

The

September 2015

SLIDER

Official publication of Reining Australia

GVRHA
Buckle Up and Slide

**Pacific Coast Reining
Spectacular**

**NSW State Reining
Championships**

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Slide to the Nationals

Lil Nu It All and Warren Backhouse
Winners of the 2015 PCRS Open Derby
Photo: Donna Morton Downunder Photography



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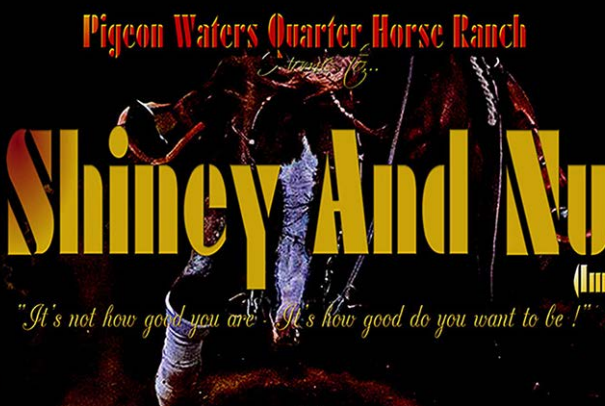
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THANK YOU TO OUR 2014/2015 SPONSORS

This is the final issue of The Slider for the Reining Australia sponsorship year of 2014/2015.

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to our sponsors for their support starting at the Nationals in 2014 and continuing until now. The contributions of our sponsors make it possible for Reining Australia to stage the best national show possible and to maintain our programs throughout the year.

Thank you all for being an important and vital part of the sport of reining in Australia in 2014/2015.

RA BOARD 2015 TELECONFERENCE DATES

April 16th

May 21st

June 18th

July 16th

August 20th

September 10th

October 15th

November 19th

Face-to-face meetings will be scheduled when required

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

- GVRHA Buckle Up & Slide
- Pacific Coast Reining Spectacular
- Collie WA Ride and Slide
- Tamworth RHA July Qualifier Show
- Riverina RHA Slide to the Nationals
- NSW State Reining Championships

COMING UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE

- Queensland State Reining Championships
- 2015 Gold Buckle Futurity and Reining Australia National Championships
- NRHA Rule Changes
- Information on the Reining Australia Annual General Meeting



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2015 SQRHA PACIFIC COAST REINING SPECTACULAR

Chris Wales, SQRHA Committee

Photos: Donna Morton Downunder Photography

The Pacific Coast Reining Spectacular (PCRS) attracted 440 entries to the Lockyer Indoor Equestrian Centre at Gatton, including riders from New Zealand and New South Wales. Queensland competitors came from far-flung home bases in our great state, including Roma, Calliope, Longreach, Bundaberg, Blackwater, Dalby, Gympie and Biddaddabah.

This year, SQRHA invited NRHA judges Larry W. Gleeson from Ohio USA, and Pam Spokes from Echuca VIC, to judge our prestigious show. And what a show! With over \$40,000 in cash and prizes on offer, we knew competition would be tough, but no one really expected what was to come in the days ahead. Celebrating good times and great atmosphere in a sport that makes it all happen, PCRS provided competition levels for young and old as well as for serious hobbyists and top-flight professionals. Reining has a place for everyone and PCRS was the place for reining from Wednesday 3rd June to Saturday 6th June.

Congratulations to Warren Backhouse, the winner of the Level 4 Open Derby on Lil Nu It All owned by Dennis and Erin Neylon from Neylon Performance Horses. The combined score of 153½ was one of the highest posted in Australia. When asked how he felt about his winning run, Warren said: "It is not often you come out of the pen following a run where you can say I really enjoyed that, and tonight was the second time that had happened for me."

Melanie Lindsay (Wandoan, QLD) won the Level 3 and Level 2 divisions in the Open Derby on Determinated while Jason Russell (Thangool, QLD) gathered up all three divisions of the Non Pro Derby on his horse Flirt N Hug.

What a proud moment for the owner of Pekarra Dazzling Deputy when Ben Ryan from Lacey's Creek QLD won Levels 4, 3 and 2 of the Open Futurity with a score of 145. Equally gratified was David Nixon (Glen Innes, NSW) with his win in the Level 4 Non Pro Futurity on A Hollywood Jewel. Neville Connolly (Glastonbury QLD) riding Do Me A Favour won the other two divisions of the Non Pro Futurity, taking home the buckles in the Level 3 and Level 2.

Paul Sharp could not wipe the grin off his face after winning the Prime Time Non Pro on PV Treysen. This was Paul's second Pacific Coast and the first time he's broken the 69½ score barrier with a personal best, leaping over the 70 mark to get 70½. Also with a huge smile on her face after her win was Intermediate Non Pro champion Katrina Beale aboard Hustlers First Flame. Katrina and Paul are both keen members of the Calliope Sliders Reining Horse Club. Another great event was the Youth Under 13 Years where Grace Christoffel and Lethal Katie were crowned champions.

The excitement of a "run off" is always a crowd pleaser and the run off for the Rookie Professional buckle between Chris Gould on Starlights Lethal and Angie Glover on Hustlin for Chicks was no different. Both competitors rode hard and both increased their scores in the final run but the spotlight landed on Hustlin For Chicks and Angie.

Reining provides a spectacular example of skill and athleticism at all levels. When horses and their riders are completely in sync, the thrill is almost beyond description.*

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Right: Ben Ryan and Pekarra Dazzling Deputy, winners of the Open Futurity at PCRS.



Above: Brooke Sestero and Jessies Dreamchaser.



Right: Predator, Jason Melling, Hayley and Shaun Saunders and Kurt Melling. Jason and Predator won the Non Pro and the Limited Open at PCRS.

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2015 SQRHA PACIFIC COAST REINING SPECTACULAR

De Termination (owned, trained and ridden by Scott and Michelle Burnett from Widgee QLD) carried both his riders to winning places at PCRS. Michelle took the honours in Rookie Level 2 (71½) and followed up with a win in the Limited Non Pro (140). Stirrup lengths were adjusted, then Scott rode this amazing horse out to claim his own buckle in the Intermediate Open with a score of 73.

First time buckle winners showed us what they could do with quality rides on some quality horses. Natasha Brumby on Whizzel While U Work scored 69½ to win the Youth 14-18 Years. Brooke Sestero from Blackwater QLD on her horse Jessies Dreamchaser was over the moon when she won the Rookie Level 1 from a field of horses as strong as we have seen in the Rookie class. Brooke had been out of the saddle for a while. She began her training program early this year, often saddling up and riding well into the night after working a 12-hour shift. PCRS was her second show back after two years away.

Denise Milgate on RKN Two Eyed Kid and Greg Walker on Little Hootchy were co-champions in the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2 with equal scores of 70. This score also won Greg the buckle in the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 division.

The Open divisions of the Novice Horse class saw some tough competition. The eventual Level 1 champions were Pretty Ruff and Brendan Manz with 68½. Snippin Cash and John Wicks took out the Level 2 with a score of 72.

Just two and a half weeks prior to the show, Jason and Kurt Melling flew across the Tasman Sea to land on our shores to compete at PCRS. A very supportive family kept the home fires burning back at Warkworth on New Zealand's North Island and the journey was well worth the effort. Jason and his horse Predator claimed the championship in the Non Pro with 72 then came back the next day and took out the buckle in the Limited Open with a score of 140½.

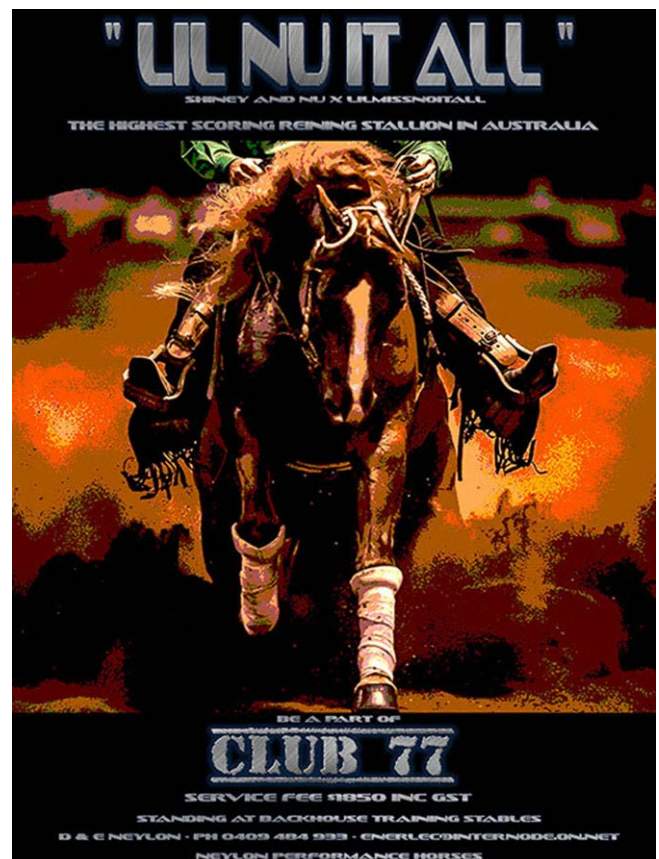
Consistent as ever, Shaun Saunders and Hasta La Vista set the pace in the Open with a score of 73. This was just too good on the day. Shaun and Hasta took home the buckle leaving the other competitors wondering what happened. Susan Camfferman and Shiney Ever After won the Freestyle with a 71.

A field of 23 riders participated in the Ladies fund-raising event, Riding For A Cure. All entry monies

gleaned from this class together with money raised from the Bra Bar (thanks to the Calliope Sliders for this spirited initiative) was donated to the Queensland Cancer Council for research into breast cancer. Approximately \$1,000 was raised. There were prizes galore for this heavily contested event with Helen Balu and her horse Whizkey On The Rocks posting the buckle-winning score.

Well, what a great show and what a showcase of turbo charged competition and high-level camaraderie! In many cases we saw merely a ½-point difference between Champion and Reserve Champion positions. As the year progresses, so will the capabilities of these already exceptional horses.

SQRHA sincerely appreciates the support of our major sponsors for Pacific Coast Reining Spectacular 2015: Backhouse Training Stables, LMHTV, Pigeon Waters Quarter Horse Ranch, Back On Track and Prydes EasiFeed. We are forever grateful to all of our sponsors both large and small for their support. We believe PCRS will continue to grow. This year the committee had to construct an additional 20 stalls in one of the showground sheds to accommodate extra horses. All in all, the organizing of this show was a big job and the SQRHA committee should be congratulated.●





Above left: Angie Glover and Hustlin For Chicks.
Above right: Michelle Burnett and De Termination
Left: Helen Balu and Whizkey on the Rocks, winners of the Ladies fund-raising event, Riding for a Cure.



Above: Paul Sharp on Bamba Lamb.



Above: Greg Walker on Little Hootchy and Denise Milgate on RKN Two Eyed Kid were co-champions in the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2.

Left: Susan Camfferman and Shiney Ever After won the Freestyle with the help of her work crew, Alan Kingdon and Leonie Beckhouse.

GVRHA BUCKLE UP & Slide REINING SPECTACULAR 2015

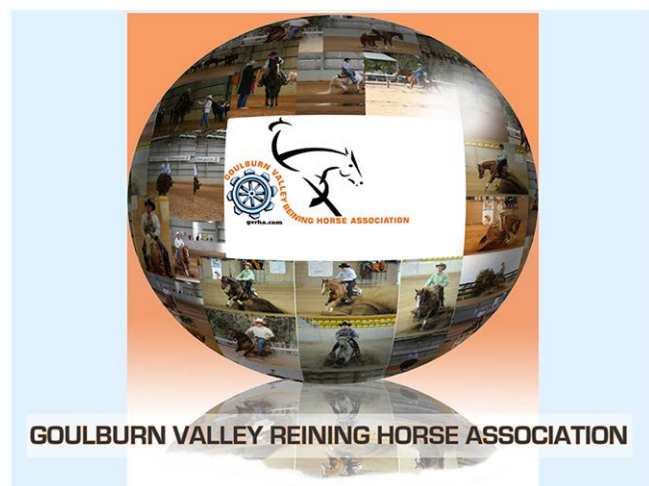
Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd May 2015 saw GVRHA hold its very first Buckle Up & Slide Reining Spectacular – a brand new major show for the club – at the beautiful Tatura Park facility.

Even after months of careful planning, nothing could prepare us for what was to become an absolutely massive show for the club and the committee of five! However, thanks to the help of volunteers and the flexibility of everyone involved, we managed to pull off a show almost twice the size expected over a very busy, but fun, weekend!

The first of almost 90 horses and competitors started rolling into Tatura Park from all corners of Victoria, into NSW and extending as far as Canberra and even Tasmania on Thursday afternoon for what was set to be an absolutely stunning long weekend of beautiful warm sunny days with a few chilly, but clear, nights. Friday morning was a busy day of pre-works for competitors whilst the committee were busy putting the finishing touches to the show preparations and sponsors were arriving to set themselves up in the trade area.

Sponsors representing themselves and their products in the trade area were very busy throughout the show. Spectators had the opportunity to check out the specs available on their next potential new trailer from LTD Trailers who had one of their awesome horse floats on display inside the arena trade area. They could even check out a new tow vehicle to go with it with both Jeep and Isuzu Ute demonstration vehicles available to view.

There was shopping aplenty with long-term supporter and sponsor of GVRHA, Affordable Tack & Horse Wear, showcasing their fantastic western-themed products and apparel in a beautifully set up stall, complete with sparkling fairy lights. Loyal reining supporters, Buckaroo Trading Co., also came on board the GVRHA sponsorship team, bringing their shop of quality tack and clothing products with them! And for the horses, we had Bronwyn from Equissage Therapy also join us in the trade area, generously offering free treatments to horses throughout the weekend.⇒



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GVRHA BUCKLE UP & SLIDE REINING SPECTACULAR

After a day of setting up and organisation, pre-works, and a special guest appearance by a few members on WIN News Friday evening, we were almost ready for show day, but not before some last minute arena maintenance. Unfortunately, due to a prior event at the venue, the surface wasn't quite up to the usual standard. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Mick Taylor and some heavy earthmoving equipment late on Friday night, by show time Saturday morning the surface was better than ever and ready for the nearly 270 runs in store for the weekend.

Up early on Saturday morning was our first competitor, David Norbury on RKN Bobcat, warmed up and ready to open the show at 6:30 a.m. with the GVRHA Open Snaffle Bit/Hackamore 5 Years & Under class. There were 11 competitors in this early morning class with Glenn Browitt and Winskey putting in a solid performance to win on a score of 69, followed by Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner coming in a close second on a 68.

Up next was Novice Horse, the biggest class of the show with a massive 40 runs! David Norbury and Greg Rau's Wimpys Whizzngem ran a 67.5 to take home the Champion buckle for the Equissage Therapy Novice Horse Open Level 1 division, with Brett Hands & Sadalbar Leeroy Brown Reserve Champions on 67. The LTD Equine Novice Horse Open Level 2 division was hotly contested with both Lana Kelderman on Josie Hale's beautiful mare Whizz Fizz and Glenn Wyse riding Julie Johnson's newly-acquired Wimpys Perfect Spin taking out the top score of 68.5, with Lana ultimately taking home the buckle!

In the Melbournes Woodheating Centre's Non Pro Level 1 division, Stephan Elenius beat 20 other riders to the buckle, scoring a 69 with his lovely gelding, Jewel Park Bewhizzed. Pam Spokes and Mustang Lil were Reserve Champions on a 67 and also Co-Champions in the Alternative Engineering Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2 alongside Janice Barr and Smart Like Scoot, with Keiran Moses and Pain In The Glass in Reserve position.

We moved straight along into another massive class – GVRHA Green Rider – with 37 entries, making it the single biggest class of the entire show. Competitors were vying not only for the places and prizes in this round, but also for their spot in the top six, to qualify for the Green Rider Shootout later in the day. With a 3-way tie between Mikayla Smith and MG My Parrs Celeste, Alex Cruse and Magnetised Gold and Hanna Hegwer and Ruf Bit Of Hickory, all scoring 64, followed by Suz Sims and Hollywoods Lil Minnie in 4th place, Kay Couch and Impressive Keeper 5th and Karen Alija and Jumped The Gun 6th, we had our top six riders for the Shootout!

Rookie L1 & L2 was to follow, another large class with a combined total of 27 entries. Following on from wins in both divisions at the recent VRHA State Show, GVRHA's very own Vice President, Terri Jones, continued her run of success with her cremello mare Pure Blonde Charlie. The combination took out the buckles for both the Ken Muston Isuzu Rookie L1 and the Redwood Print Rookie L2 on a solid 67, with Linda Chisholm and Red Hair and Freckles hot on their heels on 66.5 for Reserve Rookie L1. Khristie Martin and Tamkaura Promise of Glory also scored a 66.5 for Reserve in the Rookie L2 division.⇒



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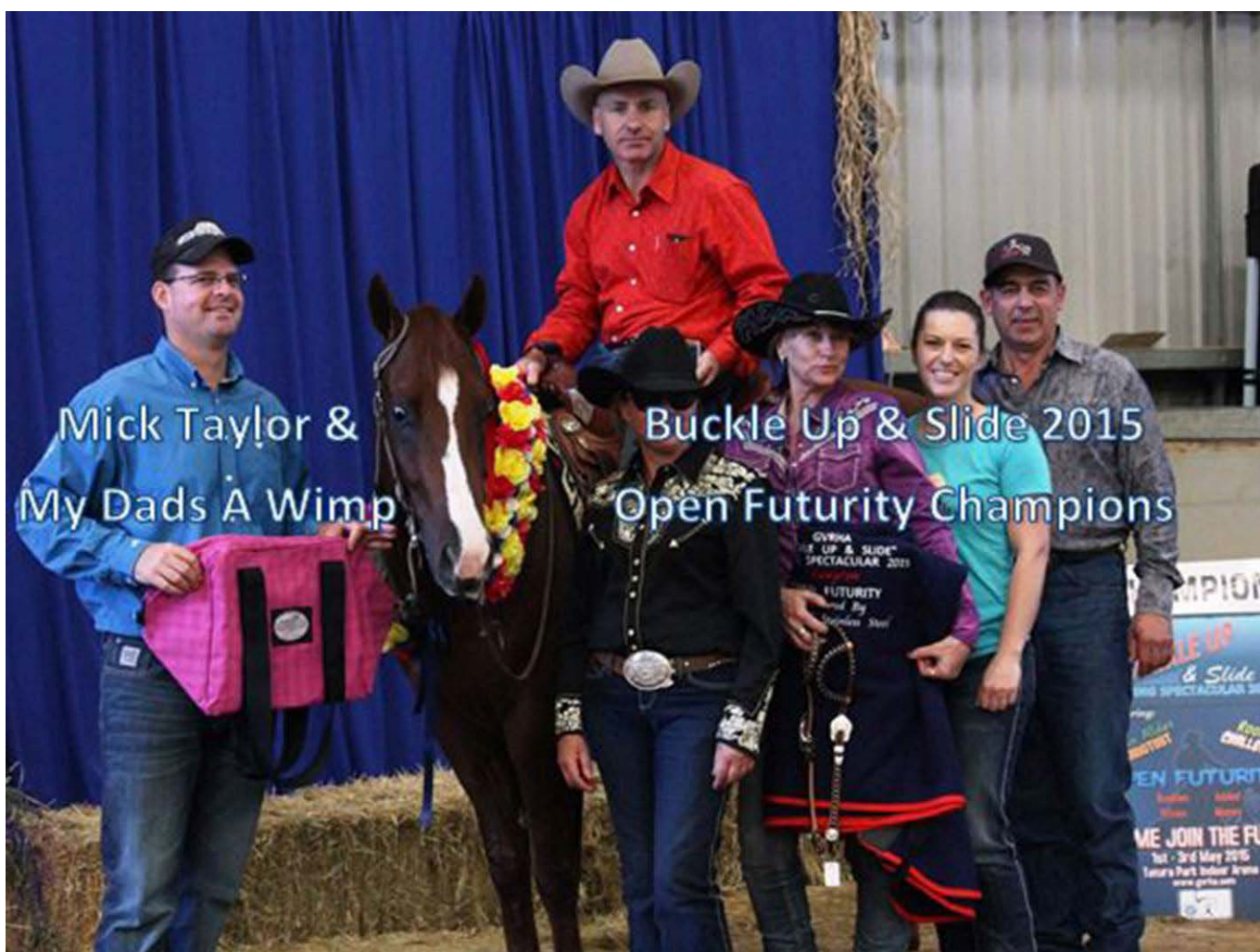
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Right: Janice Barr and Smart Like Scoot, co-Champions in the Alternative Engineering Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2



GVRHA BUCKLE UP & SLIDE REINING SPECTACULAR

After ample time for some rest, the Top Six GVRHA Green Rider competitors were ready and raring to go again in the Green Rider Shootout. The finalists certainly had their eyes on the prize, with some fantastic runs culminating in our Champion, all the way from Tasmania, Alex Cruse aboard her beautiful palomino Magnetised Gold with a 67.5 score. Alex took home an embroidered trophy rug, beautiful garland and a fantastic Samsung Galaxy Tablet! What a great event this was and it was fantastic to see so many Green Riders supporting the event, as well as each other.

The sixth and penultimate event of the day was a concurrent run of 3 classes: the GVRHA Ladies, sponsored by Smarty Rugs & Hold Your Horses Promotional Embroidery, the Affordable Tack & Horse Wear Primetime Non Pro and the Buckaroo Trading Co Rookie Professional. RA Youth Ambassador Georgia Mundie proudly accepted the beautiful woollen embroidered trophy rug and garland for her winning 69.5 score on Termite Grounded in the Ladies class, with a three way tie for Reserve between Kim Grosso and DC Caddillac Jack, Holly Fitzsimons and Yulgilbar Valido and Susie Farquhar and CD Quixote. Susie's run also won her the Prime Time Non Pro, with Lyndon Hale & OP Whizzel Do a very close second! Katherine Kelderman and Heavens Eleven slid their way into first position in the Rookie Professional division, with Mark Jones and his horse, Hug Me and Hold Me taking Reserve for the class.

Almost at the end of a long day, the judge and scribe once again took their seats for final class of Saturday's program – the Gunnamatta Trail Rides Open and the Broker Brumbys Non Pro feature event. The Open competitors rode for added money of \$1,400 and the Non Pro riders were fighting it out for \$700 added money, plus of course buckles, rugs, garlands and prizes! It may have been late but that didn't affect the riders and horses, with some great runs in both divisions. Stephan Elenius and Jewel Park Bewhizzed continued on good form, running a 68.5 to win the Open division, with Glenn Wyse

and Julie Johnson's Wimpys Perfect Spin taking the Reserve. The Non Pro division was won by Josie Hale and the ever consistent Whiz Fizz on a fantastic 69.5 score, with Stephan's run putting him in Reserve – some great performances to conclude Saturday's events.

After a very well earned rest and a good night's sleep, everyone was keen to get the second and final day of the show started, even at 7 o'clock in the morning! The Green Riders kicked off the day with another 30 runs in the RA Green Rider Levels 1 & 2. Mikayla Smith and MG My Parrs Celeste put in a stellar performance for a score of 67.5 winning them the Level 1 division, with Tania Squire and her lovely palomino, A Little Spinalena just a whisker behind on 67, taking them to Reserve. GVRHA committee member and creator of all the beautiful garlands, Suz Sims rode into the winner's circle on her mare Hollywoods Lil Minnie in the RA Green Rider Level 2.

The second event on Sunday's program was the LTD Trailers Limited Open and the Alternative Engineering Intermediate Open, run concurrently. Mark Jones and Hug Me and Hold Me in the Limited division, scored a 67 to very happily take home the buckle, with Susie Farquhar on her gelding CD Quixote in Reserve position with a 66. In the Intermediate division, golden Wimpy ponies reigned supreme with the buckle being won by David Norbury and Greg Rau's palomino Wimpys Whizzngem with a score of 68.5 and Glenn Wyse and Julie Johnson's buckskin Wimpys Perfect Spin Reserve on 66.5.

Glenn's daughter Kasey also did the Wyse family proud in the next event, the Whitfield Garage Youth 14-18 Years, Her and her horse, Crushed Ice, scored a 66.5 putting them in a first place tie with Mikayla Smith and MG My Parrs Celeste. After an exciting run off, Kasey took home the buckle, and Mikayla earned herself an embroidered trophy rug for Reserve. 🐾

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GVRHA BUCKLE UP & SLIDE REINING SPECTACULAR

The Youth 13 Years & Under class was taken out by Mackinley Glover riding Jessies Red Caddie with a score of 63, taking home the beautiful winner's buckle.

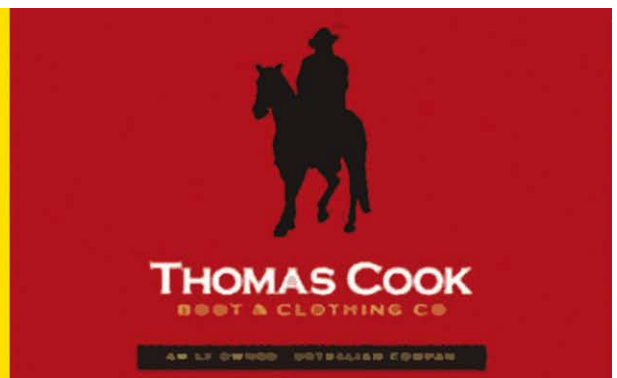
Continuing with the youth theme, a very special class ensued. What better way to warm up the crowd for the feature Open Futurity class than our GVRHA Fancy Dress Leadline competitors – Ellie McDonald, Cade Hands, Will and Mitchell Browne and Gizelle Sheridan – wowing the audience with their fantastic costumes and even better riding! A very special thank you to these competitors and their parents for making such a great effort!

From one highlight, leading straight into another – the Open Futurity sponsored by M&S Stainless Steel, Glenn Browitt Riding Tuition & Horsemanship and Tatura Pine Shavings & Sawdust. This was the first time a Futurity has been run at GVRHA in recent years. For many of these young horses it was their first foray into the show pen—a great opportunity to get some valuable experience in advance of the Gold Buckle Futurity in September. Judges Shane Watts and Kate Elliott presided over the class of eight horses, all with the hope of winning a slice of the \$2,000 plus 80% added money! Chelsea Ragg with her horse Rubys Stylish Rose placed 8th, then Alex Cruse and Magnetised Gold, John Woods and RR Rascals Major League and David Norbury and Jodie Oakley's RKN Bobcat in a three way tie for 5th. Glenn Browitt and Winskey placed 4th, then David Norbury on Wimpys Whizzngem in 3rd place. A solid run and a score of 136 placed Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner in Reserve position. Mick Taylor and My Dads A Wimp ran an impressive 139, scoring the highest individual score of the show of a 70, earning the pair the title of Buckle Up & Slide Open Futurity Champions as well as the prizes to go with it! In addition to a cut of the

prize money on offer, Mick took home a beautiful trophy buckle, embroidered woollen trophy rug, Mayatex saddle pad and a stunning Kathy's show bridle. Congratulations Mick and all the futurity competitors on a fantastic Futurity event!

And the show was not over there, with the Tatura Pine Shavings & Sawdust Limited Non Pro and the Ken Muston Jeep Intermediate Non Pro still to come, another well attended class of 21 entries. Rounding off what had already been a hugely successful weekend, Stephan Elenius and Jewel Park Bewhizzed pulled off yet another exciting win and a score of 68 to take home another two buckles for both the Limited and Intermediate Non Pro divisions. What a great show it was for the pair! Peter Tjepkema and A Hollywood Rose on a 67, also took out Reserve of both divisions. And what came as a very pleasant surprise to Khristie Martin during the presentations for the Intermediate Non Pro was being awarded Rookie Challenge Champion with her roan stallion Tamkaura Promise of Glory, for being the highest placed Rookie in the Intermediate Non Pro class, winning a beautiful garland and Fappani DVD set kindly sponsored by Fappani Reining!

And with that, the show was over.....for everyone but the committee, who continued to work into the evening packing everything up before finally making their way home! What a great weekend it was. A very big thank you to all involved in the running of the event, all the generous sponsors, the judges, scribes, announcer, catering team, tractor drivers, gate marshals, bit judges, caterers, too many to try to name individually! And importantly, a big thank you to the competitors who made the trip to GVRHA, many for the first time and many from afar. We look forward to welcoming you back again next year for an even bigger and better Buckle Up & Slide 2016.●





Frozen fantasy in the Fancy Dress Leadline. Competitors were Ellie McDonald, Cade Hands, Will and Mitchell Browne and Gizelle Sheridan.

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TAMWORTH REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION JULY QUALIFIER SHOW

Photos: Christine Cooper

Tamworth Reining Horse Association held their qualifier show on the 18th of July at AELEC. The first event, the Any Handed, was won by Jennifer Brown on Miss Acres Olena with Dee Hamilton on EP Sacromentos Playboy in second place and Wendy Faye and Sweetly Lethal taking home the third placegetter's ribbon.

The Youth class was won by Kasey Bogle on Lyrics Custom Corey with Lara Hamilton on EP Sacromentos Playboy in second place. The next event on the program was the Beginners, won by young competitor Kasey Bogle on Lyrics Custom Corey with Lara Hamilton on EP Sacromentos Playboy and Carmen Stassen on Docs Cisco Son filling second and third places. The fourth ribbon went to Leonie Kelly on Chickadee Day.

Grant Frater on Winderadeen Bejewelled was the winner of the Rookie Level 1 and filled equal first place in the Rookie Level 2 with Jennifer Brown on Miss Acres Olena. Wendy Faye on Sweetly Lethal took out the Junior Horse class while Barbara Schleppi on Poco Blue Flame won Senior Horse. Ian (Swampy) Hay and CTF Marken Thyme won the Intermediate Open, Intermediate Non Pro and Prime Time classes.

Green Rider Level 1 honours went to Kasey Bogle on Lyrics Custom Corey. The minor places were filled by Dee Hamilton on EP Sacromentos Playboy from Sonya Kincade on Sioux City Bandit then Carmen Stassen on Docs Cisco Son. Barbara Schleppi on Poco Blue Flame won the Novice Horse Open Level 1 and the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1. Second and third places in this event were filled by Jennifer Brown on Miss Acres Olena and Val Tanner on Sonitas Man O War. Grant Frater and Winderadeen Bejewelled won the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2 class.

The next event was the Ladies. First place went to Jessica Miller on Little Roan Oak with Wendy Faye in second place on Sweetly Lethal. Debbie Keogh on Lil Hollywood Jac came in third. Barbara Schleppi and Poco Blue Flame won both the Limited Open and Limited Non Pro classes with Val Tanner on Sonitas Man O War coming in second in the Limited Non Pro. Wendy Faye on Sweetly Lethal won the 2-Handed Rookies class. The show wound down with the Open and Non Pro events, both won by Barbara Schleppi on Poco Blue Flame. Then Barbara and Poco Blue Flame rounded off the day with a hat trick by winning the Freestyle.●



Above: Jessica Miller and Little Roan Oak.

Left: Barbara Schleppi and Poco Blue Flame.

 **GRAHAM
COOPER**

 **Rita
Mezo**

NSW STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Vicki Walcott

Photos: Stephen Mowbray

The New South Wales Reining Horse Association rolled into AELEC at Tamworth to host the 2015 NSW State Championships show from the 6th to the 11th of July. More than 400 nominations were received from competitors from Victoria, Queensland and throughout NSW, all keen to take home trophy buckles and a portion of the \$25,000 prize money up for grabs.

McNevens Motel in Tamworth provided warm accommodation at the end of each long day for the judges Susan Camfferman and Shane Watts. Thanks also to Bit Judge Lynda Gray.

The show opened with 22 riders lining up to contest the Two-Handed Rookie class. It was encouraging to witness new horse-and-rider combinations as many older horses returned to the show pen to escort the Rookie riders through pattern 10. With a score of 69.5, Dee Ann Hamilton won first prize riding EP Sacromentos Playboy. The Novice Horse Open Level 1 class was tightly contested with Dualin Gal, owned and shown by Peter Gould, earning the Championship buckle with a score of 70. Ten horses contested the Novice Horse Open Level 2 division sponsored by C. A. Parnell & Associates Accountant of Goulburn in NSW. Snippin Cash owned by Jai Cumming ran a slick 72 to take home the Championship title for his trainer John Wicks. Leonie Brown of Cowra in southern NSW rode Willy Gambel to win State Championship buckles in the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 and Level 2.

The Freestyle winner was Grace Christoffel riding Lethal Katie. Bruce Mundie on Termite Grounded presented an amazing run to win the Rick Meredith Bridleless Freestyle class with a score of 71.5.

A class of young horses sure to be seen again in the years to come contested the Snaffle Bit Open State Championship class sponsored by Mr 4x4 and the Sydney Equestrian Centre. With an impressive score of 69, Stephen Howe claimed the winner's purse riding A Little Whizzel Lace. Shane Sainsbury rode Smart Lil Captain to win the Snaffle Bit Non pro class.

Thea Griffin was in the winner's circle on Thursday to claim the Brewen Quarter Horse Limited Open State Championship buckle riding her stallion RBH Whiz Kid. Shaun Saunders rode Hasta La Vista to win the Open Championship buckle kindly donated by Thomas Arena Products. Consistent performer Thea Griffin returned on RBH Whiz Kid to share equal first with Peter Bartolo riding SR Whizzel Chex in the spectacular Non Pro class.

With a full program of sanctioned and non-sanctioned Youth events, it was encouraging to see the growing numbers of competitors in our youth ranks. Of note was tiny Sophia Johnson who won the Short Stirrup under 10 years class riding Hollywood Skiptide with a score of 68. Others earned a championship buckle for the first time, as was the case in the Youth 11-13 Years class won by Chelsea Mitchell with a score of 136 riding the palomino gelding Jacs Extra Cool. This win highlighted the benefits of practice and determination. The up-and-coming young NSW RHA club rider Sarah Mammone set herself up to win three buckles at her first State Championship show, with wins in the Youth 14-18 Years, Rookie Level 1 and Rookie Level 2 classes. Congratulations and well done to Sarah and Triandibo Indeniable. ➡



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Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner, winners of the NSW RHA State Championship Open, Intermediate Open and Non Pro Futurity Buckles.



Above: Donna Sadler and Miss Little Step.



Above: Noel Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac



Above: Graham Cooper and Cromed by Custom, winners of the Intermediate Open Derby.

NSW STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sponsored by Protecsure Insurance, Silver Pines Vet Clinic and RRHA, the Intermediate Open on Friday entertained the crowd. The winning score was awarded to Tell Me A Story ridden by Shelly Peters. Congratulations Shelly, this little horse truly is a champion. Victorian rider Keiran Moses guided her mare Little Gambel Lena to a popular win in the Intermediate Non Pro class.

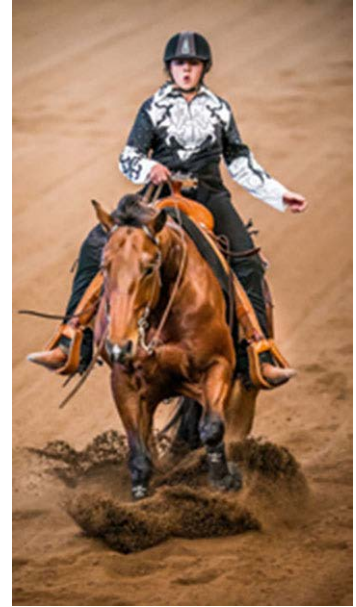
After lunch it was time to get some glamour going with 23 ladies hitting the sand pit to contest Pattern 8. It was a spectacular sight when Hayley Saunders on board Hasta La Vista scored a 140 to take out first place, with Kieran Moses and Angie Glover close behind in equal second position. Next it was the Prime Time Non Pro riders who took to the stage. Stephen Kelly enjoyed his run on Eden Vale Wagon Whiz, winning the Prime Time Championship buckle. ➡



Winners of the Open, Hasta La Vista and Shaun and Hayley Saunders



Guy Laurie and Big River Urban Legend



Sarah Mammone and Triandibo Indeniable



Rob Lawson and Revolution Reddy (imp), winners of the Open Division of Prydes Derby at the NSW State Championships at AELEC.

NSW STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Friday evening introduced the crowd to the younger horses in the much-anticipated Futurity classes. After many hours of contemplation, planning and years of hard work these babies were now ready to begin life under the spotlight. The crowd witnessed Gottagetagunner, in fabulous form, winning the NSW RHA State Championship Open, Intermediate Open and Non Pro Futurity Buckles, scoring 142 for Cameron Halliwell. The win in an Open Futurity class highlights Cameron's considerable skills and technique.

The Reserve State Championship in the Open Futurity was awarded to Crystal Park Reys Time, ridden by John Wicks. Graham Cooper and Special Gun, owned by Belinda Coleman, were awarded Reserve honours in the Intermediate Open Futurity. Queenslander Ed Smith on board ME Lil Beamer, owned by Lisa Tietz, won the Limited Open Futurity. Following a nail-biting run-off, Rod Shaw and Gunner Play won the Intermediate Non Pro Futurity, from Peter Bartolo aboard Battlers Legend. Rod Shaw and Gunner Play also won the Limited Non Pro Futurity. This was a tight class. Well done and congratulations Rod.

The atmosphere was alive for Prydes Derby as the country's best riders delivered the grand finale on the older horses. With a show-topping score of 145, Tony Mitchell's imported mare Revolution Reddy was exciting to watch as she slid into first place to be crowned the 2015 Open Derby Champion for Rob Lawson. The Reserve sash went to QXH Docs Stylish Oak, ridden by Shaun Saunders. Cromed by Custom, the flashy stud horse from Stockinbingal in NSW, displayed smooth sliding stops for Graham Cooper to win the Intermediate Open Derby. The Limited Open Derby winner was Big River Urban Legend ridden by Guy Laurie. Cameron Halliwell rode Kieran Moses' little horse Pain in the Glass to

victory in the NSW State Championship Non Pro Derby, scoring 140. Another traveller from Victoria, Donna Sadler with Miss Little Step, collected two buckles for winning both the Limited and Intermediate divisions of the Non Pro Derby.

Life Membership of NSW RHA was awarded to Rob Lawson for his ongoing diligent work for the club and reining in general. The club acknowledged Rob's attention to detail as a clinician and his ability to provide professional arena surfaces. John and Lorraine Wylie also received Life Memberships for their positive attitude and long-term commitment that has given the NSW RHA club such a strong foundation. John must have lost count by now of the show entries to pass him as Gate Steward. Together they have supported the industry with sponsorship and by producing well-bred reining horses on their Big River Ranch.

Behind the scenes many people worked tirelessly to deliver an awesome show. Show Manager Bec Laurie wrapped up the successful show with a vote of thanks to the sponsors, competitors, interstate visitors, supporters and helpers on the ground that manned the gate, dragged the arena and jumped in to give a helping hand. NSW RHA thanks their sponsors for their support: Prydes EasiFeed, Xtreme Genes, Pigeon Waters Quarter Horse Ranch, Lithgow Bearings, TuffRock, Ariat, Sliding Lodge Performance Horses, Lawson Performance Horses, Camelot Conveyancing, Baileys of Greta, Horsezone, Craig Hall Bodyworks, Horseland Richmond, Helensburgh Saddlery, McNevins, Five Star Reining, Big River Ranch Performance Quarter Horses, Agnes Banks Equine Clinic, The Hartley Saddlery, Ray Gabbert, Neylon Performance Horses, Airmatics and Laxton Performance Horses.●



COLLIE WESTERN RIDING ASSOCIATION REUBENS NEWSAGENCY RIDE AND SLIDE SPECTACULAR

The show weekend on May 17th and 18th was almost perfect, apart from the thick fog and 2°C temperature early on Saturday and a 6°C temperature on Sunday. After the rain storms we had the previous weekend, we were a little apprehensive that the arena would not withstand the horses working their patterns, but when the sun eventually shone it made for some spectacular workouts.

This was the first two-day Reining Australia reining show the Collie Western Riding Association has held. There were 46 runs each day and the points were combined from the two days to decide the winners and placegetters on Sunday. The event schedule for both days was the same, starting with our club events, the Novice rider and Beginner. These were followed by nine Reining Australia sanctioned events.

The improvement of the novice and beginner riders, as well as in the Green Rider Level 1 class, is extremely obvious. Simple changes are being replaced with flying changes and the circles are becoming more round. When the more experienced riders performed their patterns, you could see the years of experience being put into practice. The horses were working with almost no obvious direction from the rider. The sliding stops, spins, rollbacks and circles were all performed with style.



After the events finished on Sunday, the points for both days were tallied and the prizes were presented to the winners by judge, Jason Wordsworth, from Queensland. It was Jason's first visit to Western Australia and he was astounded with the quality of the horses and competitors at the show. He enjoyed his stay so much he will be coming back next year to judge another two-day show for us.

The competitors came from as far as Wanneroo, Gidgegannup, Boyup Brook, Kirup and places in between, including Collie. Mostly, the horses were Quarter Horses but there were a few others, as you do not require a Quarter Horse to compete in Reining.

Bruce Whiteaker manned the PA system. Heather was our scribe for the weekend and did an excellent job as did our gate controllers and our warm-up lady. The food was excellent throughout the weekend. Without our volunteers we could not put on these shows. Thanks to all of you, you did a wonderful job.

Thanks also to our show sponsors: Reubens Newsagency, Collie Salvage & Hardware, TBS Rural & Hardware and Cardinal Contractors.●



Above: Nicole Hutt and Crown K Commanders Chex.

Above left: Amy Morris and A Smart Twist.





Above: Competitors talking tactics.

Below: Tim Elliott and Snoopy.



Above: Kerry Thomas and Dunit Out West



Above: Wendy Kidd and judge Jason Wordsworth.

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RIVERINA REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION SLIDE TO THE NATIONALS

Photos: Nikki Reynolds and Laura Hardwick

Reining competitors from throughout NSW and Victoria travelled to Charles Sturt University for the Riverina's flagship reining event, Slide to the Nationals, held over the weekend of 15th and 16th of August. The competitors turned up the heat at this major reining show hosted by the Riverina Reining Horse Association. The event featured about 180 runs with many riders using the show to qualify for the Nationals.

The feature event of the show was the Open Futurity, won by Special Gun. Special Gun, by Son of a Gun (imp), owned by Belinda Colman of Wagga and trained by Graham Cooper of Stockinbingal is heading to Tamworth in September. Guy Laurie, riding Wimpys Red Chilli, was Reserve champion in the Open Futurity and won the Non Pro division of the event.

Janice Barr and Smart Like Scoot won both the Open and the Non Pro classes and was co-champion in the Novice Horse Open Level 2 with Bec Laurie on Big River Urban Legend. Elle Cooper riding OP Hesa Smart Whiz won the Youth 13 years and under. Michelle Moore and Skip N Acre won the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1. Michelle was reserve in the Pretty in Pink Ladies event, beaten into first place by Pam Spokes riding Mustang Lil. Tania Squire on A Little Spinalena won Green Rider Level 2, Rookie Level 1, and was runner up in the Rookie Level 2.

To see more photos taken at the event, go to www.therural.com.au and search for "reining". ●



Above: Janice Barr and Smart Like Scoot.



Above: Pretty in Pink Kim-Marie Clulow and Isle Be A Dually.



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