**April 2020 Newsletter**

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 President Julie Jackson 0419850793 Vice President Tamara Godfrey 0417869695

 Treasurer Lisa Rothe 0478014828 Secretary Kath McCullagh 08 82807046

 Publicity Officer/Newsletter Maria Pearce 0412195531

**GENERAL MEETING 8pm**  **Thursday 2nd April 2020**

**Further details regarding this meeting will be advised nearer the date.**

**MEMBERS FOR 2020**

***Welcome Back to Re-joining and New Members***

Sandra Jones from Leasingham; Veronica Kenny from Mannum; Jeannine Skene from Point Pass,

Marjolein Lloyd from Two Wells; Lisa Rothe from MacDonald Park and

Fiona Camac-Lambert from Woodside

 ***& we hope you all continue to enjoy many days of riding (& socialising) with the club***

**MARCH MEETING**

* Push to finalise the Ride Calendar - Committee to contact members direct to fill calendar.
* In certain cases, Committee to send thank you to venues that allow us to use their property for our rides. Also to send a copy of the newsletter with the particular ride & in certain cases a small gift.

**COMING EVENTS**

Regretfully due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) issues, the Gawler Trail Horse Riders Club has had to curb the future activities for the time being. Great club rides have been cancelled due to responsible Social Distancing Guidelines set out by the Government recommendations. However, these rides may be available later this year.

Changes in the way we live and plan for the club events will possibly change daily as advised by Govt Authorities (the Committee will advise members of updated information relating to rides and meeting activities via email and Members only Facebook).

The following is the link to the Coronavirus - Government Information site from trustworthy sources. [https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=10585&d=27P43s-t08sZ5P1TP_mOVwp9VSynZpa__4QQaFjQAg&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2ehealth%2egov%2eau%2fresources%2fcollections%2fnovel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources)

*Individuals need to consider whether outings and travel, are sensible and necessary.*

**March Camp Ride – Mount Pleasant area - to be resheduled**

At the time of writing this newsletter – the Camp/Day ride in its original format has been cancelled. However, Julie Jackson (President) has advised that she is willing to continue with both Saturday and Sunday riding at the Mt Crawford forest. She will host and be responsible as the Trail Boss. These rides are offered to Members only.

Saturday ride will commence around 1pm and the Sunday ride will commence at 10am - please be there an hour before in order to leave at these times. Pre- ride briefing will take place ¼ before leaving without your horse.

The rides will be approx. 2-3 hours duration and rides are official; you will be asked to sign in the book and pay a fee of $2 /ride or $2 for both rides, plus you will need to arrange prior, a forest fee $5/day or permit. Go on line and arrange this prior to the day of riding.

[https://www.forestrysa.com.au/horse-riding/](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=10585&d=odr63hhDo-otFU-Wqu_LM0WeJBAKvYsLm-bSlvUPpQ&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2eforestrysa%2ecom%2eau%2fhorse-riding%2f) (to purchase a day horse riding permit ) Phone contact Forestry SA is 08 8391 8800 Mt Crawford Forest Info – 745 Warren Road Williamstown SA 5351

The riding is suitable for seasoned barefoot horses. PLEASE ENSURE ALL HAY AND MANURE IS CLEANED UP PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FROM THE SITE OF PARKING.

Bring along your usual food and beverages to socialise before and after the ride/s – but a safe social distance will need to be followed.

If you have any queries – contact via gawler.thrc@gmail.com or contact Julie Jackson on 0419 850 793

Further reassessment of Govt recommendations/changes with regard to having these rides and ride directions
will be advised to those who RSVP to both or either rides.

**April Ride – Cockatoo Valley (Obstacle Training day) & BBQ – to be resheduled**



Host – Dianne Schaefer : 0439619938 :Trail Boss – Sandra East : 0400884402

Arrive 9am for 9.30 a.m start (pre ride meet 9.15 a.m. no horse)
RSVP your intention to attend to: gawler.thrc@gmail.com

At the time of writing Di is happy for members to come to her event day but that this may change due to Government requirements and recommendations. Should the event be cancelled notification will be sent via email and Facebook.

**Fun Filled Training/Obstacle Day** for horse & riders.

Expose you & your horse to items & experiences that will help you to remain calm and in control when you come across unexpected situations on the trail. This day is designed to have a fantastic, casual, safe time, either mounted or unmounted.

* Possible Experiences: 9 - 10am with assistance provided (flexible). If members do not wish to have assistance these obstacles may be negotiated any time.

Motor Bike/s, Umbrellas, Flags, Pink Pig, Bag of cans, Blue tarp, Noodles, Streamers, Truck tyres, Big Ball, Leading a horse mounted and other interesting ideas members may suggest. (prior to the day).

* Dressage Test: 10 - 11am. (flexible).

An (incorruptible) Guest Dressage Judge will be available to help, assist, and judge the attached dressage test. Please nominate if you would like to do this test, as we intend to have a time schedule on the day.

* Western Pleasure Trail Class: 11 - 12am (flexible).

Due to current circumstances, we have been given the opportunity to have a very well respected Western Trail Rider come along and assist members in doing a Trail Class. A copy attached, which may be changed to suit on the day.

* ATHRA Trail Ride Challenge: 12 -1pm timed challenge. If members do not wish to have assistance with this course, it may be done at any time during the morning.

The ATHRA Trail Ride Challenge can be a great tool for club members to have fun whilst improving rider skills for accreditation, and ultimately have ‘up skilled’ ride officials. A copy enclosed. <http://www.athra.com.au/forms/trail-ride-challenge-1/399-ims-gu-001-trail-ride-challenge-v20151010.htm>

* Show Jumping: Members may negotiate this course at any time.

Cavalettis and a small show jumping course will be set up.

* Cross Country Course: Members may negotiate this course at any time.

There are numerous cross-country jumps, logs, creek crossings, kangaroos and natural obstacles throughout the property.

Sausage Sizzle: 1pm

Provided by the club. Members to bring along a salad/sweet to share. Please notify Sandra East prior the day regarding catering to avoid double up.

**All members are welcome to come along on the day, with or without horses.**

Help to set up on the 18th. would be most appreciated – ring Dianne to confirm time.

**Directions:** Provided to those that RSVP (need numbers for catering also) – RSVP ASAP but no later than 15/4

Cost : $2 Ride fee. Please bring the correct change & place in tin at sign on book.

**I AM STILL MESSING AROUND WITH THIS ISSUE BELOW THAT DI SENT TO ME TO AD IN**







**PAST EVENTS**

**March Ride : Truro Gorge Trail/Camp – Sat 14 & Sun 15 2020**

**By Julie Jackson**

At a meeting one night the members said that they would love to go back to Truro “in a flash” for another ride.

So the journey began with phone calls to Nat Bennison who lives in the town and of course the owners Mick and Tik all were happy to have us and a date was decided. Peter Hopewell from the Riverland club heard about it too and as he joined us last year was also eager to come again. The weather was a bit kinder this year still a bit windy but I think that may just be Truro. On Saturday we had 8 riders. Kathy, Tamara, Sandy, Peter, Tracey, Ruth, Sandra and myself. Upon arrival I settled my horse Billy, the terrible, and went up to the house and was greeted by Tik with a large plate of spring rolls as a welcome treat and appetiser for later in the day.

We headed out for our ride and did 8.21 kms in 1 hour 46 mins per my app Endomondo. We stopped frequently and admired the scenery, the magnificent rock formations of the land and the gorge. The sheep did not like us too much and raced away so we halted the ride and returned back to camp. I knew they were all in lamb and did not want to cause any trouble. On the way back Billy was a pain as I knew he would be, ex galloper and all that, so I dismounted and led him back. There was a little water about this year but not like last year however we came later in the season too. I was disappointed not to go out on Sunday but I had decided that well before the ride as I know what Billy is like and did not want to spoil the ride for the others.

On Saturday evening Tik, Mick and the children delivered our tea. What a feast of magnificent Thai food. Nat and David, John, Darren, William, Maria and Chris joined us and all were very impressed with their choice of meals.

Sandra left us after the ride on Saturday so missed out.

On Sunday Lisa James, Gayle and Maria joined the ride. Unfortunately Tamara’s horse Barry was lame and did not go out Sunday lucky that I decided to not go riding too so we stayed back and guarded the camp, talked, ate, drank tea and coffee and baby sat the children and fed them chips and milk. I believe the members had a great ride and were all smiles when they returned.

Many thanks to Mick for meeting them at the top of the cutting and showing them the way to the second gorge that we could not find last year.

We greatly appreciate the hospitality of Mick and his wife Tik and I hope to hear the words next year “I could go back in a flash”.

**by Gayle Bates**

I arrived at Truro on the Sunday, and all riders were saddled by 9.30 - Kath, Peter from Riverland Trail Club, Kathy, Sandy, Jones, Lisa James-Wake, Ruth, Maria, Tracy and myself. We had a 3 hour ride across acres of undulating land, couple of gorges, it was very dry, like most of our state, but did not detract from the beauty of our country. We had some very rocky descents and ascents, all horses and riders coped well, though a pedicure wouldn't go astray. A big thankyou again to the owners of the property, we had a safe and thoroughly enjoyable ride.

**by Tracy Day**

What an incredible weekend.

Many thanks to the property owners, Julie, Kath and the other organisers for the perfect weekend.

Saturdays ride gave us a feel for the property. It was a bit windy but nowhere near as bad as it could have been. After to heading out to the gorge we made it back to camp site to settle in for the night.

It was so nice to wake up Sunday morning and find the wind had died down a little and made for a pleasant day. Sundays ride entailed some quite steep ups and downs, and throwing in stones including loose stones made for some exciting times. But the views and sense of accomplishment were worth every effort pictures just don’t do them justice; well done horses! (And riders ). We were all glad to make it back without incident, especially after being told not to fall as there was no way a vehicle or helicopter would get to us.

**by Maria Pearce**

What an amazing place for a ride. – Thank you Julie Jackson and Natalie.Bennison

Suffice to say that we are all incredibly grateful to Natalie Bennison who originally arranged for us to have the pleasure of riding on the property owned by Tik and Mick Ramm last year for the first time. This year Julie, along with Natalie liaised with Tik to arrange for our dinner to be cooked for us and brought to our camp site – Spoilt??? YEEESSS !! we all sure were…. Thai food was enjoyed by all of us who were there. It was neat to be able to support Tik with her Tuk Tik Thai Food business.

I missed this ride last year and then jolly well missed this Saturday’s stint of the camp ride out due to illness….However I sure did rally myself together for the day of riding on Sunday. I had a ball being out with everyone; it was spectacular riding and I reckon everyone did superbly negotiating the terrain – the horses were just the best for each of us. It was sad that Tamara & Julie could not join the Sunday trail ride – Barry having sustained a bit of an injury on the Saturday ride (hope Barry will be good to go soon) and Julie opted out due to her boy Billy being not so agreeable in a group to go along kindly for her, like she is so generally used to enjoying. It was really nice to see Peter Hopewell again from the River land who came and joined our group for the entire weekend.

The property is simply amazing and we spent 3.5 hours out on Sunday exploring hills with fantastic vistas and steep declines – negotiating down into the actual Truro Gorge itself was pretty fantastic. We were a very happy group to be able to experience all of the different parts of the property that we pointed our horses in the direction of. They were such obliging animals.

Indeed it would have been a difficult job getting us out by helicopter as Tracy said in her summary and as Mick Ramm advised – ‘Don’t be having a fall! - not sure how we’ll get you out!’

So I opted not to come off – and Ted the Terrific Trekker was a Treat to Trail on!

Absolute sincere thanks to Tik and Mick Ramm for their willingness to have us come and visit and the time that they gave to us during the weekend. So generous - It was fabulous. Thank you to all others involved planning this ride.

**by Kath Mc**

Australia - amazing country to ride in. Such unexpected riding country so close to home 🐴🌄🐎 🏕. Fantastic rock farmations in the gorges & steep & rocky trails to traverse. Not a peep of negativity from the riders when “we had to get down there, or over that & up THAT hill “😊. Horse we great carrying us up down, over & above with surefooted ease, again no refusal to accept what we asked of them. What more could you want. 😍

Big thanks Mick for welcoming us to your property 👍 & showing us how to get through the valley⛰. Thanks also Tik Ramm for catering for us all YUMMM 🍱. Couldnt get to ride in such inspiring country without your hospitality. Also Nat Bennison & Julie Jackson for arranging the weekend, & Maria Pearce for getting it sorted for us all😘

Here’s to next time 🥂

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for any items that members want printed in the May **2020** newsletter will be ***Thursday 23 April*** so please ensure that your emails reach Maria Pearce on gawler.THRC@gmail.com before that date to avoid disappointment.

**HORSE HEALTH**

***Testing For Sand In Your Horses Stomach***

Eating of sand can cause weight loss, depression, decreased performance, diarrhoea and colic. Sand can be a contributing factor in occasional episodes of colic and can be the cause of recurrent colic pain. Abnormal amounts of ingested sand settle out in the ventral large colon. Generally, horses that are enthusiastic eaters take in more sand than finicky eaters, as they "vacuum" up every last bit of hay or grass on sandy soil.

**The sand test**

1. Fill a 2 to 4 ltr plastic container two-thirds full with water. Mark the water level on the outside of the container.
2. Add 6 large faecal (manure) balls from your horse and mark the new water level on the container.
Now you have a system to add the same amount of manure every time you do the test: fill the container with water to the first mark and add enough manure to have the water rise to the second mark.
3. Mix the manure and water into a slurry, allowing any sand to settle to the bottom. Gently pour off the slurry of manure and water. Any sand will remain at the bottom.
4. If you find 1/4 teaspoonful or more sand on the bottom of the container, the test is positive.
5. Test your horse’s manure every other day for 2 weeks and record the results.

**Important points**

Make sand tests a routine part of your horse’s care. To initially evaluate your horse, do a sand test every other day for 2 weeks. One negative test does not prove that sand is not present in the large colon.

Do not feed any hay, grain, supplements or other type of feed from sandy ground.

Feed hay on carpeting, a platform or wood shavings in an area of at least 2.4m by 2.4m  If you graze your horse in grass paddocks, be sure that the grass is not being cropped too closely, exposing the underlying sand or dirt.

Click here for psyllium product for your horse’s feed to help coat any sand that has been ingested, thereby reducing irritation to the intestine. This also helps move the sand along through the intestinal tract.

*Note form the Editor – As the new grass pops through with the break of season is when many horses will east more sand as they graze the tender new shoots. If you have difficulty getting your horse to eat psyllium there are other products out there like psyllium pellets that are much easier to use for fussy eaters.*

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| **Seasonal Horse Worming – extract from** [**www.evidencebasedworming.com.au**](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=10585&d=19ry3ifx4wMC_cnB1PDTjXgE-h358DatU4ZxzJwvpA&u=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2eevidencebasedworming%2ecom%2eau) **fact sheet****Best Practice in Environmental Strongyle Worm Management** **A Seasonal Guide for Horse Managers** Relevant for healthy, adult horses from the age of 3 years**Treat other parasites in (late) AUTUMN**In late autumn the weather is cooling off and is less attractive for Strongyles to be laying eggs. But this is the best time to treat horses for other parasites such as bot fly larvae and tapeworm. Treatment at this time is also the time where there is minimal impact on our precious dung beetles. • use a product with Praziquantel for treatment of tapeworm. Dewormers often identify this ingredient by using ‘Plus’ in the label. Ivermectin/abamectin will target bots. • continue to monitor and treat high egg-shedding horses. HORSES THAT HAVE A TRACK RECORD OF NO, OR LOW EGG TEST RESULTS GENERALLY ONLY NEED DEWORMING ONCE A YEAR – THIS IS THE TIME TO DO IT! |

*Note form the Editor – FEC are an important tool in strategic worming. (See attached fact sheet).*

**POLICIES**

A reminder to all members that our club has some policies that we endorse. These include a **NON SMOKING**, **SAFETY** & **HOT WEATHER** policy. These can all be viewed on the ATHRA web site, via the state page - [www.athra.com.au](http://www.athra.com.au).

Previous Newsletters, photos & club information can also be viewed at any time on the ATHRA web site.

**WEATHER**

The ride host/leader for the day will have the final say regarding weather (including inclement weather).

The hot weather policy states, if the weather forecast in **ELIZABETH** for the next day is to be **over 32** deg (as per the news the night before) the club rally/ride will be cancelled (unless the ride is scheduled to commence prior to 9am or after 6pm). This is for the safety of all riders and horses. Also, any club rides in **FOREST** areas on **TOTAL FIRE BAN** days will be cancelled.

Please check with the Trail Boss if in any doubt. They have the final word!

**CLUB UNIFORM**

Our club uniform currently comprises of a lime yellow high-vis shirt (long or short sleeve), club badges available for $12. Gawler Club Members & their visitors are required to wear Safety Helmets whilst mounted - helmet must be no more than five years old from Date of Manufacture.

**RIDE FEE & DAY MEMBERS**

ATHRA members - a ride fee of $2 per ride is applicable.

Non ATHRA Members (Day Members) – a ride fee of $25/person/day is applicable ($10 to club on the day & $15 to ATHRA with pre-registration) (*Non-refundable fee, maximum 2 days as a day member*).

The important things to note: 1. Day Members must be sponsored and accompanied at all times by an ATHRA member during the ride or event.

2.  The Sponsoring member must make the Day Member aware of ATHRA rules and requirements of the Code of Conduct.

3.  They may only sponsor 1 Day Member per ride.

4.  By participating as a sponsor, the sponsoring member acknowledges responsibility for the conduct and behaviour of the Day Member

5. Day Members must contact the trail boss to discuss attendance & then pre-register with ATHRA Online at least 3 days prior to ride.

**RIDE HOST CHECKLIST**

A ride host’s checklist is in the green bag, in which is kept the sign in book, ride fee tin, saddle bags, first aid kits, safety vests, etc. Trail Bosses are to check the list to make sure all is in order prior to your ride. It is also the Hosts responsibility to ensure a ride report is arranged to be submitted to Newsletter Editor prior to next publication date.

**DISCLAIMER**

The material in this newsletter is for the benefit and information of our members. The items are in the nature of general comments only and are not to be used, relied or acted upon without written permission of GTHRC. The club accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions or for any damage suffered as a result of any person acting without written advice. All opinions and views in the newsletter are not necessarily the view of the club, but are personal opinions only.