



Hurstbridge DARC Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2016



Club Calendar

Midweek rallies run every Wednesday.

- 3 Sep - Saturday Rally
- 4 Sep - Pony Club Rally
- 11 Sep - HDARC Showjumping Day
- 17 Sep - Saturday Rally
- 18 Sep - PC CT Day

Contacts

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RALLY COORDINATORS

Wednesday:

Melissa Dawson
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Saturday:

Lisa Utting
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News In Brief

Grounds Unavailable

Please note that our grounds will not be available for use from 11am Thursday 6th October until the evening of Sunday 9th October. The Catholic Ladies College will be using the grounds for inter school riding on the Friday and set up and running of our own Dressage Day will take place on the Saturday and Sunday.

Arena Harrowing - Sept Roster

- 5th - Nicole Sanderson
- 12th - Gel Sanderson
- 19th - Lou Serrao
- 26th - Elizabeth Ryan

For those that have not harrowed before, you do not need a 4WD. The harrows are beside the arena and you do not need to move the jumps.

Riding During Rallies

Members not attending a rally are asked to refrain from riding on the grounds while rallies are being conducted. You are welcome to ride before or after rally but not during rally hours. This also applies to private lessons, so please schedule any private sessions outside the set rally times.

The grounds are available for your use most days and hours, however during these few hours that members pay to have

our instructors teach them, it is just politeness to allow those members to finish.

Banner at Large

If anyone know the whereabouts of the clubs banner, please contact Jakki Barton (0410 438 229) or Sharlene Wright (0425 780 978).



Upcoming HRCV TTT Dressage

HRCV TTT Dressage will be hosted by Biddlesden Park Equestrian Club this year at the PCV Equestrian Centre in the Yarra Valley. The event will be run over 3 days starting Friday 11th November 2016.

A team consists of 3 or 4 riders and if you are interested in representing Hurst at TTT, you can forward your entry to Simone at freemansix@bigpond.com.

Please remember to COMPLETE your form properly before sending it to Simone. Official entries close 14th October, so please give Simone plenty of time to process your entry.



Official Reports - July

Committee Report

The days are starting to get longer and Spring is in the air, well the rain is still with us but the must be around the corner.

- We are still working on the keypad for the club house, we have discussed and discussed the different options we could look at since so many members and ex members have keys to the club house.
- The call out has been ask for all club keys to be returned to the committee and since this hasn't happened we are now looking at making the changes. It's a work in process.
- The sail shade is getting closer to being installed just in time coming into Spring/summer, this will be a great asset over our new table set that members are enjoying while having a coffee & a chat.
- PC are going out this week to purchase a new microwave since the old one has finally died on us all, this will be a get help leading up to our showjumping day this coming week.
- We have gone out and brought new metal rakes for the club so we hope this will help with the poo issue and the grounds can now look nice and clean both top and bottom arena's!
- The old dressage trailer will be getting a little face lift and having it accommodate the new dressage arenas and markers we brought earlier in the year so we will be happy to show everyone once we get this updated.
- We are getting closer to the end of the year and we have 2 events left, showjumping on 11th Sept and Dressage on 9th Oct. If you have hours to complete PLEASE get them done as I can't promise to find jobs last minute, please keep this in mind over the next few weeks!

Absent Presidents Report

Hi Y'all,

I write this from downtown Winston-Salem (yep, where the cigarettes come from) in North Carolina.

I arrived here about 5 weeks ago into the last month of summer, it has been glorious, consistently warm and I am sorry to see the official end to summer this weekend, which has ended with a bang with the remnants of a hurricane and I will be envious of the summer you will soon be enjoying while I will be rugging up against snow. You have earned the summer though, it sounds as though it has been a long winter, but then aren't they all.

I'm here studying for a Masters degree in Law, which sounded like a good idea at the time but the reality has been far more work than I anticipated, so my plans of

finding riding clubs and going on idyllic trail rides in the Blue Ridge mountains have been well and truly shattered. And there's no Hurstbridge Saddlery or even Horseland style shops, I drove 30 miles to buy a riding helmet and boots and didn't buy either as the cheapest helmet was close to \$200 US and the Ariat Boots (an American brand) were dearer than at home!

I'm trying to find a dressage instructor with a school horse to have an occasional lesson so that I won't forget which side to get on when I get home in May, so if anyone knows of any in North Carolina please let me know! I would like to thank the committee and Sharlene for taking the reins during my absence. Sharlene has been doing a fabulous role with the addition of President to her already busy Secretary role. Please continue to support her and the committee.

Kim

Stand-In Presidents Report

Since Kim has started her next venture I have stepped into her shoes, big shoes to fill at that. I just would like to thank Kim for what she has done for the club in her role as it's a Thankless role to try and make everyone happy!

Chamie my yello boy and I have started our new venture jumping (still very scary) be loving the partnership we have started and looked forward to competing for the VERY 1st

time ever at our showjumping day.

Hope to see as many smiling faces at the coming events as it's a great club to help calm the nerves.

Please just a reminder to check your obligation hours with me if your un shore? It's a minimum of 6hrs in which you have 12 months to complete!

Happy riding xx

Sharlene



Nillumbik Shire Council Elections

All local councils in Victoria are holding elections in October, including our very own Nillumbik Shire. Voting is by postal voting (not attendance) and ballot papers will arrive in the mail the first week of October – voting is compulsory and ballot papers need to be posted by 6.00pm on Friday 21 October.

As horse riders and property owners in Nillumbik Shire, it is important that we make informed choices in the interest of the lifestyles that many of us value and have worked so hard to achieve. To this end, it is good to understand which prospective councillors will serve us and our rural communities best. It can be a minefield trying to sort through which are the better candidates and what they really stand for.

Most of our members would be unaware that there has been and still remains (in some circles), a strong anti-horse sentiment in and 'around' the council. One existing rural ward councillor has shown themselves to be incredibly biased against horses, supported by righteous elements in the community who would love nothing more than to see horse owners move out of the shire. Unfortunately this has had and potentially will have ramifications for future council policy:

The past attempted exclusion of horses from trails in the Panton Hill Bushland Reserves.

A planning permit system requiring proof of existing use rights such as for the keeping of horses or grazing animals generally.

Removal of the right to graze stock if they have not been kept on the property for two years.

The proposed Planning Amendment C101 could potentially see horse / grazing properties lose access to significant areas of pasture where 'Core', 'Buffer' or 'Waterway' Overlays are declared.

A proposed Local Law on grazing has been suggested by vocal 'green' groups and discussed by shire planners.

The keeping of horses and the associated clubs, trails and horse properties have always been a feature of Nillumbik. Of equal importance and the reason so many horse owners are drawn to the area, is the delightful bushland environment that we can ride through. These two interests should not be seen as being fundamentally in opposition,

but rather they are mutually supportive.

Please be aware of the attitude to horses, horse riding and grazing on properties that the candidates in your ward profess. Make sure that they are not just paying lip service to community recreation activities, without specifically acknowledging and supporting the ownership and riding of horses in Nillumbik.

Whilst not advocating who you should vote for in this election, it can be helpful to have some insight into the main candidates and their values. The two rural wards in Nillumbik Shire are 'Bunjil', which covers Wattle Glen, Hurstbridge, Panton Hill, Cottles Bridge, Nutfield, Doreen, Arthurs Creek and Strathewen and 'Sugarloaf' which covers St Andrews, Smiths Gully, Christmas Hills, Watsons Creek, Bend of Islands, Kangaroo Ground, Research and North Warrandyte.

One of our club members, Cath Giles is standing for Sugarloaf Ward and has proven herself to be a worthy supporter and defender of the horse riding community in Nillumbik Shire. As President of the Nillumbik Horse Action Group (a community advocacy group on behalf of horse owners and riders in Nillumbik Shire), she has 'had our backs' when it comes to council policy and direction. Further, she has championed the creation of a network of shared trails across Nillumbik to ensure the safe and enjoyable riding of horses (alongside other trail users).

In Bunjil Ward, Karen Egan is standing who is both a horse rider and convener of the PALs, the Pro Active Landholders Group. This group was formed earlier this year in reaction to the two proposed Planning Scheme Amendments C81 and C101 and concern over how these have the potential to change the future use and viability of rural properties in Nillumbik.

This will prove to be another highly contested election in Nillumbik with numerous candidates keen to sort out the challenges as they see them. The future of our horse keeping, amenities, access and management will be very much reflected by who is in Council making the decisions.

These comments are provided as information only to be used at your own discretion.



Rally Program

Updated Rally Programs for next term will be included in
the October newsletter!