

SUE THOMAS



I was born and bred in Havelock North alongside a farming background family whom all had a great love of animals especially horses and ponies.

I was not fortunate enough to be able to compete in the equestrian world and just had to be satisfied with riding my cousin's ponies out on the farm.

However this was not the case with our daughter who from the age of 3 years only wanted a pony and would ride all day if she could have.

This in turn led to my involvement with pony club, local sports days and then onto our local Hawkes Bay A & P Show, NZ Horse of the Year and judging various shows around New Zealand and Australia.

I have adjudicated at NZ Royals, Horse of the Years, as well as numerous A&P Shows over the years, and have had the privileged to have judged at Australian Shows such as the Royal Brisbane and the Australian Riding Pony Stud Book Society in Melbourne.

I am also involved with the convening of the NZ Royal A&P Show and have a long association with the NZ Horse of the Year Show which involves people skills with judges, stewards and competitors alike.

I strive to look for excellence in quality and movement in the stock I judge and find there is nothing as lovely as an elegant animal with presence and good straight movement to watch in the show ring. We are very lucky to have some beautiful animals here in our rings which make it such a pleasure to judge.

I also enjoy adjudicating in the working hunter rings with the horses/ponies showing their jumping skills. Also, rider classes are fun to watch and once again a pleasure to see children and adults alike with a smile on their faces if they happened to receive a ribbon at the end of the class.

Seems to make it all worthwhile!