



# Cowra & District Trail Horse Riders FEBRUARY 2018



WOW— we certainly had a busy end to 2017 and it seems an even busier start to the 2018 Trail Riding year. Who can believe its already the middle of February!! We've already had a couple of enjoyable and somewhat eventful rides—if you missed the action there are ride reports and some photos in the following pages. Looking ahead though, we have planned out the next few rides and our Accreditation weekend so make sure these dates are in your diary and all the details will be sent out in the ride notice the week before:

## **Sunday 25th February**

With all this hot weather hanging around we thought another trip to the beach would be fun so we are going to join the Gooloogong Trail Riders Fairleigh Beach Ride.

## **Sunday 25th March**

Heather and Les have volunteered their property on Sutherlands road, Koorawatha for this ride—with some new territory to explore around the farm.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 3rd April. Cowra Services Club. 6.30 for dinner. 7.30 meeting.

## **28 & 29 April**

Planned as a camp over weekend we are hoping to visit Nangar National Park again—Karen is applying for a permit from the NP ranger.

## **19 & 20 May**

Trail Boss Accreditation Training weekend at Wattamondara All members are encouraged to come and learn lots and have a fun weekend with your horse—even if you don't want to become a Trail Boss.



# WELCOME!!

The new year has brought an influx of 7 new members to the club—keen riders looking to get in on some of the fun we have out on the trail.



Cowra Trail horse Riders  
The Australian Trail Horse Riders Association  
Just Trail Horse Riding (in Australia)

Iris and Lisa introduced themselves at the Bennett Springs ride and both had a lovely day. Two new junior members, Lilee and Ivy will hopefully get to a ride soon. It was great to meet social member Kevin at the last meeting and we look forward to meeting his wife Sandy soon. And we certainly threw out the welcome mat for Lisa at a very eventful camp over but she took it all in her stride and says she will back - just as soon as the bruises fade!

A big WELCOME to you all and we hope to see you soon and get to know you all!

## RIDE REPORTS:

### November 2017—Bennett Springs

18 riders enjoying a lovely 3 hour ride on yet another stunning property, Aurora on the banks of the Boorowa River. We are truly blessed to have access to some wonderful riding country and very appreciative of the property owners who allow us to experience their lovely countryside. Club members were joined by 6 riders from Gooloogong Trail Riders as well as two new club members. It was fun to get together - we will do it again in the future! There were rolling hills and grassy paddocks, splashing in the dams, playing in the river for a much needed cool off and very pleasant riding along the river banks in the shade of the huge trees to keep us cool.



## PRESIDENTS TROPHY

Congratulations **Tony Lofthouse** on being awarded the Presidents Trophy for 2017—pictured here on his awesome Bailey giving a fine demonstration of running the barrels.

Double Barrel racing was a new addition to our Christmas Challenge program—but it was so much fun it will probably be on the program again this year!



### CLUB COMMITTEE 2017/2018

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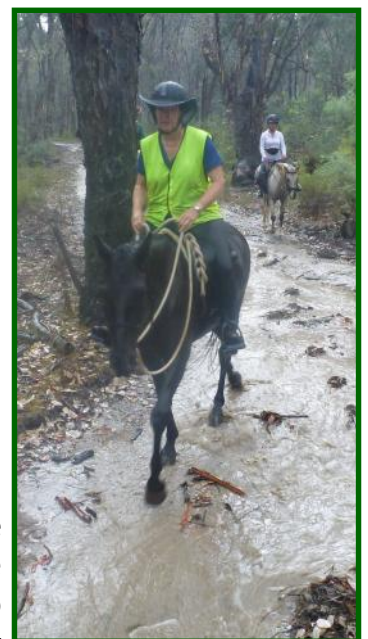
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**Fairleigh Beach New Year ride** Our traditional Beach ride to kick off the year was once again a great day. 11 riders spent an hour or so riding the back roads before stripping off saddles and swapping hot riding pants for swimmers. Lots of splashing about and enjoying the cool river for horses and riders alike—then of course several horses had to roll in the lovely deep sand too! Lunch under the shady trees on the river bank was the perfect opportunity to catch up on all the news from the Christmas season and plan the next rides to kick off the New Year.

**January Camp Over—Old Woman's Creek** Well at least we got all the drama out of the way in the first few rides of the year—hopefully!!! The January Camp over saw 6 riders, including new member Lisa, ride out for a nice quiet tour of the farm in the cool of Saturday evening and it was a very pleasant ride until we stumbled into a patch of bush full of wasps! Poor Lisa's horse Chief got stung—prompting him to buck and run off leaving Lisa on the ground beside the tree she landed in! Although very sore the trooper got back on and we continued on our way—but after Rachel got stung several times and we then ran into a third swarm the 'scenic' route home was abandoned for the direct road way away from the scrub. It took a while for everyone to settle down but we made it back to base without further incident where our injured riders rested up and dosed up on pain relief and antihistamines overnight.



Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny before a further 5 members joined the group that rode into the Roseberg Forest. The forest gave lovely relief from the heat and the fire trails allowed those riders who wanted to move out at a trot to go on ahead then wait for the rest of the group, and everyone was having a great ride. Simon was on hand with morning tea when we stopped for a rest after nearly an hour and half and noticed a bit of thunder in the distance. About 10 minutes into the trip home the heavens opened!! Heavy rain, thunder and lightning made most of the riders very nervous but thankfully we weren't the tallest things in the forest, and all the horses took it in their stride and just marched on towards home. To say we were soaked through would be an understatement—even our shoes were full of water! But everyone just rode on through the storm and eventually the rain eased leaving rivers

instead of fire trails to follow home. Thank goodness for Simon set up in the shearing shed with not only lunch but also a swag of dry towels!

Best thing about the weekend? The happy, smiling, take everything in our stride attitude of EVERY rider with not a single complaint—a great bunch of people to ride ANYWHERE with!!

