



HELLO HEAVY LOVERS AND WELCOME TO

July

President's Ponderings

I managed to grasp the reins back from Diesel last month. It was easy when he realised how much he had to do to make sure he and his guest friends are looked after the best they possibly can be.

I think he is catching up on some well-earned sleep now.
Shhhhhhhh!



Diesel isn't the only one who's been busy. Clyde has been sorting through the feedback from the survey and drafting a response for those who are interested. He's also been looking at the Warmblood this month for "Did you Know"? This is what he had to say about this month's article:

"This month, prepare to be enlightened by the saga of the warmblood horse – a creature so meticulously crafted through centuries of equine matchmaking that it practically comes with its own LinkedIn profile. Born in the bustling social scene of old Europe, these weren't your average farmhands nor your flighty racehorses. Oh no, the warmblood was designed to be the ultimate multi-tasker, a kind of equine Swiss Army Knife, bridging the considerable personality gap between the burly draft horse who mostly just wanted a nap and the rather excitable Thoroughbred who thought everything was a race. This insightful delve will explore the warmblood's origin story, its rather impressive list of attributes, its surprising number of talents, and why it remains the equestrian world's beloved (and often envied) all-rounder".



President's Ponderings continued.

HELLO HEAVY LOVERS AND WELCOME TO

July

Also and partly in response to our reader survey, we will be commencing a new section "Road to Recovery" where we tell you the "what next" of some of our guests.

With winter upon us, Clyde has put together an epic quiz to sit in front of the fire and ponder while you sip your Good will wine. Then he got so carried away he simply ran out of room and will therefore continue the quiz over the next two colder months.

As reported in the June issue (Busta tribute) early in May, Channel 7 replayed the Doctor Harry segment from Better Homes and Gardens in 2021. This starred Diesel, Busta, Macey and volunteers Karen D, Em, Jo and Charlie. See the link below to this video.

[Dr Harry - Better Homes and Gardens](#)



Photo credit - Better Homes and Gardens

As a follow on to that and as promised, there is a update on Macey, written by Clyde and her adopted mum, Jo. This will stand as the first article for the new section "Road to Recovery".

RESCUE ROUNDUP (INS AND OUTS)

INs



Pharoah!

It seems like Pharoah, our magnificent 8-year-old Clydesdale cross, has had quite the adventure. He first graced us with his presence back in May 2018 when his mum needed a helping hand with her health journey.



Then, in April 2020, during a bit of a "feed shortage" (we prefer to call it a rustic, all-inclusive, minimalist retreat), Pharoah and Diesel enjoyed a lovely little holiday at Harkness Park Farm. Think of it as their version of a glamping getaway!

Pharoah then moved on to what we thought would be his forever home in February 2021, ready to embark on new equine escapades. But alas, life, as it often does, threw a curveball. His wonderful mum is facing health challenges, which means Pharoah's grand tour has come full circle.

So, with open arms and perhaps a few extra carrots, we say: Welcome home, Pharoah! It's clear this gentle giant was always meant to find his way back to us. We're so glad to have you back in the paddock, big guy!



RESCUE ROUNDUP (INS AND OUTS)

More INs



Monique!



What a journey it's been for Monique, a stunning Clydesdale cross mare, just turning six. Life throws unexpected curveballs. Sadly, Monique's devoted mum is facing significant health challenges, and is unable to care for Monique. Our hearts go out to her; we're sending all our love, hoping she navigates this difficult time with strength. Monique herself is a truly beautiful soul. She's been well-handled, a testament to the care she's received, but like many young ladies, she's ready for a bit more education to help her shine even brighter. Today was a big day for her; it took a little coaxing, but she was incredibly brave getting onto the float this afternoon, ready to embark on her next adventure. We're so excited to see what the future holds for this magnificent mare and are committed to helping her reach her full potential.



RESCUE ROUNDUP (INS AND OUTS)

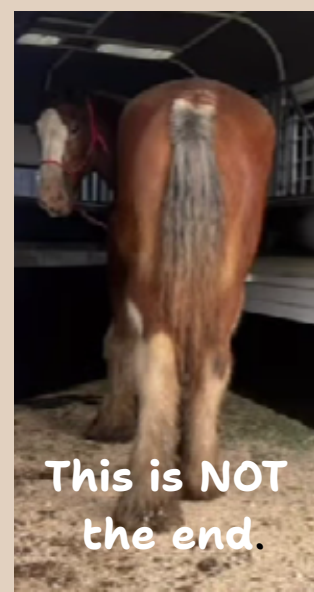
More INs

Juliet



Our intrepid duo, Em and Kazz, just embarked on a grand quest to the Port Macquarie region for our newest VIP guest, Juliet. It's quite the road trip, but thankfully, their journey includes a comfy stopover, all thanks to the incredible generosity of Leonie and Vanessa.

These wonderful supporters not only donated a night's accommodation in their beautiful B&B but are even bravely "Juliet-sitting" today! Juliet herself is a very sweet 19-year-old lady, though she arrived battling a bad case of Queensland Itch. Poor girl! But fear not, once she settles in at HHH, she'll feel a million bucks in no time. We're an "itch-free zone" here (and it's dry), so her mane and tail will grow back gloriously before you can say "scratch that"! Welcome, Juliet!



**This is NOT
the end.**

OUT

RESCUE ROUNDUP (INS AND OUTS)

Ellie



Even though Ellie only joined our family in January, she wasted no time doing what our four-legged guests do best: expertly worming her way into all our hearts. We barely had time to count the cuddles before she executed her master plan!

A few weeks ago, Mary and her dad came to volunteer, and it was pretty much love at first sight between Ellie and Mary. We're not sure if it was Mary's gentle touch or Ellie's charming whinny, but the connection was undeniable. So, in a move that surprised absolutely no one, Ellie has now officially moved in with Mary.

Ellie's thrilled, Mary's ecstatic, and honestly, we're all over the moon that this sweet girl found her perfect match. We're pretty sure our hearts have expanded just to hold all this happiness!



RESCUE ROUNDUP (INS AND OUTS)

MORE OUTS



Clancy II

Clancy II, first graced the paddocks of HHH in November 2023. His stay with us was, refreshingly, brief, as he was almost immediately re-homed to the welcoming embrace of Renata at the Rollonin Cafe.

He stepped into an important role there, filling a hole left by their much-loved Mac, who had recently crossed the rainbow bridge. Clancy's job was simple but vital: to greet cafe patrons with his charming presence and, of course, to simply look handsome – a task he excelled at.

Life, however, often has its own plans. In March of this year, Clancy returned to our care at HHH for some much-needed attention as he was feeling a little under the weather. It was during this time that fate, or perhaps just good timing, intervened. A few weeks ago, Paul and his wife Margaret paid us a visit. Their connection with Clancy II was immediate and undeniable, a clear sign that a new chapter was about to begin. Paul and Margaret would be his new family.



This week, Clancy II officially made the journey to his new forever home. Upon arrival, he acted as though he just belonged, settling in with ease. The welcoming committee included an old friend, Tonka, which no doubt made his transition even smoother.



We couldn't be happier for Clancy II, finding not just one, but two wonderful families who adore him.

RESCUE ROUNDUP (INS AND OUTS)

MORE OUTS

Esmerelda (Ezzy)



Not all of our stories have happy ever afters

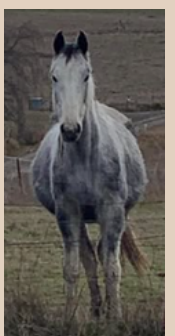
Two years ago, a beautiful mare we affectionately called Ezzy came into our care in terrible condition. It took many months of gentle effort to help her gain weight and strength. Sadly, Ezzy had sustained a severe scapular injury as a young filly that had gone untreated, placing immense strain on her body.



For the past couple of years, Em, alongside the incredible teams at Boyne Equine Health (Sinead McCann), Matt Fordham Equine Hoofcare Professional, and Dr. Em from Mainprize Veterinary Services, worked tirelessly on Ezzy's rehabilitation. Despite everyone's dedicated efforts, we couldn't alleviate her chronic pain. It was with heavy hearts that we made the difficult decision to release her from her suffering.

Ezzy's legacy will live on in a truly meaningful way. This weekend, her body will become an invaluable educational resource for many equine professionals during a crucial clinic. Our wonderful Sinead will be by her side, helping her transition peacefully, and will also be part of the group who will learn so much from our sweet girl.

Farewell, our darling Ezzy. You've taken a significant piece of our hearts with you



RESCUE ROUNDUP (INS AND OUTS)

MORE OUTS

Esmerelda (Ezzy)

As I indicated earlier, Sinead was with Ezzy. Sinead reported back on the findings from the weekend clinic. This is a summary only.

What Was Learned from Ezzy

The insights gained from the clinic revealed just how much pain Ezzy had been living with and how her body had been trying to cope. The findings presented during the clinic showed a history of significant physical challenges:

Widespread Muscle, Joint, and Nerve Damage: Ezzy suffered from extensive damage and inflammation in many crucial areas. This included her neck and shoulder muscles, her hip joints, and several important nerves. Many of these issues were chronic, meaning they had been there for a long time.

Compensatory Body Changes: Her body had tried to adapt to these problems in unusual ways. For example, there were extra ligaments around her ribs that her body created to try and establish stability, and there was protective fat around her nerves – things not typically seen in healthy horses.

Other Health Complications: There were also a few unexpected issues, such as tumours in her jaw and a lymph gland, signs of old lung scarring, and an unusually large heart. Her breastbone was also very short, which luckily didn't cause her problems as she wasn't a ridden horse.

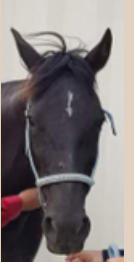
Essentially, the clinic confirmed that she was living with complex, widespread, and long-standing physical problems that affected her entire body. This helps in understanding why, despite everyone's best efforts, she could not be made comfortable or pain-free.



NB - This is a photograph of Sinead with Ezzy at an earlier time. It was not taken on the weekend.

ROAD TO RECOVERY

Macey



8 December 2020

Today our gates and arms opened to welcome this beautiful girl who needed a hand. She's a Percheron cross mare of 12 yo we believe, and she's the sweetest of the sweet, Macey.

We thank her owner for trusting us with her. Her family has had some tough times. There were other horses on the property and the owners were not in a financial position to keep her. We look forward to bringing her (and possibly her bubba) up to optimum health.



21 January 2021

The beautiful Macey slowly and surely gaining weight. She has settled in beautifully and is responding to being touched without stress.



3 April 2021

She's adapted really well to some good feed and pampering.



5 April 2021

Macey had a lovely massage session with Kathryn this afternoon to help soothe some sore spots.

ROAD TO RECOVERY

HHHMacey



Dec 2020

Aug 2021



18 August 2021

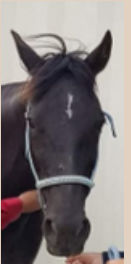
It's amazing what some food and love can do. Macey has flourished in care. We have pregnancy tested her twice and she's NOT in foal. She just has a big broodmare belly.



13 November 2021

Ever the opportunist. Hay shed door open, means "come in and help yourself - doesn't it"?

Macey



14 October 2021

Surprise!! Introducing Tlaloc.

Well it's NOW true. Macey is definitely not pregnant.



24 November 2021

Macey gets a clean bill of dental health.

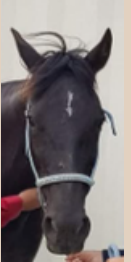
Macey only weighed 375kg when we weighed her at her first dental. She had been with us for a few weeks and had had some good feed by then.

Today she weighed in at a wonderfully healthy 501kgs! THIS is the weight she should be. Good girl Macey. We are so proud of how far you've come AND delivered a big healthy baby 6 weeks ago.



ROAD TO RECOVERY

Macey



25 February 2022

Macey received some wonderful hands-on massage from Kathryn the other night. The change in Macey was incredible to see. Macey is usually very wary and defensive of her back end. After two minutes in Kathryn's hands she was so much more comfortable and not worried about being touched there. She has a way to go.



18 September 2022

Today Macey was officially handed over to her forever family Jo and Charlie. These two have been working with Macey almost since the day she came in and have the most beautiful connection.

Macey has officially found her forever home with Jo, but for her ongoing well-being, Macey will continue to thrive right here at HHH under Jo's dedicated care. Their partnership is truly a joy to behold.

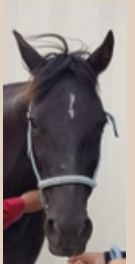




The sassy Miss Moo

ROAD TO RECOVERY

Macey



Macey's story at Heavy Horse Heaven began in December 2021, a memorable day when Dr. Harry himself was visiting. She arrived clearly in desperate need of good meals, but her sweet soul immediately captured the hearts of everyone she met. She and Jo bonded and remain besties. I'll let **Jo** tell the story:

After settling in, Macey began a remarkable transformation. She thrived under the care she received, steadily gaining an impressive 100 kg. Then came the most delightful surprise: Macey blessed HHH with a gorgeous colt, HHH Tlaloc! This was quite the shock, as she had tested negative on two separate pregnancy tests. (Though, for the record, I wasn't surprised at all.) After Tlaloc's arrival and some time spent simply enjoying being a horse, I officially "adopted" Macey. Our partnership quickly blossomed into a journey of mutual learning and deep affection.

Today, Macey and I continue our work on her physical health, and we're learning so much together along the way. She's an incredibly clever girl, so I always make sure to engage her beautiful mind with groundwork exercises and by teaching her verbal commands.

Macey is simply gorgeous, inside and out. She's a true sweetheart who waits patiently for me at the gate, greeting me with a soft "hello" nicker. This absolutely melts my heart every single time, especially since she even recognizes which car belongs to me! Macey absolutely adores forehead kisses, demanding lots and lots of them. Like many intelligent mares, she'll occasionally roll her eyes at me – a clear "Mum! Seriously!" moment that always brings a chuckle. Her nickname, "Ms Moo," just came out one day and stuck; it perfectly suits her gentle nature.

Apples are definitely the key to Macey's heart, especially Pink Lady varieties. I thoughtfully cut them into slices for her, as her front teeth are quite worn down, making biting into whole apples a bit tricky for her. Macey is very clear in her communication; she certainly has opinions, just like any smart gal (hence the eye-rolling!). Beyond her personal charm, Ms. Macey is a kind, caring soul. She acts as a wonderful "auntie" to the younger and quieter horses in her herd, offering them much-needed love and TLC. Her bestie, an absolute angel, has been by her side for years. These two are truly "peas in a pod," often seen sauntering around the paddock together like two dignified ladies from Downton Abbey.



The Warmblood

In the vast equine world, from miniature Shetlands to towering Shires, there's a delightful middle ground: the Warmblood. Not a horse who forgot their jacket, but a type bred for sport and versatility, primarily originating from Europe.

The Goldilocks of the Horse World

Think of them as the Goldilocks of the horse world – not too hot like spirited Thoroughbreds, nor too cold like stoic draft horses. Warmbloods are "just right." They possess the athleticism and refined movement for disciplines like dressage and showjumping, combined with a generally agreeable temperament that makes them a joy to train and ride.

A Practical Creation: From Farm to Arena

The Warmblood's creation wasn't a fairytale, but a practical affair. It was early equine engineering: "We need a horse that can pull a plough in the morning and then do some fancy prancing in the afternoon." This multi-generational matchmaking gifted us a diverse bunch, united by the "horsesomeness" that makes them sought-after partners.

Their family tree dates back to the 16th century, involving European horse breeds in strategic matchmaking. Sturdy local mares were introduced to svelte, sporty types like Thoroughbreds, Arabians, and Andalusians. Breeders aimed for athleticism without the attitude, stamina without the stubbornness, and enough bone to be substantial without being clumsy.

Meticulous Development Across Europe

This balanced disposition is no accident. Warmblood breeding programs are meticulously managed. Germany crafted breeds like the Hanoverian and Holsteiner through rigorous testing. The Dutch adopted a data-driven approach with their KWPN, breeding dressage and jumping superstars with scientific precision. France offered the effortlessly chic Selle Français, known for natural leaping flair. Denmark, a newer face, quickly gained fans for their elegant and versatile Warmbloods.

The Warmblood continued...

With the rise of organized equestrian sports in the 20th century, "good enough for the farm" wasn't enough. Breeders focused on horses with a trot that could make judges weep with joy, perfected jumping technique, and ensured a trainable temperament was a non-negotiable requirement for these equine athletes.

Warmbloods in Australia

This commitment to quality extends to Australia, where the Australian Warmblood Horse Association (AWHA) maintains breed standards and promotes these magnificent animals. Warmbloods have soared in popularity across Australia, becoming a dominant force in equestrian sports due to their versatility and talent. Australian breeders utilize imported genetics to produce top-tier sport horses right here on home soil.

So, if you're looking for a partner to conquer the dressage arena or clear those imposing showjumps, all without requiring the patience of a saint or the bravery of a lion tamer, the Warmblood might just be your perfect match. They're the sensible, talented, and occasionally vain friends we all need.

Disclaimer: The term "horsesomeness" is used here according to Kazz's personal definition of the word "horsesome." Please note that this usage may not align with standard English vocabulary. No apologies are forthcoming.

TAKING THE LEAP

What about tomorrow?

When you welcome an HHH guest, you're not just offering a second chance; you're making a profound, long-term commitment. At HHH, we see the incredible bond that forms, but it's crucial to understand the full scope of this commitment, especially regarding a horse's lifespan and your future.

Horses aren't short-term companions. They can live for 25 to 30 years, or even longer. Taking on a young horse means a commitment spanning several decades so make sure you do the math. You will be providing consistent care and love for their entire natural life, which may be a long time - not just a few years.

A horse's long lifespan naturally leads to thinking about your future. We encourage all those considering a forever home to honestly assess:

- **Your Lifestyle:** Will your living situation remain stable enough to house a horse?
- **Financial Security:** Horses come with significant ongoing costs. Can you comfortably afford these for the next two or three decades, regardless of economic shifts?
- **Physical Capability:** Caring for a horse involves physical demands. As you age, will you remain physically able?
- **Support System:** Do you have a network of family, friends, or professionals who can assist if you're ill or away?

Some rescued horses might have unique long-term needs due to their past. We're transparent about known issues, but new challenges can always arise. Being prepared for the unexpected is part of responsible horse ownership.

At HHH, our goal is to find loving, permanent homes where our horses can thrive. When you welcome them, you're joining us in a promise to ensure they never face uncertainty again.

Thinking deeply about this long-term commitment is the most responsible and compassionate step, are you ready to offer a lifetime of love and security to a horse in need?



Hay there, Horse Lovers! (Saddle Up for Some Horse Trivia)!

1. What is the term for a baby horse of either sex?
2. What unit is commonly used to measure the height of a horse?
3. What is the name for a female horse that is four years old or older?
4. What is the name for a male horse that has not been castrated and is four years old or older?
5. What do horses primarily eat?
6. What is the name of the small, sturdy breed of horse often associated with coal mines?
7. What breed of horse is famous for its distinctive spotted coat?
8. What type of horse is specifically bred for racing at a gallop over short distances?
9. Name a breed of horse known for its elegance and high-stepping gait, often seen in dressage.
10. What large breed of horse was historically used for pulling heavy loads and farm work?
11. How many teeth does a mature adult male horse typically have?
12. What is the sensitive, fleshy part at the back of a horse's foot?
13. What is the name of the long bone in a horse's lower leg, between the knee and the fetlock?
14. Horses are herbivores. What does this term mean?
15. What is the average gestation period (pregnancy length) for a mare?
16. What is the name of the equestrian sport where horse and rider perform a series of precise movements from memory?
17. In show jumping, what are the obstacles called that horses must jump over?
18. What is the term for riding a horse without a saddle?
19. What is the name of the event that combines dressage, cross-country, and show jumping?
20. What is the sport of racing horses while riding in a lightweight, two-wheeled cart?



Thank You



READER SURVEY OUTCOMES

A huge thank you to everyone who completed our reader survey from the April Hoofbeat Herald. Your feedback is incredibly valuable!

While the number of responses was a little disappointing, we truly appreciate those who participated. This survey was your chance to tell us if we're "getting it right."

In the absence of any substantial criticism, we're confident in continuing Hoofbeat Herald's current direction. It seems we're generally on the right track for our dedicated readers.

This is what we observed from the survey:

- **The new format was overwhelmingly well-received.**

Clyde's response: Thank you.

- **Only one person thinks there are too many articles now.**

Clyde's response: I try not to overwhelm our readers but sometimes I just get so passionate and carried away. I'll keep an eye on that.

- **72% of respondents would like a Q&A section.**

Clyde's response: We will definitely be introducing this. Just discussing with Kazz which is the best way to manage it.

- **"Rescue Roundup" is the most popular regular feature.**

Clyde's response: It's my favourite too.

- **A resounding call out for more "Rescue Roundup"**

Clyde's response: Hmmmmm. "Rescue Roundup" is specifically about new guests accommodated for rehabilitation and those rehomed in the previous month. We report on actual events, as we can only share what genuinely transpires.

However, we hope we can satisfy your hunger for more info about results with our new regular feature "Road to Recovery". This will sometimes have limitations as we must preserve the privacy when required of those who choose to assist us in our rehoming efforts.

While we hope more guests find homes, rehoming depends on specific conditions for their welfare. Our priority is their well-being, ensuring they thrive long-term.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our community. Every rehabilitated guest and successful rehoming is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers, the generosity of our donors and sponsors, and indeed, everyone who assists us in providing for our special charges.

Thank you for being an essential part of their journey to a brighter future!

AUGUST SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to have something included in the August issue of Hoofbeat Herald, please submit by **Friday 25th July 2025** via newsletter@heavyhorseheaven.com.au