



HOOFBEAT HERALD

Issue 3 December 2024

President's Ponderings

Can you believe November's already over? Christmas is right around the corner! So I'm giving out a present. The first person who emails Clyde - newsletter@heavyhorseheaven.com.au and guesses closest to Duncan's weight, will be sent a cap with HHH logo embroidered on the front – go!

So 2025 is also just around the corner. What better way to usher in the new year than with a fabulous 2025 HHH calendar? After expenses, all proceeds go to HHH. If you would like to have one of these calendars featuring our beautiful HHH guests, you can order through our website.

<https://www.heavyhorseheaven.com.au/product-page/2025-hhh-calendar>

The calendars will be \$25 each including postage.



(Photograph is an example only – and is not featured in the calendar)

Even though it's getting warmer, our amazing support team is working hard to keep our guests cool and comfortable. A big shoutout to our newest volunteers, Jacqui and Matt! As always, thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

If you have something to share in our January newsletter, please send to info@heavyhorseheaven.com.au or to newsletter@heavyhorseheaven.com.au by 12:00 (midday) on Friday 20/12/2024

Between issues keep up with what's going on via our socials. Insta: [@heavyhorseheaven](https://www.instagram.com/heavyhorseheaven) FB: <https://www.facebook.com/heavyhorseheaven>

Rescue Roundup (Or “ins” and “outs”)

No new guests were welcomed in November and we have none ready for rehoming at the moment. We would, however, like to see Buster and Roxy get a new home for Christmas. Please see the article on our Facebook page dated 10 October for details. Note these guys are not accommodated at HHH but still live with their mum in Royalla. Any agreement to take them on is directly with her.



! There will be a few candidates ready to go to their forever homes in early 2025 so watch this space.

A Merry Christmas treat from Diesel.

Ingredients:

- 2 large carrots, grated
- 1 large apple, grated
- 1/2 cup molasses or honey
- 2 1/2 cups oats
- 1/2 cup flour

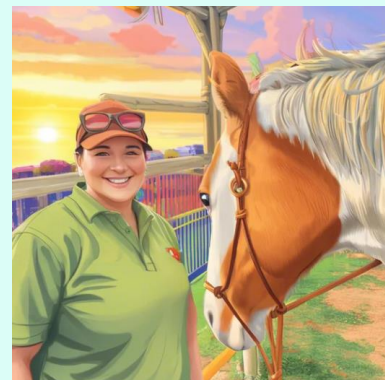
Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 175°C.
2. Mix the grated carrots and apple in a large bowl.
3. Add the molasses or honey to the mixture and stir until well combined.
4. Gradually add the oats and flour, mixing until you have a thick dough.
5. Roll the dough into small balls or flatten them into cookie shapes.
6. Place the treats on a greased baking sheet.
7. Bake for about 20-25 minutes or until golden brown.
8. Allow the treats to cool completely before serving them to your horse.



Support Stable – volunteers

Continuing the spotlight on volunteers.



Volunteer 3 – “Ash”

Ash joined Heavy Horse Heaven (HHH) seeking community and connection. Little did she know, she'd find so much more. "Volunteering with HHH was an easy decision," Ash explained. "I get to help a fantastic cause, spend time with horses, and hang out with amazing people."

One of Ash's favourite parts of volunteering is witnessing horses' transformations. "Seeing a horse learn they're safe and loved is incredibly rewarding," she said. "Sometimes it's a sudden shift, other times it's a gradual process, but both are special".

While the challenges of working with traumatized horses can be tough, the rewards are immense. "Watching the weight lift off their shoulders and the life return to their eyes is truly beautiful," Ash shared.

"The HHH farm has an amazing energy, and the horses (and vologies) feel it as soon as they come in the gates".

HHH has also positively impacted Ash's personal growth. She's gained valuable knowledge in animal husbandry, therapeutic care, for horses, and her own abilities that she can contribute.

A typical Sunday for Ash at HHH is helping to bring in the horses, feed and groom them, and when they are ready, she likes to introduce them to new things (like halter training, picking up their feet) and help them gain their confidence. She also helps with mucking out the yards, water runs and other general farm tasks.

When asked to share a memorable story about a horse Ash has helped, she recounted the following:

"Early on in my days at HHH, there was a horse in the yards that I hadn't seen before. No one was in with her so I said, "can I go in and brush this horse?" Kazz said, "go for it, her name's Marley". So, in I went and met this stunning, big girl with fairy knots on her mane and the sweetest face. I felt an immediate bond with her. So, I went along and brushed her knots out, brushed all along her body and down her tail. At the time, I didn't know this was a big deal. Apparently, Marley had not found her confidence yet and this was a big step forward for her. I felt so lucky that she had trusted me, and it was the beginning of a very special connection".

Ash encourages anyone considering volunteering at HHH to take the plunge. "Whether you're hands-on with horses, helping with yard work, or assisting with admin, there's something for everyone. The HHH family is incredibly supportive and welcoming.

Volunteer 4 – “Jacqui”



Jacqui is a very new volunteer at HHH. She has been there a month but already says volunteering has significantly improved her quality of life. 😊

Jacqui said she has always loved horses. She started riding at a young age and owned horses for most of her life. However, a few years ago, she had to give up her horses and move to the city due to personal circumstances. She deeply missed caring for horses and the peace of the countryside.

When Jacqui saw the HHH advertisement at the local pub, she thought it was a fantastic idea. She was eager to volunteer, give back to a worthy cause, and spend time with horses and in nature. Volunteering was an obvious choice – a “no-brainer”.

Jacqui said she finds volunteering at HHH truly rewarding. Kazz is such a beautiful person and creates a welcoming atmosphere where everyone feels valued.

Some of her favourite aspects of volunteering include:

- the contact with, and caring for, horses;
- being outdoors in the fresh country air;
- meeting and socialising with all the other wonderful and warm volunteers who all share a love of horses.

Jacqui feels that HHH gives more back to her than she gives to it.

When asked what challenges she has faced during her time at HHH as a volunteer she replied “None at all. It has been wonderful”. She said HHH has significantly improved her quality of life. She now looks forward to the weekends when she can go out to HHH. Being around horses, kind people and in the countryside is good for her soul.

So far, Jacqui’s typical Sunday tasks have included:

- catching horses from the paddock
- grooming and feeding the horses
- moving horses from one paddock to another
- assisting a horse owner with clicker training for her mare who had a bad start to life and did not enjoy being handled (happy to report she is doing great now)
- washing buckets
- driving around paddocks to do welfare checks on horses.

To anyone thinking about volunteering at HHH, Jacqui says “Just do it! You won’t regret it”.

Interested in volunteering?

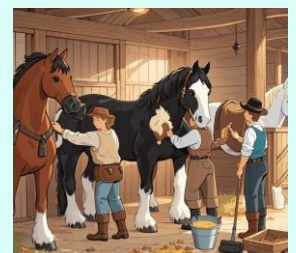
From our featured volunteers' testimonies, you can see we help horses suffering from neglect, abuse, or abandonment due to various reasons, including financial hardship.

We rely so heavily on volunteers to make a difference in the lives of these magnificent animals. Your time, energy, and skills can be invaluable in so many ways, not just those outlined so far by our featured volunteers. Possibilities include:

- **Food and Supply Logistics:** Picking up and delivering essential supplies.
- **Administrative Support:** Assisting with paperwork, fundraising, and other administrative tasks.
- **Foster Care:** Providing temporary homes and care for rescued horses.
- **Transportation:** Transporting horses to and from various locations.
- **Maintenance:** Cleaning paddocks and stalls.
- **Horse Care:** Grooming, feeding, and providing basic care.
- **Community Outreach:** Volunteering at fundraising events and community activities.

Our volunteers ensure the daily needs of our guests are met, provide rehabilitation and training, and facilitate rehoming.

As you've seen from our articles, if you volunteer with Heavy Horse Heaven, you will not only be helping horses in need but also experiencing the immense satisfaction of making a positive impact on their lives. If you would like to get involved, please contact Karen info@heavyhorseheaven.com.au or apply via the website <https://www.heavyhorseheaven.com.au/volunteer>





Did you know?

Somebody recently asked me, “Were Clydesdales the product of breeding for purpose?” Since I didn’t know the answer, I embarked on a quest to find out. Here’s a very brief summary.

The Clydesdale Horse: A Hoofbeat Herald Exclusive 😊

The Clydesdale horse, a magnificent breed renowned for its strength, size, and distinctive feathering, traces its origins to the Clyde Valley in Scotland. In the 18th century, local mares were bred with imported Flemish stallions, resulting in a powerful and versatile horse. The first recorded use of the name "Clydesdale" as a breed was in 1826.

Key Characteristics

- **Size and Strength:** Clydesdales are one of the largest horse breeds, often reaching heights of 18 hands (6 feet) or more.
- **Feathered Legs:** A hallmark of the breed, the long, flowing feathering on their lower legs is a result of careful selective breeding.
- **Gentle Temperament:** Despite their imposing size, Clydesdales are generally gentle and docile.

Historical Significance

Clydesdales played a crucial role in the Industrial Revolution, providing power for agriculture and transportation. They were used to pull heavy loads, plough fields, and haul goods. However, with the advent of mechanization, their numbers declined.

Modern Roles

Today, Clydesdales are primarily used for:

- Show purposes
- Parades
- Draft horse competitions
- Therapeutic riding
- Carriage driving

The Budweiser Clydesdales

Perhaps the most famous Clydesdales are those owned by Anheuser-Busch. These majestic horses are used to promote the Budweiser brand and are often seen in parades and commercials. They embody the strength, power, and elegance of the breed.

Preserving the Breed

While Clydesdales are no longer as widespread as they once were, efforts are being made to preserve the breed. Breed associations and dedicated breeders work to maintain the Clydesdale's unique characteristics and ensure its future.

References and further reading:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clydesdale_horse
- <https://animalife.co.uk/horse-breeds/clydesdale-horse/>
- <https://www.clydesdaleoutpost.com/post/the-clydesdale-a-majestic-and-powerful-horse#:~:text=Clydesdales%20originated%20from%20the%20Clyde,plowing%20fields%20and%20pulling%20carts>
- <https://clydesdalehorsesociety.com/chs-information/breed-history>
- <https://www.britannica.com/animal/Clydesdale>

December Reader Puzzle

HHH December puzzle

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
		25											2												

17	23	14	25	10	18	24	14	4	24	20	10	14	23	1	21	4	14	22	4	20	10	20	21	13	14	
20	2	24	26	1	11	14	21	5	7	10	8	21	14	14	24	1	21	22	13	22	2	20	17	22	2	13
5	21	1	9	4	25	1	17	10	20	2	24															

Decode the message - Each letter in the phrase has been replaced with a number.

Solution to November Reader Puzzle

S	E	O	G	E	B	W	R	F	F	Z	O	S	Y	S
P	Z	R	E	I	R	R	A	F	W	Q	S	E	O	R
O	Q	S	L	T	O	P	X	A	A	H	B	L	L	O
N	R	H	D	G	C	Q	N	H	L	L	F	P	U	N
S	T	R	I	S	D	O	U	C	E	L	G	P	N	O
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S	U	N	D	A	Y	P	K	D	L	H	N	A	P	K
T	A	E	B	F	O	O	H	A	D	G	Q	R	J	Q
Y	T	I	R	A	H	C	L	L	I	E	U	E	K	D
I	W	T	F	E	M	O	H	E	R	G	T	J	D	E
E	N	I	U	Q	E	D	V	L	B	H	R	K	N	C



A very very very merry Christmas to all (and to all a good night 🐾) – Be safe!

Next Month - er Next YEAR!

We'll be back in the new year to share stories of the holiday season with you. Don't forget to order your calendar in the shop on our website.

<https://www.heavyhorseheaven.com.au/product-page/2025-hhh-calendar>



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info@heavyhorseheaven.com.au