

The

November 2016

SILVER

Official publication of
Reining Australia



*Onya Ima Cool Step and John Wicks
2016 Gold Buckle Futurity Champions
Photo: Stephen Mowbray*

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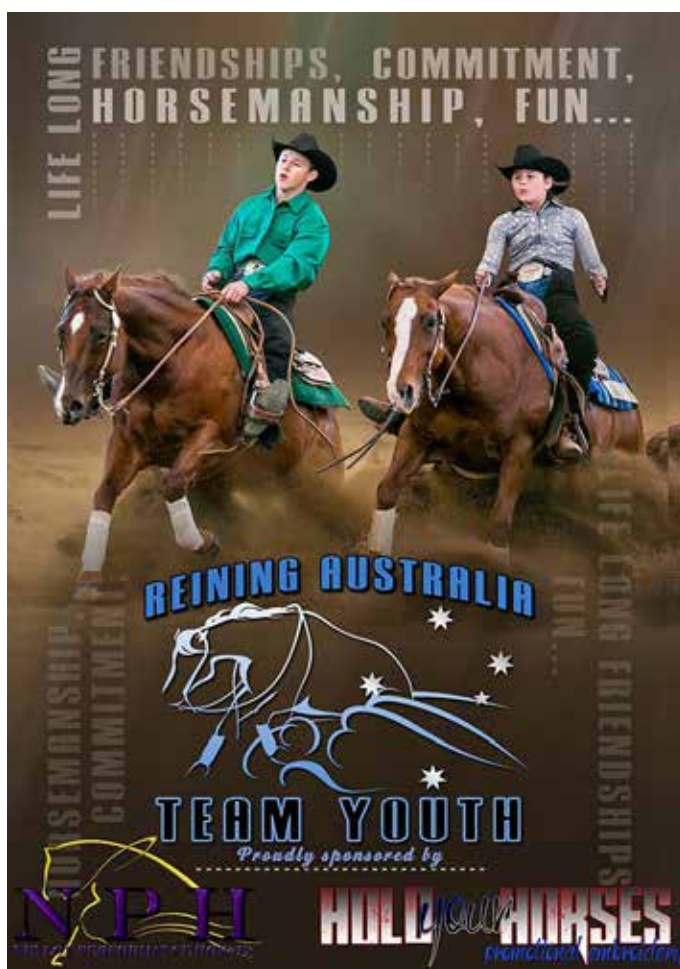
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi All

I would like to thank the people that have taken the time to call and email in their feedback after the Nationals at Tamworth. Many of you will already know how much work is involved to organise a show like this and already next year is shaping up to be bigger and better already.

All who attended enjoyed the Calliope Sliders Pirate Party. It was a great ramp up for the RA auction with some very impressive items going under the hammer. A big shout out to Rick and Dan our auctioneers for the evening. The weather wasn't exceptional but then again it could have been a hell of a lot worse for the show.

Congrats to all that participated in the bake off, it was a lot of fun to say the least and I must say we have very talented bakers amongst us. To the judges of the bake off, I certainly hope your sugar levels have returned to normal. Well done to all concerned.

This year we saw the inaugural Humpty Dumpty Charity event held at the show. The event was well received and raised money for a great cause. It had fun, excitement, fundraising, and a party. What more could you want?

The get together in the evenings in the Marquee seem to gain momentum as the show went on, which was good to see. While there was a considerable amount of work involved in setting up the Marquee, it was well worth the effort of transporting it to and from Tamworth, erecting it and pulling it down, cleaning, finding concrete blocks to hold it down, BBQ, lighting, music, firewood, coffee and tea, and the list goes on. Thank you to the Appleyard family for lending it to us.

The Stallion Alley was a success. It raised much-needed funds for our show and was a great opportunity to showcase the studs in our industry for the upcoming breeding season.

There were some outstanding efforts put into the surface this year by AELEC, the RA Committee and Tamworth Precision Earthmoving. Eleven hundred tonnes of material were removed from the pen and the base was completely redone for the event. The co-operation between these groups of people and their all-night efforts produced an outstanding surface that we all enjoyed. I would like to express a big thank you to all involved.

So thank you to everyone that attended and contributed to the show: competitors, judges, officials, scribes, coffee runners, fans, committee members, tractor drivers, fans, stable hands, strappers, people at home watching the live stream. Every one involved is to be commended for making YOUR National show the success it was.

As I said earlier, the 2017 National show is already looking bigger and better with some more WOW factors as well in the planning stages.

Don't forget your AGM is being held in Victoria early next year. If you can't make it, you will have an opportunity to cast your votes on line prior to the meeting. Please read the upcoming information and make an effort to understand it so you can make your own informed decision and cast your vote accordingly.

Be safe, and do me a favour, go and find a sponsor and give them a hug.

Regards and Thanks Again

Paul Sharp, President



Thank you Stephen for the great photographs
Go to www.stephenmowbrayphotography.com



2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Kyley Norman and Kathleen Murphy

Photos: Stephen Mowbray

With nearly 500 runs in a packed program, Reining Australia welcomed a record number of horses and riders to our 2016 Gold Buckle Futurity and National Championships held at AELEC in Tamworth from the 20th to the 24th of September.

The competition started on Monday afternoon with judging of the Great Reiner Cook Off. First place and the champion's trophy went to Grace Christoffel with a fine plate of pastries. Ed Smith and his fruitcake filled the reserve position. The award for the most creative baked goods went to Tracy Ralph's beautiful buckskin entry.

With five days of showing due to start on Tuesday, inductions to the Hall of Fame and the fundraising auction were scheduled for Monday evening. Thank you to those who donated some great items to the auction, and thank you also to the bidders.

At the same time, the annual Nationals get-together livened up any serious stuff and added to the reckless nature of the bidding. This year, the theme of the Calliope Sliders party was Pirates, and a host of Jack Sparrows and buxom wenches joined less decorative and more scurvy competitors in the fun.

More than 60 entrants signed up for the Green Rider classes on Day 1 and faced judge Ann Salmon Anderman from the USA. Congratulations to Mackinley Glover riding Leos Little Beaver, winner of the Green Rider Level 1, who produced some magnificent stops and strong all-round elements to earn a 70½ score. Leos Little Beaver was just a ½ point ahead of Alice Baker and Onya Amberlin with Ben Ditzel and Onya Wotshername securing third spot with a 68½ showing.

The Green Rider Level 2 was just as competitive as Level 1 with some outstanding performances. Congratulations to Lillian Johnson on Oaks Colonel Hollywood, winner of the Green Rider Level 2 on a score of 69½. These two have got quite the combination happening and will be strong contenders as they move through the levels in the years ahead. They were a point ahead of Graeme Bell and Down N Boogie (68½), just holding out Jessica Miller and Little Roan Oak (68) for third place. What a great comp, congratulations to all in a very strong field.

Reining Australia acknowledges Errol and Gita Thomas from Thomas Arena Products for their generosity and dedication to the grass roots of reining, and the support they give to the Green Rider program.



Above: Judge Avril Storey congratulates Ed Smith.

Left: Great Reiner Cook Off champion Grace Christoffel shows off her trophy.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: MONDAY AND TUESDAY



Above left: Tensions are high among the cooks as the judges make their decision.

Above: Tracy Ralph won the Creative Award with her buckskin entry.

Left: Pirates and wenches at the Calliope Sliders Pirate party on Monday night.



Above: Mackinley Glover and Leos Little Beaver won the Green Rider Level 1 class.

Left: Lillian Johnson and Oaks Colonel Hollywood won the Green Rider Level 2 class.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: WEDNESDAY

It was raining outside on this Tamworth Wednesday, but the reining inside kept us warm. Judge Filippo Masi (Italy) took the chair to decide the winners of the opening class on a very big second day. The Marsh Carney Saddlery Novice Horse competition covered four categories: Novice Horse Open Level 1 and Level 2, and Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 and Level 2. More than 70 horse and rider combinations lined up across these classes. Yves Cousinard and the great mare Spicy Little Step won the Novice Horse Open Level 2 with their score of 70½.

Oliver Reinhardt filled second place on Miss Acres Olena with 69½, then five combinations tied for third on 69: Brooke Sestero and Jessies Dreamchaser, Tania Powell and Onya Amberlin, Mackenzie Bascombe and Lethally Cowsmart, Stephan Elenius and Jewel Park Bewhizzed and Noel Watson with Lil Shot.

The Marsh Carney Saddlery Novice Horse competition produced a special result for one competitor. Oliver Reinhardt has never won a “big event”; lower level places but never “the one”. Today, in front of a very enthusiastic crowd, Oliver Reinhardt aboard Miss Acres Olena (69½) secured the champion’s buckle and all the goodies in the Novice Horse Open Level 1 with his run.

Hannah Lloyd and Whizzel Me Lucky continue to grow together as a combination. Today they were the deserving winners of the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2 class with a score of 69½. In an overall class of 70+ combinations, we had a three-way run-off for the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 title.

So, with lots of (no doubt) anxious nerves, our three combatants went into friendly battle to decide the winner. Gita Thomas and Nu Lil Spark, Greg Smith and Whiz Charm and Pam Spokes aboard Mustang Lil, all on 68½, went head-to-head for the champion’s buckle in the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1.

All three combinations again completed Pattern 6 to the best of their ability, and the crowd was LOUD! Gotta love a reining crowd! Run-off scores are not announced at the completion of the runs, so the competitors and the crowd had no idea who would be the victor. In the end, there was just ½ a point in it. Greg Smith was the winner with Pam Spokes and Gita Thomas tied for reserve.

We would like to extend a very big thank you to Novice Horse Non Pro buckle sponsor Jolene King for presenting the prizes in these two classes and for providing lots of amazing products from the Hold Your Horses Promotional Embroidery range for our winners and place-getters.

The Humpty Dumpty Open/Non Pro Ladies’ Event on Wednesday afternoon was organised by the Peters Family as a fundraiser for the Humpty Dumpty Foundation. The Foundation raises money to buy life-saving medical equipment in over 250 hospitals Australia-wide for paediatric wards, neonatal units, and maternity and emergency departments. A handicap system made the competition even for all entrants. The winner was Stephanie Cooper riding her stallion “Sam” (aka Cromed By Custom). Thank you to all competitors for supporting this event and to the Peters Family for putting the event together.



2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: WEDNESDAY





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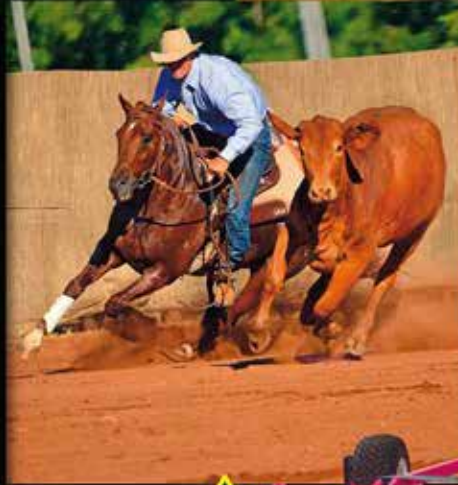
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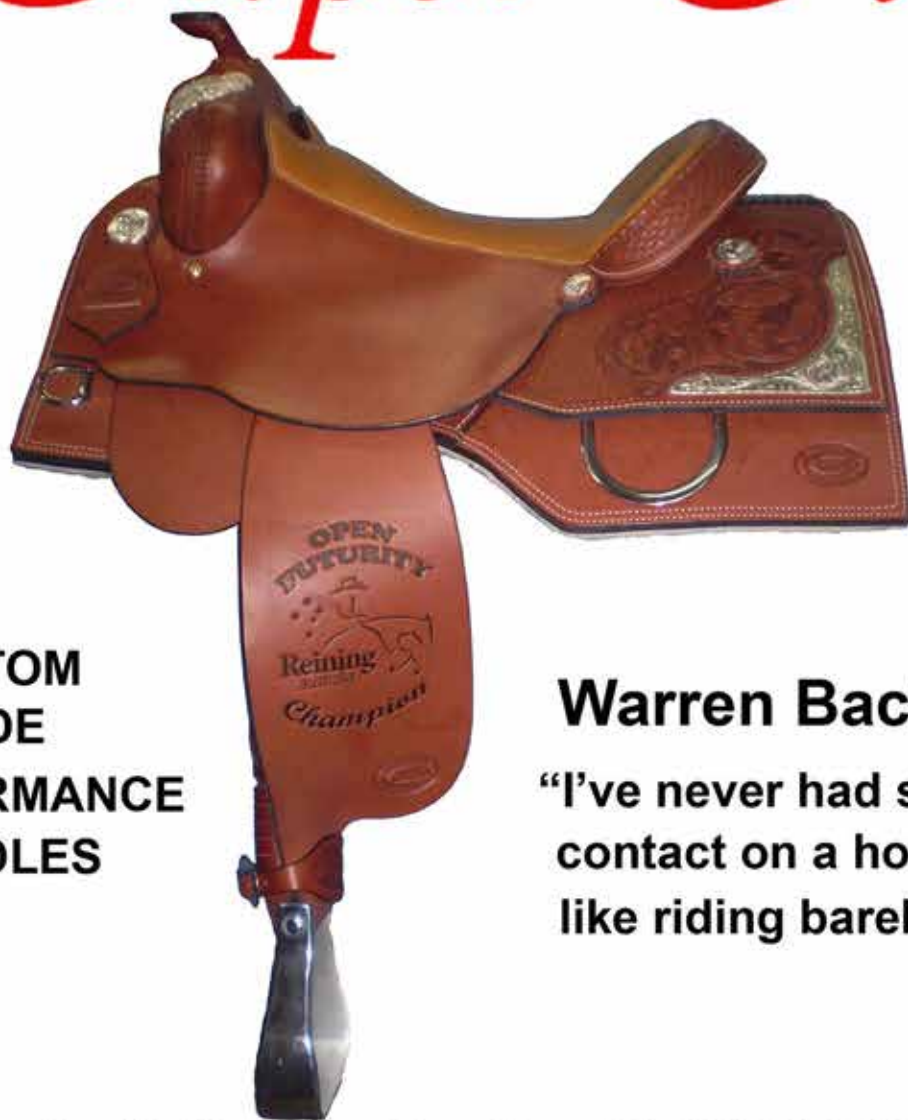


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2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: THURSDAY

Thursday's program started the show in a more serious atmosphere, although plenty of bling was still on display. Both judges settled in to their chairs for the duration and more than 40 riders set out to win buckles in the Xtreme Genes Intermediate Non Pro and Intermediate Open classes and the Rick Meredith Rookie Professional class.

Another run-off with two riders on 137½ decided the Intermediate Open. Shelley Peters and Tell Me A Story emerged as the winning combination with Lana Kelderman on OP Im A Smokey Whizz in second place. Ed Laxton on Bigriverspannerintheworks and Helen Balu riding Whizkey On The Rocks, both on 137, tied for third place.

Greg Smith and Whiz Charm (138) picked up their second buckle of the show in the Intermediate Non Pro. Hannah Lloyd on Whizzel Me Lucky and Helen Balu on Whizkey On The Rocks tied for reserve with their scores of 137. Matt Charles and Winderadeen Bejewelled (136) were Rookie Professional champions ahead of Wade Powell on Onya Wyatt Earp and Wendy Fahey riding Sweetly Lethal.

The Horsemen's Trading Post Prime Time Non Pro followed. There was no shortage of riders in their prime to contest this class with the buckle eventually going to Pam Spokes and Mustang Lil (139½) in a popular win. She fended off Greg Peters on Okies Fancy Step (137) and John Bourke riding Ruf And Ready (also on 137), with Paul Sharp on ME Little Mercedes Chic (134½) filling fourth position.

You have to love freestyle reining competitions - they bring out some of the most creative runs! This year's champion thrilled the crowd with her speed and daring no-hands routine. Youth rider Amelia Baker and What A Hug won the Mr4X4 Freestyle with a score of 143. There was some solid competition in this year's Freestyle. Alice Baker and Onya Amberlin (140½) filled the reserve position ahead of Charlotte Callinan riding OP Hesa Smart Whiz and Grace Christoffel in partnership with Argyle Dualman Jack.



Above: Amelia Baker and What A Hug won the Freestyle with a score of 143.

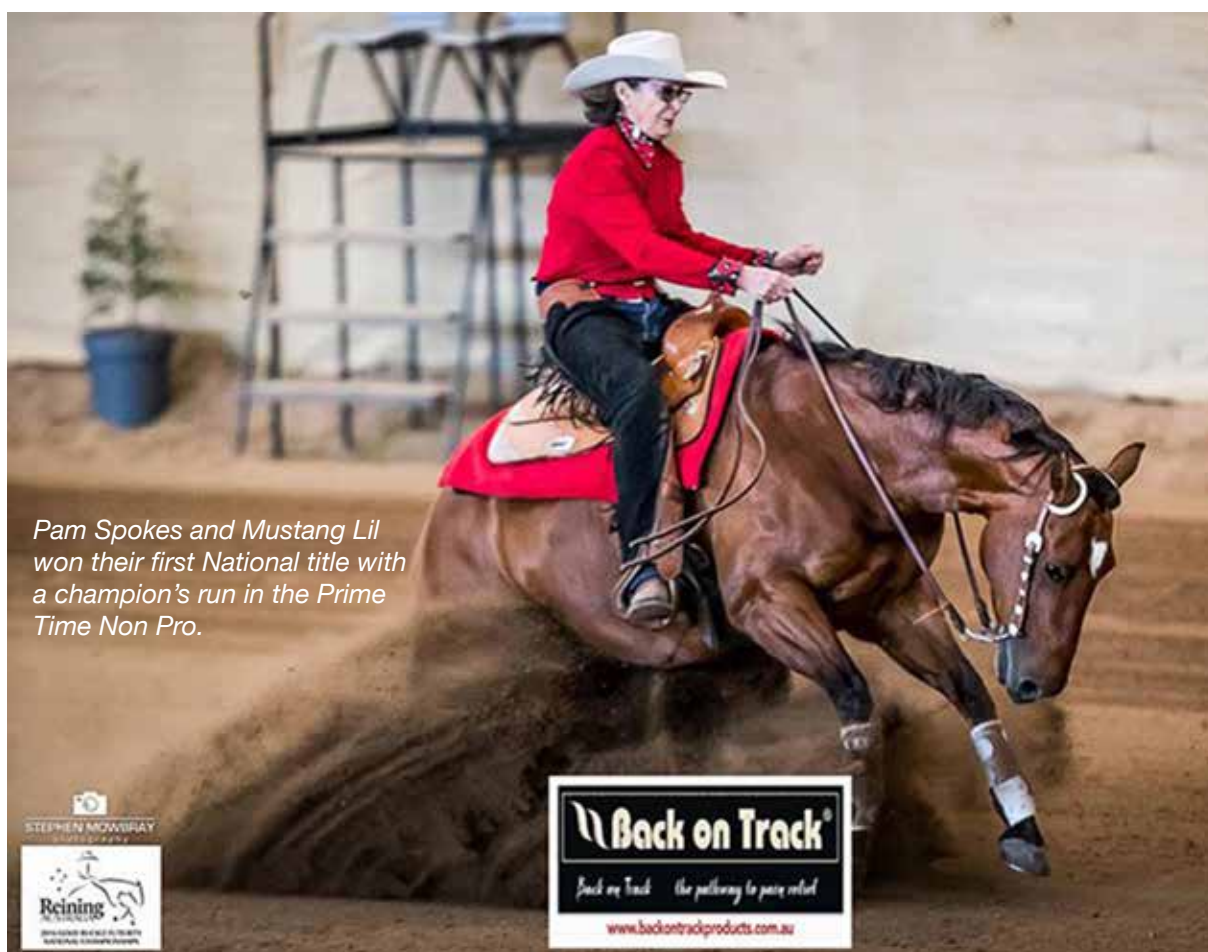
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The Nationals is the showcase for our great sport and on Thursday night we got a taste of what we can look forward to over the next few days. The big guns came into the arena for the first time in search of the 2016 titles on offer.

The Thomas Arena Products Non Pro shared the spotlight as the feature class of the night. The winner of the Non Pro also wins the Michelle Halliwell Memorial Non Pro trophy and buckle. These awards are made in memory of many wonderful days shared with our friend and to reflect on a life taken too soon from our reining family.

The best of the best of our Non Pros fight to win the Michelle Halliwell buckle, a magnificent one-off piece with a new design made every year by master silversmith, Annie Wieden.

The competition was fierce! Reserve champion for 2016, with a 141½ showing, was Mick Taylor and My Dads A Wimp. Guy Laurie aboard Bec Laurie's Wimpys Red Chilli was Non Pro champion for 2016 with a fabulous 142 run before the large and very appreciative crowd.



Pam Spokes and Mustang Lil won their first National title with a champion's run in the Prime Time Non Pro.



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Above: Lana Kelderman and OP Im A Smokey Whizz were reserve champions in the Intermediate Open following a run-off.



Shelley Peters and Tell Me A Story won the buckle for the Intermediate Open after a run-off.



Above: Greg Smith and Whiz Charm took home two buckles from the show for Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 and Intermediate Non Pro.

Right: Noel Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac leave a vapour trail behind them in the Open.





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Above: Guy Laurie and Wimpys Red Chili: Non Pro champions and Michelle Halliwell Memorial winners.



Above: Jason Melling and Condor Smart Play in the Non Pro.

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Above: Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner came in third in the Non Pro.



Above: Mick Taylor and My Dads A Wimp were Non Pro reserve champions and were in a three-way tie for third place in the Open.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: THURSDAY

The other feature class on Thursday evening was the Thomas Arena Products Open. This class was run concurrently with the Non Pro and our best trainers and horses were on display side-by-side with the best non-professional combinations.

There was a three-way tie for third place on 141½: Mick Taylor and My Dads A Wimp, Rob Lawson and Tony Mitchell's Revolution Reddy and Shaun Saunders on QXH Docs Stylish Oak.

Shaun Saunders rode Whiz Destiny into second place with 142, but the man who took the title was Warren Backhouse aboard Checkout Hollywood. The pair scored 145½ in a scintillating run that had the crowd hooting and hollering the rafters off AELEC.



Warren Backhouse and Checkout Hollywood won the Thomas Arena Products Open.



Above: The Michelle Halliwell Memorial Trophy, NRHA trophies, garlands and prizes ready for presentation to winners and placegetters in Thursday night's Non Pro and Open classes.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: THURSDAY



Above: Shaun Saunders rides Whiz Destiny into the reserve champion's place in the Thomas Arena Products Open.

Left: Shaun and QXH Docs Stylish Oak were one of three combinations that tied for third place in the Thomas Arena Products Open.



2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: THURSDAY



Rob Lawson and Revolution Reddy were equal third in the Thomas Arena Products Open.



Wimpys Red Chili, Guy Laurie, Rick Meredith, two trophies, Checkout Hollywood and Warren Backhouse.

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2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: FRIDAY

Friday started early with the Southern Cross Saddlery Rookies class. The huge field of over 60 competitors was set to ride for something special! Southern Cross Saddlery, a major sponsor of this year's national show, supplied the winner of the Rookie Level 2 class with a magnificent purpose-built reining saddle.

Ben Ditzel and Onya Wotshername (139½) claimed the championships in both Rookie Level 1 and Level 2. This achievement was a fitting exit for this outstanding mare and marks her retirement to broodmare duties.

The Youth events continued the theme of high achievement. Sophia Johnson on Hollywood Skiptide won the SnS Custom Floats Short Stirrup class for riders 10 years and under. This was a big class of four riders with Miranda Hamilton on EP Sacromentos Playboy, Clare Neylon and Rummin Dixie and Haylee Leddington-Hill on Migs Shez Dynamite filling the minor places.

Amelia Baker and What A Hug had the crowd cheering wildly during their run in the Spooks Gotta Whiz Youth event. The run clearly impressed the judges and the combination received a score of 140 and with it the champion's buckle for the Youth 13 years and under class. The rules for judging reining are not relaxed in any way for youth competitors so Amelia's was a great run as well as a great win.

Kasey Bogie on Lyrics Custom Corey just pipped Lillian Johnson and Oaks Colonel Hollywood into the reserve position. Hannah Lloyd and Whizzel Me Lucky scored 138½ to take home the champion's buckle for the Youth 14 to 18 years class from reserve champion Lana Kelderman (135).

I would like to commend our Youth competitors for their good manners and great sportsmanship. Sponsors Spooks Gotta Whiz and the Baby Spooks program kindly sent promotional material to Reining Australia for distribution to all the Youth.

This was a record-breaking event and there were around 40 entrants across the two age divisions. Every competitor thanked me politely for the small gifts that I handed to them as I passed down the line.

We often talk about the "reining family", and some people might think we are exaggerating. These young riders are the future of our sport and their exemplary behaviour was a perfect expression of the good feeling generated at a reining show.



Above: Hannah Lloyd and Whizzel Me Lucky receive the champion's buckle and rosette for the Youth 14 to 18 years class from show manager Glenn Winsor.

Left: Ben Ditzel and Onya Wotshername took home the Rookie Level 1 champion's buckle AND the buckle and Southern Cross saddle for the Rookie Level 2 class. Wade Powell, Brooke Sestero and Tania Powell Gibson celebrate with Ben.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: FRIDAY



Above: Amelia Baker and What A Hug show their winning form in the Youth 13 years and under class.



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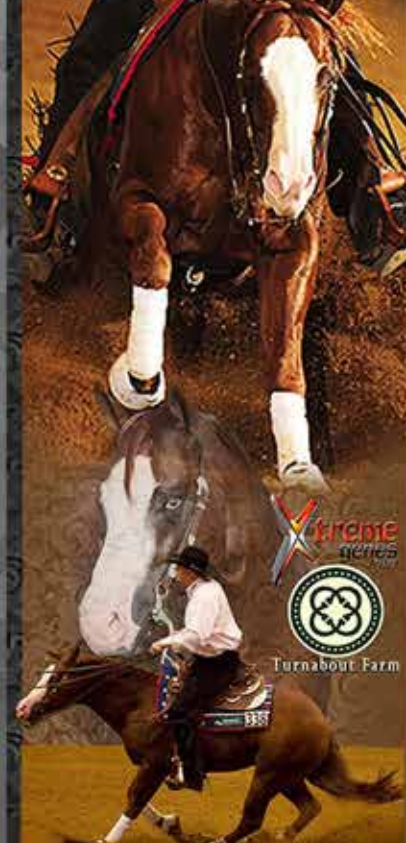
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2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: FRIDAY

After a quick break, spectators made themselves comfortable in the stands with high expectations for the 2016 Gold Buckle Futurity. Congratulations to all the connections for presenting such beautiful horses and for educating, guiding and working them over so many hours to get to the very high standard that we saw.

John Wicks and Onya Ima Cool Step won the 2016 Reining Australia Gold Buckle Futurity with a fabulous 142 run. They took the title by the narrowest of margins ahead of Noel Watson and Colonel Einstein with 141½.

Reining Australia thanks Neylon Performance Horses and Thomas Arena Products for their sponsorships of the event and Southern Cross Saddlery for sponsoring the magnificent trophy saddle.

The Gold Buckle program is structured to promote the Futurity to horses and riders at every level of open competition. All nominated horses contest the Open Futurity but there are buckles and prizes on offer for three restricted divisions.

Cameron Halliwell and Wimpys Little Terminator (139) won the Intermediate division of the Open Futurity. David Simons and His Diluted Gunner (138½) were successful in the Limited division and Carolyn Gorrill (138) took home the buckle for the Level 1 division of the Open Futurity.

Incentive awards attached to the Gold Buckle Futurity were made after the main presentations. Ray Gabbert, owner of Ima Cool Step, picked up the Reining Trainers Australia bonus for having his winning horse in training with John Wicks, an RTA trainer.

Winners of the AQHA Incentive Awards for the Open Futurity were Noel Watson riding Colonel Einstein and Ed Smith riding Hi Tec Genetics. AQHA offered Reining Australia members cash incentives just for having their AQHA memberships up-to-date!



Right: John Wicks and Onya Ima Cool Step in the 2016 Gold Buckle Futurity.



Errol Thomas (Thomas Arena Products), winning owner Ray Gabbert, Gita Thomas (for Reining Trainers Australia), John Wicks, Onya Ima Cool Step and Angela Wicks with the RTA incentive bonus cheque, champion's buckle and Southern Cross Saddlery trophy saddle.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: FRIDAY



Above: Wimpys Little Terminator and Cameron Halliwell accept the buckle for the Intermediate division of the Gold Buckle Futurity from RA president Paul Sharp.



Above: His Diluted Gunner and David Simons accept the buckle for the Limited division of the Gold Buckle Futurity from RA president Paul Sharp.



Above: Who Whiz Einstein and Carolyn Gorrill accept the buckle for the Level 1 division of the Gold Buckle Futurity from RA president Paul Sharp.

Right: Vanessa Roach (AQHA), Hi Tec Genetics, Ed Smith, Lisa Tietz, Noel Watson, Colonel Einstein, Paul Sharp and Kate Elliott present and receive the AQHA incentive cheques.





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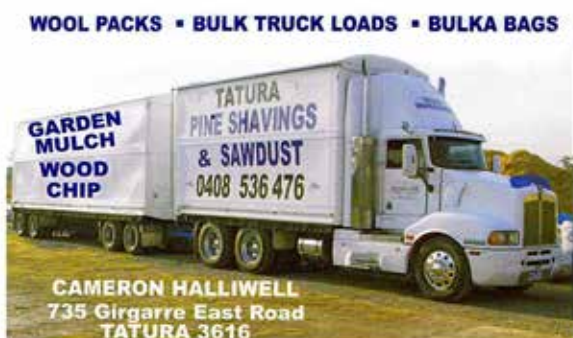
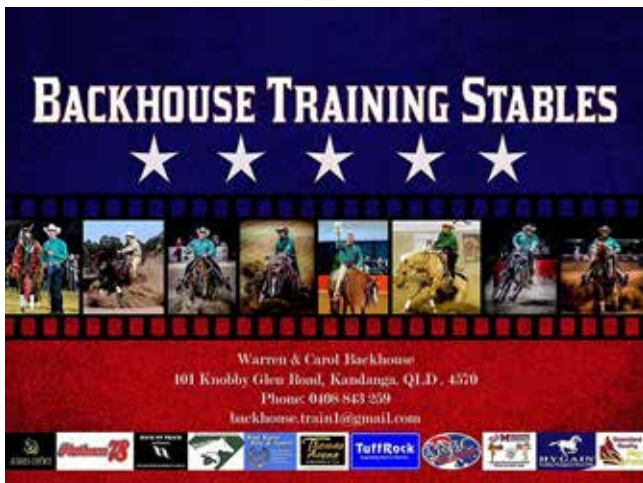
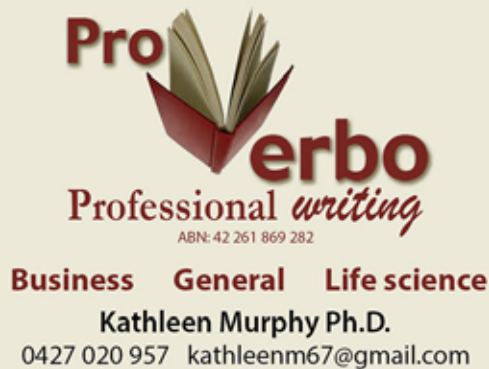
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2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SATURDAY

The Back On Track Limited Open and WA Reining Limited Non Pro opened the competition on Saturday. A personal best of 142 on Whizzel With Me was more than enough for Mel Sporry to pick up the champion's buckle in both classes.

Mel's score just held off Brooke Sestero on Jessies Dreamchaser (141) who took home the reserve champions' prizes in both classes. Mel came to Tamworth for this one event, to do "the best she could". You can't do more than win!

In the Limited Non Pro, Hannah Lloyd and Whizzel Me Lucky placed third with 138½. Carolyn Peters with the evergreen Chics Navajo and Alexandra Leach aboard Mizz Whiz, both on 138, shared fourth place. In the Limited Open class, Josephine Hale on Whiz Fizz (138) tied with Carolyn and Chics Navajo for third place.

The Reining Trainers Australia Non Pro Futurity offered an action-packed afternoon on the fifth day of competition. From the first competitor that went through the gate, a group of up-and-coming horses performed to the best of their ability making the event one to remember. This was the largest number of entries to date in the Non Pro Futurity and the event is gradually expanding its footprint at the National show.

The winning combination was Mick Taylor and Lil Gold Digger on 138. Mick took home a reining saddle from Southern Cross (their third sponsored saddle for the show) as well as the buckle and trophy.

Michelle Moore on Mooredun Smart Lil Chic (135) came in second behind Mick, and ahead of Leonie Kingdon and My Chics No Wimp (134), in the Open division of the Non Pro Futurity and this ride took her into the winning position in the Intermediate and Limited divisions of the event.

The AQHA incentive awards for the 2016 Non Pro Futurity went to Leonie Kingdon and My Chics No Wimp. Leonie on 134½ was runner-up to Michelle Moore in the Intermediate and Limited divisions. Tony Bryers and Nu Shiney Oak (134) followed Leonie into the minor places of fourth and third in all divisions.



Above: Mick Taylor rode Lil Gold Digger into the champion's spot in the Reining Trainers Australia Non Pro Futurity Open division.

Left: Michelle Moore and Mooredun Smart Lil Chic were reserve champions in the Open division of the Non Pro Futurity and picked up the buckles in the Intermediate and Limited divisions.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SATURDAY



Above: Mel Sporry and Whizzel With Me ran a personal best score to take home the champion's buckles in the Limited Non Pro and Limited Open.



Above: Cameron Halliwell and Wimpys Little Terminator in the Non Pro Futurity.



Above: At the mare's final outing in the show pen, Brooke Sestero rode Jessies Dreamchaser into the reserve position in both the Limited Non Pro and Limited Open.



Above: Carolyn Peters and Chics Navajo shared fourth place in the Limited Non Pro and third in the Limited Open.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SATURDAY

The 2016 Reining Australia National Championships wrapped up on Saturday night when the big girls and boys took the stage again. The National Derby competition returned to the Nationals after a long absence with the running of the Ariat Reining Australia Non Pro Derby and the Turnabout Farm Reining Australia Open Derby.

The 2016 Non Pro Derby champion combination, Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner (139½), scored just half a point more than Errol Thomas and Shiney Nu Addition in the reserve position on 139. There was tie for third place between Erin Neylon riding Lil Miss Genius and Stephanie Cooper on Cromed By Custom.

Erin and Steph were both entered in the Intermediate and Limited divisions of the Non Pro Derby and their score of 138 put them in first place in those classes. The crowd was treated to a tense and exciting run-off for the two buckles with Steph and Cromed By Custom emerging as the winners after the duo improved on their original score.

The Open Derby was a hotly contested class. Cameron Halliwell on Gottagetagunner came in fifth with his score of 139½. He was just one point behind Noel Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac in fourth place. Rob Lawson aboard Tony Mitchell's imported mare Revolution Reddy took third place with their score of 142½. Shaun Saunders put down a terrific run for the reserve position on Darren Mullan's QXH Docs Stylish Oak (143½).

The man they couldn't catch wore a green shirt. Warren Backhouse had opened his 2016 championship account on Thursday night with a 145½ run on Checkout Hollywood in the Thomas Arena Products Open. In the final event of the 2016 Reining Australia National Championships, this pair upped the ante half a point to register a show high score of 146 to claim the 2016 National Open Derby title.

Congratulations to Warren, "Cody" and all the connections; it was a wonderful way to finish the day, the event, and the show.

Cameron Halliwell's score of 139½ on Gottagetagunner won him the Intermediate division of the Open Derby and Erin Neylon and Lil Miss Genius were consoled for their defeat in the run-off by taking home the buckle for the Limited division of the Open Derby.

We had to wait until the end of the show to make one last presentation. SPH Our Touch was named as the highest scoring registered Paint horse at this year's National show. Congratulations to owner and rider Shane Sainsbury who gets to wear the trophy buckle and thanks to the Paint Horse Association of Australia for sponsoring this great incentive.



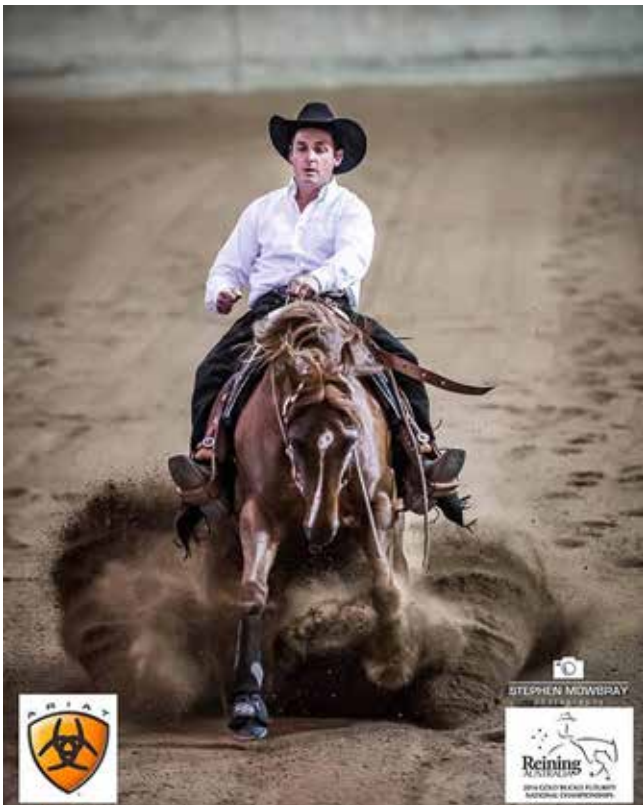
2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SATURDAY



Above: Errol Thomas and Shiney Nu Addition were the reserve champions in the Non Pro Derby.



Above: Afer a run-off, Erin Neylon on Lil Miss Genius were reserves in the Non Pro Derby Intermediate and Limited divisions. Erin also won the buckle for the Open Derby Limited division.



Above: Guy Laurie and Wimpys Red Chili in the Non Pro Derby.



Above: Noel Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac finished in fourth place in the Open Derby.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SATURDAY



2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SATURDAY



Above: Rob Lawson rode Revolution Reddy into third place in the Open Derby.



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Left: Shane Sainsbury and SPH Our Touch won the buckle for the highest score at the Nationals by a horse registered with the Paint Horse Association of Australia.



REINING AUSTRALIA AFFILIATE ASSOCIATIONS



2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: NOT QUITE THE END

Where did that week go? It's always sad to come to the end of the Nationals for another year when the camps are packed up and the trucks pull out. Before we all headed off, we celebrated on Saturday night with our friends, the winners now and the winners to come, and the winners maybe never, but we had a great time being a part of a great national show. Don't miss it in 2017!

Reining Australia would not be the vital association it is today without our members and affiliates. The efforts of the affiliates do not go unrecognised. To ensure the growth of our industry, resources must be directed toward innovative projects and ideas that encourage new people to become involved with reining. Reining Australia recognises our affiliates for these innovations.

We thank you for creating opportunities for your members, bringing new people into the industry, increasing your memberships and protecting the integrity of our sport. On behalf of Reining Australia, we thank you for all you do. Congratulations to SQRHA - the winning affiliate at this year's National Show. We will be sending them a cheque for \$1000. Congratulations also to the runner-up. GVRHA will receive a cheque for \$500.

Reining Australia would like to thank all our sponsors, big and small. They are all around you in The Slider. We know that we have introduced you to many quality products. Please use our sponsors' services and support them whenever you can.

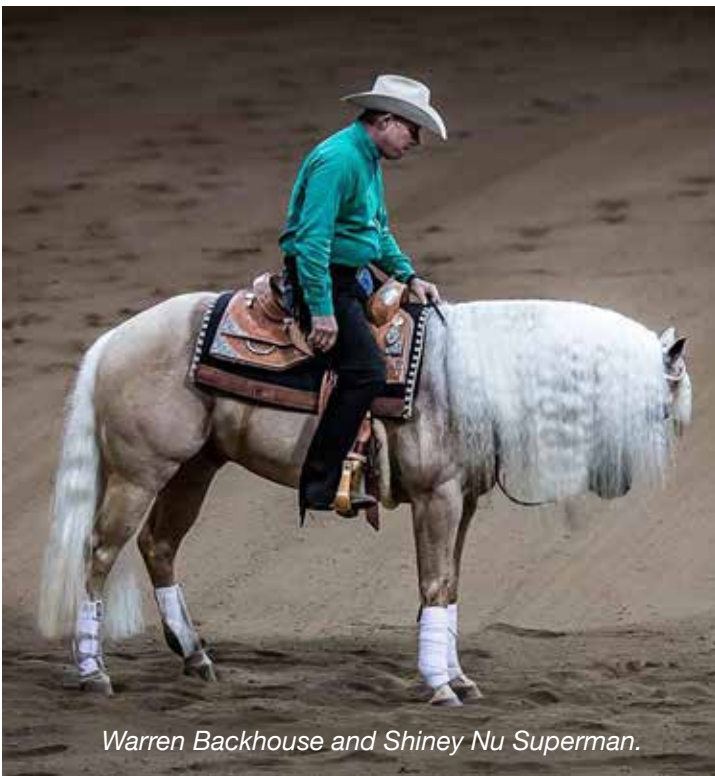
Thank you to John and Lorraine Wylie who were once again mainstays of the National show. John did a brilliant job at the gate, keeping the show ticking over like clockwork. The judges have seen a lot of reining shows, big and small, all over the world and they were very impressed with the way this show was managed.

Lorraine minded the RA shop, promoting the merchandise and chatting to everyone who stopped by. And they were major sponsors through Xtreme Genes and Big River Ranch.

Finally, a big shout out from Reining Australia to the ladies and gents who worked in the shadow of others or behind the scenes, who were responsible for enhancing everyone's experience at this year's National show. Their names are not in the program.

The compliments for a job well done are usually directed elsewhere BUT we saw you Calliope Sliders! We saw you getting the real work done, picking up the pieces when needed and carrying on as if nothing was a problem.

Your selfless human spirits make you the lovely people you are today. Reining Australia says thank you to: Lisa Tietz, Tracee Sharp, Carly Bedford, Jason Bedford, Katrina Beale, Kristy Smith, Kayla Kington, Leonie Kingdon-Beckhouse, Allan Kingdon, Morgan Harding, Michele Delbridge and Alex Harding.



Warren Backhouse and Shiney Nu Superman.



Bec Laurie and Big River Black Crome.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SPECIAL MOMENTS 1



Competitors line up for the Green Rider Level 1 and Green Rider Level 2 presentations.



Greg Peters, Paul Sharp, Carolyn Peters, Cromed By Custom and Stephanie Cooper with the trophy saddle for the Humpty Dumpty class.



Cromed By Custom, Elle Cooper, Stephanie Cooper and Graham Cooper with Non Pro Derby Intermediate and Limited division buckles.



Above: Oaks Colonel Hollywood, Lillian Johnson, Gita Thomas, Errol Thomas, Leos Little Beaver and Mackinley Glover at the Green Rider class presentation.

Left: Winderadeen Bejewelled and Matt Charles, winners of the Rookie Professional class, are congratulated by Ed Smith.

2016 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: SPECIAL MOMENTS 2



Erin Neylon and Lil Miss Genius.



Robyn Ross and Hustlin For Chicks.



Shelley Peters and Tell Me A Story.



Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner.

Whizzel a Melody

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2016 REINING AUSTRALIA HALL OF FAME

Over the years, many individuals have contributed to the growth of reining in Australia. Some are human and some are equine. All have been exceptional in their individual accomplishments and exceptional in their contribution to our sport. There are two inductees into the Reining Australia Hall of Fame this year.

IN THE CATEGORY OF PERFORMANCE HORSE

Amaroos Rock N Return (stallion)

Sire: Roc O Lena x Doc Olena

Dam: Echo Return x Hollywood Return

Owned at the time of his achievements by Barry Ryan

Campaigned by Ian Francis

Achievements:

1992 Queensland Futurity- Second

1992 National Futurity- First

1993 Queensland Open –First

1993 Queensland Super Stakes – First

1993 National Derby – First

1993 National Open – Second

1994 National Open – Second

1994 National Derby- First

His achievements speak for themselves, dominating the reining scene for three years.

IN THE CATEGORY OF PRODUCER

Yulgilbar Ineka Chex (mare)

Sire: Amadeus Doc x Docs Oak

Dam: Yulgilbar Petra Chex x Easter Chex

Owned by WR & P Gabbert

The following are some of her progeny:

Terminator Whiz by Whizzel A Melody

Super Elegant by Whizzel A Melody

Lilmissnoitall by Freckles Gay Doc

Onya Wozza by Whizzel A Melody

Onya Wotshername by Whizzel A Melody

Onya Wyatt Earp by Matt Dillon Dun It

Do Me a Favour by Wimpys Little Step

Onya Ima Cool Step by Wimpys Little Step (winner of this year's Gold Buckle Futurity)

Not only has this great mare produced these champions, her progeny have gone on to produce champions such as Lil Nu It All, Predator, Determinated, Hasta La Vista, Onya Amberlin and Lil Miss Genius, just to name a few. Yulgilbar Ineka Chex is recognised as Australia's greatest producing mare of reining horses.



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