

# Mooroolbark PONY CLUB NEWSLETTER

**May 2012**  
**NEXT RALLY SUNDAY 6<sup>th</sup> May**

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

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                             | <i>6<sup>th</sup> May</i>          |
| <i>State Horse Trials ( good luck to Lauren Howes )</i> | <i>6<sup>th</sup> May</i>          |
| <i>Monbulk PC Show &amp; Showjumping Day</i>            | <i>20<sup>th</sup> May</i>         |
| <i>Yeringberg Teams Horse Trials (grades 2,3,4)</i>     | <i>20<sup>th</sup> May</i>         |
| <i>Nunawading Dressage &amp; Showjumping Day</i>        | <i>27<sup>th</sup> May</i>         |
| <i>Kangaroo Ground PC Games Day</i>                     | <i>2<sup>nd</sup> June</i>         |
| <i>Donvale PC Dressage Day</i>                          | <i>3<sup>rd</sup> June</i>         |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                             | <i>10<sup>th</sup> June</i>        |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Derby</i>                             | <i>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June</i> |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                             | <i>8<sup>th</sup> July</i>         |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                             | <i>12<sup>th</sup> August</i>      |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                             | <i>9<sup>th</sup> September</i>    |
| <i>Mooroolbark PC Rally</i>                             | <i>14<sup>th</sup> October</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

### FAMILIES ON 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               | Howes |
| <b>May 6th</b>       | <b>Harper</b>       | <b>Wright</b>       |       |
| <b>June 10th</b>     | <b>Savini</b>       | <b>Laukart</b>      |       |
| <b>July 8th</b>      | <b>O'Neill</b>      | <b>Wright</b>       |       |
| <b>August 10th</b>   | <b>Pepper</b>       | <b>Vaughan</b>      |       |
| <b>September 9th</b> | <b>Breen</b>        | <b>Whitfort</b>     |       |
| <b>October 14th</b>  | <b>Willand</b>      | <b>Winter</b>       |       |
| <b>November 11th</b> | <b>Howes</b>        | <b>Moore</b>        |       |

### How does the duty roster work?

These are the expectations for families on duty:

- \*\* One parent to assist in the canteen all day, starting from 8:30 (winter) 7:30 (summer)
- \*\* One parent to assist outside the canteen all day, starting from 8:30 (winter) 7:30 (summer)
- \*\* Assistance with 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

### Changes to the roster?

As we no longer have a specific person organising 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 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. This frees up the rostered families to help with the clean up duties.

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

## *DC's Report May 2012*

Hi all, well our clinic has been run with the weather being kind to us over the two days. A big thank you to everyone who pitched in and helped, we should have some figures to pass on to everyone at rally but by all accounts I think it was not only a good two days had by all but a very profitable one aswell.

Don't forget our AGM on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May at the Yarra Valley Motel, I hope to see everyone there. There is an information evening run by our zone being held at Ringwood PC at 8pm on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May which runs through all the roles of club committee positions and just a general overview of how clubs run. I have been to couple of these evenings and have found them to be very informative, they are open to anyone who would like more information about clubs, you don't have to be on any committee just have a general interest.

Our games team had a great day out, there were 6 games run and we placed 1<sup>st</sup> in two of them and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the other 4, that was a fantastic effort by the girls. Unfortunately they were eliminated in one of the races they came second in so ended up coming 7<sup>th</sup>, regardless of that it was good fun day with lots of encouragement from all the team members. Well done girls, you did the club proud.

Yeringberg Team HT is coming up and we will have 3 teams entered – WOW!!! Good luck to all our riders and if anyone who isn't competing would like to go to see how it all runs I'm sure our riders would be more than happy to have a cheer squad there.

We have been pretty lucky with the weather up to date but as winter is approaching we will have to look after our XC course, it might mean that we won't be able to use it at every rally, last year we did a trail ride starting out from Wandin Park which seemed to work well so we might look at doing that again. We have our Derby Day competition coming up in June so we won't be able to use the XC at the June rally, this is a great little comp if you aren't quite up to a full round of XC or just something a little bit different. Hopefully we will have a full house of Mooroolbark riders! Theory session will be starting again so if you could all bring your theory books to rally that would be great.

See you all at rally

*Roz*





# Games Competition

The girls from our club and 2 girls from Mt. Evelyn pony club did Mooroolbark proud in games at the state qualifiers this month! The practise before the



day of the event was somewhat haphazard with only 4 members of the actual team turning up and myself due to wanting to join in on practise. Due to Jackie taking a nasty fall off Tommy last pony club, I was asked (or perhaps heavily persuaded and cornered by team mates and parents..) to fill in

for her. Needless to say, we were not expecting too many miracles to occur! After winning the first event (bending) a new wave of confidence fell over the group and our competitive spirit kicked into gear which lead to us also winning the second event! We placed 2nd in the third event and we were on a roll! However, before the third event, one of our team mates from Mt. Evelyn realized she had put her jodhpurs on backwards (don't ask) and was going to change after the third event. We all became quite concerned because we thought maybe her backwards pants was bringing us good luck. Stepping stones were next and we once again placed 2nd! Then came the tyre

race which we were all nervous about considering the confusing rules but what do you know, we placed 2nd again!



Unfortunately, after finishing this heat we were told we were disqualified due to getting our rider order mixed up which we were quite dejected about. We pulled ourselves together for the final event with lots of encouragement and managed to steal 2nd place again. Overall we finished 7th but if not for the



disqualification may have been going to state! It was great seeing the team getting so fired up and into the event at the end of the day. Well done everyone in the team and to those who helped and we hope Jackie has a speedy recovery! :)  
Chelsea.



*Games Team Line-up ... Paige (Mt Evelyn), Jill, Sheridan (Mt Evelyn), Georgia, Chelsea, Amy, Allie*

*Editor's note: Thanks Chelsea for the fantastic write up - but more importantly, thanks for filling in for Jackie at the last minute. It was an exciting day, the look on all the girls' faces when they realised they were actually competitive was priceless (but no-one will want to pay for the looks after the disqualification!).*

### **A couple of reminders from zone ...**

When walking around the cross country course during a competition, there's been a few instances of walkers being distracted by wearing ear plugs or speaking on mobile phones. Jump judges have not been able to get their attention to let them know that a rider is coming through. Please pay attention when walking a cross country course.

#### Armbands worn at pony club are important ...

When you attend a competition, you may have a sticker put on your armband to indicate that you have passed gear check. Please make sure that the sticker is not obscuring your contact details. And after the competition, please remove any stickers so that you don't end up with lots of them all over your armband, further obscuring the important details.

**Year Badges ...** Don't forget to bring back your old year badges if you have received a new one (or are due to). If you don't then other riders may miss out on their badges.

## **LESSONS WITH NICKY**

**Nicky will be running lessons at PC on Saturday May 26 in the afternoon. These are open to anyone from our club, but you must let her know if you would like to go. She can be contacted on 0413 249 729.**



# 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!*

## **Main Ridge PC Horse Trials - 21st April**

An interesting day at Main Ridge yesterday. Kal won best dressage (17 points clear) but was eliminated at the water jump on cc, so is in disgrace. Leo was second after dressage. Extremely tense and jumpy in warm up, settled slightly but not much for his test. SJ'ed clear, but again spent a lot of time going sideways in warm up. Got round the CC with two refusals at jump 2. Something in the bushes beside the jump spooked him and he nearly landed in the jump judge's lap. Same problem when a small rider on a zoomy pony decided to overtake Lauren 2 strides out from a jump later in the course, without announcing herself (not that you can overtake a rider in approach in any case). Horse spun to look at her, and again nearly landed on poor jump judge. Small rider copped a mouthful from the jump judge and Leo completed the rest of the course without incident. I think he ended up 15<sup>th</sup>. Most expensive canteen in the known universe! Plain hamburger with lettuce in roll & make it yourself - \$6. Cup of tea \$3.50. Raffle tickets \$5 each. However good cheap cake stall???



Stunningly beautiful bush area. But cc through it very bushy, twisted and narrow, potentially dangerous to overtake in as we found out. Jumps mostly natural and inviting and footing soft and sandy. Overall an interesting day. Julie Howes



## **Tintern Interschool Horse Trials - 29th April**

We've heard a rumour that Elisha Laukart's team did well on Sunday at Tintern - looking forward to hearing more (and maybe some photos?) for next month's newsletter! - *Editor*

## *Grade 5 / Pre-5 Eventing Clinic*

**On April 28/29 the Zone ran an eventing clinic at our club grounds. These clinics are a great way for those who are new to eventing to try out in a low key environment.**

**A number of excellent instructors were on hand to guide a group of about 30 riders. On the Saturday riders were given instruction in the three disciplines of dressage, showjumping and cross country. Then on the Sunday, a cross country course was set up, and the day was run as if it were a competition, riding a dressage test, and a course of showjumping and cross country.**

**The weather was fantastic for both days, and it was fantastic to see riders develop in confidence over the two days.**

**If you missed out on this one, there is one being held in July at Eltham club (for Grade 5 / Pre-5) and Grade 4/5 in September at Lilydale PC.**

I went to the Pre-grade 5 / grade 5 clinic at Mooroolbark on the weekend of the 28th and 29<sup>th</sup> of April. This was my first clinic and I had a lot of fun. On the first day we did flat work in the dressage ring so that we could learn a dressage test for the next day. Then we did cross country, a couple of kids fell off, but Abbey and I were fine. I had to leave after this so I didn't do the show jumping, but the other people in my group all did very well.

On day two I had to do my first dressage test, Abbey did very well, then we did a cross country course, we had to walk it first and then we rode it three times. After this we did the show jumping. We learnt about A and B jumps and how long we have to start after the bell. I got a clear round and then my instructor put it up so that we could do it again. Abbey and I got another clear round. I learnt lots and met new people, I think that we all had a wonderful time.

Lizzie Brooks



# Invitation - AGM

## **Mooroolbark Pony Club Annual General Meeting Presentation of Annual Trophies**

**Friday May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
Yarra Valley Motel, 420 Maroondah Hwy,  
Lilydale**

Don't forget that Mooroolbark Pony Club is holding it's Annual General Meeting on Friday May 4 in the function room at the Yarra Valley Motel. On arrival at the meeting, we need all adult members to sign in and pay a \$2 fee.

Nomination forms for committee positions are attached, and copies will be available on the night for anyone interested in joining the committee. We will be looking for someone to fill the roles of secretary and treasurer, and some willing helpers to join in general! But no matter what job you are interested in – you will be welcomed!

This is also the evening when we hand out our annual awards.

Please bring a supper plate to share.



## **DON'T FORGET – Our AGM is being held on Friday May 4**

*At the AGM we will be seeking volunteers to join our committee for the next year. All positions are vacated are re-elected and below is a list of the different roles.*

***Please consider helping out with Mooroolbark's committee this year – you won't regret it!***

This year, the following people were on the committee,

**Jim Page – President**

**Roz Goss – DC**

**Julie Howes – Vice President**

**Steve Russell – Secretary**

**Sue Tucker – Treasurer**

**Karen Brooks – Canteen**

**Ruth Romei – Canteen**

**Wendy Wright – Website / Newsletter**

**Fiona Vaughan – General Committee**

**Lindy Whitfort – General Committee**

**Di Moore – General Committee**

**Jenelle O'Neill – General Committee**

*We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our hard-working committee for their efforts this year – there are so many things that “just happen” as a result of their skills – both at organizing and “doing”!*

Most of the current committee have indicated they are willing to put their hands up again next year (so it can't be too bad?) and for that we thank them. But of course, for some of our committee, it is time to move on.

Sue Tucker who has worked tirelessly on our committee as the Club Treasurer for 4 years will not be available to continue in this role, and we are looking for someone to take up this position. Sue and Amy will still be at the club, and Sue is very happy to help and train the new person.

Steve Russell will not be able to continue as Club Secretary, as Justine has decided not to rejoin Pony Club, so that she can concentrate on her university commitments and other interests. We will need a new Secretary – don't be afraid to put up your hand for this one, there will be plenty of advice & assistance.

Wendy Wright is happy to continue as the Website / Newsletter Coordinator for 2012, but would prefer to take up a different role if someone is interested in giving this one a go. We would like to extend an offer to anyone that is interested in learning the role. Please speak to her if you would be interested. If you are not sure, then consider joining the General Committee and helping with this role for a year to see how it goes?

## Pony Club Committee – more information

Pony Clubs are run by a committee of volunteers made up of parents and other people interested in the club. Although some roles on the committee benefit from having prior experience, you definitely don't need any prior experience to put up your hand for the majority of roles.

Our club couldn't run without an active, ongoing, committee. We are here to help our children get the most from Pony Club, and the aim is to spread the workload so that it's not a big job for a small group of people. Our committee has a fantastic mix of "old hands" and newer parents, which means that you are never on your own – there's always another member available to guide you.

To give you some idea of the types of roles that clubs have, we've outlined some of them here. Please note that some roles can be combined together for one person to do – others are shared amongst a few members. Each year the make up of the committee might be slightly different.

### Mandatory Roles

*Pony Clubs are not permitted to run without the first 5 of these roles being filled ...*

**Club President** is responsible for Chairing Meetings, and for generally promoting the aims and objectives of the Pony Club movement.

**Club Vice President** assists the President wherever possible and acts as Deputy to the President in his absence.

**Club District Commissioner (DC)** is the person responsible to the Club, Zone and Council for the running of the Club Rallies and activities.

**Club Secretary** is responsible for secretarial/administrative matters of the Club such as preparing and distributing minutes and collecting and opening mail.

**Club Treasurer** is responsible for financial matters of the Club such as receiving and banking monies, and recording financial transactions.

### **General Committee**

Most clubs also have a few people on the "general committee" – these people don't have a specific assigned role, but help out with general tasks. For instance, volunteers on the general committee might:

- Fill in for other committee members when they are away
- "Shadow" another committee member to learn their role, so they can take over the role in the future.
- Volunteer to organize particular event/s (eg a competition or fundraiser)
- Volunteer to do more general activities or organizing tasks to help out.

General committee is a great place to start if you are new to committee and need some time to learn what it is about. It is also great for those who have been on committee for a long time, and have handed over their main role to another person, but still want to stay involved and help out.

### Where to go for More Information?

- Remember, if you are considering joining our committee, you are not alone. Speak to any of our current or past committee members to get more ideas.
- The Pony Club web site ([www.ponyclubvic.org.au](http://www.ponyclubvic.org.au)) has a wealth of resources to help committees to run effectively.
- PCAV periodically run training sessions for new committee members, helping them to understand the roles and responsibilities of committees.



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