



Andalusian Horse Association of Australasia, WA Branch

NEWSLETTER

December 2014



El Manteca Sonodoro – 2014 RAS Supreme Champion Andalusian

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From the President's Pen

President's Report 2014 AGM

2014 has been a bit of a catch up year, following changes to our Committee and then some resignations along the way. Our thanks must go to our Secretary, Karen McLean who has done a fantastic job, with the Newsletter and most of the organisation for the State Championship Show earlier in the year as well as chocolate sales for fundraising.

I'm not sure all of you know just how much work is involved in our Show. It is a huge effort, usually by just a few people and this is why we introduced the 'Helper's Fee'. Without enough helpers to manage, we felt that this would at least allow us to pay for some extra assistance on the day. However, this doesn't mean that any and all offers will be most gratefully accepted.

Nominations for Committee positions were disappointing. We didn't receive any. This means that the 2015 Committee will be Karen, Nicola, Lindy and myself as a committee member and only State Delegate. Barb Whyte stepped in and filled a vacancy on the 2014 committee, but is no longer able to continue. Barb has given a great deal of time and energy to our Branch, for which we are very appreciative.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with chocolate sales. It will be WA's turn for the National Show in 2016 and we will have to do some very energetic fund raising if we are to manage. The last National Show here cost in the region of \$15,000 and, as you can see by the financial statement, we have a long way to go to reach that amount.

Our State Championship Show was considered a success by those who attended; even though the numbers were down a bit. We are hoping to get a booking for a ground in the cooler weather, before winter sets in next year. As you can see, our Shows just cover costs, so we need numbers in order to afford a good venue. As most grounds do not take bookings until the beginning of the year, it can be difficult to get a date & venue that appeals to everyone; particularly as there are fewer available than there once was. Suggestions are welcome.

Anyway, the main thing I'd like to say is that our Branch is only ever as good as our Members, and how much each of us is prepared to put in. In other words, we need your help.

I hope everyone has a Happy Christmas & enjoys the break. We look forward to seeing you and your horses out & about in 2015.

Margaret Cala

The Secretary's Note

Firstly, I would like to thank Margaret Cala and Barb Whyte for all the help and support they have given me over the last year. When I first put my hand up for the job of Secretary (somewhat foolishly), I had absolutely no idea just how much work was involved. Then, as good fortune would have it.....not, the Treasurer and Newsletter Editor had to resign (due to no fault of their own). Margaret took on the job of Treasurer and I, the Newsletter Editor. Both of us juggling two positions, we soldiered on.

I have found this past year very work intensive but I feel as if I have made some improvements and hopefully next year should be easier. Before my secretary role, I heard complaints from members that they never received information from the AHAA National and/or AHAA-WA. I wanted to fix this!

My first task was to establish an Electronic Member Database (EMD) – lets get trendy and use acronyms – everyone else does! Now, this may sound easy enough, but, it is the National Office that collects the memberships. That makes perfect sense, as they are responsible for the integrity and record keeping of the Andalusian Stud Book. Unfortunately for Helen Clutterbuck (National Secretary) there seems to be a fair amount of human intervention required to notify the States regarding new and renewed memberships. Helen has done a suburb job and has been very supportive of my endless requests.

Once the EMD was established, it was then possible to Go Electronic. All Notifications and the Quarterly Newsletters are now emailed to members saving \$'s in printing and postage costs! As a 'Not for Profit' organisation we don't have the funds to waste. (also, it is environmentally friendly). I know sometimes it may seem like you are being bombarded with emails, if so, I do apologise. I would rather you have too much information than none!

Our 2014 AGM was held at Jezebel Restaurant at 12:30, 30th November 2014. It was attended by 16 members and two friends. We had a lovely lunch. Caught up with those not seen for awhile and got to know some new members and talked about horses. There was an interest of help expressed with regards to organisation of clinics and fundraising. Our main focus will need to be fundraising for the 2016 National Championship Show. Now I have found my feet in my role as secretary, I wish to have more events going on for the year 2015 and with more help on board this can be achievable!

I am very pleased that some of our members have chosen to share their stories with us in the 'Member Profiles' section. Surprisingly most of the correspondence is from new members. In this issue of the newsletter, there is a disturbing story about how it can all go wrong. There is a happy ending, but unless we build a conscientious community within our group, to bring awareness to the Andalusian Breed and protect the the horse breed we love, there could be more unfortunate candidates, as in the story 'My Diamond in the Rough'. So keep those stories coming, they make very good reading.

I would like to hear from members that are out in country. It is extremely difficult for these members to make it to the State Competition and/or clinics, so lets hear from you. Who is your Andie? What do you do with your Andie? How can we make you feel more a part of our group? We would love to hear from you! Tell us your story.

Christmas is on the doorstep and I am taking some time off. I will always be available if you have any questions, I just may not reply as promptly as usual. Have a great Christmas and New Years members! See you all in 2015!

Karen McLean

Member Profiles

My Diamond in the Rough

Ever since I was little, I had always dreamt of owning an Andalusian. I loved everything about them, their movement, their loyalty, their build, their presence, everything. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would ever be lucky enough to own one.

On the 21st of March 2010, we attended an RSPCA Auction with our friends. As we walked around the yards of bays, blacks, greys and patchy horses, Mum was constantly being drawn to this one grey mare, even though not really a grey horse person! The mare's information card said that she was a Thoroughbred. When they trotted her out and her movement was amazing! We decided to bid on her. The bidding started but soon surpassed our limit. Helpless, we just sat there and waited to see who won. There were two people bidding on her. One bidder was on the far side of the ring and the other was behind us. The hammer fell and the person behind us was the lucky new owner, we were devastated! We turned around to congratulate them, only to see it was our friend with a huge grin on his face, he handed Mum his bidding number and said "there you go, there's your horse". We were speechless to say the least!



With our new horse loaded on the float, we headed home. A large storm was brewing so we decided that her name would be Stormy. That was 4 years ago. In that time we had tried numerous times to find out her history and who she was but had failed. Then, by chance, we asked our vet to scan her for a microchip, she had one!

Armed with just a microchip number, we began the major task of trying to find out any information about her. We checked the Thoroughbred data base but it came up with nothing. Many friends had told us that she seemed more like an Andalusian, or at least had some Andalusian blood. So we sent the Microchip number and all the information we knew to the AHHA. We got a reply asking if we could wait as they were running their National Show then their AGM. Things happened, and the AHHA didn't get back to us, so it was put on the back burner.



Later in the year we went to Cavalia. Seeing the show reignited our desire to find out who Storm really was. After seeing the Cavalia Andalusians, we were convinced more than ever that Stormy was indeed an Andalusian. The next day, we emailed everyone we could on the AHHA website. Margaret Cala was on that list.

On New Year's Eve, Mum's (Natalie) in-box was full of emails from both Margaret Cala and the Helen Clutterbuck, (AHAA National Secretary) telling us that they had found her!!!! As it turned out, Margaret and her daughter Nina had actually bred her. They had lost track of her in 2007. Within a few hours we knew everything, had copies of her registration papers, photos of her as a foal, and even what shows she had competed in.

It was mind blowing and the email we received from Nina bought us to tears! It has to be one of the most heartfelt and honest words we have ever read.

So, as it turned out my little “Thoroughbred Rescue” was indeed a very well-bred and highly educated second cross Andalusian! She’s 75% Andalusian and 25% Arabian, her sire is the well-known Andalusian stallion, Formantero III and her dam is the beautiful Jacaranda II.

We were privileged to meet Nina and Margaret at this year’s WA State Championships! They are such beautiful people. They were so happy to see, with their own eyes, how loved, cared for and truly treasured Storm is now. Stormy truly is my soul mate and it really is a dream come true!



Kandice Heal and Natalie Bosman, *Baldivis*.

Margaret Cala Response to the story above!

Thanks for sending the article on ‘Stormy’ (I still think of her as Zzara). It is an awful story, but with such a happy ending! We did indeed breed Stormy & she was born in November 2000 - and sold her to what we thought was a forever home in 2003, only to find she had been sold on again less than 6 months later. I contacted the new purchaser, to keep in touch & asked to be contacted if there was ever a time she would be sold. To my surprise, I was phoned a few months later & told the purchaser was moving & couldn’t keep her; so I offered to buy her back in January 2004. To cut a rather long story short, we kept Zzara for some time, started her under saddle & eventually sold her to a young woman who lived near Wooroloo. We visited her several times & she was at that time well cared for. We lost touch with Zzara & her owner and cannot imagine how she ended up in Mundijong in such dreadful condition. The photos of her were shocking – how anyone could leave a horse like that does not deserve to have animals. I was amazed when Natalie contacted me with a Microchip Number & Helen phoned me to say that it belonged to Zzara! Both Nina & I are thrilled that Stormy (Zzara) now has the wonderful, loving home she deserves.

Margaret Cala, *Byford*

A Bad Start to Life

I am 35 years old and own 2 Spanish horses. A mare 'Zara' and a yearling gelding 'Tzar'. I have been involved with horses since I was about 8 years old. My parents bought an Andalusian stallion called “Omaru Gellie” approx. twenty years ago. The '**Descarado Andalusian Stud**' was then founded, by my mother, Gina (now deceased) and father, Don Spencer. Included at the stud were 2-3 Spanish mares. Gellie did stand at stud for a good part of his life. I campaigned Gellie at breed and hacking shows for approx. ten years. Unfortunately, Gellie died of cancer in 2009 leaving us with his final, beautiful offspring “Descarado Bonita” aka 'Zara'.

A couple of years ago I decided to breed Zara to '**Equus Lodge Stud**' stallion, Alfonso. Zara produced a colt that I called 'Tzar'. On the day he was born, my Staffordshire Bull Terrier thought Tzar was a meal, so proceeded to eat him! If my brother didn’t walk up to the back paddock to meet the new addition, the colt would have died. The injuries Tzar sustained from the attack were horrendous, but fixable.



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Tzar spent a week at **Belvoir Equine Clinic** under intensive care. Once home, Tzar's treatment needed to continue for three months, but I had help. My father was great at just holding him, so Tzar's twice daily wound care and injections could be administered. My cousin Tracy, a nurse was also very helpful. Tzar was very weak. A medical bandage over his hind leg didn't allow him to stand up on his own to nurse. The vet, Jude came up with a brilliant alternative - ladies tights! I bought so many tights that, no doubt, Target must have thought I had a fetish for them but it worked and he was able stand to suckle. Tzar has recently been gelded and is an exceptionally happy and friendly boy considering his bad start to life!



Three months ago, I started Zara back into work. We are both a bit green. So far, we have been doing some pleasure riding and general schooling in the arena. Nothing serious yet but am open to getting her out and about to meet others. Perhaps attend Adults Riding in the new year. I have lost my skills a little, as I had lost interest in riding for awhile, possibly due to mum's passing, however in the past I attended breed shows and the type of riding I mainly did were hacking events, some dressage and a few ODE's.

Raquel Spencer, *Swan View*

Variety is the Spice of Life

A few years back I learnt something about myself as a rider...I get really bored working in an arena. I realised how much more fun I was having with my riding once I got out of the arena and tried different things. It seems, for me, variety truly is the spice of life and last week was a perfect example. In one week I had competed in 3 different horse sports - Working Hunter for the ARCA Challenge, Skills at Arms, Working Equitation and Horse Archery. I am having an absolute ball with my riding so I thought I would share a little about some of these disciplines for those that haven't heard of them and might be interested in trying something a little different.



Skills at Arms (Medieval Horse Sports)

This is a sport that depicts and practices the skills required by the cavalymen on the battlefield. It includes obstacles such as The Quintain, where the rider must hit a high target with their lance to rotate the quintain as many times as possible; ring spearing, where the rider tries to pass the point of a long lance through a suspended ring; and the Moore Heads, where you use swords to knock a line of balls from their stand while riding pass (yes this does represent decapitating the enemy!!!)



All of these activities can be completed at walk and trot as you learn with the ultimate goal to compete at canter/gallop.

Horse Archery

This is an easy sport to explain...walk, trot or cantering down a 90m run and shooting arrows at multiple targets in a variety of layouts. Given that this requires dropping of the reins, this sport helps to develop a wonderful level of trust with your horse and improve the use of your seat to control your trusty steed.

Working Equitation

In simple terms Working Equitation is dressage with obstacles such as opening gates, crossing bridges and side-passing over poles and is judged on harmony, collection, roundness and suppleness while completing the obstacle course. It is similar to Ridden Horse Agility but with its roots firmly based in classical dressage. Developed in Europe this sport was created to promote the different types of techniques developed in countries that use the horse to work on a farm or cattle station and gives us a practical use for the lateral movements, collections and extensions etc. that we aim to develop in our dressage horse.

If you enjoy variety or simply want to try a different way to improve your riding skills and build on that special bond and trust with your horse, why not give one of these sports a try!

Frana Jones, *Henley Brook*

Andies Out and About! **Pre-Royal Serpentine Breed Show**

Rachael Emmott – El Manteca Sonodoro

'Supreme Andalusian Exhibit'



Leah Price – Inca Atento

2nd Best Presented

4th Horse and Handler

1st Andalusian Gelding 4yrs and over

'Champion Andalusian Gelding'



Stephanie Ivatts – Blue Blood Fandango

2nd Andalusian Gelding 4yrs and over

'Reserve Champion Andalusian Gelding'



Pinjarra Breed Show

Emilie Turner - Simanda Park Shibarna
'Champion Andalusian Mare'



Perth Horse and Pony Club Breed Show

Rachael Emmott - El Manteca Lillyana
Supreme Andalusian Mare



Kandice Heal - GPS Hustlin'Shades of Grey
1st Best Presented Part Bred Andalusian
1st Part Bred Filly/Mare
Champion Part Bred Filly/Mare
Supreme Part Bred Andalusian

Sue Wiscombe - Blue Blood Brio
1st Best Presented Andalusian
1st Andalusian Stallion 4yr over
Champion Andalusian Stallion
Supreme Andalusian
SUPREME of Supreme Horse
1st Ridden Andalusian
1st Ridden Stallion - any breed
1st Ridden Grey
Champion Ridden Horse
Supreme Ridden Overall



Wanneroo Agricultural Show

Amanda Colli - Equus Lodge Stella
Any Other Registered Breed

1st Best Presented
1st Filly 3 and under
Champion Any Other Registered Breed



Tracy Canterbury Walker - Flamenca Del Diablo
Any Other Registered Breed

4th Mare 4 years and over
1st Wanneroo Heritage Art Trophy for Best Hack

Sorry no picture

Swan Valley Hunter Trials



Tracy Canterbury Walker - Flamenca Del Diablo
1st D Grade Cross Country



Halloween

Rachael Emmott and Ashlee Archibald - Trick or Treat on Horseback at Aubin Grove

“So so proud of my little angels tonight. Walking to Aubin Grove in costume to make the kids night. Didn't put a foot wrong the whole time. Love them to bits!” - Rachael Emmott