

**MINUTES OF 43rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE ARABIAN HORSE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA LTD
HELD ON SATURDAY 30th MARCH 2019
WRESTPOINT
410 SANDY BAY ROAD, SANDY BAY TAS 7005**

PRESENT:-

Mrs L Williamson, Allan Preston, Scott Benjamin, Richard Shipton, Yvonne Downes, Karen Fletcher-Grieve, Kristen Galea, Glenys Lilley, Debra Watson, Ian Watson, Mr G Liddle, Heath Rowbottom, Helen Dohan, Kerryn Aldridge, Peter Aldridge, Wayne Beasley, Miranda Kraatz, Fiona Pepper, Selina Ahel, Ros Gladman, Lesley Jolly, Katherine McMahon, Sheila Jones, Brittney Hardwick, Helen Hardwick, Marie Hutchison, Robert Hutchison, Merinda Shaw, Wendy Carins, Katrina Phillips, Ash Poole, Jill Baptist, Vanessa Oakley, Greg Farrell, Julie Farrell, Jane Farrell, Leanne Boulton, Melinda Harris, Lyn Nicolle, Laurie Nicolle, Sherry Fenton, Mel Batchelor, Tracy Nutting, Alyssa Brazendale, Amanda Brazendale, Lee Hanson, Jean Muir, Peter Scanlon, Adam Webster, Lyn Wrigley (non-member)

PROXIES:- As per list provided

At 1.08 pm the Chairperson, Mrs L Williamson, declared the meeting open. The Chairman then welcomed all members present.

The Chairman then called for apologies.

APOLOGIES:-

Karenne Fenton, Annette Vickery, Clint Bilson, Kerry Rogers, Meg Wade, Jayne Bellchambers, Trevor Bellchambers, Silvio Galea, Margaret Parker

Moved Mr R Shipton, seconded Ms K Fletcher-Grieve "That the apologies as tendered be received and recorded." Carried

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were then tabled at the meeting. Mrs L Williamson gave the members five minutes to read the Minutes, explained the reason for the amended Chairman Report and reminded members that only those present at the 2018 AGM could approve the Minutes.

Moved Mr G Liddle, seconded Mr H Rowbottom "That the Minutes of the 2018 AGM be approved with the amended Chairmans Report." Carried

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE AGM 2019

The Chairman, Mrs L Williamson, presented her Report:

On behalf of the Board of Directors I extend a warm welcome to those members who have taken the opportunity to attend the AGM and visit Tasmania. It is our pleasure to meet our Tasmanian members and we thank you for your hospitality.

This was my final year on the Board and I am proud to say we have attained some great goals, again positioning the Society in a good position going forward. It was a huge year of highs and lows. At times the challenges were beyond belief and put a huge strain on the Board members. I commend them for their professional approach to all matters.

During the past 6 years I have been very proud of being a part of, and a leader of, a Board that was strong enough to take the hard line when necessary and compassionate enough to consider what was best for the breed.

To assist the Board in making decisions that may have litigious outcomes, we are very fortunate to have gained the support of MinterEllison, the largest provider of legal services in Australia. The firm has been named one of Top 10 Law Firms in the Asia Pacific region since 2016. I thank them for their support and the

pro bono agreement. The Society always considers its legal position very seriously before making any decision that may result in litigation. In this day and age, unfortunately, this is responsible action. With a membership base on the scale of the AHSA there are naturally differing opinions. It seems at times that there is more division and disquiet among our members than ever, with misperceptions levied against members, against decisions, against rules, against the varying disciplines, against winning or losing and even against the standard of the Arabian itself. As the years progress and the use of social media continues to grow, it becomes increasingly difficult for the Board to positively promote membership, involvement in the industry and, ultimately, the Arabian horse as the breed of choice. Unfortunately false, intentionally misleading or irresponsibly misrepresented online content can not only damage the equine industry and the Society's reputation, it has upset and discouraged members, dissuaded potential members from joining and irreparably damaged the stature of the Arabian horse, not only in Australia, but around the world, given the global impact of social media content.

On the up side of Social Media, we have disseminated information to our members with 383 information posts on the 'Members Only Page' and 245 promotional posts on the 'Promotions page'. This deliberate action in 2019 has been a good effort in keeping the members informed. Furthermore, we produced two very informative Member Bulletins, along with two, always improving, editions of the AHN.

The new honorary awards created have been very well received and we hope will gather momentum as the years go on. The quality of the entries in every category was exceptionally high, with the ultimate award recipients very deserving of the honours. These awards are to recognise horses that race, compete in endurance and promote the Arabian to the greater equine world. These nominees are tremendous ambassadors for the breed, breaking down the barriers between other disciplines and across all levels of equine sport and recreation. We strongly encourage members to nominate their worthy contenders for the 2020 version of these prestigious awards, with nominations opening later in the year.

The WAHO Conference provides an opportunity for the host country to promote themselves to the world along with networking with likeminded people and organisations from the international community. The work involved in producing this event is enormous however the promotional value now and into the future is unlimited. The event was a huge success and the pre and post conference tours gave opportunities for many Arabian breeders and owners to present their horses and their programmes to international and Australasian guests all across Australia as well as in New Zealand.

I feel I must recap some of the things that have been achieved over the past six years. I bring attention to these accomplishments not for accolades, but more for the Board and the members to focus on the enormity of what has been achieved in a short time, rather than call attention to those areas where the membership feels the Society has fallen short. More often than not, it seems easier for us all to concentrate on the latter.

Achievements in the past 6 years:

- Secured the financial position of the Society, transforming from imminent disaster at the brink of insolvency, to the best financial position the AHSA has enjoyed for close to 30 years. This has allowed the Society to maintain, for the most part, fee stabilisation even with external rising costs. This is not reflective of the property sale, as the surplus of the sale has been safely and responsibly invested.*
- Purchased a building that is appreciating (growing in value), while unburdening ourselves from a building that was in extremely bad repair, requiring a huge maintenance budget.*
- Created a new database that has been purpose built and upgraded to a user friendly and modern platform which provides the members with a service second to none. This service also allows members to do more transactions online PLUS provides a stable record keeping environment for our core business: The Registry. This updated system also allows for the possibility of further income streams. The outdated, degenerating and unsupported system hosted overseas that we inherited, with the potential of a system crash that would have rendered the Society office inoperable for a considerable time and the possibility of non-recovery of all data, has been effectively and seamlessly eliminated.*
- Created a new online Studbook that is unquestionably one of the very best in the equine industry, provided without a service fee to members and the worldwide equine community. This state-of-the-art studbook incorporates requests from members that have been received over the past several years.*
- Developed a new show application that provides full access to a web-based online show management and entry system. This show app has the ability to increase the AHSA income stream as a service offered not only to affiliates, but potentially other breeds and show societies.*

- Upgraded all office equipment including computer hardware and software as well as printing facilities in line with our needs with the potential to store documents electronically and provide a quick turnaround to service to members. Five years ago, the staff computers were outdated and inefficient with programs that were no longer supported. There were printing contracts in place that were incurring unnecessarily high payments.
- Introduced a new accounting program which meets government and auditor standards. The implementation and training of the staff in the use of the program and ongoing support has been provided by Board members at no cost to the Society. What we inherited was an archaic program that most people had never heard of, had no accountability, and was not supported.
- Established a marked decrease in operating expenses with the optimisation of staff and Board expenses. This includes more shared accommodation, more director expenses covered by the individual directors.
- Secured the Company identity with registering of Trademarks.
- Reinvigorated the staff in their positions
- Put aside funds to fully cover all staff entitlements. We inherited a situation where staff entitlements could not have been covered if the need arose.
- Created the Arabian Horse Judges & Officials Guilds of Australia Pty Ltd and The Arabian Horse Shows & Events Company of Australia Pty Ltd, collectively referred to as the Companies, to service the industry and assist/protect the AHSA
- Raised the professional standard of judges and officials education and accreditation in Australasia, including the implementation of the annual Judges, Members & Enthusiasts Congress
- Brought the RPSB registry, and its subsequent income, under the AHSA umbrella providing a much-needed income stream, with no impact on our member services.
- Established the API Register to recognise the Arabian contribution to a larger number of equine athletes and provide a further income stream for the Society and the Affiliates.
- Created both a Promotional and Members Facebook page to disseminate information providing members with 383 information posts and to the greater community 245 promotional posts
- Introduced the very popular Race Horse and Endurance Horse of the Year, Race Horse & Endurance Lifetime Achievement, and annual Ambassador Awards.
- Established an Australian National Championships that is now self-funding, for seven consecutive years, enabling a viable continuation of the premier continental event for the breed. This has been a huge turnaround from previous decades when the Championships operated at a continuous massive loss of tens of thousand dollars each year.
- Launched the Australian Arabian Youth National Championships, an initiative that has invigorated youth participation across Australia & New Zealand
- Successfully hosted the third WAHO Conference in Australia, more than any other member country, positively exposing global breeders and industry professionals to the Arabian & Arabian Derivative horses of Australia & New Zealand
- Collaborated with Sharon Meyers and Vink Publishing to create the definitive history of the Arabian horse in Australia and New Zealand, Hoofprints in History

In closing I would like to thank the staff. They ride the waves as we, the Board do, in a very professional manner. They give willingly of their time to assist outside of their working hours. They care. It has been a pleasure working with them. To the Board members I have worked with - it is unlikely the 10 people from very different walks of life will always agree, nor should they. I have developed some wonderful friendships over the years. Being on the Board has certainly enlightened me as to my real friends are, for which I am grateful.

On a final note, it is my sincere wish for the AHSA that members use social media responsibly. Ask yourself, before you post anything,

- *how do these words reflect upon myself as a civil, civically responsible person?*
- *how do these words reflect upon the Society to which I am granted membership as a privilege?*
- *how do these words reflect upon the Arabian horse, a breed I profess to love and wish to share with others?*

If the words you intend to share, words that will follow you online in perpetuity and become a permanent part of your digital profile, are harmful to any of the above the conscientious response is to refrain and address any issue via the proper channels of communication. Please realise that members who serve on the Board, to give back to the industry as volunteers, giving considerably of their own time and resources, are people with the same passion as every other member and are doing their best for the whole of the membership. Every bit of time and energy spent discrediting, blaming, criticizing or maligning Board members and other industry volunteers is time shamefully wasted, causing irreparable damage to fellow members, to the Society, and ultimately, the Arabian breed. Instead, I implore you to use your time and energy in active engagement, reaching out to the Society to offer your assistance however and whenever possible, and to doing whatever you can in your local community to introduce the Arabian horse to more people, as positively and proactively as possible.

The Society is NOT, nor has it ever been, just the Board. The Society is ALL of us, working together to promote and protect this precious and ancient breed, of which we are the modern-day stewards. All members can, and should, have an important role to play. Our ultimate responsibility is to the Arabian horse.

Moved Mr G Liddle, seconded Mr H Rowbottom "That the Chairman's Report be accepted." Carried

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

The Chairperson, Mrs L Williamson, then explained that there were some special awards that would be presented.

WAHO AWARD 2019

The award was presented to Greg Farrell for Mulawa Kara Mia MI owned and bred by the Farrell family and Mulawa Stud.

Mulawa Kari Mia MI is a 23 year old broodmare and senior member of the Karmaa family. She has five generations of descendants competing successfully around the world on four continents; Europe, North America, Qatar, The United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabian, China and Thailand. She has ten important male descendants siring the next generation of excellence around the world and dozens of multi-generational descendants succeeding at the elite level of equine sport on the global stage. She now lives as a retired broodmare who raises the next generation of young fillies at Alabama Stud, a full-time nanny.

The award was originally presented at the WAHO Parade where the mare paraded with a number of her descendants.

AHSA ARABIAN RACEHORSE OF THE YEAR

The award was presented to Mrs D Watson, receiving it in behalf of Christine Ablett for the Arabian mare Lindall La Vita.

Lindall La Vita was born on 9 November, 2008 at the Lindall Arabian stud in Queensland. Her sire was Eastwinds Holly Joe (AU) and dam Lindall La Voka (AU).

Lindall La Vita was purchased from Lindall Arabians as an unbroken 4 year old and after she was broken in I worked with her for the next year and very quickly realized she was a competitive horse with a wonderful work ethic. She was entered in a couple of 20k and 40k endurance rides, which she completed with ease, and it wasn't long before I was asked if I would consider entering her in a Purebred Arabian flat race. I trained her myself for a while and then sent her on to an Arabian trainer and racing with the Australasian Arabian Racing Club Ltd (AARC). The rest is history.

Lindall La Vita is currently engaged in racing with AARC in Queensland and we are expecting bigger and better results in 2019.

During the 2018 racing year Lindall La Vita:-

was 3rd at Warwick in a class 3 purebred race over 1200m on the 14/04/2018

won at Warwick in a class 4 purebred race over 1320m on the 12/05/2018 and

was 3rd at Warwick in another class 4 purebred race over 1500m on the 16/06/2018

Lindall La Vita currently holds the race record for the 1320m race held at Warwick and she has recorded the second fastest time for an Australian born Purebred Arabian horse in AARC races.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD ARABIAN RACING

The award was presented at the WAHO parade and Mrs D Watson responded on behalf of Cassie Saunders for the Arabian gelding Reid River R-Mani.

Reid River R-Mani was Champion gelding at the Queensland State Arabian Championships when shown as a weanling. He eventually found his way into the ownership of Cassie Saunders when a friend told her of a handsome chestnut gelding running in a paddock.

Cassie and her partner run a successful stable in Queensland training Thoroughbreds and harness horses. Cassie believed R-Mani had the makings of an endurance horse and quite possibly a top race horse. After a brief stint at endurance, R-Mani was put into race training with Anthony Mounthey of ACM Training Stables in NSW. Under Anthony's experienced supervision, R-Mani has raced extremely successfully with 5 wins, 2 seconds and a third to his credit. The majority of these races were run under the Heritage Arabian Racing Club (HARC) banner, the result of which was R-Mani being named 2017 Australian HARC Horse of the year.

R-Mani is the epitome of a Purebred Arabian Ambassador. He has done endurance, had success in the show ring, ponied young Thoroughbreds to give them confidence and had a successful race career. He is an imposing and very attractive athlete who has proven his stamina and soundness on the racetrack. He is a friendly well-mannered fellow who has converted many a Thoroughbred person to giving respect to the Arabian breed. R-Mani is a real character, much loved by the ACM Training Stables staff who indulge his fondness for licorice and Scotch Finger biscuits.

As R-Mani has been based in NSW he has travelled long distances to all of his race starts which is a testament to his temperament and soundness. His future will now be in endurance back home in Queensland. He is truly a shining example of the versatile Arabian athlete.

AHSA ENDURANCE HORSE OF THE YEAR

The award was presented to Mrs M Hutchison, receiving it on behalf of Fia and Adam Hasko-Stewart and Adeline Gibson for the Arabian gelding Blake's Heaven Bombora.

Mrs L Williamson read a profile submitted by Fia Hasko-Stewart:

We would like to sincerely thank the AHSA for this prestigious award.

"The Bomb" as he is widely known has always been an outstanding horse.

"Breaking" him took three short sessions over three days, with Talea (then aged 8) as the keen rider.

Long-legged, short backed and fast in all gaits, he has excelled in endurance.

His performance has only improved over time, with our knowledge of the sport.

In 2010 he was national lightweight points horse, with numerous wins.

In early 2011, Fia offered Bombora to Talea for FEI rides and this began a long and continuing partnership.

His record to date is unmatched.

Not only has he covered more than 10,500 km in successful endurance competition, most of this has been done extremely fast, including 39 wins.

For illustration - in 2013 he won the year's national middleweight distance horse and points horse, with 1,513 km and a record 148.25 points.

In 2018, the national winner had 1,093 km, and just 66.25 points.

He has won on hills and on the flat, in heat and in the cold and over all distances.

So far he has completed fifteen 160 km rides.

In 2014, 2015 and 2016 he was New South Wales State Champion – an unrivalled treble.

At the Tom Quilty national championships he was 3rd middleweight in 2013, and second middleweight and second overall in 2016 and 2017.

In 2018 as Talea had a busy life he was aimed at a steady completion- delivered as 14th lightweight with a near perfect logbook and the teams trophy for Blake's Heaven.

Bombora has also been third, first, and fourth overall from his three Shahzada 400 km attempts.

Now 18, we believe he has more great things ahead. His first 80 km ride for 2019 is this weekend – which is why, sadly, we are unable to receive the award in person.

But true to his breed, he is not a one trick pony. Among his many prize rugs is one from a Versatile Horse competition, and he was also a successful Arabian racehorse.

Yet he can be ridden by beginners. He is arrogant, but also gentle, kind and loving.

Bombora is a true Arabian and we will treasure this award.

Thank you.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD ENDURANCE

The award was presented at the WAHO parade and Mrs D Watson responded on behalf of Erin Krahen, for the Arabian stallion Kalkadoon Zorro.

Mrs L Williamson advised the following:

Zorro is a Purebred Arabian stallion who has competed in endurance riding since a 4 year old. Over his career, he has completed the Tom Quilty Gold Cup seven times with 100% completion from seven starts. In 2015, on achieving his seventh buckle, he made a new record for the most amount of Quilty completions by a stallion. Zorro also won the Shareym award for three consecutive years (2013, 2014 & 2015) AS WELL AS WINNING THE Pat Slater Cup in 2014. Zorro has completed numerous FEI rides up to three star level as well as having many wins and Best Conditioned awards at rides throughout Queensland & NSW. Zorro so far has a career distance tally of over 3500km and successful progeny competing and winning at FEI level competition. Zorro also won and was awarded Best Conditioned Middleweight at the Tamworth twilight event hosted by the AHSA in conjunction with the 2011 Arabian Championships. In addition to these achievements, Zorro is extremely sound and consistently completes his rides in great form.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

CAROLYN & JOSIE POTTS

The awards were presented to Richard Shipton, receiving them on behalf of Carolyn & Josie Potts.

Mrs L Williamson advised the meeting of the following:

Carolyn & Josie Potts have worked tirelessly promoting Arabians in SA. They have both been active members of the SA Affiliate, Carolyn is a past Board member and both have given of their time as judges.

MEG WADE

Mrs L Williamson read the following tribute:

Meg Wade needs no introduction to the Arabian Horse scene, especially to those people connected with performance Arabians and Endurance in particular. She has been a respected owner and breeder of high quality registered Arabians and Derivatives for over 40 years and during that time has made the whole world sit up and take notice of the Australian Arabian. The Castlebar prefix is famous worldwide and is synonymous with well put together, outstanding high performance Arabians. Meg bred, trained and rode many Arabians and Derivatives to success in the endurance field in Australia and on the world stage. Her contribution to the recognition of the Australian Arabian as a performance horse world wide is immeasurable. She has not only brought a large number of horses to world fame on the endurance scene, she has also nurtured, encouraged, trained and developed young riders in the field as well, introducing them to the wonderful attributes of the Arabian and to the world of endurance competition. Meg has long been recognised as a force to be reckoned with in endurance competition, but her expertise in the selection, feeding, training and development of Arabians and Derivatives in all sorts of performance has also been recognised as a valuable resource. She is held in the highest esteem by all of her fellow endurance comrades and Arabian breeders for her dedication to the sport, and to the Arabian horse; for her strength, courage and tenacity in overcoming adversity; and for her generous attitude.

The award was presented to Mrs K Aldridge, receiving it on behalf of Meg Wade. Mrs K Aldridge presented the following statement from Meg.

I had planned to be here as I am very honoured that the AHSA are giving me this award. Unfortunately I couldn't make it. I started Endurance riding in 1988. I very quickly decided to breed my own horses to compete on. the success of CASTLEBAR is not only me but also my husband Chris Gates.

*We were married in 1989, we created CASTLEBAR together.
I have always bred for performance - Endurance - not the show ring.
My mother's farm manager worked part time for Claire Proudford of AETHON fame.
I purchased two stallions from her that still feature in the CASTLEBAR bloodlines today.
We recently imported a young colt from FRANCE - MOUNIR FONT NOIRE - he arrived in Australia last November.
For many years I have wanted to combine some of the best of their Endurance bloodlines with ours.
The future is exciting!
Just wish I was twenty years younger!*

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

GREG FARRELL

Mrs L Williamson advised the following:

This is being awarded to a person who has been an AHSA member since he was a teenager. He is a former AHSA Chairman who introduced more corporate accountability to the Society and reassessed and realigned the core business aims. He set up the framework for the current financial sustainability of the Society and worked with AHSA staff to improve office efficiency. He has almost five decades of involvement with the family owned Mulawa Arabian Stud selflessly promoting the Arabian horse, especially those bred in Australia, around the world for the past 45 years. Congratulations to Greg Farrell.

DEBRA WATSON

Mrs L Williamson advised the following:

*This person fulfills all the criteria for a Life Membership. The ultimate 'unsung hero', she commenced breeding Arabians in the early 1970s when she was a Pony Club instructor.
She has always been on committees and is a diligent worker, often accepting the hard jobs like Treasurer and/or Secretary. She is the backbone of many committees, doing the hard yards in the background out of the limelight. She is a Bookkeeper and Admin Officer and OHS Consultant and she brings these skills to her voluntary roles on numerous committees with total dedication.
She served diligently on the AHSA Board as Treasurer in 2016/2017 and certainly contributed to improving the AHSA's financial position.
Some of her other committee/board roles of recent times are:
Arabian Judges & Officials Company Pty Ltd – Honorary Treasurer
Arabian Valley Horse Club - Life member. Secretary/Treasurer
WAHO Conference (Australia) – working committee member
Qld Crabbet Group – founding member in 1970s
Qld Arabian racing Association Inc – founding member in 2013 & Treasurer for several years.
Deb is a diligent worker helping organize and conduct shows and endurance events in south east Queensland. She was one of the main honorary organisers for two endurance events at Fernvale in November 2018 over two separate weekends.
She promotes Arabians wherever she goes and has the knowledge and experience to mentor newbies and encourage people to venture into buying, breeding and/or competing Arabians in numerous disciplines.
She has made several overseas trips to visit Arabian Studs, especially in Poland, and for judging.
She is a willing and reliable worker 'on the ground' and contributes to the success of many events and committees and promotes events regularly through Social Media outlets.
She is also involved with other breeds especially through the Show Hack and Miniature Horse judging.
Congratulations to Deb Watson.*

SECRETARY/REGISTRAR'S REPORT AGM 2019

The Secretary/Registrar, Miss H Dohan, presented her Report:

It has been another busy 12 months in the office with most computer enhancements being finalised and preparation and arranging the WAHO Conference which was held in February 2019.

Australia Post is proving to be even more unreliable with even express post envelopes taking up to a week to reach their destinations. We would encourage all members to email their paperwork to the office if at all possible.

The office has been contacted by an increasing amount of members struggling to pay to register their horses due to the drought. The Society has always provided the service of paying off registry transactions and we are pleased to see an increasing number of members utilising this service.

Again I would like to thank the Board of Directors for their help and support during the past year. I speak for all the office staff in saying that we will be very sorry to lose Mrs L Williamson from the Board, she ranks as one of the best Chairmen I have had the pleasure to work with, totally impartial, very logical and an amazing work ethic. A special mention to Scott Benjamin without whom the WAHO Conference would not have existed, I have finally found someone who can exist on even less sleep than I can.

As for the office staff, a huge thank you again for working so efficiently and with good humour. Staffing levels have not increased even though the office workload has, and the staff are still managing to provide an excellent turnaround of paperwork and communication. Special thanks to Teresa Edwards who goes above and beyond in supporting myself and the Board both during and after normal working hours.

The statistics for 2018 are attached for your information.

Membership Data

As at 31/12/2018

Membership	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total	3383	3003 (3360)	3289	3417	3389	3075	2951
Life		27	30	28	28	30	29
Full	3175	2806 (3155)	3071	3174	3142	2788	2656
-Ordinary			2737	2484	2425	2170	1975
-Company			26	27	24	20	24
-Overseas			24	17	15	12	12
-Associate			208	454	495	420	473
-Pension			76	192	183	166	172
Junior	208	170 (205)	175	192	201	159	154
Panel Judge			11	15	12	8	9
Friends Of			2	8	6	5	6
Participant						85	97

Registry Data

As at 31/12/2018

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total registration
Purebred						
Mares	374	362	309	311	248	33546
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	375	321	268	246	216	28253
Foal Record		164	115	122	98	8882
Partbred						
Mares	193	185	120	120	104	30485
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	166	145	136	117	113	25483
Foal Record	123	57	43	51	26	2256
Anglo						
Mares	49	48	51	44	43	4471
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	49	46	29	27	35	3876
Foal Record	12	16	20	10	11	984

Arabian Pony						
Mares	85	63	74	54	46	4372
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	82	50	49	51	39	3278
Foal Record	40	36	36	28	28	1272
Arabian Riding Pony						
Mares	82	78	88	57	61	2584
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	76	77	76	72	37	2274
Foal Record	34	33	35	19	15	923
Warmblood						
Mares	32	30	24	22	26	1128
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	45	27	24	21	25	934
Foal Record	14	8	17	5	13	440
Quarab						
Mares	12	12	13	3	8	214
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	12	4	11	6	3	139
Foal Record	5	6	4	0	0	77
Stockhorse						
Mares	12	14	13	13	10	285
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	9	11	10	7	4	193
Foal Record	11	3	1	3	7	91
Half Arabian						
Mares		3	28	20	21	72
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)		2	16	14	22	54
Foal Record		0	9	3	5	17
Performance Index		15	74	37	74	200
Total	2050	1816	1693	1483	1338	
Horses DNA typed	788	813	651	613	540	
Horses Buffy Coat Conversion	20	8	8	2		
Hair Storage	78	36	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Transfers	2230	1990	1655	1409	1312	
Leases	267	214	211	194	136	
Exports processed	67	54	67	46	16	
Imports processed	35	30	8	7		
Stud Prefixes	40	50	63	50	36	
Stallion Nominations	1144	1057	877	701	618	
Embryo Transfer Applications	14	11	17	7	15	

Moved Mr G Liddle, seconded Mr H Rowbottom "That the Secretary's Report be accepted." Carried

TREASURERS REPORT AGM 2019

The Treasurer, Mrs K Galea, presented her Report:

The current and immediately past Board members have toiled tirelessly to ensure the Society is on a steady and sustainable path for continued growth and fiscal stability again this year.

We are very happy to report another year of profit. The Board has been diligent this year ensuring the costs of merchandise material, promotional gifts for WAHO and the production of a wonderful Coffee Table book on the Arabian journey in Australasia being launched to coincide with WAHO are current and affordable with the budget set aside from promotions and marketing. The Shows and Events Company has also shown

profits from the Australian Championships and the Youth Championships. This Board is very conscious of gaining different income streams and has produced the new book which will bring a small profit from each one sold.

Going hand in hand with that are the small promotional items of pens, wristbands, fridge magnets, stickers and our extra special jute tote bags, which are sought after now that we do not have the luxury of the "throw away" plastic bags for shopping any longer. Also produced were a stock of small lapel AHSA badges, lanyards and portfolios, initially for WAHO but more than was needed, so there is stock to be utilised where appropriate.

Further development of our database, the expansion and development of the show program and the increasing upgrades to the portal have allowed the online renewal of memberships and online entering to the 2019 Australian Championships. This system is our intellectual property and we are hopeful of marketing this to other show societies and AHSA affiliates as an easier and better functioning system for shows in future than what is currently available.

The Board of the Riding Pony Stud book are very pleased with the service from our office and it's our hope and expectation that this will continue far into the future. This contract was renegotiated in November, 2018 with a small CPI annual increase, for the next 2 years.

The final stages of the organisation of WAHO were completed during the 2018 year with the event being held at Terrigal in February, 2019. There was significant income in the later part of 2018 and together with two major sponsors from overseas and a grant from the local council, formed the larger part of this income. Major expenditure for this event in 2018 was the further deposits on the venue hire and production and acquisition of the promotional items to be utilised for the WAHO event. The final financial "washup" of this event will be forthcoming in the 2019 audited reports.

The 2018 Australian Championships (both Open and Youth) made a generous and helpful profit thanks to the working committee, show secretary and the office staff who helped ensure the success of these events. The Youth show is going from strength to strength and the enormous amount of work by both Nadine and Miranda is to be highly applauded. Miranda especially, has been responsible for the bulk of the sponsorship for this show and she has worked tirelessly to achieve the great results.

It is disappointing to note that both memberships and registry income is down on the previous years, however the boom years of 5 years ago are unlikely to be seen again. Economically it is challenging and the whole of eastern Australia has been in the worst drought seen in many decades. This combined with the decline in the number of breeders (older breeders retiring) the number of foals produced and the lack of sales opportunities due to drought etc has contributed to this decline in income. The Board has endeavoured to help some of the members who are finding the costs of registration etc difficult, by allowing payment plans, looking at helping relevant members on a case by case situation and offering several membership options. This has also contributed to the downturn in funds while these options are utilised. The Board has been negotiating constantly with our bank to gain the best interest rates applicable for the investments of funds, \$420,222.14 (which is the balance of the funds from the sale of the Windsor building) and \$152,361.18, the staff entitlements account. The Board is very aware that these are members funds and while there has been comment that we are not gaining the best rates we could with these funds, the Board is not comfortable investing in high security risk investments which have been suggested.

In all, the Society has enjoyed an extremely good year, with continued appreciation of its assets, the board looks forward to continued growth in the coming year and combined with the tightening of budgets and expenditure from all regions, enables the board to present a very solid and increasingly sustainable working model.

Mrs M Hutchison asked if the auditor had re-signed off on the audit. Mrs L Williamson confirmed that the auditor was standing by the original audit and all questions answered.

Mrs M Hutchison presented a list of questions that she had been asked to present. The questions were answered to the satisfaction of Mrs M Hutchison. Mrs M Hutchison queried the amount of money that had been spent on computers and IT, Ms H Dohan explained the need for the expense advising that the AHSA had been operating using a very old and unstable server and old registry programs that were programmed in such a way that there was no longer any support by microsoft. There was a need to move the environment into the cloud. Part of cost was major upgrade of online studbook. Majority should be spent now apart from enhancements. Mrs H Hardwick stated that a quarter of a million dollars was a lot of money to upgrade. Mrs L Williamson advised that the problem had been ongoing for over 6 years while options were considered. The new online show program is also included in this cost. Still will need maintaining. We

paid a lot less than USA for their equivalent system. Prior to this no money had been spent for many years. Richard Shipton advised that the hardware costs were minimal as only basic computers and equipment had been purchased. The cost is in the software and data conversion which is very expensive. Mr R Hutchison asked if AHSA had a contract for the computing work and if there was more than one person and a backup plan. Mrs L Williamson explained that there was no contract, rather an hourly rate. Helen Dohan advised that there were programmers working behind the scenes and there was contingency plan should something happen to the main supplier. Mr R Hutchison asked about future software upgrades, Mrs L Williamson responded that they would occur if and when required as the system will require maintaining. The Society is constantly reviewing quotes for services.

Mrs M Hutchison asked for clarification on the financial year for the Society. Mrs L Williamson advised that it was 1st January to 31st December.

Mrs L Williamson advised that the Society had received taxation and legal advice regarding the formation of the Companies. AHSA is the only shareholder in the Companies. The Society loans money to the Events Company who then pay back the loan. It is important for the Society not to make too much profit or it could jeopardise the Not For Profit status. Should the Events Company make too much money then it can be distributed to AHSA who will invoice for services provided and with dividends or the Company will pay tax. There is no aim for the Events Company to make a profit. As the Judge Guild has very limited capacity to make money, it received a grant from the Society which will assist with startup costs and providing education. Previously the JEC had never been properly costed when run by the Society. The Guild funds have been generated by the grant from the Society and money received when the NSW Judge bank account was closed. The audit is a consolidated audit made up of the Society (AHSA), the Guild and the Events Company.

Mrs K Aldridge asked about the Companies. They have been established to protect the Society from legal action. Mrs L Williamson explained that while they will not indemnify the Society they do provide an extra layer of protection. She reminded Kerry that she had been at the AGM in Adelaide where the concept of the Companies had been explained. The JEC & Championships have previously taken excessive time and therefore reduced the available time needed to promote and look after the core business. By removing this workload from the Board it was also possible to reduce the number of days spent on Board meetings and therefore cost to the Society. Kerry Aldridge queried to what extent the Board was advised of correspondence sent to the Events Company. Mrs L Williamson advised that correspondence that the Board needed to respond to was forwarded on but the Board was not involved in the running of events. The Chairman of AHSA is also ex-officio on the "Companies".

Lesley Jolly asked about the Arabian Racing & Jockey company. Mrs L Williamson explained that the Society still owned the Company but it was not active at the moment.

Moved Mr R Shipton, seconded Mr S Benjamin "That the Treasurer's Report be accepted." Lost

Members present: 4 against

Proxies: 88 for, 167 against

Mrs L Williamson asked Mrs H Hardwick why she objected to the Treasurers Report. Mrs H Hardwick responded that she felt there were inconsistencies and wanted the proxies noted. She advised that she had been told not to accept the report by the accounting member who was not present.

Mrs L Williamson stated that she was appalled and not prepared to take crap that has been going on for last three weeks. All questions were answered in full. It has been audited and checked by legal people as well. Auditors have full access to all files and MYOB files. Mrs L Williamson advised that the acceptance of the Treasurers Report did not matter, it merely needed to be presented.

Mr G Liddle noted that many proxies had been allocated to people for the purpose of voting against the constitution and he hoped the proxy holders would be using these responsibly for the manner intended. Mrs H Hardwick advised that all the members she was holding proxies for were happy for her to vote as she saw fit. She advised that she was trying not to attack and that this was not personal, she was merely representing members who had given her proxies.

Mrs Y Downes had posted on Facebook about visiting Tasmania but also posted regarding proxies. The post was incorrect as she misinterpreted what was required.

Mrs L Williamson noted that the people at the meeting had been at the Championships and none of them had spoken to her about any concerns. Mrs H Hardwick stated that she spoke to people but could not receive an answer that convinced her to vote for the Constitution as presented. She agreed for the need for

a new Constitution but not as presented. Mrs L Williamson noted that those in favour of the Constitution had been attacked for their views. Mrs H Hardwick agreed that this behaviour was not acceptable. She also stated that she was shocked that the Board had moved unanimously to approve the Constitution as presented.

Laurie Nicolle suggested that the Treasurer Report should be approved.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Annual Accounts were then presented. It was noted that the Society had made a substantial profit.

*Moved Mr H Rowbotton, seconded Mr R Shipton "That the Annual Accounts as presented be adopted." Lost
Members present: 4 against
Proxies: 88 for, 167 against*

Mr W Beasley asked for a reason for the rejection of the Treasurer Report and Annual Accounts. Mrs L Williamson stated it was because they ladies had been told to vote against it prior to coming to the meeting. Mrs L Williamson noted that questions had been answered. The financials for 2019 would not be presented as they were not relevant to the 2018 audit and would be presented once audited next year, it would not be responsible to give out unaudited figures. Mrs K Galea asked what was wrong with the Treasurer Report. Mrs H Hardwick responded that she had received advice not to approve the Treasurer Report or the Accounts. Mrs L Williamson advised that the only query with the audit was to amend the Chairman report which had been done. Mrs K Galea again asked why the Report had been rejected as she would like some feedback, no one had seen the report until the meeting so she cannot understand how they could be told to reject it.

Mrs L Williamson advised the meeting that the Audit Report had been received from the auditors very late, 10.30pm on the night of the Championships. The Board had considered changing auditors and obtained quotes but they were too expensive, Price Waterhouse Cooper being double the cost to do the same work. The Society has received an assurance from William Buck that the audit will commence in the first week of January as in previous years.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS 2019

Moved Mr G Liddle, seconded Mr R Shipton "That William Buck (NSW) Pty Ltd be appointed as auditors of the Society for 2019". Carried

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES REPORT

Mrs Y Downes, Chairman of the Archives Sub-Committee, presented her Report:

Where has the last twelve months gone? We, as the AHSA Board, seem to have been busier than ever. The Archive Committee – Scott Benjamin, Heath Rowbottom, myself and Mrs L Williamson (as Society Chair) have had very limited time or opportunity to meet or provide any major outcomes in the past 12 months, partly because our meetings have been so full on with other, more important business, and partly because not all of the meetings have been at the society's office. A considerable part of our work is done via phone hook up meetings, which means we are not "in office" – where the archive material is stored.

I need to thank Carolyn Potts for sourcing the DVDs of the old movie "The Proud Breed" for us. They are now at the society's office and are available for loan. I have to make a bigger effort to try to source "I Just Like To Ride Horses" from the ABC. This was a one hour episode which showed a little bit about different horse breeds and which featured Arabians. It included some very famous people including Ron and Val Males and Gloria Lanigan.

Heath and Scott, although new to our archive team, have both shown an active interest and enthusiasm for our Arabian history which is great for our small team. Hopefully we can continue to monitor, gather and eventually display a rotating selection of archives items in their glory at the Society's premises, for all members and visitors to appreciate and enjoy.

The WAHO convention was a great opportunity to display the posters we made up last year of our previous WAHO Horse of the year winners, and I'm sure was appreciated by the many international visitors as well as the proud owners of the horses.

The archive committee also made a small contribution to the lovely new book "Hoofprints In History", in providing some information, photos and background before it was so beautifully woven together and written up by Coralie Gordon and illustrated with a fantastic array of photos put together by Sharon Meyers. I would suggest that anyone who hasn't yet got a copy of the book to make sure you purchase one here at the AGM because the price will go up after today.

Finally, I hope that in the next twelve months we will be able to achieve a clearly visible result, instead of "working in the background" as we have been doing over the past year or two in trying to collate, itemise and safely store the archival material at the office.

Moved Mrs Y Downes, seconded Mr R Shipton "That the report of the Archives Sub-Committee be accepted." Carried

A short break for afternoon tea was held at 3.05pm and the meeting recommenced at 3.22pm

Mr G Liddle presented Mrs L Williamson with a present purchased for her by the Board members and Secretary as a thank you for the work she has done for the Society. Mrs L Williamson replied that she had made wonderful friends during her time on the Board, lost some that she thought were her friends and that she had been fortunate to have some wonderful mentors, in particular Mr A Preston.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Ms K Fletcher-Grieve, Chairman of the Junior Development Sub-Committee, presented her Report:

The 2018 Youth Sub-committee consisted of myself as Sub-committee Chair, Mrs L Williamson (AHSA Chair), Kristen Galea and Clint Bilson. Our major focus this year was to assist the Arabian Horse Shows & Events Company of Australia Pty Ltd (Events Company) to further develop and expand the fledgling Australian Arabian Youth National Championships. This already popular event has the objective of providing not only a quality, national standard event for our younger members to enjoy their Arabians, but also to engage new young members. Additional assistance with this event was provided by Scott Benjamin (Events Company Chair), Miranda Beasley, Mrs D Watson, Mr G Liddle and Nadine Holland

This year, the program was expanded to include dressage, along with the in-hand championships ridden championships, costume, fancy dress and games sections. Overall high point awards encouraged the young competitors to compete in all sections, showcasing the versatility of their Arabians, and hopefully opening up new experiences for their owners and riders.

Once again, K Ranch in Mount Hunter, NSW, hosted the event. This venue has proven to be an ideal and very affordable facility to act as a base for the event, as it grows and develops. This year, as well as attracting competitors from several States, the show took on a more International flavour, attracting several competitors from New Zealand. From ages 6 to 16, the young visitors made the trek across the ditch and were matched with suitable Australian horses. We sincerely thank those who donated the use of their horses and supported and encouraged our young competitors. All had a very enjoyable and successful show and most are looking forward to returning again. As a result of the event, one horse was sold to a lovely New Zealand family, who had borrowed him for the event. Long lasting friendships were made, and there is talk of another team coming across to compete this year.

In addition to this, the event attracted some competitors who had never been to an Arabian Show before. The enthusiasm on these young faces would suggest that they have become firm fans and will continue to attend events such as this.

Planning is already underway for this year's event, which is booked again at K Ranch during the Spring school holidays - 4th to 6th of October. Information will be available on the AHSA website as well as the

2019 Australian Arabian Youth National Championships Facebook Page. We look forward to your support, in whatever way you are able, to help bring these breeders and trainers of the future together with the Arabian Horse.

Moved Ms K Fletcher-Grieve, seconded Mrs Y Downes "That the Junior Development Sub-Committee Report be accepted." Carried

PROMOTIONS & MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Mr R Shipton, Chairman of the Promotions & Membership Sub-Committee, read his Report:

The 2018-19 Promotion & Membership Sub-Committee of the Board consisted of myself (Sub-Committee Chair), Mrs L Williamson (AHSA Chairman), Karen Fletcher- Grieve, Mr G Liddle and Scott Benjamin, and receiving extra support from, Helen Dohan and Teresa Edwards the AHSA Secretary and Assistant Secretary respectively.

This year, as in the previous year, we set the prime objectives of the Promotions and Membership Sub-Committee to support and help promote the activities of the Australian Arabian Championships and the Youth Championships however the members involved in the newly created Events Company did such a fantastic job we had very little to do again other than some basic advertising and supporting via our two Facebook pages.

We continue to spend a great deal of our personal time and efforts in those 'behind the scenes' activities maintaining our two Facebook sites, the Australian Arabian Horse Society Members only group and the Australian Arabian Horse Society Promotions page. We are very happy with the way both Social media pages have been accepted by our members and hopefully they will continue to be a source of current and up to date communication with our members as an additional resource to our website.

The expression of interest to interested bodies for an overhauling or renovation of our current Arabian Horse News is well and truly underway with two sources under consideration, with a bit of luck the incoming Promotions and Membership subcommittee will be able to put a recommendation to the Board before the end of this year.

Talks were initiated with a very well-known garment and merchandise provider to be licensed to use our trademarked logo on the usual range of clothing, we've opted for a 'pre-order' system as opposed to purchasing stock and hopefully again the incoming Promotion subcommittee can finalise this deal and advertise it to our members.

We did initiate some small merchandising items (pens, fridge magnets and coloured wrist bands) we picked these to be easy to send with new memberships and to hand out at our events, wristbands were given to the youth competitors at the Youth Championships.

All in all, it was a sedate year for the Promotions and Membership Subcommittee, the AANC was well and truly looked after by our newly formed Events company and the WAHO conference was also well managed by that team. We did provide some advertising support etc. but hats off to those that put on two great shows.

We are all looking forward to the 2019 -20 year ahead and hoping that the Promotions and membership subcommittee will continue to work on the items already began and include some new and interesting suggestions and ideas to promote the most amazing breed of horse in the world and to continue to support or current members whilst investing in ways of attracting new members, always a challenge but I'm sure we are looking forward to it.

Moved Mr R Shipton, seconded Ms K Fletcher-Grieve "That the Membership & Promotions Sub-Committee Report be accepted." Carried

REPORT -THE ARABIAN JUDGES & OFFICIALS GUILD OF AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

Mr A Preston, Chairman of "The Guild" presented his Report:

The Guild Council: Allan Preston, Deb Watson, Selina Ahel, Annette Vickery, Mrs L Williamson

The Guild Delegates: Mr G Liddle, Kerry Rogers, Kathy Saggars, Karen Fletcher-Grieve, Tessa Peacock

Since its inception The Arabian Horse Judges & Officials Guild of Australia Ltd (known as the Guild) has been progressing smoothly and conducting regular monthly council meetings. The main focal point of the Guild is training and licensing of Arabian Horse Judges, ensuring that our Australian Judges are acknowledged and recognised as being as well trained and as thoroughly assessed as any Arabian horse judge world wide.

The Guild conducts an annual two day Judges Congress with high profiled informative speakers covering a host of topics. The Congress is designed to be a cost neutral event to produce and host. Last years event was held in Melbourne with 53 judges in attendance, plans are well underway for this years congress to be held in Brisbane. This is a highly beneficial and necessary weekend for judge development.

The Guild has welcomed several new judges into our ranks as well as conducting several workshops and exam days. The council continues to develop ways to create a keen interest in new judge candidates undergoing judge training. Looking forward, the Guild intends to hold certificate courses in things like Ring Stewarding, Show Management, Marshalling, Show Programming etc .

The Guild currently has \$15,610.93 in the bank with \$15,000 of this being a set up grant from the AHSA. These funds will be utilised to help develop online training systems, online record keeping, hold training days, seminars, exam days and to develop a host of learning information for judges & event officials. In all sports today judges and officials are expected to be well trained and credentialed. Judge accountability is viewed as the foundation of all fair play in sport and with this in mind the Guild continues to work with procedures and protocols to regulate judges and judging procedures thus helping to ensure honest and fair judging at all Australian Arabian horse shows.

REPORT – THE ARABIAN HORSE SHOWS & EVENTS COMPANY OF AUSTRALIA PTY LTD REPORT

Mr S Benjamin, on behalf on the Board of Directors of the "Events Company", presented his Report:

ASEC OBJECTIVES::

The objectives of the Arabian Show & Events Company shall be:

- 1) To act as the Show & Events Management Commission, an independently governed subsidiary, on behalf of the Arabian Horse Society of Australia (AHSA)*
- 2) To coordinate and conduct Arabian horse shows & events throughout the annual calendar*
- 3) To coordinate and conduct The Australian Arabian National Championships (AANC) annually*
- 4) To coordinate and conduct The Australian Arabian Youth National Championships (AAYNC) annually*
- 5) To encourage and promote active involvement and participation at Arabian horse shows & events*
- 6) To encourage and increase Arabian horse ownership as a prerequisite for participation in Arabian horse shows & events*
- 7) To create and maintain a Rule Book, in conjunction with the Judges & Officials Guild, which governs Arabian horse shows in Australia affiliated with the AHSA*
- 8) To create and maintain a Rule Book which governs The Australian Arabian National Championships*
- 9) To create and maintain a Rule Book which governs The Australian Arabian Youth National Championships*
- 10) To sanction shows & events, which may include the collection of Show License Fees, on behalf of and in conjunction with the AHSA*
- 11) To organize and produce events related to Arabian horse education & promotion*

- 12) *To promote, encourage and stimulate popular interest in the purebred Arabian & Arabian Derivative breeds*

ASEC DIRECTORS:

The ASEC Board of Directors is comprised of the following AHSA Members:

- *Chair | Katherine McMahon – AHSA Member 50142*
- *Senior Vice-Chair | Jayne Bellchambers – AHSA Member 41391*
- *Treasurer | Deb Hatherell – AHSA Member 38292*
- *Secretary | Bryan Geoghegan – AHSA Member 47902*
- *Director | Scott Benjamin – AHSA Member 81004*
- *Ex-Officio | Mrs L Williamson – AHSA Chairperson*

ASEC EVENTS 2018-2019:

Since the last AGM, ASEC has been active, in close coordination with the organizing committees of each events, conducting the following major events:

- *2018 Australian Arabian Youth National Championships (YNC)*
 - *Friday 31st August – Sunday 2nd September | K Ranch, Mount Hunter NSW*
 - *Judges: Robyn Rogers (NSW) & Cathy Padgen (NSW)*
 - *Show Committee: Miranda Beasley (QLD); Nadine Holland (VIC); Karen Fletcher-Grieve (WA); Deb Watson (QLD); Mrs L Williamson (QLD)*
 - *Entries: 58 Horse/Rider combinations; 527 class entries*
 - *Entries from nearly all Australian states, plus a large group of riders and handlers from New Zealand*
 - *Successfully run once again, with a generous group of sponsors and on budget*
- *2019 Australian Arabian National Championships (AANC)*
 - *Wednesday 6th – Saturday 9th March | Boneo Park VIC*
 - *Judges: Corky Sutton (USA); Frances Atkinson (UK); Jerzy Bialobok (Poland); George Zbyszewski (USA); Sharyn Hungerford (QLD); Glenys Lilley (NSW); Cherie Devenish (QLD)*
 - *Show Committee: Katherine McMahon (VIC); Jayne Bellchambers (VIC); Sheila Jones (VIC); Kay Edward (VIC); Scott Benjamin (NSW)*
 - *Entries: 245 horses; 856 class entries*
 - *Added Wednesday to accommodate Dressage entries without class conflicts.*
 - *Entries from all Australian states, with increase in numbers of Arabian Ponies participating.*
 - *Exciting addition of Fashions of the Field; excellent feedback on new venue.*
 - *Once again run on budget (for seven consecutive years), with increased broad base of sponsorship.*
- *WAHO 2019 Conference Australia*
 - *Pre-Conference: Saturday 02 – Monday 04 February; Conference: Tuesday 05 – Friday 08 February; Post-Conference: Saturday 09 – Sunday 17 February*
 - *Organising Committee: Teresa Edwards; Helen Dohan; Mrs L Williamson; Deb Watson*
 - *Onsite Team: Lindy Stewart; Ian Watson; Kelly Watson; Bryan Geoghegan; Kristin Galea*
 - *Guest Speakers: Cindy Reich (USA); Dr. Chris Whitton (VIC); Dr. Madeleine Campbell (UK); Julie Feidler (SA); Coralie Gordon (QLD); David Gillett (NSW); Allan Preston (NSW)*
 - *Entertainment: Carol Heuchan, Australian Reptile Park*
 - *Delegates: 124 | Countries Represented: 26; Argentina; Australia; Austria; Bahrain; Belgium; China; Ecuador; Egypt; France; Germany; Iraq; Jordan; Kuwait; Libya; Morocco; New Zealand; Oman; Poland; Qatar; Saudi Arabia; Spain; Switzerland; UAE; United Kingdom; USA*
 - *Pre-Conference Activities included Australian Arabian Ambassadors Parade in conjunction with East Coast Championships, plus tours organized by AATKings in Sydney & Blue Mountains*
 - *Post-Conference activities: stud tours in the Hunter Valley, Queensland, Victoria & New Zealand*
 - *Third successful WAHO conference in Australia, the most of any member country*

- Sponsorship support from the UAE, Egypt, IRT & Central Coast Council
- Ongoing income earned via Hoofprints in History book sales

FUTURE ASEC EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Two major events will be conducted by ASEC, in close coordination with the show committees, prior to the next AHSA AGM:

- 2019 Australian Arabian Youth National Championships (YNC)
 - Friday 4th – Sunday 6th October | K Ranch, Mount Hunter NSW
- 2020 Australian Arabian National Championships (AANC)
 - Wednesday 4th – Saturday 7th March | SIEC, Horsley Park NSW

With the WAHO Conference now successfully behind us, and Youth Nationals on a successful progression, the ASEC Directors will be exploring new opportunities, ideas & concepts to involve more Arabian horse owners and AHSA members in events and social activities that will increase participation, engagement and enjoyment of the Arabian horse as the breed of choice. We look forward to engaging the membership in joining us in these important endeavours.

Mrs Y Downes commented how the venue and organisation of the Championships was excellent and how smoothly it ran despite the weather.

THE HISTORY OF THE ARABIAN IN TASMANIA

Mrs W Carins, a Life Member of the Society, presented a talk and slideshow on the History of Arabians in Tasmania. (see Appendix A)

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Mrs M Hutchison asked why the overseas judges for the Australian Championships had flown Business Class rather than Economy. Mr S Benjamin explained that the international judges had travelled Business Class since 2018, it was getting harder to get good judges as the most qualified tended to be over 50 years old. The expense was in the budget and had been achieved at no extra cost to the exhibitors. It is in the judge contract for the Show. Business Class airfares will again be utilised in 2020, it has reduced the hotel expense as the judges do not need to arrive as early. The Championships has not required Board approval for such matters since 2015, since 2016 all decisions have been made by the Championships Sub-committee. Mrs M Hutchison asked if the judges knew they were going to Sydney after the Show, Mr S Benjamin explained that they were aware as they were taken to the usual post-show tours.
- Mrs K Aldridge asked if more Australian judges could be utilised for the Championships. Mr S Benjamin confirmed that usually three Australian judges were used. One Australian judge was unable to attend just before the Show so another International judge was used. It is good training for the Australian judges to work alongside the more experienced overseas judges. The long-term aim is to use more Australian judges. A fantastic letter was received from the UK judge following the Show. Mr S Benjamin stated that there is a need to promote the Arabian not just as a show horse as he feels the future is not in the show world. There is a need to expose our Arabians overseas. Mr A Preston confirmed that he had always promoted the use of Australian judges. They are well trained and have more opportunity to judge at the Australian Championships than in the past.
- Mrs H Hardwick asked why the judges did not go to any farms in Victoria after the Show. Mrs L Williamson that in all the years she had been associated with the Show, even before she was on the Board, committees always asked if people wanted to host after the show. Studs are welcome to offer to host visits, Mulawa always offers. Mrs H Hardwick felt that smaller farms should be invited. She stated that she was asked last year but there had been no follow up.
- Mrs H Hardwick asked if the Events Company had a Constitution and could people obtain a copy. Mrs L Williamson advised that only members of the Events Company were entitled to receive a copy. AHSA Ltd is the sole shareholder of the Companies. Mrs H Hardwick asked about the AGM for the Company and how the structure was determined. Mrs L Williamson advised that people could volunteer to be involved. Mr A Preston advised that the Company was set up, and operated, the same as The Alliance. Mrs M Hutchison asked how The Alliance is run. AHSA Ltd is the only member of the Events Company

and it has a working committee. Mr S Benjamin advised that The Events Company Constitution has a generic constitution. He confirmed that there was nothing secret about the Company and that he would be delighted if people came forward to volunteer to help with any or all events. It would be good to involve more people. Mr S Benjamin advised that only about 10% of the membership were involved with shows which is the main reason that the AGM is no longer attached to a show. There is a need to engage more members around the country. The Board are people who are just trying to help. The decision to move the AGM around the country was made before he was on the Board and he personally would like to see it occur in country locations as well.

- Mrs H Hardwick advised that people did not realise that they could offer to help.
- Mr S Benjamin stated that it was important to resolve issues and that people should ask for information. Mr H Rowbottom suggested that instead of resorting to Facebook, people should contact the office. Mrs K Aldridge stated that there was a perception that there was no transparency, the Board needs to speak to people. Mrs L Williamson reminded members that Board members were elected to represent Australia as a whole and not the State they live in. Ms M Kraatz stated people should ask Board members if they have a query. Mr G Liddle stated that he was disappointed that Mrs K Aldridge had not contacted him with her concerns. Mrs K Galea confirmed that members should contact the Board with queries but that the answers must not be convoluted or mis-represented. A Board member can advocate for a member but once the position is determined then that is the Board members position on the subject.
- Mrs L Williamson confirmed that members were very welcome to approach Board members with their views but need to realise that once the Board has resolved something that must be the position of every Board member. She noted that it took Collingwood Football Club seven attempts to have a new Constitution approved. The Board would like comments or suggestions regarding a new proposed Constitution. The process is to suggest changes, the document is amended, further suggestions are received, the document may be amended again and the cycle continues. A Constitution is an evolving document, members can always ask to have a clause amended via Special Resolution. The EGM is scheduled for 28th August, a weekday at lunchtime, due to comments received stating that a Company should have its meetings during business hours. Mrs K Aldridge felt that an EGM should be on a weekend, she was advised to write urgently if that was her view as it had been arranged for a work day.
- Mrs K Aldridge felt that much of the problem was that the Constitution had not been submitted for review by members. Mr L Williamson stated that there was ample time for the document to be reviewed and either accepted or rejected. Mrs L Williamson stated that members could always reject the motion. Mrs H Hardwick felt the matter should have been put out to a member vote. Mrs L Williamson asked if people did not read the covering letter of explanation. Mr A Preston stated that the Board has done the right thing by withdrawing the Special Resolution.
- Ms K Fletcher-Grieve stated that she hoped the members carrying proxies would go back to the members who entrusted them and explain the situation. Mrs H Hardwick gave an assurance that this would occur.
- Mrs L Williamson advised the meeting that six years ago the Society did not even have enough money to cover staff entitlements and the estimate was that the Society only had 18 months to 3 years trading left at that rate. Mr A Preston went guarantor with ASIC in order for the Society to trade out of its difficulties. Mrs L Williamson further remarked that both Mr A Preston and Mr S Benjamin had dedicated a lot of time and money into the Society and she was proud to have been involved with a Board strong enough to do what is needed.
- Mr L Nicolle thanked Mrs L Williamson for chairing the meeting. He stated that he was concerned about the computer system being controlled by a "one-man band". Mr Nicolle suggested that the proposed clauses for the Constitution be moved individually rather than all together. Mrs L Williamson advised that the current Articles of Association cannot be amended as it refers to an Act that no longer exists.
- Mrs Y Downes felt that there had been very fruitful discussion at the meeting and was pleased to see 22 Tasmanians there.
- Ms H Dohan confirmed that the Board would like feedback on the proposed new Constitution.
- Ms K Fletcher-Grieve noted that the Board had been accused of being on ego and power trip on Facebook, she queried what power? Mrs L Williamson advised that the Board were not on the Concerned Members page but members were copying and sending posts to the Board.
- Mr R Shipton confirmed that the Society does not currently have a Constitution, rather memorandum of Articles of Association. Mrs H Hardwick stated that the interpretation was that the intent was to amend the current Articles, it is important for members to realise that the proposed Constitution is new.

- Ms L Hanson said it was important to set a basic Constitution and allow it to evolve as necessary. She suggested that the Constitution be approved and then amended later as needed.
- Mrs H Hardwick asked who was occupying which new Board positions. Mrs L Williamson introduced the new Board members, Mr W Beasley & Mrs G Lilley. She advised that the Treasurer was Mrs K Galea, Junior Vice Chairman Mr H Rowbottom, Senior Vice Chairman Ms K Fletcher-Grieve and Chairman Mr G Liddle. She then invited Mr G Liddle to take the Chair.
- Mr G Liddle thanked Mrs L Williamson. He advised the meeting that he hoped the Board could allay some fears and move forward with the members as a team. He noted that what was posted on Social Media goes all over the world. If a post relating to a person is negative, that person may be strong enough not to be impacted but their family may not. It is important to think of the implications prior to posting. The Board will be taking a firmer stand on Social Media, if the Post is not positive then it shouldn't be there. He confirmed that all correspondence should be sent to the Secretary and it would then be referred to the Board. Comments on Social Media are not dealt with at Board level.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 5.30pm

APPENDIX A – THE HISTORY OF ARABIANS IN TASMANIA by Wendy Carins

Tasmania is an equine wonderland....yes it's cold in the winter but in comparison to the rest of the world we have it....pretty good. Tasmania's unique climate soils and geography have brought a number of benefits denied much of the Australian continent.

Tasmania is amongst the most fertile of all states which is now becoming known as one of the best equine nurseries in the Southern Hemisphere.

The opportunities for Tasmanian breeders continues through the experience and wisdom of our identities...who have spared no expense or difficulties at importing world class horses & ponies to stand at stud. Arabians, Thoroughbreds, Harness horses and all breeds imported from various states of Australia and quality strains from successful breeders across the globe.

In Tasmania there are twenty two pony clubs, four eventing clubs, four hunt clubs and polocrosse has one hundred or more players competing regularly.

Add to this the various breed societies, trail riding ,harness and Endurance riding clubs , plus stock horses and those kept entirely as pleasure or companion horses the equine industry in Tasmania becomes of enormous importance.

Arabian stallions and mares were imported to Tasmania from India as early as 1804....the first stallion being WHITE WILLIAM he arrived on the ship LADY BARLOW with an Arabian mare. In 1807 ...the resultant foal from this mating was DERWENT a successful sire for John Macarthur at Camden stud in New South Wales. In the 1820's the "Sugarloaf" Arabians, SATELITE, PIPER and SHIEK arrived. PIPER sired DUKE OF BRONTE, who stood at Richard Whites Hotel, Launceston.....Other Arabian stallions and mares were imported to Tasmania during the 1800's their names are found in many of the pedigrees of horses whose performances earned them a place in the Australian Stud Book for Thoroughbred horses.

In 1874 Mr William Learmonth imported the next group of purebreds from India including a fine stallion by the name of MAHARAJ he was sold to Mr Falkiner of Wickford, Longford. His great grandson Mr Robert Gatenby of Rhodes Longford still has a portrait of this fine stallion.

Except for Sydney....Tasmania's colony was the oldest and became the only region in Australasia whose light horse population was derived mainly from Arabian ancestors.....crossed most often with Clydesdales and Hackneys....

I would like to mention a few of those identities who had the knowledge and foresight to bring new Arabian bloodlines to Tasmania therefore giving us the quality Arabian horses we have today.

BREEDERS AND IDENTITIES

These names that I mention are not in any particular order but I hope we can give them the recognition they deserve.....

About 1824, a Mr John James Butler settled on a property in Brighton, which he named Shene.

It is through his descendants, and particularly his great great granddaughter, Mrs Louis Nye, that the past and the present are joined in the history of Arabian Horse Breeding in Tasmania.

It seemed that Mrs Nye's father Mr Butler had three properties to manage....they were a great distance apart. He needed a horse to ride that would stand up to the work of mustering sheep and cattle on runs of 2,000 acres each over inhospitable country.

Many horses had been tried without success.....one day Mr Butler chanced to meet Mr J. Y. Jelbart an Arabian breeder who was judging at the Royal Hobart Show. A short time later, Mr Jelbart sent him two Anglo Arabians which were well suited to the demanding work.

After the war the Butler family purchased the purebred colt JUDIALA from Mr Jelbart. That was the beginning of THE FRANKLIN ARABIAN STUD 1950.

In 1958 Mrs Butler and daughter Louie went to England where they visited CRABBET PARK STUD, the outcome of which was the importation of the stallion SHERIF (Royal Diamond x Serafina)

There are many early Tasmanian Arabian Studs who have started their journey in breeding outstanding saddle horses with a SHERIF broodmare. Because of this he had a great influence on Arabian breeding in Tasmania.

In 1980 several stallions came to the stud to cover the SHERIF mares and SHERIF imp went to stand at Newlands Arabian Stud in South Australia.

The stallions chosen to cover the existing mares were SEPTIMO (Fable X Oribi) bred by Mrs Jean Luckcock of Ennerdale Stud Victoria.

BIRUBI TARKARRI (RINGING GOLD X MAKARISH)
BELLBOWRIE PROGRESSION(RALVON PILGRIM X STEPHANIE)
SHARAMOUN (TRISTRAM GENOA x SHARESTAN)
RAINBOW (BLENHEIM X ROSEMARY) imp from the famous Courthouse Stud England.

MRS JOAN SHIPP & HOGARTH STUD 1950 to 1974

I first heard of Mrs Shipp nee Stagoll originally from Scottsdale, when I was 9 years old when my parents decided to buy me a pony. I never met her but in later years I heard how dedicated and devoted to horses she was.

In 1942 she worked at Fenwick Stud as part of what they called THE LAND ARMY where women went to work on the farms while the men were at war. While working there she bottle fed an orphan foal called MUSTAPHA....and by chance in 1944 he came to Tasmania to be with George Groves at Rushy Lagoon.

Later Joan Shipp returned to Hogarth stud, Cuckoo Valley, Tasmania where she acquired and stood MUSTAPHA she bred quite a number of Arabian horses and ponies.

I'm told she bred the well known Tasmanian Arabian Stallion ROSSGARTH in 1962....I believe he went to Harold Scott of Georgetown Tasmania. SOX by ROSSGARTH won the first endurance ride held in Tasmania ridden by Shirley Clinton.

In 1949 Anne Cuthbertson was employed by Fenwick Arabian Stud she had the good fortune to pick out a foal as her future sireSHEHAB (RAKIB X DAHANA) was transported to Rokeby, Tasmania. He was crossed with Welsh Mountain Ponies bred by Dora McLean to produce the best ponies in Tasmania at the time.....EARLHAM ROUSEABOUT and GREY SPIRIT...they have gone on to produce consistent winners. His only purebred son SAHB was owned by DIGGER HILLS....his progeny have gone on to win many ridden championships....notably GLEN CHAP MEADOW MIST ridden by Jane Clarke.

SARANDIB (Indian Light x DAHANA) also bred at FENWICK sired some good horses in the North West of Tasmania in the 1950s....he was owned by Mr Atkinson of Burnie.

ARCADIAN (PROMETHEUS X TALLAS)

Bill Wright of Ulverstone travelled to Victoria in 1964 with some intention of buying an Arabian stallion, he returned home with ARCADIAN and there he stood at stud for the next twenty years.

ARCADIAN will never be forgotten by the true horsemen of our island state, as he is now being recognised as one of the greatest producing Arabian stallions of athletic horses with endurance potential...in Australia today. A colt named CREDIT was kept to carry on those bloodlines he was owned by well known endurance personalities Cecil and Max Lockhart of Lebrina Tasmania.

Some ARCADIAN offspring include ROBBIE 1981 Quilty winner in record time...Allan Whiley's geldings TANDARA and CANDY are both used for pick up work at the on the rodeo circuit...ROCKY and ROBBIE excel in endurance plus many more.....needless to say these bloodlines are much sought after.

SARAN RIFFAYAL X ROSE DU SABLE)

Originally purchased by the Woolnorth Van Diemens Land Company as a sire for stockhorses.

Bred by the BARNALOOT STUD in Victoria and came to Tasmania as a yearling.

His following owner was Mr Claude Moore of Table Cape Arabian Stud Wynyard...then later purchased by Mick and Judy Bourke of TARA HAVEN ARABIAN STUD, Montumana, Wynyard Tasmania in 1967.

His bloodlines are very much sought after as his progeny have proved to be exceptional at stockwork and endurance....perhaps his best known...

TARA HAVEN TIARA owned by Shirley Clintonwinning the 1981 100 km North Eastern Endurance ride... TUMBARUMBA a part Arabian stallion also competing successfully at endurance.

SARAN also stood at ELPHYN ARABIAN STUD, Orielton which was founded by Trevor Jacobson.

Other stallions at stud were MANFRED and SHUGAL both by SILVER FLAME and the studs first stallion was Z'ELPHYN by CALLAZA.

FLASH OF GOLD (SHAFREYN X FALUSUF)

FLASH OF GOLD was brought to Tasmania by Gordon Williams, South Nietta, a man very much admired for his horsemanship. The stallion covered quite a number of mares....none of them purebred...he also covered at least six mares at the property of Ken Morris....the foals from those matings have become legendary under the HARGENDALE prefix.

Ken Morris purchased FLASH OF GOLD and in time because of circumstance all horses were sold at record prices.

A Devonport chemist Mr David Howard Duerden purchased FLASH OF GOLD, he then stood the stallion at Pleasant Valley Farm, The Don, Devonport Tasmania. The athletic stallion sired many foals that later earned themselves a name for being extremely versatile with the ability to jump...

In 1980 he was leased by Wendy and Jeff Carins of Carington Park Cressy where he had the opportunity to be bred with three purebred Arabians....his legend lives on.

It seems fitting at this point to mention LAURIE NICOLLE as he began the GORDON WILLIAMS endurance ride....held in Tasmania...in respect of a man who inspired him to be the best horseman he could be. Laurie has been involved with endurance riding in Tasmania and also Tasmanian Riders & Breeders. WE must also be grateful for the incredible effort to entertain at the early stallion parades where he put the amazing Arabian stallion STAR OF ARABIA SIR GHAZAL by AL KARIM SIR HALIMA out of GODIVA through so many many brilliant performances...which thrilled and impressed our spectators and most of all demonstrated the versatility of the Arabian.

Other stallions were LAURJIL RAZEEM 1985 top ten stallion AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS by (STAR OF ARABIA SIR GHAZAL X SHAZILLA) and PRINCETON.

Mares at stud were SHAZILLA ...1982 Reserve champion mare AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS ... bred by Thornton Park...WATABA (Sankt George imp. X Moroccan Moon) and GODIVA (Babylon X Ino)

NAAMAN GALA FASHION by MOON FASHION out of WINDSOR VALLEY FALANIE....a magnificent saddle horse graced the cover of the ARABIAN HORSE IN AUSTRALIA publication. Lyn and Laurie now breed horses under the LAURALYN PREFIX

LAURALYN NOTORIOUS (PRINCETON X LAURLYN MUSIC) has been a consistent performer at the TOM QUILTY ENDURANCE RIDE...winning the 2016 event ridden by Debbie Grull . In 2017 they were second to another Tasmanian horse TIERVIEW SALAMA (TIERVIEW PHANTOM X TIERVIEW SADEEKA) bred by Penny Jenkins and ridden by Brooke Brown Cordell.

....second again in 2018 to Kristie Tapprell riding CASTLEBAR BELAIR.

The 2018 TOM QUILTY held in Scottsdale is regarded as "the best ever event" and the 2012 event at St Helens was "the best ever track"

2018 Line honours went to BEER STREET bred by Tony Purton.

BENGOWRIE (Lyrian Lightning X Happy Wanderer

Owned by Mort Cooper of Dalmore Stud, Devonport.

Seldom does a horse capture the respect and admiration of the true horseman of the rodeo circuit the way BENGOWRIE did....he was rated one of the best time event horses and barrel racers....he carried a number of riders to victory in a variety of western events such as camp drafting, calf roping, barrel racing and team roping.

As a sire of action he has few equals...his progeny are noted for their great spirit, vitality and athletic ability.... Having passed on these remarkable qualities to many of his offspring.

The part Arabian WHISKY by BENGOWRIE finished fourth in the 1987 160km Tom Quilty Endurance ride ridden by Allan Wyllie...he was also an A Grade polocrosse mount a successful performer in all western events.

CALLAZA (RAZAZ imp UK X CALLIOPE)

CALLAZA became available to SHEMALI ARABIANS Tasmania as a yearling (born 15.10.69) and over the years has sired in excess of two hundred foals many of which are noted for their beauty as well as being performance horses....he has multiple winners in endurance...pony club and all equine pursuits. The Scottsdale polo crosse team had four of his sons in the one team.

TAFAN TAFADIN X NICOLA)

Foaled in 1975 at SHEMALI ARABIANS, Hagley out of the bay mare NICOLA....dam of DUNWINGERIE ST NICHOLAS Australian endurance horse of the year 1982. TAFAN was a delightful stallion in every way....his superb temperament allowed him to be a great ambassador for the breed winning over the newcomer every time.

His progeny have achieved Supreme status plus have excelled in dressage, eventing and polocrosse.

SHEMALI ARABIANS is now situated at Tunnel Road, Tunnel, Tasmania.

Following stallions were

KALNARA AURSINDH (AUR VANITY X KALNARA SINDORA) brought to Tasmania by Patricia Jeffery of Forth.

SHEMALI SAYYAR, TAFAN's half brother

SHEMALI CAZALL CALLAZA X FRANKLIN ZARIA)

ARFAJA STARFIRE a pure crabbet stallion chosen to cover the mares by the above stallions... has now been leased to Victoria since 2016.

At the Crabbet convention held at Werribee in Victoria 2016 this lovely stallion won the champion senior pure Crabbet stallion award

The stallion ARFAJA SARIF (SARAFIRE X ARFAJA NUALA) and the pure Cabbet mare have been acquired.

Roslyn and the late Stuart Gladman were founding members of the Tasmanian Division of the Arabian Horse Society which was formed in 1973.

RADIANT GOLD (SINDH X RENITA) came to Tasmania in 1973...the first time I saw him was at the inaugural Tasmanian Division Show in 1974. He looked superb...bounding around with great exuberance and yet totally under control. Since then he has become renowned for siring some truly versatile derivatives. He himself competed in most equine pursuits including harness. A memorable wedding day is when your father's horse can take you to your wedding in a carriage. I give Alan Ely a great deal of respect for ensuring this stallion could achieve all of his potential as I do the great horse handlers in Tasmania.

One of RADIANT GOLD'S most well known offspring was the Exceptional mare ZAINDH owned by Maureen Wiggins of Hobart

INDIAN TREASURE (imp UK (THE SHAH X GOLDEN TREASURE)

A once in a life time horse...sire of beautiful prizewinning progeny in three countries...brought to Duloe Arabians, Cygnet, Tasmania by Peter and Lois Wright. Peter and Lois moved their entire stud from England to Tasmania in 1975.

The cornerstone of their stud was the mare RIZZATAKRIYAH X RIZAAB....RIZZA aged twenty was in foal to FARI 11 at the time and produced the bay stallion FARIZ....never unplaced and winning champion stallion at Perth Royal show.

Her 1972 foal was the outstanding stallion PIZZICATO by SUNLIGHTS ALLEGRO. He was shown with great success in England before his long journey to Tasmania. He has produced a number of outstanding foals....AARON G STRING out of SHADED SILK being the best known.

RIZZAS first foal bred in Tasmania was RIZIFA by SHERIF imp. In 1979 she foaled a filly by INDIAN TREASURE imp UK.

Even though these wonderful people are no longer with us we must admire their strength and courage to take their Arabians on such a journey and it was an absolute pleasure to know them.

RHODA SAYER

At this point I would like to mention RHODA SAYER

What a amazing lady she was....unfortunately I do not have her full story as I often begged her to let me do an interview for my articles in the Arabian Horse news ...but she seriously glared at me and said no interview no photos....and she meant it!!!!

As far as I know her husband was killed in the war...he was a fighter pilot and her whole life has been revolved around horses....her passion Arabians of course.

She attended the first meeting of the Arabian Horse Society in Australia....she rode in the first Tom Quilty endurance ride ever held in Australia was a life member of the Midlands Hunt Club and attended the first meeting of the Tasmanian Division of AHSA and was there for every meeting I can remember.

I think we were all a bit scared of RHODA she called a spade a spadethere were no grey areas. But I had the greatest respect for her and I think after about twenty years of hard work promoting the Arabian breed....she respected me too.

RHODA wrote articles for HOOVES & HORNS in a section called ACROSS THE STRAIGHT...for at least thirty years that I know of....she had such amazing inner strength with such a devoted passion and loyalty to the Arabian Horse.

If you ever come to Tasmania take the opportunity to visit the WOOLMERS ESTATE in Longford...it is now a tourist venue...well worth a look....this is where RHODA lived in her later years...a little cottage on the right as you go in the drive...before the big shearing shed...she was related to the original owners I believe. I would like to mention a couple that did a lot to promote Arabian Horses in Tasmania...

NOEL & BERYL STEVENSON...they supported everything Arabian and were involved with the Arabian stallion SIRRODOM (SIRROCCO out of DOMINITA.

They also showed a handsome gelding called DUNEBA SUPERSTAR...through the week they would take their Arabians out to a property called LOGAN at Evandale to muster sheep and cattle with these beautiful horses.

Also I would like to mention Geoff and Johanna Harvey of INERAVON ARABIANS Bass Highway Westbury...Geoff was not only a great horse trainer but a lover of Arabians.

Notable horses that Geoff has broken have gone into the most capable hands, and earned themselves a name in Tasmania are...HICKORY a horse that represented Tasmania three times at the Victorian Dressage championships ridden by Judy Greaves, DUNEBA SUPERSTAR ridden and shown by Noel and Beryl Stevenson...and many other horses that thanks to Geoff have had a productive and bright future.

Special mention to Sherry Fenton of Valley Springs Arabians who has kept Tasmanian Arabian Riders & Breeders alive with her enthusiasm and hard work. The girls Maya and Nadja Jahene and Hanna Van Dongen so talented with handling and showing their horses to the public which has done a lot to promote Arabians in Tasmania.

Selina Ahel from Oyster Bay Arabians was our Tasmanian Arabian Riders & Breeders representative for over twelve years....plus put many horses in the picture so to speak...being a great photographer. In the 1980's we were indebted to the professional photographic work of Helen Sloane, Peter Pond. Selina Ahel and Cynthia Larner...in those days there was no digital photographs and horse photography was a specialized field...we have unique photography taken at that time.....at the most beautiful locations in Tasmania.... Port Arthur and the Lavender Farm to name a few.

We all admire those breeders that possess "the Eye" for a horse....the ability to pick out a unique individual to be bred from....as they see their choices as having the qualities to breed on to achieve the ideal type they feel will accomplish greatness....Also the huge expense that these breeders have gone to...by importing new and exciting stallions, mares and foals into Tasmania.

Publicity nowadays is so brilliant...with the use of the internet and digital photography...there is no excuse for lack of promotion. I feel I have let many current breeders down by not mentioning their achievements but hopefully in the future...that can be something to continue the Tasmanian story.

WENDY CARINS