



HUNTER VALLEY EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Newsletter - February 2024

Hi Everyone,

February every year is the month when everyone settles into the New Year routine. The children are all back at school and the serious competitions begin. After a very humid and hot month, we start to feel a little relief.

HVEC has 2 large paddocks for 2 horses in each, and 1 large (but smaller) paddock for 1 horse. Full agistment with two hard feeds and hay per day, rugging and unrugging, float parking and use of the facilities is \$182.70 per week. Lessons with Shaun France, EA Level 3 Dressage Coach, are \$80 per hour.

There are three types of accommodation available - the Mews at \$150 per night, the Shed Room (dog friendly) at \$77 per night and the Campsite (with power and amenities block) at \$77 per night.

APDC held their first Official/Unofficial competition for the year on February 10/11. There was strong competition, as the riders were busting to get out and obtain some good results and qualifying marks for the start of the year. My pupils tried hard and did the best they could do on the day. Congratulations to Molly, Ilona and Quinn, who rode in her first ever dressage competition. My biggest congratulations goes to my dearest friend Rozzie Ryan who has produced yet another Grand Prix horse and won the class on MJS Nemo.

There is one chestnut boy who also received a big pat and a juicy Pink Lady apple (thanks Sharon). Yes, it is Roseman. He won the Medium 4.1 on 69.861% and came 4th in the 4.2 on 66.554%. He likes me for some unusual reason and has decided we make a good pair. Lucky for him, he has a really good home.

Many years ago a young woman with two World Cup showjumpers came to Newcastle to study a double degree in Engineering. She was from Armidale and from day one showed her ambition, intelligence and desire for success. It's a long story but there is a group of us that



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Stay Ride Train

Choose from three different types of accommodation...

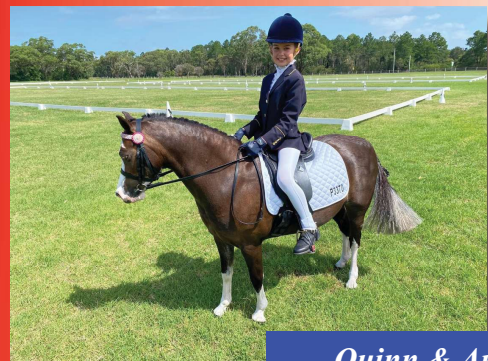
The Mews	The Shed	The Site
A first floor studio apartment located above the stable block. 2 x queen beds. Rate is \$150 per night or \$250 for a 2 night stay.	A small room located in our farm shed. 1 x double bed. Rates from \$77 per night.	Self-contained site with power and amenities (shower & toilet) block. Rates from \$77 per night.

Bring your horse and have riding lessons with Shaun France, EA Level 3 Dressage Coach and Coach Educator, or enjoy riding at your leisure...

All levels of riders are welcome to train at Hunter Valley Equestrian Centre. You can have lessons in any weather in the undercover arena, or ride outside on the outdoor arena, around the jumping course and then relax out on the bush trails.

Package deals are available to include both rider and horse accommodation. Stabling is available from \$22 per night, lessons are \$80 per hour and use of the arenas if you are wanting to ride on your own are \$11 per hour. Please contact Shaun France on 0407 200 907 for more information.

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Quinn & Andy



Shaun & Roseman

all started at HVEC and are all still great friends - Thaisa Erwin, Kerrie Parker, Sally Hurt and myself. Thaisa riding Hialita (owned by Michael and Wendy Smith) will be representing Australia at the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup in Wellington, USA from 28th February to 3rd of March. I cannot send you enough good wishes, love and support. Good luck and have a fantastic ride.

There is no doubt that working with horses makes you think you are invincible. After 10 days of discomfort with a sore eye, I was summonsed to the specialist, treated and told to rest. Lucky for me the Willinga Park Dressage by the Sea 2024 live streaming was happening. It was really interesting to see new riders and horses competing. The Grand Prix horses were all well behaved and the riders were really doing a great job. So many entries, so inspiring. Congratulations to all the successful riders and horses who took home ribbons, and especially to my truly special favourites - Heath & Bronze Boy, Rozzie & Nemo and Riley & Riski - a big hug and congratulations.

I don't get many visitors, probably because you have to come on feed up. Sandi Rhoades, my long time friend from Bellingen, came to visit and yes, she came on feed up at 6:30 am. Her primary reason was to burn off the very nice dinner that we had the night before at Blanca in Newcastle. At Christmas I received a gift voucher from Erin and Lilly - thank you, it was a really nice night.

I would like to welcome Danielle & Bandit, and Allyson & Simba. Simba is wearing Rambo rugs which are my really, really favourite rugs.

Last but not least, my grandsons Austyn & Myles started their first day at school. I did feed up at 6 am, dressed completely non-horse and went to see them go for their first day. They are gorgeous and they even ride well now. Have a great year boys.

That's it for February. Until March 2024, be good and try to relax (impossible).

From Shaun.



JUMPING TEAM
Longines FEI Nations Cup Final - Wellington


Scott Keach
Nobel de la Chapelle

Rowan Willis
Blue Movie

Hilary Scott
Keatingstown Skorphults Joker

Thaisa Erwin
Hialita

Good luck Thaisa and the Australian Jumping Team



Austyn & Myles ready for their first day of school