



## **HDC Annual General Meeting**

The 2016 HDC AGM will be held at  
**7pm on Tuesday, 29 November**  
at the Richmond Golf Club (next to Richmond  
railway station)

The 2016 HOTY Awards will also be presented  
**We look forward to seeing you there!**

### **In this Issue:**

HDC Training Days .....	2
Meet a Committee Member – Jeanan Yasseen .....	9
HDC Jubilee Competition: 31 July .....	12
Stefano van Zuijlen Clinic .....	14
2016 HDC Committee .....	16
HDC Sponsors .....	17

### **It Pays to Be An HDC Member!**

Membership of HDC lets you enjoy discounted  
Competition entry fees, Members-only training days,  
discounted Clinic fees and automatic entry into the  
Horse/Pony of The Year competitions

The membership year runs from 1 January to 31 December and  
membership categories are:

Junior Membership (under 21 years): \$35  
Senior Membership: \$45  
Family Membership: \$70

You can join or renew membership through Global  
Entries Online

See the HDC website (<http://hawkesburydressage.com.au/membership>) for  
full details on how to join or renew membership.

---

## HDC Training Days

The addition of Training Days to the HDC events calendar has proven to be extremely popular. Four Training Days were held throughout 2016 and each has been very enthusiastically received by our Members. It has also been great to see so many new Members amongst the riders coming along and enjoying themselves. So you can be assured that such Days will continue to feature in our 2017 calendar!

At each of our Training Days, Members have been able to participate in a range of activities including arena familiarisation, the ability to book slots for exclusive use of a practice arena, protocol tests, coaching and trail rides. Vicki Newham did a great job of conducting our protocol tests, while Rachael Downs provided her coaching expertise. We thank both Vicki and Rachael for their efforts, which were greatly appreciated by all Members who participated in those activities.

With no shortage of horses and riders as subjects, here is just a selection of photos from our July and October Training Days....



*Rohini Crombie in the warm-up arena.....*

*....before doing her protocol test with Vicki Newham*







*Definitely a family day for the Levers at the July event, with Graham having a coaching session with Rachael...*

*....while Karen had a protocol test with Vicki*







*HDC Committee Member,  
Zanna Northam*

*HDC Committee Member,  
Greg Hibberd*



*HDC Committee  
Member, Lauren James*



---

*Sharee Nielson*



*Maree Gawley on  
Bradgate Park  
Dubonnet has  
certainly raised the  
bar in terms of colour  
co-ordination!*

*Michele Jorna.....*







*....in a coaching session with Rachael*

*And just some of the many other riders enjoying the HDC Training Days...*











*A happy quartet about to set off on a trail ride: Alan Rowland, Di Saunders, Helen Lawson and Lisa Joyce*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **HDC competition entry fees in 2016.**

**Member Entry Fee: \$38**

**Non-Member Entry Fee: \$48**

**Administration Fee: \$10**

All HDC competitions and training days are held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre, Horsley Park ... a world class venue.

You can enter **all HDC activities** (competitions, training days and clinics) via Global Entries Online. You can register for these at: [www.globalentriesonline.com.au/equestrian\\_dressage/sign\\_up](http://www.globalentriesonline.com.au/equestrian_dressage/sign_up)



---

## Meet a Committee Member – Jeanan Yasseen



**How long have you been involved with Hawkesbury Dressage Club? What got you involved with our Club?** Officially, just this year. I used to work with the wonderful Leanne Bell and she encouraged me to get involved. I'd always really enjoyed the feel at HDC events, so friendly and relaxed, so it seemed like a good thing to do.

**What role do you currently play within HDC?** I'm a humble committee member, so help wherever needed and whenever work allows! It's a great club as everyone does what they can and all are appreciated.

**What does your current role on the committee entail?** As mentioned, I am always looking for ways to help. But I especially love the training days, so try to be there all day to help members with any queries and get them out on the trails.

**How long have you been riding and in what equestrian activities?** I have been riding since I was 4 years old. So maybe that is just too many years to count! I show jumped and evented while growing up, which is pretty much what I do now.

I also rode track work for Sue and Lester Piggott when I was at Uni. That was amazing. Sitting on a racehorse at Newmarket, the birthplace of racing, was such a privilege. Even if it was 5am and -5 degrees!



**What attracted you to dressage?** It's the basis of everything you do on a horse. So getting those basics right is the most important thing for me....whether riding a test or out on cross country. I do love watching the top level combinations. It's amazing



---

what those horses can do. I can remember going to Vienna with my mum when I was 11 years old....the Lipizzaners made us both cry!

**Which horses are you currently riding? Provide a few details about them. What are you doing with them at the moment?** I'm in the TB zone at the moment.

Squirt is my No. 1 man (even my husband, Mat, accepts that!) He's a 9 year old NZTB I bought as a 4 year old who just loves to jump. I think he's the most athletic horse I've ever ridden. He's off with a minor injury at the moment and driving everyone nuts as he is very sociable and hates not being ridden!

Then there's Bart. He's a 4 year old straight off the track. He's got a lovely brain and tries very hard. I've had him in work for three weeks, so the plan is to get him out to some baby dressage and jumping days before we start eventing next year. I will take him to the training day as it's such a low-stress environment for the bubs.

**What do you concentrate on most with your dressage training?** Consistency, I think. It's what you need on a TB that can get sparky when warming up. Just the same routine and the same rules wherever you are, whatever you are doing.

**What is your next goal with your current dressage horses?** Well, with Bart it would be nice to ride a decent Prelim test! With Squirt, he should be up to Elementary when he comes back in work. Actually, a Prix Caprilli test at HDC next year would also be good if it could be arranged!

**Is there anyone in particular who has inspired you in your equestrian pursuits?**

I love the German event riders.

Michael Jung is an extraordinary horseman and Ingrid Klimke is just such a beautiful rider and trainer of horses. It's just a pleasure to watch them ride.

Then the British showjumpers. The Whitakers and Nick Skelton were my idols growing up...and they are still at the top of their game. They provide hope for us all.



In terms of coaches, Sandy Lucas has been my instructor for more years than I can count. She gets her head round the young horses so well....a super intuitive coach. Caroline Hooper has also been brilliant for me and my fizzy TB. She just manages to make everything very simple and takes the stress out of the arena!



---

Beyond that, I think I get most inspired by seeing any rider push themselves and get out of their comfort zone. It takes a lot of courage to do that...but seeing the joy that it brings is just the best.

**If you had a piece of advice for dressage riders, what would it be?** Get off the arena whenever you can. Growing up, we were lucky to have an amazing network of bridleways and we did all our schooling out on a hack. It's a bit harder here...which is why I'd encourage everyone coming to the training days to get out on the trails. It's a safe environment and there are some fabulous hills out the back to get those hindquarters working.

It's great watching riders come back from the trails. They have big smiles on their faces but think the horses have even bigger ones!

**Tell us a few non-horsey things about yourself:** I read English at Cambridge and specialised in early literature. So I can speak Welsh, Middle English, French and a bit of Norse and Anglo Saxon. Helps you out every so often in an Aussie pub.

**Anything else you would like to add?** Put the training days on your schedule. SIEC is an amazing venue and we are so lucky to be able to use it. You can simply ride in the arenas, have a lesson or do a protocol. It's such a brilliant opportunity to familiarise your horse and get a better result at your next comp.

Or you can simply do what I do and enjoy a lovely hack out. If you're not sure about going out on your own, come see me and I will organise someone to go out with you.





---

## HDC Jubilee Competition: 31 July 2016

HDC held yet another successful Competition Day at the end of July and there were many messages of appreciation from our riders. A lot of effort goes into the planning and conduct of such events so it is very satisfying to know that we seem to be providing a program and environment that is meeting the needs and desires of our participants.

As usual, our thanks go to all those who contributed to the organisation and running of the event...all the Committee members, judges, volunteers and everyone else who helped. We might say that we are thanking you all “as usual” but that is not something that we simply take for granted. Without all the help that we get from our members and others, our events just could not function, so our thank you is truly heartfelt.

Of course, the most significant innovation introduced at our July event was the running of our 25<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Futurity Classes. These definitely provided a real spark of competition and there was a certainly a palpable buzz of anticipation amongst the riders who were gearing up for those classes.

Just as a reminder of how the Futurity Classes were structured.... Three Futurity Classes were provided — Novice, Medium and Prix St Georges. Horses entered in the class must not have previously competed at the relevant level in either official or unofficial classes prior to 1 October 2015. And there were great prizes to be won in each class — \$1,000 for First place, \$500 for Second place and \$250 for Third place

We congratulate our Jubilee winners, who were:

### **Prix St George:**

**1st** - Daniella Dierks & Solo Feliz

**2nd** - Sally-Ann Quigley & Larapinta Orlando

**3rd** - Pamela Bode & Sandal Jarrah.



*Daniella Dierks and Solo Feliz*

---

## **Medium:**

**1st** - Michelle Baker & Bradgate Park Puccini

**2nd** - David McKinnon & AB Donasoma

**3rd** - Robbie McKinnon & Danora



*HDC President, Sally-Ann, presenting Michelle with her rosette*



*Sally-Ann with the owner of AB Domasoma, Anne Barber*

## **Novice:**

**1st** - Claire Seidl & TS Whitsunday

**2nd** - Sancha Butler & Carwyn Monte Carlo

**3rd** - Dee Vodden & Elusive Romance.



*1st and 3rd place getters, Dee Vodden (left) and Claire Seidl (right)*



---

## Stefano van Zuijlen Clinic

The HDC Committee is always looking for ways in which it can provide innovative and exciting opportunities for its Members and actively improve the sport of dressage. When the Committee learned that international rider and Dutch Master Coach, Stefano van Zuijlen was coming to Australia to conduct clinics, the decision was made to invite him to come to Sydney. Stefano had already conducted clinics in Victoria and the feedback from riders who had attended those was that Stefano was a truly inspiring and very effective coach for riders at all levels. Our President, Sally-Ann Barbera, was even able to observe one of Stefano's clinics in Melbourne and came back to the Committee full of confidence that Stefano's coaching would be a major asset to our local dressage community.

Sally-Ann in particular worked together with Heidi Scott to organise a clinic which was held at Heidi's arena over the three days from Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October through to Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Once the clinic started, we were inundated with people wanting extra lessons or spectators who then wanted to join in and ride. Over the course of the clinic, around 30 riders took up the available slots ...and there was a waiting list!

Stefano's clear, classic and gentle approach appealed to all who attended. The fact that every horse improved considerably was obvious to all. That is not to say that he didn't make you work hard as he certainly wouldn't quit until you understood the concept he was trying to convey.

The feedback from riders who participated in the clinic has been extremely positive and everyone wants him to come back. At this stage, it looks likely that we will be able to entice Stefano back to Sydney early next year. Once arrangements have been finalised with Stefano, the clinic dates will be advertised to the dressage community via the usual channels. And can we suggest that once those dates are confirmed, get your bookings in quickly as we are sure that his clinic will once again be a sell-out!





---

## 2016 HDC Committee

<b>Executive</b>		
President	Sally-Ann Barbera	sallybarbera@bigpond.com
Vice President	Justin Worthy	justin.worthy@gmail.com
Secretary	Leanne Bell	bellbrae@inet.net.au
Treasurer	Lauren James	laurenjames2006@gmail.com
<b>General Committee</b>		
Sponsorship	Jo Chisholm	equineaddiction1@gmail.com
SIEC Liaison	Mary Simonian	
Publicity Co-ordinator	Sally-Ann Barbera	
Newsletter Editor	Denis James	
HOTY Co-ordinator	Justin Worthy	
Clinic Co-ordinator	Zanna Northam	
Website Co-ordinator	Lauren James	
Catering	TBA	
Committee Member	Jeanan Yasseen	
Committee Member	Annette Cohen	
Social Secretary	Greg Hibberd	
<b>Other Contacts</b>		
Event Secretary	Libby Campbell	entrieshdc@yahoo.com.au
Club Phone	Hawkesbury Dressage	0405 604 568

### **Committee Meetings**

Committee meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7.00pm at The Richmond Golf Club, Bourke Street, Richmond (right beside the railway station).

If you would like to come along, we would love to see you there!

## HDC Thanks its 2016 Sponsors and Supporters
