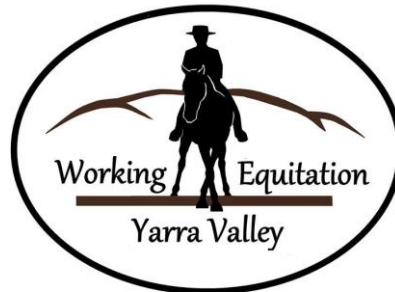


MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENTS PONDERINGS

Well March turned out to be a big fizzle regarding rallies! Or should I say sizzler? With the 2 planned rallies of March being cancelled due to excessive heat, both days were rescheduled to the following week only to have the Wednesday group cancelled again due to our heat policy. The Sunday finally went ahead though I think even though the temperature was technically cooler the humidity was not pleasant.

The Heat policy is currently under review by the committee due to new guidelines being published from the Australian Animal Welfare Council. More about this further down.

A big warm WEVY welcome to Carol Perrie this month.

NEW RALLY FORMAT

At the last committee meeting there was a discussion regarding grouping levels of riders and/or time preference. Sometimes the schedule will not accommodate a rider's preferred time with the level of that particular rider. This will happen if the times and levels are changed each month to share the early/late lesson times around.

Levels will take priority in all lessons.

- eg. if you can't ride at the time for your level then you will need to accommodate to the level that meets the time you can ride. While instructors will do their best to meet your needs also - please remember that for safety, the levels must take priority.

Example - If you are level 3/2 and that level is offered at 8.30am but you cannot ride till 2.30pm (the time slot for Level 5/4) then you can expect that the 2.30 lesson will be targeted at Level 5/4 activities, but where possible will also try to accommodate your specific needs.

4 riders at the same level - 2 hour lesson
3 riders at the same level - 1 & half hour
2 riders at the same level - 1 hour lesson
2 horses in hand - 1 hour lesson
1 horse/rider private lesson - 30 mins

Payment will be required **AT TIME OF BOOKING.** No prior payment, no ride.

As well as the time duration change the lesson content will also be changing. WE will now be having the dressage lesson and including either 1,2, or 3 obstacles depending on what the instructor has planned. This should work well for our obstacle training as we can either go more indepth as to how to best ride the obstacle or alternately the obstacle will be used to hone in our dressage skills.

Probably every 3 or 4 rallies the whole course will be set up to give members the opportunity to ride the whole course. Also the course will be available on clinic days as required.

HEAT POLICY

As we saw 1st hand a few weeks ago the Melbourne weather was quite literally 'the talk of the town', especially in Yarra Glen!

The heat policy was brought into action on these occasions as the forecast in Yarra Glen was to be 6-7 degrees hotter than the forecast temperature in Melbourne city, and decidedly more humid as well.

The committee had adopted a Horse Welfare Heat Policy, that is the rally will be cancelled if the all day temperature is to be $>$ or $=$ 34 degrees, or if the day is a day of TOTAL FIRE BAN.

This is currently under revue by the committee and will be finalised over the next few meetings and will probably not affect us till next summer now.

We are working on a Hot Weather Policy in line with the Australian Animal Welfare Council which includes charts and directives for humidity as well as heat. 36 hours notice of cancellation was considered appropriate.

It will be the members/riders personal responsibility to check emails/Facebook/text messages for the weather forecast and possible cancellation notice.

More on this as details are finalised.



WEVY CLINIC 19th MARCH @ MELROSE FARM

This clinic was booked out with last minute attendees. By all accounts that I saw on Facebook and by speaking to other members that went everyone had a great time, rumours of new members as well?

CLUB FUNDRAISER

A special note from Carola regarding the next club fundraiser.

Please have a good look at the order form and place your order with Carola ASAP, it just makes it easier for her come time when orders have to be collated.

Hello everyone,

It's Carola here - (one of) your trusty fundraising committee (together with the lovely Fay Diamantakis).

It's been a long time coming, but here finally are the details for this **beautiful fundraiser** with **Tesselaar Spring Bulbs**.

They offer the amazing deal in which **45%** of the overall order \$\$ goes to the participating organisation **IF the order is above \$150!**

I think we should **EASILY** be able to reach this goal!!!

It works as follows:

Attached here is the link to the Tesselaar fundraising website if you would like to do some more reading up on the procedure.

<http://www.tesselaar.net.au/fundraising/>

Also, I have attached as a pdf their fundraising catalogue.

It is **very colourful** and makes me really look forward to that beautiful spring time of year when all those amazing bulbs **explode into colour**. And who does not like some uplifting colour in their lives, especially after a cold and rainy winter (well, let's hope for the rain anyway!)

I can highly recommend their **ready-packed mixes for \$49** if you find the catalogue a bit overwhelming in its variety. **HEAPS of colour** and variety without the stress of choosing every single one!

With each order I need the **NAME, CHOICE OF BULBS (AND IF MULTIPLES, HOW MANY OF EACH PACK) AND DATE OF PAYMENT.**

I will collate the orders at the end of the fundraiser period and will forward the order forms to Tesselaar. **Only orders with completed payment will go onto the order forms.**

Tesselaar will send out the orders to me at the end of April / early May and we will then have to arrange drop off / pick up - preferably at the May rallies if I have the orders by then. But I will be happy to meet in Yarra Glen on a different day for you to pick up your orders directly from me.

PAYMENT can be made directly into my account **Bendigo Bank, BSB 633000, acc. 153784483**. As **reference** please use your **name + bulbs**, e.g. "S.Walker bulbs" to avoid confusion.

PLEASE DO PASS THIS FUNDRAISER ON TO YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND FRIENDS OF FRIENDS.....!!!

THE MORE ORDERS - THE MORE MONEY FOR OUR CLUB!!!

To keep it a bit easier for me I would appreciate it if you could collect orders and payments from your family and friends and then send them on to me in an email like so:
'WEYV member' - Joe Smith 1 x Tesselaar Rainbow Pack \$49
Anja May 2 x 5 Hyacinths 'mixed' \$35
etc.
total payment into account on 'date' =\$84

(Hope that makes sense!)

ORDERS CLOSE ON APRIL 5

Well - Happy Bulb Shopping everyone.

Cheers and thanks for your support!

Carola Sahler
Fundraising Committee
mob. 0400584467

Please get behind the girls and our club fundraiser, they may be a good pressie for Mother's day, or a unique birthday present for that loved one that has everything (except some nice bulbs for their garden).

SKILL AT ARMS CLINIC

This is a private clinic organised by Anna Gust and is not directly related to the club.

All members and friends are welcome to attend.

I have a few spots available for a private clinic at Gruyere in the Yarra Valley. I am taking a maximum of 8 people. I have not advertised yet but it is already half full. It will be first in best dressed. The cost for a full day is \$115 which is inclusive of venue hire.

Auditing spaces are limited but for those who are interested it will cost \$20 for the day.

If you are unfamiliar with skill at arms it has some similarities to working equitation. You ride your horse with a series of obstacles and as you progress in skill you ride one handed.

Here is a YouTube video giving you a sample. We will not be riding at the same level as the video and exercises will be tailored to the level of the riders who attend. Adaptions will be made to how obstacles are performed (e.g. no chopping cabbages in half with sharp swords)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bm2p60w2-sY>

Date: May 21st

Time: 9 am start- All day

Our instructor for the day is experienced in skill at arms and is an international jousting competitor and winner. He currently lives and works at Kryal Castle just outside of Ballarat. He does regular demonstrations at the castle.

If you are interested in participating, first please contact Anna to ensure that there is a space for you at annagust37@hotmail.com

When your payment has been received your place is secured.

Deposit money into this account using your name as a reference

BSB 013313

Account 259009573

In order to keep the costs down we thought that it would be nice to all bring something for morning tea and lunch that we can share. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Here is some information on our instructor and Knight in shining armour.

<http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/country-living/all-in-a-knights-work-for-kryal-castles-phillip-leitch/news-story/4cbbb860a035c55c8103b264159689ad>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2016

For info and bookings email Lisa Saunders at lisandian@bigpond.com.au

Book early: Closing dates for bookings & payment is 5 days prior to event.

WEYV Calendar:

<http://www.workingequitationyarravalley.org/calendar.html>

2016 DATES



April -	Wednesday 6 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
	Sunday 10 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
May -	Wednesday 4 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
	Sunday 8 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
June -	Wednesday 1 st	Club rally	Gruyere
	Saturday 4 th	Club rally	Gruyere
July -	Wednesday 6 th	Club rally	Gruyere
	Saturday 9 th	Club rally	Gruyere
August -	Wednesday 3 rd	Club rally	Gruyere
	Saturday 6 th	Club rally	Gruyere
September -	Wednesday 7 th	Club rally	Gruyere
	Saturday 10 th	Club rally	Gruyere
October -	Wednesday 5 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
	Sunday 9 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
November -	Wednesday 2 nd	Club rally	Melrose Farm
	Sunday 6 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
	Wednesday 16 th	AGM	
December -	Wednesday 7 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm
	Sunday 11 th	Club rally	Melrose Farm

CLUB TRIP TO BANYANDAH

Anna Gust has organised a wonderful trip away for you and your horse. It has been planned for Friday 22nd of April 2016- Monday 25th, if you would care to come and join in the fun. Monday the 25th is Anzac day and a public holiday. You could come for 2, 3 or 4 nights.

You may recall some information about Banyandah in one of the newsletters from 2015. If you don't remember this then have a good look at the website.

<http://www.banyandahnaturally.com.au/home.html>. It is a wonderful 350 acre property on the banks of the Mighty Murray River. There are magnificent river red gums, safe trails along the river to ride on. There are amazing horse facilities, including arenas, round yards, an extensive outdoor horse playground and horse swimming beach on the river. It is very reasonably priced and is designed specifically for horse clinics and relaxing time away with your horse.

ACCOMMODATION Have a look at this on the website

There is space for 8 people to stay in the light house which is very luxurious, has a fully equipped kitchen, 2 bathrooms and wood fire. Doona's and pillows are provided but bring your own sheets. Don't wait too long or you might miss one of these beds. For those who would prefer or who miss out on staying in the light house, you can camp and use the cattleman's hut which has kitchen facilities, toilet and showers and is very nice too.

The Light House overnight per bed – your linen \$50

surcharge – our linen \$20

The Cattleman's Hut camp overnight \$15

Horses facility fee & horse day yard per day \$15

You can also bring your family if you are all happy to camp. The lighthouse will be reserved for riding members.

Please leave dogs at home.

In order to secure your booking you can pay for your accommodation and yard hire via direct transfer into the WEYV account. Don't forget to say that this deposit is for the Banyandah trip when you pay and put in your reference.

Bendigo Bank, Woori Yallock

BSB: 633000

Account No: 151477684

Account Name: Working Equitation Yarra Valley Inc.

You will need to email Anna at annagust37@hotmail.com to let her know which nights you are planning to stay and whether you're booking in to the light house or camping.

One More on Attention

Written by Jeff Derby

This article originally appeared in Eclectic Horseman Issue No.68

In two previous articles I talked about the importance of being able to gain your horse's attention, and building on that to where you can hold your horse's attention, in order to get your horse in the habit of staying tuned in to you. Now let's home in a little bit and talk about one particular indicator of where your horse's attention is.

That's your horse's closest eye, or even more exactly, where the pupil can be seen on that eye. First about the pupil, and then about the why. If we look at the eye, we'll see that the pupil and iris can be seen as the darker colored circle making up the majority of the visible eye. This is surrounded by the lighter sclera, sometimes referred to as the white of the eye. Obviously, the eye can move so that the pupil is in the anterior (or forward) portion, through the center, to the posterior area of the visible optical socket. If we are standing to one side of the horse, and we watch the eye, we can see when the pupil is back and towards us, or forward with the focus being to the other side, away from us. If we are mounted and the horse is flexed laterally even slightly, we can see the same thing. The pupil can be in the posterior portion of the eye, looking toward the inside of the bend, or in the anterior portion looking toward the outside.

Now about the why. Quite simply put, the eyes show us where the attention is, and the attention shows us where the mind is. Let's put this to practical use.

If I am standing to one side of the horse presenting an object he is concerned about, such as my flag near his shoulder, the horse may start moving away from the flag. If we look at his eye now, we will most likely see the pupil towards the forward portion, looking away from us. He is trying to get away from the object. His mind is on leaving, his attention is on an escape route, and his eye is showing us this. When the horse looks in towards me (or the object), the pupil will shift towards the back of the eye. He has mentally quit trying to leave or escape and is at least considering a way to live with whatever I'm doing. It is indicative of a change in his thinking. That's a start. I want to release for that.

With a horse that is pretty braced, and perhaps has quite a habit of shutting down, or just "wearing" any pressure, I might start with just standing beside him while his feet are still and begin lightly bumping him with a knuckle or the handle end of my flag, watching for the eye to move, and the pupil to come back towards me. Sometimes the horse may bend his neck and head around. If the eye comes with this, great, but I've found quite often the eye moves first by itself. Other times, especially with a horse that has been bended a lot, the head and neck may come way around to the side, to where the stirrup is if he's saddled, but the pupil can be deep in the anterior corner of the optical socket, straining to keep sight of the opposite direction. That is not very useful to me. He is giving physically, but not turning loose mentally.

If the horse is moving, as when we ask him to walk a circle around us from the ground, he may be leaning in, perhaps with the back of his jaw being closest to us, or leading with his shoulder. His head and neck may be bent towards us in a fashion, his feet may be getting him around us, but if his pupil is away, his mind is on leaving, and his poll will be flexed to go the opposite direction. If we analyze the feet closely in this situation I think we will often find

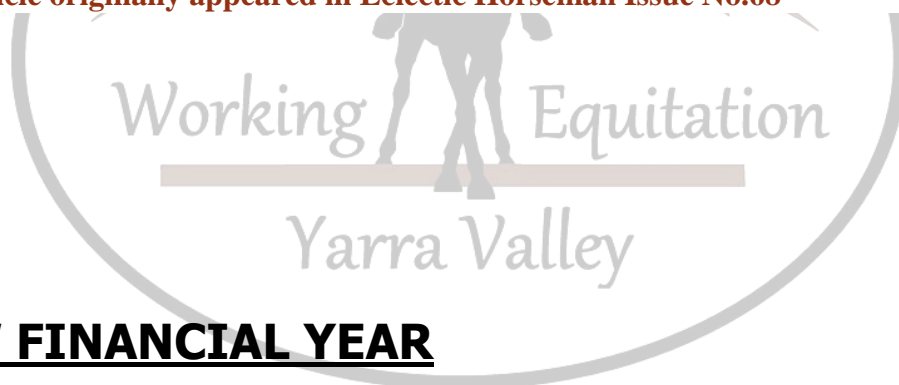
that they are not reaching evenly with all four, but instead he goes straight forward for a stride or two, and then the front end comes in towards us. The inside hind foot is probably stepping straight ahead rather than up and under the center of the body. That does not make for a nice circle. The horse can do this and still be very braced, and if we increase speed it rapidly falls apart. Sometimes, he may be giving his feet to an extent, (and that may be where we have to start), but the horse can give his feet, and his mind not be there. He's just going through the motions, so to speak, waiting for us to quit. That's not the partnership I'm striving for.

When the mind comes, I find the poll and the loin come, and so does the rest of the body and the feet. If the horse is there mentally, he physically prepares for the direction suggested and so shapes or rounds from the nose to the tail. I find the physical indication often begins with the eye, and that a change there usually just precedes changes elsewhere. It's the best indicator, for me, of where the mind is. If I get this, the horse will take care of the rest of the body.

I can keep track of the feet, I can be aware of the bend, I can feel the whole horse, but especially in these instances, I am going to pay particular attention to the eye, to see when his mind is tipping towards me, or towards the direction I'm offering.

Again, we can start by recognizing and releasing for the first indication of a try, and then encourage that response, thus developing the mental aspect of trying into a habit for the horse.

This article originally appeared in Eclectic Horseman Issue No.68



NEW FINANCIAL YEAR

The HRCav new financial year started on 1st November and you must be a financial member to ride.

You will also need to bring your **GREEN** membership card to be stamped for the new year. You will not be able to ride or compete unless your cards have been officially signed and stamped.

The new membership forms for 2015/2016 financial year are now on our website. (Go to 'about', 'membership', 'joining process' - <http://www.workingequitationyarravalley.org/joining-process.html>)

It's still just \$70 to join our club – plus your HRCav insurance. We also welcome associate membership if you are already a member with

another HRCav club and non riding associate membership is available also. The HRCav magazine Chaff Chat is optional.

Amongst the forms there is a member emergency information form. This only needs to be filled out and returned if any of the information required on the form has changed since you filled out the last one ie- new address, phone number, etc.

FACEBOOK and WEBSITE

Don't forget that our club has a Facebook page as well as a great website. If you are a Facebook member go to Working Equitation Yarra Valley to get some great training articles by Susie along with lots of our general info re rallies and special events, photos etc.

The website is also great for more technical club info with HRCav links.
www.workingequitationyarravalley.org

UNIFORMS

If you have any queries re uniforms or saddle blankets please contact Julia on 0437 741871 or on the email at the end of the newsletter.

We do have a small amount of embroidered short and long sleeved white tops available for purchase.

MEMBERS CLASSIFIEDS

If members have anything that you would like to sell or advertise please let the editor know and I can arrange to put it in the newsletter for you.

FOR SALE



Zaldi 18 inch Grand Prix 2000 All Purpose Saddle.
Fully mounted, includes stirrup leathers and irons
Good used condition. Does not fit my young horse. \$200
Debrah Clow. Ph.0458 651 957

WANTED

Carola is looking for her next equine partner. If you know of a suitable horse please let her know.

For lease or lease with option to buy would be great, but if THE ONE comes along, I'll consider purchasing straight out.

I am an experienced horse woman and intermediate rider - just not as fit and 'gung-ho' as I used to be in my teens and twenties. I am also an RDA coach.

My current horsey mate has some soundness issues which unfortunately requires him to be spelled for the rest of the year and then I still don't know if he'll be sound. So I'm looking for a new riding partner who is ready to go.

I'm interested in dressage (School of Lightness - Legereté, Philip Karl philosophy), Working Equitation, trail and beach rides, groundwork and play and just hanging out.

Looking for a real partner. My philosophy is love, respect and kind assertiveness. The welfare of the horse is always my first concern. The horse I'm looking for needs to be safe, can be forward but absolutely no buck, bolt etc. And sound. I've had too much bad luck with unsound horses in the last year or so. Looking for 15.2hh plus (must be chunky at

that height), 6-13 yrs. I like Clydies, Percherons, etc and their Xxs, Cobs, etc. No TB OTT or STB.

If you think you might have something that fits the bill, I'd love to hear from you. My mob is 0400584467. Cheers Carola

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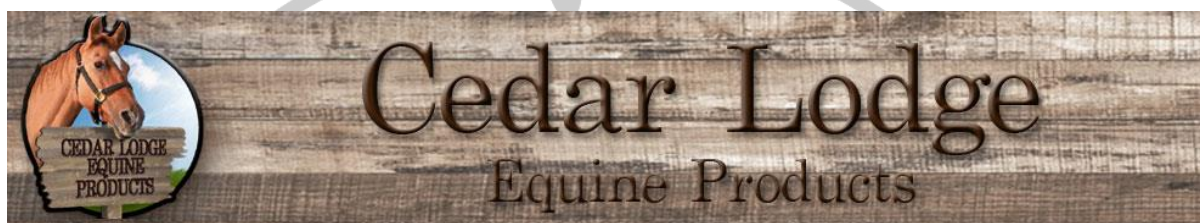
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CLUB POSTAL ADDRESS

:- PO Box 394 Panton Hill 3759

WEBSITE www.workingequitationyarravalley.org

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President – Helen Sharp helenjsharp@bigpond.com

Vice President - Vacant

Newsletter – Helen Sharp helenjsharp@bigpond.com

M'ship Secretary – Susie Walker walker.susieg@gmail.com

Treasurer – Kerry Pitcher kerry.pitcher@gmail.com

Rallies – Lisa Saunders lisaandian@bigpond.com.au

Instructors & Venues – Anna Gust annagust37@hotmail.com

Uniforms – Julia Colman colmanj@southernphone.com.au

Obstacles - Julia Colman

Fundraising – Fay Diamantakis fdiamantakis@optusnet.com.au

Risk M'ment – Fay Diamantakis

Fundraising – Carola Sahler carolasahler@optusnet.com.au

Minutes Secretary – Carola Sahler

Events – Lindy Whitfort lindy.whitfort@bigpond.com

Website Consultant – Denise McKay Denisemckay76@hotmail.com

General Committee – Debrah Clow alfranzpark@bigpond.com

General Admin - Andrew Feher feher.andrew@gmail.com

