



Clydesdale NewZ, December 2021

A FEW NOTES FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

December 2021

Hello members,

It's been a bit of a trying time again with covid. For instance, hardly any shows. I haven't done any public work whatsoever, but I won't be the only one unfortunately.

I hope the foaling season has gone well for you all. Unfortunately, I have heard of a few losses not only foals but mares as well so that's a bugger.

There has been quite a bit feed around this spring so hopefully your foals and young stock are growing.

It was very encouraging to hear the Stallion returns for the 2020 season at the AGM, 71 mares to 29 stallions (largest return in 7 years).

There is still very good demand for Clydesdales – especially well broken to ride and drive.

I'm not sure when and if things are going to get back to some sort of normality but we all just have to go with it and work through it unfortunately. Maybe after Christmas things might improve who knows.

I want to say to you all, just enjoy your horses in whatever way you can and let's keep the Clydesdale horse breed moving into the future.

I wish all of you the best for the festive season, Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all.

On another note, I would like to thank Helen McKenzie for her time and effort for this newsletter. Well done Helen, we all appreciate it very much

Regards,



Steve Muggeridge
President

FROM THE SECRETARY:

I think we are all over the restrictions Covid has brought and the number of shows that have been cancelled.

I have been using some of the downtime to work on Volume 41 of the studbook, due out in time for next year's AGM in Timaru on the 10th June 2022.

If you would like to advertise your Clydesdale stud in the studbook, full page colour ad cost \$250 with discounts available for multiple pages.

Closing date for entries in Volume 41 is the 31st December 2021, so please get all your annual subscription, paperwork up to date and entered before then if you would like to be included.

There are several Clydesdales in the process of being imported from Australia. It is great to see new bloodlines coming into the country. More to come once paperwork has been processed.

Two common issues that keep arising are:

1. Writing on registration certificates. Please refrain from writing on the registration certificates as updates will be printed on the certificates. Change of ownership require a change of ownership form to be completed, which can be found here

www.clydesdale.org.nz/forms/changeofownershipform.pdf

2. Uncompleted paperwork and misplaced registration certificates. There are a lot of change of ownerships held up at present as the vendor has either not completed a change of ownership or cannot find the registration certificate. Please keep registration certificates in a safe place that you can find. I would recommend that purchasers ask for a completed change of ownership form and registration certificate before paying for the horse.

Key dates coming up:

Annual Membership due by: 30 September

Last day for Volume 41 entries: 31st December

Stallion Return due by: 30 April annually

AGM and Field Day: Timaru: 10th to 11th June

Horse Registration due by: 31 July post foaling

If you have any agenda items for next year's AGM, please start sending them through to me.

The society has stock of the "History of Clydesdales in New Zealand" book. Pricing is \$65 including P&P.

The society also has studbooks for sale, with a good supply of volumes 36 to 40 and many other older volumes.

Please send me your, orders, local show entry forms, results, and photos.

I hope to see you all at some of our upcoming events and if I can be of any assistance feel free to contact me.

I wish you have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Gareth Pryce
Ph: 0272725644
4016 Mokau Road
RD48, Urenui
Secretary,
Clydesdale Horse Society of New Zealand (Inc.)

FROM THE PAST



Bob McConachy with a youngster - possibly at Hastings showgrounds? Photo from Robin McConachy, Bob's daughter-in-law.

Can anyone identify the horse or the venue? Possibly mid 1980's?

2021 CLYDESDALE AGM & TOUR MANAWATU

Friday 11th June

We were so lucky to get this event over before the Delta variant of Covid reared its ugly head.

Friday was our usual Council meeting in the morning and AGM in the afternoon. The latter had a good attendance of members with some newer faces visible as well.

The Copthorne Hotel in Palmerston North was the venue. Friday evening, we enjoyed the Annual Dinner with a very good turnout of members and the food was very satisfactory.

Below and bottom left column a few of the members enjoying pre and after dinner chat at the Annual Dinner.



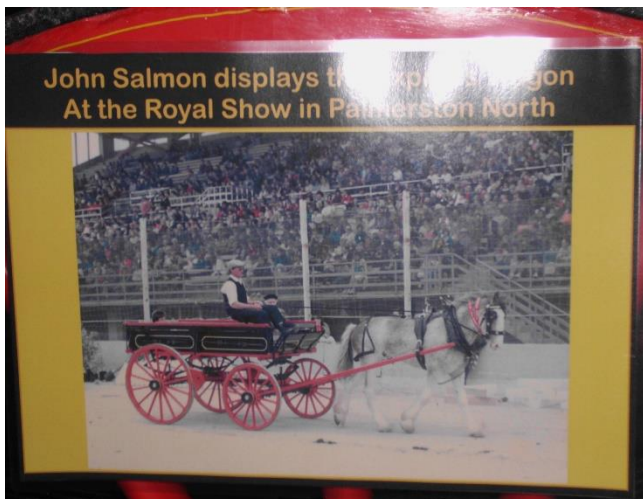
Saturday 12th June

Certainly, a well-filled enjoyable Clydesdale day.

It began with a visit to the Coach House Museum in Feilding – somewhere not previously visited by many of us. I expected it all to be horse drawn memorabilia but there were many local history displays as well.



Display cabinet of china heavy horses and their vehicles in the Coach House foyer



Sorry about the quality of the above photo. It is headed up “John Salmon displays this express wagon at the Royal Show in Palmerston North” with John’s wagon beside it.

[**Editor’s Note:** The filly in the wagon was no more than two years old. Her name was Golden Dawn. She was bred by Bob McConachy, whom many of you will know or have heard of. Dawn was by Glen Epic (bred by Susan Butterick-Kent) out of the great breeding mare, Llewellyn Jeannie, (bred by Jack Morgan).

Warwick & I later bought Dawn and she was eventually on-sold to Virginia McKay at Putorino for breeding sport & dressage horses.]

We also had a very nice home-made morning tea provided by the museum volunteers. A very well spent \$6!

From the Coach house we all travelled down to Foxton to see the tram and horses, unfortunately, stationary on the day.



DeMolenFoxton
NEW ZEALAND

Some chose to venture into the Windmill shop for some imported and locally made Dutch goods. The windmill is a replica of 17th Century Dutch windmill which still works in the traditional way with wind turning the vanes and powering the millstones as they grind the cereals into flour. They stock a variety of flours for the artisan baker.

Lunch was at the Windmill Café with a good variety of Dutch lunch fare. Interestingly most members had room for something even after the lovely morning tea at the coach House Museum in Feilding.

Saturday Afternoon Thomas family's farm at Levin was our next port of call. I'm sure no-one in NZ has seen so many Clydesdale horses in one place recently unless at a major show or at Erewhon Station.



Checking out the carts



Steve Thomas speaking about the history of the landau



Afternoon tea at Thomas's



1 Te One Coal's Lacey



#2 Te One Coal's Kirstie



#3 Te One Coal's Kenzie



#4 Te One Douglas's Hannah



#5 Te One Coal's Skye



#9 Te One Captain's Pansy



#6 Te One Coal's Maggie



#10 Te One Coal's Belle



#7 Te One Douglas's Jackie



#11 Te One Taggart's Grace



#8 Te One Douglas's Justine



#12 Te One Taggart's Georgia



#13 Te One Blaze's Jade



#17 Te One Coal's Shadow



#14 Te One Douglas's Jacinda



#18 Te One Captain's Dallas



#15 Te One Captain's Amy



Braveheart Coal



#16 Te One Captain's Hazel



Interesting cart at Thomas's

From Thomas's it was down the road to Graham Cottle's to view his great private vehicle and engines collection and hear his stories about when he and his brother, John, farmed their two farms.

They used horses for everything – cropping and feeding out. They sowed 80 acres annually with maize, barley and oats.

John mainly ran the horses and Graham the dairy. They had horses, pigs and dairy cows to feed. In 1988 John moved down to Timaru with his family using horse power – driving his wool wagon with the team and the kids on ponies behind. (Another whole story there!). Graham continued to feed out with his horses until the mid 1990's



And then there were his tractors



Checking out the mowers



The surrey with the fringe on top



Light collars & stationary motors



Inspecting the wool wagon



Discussing the finer points!



Further inspection

Below is a quick summary of my presentation given at the judge's clinic in June, for those who were unable to attend.

Horse Soundness Examination

Whether you are looking at purchasing, judging, or simply critiquing your own horse, a quick soundness assessment is essential.

Regardless of the species of domestic animal, a soundness check involves a careful overall evaluation of its fitness for purpose.

A strategic and methodical approach allows this to be carried out quickly and thoroughly.

Before starting the examination, it is important to gain an overall impression of the horse,(body and coat condition, general demeanour and attitude) and an assessment of the general confirmation, as certain aspects of this can affect the soundness of the animal.

So with the horse standing square on a flat surface, the 'physical exam' can begin.

Head

Nostrils - should be moist but without smell, discharge or crusting

Teeth - Check for parrot moth, uneven wear and broken or missing incisors. Retained wolf teeth, pockets of food and halitosis.

Cheek muscles- evenly developed. Asymmetry could be an indication of dental problems.

Eyes - Cornea should be perfectly transparent with iris and pupil clearly visible. Conjunctiva should be pink, without any growths (ie "cancer eye") or any form of discharge

Vision - perform a menace reflex (swiftly moving palm of hand towards eye, horse should blink) If in doubt, blindfold one eye and walk horse over some poles or obstacles.

Ears - canal should be dry, clean, without discharge or smell. Check for sarcoids.

Poll and neck

Inspect poll and look for tenderness or scars. Serious injury to the upper part of cervical spine can be a cause of wobbler syndrome.

With one hand on poll move horse's head up and down and from side to side from its normal position.

Run hand down the crest, and both sides of the neck. Look for symmetry of neck muscles, tenderness or scarring.

Then, with the horse stationary, check the range of motion, by holding an item of interest (i.e. carrot) in front of its nose,

asking it to raise its head, lower it to the ground and around to each flank.

Any resistance could be indicative of neck or back problems,

Check the withers for swelling and tenderness.

Back

Look at the overall symmetry from the front and back. With slight pressure, run fingers over back muscles a couple of inches each side of the spine, from the shoulder to the tail, looking for tenderness swelling or scarring. Evaluate horse's reaction to this, (back muscles twitching, leg shuffling, ears folded back, possible indications of discomfort)

Tail and perineum

Inspect tail and check its range of movement. Check anus, should be dry and tightly closed.

In a mare, the vulva should be vertical and neatly closed, with the mucous membranes moist and pink without any smell or signs of discharge.

Poor conformation of the vulva can lead to urine pooling, vaginitis and poor breeding performance.

Legs and feet.

Check each leg individually. Compare to the opposite leg for symmetry. Run thumb and fingers down the back of leg from the carpus or hock to the foot, to check flexor tendons and suspensory ligament, looking for any signs of heat, tenderness, swelling or scarring. Examine splint bones for swelling and fetlock joints for ringbone.

With a cooperative and safe subject, lift each leg, flex and extend the carpus, elbow shoulder hock stifle and hip.

Look at all feet individually. Check coronary band and hoof wall for long deep longitudinal cracks. Check soundness of the frog and sole. Remember: "No frog no foot, no foot no horse"!

Finally, trot the horse out on each rein, in an oval or triangle configuration, so it can be viewed from front, back, and both sides. Pay attention to evenness of the gait and nodding of the head to detect signs of lameness.

If suspecting a limb lameness, a flexion test can be performed, simply by flexing the leg in question for 1-2 minutes and then trotting the horse out again. Usually this will exaggerate a subtle problem.

Finally, stand back again and view the entire animal from a different perspective.

It may surprise you to have discovered aspects that were overlooked at first glance.

Dr J Pryce, BVSC MACVSC

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH.

By Alan Vliet Vlieland EQDT

To Tell The Age of Horses

by O R Gleason (1882) Improved version

To tell the age of horse,
Inspect the lower jaw, of course;
The six front teeth the truth will tell,
Now learn this lesson very well.

The middle nippers you behold,
Before the colt is two weeks old.
Before eight weeks two more will,
Eight months the corners cut the gum.

The dark like cups will disappear,
From middle two in just one year.
In two years from the second pair,
In three the corners too are bare.

At two the middle nippers drop,
At three the second pair can't stop.
When four years old the third pair goes,
At five a full new set he shows.

The deep black spots will pass from view,
At six years from the middle two.
The second pair at seven years,
At eight the spot each corner clears.

From middle nippers upper jaw,
At nine the black spots will withdraw.
The second pair at ten are white,
Eleven finds the corners bright.

As time goes on the horsemen know,
The oval teeth three-sided grow,
The old horse has more whoa than get,
We only keep him for a pet.

Who says there is no poetry in the horse's mouth! It's hard to describe how to age a horse by its teeth, without pictures. The aging is done in the early years up to the age of 5 years by observing the shedding of milk teeth. Also called capping. The incisors (front teeth) change to mature teeth from the middle to the side at 2.5, 3.5 and 4.5 years.

The first 3 molars called pre-molars change at 2 years and 10 months, 3 years and 4 years from front to back. After that you will use the wear on the centre of the incisors and their side on angle.

The aging gets less precise when the horse gets older. Also, their living environment starts to play a role. Around the volcanos (pumice soil) the wear of the teeth can be more than on clay soil.

Maybe some of you have heard of the Galvayne's groove. This groove starts at the age of 10 years old on the corner incisor. This will extend all the way down to the biting surface at the age of 20. If the groove is halfway, you know that the horse is 15 years old.

Unfortunately, not all horses get one. Otherwise, it would be very easy to age the horse. The aging can only be done by combining the angle of the incisors, the wear on the biting surface and Galvayne's groove. Of course, the aging becomes a lot more precise if the horse is branded!

For the people who want to know more, get on to "YouTube" and look for "aging horses by teeth". You will find several films about this subject with very clear images,

Regards,

Alan

Below: Alan & Goldenlane George his young entire who was Champion Clydesdale at the 2021 Ellesmere show

Photo by Margo Vliet Vlieland



Andrew Gibberd; A Life with Horses

John Gibberd, Andrew's father ➤

My father left home from Whakatane on his horse and joined three men taking a mob of horses from Gisborne to Cambridge Horse Fair. After that he got a job with the Auckland Meat company at Waiterimu, putting chains around willow trees for a bullock team to pull out. Dad got 2/6d (two shillings and sixpence) more because he worked in water up to his waist all day. Then he got the job of teamster, ploughing and cropping with four horses as well as droving cattle from Morrinsville and round about back to Waiterimu. Dad got married and we came along.



At the age of three years, Dad was ploughing a paddock and I wanted to drive the 3 horse team so he let me, but I took two or three steps and fell over. He let the horses drag me to the end of the paddock because I would not let the reins go. This was the first lesson in driving.

Then school came along and when I was old enough, I had to ride 3½ miles to school. Also, I broke in other kids' horses. When Mum and Dad were sharemilking, all work was done with horses, the same as with everybody else. Then when I left school, they bought 600 acres of hill country. It was my job to work-up the hill country; 3 horses on easy country and four horses on the steep country. I also laid fence lines with concrete posts on steep country which was hard work.

One winter we split 5,000 rimu battens out of one tree and 6,000 out of another tree. The track was so steep 3 horses could only pull 120 battens in one load, so a lot of trips were made out of the bush.

There were always horses to break in. I raked hay with one horse in the tedder, then I got put on the grab at the haystack after dropping hay on one stack builder which was hard work but I learned to build a stack from the best in the business.

I went sharemilking with one hack and a gelding to feed out 2,000 bales of hay; also cream had to be carried out to the road each day. That's when I got married and started out with a three year old colt bought from Keith McRobbie.

Later I purchased 3 mares and that was the start of registered Clydesdales for us.

The mares weren't that good but 50 years later we have some good mares and a stallion. Thanks to some good horses purchased from Athol Fenton.

Stallions: Fenton Hills Royal, Fenton Hills Max and Aarunga Remus.

Mare: Fenton Hills Elizabeth.

When milking cows, crops were put in with horses; 4 in the blocks for ploughing, and mowing hay and other work as well as breeding and showing them.

Clydesdales were only shown at Royal shows until Jack Morgan and George Simmons came along and we got some A & P shows to go as well. Then along came Steve Mugeridge, Bruce Signal and Paul Symes. Things started to grow with Fred (George) Pilling and Derrick Thornton - many others are still going today.

You have to take the good with bad. Most of all enjoy your horses and they will do their best for you.

The colt I purchased, Lochnagar Highland Laddie, was 1st at Hastings Royal Show with Charlie McCallum as the judge.



Andrew Gibberd with Lochnagar Highland Laddie at Hastings Royal Show, 1968 (Photo: History of Clydesdales in New Zealand)

I started **Mangakura** Stud with a mare purchased from Alan Sisam – Waimeha Louise; from Keith McRobbie Lochnagar Heather Bloom and from Alf Clarke, Oaklea Lady.

Over the years I have bought 2 good mares from Logan Bros in Gore and 2 good colts:

Mares, Mossdale White Silk, Mossdale Stella

Colts: Mossdale Parnell, Mossdale Royal.

The best traits to look for are size and good nature - MOST IMPORTANT. Weight pulls weight.



Andrew & Mangakura Joy

Photo: Lesley Warwick, 2015

My favourite horse is Mangakura Joy. She's a good show mare as well as a working horse. The grandkids can do anything with her. Joy breeds well and has 3 Champions as well as many other ribbons.

Mangakura Joy is by Fenton-Hills Max (Benwerrin Turbo (Aus) ex Aarunga Maddison) out of Fenton Hills Elizabeth (Donnybrook Matabo ex Davendasey Flash Girl)

My tip for the next generation about Clydesdales and working horses is: -

“WHATEVER YOUR HANDS FIND TO DO, DO IT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT; KEEP AT IT, IT WILL PAY OFF IF YOU DO NOT GIVE UP.

At 78 years of age, I am still trying and have got some of the best horse I have owned.

Keep your mouth shut and your ears open and you will learn something.

Keep the Clydesdale big. They were bred to work and not to be put in a paddock and forgotten about.

Mangakura Stud Royal Show Results

15 Royal Show gold medals

4 Royal Show silver medals.

5 NZ Clydesdale Horse Society silver medals for the Best Colt or Filly, yearling or two-year-old, bred by exhibitor.

James Logan Memorial trophy (Three champion mares at Royal Shows)

Mossdale Stella at Hamilton, Waimeha Bonnie at Palmerston North, Mangakura Queen at Hastings (This mare was out of Mossdale Stella)

As well as all this, there was time for Church.

Shearing a lot

Pig hunting

Deer stalking

Droving around the district.

Below: Mangakura Blossom Champion & Supreme, Morrinsville Show 2005.

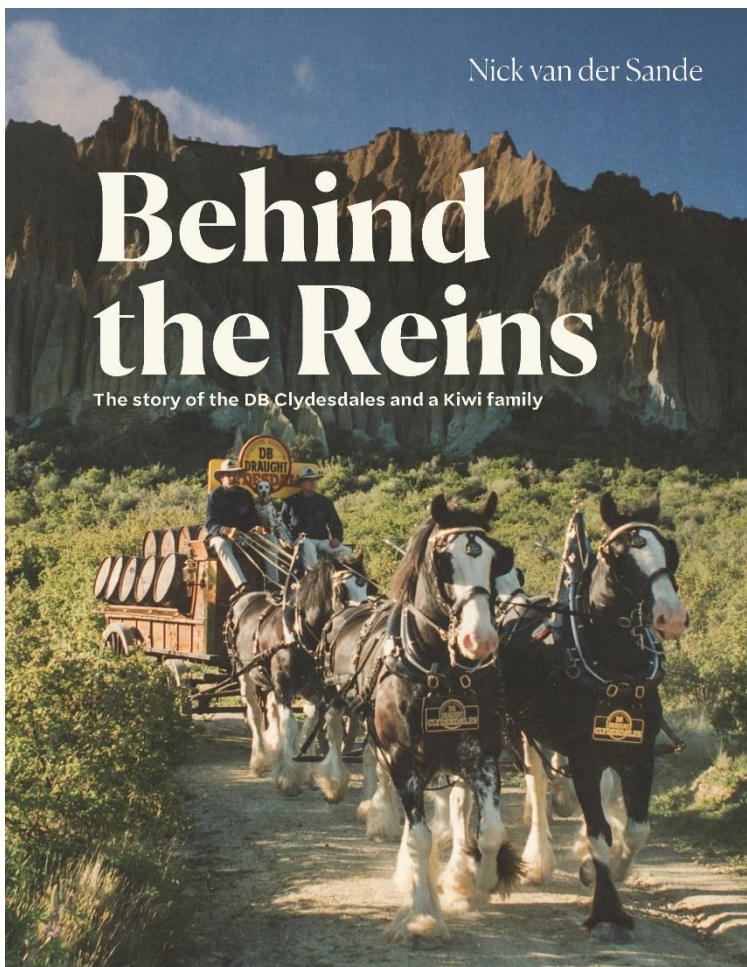
Photo: H McKenzie



A BIT OF HISTORY



Mares & foals at Donald Family's Tarureka Farm, Featherston early 1900's. Man on right is Tom Gilpin.
The above photo recently given to me by a distant cousin – Helen McKenzie



Behind the Reins: The story of the DB Clydesdales and a Kiwi family.

\$64.95 from www.theclydesdalebook.co.nz

Behind the Reins covers the never-before told story of a true New Zealand icon and the family behind it. The DB Clydesdales forged their fame as ambassadors for one of New Zealand's largest breweries, but their popularity and appeal ultimately spread far beyond beer marketing, and into the hearts of every New Zealander.

The book weaves together a selection of anecdotes from the life of Nick van der Sande and his family and their career managing the famous DB Clydesdale horses. From retellings of events to animal and human character studies, these stories are guaranteed to stimulate feelings of awe, sadness, humour and great happiness.

Illustrated with a host of scenic photography, this book is a 'must-read' for anyone that admired the DB Clydesdales, or has love for equines, photography or New Zealand history in general.

"Behind the reins is an incredible collection of amazing adventure, stunning scenery and beautiful horse. A truly beautiful book, inspiring and honest... Nick's stories are full compassion and genuine love and pride for his horses, family and team."

Jennifer Weal

RIP Alpine View Savannah (Tonka) 2004-2021

Breeding horses has huge ups and downs and recently we experienced the very worst situation. Early in the morning of September 22nd Tonka went into labour and everything seemed normal, the alarm went off and she had foaled by the time I jumped the fence, the foal seemed normal and was still attached so I sat and watched for a few minutes. Then Tonka got to her feet, walked a few steps, collapsed on top of the foal and died. It was all so sudden and even before I could call the vet she had gone. I managed to wake my partner and get the foal out from under her but there was nothing we could do for Tonka. This left me with one very large problem, I had a foal and no way to feed her. I called the vet who came out, and in the meantime, we put the foal in the horse trailer to keep her safe. I managed to milk around 3 litres of colostrum from Tonka and the vet was able to tube the foal. At this stage I made the decision to take the foal to Little Avondale Stud in Masterton, they have 24/7 staff on site and have a lot more experience than I do in this situation. I was also emotionally drained I had just lost my best friend and I just didn't think I could cope.

We arrived at Little Avondale around 6am and they immediately took over, and in a very short period of time, had the foal drinking from a baby's bottle, but she was a very hungry foal and was demanding a litre of milk every hour, so it was going to be an expensive exercise providing powdered foal milk for 3 months. We advertised on Facebook for a foster mare, but nothing was available. I was offered a dry mare from Rotorua to try so I arranged for a transporter to bring her down the following evening and we started introducing them but while the mare was lovely it was going to take a week or so to bring her into full milk and Cee Cee was still guzzling as much milk as she could and getting very demanding!!

I then received a phone call from a lady in Tokoroa who has sadly had to have her foal put to sleep that day and had a Gypsy cross mare available, but we couldn't find a transporter to bring her down to Masterton and we didn't have much time, so Raymond and one of our workers left with our horse float at 5am on an epic road trip to pick up Raven and her dead foal.

In the meantime, the vets had tested Cee Cee to see if she had received enough colostrum from Tonka and while she had drunk close to 3 litres, she still needed a plasma transfusion, so this was carried out on the Friday afternoon with no dramas.

Around 6pm Raymond and Darren arrived with Raven and her dead foal. I was heading to the stud to see the foal when we had another disaster, Cappy our 35-year-old kids' pony had a massive seizure in the paddock, and I had to have him



put to sleep immediately. It was a horrific way to lose a much-loved family member and about now I was more than ready to give up all together!

Thankfully Sam at Little Avondale took control, skinned the dead foal, tied the skin onto Cee Cee and within hours the mare had accepted her giant new baby and she was drinking by herself at midnight! At 6am I was texted and told I could take them home to get them out in the paddock on some grass!



◀ Cee Cee and her new mother

The next few days went smoothly, and Raven and Cee Cee bonded well. I have now purchased Raven from her lovely owner and am currently in the process of inseminating her to a pony stallion for next season, even though I have moments when I am not sure I ever want to breed again.

I had Tonka for 13 years and while she could be a grumpy old cow, she was my best friend and I miss her every day. Tonka bred 9 amazing foals for me over the years. Carly Gray has Toby and the Thomas Family have Braveheart Coal, both standing as stallions now. I also bred several cross bred foals from Tonka who are excelling in the show ring and show jumping rings.



▲ Mandy, Cee & Raven, her Gypsy cob cross foster mother

I can never replace Tonka, but Cee Cee helps to heal the hurt. I can't thank Sam and the team at Little Avondale enough. They saved CeeCee when I just wasn't capable of thinking straight. My local vets were also amazing, and family and friends helped us through a very hard time. Two months later it's still hard and tears still flow but it's getting easier, and I just try and remember all the great times I had with the best horse I have ever owned - I love you Tonka and I will never forget you.



Livestock Handbooks. Edited by James Sinclair No. 111.

“Heavy Horses. Breeds and Management”

[Browsing in a secondhand bookshop a few months ago and came across the above book by Herman Biddell et al Fifth Edition. Illustrated. Published by Vinton & company, Ltd London, 1910.

The previous owners' names came from Northallerton, and two from Leeds in UK.

The contents cover:-

The Shire Horse;

The Suffolk Horse;

The Clydesdale Horse,

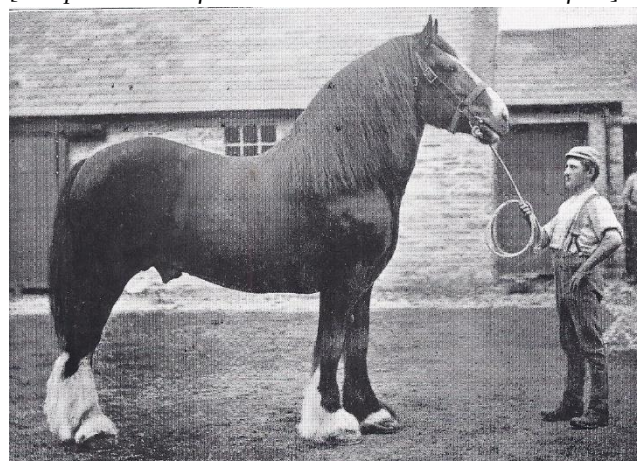
The Breeding of Heavy Cart Horses for Street Work;

The London Work Horse in Street and Stable;

Farm management of the Heavy Horse

Diseases and Injuries to which Heavy Horses are Liable

[The photos are of horses I have not come across before]

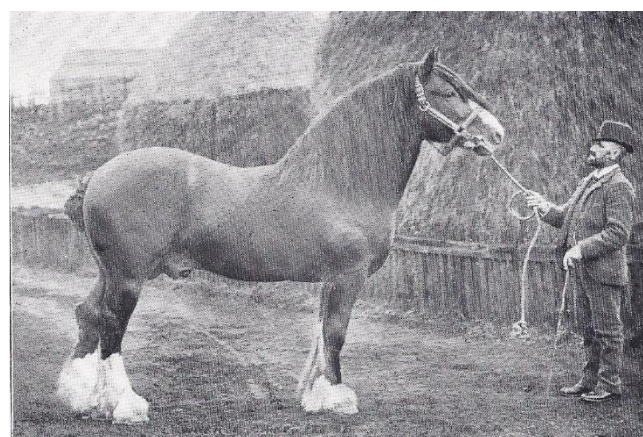


CLYDESDALE STALLION, Flashwood 3604.

Winner of First Prizes at H & A.S Shows

Owned by Messrs. A & W Montgomery

Photo by C Reid



CLYDESDALE STALLION, Lawrence Chief 7910

Winner of Glasgow Agricultural Society's Premium, 1894

The property of Mr Alexander Scott

Photo by C Reid