

The Committee

The committee meet and make the necessary decisions that need to be made, such as important issues of riders, horses, and what to do when we are rained off!! And also any up coming fun events, we will keep you posted. We also have sub committees for both fundraising and for our ponies. So thank you to all who give of their time to help us out in these areas too, who are not mentioned below.

Below is a list of the committee members:

President –	Jill Stevenson
Vice President/Fundraising -	Rachel Groenestein
Treasurer -	Bill Clarkson
Finance/Admin -	Jeanne Clare
Secretary/ Privacy Officer-	Jo Price
Health & Safety Officer -	Carole Sanders
Horse Manager -	Elizabeth Roberts
Rep –Fundraising/Therapist -	Anne Chamberlin
Rep – Horses & Ponies -	Margaret Hansen
Rep – Riders -	Barbara Pritchard
NZRDA Spokesperson-	Cilla Bell
Fundraising Assistant -	Kim Rossiter
Trust Rep -	Hana Hoskins

Cancellations If we need to cancel a Rally, we have been using the email system that has been working really well. So please remember to let us know if you change your email address.

Web site www.totraparkrda.org.nz Check us out!

Or you can use our alternative address that has recently been developed. This is www.tprda.org.nz



NEWSLETTER

August 2009

Jo's News Spring is on the way! I'm serious, Winter is almost over, and we survived another one, with not too many cancellations, some of us ended up sick but even our volunteer numbers have been good this winter, well I can't really say honestly they have, as I've been away myself or caring for sick or injured children, and also away on courses, but from what I've heard things have been alright.

Jill is still in ward 8 of Middlemore hospital, and was operated on, on Monday. We will keep you all posted as to her progress.

Clothing Just a reminder to contact Rachel if you have not collected your clothing you have ordered. You may notice there has been a slight increase in the price of the clothing, but we get this at cost, we should be thankful to Elizabeth who knows the right people to get us this clothing as cheaply as possible.

Volunteers Thank you to each and every one of you who have come along and supported us once or twice a week, getting the horses ready for another day and helping with the riders, making a fun programme for the riders and being so encouraging to them all. Also thank you to all of those who help at the end of the rally and feed the horses and put them away, making sure they are ok before heading off to take care of yourselves. You all deserve a pat on the back. To those of you who have been ill this winter I hope you are feeling better soon, so you can come back and help us, we miss you. Please can you update us if you change your email address, as we need it to notify you of cancellations or let you know other interesting bits of information.

Reminders ...

PLEASE make sure you ring **Anne (Mondays) or (Thursdays)** before 7.45am or, if after 8.30am - the **Clubroom 262 0426** if you are unable to come to the Rally.

Health and Safety We have new health and safety handbooks we will be giving out for you all to read. Please make sure you read these so that you will know what to do in case of an emergency. Also if you do have an accident or incident while at RDA please let us know when it happens so we can do something about it immediately. Be this an accident to yourself, a rider or one of the horses. We do our best to keep everyone safe but from time to time accidents do happen, and we need to be made aware of these to try and reduce the chances of it happening again. Also if you need the ice pack, the sleeve for it is in the top drawer of the filing cabinet, make sure you use it so you do not burn yourself with the ice pack.

Our Exquisite Equine As promised last month I am going to tell you about Casper. Casper is a 15 yr old Pony, who is 13.2hh, he is a Connemara/Stationbred X. He has done a lot with pony club in the past, including dressage, show jumping, cross country and showing, I've heard he was even used as a birthday party pony! His past owner was a 12 yr old, who has moved onto her second pony, he used to reside at Meadowbank pony club. Casper has a very friendly nature, he is absolutely traffic proof (having calmly crossed the busy road at St Heliers/St Johns Roads intersection, in rush hour traffic, what a star! So far he is passing all his "RDA" tests, and he will be working with our riders very soon, if he hasn't already started when you get this!



Here is Casper on one of his many "training sessions", coping well while being led, side walked, and used to carry strange objects (the bucket that is NOT our horse manager Elizabeth!). Well done Casper, welcome to the herd at TPRDA!

Next month I have another special horse to tell you all about, who will remain nameless! Lets just say she's a lovely mare, who is loved dearly by her lessee, and who is a delight to have especially for our independent riders.

Fundraising The Fundraising committee has found some easy ways to help us make some money, and you can help too. All you have to do is SHOP ONLINE!

Leading stores including Noel Leeming, Bond & Bond, Dominos Pizza, Dell and many more. You can shop for DVD's, fashion, holidays, baby, home, iPods, books, magazines, toys, gifts, electrical and even your groceries! Just select Totara Park Riding For The Disabled when you shop or browse online at www.yourfastshop.co.nz. There are over 85 online stores, and all your shopping helps raise funds, when you select **TOTARA PARK RIDING FOR THE DISABLED**. Also think of the time you can save by shopping online. More time for horse riding I'd suggest! Once again thank you for supporting us when you shop online.

One other thing to mention on the subject of fundraising is, if you are interested in being involved with the fundraising committee then get in touch with Rachel our vice president, her contact details are on the back page, she is heading the fundraising committee, and I am sure would welcome more support.

Training Today Cilla & Anne ran the initial training workshop for the new volunteers, if you missed out on it this time or you would like to have a refresher, then please get in touch with us, we will keep you posted as to when the next workshop will be. There is also a training session coming up "Leading workshop", this is being held at Ambury park RDA. It is being organized by NZRDA, and will be held on Tuesday the 6th October, this being during the next school holidays. It will be half a day and will be facilitated by Debbie Freeman – a member of the NZRDA training team. We would recommend this course for anyone who is interested in learning more about leading and handling RDA horses.

Other bits and pieces If there is anything you would like to have mentioned in any newsletter then please get in touch with Jo.

Don't forget to listen to Howick Village Radio, 88.1fm, where you can hear

John on Tuesdays, one of our volunteers, he often plugs RDA.



Howick Village Radio 88.1 fm