

Clarkes dominate showjumping awards

From back page

"Lane didn't win, but he had never jumped that high before - it was his first taste of the senior competition. "He competed in the 1.4 metre grand prix and only knocked one rail down in each round."

McPaul said Brett was also a deserved winner. "He's a good rider, but it was close," she said. "If Bemboka hadn't been missed, it could have come down to the wire."

Saturday night's presentation dinner at Asian Pearl Restaurant, Bega, was attended by more than 60 sponsors, members, competitors, officials and volunteers.

McPaul was master of ceremonies for the event and highlights included the screening of a DVD containing bloopers from throughout the series.

Long-term members Michelle Martin, Sue Grant and Bruce Durrant received special prizes of appreciation for their years of service to the showjumping cup.

• **RIGHT:** Celebrating a successful Far South Coast Showjumper of the Year presentation are (from left) master of ceremonies Kirsty McPaul, senior runner-up Gemma Harrington, senior winner Brett Clarke, junior winner Lane Clarke, junior runner-up Lucy Evans and club president Jeff Otton.



• Club president Jeff Otton with long-time members Michelle Martin (left) and Sue Grant, who were both recognised for their service to the Bega Showjumping Cup.



• Enjoying themselves at the presentation are (from left) Gwen Moffitt, Margaret Gordon and Marie Smith.



• Catching up over dinner are (from left) Tracy Smith, Helen Slater and Shirley Griffin.

• Sisters Hayley James and Jess Crocker join together to present an award in honour of their grandfather Keith Gordon.



• Jenny Pheaney and Jed Smith are all smiles at the presentation dinner.

Bega on the map

Josh Bartlett

THE Bega Showjumping Cup has been recognised on a national scale.

At the Far South Coast Showjumper of the Year presentation on Saturday night, master of ceremonies Kirsty McPaul read excerpts from an article in Australian magazine, Equestrian Life.

In the February/March edition, "The Bega Experience" by Annie Lever discusses the history of the Cup and features quotes from showjumping icon Vicki Roycroft.

The story begins with "There must be something in the water at Bega, or maybe it's the milk, as the NSW South Coast town that gives it name to one of Australia's favourite cheese producers seems to have spawned more than its fair share of talented horsemen".

The list of locals who have made it onto the national stage include world champion four-in-hand driver Boyd Exell, well-known show horse producer Dale Plumb, Sydney Olympian and former national showjumping coach Jamie Coman, Deon Williams and Jeff Otton.

The Bega Showjumping Cup was established in 1995.

Lever wrote "The very first Bega Cup was one of those memorable classes when good rider after good rider went faster and faster in the jump-off against the clock".

"Much to the delight of a very excited crowd, George Sanna and Will made a beautiful gallop to the last to take the substantial first prize."

Bega Showjumping Club president Jeff "Poss" Otton said the first cup would be a hard act to follow.

A driving force behind the cup in the

early years was the above-average prize money.

Helen Slater and her late husband Malcolm, were on board early sponsoring the Ampol Caltex Bega Grand Prix.

"Right from the beginning, the show had a wonderful atmosphere that it maintains to this day," Lever wrote.

"Friendly, relaxed - maybe it is the time of the year, but Bega reminds many of the welcoming, social shows of years gone by."

From 1999 to 2005, Bega hosted a round of the Pacific League World Cup, with the first class won by Ronnie Easey.

Easey went on to be part of the Australian team at the Sydney Olympics.

The World Cup qualifier was abandoned after a couple of very hot shows and the desire for some professional riders to give themselves and their horses a break in January-February.

Lever wrote that in 2011, "Bega offers the campfire experience with beautiful footing and well-designed courses", crediting the efforts of international course designer Leeson Sirett.

Bega also hosted another special guest at that show, Vicki Roycroft.

In the article, Roycroft described Bega as "one of the nicest shows on the circuit and climate wise, it was perfect this year".

"They have a dedicated, hard-working committee and the show runs like a well-oiled machine at the picturesque Bega Showgrounds".

On Saturday night, McPaul said it was great for Bega to feature in the prestigious magazine.

"It's a true testament to our showjumping cup," she said.

"I'm so happy because that is exactly the type of event we want to create here."

YOUR LOCAL SERVICE GUIDE

EMERGENCY 000

Fire	64921775
Police	64929999
Hospital	64929111
Ambulance	13 12 33
Electricity	13 20 80

DOCTORS

Salisbury	64922922
Laing	64922555
Long	64922922
Marshman	64922555, 64941877
MackInnon	64923333
Nelson	64922555, 64941877
Oakley	64922555, 64941877
Riddell	64922922

In case a doctor is required after hours, patients should ring their own doctor's number where they will be redirected to an appropriate after hours number.

Meals on Wheels Roster

BEGA:

Monday 2 - Friday 6: Anglican Church, contact Audrey Windle, 64921862

TATHRA:

Monday 2 - Friday 6: Tennis Club, contact Glenis Argent, 64944138

RED CROSS TEA ROOMS:

Tuesday 3: Bega CWA

BEGA HOSPITAL KIOSK ROSTER:

Tuesday 3: J West, B Blanchfield
 Wednesday 4: T Burgess, R Marshall
 Thursday 5: G Owens, D Koenigkamp
 Friday 6: T Burgess
 Saturday 7: N Thorp
 Sunday 8: N Thorp
 Monday 9: N Quinn, M Galli

BEGA HOSPITAL PINK LADIES VOLUNTEER ROSTER:

Tuesday 3: R Crowe,
 Wednesday 4: deVere Eberbach
 Thursday 5: M Harris, D Koenigkamp
 Friday 6: K McGregor, M Halling
 Monday 9: B Lovelock, B Rose