

South Gippsland
**Horse Trail
Riding Club**



AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2014

FRESHLY SQUEEZED

IMPORTANT DATES

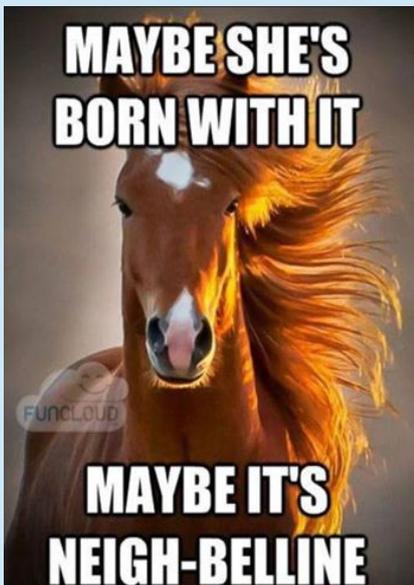
Presidents Note

August 24th

Lang Lang, Dougherty Rd
Loch with Alan Dixon.

September 14th

Jindivick – Jacksons Track
with Kate Shorton



C#



Do not mess with me today !

27th July Hedley Bush Ride Trail Boss: Jenny Downs. Leads: Sue and Kevin Thorburn. Steward: Clara Bevis. Drag: Cynthia Gane. First Aid: Carol Graeme. Weather: Sunny.

Having risen at some ungodly hour in the morning and prepared all my gear for Carol's arrival (my float is stuffed) I went and caught my neddy Peck. I walked up and haltered him way too easily. Something was up.

Carol arrived and made a perfect 3 point turn in my driveway with a horse on board. Great reversing and from a female no less !! (You can abuse me later) We made our way to Hedley and were pleased to see so many floats had arrived early. More arrived and even more. Sue Thorburn was going to lead us around the Hedley area and we had the added benefit of Kevin as well. It didn't start to flash really, I had some premonition earlier that Peck would put me down today. Well a horse spooked at the starting gate, which spooked another as well as Peck and Sunny. Peck started carrying on and I put him into a turn and he accelerated that spin and pretty soon I was on terra soggy. Kelli also went down so I guess we get the wet bum of the week award. No damage and we were off. A short run to the road and our newly appointed trail boss Jenny Downs led us across the road. When we finally approached the bush area it was wonderful, a long climb to start with which opened out to an awesome vista of the coastline in the distance. Did I mention that it was warm and sunny. Riders stopped to take pics of this wonderful view. Now we had Ian and his horse Archie with us, Archie was playing up. Almost as if he had his tutu wedged up his bum. He danced around like a ballerina. Now Ian is an excellent horseman and controlled him but geez he looked funny. We rode for sometime up and down hills on good tracks with the occasional bush bash between tracks. Lunchtime came and we rested, ate and chatted for quite sometime. Malcolm and Alan were playing with some rope and Alan ended up with his fingers tied I believe. Kids ! After lunch we ended up in some tight scrubby bush, single file and rutted. I heard many squeals of laughter and I must say the odd "bugger!" but it was all good. The scenery and tracks for the whole ride were absolutely magnificent.

The company was once again out of this world. A note here, there were six blokes on the ride, no squeals from that tough bunch :) At one point Kelli headed for some boggy ground and Sunny broke into a canter to escape it and well, Kelli looked like she had been cantering all her life. You should have seen the huge grin on her face, everyone was so pleased for her. Kelli even put in a quiet canter at the back of the pack with Carol later in the ride. We came upon a long steep climb and the ones that wanted to canter headed up the front and when it was safe to go, let loose. It was like blowing cob webs out of the system with all the whoops and yells. It all went well and the grins at the top said it all as we waited for the others. We slowly made our way back to the floats, Archie did a few more pirouettes and bum wiggles for our entertainment, as it was a long ride for us, around 4.5 hours and some of us older ones were quite weary. Jenny did a great job of bunching us up for the highway crossing and along with her trusty steward Clara we were safely across again. Back at the floats out came the coffee, chocolate crackles, biscuits and all manner of nourishments. Kelli even had carrot treats for the gee gees. It was sad to see the end of it but we are all looking forward to Alan Dixon taking us through the sandy tracks for our next ride in the Loch area.

A huge thank you to Sue and Kevin Thorburn for leading us through some truly wonderful country. A huge thank you to all the riders of South Gippy who attended. I know you had fun, I heard it. Thanks Carol for picking me up.

Bring on Loch !



See no evil, hear no evil and do no evil.
I don't think so !



Cynthia resplendent in fluoro.



Trail Boss Jenny.



One of the awesome views.



Clara stewarding.



Hayley sitting.



5 Must-Take Items

Water. Even if you don't get thirsty enough to drink it, you never know when you might need water for cooling down an overheated horse or rider, or for rinsing out a wound. Tip: For an always-cold drink, drain the top inch from a full plastic water bottle, then freeze it until the remaining water becomes ice. It'll thaw gradually during your ride, with the unthawed portion keeping the water cold.

Rain gear. The unwritten rule about whether to take rain gear on a ride: If you have it, the sun will shine. If you don't have it, it'll rain! A storm can blow in when you least expect it, especially in high country. And few things will leave you more miserable than to be soaked to the skin with miles yet to ride. Tip: If you don't want to invest in, nor carry, a full-length rain slicker, tuck an inexpensive plastic poncho--or even a large heavy-duty leaf bag--in your saddlebag. The latter can be made into makeshift rain gear, and has many other potential uses as well.

Sharp pocketknife or folding multi-tool. Whether used to free a rope-entangled horse or to pick your horse's feet, this is a don't-leave-home-without-it item. Tip: Carry it securely on your person rather than stuffing it into a bag carried on your horse. That will allow you to access it instantly should an emergency occur--and you won't be separated from it should you find yourself un-horsed.

Food. It's always smart to have some sort of energy source with you, as you never know when a planned short ride will turn into a long one. Tip: Choose non-bulky foods suitable for carrying on horseback, without need for cooling. Good choices include non-frosted energy bars, jerky, nuts and dried fruit, tuna or salmon in easy-open pouches, or trail mix without chocolate (which has a low melting point).

First-aid items. Your list of items can be as simple or detailed as you wish; even a single roll of self-adhesive bandage and few aspirins are worth tucking into your stash of "just in case" items. Trick: Keep all first-aid items in a single bag, and colour-code it for easy recognition during an emergency. Choose a red bag, for instance, or tie a red ribbon or bandanna to the first-aid- kit side of your saddlebags.

For Sale.

1. Western saddle cloth excellent condition lovely and thick \$40.00



2. All purpose saddle cloth excellent condition \$10.00



3. Air flow saddle cloth Stock saddle size excellent condition \$10.00



4. Full size bib \$10.00



5. All purpose cow print saddle cover \$15.00



6. Cob/Full Barcoo with reins and 5inch bit, lovely thick leather \$50.00



7. Thick Air Flow, great for horses back stock saddle size \$50.00

All of these items are being offered by Annette Lamers so you know they are in great condition. You can contact Annette at goldmember77@hotmail.com

No animals were harmed during the production of this newsletter, however several cans of Jim Beam did suffer a quite violent death.