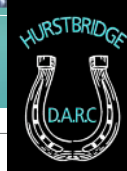




Hurstbridge DARC Newsletter

MARCH 2017



Club Calendar

Midweek rallies run every Wednesday.

- 4 Mar - Saturday Rally
- Trail Ride Nillumbik Estate Winery
- 5 Mar - Pony Club Rally
- 18 Mar - Saturday Rally
- 1 Apr - Saturday Rally
- 2 Apr - Pony Club Rally

Contacts

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RALLY COORDINATORS

Wednesday:

Melissa Dawson
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Saturday:

Lisa Utting
E: lisaathome@gmail.com

News In Brief

TTT Combined Training

We have 2 teams entering TTT Combined Training at Ayr Hill on 25/26th March. Wishing our riders a fabulous weekend and a safe ride.

Our teams for this year are:

Team One

Joanne McIlroy, Erin Briannon Nugent
Tessa Kyriakidis, Charlotte Ashton
Helper: Robyn Sholly

Team Two

Lisa Utting, Lisa Embling
Jessica Lyell, Jessica Stevens
Helper: Heather Wilson

Reserve: Simone Freeman

Good luck to all xx

Arena Harrowing Roster

Mondays and Tuesdays are preferred for harrowing duties. 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.

March 2017

6th Rachel Morrison
13th Sherri Morley
20th Cameron Mitton
27th Marg Milner

April 2017

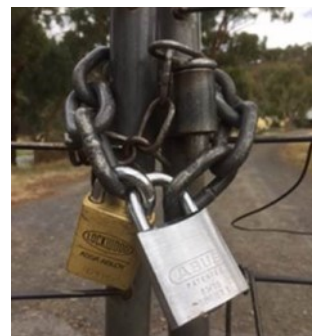
3rd Coralie Millet
10th Nola McMohan
17th Jo McIlroy-Smith
24th Diana Martin

Please Lock the Gate

There has been quite a few instances over the past weeks in particular, of the front club gate either being left wide open, or closed but without being padlocked.

This is particularly worrying when it occurs at night, as it leaves our club open to anyone having the ability to drive into our grounds and cause havoc.

Can we please ask that whenever you are the last to leave the grounds, you make sure that you close the gate and padlock it. While on that note, can you please make sure that you lock the brass padlock into the silver padlock. At each end of the chain there should be a padlock, one silver and one brass (the usual club one is the brass one) – see picture.





Presidents Report

Hello Everyone and belated Happy New Year!

I hope that 2017 proves to be an enjoyable year for you and your riding endeavors!

Firstly I would like to say how pleased I am to see so many riders back at Wednesday rallies – we have had 22 riders for the last two weeks, which is very encouraging. Here are a few dates for you to note down in your diaries:

- Our Showjumping Jackpot is to be held on Sunday, 10th September. Gel Sanderson and her wonderful committee will once again put on another great event for all to participate in.
- A date has been locked into the HRCVA Calendar for our Dressage Jackpot, although we do not have an event coordinator or canteen coordinator. The date is Sunday, 8th October 2017. As mentioned in my email that I sent out earlier this month, we have a fabulous sub-committee who are very experienced and ready to assist an event coordinator. Please, there must be someone who can take on this role and there must be someone who can co-ordinate the canteen. Belinda Males and Marg Milner, the previous coordinators are very happy to be of assistance and guide a new coordinator in the role, so please consider putting your hand up to help your club in this way.
- The events that we run each year raise valuable funds that enable us to maintain and improve our grounds and facilities and purchase equipment.
- There will be 2 working bees held this year, one in May and the other in August – exact dates to be confirmed shortly.

Please do write these dates down into your calendars. Remember many hands make light work.

Don't leave it to the last minute to try and fulfil your mandatory 6 hours of club assistance. There are plenty of opportunities throughout the year, including the abovementioned events and working bees to achieve this.

Pony club are running a freshman's on Friday, 3rd March.

Work will commence within the next two weeks to create the external toilet.

The dressage arena trailer is coming along and it won't be too long before it is back in the shed.

One of our very kind and compassionate members, Astrid Waterdrinker regularly goes to the Echuca sales and rescues all sorts of equines. She currently has 3 donkeys, 2 mules, a pony and foal and 9 horses – two of these horses are Astrid's and not rescues. That is 16 to take care of. Astrid is going to write a piece for our newsletter each month about her rescues and include photos. 16 equines is a lot to take care of, so if anyone has any spare time to groom horses or assist Astrid in other ways, please let me know via email and I will put you in contact with Astrid.

Please make sure you check the harrowing roster that Sharlene emailed out weeks ago to see which week is your turn. If you are unable to do the allocated week, please swap with someone and let Sharlene know. With 120 members you only have to harrow once every two years.

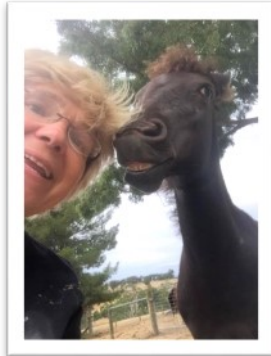
Well that is it from me. Happy riding :)

Mel Dawson



Astrid - Equine Rescuer

Hi I'm Astrid, I've been with HARC since 2013. You may know me from when I still rode regularly with my big grey Irish Draft horse Coz, who travelled with me from the UK when we came here in 2011.



Today I want to tell you about my farm in Arthurs Creek which is now home to 16 equines (9 horses/2 mules/3 donkeys), of which 14 were bought to give them a better chance in life and to directly stop them from being slaughtered. One of my donkeys Cairo is almost 30yo and he had a tapeworm when I bought him, also destined for slaughter the same day!

This last winter as you all know was a long hard slog to feed horses in never ending cold, wet and windy conditions with hay prices going through the roof.

During this winter so many people sent horses to the sales just because they could not pay for feed. I now have 4 mares due to these conditions (and I had always said NO to mares!!), all lovely and worth the rescue. One 15HH ClydieX/QH 8yo Bonnie who has been re-schooled professionally, a STB 5yo (no brand) Rosie who has been broken in now professionally and is out with another trainer getting bush experience, a 2yo ClydieX STB who was handled since a foal with a wonderful temperament and who will be a lovely jumper (bigger than 16HH estimate) and the one I would like to say more about today, a 13HH Palouse pony Lizzie who came to me at 18 months old unhandled and was thin and scared and according to the transporter 'no good'. We managed to handle her by September with clicker training. Then as I came home on a dark,

wet, cold and windy night I walked into the paddock to close up my chickens which was unusual for me to do at that time. A beautiful tiny freshly born black foal was lying into my pig wire fence!! She could not walk, though kept trying for the next ½ hour and I cringe when I think what would have happened if I had not come into the field just then. I built a Bedouin tent in my hay barn where Mum and bubs huddled up and with some support the foal had her first drink. Needless to say I went to bed in the very early hours of the next morning. We called the little beauty Annie after a family member who is bravely challenging a serious illness and who looks forward to all updates on her names sake. As Annie's mum was still a baby herself I let them out after 4 days to be free in a field unstressed by handling. Annie is now 5/12 old and such a dear! She has always allowed me to touch her all over, though getting a head collar on is a whole different ball game.

Presently an AC resident Andy is building me a safe pen so that I can slowly wean and handle her safely in her own field. Lizzy's training will continue after this too. Despite being foal proud she has never once attempted to hurt me and I think she has learnt more trust just because of all the help she received in raising her foal from the minute it was born. She's only 2yo herself now and will develop into a lovely pony in due course.

I hope you enjoyed this story. I will tell you about another one next time!



-Astrid



Wednesday Rallies

	9:00 am	10:00am	11:00am	12:00pm
WEDNESDAY 8TH MARCH 2017			Duty: TBA	
Dale Murie		Flatwork L 3/2	Flatwork L 5/4	
WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH 2017			Duty: TBA	
Kirsten Beard-Adams		Flatwork L 3/2	Flatwork L 5/4	
Robbie Allen		Showjumping L 3/2	Showjumping L 5/4	
WEDNESDAY 22ND MARCH 2017				
Viv Axton		Flatwork L 3/2	Flatwork L 5/4	
Jenny Sheppard	Showjumping L 3/2	Showjumping L4	Showjumping L 5	
WEDNESDAY 29TH MARCH 2017			Duty: TBA	
Tanya van Bokhoven		Flatwork L 3/2	Flatwork L 5/4	

Rally Information

Each lesson is \$25 and payments can be made either online before the rally or cash on the day.

Online Payments

Account name: Hurstbridge & District Adult Riding

BSB: 633000 Account number: 112585229

Please have the reference as your surname then first initial and date, eg. "Smith T 15/2"

Payments must be made before the rally and you need to tick your name off the rally sheet on the day to say you have paid online.

Cash on the day

We will still offer cash payments on the day of the rally as per usual, however please observe the following rules:

- pay for your rally before you ride
- remember to bring the correct amount (i.e. \$25) and do not expect to get change
- put your payment along with a completed payment slip in **one** envelope per rider

Bookings: Email melissa@ech.com.au and include your level and preference. Cancellations must be made by Sunday 8.00pm prior to the Wednesday rally or you are obligated to pay for your lesson. For booking enquiries &/or cancellations, call Melissa - 0439 080 861.

Duty Roster: Duty requires setting up, packing up, providing morning tea and looking after instructors. Members rostered on should make contact to agree how to share the duties. If you are unable to do your rostered duty, please arrange a swap with another member and notify Melissa of changes.

Wednesday Rally Coordinator: Melissa Dawson E: melissa@ech.com.au P:0439 080 861



Saturday Rallies

Don't forget that this upcoming rally on **Saturday 4th March**, we have Carly Reid instructing at the club grounds with showjumping, flatwork and poles/flat lesson options.

For something a little different, Cath Giles has organised a wonderful trail ride (leaving from St Andrews PC) and on return a lunch at Nillumbik Estate Winery.

If booking in for Carly email Lisa with details – otherwise fill in the trail riding form (attached to newsletter email) and get it back to Cath Giles as soon as possible.



Saturday 18 March we will have Lisa Bray instructing flatwork, poles and jumping lesson options.

Rally Information

Each lesson is \$25 and payments can be made either online before the rally or cash on the day.

Online Payments

Account name: Hurstbridge & District Adult Riding

BSB: 633000 Account number: 112585229

Please have the reference as your surname then first initial and date, eg. "Smith T 15/2"

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- pay for your rally before you ride
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- put your payment along with a completed payment slip in one envelope per rider

Bookings: Email lisaathome@gmail.com and include your level and preference. Cancellations must be made by Wednesday 8.00pm prior to the Saturday rally or you are obligated to pay for your lesson. For booking enquiries &/or cancellations, call Lisa on 0411 027 656.

Saturday Rally Coordinator: Lisa Utting E: lisaathome@gmail.com P:0411 027 656