

WA HORSE TREKKERS CLUB
TREK 2010
September 13th to 24th

The 2009 trek will be held in the Wandering area, south east of Perth. In a normal season the area should have excellent wildflowers, good cereal crops and cool weather.

Distances

The trek will be approximately 320km for the horses. The start at Wandering just off the Albany Highway. The longest day for horses will be 39 km on day 3.

Trek fees

The trek fee for riders and drivers will be \$570.00. It will include horse feed (for one horse) of wheaten chaff, lucerne chaff, horse cubes and human food (for one person) for the duration of the trek.

The fee for participants without a horse will be \$500.00. The fee for members joining part of the trek for one or more days will be \$50.00 for riders and \$45.00 for non riders per day. Extra fees for insurance for non members of \$25/day for 2 days will also be applicable. Any more than two days and you'll need to become a club member.

Your non refundable deposit of \$285.00 (riders), \$250.00 (non-riders) is due by 16th July. The balance of \$285.00 (riders) or \$250.00 (non riders) must be paid or your formal withdrawal should be received by Margaret Rose by the 13th August. Forms and cheques should be sent to Margaret Rose as per address on the form.

Vehicles

The trek will be a little longer for the support vehicles as some days they will take an alternative route.

Drivers will have to be able to read maps as there are days when the vehicles and horses go different routes.

Tracks

The tracks chosen for the vehicles are generally OK.

The tracks for the horses generally follow forest tracks and roads. We cannot avoid using some bitumen roads and special care will be required. When we are using these roads, participants must stay together and be preceded and followed by a support vehicle.

Horses

Have your horses and yourself in work and used to your gear before the trek. Have them trained to lead from another horse in case this is necessary. Make sure they tie up well to anything - even shrubs. There might not be substantial trees in the area. Use quick release knots.

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Have halters on your horse at all times in the bush – day **and night**, so if it escapes it can be caught by others. Fill in any holes your horses might dig and spread manure if it's not required to be picked up.

Bring along a nosebag for your horse's lunches – this sometimes can be carried in a support vehicle or some days you will need to carry it with you on the horse. It needs to be prepared in the morning as there may not be access to feed or feed tubs at lunchtime.

As we will probably need to carry horse water, the two vehicles with the trek will tow trailers. It is not intended to have a float with the trek.

Ride qualifications

It is recommended that if you are new to doing a long trek you attend at least two of the club's weekend rides and ride all of the days with the horse you plan to bring on this trek. This will ensure you and your horse are used to the activity and give some indication of both your fitness levels and highlight any gear or feet problems that might require attending to before hand. Horses need to be able to accomplish 30 to 40kms a day at a reasonable pace and continue on each day. If you're not able to do this please contact the ride organizer well beforehand.

Medical information on forms

It is very important you complete this section on your entry forms properly. List all prescription, non prescription medications and supplements you take, allergies or other medical conditions you might have. If you wish this to be confidential enclose it in a sealed envelope on the back of your form so it could be opened in an emergency.

Refunds

The policy on any refunds of payments if you withdraw beforehand is outlined in the Club rules as follows:-

5. Where a place has been booked, and a member is unable to attend a trek, no refund shall be given. At the Executive Committee's discretion, the place may be allocated to another suitable applicant thus enabling the member to recoup the money paid.

6. If a person is unable to attend a trek and unable to transfer their booking to another applicant, then the final payment made may be credited to future treks for up to two years. Deposits paid are non-refundable and non-transferable to future treks.

7. Where an applicant withdraws from a trek after the due date of final payment of trek fee and where the final

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payment has not been made, this payment will still be due and payable on demand upon written notice from the Club.

Drinking water

We will carry drinking water. Please bring a robust 25 litre water drum.

Horse water

Depending on the season, there should be plenty of horse water on the track.

Ground sheets

Most of the camp areas will be on farm land and double Gs should not be a problem. The farmers are very particular about weeds so please ensure your gear is weed free.

Ablutions

Generally there won't be any! There is a shower at the caravan park at Wandering and Rex and Sue Smith (day 3) have offered us the use of their facilities. Otherwise, a tent for bucket washes will be put up most nights. Hot water will be available from the camp fire. There will be a camp shovel or bring along a small one of your own for toilet trips. Loo paper will be supplied.

Meals

The club will provide food. Breakfast will usually consist of cereal of one sort or another and maybe pancakes occasionally. The porridge club will live again. Lunch will be an assortment of delicious items that have a good shelf life. We are planning to have meat for most of the evening meals which will be accompanied by vegetables such as potatoes, pumpkin, dried vegetables.

Weather

Daytime temperatures should be in the low to mid 20s and night time temperatures below 10 and sometimes nearer to zero. It could be wet. Normally, however, the weather this time of year is perfect!

Horse feed

The club will provide rough cut wheaten (1.5 bags per horse) and lucerne chaff (1 bag per horse) and horse cubes (half bag per horse). You should bring your own additives. Remember, space is always at a premium.

Horse yards

You should be prepared to set up your own electric yards. There are horses on most of the properties so make sure that your units work. Tape measuring > 10mm wide is recommended.

Trail rules

Common courtesy should be used.

The trek will be run under club and ATHRA rules. Please read these documents before the ride. There will be a set time of departure from camp

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that all riders must observe. Riders must stay in front of the drag boss and behind the trail boss for that day.

Horse shoes

Your horse must be newly shod and you must have a spare set of shaped horse shoes and the right nails.

Farrier

There will be no farrier on the trek. However, several participants can tack shoes back on.

Support crew

We need two drivers and camp culinary specialist.

Risks

We will be riding through farming country. Wire should not be a problem but wire cutters are always a safety measure.

We will be traveling along roads used by grain trucks and care will be required.

Trekkers should wear covered shoes in camp when around the camp fire.

The area has York Road poison and heart leaf. These will be pointed out as they appear – be careful.

The club will provide:

Tea, coffee, milk, sugar

Salt, pepper, curry powder

Cooking Oil

Meat (subject to supply)

Vegetables for evening meals (potatoes, onions, pumpkin, peas, beans, corn, etc)

Rice

Breakfast – cereal

Lunch – shelf stable food such as tinned fish, dried fruit, biscuits, scones (on a good day), quesadillas, cheese

Plates, cutlery

Kitchen table

Tea towels

Matches

Gas stove

Camp ovens (2)

Dixies (2)

Satellite phone for emergency use only (there is mobile phone coverage in some areas)

Basic medical kit

BBQ plates & fire grate

Horse medical kit

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Radios

Horse Feed

The club will provide 1.5 bags chaff, 1 lucerne chaff and 0.5 bags cubes per horse. When we are camping on the Schillings property, do not use chaff. Andrew will provide hay. Please ensure all of your gear is weed free as the farmers are very particular about weeds on their properties.

You need to provide:

Swag and personal items (remember insect repellent, sunscreen and washing soap for clothes)

Good ground sheet

Alcohol if required

Shelf stable biscuits to your requirements to share

1 x 25l drinking water container

General camping gear including a chair

Horse and gear

Clearly mark all your gear with your name

Rubbish

Please limit the items you bring that may end up as rubbish. For example, bring a wine cask rather than bottled wine. Organic waste should be either burned or buried. Inorganic waste will be burned and put into chaff bags for disposal.

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TREK SCHEDULE

Sunday 12th September

Arrive at Wandering Tavern by midday so the trek vehicles can be packed. Park behind the tavern. Showers/toilets are available at the caravan park. Keys need to be organised with the Shire. Take meat and other perishables to Surex Park for storage.

Dinner at the Tavern – personal cost.

Day 1 - Monday 13th September – distance approx 35km.

Leave Wandering heading south, turn west along Moramocking Rd, turn east into Reid Rd, turn north to Watts Rd, turn south along Wandering Rd to Congelin. We will probably have lunch at 20km around the Dwarda Rd – Wandering Rd intersection. The road after lunch is mainly bitumen so we will need to have a vehicle at the lead and rear of the group. The Camp is at the seed cleaning facility at Congelin. Camp site TBA. Drivers to fill water tank and drums.

Dinner - BBQ

Day 2 - Tuesday 14th September 24km

We leave Congelin heading north. About 1km along the York-Williams Rd the horses turn west along the fire break. Follow fire break track to lunch 15km where it meets Codjatotine Mooterdine Rd. The vehicles can go straight to lunch. From lunch head north along CM Rd to Wooraka Pool on the Hotham River – 9km. River should be OK for horse water.

Dinner - BBQ

Day 3 – Wednesday 15th September 39km

Leave the camp heading north along Codjatotine Hastings Rd, then west along Wandering North Rd – bitumen - for 1.5km then north and then west onto Ricks Rd to lunch in the bush block, 15km. From lunch keep going west to Herdigan Rd, turn north to Youngs Rd, then east to Ulbrich Rd, then north to Ramsay Rd (Dale Park Rd), then west along Luptons Rd to Surex Park just before the Brookton Highway – 24km. We camp here. Use the free yards as directed by Rex and Susan. There may even be a shower.

Dinner - Stew

Day 4 – Thursday 16th September

Rest day or short riding day. Either a picnic at Boyagin Rock via horse or vehicle.

Dinner - roast

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Day 5 – Friday 17th September – 30km

Leave Surex Park heading north along Bartram Rd to Westdale Rd – bitumen – then along Westdale Rd for 4km, then west along Edison Mill Rd for 6km, then north along fenceline to camp at Phil Clarke's place off Dobbaderry Rd. Lunch on Edison Mill Rd.

Dinner - BBQ

Day 6 – Saturday 18th September – 23km

Leave the farm and travel via Dobbaderry Swamp – Tribune Rd - to Gunapin Ridge to camp on Schillings property. Camp near soak in paddock. Go passed soak to gate near intersection with Qualen Rd, through gate and back to soak. Carry lunch.

Vehicles travel back to Edison Mill Rd, west to Darkin Rd, north to Qualen Rd, east to the fenceline and then west to the gate at 468075/6446550.

Do not use chaff on the Schillings properties – they will provide hay.

Dinner - BBQ

Day 7 – Sunday 19th September - 38km

Leave the camp travelling west along northern boundary of Gunapin Ridge to Darkin Rd – lunch at water hole 16km - then south along Darkin Rd to Catchment Rd then to Phil Clarke's farm.

Dinner - BBQ

Day 8 – Monday 20th September 30km

Leave the camp travelling west then onto Edison Mill Rd to Darkin Rd, then south to Brookton Highway, west along Brookton Highway to Warradale Rd to front gate then west along boundary fence to camp at tank on Schillings Farm at 454375/8421520. Key to gate is on first wooden post on west fenceline to dam. Go through the gate, then back through the double gate to the dam to camp. Keep horses out of the dam.

Vehicles will travel along Metro Rd to McCallum Rd 448730/6420430 then east along that track to the dam OR to Collins Rd and passed the farm house to the dam.

Use hay provided by the farm – no chaff.

Collect meat/perishables from Surex Park.

Dinner - Stew

Day 9 – Tuesday 21st September - rest day

Dinner - roast

Day 10 – Wednesday 22nd September 27km

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Travel via track to Pikes Rd and Strange Rd and camp on Riches farm on Brookton Highway.

Dinner - BBQ

Day 11 – Thursday 23rd September – 30km
Leave farm same way as entered back to Simmons Rd and travel on fire break around Luptons. Camp on Barrett or Heartbreak Rd.

Dinner - BBQ

Day 12 – Friday 24th September
Travel back to Wandering.

Tea at the tavern.

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Contacts

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