

# Aoraki Western Riding Club,



**"To Promote, Foster and Encourage the Sport of Western Riding and Horsemanship in the Aoraki Region"**



Hi everyone!

Jodi is running around "like a headless chook" (her words, not mine!) trying to get everything sorted for the Mackenzie A&P show, so this month you got me editing the newsletter ☺.

Heaps have happened since last newsletter. Sara has finally had her operation (finally!!!) and while that's good news it also means she's not able to organise the Cowboy Challenge training day we had planned for

the end of this month at Knottingly Park. Never mind...we'll do that another time.

The bi-monthly pre-meeting meals are back (its great to be able to talk horses without taking tedious minutes ☺). Next meal is @ 6pm on the 30th of March @ Richard Pearse, Timaru.

In April we're trying out a new meeting venue : **The Pleasant Point Pub**...closer for some, further to drive for others, but we aim to please by changing venues regularly.

Have I forgotten anything? Probably, but that will have to wait until next issue...which will be the AGM issue (yes, it's that time already...shock horror), but forget about that now for a while and go out and smell the roses with your horse, and don't forget to remind yourself how lucky you are....

**March 2011**

<http://www.awrc.co.nz>

**President:**

**Raewyn Olde-Olthof**

(03) 697-4959

[raewyn.olthof@xtra.co.nz](mailto:raewyn.olthof@xtra.co.nz)

**Secretary:**

**Maria Van den Bosch**

(03) 686-1723

[bosch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bosch@xtra.co.nz)

**V.P./Newsletter/Website:**

**Jodi Payne**

(03) 614-7107

[jodipayne@farmside.co.nz](mailto:jodipayne@farmside.co.nz)

**Events Director:**

**Keri Drake**

(03) 614-8707

[philandkeri@xtra.co.nz](mailto:philandkeri@xtra.co.nz)

## UPS & DOWNS

Let's get the bad news over and done with....the White Horse Cowboy Challenge was cancelled ☹. To make a long story short, the earthquake recovery efforts needed the portaloos, ambulance, walkie talkies (we borrow these from civil defence), etc, plus the fact that a good portion of the competitors come from the Chch area....enough said, you get the picture. But don't despair, next year we'll be back with a vengeance.

TEAM AORAKI didn't have the best of shows in Chch. While Sally and Lyn could hold their heads up high, Ricky and I was shaking ours in disbelief. But hey, two out of four ain't bad (that glass is half full not half empty, remember....?)

Now for the good news ☺. The muster committee pulled off the best Mackenzie High Country Muster EVER!!! Congratulations to all involved!

More good news....Bert Elstob gave a great (if wet) clinic. Ricky is reporting on that one.

And Lyn finally got her new float and it's FLASH! But wait, there's more....she's got a fox wing attached to it. How cool is that? See photo report....

Last but not least, we're honoured to have the great Merv Williamson holding a vet talk for our club. Check out the details on next page ☺



*Maria*

# STOP PRESS—NEW CLUB DAY—STOP PRESS

The club's scope is expanding (again !), and we're proudly presenting:

## VET TALK WITH MERV WILLIAMSON

B.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.

Merv is a highly regarded equine vet. He was very sought after in Australia before retiring and moving back to New Zealand. During the "Vet Talk", Merv will use demonstration horses to highlight horse health problems, prevention and treatments. **This is an opportunity not to be missed!!!**

**WHEN:** 3rd of April, 11am start

**WHERE:** Maria's arena, Timaru (call 6861723 or email [bosch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bosch@xtra.co.nz) if you need directions)



## EVER FANCED COW WORK...?

Well, here's a chance for you.

How about .....***'the smallest cattle drive in the world'?***

Here's the idea: we take a small area (say 50 acres) and 20 quiet cattle. We add a few gates and obstacles....and there you have it, a great afternoon with friends on their horses, eagerly trying to separate the cattle into two herds, taking one south and the other north!

All of this for no good reason other than giving us and our horses a new job (although I know some of our 'proper shepherd' members are probably rolling their eyes right now...). But hey, let's face it, we can't all be the real deal ☺

At the moment, this is just an idea I'm testing and no date has been set. Let me know if you think the above sounds like you.

Maria, [bosch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bosch@xtra.co.nz)







## General Stuff....

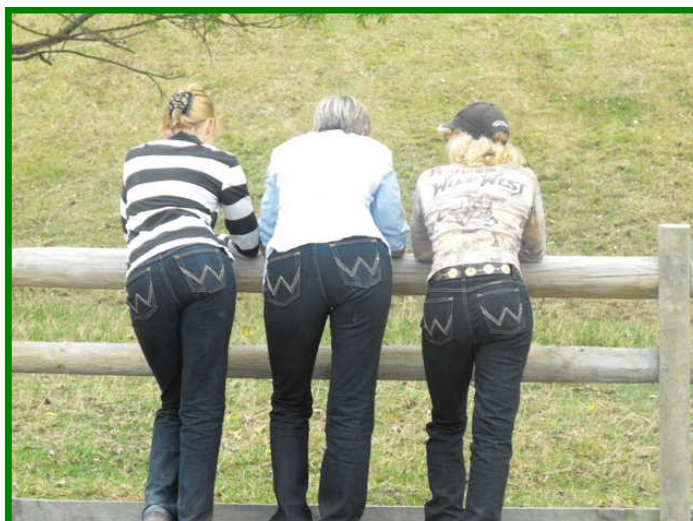
### WEBSITE...

Keep checking out.....[www.awrc.co.nz](http://www.awrc.co.nz)

From all reports, its working well and you can download forms, fliers, etc!

### CLUB DAYS...

If you have an idea for a Club Day, come along to a meeting & bring it up...or let a committee member know and we can add it the agenda. Or, if you would like to help out with planning & running a club day...let Keri know. There is always room on the planning committees!!! There are no "Closed Shops" in the AWRC. The more hands the better!



*"Wrangler butts drives me nuts"....says Ritchie*



## NEXT MEETING.... ON WEDNESDAY March 30th @ 7:30 (NOTE VENUE)

### **LOCATION: The Richard Pearse in Timaru**

The meeting will begin at 7:30. If you would like to join us for a meal at 6:00, please let Maria know.

Remember that you can always email or phone any of the committee members to have an item added to the agenda & spoken to on your

behalf if you can't attend a meeting. Raewyn, Maria & Jodi's contact details are on page 1.

Also, if you contact Maria on 686-1723, you can have a copy of the minutes sent to you. So, you don't have to feel 'left out' if you can't make it to a meeting.

**We look forward to your  
input and involvement  
and look forward to  
seeing you there!!!**





# Feast your eyes on this...Lyn's new float has a FOX WING

(I want one, I want one, I want one).


How cool is this (and not only temperature wise)????

And for those of you with good eyesight, check out the Heineken bottle by the spare tyre ☺ ►

Roll on shows, treks, cowboy challenges, barrel races & GOOD TIMES!!!!!!!

(Foxwings are sold by Metvhen Panel & Paint. Call Steve on 03-3033148 if you want more info).



PS. Don't mess with Lyn's float...  


# BERT ELSTOB CLINIC 5-6th March



I really enjoyed the Bert Elstob clinic that Keri very kindly arranged and was hosted by Maria at her home.

I was not sure what sort of training Bert promoted, the only thing I knew about him was that he was one of the judges at the White Horse Cowboy Challenge last year and was due to be a judge again this year. I went along open minded and hoped that his philosophy about training would mirror my own.

It was a full clinic of a dozen people, some I knew and others new to me. Bert introduced himself and the first part of the clinic was discussion which was very good. A sort of question and answer session which let Bert know where individuals were coming from and we could see his own viewpoint about horses and training.

We all then went to the arena where Bert worked individually with our horses with the flag. Whilst working he talked us through what he was doing and why. This was a really good session and again lots of questions and answers. Unfortunately the weather turned to rain and by the end of that session the rain had set in. We had lunch and Bert asked us all individually what we understood as things like Feel, Timing and Balance. It was very interesting all the different answers although some people gave similar answers. After lunch we did saddle up and attempt to do the afternoon session but the rain was heavy and relentless so it was decided to call it a day.

Due to the forecast being bad for the Sunday Keri rang the lady who owns the indoor arena at Waimate to see if the clinic could be held there for the second day. Fortunately it was free so it was decided to meet down there. The arena is wonderful and if you have the opportunity to go there it is certainly worthwhile. We all started off by doing our own groundwork exercises whilst Bert helped individuals. It was then saddle up and ride..... Bert had us doing all sorts of different things from lots of transitions - all in a group, to working as individuals. Knowing where the feet are at any one time has always been a challenge for me and that was one area Bert focused on. He seemed to 'tap' into each person's strengths and weaknesses and proceeded to help. We had fun doing weaving in and out of the line and it certainly made everyone think what they were doing. Bert rode a number of our horses throughout the weekend and it was great to see him achieve different things with different horses.



Bert was an excellent communicator but certainly 'Called A Spade A Spade' or for anyone not familiar with that expression he was pretty direct and was prepared to criticize where he felt it necessary! For me personally it was one of the best clinics I have attended and it helped that I had previously done clinics with Steve Houston who was the first person to introduce me to Feel, Timing & Balance plus the importance of moving the feet and knowing where those feet are. Also the clinic gave me a lot of confidence as Bert identified that I had been too restraining with my horse Bramble and had me doing lots of cantering and even got to a number of strides at the gallop.

As always it is a case of Onwards & Upwards.

Ricky Tedham

*(Ed. Note. Photos of Ricky & Bramble are old and were not taken at this clinic, Photo of Bert is taken from his website [www.casebrookfarm.com](http://www.casebrookfarm.com))*



Aoraki Western Riding Club  
<http://www.awrc.co.nz>

C/O Maria Van den Bosch  
483 Fraser Road, RD 4, Timaru  
bosch@xtra.co.nz  
Ph 03-686-1723 or 027-366-3016

If members want to check on whether an event needs to be cancelled or postponed due to weather conditions, members can ring 03 614 8707 (my ph number) from 8am onwards on Club days for a pre-recorded message to confirm if it's going ahead or being cancelled...

Keri Drake (Events Director) — (03) 614-8707

Raewyn Olde-Olthof (President) — (03) 697-4959

Maria Van den Bosch (Secretary) - (03) 686-1723 or 027-366-3016

\*\*\* CLUB CALENDAR \*\*\*

(all Club Calendar enquiries to Keri Drake 614-8707 [philandkeri@xtra.co.nz](mailto:philandkeri@xtra.co.nz))

Mar 30th General Meeting at the Richard Pearse in Timaru @ 7:30 (meal @ 6:00)

Contact Maria Van den Bosch...686-1723 or [bosch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bosch@xtra.co.nz)

Apr 2nd Club Day at Orari Club Grounds

From 10:00 a.m. Any questions to Keri please.

Apr 3rd Vet talk with Merv Williamson in Timaru

From 11:00 a.m. Bring shared lunch. Will be cancelled  
If wet. Any questions to Keri please.

Apr 27th General meeting at the Pleasant Point Pub

**PLEASE NOTE NEW VENUE!!!!!! @7.30 p.m.**

Contact Maria Van den Bosch...686-1723 or [bosch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bosch@xtra.co.nz)

May 1st Western Games Day at Orari Club Grounds.

From 10.00 a.m. Postponement date 8th of May

Any questions to Keri please.

May 7th Club Day at Orari Club Grounds

From 10:00 a.m. Any questions to Keri please.

May AGM, date TBA

Contact Maria Van den Bosch...686-1723 or From 10:00 a.m.

May Trek, date TBA, Any questions to Keri please.



A great way to get more involved (if you want to be) is to put your hand up to join a club day committee. It's not hard and honestly, we need a few more active 'hands on deck'. Just let Keri, our Events Director, know what you are interested in doing!



The "Aoraki  
Western  
Riding Club"

Facebook group page has been growing steadily. If you are a Facebook member, just type the name in the search box and up it will come. If you aren't a Facebook member, it's pretty easy...and a fun way to share photos, events, etc. All members will be able to upload their favourite club day photos, their new horses, etc...

