

January 2010

Having just staggered and slithered through arguably the worst period of snow and ice in 30 years and possibly not completely out of the woods yet, I think it is high time that someone publically gave a huge and heartfelt **thank you** to Kerry and her staff for making sure that even when those of us with 4 wheel drive and shovels couldn't get to the yard our horses were taken care of as if they were her own. For many days Kerry and her staff have ridden and lunged, non stop for hour after hour in appalling conditions, risking life and limb (human and equine) just to get the horses out of their stables down the yard and into the indoor school let alone trying to do the same for her own horses. I don't think many people really understood the sheer logistics of getting all the liveries and school horses exercised and trying to accommodate all the demands of the livery owners – and having been there on some of those days waiting for my allotted space let me tell you it required the same amount of planning as a military operation. Without doubt some people were put out at not being able to ride when they wanted and having to wait in a queue but think on – had we not had Kerry and her staff helping us out, and had we not had an indoor school albeit crowded to ride in at times – how much more difficult would it have been for us! I know that Steve and I are not the only liveries who managed to rest a bit more easy knowing that our horses were safe and warm and exercised when despite our best efforts, we couldn't get to them. How quickly we will forget this period of severe weather but hopefully not the tremendous efforts Kerry and her team make to ensure that at MEC the horses will always come first.

Viv, Steve and Major.