

Hoofbeats



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Prez Sez

"No hour of life is wasted that is spent in the saddle" - **Winston S Churchill**

Happy New Year members!
Hope you've all had a relaxing holiday break and enjoyed many hours in the saddle.

This hot weather is perfect for beach or forest rides - as well as being great for the hay-makers. There's been lots of posts on our Facebook page for buying and selling hay; I hope everyone has got themselves sorted. It's always a delicate balance of knowing how much to buy to see yourself through winter. I've been lucky enough to cut 160 bales off my paddock this year, so that should see my horses through.

There have been some amazing equine events happening lately: World Cup Showjumping, Waitemata Dressage Champs, Pony Club Dressage Champs, the Karaka Yearling Sales, the St James Station Horse Auction, Charlotte Dujardin Masterclasses...the list goes on.

And there's more to come - with the NZ Dressage Champs and Horse of the Year coming up. I'm sure many of you will be heading down to HOY for the huge variety of competitions (and the great horsey shopping). And right on our doorstep, we have the International Spirit Horse Festival at Dune Lakes Lodge from Feb 10th-12th.

The Club has had some great events too. Our showcross and derby days were very popular. Thanks to Jessie Montgomery and the team for organising such fun days, with all levels catered for. There are some awesome photos of the jumpers on Facebook (and check out p17 of this

issue). Well done to everyone who took part.

There's something for everyone in the first quarter of 2017; whether you're keen on our Showhunter Have-a-Go Day on February 26th, the Dressage Day 3 on March 4th, or the Inhand Ribbon Day on March 25th. Even better, why not enter all three..!

The recent Waitemata Dressage Champs and World Cup Showjumping were another reminder of how lucky we are to have Woodhill Sands right on our doorstep. The campaign to purchase WHIS is continuing – we have an update from the Trust on p7. We have a feature article on local trainer/breaker Jesse Hughes, and an article on our Vice President Hayley Drury who is now a registered Showjumping Judge – congratulations Hayley!

Lastly, we say farewell to Tiffany Mullany, who has stepped down from the committee. Tiffany has been a real asset to us...as a brilliant organiser of our ribbon days and for always being on hand to help at different events. We wish you, Spree and the family all the best.

Keep Calm and Ride On
Tania



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UPCOMING EVENTS

HAVE-A-GO SHOW HUNTER: Sunday 26th February, Waimauku Pony Club

DRESSAGE DAY 3: Saturday 4th March, Woodhill Sands

INHAND RIBBON DAY: Saturday 25th March, Waimauku Pony Club

See our [Events](#) page for more info on all events, and entry details. Further updates posted on Facebook.

"A NOTE ON SCRATCHINGS/CANCELLATIONS..."



We understand that a lot can happen before event day...that's just life with horses! If you ever need to Scratch from one of our events, please let us know (i.e don't remain in the draw and just not turn up). Either contact the Event Organiser by email, or phone/text our Cancellation line on **021 111 3231**. To get a refund (we refund 75% of your entry), submit the Refund Request Form that you'll find on our [website](#). Thanks!

LATEST RESULTS

Results from **Dressage Day 2** on November 11th are available on the [Equestrian Entries](#) website.

Results from **Showcross** on December 15th, and the **Derby** day on January 22nd, can be found on the Club's [Results page](#).



“Starting over”: with local trainer Jesse Hughes

When it comes to starting young horses, local trainer Jesse Hughes has an enviable reputation. For the past several years, the Taupaki-based trainer has been earning rave reviews – both on social media and word-of-mouth – for producing calm, well-mannered and confident young riding horses.

With the start of the new year, Jesse is about to make a new start of his own. We caught up with him for some Q&A.

Q. What was your first introduction to horses?

“I grew up on the family farm in Cambridge, where my parents train standardbreds. We have 50 acres and I had a great lifestyle growing up there, surrounded by a strong horse community.



“Although Dad trained horses, I never really got into them until I was 13. I went to watch my sister ride a little grey pony called Reggie, who was owned by Ron and Kay Cropp at the Waikato Hunt kennels. I hopped on and promptly fell off...and from there I was hooked.”

Q. What was your career before starting Jesse Hughes Breaking?

“I went to Australia when I was 17 over a school break, to gain some experience working with a show jumper. It was meant to be just for a couple of weeks, but then I phoned my parents and said if they wanted me home, they had to come and get me! School was never where I was meant to be, and I ended up staying a year in Australia before coming back home. I then started to show jump before I was asked to go to Holland with family friends who had Polo ponies. I travelled through Europe and the UK for the next 5-6 years.”

Q. What made you decide to start the business?

“I realised early on that, although I loved playing polo and making young horses, I was never going to be a superstar. I was lucky enough to work for one of New Zealand’s great polo players; and although I had a great experience, I’d seen the ins and outs of becoming a professional and decided it wasn’t for me. Upon arriving back from the UK for the last time, I decided I wanted to run my own business and starting horses seemed the right option.

“Ninety per cent of polo ponies in New Zealand are TBs, and dealing with horses fresh off the track proved to be a challenge at the best of times.

contd overleaf...

“The racing side of breaking is a relatively short process; as long as someone can be thrown on and gallop in a fairly straight line, they’re deemed broken in and ready. That’s fine if that’s all they’re going to do for the rest of their lives, but in reality, only a small percentage actually make it to the track and go on to become racehorses. So what becomes of those half-started, mis-managed, poorly educated horses? They are sold to a poor pony clubber with little experience but great determination, and hence you get the term ‘nutty TB’. I saw my ‘in’ there, and soon became known for my well-behaved and easygoing horses. I was handling horses at the track without tying them up; washing them from head to tail and they stood there calmly. I have always trained each every horse the same, regardless of what their job would be once they left.”

Q. Tell us about running your business, Jesse Hughes Breaking.

“I work alone with the horses and only take on a maximum of six at a time. I do a lot of groundwork with them, sometimes 10-12 days before I even get on. I start with a lot of de-sensitisation exercises, backing up, side-passing, head flexing, disengaging forequarters and hindquarters, lunging in a head collar and basic ground manners like standing for the farrier, tying up and standing to be hosed.

“At the end of the day, if they won’t respect you on the ground, they won’t respect you on their back. Everything I want to do in the saddle, I’ll do from the ground..so that when it comes to riding there will be little confusion around what you’re asking of them. Horses are black and white creatures and they don’t like grey areas. They are also herd animals, and if you don’t step up to the mark, they sure will. Every day they will test you on a little something, and if you’re not careful, before you know it they will be walking on top of you. Regardless of what age and type of horse I start, they all go through this



process and nothing is skipped out. I keep my numbers low, so as if any horse takes longer than usual I’m not cutting corners to make up time on another.

“The overall process takes between 4-6 weeks and that depends on the nature of the horse. From start to finish, I have owners come out and watch their horses at least once a week. They come and ride them two or three times before they take them home, through the farm and neighbouring properties, forest and arena. There is nowhere the horse won’t go by the time he is ready to go home. All relaxed on a loose rein, walk, trot and canter.”

Q. What kind of feedback do you get from owners/clients?

“Great feedback! I train each horse as if it were my own. All horses stand to be mounted and only walk off when asked, and it’s the same for each gait. Horses that walk off before being asked have already got their rider sorted. It must be your idea to move off, your idea to trot and your idea to canter. With this simple system, I have horses and owners that are happy and confident. In that early work, I limit my time in the arena. *contd overleaf...*

“At the end of the day, if they won’t respect you on the ground, they won’t respect you on their back.”

"I figure they're going to spend the next 70-80% of their lives in there anyway, so I get them out and about as soon as I can. I also work them by themselves, which gives them confidence within themselves. They learn to rely on you in the early stages for direction, instead of following along beside another horse, not really concentrating on what's going on."

Q. Tell us about some of your most memorable horses.

"The first horse I ever really started was a grey St James gelding (called James, funnily enough!) He was owned by Ken and Ann Browne and was a magnificent horse. There wasn't anything he wouldn't jump. He was athletic in every way and had such a great attitude and nature about him. He ended up being sold to America as a showjumper, and I often wonder how he ended up.

"My second memorable horse would have to be a Darci Brahma colt who was owned by Blyth Tait and Paul O'Brien at Chesterfields, when I was helping them out with their ready to runners. Darci had been started down the line, and had turned a little feral when he was sent back. He liked to have a hump about and drop his shoulder whenever he saw fit...and that could be anytime from hopping on in the tie-ups, or halfway round the track in the rain! Boy, we did some work with him and he thrived on it – he was either going to be a donkey or a champion, and thankfully he was a champion. He raced under the name of Nashville and won some very impressive races."

Q. What's the most common mistake people make when starting horses?

"It's probably under-estimating their ability to start a young horse. Early on, when I was taking on horses others had tried to start themselves, I spent a lot of time trying to iron out the rough spots.

"People like to have a horse for the first 2-3 years of its life...to brush and pat it every day, feed it carrots and become best friends...but a horse doesn't work like that. And when the owner is holding on for dear life after Sparky is flying down the paddock with his tongue over

the bit and the girth three holes too loose. It's only then they realise 'maybe this wasn't such a good idea after all...'

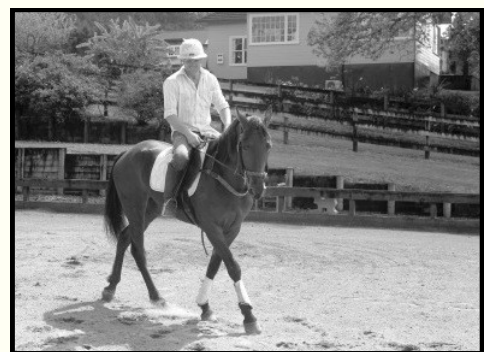


Q. What's the single most important thing to get right when starting a young horse (or working with horses generally)?

"Groundwork, groundwork, and groundwork!"

Q. What's next for you, and your future plans?

"I have only this year decided to take a break from horses, due to health issues, and have gone into the family business on my wife Joanna's side. They own a packaging company in Henderson and I think at this stage of my life a 'real job' is well deserved. No more pushing and pulling, long hot summer days and cold wet winter starts. The idea is good, but let's see how long that lasts...!"



UPDATE: FROM WOODHILL SANDS TRUST

In January, the Woodhill Sands Trust provided supporters with a progress update. Here's a quick re-cap of where things are at:

> The Trust has a **conditional Sale & Purchase Agreement** to buy the 10.59ha property. The date for satisfying the finance conditions is 28 February.

> It is proposed that the purchase will be financed by a combination of bank lending and funds raised from within the sport.

> The bank lending will be supported by an **Auckland Council guarantee**. Without Council guarantee, the Trust's borrowing capacity is much lower. Council support is therefore critical to this purchase proceeding. The Councillors have approved in principle a guarantee of up to \$2.5m.

> So far, we have **raised slightly over \$300,000**, so have further work to. Realistically, we need a further \$200,000 to complete the purchase and cover purchase-related costs. The Trust is optimistic that this target will be met, but sport support is needed.

> We have received fantastic support from Waitemata Area Groups (Jumping, Dressage and Show Hunter), from Auckland-Manukau Jumping, Waitemata Riding Club, and NZPCA. These groups have collectively contributed close to \$80,000.

> There is a small group of individuals who have very generously supported our campaign with significant personal donations. And there is our GiveALittle campaign, to which 162 individuals have contributed \$14,698. [This campaign closed on 31 January].

> The Trust is also discussing **sponsorship proposals with a number of businesses**, and welcomes further proposals. We are very appreciative of the support offered to us.

> At this time, our biggest hurdle is **securing the balance of the purchase price payable**, either through cash gifts or loans on non-commercial terms from people within the sport. We are so close to securing the funds needed that to stumble now would be dispiriting for us all.

> The Trust has been established to operate WSEC to **promote and support equestrian sports** in this part of the country. If at a future time, WSEC is sold, the sale proceeds are required to be applied for these purposes (i.e promote and support equestrian sports), so any grants or gifts received from philanthropic individuals/families/groups would not be repaid but would be reinvested into the sport.

Thank you for your support, together we can make this happen!

On behalf of the Woodhill Sands Trust.

> **Do you know of a business that could be interested in sponsorship?** Please get in touch with the Trustees to find out more.

> **To keep up-to-date:** check out the [Facebook](#) page, and visit the website woodhillsandtrust.org.nz.



“Buddying up”: new FB group to connect local horse-owners.

Looking for a friend to ride at Woodhill with? Or need a lift to a local show? Then you’ll want to check out the newly-launched Facebook group, **Horse and Rider Buddies Auckland**.



The group has been started by Tracey Coates, a rider based in Dairy Flat who is also a new member of WRC (welcome Tracey!)

Tracey has returned to riding after a 25-year break, and has owned her dun mare Bella for about two years.

“Our first year was a bit of a nightmare...she was horrendous and I basically had to re-start her. But after we got to know and trust each other, I wanted to get out-and-about a bit more.”



Although Tracey has great facilities at her grazing at Escott Estate Equestrian, she doesn’t have a float of her own, and was keen to meet other happy hackers.

“I started seeing photos on Facebook of other people riding in the forest and on the beach, and I wanted to be doing that fun stuff too...”

After launching the page in early January, Tracey straight away found four new buddies to go riding with, and someone to help her with float training.

“We’ve had a really good response...we had over 100 members in the first two weeks, and it’s still growing.”

The group is aimed at horse-owners and riders in the wider Auckland region.

“It’s a space to find other people who are doing similar things as you - whether it’s hacking, or groundwork, or going to shows - so they can buddy up and do them together, or help each other out.”

Tracey says there are no rules around what can be posted, other than the usual Facebook etiquette. It’s also open to people who offer paid services, such as float hire or lessons/ training.

JUMPING AT THE CHANCE: becoming a registered judge

Hayley Drury is one rider who's certainly doing her bit to give back to the horsey community. As well as being a hardworking committee member and Vice President of WRC, Hayley is also a registered Showjumping Judge with ESNZ. She explains what's involved.



Hayley and her horse Madison Avenue

Q. Why did you decide to become a judge?

"About three years ago, my horse has a bad injury and was out for a few months and I couldn't compete. I took the opportunity to help out at a couple of showjumping shows to give back to the horsey community that gives me so much enjoyment! I was writing (where the judge calls clear or how many faults, and the writer records it against the correct horse/rider). Then I thought, actually, I could do this! So I looked into how to become a judge. I love giving back to the horsey world; the days couldn't run without all the judges, volunteers, organisers etc, and judging is really fun - so two birds with one stone! I also think it has helped my riding a lot."

Q. What's involved in getting the registration?

"The body that registers showjumping judges is Equestrian Sports New Zealand - the same place where you register yourself as a rider or your horse. You could also be a course designer, dressage judge, technical delegate..there are so many ways to give back and get involved.

"There is a bit of a criteria; you obviously need a sound knowledge of all the rules and regulations, and understand the different roles (ground jury etc), and the different kind of jumping competitions and their official names. You also need to keep a CV of your experience and a log of all you've done. There are also annual seminars you have to attend at least every two years, which explains any odd occurrences, or rule changes etc.

"There is more to it...so if you are starting out, I'd suggest reading the SJ rules on the ESNZ website, and talk to me, or another official. Angela from Woodhill Sands and Emma from Waitemata Showjumping were both really helpful to me; I couldn't have done it without them!"

Q. What type of shows do you judge at?

"Any registered or unregistered shows, usually at Woodhill Sands but I will go wherever there is a need. I've even judged some rounds at Mystery Creek, including the World Cup! I have also done some Pony Club shows and judged the showjumping side of Horse Trials."

Q. What's your own jumping background, and how has becoming a judge helped your own riding?

"I mainly evented since I was a kid, but SJ was always my favourite phase. Then I clicked that I could just do straight SJ instead and have more fun! I love the challenge of the different courses, and how anyone can take it out the win; it all comes down to you and your horse on the day.

"My current horse is still new, but we are hoping to climb up the levels in SHJ. Most SJ shows are two or three days, so I can judge one day and ride the other...it works quite well.

"I definitely think judging has improved my riding; especially my eye for distances, striding, how the horse is going etc. You can see when a stop is going to happen, and how the rider does (or doesn't) get

out of it, or why a rider got a rail. When I walk the course of the big levels, sometimes I think, 'oh that doesn't look so bad'. Except the World Cup, those jumps will always look huge!"



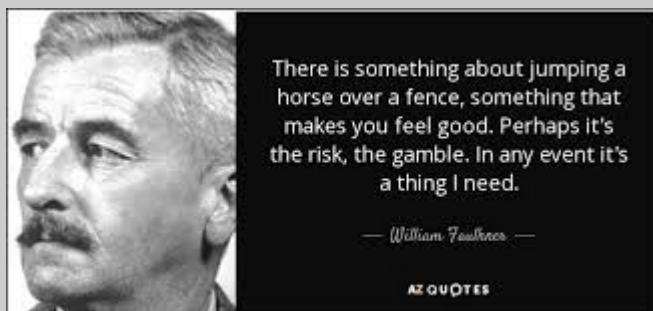
Q. From your judge's perspective, describe for us your ideal show-jumping round.

"That's easy - when the horse/rider work well together, and go clear! No matter who is in the ring, the judges are always disappointed when a rail/refusal happens and cheer when the horse goes clear with a good time.

"In jump-offs, if a horse is going well and getting a good time, we love it when they edge through and become the new leader; especially when they take new lines or you see some great riding/horsemanship!

"Outside of the ring, we also love to see other riders or friends helping put the jumps up or picking up rails. People usually watch and wait for someone else to get the rail...and if no-one does it, it can make the day so much longer!"

* * * * *



“From the heart of horses”: via Animal Communication

Whether you are a sceptic or an advocate regarding inter-species communication, there can be no denying the close bond between horses and humans throughout the ages. Most horse lovers have uttered something similar to ‘I wish I knew what he was trying to tell me’.

In this article, Animal Communicator **Suze Kenington** has compiled a handful of messages that individual horses have shared with her over the past year...

“As an Animal Communicator, I have had the privilege of connecting with a variety of animals and have a particular affinity with horses and dogs. When I attend clinics or competitions, horses share things that they want me to pass on to their carers (and getting accosted on the beach when a dog has something to say is fun!) They have so much to share with us - beautiful, insightful things that enrich their lives and ours.

“Have you wondered about the following kind of questions? These are just some of the answers I’ve shared between horses and their humans...”

WHAT ARE HORSES TEACHING US?

“Relationship first, riding second. Before I share myself...see me for me, not what I can do.”

“Show me, explain to me, and then gently do it. Go slower - be polite and caring, not bustling.”

“Listen to your gut. There is a man in the [riding] group that scares you – I move you away from him. His energy invades your space.”

“I need your deep calm to anchor me - I am teaching you to find it.”

HOW CAN WE COMMUNICATE BETTER?

“Be focused on what happens between us, not how it looks to others.”



“The noise in your head distracts you away from me, then I can’t show you/you can’t feel what I am sharing about connectedness. The channel of connection gets distorted.”

“I send messages through the radiating energy from my body. You need to be in your body to receive them.”

“Stop doubting yourself. Doubt glues my feet to the ground – it makes me heavy in my cells like extra gravity. Confidence is fun, light and bubbly and it helps me be all of me...”

DO HORSES HAVE EMOTIONS?

“I am sad – my friend has gone.”

“I am tired of being used. Everyone wants something from me.”

contd overleaf

Contd from previous page

"No-one ever card what I felt or wanted...obedience was valued, not 'me'. Made me sad and withdrawn."

HOW DOES MY HORSE FEEL ABOUT ME?

"It feels so good when you are delighted. I want to know when I have got it right."

"She has a good heart. We are right together."

"I have everything she is seeking. Trust that your heart is beautiful, I will not judge you for your tears, let them flow. I will breathe on your heart and heal it."

Curious to know more?

If you are wondering what your horse is trying to tell you, visit www.RidersMind.com to find out more. Animal Communication is a service that I offer, in addition to my Confidence and Connection Coaching.

When you join the mailing list, you will also receive a free mini-communication where you can ask any 'Burning Question'.



About Suze Kenington. Suze believes friendship between horses and humans flourishes when we truly value the horse's needs and preferences. She supports horse lovers 1-to-1, in small group workshops, in online courses and in keynote presentations (both in person and via virtual online meetings).

INTERNATIONAL HORSE SPIRIT FESTIVAL: DUNE LAKES LODGE, FEBRUARY 10-12

Join **leading presenters in the field of horse-human experiential learning** and explore the many aspects of the **horse-human relationship** for three days of **inspiration, education, healing & spiritual enrichment!**

Equine Pathfinders Foundation is proud to present the International Spirit Horse Festival to connect people from all over the world to **celebrate and learn more about the gift and the magic that horses bring** to our lives and the lives of others.

LIMITED NUMBER TICKETS MAY STILL BE AVAILABLE - PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE (CLICK BELOW)





Member profile: meet **Kelly & "Beans"**

Name: Kelly Watson

Occupation: Sales Administration Manager,
Hutchinsons

Horse: Meersbrooke Bellini, aka "Beans",
a Clydie/TB cross, aged 18

I'd describe our partnership as:

"He's my one in a million - he has his quirks but I've had a lot of fun with him over our 10 years, and we've learnt heaps together. He is my all-rounder that I could have a go at most things with...from dressage to little jumps, and trying new things like Le Trec."

What we do:

"When I first got Beans I enjoyed doing lots of fun low-key events, especially with the WRC. We tried our hoof at dressage, Le Trec, shows, mini-ODEs and a bit of jumping etc.

"Nowadays we are both enjoying being happy hackers...with lots of hacks at the beach and forest."

One of our most memorable moments was:

"My favourite WRC event was the mini-ODE at Waimauku - jumping was never my forte but I had a blast on Beans that day, overcoming my "fear". He always looked after me. Even if we did get a stop because he wanted to go poo right in front of a cross-country jump. When he has to go, he has to go!

"Another highlight was winning the WRC Woodhill Sands Raffle recently. I never win anything, so this was a nice surprise. Thanks again to all the people who donated prizes...I've made good use of all the products!"

Why I'm a WRC member: "I love the WRC environment...it's always so encouraging and supportive."



Veterinary article: “Keep an eye on it!”

Finding your horse with a painful eye is a worrying scenario for any horse owner. There are many possible causes—some of which are very serious—so prompt veterinary attention is always recommended.

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The horse's eye is a very delicate structure. Compared to other species, it does not tolerate injury or disease at all well. For this reason, it is highly recommended that veterinary advice is sought as soon as possible in any problem relating to the equine eye.

* Signs to watch for.

A normal, healthy eye will be open, clear and bright with no discharge. The conjunctivae will be pink and there will be no swelling present.

A painful eye will present with some or all of the following signs:

- Blepharospasm (eye clamped shut)
- Lacrimation (tear overflow)
- Chemosis (swollen conjunctivae)
- Discharge (yellow, white or green)
- Photosensitivity (sensitivity to light)
- Corneal oedema (cloudy eye)
- Miosis (constriction of the pupil)

If your horse presents any of the above clinical signs, you should phone your vet immediately.

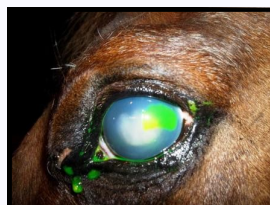
The following are some common eye conditions:

* Corneal ulcers.

A corneal ulcer is where the surface of the eye is damaged, usually caused by some kind of trauma or foreign body. It is a very common condition, seen in all type of horses or ponies, and is extremely painful. Your horse's eye maybe swollen, clamped shut, watering profusely and may have a cloudy appearance. Due to the pain he is experiencing, your horse will not allow

you to open his eye manually, and may become resistant if you keep trying.

Your vet will stain the eye to check for damage.



An intact, undamaged cornea will not take up the stain; whereas most corneal ulcers will stain green quite clearly (as pictured).

Treatment consists of frequent application of serum, antibiotics and pain relief direct to the eye (as well as oral pain relief if required). Turnout is permitted only with a fly mask to prevent damage to the back of the eye from the sun, and secondary infection from flies or dirt.

* Conjunctivis.

Another common but not as painful condition, conjunctivitis is a bacterial infection of the eye. You will find your horse has a discharge which is usually yellow or green in colour. The conjunctivae will be inflamed and there may be some swelling, but in general the horse is not too worried.

Your vet will stain the eye to check for corneal damage, and usually just dispense antibiotic eye drops.

It is recommended that sterile water or saline-soaked cotton wool swabs are used to clean the discharge away twice daily. In the summer months, when the discharge may attract flies, it is recommended the horse is turned out at night, or wears a fly-mask.

Contd overleaf

* **Blocked tear ducts.**

This condition tends to worry the owner more than the horse. It presents as a persistent, watery, ocular discharge which despite regular cleaning does not settle down. It usually occurs in the warmer months and is very obvious when the horse is brought in from the field.

The tear ducts are very fragile structures which are lined with a soft membrane. If damaged, this lining can stick to itself and block the duct, resulting in an overflow of tears from the eye. Although not a serious condition, the ocular discharge does attract flies which in turn can cause a bacterial infection.

There are two treatment options. The eyes can be wiped cleaned twice daily with sterile, soaked swabs and a fly mask used whenever the horse is turned out. Antibiotic eye drops may be dispensed.

The second option requires the horse to be sedated so that the tear ducts can be flushed with sterile saline. This is not a painful procedure but the horse does feel some discomfort. Steroid / antibiotic eye drops are then dispensed to reduce any inflammation within the ducts.

Many horse owners feel happy managing this condition and tend to keep the flushing procedure as a back-up plan. Flushing the tear ducts is obviously more costly, and can be disappointing in that there may be a recurrence in the ducts becoming blocked.

* **“Moon blindness.”**

The veterinary term for this condition is Equine Recurrent Uveitis. As the name suggests, it can recur throughout the horse's life, causing significant painful episodes. In extreme circumstances, it can lead to the

removal of the eye.

This condition is often mistaken for a traumatic injury, due to the amount of pain the horse is in, and the swelling around the eye. ERU's primary cause can be a virus, systemic disease or trauma. It is thought to be an immune-mediated disease where the structures inside the eye are inflamed. Often debris can be seen in the front of the eye; the cornea may be cloudy and the pupil constricted. Examination with the ophthalmoscope is often resented due to increased sensitivity to light, and the eye does not take up the stain.



It is thought that factors such as sunlight and wind can aggravate an episode, so turnout is only recommended with adequate eye protection, such as a fly mask with an eye patch sewn in.

Treatment consists of pain relief, topical steroids, antibiotics, serum and atropine (to dilate the pupil). This condition can be frustrating due to random repeat episodes causing significant pain and requiring aggressive treatment.

In summary, all symptoms of a potential eye condition in the horse should be treated seriously. It is strongly recommended you seek veterinary advice as soon as possible, to assess the condition and start treatment.

“BE BOLD, BE NOTICED ”: with The Bridle Buffet.

There's nothing like a gorgeous bridle to show off an elegant head (or to make the most of a plainer one..!) Our sponsor, **The Bridle Buffet**, has a stunning range of beautiful bridles that are guaranteed to turn heads wherever you go.

* About the business.

The Bridle Buffet is now in its fourth year of business. It was acquired by Deb Russ and Kim Batley, who took over the business in October 2015.

“We aim to offer high-quality bridles in New Zealand that are the latest in European fashion, along with a range of one-off bridles, that will give you the x-factor when out competing or eventing. We also offer a range of browbands and bridles with Swarovski™ Elements.”

The Bridle Buffet is primarily an online store. Bridles can be purchased through www.thebridlebuffet.co.nz or their Facebook page. The team can also be seen at different events and venues in the Upper North Island (look out for their stand at HOY this year!)

* Wide customer base.

Not surprisingly, their bridles are very popular with dressage riders - including some of our top Kiwi names such as Vanessa Way, Wendi Williams and Vay Snyman. But their customer base extends to any rider who aspires to having beautiful tack.

“Our customers range from pony clubbers, and riders who like to hack, as well as competitors. And for those who want something a little more individual, we also offer a personalised design service.”

* Customised designs.

“We know that not all horses are ‘one size fits all’. We’re able to customise bridles to deliver the design and style you’re looking for, while being comfortable for your horse to wear.”

The Bridle Buffet offers personalised fittings, for an additional fee, and will come to you (in the Auckland area) with a selection of stock to try in varying styles, sizes and parts.

In choosing their range, the Bridle Buffet takes inspiration from European fashion and design. In 2017, look out for a new range of nosebands with a shaped curve design, and thinner browbands.

* Cleaning and care tips.

“Our bridles are made of high quality patent and non-patent leather. Patent leather can be wiped down with a damp cloth. On our own bridles, we use beeswax to condition and clean the leather straps.

“If you are out competing, we have found that [Equiscentials](#) Coat Cleaner is a great product to keep in your grooming kit, truck or float. Use it to give your bridle a quick clean after riding, and it can be used on your horses as well..!”

Kim and Deb recommend using a bridle bag when the bridle is not in use, particularly to protect their browbands which have crystal elements in the design.

See The Bridle Buffet for:

- > customised bridles
- > the latest in European fashion
- > if your horse is not ‘one size fits all’
- > if you’re looking for more choice & variety
- > and you want great customer service!

Go to www.thebridlebuffet.co.nz or on [Facebook](#).



A selection of pics from the **Showcross, Derby, and Dressage Day 2**. There's plenty more available on Facebook). Many thanks to our photographers: Karen Urwin, Jody Paddy, Emma Davidson and Larry Wheeler.







WAITEMATA RIDING CLUB INC



MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ New Member

☐ Renewing Member

Name: _____

Email: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Horse's Competition Name: 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

I wish to Register for:

☐ Newcomer Rider Cup* (*Rider not to have competed before*)

☐ Young Horse Cup* (*Horse 6yrs & under on 1 August*)

*Please see our website for full eligibility details of the Young Horse and Amateur Rider Cups

Young Horse

Name: _____

Birth date: _____

How did you find out about the club?

☐ Past Member

☐ Friend

☐ Word of Mouth

☐ FaceBook

☐ Website

I am interested in:

☐ Dressage

☐ Showjumping/Showhunter

☐ Ribbon Days

☐ Training Days/Seminars

☐ Endurance

☐ Forest/Beach Rides

I can help with:

☐ Organising

☐ Judging

☐ Writing/Scoring

☐ Setting Up

☐ Clearing Up

Payment of \$40.00 to be made by:

1. By Cheque made payable to Waitemata Riding Club Incorporated, and post to:
WRC Database Co-ordinator
Waitemata Riding Club Inc
PO Box 156
KUMEU

2. By Internet Banking

ANZ Bank - 06 0254 0001134 00

Reference - (first initial.surname)(mbrshp)

and email form to jenny@wrc.org.nz

Waitemata Riding Club's "Volunteer of the Quarter"



Help out at any of the Waitemata Riding Club events during the months of Feb, March and April 2017 and go into the draw to win \$150 voucher for Bridle Buffet one of our generous sponsors this season.

Bridle Buffet visit their website for more information:
<http://www.thebridlebuffet.co.nz/>



Prize is on top of the normal volunteer rewards: All volunteers will be fed and watered on the day. For volunteering you will also receive a \$15 WRC voucher for a half day or two \$15 WRC vouchers for a full day.

Conditions of Entry

- Competition is open to anyone who officially helps out at one of our days (Committee members excluded)
- Results will be published to both our Facebook Page and our Website by 01/05/17
- The prize is not redeemable for cash or transferable to any other person
- One entry per 1/2 day volunteered



www.wrc.org.nz

Please support those wonderful people and businesses who support our Club!

(To visit their websites, CTRL + click on the logos below).



Beachcroft Equestrian is a small training and breeding facility located 30 mins north of Central Auckland. We specialise in producing quality New Zealand warmblood horses as well as operating a 'riding school with a difference' using genuine dressage schoolmasters to teach on.



At the **Bridle Buffet**, we offer arguably the largest range in Equine bridle fashion. Our Bridles are custom-made, in the latest European styles and several top quality leather options. Ensure a perfect fit and the most flattering style for your equine partner.



Dunn Contracting specialise in Excavation Work, Driveways, Retaining Walls, House Piles, Cartage, Demolition, 6 Wheeler Truck and Trailer, Footings, New house builds, Metal Supplies.



The formulation of **Dunstan Feeds** is based on extensive nutritional research and development. Inside every bag you will find the traditional values of quality, freshness and variety. Dunstan feeds are designed for every equine requirement.



Equilibrium supplements contain vitamins, minerals and salts in optimal ratios suitable for all equines. Think of our products like a multivitamin for horses, designed to be consumed along side a diet containing ample amounts of roughage and topped up with protein and energy where necessary.



Fiber Fresh produces high energy, moist forage feeds to help your horse achieve

optimal health and performance. To us, 'fresh forage' means crops should be harvested from the field moist and succulent; they should be processed within hours, and then sealed into airtight packaging, locking in all the available nutrients.



Four Flax (rebranding to **Provida**) are producers of premium quality animal health products.

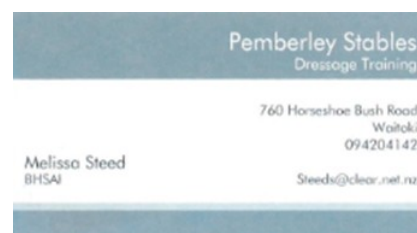
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Harcourts
Kumeu



Thinking of buying or selling your property? For best advice, contact professional salesperson (and WRC member!) **Debbie Young** at **Harcourts Kumeu**. Go to www.debbieyoung.co.nz.



Contact **Melissa Steed** at **Pemberley Stables** for professional dressage training from a BHSA Instructor. Phone (09) 420 4142 or email steeds@clear.net.nz.

More sponsors next page...

(To visit their websites, CTRL + click on the logos below).



RD1 (Farm Source) has long been a part of the Albany farming community. Call in to see us at 12 Oteha Valley Road Extension, or phone 415 9776. Open 8am -6.30pm weekdays, and 9am to 4.30pm weekends.



Renew Beauty & Skin Clinic is the riders' go-to place for gorgeous beauty treatments, at great prices. Located at 5/288 Te Atatu Road, phone 834 7409.



RidersMind.com provides personalised coaching to help horse-lovers gain the freedom to really enjoy and connect with their horses, by transforming their sabotaging self-doubts into confidence. Contact Suze Kenington on 09 411 9516 or text 021 718 058.



Saddlery Warehouse Kumeu will see you "ride more, pay less!" See the friendly team at 156c Main Road Kumeu. Open Monday to Fridays 9am to 5pm, and Saturday 9am to 3pm.



Show Circuit Magazine is packed with informative articles for riders and horse owners. Our magazine is aimed at the dedicated equestrian, providing valuable training and inspiration for all disciplines. Just \$40 for an annual subscription. Visit www.showcircuitmagazine.com.



Sue Pennington's coaching philosophy philosophy includes how the alignment of the rider affects the horse's way of going. Adults and Children, beginner to experienced. Find Sue Pennington Coaching on Facebook.



Symmetryinmotion Pilates & Ponies is a fully equipped Pilates and vibration therapy studio, run by Osteopath Freya Scollay. Offering equine vibration and infra-red solarium therapy, and located in Annandale Road, Kumeu. Check out the Facebook page, or call Freya on 027 866 2500.



Vernon Logistics provides dedicated storage, warehousing, logistics and distribution services. Located near the motorway at 482 Rosebank Road, Avondale. www.vernco.co.nz.



Veterinary Professional Services Ltd – **Vetpro** – provides a comprehensive range of veterinarian developed, scientifically produced nutraceuticals and therapeutic products. Proudly NZ owned & operated. See the website at www.vetpro.co.nz.



Big Red Stable Snacks is based on the belief that our customers (including your horses needs) are of the upmost importance to us. We use only the highest quality ingredients to make our wonderful biscuits. They are all handmade by Big Red's bakers, and are slowly oven baked in an Italian stone oven over 3 hours.

More sponsors next page...

(To visit their websites, CTRL + click on the logos below).

Waitakere cover repairs

Ruth Hendricks
Ph: 0274810802
ruthmccseb@gmail.com



See **Waitakere Cover Repairs** for all repairs & washing. Located at 154 Main Road Kumeu. (If Jacko the pink-covered horse is out, it means we're open!) Also check out our Facebook page.



Dynavite products are imported and distributed in New Zealand by Suzi Kano and Jeremy Clark. They have seen first-hand how effective these dietary products are in improving the welfare and performance of horses, and stock in general.



Elite Equine super supplements offer you a FULL RANGE of organic proteinate minerals, the most stable and absorbable form, which eliminates imbalances due to different absorption rates PLUS probiotics and other functional nutrients to create the ultimate in nutritional support.



EquiBrew is a high performance probiotic feed supplement for horses, ponies and foals at all stages of development. EquiBrew is safe, non-toxic and Clean Sport-compliant.



Hands on Horses. Let Tash help your horse with Bowen. Bowen therapy is a non invasive therapy that works on the body's fascia. The gentle moves relax and hydrate muscles, among many other positive effects.



New Zealand Horse & Pony magazine has been a part of the Kiwi equestrian culture for generations. And as the lifestyles of our readers has become increasingly busy and diverse, we've remained an oasis of inspiration, aspiration and escape.

Placide

Placide is French for 'placid' and we have a true desire that every horse owner in the world will understand how much health effects both the personality and the enjoyment of your best equine friend and that supplementing a normal diet with a cost effective nutrient like Placide will make this a reality! We at Placide are truly dedicated to making your horse happier by making it healthier.



The Equestrian, the forward thinking equestrian magazine that brings insightful and inspiring articles for every rider to any device. Being primarily digital, we are an interactive style magazine. The Equestrian is always looking for looking for cool stories and contributors so contact [Ash](#) today .



Wolfpak Distribution was formed in 2012 by [Gavin and Emily Ward](#).

Today, we are one of New Zealand's leading distributors of sports and fashion brands.

Trainers & instructors: all disciplines

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*Raider Lodge
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*Ride on Waitoki
A social & learning occasion for
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Private Lessons with Chris
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For non-members/ business ads:

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To place an advert in Hoofbeats please contact:

libby@wrc.org.nz

CONTACT US

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PO Box 156

Kumeu

Online:

info@wrc.org.nz

www.wrc.org.nz

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RIDE A DRAFT...



...IT WILL MAKE YOUR BUTT LOOK SMALLER