

L O C A L M E D I A

CUMBERLAND CORRAL Welcome Country Tour RSL LifeCare Spur Ranch

PICTON, March 2023

As the rain eased and the clouds hovered low over the valley, hundreds of local bell birds were singing their very Australian tweet in the distant trees as the coach, carrying 35 RSL NSW Cumberland members, slowly made its way towards the front farm gate of 'Spur Ranch', Picton.

At the gate, Spur General Manager, Max Steeter, was there to greet the group. He commented that our group was the largest RSL group to visit the ranch for a tour of the property and observation of the daily routines. Due to the weather, it would not be a horse riding day but the group enjoyed their morning tea of hot cross buns and coffee followed by a walk around tour of the ranch.

The 15 resident horses were quick to gather at the front fence and greet the visitors, giving a perfect performance of horse play with biting, jumping and kicking, all signs of a healthy young mob of horses.



Members of Cumberland gather at the front gate to Spur Ranch on their recent day trip to view the property and the daily routines of Max Steeter and his band of volunteers.

Max is a man not short of a few words and was very happy to deliver an extensive description to the members of how the RSL LifeCare SPUR program works. He shared his vision for the way forward for the 300 acre property in years to come.

Grateful of the recent donation from RSL Cumberland that will now bring many 'square meters of concrete' to the surrounding pathways around the main building, along with many much needed new pieces of equipment around the facility. Max was also delighted to announce a new name for the main workspace at the ranch, "Cumberland Corral".

"A new 'rusty steel sign' will be erected very soon" Max said with excitement and gratitude in his voice.

RSL LifeCare Head of Business Development Manager, Michael Green, was also in attendance from his St Leonards office. "Getting a first hand look at Spur Ranch with a large group of RSL members on site, was a real treat. The event panned out well, love the group photograph on the gate ' said Michael.

Cumberland senior member Ron McLennan, made his customary speech, without a microphone, and said it was a great privilege to actually see where our good funds were going. We can physically see the difference that our donation is making to what is truely a great RSL LifeCare program for the new veteran Services division of the League.

After a tasty Aussie sausage and salad BBQ lunch, with blue sky overhead, the group made its way home to Sydney. Members expressed their delight with the tour and appreciated the occasion to see Spur Ranch and meet the staff and management on the day.