



Balmoral Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2009

Up coming events

Victorian Dressage Club Championships @ Werribee September 12th and 13th. Sara and Inca, Lou and Reilly to compete

Dressage Championship Weekend @ Tonimbuk. All are encouraged to compete or support those who are. Balmoral will be setting up a Marque for the weekend!!

The annual Balmoral Open day is fast approaching. Please see Louise if you are able to help out with the preparations!

Debbie McDonald Clinic. September 3rd—5th. Please note that the indoor will be unavailable during this time and spectator fees are \$20.

Dressage Championship Weekend at Tonimbuk

South Eastern Dressage Club is holding a Dressage Championship weekend at Tonimbuk Equestrian Centre,

The event is running on the 17th and 18th of October.

All levels will be run including FEI.

They are also offering Pas de Deux/Synchronised tests!! Sara, Inca, Lou and Reilly will be competing in this event also.

We would like to encourage as many Balmoral riders as we can to compete at this event, **especially** those who are a member of the Friday night

Squad groups!!

Friday night lessons will now be aimed at preparing you and your horse for this competition.

We would like to make the event fun and supportive! We ask that those who are unable to compete (you better have a good reason!!) still come down to cheer on those who do!

We will be taking the Balmoral Marque for the weekend so we recommend you bring picnic blankets and chairs, wine and champagne and good food to share!! And don't forget your Balmoral uniforms!!

We are also able to order beautiful Balmoral show sets and competition saddle blankets from Equus Rugs. For orders and pricing please see Rachel in the office, as we have special prices for Balmoral!! Please order in advance as all orders need to be sent away for embroidery.

For further details on this event, check out the South Eastern Dressage Club website: www.southeasterndc.com.au and click on EA Events.

We EXPECT to see you all there!

Balmoral would like to welcome...

We would like to welcome the following agisters!!

Christine Saviane with her horses Bug and Spunky! Christine is also working in the stables and helping with tack up!

Shaneen Elliot with her horses Murphy and Lolly. And finally, Alison Johnson and Freya!

Please make them feel welcome!!

We would also like to take this opportunity to refresh a few rules to keep the stable block running smoothly.

- Horses are not to be fed in the wash bay
- Please ensure all rugs are

clearly named

- Please sweep up after yourself and leave the place clean and tidy
- Please keep water usage to a minimum as summer is approaching
- If others are waiting to use the wash bay, please be courteous and be as efficient as possible
- Your stable is where you MUST tack-up AND un-tack, NOT the wash bay or the corridor
- The weather is warming up, please take home your heavy winter rugs and bring out

your unlined and lightweights

- Please do not use buckets to collect manure. Your horses need to eat from these!
- Feed must be kept in sealed containers to keep pests at bay
- Horses are NOT to be walked past the stallions—NO EXCEPTIONS
- The Debbie McDonald Clinic is on from the 3rd-5th of September, please cooperate with staff and keep Balmoral spick and span!!

Thank you for your understanding!!

Inca & Reilly Go Country!



Above: Sara and Inca in torrential rain

Centre: Sara and Inca in a medium trot

Do your rugs need re-proofing or cleaning??

Equus Rugs offers these services!!

Rug re-proofed \$15

Rug washing \$15

Re-proof and wash \$25

On the 15th and 16th of August, myself and Sara Williams competed at the Tatura Dressage Championships, approximately 220km's from Narre Warren North. We left at 8.30am on Saturday and with only one minor 'detour' we arrived at the grounds at lunch time in clear blue skies and a light breeze, a slight contrast from the weather we left behind in Melbourne. Our tests weren't until Sunday but we wanted to have a ride at the venue prior.

We discovered that Inca and Reilly would be competing on grass arenas, while the Pony Dressage was to be held in the beautifully surfaced indoor arena... so shortly after arrival Sara and I tacked up the boys and had a quick ride out on the grass. Both boys were well behaved, with Reilly under control the whole time! We then packed up and headed to Echuca to Peter and Donna's (family friend's of the Williams).

The boys couldn't believe their luck – the front paddock they were going in had lush green rye grass up to their knees! We sectioned off the paddock using electric tape.

With Inca having half the paddock and Reilly (purposely) being restricted to a 5m x 5m square, our best efforts only lasted a few hours until Reilly got fright, ran through his tape and jumped into the safety of Inca's paddock!!

Sunday morning started at



5.45am for Sara, Wendy and myself. We arrived at the grounds in Tatura at 7.30am in torrential rain. We tacked up in the rain, warmed up in the rain and yep, you guessed it, competed in the rain too! The rain actually eased between our first tests and second tests, but then belted down as soon as we entered the ring! Both boys rode

lovely tests in the conditions. We were lucky we were on early as the rings held up pretty well, although competitors who rode towards the end of the class rode in sunshine but in slippery arenas....

Reilly didn't put a foot wrong, with all canter transitions being 'normal' (and he was under control the whole time!!) which was a major improvement for us! His second test was probably the best test he has done! Sara and Inca also put together two very nice tests, with the second test being super accurate, balanced and expressive, Sara and Inca placed 2nd!! At presentations Wendy, Peter, Rhiannon and myself let out the biggest cheer as Sara was presented with second place, much to Sara's embarrassment (as no other competitor's cheer squads were as noisy as us)!

We had a great run home, leaving the clear skies of Tatura and arriving to Melbourne's wild winds and yet again torrential rains! It was a great experience competing at Tatura. It was a well run, quiet competition, and I am sure we'll be back next year!

News from the Office...

1. Invoices are issued at the beginning of each month for the lessons received during the previous month (unless prior arrangements for weekly payments have been made). This does not apply to lessons paid for at the time of the lesson.

2. Lesson Invoices are to be paid within **7 days** of the date of the invoice, late payment will incur a charge of **\$25 - Late Payment Fee**.

3. A \$10 cancellation/holding fee will apply when a cancellation is made within a reasonable time (usually 24 hours) prior to the

start of the lesson. The full lesson fee will be charged if we are not notified of the cancellation, i.e. riders do not show up, or the cancellation is made just prior to the lesson. There is an answering service on the telephone so a message can be left if the office is unattended.

4. If you do not intend continuing with lessons, please notify the office as you will be billed for unattended lessons until you do so.

5. Riders who pay cash weekly are still required to pay a holding fee of \$10 when a cancellation is

made, or full lesson fee if there is no notification of cancelling.

6. Payment can be made by cash, cheque (payable to Balmoral Australasia Pty Ltd) or directly into our bank account. There is a locked post box next to the pigeon holes inside the door upstairs. Any payments placed in the box should be clearly labeled - there are envelopes for this purpose in the pigeon hole next to the post box. Bank details are on the bottom of the invoices - please ensure any transactions are clearly labeled with invoice number and/or riders name - not a company name.