



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2024

Welcome to the first of our revitalised newsletters. Here you will read about the AGM, working bees, projects and their progress, events, topics of interest and much more.

AGM

We had our AGM on Saturday, 14th July at the Powerhouse Café. Twenty people enjoyed a great evening followed by a relaxed dinner.

We adopted a new Constitution, which means that we tick all the new legal boxes for re-registration under the 2022 Act, including having committee meetings every 2-3 months.

The new committee for 2024/25 was elected and now has some new members amongst the familiar faces. We are ready to make a difference.

Mary Holloway will Co-Chair with Chloë Dear. Mary handles our representation with the TNG (Track Network Group) and DOC (Department of Conservation). Chloë is a champion at communications technology, finances and governance. Bele Malik, who had worked tirelessly for the club in the last 3 years continues in her role as secretary. Julie Wardle is helping with Hanmer trail development, and we always need Julie's wisdom.

Melz Harwood has joined us and is raring to help with working bees. John Burrill and Lee Thornton have woken us up with their energy and practicality. They will ensure that we keep moving forward from now on!

Lee has taken the responsibility for the website. The website is now up and running with great information on routes for horses in Hanmer, St James and beyond.

Website

Here is the link to our new website: www.hanmerhorseriders.org.nz

Next Trek Training Weekend: 19-20 October

Although we are not a social riding club, we will continue to offer our annual trek training weekend to introduce riders to high country riding skills. It is great to meet those folk out in the hills later, confidently riding on their own!

Our next Trek Training Weekend is on 19-20 October, led by John Burrill and assisted by Lee Thornton, Fiona Alloway and Bele Malik.

For more information, programme and registration form please see the website or Facebook.

Offering Rides

If you feel confident in the back country, either after the Trek Training Weekend or otherwise, would you please consider offering to take someone new on a trek with you? Would you

please let us know if you are able and willing to do that and we will advertise your ride on our Facebook page.

Pass Wide and Slow: 14-15 September

John and Lee are also hosting the international event "Pass Wide and Slow" in Hanmer on 14-15 September for the awareness of horse riders on our streets. Please join them. The more riders participate the better. For more information see our website or Facebook.

Tracks and Trails

Our Community Partnership with the Department of Conservation to provide horse related facilities in St James with Stanleyvale Hut being the jewel in the crown, is working well.

Other negotiations are happening for trails in and around Hanmer.

New signage for riders on the Hanmer Springs track network is our highest priority before spring. That means guest riders in Hanmer will know where they can ride without getting lost.

Further priority projects are the creation of longer rides up the Rogerson valley, the finishing of the Hanmer Basin Trail from the village down to the Waiau River and building a route from the top of the Jacks Pass Pack Track along Jacks Creek to the Clarence. This will create an easy, off-road ride from Hanmer village to St James.

Stanleyvale

The last working bee in late autumn saw a keen crew of 7, John Burrill, Lee Thornton, Mary Holloway, Margret Hoskin, Ross Jones, Sean Jamieson, Vicky Hill. They repaired fences and built another hitching rail at Stanleyvale.

They also rearranged the shed so that there are now two areas. One area of the shed is for the public and the other is for HSHR members only. Members will be given the combination for the lock on request. Both shed areas have saddle racks and room for firewood. The member's shed contains spare mattresses and spare gear.

In addition to the above, John and Lee have repaired the fence at Christopher Hut.

Next year's autumn working bee will be advertised well in advance so many more of us can be there. We can get a lot done!

A huge thank you to Bele Malik for all the broom cutting. After a few years of cutting, the broom between the hut and the bog on the Stanleyvale Flats is now gone. A big thank you to Sean Jamieson for doing the aftercare. For maintenance there are loppers in the shed. Please feel free to wander in the evening and cut and paste with gel any plants that you might see coming up.

Fowler Family Reunion.

The Fowler family farmed Stanleyvale for 30 years from the mid 1800s. The homestead was down in front of the two sycamore trees on the Guyon side of the hut. William Fowler was the father of at least 13 children. More children were born of the sister of the governess apparently. William Junior and Tom were both great horsemen. Tom was an early manager of Molesworth and William bred horses. St James horses are still branded with an 'F' for Fowler.

On Saturday 9 November 2024, the Fowler family will have a reunion at Fowlers Hut on the Clarence. Our club will be hosting them. Any help on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday with

erecting or dismantling a large marquee, catering and generally being helpful will be gratefully appreciated. Please contact Mary mary@gracendflavour.co.nz

At the end of the weekend Keith Fowler is donating the marquee to HSHR. We can use it or hire it out as an income stream.

10 Year Strategic Plan

At some time soon all members will be invited to give input into a review of our 10-year Strategic Plan. You will be invited by email to contribute to the plan.

Thank you!

We had two events in the last season: The Trek Training Weekend 23 and the Autumn Ride 24. Both events were co-organised by Bele Malik with Karen Legg. John Burrill and Lee Thornton assisted on the TT 23. Maree Handy and Mary Holloway assisted on the Autumn Ride. Thank you for contributions.

A big thank you goes to all event participants. You have financed a big part of the working bee 24 with your membership and payments. Thank you! You are making it possible for us to do the work we do.

We have welcomed many trekkers to our area last season from all parts of the South Island and as well as several riders and groups from the North Island.

A big thank you to those who have donated money to enable us to keep up the work in St James Conservation Area.

And finally....

We extend a warm welcome to new and returning members and looking forward to seeing you all in the saddle with us this season.

HSHR Committee
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