

# Hitching Post

Dandenong Ranges Horse and Pony Club: Monthly Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2015

## Duty Helpers September

- Tabak
- Bartolo
- Callow

## Duty Helpers October

- Harris
- Katsaras
- Westerveld

## Duty Helpers November

- TBC
- TBC
- TBC

## Canteen and duties

Families on duty roster will be preparing a simple lunch menu in the morning and maintaining the canteen, along with the clear up at the end of the day.

**It is essential that you 'Report in' to the Canteen at 9am** (even if you can not help until Lessons begin, due to having young children to assist) so that we can ascertain if there is anyone missing from duty and if so arrange alternative cover.

*Duties:* Report to the canteen at the beginning of the day (9am). Someone will tell you what you need to do (in the nicest possible way....first to report to canteen will have first pick of duties)

*Canteen:* Prepare lunchtime menu, serve throughout the morning and at lunchtime and clean the canteen when finished including sweeping and mopping the kitchen floor.

*Cleaning:* Sweep club rooms and clean amenities at the end of the day.

*Equipment:* Help set up jumps and games equipment etc before rally and pack up these at the end of the day. If you are not in the canteen you must do this.

### Important:

**If you are unable to help when you have been rostered on, you must arrange to swap with someone else.**

**To do this, call/text either**

- **Sam Cross**  
**(0432 077 051)**

**or**

- **Claudia Schultz**  
**(0423 003 294)**

**Reminder that no dogs are permitted on the grounds during rallies and there is a no smoking policy at all times.**

Don't forget to **book into rallies!!**

Just follow the link below;-

<http://www.dandenongranges.ponyclubvic.org.au/default.asp?Page=28791>

If you do not book in, or have not contacted the DC by phone/email at least 7 days prior to the rally date, it shall be assumed that you will not be attending the rally. Please realise that we get the very best of instructors and we pay them much more than PCAV recommends as, if we didn't, we would not have these high quality instructors. The instructor bill is over \$1,000 every rally and sometimes it is well over this amount. If we have 2 instructors with 3 riders in their group, we are, in effect, giving 6 riders a fantastic day, but we are using funds unnecessarily. We would love to spend money on improving the grounds so a saved \$250 is almost a whole new portable cross country jump.

## FEEDBACK

We would love to hear any feedback, be it positive or negative. If you would like to make a suggestion or have any feedback please email the secretary or the president or alternatively you can use the suggestion box located in the club rooms. Your feedback helps to change the things you are not happy with and tells us when you like the things the club is doing for its members.

## USE OF THE GROUNDS

The committee encourages members to use the pony club grounds for training purposes. There are several advantages to using the grounds for both members and the club. Riders are able to utilise the safe and secure facilities to better their riding skills and the club benefits from a steady stream of members who have an interest in ensuring that our grounds are kept safe, that security is maintained and the grounds kept in good clean condition.

Keys can be collected from any committee

member by arrangement and must be returned after you have finished using the grounds. If you do utilise the grounds, please run your eagle eye over the facilities..... Is the tractor container secure, is the door closed, are all padlocks still on all doors? Is there anything that looks wrong or unsafe? Is there a tree down? If there is any damage to the grounds, such as a broken jump or tyre ruts in the ground, please let someone know so these hazards can be fixed in good time. If there is something that can be fixed yourself please do. We are all volunteers at this club so every little helps. If you can not fix the issue, the committee members are the 'go to' people to action repairs.

## THE RULES

- Always wear a helmet and correct riding boots.
- NEVER ride alone. There must be at least one, unmounted, adult with you at all times.
- Do not lend out the key, or allow access to our grounds to non-members of the club. Our grounds belong to the members and are private property, for the use only by its club members. Non-members are not covered by insurance to ride at our grounds.

These rules may be restrictive but we do not want to discover a horse or rider injured and requiring medical attention just because that rider was riding alone.



## Important Information

### Not Going to a Rally?

If you are not going to attend a rally you must notify our DC, Fiona Matthews, by the Monday prior to the rally.

You must also notify Fiona if you decide to leave during the rally as to gain an attendance at a rally day on your card, you must attend for half the lessons on the day according to PCAV by-laws, which means at least 2 of the 3 lessons for the day.

Please call Fiona on: 0419 336 645

### ENTERING A COMPETITION?

If you wish to enter pony club competitions, you must ensure that you are graded for that type of competition and that your grading card is fully completed, up to date and that you have it with you! If you require grading you must fill in a grading request form (available in the club rooms and online when you book in), give it to Fiona and she will arrange a suitable time to be assessed. If you have any queries or need more information on how to

enter competition, what the different competitions are, including gear rules etc. please contact Fiona or speak to another committee member.

### WHAT UNIFORM MUST I WEAR?

There is some confusion regarding what is acceptable uniform at rallies and out at competitions.

At Rallies: Clean jodhpurs (any colour or design), club jumper with white shirt and club tie or Polo Shirt. The long sleeved polo top can be worn over the short-sleeved polo. Socks are never to be worn over jodhpurs unless wearing gaiters/chaps.

At Competitions: Beige or white jodhpurs/breeches. Dressage uniform must be club jumper with white shirt and club tie. This is also the show jumping uniform but the Polo shirt can also be worn. Cross-country can be ridden in any top as long as it reflects our club colours.

**FULL UNIFORM MUST BE WORN IF YOU ARE REQUIRED FOR PRESENTATION!!**

## Werribee Horse Trials

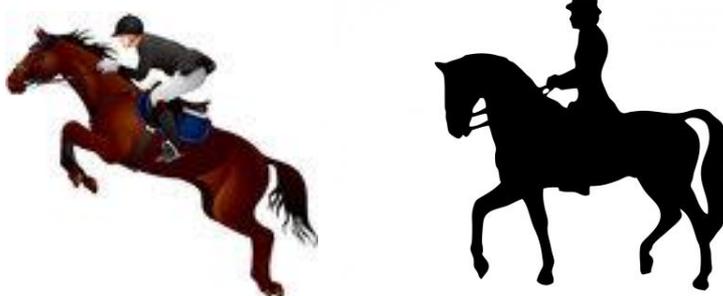
On 26 & 27 September, Werribee PC HT's are taking place. This is a two day event and several of our riders are competing. This is always an exciting event for members to go and watch and support their fellow club members and get a good feel for the competition environment, even if you are not riding. Everyone is welcome to come along, support our riders and perhaps catch the Grade 1 Show Jumping on Saturday night or the Cross Country on Sunday. It really is a fantastic atmosphere and our young members can really learn a lot from attending.

## Do you have a travel first aid kit for your horse?

It is often a point that is overlooked, with the common misconception that 'it will never happen to me'. It is very important to carry a first aid kit with the basics like a thermometer, antiseptic agent, bandaging equipment, scissors and a notepad to help in an emergency

## Future Rallies/Events

Our October Rally will be a Joint CT day with Hallam Valley PC (to be held at our grounds). You will receive an entry form to submit, upon which will be the details of the Dressage Test for each Grade. These entry forms will need to be returned to the DC as soon as possible to allow plenty of time to arrange the schedule. As this is a training day each member may ride one level above their official Grading. This is a great opportunity for members to see if they are ready for the next Grade, on home ground and without the added pressure of an official competition.



Then, in November, we hold our annual CT competition, for which we require parent and member assistance to ensure the day runs as smoothly as possible. Rosters for help are now available so get in early if you want a specific job (see Kelly)! We require Gate Stewards, Pencillers, Canteen Helpers, Crash Crew, Gear Check, Parking Attendants etc and even the kids can help when they are not riding, picking up poles in the show jump ring or as runners, delivering food and drink to the judges/helpers on the day.

Entries for our Combined Training are now open on [Event Secretary](#).

We are also currently seeking ideas from members and parents regarding our **Christmas Rally** in December. If you would like to put forward a proposal you can speak to any Committee member or email your ideas to Fiona, our DC. This time will come around far quicker than you think (or probably would like), and we need some time to organise something fun and exciting..... so get thinking and get your suggestions to us as soon as you can so we can organise a very merry Christmas party!!



## BRAGS....

Please forward all brags and 'out and about' photos to Sam Cross on [samandyoz@hotmail.com](mailto:samandyoz@hotmail.com) so that we can share them with our members

### Monash Show Jumping

Bella and Tricky were out and about again this month, this time at Monash Show Jumping where they had an amazing day jumping the D Grade courses. They finished the day as Champions, gaining first place in all 3 rounds (Two Phase, 2 Round and Top Score). What an amazing achievement, something that is rarely seen. Well done team!



Bella & Tricky



Grace & Jack

### Interschool Show Jumping and Dressage

Grace competed on Jumpin Jack in the Progressive level (85-95cm) of the Interschool SJ, their very first competition at this level, coming away with 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Grand Prix and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Two Phase. This gave them 3<sup>rd</sup> overall..... But that's not all..... Grace also took Sharvalley Music to their first Primary Preliminary Dressage event and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in test 1.2 and =6<sup>th</sup> in test 1.3, for a 4<sup>th</sup> overall at this level. Well Done Grace!!

Lena has also been busy on her new horse, Spyder, achieving 3<sup>rd</sup> place in both her tests at **Cockatoo PC Dressage Jackpot**, a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 6<sup>th</sup> place at **Bunyip Dressage Championships** and at **Main Ridge SJ Fundraiser** at Boneo Park, she scored 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Two Phase and 7<sup>th</sup> in the Two Round in D Grade. Well done Lena, you have been busy!!

## SEPTEMBER RALLY AT TOORADIN

We hope everyone is excited for our upcoming Rally on Sunday at Tooradin Estate for an Eventing style Clinic. There will be a simple lunch time menu available consisting of burgers (chicken and beef) and sausages in bread with coleslaw and a variety of drinks and lollies.

You should have received a copy of the timetable for the day, however, if you have booked into the rally and your name is not on the list you need to let Fiona know as a matter of urgency.

Have fun and don't forget the sunscreen as it looks like it will be a glorious day of sunshine! Spring is here.... Finally.

### *Thanks to our generous sponsors:*

*Please consider supporting them all where possible  
and don't forget to mention your club*



Melanie from **Piaffe** is kindly sponsoring us by donating items to raffle at our rallies and competition days. Check out her website at: [www.piaffeequestrian.com](http://www.piaffeequestrian.com) or phone her on: 9754 8499. You can also Facebook her.

Our Bread is kindly donated by **Bakers Delight** - Fountain Gate and arrangements for this were made through one of our members

**Lysterfield Produce** are also extremely generous supporters of our club, notably providing us with showbags with gifts for our competitions

Our fresh Fruit and Vegetables are kindly donated by Martin at The **Groovy Fruit Shop** in Belgrave South.

Consider supporting the local community Greengrocer and pay them a visit.



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