

~ Grafton Riding Club ~
P.O. Box 1162
Grafton N.S.W.
2460



March – April 2016 Newsletter

President - Jill McKeown – 0418677238 - jllmckeown@gmail.com
Vice President - Sonia George – 0431796768 – soniageorge176@gmail.com
Secretary – Janine Woods – 0266493438 - graftonridingclub@gmail.com
Treasurer – Lee-Ann Brown – 0407042061 – lee21steve@hotmail.com
Assistant Treasurer – Deb Sharpe – Debbie@valleycountry.com.au

Presidents Report

At the end of 2015 I was honoured to be elected President of Grafton Riding Club. We have been lucky to gain a brilliant committee of hard working and dedicated people, and hasn't 2016 kicked off to a great start. February began with a working bee at Hawthorne Park and the members that attended did an amazing job restoring the working arenas and surrounds to a pristine condition for the combined training and Tshirt Hack Day. The weekend was a fantastic success and was great to see new and regular faces.

As we slipped into March our club hosted a Dressage Judges Seminar with the charming Nell Marshman leading the way. An informative day was had by all! Thanks to Wendy Bruszewski for organizing this event. She then followed up with the Dressage Competition the following day. Another successful competition with plenty of positive feedback and some new members signing up on the day. Any competition takes a lot of organisation and a huge vote of thanks goes out to the committee members and many volunteers who gave their time to get the day up and running. Without help and assistance we struggle to make these days possible. Any help on the day even for an hour is much appreciated and benefits all concerned. We are always pleased to see new faces and catch up with those who regularly attend. If the start of the year indicates anything like what the rest of the year might have in store... BRING IT ON!

Happy Riding All
Jill McKeown

The next Club outing day is 3rd April 2016.
Instructors to be advised.
Canteen will be operating on the day.
You must book for training sessions with Secretary Janine Woods.
Phone: 0266493438 or email graftonridingclub@gmail.com

Dressage Judges Seminar and Workshop

Sat 5th March 2016 funded by Dressage NSW and Equestrian Australia was a great success.

28 people attended. These were: 11 Dressage Judges (3 G Level, 2 F level, 5 E level, 1 C level), 2 level 1 EA Coaches, 2 Carriage Driving coaches, 13 dressage riders and some as spectators just interested in learning more about dressage generally.

This was a reaccreditation seminar for E-F level accredited dressage judges and a workshop for all other attendees.

A huge thank you to the demonstration riders for the practical assessment sessions held in the afternoon; Virginia Holmes on Cedarview Impression (pictured), Sally Bird on Arti, Cheryl Douglas on Mosswood Gifted Too; Jodie Brazier on Brookedale Harley and Tracey Wallis on Enbarr



Virginia Holmes – Cedarview Impression (aka Little Ern) strut their stuff in the Prix St George class at the Grafton Dressage Competition with a score of 65%

The next event is the Tshirt Dressage Comp on Saturday 21st May and Official/Participant Dressage Competition on Sunday 22nd May. Programs are out now on www.nominate.com.au

Results from the 6th March Competition are available on Facebook and the clubs website www.graftonridingclub.org

**GRC Official and Club Unrestricted Dressage Competition
Sunday 6th March 2016.**

Was also a great success with 138 tests entered it was a busy day for the Dressage Committee and we send out a huge thank you to the many volunteers.

All helpers on the day were eligible for a lucky draw prize – a bag of Mitavite feed. The draw will be made at our next meeting and winner notified.

Entries were once again through www.nominate.com.au this really does make a very big job much easier to manage.

Judges on the day were Nell Marshman, Wendy Bruszewski, Nicole Browne, Fiona Wilders, Jenny Igerl, Tasmyn Lessells, Gaby Tate and Sonia George. Without judges there can be no competition so we are sincerely grateful for their time and expertise.

Pictured are Junior member Olivia Hall and Ben.



6th March Canteen Report by Junior Member Madeline McKeown

At the recent dressage competition our canteen was successful, we had a number of volunteers on the day who contributed to cooking for and serving the competitors and spectators. A special mention to be made to our dedicated helpers, Lee Brown, Janine Woods, Reagen Williamson, Steve and Kim Meredith (and me), for taking their time on the day to help. Running the canteen takes a lot of commitment and effort making and preparing food. Any suggestions to improve the canteen are valued.

Thank you for supporting Grafton Riding Club.

Maddy McKeown

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Next General Club Meetings:

Tuesday 15th March 6.30pm and Tues 19th May 6pm
Sth Grafton Ex Servicemans Club, all members invited and welcome!
Next Dressage Committee Meeting: 26th April 2016 6pm

Club Dates for 2016

April 3 rd	Training Day
May 1 st	Training Day
May 21 st	T-Shirt Dressage Day
May 22 nd	Official Dressage Day
June 5 th	Training Day
July 2 nd & 3 rd	Official Dressage Championships
August 7 th	Training Day
August 20 th	All Breeds Hack Show
August 21 st	All Breeds Hack Show
September 4 th	Training Day
October 9 th	Training Day
October 15 & 16 th	Adult Camp & Clinic
November 6 th	Jacaranda T-Shirt Dressage Day
November 20 th	Training Day Christmas Break Up

Most communication within the club about events and meetings occurs through members attending monthly meetings or by the Newsletter, Facebook, Website and email. If you do not have access to the internet then please let us know and we'll send newsletters to you by mail.

For sale

Eco Horze Wollen Underlay Rug, double surcingles = 5ft 9" – new \$30
 Synthetic Stock saddle – near new condition - \$250
 Horze helmet – 48-54 (xs-s) new \$40
 Leather Bridle, webbing reins, S/S snaffle bit - \$40
 Airflow black gaiters, large (stretchy) new - \$30
 Horze pro-comfort pad, new - \$30
 Contact Tracey - 0416252445

Grafton Riding Club Website:

www.graftonridingclub.org



The club wishes to thank our major sponsor Mitavite for their generous support throughout 2015 and their ongoing support for all events in 2016. If members would like to discuss nutritional requirements for their horses then please contact Mitavite for more information on products that would be most suitable to your circumstances.

Contact **Mitavite** on 1800-025-487.

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Member Sonia George on Marchello



Member Corinne McEwen on Valdisano



Visitor Sue Burke on Valentino C



Visitor Sally Bird on Arti



Visitor Julie Baker on Romeo



Junior Member Kya Broughton on Harry at their first dressage day

Thank you also to Mary Malouf for providing some of the pictures from the dressage day for this newsletter

If you would like to add anything to our newsletter, results of competitions, stories, photos, advertising, etc please contact Wendy - Phone: 0457 526 790 or email: normcom@bordernet.com.au