



# HUNTER VALLEY EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

January 2017

Hi Everyone,

Despite January being the driest month on record for HVEC, the horses were well cared for and kept cool with lots of shade from so many trees. Most of the time the horses drink tank water, but thank goodness the property has town water to use and keep everything manageable.

The first competition of the year was the Hunter Valley Dressage Association T-shirt day held on 21 January. Many riders attended and many came home with lots of prizes and trophies from the 2017 Annual Awards. Congratulations to all of you.

Myself, Rubesque (Rudy) and Ruby made the big trip to the Boneo Park CDI on the Mornington Peninsular in Victoria. It was very hot but we managed and Rudy remembered lots from his training over the Christmas period. He progressed with his percentages from 2017. We still have more to gain but 9<sup>th</sup> in the GP CDN and 6<sup>th</sup> in the Inter II were better than in the past. It was a

great experience to be riding, training and competing with the best riders in Australia. Rubesque tried really hard and allows me this privilege.

Thank you to Ruby who worked endlessly at Boneo. Thank you to all my staff left at home who did a good job of looking after all the horses. We have worked in extremely hot days and everyone has survived.

Welcome to Katie and her horse George and to Jess Manson and her three horses Comet, Rocky and Digby. Jess is from WA and has moved to the Hunter Valley so that she can study full time at Newcastle University and compete in eventing with her horses. She may not tell you that she won Adelaide 4 star in 2014. That's not bad to add to your CV.

Could everyone still do a rain dance in February? Keep riding, competing and winning. There are lots of competitions in 2018.

Till next time, *Shaun.*

