



2/10/2009 – Issue 125
P.O. Box 54 202, Mana, Wellington
<http://watrc.wellington.net.nz>

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

Hi Everyone

As Catherine is away in Japan at the moment (lucky her!), I am filling in for her & sending out this newsletter.

For those who attended our record breaking (84 riders!!) ride at Waitarere, I am sure you all had a great time. I was too busy processing entries/results to catch up with many people, but it was good to see so many new faces as well as the seasoned competitors.

Don't forget the next two rides (Maymorn 11 October) and Waikawa Beach (South of Levin) (18 October) are also great early season rides. I hope to see you all there! Ride flyers for both rides are in this newsletter.

Aimee

Membership Fees and Application Form for 2009/10

Membership fees for the year 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010 are:

- Families - \$35
- Individuals - \$30
- Non-riding members - \$15
- Non-riding members requiring hard-copy newsletters by post - \$20

The new membership application form is available to download from the club website. Please print this off and send it with your cheque to WATRC.

Please provide an email address for newsletters to be sent to if possible - it helps keep costs down for the club.



Days of our Rides

Waitarere Season Opener September 2009

Waiterere Sunday 27 September 2009 is a day to remember.

From our overnight hosts at Te Horo to the magnificent ride at Waiterere and all the organisation that went into it by the dedicated WATRC officials – it could not have been a more perfect start to the season.

With daylight saving upon us – Team Flightys decided a 6am start was preferable to a 4am start, so we accepted an offer to overnight at the Hines-McCaughey property at Te Horo – thanks Nikki and Kelvin – it paid off!

It is truly humbling to team up and ride with a 28 year old horse (and a rider who is just a year his senior) and complete the Open grade for the first time and collect a ribbon. Well done Nadine and Harry for their third placing. My mount, Braveheart Beau, was as solid as ever, but being a Clydie X his heart rates are never going to match those Arabs and Appies – young or old!

The other milestone for Team Flightys, and for me personally, was the first ride out in Novice for my newly broken youngster Picasso. This rising four year old was truly amazing and his success is entirely due to the expert care, attention and training he has received from his mount on the day, Karen Britton. I think we have another convert to trail riding – this was Karen's first ever trail event too. Picasso's ride companion for the day was the ever-reliable Ollie, ridden by Kim Hill. Thanks team for your efforts to get Picasso out and home safely. No ribbons yet, but watch this space!

The ride – what's there to say – plenty! The venue was fabulous, the trail and underfoot conditions were perfect, the marking was exemplary, the scenery was superb, the weather was ideal, the company was convivial, the photographer was in a perfect position (as usual – you are the best, David), the organisation was outstanding, the officials helpful and friendly – I'm running out of superlatives here.....

It is a privilege to be a member of WATRC and an honour to participate and ride on land that is made available exclusively to the club. Landowners take a bow and thanks for letting us share your little piece of paradise.

See you all at the next ride

Team Flightys, RD 1 Pauatahanui
Nicky Chapman on Braveheart Beau
Nadine Veitch on Harry (Waimeha Hustler)
Kim Hill on Ollie
Karen Spears on Rocky (for Annette Phillips)
Karen Britton on Picasso

Don't forget to check out the great photos taken by David Fitzgerald-Irons. They are available on our website (www.watrc.wellington.net.nz).

Special thanks to our time keeping team!

A special thanks needs to go to our time keeping duo, Wayne Bentley & Geoff Edginton. They made the mammoth task of having 84 riders pass the start/finish line look seamless and run well. They are a great team and often give up their time to be at rides and run the time keeping. They obviously are doing something right - thanks guys!

Waitarere ride report – from Eunice Tyler

Firstly I must say thank you to all my helpers on the day, I think Jordan summed it up when he said “nana you looked like the fat controller directing traffic. I did try to chase him but I was really too tired.

I couldn't believe it when the entries kept coming in to Aimee and she was sending me updates on the numbers. I thought she was having me on and I did tell her any more and I was going on strike.

As the farms have been split between neighbours leasing parts and Eastons clearing and refencing we have lost the use of the woolshed paddock and several other outlets into the forest it took a bit of phoning and begging to get the venue and the parking paddock as one farmer has one part and another a bit more then the Eastons have the rest. As luck would have it the Eastons put me in contact with the right people (amazing what a bottle of Bourbon can achieve) and we went from there along with a few bribes of beer and coke for the non drinkers.

After forgetting to organise the toilets which Aimee kindly took care of we realised we didn't have the key to the forest on Saturday so another quick phone call. Glynn on his trusty boneshaker took off to the other end of the forest to meet the security man to pick up the key.....more beer needed here.

I hoped the course would be right as we had to GUESSIMATE the distance as the motorbike broke down mid track and after Judy, Lisa and I huffed and puffed pushing it down the fence line by the woolshed we decided Glynn should go on and mark the top loop even though he didn't have a speedo on his trusty old boneshaker bike and I would walk back to base for the float. Luckily after marking this ride for several years we know the approx distances between trails we have used before, thankfully everyone had a great ride and we even organised the rain to come on Monday.

Thank you to Charlie Boyce the Vet, Mike McCuan the second vet, Leslie Collins, Geoff Edginton ,Wayne Bentley, Ashley French, B.J French, Lisa , Rhona Frazer, Glynn, Aimee Merrick,Junior Vaele, Sharon Nickless for the yummy morning tea for the ground crew (which we all enjoyed) and everyone who helped make the ride a huge success.

I think Greg Bickerton summed it up when he said “Endurance could learn a lot from WATRC about running friendly fun rides where everyone is enjoying their ride.”

WELL DONE TEAM WATRC!!!

Quotes from happy competitors at Waitarere

Thanks to those who send through emails of appreciation after the rides – it makes all the hard work by the volunteers seem worthwhile and we enjoy receiving your feedback. Some of the feedback we received after the Waitarere ride was:

“Bloody awesome!”.

“...thanks for all the organizing - I know what goes into these events.”

“WATRC is fantastic. The ride was glorious. It's all so much more relaxing and enjoyable than shows or dressage. Our horses had a ball too”.

“...just wanted to say how impressed we were with the running of yesterdays CTR event. You BJ Amy and the team did an awesome job in our view in creating an event that was run professionally yet friendly, where everyone enjoyed themselves with the horses having an excellent run on a well marked track. Congratulations. And what a turn out.”

“Just wanted to say thanks to the club for a lovely ride yesterday. Its not very often that I get my horses out to rides and I had forgotten how well organised and friendly everyone is”.



Reminder regarding Entries

Just a reminder regarding entries:

Please pre enter whenever possible. This means you are more likely to get the time you want, the ride buddy you want & makes everything run a lot smoother on the day at the entries table. We understand that things might change before the ride and don't mind if you need to cancel (you won't be charged an entry fee).

Opens & Intermediates (Long Intermediate) must be pre-entered.

Please pre enter by the end of Friday before the ride (2 days before). This gives our entries person time to prepare the necessary paperwork.

Email through your full name, your horses name, the class you want to enter & the details of your ride buddy (if you have one in mind) & any other preferences (start time etc). Please also indicate if you have a logbook or will be using a day card. This saves the entries person having to follow up for more information.

Once you have been given a ride out time, please try not to change unless really necessary (particularly on the day). This makes extra work for all involved.

Please complete an entry form (available on the website) or ask the entries person for one when you pre enter. This also speeds everything up and makes sure we have your details correct.

Thanks for your cooperation ☺

Rule books

Eunice Tyler has recently done a big tidy up of the WATRC rule book & her daughter Misty has done a great job of having these printed for us at the Massey Printery. If you would like your own copy, they are available from the entries tables at rides for \$5.00. Electronic copies will be available on the website at a later date. Thanks to Eunice & Misty for all their hard work.

New WATRC Trailer

WATRC are purchasing a horsefloat from Judy Edginton which will be converted into a new club trailer & eventually kitted out to provide a mobile office for entries as well as storage for all the bits & pieces necessary to run a ride (markers, cones, vet ring, bibs, bbq, drinks, gas cookers, chairs, entry equipment, tables etc). Judy has offered the float at an excellent price and even allowed the club to pay for the float when it has sufficient funds which shouldn't be far away given the success of Waitare!



Wellington Area Trail Riding Club
Maymorn
Plateau Road, Te Marua
Sunday 11 October 2009



Directions

From Wellington: Turn right at the Te Marua dairy, opposite the golf course. Follow the pink markers up Plateau Road to the ride base.

Please note the bridge into this venue is NOT suitable for large trucks.

Approximate Distances

Novice	22 km
Marton Brick & Tile	22 km
Junior	22 km
Intermediate	34 km
Open	34 km

Course

Good terrain and generally good going underfoot.
No dogs. Horse manure to be removed.

Entries

To enter, please contact Junior Vaele : Tel 04-564-6311 (after 6pm please), cellphone 027-284-2052, email: jvaele@clear.net.nz

Entries on the day from 7.30am. Reminder: Intermediate and Open riders must be pre-entered.

Ride organiser

Please contact Jacqui Mason for further info: Tel 04-526-4822.



Wellington Area Trail Riding Club Waikawa Beach Waikawa Beach Road, Manakau

Sunday 18 October 2009

Vetting from 1pm, first riders out at 2.00pm



Directions

From south, turn left into Waikawa Beach Rd at Manakau just past the dairy. Continue along this road until you reach the beach settlement, take the first left, then the first left again and you will see the parking paddock.

From north, turn right into Waikawa Beach Rd then follow directions as above.

Please note that parking is limited at this venue so we encourage people to "float pool" where possible so we don't run short of space.

Please note the later start time for this ride (first rider out at 2pm). This is to allow for the tide.

Approximate Distances

Open – 30 km

Intermediate 1 – 30 km

Intermediate 2 – 20 km

Novice – 20 km

Junior – 20 km

Entries

To enter, please contact Junior Vaele : Tel 04-564-6311 (after 6pm please), cellphone 027-284-2052, email: jvaele@clear.net.nz

Entries on the day from 12.30pm. Reminder: Intermediate and Open riders must be pre-entered.

Enquiries

For general info on the ride or overnight camping, contact Raelyne Macrae: 06-364-0082 or email tidmac1@clear.net.nz

Draft Ride Calendar 2009/10
(All dates subject to change)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>RIDE ORGANISER</u>
27 September 09	Waitarere	Tyler/French
11 October 09	Maymorn	Jacqui Mason
18 October 09	Waikawa Beach	Rae Macrae
8 November 09	Wainuiomata	Sharon Nickless
22 November 09	Bright's Farm	Judy Edginton
6 December 09	Battle Hill	Liz Antunovic
January 10	Manakau Dairy Farm	Rae Macrae
January 10	Karapoti	Mason/McCuan Cancelled
February 10	Pikarere	Denise Best
21 February 10	Belmont	Walsh/McLachlan
March 10	Bulls	Aimee Merrick
March 10	Waitohu	Rae Macrae
April 10	Foxton <i>(New venue!!)</i> (Possible Champs venue)	Tyler/French/Macrae

We hope to have ride dates from January 2010 confirmed ASAP & will update the ride calendar in future newsletters & on the website.



Otago Goldfields Cavalcade

Now is the time for intrepid horse trekkers to step up and consider doing the trek of their lives, that is the Otago Goldfields Cavalcade which is finishing in Wanaka on 27 February 2010.

Having done the Cavalcade in 2001 with a group of local riders, I have decided to give it another go. Anne Evans-Scott and I have joined the Cavalcade Association this year in our planning to ride the up-coming Cavalcade. We currently have a space for a horse and rider in her horse truck. Any Club Members interested in hooking up with us for such a life-changing experience are most welcome to contact me in that regard.

The Cavalcade's website: cavalcade.co.nz provides good pictures and background to the event, which in essence will be up to 10 trails from all over Otago, a mixture of walking, horse-riding, light wagons, and heavy wagons ranging from 3-6 days at a cost of between \$350 and \$750 depending on trail's duration. Horses can be hired at the venue. The specific trails are yet to be finalised, but will be in the next few months. Joining the Association (\$40) gives one first option on treks.

If you interested, check out the website or give someone a call who has done it, then contact me for the latest in our planning.

Rick Schimpf
(06) 362-8088 or schimpf@quik.co.nz

Classifieds

Any club members wishing to advertise in the newsletter should email the newsletter editor with details.

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

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