



• There was a blanket finish to last season's Carpet Court Merimbula Jazz Festival Cup with the Follow the Command (nearest the fence) and Louisiana Flyer (on the outside) finishing first and second.

# Spring racing season set to begin

THE spring racing season kicks off at the Sapphire Coast Turf Club tomorrow with a member's dinner featuring leading Canberra trainer Barbara Joseph as guest speaker.

This will be followed by a feast of racing in the local area to coincide with the big spring carnival race meetings in Victoria leading up to the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday, November 3.

Bombala will host its once-a-year race meeting for the running of the Bombala Cup on Caulfield Cup day, Saturday October 17.

This is a great day out in the best traditions of country racing and as the home town of Barbara and Peter

Joseph, it is always well supported with some of their horses running in most of the races.

Bookings or enquiries can be made with the Bombala Jockey Club on 6458 3585.

This event will be followed by a race meeting at Moruya on Cox Plate Day, Saturday October 24.

The Sapphire Coast Turf Club's first race meeting of the season will be held on Melbourne Cup day with the first local race at about 1pm and gates opening from 10.30am to coincide with the early start to Melbourne's event.

The race day will be preceded by the traditional Melbourne Cup

Calcutta organised by turf club and held at Club Sapphire Merimbula on Monday November 2 from 7pm.

This is a great chance to draw a runner in the Melbourne Cup by taking a ticket in the sweepstakes, or to buy one at auction, in a pool that is usually worth several thousand dollars.

Bookings have been strong for the first member's dinner to be held at the turf club with Barbara Joseph as the drawcard.

Ms Joseph, who is one of the strongest supporters of racing on the far south coast, had one of her most successful seasons last year finishing second on the list of country trainers

with winners throughout the state.

She took out the Sapphire Coast trainers premiership with three winners at the last meeting of the season in June.

Some last minute places for the dinner are still available and the club is also taking bookings for Melbourne Cup day on 6494 1899.

It then has a strong run of feature race meetings starting with the Christmas Party twilight TAB race day on Thursday December 3 when the first race will begin at 2.30pm and the last at 7pm.

This is followed by the traditional Boxing day and New Year's Day race meetings and the Merimbula Cup to

be run on Saturday January 9.

In other news runners at the Sapphire Coast Turf Club will carry a new set of saddlecloths this season courtesy of Bega Cheese.

The saddlecloths, with identifying numbers for each horse in each race, plus the jackets worn by the strappers as they lead the horses round the mounting yard before each race will carry the Bega Cheese logo.

Sapphire Coast Turf Club secretary/manager Les Murphy said that it was great to have a new set of saddlecloths featuring a local company with the club's TAB race meetings televised rights around the country on Sky Channel and TVN.

## Locals match Australia's finest

From page 48

The amateur state title competition was also run in conjunction with an Amateur FEI World Jumping Challenge.

In this competition the exact same showjumping courses are set up all over the world by qualified FEI course designers and the events are judged by qualified FEI Judges.

The competition is judged by cumulating faults and time taken over four rounds of showjumping.

Riders scores were then compared to other competitors from around the world to give them a world ranking and the possibility of competing in a world final.

It was a pleasant surprise for locals when Jessop was announced the overall winner of this competition, beating 52 other competitors.

A beaming Jessop accepted her beautiful prize rug and set of leather jumping boots with pride.

Jessop said she thanks everyone who helped get her to the competition, particularly her horses owner

and breeder, Rowena Cullen.

In the open competition, Bega club members also enjoyed minor success. Jamie Smith and Jamie Grant both rode very creditable rounds in the star studded senior state title competition which was eventually taken out by current Australian Champion and Bega Cup winner Chris Chugg.

In other classes Bega Showjumping Club president Jeffrey Otton rode very well to narrowly miss out on places.

Brett Clarke gained runners up finishes and a win on board Alandoe in the 1.20m height classes.

Nathan Williams and Craig Matthews enjoyed a great deal of success with several wins and top three finishes between them in the lower height classes.

The three junior boys from Bega Clint Beresford, Craig Matthews and Tom Otton also faired very well in the junior and young rider classes.

These classes again proved to be the hardest to win due to the extremely

high quality of competition.

After the recent announcement by the International Olympic Committee that there will be a Youth Olympics in 2010 in Singapore, a qualifying event was added to the program at late notice.

Twenty young riders took the opportunity to qualify themselves for selection for the Youth Olympics including Matthews and Beresford.

The boys qualified easily by gaining their Certificate of Capability (COC) which was to complete four rounds of showjumping at 1.20m in height with eight faults or less.

Now Matthews and Beresford can move further forward in the selection process as the next step involves competing on borrowed horses as this will be what happens at the Youth Olympics for the lucky team member. There is only one Australian spot available so the club wishes good luck to the two Bega boys in the selection process.

At the Australian Youth

Championships, 11-year-old Lane Clarke from Bemboka braved the extremely cold weather conditions to gain two wins and many other top three finishes in the junior events against riders under 18 years of age riding Rambo and Springtime Princess.

At the tender age he is Clarke stepped up into the higher events for the first time riding his father's horse GH Tiger Lily to score some great four fault rounds.

Clarke is definitely one to watch for the future, boasting loads of natural talent.

The Australian Showjumping Championships starts today and will conclude on Sunday with three exciting Grand Prix events when Australia's cream will rise to the top as they battle it out to be named the Australian Showjumping Champion for 2009.

Several Bega Showjumping Club members have stayed on to compete again, hoping to taste similar success to the last two weekends.

## Blandy lands a monster in the Amazon

From page 48

Fishing at Tathra was good as well with flathead the most common species taken, as well as a few mowies and snapper.

Offshore fishing saw albacore on the bite but not much else.

We saw a few boats on the 12-mile reef "bottom bouncing" for blue eye trevalla and harpoka.

Out at Eden, down at Mowarry Point and Green Cape, there are morwong, leatherjackets, nannygai and snapper on the bite.

Start focussing on the kingfish from late October when you'll get your first crack at them to start the new season.

Fishing at all the local estuaries is still giving you a feed of flathead,

bream and tailor.

Bega River on the weekend had some anglers jumping for joy with a catch of a big jewfish.

Also on the bite are dusky flathead, estuary perch, bream and tailor.

Until next week, Keep those lines wet  
**Sidbo**



• Tathra's Mitch May (facing camera) contests a ruck contest for the NSW/ACT Rams during the NAB AFL U/16s Championships division two grand final. Queensland won by 21 points.