

Tasman Horse Rides



Newsletter

July 2011

Winter has got to be one of the most trying times of the year when on a farm; Nothing stays clean outside or in, with muddy footprints to be seen all down the hall left by both human and animal alike. Your beautiful grey pony is more likely to resemble a bay unless all rugged up, but you would be amazed how much mud still gets under the cover! Winter is the time of year, that you realise your gumboots have holes half way down the paddock and quite frankly it doesn't matter as you will soon be slipping over.. Here at Tasman Rides this is not a deterrent and certainly there is no stopping for the winter months with plenty of people keen to ride in the rain then go to the hot pools leaving behind soaked guides and horses staring longingly after them.

School Holiday Programme

It may have been the middle of winter but with the exception of one very wet afternoon we certainly weren't feeling it out here during our holiday programmes! In fact we were very lucky to have sun almost every day and after bundling ourselves up like marshmallows the wind certainly proved no problem either ☺ Our all weather barn got put to use on that wet afternoon for everyone, and most days for our youngest campers, to great success even if the horses did like to try stealing bites of the hay at the back!

These camps we introduced our own Tasman Rides version of the New Zealand Pony Club Associations certificate system. Our version is purely for use here at Tasman Rides and has nothing to do with NZPCA. The certificate system is a great way of providing incentive and encouragement to learn and improve at all levels. The certificates must be attained in order so even our more experienced campers must go back and test their knowledge on the basics; you would be surprised what gets forgotten! Each group sits down with their instructor to have explained that the certificates are something to be worked on over a long period of time and that an activity will only be signed off when the instructor feels that the individual can complete the activity to a satisfactory level. Each level has 10 – 15 activities to be signed off before the next level can be started. There are 5 levels in total to be completed. These activity log sheets are filed at Tasman Rides until completed, then along with a certificate they are presented at a special award ceremony.

We were very lucky these camps to have expert jumping instructor Nigel Tracey come back for 1 day each week to work with the 2 higher level groups, much to the delight of the children who found it immensely challenging and rewarding.

Dates for the next holiday programme:

10th – 14th October,
17th – 21st October

For further details on options for these dates and online bookings please visit:
<http://www.tasmanrides.co.nz/school-holiday-programme.htm>



Pictures from July 2011 Camps

