



NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2011

The Christmas/New Year whirlwind is now behind us, and we are well on our way to breaking all those resolutions we put in place. Although I must say, so far I am not doing too badly, but I made very achievable goals. We have been experiencing some very unusual weather too, quite mild but boy have we had some rain. Bullengarook was without power for about 12 hours last Friday, interesting how it affects on so many levels. And whatever you do, don't mention either fencing or hay baling to Gill, she may just deck you.

I am sitting in the sun in a park, with Jack Johnson playing on my Itunes in the background, with the faithful doggie at my feet on a Tuesday, life is nice up in the country sometimes.

We have had even more new members joining us this year, I hope your Bullengarook experience is a good one. Welcome to Tilly, Danni, Anna, Tina & Nick, and welcome back to Kristy. This influx of new members saw our January rally full to overflowing.

We were talking about this at committee about how good it is to have new blood & also thought it may be a good time to gently remind about a few rules & guidelines that are both HRCav insurance issues and also club policies. When there is an official Bullengarook Adult Riding event at our grounds, we have these booked, and the facilities are covered by our insurance policy, not councils. So this means that only HRCav insured members & instructors are allowed to ride on the grounds on the day. This also applies to Pony Club days too, with PCAV insurance covering the event. It is no different to any council ground being booked for a sporting event, you wouldn't go onto a ground where a football match is in progress & start playing.

Another thing talked about is the integral culture of the club, being that it is for Adult Riders, and so many of our members not only enjoy the great instruction, but also consider the social aspect of the club to be just as important. Our club has a reputation of having the Best. Lunches. Ever. amongst instructors & riders around the state. Of course this doesn't happen by accident, but is reliant on what riders contribute to make it so fabulous. The club always supplies chickens & rolls, tea & coffee at no charge. We have stopped providing a few bottles of bubbles as we now have too many members. It's great to share a drink, but we ask if you could contribute your own to the pool,

along with something nice to share in the food department. It seems every lunchtime has more and more people attending. This is also part & parcel of other adult themes for the day, with many of our riders having it as their one day a month for themselves, where they can smoke & drink & generally behave in a manner that their children would not approve! We would like to try & keep the day like this.

We have tried to introduce a roster for helping, which means that regardless of what you are riding, you can help in some way. Of course sometimes it's hard, but without wanting to sound like a school teacher, we are adults, we ride at a club that is full of adults, nobody gets paid for the helping out, and it would be good if each rider could help without having to be asked or reminded. At the end of each day there is still a lot of packing and cleaning which is normally left. A small core of people make the days run & we like to ride our horses too & socialise & enjoy ourselves, it's up to every member to be responsible for their own actions, and not wait to be asked.

One other important topic was discussed at the last committee meeting, and this is the issue of discretionary mature junior members. As it seems to be contentious, and the committee wanting to maintain the adult culture of the club, the committee have decided that we will be strictly adhering to limiting membership to over 18 years only from now on.

RALLYS!!

Well, Christmas was a beauty, with heaps of food (seriously it really does help if you RSVP). I catered for 40 with meat, after having 30 saying they were coming, and it all disappeared in a flash. We were lucky with instructors, after having two pull out in the week prior, managing to find two more at short notice (thanks Tori & Wendy)

January was amazing, with only one instructor booked, Brenda had a huge response and we again had to find an instructor at the last minute. Lessons went all day, and if the response to rallies keeps up, perhaps we will have to keep this up.

Now as much as I find it highly amusing to see Brenda get her knickers in a knot over the bookings for rallies, we don't want her to totally crack the shits & quit. So can you please please keep Brenda happy (she is Maltese & very highly strung) by just following a few simple procedures:

- 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 Brenda sends out the rally notice, 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 Bren isn't a mind reader. 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 Brenda by the Tuesday before rally, contact her – this email system is not foolproof, not 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 Brenda at mintadowns@hotmail.com or mobile to 0428 370449 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.

RENEE PEDRETTI CLINIC

The weather was near perfect, thankfully, and Brenda only developed 37 new grey hairs fitting everyone in (and out and in and out). The intent of the weekend was to give back to our members the opportunity of a great instructor & consolidate skills over the two days at an incredibly subsidised rate. Hopefully for those who attended took something away from the weekend, I know that I took a norty sore horse away & sadly pondering how can I ever not ride in a \$6000 dressage again 😊, and I was totally spoilt with a Thai banquet on Saturday night that the rest of you missed out on too. See below for a gallery of photos from the day.

BULLENGAROOK MID WEEK & WEEKEND EXTRAVAGANZA COMPETITION

Well, if you read the newsletter from start to finish, you will see many things that the club pays for, plus lots of hidden things that don't rate a mention. The way that we achieve all these things is by raising funds from holding competitions. We don't want to constantly raise minimum funds by charging for rally lunches, paying for coffee & tea, or by limiting & inflating uniform costs.

So events are the way to go, and we need a fair bit of man power to run them. We also encourage our members to participate in them too, but this doesn't mean that you can sit on your bum & watch other members from the club working for your enjoyment.

So.....seeming our last Extravaganza was so well received and ground breaking, we thought we would do it all again, but have two, one midweek & one on the weekend.

These dates are Wednesday 8th April & Sunday 29th May. We need people to help set up on the Tuesday, & also help with stewarding & dressage pencilling on the Wednesday, and the same for the weekend of 28/29 May. When you get an email from the helper co-ordinator if you can bear in mind what you get from the club and consider this is a good chance to put back in, please be forthcoming!! I have attached our program so you know what you are in for.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Being an associate member means that you are insured through another club with the HRCV, 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 clubs 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, its 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, so for all mentioned above, can you please arrange to pay to me ASAP the following. TTT Nav = \$12.50 each, TTT HT2010 = \$40 each and TTT CT2010 = \$30.50, TTT SJ \$35 & TTT Dressage \$35. Thank you to all who have paid, which is most. **Can the rest of you please catch up on the arrears. Remember if you entered, regardless of whether you competed, you still have to pay unless you provided a medical or vet certificate. The club had already paid the entry on your behalf** You can either send a cheque or direct debit into the club account & email me the receipt so I can cross you off the list. Bank details are Westpac – BSB 033-624, Account 210330

TTT Combined Training

TTT Combined Training is being held at Werribee Park on 30th April/1st May 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. Year after year we have so many people entering TTT teams and the helping tends to fall back to just a few. As always the club will pay half the entry.

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 rugbys 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.







CALENDAR/RALLY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February

Rally – 12 th	Flat Laura Lippert/Kylie Burton Jump Wendy Whiting
Committee Meeting 15 th	TBC

March

Rally – 12 th	Flat Helen McMillan/TBC Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 15 th	TBC
23 rd – Wednesday	Bullengarook Midweek Dressage/CT/Showjumping

April

Rally – 9 th	Flat Helen McMillan/Emma Youngman Jump John Francis
Committee Meeting 12 th	TBC
13 th – Wednesday	Bullengarook Midweek Dressage/CT/Showjumping
30 th & 1 st May	TTT Combined Training @ Werribee Park

May

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

June

Rally – 11 th	Flat TBC/TBC Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 14 th	TBC

July

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

August

Rally – 13 th	Flat TBC/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

MID WEEK EXTRAVAGANZA!!



DRESSAGE! SHOWJUMPING! COMBINED TRAINING! WEDNESDAY 13th April 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.

We also have the event scheduled for Sunday 29th May!

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: 30th March 2010

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 HRC AV 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 or illness to horses, owners, riders & spectators throughout this event *No dogs are permitted on the grounds *Medical armbands must be worn for jumping disciplines.

