



# July 2020 Newsletter

 athra.com.au

Find us on 

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## GENERAL MEETING                      8pm Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**All Members are welcome to come along & join in – (Approx 1.5 hours)**  
*( Venue to be advised nearer to date – depending on COVID-19 requirements )*

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### MEMBERS FOR 2020

The Club currently has 23 members and there have been a constant number of people enquiring possibly to join.

**Welcome Back to our re-joining Member**

***Lainie Ray from Birdwood.***

- ***we hope all members continue to enjoy many days of riding (& socialising) with the club***

### JUNE MEETING

President Julie Jackson welcomed the committee & members back for our first meeting since the past months of close-down due to the Corona Virus. A sincere thank you to Di Schaefer for hosting the club group this time as it was not possible to hold the meeting at our usual Hotel venue.

At last the committee and members were able to come together for a meeting again and to progress with news items and future events for the Club members.

Our group on this night enjoyed a lively lot of chatter and laughs – as well as a wonderful spread of food provided for us by Di Schaefer which was hugely appreciated by us all. It was great being together again taking on board particular care of social distancing catered for so well by Di.



Meeting discussion included:

- Reconvene dates on the Ride Calendar until the end of year.
- Training Day : cowboy dressage to be considered again next year.
- Cockatoo Valley Obstacle Training day and BBQ to be planned for 2021
- ATHRA in the process of training a State Based Accreditation Trainer. To be completed soon.



**Kath McCullagh,**  
Secretary – Gawler Trail Horse Riders Club

## COMING EVENTS

### July Ride: ROSEDALE - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Host – Lisa Crinion;

Trail Boss - TBA

Saturday – Arrive 8am for a 9am ride out. (Pre ride meeting 8.45am without horses)

RSVP by 15<sup>th</sup> July to: [gawler.thrc@gmail.com](mailto:gawler.thrc@gmail.com) (if you have any queries please email.)

This ride is open to Day Member Riders. (see below for costs and details)

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

**Ride Description:** This ride will be 2.5 to 3 hrs. Ride track consists of white metal roads/ dry weather only roads, vineyard tracks and winding sandy tracks. Ride is cart friendly.

**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 horses. - Group trot & canter (if desired)

**Hazards** - Very likely will be kangaroos & stock in paddocks & vineyard equipment.

Riders are encouraged to bring their lunch so that we can sit back and socialise after the ride.

**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

## RIDE CALENDAR FOR 2020-

- 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 complete the calendar.
- Camp weekend dates are negotiable

**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**

<b>Ride Date 2020</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Club Meeting Dates for 2020</b>
July 18	Rosedale	Lisa Crinion	7 July
Aug 15	Smithfield	Julie Jackson	6 Aug
Aug 29-30	Camp - Mt Belvidere TBC	Richard Grimson	
Sept 20	Auburn / Leasingham	Sandy Jones	3 Sept
Sept 26-28	Camp – Southern Flinders TBC	Kath McCullagh	
Oct 17or 18	Yaldara	Lisa Bates	1 Oct
Oct 31-1 Nov	Camp – Point Pass	Maria Pearce	
Nov 15	Moppa / Kersbrook ? TBC	Michelle Day	5 Nov
Dec 12	Rosedale	Lisa Crinion	3 Dec

## PAST EVENTS

### Summaries from the Mount Crawford Ride on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

#### From - Julie Jackson

The signs were in position on the roads and so I waited for riders to come; and the weather was looking promising. First was Sandra Sampson at 9am followed by Lainie Ray, Richard Grimson and Sandy Jones all the way from the Clare Valley, a loyal and dedicated member. There was a lot of catching up to be done and stories to be listened to but riders headed out at 10am sharp. Spot followed on foot until the first step over and much to her disappointment we returned to the car as I hadn't had breakfast. Luckily Mt. Pleasant was so close and breakfast was washed down with a hot chocolate ~ Yummy.



After returning to the venue I decided to collect some "stones" for the fire area and just as I was doing so, Di Shaeffer arrived in her ute with ROCKS, wood,



paper, matches and her trusty fire "fluffer". We built a great rock wall (see pictures) and a reluctant starting fire slowly began to take hold with the help of the fluffer. Upon the riders return after a 2 hour, dry and exciting ride again Di went to her ute and got more goodies. BBQ plate, snags, meat patties, salad, sauce, salt, plates, cutlery and a bottle of wine. Oops just me hoping.



Many thanks Di for a scrumptious lunch that was really most unexpected. Sandra topped off the meal with a tasty apple cake. She never fails to excite our taste buds. It was magic to sit round the camp fire, eat, talk and catchup. Sorry you missed it hope to see you on the next ride or two. - Julie

#### From - Lainie Ray

After the horrible weather, I had messaged Sandra Saturday night asking if the ride was actually going ahead (would have slept in if it was a 'no'). Got a message from Sandra Sunday morning but I was already up and ready to go so no backing out. "It's only rain" I said to Turbo - we won't melt!

Packed my NEW riding jacket and carrots for my boy and off we went to Mount Road, Mount Crawford.

Greeted by El Presidente Julie, also Sandra and just pulling in at the same time as me was Richard (in his fancy new bus and float) we had a short wait for Sandy coming from Clare.

Rugged up to the eyeballs off we set, Sandra said "you know where you're going don't you??" Laughing, I said "I could get us lost".

Special boy Pagan that allows his mm to click away here & there any time for our photos! - Thank you Sandra and Pagan





We went into Starkeys block, went along the Heysen Trail, along the ridge and down the other side. Ducking and weaving I was regretting having a 15.3hh horse after watching Sandy and Richard not even duck under the branches. Lots of water on the trail seeing Sandra and Pagon (who has just turned 29 and can out walk all of the horses) going in all the big puddles.

Two and a bit hours, 10kms later we got back to base, we unsaddled and the ponies were rugged up before the rain. Julie Jackson and Di Schaffer greeted us with a beauty of a fire in readiness for

lunch to be cooked on the BBQ plate. Snags, patties and salad were on their menu with Sandra's delicious Apple Cake for dessert (kicking myself for bringing a sandwich) but capably fitted in Cake!!

Thanks so much for a fabulous ride ladies and gents. So glad we got it in before the rain but like I said to Turbo "we won't melt!"  
- Lainie and Turbo

### From - Di

The recent Covid19 pandemic impacted the Gawler Trail Riding Club quite severely, resulting in a forced recess over the past few months.

There has been no organised functions and no regular Monthly Meetings, however, much to the relief of everyone we are once again able to hold meetings and club activities, subject to the advised 'social distancing' and number of members participating at these functions.

The Club held its first General Meeting for some months, early in June, when the annual program was discussed and some changes were proposed.

The next Club Rally was suggested for the 21<sup>st</sup>. June, in the form of a Trail Ride in the Mt. Crawford Forest.



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The weather for the preceding week had been quite wintry, damp and cold. Sandra Sampson kindly offered to be the Trail Leader for this Ride.

Riders were advised to contact Sandra to confirm if the ride was still going ahead, and even though Saturday and Saturday night was quite wet, Sunday morning looked a little 'improved' ....and Sandra was keen to ride! Sandy Jones drove down from Leasingham,

Lainie and Sandra Sampson came over from Birdwood, and Richard drove across from Rosedale; all saddled up ready to ride off at the allocated time.

Looking at the sky, they were all optimistic that the rain would hold off for the next couple of hours!

Our conscientious Club President, Julie came along and although she didn't ride, she chose a fantastic parking area for the



ride to depart from and did her very best to keep the rain away while the small but keen group were out riding in the forest.

By the time I arrived, (somehow I must have forgotten my horse???)

Julie was scouting about for some stones to make a little campfire ring, and had gathered some pine-needles and dry wood.



I checked in the tray of my trusty farm ute and found some bigger rocks and a bit more fuel for the camp fire, so together we managed to get a little fire burning to welcome the riders when they returned.

It wasn't long before Sandra and Lainie appeared, with Sandy following closely behind, and then Richard. The clouds had come over again and the sky looked a little threatening, so Sandy decided to load up and head off straight away. It was great to see Sandy, especially

as she said she had driven down in the rain that morning, a trip of about an hour and a half. The other riders strapped and rugged their horses, and then were drawn together by the aroma of sausages cooking on the little camp fire. We had a lovely, social get-together over lunch, even though it tried to rain, but we ignored it and just kept on chatting.....



It was very nice to catch up with such keen riders (and good friends!) and all being well, the Club should begin to hold regular monthly meetings and rally days once again. Another pleasant, fun, Club Rally! Hope to see you all again soon. - Di

## [NEWSLETTER DEADLINE](#)

The deadline for any items that members want printed in the August **2020** newsletter will be **Thursday 23 July** so please ensure that your emails reach Maria Pearce on [gawler.thrc@gmail.com](mailto:gawler.thrc@gmail.com) before that date to avoid disappointment.

## [HORSE HEALTH / CARE](#)



### **How would a national identification registry help improve horse welfare?**



*Currently, horse owners are not required to identify or register their horses and there is no national database to record and retrieve this information. The establishment of a national horse registry would substantially improve traceability of horses across Australia, thereby achieving more effective responses to situations involving horses, including neglect and cruelty reports, as well as serious disease outbreaks and emergency situations such as fire and floods.*

#### **Why is a national registry needed?**

Compared to other livestock and companion animals, horses are generally unregulated in terms of their identification, management and movement. However, the keeping of horses for sport and recreation is a popular interest with over 600,000 horses estimated in Victoria alone.

In the event of an emergency, including where horses are neglected, it is essential to be able to contact the owner quickly to arrange removal and/or appropriate treatment or veterinary care. The RSPCA receives many cruelty reports involving thousands of horses every year across Australia, usually due to

lack of feed, water or shelter, which require rapid action to be taken. The important work undertaken by RSPCA inspectors to alleviate and prevent further suffering of ill-treated or neglected horses is severely hindered if the owner cannot be contacted.

Furthermore, if horses are located after being stolen or having fled a natural disaster, reuniting them with their owner will be quicker and easier if they are identified and recorded on a national registry.

In relation to horse racing, the community expects the industry to make appropriate provisions for horses upon retirement instead of sending 'spent' horses to the knackery or abattoir. A comprehensive national register available to authorised people would help provide community assurance that information is available to review the fate of horses after they leave the industry.

### ***How would a national registry work?***

The RSPCA believes that microchipping is the vital first step in this process to ensure individual horse identification. Some owners already microchip their horses, with a number of breed and equestrian organisations requiring horses to be microchipped. A microchip is a permanent method of electronic identification. The chip itself is very small – about the size of a grain of rice – and is implanted just under the skin on the left hand side along the neck underneath the mane. Each chip has a unique number that is detected using a microchip scanner.

The second important step is comprehensive registration of horses which allows government and enforcement agencies to determine the numbers, location and ownership of horses across the country. The registry should allow users to check that data is correct, to report horses as missing, change status or alerts and check if a horse is legally for sale.

The United Kingdom has recently developed an equine register which may provide a good framework for the development of a similar registry in Australia. For more information, see the [Equine Register website](#) and [The Equine Identification \(England\) Regulations 2018](#).

Updated on November 21, 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](http://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 t

+the Hosts responsibility to ensure a ride report is arranged to be submitted to Newsletter Editor prior to next publication date.

### **DISCLAIMER**

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