



# TRAIL TALES

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF  
THE AUSTRALIAN TRAIL HORSE RIDERS ASSOCIATION

CLUB AND MEMBER UPDATE

JUNE 2018

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Next issue: September 2018

## Deb Minto – Director Marketing

### Position Holders Update

Elaine Kirby has accepted the role of Accreditation Co-ordinator. Her responsibilities will include the co-ordination of ATHRA's Accreditation program and keeping the Accreditation Register up to date. Elaine has been an active member of the Central Coast Trail Riders Club for many years and with expertise in customer management systems and business improvement strategies, ATHRA's Accreditation program will be in very safe hands. To contact Elaine email [accreditation@athra.com.au](mailto:accreditation@athra.com.au)

*Don't forget to keep your ATHRA Accreditation credentials current, you need to maintain your financial membership status so don't risk letting it lapse by failing to renew by 1 January each year.*

After much consideration, Alan Salter has resigned his positions as Insurance Co-ordinator and Regional Manager Victoria. Handover of responsibilities is currently underway so it is timely to advise members of the changes that will take effect over the coming month. From 25 June all Insurance related matters should be referred to Debra Minto who will act in the role until a replacement is found.

Please join the Board in thanking Alan for dedicating so much of his personal time as a past Director and for fulfilling these important positions for more than a decade. Alan's years of service to ATHRA are greatly appreciated by all. From all of us – Thank you Alan.

### Accounting for Incidents During Trail Rides

If an incident occurs during a club ride, it is important to make sure that all details about the incident and the rider are recorded accurately because if there is a claim this information will need to be readily available to produce to the insurance provider. Make sure your ride register is always completed before a ride and remember incidents can include a rider falling off a horse, a horse kicking another horse or a person, a rider falling over while leading their horse or even a near miss. No matter how minor, if an injury is sustained by a rider, spectator or a horse during a sanctioned trail ride, the Trail Boss should complete an incident form. These forms need to be retained in your club files in the event that an insurance claim is lodged. If the individuals involved in the incident decide to lodge a claim, the club and the individuals should seek assistance from the ATHRA Insurance Coordinator via email [insurance@athra.com.au](mailto:insurance@athra.com.au)

## **Positions Vacant**

Regional Manager VIC

Insurance Coordinator

For details and position descriptions contact Debra at [marketing@athra.com.au](mailto:marketing@athra.com.au)

## **Partnership Update**

The Board is reviewing all partnership agreements and is always looking for new opportunities. If you or your Club has a favourite supplier please let us know about it as there may be an opportunity to sign them up as ATHRA preferred.

Renewed partner DIXON SMITH EQUESTRIAN is offering ATHRA Members a 10% discount on all products purchased online until the end of August 2018. Enter Code: DSE-ATHRA at checkout.

CAVALLO products will soon be available again under a new ATHRA preferred partner agreement. In the interim ATHRA Members can take advantage of a great discount offer available online from [www.horsegearoutlet.com.au](http://www.horsegearoutlet.com.au) – check under “special deals- Cavallo”.

We are always looking for ways to provide benefits to Members and to help Clubs be more efficient and sustainable, so that we can all spend more time out there on the trails with our horses!

## **Our first club Packing Adventure – Rick Templeton – Somerset TRC**

### **Anzac Week-end Pack Ride 2018.**

In attendance were Margaret Mills with Oscar & Aussie; Phill Crozier with Clancy, Tommy & Rusty; Tony Nash with Jinda & Remy; Caroline Hagar with Dino and finally Julie and Rick Templeton with Bonnie, Tunica & Tychie.

We travelled from our usual camp site at Glenmaurie (same site as September Camp 2017) to Yarraman Hut.

After a weekend of club trail riding for a warm up, we departed Monday morning and travelled via the northern property boundary. This trek we covered 14kms, it had big ascents and descents to negotiate. This all proved to test our pack gear and just adds to the massive knowledge base you need to have.

We made reasonable time to Yarraman Hut. We set up camp well before it got dark. I really enjoy this part,



seeing everyone's gear. Nowadays we are blessed with access to very good hiking gear.

We all seem to have similar lightweight survival equipment. It is quite surprising what you can fit in. Four of us slept in tents. Caroline is a very experienced hiker. Her tent could house a dozen homeless people. She had all her gear on the horse she was riding. Therefore, it was great to talk with her.

Phill, Tony, Julie & Rick had the traditional packhorse gear on their led horse. With this gear, the panniers, saddle & harness can weigh up to 20kgs before you start. Margaret had a saddle mounted pack. The saddle was a lightweight synthetic. It seemed to work okay with say an 8kg penalty.

Huge thanks to Jo and John Kasch for their coaching. Without the knowledge gained from the 2-off "Learn to Pack" weekends 2015 & 2016, you just wouldn't know where to start. Honestly, we are all time poor, and those workshops just reduces the guesswork, making your early attempts at packing more successful. The QLD Government sponsored these workshops. Thank-you, the money was well spent.

Food:- Thanks to the cooking demonstration included in last "Learn to Pack" week-end, my wife has learnt how to make a Beef Jerky based meal quite tasty. It would appear you need to modify your mindset in order to prepare meals that are tasty and nutritious from products that do not require refrigeration. So, thank-you to Peter & Shauna Wolfe for that cooking demonstration.

We had 2 nights at Yarraman Hut. We capitalised on our new base camp and did a bit of exploring of that end of the property. There will be new rides coming



from those pre-rides. The three days went very quickly. There is a special sense of achievement that goes with this style of camping, possibly similar to hiking. We were fortunate to have yards, green feed & water. Last year it was very dry and Jules and I just did a couple of practice rides on our own property. We didn't venture into the wider country side. This year is shaping up to be a good year to go pack riding. We are presently getting ready to camp out in June.

Wednesday morning Anzac Day we took out time to remember. Then packed up to head home via Bear Camp and Maronghi Creek, about 16klms.



Finally thank -you to our fellow campers. I think we all gained a lot of experience, learning from one another. Having Phill and Tony there who are very experienced, from them you learn a lot by looking & listening.

Can't wait until we do it again!



## An open letter from Alan Salter to members and clubs

For better or worse, most of you will know me as an ATHRA Director & General Manager, roles I relinquished in 2016, whilst staying on as the ATHRA Insurance Coordinator and Regional Manager. After lengthy consideration, and with a great deal of sadness, I have concluded it is time for a new, younger generation to take over, to introduce a fresh approach and new ideas in order for ATHRA to grow and prosper. I have enjoyed my decade or so long journey but it is time to stand aside in the best interests of the organisation.

ATHRA has been one of my life's great experiences, challenging and at times difficult, but always rewarding and enjoyable, providing a great deal of personal satisfaction. If any member has some spare time, the inclination, and believe they have something to offer, I can thoroughly recommend they take on a role. Don't let the fear of the unknown deter you, embrace the opportunity and take a journey of discovery through ATHRA.

I have made many friends over the years, some now lifelong, and will certainly miss the many daily contacts at all levels of ATHRA. I wish to thank all members and clubs Australia wide, for the loyal support and cooperation extended to me for such a long time. I also thank and acknowledge the ATHRA volunteers and those I have worked with at Board level for their assistance and comradery. I particularly acknowledge my wife and family and thank them for their understanding and patience with me (and ATHRA) for such a long time. Life after ATHRA will involve more time riding my beloved Clydie cross mare Calees, and my more athletic Arabian gelding Duke, and most importantly spending more quality time with family.

Kind regards and thank you to all in ATHRA.

Alan Salter

Post Script: A wise statesman is known to have used the following quotes, which I have found a great guide in my ATHRA roles. Perhaps they may be useful to individuals and clubs. I wonder if readers can guess the identity of this statesman? There is a hint in the last words of the final quotation:

*A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.*

*Fear is a reaction. Courage is a decision.*

*However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results.*

*Diplomacy is the art of telling people to go to hell in such a way that they ask for directions.*

*I'd rather argue against 100 idiots, than have one agree with me.*

*Life is fraught with opportunities to keep your mouth shut.*

*Everyone is in favour of free speech. Hardly a day passes without it being extolled, but some people's idea of it is that they are free to say what they like, but if anyone else says anything back, that is an outrage.*

*To each there comes in their lifetime a special moment when they are figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique to them and fitted to their talents. What a tragedy if that moment finds them unprepared or unqualified for that which could have been their finest hour.*

The deadline for articles for the next edition of Trail Tales is **31<sup>st</sup> August 2018**.

Did you know that you don't have to be signed up to facebook to view the ATHRA facebook page?

Keep up to date with what's happening at <https://www.facebook.com/australiantrailhorseridersassociation/>

## Cowra Accreditation & Training Weekend May 2018

Karen Casey - Cowra & District Trail Horse Riders Club

Cowra and District Trail Horse Riders Club hosted a very successful Training and Accreditation Weekend on 19 – 20 May.

Having accredited Trail Bosses and other ride officials is an absolute necessity to keep our club rides and events running, and the ATHRA board has identified the need to encourage as many members as possible to undertake this training. There are only a few courses run each year, at times struggling to have minimum numbers of participants. It was therefore very exciting to have 14 members, from 5 different clubs, roll up to the Wattamondara Recreation Grounds with their horses ready for a fun and educational weekend.

Trainer Pam Lamshed was ready with a warm welcome and a big smile as the participants tentatively made their way into the classroom not really sure what to expect. Some were a little tentative, and perhaps even concerned whether or not they were up to the task of being a trail boss, but everyone was keen to spend time with other members and learn as much as they could. Although a few days short of winter arriving the weather had certainly turned towards chilly but the old shed, with its wood burning stove and an urn at the ready for a hot cuppa was pretty comfortable once filled with enthusiastic learners.



Yes, there was lots of paperwork to go through but Pam's wealth of experience and 'tales from the trail' so to speak made it entertaining and very easy to relate to potential real-life situations. All of the participants commented how interesting it was to learn what goes into the planning and implementation of an ATHRA ride – all aimed at keeping everyone safe. On several occasions participants split into smaller groups to 'brainstorm' typical scenarios and how they would



handle them, and the room was abuzz with chatter and animated discussion. Each group then presented their scenario to the class for more sharing of ideas and strategies.

The ladies from the Cowra club did a great job with the catering. There was a constant supply of a hot cuppa along with yummy cakes and slices to nibble on in the classroom. Lunchtime served up several types of hot soup and fresh rolls, as well as mini quiches which really hit the spot on a chilly day. Thanks to Rachel, Karen, Kate and Eileen – oh and Stevens pumpkin soup was a real hit too!



Saturday afternoon saw participant's saddle up to complete their ridden assessments. There were a few nervous riders, and a couple of last minute stand in horses and a few horse and rider combinations that are definitely more at home out on the trail than in the arena. But Pam was not looking for show ring perfection from either horse or rider – she just needed to see that the riders could handle different situations and remain in control of their mount at all times so that

they would be able to assist other riders in the event of an incident out on a ride. One by one riders went through their paces of walk, trot and canter circles, mounted unassisted, rode through a gate and opened a 'cocky gate' while leading their horse, then rode a figure 8 pattern while leading another horse. There were several very slick performances as well as one or two hiccups but under Pam's guidance and encouragement everyone completed the tasks well.



with incidents including a diabetic attack, horse with a stake wound, fallen rider, cranky rider wanting to go home, an irate dog walker sharing the trail and a road crossing all within 500 metres! But everything was handled really well and all the participants agreed it was such a worthwhile activity to help really clarify and reinforce all that they had been learning. Back to the classroom to debrief then some more theory before another yummy lunch and it was all over and done.



A slight problem with the gas hot water service meant no hot showers but that didn't stop most of the group heading into Cowra for dinner at the services club. It was a big table with a lot of stories being told – sharing experiences and laughs and reflecting on the days learning. It wasn't a late night though as everyone wanted to rest up before an early Sunday morning start.

100% success with 14 new Trail Bosses! What a great result. Cowra & District Trail Horse Riders, Monaro Horse Trekkers, Central Tablelands, Gooloogong Trail Horse Riders and Blue Mountains clubs will benefit greatly having more accredited riders to share the load and help run their club rides safely for everyone.



The feedback was all positive, and everyone was really pleased they came along. General consensus was it was a great fun weekend with like-minded horse people who have now become new friends. Despite some initial nerves and reservations, the learning that took place was invaluable. Pam's wealth of experience was fascinating and so helpful and her easy going and encouraging teaching style put even the most nervous riders at ease. Huge thanks to Pam from the Cowra club, and all the newly appointed Trail Bosses for all your time and effort and understanding!

There was just a hint of frost around as the group saddled up ready for the Mock Trail Ride and headed to the classroom for a quick cuppa and the Pre-Ride Briefing. Trail Boss and ride officials were nominated, and Pam tasked several riders with role playing out tricky scenarios to hone and test their skills. It may just have been the most eventful trail ride in ATHRA history

The riders were unanimous in recommending all ATHRA members undertake an Accreditation Course when they get the opportunity. If you'd like to know about the weekend, check out the video that Cowra members put together with before and after 'interviews' with some participants and footage of the activities over the weekend. Thank you to all the participants for taking part in the video – it's a great way to show people how much fun Accreditation Training can be!

Check out the video at <https://vimeo.com/272486953>

Riddell's Creek Trail Horse Riding Club (VIC) sadly advise ATHRA members that our fellow rider and very dear friend Chris Haber lost his battle with cancer, sadly passing on Sunday morning 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Chris was an active & longstanding ATHRA member. Over his years with ATHRA Chris supported his clubs by taking on committee positions, running, leading and organising rides, and when not in official positions, he was also a great support to those that were. Chris never took a backward step in difficult times and was fundamental in numerous charity rides over his time with ATHRA.

Chris's family have kindly allowed some of his closest friends to write a small tribute which were read at his memorial service on the 8<sup>th</sup> June, and are following:



*It's almost impossible to put into a few brief words, the feelings from so many people.*

*Some of us have known Chris for a long time, and some for not so long, yet no matter which category you fall into, Chris was a great mate.*

*Although involved in many disciplines of horse riding over his years, lucky for us, his most recent passion was Trail Riding.*

*Chris was an excellent horse person, very knowledgeable and always prepared to lend a hand to those who asked.*

*Chris was always a gentleman.*

*Forever a practical joker.....not to mention a notorious photo-bomber!*

*One thing about Chris that perhaps not everybody knows was his drive to raise money for a local family who lost their husband and father through a horse riding accident- Chris didn't know Ricky personally but just felt it was the right thing to do.*

*Chris loved having a beer and a dance whenever the opportunity arose.*

*He loved camping & going away with the riding club & his friends. Most of all he loved riding his horses in the bush.*

*Trail Riding has taken us far and wide with Chris over the years, and now the trails just won't quite feel the same without him.*

*We already miss him.*

*Rest in Peace dear friend.*

## Snake Island – Alan Salter, President – Ballarat Social Trail Horse Rides Club

**Friday 23rd March** – Up at 5.00 a.m. to pack up gear for Snake Island. We were very fortunate that Mel McKean, (Snake Island Cattlemen’s Association organiser), agreed to collect our gear from camp for transport to the boat, which had to leave on high tide to negotiate channels to the Island, hence the early start. We fed horses, had a leisurely breakfast, packed up camp and by 8.15 a.m. were in convoy and heading to the yards at Welshpool.

We arrived to a hive of activity, Cattlemen and other riders who were to accompany us to Snake Island, saddling up and making final preparations, with a constant flow of arriving floats. We saddled and re-checked our gear, making last-minute adjustments and preparations. Members even found time to purchase Snake Island merchandise before the pre-ride briefing.

35 riders headed out at 10 a.m. with the sun shining and light winds, almost perfect conditions for the crossing. I am pleased to report that all B.S.T.H.R.C members had taken note of our pre-ride discussions, and were riding in perfect position in the group, not straggling at the back and in danger of getting into deep water. This attitude prevailed for the entire Snake Island trip and was especially important during what was to become a “hairy” and exhilarating return crossing on Sunday, but more on that later.

As with all crossings, there is generally a rider (or 2) who get a little wetter than others. About 30 minutes into the crossing, during a stop to allow stragglers to catch up with the main group, Nat Strachan’s “Bella” staggered sideways with vertigo, which can occur when a stationary horse stares at the water. Nat ended up sitting neck deep in water, Bella running a short distance before coming back to the group. In true spirit Nat laughed it off, and even though her phone had died, and she was totally soaked and getting cold, managed to maintain her dignity and sense of humour for the rest of our adventure. It would be remiss not to mention a rider from the other group who went completely under, unfortunately for her, in the “Middle Ground” and in much deeper water.

Remember, the conditions for this crossing were perfect, in contrast to the forecast for Sunday’s return crossing with strong winds and possible rain predicted, so many were thinking this was just a prelude of things to come. Lloyd had jokingly predicted 100 kph winds and a tidal wave in a text, (spooky).

We rested up on Little Snake Island for toilet breaks and removal of coats/clothing, because now we were



free of the water, conditions were becoming quite hot; then crossed the Swashway, a channel between Little Snake and Snake Islands, and started the 1-hour long trek on sandy tracks through stunted vegetation to the Cattlemen’s Huts. About 200 metres short of our destination another rider, a guy wearing shorts and work boots, (not permitted on ATHRA rides for safety reasons), was dislodged from his saddle, his foot became lodged in his stirrup, the horse lashed out, grazing his nose, coming ever so close to a disastrous situation with potential fatal injuries. The lesson being that these things can happen anywhere, any time, so appropriate footwear when riding is vital. (Sorry, couldn’t miss an opportunity to emphasise safety issues).



We arrived at the Huts about 1.30 p.m., found a bunk and settled in. After lunch we all chilled out waiting for happy hour and our evening meal. We were lucky to see the occasional Hog deer and some roos come into the night paddock to graze and get water. About 5.30 p.m. I was joined by Karen, Julie, Nat, Kim, Margaret and Lauren on a walk of the Island, down to and along the beach, and then back inland via the bush to the Huts. I had the girls convinced that we were lost when suddenly the Huts were there in front of us. Shower time, (beautiful hot showers were very welcome), and drinks etc. before dinner. The Cattlemen & women had

prepared a BBQ with the lot, and some very tasty salads, no one went hungry.

By now everyone was very well acquainted and there were many horse stories told, and much reminiscing with old friends, and also some serious “socialising”. Some of our group played cards, a game called “Cards against Humanity” or similar but can’t remember the name, which was seriously funny, rude and crude. Can’t say anymore because what happens on the Island, stays on the Island. I didn’t realise that such games existed, leading such a sheltered life in my autumn years. It was a lot of fun though.

**Saturday 24th March** – I am reliably informed there was a great deal of loud and unusual snoring in the main hut overnight, so some non-snorers didn’t sleep as well as others. We rose at our leisure and brought the horses in for their morning feed, and then had a hot breakfast of chops, sausages, hamburgers, bacon and eggs (poached& scrambled) in sumptuous quantities. With light rain falling we saddled up for a ride. Being an old cattleman from way back, John Austin joined the Cattlemen to move cattle, whilst the rest of us joined Jenny Bland for a ride along the beach. We left the Huts with light drizzle falling, which prevailed for most of the ride, without detracting from our experience. We rode over undulating sand hills through native grasses and stunted vegetation to the beach where some played with their horses in the water. Others cantered and jumped driftwood, the rest of us simply walking along socialising and enjoying the view & experience. With the tide out and with Wilsons Promontory just across the grey water, we rode along the pristine beach for several kilometres, eventually heading back inland across the vegetated dunes.

We eventually found the “Big Waterhole” and caught up with the other riding group. Some of our members joined them for a faster ride back to the Huts. They had finished lunch by the time we arrived, but there was still plenty to eat. Our Late lunch over, some socialised with a drink, soaking up the ambiance of Snake Island. The sun had come out by then and conditions were most pleasant, the smell of recent rain obvious in the air. Others showered and prepared for the evenings socialising. The Cattlewomen went to no end of trouble to prepare a very enjoyable hearty roast dinner, followed by more cards, games and socialising. I retired about midnight, but some played on into the early morning.

**Sunday 25th March** – An early rise was in order today because, once again the boat had to catch the high tide, and our gear had to be loaded. We filled in time feeding horses and chatting before sitting down to

another enormous breakfast. It was noticeably windy, making us think the return crossing may be a little tougher than the trip over, and this proved to be the case.

We left the Huts about 11 a.m. and headed out to the Swashway before crossing over to Little Snake Island. The wind had strengthened to the predicted 35 kph or so, but without hesitation we headed into the water with a strong wind at our backs. It was noticeably colder over the water and the wind was relentless. We negotiated the shallows and then turned left to cross the Middle Ground where we experienced much deeper water than before, but again all riders safely negotiated this without incident. With all horses/riders safely through, we commenced our last leg of the crossing, turning left again to travel west into the wind, parallel with the coast towards Port Welshpool.

The wind was now much stronger, the sky very foreboding, there was an eerie feeling as Mother Nature was about to show us her force. Suddenly we found ourselves riding headlong into the middle of a gale, hats and even a rider’s beanie blown off, riders even holding onto helmets. The wind was stinging with a hint of fine hail, the howling wind causing a constant turbulence across the surface of the shallow water. The gale persisted until we reached dry land and then, quite suddenly died. Amazingly all horses and riders managed it all in their stride and without incident. We arrived back at the floats about 2.35 p.m., a little windblown but none the worse for the experience. I heard members talking about the thrill and excitement of the crossing, some even wishing to do it all again. I arrived home to a dark and stormy Magpie about 7.45 p.m. after one of my most enjoyable and exciting Snake Island adventures. Thanks to all the BSTHRC participants for their enthusiastic co-operation and company.



Sadly, this year Breakaway member MICK ESSAM lost his brave battle with stomach cancer. We have Mick's blessing to dedicate this ride to his memory and to raise much needed funds for the Oncology unit at the Mackay Base Hospital.



WOW WOW WOW is the only way to start this ride report, what a special year this year's charity ride was! The weather was perfect for the 115 riders to gather on a beautiful autumn

morning for a long but rewarding day in the saddle. Trail Boss Mike Teuwsen, Club President Kath Ryan and ride founder Ted Bussey gathered the riders for a pre ride safety chat, before riders mounted and headed off to Mirani for morning tea.

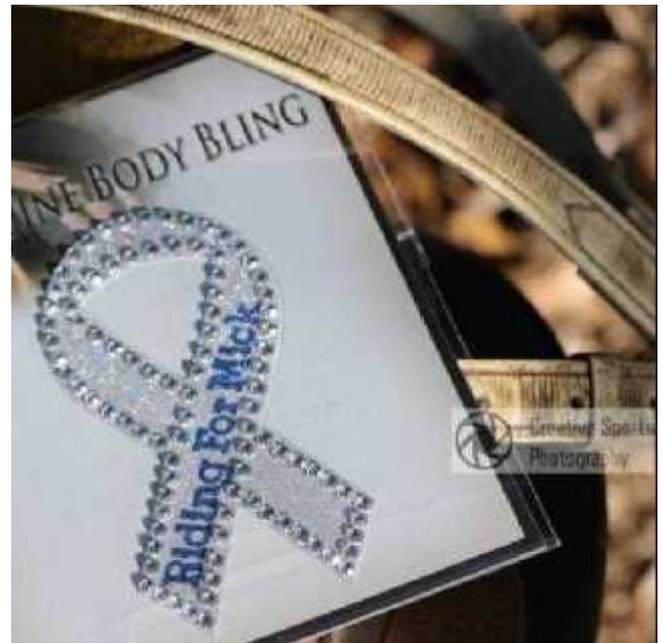
Riding past Nanyima Aged Care home is always a special moment, and this year was no exception. The staff gathered the residents out at the front fence and the look on their faces as we rode past was full of memories of times gone by, they absolutely love the riders stopping and letting them have a pat.

Morning tea was once again a delicious treat, and although not long in the saddle, it had been an early start for riders so a hot cuppa and something sweet was just what was needed. Thank you to all the riders that donated the morning tea and a huge thank you again to Bernice and her crew of lovely ladies who added to the morning tea and made sure everything was ready for when the riders arrived.

Our bridge crossing at Mirani is always a spectacular sight to see and this year with 115 riders it was no exception. The sea of all shades of periwinkle looked amazing. Thank you again to the very efficient "poop scoopers"..... you were very quick to shovel the (shall we say manure)!

Gary Hamelink once again made our trek to the lunch stop interesting, safe and full of lovely creek crossings, country roads and headlands. Thank you, Gary, for the time and effort that you dedicate each year in organising this track and lunch stop, it is greatly appreciated.

There is nothing like the smell of a BBQ in the bush, and once across a single file creek crossing, riders arrived at a beautifully cleared and mowed shaded area perfect for a sausage sizzle and well-deserved break.



Each year we like to have a little chat to riders about the Cancer we are riding for to raise awareness and our Club President, Kath (and very experienced Nurse) gave an informed talk about Stomach Cancer and quoted some interesting stats. Kath was thrilled to be approached by quite a lot of riders after the lunch



break asking questions about this dreaded disease and some of its causes. After all, this is what the ride is about, raising awareness for different cancers and hopefully making people more proactive if they feel something is not quite right.

Kath also gave a little background on Mick's battle with stomach cancer and how it was his wish to raise some money for the oncology unit where he received his treatment and where he believes they helped him to live long past his expected diagnosis. Mick has left behind many grieving family members and friends, but now he has also left behind a very kind gift to the oncology unit and future patients.



We changed things up this year and decided to announce winners and give away lucky horse prizes at the lunch stop. From all reports this seemed to work well and riders were able to collect their prizes at the end of the ride.

After a short ride through sugar cane headlands we gathered to ride in together and twinkle twinkle in our periwinke. Due to the feedback from spectators last year we once again asked our leading fund raisers and best dressed winners to ride in first. Ted Bussey introduced them as they rode in and this enabled the

crowd to show their appreciation. The spectators still got to see the wonderful sight of the riders following behind them.

Our top three Adult most money raised winners were: Julie Tati, Kath Ryan and Anna Nyman raising a total of \$4658 between them. Our top four Junior most money raised winners were: Justin Essam, Atari Brand, Tayah Brand and Dimmity Brown raising a total of \$2539.96 between them. Such a fantastic effort, and there was of course many many more riders that raised money which we are all truly grateful for.

We genuinely thank all riders who took the time to dress up, decorate their horses, or just dress in periwinkle. It really does help to create an amazing atmosphere for the day and provide an incredible sight for spectators as we ride in. This year's winner was Vicki Adams, and Vicki and her horse looked amazing in their purple and black costume; followed by Deslee and Anna as Perwinkle Brides; Libby and Julie as Periwinkle Pixies, Karen and Kylie were dressed up and on Unicorns, and Saskia's horse had a case of the Periwinkle measles! Well done to everyone who made the effort to get into the theme colour. One spectator who had never been before was amazed at the sight of all these horse and riders arriving at the muster..... he was quoted as saying "I dont even like horses, but that was an incredible sight to see and I'm definitely coming back to watch it again next year!"

There is a lot of planning and preparation that goes into making this ride happen. Mike Teuwsen for many years has been Trail Boss for this ride and deserves endless thank you's for his time, effort and planning to make this ride happen each year. It is a huge responsibility to ensure everyone's safety and Mike handles this each year with his common sense, calm and professional approach. Mike always has the support of his lovely wife Viv, and this year it was wonderful to see Mike riding with his daughter Natarsha. THANK YOU, MIKE!

Trans North Bus & Coach deserve a big thank you for taking riders back to the starting point to collect vehicles. What a generous service from a local business. They have already offered to do the same for us again next year. Thank You.

Noel Cowan was once again there for us with the back-up vehicle and float. Each year we have come to rely on Noel to liaise with Mike and Ride Stewards to help the ride move along smoothly and to ensure all road

and bridge crossings go as planned. Thank you, Noel. Noel works closely with the very friendly local police to ensure our road crossings are safe and we once again thank them for their help on the day.

This year we were again lucky enough to have talented photographer Donna from Creative Sports Photography join us on the ride to capture horse and riders throughout the day. I am sure you will agree Donna did an amazing job, Thank you Donna. The photos from the ride are on her website Creative Sports Photography <http://creativesportsphotography.fotomerchant.com/galleries>

A huge thank you to our very humble ABC Rural Reporter and celebrity rider, Lara Webster. This is Lara's second year riding with us and judging our best dressed riders. It was great to see Lara on her own horse this year. Thank you for giving up your time and for the promotional work you and Meecham did for the ride. We hope to see you at another club ride real soon.

As much work as it is for our club to put on this ride, it is just as much work for the Dows Creek Hall Committee to put together the Country Muster for us all to enjoy. Janelle and her team of helpers (would love to mention you personally but I don't want to forget someone) put in so much work into the planning and organising of this event each year. That lovely bush setting with all those tables decorated in the

theme colour always look amazing. Thank you all to the many hours you dedicate to this, what a great Committee you have!

I have co-ordinated this ride for many years now, and although it's hectic and busy on the day, it's a wonderful and rewarding ride to be a part of. This year's ride seemed to run so smoothly which is all to do with the wonderful help I had at the registration table. Thank you to Juanita, Anne, Donna and Mal who helped out at registration, it's such a busy time but you all handle it with ease. I would like to make a special mention of club Treasurer Gary Cain, boy did you make my job a lot easier this year, thank you so much for all the hours you put into making sure all monies were accounted for. Thank you also to Kristy and Brooke, for helping me sought and wrap all those amazing prizes and to Brooke and Mark for the enormous amount of work you did on the day at registration, ferrying cars, and organising all those prizes at lunch and after the ride. Once again, my job was made so so much easier by the help of my very close friend and our Club Secretary, Roxanne Aprile. Thank you so much Roxy!

Thank you to the Breakaway Ride Stewards, riders and their friends and family for coming along and supporting this annual event. Without you showing up and making the effort to support the charity ride and bush carnival it would not be the success it has been this year.

At last count we have raised nearly \$16000 dollars this year and this could not be possible without the support of generous people and businesses who have been willing to help us out with prizes. Every little bit helps and we are truly grateful for every rider that shows up whether you have raised sponsorship money or not.

So, spread the word to your horsey friends that next year, we are riding to raise awareness for Bowel Cancer. I don't think I have spoken to anyone yet, that has not known someone who has had bowel cancer.

See you next year!



## 2018 Qld September camp

It is with pleasure that ATHRA announces that this year's Qld September Camp will be held at the wonderful Cameron's Creek. Great camp site, great facilities, great food and fantastic riding.

This is a fully catered camp with our great chef Peter Wolfe ensuring we get the best food during this event.

The camp commences on Saturday 22 September, when participants arrive to set up their base camp for the week-long event. Our first meal is served Saturday evening, with the first ride commencing on Sunday morning. There is a rest day on Wednesday and this is also an opportunity for the part timers to either head home or head on in for the balance of the week.

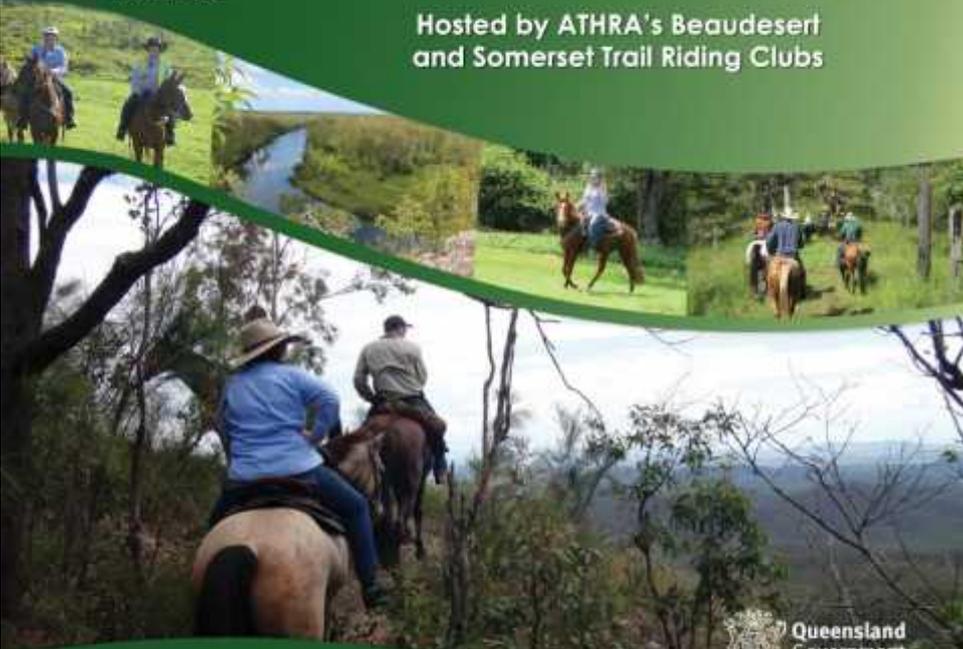
This is the best value ATHRA camp for only \$550 for all meals from 22 – 30 September. If you have not been to one of these camps, best lock it in and come along for the fun and great rides.

You can book on line at <https://www.trybooking.com/385589>



**2018 Queensland September Camp**  
**Cameron's Creek**  
**22 – 30 September 2018**

Hosted by ATHRA's Beaudesert  
and Somerset Trail Riding Clubs



**Queensland Government**  
This event is proudly supported by  
ATHRA and the Queensland Government

**Holiday with your horse!**

**Cost includes:**  
All Meals, hot showers, toilets,  
ample water for horses, great camping  
and riding in the Kholo / Mt Crosby  
region only 20 minutes from Ipswich

Full Time Camp - \$550  
Half Camp - \$375  
6 days of riding including an  
optional overnight assisted packride

**Where else can you get  
a fully catered horse  
holiday at this price?**

For any queries contact  
Claire Bourke  
[clairebourke1@bigpond.com](mailto:clairebourke1@bigpond.com)  
0418 438 807

Register and pay online at  
[www.trybooking.com/385589](http://www.trybooking.com/385589)  
Register and Pay for full camp  
prior to 17 August 2018 and be  
in the draw to win your entry back

To participate you must be an ATHRA member  
Join an ATHRA Club near you at [www.athra.com.au](http://www.athra.com.au)



# 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](mailto:mezgreen15@gmail.com)**  
**ph: 0459 343 995 OR**  
**Roxy Aprile: [breakaway.sec@gmail.com](mailto:breakaway.sec@gmail.com)**





At the previous Large Animal Emergency Rescue Information Workshop, the catering and venue was provided by Logan Red Rivers Trail Riders – a big thanks to Karen and Sarah, who did a wonderful job on the day.

Presenters MaryAnne and Virginia Leighton lead the participants through the course learning what they should do and most importantly what they should not do during an emergency situation with their horses.

This course is subsidised and great value for ATHRA members at \$40.00 for the day.

All participants commented on the value of attending this workshop – so if you missed out on this one - the next workshop is being held at Toogoolawah in the Brisbane Valley region on 14 July 2018.

To register book on line at <https://www.trybooking.com/370399>

**Australian Trail Horse Riders Association  
& Queensland Horse Council**




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!**

**TOOGOOLAWAH**

**Where:** Toogoolawah Showgrounds  
Ivory Creek Road  
Toogoolawah QLD 4512

**When:** Saturday 14 July 2018

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$40 for 2018 ATHRA members,  
\$25 for others (includes morning  
tea and lunch)

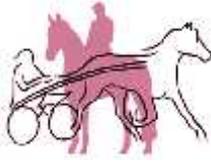
**To book:**  
<https://www.trybooking.com/370399>

**Contact:** Claire Bourke  
0418 453 807  
[www.qldhorsecouncil.com/](http://www.qldhorsecouncil.com/) [www.athra.org.au/](http://www.athra.org.au/)

- ✓ **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 included in the course fees





## **The Standardbred Pleasure & Performance Horse Association of Victoria (SPPHAV) / ATHRA Trail Riding Award**

Are you an ATHRA Member? Do you own a Standardbred or Part bred Standardbred? You could be in the running for an award!

To be eligible for this award your horse must be a Standardbred with freeze brand, Standardbred without freeze brand or part bred Standardbred.

You must be a member of both the Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA) and SPPHAV.

The award goes to Horse & Rider that has attended the most number of ATHRA Rides within their 12mth SPPHAV & ATHRA financial membership of the same year.

### **All you need to do is...**

- ) Log onto [www.spphav.org.au](http://www.spphav.org.au).
- ) Download and fill in the membership and horse registration forms.
- ) Order a performance card with your membership.
- ) Send the forms & payment to SPPHAV (details on the form).
- ) You will receive a membership kit.

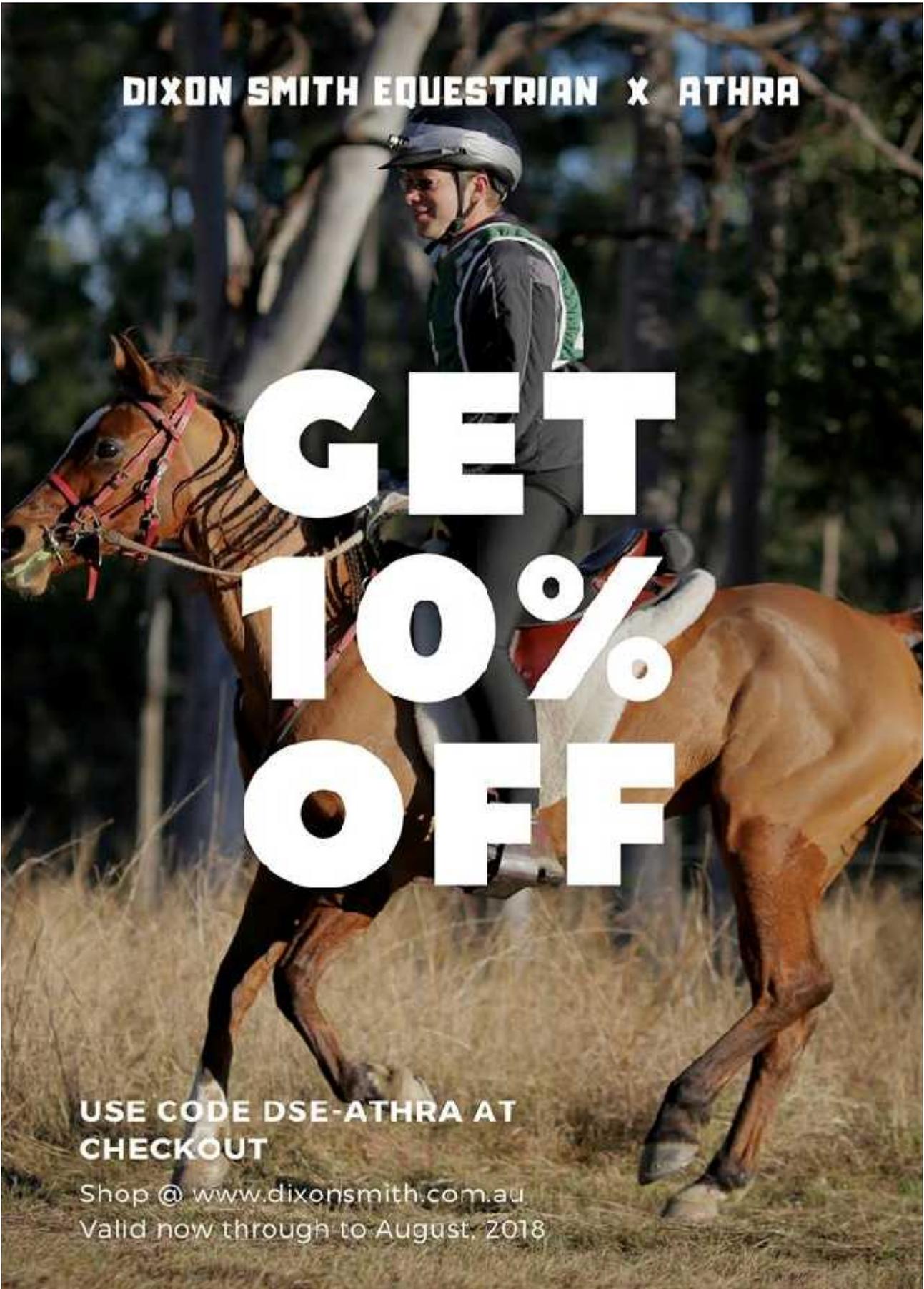
### **Then...**

- ) Attend as many ATHRA rides as you can between 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> June.
- ) Record each ride on your performance card and have it signed off by the Trail Boss on the day of the ride.
- ) Send your performance card to SPPHAV no later than 7<sup>th</sup> July.
- ) The person who attends the most rides wins the SPPHAV/ATHRA Trail Riding Award. Winners are announced, and presentations are done at the SPPHAV AGM.

### **Standardbreds without a freeze brand and part bred Standardbreds will be subject to DNA testing.**

Join us at SPPHAV to promote your beautiful Standardbred or part bred Standardbred and show just how wonderful and versatile this breed is.

SPPHAV Inc Post Office Box 57  
YEA, VIC 3717 0427 004 821

A photograph of a rider on a brown horse in a field. The rider is wearing a dark helmet, a dark long-sleeved shirt, and a green and black vest. The horse is brown with a white blaze on its face and white markings on its legs. The background consists of trees and a fence.

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10%  
OFF**

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CHECKOUT**

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# HORSE GEAR OUTLET.COM

Free Shipping for purchases over \$100 within Australia



**Cavallo**  
The Ultimate Hoof Boot for the Barefoot Horse

SAVE \$100  
Now ONLY \$149.95

The image shows a grey Cavallo Simple Boot with two straps, positioned next to a horse's head. The background is a soft-focus landscape.

SAVE \$100

Built for all-terrain and now MORE affordable! The Cavallo Simple Boot is designed for multi-purpose use such as protection on rides, rehabilitation, and breeding.

WAS \$249.95

**Now**  
**\$149.95**

Sold as a pair

SAVE \$100

Sold as a pair



Horse Gear Outlet  
**Cavallo Pastern Wraps**

35%  
OFF

REDUCED  
WAS \$29.95  
Now ONLY \$19.95  
Designed for Extra Support

The image shows a dark grey Cavallo Pastern Wrap with red accents and a strap, wrapped around a horse's pastern. A red circular badge with a black banner is overlaid on the bottom right of the image.

EXTRA PROTECTION

Are you looking for extra protection for your horse on long rides? These wraps are designed to suit ANY Cavallo boot & give added comfort for your horse.

WAS \$29.95

**Now**  
**\$19.95**

Sold as a pair

# HORSE GEAR OUTLET.COM



The world's most affordable boot is the best addition for the budget conscious rider. Just buy one or four & trust you are still getting a quality boot that stays on & can handle the workload!

WAS \$99.95

**Now  
\$69.95**

Sold as a single boot



Built for the toughest of terrains, the Cavallo TREK Boot has been designed to handle most surfaces, but still provide comfort and protection for your horse.

WAS \$129.95

**Now  
\$89.95**

Sold as a single boot

**Free Shipping for purchases over \$100 within Australia**

## ATHRA Merchandising



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

\$120



ATHRA lovely wool saddle blankets  
\$130



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 Beanies  
\$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](http://www.athra.com.au)

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

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