



Laura at Arndell Interschool

## Northholm Grammar School Celebrates Riders of all ages

With riders as young as six years old Northholm Grammar School Equestrian Coordinator, Mrs Sharon Bourne is optimistic their Equestrian Club and Equestrian Teams will continue to punch well above their weight in future competitions. "We are enormously proud of what our students have achieved this year" said Sharon.

This year our Equestrian team has grown as we have welcomed riders from Kindergarten to Year Three for first time in our history. Senior School riders included Gemma Tinney, Macy Reen, Will Conn, Laura Johnson, Portia Timmis, Olivia Jennings, Indiana Palmer, Anna Ignatovich, Emily Conn and Grace Reen. In the Primary school, our riders were Kaila Morrissey, Olly Conn, Isabella Toson, Lucinda O'Brien and Charlie Johnson. This has given our team an opportunity to participate in Interschool events across all years, from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Throughout the year, our riders have competed in a variety of disciplines at events across NSW. Some of the highlights were –

- Charlie competed in his first interschool events at Arndell and Tara, taking home lots of ribbons.
- Lucinda performed very well in the NSW Championships and also placed in her classes at Arndell Equestrian Carnival.
- Isabella enjoyed the fancy dress at Arndell and placed in many of her classes at Arndell
- Kaila had a very successful day at Arndell and was awarded

Primary Intermediate Champion. She followed this with Tara where she won the Junior Champion Sporting.

- Olly rode at the Central Coast Grammar, tearing up the showjumping course in his usual style.
- Grace Reen rode strongly at Coonabarabran, placing 10th in the C Grade Eventing and came 1st in her Preliminary dressage at Tara.
- Emily Conn competed in several events of which she was awarded Reserve Champion at the Central Coast Equestrian Day, Age Champion at Evans Crown Equestrian Day and placed 6th in the Combined Training at the NSW Championships.
- Also at the Championships, Anna Ignatovich confidently jumped the showjumping course.
- Macy placed an assured 6th in her division of the Eventing at the NSW Championships while she placed 4th in the B Grade Eventing and 2nd and 5th in the showjumping at Coonabarabran.
- Olivia has had a great year, placing 2nd and 4th in her first interschool event at the Central Coast Equestrian Day which was followed by the Hunter Valley Grammar Equestrian Day in which she received the medal for Reserve Champion in the 65cm Showjumping.
- Laura placed from 2nd to 5th in her hacking, jumping and

sporting events at the Oxley College Equestrian Carnival and continued to perform well at the Arndell Derby Day and Equestrian Carnival and at Tara.

- Portia joined Laura at the Oxley event, placing 4th in the dressage and placed 2nd in the showjumping at Camden
- Indiana's first interschool event was the Arndell Derby and this was followed by Camden High Carnival and Tara.
- Gemma has had an outstanding year. She was Champion in the Astronomical Showjumping and 12th in A Grade Eventing at Coonabarabran while at the NSW Championships she placed 2nd and 4th in Eventing and came 3rd in the Junior Mini Prix and 5th in the 1.10m Showjumping.

The highpoint of the Interschool competitions is the National Championships. In general, the riders who are selected are the top four in NSW in their discipline. It is therefore a great honour and achievement to be selected. Last year, Grace Reen was selected and competed in the Nationals in Werribee, Victoria. As a result, she received the NSW Interschools Champion Trophy for Combined Training at the EA Awards Night. The School was very proud and delighted when Northholm was also awarded NSW Reserve Champion, Primary School at Annual NSW Equestrian Awards Night.

This year, Gemma was selected to represent NSW at the Nationals in Sydney. She was on the team for the 1.20m showjumping and Reserve for the two highest divisions of the Eventing. She placed 4th in showjumping, contributing to the NSW team winning the Championships. To excel in three divisions is an exceptional achievement and we are extremely proud of her.

Mrs Bourne said "I have the pleasure of following our riders through their years at Northholm. It has been a joy to observe and admire Gemma's development as a rider, building on her natural talent to be the exceptional rider she is today. I am confident she has a remarkable future ahead of her. For her HSC Visual Arts Major Work she made a horse rug which captured her dream – I hope it comes true".



above: The Conn Family at Evans Crown Equestrian Carnival. below left: Lucinda at NSW State Championships.

# NORTHHOLM

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