Committee Report

The most recent committee meeting was held on the 17th of November at downstairs in the bowls lounge at the RSL club. Many positive items came from this meeting of minds as per usual.

A date has been submitted for our 2011 event and we are now waiting on confirmation from EVNSW—date TBA.

There is now a training day register, each member and non-member will need to sign this when attending a training day to aid in tracking attendees at these days.

Committee member Profile:

Name: Raegan Petzel
Nickname: Sorry don’t currently have one, but happy to take nominations!
Position on Committee: President
Hobbies: Riding horses (of course, but definitely a hobby not a career!), gardening, travelling, camping in beautiful locations

Goals for 2011: Get out to more events, get horses going really well! Get new tack/feed/hayshed built, fix up some fences and get half our properties pastures planted. Help to progress the facilities at CSU.

Goals for the club in 2011: Help club to run a successful event, (including praying to the weather gods to be nice to us!)

Equitana Report

With international dressage superstar Steffen Peters and eventing superstar William Fox-Pitt Equitana was bound to be a hit with eventers and non-eventers alike. Due to paying job restrictions unfortunately I was not able to attend the WFP masterclass on the Thursday, but made the journey to catch Steffen Peters deliver his masterclass on the Saturday morning.

During the master class Steffen used the same technique with all the horses in the class ranging from a green 5yo who had never been in an indoor arena to Maree Tomkinsons established Prix st George mare “Diamantina”. Steffen had all the riders focusing on keeping the horses attention and not allowing them to be distracted by the capacity crowds, by keeping the horse focused on the rider at all times this then made the half halts more effective and made muscular and mental suppleness more achievable for the rider and horse. Another focal point for all the riders was to not use so much spur, the audience was then transfixed on each rider ensuing they did not over-use the spur instead keep the contact with back of the calf muscle, close legs around horse for 1 whole second this then proved to be a more effective driving aid with all horses than a constant spurring.

Continued...

Fees for 2011 will remain the same as 2010:

- Family $50
- Individual $25
- University Student $15

Fee’s are not due until 1st Jan 2011

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MARK YOUR DIARY!

- 4-5th Dec Lakes and Craters (VIC) CCI *,**,***
- Horse Trials Christmas party 12th December @ Indoor arena CSU $7 per round or $ per horse for the whole day.
- 17 Jan 2011 EvNSW Junior and young rider camp Mirrabooka—Entries close 1st Jan 2011
- 22 Jan 2011 Equestriad Horse trials Enc-1*
- 29th Jan Wallaby Hills Horse Trials Intro-1*
- 27th January EA AGM, SIEC Conference room, Horsley Park.

EQUITANA REPORT CONT...

Each rider in the master class was encouraged to keep raising their standards when riding their respective horses daily this applied to the halt, walk, trot, canter etc. The point of raising standards daily is to teach your horse every ride and to not just repeat movements. The riders were also encouraged to keep the horse supple mentally and to keep him awake and forward as collection is dependent on energy.

During the master class many top-class riders and horses were used to demonstrate Steffens training techniques this included Nicole Tough and her Florestan bred “Flavio”, Maree Tomkinson and “Diamantina”, Jayden Brown and “Furst Friederich”.

It was great to attend a clinic presented by someone with a healthy sense of humor and as entertaining as Steffen.

It was also nice to see more than a few familiar faces including some of our sponsors Marina Douglas from Saddleworld Wagga working the Saddleworld stand and Mark and Jason from Mt Tawonga floats scrubbed up and made the journey down to Melbourne with a beautiful demo float, we also ran into local rider Christine Hill on the tram, Nichelle and Sarah Huntley getting Chinese massages and Tracy and Tegan Bonet shopping around. And now for my bank account re-grow.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Christmas Party! December Sunday 12th Show jumping and shared picnic setup at 12pm for 1pm start. 3pm afternoon tea bring a plate to share and BYO drinks. RSVP needed for jumping rounds by 7th Dec. See you there!
- If you have recently attended an event, clinic or any training day and would like it featured in the newsletter please feel free to contact me via the above email address.
- We now have a classifieds section in the rear of the newsletter, please contact me at georgina_southernstars@hotmail.com if you would like to include any item for sale/lease or wanted in the classifieds section.
- www.eventingnation.com

INTERESTING LINKS/SITES;
Fresh from his 2010 Badminton Horse Trials win Aussie expat Paul Tapner returned to the land down under to conduct clinics at Canberra, Wallaby Hill Farm, Silver Hills and the Hawkesbury Equestrian centre.

Fortunately I was quick enough to secure a place at the 2 day Canberra clinic organized by Grant Johnstone on the 16th and 17th of November.

Day one began with a 45 minute show jumping and flat lesson focusing on technique and impulsion, the warm-up Paul taught is the same basic warm-up he uses for all competitions working in from a 20m circle in trot and canter to 15m then 10m circles this warm-up helped to supple the horse before commencing the jumping session.

Paul also pointed out that when jumping you should aim to produce the same quality gaits you would in a dressage test.

On day one I also had the pleasure of pole picking for a group lesson late in the afternoon, I always find it invaluable experience to volunteer your spare time in other lessons. And was able to watch some green horses develop their jumping technique, in this lesson the students were also concentrating on getting their horses to take the correct amount of strides between fences in order to jump them cleanly and with style as opposed to a stride or four out from the jump. This took a lot of concentration from both riders and horses, and something that I personally will be concentrating on a whole lot more to improve my show jumping skills.

Day two our group ventured out on the cross country and started with a ditch and house combination which caused some horses to be mischievous and run out at the last minute, and with Paul’s help every rider in the group got over the smaller ditch and then some braved the larger ditch and house combination clearing it with ease and style.

Up next was a bank and skinny combination which presented a few challenges with some of the greener horses not wanting to jump down the drop, it took a few times but every horse then ate up the bank and drop and moved onto the skinny fence after the drop with all horses and riders that attempted clearing with plenty of scope. Paul taught riders how to execute the “safety slip” when jumping off drops to hold the thumb and pointer finger together and release remaining fingers holding onto the reins with the thumb and pointer finger, thus allowing the horse to stretch down without jabbing it in the mouth—and not lose your reins.

The group then moved down to the water complex, every horse was first walked, then trotted then cantered through the water a technique used on all of Paul’s horses when out training on the cross country course. We used the drop into water, ramp out and then some riders progressed onto the water and house combination.

The clinic finished on a high note with big smiles all round and Paul enforcing the techniques he had taught us over the 2 days. What a great opportunity Grant and Paul gave eventing riders over the 2 days! Thanks guys :)

Paul Tapner Clinic Report—Georgina Richardson

Above top: Katy Doak and Kitara William the conqueror.
Above: Georgina Richardson and Secret Rendezvous.
Below: Paul de-briefing the group lesson post cross country
Adelaide International 4* Event

Kicking off on the 12th of November the AI3DE was looking healthier than ever new sponsor Deloitte on-board the event was truly alive and kicking. The 4* dressage was lead by Heath Ryan and “Mystery Whisper” on just 42.30 penalties only to be put out of the lead by Emma Mason and “F1 Pharinelli” cross country with Emma and Pharinelli picking up 0 jump faults and only 0.8 time only to fall back to 6th place with 20 show jumping faults to hand the lead to Wendy Schaeffer and “Koyuna Sun Dancer” to finish on 57.20 penalties and claim the title of Australian 3DE 4* champion, a positioned hotly contended by Chris Burton of NSW and “Newsprint” a former AI3DE champion to finish on 57.70 penalties.

The AI3DE was also attended by Wagga local and Horse Trials Club member Andrew Cooper and “Guest of Honor” (Rueben) Andrew, Rueben and Gary faced an 11 hour journey from Wagga to Adelaide to compete in the CCI2**.

Andrew was also representing NSW in the junior squad with fellow NSW residents Katie Remond, Bella Mowbray and Jessica Petherbridge. After dressage Andrew and Rueben were heading into cross country with 71.4 penalties to be one of the very few to rack up 0 time and 0 jump penalties rising up from 40th to 23rd position a significant rise for the outstanding junior rider. Only to unfortunately fall back to 32nd position after 40 jump and 7 time penalties in the show jumping arena.

Well done Andrew and Reuben! And Gary for driving all that way!

We are all looking forward to seeing what the Cooper team produces next.

Pic above: homegrown talent Andrew Cooper and “Guest of Honour”

Pic below: Wendy Schaeffer and Koyuna Sun Dancer Winners of the AI3DE 4*

Pic right: Club member Andrew Cooper and “Guest of Honour” go double clear cross country in the CCI 2*

Pic above: AI3DE saw the return of Hamish and Dave TV, Hamish Cargill interviewing Heath Ryan for HD TV
It’s that time of year again, and the Horse Trials club will be holding the annual Christmas party at the CSU Indoor Arena. The day will consist of Show jumping (heights from cross rails to 1.05 – New to PN) Setup at 12pm for 1pm start. Afternoon tea at 3pm please bring a plate along to share BYO drinks. **RSVP NEEDED FOR JUMPING ROUNDS by 7th Dec**. Family, Friends and non-member are all welcome!!

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**Wagga Horse Trials Christmas Party!**

For Sale:

“Air Express”  
Chestnut Gelding, WB x QTR  
16.2 h 12yrs old  
Excellent showjumping and eventing  
For more information contact: Ali Reid  
0407677742

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For Sale:

Brown, Jessica trainers dressage saddle, excellent condition  
16.5" $1200 Ono 12 months old..  
Contact Mel 0408753756

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Wagga Wagga Horse Trials Classifieds

We are on the web! Find us at [http://athene.itc.csu.edu.au/~rcrease/index.html](http://athene.itc.csu.edu.au/~rcrease/index.html)  
Or find us on Facebook by searching “Charles Sturt Horse Trials.”

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Please contact me if you would like to include anything in the classifieds section of the newsletter.  
georgina_southernstars@hotmail.com

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