

Celebrating the Horses' Birthday with **HORSIN' AROUND**

BEGA DISTRICT NEWS ADVERTISING FEATURE

Fossil's proves popular

THE Bega Showjumping Club's annual Fossil's Cup competition day has well and truly cemented its place as one of the year's most popular equestrian events.

On Sunday, the Bega Showground was full to capacity.

Riders came from all over the district to compete for the great prize money and many prizes again on offer.

Last year, the club decided to capitalise on this event's popularity by turning it into a fundraiser for the Australian Cancer Council.

Once again, the Daffodil Day and Pink Ribbon showjumping fences were on display in ring one.

A percentage of all entry fees collected on the day will go to this very worthy cause.

The feature event of the day was the Fossil's Cup, the brainchild of Jackie Curtis, who wished to create an event especially for the "older" members of the club.

Each year, the event has subtly taken on themes.

In 2012, the event celebrated the "Mothers of Showjumping".

Fourteen nervous mothers donned pink shirts in support of the Pink Ribbon



• David Lucas takes his mount Jake around the showjumping course at the Bega Showground on Sunday.

Breast Cancer Foundation and set out together to walk the course and prepare mentally for the challenge.

The club thanked Brett Clarke, who organised and prepared all of these women for this year's Fossil's Cup.

The Clarke family also generously donated horses to those women who did not have their own and gave lessons in the lead up to the event to ensure a positive experience was had by all.

All of the preparation certainly paid off when all but one competitor finished the first round with zero penalties.

Following the first round, all competitors

were invited back to contest the jump-off over a shortened and heightened course with the fastest mother with the least amount of faults to be declared the winner.

The riders did not hold back and really showed the keen audience and their children what they were made of!

Local squash champion Wendy Constance had not competed on horseback for many years.

Wendy was really setting a winning pace when unfortunately her borrowed horse Rambo slipped over on a corner incurring elimination.

Both horse and rider walked away with only hurt pride.

Jodie MacNamara from Bodalla, daughter of showjumping icon Neville Cuzner and a mother of four, had not jumped since she was a child.

Although she squealed for the entire course, the elation she felt when it was all over was very evident from her huge smile from ear to ear.

One of Bega's most competitive on the hockey field, Melinda Armstrong, was definitely no slouch on a horse and has a few competition miles under her belt this year.

Her round was also very slick even though most of it was ridden with only one stirrup.

Bec Bruest is an expert in the shearing sheds

around the district and is improving with every round in the showjumping arena, a sport she only started last year.

Chrissie French from Nimmitabel is a champion camp drafter and stock horse trainer.

She showed her great versatility and horsemanship to turn in what looked like an unbeatable round on the Clarkes' top string horse GH Tigerlilly.

However, this year's cup went to the evergreen and super competitive Sue Jennings, riding for the first time ever on her niece Samara George's new horse Who Me.

The work crew in the ring were put on notice when Sue spun her horse around corners and inside fences that spectators were just not expecting. It was a great demonstration of riding from the mother of three and local primary school teacher.

Events continued throughout the day finishing just before dark.

The club thanked all volunteers and sponsors for their assistance, as well as judges Greg Grant, Richard Otton and Madge Salway for watching over proceedings.

For more information on the Bega Showjumping Club, visit www.begashowjumping-club.weebly.com.



• Alyssa Williams in showjumping action on Sunday.



• Sonya Reid takes Bob through his paces at the Bega Showground.



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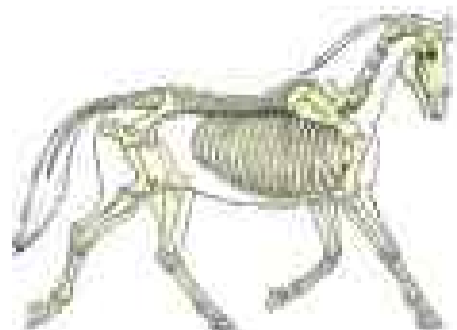
David's Australian tour through-

out October and early November takes in Geelong, Jindabyne, Limpinwood in Northern NSW and Bullsbrook in Western Australia.

For more information contact Anne Timewell on 0409 150 801 or email anne@harmonioushorse.com.au.

For more details on master instructor David Lichman, visit www.davidlichman.com.

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