

## **Medal of Esteem**

### **SUE WILLIAMS**

Living in Charleville, Central Queensland and being a chronic asthmatic, Sue was given her first horse for her ninth birthday in the hope that the dry climate, and a life dream of owning a horse might help with her asthma. She was named Cindy and came only with a bridle, so she rode everywhere bareback - even to school every day. So began her love affair with horses. KING RANCH FABIAN by King Ranch BON HAND was her first Australian Quarter Horse. Sue spent time on Yulgilbar Quarter Horse Stud as Stud Manager.

Sue Williams has a long and illustrious career which is yet to end with the Australian Quarter Horse. Together with Paul Farrell, establishing the Farrell–Greenhill Training Centre in Whittlesea as one of Victoria's leading Indoor Equestrian Centre's. She has operated her own training academy - The Sue Farrell Training Stables and spent six months training and instructing in the USA and Canada. Sue also spent 12 months as the Equestrian Manager for a Riding Academy in Malaysia. She is an advocate and an ambassador for the Australian Quarter Horse and has been a guest Lecturer in Horse Management and Training, delivering seminars at Marcus Oldham Agricultural College in Ballarat, Glenormiston Agricultural College in Victoria and the Riverina College of Advanced Education in Wagga Wagga. Sue has also delivered lectures, by invitation of the South African Equestrian Federation and provided instructional horsemanship seminars in KwaZulu Natal, Johannesburg, East London and Richmond, South Africa. She has been interviewed to speak on the Western horse industry on two Australian National television programmes, Totally Wild and Wide World of Sport.

Sue has judged Australian Quarter Horse State Championships in every State of Australia as well as New Zealand and New Caledonia where she also conducted clinics. She is an Honorary Life Member and past Vice President of the Australian Quarter Horse Association, and was a Member and past President of the Queensland Reining Horse Association, a Member of the National Reining Horse Association and Member of the Australian Equestrian Federation of Australia. She is a past Member of the National Cutting Horse Association and for a time was employed as the NCHA Administration Assistant and Sales Coordinator.

In recent years, Sue with a good team of supporters was instrumental in resurrecting the New England Quarter Horse Association from de-registration with the AQHA.

Sue is someone who prefers to build up others and so you know just how much it meant and means to her when you hear her talk about the success of the 1986 Youth World Cup.

In 1990 Sue was selected by the Board of the Australian Quarter Horse Association as Team Instructor for the Australian Youth Team to compete at the International Youth World Cup held in Calgary, Canada that year. In total seven Nations competed and the Australian Youth Team was Runners Up!

As Director of Show and Performance Sue got together with Jan Millar, who at that time was Director of Judging (both women having been long time HSAA and AQHA Judges). Between them they put the somewhat controversial "green book" together which for those whose memories or age will not stretch that far back, basically provided the foundation for our own AQHA Rule Book for Judges. Prior to this, our Quarter Horses were judged by HSAA judges who were not always familiar with the AQHA "Standard of Excellence". Hence the need to be trained and educated to the Australian Quarter Horse breed standard.

Sue and her husband David Williams continue to own, breed, train and promote the Australian Quarter Horse. She is a credit to herself, her family, her country, and the industry, most specifically, the Australian Quarter Horse Association.