



# HUNTER VALLEY EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

*September 2019*

Hi Everyone,

On 5 September I departed Australia for 12 days holiday. I stayed with friends and family in Austria and Wales. You always worry about leaving home, but sometimes you just have to do it.

Thank you to Emily, Ruby and Melanie for looking after everything whilst I was away. I could not have had such a great holiday without your commitment and loyalty. You do an amazing job at HVEC and I am very grateful.

Thank you to Roland and Riki Stipsits, Sascha, Simona and baby Maxi, my nephews Daniel, Luke and Tristen, to the O'Mahneys and the Signeys for the most amazing wedding in Wales.

In Vienna I watched the training at the Spanish Riding School, I looked specifically for things that would help me as a rider and coach. I have been many times to the Spanish Riding School and love learning each time I go.

So everyone I am teaching must sit up very straight and perfectly in position, and ride that beautiful rhythm.

Rodrigo Matos taught for 3 days at HVEC. The clinic was organised by Nicole and Georgia Davenport. Lots of experienced riders attended and I even had a lesson on the last day. Thank you Rodrigo for all your knowledge and expertise.

I look forward to seeing you next year.

Risto, who is Scarlet's fifth foal, has gone away to be broken in by Adam Wilton. Adam broke in both Rune and Roseman. Risto (named after Christopher) has been going well and will soon return home to eat lots of carrots and apples from Hayley and chase the cars up the driveway.

The biggest part of October is preparing Rionnarc for the National Dressage Championships to be held in Sydney from 17-20 October. We are competing in the Prix St George and Inter 1 and hopefully the Inter 1 Freestyle. Fingers crossed – it's a big one to end the year on.

The Hunter Valley Dressage Championships were held at Salt Ash on 22 September. There were lots of entries and the competition was tough. Congratulations to Molly Callinan and Tosh who won Champion Elementary Junior, Emily Callinan and Corinna Beckmore for riding well and competing in the Championships.

To all my fellow competitors competing at the National Dressage Championships, I wish you lots of luck and success. Good luck to Molly Callinan competing at the National Pony Club Championships and a huge congratulations to the Hunter Valley Vaulting Team for winning everything at the National Championships and becoming National Champions.

Bye for now, *Shaun*

## *Photos from September...*

