

# Blue Mountains Trail Riders Horse Tales

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019



The official newsletter of the  
Blue Mountains Trail Horse Riders Club Inc.

P.O. Box 1849 PENRITH NSW 2751

Email: [bmthrc@gmail.com](mailto:bmthrc@gmail.com)

Web page: <http://www.athra.com.au/clubs/nsw/bmthrc>

### Your 2019 Committee members:

President – Dee Thornthwaite  
Vice President – Phil Carr  
Secretary – Kerry Manning  
Treasurer – Teresa Tidball  
National Parks Liason – Dee Thornthwaite  
Publicity Officer – Judy Duck  
Committee – Leanne Stubbs  
Dagmar Sweetland

Just a reminder that you need to show your ATHRA card or receipt before you can participate in any ride for insurance requirements.

### Inside this issue:

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### Upcoming rides

#### September 2019

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> – Pattersons Range - Dee

#### October 2019

Sun 20<sup>th</sup> – Scheyville NP - Dee

#### November 2019

Thursday, Friday, Sat, Sun 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> –

Rydal Christmas Party Weekend

#### December 2019

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> - Sun Valley – Phil

*Articles published in this newsletter are published only as a service to members and are intended as a guide only.*

## **Presidents Report.**

### **PRESIDENTS REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2019**

It's good news for Phil with the ending of his treatment at Westmead Hospital, now he just has to get his fitness and general health back on track as we know he can't wait to resume his Trail Bossing Duties in full. We are all happy to see him come out of this awful time.

Julie has been having a rough time with her health but has improved enough to have been able to go on the trip to Africa that her and Barry have had planned for quite some time. We hope she travels safely and her health continues to improve while she is away.

Teresa is off to do the trail boss course very soon up at Ourimbah and we all wish her good luck. Our youngest club member Charli has had a very successful day at the 'Introduction Showjumping' at Megalong Valley. Charli came in with two 2nd places, a third place and 'Reserve Champion' ribbons. Congratulations to her and her gorgeous pony Soxi on such a wonderful achievement.

Plans for our Christmas Party are coming together beautifully, thanks to the great support I've had from Judy and Dagmar. The show ground at Rydal has been booked and the Pub has been notified about our Christmas dinner. Pre rides are being organised and it looks like being every bit as good as our past few weekends away have been.

Dagmar has put her hand up to fill in the secretary's role on the committee as Kerry is well into making plans for her and Ebony to move to New Zealand. I'm sure Dagmar will do a great job and we thank her for filling in this very important position. We also thank Kerry for the good job done by her over the past few years and for the help that she is offering Dagmar while she gets used to the new position on the committee.

After many emails back and forward with NPWL recently, it looks like we only have to let them know that we will be on that particular trail. We no longer have to ask permission and wait for approval to have our trail rides in the local National Parks.

Our club will be celebrating it's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year and we are hoping to mark the occasion with a weekend ride on the October Long weekend 2020. So, for the moment keep that one free and watch this space for further updates on our progress.

As we have probably all noticed on our Facebook page, Teresa will be leaving her position as Treasurer and Public Officer as of 01/01/2020.

Anyone wishing to fill either of these positions please contact me. In the position of Treasurer the committee would be open to letting you changing the banking system, as we did with Teresa to suit your own style. It could be changed to a bank that you prefer or are familiar with etc. This does not have to be a complicated process, its not a lot more than just making sure that ride money is paid in, and our club bills are paid on time to ATHRA. You have a balance sheet to present at the committee meetings which are held every second month.

Please give this position some thought as it would be easier for the new treasurer to take up the position before Teresa leaves.

Teresa has also mentioned that she is now on the ATHRA Committee, so we congratulate her on that.

Happy Riding

Dee

## News Items

### **Wet Weather Arrangements**

It has only just come to my attention that a lot of our club members are not aware of our 'Wet Weather Arrangements. There is a plan in place to cancel any of our rides due to bad weather, be it too hot, or too wet, or any unforeseen circumstances such as being too boggy under foot for our horses or for our floats. The Trail boss of the day is the only one who had the power to cancel or move a ride location at the last minute or maybe even earlier. This is why all club members and visitors are asked to 'Ring to Register.' When you ring and register to ride, the Trail Boss has your phone number handy and is aware that you are going to turn up so its not such a big deal for him or her to get in contact with you to move or cancel the ride on short notice if necessary. It would be far more difficult if he or she has to turn on a computer in the morning to start sending messages. Bearing in mind the fact that he or she is a bit busier than most on the morning of ride as there extra duties to perform. You can, if you want, text or ring to check with the Trail Boss, as you too should have their contact details handy in case you can't attend for any reason and let them know. Decisions on cancelling or changing a ride are normally made as early as possible, the night before or very early on the morning of the ride so that the club members don't actually leave home or head in the wrong direction.

**Ride Reports or Information for the newsletters please email to Judy. [duckjudith@gmail.com](mailto:duckjudith@gmail.com)**

### **CHARLI AND SOXI**

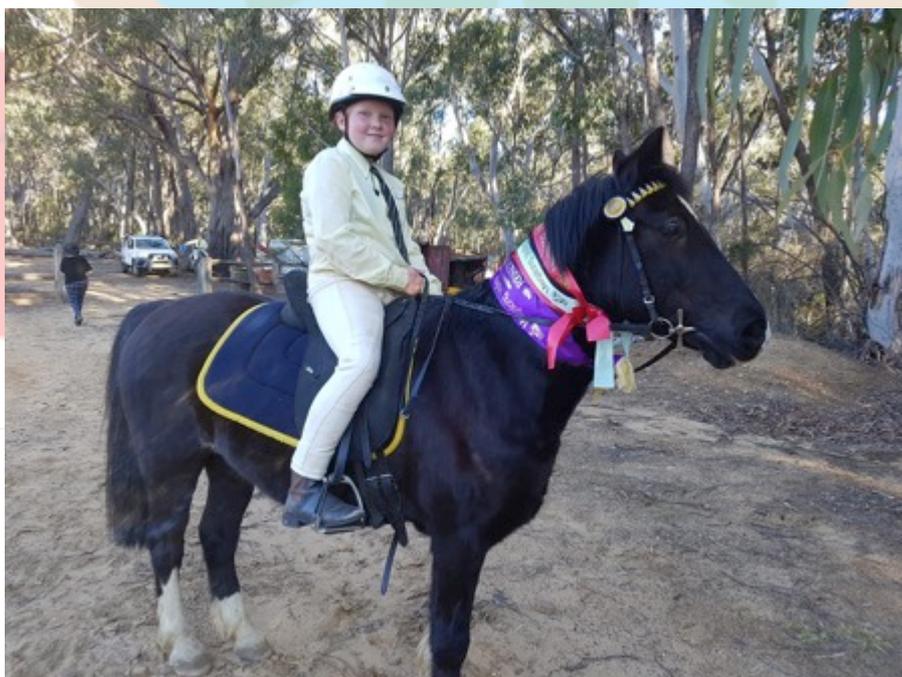
#### **Megalong Pony Club. Introduction Showjumping.**

2 x 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

1 x 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Reserve Champion

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHARLI





### **Club Shirts with the New Club Logo.**

Short Sleeve Polo    \$35

Long Sleeve Cotton    \$50

Put your name on  
your shirt for Only    \$4



### **Upcoming Ride Details:**

#### **Patterson's Range fire trail - Sunday 15th September.**

**Meet :**            1Km past Tutti Frutti on Left hand side. Just before Pattersons Range Rd.

**Duration :**      4 hours +. Leaving 10.00am sharp.

**BYO :**            Bring lunch & water for horses.

**Type :**            Medium going some hills and rough ground. Bridge crossing.

**Ride Co-ordinator :** TBA

**NO SMOKING at this Ride base.**

#### **Scheyville – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

**Meet :**            Scheyville Float Parking area  
10am sharp Ready to ride

**Duration :**      3 hour s +.

**BYO :.**            Lunch and water for hor ses.

**Type :**            Easy going.

**Ride Co-ordinator :** Dee PH 0411 275 133

**Ring 48 hours prior.**

**NO SMOKING at this Ride base.**

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY WEEKEND - RYDAL SHOW GROUND**

Our Christmas party weekend will be held at Rydal Show ground, from Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

- \*All club members are invited to attend all or any part of this weekend.
- \*The club is covering the cost of the hall (kitchen & dinning area, with fridge & stove) and the Christmas dinner on Saturday night at the pub.
- \*Everyone will have to pay for their own camping site at \$15 per person per night (children free)
- \*No refunds !
- \*There is no electricity at the camping sites, only in the hall.
- \*No charge for horses.
- \*No dogs are allowed at the camp.
- \*Your family members are invited to the camp but will have to pay for their own meal (app \$30) on Saturday night.
- \*All money is to be paid to the club bank account 302966-0226806 by 1/10/19.
- \*Your family members can make a booking at the pub if they would rather stay there. You will have to arrange the booking yourself (Phil 0415646654).
- \*If you have a horse to look after you are expected to stay at the show ground to look after him/her.
- \*We can have an extra back up vehicle along if your family wish to follow us where it's practicable.
- \*Barry will be driving our official back up but at this stage his car will be full.
- \*If we could all try to get some freebies for our give-aways and prizes it would be appreciated. Newmarket, Horseland Richmond and Sydney Equestrian Supplies have already been asked to help out but if you can think of any other produce stores etc. to approach please do.
- \*For those who would like to participate please bring along a gift to the value of \$20 for the Secret Santa Game.
- \*If you could think of a game or perhaps entertain us in some way that would be helpful.
- \*There is a basic toilet and shower block at the show ground.

### **YOU WILL NEED TO BRING FOR YOUR HORSE**

- \*Feed for your horse
- \*Drinking container
- \*Rugs as it may still be cool overnight
- \*Tack
- \*Electric fencing, while there is some yards there, there is not enough for the expected numbers.
- \*Horse yards are on a first in best dressed basis.
- \*Hose and tap nut and joiner to join together, save us carrying water a long way.
- \*Poop scoop & bag or bin for removal of manure from the show ground.
- \*All manure must be removed before you leave.

### **YOU WILL NEED TO BRING FOR YOURSELF**

- \*Sleeping gear, place to sleep such as tent, float or car. You can camp in the hall but you will need a stretcher bed.
- \*Meals ( breaky lunch and dinner ) for every day except Saturday Nights Dinner which will be at the Pub a short walk down the street.
- \*Plates, cups, cutlery fry pan, saucepan, tea towel etc.
- \*Wet weather gear.
- \*Clothing, toiletries, torch & personal items.

\*The Pub will be open for evening meals on Thursday and Friday nights but not for lunch if you wish to eat there.

\*There are no shops at all at Rydal !

## **ATTENDANCE**

\*If you could indicate if you think you will be attending by texting Dee on 0411275133 asap it will help with the organising.

## **RIDES**

\*Thursday & Friday there will be no official trail rides but most of us will be hopping on and heading out for a poke around.

\*Our main ride will be Saturday and Dagmar will be Trail Boss. This ride will be approximately 20ks and will involve a water crossing about knee deep and flowing fairly quickly, also bit steep and rocky in places. Morning tea and lunch on the trail.

\*Sunday's ride will be shorter and Dee will be the Trail boss. Hopefully along the Old Cob & Co Trail. (no ride fees on either days)

## **DIRECTIONS TO RYDAL SHOW GROUND**

\*Heading along Bells Line Road or the Great Western Highway through Lithgow. Heading towards Bathurst along the Great Western Highway 15ks to the turn off, Turn left into Pikes Lane and then left into Old Western Road 7ks. On to Bathurst Street, left into Market Street and Left into High Street.

\*There will be more information on meal selections etc closer to the time.

## **Sun Valley Day Ride – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

**Meet :** Sunvalley Pony Club.  
10 am Ready to ride

**Duration :** 4 hour s +.

**BYO :** Lunch and drink.

**Type :** Easy going. Possible water crossings

**Ride Co-ordinator :** Phil 0408223955.

**Ring 48 hours prior.**

**Directions :** Arriving from east (Sydney) turn right into Sunvalley road follow down to the pony club grounds.

Arriving from west (Katoomba) turn left into Sunvalley Road and follow down to pony club grounds.

## Ride Reports:

### Ride Report Sunday 21 July 2019 - Grono Track - Colo Attended by Dee, Judy, Debbie B and Debbie K

Tink got a shock when she saw me getting the bridle and saddle ready! She hadn't been out with the club for 4 months!

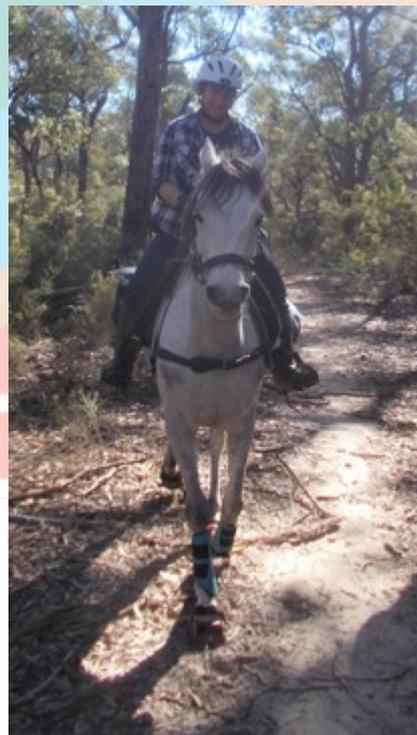
I felt a bit rusty getting my gear ready and packed, and hoped I hadn't forgotten anything, so I double checked and triple checked! And didn't forget the all important tea for afterwards.

God bless them...Debbie and Mylz came a long way across town and picked me up, and after a tea stop, and we loaded Tink onto the float. Tink was eager to get on and get going, she loves hanging out with Mylz. We arrived in good time at the Grono Track and met up with Judy and Dee. The track was easy to get to, on Wheelbarrow Ridge Road, and about 35 mins north of Kurrajong. Although 1 degree overnight at Kurrajong, it was going to be a cracker of a day weather wise.

The trail was lovely scenic, wide enough to ride two by two, quiet and shady. Was a great ride.

All the horses had plenty of energy but we kept the pace slow and relaxed. After a little while the trail got a bit more varied, with the track winding up and down hills, so we broke into a few trots and canters. It was a lovely ride, and before we knew it it was time to pick a spot to turn around and head back. Apparently the trail continued on, but got narrower and steeper. We had a nice lunch stop on the way back and got back to the car after about a 3 hr ride. So not too long a ride for my first outing in a while, but just right. A big thank you to Debbie and Mylz for giving me a lift today. I look forward to another Grono track ride again.

Debbie and Tink





## Ride Report for McMahons Road Trail August 2019

What a lovely day for a ride. I arrived at the ride base to find Phil, Dee and Leanne already there. We were all quick to saddle up, have our Pre ride chat and mount up. I was lead on Real so we set off down the road at a keen walk.

We had to pass a few noisy dogs but there were no problems. I dismounted at the gate to the trail to unlock it to let everyone through. We had a short break there and then continued along the trail and down the hill to the creek.

No problems crossing the creek, the 4 of us regrouped and then it was time for a canter up the 1<sup>st</sup> section of the big hill. We stopped at the 1<sup>st</sup> corner for a breather and then were off again. As we approached the 3<sup>rd</sup> part of the hill the horses were still keen but a bit slower.

After we got to the top of the hill, again we re grouped and then walked and chatted as the horses cooled down and got their breath back. We had a trot and canter along the top and then stopped at the roundabout for a quick drink.

As we turned for the trail home the horses were all really keen so again we had a nice controlled canter and then we walked and talked until we found the lunch spot.

We managed to find 4 trees that were not black to tie up to. The horses stood quietly as we had lunch. Phil provided a great log as out lunch seat and table.

After a long lunch and lots of talk and laughs we all re mounted and headed back towards the creek and back to the floats.

I think all riders were a little stiff when we got back but the pace of the ride, the company and relaxation was just what the doctor ordered. All the horses handled the ride really well. They were all really keen but well behaved. The riders were also well behaved.

I look forward to the next ride with such a great group as BMTHRC.

See you next time.

Judy and Real.





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Website [essentialequinehelp4hire.com.au](http://essentialequinehelp4hire.com.au)



**FARRIER**  
PATRICK BROWN  
**0416 024 047**



Newmarket Saddlery  
North Richmond