

President's Report – March 2012

Our annual Horse Trial is over once again, and as I breathe a sigh of relief, I must say this year was probably one of our best! All areas ran smoothly like clockwork, there were no serious falls and we received much great feedback from many happy competitors and visitors. This success is largely due to the dedication and organisational skills of the committee members, the support of the many volunteers and the months of preparation before hand. This is a huge and expensive event to run, with many rules and regulations to comply with in order to ensure safety, offer it as a state qualifier, and guarantee enjoyment for all. It is also the main fundraiser for the club so its financial success is important.

There are so many people to thank who put in enormous hours of work prior to and on the day: Andrew Garland, Tracey Kerford, Kay Sandfort, Wendy Deans, Jo Darby, Lisa Tyrrell, Rebecca Clark, Sonia Cox, Fiona Deacon, Joni Kay, Kirsty Wallace, Alison Hee, Jacqui Cain & Jeremy Buttolph, Andree Johnson Clark, Kerri McLeod, Jenni Eggleston, Sandy Garland. Also Neil Clinton, the Anker family, Bill Penrose (Ktrials), Noelene Foster, Bruce Milne, Anne Kean, Jim Kennedy, Hannah White, Alyssa Roberts, the Bakker family and many generous partners and family members who were dragged along for the fun of it! I apologise if I have left off your name, but you know who you are and how much I value your input.

Special thanks must also go to our major event sponsor Boyce Deverell of The NRG Team, whose financial sponsorship enabled us to offer such beautiful prize winning rugs. Our other event sponsors were Barry Plant Woori Yallock, Equus Rugs and Goody's Coffee. The wonderful raffle sponsors who gave so generously to us: Pauline Hill Photography, Husqvarna, Equissage, Campbell Floats, Horseland, Valley Horsemear, Fourlegs Jump Sleeves, Robert's Horse & Cattle Feed Bins, Kool it Wraps, Buckskin Jodhpurs, Seville Stockfeed, the Saddlery Shop, Helmet Hiders, Seville Printing & Design.

To our members, please ensure you support these valuable contributors who have supported our Event.

And finally my thanks to the volunteers on the day – too many to name but not overlooked or undervalued. Particularly those who battled the extreme heat and stood or sat all day without a break, I take my hat off to you.

Redevelopment of Seville Recreation Reserve Master Plan - Update

Over the past few months, Andrew and I have been involved with written responses and meetings with Council regarding the redevelopment of the Seville Rec Reserve, of which our pony club leases almost half. Although plans are not finalised, it appears our club will have no adverse effects or loss of land from another tenant. Proposals involve revegetating the creek corridor and across the other side of the creek: walking tracks, links to the Warburton trail, parking, lighting and rebuilding. For those interested, see the Shire of Yarra Ranges website.

This Rally – 25 March

We expect this rally will be very small as many of our riders and families are involved elsewhere in the Wandin Park event or Lilydale Horse Trials. If you intend coming to this rally, please ensure you advise Tracey so she can gauge numbers.

The Annual General Meeting

The AGM and Special General Meeting have been postponed to lunch time at 7 May rally. Voting on the new Club Constitution will take place at the Special General Meeting. We will also resume Winter start time at this rally, with gear check at 9.45 am sharp.

PCAV Insurance and Membership Fees 2012/13

PCAV Insurance has increased to \$135 for 18+ year olds (18 at 1 July) and \$115 for Junior members, which includes the new 24/7 Personal Accident coverage. We have also had to increase our membership fees by \$10 for the first time in 3 years, to keep pace with rising costs. An invoice will be mailed to you shortly and these fees will need to be paid in full at or before 7 May rally. A breakdown of the fee structure will be available shortly on the SPC website.

Grand Valley Showjumping Classic

Due to the wonderful efforts of the families of Tracey Kerford and Sandy & Andrew Garland, these hard working people will have earned the Club a donation for running this event over an entire weekend last month. A mammoth effort, particularly when so much was happening for our club all at once. My sincere thanks to them all.

Bendigo Bank Wandin Seville Branch

I have recently received some great news from the Chairman of the Wandin Seville Bendigo Bank, Jan Ockwell, that in response to a submission from us requesting financial support, they are going to provide timber post and rail materials for an upgrade of our existing fencing around the Red (Beginner's) Arena and Show Jumping arena. Much of this timber has deteriorated over time and this financial assistance will enable us to make replacements.

The bank is also able to support our club further through the "Project 500" initiative. This means that if any of our pony club members open a new account (Home Loan, Credit Card or Cheque/Savings/Term Deposit) at Wandin or Seville, and our members nominate the pony club, the SPC can receive hundreds of dollars in sponsorship. So please support this community bank as they continue to support us. (Further details of "Project 500" will be on our website shortly.)

Finally, there are a number of events and Club commitments coming up, so please see Tracey's DC report for full details.

Stay safe, see you soon, regards, Ria