



MY 10TH SHAHZADA

By Stuart Lymbery

When I did my first Shahzada in 1992 , I had no idea that in 2015 I would be achieving my 10th buckle. It has been a journey shared with horses that you form a tremendous bond with when you complete a Shahzada together, it is something you need to do to truly appreciate.

Those special horses for me have been;

Arabian Farm Narsand- 1992 &1994

Yerorlonga Toni- 1999 &2000

Aloha Typic- 2014

Garonne Park Walker- 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015 (Walker also completed 2014 with my daughter Sarah)

I am already planning for next year because I still find Shahzada such a special event. There are a lot of reasons I really enjoy it, chiefly I really like the challenge of marathon riding and the format of how it is run. Striving for the same goal with all the other competitors and their support crews makes for

great comradeship. The goodwill and support throughout the camp is also fostered by the attitude of committee and vets and it is really unique and genuine.

Every year has pressures and I know the disappointment of a vet out so this year even though Walker felt awesome all week we remained very dedicated and organised. That means I do miss out on some of the social aspects, fortunately Sarah and Anne fill me in. Shahzada has been a family event for us and our children have been attending since they were babies. In 2010 the kids very capably strapped when Anne and I both rode. What we have all learnt from Shahzada has been immeasurable and we have had a lot of fun.

This year Walker finished on the Friday stronger than any other Shahzada and for him and I to achieve my 10th buckle and the best managed award was a dream come true.