

# Mooroolbark PONY CLUB NEWSLETTER

**NEXT RALLY SUNDAY August 12<sup>th</sup> 2012**  
**Gear Check: 9:45**

|                |                             |   |
|----------------|-----------------------------|---|
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## UPCOMING EVENTS and REMINDERS

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                                | <i>12<sup>th</sup> August</i>                 |
| <i>Yarrambat PC Horse Trials</i>                           | <i>18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> August</i> |
| <i>Seville PC Dressage Day</i>                             | <i>26<sup>th</sup> August</i>                 |
| <i>Monash PC Showjumping Day</i>                           | <i>26<sup>th</sup> August</i>                 |
| <i>Kangaroo Ground PC Dressage Day</i>                     | <i>2<sup>nd</sup> September</i>               |
| <i>C Certificate Information Night</i>                     | <i>7<sup>th</sup> September</i>               |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                                | <i>9<sup>th</sup> September</i>               |
| <i>Grade 4/5 Eventing Clinic at Lilydale PC</i>            | <i>26/27 September</i>                        |
| <i>Fundraiser – Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Nth Croydon</i> | <i>30<sup>th</sup> September</i>              |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                                | <i>14<sup>th</sup> October</i>                |
| <i>Setup for Derby</i>                                     | <i>9<sup>th</sup> November</i>                |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Derby (Saturday)</i>                     | <i>10<sup>th</sup> November</i>               |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                                | <i>11<sup>th</sup> November</i>               |

*Check the PCAV web site for entry forms, and more details on these, and other events.*

[www.ponyclubvic.org.au](http://www.ponyclubvic.org.au)

# Mooroolbark Pony Club

## Duty Roster

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2011 June            | Pepper              |                     |
| July                 | Robbins             | Wright              |
| August               |                     |                     |
| September            | Catley              | Whitfort            |
| October              | Moore               | Winter              |
| November             | Laukart             | O'Neill             |
| December             |                     |                     |
| 2012 February        | Savini              | Whitfort            |
| March                | Rally at Yarra Glen | All members to help |
| April                | Winter              | Moore               |
| May 6th              | Harper              | Wright              |
| June 10th            | Savini              | Laukart             |
| July 8th             | Pepper              | Vaughan             |
| <b>August 10th</b>   | <b>O'Neill</b>      | <b>Wright</b>       |
| <b>September 9th</b> | <b>Breen</b>        | <b>Howes</b>        |
| <b>October 14th</b>  | <b>Willand</b>      | <b>Winter</b>       |
| <b>November 11th</b> | <b>Drennan</b>      | <b>Moore</b>        |

### How Does The Duty Roster Work?

**Canteen** The duty families are to run the canteen all day, starting from 8:30 (winter) 7:30 (summer). There are instructions provided in the canteen area, and one of the canteen supervisors will be available at the start of the day to deliver food, get things going, and answer any questions. There is usually some time during the day for families to share staying inside, and being outside watching the rally, and they should roster this between themselves. It is usually "all hands on deck" just prior to and during the busy lunch period.

**Outdoors Setup** Duty families are responsible for setting up and packing up at the rally, and this means that one parent needs to be outside most of the day, starting from 8:30 (winter) 7:30 (summer). If there is more help needed during setup, the duty family should organise a call over the loud speaker for more help. There will usually be a supervisor available to provide direction (usually Jim or Roz).

**Canteen end of day** Duty families are responsible for the clean up of canteen, toilets and club rooms at the end of the day. Roster families also need to take home that day's garbage as we don't have a garbage collection at the club.

**Outdoors Packup** Duty families are responsible for organising the pack up of outdoors areas at the end of the rally day. However ALL FAMILIES are required to assist them. Stay in touch with instructors and with the DC to find out when rings can be packed up, and put announcements over the loud speaker to get other families involved if needed.

### Changes to the roster?

As we no longer have a specific person organising the roster, it is YOUR responsibility to organise a swap if needed, and to let Wendy Wright know so she can change the information in the newsletter/web site. The information that we have published above is accurate to the best of our knowledge - if you don't tell us about changes, we won't know to make the change.

#### End of day pack up

The pack up of equipment in each ring/arena is to be done by ALL FAMILIES at the rally on the day.

***If everyone pitches in, the ring pack up can be done very quickly - more hands make light work!***

## *DC's Report August 2012*

August already, wowo this year is flying! Well we have our trail ride this rally leaving from Wandin Park, I will attach the time table at the bottom of this blurb so you all know when and where you need to be.

Our grounds have really taken a beating with all this rain and in all likelihood we won't get to use the cross country until October. We have our Hickstead / Derby comp in November so we have to look after the grounds to make sure they are rideable and up to scratch for that. Once the weather improves we will be offering some extra rallies to make up for the lost time out on CC, more than likely there will be a January rally and we might try to have a CC only lesson for everyone a couple of times in between other rallies.

Congratulations to all those who have been out and about competing. Mooroolbark seems to have a representative for just about all the competitions out there, please check our "out & about" section to see how your fellow members are going, thanks to Wendy for keeping it up to date.

That's about it for me, see you all at some stage on Sunday

*Roz*

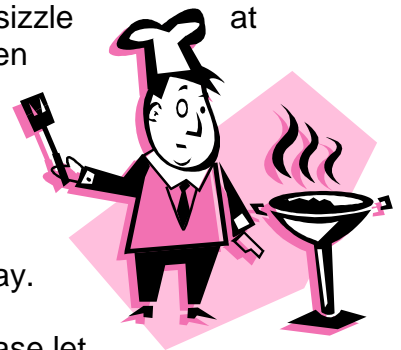
### **Pony Club Grounds**

Our grounds are still very wet ... at rally we suggest that you off-load your ponies on the driveway before parking your vehicle. Where possible, you should engage 4wd when driving onto the grassed area.

### **Fundraising**

We have been lucky enough to get a slot to run a sausage sizzle at the North Croydon Bunnings store on September 30 between 8:30 - 4. These are very popular with lots of clubs, and we missed out last year, so we want to make the most of this one! They are a great way not just to raise funds towards all those little extras that we would like, but also a great chance to raise our profile in the community.

We will need all families to pitch in to help throughout the day. A roster will be prepared soon, but if you have specific commitments that you need to work around on the day, please let Julie Howes know at rally.



### ***LESSONS WITH NICKY***

**Nicky will be running lessons at PC on August 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. She can be contacted on 0413 249 729. You MUST let her know if you plan to go.**

# August Rally Trail Ride Arrangements

For a bit of fun, and to reduce the wear & tear on our grounds, we have split the rally into two – a trail ride and lesson. The trail ride meets at and returns to Wandin Park. You will need to organise your own transport there and back, however if you need help with that, please put the word out via Facebook, and to Roz, and we'll make sure that someone can help you. Because our duty families will also need to “do travel duty” with their riders, we may need some help with setup in the morning, and will be keeping lunch (12 – 1) simple with basic canteen and sausage sizzle at the club grounds.

Two groups will meet at Wandin Park at 9:45 am for gear check, and will return to the club during lunch, whilst the other group stays at the grounds for a lesson. A swap over will happen during lunch. Normal pony club uniform (including arm band) is required when you are out on the trail. For safety purposes, we will take a log book to Wandin Park – please sign in so we know who has gone out, and make sure you include an emergency mobile phone contact number. For the afternoon group, we will use the normal rally sign in book at the grounds for this purpose – but please add in a mobile number. Park at Wandin Park just inside the entrance, on the left hand side, along the fence line under the trees.

We've included a “trail etiquette” guide in the newsletter for you to review – but if you think of other suggestions to add in, send them to Wendy Wright after rally and there will be a prize for the best idea/s.

We've only included riders who have confirmed they are coming below, so if we have missed you off our list, please let Roz know & she will slot you in. Please don't swap groups without discussing with her first.

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 9:45 am Gear check – meet at Wandin Park<br>10 – 11:30 Trail Ride (2 separate groups)<br>11:30 – 1:15 Own transport back to club grounds, and lunch | Lauren<br>Justine<br>Jackie<br>Sarah-Jane<br>Kate D        | Chloe Instructing<br>Taylah<br>Kate M<br>AmyT<br>Chelsea<br>Louisa<br>(Claudia & Brianna may have a walk / trail ride around Wandin Park TBC) |
| 9:45 am Gear check at club grounds<br>10 – 12 noon – Lessons at club grounds  | Georgia<br>Amy M<br>Gena<br>Kara<br>Lizzy<br>Allie         |   |
| 12 – 1:30 Lunch, then own transport to Wandin Park<br>1:30 – until tired! Trail Ride with Hayley Catley   | Georgia<br>Amy M<br>Lizzy<br>Allie<br>Kara                 |   |
| 1.15pm – 3.15pm (approx.) – Lessons at club grounds (Nicky & Chloe instructing)   | Jackie<br>Lauren<br>Taylah<br>Louisa<br>Claudia<br>Brianna |   |

# Pony Club Sleepover!

The Pony Club Sleepover was a great night, the girls all enjoyed lots of fun games most involving junk food so their tummies were full by the end of the night! We even had left over chocolate, chips and lollies by some miracle! This year we had a new game, celebrity heads pony club style! We each were given a horse from within the club and had to figure out which horse or pony it was, some were quite challenging! The girls had me stumped at one stage! At the end of the night we attempted to watch some movies but the TV stopped working so we



just continued our endless chatting as girls do! I think I can speak for all when I say it was great night and hopefully we all got to know each other a little better! The next day we had some delicious

pancakes. Thank you to Jackie for helping me prepare them! Then we packed up and went home, thank you to everyone who made the tidy up nice and quick!

Looking forward to seeing you all next rally!

Lauren 😊





# Our riders Out & About

*Congratulations to all our riders who have been out and about recently.*

*Not everyone can place at every event, thanks to all those of you who send in news of your wins, placings and personal bests. If your name is not here, please don't be shy just send your details to Wendy or put them in the out & about book. Let us know the type of event you entered, the date, horse you were riding, and what class you rode in. AND LOTS OF PHOTOS! For personal bests - tell us what you were particularly pleased to have done on the day!*

## State Interzone Horse Trials

**21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> July – at Yarrambat PC Grounds**

Fantastic results from Interzone on the weekend.

**Sara-Jane** and **Flyn** won the Grade 3 and **Lauren** and **Leo** won the Grade 4. Both had the best result

over all four sections for their grade. Go Mooroolbark!!

Lauren's team also won the Grade 4 section, so she was lucky enough to win a rug. Sadly for Sarah-Jane there were no individual prizes and her team placed seventh so she just missed out. NMZ was the best performed zone and so won the shield. In grade 4 they took out 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, so Jim and all the NMZ committee were very, very happy.

It was a big field with over 100 riders in each Grade, but it was very well run, and we were amazingly lucky with the weather.

Sarah-Jane and Lauren both did a super job representing our club and NMZ zone, and everyone needs to give Sarah-Jane a huge "Congratulations" as she didn't get to bring home anything more than the

satisfaction of knowing she has had a great win against the best in the State. (Julie Howes)

Two of our riders competed at Donvale on June 4th. **Sara-Jane Vaughan** and **Flynn WON** the Novice Open section - fantastic achievement. and they placed 5th in Pony Club Grade 2. Good effort as well remembering 4 different tests with no errors of course.

And wait, there's more ... **Lauren**

**Howes** and **Leo** placed 2nd in Grade 3. Leo was on his best behaviour (well, for him!).

It was a well run day, with some good prizes.

### Langwarrin PC Horse Trials - 15th July

**Jackie & Tommy** had a great day at Langwarrin, competing in Grade 3, and although they didn't place (finishing 7th overall), Jackie was happy that his dressage was ever-so-slightly improved, and the usual double clear in SJ & XC.

This event is one to remember to put on your calendar for wet weekends in winter, they are lucky to have sandy soil that drains reasonably well, so while there were a few boggy spots, their course and arenas held up well. The



XC course is an interesting one, with the grounds being sandwiched into the ever-encroaching residential development ... I went for a walk at one stage, and spotted riders' heads bobbing up and down behind suburban back yard fences as they made their way around the XC. There are some challenging jumps, but the lack of overall space means they don't seem to have any options to do higher grades on the XC (and parking was certainly a bit of fun). *(Wendy Wright)*



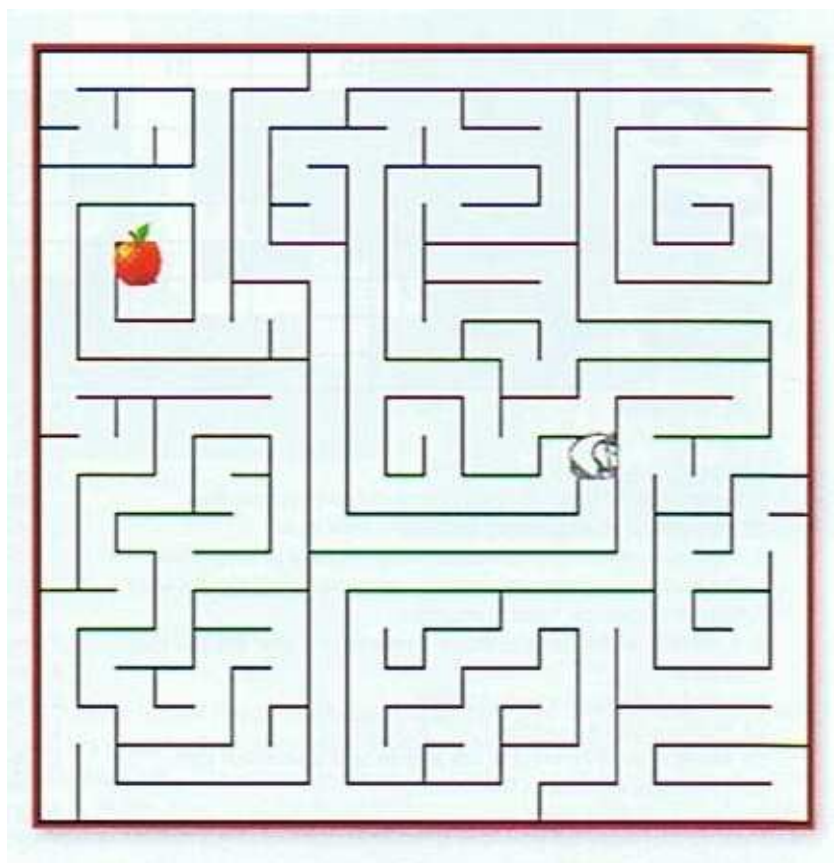
## Derby Postponed

As you all know, we were unable to run our Derby on Queens Birthday due to the slippery condition of the grounds. The new date for our Derby is SATURDAY, the 10<sup>th</sup> of November. Thankyou to all the riders who entered and everyone who had volunteered to run the day. We hope you can all make yourselves available again in November.

Because the day is booked for a Saturday (we had to take what was available), there will need to be quite a bit of set up done on the FRIDAY before. We hope than some helpers will be available during the day, but we are also planning a twilight working bee for set up of the showjumping rings.

\*\*\*Please mark both Friday 9<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November on your calendar.\*\*\*

***Help the horse  
find his apple....***





## Horse Fact Sheet

# TIPS FOR A BETTER TAIL

Certainly there are some breeds of horses that naturally have thicker tails than others, but these tips will help your horse to have the best tail it can.



DO NOT brush your horse's tail every day or every time you ride. Each time you do you will pull out some hairs. It takes around 5 years for a hair to grow to the full length of the tail. **Each one you pull out takes 5 years to replace.**

Save brushing for a special occasion, such as a competition or rally, around once a month is ideal. On the day before the event, wash and condition the tail, preferably with horse specific products. Then let it dry completely. Next spray it with a detangler or show sheen product, and run your fingers through to loosen it up. Then grab the tail with one hand near the bottom and brush out just the ends. Gradually work your way up from bottom to top, always holding firmly above the spot you are brushing. Loosely plait the tail from top to bottom, and secure with a elastic band. If

you have one, put on a tail bag.

Tail bags kept on all the time are the preferred option of showies, as they stop the hairs of the tail from catching on things around the paddock and pulling out, however, most riders don't use one every day. If everyday tailbags aren't a good option for you, it's worth taking a look around your paddock for hairs caught in branches, fences etc. You may be able to cut off a branch or bend back a wire so that it's not so "catchy".

The other common problem with tails is rubbing at the dock. When floating, always use a tail wrap or bandage around the dock so that he doesn't rub his tail on the tailgate. If your horse is rubbing his tail in the paddock, he may have pinworms, so worming is the answer. If his worming is up to date, or he continues to rub after worming, he may be being bitten by insects like gnats, and rubbing his itchy spots. Gnats are very small and hard to see and more common in summer. Try spraying him regularly with an anti bug spray.

If you are lucky enough to have a horse with a very long tail, it can be tempting to let it grow all the way to the ground. This can be counterproductive as very long tails are easily stepped on by the horse, pulling out big chunks of hair. Trim so that is above ground level.



*More fact sheets can be found on the PCAV web site in the Resources section.*





# Trail Riding Etiquette

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**General Trail Etiquette** When using rail trails, respect the rights of other users, the natural and cultural environment, and the local communities that care for trail.

## Sharing

- Keep left and do not obstruct the trail
- Cyclists: alert other users of your approach and pass on the right at a reduced speed
- Approach horses with care
- Move quietly near stock
- Park in designated areas where provided and don't block access tracks
- Leave gates as you find them
- Observe local signs and regulations

## Dogs

- Dogs are allowed on most trails but may not be allowed where there is a risk to wildlife or livestock
- Keep dogs under control at all times
- Dogs should be kept on-leash except in specified off-leash areas
- Clean up after your dog

## For your safety

- Exercise caution at road crossings; young and inexperienced riders and cyclists should dismount
- Carry plenty of water and light snacks
- Consider appropriate clothing for the conditions
- Riders, wear an approved helmet and ride in control
- When coming up behind riders or walkers, let them know you are there
- Maintain your equipment, and carry repair and first aid kits in case of emergencies
- Let someone know before you go

## Horse Riding on the trail

During our rally trail ride, your instructors will provide more detailed guidelines for the day, and to keep the group safe you may need to ride differently to how you might normally when you are on the trail.

There are some normal “etiquette” practices that are good to remember: Trail etiquette is really about good manners that help everyone stay safe.

- Stay together; horses are herd animals and don't like to be abandoned by the rest of the herd, wait until everyone is safely mounted before taking off.
- But keep safe distance between horses, tie a red ribbon in the tail of horses that kick.
- Unsettled horses are usually better if they are behind the others (& they might learn some manners!), although some horses just want to be out front!
- Slow down around cyclists and walkers: Bikes & riders can look scary to your horse, slow down, talk to your horse to reassure him, encourage cyclists to speak to you (say hello!) to help reassure your horse, let the rider know if there are more in your group ahead or behind.
- Be courteous: thank any walkers or riders for their cooperation
- If you come across other horses: the theory is that single riders “give way” to a group, but don't count on that. Slow to a walk. Allow plenty of room to go around each other.

- Unless you know the oncoming horse and rider and their abilities, it is safest to assume that the horse and rider are both inexperienced and be prepared that anything could happen as you or they go by.
- Think like a horse, especially if you are the leader of the group. If you look at objects on the trail like a prey animal (is it unfamiliar or potentially dangerous), you can help prepare yourself for anything.
- Warn those behind of holes, bad footing or other dangers.
- Consider the pace of others in the group; make sure everyone agrees before changing pace.
- Bridges: slow to a walk, consider other riders whose horses may be reluctant, provide a lead, wet bridges can be slippery.
- Leave no trace: *take only pictures, leave only footprints ...*
  - Don't cut switchbacks
  - Try not to walk through soft, wet ground. Horses' hooves are sharp and destroy vegetation.
  - Stick with the main trail, don't create new paths
  - Pick up all your trash, and take it with you





# Our Sponsors



*CONGRATULATIONS  
Mooroolbark Pony Club wishes to  
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COULD CREATE INSURANCE ISSUES. THERE ARE  
SAFETY POINTS THAT NEED TO BE CHECKED  
ANNUALLY TO ENSURE YOU ARRIVE AT YOUR  
EVENT WITH ONLY YOUR HORSES PERFORMANCE IN  
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