



# Newsletter

Issue 68  
31 July 2005

P.O. Box 54 202  
Mana  
Wellington

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Secretary – Liz Antunovic 04 233 8968      Treasurer – Mike McCuan 04 383 8787  
Committee - Mark Johnson, Kath Leeves, Mike McCuan, Sandy McCuan,  
Jacqui Mason, Nicole Munro, Ruth Best, Caroline Allen, Eunice Tyler, BJ French.  
Newsletter Contributions - 04 237 8122 [leeves@paradise.net.nz](mailto:leeves@paradise.net.nz)

## Editorial

Well, Hi all, and welcome to our first newsletter for the new season.

Last season was one to remember. At least for me. I attended my first championships at the North Island Champs on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> January this year, and it was fantastic. I had a memorable experience, and then attended the National Champs at Easter, and again had a wonderful time.

Doing the national points for CTR wasn't that memorable, but it was satisfying to get it finished after months of working on it. I feel some things do need ironing out to get the consistency with scoring and time-keeping across the country, as not all clubs are doing things the same way.

Some of the great results for me for the year, were seeing Sandy McCuan and P&R Stardust Lad ride their final champs together and retire on another national title, *and* being on the finish line to see her and Poppy walk across four seconds in front hehehehe. Then seeing Wellington Club as a whole do very well yet again at championship rides. Well done all!

As Wellington Club has decided to hold the North Island Champs this season, I think we are in for a busy time leading up to this event, but I'm certain it will be a worthwhile effort and will see our club team spirit pitch in for the good of the sport.

Our club prizegiving was a great occasion this year, especially as I sang for my supper! Congratulations to all those who collected trophies - and I am wondering why Sandy and Mike didn't bring a couple of boxes with them, they should know better!

Our first ride of the new season is 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October, so time to get out your gear and dust it off, start brushing your horses up and begin training. Start soon so your horse is fit enough to climb these notorious Wellington hills.

I would like to thank all our members and ground crew for last season, for all their efforts to make this wonderful sport the success that it is. Let's keep on hoofin! *Kath* (gumboots).

## WATRC Membership Cards

This year I will be giving out WATRC membership cards. They will not be numbered, but will have your name and the dates of membership, which is a standard 1 August 2005 to 31 July 2006. They will be quite simple, but recognisable. Your cards should come out with your receipt for your membership fee, or you can present your receipt at the entries table at rides to get your card.

## President's Report

Welcome to you all.

Our major Sponsors, Warehouse Grain created for us a new class which has given riders a better choice of ride speeds and distances. BJ French (Head2Tail) Lance Dockery and Aspen Hills Arabians are other key sponsors. Please support our sponsors as they make our events so much better.

Firstly I want to congratulate all of our riders this year. We had a very successful year, with a number of new riders coming along and enjoying themselves. Some of them are talking of doing endurance in the future which shows some real dedication and commitment. And our more experienced riders doing so well at the NI Championships and the Nationals. Wellington riders again took out the National horse and rider distance award titles, Sandy McCuan, Sharon Nickless and Emma Mason. Brent Stringer and Tessa Deuss were also in the top ten in the Open, while Sharon was followed by Tina, Liz, Denise, Lynda, Trudi, Ruth. Rebecca Rabson was 9<sup>th</sup>. So in intermediate WATRC had 8 of the top ten. In the Junior WATRC had 4 of the top 6, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Ashley French, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jordyn, 4<sup>th</sup> Tessa, 5<sup>th</sup> Shelley, and 6<sup>th</sup> Jordyn again.

Secondly I want to thank all those people who put their hands up to run rides. Officially these people are said to be the "organising committee" Very often the OC might be one person or one family. The ride organisers always have support from our WATRC Committee which is made up of dedicated people who come to meetings every month to plan the rides ahead, and to review the rides past. They know who to put the hard word on to turn up to be writers, heart rate monitors, et. I have to mention in particular Liz Autonovic who is our Club Secretary and Mike McCuan who is the Treasurer. Sometimes you forget that these people are volunteers they are so well organised.

And Kath Leeves, ably assisted by her daughter Bobby Sue who has been our ride Secretary. Kath's talents were recently recognised by the National body and she was promoted to sort out the National CTR Results

Thirdly I have to thank Sharon Nickless, Susan Iorns and Liz again for taking on the end of year awards. If you haven't been here before, after tonight you will realise what a mammoth task this has been. Their work was even more appreciated because of Kath's other commitments.

I am not going to go through all the helpers. We would be here all night. But our start finish line officials, Helen and John, and our regular Veterinarian Des Bassett and Heart Rate monitor Terri Fordham deserve special mention.

Two people deserve credit for showing *True Grit*. First Jaki Bickerton who had a bad fall at the 2004 Nationals, enough to keep her from riding for the first part of the season. She overcame her injuries and completed the 160km ride on JA Applause at the Nationals. The other is Raelyne McRae who also suffered a fall but has come back to riding and is talking about a new horse for next year.

Last season was the first season we operated in association with the NZEF, and the coming season will be the first one where "endurance" is the fourth discipline of the NZEF. You should all have received your horse registration documents by now and you will note an extra fee has been added. This is in part to allow the Endurance Board to function. Not everyone has to join. Read the instructions carefully.

The big news this year for WATRC is that we are running the NI Endurance and CTR Championships. We will be seeking all the help people are willing to give, from helping establish the ride base in the week before the ride starts, to help officiating during the events. We have an excellent team of high quality vets and officials from all over New Zealand attending, and some solid support for our CTR day which is Sunday 22 January 2006. We also have a very positive organising committee who are beavering away at making this wonderful event, especially for CTR.

We are particularly lucky to have Nicole Munro Johnston in our Club who is also working in the NZEF. Nicole is held in high regard throughout the country for her prompt responses and valuable advice. She gives WATRC the same valuable service and advice.

The Board of Endurance New Zealand has Warren James as its President, Rowena Tyler (Vice President) with Kevin James, David Marshall, Trevor Copeland, Winston Churchill, Sharon Nisbett and WATRC's Jacqui Mason on it. These people all have a monumental task ahead of them and will need Club support.

I would like to see the Club become involved in more training activities – advice on training and feeding, and training for Officials. The National body is running a course in Taupo probably in May 2006 and we should mount a team of people to go. I attended an FEI Vet Course at Taupo in May this year, it was a really valuable experience – though vetting endurance horses is a lot tougher than vetting eventers or show jumpers.

We can run courses for Officials but they would not have the support of Endurance New Zealand so people would not get recognised for the work they put in. You only get that if you attend an approved course.

It seems only yesterday that we did our first ride of the season in snow, hail and sunshine.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our first ride at the beginning of October.

## AGM

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

**PRESIDENT: GABRIELLE DEUSS**

**VICE PRESIDENT: SHARON NICKLESS**

**SECRETARY: LIZ ANTUNOVIC**

**TREASURER: MIKE McCUAN**

**Committee:** Kath Leeves, Ruth Best, Sandy McCuan, Nicole Munro-Johnson, Mark Johnson, BJ French, Eunice Tyler, Caroline Allen, Jacqui Mason

A big thanks to those retiring from committee. Sue Iorns, George Theodoru, Leanne Moss.

Membership and ride fees will remain the same this season. Just a wee note re the Newsletter: If you have an email address, give it to us for the newsletter as it saves us costs, and if you are a non-riding member and want to get the newsletter by snail mail, an extra \$5 is payable for your membership.

## **Sandy's report**

What a fantastic day Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July was for me.

Starting off with a ride over the South Coast hills in the morning. Enjoying the amazing views from the snow capped Kaikouras to Upper Hutt, then out to dinner in the evening with a great group of people, and to top it off, being given a whole bunch of trophies for doing something that I love----- Riding my horse.

What a super day.

P&R Stardust Lad (Poppy) and I had a great season. We worked hard and reaped the benefits, all those fantastic trophies.

There are a few people I would like to thank, some who helped me personally and others who helped the club and its members through another very successful season.

For the second year in a row the Club took out the three top National placings in CTR an absolute mammoth achievement

Firstly, thanks Mike, the season would not have happened for me without your help.

Joy Bentley and Brent Stringer who were my ride partners .

Dennis Kessell, my farrier, for being available whenever I needed him.

Wayne Bentley for his help at the North Islands, my support crew.

Nicole Munroe-Johnson for collecting my National trophies and making a speech as well!

Denise and Robert Best from Warehouse Grain for their generous support and sponsorship which included the rug I received at the Nationals and the beautiful black and gold sashes that the place-getters were awarded on Saturday night.

Also, my sponsorship from Coprice was facilitated by Denise and Robert Best, all of your efforts are sincerely appreciated.

Lastly Des Bassett, Terri Fordham and our very own Club President Gabrielle Deuss for their expertise in the vet ring. Helen Percival and son John timekeeping and vet writing, and Kath Leeves for the sterling job she does.

Thank you all for a fabulous 2004/05 season.

Isn't it great, the new one is only weeks away! Stay safe, happy trails.

**Sandy McCuan and Poppy.**

## **A HUGE THANK YOU**

WATRC would at this time like to extend a very huge thank you to Lance Dockery, for his sponsorship of horse apparel, which are raffled at each ride, to go towards running costs of our season. Thank you Lance! Lance has sponsored us for a number of years now, and has been consistent with his support and quality of work. Lance does canvas repairs and products, and also makes and repairs bridles, does restitching of stirrups, and also makes products to order.

Please Ph 526 6236, and is situated at 67 Oregon Drive, Upper Hutt. So drop in and say Hi! to him sometime.

## **Trans Tasman Competition**

This year in late October, we have a team going to Australia for a trans Tasman Endurance competition. Further details pending.

## **Note From Nicole**

It would be best if only those people holding the A5 logbooks (CTR) send the books in with their registrations. These books need to have pages inserted for the stickers. Those who still use those small paper books and missed the amnesty at the beginning of 2005 should consider upgrading to the new books.

Those who own the new envelope sized logbooks with the waterproof paper will be sent instructions on where to put the stickers. It's very easy but we want to make sure they are all put in the same place so ride secretaries don't have to hunt for proof of registration!

We definitely recommend that the logbooks are photocopied before they are sent or if you have a few of them, that you courier them and ask us to courier them back (we can charge your account) or include a courier bag for us to send them. The last thing we want is for any of them to go missing in the post.

You don't have to worry about it being a long time before your logbooks are returned to you, we are on a same day turnaround right now, the day the books and registrations arrive, we have everything back in the post to you that night. As long as you register in plenty of time before an event and take advantage of our quiet period (e.g. before the end of August) there won't be a delay.

We are here to answer any queries, so just ask.

Kind regards,

Nicole Munro-Johnson

Nicole Munro-Johnson

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## Ride Calendar for the coming season

### North Island Endurance & CTR Calendar, 2005 – 2006

6 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> August		
13 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> August	Counties	Endurance & CTR Points
20 <sup>th</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> August	Wairarapa	Endurance Training
27 <sup>th</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup> August	Auckland Woodhill	Endurance Training
3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Tararua Waikato - Putaruru	Endurance Training Endurance Points
10 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Wairarapa	CTR Points
17 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> September		
24 <sup>th</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Wairarapa Clareville Auckland Woodhill	CTR Points Endurance Training
1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Wellington – Maymorn Tararua - Waitarere Waikato – Gun Club Waiuku	CTR Training or points Endurance Points Endurance Points TBC
8 <sup>th</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Wairarapa Pirinoa Counties	Endurance Training Endurance Training
15 <sup>th</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Wellington - Karapoti	CTR Points
22,23,24 October, Labour Weekend	Taupo	Endurance Premier Points
29 <sup>th</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Wellington – Wainuiomata	CTR points
5 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Taumarunui Wairarapa - Whareama	Endurance Points CTR Points
12 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Wellington – Waitarere Waikato - Whakamaru	CTR Points & Endurance Points Endurance Training
19 <sup>th</sup> 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Ruahine - Ohakune	Endurance Points
26 <sup>th</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Wellington – Bright’s Farm Woodhill	CTR Points Endurance Points
3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Waitomo Wairarapa – Admiral Stn	Endurance Points Endurance Training
10 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Wellington - Battle Hill Waikato - Whatawhata	CTR Points Endurance Training
17 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Kohuratahi	Endurance Points
24 <sup>th</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas		
2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Wellington - Belmont	CTR Points, Endurance Points
7 <sup>th</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Wairarapa – Castlepoint Waikato - Pukeatua	CTR Points Endurance Training
14 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> January		
21,22,23 January NI Champs	Wellington - Waitarere	<b>North Islands CEI***160, CEI**100, CEI* 50</b> CTR 40, 40, 70
28 <sup>th</sup> 29 <sup>th</sup> January		
4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> Waitangi Day February	Kohuratahi Wairarapa - Tinui	Endurance Points Endurance Training
11 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Wellington – Makara	CTR Training
18 <sup>th</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Waikato	Endurance Premier Points
25 <sup>th</sup> 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Wellington – Wainuiomata Auckland Woodhill	CTR Points Endurance & CTR Points
4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Wairarapa	Endurance Points
11 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Mid-North Wellington – Waitohu Waikato – Venue TBC	Endurance Points CTR Points Endurance Training
16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Horse of the Year - Hastings	
18 <sup>th</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Wairarapa – Mangataerere Ruahine	CTR Points Endurance Premier Points
25 <sup>th</sup> 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Wellington – Pikarere Taumarunui	Endurance and CTR Points Endurance Points
1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Wairarapa – Venue pending	CTR Points
8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Waikato – Venue TBC	Endurance Training
14 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> April Easter	Hawarden, Canterbury	<b>NATIONAL CHAMPS</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Waimiha	Endurance Points
27 <sup>th</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Auckland Woodhill	Endurance Training
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Auckland Woodhill	Endurance Training
23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2006	Auckland Woodhill	Endurance Training

# Classifieds

## Horses:

- **Anglo Arab**  
6yo chestnut mare, 15.1hh. Willing, did well at Foxton, Battle Hill and Solway Park ODE\_s. Full sister to Bedazzled, promising hack Nelson/Marlborough area. \$3,000. Ph Rhona Fraser 06 308 9160 (Featherston).
- **Fernhill Suriya** (Taurere Sunzada x AA Katalina), rising 4yo pure Arabian grey gelding. Mature 15hh. Sire has fantastic nature and exc. endurance breeding (double Khotan). Fantastic movement and conformation. Hill raised. Loads of potential. Ready to break in. Owner overcommitted. \$3,000
- **Houston** 1/2 Arab, 1/4 Standardbred, 1/4 TB, 5yo grey gelding 15.1hh. Broken in but green, heavier build, good heart rates. Very honest, absolute character. Approved home only. Ph Tina Moore 06 322 9800

## Saddles...

- **Wintec 17" / black / GP**  
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See **www.oldmacs.com** for further information or phone or e-mail Lynne on 021 147 6081 or 06 354 7861, bootfitter\_nz@hotmail.com

## Grazing available

**Tawa**, in Collins Ave. \$50 per month, including worming. Conditions apply. For more info, phone George on 04 383 8407 or 021 760 847.

## Website...

BJ has started up a website where everyone is free to put their thoughts/photos on recent ride/s, horse ailments, horses/tack for sale or lease etc. Have a look, the link is:

<http://groups.msn.com/Head2TailHorseProducts>

## Horsefloats for hire

Double Float for hire. \$60.00 per day. Conditions apply. Ph George 383 8407 or 021 760 847.

Single Float for hire. \$25.00 per day. Rear facing. Suit good loader only. Ph Kath 237 8122 or 021 656 326.

## Free to good homes

Roosters (4). Quite big colourful Bantam ones, not small, but not huge chook ones either. Reasonably tame, follow for food, still young. Ph Nicole 237 6404.

## **Rider Classifications**

**THE ENDURANCE RIDER:** Wears Lycra tights in wild neon colors. The shinier the better, so the EMT's can find her body when her horse dumps her down a ravine. Wears hiking shoes of some sort, and T-shirts she got for paying \$75 to complete another torturous ride. Her horse, Al Kamar

Shazam, used to be called "you bastard" until he found an owner almost as hyper as he is. Shazam can spook at a blowing leaf, spin a 360, and

not lose his big trot rhythm or give an inch to the horse behind him. Has learned to eat, drink, pee, and drop to his resting pulse rate on command. He has compiled 3,450 AERC miles; his rider compiled 3,445 (the missing five miles are the ones when he raced down the trail without his rider after performing his trademark 360.

Over-heard frequently: "Anyone have Advil?" "Anyone got some food? I think last year's Twinkies went bad." "For this pain I spend money?" "Shazam, you bastard-it's just a leaf [thud]!"

**THE HUNTER RIDER:** Is slightly anorexic and trying her best to achieve the conformation of a 17-year-old male in case she ever has a clinic with George Morris. Field marks include greeny-beige breeches and a baseball cap when schooling or mud colored coat and hardhat with dangling chinstrap when competing. Forks over about a grand a month to trainer for the privilege of letting him/her "tune" up the horse, which consists of drilling the beast until its going to put in five strides on a 60 foot line no matter WHAT she does. Sold the Thoroughbred (and a collection of lunging equipment, chambons, side reins) and bought a Warmblood. (Bought a ladder and a LONG set of spurs) Talks a lot about the horse's success in Florida without exactly letting on that she herself has never been south of the Pennsylvania line.

**THE DRESSAGE QUEEN:** Has her hair in an elegant ponytail and is wearing a visor and gold earrings sporting a breed logo. A \$100 dollar custom jumper (also with breed logo) is worn over \$300 dollar full-seat white breeches and custom Koenigs. Her horse, "Leistergeidelsprundheim" ("Fleistergeidel" for short) is a 17.3-hand warmblood who was bred to be a Grand Prix horse. The Germans are still laughing hysterically, as he was bred to be a Grand Prix JUMPER, but as he Couldn't get out of his own way, they sold him to an American. His rider fell in love with his lofty gaits, proud carriage, and tremendous athleticism. She admires mostly while lunging. She lunges him a lot, because she is not actually too keen to get up there and try to SIT that trot. When she rides, it's not for long, because (while he looks FINE to everyone else), she can tell that he is not as "through" and "supple" as he should be, and gets off to call the chiropractor/massage therapist/psychic, all of which is expensive, but he WILL be shown, and shown right after he perfects (fill in the blank) . The blank changes often enough that the rider can avoid the stress of being beaten at Training 1 by a Quarter Horse.

**THE EVENTER:** Is bent over from carrying three saddles, three bridles, three bits, and three unrelated sets of clothing (four, if she is going to have to do a trot up at a 3-Day) The hunched defensive posture is reinforced by the anticipation of "a long one" a ditch and a wall, and from living in her back protector. Perpetually broke because she pays THREE coaches ( a Dressage Queen, a jumper rider, and her eventing guru, none of whom approve of the other) and pay trailers/stabling/living expenses to go 600 miles to events that are spread out over 5 days. She is smugly convinced that Eventers are in fact the only people in the world who CAN ride (since Dressage Queen's don't jump, the H/J crowd is to afraid to go OUT of a ring, and the fox hunters-a related breed-don't have to deal with dressage judges). Hat cover on cross-country helmet is secured with a giant rubber band, so she can look like her idol, Phillip.

Her horse, (who has previously been rejected as a race horse, a steeplechase horse-got ruled off for jumping into the in field tailgating the crowd- a jumper, a fox hunter, and a polo pony (no bit stops this thing) has two speeds: gallop and "no gallop" (also known as stop 'n' dump) . Excels at over jumping into water, doing a head first "tuck and roll" maneuver and exiting the complex (catch me if you can!) before his rider slogs out of the pond. Often stops to lick the Crisco off his legs before continuing gaily on to the merciless oxer jump just ahead. Owner often threatens to sell, but as he has flunked out of every other English-riding discipline, it will have to be to a barrel racer.

Thanks to our sponsors...



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