

HISTORY OF SHEEPDOG TRIALING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA (1893-2013)

A BRIEF OVERVIEW

(compiled from WAWSDA records and WA newspaper reports)

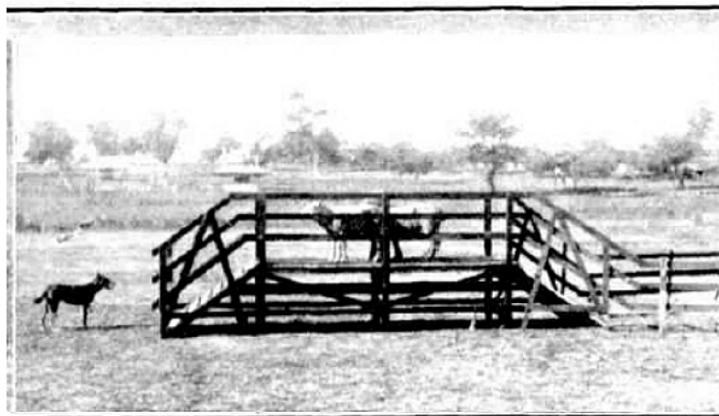
1) Prior to the formation of the WAWSDA in 1936 (West Australian Working Sheepdog Association)

(as reported in newspapers of the day)

- The **first record** (so far found) is of a trial conducted by the Royal Agricultural Show at Guilford in Oct **1893**. (Three dogs competed and E.F.Darlot's Meg won the first prize of 3 guineas).
- The Royal Agricultural Society ran a trial **each year at the Royal Show** (we have records from 1904 onwards) Over the years increasing numbers became difficult for the show society to manage.
- The RAS also ran a sheepdog trial on the showgrounds with their annual **Royal Horse Parade (1909-1922)**. These events could accommodate the growing numbers of sheepdog entries.
- We find records of trials being run at **local Agricultural Shows** from 1903 onwards, Geraldton being the first. These were initially a demonstration of good working sheepdogs [only a few] and proved to be a great show attraction. Over the years the competition grew and by 1936 the Northam Show had 60 entries

Western Mail Aug 23, 1918 [Royal Horse Parade]

The Sheep Dog Trials on the Royal Show Ground.



THIS YEAR A NEW SYSTEM WAS ADOPTED, THE DOGS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, HAVING TO PUT THE SHEEP OVER A BRIDGE

In these early years the importing, breeding, and then trialing of good working sheepdogs appears to have been very much in line with the expansion of the sheep industry.

- **Early country trial venues:** (as listed in daily newspapers – obviously not a complete lists)

1903 Geraldton, 1904 Northam & Bunbury, 1908 Donnybrook, 1911 Gingin, Moora & Williams, 1912 MtBarker & Katanning, 1918 Jennapullen, 1926 Mt.Marshall, 1930 Narrogin, 1931 Bruce Rock, 1932 Coorow, 1936, Kellerberrin

2) Formation of the WAWSDA in 1936

(under the auspices of the RAS)

- By 1936 the need for change was becoming clear - basically within the RAS and when trialing enthusiasts were together. And we note that these early enthusiasts were mostly also involved as stud exhibitors and show councillors. The success of the 1936 Northam Show trial, arranged by the RAS and the Northam Agricultural Society, was a catalyst for change. It was seen that an organisation was badly needed to promote good working sheepdogs and arrange the associated trialing fixtures.

- In December 1936 **The West Australian Working Sheepdog Association** was formed.

The RAS would manage the secretaryship as it did for all state-wide societies of a similar nature.

- **Founding members** were:- *patron: Mr.V.L.Bode, president: Mr R.Carroll, vice-presidents: Mr.W.G.Burges and Mr.A.Piesse, secretary: Mr.C.W.May, treasurer: Mr.L.Lefroy, general committee: Messrs J.C.Bushell, D.E.Horwood, R.H.Wallace, B.Ball, E.T.Loton, E.Jones, J.E.Gray, R.Wall, A.Currie, O.Saggers, E.G.Riley and G.B.Kearney, sub-committee to frame the rules of association: Messrs Wallace, Horwood, Wall, Bushell and Kearney*

3) WAWSDA's development

- **State Trials:** The WAWSDA took over responsibility for running this annual trial each year - held at a country show (initially Northam), with the help of the local show societies. This was the first round of the State trial (basically an elimination trial), then the top (usually 5) performing dogs worked the second round (the final) as the "Championship trial" at the Royal Show. (The RAS, having deleted trials from its program in 1936-37 chose to reinstate them in this form - i.e. a limited "Championship" event, an arrangement which lasted until 1955).

The new association's first trial: Northam 1937



Five men and their dogs after competing in a dog trial at the Northam Show in August 1937

- There were no trials during the second world war - unlike the first war when trialing had continued. Trials resumed in 1946, being held at either Northam, Wagin and in 1954 Dalwallinu.

• **Country Shows:** WAWSDA was liaising with local shows to help run and judge their trials. They were popular events attracting big crowds.

e.g. in 1952 Wagin businesses declared a half holiday for the trial (due mainly to the enthusiasm of local trialer Ben Ball).

• **Interstate input:** Interaction with interstate trialers and judges had a major influence on trialing in this State. The RAS imported judges from other states and their suggestions, as well as their judging, were invaluable. In 1964 George Westcott (secretary of the National Trials, Canberra) negotiated a sponsorship with airline TAA to fly the National Champion dog and worker, plus a respected judge, to our WA Championship. And secondly to fly our champion to compete in Canberra. These judges, as well as the qualifying champions, at times brought dogs to compete in trials here. Western Australians learnt a lot from seeing how the best in Australia worked, and learnt to match them. This sponsorship ended in 1970.

• **In 1956 the State Championship changed to being decided entirely at a country venue.** The reason for this was to allow visiting interstate judges to officiate at both the main (elimination) trial and also the final / "Championship". The Royal Show public appreciated the dog trials so from this time onwards, to cater for this demand, the top performing dogs at the State trial were invited to work an **exhibition trial at the Show.**

• **The trial course** developed over the years, influenced by Western Australian trialers travelling to the eastern states, and vice versa. We note that WA started incorporating a farmers (utility) class into trials as early as 1937. And in this later era of **Yard & Utility** trialing, in this state, these trials along with the traditional three sheep events are all part of the same (WAWSDA) organisation.

• **Individual Clubs** began forming - and running a trial in their local area. These clubs became affiliated with the WAWSDA. In 1965 Great Southern, 1966 Northern District, 1969 Central District, and in 1970 Stirling.

• **WAWSDA becomes an association of Clubs** Delegates of these newly formed clubs met frequently over the next 2 years to form a new constitution, one which instated clubs, rather than individuals, as members of the WAWSDA. This was passed in May 1972 and in that year these clubs started to take turns to run the **State Championship.** In 1974 the RAS resigned the association secretaryship.

The WAWSDA could be said to have 'come of age - to manage its own affairs... (though occasionally a little shaky on its feet)!

• **Then more clubs** - Mayanup formed in 1982, Esperance in 1992, and Chittering Valley in 1993 (for two years). The original Great Southern Club ran its last trial in 1998 and a totally new Great Southern Club came into being in 2009.

Acknowledgements:

For approximately 80 years the **RAS** nurtured trialing in WA and was the major sponsor for forming the WAWSDA. (With the development of the Clubs, the association became a functioning identity of its own).

The Western Mail, and in particular Jack Mallet (writing as Martingale) reported extensively on all WAWSDA matters from its inception: thus providing a valuable record of our beginnings.

As we follow this history we become aware of

a subtle change of focus

- In the early development of this country, Agricultural Shows were seen to be of major significance - a venue where stud owners and breeders exhibited their top quality animals. And to a very appreciative public.

And no less so with the first sheepdog trials: the competition was to showcase the superior quality of well bred and trained working sheepdogs. Dogs were entered by highly regarded studs, both border collies and kelpies.

The interesting fact which comes to light is that, while stud owners entered the dogs into the competition, another handler often worked them. The noted stud enterprise of Henry Wills & Co entered many successful dogs, and Mr Bob Wall worked his legendary Red Cloud under that name. Likewise, at the beginning of our association, J.C.Bushell's successful Trelawney kelpies were worked by Tom (Lance) Barnett.

As a side note we see that these successful sheepdog breeders exhibited winning entries in all classes of stock, and were seen prominently in the horse showings. (Plainly part of life in those days).

- So over time there has been a shift. While still aiming for the top quality working sheepdog, trials are basically run as a competition to suit the competitors. And the person who works the dog, owns the dog. The emphasis being predominately that of a sporting contest, testing the challenging skills of stock management and dog training.

- No doubt the competition was always keen, but the criteria for the show societies was public entertainment.

e.g.- as reported in the Albany Advertiser 14th November 1949:-

"SHEEP DOG TRIALS - There is little doubt that the trials were largely responsible for the fact that the attendance on opening day was much larger than last year. To many people watching sheepdogs is a novelty, and they were amazed at the sagacity shown and the clear understanding between dog and master".

- And an important aspect for sheepdog trialers, is that it is an association of people with a common interest. And a means of sharing in friendly competition right across the country.

Jack Mallet, attending numerous trials as reporter for the Western Mail, plainly got to know how the sport works. Reporting after the Royal Show in 1953 he says –

" Sheepdog trialers are good sportsmen who, in the words of Kipling, have learnt to "meet with triumph and disaster and treat those two imposters just the same." !

...how true...

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY

(still from WAWSDA records and WA newspaper reports)

1) Prior to the formation of the WAWSDA in 1936

(per newspapers of the day)

- **At the Royal Show**, exhibiting livestock was taken very seriously, indicated by the fact that **judges** (right from very early days) were brought across from interstate. And we note that this also included judges for the trials of working sheepdogs.

Travelling was plainly a major undertaking:

e.g. (West Australian 8th October 1918)

"Unfortunately the strike on the trans Australian railway has prevented the judges from the eastern states attending. Mr H.G.Tolmer (for the sheepdog trials) was hopeful of being able to travel west on the Wyandra (passenger ship) but telegraphed to say that he was unable to get across."

- **RAS finding sheepdog trials unsatisfactory at the Show**

As the number of entries built up the RAS committee found it hard to accommodate the trial in their programme. Entries has increased from the initial handful to 27 by 1930 and continued to be in the 20's.

(West Australian 19th June 1936)

"...for the past few years the sheepdog trials at the show had been a worry to staff and a source of annoyance to competitors. It was possible to hold them only late in the evening or early in the morning, which was inconvenient both to stewards and competitors. Mr.A.Lefroy said it would be a pity to eliminate the trials from the Royal Show schedule until all possibilities of their being carried out successfully had been exhausted."

In due course the committee decision was to delete the trial from the Royal Show and run it at Northam in conjunction with that show society.

2) Formation of the WAWSDA in 1936

(under the auspices of the RAS who held the secretaryship as they did for all such breed societies)

- In Oct **1936**, during the show a meeting of sheepdog enthusiasts was held to gauge support for the formations of a working sheepdog association. Those present were R.Carrol, J.C.Bushell, D.H.Horwood, R.H.Wallace, R.Wall and T.M.Phillips.
- Good support for the proposal was gained. The membership fee would be 10/6 per year.
- On November 28th 1936 at a further meeting in Northam the **association was officially formed**.
- The **1937 AGM** reported a good start to the association with 36 members and trial entries increasing.

• **Founding Members:**

V.L.Bode *patron*

R.Carroll (York) *president* - a show councillor, manager of Henry Wills & Co's stud property, and sheepdog trialer

W.G.Burges *vice-president*

A.Piesse *vice president*

C.W.May *secretary* - also secretary of the RAS

L.Lefroy *treasurer:* - a great supporter and prize donator for the sheepdog trials

Other committee members:-

J.C.Bushell (Watheroo) - RAS councillor and keen breeder of all stud stock - including high quality kelpies, many of which were trialed by Tom (Lance) Barnett. Jack Bushell became president in 1940 and later patron. His son (Lance Bushell) and grandson (Grant Cooke) have also been association presidents and prominent competitors.

D.E.Horwood (Swanview) a most successful trialer of the 30's and promoter of the association

R.H.Wallace (Walebing) - a major instigator of the new association. He was a high profile border collie breeder, importing expensive champions from the UK, most notably in 1935 Millar's Ben. At £150 (a huge price at that time) this purchase made the newspapers around Australia. So widely sought after were his dogs that Elders effected sales of puppies to the eastern states. He was manager of the NZ and Australia Land Company's Tootra Station (famous for its flock of stud peppin sheep). Unfortunately for the new association, his skill of flock management was so valued by his company, that when a similar position needed to be filled at their much bigger stud at Bundure Station, Jerilderie NSW, he was deemed the only person capable of filling it. He moved to NSW before the association that he had worked hard to establish ran its first trial.

B.Ball (Wagin) A long time competitor and enthusiastic promoter of trialing in his area.

E.T.Loton (Upper Swan)

E.Jones -an avid competitor and high profile breeder of sheepdogs. Also trialed dogs at the Royal Show for H. Wills & Co

J.E.Gray

R.Wall - a successful trialer and one of the most respected judges in the early years. He won much with his famous kelpie "Red Cloud" which had become a legend in the 1910's (so much so that "red cloud" became the West Australian name for a kelpie).

A.Currie (Bruce Rock) -his experience included that of trials in eastern states, importing well bred dogs from SA.

O.Saggers (Tambellup) - and his brother Norman of Mingenew, who was very competitive around 1919, successfully competing against the renowned Red Cloud and an early life member of the association.

E.G.Riley (Gutha)-a very successful breeder and competitor. He started competing in Canberra 1953 - making suggestions re the WA trial course. After his trips east, his dogs were sought after and the sale of a puppy to SA was recognised as significant in the pedigree of some good SA dogs (Alan Grant's Glen Riley).

G.B.Kearney -Dalgety's livestock manager

other early members:

Tom Barnett (later known as Lance) became involved in 1937 as a keen and highly successful competitor.

Jack Mallett, - representative of the Western Mail (the Official organ of the WAWSDA), a keen supporter and trial judge. His comprehensive interest and reports give us much association history.

[We have found no records of the members, Loton, Gray, Kearney, O.Saggers (although a judge), Piesse or the first treasurer L.LeFroy actually competing in trials].

3) WAWSDA's development

- a) RAS trials
- b) Interstate judges - and..
- c) Consequences of that judging
- d) Traversing the Nullabor
- e) Country Show trials
- f) Working Sheepdog register
- g) Course development
- h) Yard and Utility trials
- i) Clubs
- j) Incorporation
- k) Dog of the Year competition
- l) Appointment of judges
- m) Australian Working Sheepdog Association
- n) WAWSDA office bearers
- o) WA "achievers" - state championship winners and dogs of the year

a) **RAS trials** There were no trials at Claremont (Royal Show) in 1936 & 37. But in 1938 the RAS announced under a heading "**catering for the public**" that - "sheepdogs will again be seen in action at the show. However, only those dogs which distinguished themselves last week at the field trial run at Northam by the WAWSDA will compete." Five dogs competed for the championship with E.G.Riley's dog, Jean winning the title, a feat which she repeated the following year.

b) **Interstate judges:** (further to the notes in the first section 'interstate input')

1939 J.Moses of Victoria (who had been successful in the UK)

1951 James Batson, Vic

1952 Jim McIntosh, Vic

1956 Byn Dinning SA

1961 A.Miller Vic

1964 H.Gibson Vic

1965 E.Toynton NSW

1966 Byn Dinning SA

1968 C. O'Kane Vic

1969 Bill Marshall, Vic

1970 K.Batchelor

....the end of TAA sponsorship

By the time the TAA sponsorship ended WA trialers had competed against the big names of the day: Bill Marshall, Geoff Jolly, Alan Miller, Charlie Campbell, Curly O'Kane, Eddie Sage, Kevin Batchelor, George Noble, Eric Morriss, Ernie Toynton and Harry Harris from NZ.

A big boost to WA trialing.

c) **Some consequences of interstate judging:**

1951: Elimination trial at Claremont As the RAS was importing J.Batson from Vic to judge, they deemed it appropriate to hold the elimination trial at Claremont just before the Royal Show - that way he could judge both that trial, and the Championship event at the show. While this achieved the purpose it proved very hard to manage and very expensive, so it was a one-off.

Sunday Times 30th Sep 1951 :- "The show actually began yesterday with the sheepdog elimination trials, normally held at Northam or Wagin.

About 500 paid to see the trials yesterday"

Another report:- "The Association had to purchase a line of 300 large-framed wethers at a cost of £1000 and transport them from Dowerin by motor trucks."

During the next few years WA judges officiated at the elimination trials, with the visiting judge at the Show.

1956 State Championship becomes one trial As Byn Dinning was brought over from SA to judge the State trial which was at Wongan Hills, it was decided to run the final/"Championship" at the same venue (instead of at the show) to enable him to judge both events. From that date forward this became the practice. A separate exhibition trial was held at the Royal Show for the top 8 scoring dogs. The State trials were held at different country venues (until 1968), then at Claremont (1969-71). From 1972, with the formalisation of the club system, the clubs took turns in being responsible for the State trial.

d) **Traversing the Nullabor** From quite early days the urge to compete in the Eastern States had WA trialers braving the unsealed road to the east. In 1946 A.Currie came back and wrote articles for new trialers quoting things he had learned in the eastern states. In 1951 K.L.Martin travelled to NSW and did well with his kelpie Trelawny Jess, (she was WA's first representative to the National trials) and in 1953 he and Ernie Riley competed in Canberra. Before long this travel across the Nullabor became a flood, with trialers bringing back new stock (and new ideas) to WA.

e) **Country show trials gain popularity**

WAWSDA and the local show societies worked together to promote and run local show trials, with the numbers of competitors increasing. WAWSDA made up a list of **judges** to be available for these trials, *A few of the trials reported:-* 1938 Ballidu, 1939 Kojonup and Tambellup, 1947 Wagin, 1948 Beverly, 1949 Albany, 1951 Manjimup, 1953 Busselton, 1954 Dalwallinu

f) **Working Sheepdog Register**

1951 The WAWSDA established a working sheepdog register

1958 The register lapsed after the registration of 200 dogs.

Prefixes: During the time of this register WA came into line with the other states in establishing that a dog's prefix was that of the owner of the breeding bitch. Previously new owners had at times applied their own prefix.

In the early days of trialing it is interesting to note that it was common practice for breeders to enter dogs into a trial in their name, even though someone else worked (and possibly even owned) them. E.g. R.Wall had great success with his dog Red Cloud, but it was always entered by Henry Wills and Co. Likewise J.C.Bushell's entries were successfully worked by L.Barnett.

1967 WAWSDA re-established the register.

1974 WAWSDA passed that only registered dogs may enter official trials (except for some novice events).

g) **Course development**

1983: RAS, Guilford "The task allotted the dogs was to take 3 sheep from one pen, work them across the ground and pen them into another". The time limit was 30 mins. The winning dog completed the task in 15 mins.

1910: Claremont "One of the most interesting events at the show was the trial of sheepdogs. Three sheep were allotted and were required to be driven through a gate, then a race, into a three sided yard and lastly into a paddock.

1918:Claremont

The RAS committee decides to adopt the Sydney trial course: race, bridge and pen.

1937: when the WAWSDA began running the trials

They adopted a four obstacle course: a gate, 2 races and a pen.



E.G.Riley and Jean - a very successful dog who won the Championship in 1938 & 1939 before the war stopped all trialing

Rule 25. Competitors, when working their dogs, will stand within a circle 20 feet diameter, and must remain there until sheep are through the race. Rule 26. When penning sheep, competitors must keep one hand on head of gate or hold on to rope attached to the gate and close the gate when sheep are penned.

1946: when trials resumed after the war:-

A course was introduced to come into line with the eastern states: gap, race, bridge and pen (basically a Vic. Course).

The bridge obviously took some getting used to.

Western Mail Aug 1946 "...it was unfortunate that not one sheep was worked through the ramp in the trials".

Western Mail Sep 1947 (Wagin trial)

".....E.G.Riley's Jean, former state champion now 14 years old....her hearing and eyesight impaired... she lacks speed, but at the obstacles could still show her brilliant form which earned her the plaudits of the crowd in days gone by.

She had the honour of being the first dog in the State to put her sheep over the ramp, an obstacle introduced last year."

1951: (a 4 obstacle course)

The workers' circles were 12 feet in diameter, the nearest point being 6 feet from the obstacle.

1953:

Change to come into force for the Wagin State trial

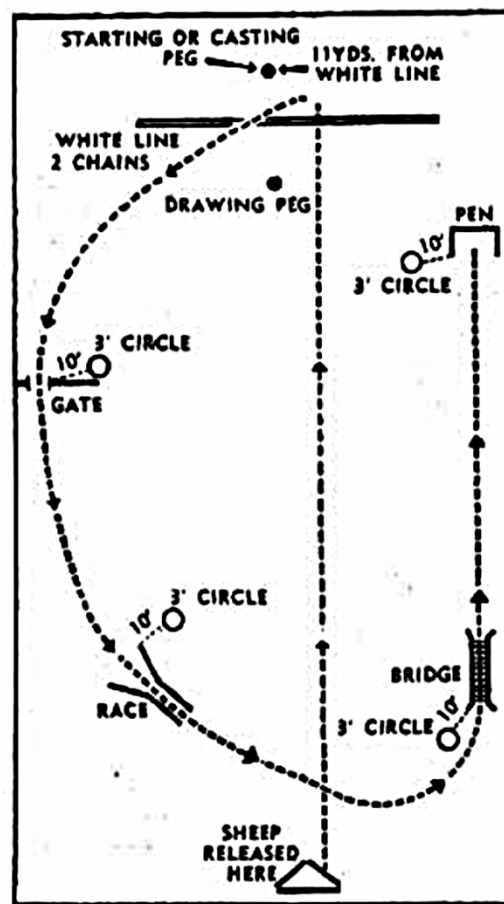
The size of the working ring was reduced from 12 feet to 3 feet and the distance from the wing of the obstacle increased from 6 ft to 10ft. Again these changes were to bring the course more into line with the Eastern States. The delivery area was a 2 chain line across the course, 11 yards in front of the casting peg.

Western Mail 10th Sept 1953 "This made the course more difficult, a fact that was most apparent in the open

1954

Preparation for the 1954 Dalwallinu trial

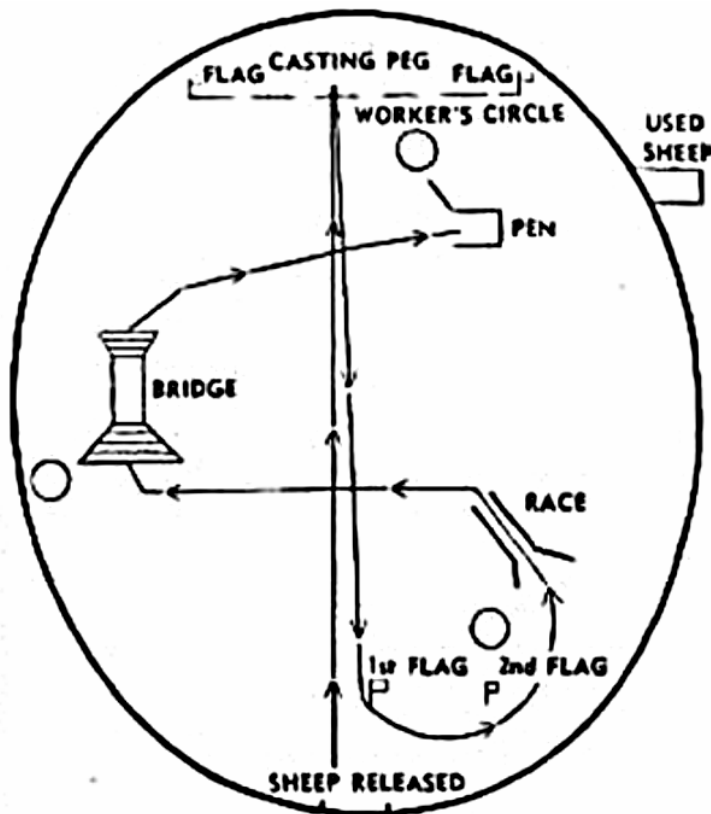
The attachment of circles to obstacles is not to apply to the pen and the 2 ft rope at the head of the gate is to be retained.



1964: (10 years after

E.Riley advocated it)

A course similar to the National course was adopted for WA.



In the 1970's WA copied NSW in having the 'take off' yard adjacent to the release chute instead of, as previously, near the pen. This greatly improved the smooth running of the trials.

h) Yard & Utility trials

The first sheepdog trials run by the newly formed WAWSDA in 1937 included a "farmer's class" which incorporated the yarding and drafting of 12 sheep. The organising committee said "It will be the first time this type of trial has been attempted in WA but it has proved very successful in other states"

Over the years the format varied, in the number of sheep and the course to be worked.

And we notice that mostly the winners of these events were the same ones achieving well in the traditional trials

Sep 1947 Western Mail - (Wagin elimination trial)

"J.C.Bushell's Merah, winner of both the maiden and farmers trials"

And then she went on to win the Championship at the Royal Show. *(West Australian 9 Oct 1947)*



After 1953 farmers trials were not part of the official programme although some individual clubs ran such trials.

It was after Don Robertson and Doug Connop attended the National Kelpie trial at Mortlake Vic. that the Mayanup club followed that example and ran a Utility trial in 1982,. Don Robertson conducted one at Muresk with the help of the Northern Districts Club and in 1985 the Muresk Yard/Utility Trial became the official State Championship for the next 10 years or so. In due course the State Yard & Utility trial rotated between clubs (as with the three sheep trials).

Yard and Utility trials (as in other states) soon developed, but in WA, unlike the other states, these trials along with the traditional three sheep trials have been kept together in the same organisation.

i) **Clubs** were formed by enthusiastic trialers to run events in their local areas. While names listed below are those of the chief movers and initial office bearers, no doubt there were other keen supporters.

<u>Great Southern Club</u>	(1965)	president A.E.Gray (also State president) sec., W.V.England, A.J.Charlick (the last trial for this club was in 1998 with the club officially dissolved in 2006)
<u>Northern Districts Club</u>	(1966)	A.J.Charlick, B.Craig, M Fowler
<u>Central Districts Club</u>	(1969)	A.E.Gray, J.Grogan. F.Knapp
<u>Stirling Club</u>	(1970)	N.Webb, P.Slade, P.Johnson
<u>Mayanup Club</u>	(1982)	D.Connop, C.Cosh, P.Slade, C.Staniforth-Smith, E&K.Atherton (rapidly becoming the club with the largest membership).
<u>Esperance Districts Club</u>	(1992)	N.Anderson, D.Lacey, E.Atherton
<u>Chittering Valley Club</u>	(1993-95)	J.Torrens ran U.K. type trials on his property.
<u>Great Southern Club</u>	(a new club started 2009)	I&M.Solomon, M.Rogers, Y.Haynes

j) **Incorporation**

1938 AGM "It would cost from £15-£20 to have the association incorporated." It was decided to take no action.

1988 The WAWSDA becomes incorporated (and a new constitution passed).

k) **Dog of the Year Competition**

This competition was introduced in 1973, and as well as a competition in its own right, became the vehicle for selecting dogs to compete at the Royal Show, to represent WA at the Supreme, and at any other invitation event.

l) **Appointment of judges** In 1979 a method was introduced whereby any worker who had gained 1000 points in recognised trials, and attended a judges' panel meeting, was eligible to be added to the judging roster.

m) **Australian Sheepdog Workers Association**

For many years the idea of all State associations joining in an Australian body had been considered. In 1952 Victoria made a serious attempt to achieve this but not enough states would agree.

The WAWSDA position was:

1952 General meeting of the WAWSDA was "in favour of the formation of a central organisations to co-ordinate all matters affecting sheepdog associations throughout Australia".

1953 WAWSDA AGM "It was noted that only three States, including WA had agreed to consider the proposal". After discussion it was decided that "until a substantial majority of States agree, the WAWSDA will not affiliate with any other body."

Over the years there was increasing interaction as trialers travelled. WA, despite its isolation (or maybe because of it) was no exception. In the 60's Alan Gray, and in the 70's & 80's Phil Slade, Doug Connop and Nick Webb made lengthy tours. WA was seeing the value of establishing a co-ordinating body.

1984 When the question of an Australian Association was again raised WA took a positive role as talks progressed. Nick Webb was on the establishing committee and Doug Connop an early president. In fact, in the short history of the ASDWA, it has had to date (2013), three WA trialers serve as president (Doug Connop, David Lacey and Gordon Curtis).

The Australian Supreme trial was held in WA in 1991 (on the Esplanade, Perth), 1998 (again on the Esplanade), 2004 (at Northam), 2011 (at Dowerin).

n) WAWSDA office bearers

Year elected	President	Secretary/treasurer	Registrar	Chairman of the Judges' Panel
1936 - 38	R.Carroll	R.A.S.		
1939 - 46	J.C.Bushell	"		
1947 - 49	Ben Ball	"		
1950 - 52	K.J.Martin	"	R.A.S. 1951	
1953	F.Atwell	"	"	
1954 - 55	F.V.Knapp	"	"	
1956 - 57	G.M.Fowler	"	"	
1958 - 60	J.Walsh	"	" ended 1958	
1961 - 62	T.Anderson	"		
1963 - 64	T.Seymour	"		
1965 - 67	A.Gray	"	R.A.S. again in 1967	
1968	J.N.Male	"	"	
1969 - 70	L.Bushell	"	"	
1971 - 73	B.Craig	"	"	
1974 - 75	P.T.Slade	A.J.Charlick	A.J.Charlick	
1976 - 78	J.W.Ferguson	B.Craig	"	
1979	M.Cussons	"	"	
1980	"	R.Crouch	"	
1981	N.J.Webb	"	"	
1982 - 83	"	"	"	L.Bushell
1984	P.T.Slade	"	"	"
1985	J.Parker	"	"	"
1986	N.J.Webb	P.T.Slade	D.Park	"
1987 - 88	"	"	"	A.J.Charlick
1989 - 90	D.Connop	"	"	"
1991 - 92	C.StaniforthSmith	"	"	"
1993	A.J.Charlick	B.Dalton	"	P.Slade
1994	"	"	K.Atherton	E.Atherton
1995	"	P.Charlick	"	"
1996 - 7	B.Dalton	"	"	"
1998 - 99	P.Gorman	"	"	R.Sutherland
2000 -02	W.Hall	J.Nolan	"	"
2003 - 04	G.Curtis	"	"	N.J.Webb
2005	"	J.Atherton	"	"
2006 - 08	G.Cooke	"	"	W.Hall
2009 - 11	A.Gorton	"	"	"
2012-	G.Cooke	"	"	F.Sutherland

Pg 1 ARENA TRIAL "ACHIEVERS" 1937—1988						
State Championships						
	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>winner</u>		<u>Dog of the Year</u>	
1937	Northam		D.Horwood	Linda		
1938	Northam & RAS		E.G.Riley	Jean		
1939	Northam & RAS		E.G.Riley	Jean		
1946	Northam & RAS		E.G.Riley	Florrie		
1947	Wagin & RAS		J.C.Bushell	Trelawney Merah		
1948	Northam & RAS		A.H.Glover	Rags		
1949	Wagin & RAS		A.H.Glover	Rags		
1950	Northam & RAS		E.Jones	Quentin Boss		
1951	Claremont & RAS		E.G.Riley	Florrie		
1952	Wagin & RAS		L.Ball	Fernridge Teddy		
1953	Wagin & RAS		L.Ball	Fernridge Moss		
1954	Dalwallinu & RAS		H.C.Childs	Donny		
1955	Dalwallinu & RAS		W.E.Fowler	Glendervale Ben		
1956	Wongan Hills		F.Walker	Hemp		
1957	Northam		E.G.Riley	Highland Bob		
1958	Northam		H.C.Childs	Donny		
1959	Moora		L.Barnett	Trelawney Betty		
1960	Moora		L.Barnett	Trelawney Betty		
1961	Kellerberrin		L.Barnett	Trelawney Betty		
1962	Kellerberrin		L.Barnett	Trelawney Dick		
1963	Katanning		L.Barnett	Coolie Silver		
1964	Katanning		A.Gray	Herdsmans Donnie		
1965	Northam		A.Gray	Herdsmans Sambo		
1966	Northam		G. Jolly Vic	Austral Blaze		
1967	Moora		J. Haig	Mirk		
1968	Merredin		A.Gray	Bonny Doon Toy		
1969	Claremont		G.Jolly Vic	Cammins Cactus		
1970	Claremont		C.Campbell Vic	Dalry Meg		
1971	Claremont		J.Charlick	Fairbrook Tam		
1972	Northam	<i>Nthn D</i>	P.Gorman	Coolie Del		
1973	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	J.Ferguson	Ambleside Moss	J.Charlick	Fairbrook Speed
1974	Kojonup	<i>Central D</i>	P.Gorman	Coolie Del	J.Charlick	Fairbrook Speed
1975	Albany	<i>Gt Sthn</i>	M.Cussons	Blackwatch Mandy	M.Cussons	Blackwatach Mandy
1976	Northam	<i>Nthn D</i>	P.Slade	Tippys Sweep	J.Charlick	Fairbrook Tam
1977	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	P.Slade	Tippys Glyde	J.Charlick	Fairbrook Tam
1978	Kojonup	<i>Central D</i>	J.Charlick	Fairbrook Penny	L.Bushell	Blackwatch Fly
1979	Albany	<i>Gt Sthn</i>	A.Dwyer Tas	Lyster Glenelg	J.Charlick	Blackwatch Magpie
1980	Northam	<i>Nthn D</i>	P.Slade	Tippys Queen	P.Slade	Tippys Queen
1981	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	W.Baxter	Karralea Rose	J.Charlick	Blackwatch Ben
1982	Kojonup	<i>Central D</i>	R.Sutherland	Swagman Ben	P.Slade	Tippys Kim
1983	Albany	<i>Gt Sthn</i>	J.Charlick	Blackwatch Ben	J.Charlick	Blackwatch Ben
1984	Boyup Brook	<i>Mayanup</i>	W.Baxter	Karralea Rose	W.Baxter	Karralea Rose
1985	Quairading	<i>Nthn D</i>	P.Slade	Evandale Lassie	N.Webb	Glenromian Kinte
1986	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	D.Connop	Strathblane Sasha	D.Connop	Glenview Connie
1987	Kojonup	<i>Central D</i>	R.Sutherland	Singline Candy	D.Connop	Peejay Sadie
1988	Albany	<i>Gt Sthn</i>	D.Connop	Peejay Sadie	D.Connop	Glenromian Dinny

pg 2		ARENA TRIAL "ACHIEVERS" 1989 —				
State Championships					Dog of the Year	
	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>winner</u>			
1989	Mayanup	<i>Mayanup</i>	D.Connop	Peejay Sadie	D.Connop	Peejay Sadie
1990	Koorda	<i>Nthn D</i>	D.Connop	Glenromian Dinny	D.Connop	Merna Whisko
1991	MtBarker	<i>Stirling</i>	L.Noble Vic	Sorrego Bicie	P.Gorman	Pendalup Larry
1992	Wagin	<i>Central D</i>	D.Connop	Peejay Sadie	P.Slade	Marlowe Ebonie
1993	Albany	<i>Gt Sthn</i>	T.Boyle	Glenview Spotty	D.Connop	Dodges Blake
1994	Mayanup	<i>Mayanup</i>	D.Connop	Dodges Blake	D.Connop	Glenview Fiesha
1995	Esperance	<i>Esperance</i>	T.Boyle	Glenview Properdog	P.Slade	Wondara Lizard
1996	Koorda		T.Boyle	Glenview Spotty	D.Connop	Glenview Fiesha
1997	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	P.Slade	Anashka Jack	P.Slade	Anashka Jack
1998	Ongerup	<i>Central D</i>	P.Christie	Glenview Theo	D.Connop	Christies Polar
1999	Ongerup	<i>Mayanup</i>	K.Atherton	Boylee Doug	T.Boyle	Boylee Pepper
2000	Esperance	<i>Esperance</i>	P.Gorman	Princes Johnnie	J.Charlick	Fairbrook Kylie
2001	Ballidu	<i>Nthn D</i>	G.Prince NSW	Princes Smudge	T.Boyle	Boylee Salt
2002	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	N.Kristiansen	Princes Tim	T.Boyle	Boylee Pepper
2003	Kendenup	<i>Central D</i>	D.Connop	Glenview Mitzie	I.Solomon	Perangery Jill
2004	Mayanup	<i>Mayanup</i>	G.Prince NSW	Princes Zoe	D.Connop	Christies Polar
2005	Ballidu	<i>Nthn D</i>	D.Connop	Glenview Beau	P.Gorman	ElShamah Ellie
2006	Ongerup	<i>Esperance</i>	K.Atherton	Boylee Doug	I.Solomon	Perangery Jill
2007	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	I.Solomon	Perangery Jill	G.Cooke	=Grassvalley Lisa
					I.Solomon	=Perangery Jill
2008	Claremont	<i>Central D</i>	D.Lacey	Pendalup Blondie	I.Solomon	Perangery Jill
2009	Tarwonga	<i>Mayanup</i>	A.Gorton	Boylee Ella	P.Gorman	ElShamah Ellie
2010	Ballidu	<i>Nthn D</i>	P.Gorman	Avalon Sox	I.Solomon	Perangery Sasha
2011	Cascades	<i>Esperance</i>	K.Atherton	Ramulam Gus	K.Atherton	Ramulam Gus
2012	Kendenup	<i>Stirling</i>	R.Sutherland	Swagman Cyndy	K.Atherton	Olboa Merle

YARD AND UTILITY TRIAL "ACHIEVERS" *to be included when information available*

120 years of sheepdog trialing in this State of Western Australia

- researched and compiled by Glenice and Nick Webb (2013)
to preserve what we know of our beginnings and of our development

We have copies of the source material (newspaper articles from 1893) and it can be accessed on line from "Trove" digital newspapers.