



16/01/2009 – Issue 117
P.O. Box 54 202, Mana, Wellington
<http://watrc.wellington.net.nz>

President	Eunice Tyler
Vice President	Aimee Merrick
Secretary	Liz Antunovic (Email: antunovic2000@yahoo.com , Tel: 04 233 8968)
Treasurer	BJ French
Committee	Kath Leeves, Denise Best, Catherine Nicholson, Judy Edginton, Raelyne Macrae, Sharon Nickless, Sandy McCuan
Newsletter	Catherine Nicholson (Email: stevecath.nicholson@xtra.co.nz , Tel: 04 233 6333)

Hi Everyone

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great Christmas and have been out riding to work off the excesses of the festive season! 2009 got off to a great start with another lovely ride at Bright's Farm, with the weather holding out as an added bonus. See you at Pikarere.

Catherine

Entries reminder

Pre-ride entries CLOSE at midday on Friday before the ride. No pre-entries will be accepted after this and entries will be on the day only. Please fill out your log books and entry forms in full. This makes things go much more smoothly for everyone, especially for the people taking entries and the other riders waiting behind you.

Helpers

Helpers are always welcome at the rides. If you are bringing along someone who would like to help, or you cannot ride for some reason, just let the ride organiser know in advance and they will be sure to find something for you to do. It's a great way to learn more about the sport and also see how things run behind the scenes.

Wellington Area Trail Riding Club Pikarere

Pikarere Station, Titahi Bay

Sunday 25 January 2009 – vetting from 8am, first riders out at 8.30am

How to get there

Take the road from Porirua to Titahi Bay. Turn left at Te Pene Avenue then left again into Te Puke Street and another left into Pikarere Street. Follow this road all the way to Pikarere Station.

Distances

Open – 30 km

Intermediate 1 – 30 km

Intermediate 2 – 15 km

Novice – 15 km

Junior – 15 km

Entries

To enter, please contact Kath Leeves on 06-329-9952 or email kathleeves@hotmail.com)

Enquiries

Contact Denise Best: 04-478-9091 or email bestequine@xtra.co.nz



Ride out times for Open and Intermediate Classes

Open & Intermediate riders – since you have the longest distances and ride times, you should be going out between 8.30 – 9.15 am. Please do not ask for late ride out times as this delays the entire event. Not only do other riders, ride organisers and vets have to wait until the last riders are back but also being out in hotter conditions later in the morning makes life tougher for your horse.

Results - Tie Breakers

For all those new to the sport (or those who may have forgotten), the way we break tied scores (if two or more riders have exactly the same finishing score) is by the closest to the nominated ride time. For example, if rider A has a score of 100 but comes in 30 seconds over time, and rider B also has a score of 100 but comes in 2 mins over time, rider A would be placed ahead of rider B. If in doubt, please feel free to speak to one of the Committee members.

Ride venue/date changes

25 January	Pikarere
1 Feb	Manakau farm
22 Feb	Waikawa Beach
March	Belmont (date to be confirmed)
15 March	Waitohu
29 March	Champs at Bulls

WATRC Champs – 29 March 2009

The WATRC committee has confirmed that the WATRC Championships will be held on Sunday, 29 March 2009 at Bulls. It is hoped that the novice and intermediate 2 championship classes will be held over 30km, the intermediate 1 over 40km and the open over 50km+ (including a hold period). More details to follow over the coming weeks as riders will be required to pre-enter.

The track will be good underfoot, not too hilly and overnight camping will be available. We would like to see as many of you there as possible. The Committee are working hard to provide great prizes and ride packs. Anyone who wants to be a helper on the day or will be bringing someone who can be a helper, please email Aimee: merrick@infogen.net.nz

Qualification criteria

Riders and horses must qualify at 2 WATRC rides in the current season in the grade they wish to compete in at Champs. The rider and horse may qualify separately, but both must be qualified (i.e. a horse could qualify doing 2 rides and then be ridden by a different rider at Champs as long as that rider has done two qualifying rides in that grade).

Riders must be financial members of WATRC by 31 January 2009. Please note the time extension as we have had new members joining at recent rides.

Please contact any of the committee members if you require further clarification on whether you are qualified. Please note: we hope to run a non-championship class for horses and riders who are not qualified, people who are not members of WATRC, or for those who do not wish to take part in the championship classes.

Days of Our Rides – Bright's Farm

Well, I was supposed to go motorcycling, but the weather didn't look that good for either Saturday or Sunday, so horse riding it was.

I had set the Bright's Farm ride for around 8 years up until I went to Bhutan in 2003, but had never ridden it competitively. Everyone riding it always told me it was tough. I didn't believe them.

So showed up around 7:30 am to occasional drizzle and cool temperatures. Joined up with Sue Iorns and Anna (a new Junior rider) for the ride. At registration, I checked the clock and started to get my horse ready.

Sue and Anna were relying on me to know the terrain and plan the strategy for the ride. Some responsibility. At the start with lots of time remaining, I am told that we can start now! Why, we still have 5 minutes to go? It turns out the clock was adjusted at the starting line. Oh my!! Don't forget to check the clock at the starting line.

So around the paddock and up the hill to the pylons. Shawnee is keen as are the other horses, so we set a steady pace. In no time we hit the first road and then after a windy ridge ride, we are at the checkpoint in Nikau Valley.

Doing Intermediate 2, we turn around and retrace our steps (strides) to the turnoff to the hut and then to the top of the steep zig-zag climb. (When I used to set the course, I always enjoyed competitors reactions when on the ridge, they spied the zig-zag to the top of the hill. Now trees cover everything.

No problem, we arrived at the uppermost gate ready for our final descent with 40 minutes left off our 2 hour time limit. Slow walking down, didn't however eat enough of that time, so crossed the line 6 minutes early.

Luckily Shawnee showed her stuff coming across the line at 50 and dropping to 44, so with 12 penalties came in 2nd in the rankings.

Everything on the ride was well organized: the setting of the course, ground work and hospitality of the day's crew. Great ride.

Rick & Shawnee

PS: Don't forget to check out the great photos of the rides taken by David Fitzgerald-Irons on the WATRC website:

<http://www.watrc.wellington.net.nz/watrc-photos.htm>

Classifieds

Hay

Top quality rye/clover mix hay. Due to be cut mid January. Really nice horse hay, \$8 per bale. Pickup from Marton (approx 10km north of Bulls).

Please phone Aimee on 06-327-5232 or email merrick@infogen.net.nz

Helderberg Kalahari Sunrise (pending). Born: 11 Dec 08. Sam is a lovely, upstanding purebred Arabian colt by Dundevale Fire n Flare and out of Dantes Affair (imp AU). EMH 14.3 - 15.1 hh. Kind, smart, confident, well-natured and easy to handle. Good conformation with extravagant movement. Raised on gentle hill country. Available once weaned and gelded at end of September 2009. \$3,000-00 neg. Flexible terms available. Please refer to our website for more photos and information: <http://www.freewebs.com/helderbergarabians>

Contact: 021 216 7530 (Wgtn)

E-mail: helderberg@xtra.co.nz

Arabian Gelding 14.3 hh. Pretty, bright chestnut, with lighter coloured mane & tail. CTR and endurance experience. Good HR. 13 years. Basic schooling, shows dressage promise. Athletic. Good on roads, beach and rugged hill and bush country. Great to catch, shoe, float, etc and handling in general. Reluctant sale due to health problems – have had him for 8 years. Price negotiable to right home. All gear available and rugs included in price. Might consider swap for very steady horse of similar height and age. Best suited to experienced rider. Could suit teenager.

Contact Lesley: phone 06 3640041 or email: lacollins@xtra.co.nz

5ft Kiwi Kix cover 18oz. Used in two mild winters, selling on behalf. Still waterproof \$100 o.n.o. Contact Judy on 04 9024166.

Graham Turner endurance or trekking saddle - 'DOVE' model. In good condition, mounted with wide stirrups and a single buckle girth. QH bars. Lovely to ride in, only for sale as doesn't fit any of our horses. \$900 ono, price may be discounted for a fuss-free sale. Contact Hilary: 0212277127 or hilary.webb@horizons.govt.nz

7 yr old gelding by Vigar Riffal (Shane Dougan's stallion). Grey, 15 hh. Needs confident rider. Broken in by Kim Evans. Suit CTR/Endurance. Contact Angela Hunt on 06 3726744 (evenings) for more info.

Pessoa flat-seat jumping saddle 161/2in. Older model but in good condition. Brown, med gullet. Fits a wide variety of horses. Worth 700 will take 550. Contact Judy 9024166

Caspian is a 14.3hh 9 year old gelding liver/chestnut/dun with white stockings on both hind feet and a white star. Welsh x used for general hacking. Good to shoe, float and handle. Needs a competent rider - \$4,500.00. Phone Deborah Gray (Wainuiomata) 04-564-7696

RANVET ELECTROLYTES

We had an order cancelled on us and the stock was on its way from Australia so we have excess stock to move. Which we are offering WATRC members at cost price of \$18.00 incl GST. Courier extra.

2kg tubs of Ranvet Electrolytes, contains Sodium, Potassium, Calcium, Magnesium. For further tech specs go to www.ranvet.com.au Dosage 15gm per 112kg horse weight. Good value electrolyte.

Contact Robert Best 4789-091 or bestequine@xtra.co.nz

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