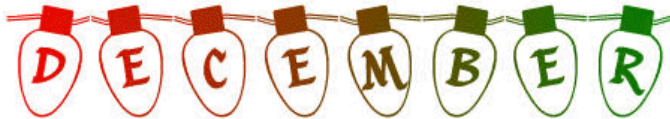


PONY EXPRESS

P.O. Box 2257,
Bendigo Mail Centre 3554.
Newsletter 200



 Merry Christmas! 

Many thanks to Craig Trahair for doing an amazing job on fixing the perimeter fence, and Dave Bradshaw for fixing the tap in the mens toilets. Your help is greatly appreciated!



Everyone at Bendigo Pony Club is hoping that Hannah Mika makes a speedy recovery back onto her horse after breaking her leg.

Happy birthday to you



Samantha McIntrye – 2nd
Morgan Marshall – 2nd
Melissa Harvey – 15th
Natasha Bryant – 18th



The Mika family had an early Christmas present from Santa this year. Merlin has joined their stable. How cute is he. Sure we will see Merlin at PC in the years to come.



Congratulations to all our riders who won our club trophy's this year. It is a huge honor to win these awards. To all out other riders, it could be your turn next year.

Maddison Maud – Gwen Symonds Awards & 100% Attendance.

Morgan Rose Maud – Highpoint Gear check Award & 100% Attendance.

Ashlea Howard – Scott Warren Trophy for the most successfully novelties rider at the Bendigo Show

Ashleigh Glascott – Bushes Trophy for the most successfully rider in the open rings at the Bendigo show (6th year in a row)



Rider Profile

NAME: Britt Holmberg **AGE:** 20

HORSE/S

Sooty, Will, Bart and Nicolas

MY HORSE IS SPECIAL BECAUSE...

He is big

WHAT I LIKE MOST ABOUT PONY CLUB...

The opportunity to have a lot of different and varied instructors especially at our club, a lot of other clubs are never exposed to such instructors which people don't usually realize.

WHAT I DISLIKE MOST ABOUT PONY CLUB...

Having my mother as the DC

WHEN I'M NOT RIDING I LIKE TO...

Don't have any time left to do anything else

THIS YEAR I REALLY WANT TO...

Make it to one star in eventing with my horse Sooty so I can compete at Werribee Three Day Event in 2009



IF I COULD HAVE ONE WISH IT WOULD BE...

To have millions of dollars to buy a big horse truck and fill it full of horses all in matching rugs.....

CHECK THIS OUT

A blonde decides to try horseback riding, even though she has had no lessons, nor prior experience. She mounts the horse unassisted, and the horse immediately springs into motion. It gallops along at a steady and rhythmic pace, but the blonde begins to slide from the saddle.

In terror, she grabs for the horse's mane, but cannot seem to get a firm grip. She tries to throw her arms around the horse's neck, but she slides down the horse's side anyway. The horse gallops along, seemingly impervious to its slipping rider.

Finally, giving up her frail grip, the blonde attempts to leap away from the horse and throw herself to safety. Unfortunately, her foot has become entangled in the stirrup: she is now at the mercy of the horse's pounding hooves as her head is struck against the ground over and over.

As her head is battered against the ground, she is mere moments away from unconsciousness when to her great fortune..... Frank, the K-Mart attendant, sees her dilemma and unplugs the horse.



DC's end of Year Report 2008

Hello All,

Well here we are at the end of another year and I can't believe how quickly 2008 went by!

It was an action packed year for Bendigo Pony Club starting with the completion and grand opening of our

Dressage menage in February. In March our club was very well represented at the Royal Melbourne Horse Show with many of our riders competing and riding really well. Morgan Marshall and Mickey did a brilliant job to win the special event for pony club combinations and Ashleigh Glascott was awarded reserve champion pony club rider.

Jaclyn Long (grade 2) and Georgia Welch (grade 1) represented our club and our zone in dressage at

the State show jumping and dressage championships at Elmore with both girls riding lovely tests.

April was a busy month with the Donaldson Day rally followed by the Interschool competition. The Interschool's were highly successful both in fund raising and participant enjoyment with lots of positive feedback from riders and their supporters. From the monies raised we purchased a lap top, our gorgeous Jump 4 Joy show jumps and we have plans to build 20 steel horse yards.

In May, Britt Holmberg and Morgan Marshall competed at the State horse trials for grades 1 & 2 at Yeringberg. Britt rode in grade 1 in only her 3rd horse trials ever on Sooty. Morgan and Mickey did a great job to finish 6th in grade 2.

The Sunday of the long weekend in June saw a bus load of us head off to Werribee to watch the Cross Country phase of the Melbourne 3 day event. It was a chance to see the final selection event for Beijing and we were all awestruck by how high the jumps were and the amazingly athleticism of the horses and riders. It was a fantastic day.

Our club hosted a combined training and dressage day in July. It was very well supported by our riders and lots of riders from other clubs. A big thank you to Kerrie Long and Lisa Welch who do an AMAZING

job scoring at these competitions.

In August, Tori Faull, Ashlea Howard, Samantha McIntyre and Penny Loader rode at Charlton in the Flat Team ride at the Midland Zone Flat Team and Show Jumping qualifiers, placing fourth and looking fantastic in the process! Ashleigh Glascott, Jacinta Morrissey, Britt Holmberg, Melissa Harvey and Ella Knight rode in the show jumping team with Britt and Sooty winning the trophy for the best performed A or B grade horse.

In September we hosted a day of the Spring Show Jumping and Dressage series. A big 'thank you' to Clinton Hedger from Maldon Pony Club who put hours of effort into co-ordinating the series and arranging sponsorship.

The October rally was a fun day at Malone Park with a Navigation ride through the bush and in November we all trooped out to Mandurang South pony club for a combined rally at their lovely grounds.

Throughout the year our club has held regular show jumping, eventing and dressage clinics with Allan Mitchell, Deb Browell & other talented instructors. Riders who regularly attend the clinics show vast improvement in their riding skills and make wonderful new friendships with riders from other clubs. The clinics also raise much needed funds for our club.

Lynda Howard did a brilliant job throughout the year with the Saddle Club riders. Two riders, Maddison Poyner and Remy Monaghan graduated from the saddle club enclosure out into the big wide world! A system of three achievement recognition badges was implemented into the Saddle Club. When riders have achieved all 3 badges they graduate over a 6 month period into Lucerne group

Whilst other clubs may have better grounds than Bendigo Pony club, better club rooms and fantastic cross country courses Bendigo Pony club has the very best instructors and a varied mix of activities at every rally throughout the year. I would like to thank our regular instructors, Deb Browell (dressage, cross country & show jumping), Allan Mitchell (show jumping & jokes), Wayne Hurse (drill work), Brian Davidge (polo cross) and Fran Collins (dressage) for their commitment to our riders and their wonderful work with Bendigo Pony club throughout the year.

Special thanks to our brilliant (and patient) Webmaster Michel Johnston who does a fabulous job every month up dating our site , making it easy for everyone to keep up to date with what is happening at our club.

Over the past couple of years our club has developed a culture of all members and adult supporters helping out and sharing the work load at all rallies and events. Not everyone grasped the

concept so we lost a few members. The club by-laws clearly state how each family is expected to help out throughout the year and it is vital that all families pitch in so that those on the committee don't suffer from volunteer overload!

The committee is strong in its resolve to keep on fund raising to improve our facilities and assets for the benefit of current and future riders. Grateful thanks go to our fantastic committee for their hard work and dedication to the club in 2008; Mary Donaldson, President; John Faull, Vice President; Kerrie Long, Treasurer; Deb Degenhardt , Secretary and Chief Fundraiser for Project Hope; Lauren Knight and Roslyn Fyffe, Canteen Queens; and the General Committee of Penny Loader, Leonie Trahair and Sharon Mika. You all do an amazing job! I am looking forward to an eventful fun filled year with Bendigo Pony Club in 2009.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, horsey 2009,

Till next time,

SUE



Contratulations to Sarah and her family on the safe arrival of Callum John. Another grandson for Jackie & Grant and nephew for Emma. All well.

