



THE bulletin

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GRASS ROOTS THRIVING IN TARANAKI

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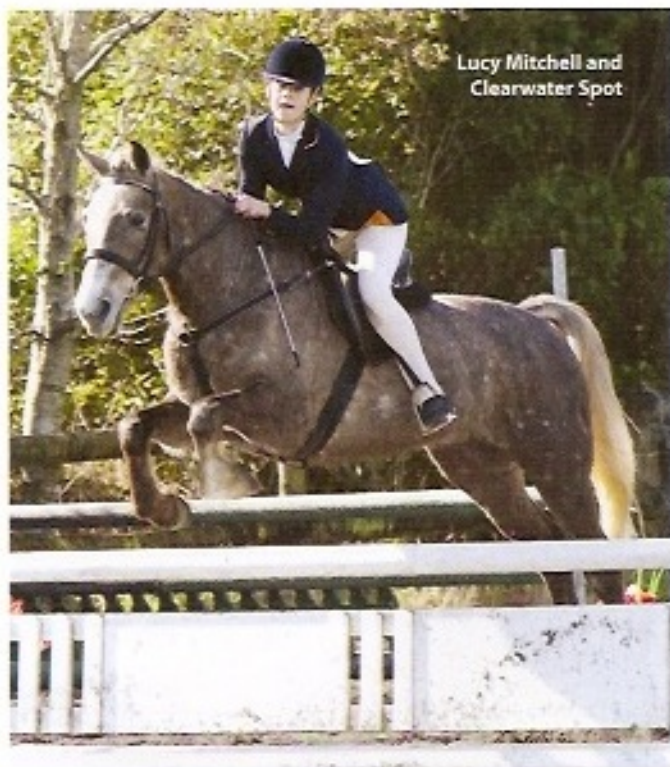


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Maya Henderson
and Milly the Filly



Lucy Mitchell and
Clearwater Spot

As I write this I reflect on my young daughter Sienna's progress over the past months in learning the show hunter discipline and marvel at the fundamental jumping skills it has taught her so far. The technical side of show hunter can be complex for a young child, however learning skills in a safe and "technically correct" manner is only going to advance her further for whatever discipline she chooses in future.

Sienna has attended the Taranaki clinic and is now competing in the winter series which has given her the desire to compete further in the ESNZ events towards qualifying for HOY. But mostly she and her pony Raincheck have loads of fun doing it!

In Taranaki the people in the sport are extremely supportive and the environment is rewarding. I can see her making lifetime friends over the years to come!



Kate Logan and
Geez Louise



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Pandal Impressionist gets an affectionate pat from Brooke Stewart

Taranaki – developing its Show Hunters

WRITTEN BY SHEREE LONG
(MUM OF SIENNA PARR)

WE TAKE A LOOK AT THE GRASS ROOTS OF THE TARANAKI SHOW HUNTER SCENE...

Taranaki's annual Winter Show Hunter Series is well underway for 2013. The series is designed to encourage and support riders in show hunter at grass roots level, with the vision that more consider competing at ESNZ shows, to then qualify for Horse of the Year.

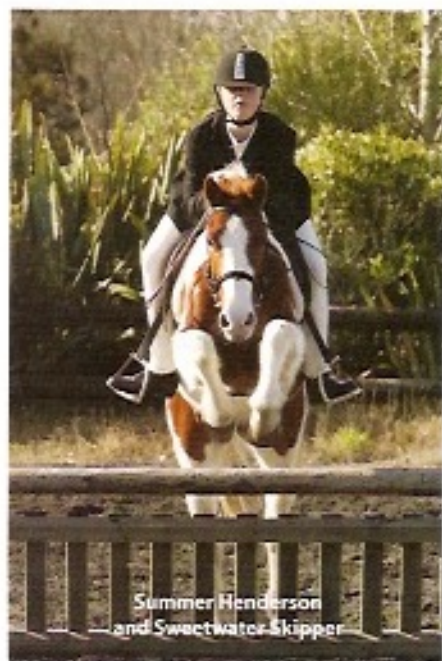
Holli Marshall and Jolanda Foale first introduced the series in 2006 and it has since become hugely popular with both an increase in competitors and in the calibre of riders and their mounts. Marshall now runs the show with a team of willing helpers.

Show hunter in Taranaki has grown substantially.

"The calibre of riding has largely improved

with all riders using their corners, developing their mounts' lead changes and their understanding of strides has also greatly improved," Marshall said. "This shows clearly in the equitation classes and is making the judges' job much harder!"

The series follows a comprehensive two-day clinic, delivered by Marshall and Katja Kershaw to help prepare riders for the upcoming season. There are over 91 entries for the 2013 first day of the series, with many of these preparing to continue on their journey and gain points at ESNZ events, to qualify and ultimately compete at Horse of the Year in 2014.



Summer Henderson
and Sweetwater Skipper



Georgia Strachan
and Westphalia Donna Maria



Sienna Parr
and Raincheck