



NEWSLETTER EASTER 2011



Well Autumn has arrived (you all just missed my birthday), and although it's a pest taking rugs on and off, the weather is truly delightful. I think it's my favourite time of year, except I have about a ton of oak leaves & acorns on the ground. It is stunning riding in the forest and the smell is undefinable. We have recovered from our deluge of rain. I hope everyone else is having a good time too.

Heaps of new members have joined the club, hopefully you will find Bullengarook Adult Riders a rewarding experience, don't hesitate to ask if you need to know anything about anything. Welcome to Amanda, Jan, Flora & Jodie

A few words from SWMBO(bni)

(She Who Must Be Obeyed (but never is) aka The president Karen Bentley)



Hi everyone-hope you all had a nice relaxing Easter and made the most of the magnificent weather!

Well the Midweek Extravaganza lived up to its name! It was a huge day, topped off by perfect weather yet again! I want to extend my personal thanks again to all of the club members who put themselves out to help run the day, including setting up the day before. It literally could not have happened without you all. Extra special thanks to Emma, Anna and Tina who actually forfeited their rides because they didn't want to leave us short on the helper front!

And now it is time to do it all again-the weekend version will be held on 29 May (see details below) and we'll need all hands on deck again. As mentioned previously, the club needs to run these events to raise money, which in turn is used for things like improvements to the grounds and facilities and subsidised competitions and clinics. The money raised from the midweek competition is going towards our share of the costs to resurface the jumping arena.

We also have 4 new members this month! On behalf of the club, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to you all and hope you enjoy your time with us. You'll all be pleased to know that, despite very strong support for it from the other club members, the "Nudie run" initiation for new members has been shelved (sorry Drew!).

As we head in to the colder and wetter months, the motivation to get the equine kids out of the paddocks can be lacking. But I hope that the thought of kicking back in the dry and warm club room with a nice glass of bubbles or sav blanc with a bunch of like minded horsey folk will be motivation enough for you all to keep coming to rallies through winter!

Speaking of rallies, don't forgot to provide feedback to the committee members! If you enjoyed a particular instructor, then let us know so we can ask them back. Likewise if you didn't like something about your lesson. We can only make the rallies what you want if you tell us what you want! And we are always looking to try new instructors if you know of someone.

Bullengarook has always been an 'adult' riders club, although there have been circumstances where we have accepted junior members. In the last newsletter, we announced the decision of the committee to no longer accept junior members. One of the reasons for the change was due to the subjective nature of who was and wasn't accepted. Out of fairness to everyone, all new members must now be at least 18 years old.

The other reason is the club's legal obligation under the 'Working with Children' requirements. As the parents among you in particular would know, adults involved in particular activities with children (ie any one under the age of 18) must have a police check and obtain working with children certification. Being an instructor at a rally falls within this category.

We do not currently require working with children certification of our instructors. And by taking the decision to only accept members 18 years and over, we will not have to require it.

Cheers everyone and hope to see you all at the May rally and the next Extravaganza!

RALLYS!!

Our last couple of rallies have been quite good, but again, there is a bit of lack of participation in setting up and packing up. For everyone who is riding at 9am, please spend 10 minutes helping set up the show jumping, regardless of whether you are in the lesson or not. And all others, please pitch in for lunches and packing up as per the roster. It's not a perfect system, but hopefully it works with spreading the load over all the members who ride at a rally.

As Brenda is away for this rally, Stacey will be co-ordinating. With the colder weather coming on, it would be good if you could bring a piece of wood for the fire. Instructing at the rally is Heidi Talbot & Mary Arnott, both of whom we have had in the past, although it has been a while since we have seen Heidi, and we have John Francis back again for jumping.

Future confirmed instructors are at the end of the newsletter on the calendar.

A few pointers regarding rally booking

- Book in for a rally as soon as possible – there is a calendar of dates at the end of the newsletter, which has the years future dates, and booked instructors so far. You can book in any time, but once the rally notice is sent, with the details, you know bookings will be closing soon
- Is it hard to hit reply to say you won't be attending if you know you won't be coming?
- Please notify exactly what you want at what level on which horse. Many riders swap horses around, and we aren't mind readers. Also if you would prefer one instructor (or not as the case may be). You can book in for more than one lesson if you want. Reasonable requests can sometimes be accommodated, but sometimes not.
- Give an idea what you will bring for lunch. It seems we have been getting an abundance of morning tea items, and not so much for lunch, ie salads. Not that there is anything wrong with a packet of biscuits, if that's what you like, but something for 1pm is preferable
- If you think you have booked in for a rally, or have not heard from anyone by the Tuesday before rally, contact us – this email system is not foolproof, nor are mobiles the most reliable things. I am sure Brenda doesn't leave you out on purpose, unless you have really pissed her off in the past
- If you book in for a rally and then pull out at the last minute, you WILL be expected to pay for your lessons, we still have to pay the instructors.

We try to give our instructors as much notice as we can, we have to book them in advance – without knowing how many will be attending a rally. I find it tricky & embarrassing to either ring up an instructor at the last minute to tell them their services aren't required, after booking them months in advance, and the reverse of this is trying to find an instructor at the last minute, as most are already committed somewhere else of course. It is really hard to balance, so the more notice we get from our members, the easier it is.

You can book yourselves in for as many lessons as you think you can cope with - \$25 for a flat lesson & \$20 for a jumping lesson. Don't forget if you are in the first lesson to allow 15 minutes to assist in setting up the showjumps before the first lesson regardless of whether you are jumping or not. Please book in **NOW** for the next rally with ME at Dixon.stacey@internode.on.net, or text to 0418 994847 as soon as you know what your plans are either way (you can do it today!), makes it a lot easier for cancelling/adding instructors.

LEVEL ASSESSING

In order to compete, riders need to be level assessed. We have two level assessors as members of our club, and if one of them is attending a rally, they are normally happy to assess you for \$10 or level verify you for free, but you need to pre-arrange this with them, this is not something the club organises. Not sure if there will be a level assessor at the next rally, but for all Level Assessing requirements (you need to be level assessed before you compete) call Emma on 0448 480011 or Lucinda on 0448 880226. Between Emma & Lucinda I am sure they will work something out. Otherwise you are free to get level assessed by any of the official HRCAV Level Assessors, they

charge around \$50 + travel. For a full listing have a look here

<http://hrcav.com.au/site/hrca/vic/downloads/Officials/level%20assessors%20141210.pdf>, Level assessment does not expire, but you do need to be level verified if you want to participate in a TTT event.

BULLENGAROOK MID WEEK & WEEKEND EXTRAVAGANZA COMPETITION

Well the club held its first competition on 8th April. Weather was perfect and the day was pretty good. Karen Bentley & Emma Apsey spent the day trying to keep all the balls in the air, and I think was a bit of a learning curve for a few people. We had heaps of our members riding, and a few that intending on riding, but didn't quite make it!

Our second competition in the series is on 29th May and I would really like to stress that we want our members to ride at the event so please enter, but also we need you to help as well. Even if you choose not to ride, we still need help to run the day. As has been mentioned many times before, the club subsidises many things on behalf of every single one of our members and it doesn't happen without support from all of us.

Attached is the program for our next competition, and Karen will again be contacting you to organise the helping.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Being an associate member means that you are insured through another club with the HRCav, but pay the "club fee" to be an associate at Bullengarook. This gives you access to everything a full member at Bullengarook has – facilities, subsidised lessons, lunches, voting rights, you can even ride in our club colours. In return, being an associate member means that you are expected to put in like a full member, even you are competing at one of our events under another club's name. At the end of the day all our members benefit from the funds raised at our competitions and we do not discriminate between who is an associate or not.

TTT Events

For our new members, here is a crash course in Top Team Trophy events. Each year a TTT event is held in one of our six disciplines. Clubs submit teams of four, with the best three scores from each team counting to the overall winning team. To enter you need to either have competed in three events of the discipline in the 12 months prior to closing date OR be level verified in the three months prior to closing. Anyone from the club can nominate to be on a team, and if you want to be on a team with someone in particular you can ask for this, otherwise the rest get put into moderately balanced teams. Bullengarook have had varying success over the years in all of the disciplines, we have won a couple, heaps of seconds & thirds, and many placings, along with PLENTY of placings not worth mentioning. It is not about winning, it's about the participating, getting out in the black & jade & just being part of a team and part of the club. Although winning or placing at TTT is also quite prestigious too. The TTT events can be loads of fun, Bullengarook move into the venue & set up camp, usually first to arrive, last to leave, regardless of our team placings.

Again this doesn't happen by accident but is dependent on all the participants. We also need to get Drew to jump camp & set his spit roast up in the Bullengarook camp, not with the "rivals"

The club pays for half of our entry fees & all of the team entry fees,

TTT Combined Training

TTT Combined Training is being held at Werribee Park on 30th April/1st May 2011. Teams are in and we have 2 teams representing Bullengarook over the two days. Fingers crossed for good weather.

TTT Horse Trials

TTT Horse Trials is being held at Werribee Park on 30/31st July 2011. **OKAY HERE IS THE SCOOP – GET YOUR COPY OF CARD OR LOG & ENTRY FEE TO ME ASAP, OR YOU WILL MISS OUT.** We will be doing entries as they come in, the earlier the entries, the better the times, & as I am planning on entering (yes I already have my log sent to me) I don't want to ride at 8am, like we have in the past. Also is the second scoop, if you want to be on a team – you have to provide a team helper for two hours, preferably someone independent. This will probably be a jump judge on the cross country course. Has anyone noticed the recurring theme yet? As always the club will pay half the entry.

TTT Navigation Ride

TTT Nav Ride is being held at Dunolly on 14th August 2011. **OKAY HERE IS THE SCOOP – GET YOUR COPY OF CARD OR LOG & ENTRY FEE TO ME ASAP, OR YOU WILL MISS OUT.** Get yourself a partner or a team, decide who is going to do the 10km leg & who is going to do the 20km leg, the earlier the entries, the better the times, & as I am planning on entering (yes I already have my log sent to me) I don't want to ride at 8am, like we have in the past. Repetitive I know, but this time you don't need a team helper.

I know it all sounds very naggy, but you have no idea how difficult it is co-ordinating teams, the showjumping horse trials & dressage last year was a nightmare with people entering & scratching, we were scrambling to keep teams together. As they are team events, it is important to realise that you are in it with three other riders from the club.

Official HRCav Rules & Competing

It is every riders responsibility to be up to date with current HRCav rules. They do change quite often, but the official HRCav website is a good source of full rules & updates. Check it all out here under "manual" & rules" <http://www.hrcav.com.au/>

A common mistake that riders make is not having valid cards (you need to be assessed in all disciplines except Navigation rides) and Membership card that is stamped and signed for the current financial year.

Not having the appropriate gear is also common, and it does vary through the different disciplines. Don't forget you need numbers on either side of your horse for all disciplines (except showing

where you can have a neck number holder instead) and a medical arm band is always handy to have in the float.

The latest rule that has caught a few people out is the mandatory wearing of a logo on either your upper body or saddle blanket. Bullengarook have a policy of our members being able to source their own uniforms in black & jade and we have our logo down at One Stop Embroidery who has polo shirts in our colours & our logo which Tina will put on most things. Wear the Black & Jade with pride – it doesn't cost much. As mentioned below, subsidised rugbys & ties are only available through club.

There is nothing worse than riding H/C or getting eliminated over small things, and from experience, you tend to only do it once, but they are steep learning curves.

We also have quite a few instructors already booked for upcoming rallies, see the calendar further down. And also if you have a recommendation for an instructor, we are always on the lookout for somebody new. The criteria we look for in an instructor is that they are capable of instructing beginners up to a high standard, happy to teach a group of up to three riders & are reasonably priced.

General Rally Information

- Members bringing their dogs to rallies need to make sure those dogs are tied up or left in the car during lessons and at lunchtime. As long as your puppies are restrained, everyone will be happy.
- REMINDER RE: LUNGING... Members needing to lunge their horse before riding are reminded that there is NO lunging in the arenas while lessons are in progress.
- Please be ready for your lesson to prevent delays in the day, sometimes it's hard when you have to go from one lesson to the other, but courtesy for our instructors and other riders is always nice. I try to offer my instructor a hot or cold drink after riding as its hard to talk and stand for hours out in the weather. Also sometimes the lesson before runs a little over time too, it is good to check to see whether you can go on the arena if the previous class hasn't finished.
- In the colder weather, for those who have wood fires at home, could you please bring along a piece of wood to make the clubrooms nice and cosy.
- The water on the outside of the shed is used by both Adult Riders & Pony Club to water their horses, if it is absolutely necessary for you to hose your horses, can you please keep it to a minimum. The water that sources to the sink in the clubrooms is not considered drinking water, it also comes from the outside tank and is full of all sorts of lovely things. There is another poly pipe and tap in the kitchen that sources to a tank where we buy in water for drinking.

Uniforms

We have a small number of club rubgys for \$50 (these have to be ordered in lots of 20, so the sizing is a bit limited) and club ties for \$15. For all your other uniform requirements, you can get most things through One Stop Embroidery in Sunbury, the lovely Tina has all sorts of things like polo shirts & hats in our colours, which she can put our logo on for very reasonable prices, and she also can put the logo on anything you take down there, like your own vests, or woollen jumpers, or saddle blankets. You can wear any colour jodhpurs you like, but most of our riders tend to compete in black ones. Also there is a very spesh looking Roma jade saddlecloth, lined in black that Gill bought up at Lowdens in Kilmore for \$50. They look great.

For Sale

17.5" Bates Isabell Dressage Saddle. Black. Double Grain. Flocked panels. Large knee blocks. Medium gullet but of course fully changeable, and can swap for a different size gullet if necessary. Unmounted but comes with Bates saddle cover. Bought new for over \$3k, and approx 3 years ago, hardly used, been sitting inside my house for over 2 years, and does not suit my current horse.

In excellent condition, rub marks from stirrup leathers, points in great condition. Beautiful saddle, would suit a new buyer. \$1700 ono. Ph 54289028



CALENDAR/RALLY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April

30 th & 1 st May	TTT Combined Training @ Werribee Park
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May

Rally – 7 th	Flat Heide Talbot/Mary Talbot Jump John Francis
Committee Meeting 10 th	
29 th Sunday	Bullengarook Dressage/CT/Showjumping Please everyone enter

June

Rally – 11 th	Flat Anne Hall/Chris Sievers Jump Drew Cotter (the more bourbon the better)
Committee Meeting 14 th	TBC

July

Rally – 9 th	Flat Kylie Burton/Anne Hall Jump John Francis
Committee Meeting 12 th	TBC
30 th & 31 st	TTT Horse Trials @ Werribee Park

August

Rally – 13 th	Flat Kylie Burton/TBC Jump TBC
14 th	TTT Navigation Ride @ Dunolly
Committee Meeting 16 th	TBC

September

Rally – 10 th	Flat TBC/TBC Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 13 th	TBC

October

Rally – 8 th	Flat TBC/TBC Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 11 th	TBC

November

Rally – 12 th	Flat TBC/TBC Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 15 th	TBC

Bullengarook ARC Inc

EXTRAVAGANZA!!



DRESSAGE!

SHOWJUMPING!

COMBINED TRAINING!

Sunday 29th May 2011

Dressage Tests: C & D for all levels, Advanced A3 & A4

Show Jumping: AM7 & A2

Combined Training – C Test as per above

(SJ Course Builder – Allan Mitchell)

Okay this is complicated – You can take part in any or all of the events or a combination of all three. The first phase of the AM7 will be used for the Combined Training if jumping at the same level as Show Jumping. CT Only will jump only this part. If you are doing Showjumping at the same level (and have a clear round) you will continue to jump off. If you are doing different levels in CT & SJ, you will be required to jump at the different levels. Your patience and flexibility will be required if you are doing all three, we are good, but we are not magicians.

Venue: Bullengarook Recreation Reserve, Gisborne - Bacchus Marsh Road, Bullengarook

Enquiries : cinmack@hotmail.com Stacey Dixon 5428 9028, Dixon.stacey@internode.on.net

Scratchings: On Day 0418 994 847,

Closing Date: 18th May 2011

Entry Fees: \$35 Dressage Jackpot ONLY
\$30 Combined Training ONLY
\$30 Show Jumping ONLY

Combo Packs (would you like to upsize your order!)

Any 2 Disciplines Same Level	\$55,	Any 3 Same Level	\$65
Any 2 Disciplines Different Level	\$60	Any 3 Different Level	\$75

Prizes: Prizes are per Event Rule 24

Entries to: *Bullengarook Adult Riding Club Inc*

Event Secretary, 534 Tooronga Rd, Hawthorn, 3123

Please include an email address only for return of times. **Entries for this event are strictly limited, given the nature of the competition, and limited space**

Conditions of Entry

*All sections will be conducted under the HRCV rules & regulations *Registered club colours & approved helmets must worn *Competitors must present to Gear Check 20 minutes prior to scheduled first test *Tests may be called *Official forms are to be used *Current & Valid membership & performance cards must be presented prior to first competition. Failure to present cards will result in the combination competing Hors Concors *Competitors to supply own numbers *No refund a closing date unless a vet/medical certificate lodged within 7 days of the event *Protests must be lodged within 30 minutes the posting of the interim results with a fee of \$20 *The decision of the Ground Jury is final. *The organisers reserve the right to cancel any class, to divide any class, to alter the advertised times, to refuse entry with or without stating a reason *The organising committee of the Bullengarook Adult Riding Club Inc does not accept any liability for any accident, injury, loss, illness to horses, owners, riders & spectators throughout this event *No dogs are permitted on the grounds *Medical armbands must be worn for jumping disciplines.

TONY'S PRACTICE OPEN DAY

Sunday 22nd May 10am - 2pm

Help us celebrate the opening of our new state-of-the-art Veterinary Centre encompassing Small Animal Centre and Equine Facility

- Practice Tours & Demonstrations
- Jumping Castle
- Baby animal petting zoo
- Colouring Competition
- Meet your vet and their pet
- Trade & Community Stalls
- Face Painting
- Sausage Sizzle

MEET SUBZERO, Melbourne's favourite racing legend!



SUNDAY
22ND MAY
10AM-2PM
BRING THE
FAMILY!

**TONY'S
PRACTICE**
Woodend Veterinary Centre

'New Address' Corner of Wood and Brooke Streets, Woodend
p 03 5427 4344 f 03 5427 4355 | www.tonyspractice.com.au