

SENDING RAINBOWS

THE WINDERMERE FARM MONTHLY UPDATE

Open Day Success !

Dear valued clients and friends,

Thankfully the open day God kept his promise and smiled upon us on Sunday the 16th. Seventy nine people attended to what was a great day and enjoyed by all generations. I shall go no further with my report on the day, as Anne Sullivan, journalist from The Australian Thoroughbred breeders Club has said it all in her delightful article about the day on page 3.

The first of September (Spring) always brings new life and so it was for BLACK PIRATE, when he ran a very reputable 4th over the testing ground of 1800mts at Hawkesbury.

He certainly confirmed with us that after a decent spell he will strengthen and become a competitive middle distance runner. However, we pushed the boundaries and gave him one last run at Muswellbrook over the same distance -----in retrospect it was probably asking too much of him, especially after his chequered preparation of having to deal with a severe injury, bad tracks and some rides that were not to be commended. He is now enjoying a well earned 8 week spell with a couple of his mates.

The 13th saw us back at Hawkesbury with SACRED JOURNEY & SMART AUSBRED.

SACRED raced over the far too short 1000 meters journey. However, as I explained to the owners prior to the race ----it was far better to pick up a \$1000 in running 4th, than to pay out \$300 for a barrier trial. Unfortunately he loves the fence and so whilst running down the middle of track in the home straight, he behaved very greenly by running in severely whilst trying to get to the fence----- he near knocked the inside horse over it. He then overreacted, staggering around subsequently giving away lengths. Although unruly, it was a good beginning for this preparation.



David and Robyn Brydson get comfortable for Robbie Horn's amazing Join-Up show at the Open Day.

SMART AUSBRED was so excited to be running once again after his broken wind operation. He flew out of the gates with great happiness it appeared, to lead easily from the outside barrier over the 1000mt journey. He literally gassed himself and so ran out of puff in the last fifty mts to go under by two lengths, another good beginning to a preparation.

Both boys pulled up extremely well and were off to an easy win at Orange this past Sunday the 30th. However, after the enormous storm last Saturday, had first lightened its heavy load on Orange before it reached the Hawkesbury, we scratched---- as the track was a reported to be a heavy 8 with downgrades expected. Grant Buckley reported later, we pulled the right rain as the track was terrible.

We will have four runners this coming Sunday at Hawkesbury; it's the wine and food festival day there, so a great day to have some fun and come cheer on the four boys. The runners will be SACRED JOURNEY, SMART AUSBRED, HAMBERG and FOOTY FAN.





Digby was jumping hurdles to make it to the open day...

BILLET has been retired to a more than wonderful home, with our now mother of one (or should I say two now she has Billet) KIM GIBSON. Kim is going to turn our beloved Billet into a show hunter, I'm sure they will succeed to champion level.

Sending rainbows,
Dor & Wade

HAMBERG & FOOTY FAN raced on the 21st at Orange, both running close 3rds.

For FOOTY FAN, it was her first start in a race; she has shown us in trials, that yes she can gallop and now after watching her race--- we have now come to the conclusion that she is a definite race horse with more than average ability. Beaten by $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length and any further than the 1280 and she wins.

HAMBERG usually starts his preparation over the 1000 to 1100, but the 1280 first up just saw him out a little. He was only beaten a length and so not disgraced.

The TROTOMONDO colt (soon to be gelded) returned home on the 14th. We continued his work, taking him to the track only once and walking him through the barriers. Nothing fazed him. He's a very impressive horse, mentally and physically. He will now go out from the 1/10 for four weeks. We feel sure we will get him to the trials plus a race or two in his first prep.

SNIPPAROSE, has been in work for the past month and is delighting us all, she's a pleasure to handle and ride, at the end of October we should be looking for a barrier trial.

Horses that have just come into work this past month are, SHADES OF GREEN, TALES TO TELL plus a couple of un-named youngsters. We have a small team at the moment, however they are all more than capable of a winning this preparation.



Robbie Horn explains the reasoning of a horse and how the Join-Up works.



Robbie Horn demonstrating the Join-Up at the Open Day.



Some of the homemade delights at the Open Day.



Windermere Farm, Wilberforce

by Anne Sullivan

On arrival at **Windermere Farm** we were warmly greeted by **Doreen and Wade Slinkard** and invited to partake of drinks and lunch. This didn't need a second invitation as Doreen was bringing our home made cakes and goodies and Wads was busy at the BBQ with a line of eager participants ready to get started. The surroundings to enjoy lunch could not have been more ideal. It was a warm sunny day and the mauve wisteria was in full bloom. Looking out to the paddocks the horses were contentedly grazing. The property consists of 70 acres, has its own training track and a horse exercise water channel; a well set up horse stud. After much convivial horse talk amongst ourselves we were then invited to listen to a very interesting and informative talk by experienced horseman **Robbie Horn** on the nature of horses. He has his own horse property at Maraylya and approx. 25 horses. Robbie was the guest of Doreen and Wade.

We were then invited to adjourn to the round pen to watch Robbie give a demonstration of **Monty Roberts'**, the famous American Horse Whisperer's **Join-Up**. Join-Up is basically the negotiation of a friendship between trainer and horse by means of a subtle body language between them. The only thing better than watching a Join-Up is actually doing one. When I was in the US I was fortunate enough to be offered an Internship by Monty Roberts at his beautiful **Flag Is Up Ranch** near Solvang in California. When the horse decides during the Join-Up he would like to be your friend, he comes over to you and you in return welcome him as a friend and he then follows you around with his head almost touching your shoulder without any lead, it is indeed very special.

Robbie first came to know Monty when he was involved with a company and they arranged for Monty to come to Australia to explain and demonstrate his kind of resistance free training methods. Monty has previously been to Australia approx. 18 times on horse business, but not to demonstrate. So impressed was Monty with Robbie's also excellent training/teaching program that he invited him to conduct a teaching course at his establishment in California. Flag Is Up Ranch is an international teaching centre and students come from many overseas countries to learn and take back to their countries Monty's methods. Monty knew from an early age that his life would be involved with horses. However, he saw when he was a boy how inhumanely they were treated and he vowed when he grew up he would do everything he could to show there was a better way to educate and treat horses. i.e. by kindness, and this he has done. For anyone who would like a good read, I can highly recommend Monty's autobiography "**The Man Who Listens to Horses**".

Back to the stables and a very handsome bay 2 year old colt was brought out for us to have a look at. He is by *Trotomondo* from *Gypsy Violin* a winning *Stravinsky* mare. This is her first foal. He is well grown with good confirmation and a "look at me" attitude. He has just been broken in and could make a good middle distance racehorse. He is nominated for Scone 2013 Bobs Extra for Life. He was sold at the Scone Yearling sales for \$22,000.00 and shares are available. They start from 5%, approx. \$1500.

Just a couple of other little items of interest:-

Not only does Doreen make great cakes she also has other talents e.g. writing Children's Story Books under the **Wicky Wacky Farm Series**. Any child who loves horses and other animals I feel would be delighted to receive these books. They are also beautifully illustrated and a bargain at \$10 each.

By the time you read this Robbie Horn and his wife will be travelling around Australia on a motorcycle to raise funds for the **Steven Walter Children's Cancer Foundation**. The SWCCF foundation is working closely with **Sydney Children's Hospital**, Randwick and **Royal Children's Hospital**, Melbourne. They are paying all their own expenses and all funds raised will go directly to the **Children's Tumor Clinical Research Project**. A worthy project.

The SWCCF email address is admin@stevenwalterfoundation.org.au or go to their website www.stevenwalterfoundation.org.au or phone (02) 9542 5885 for more information.

Thanks to Doreen and Wade for their hospitality. Also thanks to all four legged horse friends as it is only because of our mutual enthusiasm for them, that we get to enjoy these very pleasant occasions.

WINDERMERE FARM.. a small piece of heaven



CONTACT US

Here at Windermere Farm we love your feedback. If you have any questions about your horse's training or the newsletter, don't hesitate to get in contact.

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Doreen Slinkard

AUTHOR



I must apologize and say, it was very re-miss of me for not letting everyone know, that in July this year, I actually received a letter from Queen Elizabeth herself. So in not wanting to make it seem like I was blasé about this amazing fact, I shall now let you in, on why I received this letter before I turned one hundred years of age.

I simply sent her Majesty my children's books along with my recollections of her looking and smiling directly at me, way back in 1954, when I was three years old and not too far from her, while she paraded down Swanston street. I was sitting on my father's shoulders to be exact and apparently I called out to her majesty, "I love you Queeny." The fact that I asked in my letter---- did she perhaps remember me---- may have just tickled her fancy. I know for a fact that she has a wonderful sense of humour.

My daughter Lisa is making me frame the whole package, so before I do, I thought it appropriate that I show and tell.



My other news is, I have finally finished my adult novel, to be named, 'Women Horses and War' I suppose I named it that because, that's what it's all about---- and after my first choice of Wildflowers, was pointed out to me, as being a little too feminine. Just imagine a bloke reading a book called Wildflowers on a plane, NO. This is definitely a uni-sex book. It begins in Adelaide 1892 and follows the life of a baby boy left at a Catholic girl's school orphanage right throughout his life, including when he becomes a hero in the First World War. I hope to have it published next year, after many English expert friends have helped proof read and edit it for me.

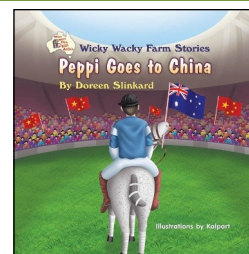
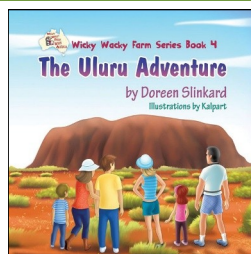
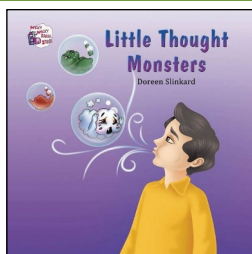
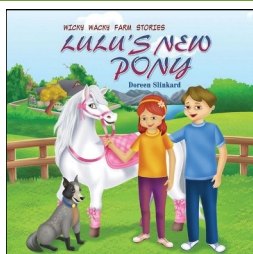
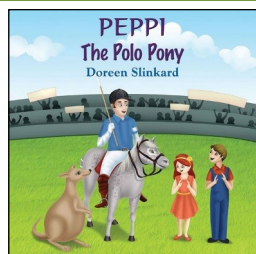
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