

MOOROOLBARK PONY CLUB NEWSLETTER

2014 RALLY SUNDAY April 13th 2014

*****Gear Check Time – 9.45am*****

Please be on time for our specialist instructors (as well as the usual instructors!).

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UPCOMING EVENTS and REMINDERS

Setup for eventing clinic

Eventing Clinic at Mooroolbark PC (Grade 5/Pre5)

Healesville PC Combined Training (Saturday)

PCAV State Horse Trials (Riddells Creek)

St Andrews Dressage Day

Monbulk PC Showjumping Day

Mooroolbark PC Rally

Mooroolbark PC AGM (at rally)

Yeringberg Teams Horse Trials (North Metro Zone)

9/10th April

12th April

3/4th May

4th May

4th May

11th May

11th May

18th May

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

www.ponyclubvic.org.au

Families on Duty this Month

April: Harper & Hughes

May: Wright & Howes (A&K)

DC's Report - April 2014

Don't forget to let me know if you are a YES or NO for rally, you can email me karen.brooks0@bigpond.com or text / ring the mobile 0408 558 776 or leave a message on Facebook.

Hi All,

It was great to see so many of you out completing last month at Lilydale Horse trails, Monash Combine training and Yeringberg. Well done to you all for having a go.

In May the teams go to Yeringberg, so if you are interested you need to let me know so that we can put the teams in. So all Grade 4,3, and 2 riders have a think about it.

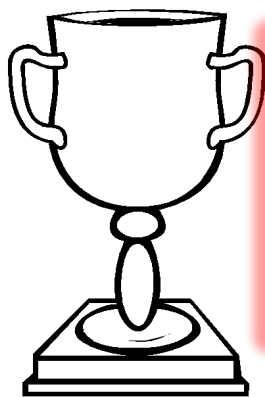
In June I have booked the Dentist, James Harvey Equine Dentistry Australia, please let me know if you would like your horse's teeth done.

This rally we have Sue Cornish giving Flat lessons and Chris Sudul for Show jumping Plus Chloe and Jill. Please let me know if you are not coming.

Also on Tuesday at 2 we have set up for the Clinic with the clinic being run on Wednesday and Thursday. Hope to see you there helping if possible.

See you Sunday.

Karen Brooks



**Don't forget to return your
perpetual trophies if you
haven't already.**

Lessons with Nicky

...

Nicky will be running lessons at Pony Club on Friday 18th & Friday 25th April in the morning. She can be contacted on 0413 249 729 – please contact her if you are interested.

MOOROOLBARK PONY CLUB

Pre 5 and Grade 5 Clinic

Wednesday 9th April and Thursday 10th April

Setup Roster

	Tues 7th April
Setup 2:00 pm	Jackie Wright ??? We need some more volunteers!

Canteen Roster

	Wed 8th April	Thurs 9th April
Parking 7.00am – 9.00am	Dianna Moore, Kate Moore	Dianna Moore, Amy Moore
Morning Shift 7.00am – 10.30am	Jenelle O'Neill, Karen Brooks, Amy Moore, Allie Brooks + Kate Moore (from 9am)	Fiona Vaughan Kat. Howes, Allie Brooks + Dianna & Amy Moore (from 9am)
Lunch Shift 10.00am – 1.30pm	Karen Brooks, Kat. Howes, Allie Brooks, Amy Moore, Kate Moore	Karen Brooks, Kat. Howes, Chelsea Winter
Afternoon Shift 1.00pm – 4.00pm	Karen Brooks/Kat Howes, Allie Brooks	Julie Howes, Kellie Smith

NOTE: Karen and Kat, when you are on together you can share this time between you however it best suits.

Briallen has offered to come and help as well, she'll come when it best suits her and Mikalo. (thanks Briallen!)

Thankyou to all the club members and families who are helping out in the canteen, this clinic is a wonderful fundraiser for us and your support is much appreciated.

If you have some spare time on either of these days your help would be more than welcome, even just 1 hour, some of these families have riders riding in the clinic and it would be great if they get time to watch their child riding.

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!

Monash PC Combined Training March 29th

On Sunday 29th of March, Lauren, Elisha, Chloe, Kate and Amy went to Monash Pony Club combined training and dressage day. This was Chloe's first event outside our club and Amy's first event on Charlie, Kate was also competing grade 3 for the first time and it was Leo's first grade 2, as well as Ollie's first competition. Kate came 4th in Dressage,

Amy (in Grade 5) placed 5th in Dressage and also 5th in the Combined Training component, Chloe went home with a 3rd in Dressage and a 6th in Combined Training (Grade 5).

Lauren had a great day with Leo placing 1st in dressage, 2nd in combined training (Grade 2) and Ollie 4th in dressage and 7th in combined training (Grade 4).

Elisha took Bucky for his first Dressage comp (Grade 4), finishing 8th - he was looking good for his first comp, showing some promisingly nice paces.

All in all it was a very successful day :)





Yeringberg (NMZ) Horse Trials April 5/6th

Three of our riders competed over the weekend (with 7 horses between them – Lauren with Kal, Leo & Ollie, Sara-Jane with Flynn & Griffen, Jackie with Tetley & Tommy) at the Zone horse trials held at Yeringberg ... it was a huge competition amongst a tough field and they all did well.

The highlight for me was our three Grade 2 riders come in from the XC one after the other having all gone double-clear – with high-fives all round.

In Grade 3 Leo's captivating dressage saw him finish 3rd.

These three girls have now qualified ALL of their grade 2 mounts to go to PCAV State Horse Trials in May ...congratulations and all the best – they certainly had a great practice run this weekend. GO MOOROOLBARK!!





Lilydale PC Horse Trials – March 23rd

Three of our riders competed at Lilydale –special congratulations to Kara & Lizzie who were competing at their first ever Horse Trials.

Kara did a lovely dressage test, and ended up 12th, though if she hadn't had a couple of refusals XC she would have won! Lizzie also did a nice test & was placing after dressage but unfortunately had a fall on the XC. It wasn't quite my day, but I still managed to get qualifiers on both horses. I'd been sick for over a week and couldn't hear out of my right ear, I got really tired and was a bit of a passenger instead of a rider! As a result of this, and all the XC hold ups because of falls (others not me!), Tommy had two stops and Tetley had one stop. However compared to the 10 or so gr2 riders who were eliminated we didn't do too badly. Just happy to get through it and get our qualies!

Jackie Wright



Hunter Schools

Hayley and Lauren jumping at the Hunt Club. Ollie thought this scary jump should be given plenty of clearance! Clever Rove shows how it should be done.

The Hunt Club is currently conducting their Hunter School Classes at Lilydale Pony Club every Saturday afternoon till the 26th April (not Easter Sat) from 2 -4pm. The cost is \$35 and instructor quality is generally good, however group size varies and is quite unpredictable, anything from 5 which is very good to 10 which can be too many. Also the groups are not graded for ability, so you can be lucky or unlucky there too.

Still, it's a chance to train on another XC course for a reasonable price.

Generally there is a bit of warm up and schooling over cavalettis or some show jumps, then out to the XC for the rest of the afternoon.

They provide yummy afternoon tea at the end of the day as a bonus, and the organisers are very friendly.

There's information on their web site, or talk to Lauren or Hayley, Deb or Julie if you'd like to know more.



A XC lesson at Wyena PC

A couple of weeks ago, on a Sunday morning, Hayley & Jackie headed over to Wyena's cross country grounds for schooling (thanks for being available for them Nicky!). Wyena allow riders to use their grounds (\$25 each) by prior arrangement & with an accompanying instructor (see their web site). They and their horses enjoyed the chance to test themselves out on a different course (although Jackie learnt she needs to ask ahead of time whether they have water in their water jump!).

Keep an eye on facebook –there's always someone wanting to join up to share a lesson – and don't worry if you're not riding at exactly the same level – Nicky is an expert at helping each rider achieve their own goals and most of the differently graded jumps are side-by-side.

BITS AND PIECES



THANKYOU

Fantastic job by all those who helped with Yeringberg Horse Trials ... we had a number of families helping at the working bee, the SJ setup on Saturday and the XC jump judging on Sunday.

The event was a huge one (the first year that grade 4 has been included) and relies so much on the cooperation of all clubs in the zone, as well as ours.

Happy birthday to us ...

Mooroolbark Pony Club has been at our current location in Hull Road for 30 years in July 2014

Not that they need an excuse – but what a great reason for our junior committee to think about ways to celebrate – so put your thinking caps on.

Maybe the jc can run another freshmans jump training day???

Teams Horse Trials at Yeringberg ...

Get your names in to Karen asap if you are interested in competing at this event.

It's a team event – so each club . can enter as many teams as they like (comprised of a max of 4 riders, 1x grade 2, 1 x grade 3, 2 x grade 4) to compete against other clubs in our zone.

Mooroolbark has usually been able to field a few teams at this event - some have done well and all have had fun.

If we are not able to put everyone in a team, we can approach other clubs to see if they wish to create composite teams.

Entries must be signed by the DC and close 5th May (before our next rally).

RALLY GALLERY

This is your opportunity to contribute monthly to Mooroolbark Pony Club's newsletter. It would be wonderful if all our members could see what goes on at our rallies. When you're with the same group each month you often have no idea what others are up to.

It's easy to contribute, here's what to do:

STEP 1: Make sure you get photos of your day at rally

STEP 2: Choose one or two photos that you would like to have published, remember space will be limited.

STEP 3: You may choose to add a caption or words to your photos

STEP 4: Email your photos to Dianna Moore (s.dl.moore@bigpond.com)

HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED LAST RALLY

Tessa brought Louis to his second ridden rally and he is proving to be quite the jumper.



Lauren had Ollie performing well above his experience, doing a controlled round at grade 5 level. Watch this space two experienced riders bringing along beautiful mounts!!!



Nice to see some new faces and families at Mooroolbark Pony Club, welcome to Tegan and Phoebe.



Games training is great for exposing your horse to new and unusual things. It is also excellent for developing balance and co-ordination as a rider. If Tommy can do it, everyone can do it. Well done Jackie!



Welcome 'Bucky', Elisha's new mount, to Mooroolbark Pony Club. As a young fella, Elisha has brought him along nicely, establishing 3 nice paces, still too young to jump.



Horse fact sheets – Lunging Notes & Info

Lunging is a method for exercising and training a horse without a rider on his back. The horse is controlled by the person doing the lunging, so we also use lunging for teaching riders; the person on the ground controls the horse's speed and direction, and the rider can focus on him/herself. Pony Club rules are that lunging must take place in a confined area. Please ask your DC for permission before lunging. These notes are for general information only – we recommend that an inexperienced person be supervised when lunging. And remember that the rules of some competitions forbid lunging.

REASONS FOR LUNGEING

Reasons for lunging are:

- when training the young horse it teaches obedience to the aids including voice, rein and whip.
- when training the young horse, and done correctly, it improves balance before the horse is ridden.
- retraining a spoilt horse.
- exercising a horse that cannot be ridden.
- when training the rider, by using suitable exercises lunging can improve the seat and balance.
- observing the horses movements or behaviours from the ground.
- bringing a horse into work that does not have reasonable muscle tone/topline to carry a saddle/rider.

The purpose of lunging is not:

- to wear out a horse before riding. This will not benefit the horse's education and will only make it fitter.

AREA TO WORK IN

Ideally, the lunging area should be a circular yard with radius of 7.5 m to 10 metres. It should be enclosed by a strong fence with nothing protruding on the inside. The working surface should be even and non-slippery.

If a round yard is not available, any small rectangular yard will do provided it is safe and has a good surface to work on. It is safer to have no fence at all, rather than one made of rope or rails which a horse could run through or become entangled in. It would be safer to 'make do' with the corner of the paddock under those circumstances.

Size of the circle - The horse should be lunged on a circle size appropriate to its level of education and physical development. The average minimum size of circle that any horse can physically perform is 6 to 8 metres. If the horse's nose is to the inside of its chest then the circle is too small.

Try to make the work on the lunge interesting. If you are bored, chances are so too is your horse. Vary the size of the circle, spending equal time on bringing the horse in as letting it out. Always spend equal amounts of time on each rein. Vary the rein that you begin lunging from.

The horse can be made to work on some straight lines whilst lunging - to the effect that it can be lunged on squares. This is made possible by the lunger stepping or jogging some strides to move the horse forwards and straight. Including some straight lines will lessen the strain on the horses legs caused by too much turning (especially the inside legs) and will encourage contact into the outside rein.

HOW TO LUNGE

The person lunging should stand with a balanced and relaxed stance – similar to the position in the saddle – i.e., good posture, feet apart, hands in front of the body with supple elbows and wrists. It is important to concentrate solely on the horse and how he is responding.

The person lunging should aim to stand in the center of the circle with the horse working actively on command, but during training the handler may need to move towards, and with, the horse to insist on obedience either to send the horse on, or to shorten the rein if the horse is tending to hurry. Try to remain in the centre of the circle and not move about with the horse. By doing so you will become aware of the horse falling in or out on the circle.

Vary the paces with frequent transitions within and between paces (including usage of the halt). If the horse is going too fast it should not be pulled onto a tight circle as injury may result. The handler must have complete control of the rein at all times. The lunge rein must always be taut and untwisted,



maintaining a light contact between the handler and the horse's nose. It should never be on the ground!

Any adjustment to the reins should be made from hand to horse so the loops do not get tangled. The whip should be used as an aid not a punishment; it can control the forward movement of the horse, and it can help keep him "out" on the circle by pointing towards his shoulder or ribcage. As a forward driving aid use the whip in a flicking movement. It should never be dropped as it can be tripped over. The whip should be carried under the arm, with the butt forward and the lash held, not dragging when approaching the horse after it has halted. It should be held upright in the hand when leading.

USE OF THE VOICE (very important)

The words used must be distinct with varying tones so the horse understands what is expected of him – sharper to go faster and slower for steady. The commands should be accompanied by a distinct movement of the whip. In the case of a young horse or a horse learning to lunge it may be necessary to repeat the command several times before the horse responds. Be careful to use only a few words and to use the same one under the same conditions to avoid confusion. Begin with a warm up, without side reins. Start with the horse's most supple side – usually the left. Take the reins in the hand of the direction you are travelling – i.e., on the left rein use the left hand. Take the whip in the opposite hand. Ask the horse to walk on, using the whip towards his shoulder to send him out onto the circle. Insist that the horse walk until asked to trot, and so on.

Always make the horse walk at the beginning and end of every lunging session. Too many horses will stop and turn in as soon as they walk as they anticipate halting. To finish it is preferable to halt the horse on the circle and make him stand whilst the slack in the lunge rein is retrieved. If, however, the horse has been taught to come to the handler, this will be acceptable, as long as the handler has control of the rein and it does not end up on the ground. Remove the side reins and allow him to stretch. If he is not to be ridden, a couple of circles of trot allowing the horse to relax his back and neck muscles and cool down is a good idea. Never lead a horse in side reins. It is advisable not to lead the horse with the lunge rein. Use a normal lead rope to lead him to and from the lunging area.

Source: <http://www.ponyclub.asn.au/files/documents/coaches/lungeing.pdf>

MOOROOLBARK PONY CLUB

FAMILIES ON DUTY - ROSTER

<i>April 13th</i>	Harper	Hughes
<i>May 11th</i>	Wright	Howes (A&K)
<i>June 8th</i>	Winter	Smith
<i>July 13th</i>	Willand	Laukart
<i>August 10th</i>	Moore	Savini
<i>September 14th</i>	Black	Hughes
<i>October 12th</i>	Wright	Howes (A&K)
<i>November 9th</i>	Winter	Willand
<i>December</i>	Christmas Rally	Duty TBA

How does the duty roster work?

These are the expectations for families on duty:

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 Karen).

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 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.

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

Our Sponsors



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We thank Sibelco (quarry) for their past and continued ongoing support of Mooroolbark Pony Club



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