

March 2011



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ADVERTISING RATES

Businesses

Full page \$25 Half page \$15

Quarter page \$10

Club Members

Small display ads for members selling saddles, horses etc are free of charge.

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President's Report

Hi Riders,

Well I can not believe that we are already into March and have run our 3rd competition for the year. The rain has certainly left the Valley looking beautiful and green so I suppose that is some substitution for having no summer.

We ran our Club Competition on Sunday and there were certainly a lot of 'new faces' who came along to ride. Welcome to all those riders, I hope you found the day fun and enjoyable. The day started in sunshine but by the afternoon we were all drenched while trying to pack up and put horses on floats. We had a very full day, and as normal it ran well and lunch was delicious. Thanks to all the helpers on the day and before the event.

Next month is our Open Competition at Glenbrae so all hands on deck will be needed to help. Please contact Chris Sudul (Phone: 5968 9908) if you can help, or await her phone call. It is a great place to give an hour or two of your time when it is so close to home.

See you all in April.

Happy Riding!

Michelle Oliver



Club Calendar 2011

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 17th April 2011

Sunday 15th May 2011

Sunday 12th June 2011

Sunday 10th July 2011

Thursday 14th July 2011

Sunday 21st August 2011

Sunday 18th September 2011

Sunday 16th October 2011

Sunday 13th November 2011

YVDC Official Open Competition at Glenbrae

Freshman's Competition at Glenbrae C tests

Club Day Competition at Glenbrae D tests & 4A, 5A

Freshman's Competition at Glenbrae A tests & 4B, 5B

YVDC Annual General Meeting

Club Day Competition at Glenbrae B tests & 4C, 5C

Freshman's Competition at Glenbrae C tests & 4A, 5A

YVDC Official Open Competition at Werribee NEC

Club Day Competition at Glenbrae D tests & 4B, 5B

Club News

Welcome to all the new members we have had recently join our Club. It is great to see new faces and horses at our monthly club days. If you have any questions about the Club please first check on our website site, which has a lot of information uploaded on it: www.yvdc.com.au or contact a Committee Member for a chat. Lunch is provided free of charge to members attending our monthly club days.



We ask all members to leave their lovely doggies at home when coming to Glenbrae Equestrian Centre, and to collect up all their horses' manure and place it in the black plastic containers which are in the car park. Floats have precedence in parking on the western side of the car park and cars without a float are to be parked away from the yards on the eastern side of the car park, your co-operation in these matters is appreciated.

EV Dressage Rules state that all horses & people must be at least 10 metres away from competition arenas when a test is in progress. At Glenbrae we request that horses are NOT brought into the indoor area or stand near the doorway while a test is in progress, as it can be very distracting for competing horses – particularly the young ones. It is also not allowed for anyone other than the rider competing a horse to ride that horse on the day – hence no trainers are allowed to warm up horses for competing riders.

Results from the March Club Day Competition

PRELIM 1B JUDGE: SUE CORNISH

Deborah Hodgson	Belcam Shaniah	183	73.20%	1st
Karalyn McDonald	Bella	180	72.00%	2nd
Jenny Wall	Homecoming	177	70.80%	3rd =
Jan Kennan	Rodrigo	177	70.80%	3rd =
Bobby Rankin	Chiquita Black	177	70.80%	3rd =
Sam Ruedegger	Bubbles	175	70.00%	6th

NOVICE 2B JUDGE: SUE CORNISH

Kerrie Aumann	Kerron Park Elle	229	69.40%	1st
Kathy Minchin	Lara Pinta Air Time	228	69.10%	2nd =
Kathy Minchin	Lara Pinta Rosaria	228	69.10%	2nd =
Pam Miskin	Ashleigh Rococo	227	68.79%	4th
Jan Kennan	Rodrigo	221	66.97%	5th
Kathy Minchin	Tibby's Diamond	217	65.80%	6th



The Yarra Valley Dressage Club Leaderboard can be viewed online at:
www.yvdc.com.au

ELEMENTARY 3B JUDGE: CATRINA CORTEN

Andrea Ramsay	Harry Who	202	59.41%	1st
Michelle Frey	Apen Park Feiner Leigh	184	54.12%	2nd

MEDIUM 4B JUDGE: CATRINA CORTEN

Janice Herzig	Sienna Eyre	207	57.50%	1st
Sandra Winzer	Monaco	198	55.00%	2nd =
Chris Sudul	Northern Jupiter	198	55.00%	2nd =
Judy Thompson	The Poet	195	54.17%	4th

ADVANCED 5B JUDGE: CATRINA CORTEN

Lauren Bailey-Smith	Avoca on the Move	235	57.32%	1st
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PRIX ST GEORGE JUDGE: CATRINA CORTEN

Lauren Bailey-Smith	Avoca on the Move	228	60.00%	1st
Karalyn McDonald	Ruby Red	225	59.21%	2nd
Liz Wright-Smith	Yarra Valley Mountbatten	210	55.26%	3rd

EFA Corner: March 2011 Report**By YVDC Dressage Sub-committee rep Rae Ansell**

Over the past 2 months there has been a lot of discussion about the need for clubs to use Marshalls at events. This has come about due to a number of incidents experienced over the past 6 months or so. Some of these have been the clogging up of the warm up arena when arena 5 is used, riders not actually doing a test riding far too close to the arenas, stallions in warm up arenas not under control- with young horses and mares, mistreatment of a horse in the warm up and so forth. We see some of these incidents as potentially dangerous and think that in the not too distant future it will become a requirement of running a competition to have a Steward/Marshall in attendance. The problem of course, is that all of the clubs rely on volunteers and this is not a job that many people would be comfortable in handling. Qualified stewards undergo training in how to deal with difficult riders/incidents. We have a qualified steward in our club, namely Kim Anning, and she is willing to assist in perhaps giving a talk at a Club Day on the responsibilities and duties of a Steward. She is also willing to help train anyone who would be willing to assist in this role in any of our competitions.



After 2-3 years of trying, our Club has finally been able to get the EA to accept the idea of Rider Awards presented on an annual basis. The model I presented to the committee was based on the U.S. Version which our Committee considered to be achievable by the "average rider". We wanted something that was achievable by many more than just those with a "million dollar" horse or a professional rider who would win events anyway. The Sub Committee has chosen to go with the model used by N.S.W. in an attempt to perhaps have it recognized eventually as an Australian wide model. I have set out below the criteria. Don't think there will be many Gold Medals handed out!!!!

Dressage Victoria Performance Medals

Dressage Victoria awards Performance Medals for any athletes who obtain the following performances in the current year. The period is from 1st January up to and including the Dressage Festival (Victorian State Dressage Championships).

Bronze Medals:

Novice or Elementary level – 3 performances of 65% or more at each level

Medium or Advanced level – 3 performances of 65% or more at each level

PSG or Inter I (small tour) – 3 performances of 65% or more across the small tour

Inter II or GP (big tour) – 3 performances of 65% or more across the big tour

Silver Medals:

Novice or Elementary level – 3 performances of 70% or more at each level

Medium or Advanced level – 3 performances of 68% or more at each level

PSG or Inter I (small tour) – 3 performances of 68% or more across the small tour

Inter II or GP – 3 performances of 68% or more across the big tour

Gold Medals:

Novice or Elementary level – 3 performances of 75% or more at each level

Medium or Advanced level – 3 performances of 70% or more at each level

PSG or Inter I (small tour) – 3 performances of 70% or more across the small tour

Inter II or GP (big tour) – 3 performances of 70% or more across the big tour

Result gathering:

The data base set up for the capture of the annual awards is used to determine those horses that are eligible.

Details:

- * Riders from throughout Victoria are eligible
- * Riders must be current members of the EV
- * Horses must be registered in Victoria
- * Performances can be from any Official Competition in Victoria
- * Only events which attract grading points are eligible
- * For cost reasons, if rider/horse combination is eligible for more than one medal at each level, only one will be presented.
- * HC points are not eligible

Riders must apply personally for the medals – application sheets will be available shortly.

Dressage and Jumping with the Stars 2011

Coming up at the end of this month – this should once again be a fantastic event with one of my heroes, Ingrid Klimke, as the International guest. Bronze passes and day tickets are still available on line or at the venue – so I hope as many of you as possible can go along to one of the days – Thursday to Sunday – and enjoy and support the event. You can learn so much from watching.

That is all the news from the EV this month. If there is any matter any member wishes to have discussed at these meetings, please send me an email and I will be happy to raise it for you.

Until then.....HAPPY RIDING!! *Rae Ansell*



Pooh Dressage

Claire Ballantyne Clinic

By Judy Gronn



After a very busy week at Officer, UK based dressage rider and trainer Claire Ballantyne gave a great 3 Day Clinic at Liz and John Wright-Smith's fantastic new indoor school at "Binalong".

Claire concentrated on helping us all get our horses supple and straight and in a good rhythm and contact. She kept referring back to the training scale reminding us that the components of the scale work in together, you can't have a supple horse that is not straight and you don't have a straight horse without suppleness. They must go into the contact in a rhythm but at the same time we mustn't hold them or grip them with our thighs and lower legs!!! So many fine lines to think about but all the horses made great improvements over the three days.

Basics, basics, basics, that is what it boils down to and then the movements are easy.

Pam Miskin on her lovely Rotspon mare Coco started with Coco going very well. Claire even rode Coco a couple of times and Pam made the journey to Officer as well. Can't say how many lessons Pam had in case Trevor reads the newsletter!!

Maureen Howe got going so well and was on such a high that she booked an extra lesson much to Philip's horror!!

Liz Wright-Smith was practicing her PSG movements on Monty and was especially delighted with Claire's help in the canter half pass and change of hand which is always so hard, Claire made it much easier.

Michelle Oliver and Aria had a big break thru which is always so rewarding, especially with a young horse.

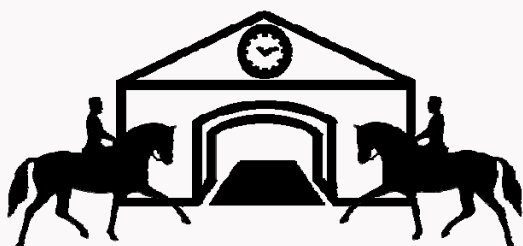
Justine had been giving me lots of grief and I was looking for another horse yet again!!! However after my first lesson with Claire we were back on track and Justine still has a home at Olinda. In fact she was an angel for the whole clinic and we have entered our first Elementary.

Katie was so on my aids that she gave me a lovely straight row of two time changes on the last day. So we are all looking forward to July when Claire comes back and a few spectators have already indicated they wanted to be riding next time.

I would like to say a very big thank you to Liz and John who made us so welcome and went to no end of trouble to help make the clinic a success.

Hopefully next time we will all have a night out together as well.

Heart of England Equestrian



Judy Gronn



Carl Hester talks about “Spooky Horses”

When it comes to the king of cool in dressage, Olympic dressage rider Carl Hester certainly knows how to keep a level head when it comes to riding ‘spooky or excitable horses’. Here is some advice on transforming your ‘stressage into dressage’!

If you ride a spooky or tense horse, it's important to look at his lifestyle, as well as his training. All of my horses get turned out in the paddock at home, which is such a great stress reliever for them, whilst we consult a nutritionist from Saracen Horse Feeds to tailor their diets according to temperament and workload. Feeding the right stuff at the right amount can have a huge impact on behaviour, so it's imperative you get it right!



Once you have ruled out any feed related problems, remember to take your time, stay calm and relaxed yourself when in the saddle and let them settle before you start to put pressure on them. Some of the younger horses tend to get very apprehensive at competitions and if they are spooky by nature, it's so important to spend time getting them chilled in the warm up, before we go anywhere near the arena. I like my horses to have a really good warm up, consisting of walk, trot and canter. I like to keep my warm up the same out at competitions, as I do at home, so that the horses know the routine and it keeps that level of familiarity and reassures them. I also like to assess my horse's mood, so that I know how to play the warm up and what to practice on. It's important with spooky horses that you get them concentrating on the job in hand and I find lots of transitions and changes of rein are good ways to get the horse listening.

If you are warming up and your horse picks up on something at one end of the arena, then rather than confront it immediately, simply work on getting your horse working correctly and listening to you and circling closer and closer to the spooky area. The key with a spooky horse is not to make a huge issue of something, beating your horse as he is spooking is not going to achieve much, apart from making him even more suspicious of the spooky object! However the horse must respect your leg and go forward, past the spook. Sometimes nervous and tense horses can be behind the leg, so its important to ensure that they are in front of my leg and that the transitions have him ‘jumping’ off my leg and listening to my aids rather than planning to spook at whatever he can find around the arena!!

My warm up always consists of lots of transitions, especially on a circle, to get him bending, flexing and listening. With horses that ‘run away’ with you, its important to try and slow down the rhythm in trot and canter and keep him on a circle, if he tends to bomb off down the long side with you at first! Think of slowing him down in trot with your rising and by using your body dictate the speed of the pace. Lateral work is also another good way of utilizing the impulsion that you have! Depending on your level, leg yielding and shoulder-in are a good place to start. Focus on straightness, correct bend and rhythm and soon your horse will be concentrating on you.

Follow some of these tips and hopefully your horse should soon start to settle into his work and start to concentrate on you, as oppose to the monsters that lie in hiding behind the arena fence and remember horses are individuals, so what works for one horse wont for another, so it's really a matter of it trying out different approaches to find out which ones suit you both. With patience and perseverance, spooky horses can make fantastic competition horses, with some understanding and sympathetic training.



“Horse For Sale” - Advertising Terminology

(thanks to Carol Ross!)

Event Prospect = Big Fast Horse

Dressage Prospect = Big Slow Horse

Hack Prospect = Pretty Color

Sporting Prospect = Short Fast Horse

Campdraft Prospect = Fast Horse which can turn

Endurance Prospect = Fast Horse which will turn sometimes

Flashy = White Socks

Attractive = Bay

15.2hh = 14.3hhh

16.2hh = 15.3hh

To Loving Home = Expensive

To Show Home Only = Very Expensive

Needs Experienced Rider = Potentially Lethal

Elegant = Thin

In Good Condition = Foundered

Free Moving = Bolts

Quiet = Lame in Both Front Legs

Dead Quiet = Dead

Good in Traffic (Bombproof) = Lame all Round, Deaf and Blind

Loves Children = Kicks and Bites

Pony Type = Small and Hairy

Arab Type = Looks startled

TB Type = Looks terrified

Quarter Horse Type = Fat

Warmblood Type = Big and Hairy

Draught Type = Big and Exceedingly Hairy

Easy to Catch = Very Old



Must Sell = Wife has left home and taking kids

All Offers Considered = I am in traction for 6 months

Reluctant = Sale comes with Title Deeds to Sydney Harbor Bridge

Genuine reason for sale = I am too scared to get back on

Member News

AD Ashleigh Drossel Dan

“Dan the Wonder Horse” has done it again for his new rider Alvaro Miranda de Neto (husband of Athina Onassis) by winning the Global Champions Tour Grand Prix Show Jumping on Saturday 19th March in Doha Qatar from a field of 47 combinations. His two faultless rounds were rewarded with the first prize... €150,000 (about AUD\$300,000)!

This is Dan’s second Grand Prix win in 5 weeks, having won the World Cup recently in Bordeaux France where he won a new Land Rover for his rider!

Judy and Colin Gronn, of Ashleigh Horse Stud in Olinda, who bred Dan are delighted to be able to continue to follow his remarkable journey. As they both say, a horse like this only comes along once in a lifetime!

Congratulations to all his connections!



AD Ashleigh Drossel Dan & his owner/rider Doda winning the Grand Prix and €150,000 in Doha Qatar.

The Story behind the Dressage Letters – Two Possible Explanations

Letters were not used until international competitions began with the Olympics in the 1900's. The first competition in 1912 did not have letters.

No Olympics were held in 1916 because of World War I. The letters just "appeared" in 1920 Olympics and no one has ever been able to find the origin although various theories have been advanced over the years, including one theory that the letters were the first letter of the names of cities conquered by the Romans.

A second possibility:

"It appears that in the Old Imperial German Court the walls of the Royal Mews/Stable yard were initially marked with letters indicating where each Courtier and/or riders horse was to be stood to await its rider.

K = Kaiser/King

F = Furst/Prince

P = Pferd knecht/Ostler

V = Vassal

E = Edeling/Ehregast/Guest of Honour

B = Bannertrager/Standard Bearer

S = Schzkanzler/Chancellor of Exchequer

R = Ritter/Knight

M = Meier/Steward

H = Hofsmarshall/Lord Chancellor"

However, in the 1920 Olympics, the letters on the centerline were also used: A, D, L, X, I, G, and C.



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Contact: Pam Miskin Mobile: 0419 671 879; Home: 5967 1879; pjwmiskin@bigpond.com

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Melway reference: 289 C9

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Andrea 0407 248 903

Lynette 0408 394 754

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Whittlesea Plenty Valley Dressage Club

Official Winter Series 2011

Are you looking for Official Competitions over in the cooler months??

WPVDC are hosting an Official Winter Series starting in May 2011
 Tests will be run from Prelim to Inter 1 outdoors on all weather sand arenas.
 Warm up is also on all weather sand arenas or grass.

Championship Rugs will be awarded for each Section to the highest scoring combination over the series. (You must have competed at all three days in the series to be eligible)

Sections will be limited to 20 riders each so enter early to secure your spot!



TESTS
 1A 2A 3A 4A 5A PSG
 Inter 1

TESTS
 1B 2B 3B 4B 5B PSG
 Inter 1

TESTS
 1C 2C 3C 4C 5C PSG
 Inter 1

Venue

YARRAMBAT PONY CLUB
 YARRAMBAT PARK

Event Secretary

Jan Donald
 PO Box 340, Whittlesea Vic 3757
 Phone: 0413 380 083
 Email: jandonald25@hotmail.com

Entry Fees

	Members -WPVDC	Non Members
Official	\$30 per test	\$40 per test

Entries close

1 15th May
2 11th June
3 9th July

- Cheques made payable to Whittlesea Plenty Valley Dressage Club Inc.
- SSAE (A4) for return of draw or email address
- Refund – general rules apply
- Preference given to WPVDC MEMBERS and those who enter the whole series

Prize Details

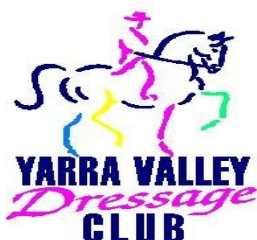
- Ribbons to 6th place for each test

Other Details

- Tests and warm up on sand arenas or grass
- Committee reserves right to cancel classes with insufficient numbers
- Catering available all day
- **No dogs allowed**

Freshman's Day Competition – Sunday 15th May 2011

Tests are ridden twice under EFA rules. Riders discuss their first test with the judge before riding it again immediately. Ribbons are awarded to 6th place.



Entry Form

RIDER _____

HORSE _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

1st TEST ENTERED _____ 2nd TEST _____

ENTRY FEE
ENCLOSED _____

I will assist with:

RING SET UP RING PULL DOWN
PENCIL SCORE SHEET COLLECTION
OTHER

Neither the Yarra Valley Dressage Club Incorporated, it's agents not the owners of any property used by the YVDC Inc. accept any liability for any accident, damage, injury loss or illness to horse, riders, spectators or grounds or any person or property whatsoever.

Sunday 15th May 2011
GLENBRAE EQUESTRIAN
CENTRE, VICTORIA ROAD
WANDIN

Tests - 1C, 2C, 3C, 4C, 5C, Prix St
George, Inter1, Inter 11, Grand Prix

Entries Close - Friday 6th May 2011

Fees - Club Members - \$20 per test

Event Secretary - Jan Herzig
P.O Box 297 Wandin North Vic 3139

Scratchings on the day 0412 170 566

- ◆ **All competitors are required to assist before, during or after competition. Please indicate your preferred job.**
- ◆ Points awarded to club trophies
- ◆ Ribbons to 6th place
- ◆ Each test is ridden twice
- ◆ EFA Rules apply
- ◆ 2nd test may be entered if sufficient time
- ◆ Clean and neat attire
- ◆ Open to current YVDC members only
- ◆ **NO DOGS ALLOWED**
- ◆ *Yummy free lunch!*