



November 2019 Newsletter

 athra.com.au

Find us on 

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GENERAL MEETING (1st Thursday of the month) **8pm Thursday 7th November 2019**

All welcome Southern Hotel (next to Cafe Nova)
Come early for tea – 7pm

October Meeting

- Ride Calendar.
- SA Water – submission lodged – ongoing,
- Discussion - Christmas Dinner Details.
- AGM for 2020 (Held before the 3rd October General Meeting) Club Committee position movements are: Sandra East retired from the position of club Treasurer – Lisa Rothe accepted this position. Maria Pearce accepted the position of Publicity Officer/Newsletter. Julie Jackson, Tamara Godfrey, Kath McCullagh and Sandy Jones agreed to retain positions as held in 2019.

Here's to another great year of trail riding !

*Kath McCullagh
Secretary – Gawler Trail Horse Riders Club*

Coming Events

November Ride: ROSEDALE - Saturday 9th Nov 2019

Host – Lisa Crinion
Trail Boss – TBA.
Saturday – Arrive 8am for a 9am ride out. (Pre ride meeting 8.45am without horses)
RSVP by 6th November to: gawler.thrc@gmail.com (if you have any queries please email.)



Ride Description: This ride will be 2.5 to 3 hrs. Ride track has not been finalised and will rely on the weather on the day ie if it is to be hot or not. It is hoped that the ride will be cart friendly but this will be confirmed nearer the date when weather will be known (again depending on the track chosen and cart accessibility).

Ride Grade: easy to moderate.

Traffic – Some vehicles possibly – Mostly country gravel roads not busy. And riding off roads.

Slightly undulating, no steep hills (other than the driveway) ☺

Ok for seasoned barefoot.

Group trot & canter.

Hazards There more than likely will be a few kangaroos & stock in paddocks.

I will supply meat and salads for a BBQ lunch after the ride for those who would like to stay and enjoy.

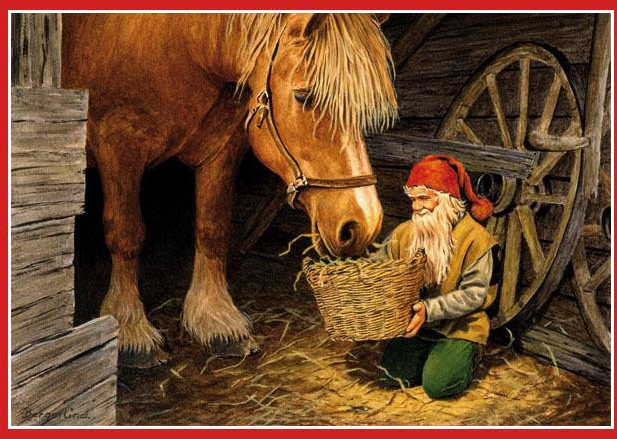
NB: Lunch will go ahead regardless of weather. Due to the season the Hot Weather Policy may apply – **BUT** the Trail Boss has the final word! So if in doubt contact a committee member (see phone numbers Newsletter heading) who will advise.

Directions: Rosedale area – full directions to those who RSVP.

Cost- ATHRA member \$2 Ride fee. Non ATHRA member riding visitor fee \$25/day (please be advised that if you are not a member of ATHRA you will need to be sponsored by an ATHRA member to ride & pre-register as a day member 3 days prior with ATHRA online - \$15 direct to ATHRA & \$10 to club on the day).

Please bring the correct change & place in tin at sign on book.

November Christmas Dinner Saturday 23rd 2019 – Sandy Creek Hotel



This year the Christmas Dinner will be held at the Sandy Creek Hotel Beer Garden. If the weather is inclement, there is a marquee so we will be protected. We have the option to arrive at 3pm onwards for 'Happy Hour' and to bring our own nibbles.

The menu will be the choice of Turkey or Pork Roast with vegetables; Dessert will be a choice of Christmas Pudding with cream or Fruit Salad with ice cream.

Should anyone have specific dietary needs please let us know. Meals can be served by 6.30pm at a cost of \$28 per person.

We will again have a Kris Kringle present to the value of \$10. (Optional) Plus maybe some other "Parlour" games! – ah ha!!

It was decided at the last meeting that the full payment for the meal should be paid prior to our Xmas dinner night. (This will eliminate messy part payment amounts to be sorted prior and on the night.) **\$28 per person for the meal** – main and dessert.

MEMBERS/ PARTNERS/ FRIENDS PLEASE **RSVP and PAY BY 7TH NOVEMBER**
& NOMINATE YOUR FOOD CHOICE FOR BOTH MAIN MEAL AND DESSERT.

Email to : gawler.thrc@gmail.com AT THE TIME OF YOUR PAYMENT.

The Club will contribute \$100 for this event towards sundries to help make it an enjoyable night for all.

The Club would like to know by 7th November those who wish to attend with their payment of \$28 by this date also. Payment can be made direct to the Club :

*Gawler Trail Horse Riders Club Inc. - Beyond Bank BSB 325-185
Account 03224848 please reference your name*

If you have any queries regarding the Christmas dinner please contact a committee member or email to gawler.thrc@gmail.com and a Committee member will assist.

Directions and any further notes about this event will be sent by email to members who rsvp.

We look forward to a merry night celebrating the great year of trail riding and Xmas!!

December Ride: MOUNT CRAWFORD – Sunday 15th Dec 2019

Host – Lainie Ray

Trail Boss – TBA.

Sunday – Arrive 9am for a 10am ride out. (Pre ride meeting 9.45am without horses)

RSVP by 11th December to: gawler.thrc@gmail.com (if you have any queries please email.)

This ride will take in forest tracks with hills and creek crossings. A stop for lunch is proposed so you will need to carry food/drink in your saddle bag. The time for this ride may be 4 hours or more in total with a lunch break – up to 20 kms of tracks. The terrain should be suitable for barefoot horses, but in some parts it may be a little rocky. Riders can expect a pleasant walk / trot ride – also pleasurable canter for some who wish as tracks are suitable to enjoy cantering separately. More details closer to the date.

Directions: full directions to those who RSVP.

Cost- ATHRA member \$2 Ride fee. Non ATHRA member riding visitor fee \$25/day (please be advised that if you are not a member of ATHRA you will need to be sponsored by an ATHRA member to ride & pre-register as a day member 3 days prior with ATHRA online - \$15 direct to ATHRA & \$10 to club on the day).

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RIDE CALENDAR FOR 2019

Rides are usually held on the 3rd weekend (Sunday calculated) & 5th Sunday of the month (if there is one).
Camps held ~1st or 5th weekend of the month (negotiable) Meeting dates are held on the 1st Thursday of the month

The following is a work in progress – dates, location & hosts to be continually confirmed
Please nominate a date if you have nominated to host rides

<i>Ride Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Club Meeting Dates for 2019</i>
Nov 9 (Sat)	Rosedale	Lisa Crinion	7 Nov
Nov 23 (Sat)	Christmas Dinner (Sandy Creek Hotel)	Committee	
Dec 15	Mt Crawford Ride	Lainie Ray	5 December
2020			For 2020
Jan 19			
Feb 16			
Feb 29- 1 Mar	Camp		
March 15			
April 19	Cockatoo Valley	Di Schaefer	2 April
May 17			7 May
May 30-31	Camp		
June 21			4 June
July 19			2 July
Aug 16			6 Aug
Sept 20			3 Sept
Oct 18			1 Oct
Oct 31-1 Nov	Camp		
Nov 15			5 Nov
Dec 13			3 Dec

RIDE CALENDAR FOR 2020

Looking forward to another fun year of riding in our great state 😊

- Time to think about possible rides – Discussion continues about planning the ride calendar - all suggestions happily received.
- We have received one ride suggestion so far for the coming year but lots more needed !.....PLEASE everyone start to think about any rides you would like to have or like to arrange so that we can get our calendar progressing and filled.
- Contact a committee member or email your thoughts and ideas to gawler.thrc@gmail.com

Rides can be Saturday or Sunday

Some of the ride areas and types of rides that the club has had are:- Beach rides, Birdwood, Truro Gorge, Tarlee, Leisingham, Mt Crawford Forest, Kapunda, Barossa Winery Tour, Humbug Scrub, Tungklo – all suggestions will be welcomed.

As not all members can travel/camp the camp nominations are mostly scheduled as additional weekends (~5th weekend of the month or 1st if we have nominations) we also try to schedule road rides in winter (forest rides have to be when ground is not too wet or fire bans in place) - camp weekend dates are negotiable

Camp destination examples: - Catninga, Benson Park, Melrose, Bendleby Range, Morgan, Waterloo, Flinders

We will be continually discussing our monthly ride calendar for the next couple of months, **so get those ideas & dates to the committee** ...Please make suggestions of rides that you would like the club to do and maybe some new rides, pretty rides, bush, forest, country or just a favourite ride you would like to share. Remember it does not need to be from your home, but the start of the ride need to have parking of floats. So give it some thought and let us know. Or even just let us know which of the rides the club has done that you would like to do again.

Remember it's your club, so vote for a ride you want to do & we will find a volunteer to host

Past Events

September Camp Ride – CATNINGA – Friday 27 – Sunday 29 September 2019

Summary from Margot & Robert Scott....

Robert Scott and myself decided to join the GTRC for a camping weekend up at the Flinders at Catninga station. After a bumpy 10 km we came across the lovely Daniels family who were very welcoming along with the other riders in our group.

We got up there too late for the first ride out but we were able to settle in and watch the sunset out on the rustic balcony off the old shearing shed.

Next morning, off we trek on horseback with picnic packed to enjoy a 5 hr ride.

I was 'packing it' as we rode over and down and up all sorts of terrain.

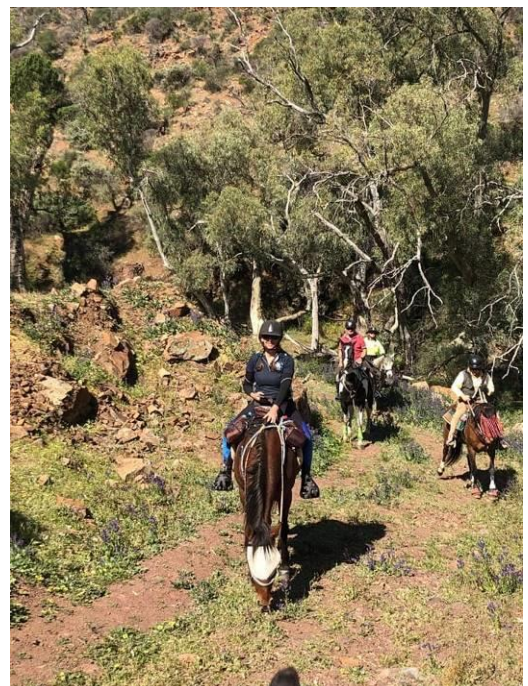
By the time we got back we needed a well-deserved drink, water off course!!, for the ponies and a lounge around the camp fire.

Last day: after bacon and eggs we were off for another 2 hr ride.

Apart from a few blisters on our bums, we had a terrific time and would like to thank the organisers.

Looking forward to next ride

Thank you for sharing Rob and Margot





STUNNING PICS OF THEIR WEEKEND AT CATNINGA



October Ride: OWEN CAMP, OBSTACLE DAY & TRAIL RIDE Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th Oct 2019

Summary by Julie Jackson.....



At 3pm on the Friday as promised William, Spot and I arrived at the Owen oval. We had a few things to do; make Flash's yard and get him settled, unload the fire drum and wood just in case we could have a fire, put water in the water jump, put the noodles out, fill in the holes in the big tyre obstacle and fix up the clock obstacle.



Later in the day Tamara arrived and set up camp; we had a glass of wine and 6pm. At 8 we thought it was time to leave as we were the only ones in the dining room. William and Spot headed off home. When we went for tea it was very windy however on our return to camp the wind had died down and it was pleasant to just sit near the float and have some more wine. We retired around 10pm.

strolled off to the pub for tea just after

On Saturday we had planned to get up early and go for a quick ride but yes you guessed it, we slept in. After feeding and watering the horses we enjoyed breaky then the riders slowly began to arrive, in no special order (I can't remember) to join us for the extreme obstacle day. The water and noodles were the greatest challenge to riders. Members who attended were Di



Schaeffer, Sandra East, Gayle and Lisa Bates, Michelle Day with mum Joy (great to see her looking so well), Sandy Jones, Terri McCubbin and a friend Natasha, Lisa Crinion, Kylie Bryant and day member Tracey Day who had a great time and plans to join. We had 13 members including Tamara and myself for Saturday. I think all riders were challenged on the course including the see-saw - even Flash, and this is our 4th time now. I probably did the wrong thing, first up we went on the moving end and oops that upset him so we back tracked and went on the safe end, then advanced to the moving end. After lunch Michelle, Teri and friend went home and the 10 of us went out on the 4km track round the town. It was a lovely stroll enjoyed by all - even Tracey who had never been out with a group before. Arriving back at camp we had a get together and 5 riders left us, they were not camping over (all did have reasons HA HA!!!).



The campers were Lisa C, Kylie, Tracey, Tamara and myself. It was a bit of a giggle for 3 of us sitting back and watching Lisa and Kylie set up their swag and tent arrangement. They did the wrong thing on sending a picture back to the husbands who promptly informed them they left 1 rod out of it's holder. They rectified it and after feeding up, a wine or two and changing, we headed off to the pub again for a lovely all you could eat smorgasboard. It was windy when we headed out for tea, but again when we returned it was calm, so we decided to light our fire. We drank, talked and ate chocolate - Yummy and went to bed.

Sunday arrived and what a lovely day Saturday was a bit overcast but ok, after getting up feeding horses and breakfast we headed out half an earlier than stated and glad we did because it did warm up a bit. The 10 km ride around was fantastic, we saw a couple of roos but nothing else to worry us except millions of little flies. When we started out all was good but they caught up with us we all fly veils and spray back at camp. We had a lovely trot but mainly walked and talked for 2 hours. It was amazing to ride next to the railway line, and on the tracks literally by Barry for a step or 4 and near the canola with Kylie leading us most of the way. Upon returning to the oval we had lunch, finished packing up and went home. It was a very enjoyable weekend had by all and thank you to all who went

Story of the challenge day From Di Schaeferthanks Di!

Sandra East and I discussed attending the Owen Rally and the night before we went to great lengths deciding on which way we would go and how long it would take us, only to miss our prearranged rendezvous point on the day, and then we made up so much time we arrived over half an hour prior our E.T.A.!

To those who have not visited Owen, it really isn't as far as one would think!

Upon arrival we unloaded our horses and were warmly greeted by the host Julie and Tamara, who had made camp Friday night. Their two horses had become paddock buddies turned out in a well grassed, fenced off area by the obstacle course, and made quite a show rearing and frolicking together like a couple of wild, unbroken steeds.



As we had arrived fairly early, Sandra and I decided to lead our horses along the marked Walking Trail which apparently went around the perimeter of the town ship. We read the Map and set off....plenty of time to walk four kilometres....we walked and we walked...where were all the little arrows pointing the right way to go? Somehow we must have missed a turn and we ventured some distance along the dirt road, further away from the town. We kept the golf course on the right, and did a circle and before too long we ended up back at the oval, but I think we did a few extra kilometers. Along the way we heard an unfamiliar hissing sound so we stopped, thinking it may

have been some unusual bird, and then we saw a very beautiful goanna going up a gum tree, obviously not happy about being disturbed by two strangers leading horses.

By the time we got back quite a few Club Members had arrived and it wasn't long before Julie briefed us on the Obstacle Course and we all made our way over to do the various challenges.

These Obstacles have been set up as a training course and everyone could take as long as they needed to familiarise their horse with each different challenge. Julie and Tamara were available to assist anyone if they needed help, and they also took photos and short videos of some of the more entertaining training techniques!

Gail and Lisa even arranged to have their own personal horse trainer come along and assist. Molly sure wasn't going to get away with any nonsense!

By 12.30 p.m., everyone seemed to have accomplished the various challenges, so lunch-time was announced and we all went back to the floats, tended to our horses, then settled down for some refreshments.

Julie mentioned that for those interested she would organise a Trail Ride around the township following the Marked Trail, after lunch.



Following the lunch break, about eleven (?) riders saddled up and set off and this time the Trail leader actually followed the arrows, and we stayed on the Owen Town Trail. It was a very enjoyable ride, with the horses all well behaved obviously all improved following the morning Obstacle Course Training!

We rode past some beautifully manicured gardens, lovely well maintained homes, a functional golf course and to everyone's amusement, a very quaint and unusual 'cane toad' letter box. By the time we returned most of the riders unsaddled and prepared to depart. Five Members intended to camp over and do another Trail Ride Sunday morning.



Many thanks to Julie and Tamara for hosting, assisting and photographing the Owen Challenge Day. It was lovely to see such a good attendance by the Club Members and a Day Member, Tracy. The weather was great, the facilities and Obstacle Course just fantastic, and a very enjoyable time had

by all.

Thanks also to The Town Mayor, and the Town of Owen for the general feeling of being so welcomed.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for any items that members want printed in the **December 2019** newsletter will be **Monday 25 November** so please ensure that your emails reach Maria Pearce gawler.THRC@gmail.com before that date to avoid disappointment.

Horse Health / Care

Do I need to rug my horse?

(Extract from RSPCA Australia – Knowledgebase – updated May 2019)

For domestic horses the answer is yes, no, and maybe!

While it is true that wild and free living horses survive without rugs, they move more than their domestic counterparts and are able to find their own shelter from bad weather. On the down side, wild horses do not tend to live as long as domestic horses. Older domestic horses may therefore need extra warmth in cold wet weather but healthy younger horses do not usually need to be rugged especially if they have access to shelter (which all horses should have).

However some breeds of horses have a very fine skin and coat (such as Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds). This means that they feel the wet and cold more than tougher, hardier breeds of horse. There are always exceptions though so treat each horse individually.

Rugs should not be used as a substitute for shade and shelter (see the article [Do I need to provide shade and shelter for my horse?](#)).

What about rugs in summer?

Using rugs on horses in summer can be a welfare issue. Rugs do not keep horses cool. A horse naturally has a sleek coat which reflects the sun and a horse will seek shade when they are hot as a natural response. All large bodied animals, such as horses, take longer to cool down (and warm up) than smaller bodied animals. Rugs prevent any cooling breeze from cooling the body. Also horses are one of the few animals that rely on sweating to cool down and rugs impede this process (by preventing air from passing over the body, evaporating the sweat and cooling the body).

Many people rug horses in summer in order to prevent their coat from fading in the sun. If horses have access to shade they will utilise it in the heat of the day. If this is an issue for you confine your horse to shade through the day (in hot weather) with access to hay and turn them out at night. This is especially important for horses that have white skin over areas such as the nostrils and therefore get sunburned easily. It will also reduce the problem of insects for your horse because insects are not as problematic in shade and at night.

Horses that suffer from Queensland Itch, which is an allergic reaction to midge bites, do need to be lightly rugged in summer to reduce insect bites.

What about rugs in winter?

In cold wet weather a good quality and well-fitting rug can help the horse to maintain condition, as a cold wet horse will burn a lot of energy keeping warm. Keep in mind though that if your horse is young and healthy but tends to get fat, rugs will actually help him or her to maintain that fat. In a natural situation excess body fat is burned off through the winter.

The coat of an unrugged horse stands up in cold weather to trap air and warm the horse. If you decide to rug you have to compensate for this mechanism as a rug will stop the hair from being able to do its job. In some circumstances a rugged horse is actually colder than an unrugged horse if it is a badly fitting thin rug that flattens the hair and reduces the movement of the horse without providing any real warmth.

Rugs need to be checked regularly (at least twice a day) to make sure that the straps have not broken and the rug slipped, which can cause injury to your horse. Hoods can be very dangerous for horses and should only be used if the horse is being checked very frequently (much more than twice a day) because if a hood slips it can cover the eyes and rub the eyeball (which can cause an ulcer on the eye – a very serious condition for a horse requiring immediate veterinary attention). Horses with slipped hoods (due to not being able to see) have been known to fall into dams (and drown), injure their eyes on branches or other protrusions etc. or panic and run through fences.

A rug should be removed regularly to make sure it is not rubbing, letting in water etc. and to make sure the horse hasn't lost weight or gained too much weight. Rugs prevent horses from exfoliating their skin properly (by rolling and mutual grooming etc.) so a rugged horse must be groomed thoroughly and frequently to get rid of the build-up of dead skin and hair (see the article [Why do I need to groom my horse?](#)).

For more information please see: <https://www.equiculture.net/responsiblehorsecare>

Updated on May 2, 2019

Policies

A reminder to all members that our club has some policies that we endorse. These include a **NON SMOKING, SAFETY & HOT WEATHER** policy. These can all be viewed on the ATHRA web site, via the state page - www.athra.com.au. Previous Newsletters, photos & club information can also be viewed at any time on the ATHRA web site.

WEATHER

The ride host/leader for the day will have the final say regarding weather (including inclement weather).

The hot weather policy states, if the weather forecast in **ELIZABETH** for the next day is to be **over 32 deg** (as per the news the night before) the club rally/ride will be cancelled (unless the ride is scheduled to commence prior to 9am or after 6pm). This is for the safety of all riders and horses. Also, any club rides in **FOREST** areas on **TOTAL FIRE BAN** days will be cancelled.

Please check with the Trail Boss if in any doubt. They have the final word!

CLUB UNIFORM

Our club uniform currently comprises of a lime yellow high-vis shirt (long or short sleeve), [club badges available for \\$12](#). [Gawler Club Members & their visitors are required to wear Safety Helmets whilst mounted - helmet must be no more than five years old from Date of Manufacture.](#)

RIDE FEE & DAY MEMBERS

ATHRA members - a ride fee of \$2 per ride is applicable.

Non ATHRA Members (Day Members) – a ride fee of \$25/person/day is applicable (\$10 to club on the day & \$15 to ATHRA with pre-registration) (*Non-refundable fee, maximum 2 days as a day member*).

The important things to note: 1. Day Members must be sponsored and accompanied at all times by an ATHRA member during the ride or event.

2. The Sponsoring member must make the Day Member aware of ATHRA rules and requirements of the Code of Conduct.

3. They may only sponsor 1 Day Member per ride.

4. By participating as a sponsor, the sponsoring member acknowledges responsibility for the conduct and behaviour of the Day Member

5. Day Members must contact the trail boss to discuss attendance & then pre-register with ATHRA Online at least 3 days prior to ride.

RIDE HOST CHECKLIST

A ride host's checklist is in the green bag, in which is kept the sign in book, ride fee tin, saddle bags, first aid kits, safety vests, etc. Trail Bosses are to check the list to make sure all is in order prior to your ride. It is also the Hosts responsibility to ensure a ride report is arranged to be submitted to Newsletter Editor prior to next publication date.

DISCLAIMER

The material in this newsletter is for the benefit and information of our members. The items are in the nature of general comments only and are not to be used, relied on or acted upon without written permission of GTHRC. The club accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions or for any damage suffered as a result of any person acting without written advice. All opinions and views in the newsletter are not necessarily the view of the club, but are personal opinions only.