



## NOONAMAH HORSE AND PONY CLUB

### NEWSLETTER 2/2009

What a fantastic first rally day. At least the rain stayed away (just). It was great to see everyone so enthusiastic and ready nice and early for their first lesson.

We would like to do a list up of members who have a first aid certificate so if an incident occurs we know who we can call on. We are also pleased to have a medic, Heath, available on rally days should an incident happen.

In the club house there is an "Incident Report" book. If an incident does occur, on rally days, please can the member or parents ensure the incident is reported and documented. All falls and injuries to humans or horses, must be recorded for insurance purposes.

St Johns is offering PCANT a discounted first aid course. This is open to all NT pony club members. If any one is interested can you please pass on expressions of interest ASAP.

There was a lot of rubbish left on the grounds after our first rally day. PLEASE PLEASE everyone remember to pick up your rubbish when you leave. There are bins at the club house and also down at the stables so there's no excuse!

If for any reason a rider would like to change groups they MUST see the chief instructor, Danila Muinos, before doing so. As a risk management policy we are trying our very best to keep group sizes to 6 or less riders.

### WANTED

Debbie Theil is looking for a small GP saddle – Leather or Wintec will consider all please contact her at [Debbie.Thiel@cdu.edu.au](mailto:Debbie.Thiel@cdu.edu.au) or 0438882490 or at the Rally days.

If anyone would like to advertise in the NHPC newsletter send me an e-mail at [peter.ruzsicska@bigpond.com.au](mailto:peter.ruzsicska@bigpond.com.au). This includes anyone wanting to buy or sell anything, pictures can also be uploaded.

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP

21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009. We have confirmed that Di Keach, National Pony Club coach, and Guy Creighton, Show Jumping instructor, will be coming to our camp. This is a fantastic opportunity for our riders to have lessons with these two very high standard instructors.

## NHPC BIG CASH LOTTERY

In aid of our camp and the need for our club to build a new shed to house our jump trailer we are running a raffle. There will be 350 tickets of \$100 each with first prize being \$10,000 cash, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$5,000 cash and 3<sup>rd</sup> \$2,500 cash. We need all members to help with this. Please see Sarah Gordon for further info.

## FUNKHANA

We are having a “funkhana” on **Saturday the 21st of February 2009** from 3:00 p.m. onwards – under lights from 6:00 p.m. followed by a free sausage sizzle. BYO drinks. The “funkhana” will be opened to all pony clubs. We are hoping to have the NT Mounted Police attend. NT Polocrosse will also be doing a display game. Come and join in - great family fun.

## WEBSITE

We have completed our own NHPC web page, [www.noonamahorseandponyclub.org](http://www.noonamahorseandponyclub.org). This will have all rally day information, newsletters and other important information. Have a look and if anyone has any pony club photos they would like added – just send Sarah Gordon an e-mail.

## ROSTER

Members please do not forget the roster for helpers in the canteen and to set and pack away equipment. The instructors are teaching our kids to ride and need all the help they can get so the riders can get the most out of the lesson times.

I would like to give a big thank you to all the parents and members that helped set up and pack away the equipment on Sunday. It was fantastic and the day ended nice and early because everyone “pitched in”.

## STABLES

Stables are still available – see Sarah Gordon if you would like one. \$50.00 per year for the first 5 years then \$20.00 per year there after.

## WHO ARE YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Every week we will introduce you to a couple of the NHPC instructors. This will allow you to get to know them and their experience with horses. This week will star Danila Muinos, Chief Instructor and Karen Ruzsicska, Show Jumping Instructor.

**Name: Danila Muinos**

**Horse's name?**

Diyandi on a Hi (Floyd) and Colour the Dream (Chief)

**Started riding at?**

4ish

**How did you get into riding/horses generally?**

I can't really remember exactly, I remember nagging my dad a lot. I grew up in country Victoria so there was horses everywhere and riding (hooning around) was just a part of life. I went to Corner Inlet Pony Club which was a small club our colours were mission brown and yellow! My first instructor was a man named Randy he was a really good horseman he taught me to have guts and determination (plus how to ride!). I moved to the NT in 1996 and started riding with NHPC in 2002.

**What do you love about riding?**

I love the power, the speed, the flight, the smell. I love the feeling of being able to achieve something in a partnership (sometimes a bit hard with two brains working). I just love horses!

**What has been your greatest achievement?**

I think still yet to come. I've won some stuff and lost some things, but I think the big one is still out there.

**What do you look forward to most in 2009 season?**

Perfecting my sit trot with Floyd! and I really look forward to seeing all our riders improve throughout the season and all of them having fun.

**What's the best piece of horsey advice anyone has given you?**

Don't look down or that's where you'll end up!

**Any advice for our members?**

Always give everything you do your best shot. It doesn't matter if you win or loose as long as you can walk away saying you did the best you could do. Expect out of your horse what you put into him.

**Danila Muinos on "Chief" in the Dressage at the Royal Darwin Show 2009**



**Name: Karen Ruzsicska**

Well, not quite sure what I'm supposed to write as a "profile".....but I'll give it a go! I have been riding since I was probably about 7 years old, but didn't have my own horse until I was nearly 15 (until I was old enough to get a job and pay for it myself!). I started at a riding club called Tandara, then went on to Wongabilla and then spent quite a few years between DHPC and NHPC where I completed my D, D\* and C certificates (many, many years ago!).

I discovered my interest for show jumping with my first horse "Biskit"....although he wasn't a very easy horse to ride, he was quite obliging over relatively small courses. I then purchased a lovely TB gelding named "Kastanea" (known as "Legs") from Cathy Haensel in 1992. Legs was the horse that really allowed me to feel what it was like to jump proper courses at a decent height. With "Legs", I successfully competed in Showing, Dressage, Show Jumping and the occasional one day event (way back when we had a cross country course). These days you'll see me around on my grey mare "Jessie" and hopefully on the new grey boy "Tommy".

I was a member of the Pony Club Show Jumping team that represented the NT at the National Pony Club Championships in Wagga Wagga in 1995. I have also travelled and competed interstate with a couple of friends on a few occasions. Last year I was the Team Manager for the first NT Interschools team, who competed at the Inaugural Interschool National Championships in Toowoomba.

I look forward to hopefully helping a few more pony club riders with their show jumping this year, and hope to see these up and coming young riders represent not only their pony club, but possibly the Northern Territory in the near future.....who knows, maybe they'll represent Australia one day too!



**Karen Ruzsicska on "Jesse" 2009**

## A note from Danila

### Baker Shield & Northern Region Dressage Championships

Darwin Horse & Pony Club (DHPC) will host the Baker Shield and Northern Region Dressage Championships over the Easter weekend.

#### What is the Baker Shield?

The Baker Shield is a team only event, in which NT Pony Clubs compete against each other at Prince Phillip Mounted Games.

We will select 5 riders for the team plus 2 reserves. The team will consist of 4 junior riders (under 18yrs of age) and 1 senior rider (18yrs and under 26 yrs of age).

The program is made up of 10 of the Prince Phillip Mounted Games. DHPC will select the games prior to the competition so all pony clubs have an equal chance to practice those specific games.

Zoe Smith, one of our D group instructors, will be our coach with the assistance of Debbie Thiel our D\* instructor.

#### What is the Northern Region Dressage Championships?

The Northern Region Dressage Championships is a team only event, where Darwin region and Katherine Pony Clubs compete against each other in an official dressage competition.

We will select 5 riders for the team plus 2 reserves. The team will consist of 4 junior riders (under 18yrs of age) and 1 senior rider (18yrs and under 26 yrs of age).

The dressage tests for the Northern Region Dressage Championships are as follows:

Under 12 years	Prelim
12yrs and under 16	Novice
16yrs and under 26	Novice

Judy Sheldrake one of our D group instructors will be our team coach.

#### How can I try out for the teams?

On the first rally we called for expression of interest. If you are interested in trying out for the team please speak with your instructor or come to the club house and ask for your name to be put down for try outs.

#### Criteria for Teams

- You must be under 26 years of age
- You must participate in at least 50% of our rally days
- You must be able to attend at least 2 out of the 3 training sessions each week. Games will train on a Sunday after the rally and Tuesdays and Thursday 5.30pm onwards. Dressage TBA.

#### Costs

There may be some costs involved with team uniforms. The committee is still in discussions on this and if any costs are incurred they will be kept to a minimal and where possible absorbed by the club.

### **COME AND TRY OUT FOR THE TEAMS AND REPRESENT YOUR CLUB!**

*If you don't want to try out for the games team but would like to have a chance to run through the games Vicky Beasy one of our committee members will be running a PF mounted games session once a week ...stay tuned for more information.*

**Important dates to remember:**



**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> of February – Funkhana**



**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March – NHPC Closed Gymkhana**



**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April – NHPC D and D\* exams and Pony Club Show Jumping Grading Day**



**Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> April – Bakers Shield and Northern Region Dressage Championships hosted by DHPC**



**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> – Sun 19<sup>th</sup> April – NHPC Open Gymkhana**



**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May – DHPC Open Gymkhana**



**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Freds Pass Show**



**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June – NHPC camp**



**23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> August – Open Gymkhana**