



## **NEWSLETTER WINTER 2012**

Bah, rain, mud, rain, mud, footy on telly, hairy bears in the paddocks – it must be winter! No new members to report, must have all been put off by the thought of a mid winter nudie run.

### **BULLENGAROOK REC RESERVE TRIVIA NIGHT**

Well we ended up with two tables of Adult Riders, and quite a few of our members were sitting on other tables around the room too. It was a bit of a shaky start with a major power outage, but the CFA boys rustled up a generator and the night progressed. Our table didn't disgrace, coming third overall, not sure how everyone else went. The funds raised are being used to do some much needed repairs around the grounds.

However, on a much more exciting note, the Rec Committee have been successful in a major grant application and plans are afoot for a toilet up near our clubrooms, and resurfacing of the flat grass area up near the brick wall jump. While it would have been awesome and more practical to have it sanded, there weren't enough funds to undertake this. Also targeted is improvements to the driveway, and hopefully this will be down to our facilities instead of stopping as usual up at the pavilion

### **RALLYS!!**

June 2012 was wet wet wet, and it was HUGE, huge I tell ya. Kylie Burton, Fiona Dearing & Drew Cotter were our instructors and they were all kept busy in some fairly average conditions. Lunch was enormous and inside, with many bottoms pointed to the fire. It was a bit chaotic with people serving themselves up food in the kitchen before even half of it was out, and made for tricky conditions with the oven etc in such a confined area, so perhaps in the future if you can refrain from digging in until everything is set, that would be good. Also as a matter of courtesy to our instructors, let them serve themselves first!



July rally as a total contrast was a stunning day and one of the smallest for many years. As has been the subject of a separate email, we had to cancel an instructor due to lack of numbers. We had Jason Dins who was well received, and will be returning later in the year too. Also filling in at the last minute was Mark Nicholls, who did well for such short notice. Thanks to everyone who pitched in and Lee – first time that someone has bothered to pick up manure off the arena - thank you! It was a beautiful bask in the sun. Actually everywhere I looked, Lee was helping, ripping up chickens, doing dishes, picking up poles – maybe there were two of her!

We have instructors booked a fair way in advance, who are listed **ALONG WITH RALLY DATES** at the end of the newsletter, so hopefully will stop confusion about the rally dates for the rest of the year.

Hosing horses down with water from the shed, is not so much of an issue in winter, but the tanks aren't extensive and get used by a lot more people than just ARC. If you must, use a bucket and sponge for your horse, but drinking water for our horses is the priority. Also the black poly pipe in the kitchen is drinking water, the water that comes out of the main tap is not considered drinkable – use at your own peril.

Another thing worthy of mentioning, we provide free tea & coffee for all our members, which is help yourself. However the urn that is used to provide the hot water constantly gets turned down so it goes lukewarm. If you get the urge to turn the urn down cos you think it's boiling madly, just turn it down around 4.25. It just needs to be off the boil for us all to enjoy a hot cup of coffee rather than a tepid one.



Firewood season is upon us – can you please bring a log of wood so we can all enjoy the warmth. The clubs do not buy firewood, but we all get cold. And the fire has been lovely at the past couple of rallies

As a small reminder, if you book in for a rally and do not attend, or a replacement is not found for your space, you are expected to pay. It is also

really helpful if you could plan a bit and pay for your lessons in CASH as we pay our instructors in cash too.

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 [brendacotter76@gmail.com](mailto:brendacotter76@gmail.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.

## DRESSAGE COMPETITION WEEKEND 20/21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2012

Following on from many emails already sent, we are holding a weekend of dressage on the above dates, and need all the help we can get to run the weekend. Please word up your kids, your spouses and/or your parents to help over the weekend. We have lots of variety, dressage pencilling being the most important that anyone can do. Front Desk, morning & afternoon tea service, lunch for judges, general running & setup & packup. None of it requires high skills just a few hours commitment.



We highly encourage all our members to compete as well – we are all here to have fun.

Program is attached, but stay tuned for an update on brilliant discounts/incentives for our members in return for promissory notes to help (or we will talk to the judges and guarantee crappy scores).

We are having a sub committee meeting that everyone is welcome to attend on 1<sup>st</sup> August at the Telegraph Hotel 6.30pm, we will be starting the meeting by singing happy birthday to all our best friends, maybe that's how we will finish the evening too. However it is mainly to get the weekend planned & sponsorship & prizes rolling in – yes I know – nobody likes asking for sponsorship, NOBODY, but without it the event won't be as awesome as it could be. Sponsorship doesn't have to be horse related, it can be anything. I am just finalising a sponsorship letter that will help, so even if you can ask your place of work, or anyone for any prizes – it will help make the weekend one to remember.

## HELPING AT RALLIES

Pretty much over asking for help at rallies. In summary – ride one lesson, help for one duty, ride for two lessons, help for two duties, ride for more lessons – maybe you should think about getting someone to do your helping duties for you – cos it doesn't happen by magic.

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

As I write this, I am already mentally trekking through the jungles of Uganda looking for gorillas, watching the great migration across the savannah of Kenya or lying on the beach in Zanzibar. Yes folks, I am leaving the cold and wet behind for the month of August. While that does mean I am missing some great comps, I won't miss traipsing through the vacuum-like bog that sucks off horse shoes that has replaced my paddocks!

Thanks to those of you who took the time to respond to Stacey's email regarding the "feast to famine" that was our June verses July rally. It seems that June was the outlier with so many turning up! Hoof abscesses, turning out for winter, work or competitions all combined to keep the numbers down in July. It does set some challenges for the committee in trying to plan ahead for instructor bookings. It's never nice to have to cancel an instructor. But bear with us - we are working on how to balance both demands!

Speaking of comps, there has been a sea of black and jade out and about and doing themselves proud. I'll leave the detailed TTT HT report to Stacey - but congrats to all involved and particularly those in the runner up team! Top 10 for any TTT event is an awesome effort let alone top 3.

Flora Crosby, Kurstie Jenkins, Megan Stephenson, and myself all headed down to Elcho Park on a beautiful sunny July day for a bit of show jumping. By virtue of one of the aforementioned hoof abscesses, Drew Cotter was reduced to strapper, coach, support crew, barman and cheer squad for us girls. Kurstie had an absolutely shocking first round by her account - and only came first! Keep up the bad work Kurstie! Megan kept the ribbons coming in level 4. Flora and I braved being assessed up to level 2 and 3 respectively. Our respective steeds did us proud and we both lived to tell the tale. Finite got his mum a 2nd and a 3rd, while Kingston got me double clears in both rounds.



The others wouldn't send me their photos so you'll have to look at me. And a big thank you to Megan's sister for these shots! Perhaps I'll get in touch with those tourists who took photos of the "twins" Megan and Kurstie and get copies from them shall I ladies? LOL.

From show jumping to dressage, we were out in force again! Flora, Michelle Stanley, Megan and I took on level 3 and Bren flew the flag for us in level 2. It was very trying conditions for horse and rider (and car and float for that matter) - Werribee was mud and the arenas



resembled giant swimming pools. My first judge commented to me that "There is a massive puddle at A - just look up and drive your horse forward"! Always nice for the judge to give you a heads up that doing the test may be the least of your worries - as you may not even get in the arena.

But all the Rookies did well regardless! Bren and Alicat put in an awesome performance once again and took home a 2nd, 3rd and reserve in the jackpot. But more importantly for the rest of us mere mortals, she has now pointed up to level 1. So for those too scared to brave level 2, the coast is now clear! Back in level 3, Michelle had a great run for her first level 3 comp and was grinning ear to ear. Kingston and I were the surprise package for the day however if I do say so myself. A 2nd and a 5th and a jackpot win! This is a huge improvement on our last outing where we fought it out for 2nd last. Who would have thought my little eventer would finally realise he has to do 2 tests and a requirement for the second test is that he stays in the arena for the entire test AND doesn't try to canter the entire test to get it over and done with.



Speaking of Michelles - segue to Michelle Turner and Whispering Jye's effort at Dressage with the Stars a few months back. Some of you may have seen the write up in the Midland Express too before she competed. Out of the 30 starters Michelle and Jye ended up 12th with only 0.2 of a mark between 8th and 12th place. Jye's final mark was 7.2 /10. He placed over some very lovely imported stallions and is a true credit to Michelle for the long hard yards she has put in to his training. Here is a photo of the lovely pair strutting their stuff. Congrats to you both on a great result.

If there are others of you out there with comps to boast about or other horsey activities that you have been involved in, let me know so I can share it with others! Unless you do, there is going to be a serious bias to me only reporting on events I attend, which I am sure will become very boring for you all.

And segue to our big dressage weekend in October! This is our fund raising event for the year so that we can continue to ride and play in the style we have become accustomed to as BARC members. Stay tuned for emails and updates over the coming months. But thanks to those members who volunteered to come on to the organising committee. I suspect the prospect of the committee meeting being at a pub was a draw card, but thanks regardless of your motivation. As for the event days and the day before for set up, there will be a big call out for helping. And some extra special financial motivation for those able to provide extra helpers...stay tuned.

That's enough blahing for me. I'll leave you all with this motivational thought for the week. As of 1 August, it will be:

- 31 days to spring
- 68 days until the return of daylight savings
- 123 days to summer

I will draw the line at freaking you out that it will be only 146 days to Christmas.

Happy, safe, warm and dry riding everyone! Karen B - El Presidente

### **LEVEL ASSESSING**

In order to compete, riders need to be level assessed initially. Even though we have two level assessors as members of our club, it is up to riders to arrange their own level assessing. As both Lucinda & Emma have chosen to make themselves "in the family way" they will probably not be randomly attending our rallies. However they are not totally disabled and can still assess by private arrangement, along with any other of the official Level Assessors on the link below. You can 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.

### **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

Currently the club pays for half of our entry fees & all of the team entry fees, but this may change.





### **TTT Horse Trials**

What an awesome weekend, it was not exactly the best of weather, but considering the following weekend, we were so lucky. Stacey, Brigid, Wendy, Sam, Flora, Kurstie, & Jessie rode, and unfortunately Megan had to scratch at the last minute. We also had Josie Dixon from Macedon filling in for Tash on Shady. Resplendent in our black & jade we all gave it our best shot. Team Meh with Wendy & Flora both won their sections, giving us 2<sup>nd</sup> overall team – an absolutely awesome effort and ssoooooo close. Jessie did a brilliant job, but was a bit blonde at the water jump. We all gave it our best shot and it was a pretty good effort. Great for our TTT virgins too, they are huge events. Emma Lukey came down to be a team volunteer and ended up taking heaps of photos of everyone, and has put together a montage of us all which I have posted above.

### **TTT Navigation Ride**

19<sup>th</sup> August at Tallarook – one full team and a team of 2 for the long ride and a single for the short ride.....anyone want to take part?????

### **TTT Show Jumping**

Next big thing.15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September at Shepparton. You will ride one day or the other, with some yards/camping available, but very doable to drive there and back in a day. Ssoooooo enter away, form your own club team if you prefer – but the entries need to be submitted by the club, or if you are happy to just take part, let me know asap and we will collate the teams. You MUST help, if you want to take part. This is a requirement of all team events and don't bother entering if you don't make yourself or someone else available to help. Entries are \$42.50 each and you will need to organise your own camping with the OC.

### **Level Verification for TTT Events**

Thankfully there has been 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. Can I suggest that you make arrangements with either Emma or Lucinda or the level assessor of your choice to do all your cards asap and then you won't have to worry about it. You will no longer have to provide a copy of your card for the entries, but they will be checked when you attend the event. If the cards are not valid, you can't compete officially

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

### **General Rally Information**

- Please keep your dogs always on a lead, tied up, in the car, or at home. Please do not keep your dogs mooching for food in the kitchen.
- Please do not lunge your horse near where lessons are already in progress, either flat or juming.
- 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 rubys 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**

#### August 2012

Rally – 11 <sup>th</sup>	Flat Jason Dins/Kylie Burton Jump John Francis
Committee Meeting 14 <sup>th</sup>	TBC
19 <sup>th</sup>	Top Teams Navigation Ride

#### September 2012

Rally – 8 <sup>th</sup>	Flat Chris Sievers/Scarlett Blakeley Jump John Francis
Committee Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup>	TBC
15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>	Top Teams Show Jumping

#### October 2012

Rally – 13 <sup>th</sup>	Flat Chris Sievers/TBA Jump Drew Cotter
Committee Meeting 16 <sup>th</sup>	TBC
20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>	Dressage Weekend at Bullengarook

#### November 2012

Rally – 10 <sup>th</sup>	Flat /TBA Jump
9/10/11 <sup>th</sup>	Top Teams Dressage at Sale
AGM	TBA

# Bullengarook ARC Inc

## 2 DAY WEEKEND

### DRESSAGE JACKPOT CHAMPIONSHIPS



SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> October 2012

SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> October 2012

**ENTRIES CLOSE 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

Bullengarook Recreation Reserve, 683 Gisborne - Bacchus Marsh Road, Bullengarook 3437

#### **Dressage Tests**

	20 <sup>th</sup> October	21 <sup>st</sup> October
Advanced	A3& A5	A5 & A6
Level 1	C & E	E & F
Level 2	C & E	E & F
Level 3	C & E	E & F
Level 4	C & E	E & F
Level 5	C & E	E & F

### **ENTER EITHER DAYS OR BOTH TROPHY RUG TO OVERALL CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS! RAFFLE & OTHER PRIZES ON THE WEEKEND**

**Enquiries to :** Stacey Dixon ph 0418 994847, [Dixon.stacey@internode.on.net](mailto:Dixon.stacey@internode.on.net)  
Lucinda Mack ph 0448 880226, [cinmack@hotmail.com](mailto:cinmack@hotmail.com)  
Scratchings on Day 0418 994847

**Entry Fees:** \$50.00 per jackpot, \$90.00 if entering both days  
Riders may ride at their own level & one above, if space allows (jackpot only)  
Prizes are per Event Rule 23

**Entries to:** Bullengarook Adult Riding Club Inc  
Lucinda Mack, 3 Miller Street, Box Hill, 3128  
Please clear email for return of times.

Contact Event Secretary to arrange electronic entries & payment

- Catering available over the weekend, very limited camping & yards, please contact event secretary if you plan to stay, so we can reserve yards, they will only available for campers or BARC riders.
- Champion winner determined on jackpot placing (not jackpot points) at your assessed level, placing can be carried to next level in the event of pointing up over the weekend

#### Conditions of Entry

All sections will be conducted under the HRCVA rules & regulations Registered club colours ASA approved helmets must be worn Competitors must present to Gear Check 20 minutes prior to scheduled first test Tests may be called Official entry forms are to be used Current & Valid membership & performance cards must be presented prior to first dressage test. Failure to present cards will result in the combination competing Hors Concours Competitors to supply own numbers No refund after closing date unless a vet/medical certificate lodged within 7 days of the event Protests must be lodged within 30 minutes of 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