

Presidents Report - September 2011

As I write this month's report I am reminded of how quickly this year has flown. Dressage Day, which seemed so far away, will be soon upon us (6 November) and preparations are in full swing. You will be notified shortly of a working bee date for around that time. And anyone with fencing skills or who is handy with timber, please contact me or Andrew at any time soon. We'll need to get a few jobs done at the rally on 23rd October, so extra family members to lend a hand with general cleaning and gardening jobs will be most welcome.

Feedback from the last rally has been particularly positive. Many of our riders were happy to break away from the usual routines, mix with a few different people, and enjoy the trail. The freshman's showjumping, along with the fabulous new jumps, proved somewhat challenging, but most riders showed they were up for it! And here I wish to extend my most sincere thanks to Tracey Kerford's Dad, Ron, and his workmates at Bretrac Engineering. The jumps were designed and manufactured in secret - (imagine my surprise at the rally) - and are made from heavy duty, long lasting materials and paint. Ron is covering the bulk of costs and only charging the club **half** of what the materials cost him. I struggle to find the words of thanks to show how grateful I am. So please enjoy these jumps, the club could not normally afford such quality, variety and quantity. They are something of which our Club can be very proud to now own. The other wonderful surprise was from the Wallace family who arrived with a specially constructed Vaulting Horse for the Club to share with them. With just a few minor adjustments, you will soon see this ready for use. Thank you sincerely Kirsty for arranging this.

However one incident had me concerned, which was a fall of one of our riders. As no parent/guardian was present or could be contacted, an ambulance was called. Committee members then had to take responsibility for that rider and find someone in a position to accompany her to hospital (although this did not eventuate). So please be mindful that **you** are responsible for the welfare of your children, not the Club and **if you appoint someone else to be responsible in your absence, that person must be willing and in a position to take full control** ie. In this scenario, agree on an ambulance, accompany the rider to hospital, fill in forms, stay at the hospital possibly hours until a parent can get there etc. Think about it.

Next Rally

At the next rally we expect less than half our regular attendance, as many riders are competing at Werribee Pony Club. A number of the committee members will also be away, (me included) so to those who attend the rally, please be appreciative of the few who have been asked to step in. The PCAV National Championships will be held at Werribee the following week and we wish Naomi White and Sheridan Wilson every success as they compete. Garry Milne (Rikki's dad), of Glenbrae Signs, is generously providing a Seville Pony Club sign to erect on a cross country jump that the Club is sponsoring. I hope it urges you both on! And thank you Garry for your kind generosity. Please support this local company, for all of your signage, web & print needs - check out their website www.glenbraesigns.com.au

And lastly, I am pleased to advise the Adam Wootten showjumping clinic to be held this month is now full. If you missed out, we expect to organise another one in January, so get your bookings in as soon as it is advertised.

Happy and safe riding, we're off to America! Ria