



Newsletter - April 2023

Hi Everyone,

April was one of the busiest months in a long time. There were so many holidays and many people travelling for a variety of reasons. The Airbnb accommodation for the Mews, the Shed Room and the Camp Site were continuously booked, with many 5 star reviews.

The Children's full days of Riding and Learning were again popular. It's nice to see the children and their ponies making positive progress with their riding and education. Thank you Lilly and Emi for working so hard.

On April 22nd Roseman and I competed in the Medium tests at APDC. My training was a little different to the past, as I can only ride for approximately 30 minutes, maybe 5 times a week. Roseman was not super fit, and I know he can have his 'boy' moments, but he truly tried and really looked after me. We were green and out prematurely, but it was inspiring and many thanks go out to my friends who helped me, particularly Tracey and Sally, and Lilly who worked that day and kept everything at HVEC in order.

I am considering selling Roseman if the right person came along. Please contact me if you are interested in discussing whether Roseman may be suitable for you.

On Thursday April 27th, I made a quick trip to the Sydney CDI to see my pupil Molly Callinan and Colonial Tosh ride in the CDI-J Team Test. I have always tried to teach the importance of a mistake free test. This is what Molly achieved and truly showed her experience under pressure. Every year she is riding and training her little horse to higher levels. I was very proud of her performance.



*Molly & Tosh
at Sydney CDI*



*Shaun &
Roseman*



*Roseman at
APDC*



I was also proud of another couple of stunning young men competing in the 6 year old Young Horse class – Riski (aka Risto, full brother to Roseman) and Riley Alexander. They made the top 10 and looked fantastic. When I saw them in the arena I instantly thought, Grand Prix – Yes! Congratulations Molly and Riley.

There were also plenty of horse owners out competing – Emi & Lolli competed at the State Interschool Championships at SIEC and also competed at APDC, Bonnie & Clancy and Ilona & Roquet competed at APDC and Hiedi & Johnny Cash competed at Gunnedah which was Hiedi's first competition in 30 years.

Welcome to Kris and Teddy. I hope you enjoy your time at HVEC.

Owning and managing an equestrian centre requires strength – both mentally and physically. Keeping a high standard is essential. This means that all the work must be done and done properly, every day, 7 days a week. Like many, many varied businesses in the Hunter Valley, finding staff has become a big problem. Keeping the costs reasonable to the owners and riders is important. There are safety issues so employing people with experience and fitness as well as a bucket load of other things is important. (I could write a few more pages on this topic.)

I must finish off here and muck out, do maintenance, manage HVEC and heaven forbid, feed up again.

Bye from Shaun



Riley & Riski at Sydney CDI



Emi & Lolli at State Interschools

