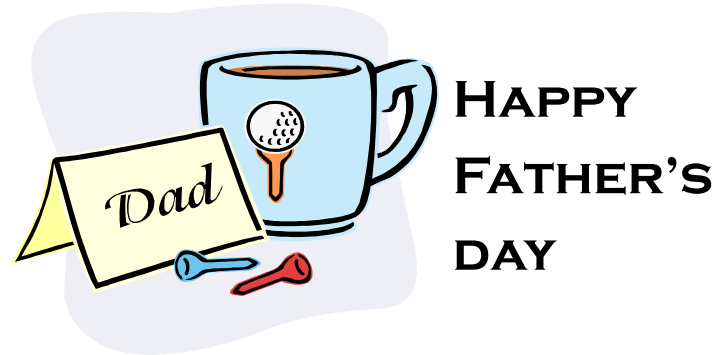
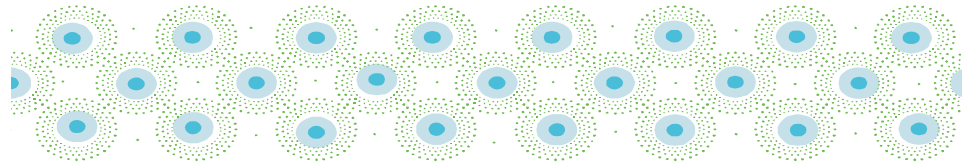
The hole digger wiped his brow and sighed, "Well, I suppose it probably looks odd because we're normally a three-man team. But today the guy who plants the trees called in sick."

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 **forge**



12.

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.

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