



NEWSLETTER JULY 2011



I feel a bit guilty about complaining about all the rain after 10 years of drought – but enough already, my float is threatening to get bogged and you can forget about a white stockings on the feral chestnut – this is where the solid black horse comes into his own. It is certainly not very motivating to get out and be active when there is the constant drizzle & mud.

Only one new member this month – How-diddly doodilly to Catherine Diamond (yes I am channelling Ned Flanders).

Other non-equestrian news that is worthy of a toast or two – congratulations to Lucinda & Roi with the announcement of a brother or sister for Annabel, due late January. Also Aaron finally making an honest woman of Emma Mackenzie last weekend, henceforth to be known as Mrs Emma Lukey (perhaps this will put an end to the ever entertaining two Emma Mac's at club).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Following on from an incident at the last rally and discussion of risk management at our recent committee meeting, we are insisting that the front gate be closed whilst our rallies are in progress.

If you come into the rally and the gate is not closed, please ensure you close it. The grounds are used by a lot of the general public, especially in cricket season, and they may not keep the gate closed.

Also if you and your horse become *ahem* disunited at a rally, you are required to complete an incident report as well, especially if you have hurt yourself (apart from dignity of course).

RALLYS!!

It has been mentioned on more than one occasion that you need to be assessed to ride at our rallies. This is not the case. The purpose of asking what your assessed level is to try and group riders at similar levels. You can ride any horse you like at our rallies without having been assessed on them.

July rally – well I wasn't there, but apart from escaping horses everything seemed to run smoothly

For our August rally, we have Kylie Burton & Terry Campbell, both instructors we have had before, but perhaps a few of our new riders haven't met Terry yet. For Jumping we have Catherine Davies, who is a very well known Eventing instructor & rider.

All of our jumping instructors can take both showjumping & cross country lessons. If we have the demand for it then we will schedule the classes. So be sure to nominate what you want/require and if there are the numbers, we will try to accommodate.

Future confirmed instructors along with the **DATES** (so many get confused) are at the end of the newsletter on the calendar.

To ensure a smooth running day & as happy a rally co-ordinator as possible, here are a few pointers

- ✦ Book in for a rally as soon as possible. We have all the dates for the rest of the year at the end of the newsletter for you to do forward planning, as well as confirmed instructors for the rallies.. You can book in any time, but once the rally notice is sent, with the details, you know bookings will be closing soon
- ✦ Hit the reply button on your emails when Brenda sends the notice out 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. You can ride whatever horse you like, but again, the more information you give, the less guesswork Brenda has to do. 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.
- ✦ As the rallies are getting bigger, we are finding we have to extend into the afternoon, of course in a perfect world we would all ride not early, not late, not with a big gap, and not in the rain, but it's just not possible.
- ✦ 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. Quiche is good, sausage rolls, pastizzi's. And all important, bring a bottle of wine to share too.
- ✦ 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 (unless the space is replaced by a late

booking). Pulling out at the last minute is deemed to be as soon as the rally times have been sent.

- ✦ **HELP** – pull your weight, we all want to enjoy our rally days, pitch in and bare minimum do your rostered duty, most riders are supposed to do two stints, we know this is hard, but if you fall short, do something else.

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 mintadowns@hotmail.com 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.

Rally Instructors

The club is always on the lookout for good instructors for our rallies. Some instructors we are trying to confirm for upcoming rallies & clinics include Sue Leslie, Brya Law, David Quick, Brett Parbery. If anyone has a suggestion for new blood, we are more than willing to give them a go, just let someone on committee know.

Pretty much our criteria is that an instructor is reasonably priced (I don't think Stuart Tinney or Mary Hanna will fit), happy to teach all levels of rider from beginner to advanced, and happy to teach a group of 2-3, rather than private lessons. As a rule we get an instructor for one rally, and if the feedback is good, we try and get them back for an additional 2 rallies so they can build on what they have already put in place. But we also want to give our riders the opportunity to try someone new. Jumping instructors are slightly different as there are not nearly as many available.

There will always be instructors you don't like, or perhaps really like, nearly all instructors are available for private lessons, so don't be shy in approaching them if you want to take the relationship further.

HRCVAV Guinea Pig Riders Day – Juravon

Thank you for all those who participated in July. The HRCVAV appreciates your help & they really like our riders (that's why they keep on asking me to organise them). We are providing the riders for the next one in August too.

I hope that you all got something out of it, even if it wasn't what you expected.



A few words from SWMBO(bni) (She Who Must Be Obeyed (but never is) aka The president Karen Bentley)

Hello again BARCers!

Yet another month of spirit (and rug) dampening weather! And sure enough, I am sitting here writing this listening to the rain...

I unfortunately missed the July rally as I was too busy riding an absolutely disgraceful dressage test at Elcho Park. So I have learnt my lesson, not entered the competition that is being held on the same day as our August rally, and will be coming to the rally instead!

While none of the committee members were able to attend the July rally, we did receive good feedback from those that did. Anne again presented riders with some interesting and challenging exercises, which were also enjoyed by those watching her lessons. Kylie and John – say no more. Always crowd pleasers – with the possible exception of Poco who apparently decided he had done enough jumping and decided to go home. But being the wonderful thoughtful little horse that he was, he decided Michelle could stay for lunch and hang out with her human friends, and he would just take himself home.

Which brings me to the issue of closing the gate. Fortunately for Michelle, Poco and the people driving along Bacchus Marsh Road at 100km/h, Poco got home safely after bolting out the open gate without his rider. But we have all read or heard of such horrible stories of what happens to drivers and horses when the 2 do collide, and the club does not wish that on anyone. For this reason, I ask that everyone takes 45 seconds to get out of their car and shut the gate behind them at the next rally. Of course other people enter the rec reserve grounds and may not shut the gate. But we are looking to get a sign such as the one PC used to use, drawing people's attention to the fact that there is a horse event in progress, and to please shut the gate. But until then, diligence on behalf of all of us entering the grounds for the August rally would be appreciated. To paraphrase the words of James Dean "The horse you save may be mine".

Moving on from my soap box moment, I will sign off with something to inspire and motivate you all. There are only:

- 36 days until spring
- 67 days until daylight savings
- 127 days until summer

And finally – good luck to our TTT HT teams! Go the black and jade!

Cheers

Karen Bentley

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 HRCVA 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.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

The committee discussed associate memberships at our recent meeting so we may be making some changes in the future, as we have so many members. Stay tuned.

Committee Meetings

Our next meeting is proposed to be held at Brenda's house on Tuesday 16th July, 841 Bacchus Marsh Road.. If you have something you want put on the agenda, or any other suggestion involving the club for the committee to discuss, please forward it to me via email by the Saturday prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcome at a committee meeting, but as space is limited, perhaps if you want to come, let someone on committee know and we will move the venue if necessary.

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,

If you want to be included on a team, or want to form your own team with one or more BARC club members, get yourselves organised and submit asap.

TTT Horse Trials

On this weekend, and palpitations have started. The club has two teams entered, so go us. It promises to be damp at best, soggy & mud guaranteed I think. Kerry, Helen, Karen, Alex, Lys, Tash, Emma & Stacey will be out risking their lives for the club honour. Stay tuned for results.

TTT Navigation Ride

TTT Nav Ride is being held at Dunolly on 14th August 2011. Only one team showed an interest, although it may not be too late if anyone else is keen on going. Stacey & Tash (the Dixie Chicks) & Emma & Lucinda (Who's Who?) will be flashing the Black & Jade. Go us again

TTT Showjumping

Being held on 15th & 16th October at Werribee Park. In line with our policy, if you want to enter, you will need to get a **copy of your VERIFIED card, and entry fees** to me so we can include you in a team. Also you will need to be prepared to help, which is easiest if you have an independent helper. With the club paying half your entry fees, member contribution will be \$38.00. I have got the inside scoop on this event. You will be riding on either one day or the other, with the Level 3 & Level 4 being on both days, so you can nominate a day if you prefer.

TTT Dressage

Note there is a date change for this. Being held at Werribee Park on 4th & 5th November. This is the most popular of the TTT events, and really this is going to be a first in best dressed, as the later the entries, the worse the times – as evidenced by the TTT HT times. Once again, VERIFIED card copy & money required.

TTT Showing

Well this one is just a bit of advanced notice. It is being held on the weekend of 14th & 15th January 2012 at the Geelong Showgrounds. Again you will only be riding on one day or the other, they are holding it over two days as there is not enough room to put up rings to accommodate everyone.

There is a change to the level verifying/assessment from the beginning of 2012. You only need to be verified or assessed in the prior 12 months to the event, not three months. The attendance of three events alternative remains the same.

As these are team events, it is important to realise that you are in it with three other riders from the club.

Official HRCav Rules & Competing

All HRCav tests are available for downloading here, choose your test & level & knock yourselves out, I have lashings of fun downloading & practicing the Advanced tests.

<http://hrcav.com.au/default.asp?Page=1341>

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.

General Rally Information

- Please keep your dogs always on a lead, tied up, in the car, or at home. Please do not let your dogs mooch for food in the kitchen, no matter how cute they are.
- Please do not lunge your horse near where lessons are already in progress, either flat or jumping.
- Please be ready for your lesson, but don't intrude on the lesson prior to yours, sometimes they start late for various reasons, but finishing up is important. It is the instructors responsibility to conduct their lessons, but it is hard if others come into the arenas before the previous lesson has finished
- Please bring along a piece of wood to make the clubrooms nice and cosy.
- Please keep water usage to a minimum. The water is for horses drinking water, not hosing. This obviously is not an issue in winter, but when the warmer weather comes, it does

become important. 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 wriggly & dead things. There is another black poly pipe and tap in the kitchen that sources to a tank where we buy in water for drinking. This water should be used mindfully too. We fill the urn with this.

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.

WANTED

Second hand body protector suitable for an 8yo boy who has just started riding . Contact Amanda on amanda.grainger@bigpond.com if you may have something suitable lying around.

CLASSIFIEDS

- 2001 Kara Kar Double horse float. Reg Dec 2011.

In good condition. \$5500.00.



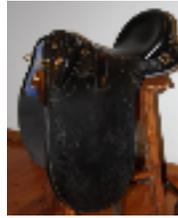
- 1998 Goldstream Off road caravan. Comfortably sleeps 6. \$15000.00

- Electric brakes
- Water tank with Elec pump
- 3 way fridge
- Gas hot plates/ Grill
- Custom jerry can holders
- Near new Annex (used 3 times)



- Pessoa Professional Jump Saddle, 17.5" used very little (approx 6 rides), well oiled & cared for \$2000.00

- Marshall Poley Stock saddle fully mounted in



excellent cond. \$250

- 2003 Yamaha TTR125 & TTR250, Approx 600km each. Looking for a new home. TTR125 - \$2800, TTR250 - \$4800. Contact 5428 9095 (AH) or Drew 0488 251 852, Brenda 0409 068 064

Carmar Lodge Rugs-

Dark Blue Cotton show / under rug non zap heavy cotton with shoulder dart, tail cord and cross over surcingles satin lined shoulders to prevent rubbing. Sizes 6', 6'3,6'9 generous sizing. **\$59**

White cotton Paddock combo-Non zap cotton with removable belly wrap to prevent biting insects and pesky flies. Satin shoulders and neck to prevent rubbing. Large tail flap. Sizes available 6',6'3,6'6,6'9 **\$69**

Navy Quilted stable doona combo 200 GSM quilted stable combo with belly wrap to ensure warmth during winter use in stable or under heavy rugs. Available in 6' and 6'6 **\$79**

Winter Combo Black 600 denier 300 GSM

Waterproof and breathable perfect spring rug warm enough for cold nights but breathable for milder days or for the horse that gets to hot under heavier rugs, sizes available 6',6'3,6'6,6'9 **\$105**

Navy Winter Combo 1200 denier 300 GSM

Waterproof and breathable warm winter rug, perfect for winter downpours and freezing nights. Surcingles and large tent tail flap generous length to ensure warmth. Size's available ,6'6,6'9 **\$110**

Visit us on Facebook for pics of all rugs search Carmar Lodge

CALENDAR/RALLY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July

30 th & 31 st	TTT Horse Trials @ Werribee Park
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August

Rally – 13 th	Flat Kylie Burton/Terry Campbell Jump Catherine Davies
14 th	TTT Navigation Ride @ Dunolly
Committee Meeting 16 th	7.30pm 841 Bacchus Marsh Rd, Bullengarook

September

Rally – 10 th	Flat Chris Sievers/Fiona Dearing Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 13 th	TBC

October

Rally – 8 th	Flat Chris Sievers/TBC Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 11 th	TBC
15 th & 16 th	TTT Showjumping @ Werribee
Saturday 29 th	Dressage Test & Ride Day with Chris Sievers More details to follow

November

4 th & 5 th (note date change)	TTT Dressage at Werribee
Rally – 12 th	Flat Terry Campbell?/TBC Jump TBC
Committee Meeting 15 th	TBC

December

Rally – 10 th	Flat TBC/TBC Jump TBC – Christmas Lunch - YAY
Committee Meeting 15 th	TBC

January 2012

Rally – 7 th	Flat TBC/TBC Jump TBC –
Committee Meeting 10 th	TBC
14 th & 15 th	TTT Showing at Geelong Showgrounds
21 st & 22 nd	Dressage Clinic at our grounds

February 2012

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