

HOOF PRINT

Monaro Horse Trekkers Inc Newsletter



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Australian Trail Horse Riders Association information

Code of Conduct & Insurance coverage info: www.athra.com.au

MHT website, membership forms & photos can be found within the ATHRA website.
Go to clubs, then NSW, click on Monaro Horse Trekkers.

Next MHT Meeting & AGM: Tues, 29th January 2013

Monaro Horse Trekkers

ATHRA accredited trail bosses:

John Went, 4849 4618
Jenny Costin 6231 9827
Sally & Ian Willoughby 6251 5421
Jane Hedges 6291 6568
Sue Mackenzie 0427 416819
Nic Webb 6231 1887, 0439 490127
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Louise Armour 6227 7241
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Keryn Kefous 62885159
Helen Palmer
David Tassicker
Raylene Garwood (Tassie)



Brumby near Ghost Gully horse camp, Feb 2012. Photo by Hilary Gunn

A MASSIVE THANK YOU to all those people who donated their time to organise rides for the club in the last calendar, and in the current calendar found at the end of the newsletter.

MHT general meeting 29 May 2012

The minutes for this meeting was sent out by email to members separately, so I won't include a summary here.

Ride reports:

Witzes Hut Ride 22nd January 2012

Story by Karen Carter, photos by Adele & Ian



Our young Associate member Andrew Tunks ready a rearing to go with his lariat & catch himself some brumbies - thanks to Mick.



Andrew making sure his pony Jermima is clued up & ready to go!



Adele & Andrew who swung that rope all the way, might have been a little too much for Grandma who took her lunch break seriously ☺



The first sighting of brumbies after lunch & woops slight adjustment needed with Ian's bridle. Then Ian & Andrew contemplating the brumbies are too far away this time, will have to save them for another day ☺

25-26 February, Ghost Gully, Kosciusko National Park
Photos by Hilary Gunn



This was a fantastic weekend riding in KNP. There was about 10 of us, with a number of non-riders joining the beautiful camp at Ghost Gully. This ride was originally planned to be based at Cooinbil Hut horse campground, however our trustie MHT member Gitta checked out the camp a day or 2 prior and found there was a huge group camped there, arriving for a 2 week camp. So we changed the ride base to Ghost Gully which is a nearby designated horse camp equipped with a fenced horse yard. This campground also

turned out to be a bit busy, particularly Friday night when our lively and youthful neighbours enjoyed partying into the wee small hours, keeping us oldies from our much needed nanna naps. Sat night was much more subdued, ahh the serenity! The riding was spectacular as always, with beautiful weather Fri, Sat and just a little misty rain on the Sunday. Hilary & Gitta did a bit of relaxing at the camp in addition to a bit of brumby watching and photography (thanks Hilary's for these photos). We saw plenty of brumbies (and a wild mule) near our camp. All in all it was a fantastic weekend with fantastic company – thanks everyone!. Particular thanks to Karen who was the trail boss for the weekend, and of course Gitta who saved the weekend so we could change our camp to the quieter alternative where we had the option of putting our horses in a secure yard for the night. Also thanks to Jenny Costin, we all thoroughly enjoyed the provision of Jenny's camp shower tent and shower. Nothing like a lovely hot shower after a relaxing days ride in the mountains, followed by a glass of wine.

Sue



Easter 2012 at Wares - Tantangara region of Kosciusko National Park

Great weather, good company and exceptionally well behaved and willing horses. Our husbands all came first time the men outnumbered the girls on a KNP camp.

Elaine, Helen, Donna and Jenny with our husbands John, Thor, Bill, Graydon and Helens son Alex arrived on the Thursday expecting hoards of campers not so, we were the first of 4 groups very spacious and no noise.

The men hiked to Townsend on the Friday crossing the Murrumbidgee on the Bicentennial Trail, whilst us girls rode out to Schofields and checked out the hut which is looking very smart with the new paint work.

Saturday we rode the Blanket Hill bridle path route with never ending views over surrounding mountains and plains along a neat bridle path over the rocky summit and down to Witz's. Alex hiked behind in radio contact but managed to get back to base camp before we did, not bad 22km at least.

Sunday three of us rode up the hill and down to Gavell's with extensive views over Lake Eucumbene and beyond 360 degree views and sighting Mt Kosciuszko on such a clear day. We had lots of little creeks some with small bogs to cross before heading back thru the scenic saddle which joins onto Nungar Fire Trail.

Horses all were brilliant. It was Elaine's first ride in the mountains now she can tick that off the bucket list. The men very helpful around camp keeping the fire going and helping with the water, it was great to have them there, even more family come up for the day on the Sunday.

We were so lucky with the weather after we left a cold wet front with snow came in on Easter Monday. Jenny Costin

Donna, Helen & Elaine at Wares Yards horse camp Easter. Photo by Alex Palma



Bullocks Hill ride 21st and 22nd April 2012
Story by Lisa camp, photos by Karen Carter

Karen's organised ride turned into a social ride, and a great weekend of riding by 4 of us. This included- Karen, Andrew McDougall, Kerry Cox (friend of mine) and myself. Andrew also brought a non riding friend from Melbourne - Sarah, who enjoyed seeing the local huts and scenery.



Lisa, Kerry & Andrew enjoying the views from Wallace's Creek Trail including Talbingo Reservoir
(Photos Karen Carter)

After arriving late Friday and setting up, we shared a campfire together. We headed off Saturday morn, across the highway to 3 mile dam. Following along Wallace's Creek trail, we enjoyed breathtaking views of deep valleys and opportunities to have a run with our horses. We had lunch in the grass at the dam and after studying my trusty map (which I became good at reading whilst on Ebony) we changed our course home. "Why not" became our famous words.

So we took Racecourse trail heading to the highway. We saw lots of brumbies here, dodged swamps, to join onto Gooandra Trail. We had decided to see Gooandra Hut- and what a grand hut it is and a pleasure to visit.



Lisa & Ebony - just checking!
(Photos Karen Carter)

3 Mile Dam from Racecourse Trail on return trip

Sunday 6 May – Canberra Arboretum ride

Thanks very much Sally and Ian for taking myself and Cheryl on a fantastic half day ride. Sally organised this ride at very short notice as the ride initially planned for this weekend was cancelled at short notice. We parked at Sally's agistment paddocks at Cook, and followed the equestrian trails through the cork plantation and into the Arboretum. The weather was beautiful, although a cool wind came up around mid morning. This ride had fantastic views of Canberra, Lake Burley Griffin, and the Brindabellas.

Sue



Cheryl, Sally & Ian at the lookout on Dairy Hill overlooking the lake, Black Mountain & the ACT.

Once again – a big **THANK YOU** to all those people who donated their time to organise rides for the club. It is our ride organisers who keep our club alive!!! It is very much appreciated.

Any club member is welcome to come to the next meeting to put forward a ride idea. Alternatively, email your ride idea to our ride co-ordinator, Sally Willoughby. We have lots of accredited trail bosses in the club to assist (see listing at the top of the newsletter). The ATHRA code of conduct requires that an accredited trail boss is present at club rides in order to be covered by ATHRA insurance in case of an accident.

REMINDERS:

Make sure you contact the ride organiser if you want to come on a ride

Email is not always the best way of contacting the ride organiser, particularly if they don't check their email everyday, or you send an email to the wrong address. So if there is any doubt please make sure you telephone and make real contact so the person organising the ride knows you are coming and has your phone number in case of cancellation.

Next MHT Meeting & AGM: Tuesday Tues, 29th January 2013

The meetings are open to all trekkers, their partners, or people interested in joining, so please feel free to come along and bring any issues or ride ideas you'd like to share or discuss. This will be my last newsletter so the club will be looking for a new volunteer. If you are interested please let Sally know. Thanks very much to those who showed their appreciation by providing positive feedback about the newsletter.

RIDE CALENDAR JUNE-DEC 2012 MONARO HORSE TREKKERS INC

PLEASE telephone the ride contact at least the Wednesday before the ride, or earlier if possible, particularly if indicated in the ride description.

A ride notice for each ride providing additional details will be sent out by Sally closer to the ride date.

Sunday 17 June: Pine Island to Kambah

Contact Jenny Costin: 6231 9827 mob: 0412 274 810

Sunday 1 July: Arboretum from Equestrian

Contact Jenny Costin: 6231 9827 mob: 0412 274 810

3-5 August: Wee Jasper

Contact Sally as soon as possible if you want to come on this ride and for further details. Deposits required to be paid for accommodation if you want to come.

Contact: Sally Willoughby: 6251 5421, mob: 0422405117

Saturday 1 September: Mt Ainslie

Contact: Sally Willoughby: 6251 5421, mob: 0422405117

5-7 October: Boorowa

Contact: Sally Willoughby: 6251 5421, mob: 0422405117, or Adele Hern

Sunday 4 November: Tallagander Forest/Jinglemoney fire trail loop

Contact: Sally Willoughby: 6251 5421, mob: 0422405117

December, dates to be confirmed: Ware's Yards camp, Kosciusko NP

Contact Jenny Costin: 6231 9827 mob: 0412 274 810

Rides offered by Nic Webb & Lisa Camp will be notified separately by email

As an ATHRA member you have agreed to abide by the ATHRA code of conduct. See below a reminder of some of the points in the code of conduct:

3.11 It is the responsibility of each participant to advise the Trail Boss, Ride Coordinator or First Aid person of any pre existing medical conditions prior to a ride or event.

3.12 At all times horses remain the responsibility of their riders, and as such, riders should always be aware of riders/horses in their vicinity, to avoid potential danger.

3.13 It is the responsibility of all riders to maintain appropriate control of their horse and to keep them out of kicking distance of other horses at all times.

3.14 Riders must not pass or overtake another rider at a speed or in a manner which is likely to excite their horse.

6.2 ATHRA strongly recommends to all members that sufficient preparation be put into a horse's training and conditioning before being used in any ATHRA activity or pursuit.

6.4 Participants at ATHRA trail rides or events must ensure that their horse's feet are adequately conditioned and/or shod to ensure the horse's soundness and safety