



YARRAMBAT HORSE AND PONY CLUB

APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER



Hi Members,

We hope you are all managing the enforced isolation conditions and are staying healthy!

It seems that it will be some time before we can all meet again at a rally, so we are going to do our best to try and keep us all connected online. Where possible, we will try and distribute a mini newsletter more frequently, however, in some regard, that will be dependent upon our members' contributions. We would love to have a ready supply of photos to include in our newsletter, so please send them through to Ciara at: yhpcwebsiteeditor@gmail.com. It doesn't have to be a competition photo, it may be one of you riding at home, or even a cute pic of your pony or perhaps an old pic of you riding - we might even have a guess who section?

We would also like to hear from members regarding some of the ideas that we are exploring. We have included a link to a survey asking for input and assistance regarding some of these ideas and we would greatly appreciate it if members could take the time to complete it. Our virtual program could include activities such as quizzes, puzzles and pending interest, perhaps even some virtual competitions, such as dressage or freestyle dressage.

Now, a quick return back to life pre COVID-19 and mention of our wonderful riders and helpers at the Yeringberg Team Horse Trials event. This year we had 2 teams which was less than previous years, but given that the total number of teams was only 8, YHPC were well represented. Whilst we didn't bring home the shield this year, our teams and their supporters excelled!

Our grade 3 team, the Wonderbats consisted of Steph Mackenzie, Alice Davies and Sophia Weine and wonderful they were! With double clears in SJ and on the xc course, Alice won the grade 3 section, with Sophia taking out 3rd place! Unfortunately, Steph had to retire KGB Lost my Cool from the event before the xc, but that's life when eventing we all have great and not so great days.

Our grade 4 team also put in a stellar performance with all 3 riders stepping up to join a team, even though their horses were relatively new to eventing! The Flying Bats included Ebony Baird, Abbey Macleod and Kristin Mackellar and as with the Wonderbats, the Flying Bats represented YHPC proudly. Unfortunately, Kristin also had to retire prior to the xc leg of the event and whilst it can be a tough decision to make, especially when part of a team, both Steph and Kristin made the right decision by placing the welfare of their horses, first and foremost.

Yeringberg is a wonderful event, but it relies heavily on a big commitment from clubs and in this regard, once again YHPC did a great job of running the dressage rings. With a relatively small number of riders, the task was large, so a very big thank you to our team members and their wonderful families, for so readily stepping up to help. We also had added help from Rosie Brocksopp and Kelsey Dodds who were competing in the EA section of the event which was much appreciated, as was the assistance from Phoebe Moore who volunteered her time, even though Eliza was not participating in the event!

All in all, once again Yeringberg was a fun weekend, largely because of the team element and I urge those that did not participate this year, to give it some thought next year, as it is one of the few opportunities outside of games events, where our club has the opportunity to compete in a team environment.

We hope that you have the opportunity to spend loads of time with your ponies throughout this unknown isolation period, but most importantly, take care and please do your best to ensure that you and your families stay safe.

Happy riding,

Sinéad Hanlon

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hi Members,

The effect of Covid-19 has been catastrophic and far reaching and like many communities, the equine community has been hit hard. With all equestrian events ruled out, North Metro Zone were lucky to run Yeringberg Horse Trials just before everything closed down. It was great to see 2 YHPC teams at this event and I hope those lucky enough to ride, enjoyed the fantastic new courses.

Don't forget there are quizzes and challenges available to all riders on the PVA and PCV website, a great way to stay in touch with your competitive edge, whilst learning at the same time.

Pony club has also been creative and created the opportunity to enter virtual dressage tests. Another great way to stay involved in the sport you all love doing.

Remember, to all stay positive because when this is all over, competitions and pony club will be back and you will all be able to show off the improvements you've been able to make in the time being.

It is unfortunate that we have had to temporarily close our grounds, lets hope we get through some short-term pain for long term gain.

Where there are kids who love ponies, there will always be a pony club.

Stay safe.

Tony Brocksopp
President



Pony Club Australia News

Even though competitions and pony club have stopped, PCA still have different activities you can be a part of, such as designing the PCA polo top or a taking 10000 step challenge. To keep up to date ensure you read the PCA Newsletter by clicking the following link.

<https://tinyurl.com/wkn5p4h>

Caring for your horse

For those that aren't isolated with their ponies, taking care of our ponies is a little trickier. Reassuringly, visiting our ponies to feed and care for them (including riding) is permitted, providing you abide by the conditions outlined in the link below:

<https://www.vic.equestrian.org.au/news/sat-28-march-update-equestrian-centres-agistment-centres-coaches-clubs-update>



YHPC Survey

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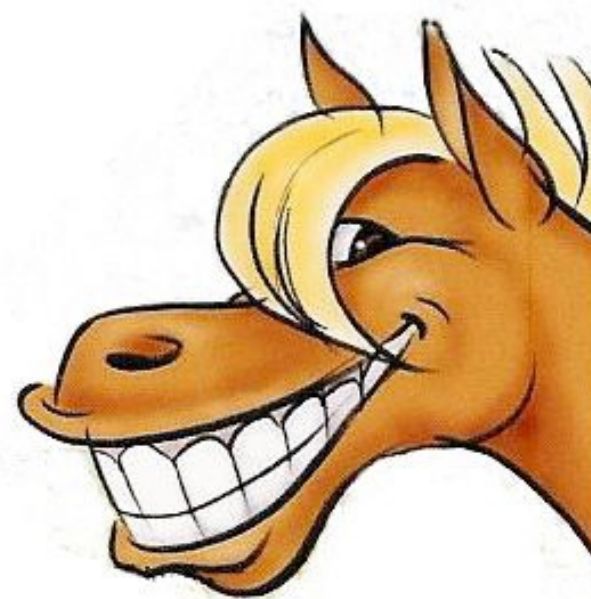
<https://www.yhpc.org.au/rallies/rally-attendance/>

Congratulations!!

Someone that hasn't been out and about too much lately, is one of our favorite instructors, Molly Brocksopp. A huge congratulations to Molly and Lachie on the birth of their beautiful daughter Lola Isabella. Lola arrived slightly late, but safely on the 17/02/2020. From all accounts, Molly and Lachie are coping beautifully with being isolated alongside their beautiful baby, however, rumour has it that Lola's grandparents and her three very eager Aunties (Rosie, Poppy and Lucy), are not coping so well with isolation from their first grandchild and niece!

FUN FACTS

A horse's teeth take up a larger amount of space in their head than their brain and an adult horse's brain weights 22 oz, about half that of a human -so maybe we are smarter???



Horses have 16 muscles in each ear, allowing them to rotate their ears 180 degrees.

OUT AND ABOUT BECOMES IN AND SAFE!

AS WE CAN'T GET OUT AND ABOUT, PLEASE SEND US A PHOTO OF YOU AND YOUR PONY IN SELF ISOLATION.

