Welcome to a new eventing year

Hi all, this is the first newsletter of the year, so first up I’ll introduce our 2010 committee:

President: Gary Cooper
Vice presidents: Glenys Noble, Shannon Smith
Secretary: Sandra Vicary
Treasurer: Frank Skinner
Ass. Secretary: Jane Barnes
Ass. Treasurer: Shannon Smith
Sponsorship: Georgina Richardson, Alex Aldana
Newsletter & website: Rachel Crease
Eventing NSW delegate: Hunter Doughty

Contact details for committee members will be on the club website: http://athene.riv.csu.edu.au/~rcrease/
(I will find a more user friendly website address soon, but for now, just bookmark this one.)

The club would like to thank all the outgoing 2009 committee members, particularly the president Glenys Noble. We are also grateful to Sandra and Frank for continuing in their roles as secretary and treasurer.

This year I’ll be sending out a quarterly newsletter (by email unless you specify otherwise on your membership form) and the website will be the place to find updates and the calendar. Whenever the website is updated, I’ll send a group email to let you know. I’m in the throes of putting together a calendar with not only our club dates, but any other events or training that might be of interest to our members. If you have any info you’d like included in the newsletter or on the website please let me know. This spot has been a bit of a vacuum in the past, so don’t be shy, if you’ve been to an event, done well, been pleased with your horse, got a good picture, please share it with us. My email address is gwhistle@bigpond.com or you can phone me on 0423 120728.

Membership is now due

If you’re planning on coming to cross country training this Sunday morning, please bring your cheque book, or cash; you will need to sign up before you ride. Membership fees remain at $50.00 for a family (remember, if you are under 18 you must be part of a family membership); $25.00 an adult; and we have introduced a special rate of $15.00 for CSU students this year (photocopy of current student card with membership form please). Membership forms can be downloaded from the website any time, and I’ll also bring some on Sunday.

Wagga Horse Trials 2010

We have an early date this year, 7 & 8 August. This should mean softer going and less dust. Let’s hope it’s not the one week of the year that we’re inundated with rain! It also means that we need to start planning for the event early so please join up, come to meetings and help. It is the weekend after Harden which lots of our members go to, so we will have to be very organized. After the 2009 event, Jane Barnes sent out a survey, results were positive on the whole. I’ll do a summary and post on the website. And Georgie wrote a report which is at the end of this newsletter.

Club party

We missed out on a Christmas gathering last year so have decided to get together at Alex and Michelle’s cafe in Kooringal on Friday evening, 12 Feb. This is a chance to catch up and to meet new members so if you know anyone who would like to join the club bring them along. Invite to be emailed out soon. Please RSVP.

Meeting dates and venue

This year we are meeting at the RSL Club in Wagga at the earlier time of 7pm on the third Wednesday of each month. The next meetings are on Wed 17 Feb and Wed 17 March.

Many thanks to Jan and Dennis O’Brien for their wonderful hospitality (and cakes!) in past years.

Cross country

We’ll be opening the course for training once a month - the first two dates are this Sunday 7 Feb, from 9am to Midday, and Sunday 14 March, from 9am to Midday.

Riding fee is $5.00, until we start working bees then it’ll be a ‘work then ride’ deal.

Here’s a reminder of the protocol:

- Horse welfare is paramount. Do not mistreat your horse.
- Ensure no one rides alone (ride with a friend or in a group).
- Report damaged, unsafe fences.
- Please don’t use inappropriate language.
- Leave the gates as you find them.
- No vehicles on the cross country course.
- If there is a group of people schooling over a particular fence, don’t push in, wait until they’ve finished or ask if you can go.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Be happy, helpful and polite.

If possible, please let us know you are coming (you can email me: gwhistle@bigpond.com)

Showjumping

After saying that she would like to see the club run more clinics this year, Jane Falepau has flown into action and organized a showjumping clinic with coach Bob Cameron. You should have received details of this via email. We will try to accommodate all club members but it should be very popular, so please get your entries in as early as you can. Thanks for your hard work on this Jane.

If you’re after some showjumping practice, Henty Show is coming up on Saturday 13 Feb, with height classes and there’s classes for everyone from 50 cm to really big (!) at the Gundagai Show and Riverina Showjumping Championships on 19, 20, 21 Feb.

Programs have been circulated on email and you have to enter online for both events at www.globallentriesonline.com.au
Dressage
First Wagga dressage comp for 2010 is 21 March, go to their website for details: http://www.waggadc.equestrian.org.au

First 2010 comp at Young is 14 March, see their website: http://www.youngda.equestrian.org.au/

For unofficial dressage try Henty Show on 13 Feb. And if anyone would like to organize a dressage protocol night then speak up, they’re always popular and can be great fun.

Well I think that’s it from me. Over to Georgie for her report on Wagga Horse Trials 2009.

2009 Wagga Horse Trials report by Georgie Richardson

Despite the hot weather Charles Sturt Horse Trials and Hunt club of Wagga Wagga led by Glenys Noble and a team of volunteers produced and conducted a stand out event. With the X Country course freshly upgraded by course designer Craig Gordon, the course boasted new and improved jumps. A few portable jumps were created, and old jumps revamped and looking spectacular, truckloads of sand dumped on take offs and landings to make the going as comfortable as possible for the horse and yet maintain a high standard of technical difficulty. Although the weather was extremely hot and dry, a water truck was supplied to settle the dust, accompanied by a few millimetres of rain prior to the event it made getting around the red dust a little less unpleasant.

The organising committee did a great job of running the cross country ahead of time to ensure that riders in the lower classes were not competing in the hottest part of the day. With a maximum temperature of 42 degrees everyone seemed happy to run ½ hour ahead of schedule. The CNC*** saw over half of the seven entries scratch, the class was won by Hamish Cargill on Powderhound with a score of 71.1. Cargill also placed 4th in the CNC 2** with Agent Arthur another future star horse for the promising rider, followed by Shane Rose on Taurus on 73.4 and Sam Lyle with Brother on 93.7 penalties, with the improved tracks the club is hoping to see entries for the 3*** increase next year.

The talented duo Claudia Graham and Park Street Vision won the CNC 2** Graham racking up only 8.4 cross country penalties to finish on 47.5 followed by another very talented rider Brett Davey and Goolcoola Monatage with a clear and steady Showjumping round Davey finished a small distance ahead of Niki Chapman on WP Holly with 65.4. To wrap it up the Newcomers class saw some up and coming talented green horses and young riders with gifted competitor Emma Armstrong on Hass finishing up on 52.1 penalties with Local junior rider Serena Brookes in hot pursuit with Happy Valley Neptune finishing on 52.5 penalties, Brookes also took home the Junior rider goody bag. Newcomer class also included impressive performances from local riders Ashleigh Baker on Double Dinks, Georgina Richardson on Secret Rendezvous and Georgia Sutherland on Charlie Brown hopefully we will see more from these riders in the future. Here’s to another successful event next year!

Calendar – Feb and March

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 7 Feb</td>
<td>Cross country training, CSU course</td>
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<td>Fri 12 Feb</td>
<td>Club social, Alex and Michelle’s</td>
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<td>Sat 13 Feb</td>
<td>Henty Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 17 Feb</td>
<td>Club meeting, RSL Club, Wagga, 7pm</td>
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<td>17/18 &amp; 20/21 Feb</td>
<td>Sydney eventing</td>
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<td>Fri-Sat 19/20 Feb</td>
<td>Gundagai Show</td>
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<td>Sun 21 Feb</td>
<td>Riv SJ Champs, Gundagai</td>
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<td>Fri-Sat 5/6 March</td>
<td>Bob Cameron SJ Clinic</td>
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<td>Sun 14 March</td>
<td>Cross country training, CSU course</td>
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<td>Sun 14 March</td>
<td>Young dressage comp</td>
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<td>Sun 21 March</td>
<td>Wagga dressage comp</td>
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<td>27-28 March</td>
<td>Berrima Horse Trials</td>
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<td>Sun 28 March</td>
<td>Barry Hillier Horse Trials, Albury</td>
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