



# HURSTBRIDGE DISTRICT ADULT RIDING CLUB

## Newsletter July 2015

### FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

School holidays are over and I was sad to see my stable-hand go back to school, and right when the deluge started. I'm not complaining about the rain, particularly given the predicted dry spring but why do horses think it is fun to try to make you slip in the mud when you feed them.

Although I haven't been riding at the moment, I now have two pretty ponies that will be ready to ride soon and I'm looking forward to getting back into the swing of things, although I change my mind on an almost daily basis as to which one I will choose, love the mini WB's movement and breeding but love the chestnut's personality (even though I don't like chestnuts). I've been quite envious of all the fun people look to have been having even in the rain.

On that note I'd like to take a moment to thank three very special categories of members :

- Those who unfailingly go over and above what is required of them as members. There are a number of members who cheerfully give their time at a number of events, continually encourage and support other members and support the club in a number of additional ways. Please know that your contributions are very valued.
- Those members that commit to organising an event; it is not easy but there is a lot of laughs (and probably a few drinks) had along the way. We would not be as strong a club without the goodwill and money these events generate.
- Those members who are members of multiple clubs yet choose to ride in the HDARC colours. This really demonstrates the strength and camaraderie of 'Hursty' membership.

Thanks.

I would like to remind members that they can contact me directly to discuss any grievances they have. Those who have raised concerns with me know that I will always listen and try to find an answer.

There will always be float-side chitchat about committee decisions, but please do voice your concerns with myself or one of our other committee members so that we can do our best to represent you and improve the membership experience.

I'm looking forward to catching up with members at the Xmas in July dinner, should be a welcome chance to wash the mud off!

### IMPORTANT DATES

1st Aug HDARC rally

2nd Aug HHPC rally

15th Aug HDARC Rally

23rd August HDARC SJ Day

5th Sep HDARC Rally

6th Sep HHPC rally

19th Sep HDARC Rally

20th Sep HHPC CT day

9th October CLC Inter-schools dressage day

18th October— HDARC dressage day

13th—15th November—trail riding  
Flowedale

**HDARC SJ DAY**  
**August 23rd**



**Committee Contacts & Uniforms..please see website—**  
[www.hdarc.org.au](http://www.hdarc.org.au)

## COMMITTEE REPORT

The long awaited sand is now down on the top arena with a huge thanks to Kerri Unwin and her partner Justin for arranging delivery and spreading the sand and for giving us a very good deal. Thanks also to Lisa Linton's husband for helping with the logistics of getting a heavy truck in. Having the support of members and their families is a very valuable asset and we are very thankful for everyone that helps in many different ways throughout the year.

The committee is continuing to try to improve the way things are organised to make membership as enjoyable as possible. Some things we have been discussing and are planning to implement are:

- Replacing the gate and clubhouse keys. Over the years the key register has become a bit too unworkable so, having discussed and sought PC consent, we will be replacing the padlocks and maintaining the key register within the committee. The effect of this will be that members seeking keys will be able to arrange this with a committee member, giving members more options to collect a key and the club will have a readily accountable register of who has access to the grounds. We will make times available to swap keys over, including at rally days, once the process commences and there should be very little disruption to members. We will let you know well in advance when the changeover occurs.
- Member Hours. A source of much angst for members and committee; no-one likes to feel their contributions aren't valued and no-one likes to 'enforce' a requirement of membership. There is always scuttlebutt and griping surrounding this topic, so to try to make things easier, the committee as a whole will be responsible for recording member's commitments. We have developed a handy spreadsheet and will spend time each committee meeting updating the register. Organisers of volunteers at events will still provide their records to committee, however if you have completed some time, please send an email to Kim or Sharlene and we will update the register at the next meeting. Members with a query can contact any committee member making the whole process more accessible and spreading the burden amongst committee members.
- Member Hours. Still trying to make this easier to manage, we are looking to implement a system next membership year where members nominate what event or area they would like to help at, so that there is certainty for members and also support for those members that handle the large task of arranging the helper rosters at events. One of the ways this could work is that, after seeking feedback from event organisers, we determine where the hours are required, for example it may be that we need 20 helpers for a Working Bee, 20 at a Dressage Day, SJ and Show and a minimum number for TTT. We could allocate 4 or 5 of a members hours to these events, leaving aside some for additional assistance. Of course no system is perfect and thankfully there will always be a good number of members who pitch in regardless of how many hours they are doing but we are trying to accommodate those members who find it difficult to meet the commitment yet still want to remain as members as well as evening the spread of help.
- New roles for next year. Looking to next year, please give thought to taking on the task of Saturday rally organiser and website maintenance. We are also considering the possibility of having a sponsorship officer who could arrange donations for the club's calendar of events if there is a member with good marketing and PR skills who would like to do this. If there are other ways you think you could help the club, please let us know.

As always, please do feel free to let a committee member know if you have anything you would like raised.

## OUT AND ABOUT

### TTT HT

Kelly Rechichi and Darwin Park Smash Hit - 3rd - Level 4

In a short term span of five months, with a new young horse, and with the help of Louise Barry and Bruce Hughen my aim was to compete at TTT HT. I did consider whether to scratch or not but in the end took him and was thrilled with his laid back attitude but also to have placed 3rd in our section. Sitting 6th after dressage and clearing xc we had one rail down in showjumping, but it still brought us up to 3rd. If we didn't have the rail down he would have played 2nd.

Kelly

## Showjumping Day - August 23<sup>rd</sup>

As most of you would be aware we are running a showjumping day on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August. We hope to see members competing even if it is your first showjumping round what better place to do it then on your home ground with lots of supporting members to help you through the day. Entries are through Event Secretary online so please get your entries in! You will also have seen an email or facebook message go out asking for a donation to the raffle please dig deep it doesn't have to be just horsy stuff my favourite is a bottle of wine or chocolates but all will be greatly appreciated. Gel has organized the rostering for the weekend but please feel free to come down and lend a hand. One thing left to do pray for good weather!



## Saturday Rally News

Hi Guys,  
Our Schedule for the rest of Winter 2015 will be:  
**August:**  
Saturday 6      Carly Reid:      Young Horse + Flat  
                         Viv Axton:      Flat  
Saturday 20      TBC:                      Jumping  
                         Dale Muire:      Flat  
During the winter months rallies will commence at 10.00 am.  
Thanks very much to the Saturday riders for supporting the new Young Horse/Inexperienced Combination classes – and we look forward to seeing you all over the winter months.

## Competing at a Top Team Trophies Event



### How to qualify

It is simple to qualify for TTT, please be aware we have a number of HRCVA assessors as members of our club so if you need to be assessed it can easily be arranged.

1. Get graded by a Level Assessor within 3 months prior to the TTT event or:
2. Go to 3 competitions in the year preceding the discipline that you wish to compete at and get 1 stamp from each of the hosting clubs onto a log paper. These can be downloaded from the HRCVA website.

TTT competitions run like any other competition in that you will be competing against 20 or so people all graded at the same level as you. There will be numerous sections of the one level but you will only compete against the people in your section.

### How to enter

Fill out an individual entry form which you can download from the HRCVA website and email it to me at [cocoandissey@gmail.com](mailto:cocoandissey@gmail.com) or via mail PO Box 74 Pheasant Creek 3757.

As the TTT coordinator I collate the teams and send off the team entries.

### Helpers

**This year I have received a lot of interest from members to help at the TTT events which is great. At the moment I have a list I am working through. You do not need any experience to be a helper it includes jobs such as setting up, crash crews, tie keepers ect. Every team that enters TTT is required to supply a helper.**

TTT has always been a very social event with Hurstbridge members. TTT is about being a part of the team, I have had people tell me they are not going to enter because they feel they will let the team down. This is not the case, without you entering we do not have a team to begin with.

If it your first time out competing or your getting back into competing these events are fun with so much support and encouragement from other members not only from Hurstbridge but from other clubs too. It doesn't matter if your level 1 or level 5, it's all about having fun. So please come and join in the fun that is TTT.

The upcoming TTT Showjumping is being held at Bulla Adult Riding Club in Greenvale on the 5th and 6th of September. There is still time to enter, entries close on the 12th of August 2015.

The TTT Navigational ride is being held on the 4th of October in Shepparton entries are open, to enter this you need to arrange your own partner however teams still consist of 4 members.

The TTT Dressage is on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of November which is being held at Sale.

If you have any queries about TTT events please feel free to send me an email, chat to me at club or I can be contacted on 0413 311 025.

Happy Riding,  
Louise,  
TTT Coordinator

# TRAIL RIDING WEEKEND IN THE FLOWERDALE VALLEY

Friday (pm) 13th – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2015

Based at 'Kinlochiel', 320 Moores Rd. Flowerdale  
(over the King Parrot Creek, behind the Flowerdale Hotel)

This club weekend provides a relaxed few days of magnificent trail riding in the beautiful countryside around Flowerdale; from bush tracks to spectacular grassy hilltops with stunning valley views. Our hosts are Deb and Alan Schulz; Alan (with decades of experience) will escort the rides on the Saturday and Sunday (from 2-4 hours) ensuring diverse riding and an enjoyable time for all.

Horses need to be reasonably fit and used to riding out in a group (these are walk/trot rides with the occasional opportunity for a quiet canter for those who would like to).

The terrain, once up on the dramatic (but not precarious) hilltop ridgeline of 'The Three Sisters' is naturally elevated and exposed which ensures some spectacular vistas. However, should anyone be inclined to suffer from vertigo, it would be wise to discuss this with me prior to the weekend to ensure everyone's comfort, safety and enjoyment on the day.

Accommodation is in a very comfortable but basic bunkhouse with mattresses, bottom sheet, pillow and case and spare blanket provided. It is recommended that people provide their own sleeping bag or doona as desired, towel and of course all other personal items.

There are shared bathroom facilities with hot showers and toilets.

The cost per person, per night is \$35.00.

Friday dinner, Saturday/Sunday breakfast, lunch and other snacks will need to be arranged/shared between the group, but dinner on the Saturday night is enjoyed at the Flowerdale Hotel just two minutes away back over the bridge (this can also be an option for Friday night).

These details will be worked out closer to the weekend once numbers are finalised.

**(For the weekend to proceed, a minimum of 10 riders is required).**

Yarding/some paddocks are available for the horses at no extra cost, but everyone must BYO feed. Depending on the number and temperaments of horses, some portable yards may be necessary. Yarding together horses that are familiar with one another is helpful to maximise the use of space.

For members unable to make the whole weekend, it is possible to come just for a night and ride on one of the days. Also, non-riding members (and partners) are welcome to join in the social aspects of the weekend. There are plenty of nice, non-riding activities to be enjoyed locally.

**PAYMENT REQUIRED WITH BOOKING: RSVP by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October (at the latest)**

**Directions to the property (mud map) can be made available to those who require it.**

All enquiries and bookings to Cath Giles 0417 307 843 or [cathygiles@bigpond.com](mailto:cathygiles@bigpond.com)

Please send the booking slip with a **cheque made out to D. Schulz** to:  
Cath Giles, 265 Flat Rock Rd. HURSTBRIDGE 3099.

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Name/s:

Contact Details: (Email)

(Mob)

I wish to book \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) for the whole Flowerdale weekend (2 nts) @ \$70.00pp = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR “ “ “ \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) for one night's accommodation @ \$35.00pp = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR I am planning to join the group just for the ride on the SATURDAY / SUNDAY (please circle)

Thank you to our generous HDARC Pre WW Show Sponsors

FLETCHERS



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## An update on one of our sponsors and members—Jenna Kelley

### CFA member takes home title

AS part of Public Sector Week which was held 22 – 26 June, the ‘Faces of our Public Sector’ campaign, aimed to recognise and celebrate exemplary employees and volunteers within the Victorian public sector.

Anyone who has made a significant contribution to the Victorian community, at any level in the public sector as an employee or a volunteer could be nominated to be included in the Faces of our Public Sector campaign.

Jenna Kelley who is a CFA volunteer for over ten years took home the title. Jenna is the founder of the **Walking Forward Disaster Relief Team (WFDRT)**. Her team assist equine and pet owners in need prior to predicted “bad” days and in times of need provides services such as but not limited to:

- Equine and human accommodation
- Transportation of goods and animals
- First aid/veterinary supplies
- Food / feed donations (human and animal)
- Animal and fauna rescue
- Free psychological first aid, aiding individuals and communities with stronger resilience & recovery before, during & after a disaster.



Further to her great work with WFDRT Jenna also received the National Emergency Medal for her work during the 2009 Vic Fires.

Jenna was presented the certificate and the \$500 voucher this afternoon at Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) by Phil Harbutt Acting Executive Director Performance and Strategy from CFA, Tony Murphy, Deputy Commissioner from EMV and Rachel Cooper CEO from IPAA.

Emergency Management Victoria Deputy Commissioner, Tony Murphy, said “Jenna epitomises the vision of Victorian emergency management to build safer and more resilient communities.”

“I commend Jenna for her work and passion. We are proud to have her as part of the Victorian emergency management sector and the wider public service.”

After receiving her award Jenna said “I am so overwhelmed to be the first person awarded IPAA’s Face of the Public Sector Award. It’s an absolute honour to be recognised for the passion and effort I put in to my roles with the CFA, Red Cross and the WFDRT. I love working with the community and it’s so rewarding and very humbling to be helping animals of all sizes and supporting the community when they’re vulnerable while in an emergency situation. I can’t get the smile off my face I feel so proud today. Thank you IPAA Victoria.”

Congratulations Jenna