



September 2015

Dear Members,

We are writing to you because we have more information to share with you.

The most important is to tell you the very sad news of the untimely passing of our Secretary Debbie Hewitt. Debbie had been struggling for several years with a life threatening illness and died at home where she very much wanted to be, surrounded by her family on Tuesday 28th July 2015.

Debbie has been our secretary for 19 years after agreeing to take on the role in 1996. At the time she was working at Croftlea stud the home of both Kingcroft Wicklow and later Coalman's Touch.

She has been an outstanding Secretary for us and a number of other horse organisations including the very big job of Canterbury Show jumping where she was known for her organisational efficiency and the helpfulness, calmness and no fuss which she ran the show jumping days.

For us she dealt with members issues promptly and pleasantly and with very good background knowledge. She had a superb memory for Irish horse issues in the past. She has also kept the society records in a very good state. Even during her periods of treatment she spent time reviewing the data base and keeping up with correspondence.

Every year along with a number of other members we had our annual pilgrimage to the HOYS. We used it as a holiday, visiting places of interest on the way and having an oyster and wine night to celebrate an important wedding anniversary which fell during the week. We had lots of fun and enjoyed sharing our passion of horses together.

Walking around the show was always interesting as Debbie was stopped by the numerous S/J people who knew her well. It was also great to sit in the stand with her to watch the show jumping as she knew the breeding and performance of many of the horses.

We are very saddened by her death but so grateful to have known her as a friend and also as a skilled Secretary. We will greatly miss that wonderful smile and her courage through three years of adversity. Rest in Peace Debbie, we will never forget you.

At her funeral we laid a shamrock sash on her coffin and presented her with a society medal for her service to the society which was at the highest level.

The medal (has been engraved) and the sash have been given to Debbie's children Lachie and Becky to add to their memories of her.



Debbie early in 2015 and the Society medal.

The medal says " Debbie Hewitt 1996-2015 for exceptional service to the IDHSNZ"

Society Business.

Website

We are currently updating our website. www.irishhorse.org.nz Here you will find news ,For Sale, Stallions at Stud, Resources etc. The resources are being corrected for addresses etc.

Please feel free to send us your ideas for the website as we would like to extend it.

Subscriptions

Unfortunately many of these are behind as you have not been reminded about them. We need to ask you to pay these urgently. Some of you may be several years in arrears but we realise that back payment may be difficult. We do ask you please to pay at least the current year.

If you are able to pay any of the arrears we would appreciate that, or even an additional small donation towards them would be very helpful.

Our finances are in a satisfactory state but we have a need to update our data base to more modern technology. This will cost in the vicinity of \$1,000.

The data base of course is integral to the society records and provides us with a great deal of information.

Your subscription status is attached to the letter

New Secretary

At the recent AGM a new secretary was elected:-

Adrienne Saunders has been a member for many years and also a council member for a number of these. Over the years she has bred some high quality Irish horses and has a big commitment to the breed. She has a secretarial/accounting background and will bring her expertise and enthusiasm to the Society.

Welcome Adrienne we are very pleased to have your skill on council.



Adrienne Saunders

Adrienne's background.

" I have been involved with horses since the age of 7. Pony club, Showing, Eventing and Dressage. Love all things Horses and Ponies and enjoy HOYS looking out for the shamrock brand. It gives you quite a pride to see our Irish horses competing along with the best in NZ. I became involved with the Irish Horse Society after breeding to Wynyard Agile in 1995 and this began my love of the Irish horse. Must also mention my Grandfather was also from Ireland.

I am married to Barry and have two adult boys, more interested in motors ,rugby, and tennis. I am from a farming background and have 30acres at Ashley north Canterbury. I work in Rangiora as an accounting technician and if time allows ,I hope to do more riding on my Irish horse Komett (by Coalman's Touch) and also a bit of sailing"

Updated Constitution

Over the last two AGM's we have made minor changes to and updated our constitution. (The existing one was circulated in 2002.) The updated version is currently being reviewed for legal and written correctness by a our legal advisor.

All members will receive a copy of it as soon as it has had its professional review and any corrections made.

Performance Competition

Our performance coordinator is Sara Bagheri who will run the competitions for the 2014/15 competition and the following 2015/2016 year.

She is looking forward to receiving your entry in the In Hand or Ridden competition for the year ending Aug. 31st 2015.

While the competitions run from the 1st September to the 31st Aug. This year the time frame to enter will be extended until 30 the September 2015. This means you can send your entry in up until the 30 September 2015. All the details of the competition and the entry form are on the website and we have attached a form here for the members who receive their newsletters by post.

The competition is designed to cover all the disciplines and the scoring has been calculated carefully to encompass this.

There are very nice trophies and Sara has also donated a Buccus rug for the winner of the ridden competition.

Sara's Address is : PO BOX 27231 or Ashby's Road, Sefton, North Canterbury

email bagherisara@hotmail.com.

Society Polo shirts and Caps .

We have a supply of various sizes of Polo Shirts and Caps.

These are a dark bottle green, good quality and with the society logo embroidered on them. We have some sizes available and plan to get more made. If you are interested in purchasing these please contact Adrienne.

Current Prices Polo's \$25.00. Caps \$10.00. New stock may be more.

Council Contacts

Bevan Souness (President and acting Treasurer)	ph.03 318 1615 bevanjosouness@paradise.net.nz
Adrienne Saunders (Secretary) For all general & membership enquiries	ph.03 3135777 bsmachinery@xtra.co.nz
Lesley Spence (Registrar) For registration, branding , micro chipping, & change of ownership.	ph. 03 3478131 spencethornfield@xtra.co.nz
Tracy Crossan (SI Promotion)	g.crossan@xtra.co.nz
Helena Bennett (NI Promotion) For ideas for promotion.	HelenaB@agoge.co.nz
Sara Bagheri-Tanner For Society competitions, In hand and Ridden.	ph. 0210557363 bagherisara@hotmail.com
Sarah Stone & Lesley Spence. (Newsletter) For contributions and advertising in newsletter.	ph sarah 03 3473281 sarah@proworkflow.com

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Please do feel free to contact any of our council officers, we welcome your ideas, suggestions, and contributions to our newsletter.

Fee Schedule (2015)

Life membership	\$400.00
Annual membership	\$35.00
Registration of horse	\$35.00
Transfer Horse	\$10.00
Prefix	\$20.00
Replace certificate	\$20.00

Electronic Payments Account-Westpac 03 08020754787 00. Use surname as reference please and indicate purpose of fee E.g. prefix.

Email:

We are still hoping to get more email addresses. This newsletter is going to everyone by post but if you have an email address not already recorded we would very much appreciate you sending it to Adrienne.

Bacon Fundraiser

Many thanks to our Canterbury members who have supported our Bacon fund raiser, We raised about \$320 which is a good contribution towards our new data base. Sorry we were not able to offer it to our wider

membership. Just a bit difficult to ship bacon around the country. If any of you have other opportunities for fundraising for the society we would be pleased to support you with it .

Address List

We have spent significant time updating and correcting our address and subscription lists.

Please do notify us if for any reason we do not have your correct details.

We hope your mares are looking well and the spring grass is growing for you..

For those of you who are preparing horses to compete, Good Luck, We are sure you will keep the Irish Horse flag flying.

Don't forget we love your news and photos for the newsletter

Lesley, Adrienne and Bevan

IDHSNZ Council Officers