

New Zealand Riding Clubs



Riders Round Up



December 2012

HELP NEEDED.... WHAT CAN WE DO????

Rodney has been ignored for three years about the following, Can we help him in any way???

NZ has lost 18,000 loyal, true Horses on the Battlefield, who suffered the utmost cruel and violent deaths with a level of distress, quite unimaginable. Valiantly pulling the big Guns, beyond human Soldiers endeavour to the front lines and only to drown in the cold boggy mud fields of France or die in the lethal volleys of fire in such disparate places as the Veld in South Africa during the Boer War, and even as late as World War II in skirmishes our Troops were involved in Palestine (Israel).

Now as you would be the first to know – a horse is a noble, faithful, willing large animal – intelligent and very responsive to Human love and care and I absolutely think and want the massive legacy of their most honourable, enormous sacrifice helping our devoted Soldiers do their best in appalling circumstances – deserves a short citation on all War Memorials – reminding all, that our soldiers couldn't have done it without the Herculean contribution of our beloved four legged friends!

But unbelievably – I'm staggered – the RSA who have been given control of War Memorials and seemingly seen as untouchable by any Political Party have deliberately ignored my every communication up and down NZ for 3 years.

Indifference I've never seen this of before. And it's not right!

Now I earnestly believe, that the most noble contribution of collectively 18,000 horribly slain horses that never knew what hit them far from home – have the inalienable right to a few words of recognition of their bravery to appear beside our men and women, on memorials for all to be prompted the total picture of what took place on the front line. At the moment it's a glaring omission, without their mention.

Please contact Mr Rodney W Martin, 12 Surrey Street, Solway, Masterton 5810



A TRIP NOT EVEN DREAMED OF AND ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE IT WAS IN LONDON

THE OLYMPIC GAMES 2012

Well the Olympics are over and what a splendid couple of weeks. The events were good, mostly, I did not enjoy the basketball, the transport was A1 and the volunteers extraordinary. They were everywhere, always with a smile and full of help especially to disabled people wheelchairs and anyone using a stick! There were 70,000 of them and one or two I got to see regularly especially en route to Greenwich for the equestrian. Jean my sister accompanied me to quite a number of events and it was good to have the company. She lives only just over an hour from Stratford where the Olympic Village was and we had up to two hours further to reach Greenwich. Being used to one train a day here at home, one every ten minutes from Colchester into London was extraordinary but much appreciated!

We had tickets for all the Eventing and the settings were superb. The arena was amazing with great seating and the cross country although in a smaller area than for a normal 3 day event had views over London, lots of twists and turns and hills, the latter catching a lot of riders out with tired horses and thus time faults. New Zealand winning a Bronze Medal was the icing on the cake.



Great Britain was on a high after the Show Jumping Gold and to be repeated for the Team Dressage., sent them into Seventh Heaven.

The free style dressage to music was incredible seeing all those famous riders and with over 90% the winning score from Charlotte Dujardin. Her choice of music was inspiring and had everyone on the edge of their seats and the spectators erupted when the scores were announced. Several of my non horsey relatives and friends said afterwards (watching on TV) they did not realise horses could dance like that.

I found the Pentathlon very interesting, and this year it had a slightly different format, reminiscent of the cross country skiing and shooting (cannot remember its proper name). After the fencing and swimming, at the Olympic Village, which I did not attend they had SJ at 1.20m. The horses were randomly selected/allocated and they had 20mins to get to know the horse and do only five jumps. Competitors had seen all the horses jumped the day before so knew they were capable. However I think the atmosphere got to some of the horses and riders that day with thousands of cheering spectators. On the whole I am sure this the weakest phase with only 5 clears rounds from the men and one from the women, 72 riders in total. We saw lots of spills but nothing serious, and again the jump stands and decoration were fully UK themed and very imaginative from; Stonehenge, to the Cutty Sark, the Beatles, Olympics 1948, Tower of London, Trafalgar Square, red post boxes and more. The shooting range was set up at the end of the Show Jumping Arena and it took very little time to clear the show jumps and all the decorations and mark out the running track, for the last two phases.

The shoot and run was all in one. The order of start was determined by their positions to date. All the accumulated points, from the three phases were changed into seconds with 4 points equal to 1 second. The fastest started on zero seconds and others at intervals up to about a minute for the men and two and a half for the women. They ran 100m to the shooting range, and used lasers rather than firearms with electronic scoring, eg red to start and green as each target hit. This meant instantaneous scoring which the spectators could see too. They had to get 5 hits, run 1km, shoot again, repeat once more then run the final 1km to the finish line, also in the stadium. (ie total of 3km and 15 hits) It took a very good runner and shooter to change the medal order, as the first home got gold, second silver and third bronze. The women's did change but not the men's from memory, but some minor placings did. This must be a true test of an all round athlete.

We also got to the Olympic Village and the Athletics Stadium and what a magnificent place. We were there for preliminaries so had long sessions and saw lots of sports eg shot put, hurdles, javelin, hop skip and jump, pole vault (now that is a long winded event) 100m and 200m men's sprints. In the heptathlon women's event they have to be experts at seven different disciplines and here the GB poster girl Jessica Ennis came up trumps. What athletes!

The down side; very expensive souvenirs and often long queues for food especially at Greenwich but the sport made up for it. I was able to make my first trip to Wimbledon and saw some great tennis with Roger Federer and Maria Shrapova. Now shopping there was easy, probably because shops are always in place whereas everywhere else they were put up especially for the Olympics. The first day of the eventing dressage there were no running sheets and this was obviously an oversight, and upset the usual eventing spectators, but they were available every day afterwards.

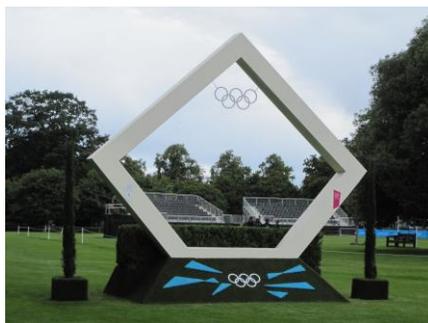
The weather generally good but the noisiest thunder storm I have ever been in, some really hot sun and generally English summer weather – anything goes!

At the end of August we set off to the Burghley Horse Trials with two caravans and an awning for accommodation and eleven other members of Jean's family having a last fling before they started school again. As usual this was most enjoyable and seeing our top riders up close again. The final show jumping put Andrew Nicholson as the winner when the leader had three rails down. I felt sorry for her as she had done so well up till then. The Marine band was in the Arena and asked to play the New Zealand National Anthem. We waited, and waited, and waited, someone was seen to run across the arena with a piece of paper and we waited; a voice in front of me said 'They have been practising the Stars and Stripes all morning!' We finally got a barely recognisable God Defend New Zealand!

I feel very fortunate to have done this trip and hope the above gives you a little idea of what happened, although I saw very few events when you realize what was on offer.

Evelyn Cooper

Some pictures of the very cool Cross Country Jumps.



Profile: Bev Birkett. Committee and North Island Bridleways Convener

WELL ,THIS IS ABOUT ME !

Born in Taihape 1946

I was bought up in the Kingcountry in a small town called NihoNiho on a dairy and dry stock farm.

I was thrown astride a horse at the age of three years and from then on have always wanted to be near them.

I learnt to ride on a Shetland pony called TIDDLEWICKS and boy did I have some tumbles.

Bare back riding was the norm and with older cousins and brothers always yelling at me to 'KEEP UP', quickly saw me total my 100 falls required to becoming a rider !!

Attended Pony Club at the age of 14 years at Matiere and wasn't very good. Didn't like my hands been smacked for not having my thumbs up ! OUCH .Preferred galloping around the farms dressed up as PHANTOM or COWBOYS and treasured my days with DAD mustering the hills with horses and dogs.

Went nursing and married my wonderful BILL [47yrs now] had two girls who like me enjoyed horses.

Become a Pony Club instructor and was for approximately 46yrs on a regular basis. [NO I DIDNT SMACK HANDS WITH STICK]

I am at present a Pony Club certificate examiner to B Certificate level.

I am an Equine Industry Tutor and Examiner.

I am a Level 4 ESNZ Dressage Judge.

I am a Member of PONYCLUB, DRESSAGE CLUB, ADULT RIDING CLUB and I am the BRIDLEWAYS CONVENOR AT NATIONAL LEVEL.

Like competing for myself.

I enjoy eventing as my main discipline but have done them all and like my horses to be all-rounders.

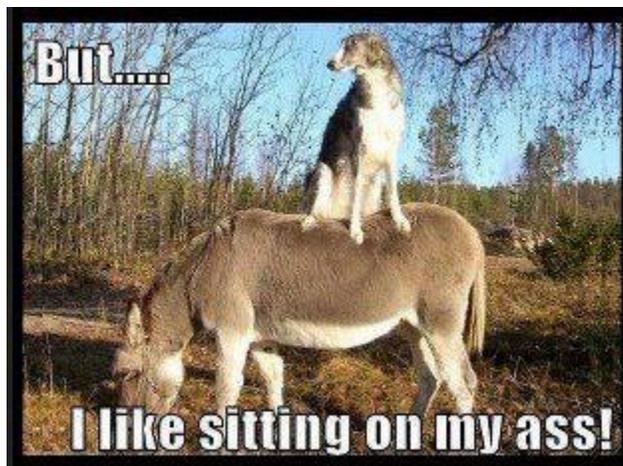
I have completed a NATIONAL THREE DAY EVENT in Taupo .

TODAY I have two T/B horses which I ride out and about with and school etc four to five times a week.

I compete in lower level events now and hope to continue riding until I can't get in the saddle, THEN WATCH OUT, for my wonderful marriage may end as I have indicated I will need a Minature horse to share my mat beneath my feet .haha

CHEERS FOR THE LOVE OF HORSES

Bev Birkett NZRC NORTH ISLAND BRIDLEWAYS CONVENER.



Bridleways report from Bev Birkett. North Island Report

Well the petition has dominated my life for weeks as I pursued signatures to get the numbers up. Found most keen to sign but hard to get ambassadors to run with me. However, I attended the Mystery creek Field day and spent many hours walking and talking while people signed on the dotted line of the petition. Managed to get approximately 200 signatures on one day!!

Over the period prior to the meeting in Papakura I had approximately 800 signatures, now I seem to have approached every Equestrian in Taupo plus others. The meeting with Ian McKelvie was an education, re the scale of horses and their worth in New Zealand. The meeting was well run with approximately 150 people attending. I put a 20 page folder together and gave to the MP Ian McKelvie, to take away with him. Just as well as time for questions were limited. It was great to have Christine and Noeline from the Riding Clubs for support.

I was also invited to New Zealand Walking Access's annual meeting in Wellington but had family commitments so could not attend. However I rang and spoke to the people involved and discovered that my local Taupo Council Recreational Manager is part of NZ Walking Access so I've made a point of emailing him and making him aware of my new found knowledge and that there could be a way to get funding for a Bridleway in conjunction with walking, cycling providing it's a 'Share with Care'.

From all this, my conclusion is that many more signatures are needed to have a say in Parliament (like another 40,000 more) Locally I will continue the battle via MP and LINZ (Wellington) to get a "Freedom" Path through Crown Park in Taupo. I feel 50% positive I will Win!! We will see.

Will keep on keeping on and the need for safe paths for horse riding is being promoted.

New Zealand Riding Club and Bridleways Inc South Island Report

The Trail Ride season has begun, the molting season is almost over and the rain keeps coming...my poor horses need gumboots.

I have locked up the hay paddock, and soon it will be the time when you find out who your true friends are....hay carting!!!!!!

Oh dear, the committee meeting in Palmy....well I didn't make it. Got up at 5am, feed the horses, mucked out the paddock, walked the dog and drove to the airport. At the airport discovered that my ticket didn't allow baggage (unless I wanted to pay another \$35.00) but the nice lady behind the counter said my overnight bag qualified as hand luggage, so, no problem. Flew to Wellington and hung about the airport for an hour before the announcement to say that the flight was delayed was made. Ok running late by 30min, still manageable, then the message that the flight had been cancelled. BUGGER...but no problem says the nice man behind the counter, we will fly you via Auckland and you will get to Palmy by 2pm. So I said thanks, but, no thanks, I want to go home.

So now I had the weekend at home.....decided to go for a ride down the river and into the forest. Away I went, riding my good old reliable and leading my youngster. All going good until the river bank collapsed under us and I hit the river bed with the ribs I broke 18 months ago. So nothing else to do but get back on the horse, ride home (about 15mins) unsaddle my horse, put them into the paddock and then drive myself to the emergency doctor approx. 40min away. The emergency Dr fills me up with morphine and calls the ambulance. I then spend the next 24 hours in hospital being told that if my lung collapses overnight, they will be putting in a chest drain. Finally home again, having to be very careful as I still have the air-pocket between my ribs and lungs, the hope being that Mother Nature will cure things in

COMMITTEE MEETING

**Hotel Coachman
140 Fitzherbert Ave
Palmerston North
29 September 2012**

Meeting Opened 11.05am

PRESENT: John Flintoff, Bev Birkett, Helen Hansen, Glenda Schumacher, John Moore, Heather Cooper, Evelyn Cooper, Marilyn Montgomery, Donna Harley, Andrea Parker, Christine Christian, Vicky Siddall.

APOLOGIES: Noeline Jeffries, Judy Williams, Sheryl Goble, Rosemary Lee-Oldfield, Jean, Fitzgerald

MINUTES: Previous minutes were read.

MATTERS ARISING:

Helen queried about the NITE rule change, re Quadrille music. Andrea to send out to all committee and clubs the new amendments, before the next committee meeting.

Under Matters Arising it should read; "The Host club holding the AGM was given \$100-00".

Stallion rule has been changed in the amendments.

Helen has not had time to go through the boxes, as this is a huge job. It was decided that all old records and boxes be brought to NITE 2013. John Moore has kindly offered to separate AGM and Committee minutes and important documents. The rest will be destroyed. The Committee will discuss what is to happen to these documents that we are keeping when we have a clearer idea of how much paper is involved.

Jobs from Last Meeting

Pukahua Club has advised us that they are unable to Host NITE this year.

Not many clubs have responded to questionnaire in Riders Roundup about what other phases they would like to see in NITE/SITE. Hoof ball was discussed but it was felt that this could be a difficult phase. Discussion was had on this. Bev has kindly offered to bring a hoof ball to the next NITE for teams to experiment with.

Facebook is up and working.

Riders Round Up is great. Thank you Heather.

It was noted that not all the committee profiles have been given to Riders Roundup and Jean for the Website.

Vicky had a quote for leasing a computer for the Secretary to use. This seemed to be the expensive option. She also had a quote of \$1099.00 to buy one. Marilyn will look into the price of buying a laptop through her contacts. She may be able to get a very good deal. She will get back to the committee with prices for approval.

Financial:

NZ Riding Clubs main account \$10,533-51
NZ Riding Clubs Savings Acc \$ 5,448-31
Bridleways of NZ Main acc \$ 215-72
Bridleways of NZ Savings acc \$5,473.74

Payments Approved:

Bridleways, Stationary \$34-95 **Helen/Bev**

NZRC, Christine \$166-00 Noeline \$76-00. **Vicky/John M**

Airfares: Helen moved that the airfares be fully refunded for 3 South Island members to attend this meeting.

Helen/Glenda

A discussion was had on how much this meeting has cost. Where possible we need to look at clubs covering

half costs and NZRC covering the other half. A lot of clubs are not financial enough to cover costs. The cost of the meeting at Palmerston North is \$1,926-00.

It was noted that the Insurance has gone up a lot. It may well increase next year as well.

Affiliation from clubs last year \$ 9674-00.

It was found that the mileage being paid does not need to be altered. The cost of Airfares needs to reassess. It was decided that NZRC would pay half airfares within reason.

Correspondence

John Moore has asked what the patron role is. He would like to see NZRC patrons as a financial backer where possible. Do the patrons have voting rights? He already has voting as a life member. It was pointed out that only the President has 2 votes. The constitution states that there is no voting rights for patrons. Life members are not committee members. The meeting has left it up to John to decide what role he takes at meetings.

He does not think that gifts should be handed out. There are some jobs should be acknowledges and gifts given. A discussion was had on this. The gifts should be left up to the discretion of the committee.

It was suggested that the Bridleways could have a name change. Green Trials is being used more in this day and age. The committee discussed this and it was agreed that the name Bridleways stays the same. Christine will reply to Jan Mossman about this.

The use of Body Protectors has been discussed at previous meetings. NZRC recommends that body protectors be used. Medical armbands are strongly advised as well. Andrea to reply to Twin City Riding Club.

NITE

Kapiti Riding Club will run the Show Jumping Phase, and turnout.

Masterton Arc is unable to run the X Country phase this year as they have committed to another event at the same time.

Taupo ARC will run the Quadrille.

Coastal ARC will run the games.

We need to find a club that is willing to run the cross-country phase. Evelyn suggested that if Taupo could not find a club to run the cross-country phase then maybe they could hold another Show Jumping phase.

A discussion was held about the date of NITE each year. This usually conflicts with families going away together and some members find it difficult to participate because of this.

Trophies are to be found and brought back to Taupo for NITE 2013 or sent back to Carlie Gainesford c/- Taupo Saddlery, Waikato Street, Taupo. Andrea to find out which clubs have these trophies.

REPORTS:

The North Island's Presidents report was tabled.

The Presidents report was tabled.

The South Island's Vice Presidents Report was tabled.

The Bridleways report was tabled. It was agreed that Bev and Christine (\$166-00) be reimbursed for a meeting that they both attended. (Bev's expenses had already been approved.)

Helen pointed out that expenses need to be approved before attending meetings. In future the Secretary will need to notify the Executive Committee to get approval before a member attends any unexpected meetings.

The Riders Roundup Report was tabled. Unfortunately Heather has also tendered her resignation. She will be unable to continue as Editor or as a committee member. The committee expressed their gratitude to Heather for a very thankless job that she has been doing. Heather will send out one more Riders Roundup after this meeting.

South Island Bridleways Report was included in the Riders Roundup.

The meeting was suspended for lunch at 1.10pm

The meeting was reconvened 1.54pm

General Business

A discussion was held about keeping the compulsory jumping phases in NITE. Marilyn asked if you could win NITE or SITE without competing in a jumping phase? It was decided that you couldn't.

Marilyn discussed the option to open NITE/SITE to other non-affiliated teams. She has discussed this with some South island people who are looking for things to do with their equines. She thinks that this would work. People that she has approached were open to this idea. The follow on from this is that people might join NZRC after the competition.

A discussion was had on the compulsory phases. The rules say minimum of two non-jumping and 2 jumping. There is a Maximum of 6 phases.

Evelyn thinks that the rules cover what is needed for NITE and SITE.

It was decided that NITE 2013 is to go ahead with no change to the phases.

The date for SITE has been set for the last weekend in March 2013.

Andrea suggested that she send a reminder out to clubs about the current financial year for affiliations. Some clubs are not affiliating in time and they may find themselves with no insurance.

Road safety handbook. Evelyn thinks that this is almost ready to be published. Andrea has a Pdf copy of this. A copy is to go on our website and facebook. Heather is still working on the test sheets. The test sheets when finished will go on the website as well. The answers will not be supplied. It was suggested that these could be made available to the local pony clubs.

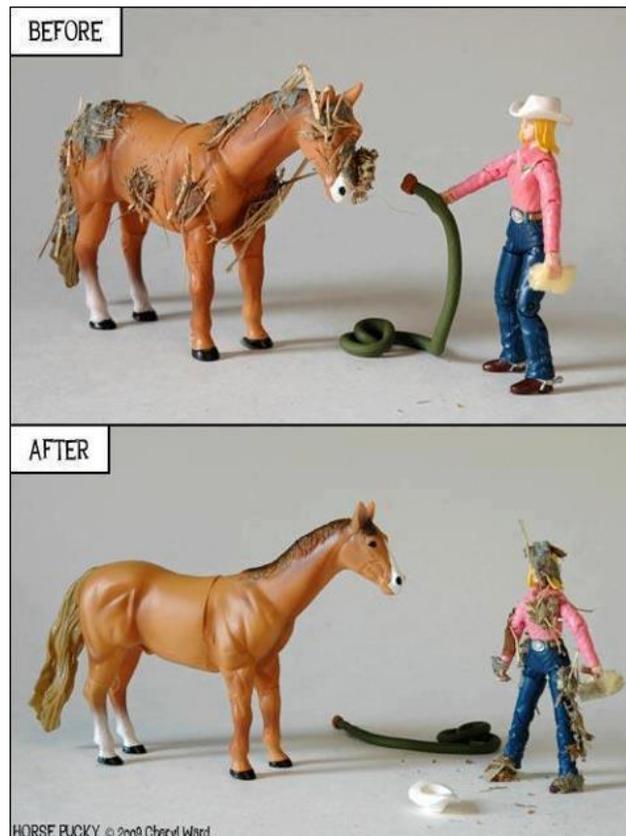
John Moore has asked that the Agenda for meetings be sent out 14 days prior to meeting.

The NZRC banner has been located. Helen got a quote for updating this, but unfortunately the person involved has passed away. Christine will look into getting a new banner. Possible two banners. One for the NZRC and Bridleways and another for past and current Presidents, Secretary's and Treasurer's. Andrea will find the information for this. We could have one for the North Island and another for the South Island.

The AGM has been set for 8th and 9th June 2013. Springston Club to host this in Christchurch.

Meeting Closed: 3-12pm

Next Meeting: 5 January 2013 at 7pm. National Equestrian Centre Taupo



From the editor.

Well life can be very busy cant it. I have been flat out but at least the weather is on the brighter side!!

I have decided to change the dates so that we have this (the December issue) then the next one out will be in February so that we can get NITE results out soon after NITE instead of 2 months after and because I wanted to say **HAPPY CHRISTMAS** to everyone and their horses. I hope everyone has a great day with family and friends and safe holidays.

We are still looking for a Club to run a jumping phase at NITE. Can your club help?? Please email Andrea at nzridingclubs@hotmail.com or Bev (Taupo Riding Club) at taupo-fisherman@windowslive.com

I would also like to apologize to those members that I offended in the last issue of RRU by printing a joke that I realize really was not very pc at all. Makes me realize that I should make sure I read everything properly before printing (or emailing out).

Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year and hope to see you all at NITE.

Heather

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



MY TRIP TO SEE THE KAIMANAWA HORSES

Noeline Jeffries

The trip to see the Kaimanawa Horses was arranged by the Kaimanawa Heritage Horse Welfare Society Inc. To ensure that I gained a place on one of the buses I had to book and pay for it earlier on in the year when it was first advertised.

Saturday 24th November duly arrived and I headed down to Ohakune with Janiene Cook where we were booked in at Ossie's for our two nights accommodation.

We arrived in good time for the BBQ tea that night and for our \$20 it was a most delicious BBQ with so many salads and desserts. They catered for about 155 people and did a really good job.

Next morning we drove to Waiouru Army Museum where it was arranged to meet and after the roll call, boarded one of the three buses armed with our cameras in the hope of capturing that precious photo of the herd.



Our first sighting was about five or six horses with a foal at foot and the bus driver stopped for us to get out and take some photos. We were all warned not to get too close but in the eagerness to get photos, some of the group did get a little too close and of course the horses just walked or ran away.

Everytime there was a group of these horses, the driver would stop the bus so we could photograph them. I have never seen so many expensive cameras with huge zoom lenses and tripods owned by these sightseers keen to get that perfect photo.

Our first stop was where we had a wonderful view of the three Mountains, Ruapehu, Tongariro and Ngaruahoe. Bill Fleury from DOC gave a brief talk on the history of the area and pointed out the boundaries and rock formation that had built up after millions of years.

Our next stop was the mustering yards where we ate our lunch and Bill Fleury took the opportunity to talk on the history of the Kaimanawa Horses and how they did the muster with helicopters which was a great success.

The largest herd we saw was about 27 horses all galloping along the ridge in full flight. Horses of all sizes and colours with several foals galloping alongside their mothers.

I think we would have seen about 90 horses all in small herds of families of about 7 or 8. There were several foals but I would say that there would be more on the way. Apparently they are quite late due to the cold weather.

We headed off about 4 pm back to where our cars were parked. Some of the people headed home and a few who had travelled long distances stayed another night.

I loved the trip and can't wait for the next one which I believe will be about March next year. I can assure you it is well worth it.

Noeline Jeffries

25.11.12

New Zealand Riding Clubs and Bridleways Inc

November 2012

Ok, where to start..... The show season has begun, as has the trail riding season and neither my horses or I are fit enough to do either. I've only just got my Doctors clearance after my last wee incident, I've had a couple of rides...boy are we all unfit. I've promised my doctor that I will wear back/chest protection when I go riding: surely I've done my share of ribs for now, time for some-one else to have a turn .

I've booked my tickets for NITE and so now I'm looking forward to a few days in Taupo in the new year. This year has gone really quickly, we will soon be travelling south for SITE. Hopefully we will get our entry forms soon (hint, hint Vicky) so that we can see what we are letting ourselves in for.

Its been very quiet since the last NZRC meeting, but I think the thing that has come to my attention most, is the fact that some clubs have yet to re-affiliate. Affiliation is in line with the National AGM date, (June) not with the date of your clubs AGM. Remember, if you haven't affiliated to NZRC, your members cant attend SITE, but more importantly, money wise, you have no insurance should something go wrong during a notified club event. (A notified event is one that has been advertised in your newsletter or similar). Can your club afford to pay out thousands of dollars for damage done to some-ones' car when a horse kicks out, or to pay for the helicopter needed to fight the fire which was accidently started by a club member as you were riding through the forestry? So if you haven't already done so, download the affiliation form from the NZRC website and send back to the Secretary.

Talking of things computer, have you visited the NZRC face-book page yet? Not a lot on it, have you guys all been snuggled up in your warm beds instead of riding your horses? Come on, tell us what you have been up to. I know that there are stirrings happening down south (Dunedin way) re having horses recognized in the district plan, well done to those supporting this effort. Love to have you promote your club and yourselves on Facebook. Or maybe, with Christmas break coming up, those of you who can travel, could use it as a means of finding accommodation with other NZRC members in different parts of the country. Other horsey people are the only ones who truly understand the need to "smell a horse" every now and then to stop having with-drawl symptoms. Plenty of room at my house, so long as you don't expect to find a tidy house, paddocks yes, house no!

To finish off as I am running late getting this out,Those of you who do live down Dunedin way, please give your support to Sarah Hexamer, she is steering a group to improve the lot of horse riders in the south. She can be contacted by going onto the facebook page: Horse Network South Island or Horse riders of Dunedin unite. (I think I have read her email correctly. All the best Sarah, in your endeavours. I will keep watch on the facebook page.

And just to make your day

CHRISTMAS IS ONLY 22 SLEEPS ☺ AWAY

Safe and happy riding

Rosemary Lee-Oldfield