

# Colleen Kelly Karratha Clinic

by Brooke Murtagh

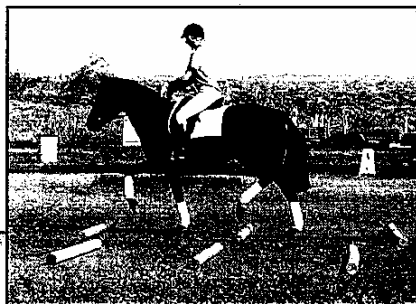
Colleen Kelly recently made a trip to the Northwest of WA to donate her time to the Karratha and King Bay Horse and Pony Club.

Arriving in Karratha on 17th August, Colleen's instruction to local riders began with private lessons for two full days, many lessons focussing on weight distribution and how the rider's posture affects the horse in different ways. In the evenings, Colleen also

made herself available for a 'meet the lecturer' talk, where members of the club came along to chat to her in an informal atmosphere, and gave a biomechanics lecture.

One of the highlights of Colleen's visit was the auction night organised by the club, with over forty people attending, from Karratha, Dampier, Exmouth and Port Hedland. Local businesses kindly donated items to be auctioned off, with all proceeds going to improve club facilities.

The program for the weekend of 20th and 21st August started with three demonstration riders and a big crowd. After a gear checking session,



*Left: Colleen Kelly with Lisa McDonald from Exmouth and Karratha horse, Mick.*

*Above: Demo rider, Kate Redmond on Chanel Bob riding to Robbie Williams trot music.*

*Right: Colleen presenting a lecture on biomechanics to an interested audience.*

*Below: Chloe McCauley riding Penley Maestro during one of her lessons.*



weight distribution was again a hot topic of discussion - with the audience watching the various effects of posture as the horses came up the centre line. Then, out came Colleen's wonderful walk, trot and canter music, which had everyone bopping away to Robbie Williams and learning beats to the walk, trot and canter.

Following the ridden demonstration, there was a session on vaulting, with local rider Tenielle



Morgan on a borrowed horse, Minty, displaying some basic skills. For the more complex moves, a vaulting drum was then brought out to allow more people to become involved in trying what was, for most, a new experience. Colleen again gave generously of her time 'after hours' by providing another lecture before a yummy BBQ feast completed what had been a very busy day.

On the final day, the last of the individual lessons were followed by a lunging demonstration in the afternoon. In this, all who participated learnt an amazing and touching way to lunge and interact with their horses.