



TRAIL TALES

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN TRAIL HORSE RIDERS
ASSOCIATION

CLUB AND MEMBER UPDATE

MARCH 2018

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Australian Trail Horse Riders Association

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Online Improvements – Deb Minto Director

The 2018 Membership year will be remembered as the year ATHRA went online. This has meant a reduction in paperwork for clubs and enabled ATHRA to better communicate with members.

"I have renewed my club membership for 2018 on line, and it was very easy. In fact, far more convenient than filling in paperwork and posting it off to the Secretary."

"It works absolutely great. None of our members have had any problems and it's made it so much easier for the secretary and treasurer of our club...we love the system."

Membership Registrar Lloyd Fletcher and Webmaster Marg Mills have worked hard to make the transition to online as smooth as possible. We thank Lloyd and Marg; and those clubs and individuals who have worked with us to identify problems and to resolve them where possible.

There have been a number of improvements made over the past few months:

1. Membership menu order has been changed to preference existing members, so that "Member Login and Renewal" is now first on the drop-down menu.
2. When renewing, the user now has the option to choose different membership categories – this has assisted members switching from Full Member to Social Member.
3. Date of Birth field now requires validation. Dummy dates or 00-00-00 don't work.
4. Email entry now requires validation. Entering your email address twice will pick up an inadvertent spelling error.
5. New, renewing and day member notification emails are now set to send to Club contacts, so that each Club is aware of membership transactions.
6. If there is a PayPal setup problem for the club, an error message is displayed with instruction. "Please contact the Club [Club Name] to rectify the issue".
7. Clubs can now export their members listings in a CSV or excel, via a clickable box to "Export Membership List". This improvement saves time for clubs with data entry - they no longer need to create member lists, they are automatically created via the online platform.

Some reasons for errors

-) Members expecting to pay Associate Memberships online. These can only be paid direct to Clubs. There is no facility for members to pay their Associate Memberships online. This is a Club only transaction.
-) Club may not be set up for online payments though PayPal or online set up is not quite right.

Some things to remember

-) ATHRA no longer mails membership cards to members. You need to keep a record of your membership number.
-) Day members have 7 days to join up as full members to get the fee reduction. If a ride is cancelled or postponed, the Day Member and/or the Club Secretary should contact the Membership Registrar via membership@athra.com.au to have the date revalidated.
-) If members change their email address- they need to update their membership profile online.
-) Club Secretaries are encouraged to check member email addresses are current/correct when periodically checking Club member lists. These member lists that can now be downloaded from member website pages also list the membership numbers. It is important for Clubs to have this information so that they can assist members who forget their membership number.

Day Memberships \$15 – on trial till 30 September 2018

The Board received a number of suggestions to reduce the Day Member fee to improve new member take up and participation at Club “come & try days”. This is a great opportunity for you to promote your club in your local area. If you need assistance in putting together a flyer for your club, please get in contact.

For those that missed the email about this, the Board determination was as follows:

*Code of Conduct point 9.3 – The Day Member Fee shall be determined by the ATHRA Board (page 15. V20170428). **The Board therefore approves a trial reduction of the Day Member Fee to \$15.00 effective 1 March-30 September 2018.** All other conditions of Day Memberships remain unchanged. All Day Members for the duration of this trial will be covered for Personal Accident and Public Liability Insurance. The trial will be monitored and measured for statistics on reported incidents, insurance claims and uptake in numbers – per Club and by State. Part of this analysis is made possible by the Online Membership platform and this will enable the Board to make an informed decision on the cost of Day Memberships for 2019.*

The online platform will be automatically modified for each Club to enable the temporary change in the Day Member Fee from \$35.00 to \$15.00. Clubs will still be required to collect their Club Fee direct from the member on the day or via EFT. In addition to this cost saving and to entice new members, some Clubs may opt to waive their Club Fee for a limited time as well.

Happy riding and stay safe.



Cowra & Gooloogong Clubs in Central West NSW joined together recently for a ride, young Isla enjoyed meeting some new members!

On Line Membership Registration – Lloyd Fletcher, Membership

The ATHRA webmaster has now ironed out the bugs with the on-line member registration system and all is working as expected; having said that I am still receiving many email requests for assistance as some members are not being able to enter their membership category i.e.- Adult, Junior etc. In 99% of these cases it's due to the member not entering their date of birth in the correct format of **DD/MM/YYYY**, if the Date of Birth is not entered in the correct format the system will not allow a member to proceed any further with the renewals or new memberships. There have also been quite a few members being issued with new ATHRA numbers due to that fact that they have logged into the ATHRA site and used the **"New Membership"** tab when they should be using the **"Member Login & Renewal"** tab, from there they will be required to enter their ATHRA number which will then take them to their ATHRA member profile for updating for the 2018 period.

Notice to ALL Club Executives

I have noticed quite a lot of members scattered through the various clubs with **"Membership Pending"** this only occurs when a club has **NOT** selected **"Auto Approval"** unfortunately the incorrect information was originally supplied to clubs which indicated that if a club does not approve a member within 48 hours the member would be automatically approved, this unfortunately is not the case, if you have selected manual approval the member will stay as Membership Pending indefinitely or until the club actually approves the member.

If the club chooses to stay with Manual Approval you will need to go into your club page regularly and check for any members that have joined your club and approve or reject them.

Yarding Horses in The Mountains – Karen Carter Director Finance

In Kosciuszko National Park (KNP) there are camp sites that have adequately fenced yards provided for horses, these are Bullocks Hill, Long Plain (small), Cooinbil, Ghost Gully and Old Snowy Camp. The two that don't have yards are Wares Yards and Rocky Plain – they do however have fencing where by you can make your yard off them making them at least a little more secure.

For the first time, or not so frequent visitors to the park, and I am talking of the horses here not the riders - using the yards at all times is the sensible option – you still need to take yarding facilities so that horses are kept apart. In the busy periods some yards can become full so take precautions when having to use taped yards, don't have them joined or in close proximity to other horses. Piggy tail posts and one wire is not sufficient – take along star posts and make 2 or 3 runs around the yard and get yourself a fence tester for making sure the energizer is working at full capacity, having spare batteries on hand. For horses rugged in yards take a small piece of tape and place on rugs at front chest (leaving an exposed area) so that the horses can get zapped if they tend to lean on fences. Use your vehicle to make your yard off – it doesn't make for convenient camping but there is nothing convenient about looking for lost horses for days or even weeks. Having horses hobbled as well as yarded adds a little more security but is not a failsafe solution by any means. Spending some money on steel yards joined to the float is also an option for those wishing to take that extra precaution.

Those of us who visit the park frequently can also become a little complacent and this is just a reminder not to fall into that trap as it can so easily happen to any of us. There are so many trails and great locations to experience in KNP, so go for it and enjoy!

Toongabbie & District Riders Club Inc. – Vicki Smith

The Toongabbie Riders Club has been together for over 30 years and still caters for a wide variety of rides and activities. In 1979 a small group of riders met quite regularly at Eddie Lansdown's home along River Road and would set out for a leisurely Sunday Ride, heading off around the nearby area and covering quite a few kms. These rides became quite popular and before long most of the horsey community of Toongabbie were coming along for a social ride and realized it was a great way to enjoy their horses, friends and the local countryside.

It was not long before it was decided that the club should be named and to make it a regular advertised get together. A cook was elected for the day and they would bring along a small BBQ and set up a lunch spot where the riders would meet, have a great lunch and cuppa and set off home again. So, Toongabbie and District Riders Club was established. Some of those early members were Eddie and Irene Lansdown and family, Phil Henderson and family, Vicki and Dave Smith - some are still members today. The club has grown

from a small group into a membership of up to 40 members. The club is now incorporated and affiliated with ATHRA –Australian Trail Horse Riders Association and any information and activities can be researched on the internet.

The club was interested in having a fun day with novelties such as a bending race, flag and barrel, sack race, tyre race and the great spectator event the rescue race and rope race. The members were able to rent 10 acres joining the Recreation Reserve in Heywood Street, where a shed and an activities area was built. Also, a Chuck Wagon was bought to house the bbq and lunch making facilities. The club grounds now house a bigger shed with facilities such as - brick toilets, bbq area, fenced areas for parking and riding. Just recently the Pony Club have also joined the grounds and a new entry and front fence was erected with thanks from a grant made available through the Latrobe City.

Some of the horse activities, clubs and disciplines that utilize the grounds today are – Pony Club, Adult Riders Club, locally organized Endurance Rides, annual novelty day, many varied horsemanship clinics, dressage events and gymkhanas.

The club rides are on the first Sunday of the month except January and meetings are held at the Recreation Reserve meeting room starting at 8pm on the third Tuesday evening of the month. Riders must become members of ATHRA and there is a membership fee as well. There is a small ride fee payable on the day of the ride and members are sent a monthly newsletter via email or snail mail listing all up and coming events and information.

For any information on the club and its activities please phone: Dave Smith, President on 03 51489344



**ATHRA
Annual General Meeting
will be held in the
Melbourne area
on
Saturday 14th April
Check your emails for more details**

Accreditation Courses 2018 – Claire Bourke Acting Accreditation Coordinator

A very successful accreditation course kick started the year at the Kasch property in Narbethong during the weekend 17 – 18 February 2018.

The event was hosted by the Yarra Valley Horse Riders Club, member Linda Norrish described it as a 'very rewarding weekend'. Fantastic to hear that and a big congratulation to the 12 participants who all successfully gained their Trail Boss Status at this course.

Another was held recently during the weekend of the 2-3 March at Mackay, hosted by Breakaway Horse Riders.

Next course locations:

17- 18 March 2018 Echuca

Hosted by the Echuca and District Trail Riders with trainers Alan Schultz and John Kasch

19 – 20 May 2018 Wattamondarra

Hosted by Cowra and District Trail Horse Riders Club with trainer Pam Lamshed

If you are interested in becoming an accredited Trail Boss, Steward or Ride Coordinator, or would just like to attend and be 'refreshed' on processes, talk to your club about getting a session to be held near you. Not only are these great learning weekends – everyone has a lot of fun too!

For a short while I have been acting as the Accreditation Coordinator. The Board recently announced the appointment of Jodie Lucas to this position effective 1 March. Jodie has held the Regional Manager for SE Queensland position for the last 12 months, she brings with her a proactive and practical approach to this new role.

Congratulations Jodie, we all look forward to working and supporting you in this new role.

ATHRA Insurance

-) Are guests/visitors covered by ATHRA's Public Liability Insurance? *Yes. Guests and visitors are covered whilst participating in sanctioned events provided their name is recorded in the Ride Attendance Register.*
-) Are we covered for social functions? *Yes, if limited to less than 50 participants you do not need prior written approval. If a function is going to have more than 50 participants, more planning is probably required. One element of the planning will be to notify ATHRA's Insurance Coordinator in writing through your Regional Manager so that it can be approved.*
-) Does ATHRA's public liability policy cover property owners? *Yes. Property owner's interests are covered for that component of their property that is being utilised by an ATHRA club. The property can also be endorsed on our policy as an "Interested Party" if required.*
-) Are members covered by insurance while pre-riding and marking out the trail for a scheduled club ride? *The pre-ride is on a different date than the club ride. Yes. Members are covered on pre-ride recognizance rides; however, the pre-ride must be sanctioned by the club.*

For more answers to your insurance questions visit www.athra.com.au/insurance/insurance-faqs.html

A must read for all members!

For Equestrians who visit the National Arboretum Canberra –

Jenny Costin Bicentennial Section Coordinator ACT

National Arboretum at Yarralumla ACT – if you are planning a ride in the Arboretum please stick to the equestrian route.

We are not allowed at the top of Dairy Farmers Hill.

There is a huge underground tank (covered by a layer of topsoil) which supplies the arboretum irrigation system. The area is dangerous and there is a risk of a lot of horses' weight causing the tank to give way. The arboretum CEO welcomes horse riders but please stick to the route shown on the Arboretum maps.



Unfortunately ACT Equestrian Association president Christine Lawrence and I as BNT Section Coordinator hear about equestrians not adhering to equestrian trails at our meetings. It's a real concern and we don't want to jeopardise our equestrian relationship and trails in the Arboretum by wrong doers. It has taken since 2004 to get what we have. We have a horse yard just near the visitor's centre which is a short walk to the café and a fabulous view.

The Arboretum Public Use Policies states that equestrian access to the Arboretum will be permitted on designated trails and the Bicentennial National Trail. For the purposes of equestrian access, designated trails are defined as all gravel roads, trails and interconnecting allees, but excluding the access tracks to the events terrace, the Amphitheatre and the central valley.

Park your vehicles and floats at Equestrian Park on the Cotter Rd, Curtin, off the Tuggeranong Parkway, easy to find, follow signs to Yarralumla Woolshed which is in Equestrian Park. Equestrian Park is a public facility and a huge area for recreational horses including public arenas and a cross country jumping course. There is also a motel next to it. Equestrian Park can be booked for a small fee.

A new forestry bridle trail connects a short distance straight on from the Molonglo River causeway below Equestrian Park. A bridle path connects to the zoo corner fence and then follow the fence line to under the small underpass below Tuggeranong

Parkway. Or to avoid the zoo take the BNT route, turn south after the causeway on River Rd and after going under the large Tuggeranong Parkway turn right up into the first forest road until the Southern Equestrian entrance of the Arboretum.

www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au/visit/recreation



Somerset Trail Riding Club – Claire Bourke, Ride Co-ordinator

The Somerset Trail Riding Club kicked off the start of the year by having a fun Cowboy Dressage weekend with Ken and Kathy Faulkner at Toogoolawah on the Australia Day long weekend.



New club Secretary Claire Fender and Jonathan Goodwin really got into the spirit of things dressing up for the test day

A big thanks to our club members Ken and Kathy Faulkner for once again supporting our club with their time and effort – it is certainly appreciated.

As it was going to be so hot for this first event we hired an undercover arena and all had fun learning about the techniques of Cowboy Dressage. Many people commented on how they felt they were learning better control of their horse and also improved as riders over the weekend. This all goes towards making us safer on the trails.

We split the groups into two and Kathy took one session and Ken the other and then we swapped trainers around in the afternoon.



Bailey has found his calling



Gary Low first event back with his 'new knee' doing an awesome job



Megan Willett did so well on this big fella "Aussie" owned by Marg Mills



Graysen Clarke and Maddi Dixson looking happy!



Brin Brace showing us how it is all done



Kiara Brace showing us what brumbies can do

The club put on a great 'Aussie Day' BBQ dinner with great steaks, rissoles and salads for the members and the following evening thanks to Cheryl Engel and Sherry Boulton we were lavished with fantastic Taco's. Absolutely scrumptious!! Can't wait till they do that one again for us 😊

We have lots of other great club events happening over the next few months. We travel to Warwick in March, Kin Kin at Easter, Glenmaurie Station in April which also includes an introductory pack saddle weekend. Later, in the year the club has organised for ATHRA members a 'Regional Roadie' to head up to the Whitsundays to attend the Nth Qld Regional Ride – travelling up there is all part of the fun and any ATHRA club member can join in with us as per the details below.



Join the Somerset Trail Riding Club on their 'Regional Roadie'
travelling to attend the ATHRA North Queensland
Regional Ride (5—10 July 2018) at Yalboroo

Road trip leaves home Monday 2 July and back home on Thursday 12th July

This Regional ride is hosted by the Breakaway Horse Riders Club

Four days of fantastic riding in the Cathu/ Yalboroo region.

70 minutes from Mackay

Great Facilities and a fully catered event !

Rides held: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday. Each day we ride a different loop ride of approximately 20km in distance

Entertainment: Bush Bar, Music, Mad Hatters Evening, Dancing and Camp Fire (if permitted)

BYO: Horse yards—2 strand electric fencing is required.

Event Cost

Regional Ride

Cost: \$250 Adults/\$150 Juniors

Cost includes all meals (breakfast, lunch, dinners) plus hot showers & toilets

Roadie Camping Fees

Cost: \$80 per person + fuel & meals

Accommodation will be in Maryborough, Bouldercombe, Marlborough and Gin Gin

Limited Numbers — For all queries and bookings contact Claire Bourke



E: clairebourke1@bigpond.com

Ph: 0418 438 807





Join us for a great weekend of fun and horse-riding!



Australian Trail Horse Riders Association



EASTER CAMP

KIN KIN

30 March - 2 April 2018

Hosted by the Sunny Coast Trail & Horse Riders Club

Four days of fantastic riding on the spectacular

Noosa Trail Network

Enjoy the great campsite, great facilities and close to local eateries

For further information and bookings contact Chris Bourne

at chris.bourne@gmail.com or 0428 176 557



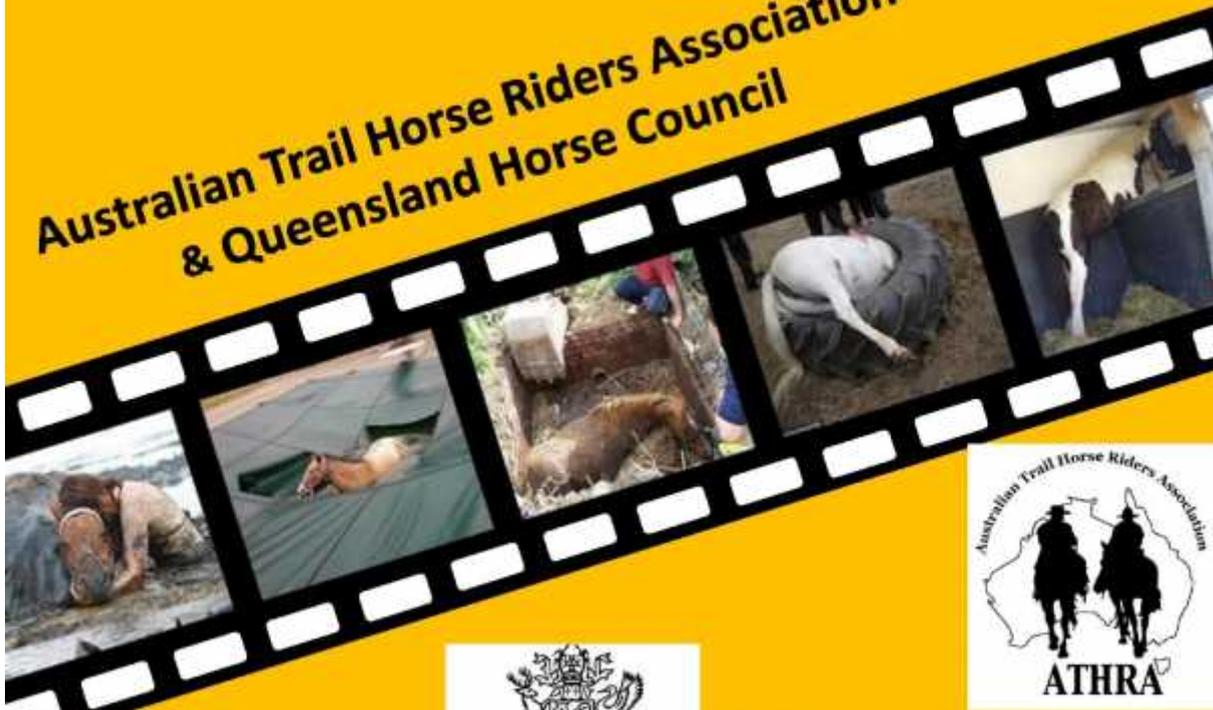
Cost: \$60 or \$15 per day

**Includes lunch on Saturday
and Sunday rides**

This event is supported by:



Australian Trail Horse Riders Association & Queensland Horse Council



Queensland Government

Proudly supported by the Queensland Government and ATHRA

LARGE ANIMAL EMERGENCY RESCUE INFORMATION WORKSHOP

83% of people admit they would risk their own lives to save their animals
But — a trapped horse can *kill* you!

PARK RIDGE
Where: Chambers Flat Equestrian Park
1047 – 1107 Chambers Flat Road
Park Ridge QLD 4125
When: Saturday 2 June 2018
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Cost: \$40 for 2018 ATHRA members,
\$55 for others (includes morning
tea and lunch)
To book:
<https://www.trybooking.com/357923>
Contact: Claire Bourke
0418 438 807

www.qldhorsecouncil.com/ www.equineER.com

- ✓ **LEARN** what you should and should not do in an emergency
- ✓ **PREVENT** your horse from being strangled, drowned, dropped or severely injured by unsafe rescue techniques
- ✓ **AVOID** becoming a statistic

A copy of the book
Equine Emergency Rescue
is include in the course fees





ATHRA NORTH QLD REGIONAL CAMP

5 - 10 July 2018

YALBOROO - Whitsunday Region

New Camp...

New Rides...

Great Scenery...

Hosted by

Breakaway Horse Riders Club

Four days of fantastic riding in the Cathu/ Yalboroo region, only 70 minutes from Mackay

*Enjoy the beautiful campsite
Great Facilities and a fully catered event*

Participants can arrive from 2pm Thursday 5th July.

Rides held: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday.

Each day is a different loop ride of approx. 20km

Entertainment: Bush Bar, Music, Mad Hatters

Evening, Dancing and Camp Fire (if permitted)

Must have: Horse yards or 2 strand electric fence

All riders must be ATHRA members

It is recommended horses are shod, wear boots or are well-seasoned bare footers for most rides.

Horses need to be conditioned for hills.

*Cost: \$250 Adults/\$150 kids 13 & under
Cost includes all meals, (breakfast, lunch, dinners) plus hot showers and toilets.*

Payment to Breakaway Horse Riders Inc:

BSB: 645-646 ACC: 600616614

Full payment to be made by 31 May 2018

Ref: RR plus your surname on transaction & email breakaway.sec@gmail.com your name, address, phone number & email



For information and registration contact

Mez Green: mezgreen15@gmail.com

ph: 0459 343 995 OR

Roxy Aprile: breakaway.sec@gmail.com



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First aid Pack designed to carry on your horse - free delivery

\$120



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Spring Jackets with the ATHRA logo \$85



ATHRA black or navy suede Caps \$20



Winter Jackets with the ATHRA logo \$85



ATHRA black or navy Caps \$20



ATHRA shirts huge range from RB Sellars Price Varies



ATHRA Float Stickers \$5



ATHRA polos, great styles and colours \$35



Skye Park Rugs Price varies



ATHRA Belt Buckles \$180



ATHRA Mugs \$15



Click on the website then merchandise for order forms www.athra.com.au

There is an additional fee for postage and handling for items sent out.

Contact merchandise@athra.com.au Mob: 0403 121 448

ATHRA's Business Partners offer great discounts and services to members



AFFINITY INSURANCE offers a range of discounts to ATHRA members on all of their insurance needs, whether they be horse or float, Public Liability or Personal accident. Contact Affinity direct to discuss.

www.affinityib.com.au



AUSTRALIAN NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP (Ken Faulkner) offers ATHRA members a 10% discount on all events including Horsemanship Courses, Demonstrations and Special Events throughout Australia. www.australiannaturalhorsemanship.com



BARRACK SADDLES offer ATHRA club members a discount of 5% off the full price of all Barrack Saddles and products, Contact Richard and Lucy Barrack (03)54234224 or 0427778555 to discuss your individual saddle needs. www.baracksaddles.com.au



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www.ozzyhorseropes.com.au



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<http://www.rescueswag.com.au/>



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