



## MEMBERS BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2016

### MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

The last three months since the Annual General Meeting of RPSBS Ltd has been an extremely busy and important time for our Society. At the 2016 AGM in June, Vicki Callaway, general manager of True Synergy gave 4 months' notice that they were terminating their contract with RPSBS Ltd. for the provision of Registrar and Secretariat services.

A sub-committee consisting of the Chair (Mike Smith), Vice Chair (Robert Cockram), Company Secretary (Renaë Dorney) and Company Treasurer (Christine Gibbons) was formed to oversee the process of selecting a supplier or suppliers for our Registrar and Secretariat services. The decision was made to call tenders for the two services. By the third week in July tender documents had been finalized and tenders called for the provision of Registrar or Secretariat Services or both. By the close of tenders on 12 August we had received 9 quality tender proposals. We do wish to thank all those that submitted tender documents for their interest and effort they put into their proposals.

It is with great pleasure that I, on behalf of the RPSBS Board, can officially announce that the provision of both the Registrar and Secretariat roles has been awarded to The Arabian Horse Society of Australia. In their tender document they emphasized the procedures that they would put into place that would ensure that the Riding Pony Society maintained its own identity. We will have our own telephone number and PO Box. The AHSA will take over the operation of the office on Tuesday, 4 October. We can assure all members that much effort has been taken by the Board, Vicki and her team and Helen Dohan and her team at AHSA to ensure that this will be a seamless transition for our members. The new Riding Pony office will be based in Richmond, NSW.

During this period we also had young RPSBS members competing at an International Challenge at the National Pony Show UK. Of the 17 young people who applied to be part of this overseas experience the following six young RPSBS members were selected: Georgia Dalley (NSW), Brianna Duncan-Coward (SA), Jess Marnie (SA), Caitlin Fricker (SA), Brynie Lee (Vic), and Indi Shephard (Vic). The Board wishes to thank Eleanor Gerry and Liz Francis who organised the process, acted as team officials and totally self-funded their own trips. Horse Deals Magazine must be thanked for their generous sponsorship of the team uniforms. I am sure these young riders will never forget their experiences in the UK which included visiting famous studs, being billeted with top producers, visiting top international shows and competing at the National Pony Show.

By early August all members will have received their copies of the 2016 Riding Pony Annual. Congratulations must go to Editor, Eleanor Gerry, Assistant Editor, Elizabeth Francis and Design and Production Editor, Despina Mitrakas of Show Pony Graphics for producing such a quality product. It is a mammoth task over many months to collect all the information and photographs but I am sure that all members have truly enjoyed reading the Annual.

I regret that I have to announce that Liz Francis, on her return from the UK trip announced her resignation as a Board Director. Liz has had over 25 years of continuous service to RPSBS and has just this year alone been part of the Annual production team, helped review much of the RPSBS documentation, been chair of the Publicity Committee and organized the accommodation and catering for our Board meetings. She will be sorely missed at Board meetings.

At the South Australian sub-committee AGM, Alyson Emery, who has a long history of working for RPSBS at both state and national level was elected as SA delegate elect which meant that on Liz's resignation, Alyson automatically became the SA elected RPSBS Board Director. The Board welcomes Alyson to the team.

From very early this year Robert Cockram, Liz Francis and myself have been reviewing all of the documentation that would be included in a National Judges Handbook. This work culminated at the September Board meeting in a Judges' Handbook being approved to go to print. An extensive review of the Registration Rules, led by Robert Cockram as Chair of the Ethics Committee has been undertaken to ensure consistency across all registration rules. The revised Registration Rules were also approved at the September Board meeting.

I am pleased to announce that, in spite of a very challenging two years financially, the Board has been able to continue dividend payments to the states and provide subsidies for state shows. From now on, states will have the responsibility of conducting a minimum of two Riding Pony Shows per year. It involves a great deal of work to organize and run at least two shows a year and it cannot happen without the generosity of our members either through their donation of time and/or money and goods in way of sponsorship.

I believe our Society has a great future and there is potential for significant growth. The one essential ingredient that will make that this growth come to fruition is man power. Every state committee is having the same problem in finding members that are willing to assist. If you can assist your state Riding Pony committee in any capacity, large or small, please pick up the phone and give one of our committee members a call. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

*Mike Smith- RPSBS Ltd. Board Chair*

#### **WELCOME TO THE NEW REGISTRAR AND SECRETARIAT TEAM (AHSA Ltd Staff)**



**Helen Dohan**



**Teresa Edwards**



**Julie Burnett**



**Lindy Stewart**



**Jenny Nixon**

#### **Helen Dohan**

Helen commenced employment in April 1988 and has fulfilled the role of Registrar since that time. Since the restructuring of the staff in July 2014 Helen has also fulfilled the role of Secretary. Helen is responsible for overseeing the running of the office, registration of horses, exports and imports, staff management, liaising with the Board and general troubleshooting with members including legal issues and well as dealing with any overseas enquiries. Helen also prepares the agenda for the Board meetings, attends them and produces the minutes as well as writing any necessary letters resulting from the meeting and maintains the judges list. Helen also pays any accounts due and enters the payments in MYOB. Helen has a Bachelor of Science majoring in Biology and Chemistry and has a particular interest in genetics. Helen is a breeder of Welsh Ponies so although there is no conflict of interest she is aware of the issues facing breeders and members from a user point of view. Helen works 5 days/week and is available out of hours for Board member enquiries.

#### **Teresa Edwards**

Teresa commenced employment in June 1994 and is 2IC and Assistant Registrar. Teresa is responsible for website maintenance, social media (facebook), e-blasts to members, insurance issues, deceased estates, bankrupt estates and is our number one desktop publisher. Teresa is in charge of the office whenever Helen is absent and is the second office signatory on bank accounts. Teresa is the only employee who has never owned horses although after over 20 years in the industry she probably knows more about registration issues than most breeders. Teresa works 8-3 Tuesday-Friday.

#### **Julie Burnett**

Juliet commenced employment in February 2005. Juliet was in charge of the stallion and stud returns and is in charge of stallion nominations, issuing of service certificates, AI & ET applications as well as the use of both Australian & Overseas semen, DNA and Genetic Test applications and is now registering horses as well as looking after leases. Juliet owns pleasure horses. Juliet works a 9 day fortnight with every second Friday off.

#### **Lindy Stewart**

Lindy commenced employment in September 2000. Lindy is in charge of transfers, resolving registration and transfer problems, filing, scanning, printing registration certificates, opening the mail, checking eligibility to show, postage when Jenny is away and Roll of Merit. Lindy works a 9 day fortnight with the opposite Friday off to Juliet. Lindy has bred and shown Welsh since 1998 and has been involved with showing and preparation of Riding Ponies and Open Hack. She now has a couple of retired ponies at home.

#### **Jenny Nixon**

Jenny commenced employment in July 2007. Jenny is in charge of incoming payments, receipting and entering income into MYOB. She looks after new memberships and is in charge of postage. Jenny currently has no horses.

## **JUDGES**

current list of all State Panel Judges is available on the National Website. Please take a moment to review your details listed to ensure they are correct.

## **SHOWING RULES AND REGISTRATION - UPDATE**

**Stallions:** Stallions and colts 1 year and over as at 1 August, must be bitted when shown. Handlers and riders of stallions or colts must be 18 years of age or over. Stallions and colts 2 years and over as at 1 August must be adult registered.

The changes to the rules are effective immediately. Please ensure that you abide by these for your next show.

**Workouts:** The workouts for First Ridden, Newcomer, Show Pony and Show Hunter Pony are currently being revised. Once finalised, these will be advised to all members and available via the National website.

## **GELDING REGISTRATIONS - FEES**

The new fee structure to Gelding Registrations is as follows:

Gelding – one or both parents registered RPSBS or in a recognised stud book or register - \$50.00

Gelding – previously foal recorded before 1 September 2014 - \$25.00

Gelding – foal recorded after 1 September 2014 - No fee

## **STUD BOOKS/REGISTERS RECOGNISED BY THE SOCIETY**

The Anglo Arabian Register was incorrectly referenced in the Registration Rules and was included as a recognised Stud Book. This has now been revised and the Anglo Arabian Register is referenced in the recognised registers.

## **BREEDS RECOGNISED BY THE SOCIETY**

Ponies registered as a Welsh D are now accepted as a recognised Breed and the Registration Rules will be updated to reflect this shortly.

*Vicki Callaway  
National Secretariat  
Riding Pony Stud Book Society*