



January 2020 Newsletter

 athra.com.au

Find us on 

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Vice President Tamara Godfrey 0417869695
Secretary Kath McCullagh 08 82807046

GENERAL MEETING (Normally first Thursday of the month) **8pm Thursday 9th January 2020**

NOTE – changed week of Meeting as first week of Jan 2020 was not suited for some of the committee.

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

MEMBERS FOR 2020

Welcome Back to Re-joining Members

Lionel and Vickie Heath from Flaxmans Valley/ Barossa area
Ruth Naismith from Williamstown

And Welcome newly joined member

Tracy Day from Mount Torrens

..... & hope you continue to enjoy many days of riding (& socialising) with the club

Best wishes to all members for
a safe & happy New Year



2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS & FEES

Membership for 2020 is now due - fees remain unchanged :

Adults \$110, Junior (under 18) \$50, Social (non riding) \$40.

Renew your membership online via www.athra.com.au/membership/membership-renewal & don't forget to have your membership number handy – the ATHRA website say

“ If you do not know your membership number, please contact your Club Secretary or membership@athra.com.au . Once renewed please print or copy your membership details which will be emailed to you at the completion of registration for future reference.”

So please do 😊

Kath McCullagh

Secretary – Gawler Trail Horse Riders Club

*We extend our thoughts to our club members and families
who have suffered challenges and loss during this last
week of fires and associated issues as a result.
Reach out to your club friends for help and assistance
when you need to.*

COMING EVENTS

January Ride: OSBORNE BEACH - Sunday 19th Jan 2020

Host & Boss – Tamara Godfrey Ph 0417869695 arrival ~ 6am ride/swim - off beach by 8am

Ride description - We can ride south as far as Wigley St, Largs Bay. This is a short ride but those what are enthused can do it twice or just stop for a dip in the ocean back at Osborne.

Horses are only permitted on the foreshore between the hours of 4am and 8am. These times must be strictly adhered to as we would not want to jeopardize any future beach rides. The car park **must** be left spick & span:- All manure and hay **MUST** be removed prior to departing for home.

We will be cooking egg & bacon 'sangers' on the BBQ – so please BYO & join in.

Directions - Go down the Port River Express Way over the bridge onto Victoria Road. Turn left into Strathfield Tce or Gedville Rd; turn right into Lady Gowrie Drive (the Esplanade). Car park is opposite Moldivia Walk. There are toilets & a playground there and a walkway down onto the beach.

Cost:- Nil. As the beach is an unrestricted site there is “no ATHRA day membership” on this event & therefore all non ATHRA members ride at their own risk in this public area.

RIDE CALENDAR FOR 2020

Looking forward to another super year of riding in our great state

- We are seeking ideas from our riders for the 2020 year's trail rides.
- If you are able to host a ride or think of one that you would like to go on (we will arrange for the particular ride to take place) please let the committee know so that we can start to fill the calendar.
- 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, Tarlee, Leisingham, Mt Crawford Forest, Kapunda, Barossa Winery Tour, Humbug Scrub, Tungkillio – 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, Bria-Glen, Truro Gorge, 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

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**

Ride Date 2020	Location	Host	Club Meeting Dates for 2020
Jan 19	Osborne Beach ride	Tamara Godfrey	9 January
Feb 16	Pt Parham Beach ride	Sandra East	6 February
Feb 29-1 Mar	Camp		
March 15			5 March
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

PAST EVENTS

December Ride: GLENBROOKE PARK - KERSBROOK - Sunday 15th Dec 2019

It was a dark and stormy night,...No? Once upon a time there was.....
 hmmm,.... maybe not!

How bout on a Sunday morning about 8'ish I arrived at Glenbrook Park setting up to



get things ready for our trail buddies to arrive. Lisa Laughton, Sandra Sampson, Lisa James-Wake, Sandy Jones and Teena Goodson arrived in good time to find shade near the gum trees close to the property house.

Sandra's horse Pagan got a bit spooked by the Park's friendly two emus which even though tame, Pagan was unaware and we could see he wanted them to simply go away. Eventually they thankfully found the exit. After "The Talk" we headed off through the property's vineyard and onto Mewett Road to wander up to the start of the Kersbrook horse trail.

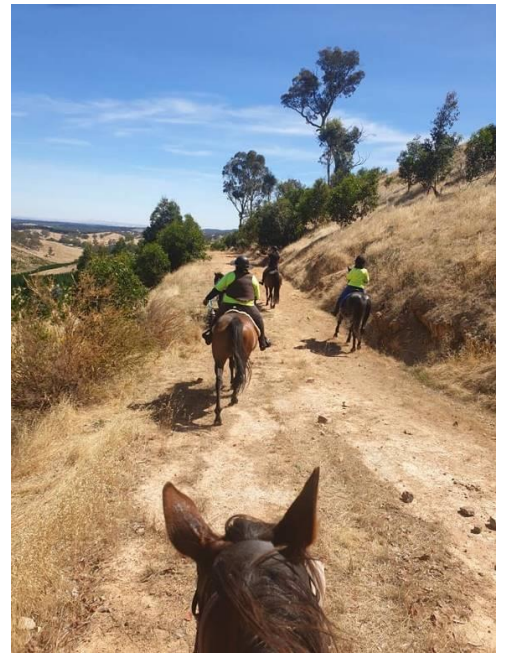
Mostly in groups of two riders we managed a good range of walk, trot and canter whilst other club riders admired the view which was vast. Teena's pony Spooky was amazing, burning up those hills like Chariots of Fire!!! My horse was like 'no way!' and decided to race off cantering furiously to catch up to Teena's speedy chariot. Spooky by name; Ferrari by design....WoW!





The sun had a bit of bite in it so even though I had thought the ride would be two and half hours we managed to wizz around the trail in about 1 hr and 40 mins.

No emus were to be seen thankfully when we got back to the floats. A wash off of saddle sweat from the horses and a good sit down (under air con)and chat with some yummy cake and brownies made by Teena. (Thx for the ones I took home - sat in front of the TV later and munched out. Hehe). Sandy's horse Ru did well too.



Yes, it was hot outside but with the air con and a cool kitchen we managed to chill and rest awhile.

Thanks again Ladies for trying a new trail, I don't know if it's a stayer but with my work I will still have access for anybody who is interested in a look.

Thanks and Happy holidays.

Michelle Day.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for any items that members want printed in the **February 2020** newsletter will be **Thursday 23 January** so please ensure that your emails reach Maria Pearce on gawler.THRC@gmail.com before that date to avoid disappointment.

HORSE HEALTH / CARE

Can I feed my horse on lawn mower clippings and other garden waste?

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

NO! Feeding horses on lawn mower clippings can be very dangerous for several reasons. When lawn mower clippings are fresh they are fermenting (this is why they are warm or even hot when you put your hand inside a fresh pile of clippings). If a horse is given a pile of fresh clippings to eat he/she can gorge on them. As the clippings have been chopped up small (by the mower) the horse does not need to chew them and therefore swallows the clippings without mixing them with saliva (which is what happens when a horse chews its food normally). This means that the clippings arrive in the stomach already fermenting and without the benefit of saliva to 'dilute' them (in the normal situation grasses that are eaten by the horse do not start to ferment to this extent until they are much further along in

the gut). The gases given off by the fermenting clippings can expand to the point that they rupture the stomach (which is fatal). If the clippings do not cause rupture of the stomach, they can result in colic (abdominal pain) due to complications further down the intestinal tract.

Horses are particularly susceptible to poisonous plants, and in this situation to a high level of gas build up in the stomach, because they have a one way valve on the stomach that prevents vomiting (or even burping). If a human or a dog were to find itself in this situation they would be able to bring the offending food back up or at least bring the gas back up and relieve the pressure. A horse cannot do this.

When a horse eats lawn mower clippings they may also eat plants that they would otherwise avoid (because they are poisonous etc.) but because they have been chopped up with other more palatable plants the horse cannot detect them. Additionally the lawn may have been sprayed with chemicals which the horse will then ingest along with the clippings.

Likewise garden waste (such as prunings from bushes and trees) can be dangerous unless you know for certain that they are not poisonous.

If your horse lives in a paddock that has suburban properties adjoining then be aware that the property owners may be dropping clippings/garden waste over the fence on a regular basis. It is usually a good idea to 'double fence' in such an area. A simple electric fence several feet to the inside of the perimeter fence may be enough. Post notices asking people to not feed your horse/s. Chat to neighbours about the risks and ask them not to drop any garden waste over the fence. In many cases people think they are doing your horse a favour and once the dangers are explained to them they will stop doing it.

FIRE PLAN FOR YOUR HORSES

Friendly reminder to not just plan for yourselves but also for your horses during the Fire Danger Season – don't get caught out with no plan. Arrange your bushfire buddy early, write it down & practice your plan so it all comes easily to you under pressing circumstances.



See HorseSA & CFS websites for many helpful hints & Links

My Horse Disaster Plan <https://www.myhorsedisasterplan.org.au/>

Looking after horses in bushfires - Guide <https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/public/download.jsp?id=104503>

CLUB UNIFORM

Just a reminder to all Members – Our club uniform currently comprises of a lime yellow high-vis shirt (long or short sleeve). This is to help promote the safety of our riders especially whilst riding in shared zones such as on roads.

Whilst Hi Vis **is** mandatory for ride officials (Trail Boss & stewards), it is appreciated if members can look to wear the club uniform at all club rides (on & off road), & whilst it is not mandatory it is preferred for your safety & is also a good promotion for the club. A lime yellow high-vis safety vest is also suitable to be worn in place of a shirt or over the top of other gear (& visible in all weather).

Club members & their visitors are required to wear Safety Helmets whilst mounted - helmet must comply with S/NZS 3838:2006 safety standard and be no more than five years old. When buying a helmet always check the date of manufacture as this determines the age of the helmet.

CLUB PROMOTION



Club Badges are available for purchase by members \$12 each (& yes you can have more than 1). They are available with the sign in book – take your badge from the bag & place your money in the badge bag. You can put your badge on your high vis top or even on your Saddle blanket – it's up to you.

We also have club coolers available for sale at \$5 each – what a bargain 😊.



Float Stickers are also available - \$2 each

Place the money in the bag with the appropriate merchandise 😊

ATHRA also has a selection of items branded merchandise available – visit <http://www.athra.com.au/merchandise.html> to see what is available.

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

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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 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.