

Presidents Report

Welcome back to our riders, volunteers and coaches! 2010 looks to be an exciting year. Seven of our coaches will be flying up to Napier this July to attend the NZRDA's Coaches Clinic; this will enable them to expand on their already broad base of Therapeutic Riding and the Clinic is always a knowledgeable two days!

I am sure you have heard about the development of the Southern Motorway which will directly impact C.R.D.A. as the Motorway's direct path is through our three paddocks. So, to the drawing board with CCC to ensure we are allocated enough paddock area to accommodate our equine team and carry on our programs with the least disruption. Over the next few months surveyours, fences and site establishments are on the agenda. I will keep you

updated on progress news as it comes to hand.

On a sadder note the C.R.D.A. team including riders, parents and caregivers are very disappointed that sometime between Friday, 26 Feb, after 6 p.m. and the morning of Saturday 27 Feb, someone cut through our deer fencing on Wigram Road, right on the sharp bend, behind the shelter of a large tree and then proceeded to dismantle our electric fence, reels, white fence standards and then ripped out the horses 75 litre plastic water trough!!!

They put this in their vehicle, leaving a very distressed horse running around the paddock until morning with no water!!! Come on people how low can you go!!!

We hope you never have

to use our services, but think long and hard about the children and adults that do. We are a charity; this is the third time this has happened. If you wish to return the stolen property, no questions asked, please call 027 348 3456. Or contact: Mike Davies, the Community Constable, Sockburn.

On a positive note: since this incident took place we have had several offers of assistance to help resolve this situation so hopefully it will not happen again.

We look forward to a great 2010 going forward!

Jayne Findlay
President

From the Office

Term 1 2010: a new year begins, a new semester, new riders and new volunteers! A big welcome back to those who have been with us before! And, a big welcome to all you newcomers! We couldn't do it without you! I hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday break!

The Office has been busy since starting back; I hit the ground running and haven't stopped. The semester started off with a few hiccups as we lost a group of riders due to unforeseen circumstances.

However, the coach of the day took the opportunity to

have a training session with her volunteers – new and old which turned out well. Luckily I was able to pull together more riders off of our waiting list and we now have a full session running.

Please note that my office hours have changed to the following:

Wed 8:30 – 5:30

Thursday 8:30 – 4:00

Friday 8:30 – 5:30

If you have any queries or concerns please contact me or leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

I also wanted to let you know that this will be my last Office update as I have sadly had to resign my role as Office Administrator. However, I am not leaving C.R.D.A. and will continue in my role as Treasurer and member of the Committee.

Thank you all for your support!

Sandra Meek
Office Administrator



*"Horses put
fun back
into function!"*

Training Report Term 4

Fresh new year, fresh new training program!

For those of you new to C.R.D.A. there are now 2 levels and 2 parts to the coach training. The levels are assistant coach and coach. For each level there are 2 parts, Equine Unit Standards i.e. U.S. 1660 'catch and prepare a horse for exercise' (NZ equestrian wide Unit standards) and RDA specific Unit Standards i.e. US 17040 'leading and side walking and mounting/dismounting for RDA purposes'. Coach training takes 2 to 3 years to complete as there are over 30 equine and RDA U.S. to do.

All volunteers are expected to participate in an Introductory Workshop (held at the beginning of each term) and then try and attend the one day volunteer course held annually. These two courses cover rider, volunteer and horse safety, as well as the benefits of therapeutic riding programs.

All training courses are detailed on the training board in the club rooms or email jennynicol@xtra.co.nz

TRAINING COURSES:

10th March: Introductory course Jenny and Annette

20th March: NZRDA volunteer course – participants then eligible to do U.S. 17037(open bk unit)

28th April: Introductory course Jenny and Annette

29th May: leading, side walking, mounting and dismounting (US 17040)

NZRDA leading and side walking certificate: p.m. course if demand – will put up list.

Please read the training board for these and other general interest courses.

Jenny Nicol C.R.D.A.
Training Coordinator

Para-Equestrian Training Session

The C.R.D.A. committee has decided to start a para equestrian sport group. This group has been set up for people with physical disabilities who have been in a riding therapy program but who now wish to explore the sport of para-equestrian competition.

Elaine Rutherford, a very experienced BHS coach, is prepared to coach this group. It is going to run concurrently with the

Thursday p.m. therapeutic session and will have a maximum of 3 riders.

This session will be charged at a commercial rate and C.R.D.A. will hire the rider a C.R.D.A. horse if needed. The first para rider for this group is Jackie Jamieson whose coaching fees will be paid for by the NZ Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

Enquires and application form to join please contact:

Jenny Nicol:
jennynicol@xtra.co.nz

or

C.R.D.A. :
chchrda@paradise.net.nz



Jackie Jamieson on Rascal

Riding Therapy Pad

**Donation
of
Riding Therapy
Pad**

The NZ Thoroughbred Breeders Association has donated a nap leather pad with handles that they commissioned and was specifically made for C.R.D.A. This will be used by children who would benefit from being able to feel the movement of the horse but need the support of handles. Most RDA handles are on a separate girth which means two girths are needed to keep the sheepskin and handles safely in place.

Thank you!
NZ Breeders Association committee for supporting our riders and C.R.D.A.

Committee Notes

I would like to say a big thank you to four of our committee members who are standing down from the committee.

Jenny Nicol for all her past roles on the committee over the past 15 years which have included past President for seven years, coaching the Thursday sessions, Arena management sub-committee and the relocation committee; not to forget the many valuable years of voluntary time. Jenny has been a dedicated and valuable team player. We look forward to her continual support in the important roll of Training Officer for C.R.D.A.

Dennis Cusdin, as you will remember, came on the committee as our "Mr Fix It" man, but due to ongoing health issues, has decided to stand down from the committee role for a year so he can concentrate on regaining and looking after his health. In the short time Dennis was on the committee he was relied on for his exceptional skills as "Mr Fix It", he was a fantastic asset to

our Arena Management sub-committee. We all wish him well and look forward to seeing him back in 2011.

Sheree Hubber is standing down for 2010 as family and work commitments have altered her situation. We are very pleased she is staying on as the Tuesday Coach. Sheree has been on C.R.D.A.'s committee for five years and has been an active committee member. Sheree has been a great asset to our busy horse care sub-committee sourcing, transporting and overseeing their well being.

Helen Knight is another hard working committee member who joined us in 2009. Helen took on the roll of Horse Sponsorship person and has done an excellent job of keeping track of all the paper work and certificates. Helen is still a keen volunteer on Thursdays.

A big thank you to all of these talented volunteers, for without your help and dedication, C.R.D.A. would not be the great RDA that it is.

CHRISTCHURCH RIDING FOR THE DISABLED
WILL BE HOLDING THEIR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON
THURSDAY, 25 MARCH 2010 COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.



THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT:
CHRISTCHURCH RDA EQUESTRIAN CENTRE
61 WIGRAM ROAD
WIGRAM



ALL ARE WELCOME!



Jessica on Inky Term 4 2009

Jessica, A Success Story:

"Jessica rides at C.R.D.A. every Friday morning, she has Rett Syndrome (a neurodevelopmental disorder) and has progressed from a 10 minute ride up to 30 / 40 minutes each session. She has shown so much progress over the past four terms and at first she needed a cushion for front support and a leader and two experienced side-walkers to support her trunk. As she has become more confident and her core muscles have strengthened the cushion as been taken away enabling her to sit upright on her own. We are all very excited in the progress Jessica has made over the past 4 terms and would have to put this progress down to the therapeutic riding she does."

From the Rider's Rep

Hello Riders! And welcome to Term 1 of 2010! I trust that you all return to C.R.D.A. after a long and relaxing Christmas break? And to those who may be just starting out with us – a warm welcome. Perhaps a few of you may have been lucky enough to do some riding over the Christmas period? If you have, then we would love to hear about it, so please send a note into me at C.R.D.A. sometime and tell us all about it so that we may share your experiences! Photos welcome too!

Well, what is the weather going to do? Quite frankly, I have no idea! Therefore my

the term just completed, before you can commence riding in the next term. As we have explained before our term fees are miniscule, especially compared to riding schools in general, and considering the therapeutic nature of the riding offered, represent good value for money! We are a totally voluntary organisation and our members work very hard to raise the money that subsidises your riding costs – and they don't mind a bit! You're worth it! But please! We need your small contribution too. Thanks folks!

Charles Taylor ph: 03 329 0885

usual advice to you regarding clothing would probably be worthless. It's time for you guys to take control of the decision making process yourselves and all I can say is, don't forget the robust footwear! (Oh, and the 50+ sunscreen for your outside treks!).

We apologise for the slightly late start to the term, but once again this was due to those unavoidable events that do, by good fortune, have the effect of subsidizing your riding costs during the term. (The silver lining to the cloud!).

Whilst on this subject, I would like to remind all riders and caregivers that we must insist on the full payment of riding fees for

And finally, a huge thank you to all of those volunteers and coaches, who make all of your riding sessions happen, by giving so selflessly of their time. Thanks Guys!

OK riders! Be off with you now and get stuck into enjoying your riding! And remember, that if you're having a good time, then I would like to hear about it!

Meanwhile, any issues that you may have, then please call me anytime on phone: 03 329 0885.

Best Regards and

Happy Riding!

Charles Taylor

Horse Profile



Blokey

Blokey is a cheeky little gentleman of 13.2hh. He is a lovely crossbred chestnut colour with white markings.

We were able to purchase him through a donation and we are very excited to have him become part of our team.

He is young at only seven years old and still has a bit more learning to do; but his

size is ideal for the smaller more able, independent rider. He has a flat anterior / posterior movement.

Blokey has enjoyed being a child's pony – trekking over the summer and doing flat work with a very confident, experienced young rider.

Blokey
"Our cheeky little gentleman"

Cerebral Palsy Family Fun Day

A big thank you to three of our volunteers, who gave up their Sunday morning to fly the C.R.D.A. flag at the Cerebral Palsy Family Fun Day on Sunday, 7 March from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. They were Annette Shier, our Volunteer Coordinator, Sandy Meek our Treasurer and Janet Shand our promotional guru.

Janet Shand has spoken on our behalf many times to

various groups around Christchurch and is a great ambassador for our centre; her next speaking engagement is Wednesday, 10 March at the Rannerdale War Veterans Hospital and Home Ltd.

Cerebral Palsy Family Fun Day was a success and it was wonderful to meet, greet and talk to new families about our

therapeutic riding programs. It was also wonderful to run into and talk with previous riders and their families. We have some very interested families who have requested to go on our waiting list so we look forward to getting them into our program as soon as we possibly can!

Arena Coordinator Report

The centre was well used over the Christmas break. The Grand National Show had the facility looking absolutely amazing and once again they ran a successful show.

The Para Olympians used the centre for a couple days. It was wonderful to be able to offer them the use of the arena and they were most grateful. They were followed on by the Arabian show and then PGG Wrightsons Horse Sales.

The sales are one of our larger hires. I suppose to

one that looks on they just seem to come and go but it is always the little things that could turn into big problems if they were a miss. E.g: Ordering the toilet paper. This year the pack up went very well and by Friday evening the Miniature Horse Society were packing in for their show. Unfortunately, all the cardboard boxes and rubbish left from the outside marquee blew everywhere when the southerly came through. The powers of the weather are much stronger than the powers of the workers here on the park and I fail to see why some

people just can not understand this. On a happier note, I am off for my annual holiday to Horse of the Year. During this time the centre will be used for training. Jenny Nicol is our training officer and she is running an Introductory Course on Wednesday 10th March and also the weekend of 20th and 21st March is set aside for training. Please contact Jenny for further information.

Christine Fitzsimon
 Arena Coordinator
 christftz@hotmail.com

Sponsors and Donations:

Sponsors and Donations are an integral part of C.R.D.A.

Without support from the sponsors, C.R.D.A. would not be able to function and deliver our high standard of therapeutic riding

sessions. I ask that we show our support by utilizing the services and products of our sponsors at every opportunity.

"A special

Thank You

to the

Wigram Lion's Club

for their

generous

donation

to benefit

our riders"

Special Thanks to:

FMG Insurance

Tash@ Saddlery Barn

K Millist

IRD – Mufti Day (T. Cooper)

Wigram Lions Club

K Moore

Kaipoi Adult Riding Club

O Brosnan

K Sitjes

NZ Thoroughbred Breeders Assoc

B Dew

Rannerdale War Veterans Hospital

J Jensen

R & E Manson

B McDonald

EW or JM Turner

Horse Sponsorship Thank You's

Thank you

very much

to those who

have sponsored

horses for

another year:

Soroptimist International

Lions Club of Rolleston

J & J Burns

N & M Dulieu

MA Lloyd

S & R Meek

H O'Rawe

A Sutherland

PJ & DM Williams

B & E Wright

Sponsorships are \$50.00 minimum (businesses \$150.00) goes towards one of our horses. The sponsor receives a laminated certificate with a photo of your chosen horse.

It costs over \$2000.00 per year to look after each horse.

C.R.D.A.
61 Wigram Road
P O Box 6163
Christchurch 8442

E-mail
chchrda@paradise.net.nz

Our Horses

<u>Name</u>	<u>Height (hh)</u>	<u>Colour</u>	<u>Breed</u>	<u>Sex</u>
Avalon	15.0	Spotted	Appaloosa	Mare
Benji	14.2	Bay	Welsh/ERP X	Gelding
Blokey	13.2	Chestnut	NZ Riding Pony	Gelding
Connie	15.1	Bay	Standard Bred	Mare
Dracko	16.1	Dark Brown	Clyde/TB	Gelding
G.B.	16.1	Dark Brown	Standard Bred	Gelding
Inky	13.1	Pinto	NZ Riding Pony	Mare
Mystery	14.2	Grey	Qtr Horse X	Mare
Rascal	14.1	Dark Brown	Station Bred/Cob	Gelding
Rocky	14.0	Bay	NZ Riding Pony	Gelding
Shylo	14.3	Pinto	NZ Riding Pony	Mare
Spring	15.3	Bay	Station Bred	Gelding
Zoe	13.2	Flea Bitten Grey	NZ Riding Pony	Mare

Horse Sponsorship

Name of sponsor _____

Address _____

Telephone Daytime _____ Evening _____

I would like to sponsor _____ for the period of 12 months. Please find enclosed my cheque for _____. In the event of my sponsored horse no longer being of service to Christchurch Riding For the Disabled, I understand my sponsorship will transfer to another pony/horse of my choice.

Sponsorships are \$50.00 minimum (businesses \$150.00) goes towards one of our horses.

I Agree/Do Not Agree for my name to be displayed publicly in our centre / newsletter / website.

SIGNED _____

DATE _____

C.R.D.A.
61 Wigram Road
P O Box 6163
Christchurch 8442

Phone
03 348 4374
03 348 4339

Fax
03 348 4375

E-mail
chchrda@paradise.net.nz

Arena Booking Enquires to:
Christine Fitzsimon
03 348 4339
027 550 3682

Volunteers!

Do you enjoy working with Horses and / or Special Needs persons?

Christchurch Riding for the Disabled need Volunteer Assistants

Christchurch Riding for the Disabled has an **Indoor Equestrian Centre** situated at Canterbury Park, 61 Wigram Road. We hold **sessions** from 9:00 to 2:30 each weekday (Wednesday 9:00 – 12:00)

during school terms. Our Coaches **depend on volunteers** being available to lead horses and work with riders.

Training is given to enable volunteers to feel confident and safe.

If you are over 16 years of age and can give a few hours to our worthy and satisfying sessions, please contact us with your preferred day.

Many thanks!

Please phone: Annette, our Volunteer Coordinator on 327 7451 or contact the Centre directly.

We have had a wonderful response from radio adverts, "Coffee News" displays and our many leaflets being displayed on various Community Notice Boards, however, we still need your help - if you can spare one day a week to assist our wonderful coaches in their efforts to give our Riders the benefit of a therapeutic riding session.

About C.R.D.A.

We are one of 56 Riding for the Disabled groups throughout NZ that provide therapeutic horse riding sessions for people with disabilities. Depending upon the personnel and horses available RDA's provide group sessions that

combine therapy, education, sport and recreation. Individual session's range from special needs school groups, to IHC and rehabilitation groups. All RDA's are affiliated to a national body, NZRDA.

All the groups are incorporated volunteer organizations who raise their own funds, train volunteers and provide therapeutic riding sessions.

No government funding is provided.



"Horses Providing Therapy for People with Disabilities"

C.R.D.A.
PO BOX 6163
CHRISTCHURCH 8442



We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.chchrda.co.nz

ADDRESS LABEL