



Clydesdale NewZ, December 2016

A FEW NOTES FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

December 2016

Hello All

Farmers always start a conversation about the weather. The winter has been reasonably kind, not enough snow in the high country to fill the lakes in spring, too wet up north, too dry somewhere else.

My thoughts are with those of you getting all shook up with the earthquakes and hope that your families and livestock are all fit and well.

I had the pleasure of judging at the Rangiora Show in October. Not a lot of Clydesdales there but the quality was good. I hear that Rangiora clashes with a ploughing competition. A great show, being their 150th celebration, and a large, interesting show of vintage displays and a Grand Parade to add to the attraction. So many shows have done away with the Parades these days. The Clydesdales are always popular and get a heap of admiration.

With the show season in full swing I feel it is a timely reminder for people in the working classes to ensure your own safety and that of others by using reins in the work classes that are of an appropriate length for the sledge or vehicle you are driving. To enlarge on that, I have seen many of our older and more experienced drivers using reins that are far too short and compensating for this by standing toward the front of the sledge.

Stand to the rear of your sledge with about 6 to 8 feet of extra reins to spare (2 to 3 metres).

OK, Ok I can hear you all saying what an old grump but I hope you get the message about the unsafe practice. Next one with reins too short when I am judging gets sent out to get longer reins!

I went to the Waikato Show. Bruce Signal and Douglas Signal were judging. The numbers were a bit lighter due to some horses being withdrawn with colds.

Cambridge show was judged by Phil Amberger and numbers were back up again. There were some lovely young stock being shown.

Sorry I could not make Canterbury but hear it was a well-supported show with Julie Barber of Australia judging and Tim Peel giving a clinic on collars. No doubt there was a bit of partying and a lot of good yarns spun.



I have not heard any reports on other South Island shows but hope some of you can send them in to Helen McKenzie who is very capably doing our newsletter.

The other day another older judge (name and age not mentioned) and I were discussing about how fortunate the younger people of today are in that there is some great bloodlines and quality stock available from which to build their studs.

He was saying that when he started out they had to find the remnants of bloodlines that had been disposed of simply because tractors had taken over and the horses were not required anymore. Stallions and good breeding stock was in short supply and horses were considered to be grass gobblers when more profit could be made from other farming interests.

The society has just purchased a new computer for our Secretary as the old one finally died after a lot of problems.

I hope that you will all be getting your certificates, transfers and registrations through now.

Thanks go to all those that help make the Clydesdale Society tick over, the members, the breeders, and all those associated with Clydesdale Horses.

I WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SPLENDID NEW YEAR

Kind Regards to All

Viv Simmons
President

SECRETARY'S SAY:

Annual members your **SUBS WERE DUE OCTOBER 1, 2016**. I haven't mailed out an invoice as yet.

Direct bank account details as per below: -

ON LINE PAYMENTS

Please ensure that all payments quote your membership name (first name initial and last name) and the payment category eg subs, registration, change owner, stud book etc.

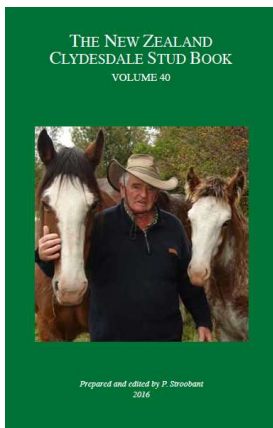
Payee - Clydesdale Horse Society

Bank – ANZ

Account number – 06 0317 0817588 00

No receipts are provided.

STUD BOOK, volume 40, 2016



Entries for the next stud book will close on **31st December, 2016**. Don't miss out.

Advertising: Stud advertising is available. Prices on enquiry to Secretary: Paul Stroobant kkstudio@orcon.net.nz or ☎ 09) 420 4919 **URGENT!**

2017 AGM will be held in Canterbury, with the AGM & Councillors Meetings on **Friday June the 3rd**. Venue to be advised.

Paul Stroobant
Secretary

NEW BOOKS

In the last year or two there have been some new Clydesdale books issued. To my mind the most important is the copy of **Enthralled, "The Millingarvie Address"** which has **James Kilpatrick's "My Seventy Years of Clydesdales"** incorporated with it. Lots of b/w photos.

There is also a new edition, (blue cover) of **"The Clydesdale Horse; a Resource Book of Breeding, Educating, Shoeing, Harnessing, Working and Showing the Heavy Horse"**; Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society, Victorian Branch Inc.

A must for all breeders and users of Clydesdales.

Two others are "Centenary of Clydesdale Royal Melbourne Show Champions 1914-2014. Heritage Edition; and "Centenary of Clydesdale & Royal Melbourne Show Harness Champions to 2015". Heritage Edition

Enquiries for the Heritage edition books may be directed to: Mrs Barbara Ford, 625 Holden Road, Diggers Rest, Victoria 3427, Australia or email: clydesdaleyearbook@gmail.com

We bought our copies through www.aussieheavyhorses.com The cheapest way to buy them was to get our son in Northern Queensland to pay for them and we reimburse him in NZ dollars when we see him next, so if you know anyone in Aus see if they will oblige!

ATTENTION ALL CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY OF NZ (INC) JUDGES

Just a reminder of the rule introduced by the Clydesdale Horse Society of NZ (Inc) council and members, regarding the "Control of Reins" in the show ring. All judges are asked to adhere to the rule when judging in future.

The rule is as per the approved motion 14/8 with one word added as per the approved member amendment, 15/34. The approved rule is as follows -

"In the show ring the rein/reins must be held at all times. Non adherence to this rule and the competitor will be asked to leave the ring. Implemented for safety reasons."

OBITUARY

Just a wee story about a man named Roland Craigie Meredith Kennedy.



Roland was a life member of the New Zealand Clydesdale Horse Society. He was born in 1922, an only child. He passed away 10th February 2016, in his 94th year. He loved farming his land with the horses. A reasonable size, his property was 400 hectares, east of Stratford, in a small place called Tahora.

As a young boy, Roland was taught how to hillside plough by the late Bill Shine, who was a great horseman and ploughman of that era. The farm has stayed in the Kennedy family for 110yrs. His grandfather cleared most of it with a saw and an axe. Horses were always used for getting firewood, running out fence lines, breaking in the land, sowing fertilizer, plus sheep work.

Roland only used half drafts on the farm as it was steep and they were very sure footed. I met Roland back in the late 70's early 80's; we broke 3 half drafts in for him, as he wanted to carry on the art of hillside ploughing to show those who were interested. Sadly, I never made it out there to see him, so I am not sure if anyone did take it up.

Roland purchased a purebred Clydesdale colt off John and Grahame Cottle from Levin back in the mid to late 70's, his name was Wairepo McMillan. He was by Valmont Macleod out of Bath Farm Reta. I never saw this horse, but the half drafts we broke in for him were by this horse and they were of the true half draft type, not that tall, but beautiful big bodies and hind quarters, and had a bit of go. Roland was very pleased with them.

Roland had a big family of 8 children to his first wife, she passed away in 1989. He remarried and gained 5 more step children. Great family man; the love of the land and of course, the horses, was what kept him going. I had not seen him for sometime, but always remember him as a very humble man.

R.I.P Roland.

Steve Muggeridge
Taungatara Clydesdales

NZ CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY AGM & FIELD DAY JUNE, 2016

Field Day At The Bayly Family's, "Tahaenui Station", Nuhaka, then a Bus Trip on to their "Tangihau Station". We met outside the Emerald Hotel at 8.45am to go on the bus trip out to Bayly's. There were 32 on the bus and a few more following in private vehicles. We began by travelling to Tahaenui Station near Nuhaka to see the horses that John Bayly and Bruce Holden have acquired for a six horse team and 1 spare horse.

We were made very welcome by John (*right*) & his son, Humphrey Bayly. This was followed with a brief talk by Bruce Holden (*below*) on where the horses were from. He acknowledged the assistance of Steve Mugeridge in sourcing and handling the horses.



The stabling and yard areas were new and very well laid out. The horses were waiting groomed and tied up, ready to be harnessed. John Bayly has several willing helpers among the station employees, and, along with Bruce, they soon had the horses hitched up, six in the wagon and one in the sledge.



Most of those present went for a ride in the wagon and 3 or 4 on the sledge. All horses were well behaved and a credit to their handlers.



Fred Pilling (left) being taken for a ride

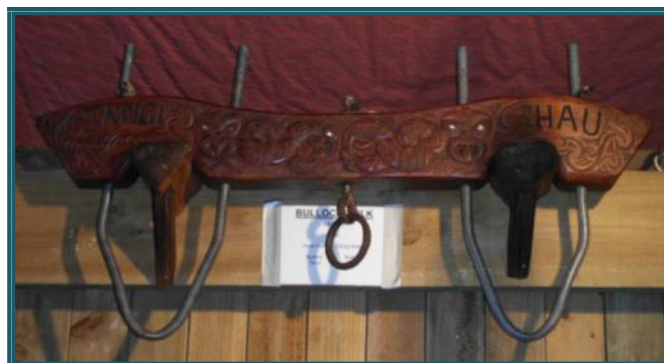


Phil Amberger minding the team while people boarded the wagon.

From there we went a short way on the bus to where the private museum and extra tack is kept. As the Baylys also run the Cricklewood Angus stud, this large shed is multi functional, with catering facilities for hosting functions with breeders and buyers at sale time.



Tables were set up ready for lunch and family friends and staff were there to prepare and dish up the food, including a variety of salads and of course some glorious Angus Pure beef.



Beautifully carved bullock yoke, "Tangihau"



Cobb & Co coach on display



The Bayly family business is a private company with six stations of their own including Tangihau (the name means “howling wind”) where we were off to next on the bus. They also lease a Maori owned station, “Mahurangi” which complements their own stations by being in a more consistent rainfall area and providing drought proofing in times of El Nino.

The stations run several thousand head of cattle with fewer sheep. One day at the local meat works the total days beef kill of 3300 was all from their business. There are two Angus studs, “Cricklewood” and “Tangihau”. Recently the “Cricklewood” stud paid \$100,000 for a new Angus sire, Rangatira 13-38. This was the highest ‘on farm’ auction price ever paid for any breed of bull in NZ. Although they also breed Angus bulls to sell, many are used within their own stations.

Along the way John told us a bit about his life in the area as well as speaking about points of interest. He said that as a child he used to ride to the Nuhaka school on a horse as they were more reliable. He reckoned ponies were too cunning! He also brought a smile to many of our older members as he reminisced about wood stoves and hot cocoa in the classroom. John said the stations had many long-time employees and they liked to promote from within the existing ones if possible.

Tangihau station has been in the family since 1934. The land rises from 300 to 2100 feet above sea level. It consists of 16,800 acres and employs a permanent cook, 5 shepherds, 3 permanent fencers, 2 General hands and is managed by Dean McHardy. It runs 15,500 ewes; calves 1600 commercial cows; 185 stud cows and also calves 300 commercial heifers. The biggest paddock is 527 acres.

They breed their own horses of which there are 70 on the property. Mainly Clydesdale cross with a dash of thoroughbred. The shepherds alternate their horses every second day and also break in a young one each year. As it is a two hour ride from the front to the back of the station, horses and dogs are trucked to reduce riding time.

The main woolshed has 10 stands with night pen storage for 3,500 full-wool ewes. The shearers’ quarters can sleep thirty people. There is also a 5 stand dagging plant under the shed

and 3 crutching sheds around the station. These plants are run using the power takeoff from a tractor.

The Bayly family operation overall is so large that they employ their own work safe person who is domiciled on Tangihau. Three different bee keeping firms are kept busy on the station.



Phil Amberger, Bruce Holden & Station manager, Dean McHardy on top of Tangihau

Dean accompanied us on the bus ride through the station. There are 30kms of good road throughout the station with several sets of sheep and cattle yards.

The property was in superb condition as we drove through it, with maintenance being a high priority – no saggy fences or unpainted buildings here! Because of the forecast of a very dry, El Nino summer, steps had been taken to reduce stock numbers. Paddocks were also shut up to have feed ahead of the cows at calving and ewes at lambing. Consequently everything was looking quite lush to some of the country we have recently seen around New Zealand.

John told us that the station had a large bush block where they used to run a safari style hunting business with overseas tourists. The targets were goats, feral sheep and deer. No pigs, as there are none on the station – next door could provide those. They built a bunkhouse that slept 16, two ablution blocks etc and had a huge fireplace with suspended camp ovens. However in the long run it proved not to be viable so it was ceased.



Dean McHardy's entire, "Two Rivers Midnight" by Sarjon Park David out of Ashtencroft Nicol

It was interesting to see some of their posts are made from home grown Robinia – a ground durable wood. The trees coppice well and should supply posts for many years. Dean said it is essential to remove the bark before using the posts as they are reputed to last about 40 years in the ground but if bark is left on, only about 7 years. The posts they had put in were made from 12 year old trees and of a good size.

The station has also got a beautiful, quite modern set of stables with 9 boxes. Most of the shepherding is done on horseback. In the yard when we arrived at the stables were some of Dean's own registered Clydesdales, 2 mares and an entire. Dean is very interested in them but looks on them as a relaxing hobby.

Among other furnishings the staff recreation room is supplied with a pool table and a refreshments fridge. Members were invited to take a chilled ale each; a great farewell to a wonderful day with the Bayly outfit.

Thank you to the Bayly Family and all the best from the Clydesdale Society for a successful time with your Clydesdales.



**PIRONGIA
BOXING DAY
CLYDESDALE
RACE.**

They hold a race day on Boxing Day and it is very popular - they put on a 300 metre dash for ridden Clydesdales . Horses and riders can dress as jockeys and adopt race names. This has been run for the last three years and is a big crowd pleaser.

Anyone interested in entering please contact Nick and Jill van der Sande at Pirongia Clydesdales: pirongia.clydesdales@xtra.co.nz

IN MEMORY OF

“ASHSTENCROFT DONELLA”

1/1/2000 - 10/10/2016



Donnie & Elin at Malvern Show

Donella was said to be the first foal of the Millennium - she was the first founding mare of *Dayboo Stud* (she was recommended to us by Susan Buttrick and Ian Gould). She was a gift for my birthday & she truly sparked my love for Clydesdales.

Donnie's first friend was Ben *aka* - Benevolence - he was a Clydesdale cross cob multi champion. Between the two of them they travelled together for the first 5 years, Ben taught Donnie the tricks of the trade from In Hand to Harness and everything in between.

Donnie's first show was Timaru A & P at the age of 2 where she placed highly coming away with two 1st place ribbons and a 3rd. Her second show was Ellesmere A & P where Keith Stewart was judging. He gave Donnie and I many instructions on harness.

Gilbert Cooper gave me many driving lessons and help designing harness; from then on we never looked back and began the ultimate partnership and a dream of winning the sledge class with Donnie at Christchurch A & P Show which we achieved at her age of 5.

We then purchased another Clydesdale mare by the name of Ashstencroft Rose. That's when we welcomed the challenge of putting Rose and Donnie as a pair in harness, which they worked together successfully.

Donnie's showing career, whether it be In Hand, Sledge, Gig, Wagon or Ridden, blossomed over the years winning many ribbons including two Supreme Champion, 18 Champions, 14 Reserves and a total of 457 Show Ribbons and numerous Trophies. Donnie knew the layout of most of the show grounds in the South Island!

One memory in particular was my first Ridden Class with Donnie that turned into a Riding Lesson with the Judge. At the end of the class we came away with the red ribbon and that was what we were aiming for, it helped that Donnie and I were the only ones in the class!

Donnie has taught many people, young and old, about harness and how to behave in a show arena, and if you did something that annoyed her she would quietly let you know by strategically eyeing up your foot to stand on at the right time.

Donnie had a wonderful temperament & an excellent personality and she loved to play the odd game with you especially when we washed her for an upcoming show - she would eye up the hose & stand on it. She just would not move, then she would look at you out the corner of her eye with a smug look as if she were laughing at you.

Donnie knew her place very well, whether it be her spot on the truck which she always had to be first on, or driving in her most favourite vehicle which was the gig or hearing the motorbike & the trailer from the other side of the farm which she knew meant food. Donnie had to be first and if she wasn't she would sure tell you about it!

Donnie has been the love of many people's lives whether it be the numerous German homestay students, her youngest handler Larissa aged 11 & especially Ange who Donnie also taught. Ange has been her handler, driver and rider for us for almost 4 years. Ange adored Donnie and everything about her and they shared an amazing bond. Donnie also taught Nicolle to lead In Hand and Drive before she moved onto Donnie's son Samuel which she now shows in the Dayboo Team.

Donnie has done many events including Weddings, The Wheat and Wheels Rally, Steam Fairs, School Ball at night & delivered Santa many times. She has been through the drive through at McDonald's for a quick bite also and she was lucky enough to be the only horse to be allowed to play at Lake Hood.

Two weeks after giving birth to her latest foal named Daniel, Donnie very sadly passed away at her home *Dayboo Stud*, due to unusual circumstances. We were supported by Steve Williams at Canterbury Vets who did everything possible to save her. She will be terribly missed by all. We are now bucket feeding her colt Daniel who is a happy wee chap and doing extremely well.

Even though Donnie has gone, we will miss her dearly but we will see her live on in the people she has taught and touched and in her legacy she has left behind with Samuel, Dawn and wee Daniel.

Ashstencroft Donella you were "One in a Million" and I thank you for starting it all and teaching me all that I know.

Rest in Peace my dear friend.

She was the true meaning of a "Gentle Giant".

John Booth & Gaye Day



Ben & Donnie, Kirwee Show



Rose & Donnie, Fairlie Show



Donnie & Sam, Southland Beach

Aver, haver A draught horse, now Scottish and northern dialect, old horse, nag

Shorter Oxford English Dictionary



Blackwood Captain in the surf watched over by Mount Egmont (Taranaki) Photo: Gareth Pryce

Firstly, let me introduce myself to those of whom I have not had the privilege of meeting yet. My name is Gareth Pryce. My wife Jacquie and I lived just out of Cambridge for the past 15 years and have recently we moved to a coastal block near Tongaporutu in North Taranaki. We are in the process of building and developing our new property while enjoying the coastal lifestyle, especially taking our Clydesdales on the beach.

My purpose for writing this article is to ensure

our members are aware of the changes and proposed changes to the animal welfare laws and regulations. Animal Welfare can be a very emotive topic as we are all passionate Clydesdale enthusiasts and want the best for our horses. I have been fortunate to have learnt from old teamsters who worked horses in their hay day. One common theme drummed into me was always tend to your horses before tending to anything else. This philosophy underpins good animal welfare and husbandry which is demonstrated by our members today.

We are also committee members of the Waikato Heavy Horse Association (WHHA) as working, breeding and showing Clydesdales are our passions. In May 2014 the WHHA committee held a demonstration day for the Ministry of Primary Industries National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) to demonstrate good working draft horse practices. The demonstration day was very worthwhile for all involved as the members of NAWAC by in large unaware that there were still working horses in New Zealand, let alone how to correctly fit harness and work them. The WHHA committee also found the day beneficial as we gained insight into how the legislative process works. As a result, we have been monitoring the animal welfare legislative changes.

Last year The 'Animal Welfare Amendment Act (No 2) 2015' <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2015/0049/30.0/DLM5174807.html> was passed into law and this year the 'Horses and Donkeys Code of Welfare' <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/document-vault/11003> has come into effect. There is also a 'Proposed Animal Welfare Regulations' www.vetcouncil.org.nz/documentation/Other/MPI_2016-12-Proposed-Animal-Welfare-Regulations.pdf that MPI is reviewing at present. The proposed regulations cover a range of specific areas in addition to hot branding, striking the head, injuries caused by harness, tail docking and tethering. The proposed regulations would also impose a \$300 fine for minor offences and major offences could carry a criminal conviction, with a maximum fine of \$5000 for individuals and \$25,000 for corporate entities.

Some Clydesdale Society Councilors along with the Waikato Heavy Horse Association and Canterbury Clydesdale Club have made submissions to MPI regarding the proposed 'Animal Welfare Regulations'. I would suggest all members follow this with interest and take the time to become familiar with the legislation, code and proposed regulation.

As a recently elected councillor of the Clydesdale Horse Society I feel it is my job to help promote the Clydesdale breed as well as represent and support our members to ensure the sustainability of the breed for future generations. I am in the process of redeveloping the society's website and looking at ways of communicating more effectively with our members.

To be able to achieve these goals I need to hear from you, so please feel free to send me an email: gareth@blackwoodclydesdales.co.nz, phone: 0272725644 or call in and see us at 4016 Mokau Road, Tongaporutu as we always enjoy meeting new Clydesdale enthusiasts and old friends.

Dr Stephanie Valberg DVM PhD is the director of the University of Minnesota Equine Centre , head of the Neuromuscular Diagnostic Laboratory and a leading researcher into equine muscle disorders.

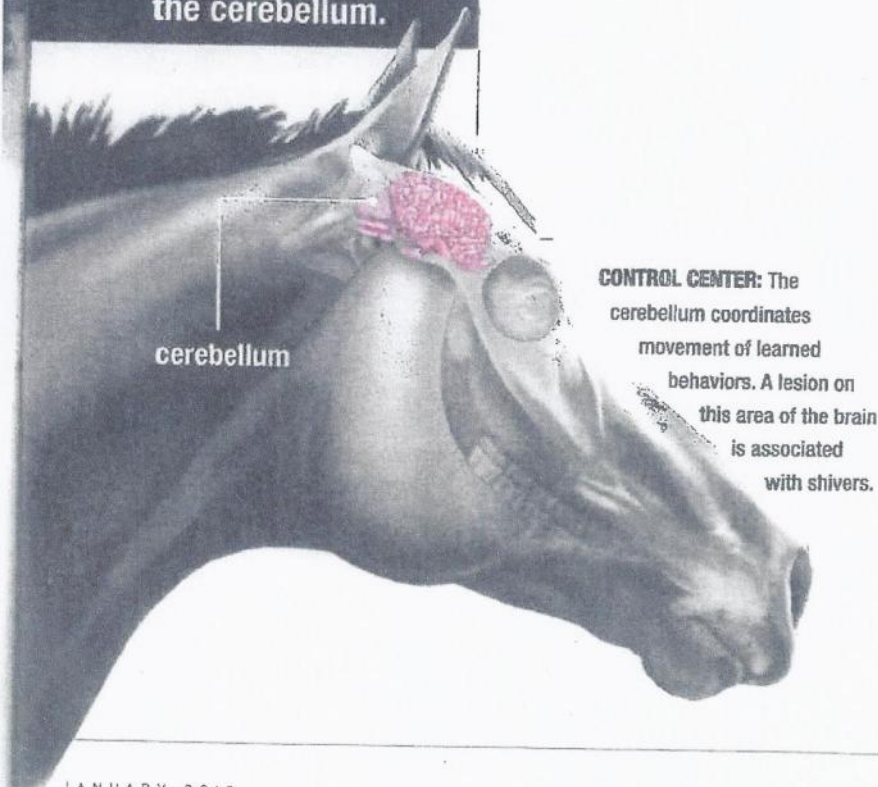
Valberg has been studying a muscle disorder – PSSM (Poly Saccharide Storage Myopathy)- a genetic disorder leading to accumulation of sugars in muscles causing stiffness and tying up signs. But she was often asked questions she couldn't answer especially about horse owners having trouble with horses who had difficulties in lifting their hind feet .

Using the data base of research from PSSM in Belgian horses she found about 1/3 had Shivers as reported by the owners and veterinarians – Shivers seemed to be a separate issue.

Defining the issue was difficult as literature was scarce and the disease was rare . Valberg organized an online survey to try and find owners with first hand experience of shivers . Worldwide three hundred were found . It proved shivers was rare but had a profound impact. Videos from owners were requested with the horses doing standardized movements .



Backing or lifting a hoof when asked is learned behavior controlled by the cerebellum.



CONTROL CENTER: The cerebellum coordinates movement of learned behaviors. A lesion on this area of the brain is associated with shivers.

The videos revealed some clear patterns – most horses had difficulties picking up their hind limbs when asked by their owners – they would hesitate and resist and when lifting the leg shake and quiver . All these horses lifted their legs normally when walking . This meant Shivers was different from Stringhalt. In Stringhalt the hindleg jerks upwards with each forward step (led as well as under saddle) then places it down normally.

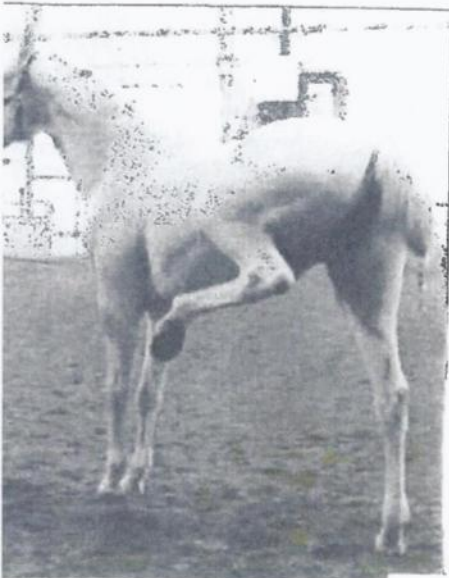
The videoa revealed two basic types of Shiver cases . Some horses refused to back up in hand or lift their hind legs when asked – their legs would stretch out behind them rather than move forward – this was described by Valberg as

1 Shivers and hyperextension . These horses extended both forelegs at the initiation of backing which when combined with hyperextension of hind legs resulted in a stretched sawhorse appearance – horses did not coordinate fore and hind limb movements and became reluctant to back , barely able to complete two strides backwards .

2 Shivers with hyperflexion . These horse are normal forward walking with signs of hyperflexion when walking backwards and when manually lifting the hind limbs . During hyperflexion the leg would be held up in a pause then quickly returned to the ground . Manual lifting of hind limbs was resisted .

A smaller third group was identified who had abnormal hind limb flexion on backing and when walking forward – these were long standing cases.

All these horses had developed signs over time , some from two years old but most not until 5 years old - and all were very well trained with respect to foot care and handling . Many were functioning at extremely high levels of dressage and show jumping . There was a strong predilection for height but not breed . Every horse with shivers was 16.3 HH,or taller and typically seen in thoroughbreds , warmbloods and drafts .



STUCK: In its most advanced stage, Stanley's shivers made backing in hand nearly impossible. (To see video of Stanley and other horses with shivers, visit www.equusmagazine.com.)

MOBILITY ISSUE: This "sawhorse" stance is commonly seen when horses with the form of shivers that produces hyperextension are asked to back up.



From the videos Shivers did not appear like pain , weakness or incoordination but more like confusion , frustration and even fear and panic . This made researchers suspect the cerebellum – which controls muscle memory . The cerebellum controls learned behavior . Rhythmic trotting and galloping are natural for a horse – he doesn't think about it – this is controlled at spinal cord level . But backing and lifting feet when asked is learned and controlled by the cerebellum . The theory was these horses had focal damage in the cerebellum .

Eventually Shivers horses were donated and Valberg examined brains and spinal cords . These were matched with samples from control horses of the same size and breed . Meticulous microscopic examination paid off. They found very characteristic degeneration on one very specific area of the cerebellum . Some degeneration with ageing is normal but with Shivers horses had 80X normal degeneration .

Work is ongoing to find a possible genetic basis but this can be tricky – there is the height gender affect . Height may also contribute indirectly . With taller horses having longer nerves and more opportunity for electrical input to be less crisp . Also geldings are more at risk but this maybe only via the extra height.

Valberg has given a strong basis for defining Shivers as a degenerative neurological disease. This has made an opening for future research but may even lead to a viable management and possibly a future cure .

Stress can make shivers worse . Keeping the horse fit and active can help slow the degeneration. In common with human neurodegenerative disease antioxidants are important esp Vit E . Note – many high level performance horses overseas are permanently housed and feed all their rations . Without access to fresh grass this can lead to vit E deficiency . In pastured horses this is not a problem .

So far the only option is management . It does seem to help using detomidine to shoe these horses – it dampens down the urge to pull the foot away - but it does make them very heavy to handle .

But as with all neurodegenerative diseases they do all become worse over time

The full article can be seen as well as videos of the horses – visit

www.equusmagazine.com

This précis was contributed by Society member, Sylvia Vriend, a senior Clydesdale judge and practising Veterinary Surgeon.



What our Society Secretary, Paul Stroobant, gets up to in his spare time.

Here he is, in character, driving a pair of Percherons on the set of a new film (name undisclosed) in Christchurch earlier this year.

The horses are owned by Wayne McCormack of Equine Films Ltd.