

POWY EXPRESS



Bendigo Pony Club Inc.
P.O. Box 2557 Bendigo
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August Newsletter 2008

UP COMING EVENTS

August

- 2nd - "C" Certificate theory examination - Bendigo Pony Club Grounds
- 10th - Maryborough PC Horse Trials Grade 1-5
- 17th - "C" Certificate riding examinations - Venue TBA
- 16th & 17th - Maldon PC - Showjumping & Dressage Series
- 24th - Castlemaine PC - Showjumping & Dressage Series
- 26th - PCAV Council & State AGM



September

- 5th - Zone AGM & Dinner - Section "A"
- 14th - Bendigo PC - Showjumping & Dressage Series
- Castlemaine PC - Showjumping & Dressage Series
- 24th - Midland Zone PC Showjumping & Flat Time Ride Shield - Charlton PC Grounds
- 28th - Neangar Park - Gymkhana & freshman's Showjumping.



Please support our ongoing fundraising for Project Hope. The jar is always in need of funds. And through our wonderful, Deb Degenhardt and Alex Trahair, her delicious jams etc, raised a lot of money at our Combined Training Day for this worthy cause.



Happy birthday to you

To all horses - 1st
Maddison Poyner - 5th
Maddison Maud - 20th



Please remember to let your DC know if you will be attending the Monday prior to the rally. Her e-mail is

skfoley40@hotmail.com

If you don't let her know you will miss out on the first lesson of the day.



Please remember that during instruction, parents are not to interrupt or approach the instructors during a lesson. This is disruptive to the instructor and to all the children in that lesson. If you have any concerns or questions about your child, please do so at the end of the session.



DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY SPARE GLASS JARS?

I would love any spare jars you may have, preferably with lids, any size. I have made and sold so much jam, relish etc for Project Hope the jar supply has been exhausted. Thanks to everyone who helps support this good cause.

Deb.



Rider Profile

Penny Loader

Age: 18

Horse: Brooksy

My horse is special because: he is all my own work.

What I like most about Pony Club: All the lovely people you meet and then see at competitions too.



What I dislike about Pony Club: Getting up early. When I'm not riding I like to: What? Not riding??



Remember the 3P's

- Punctuality - be on time to your lessons.
- Politeness - listen carefully to your instructor and use your best manners
- Pretty as a picture - be clean, tidy and well presented.



Bakers Delight is running a promotion for sporting groups at the moment. If you buy certain bread from their stores your club could win \$2500. So if you need bread head into Bakers Delight and nominate Bendigo Pony Club, and see if we can win some money for our club. The club with the most entries wins the promotion. Let's try and win.

Check this out

Two sisters, one blonde and one brunette, inherit the family farm. Unfortunately, after just a few years, they are in financial trouble.

In order to keep the bank from repossessing the farm, they need to purchase a bull so that they can breed their own stock.

Upon leaving, the brunette tells her sister, "When I get there, if I decide to buy the bull, I'll contact you to drive out after me and drive it home".

The brunette arrives at the man's farm, inspects the bull, and decides she wants to buy it. The man tells her that he will sell it for \$599.00, and no less. After paying him, she drives to the nearest town to send her sister a telegram to tell her the news. She walks into the telegraph office and says, 'I want to send a telegram to my sister telling her that I've bought a bull for our farm. I need her to hitch the trailer to the Ute and drive out here so we can bring it home'.

The telegraph operator explains that he'll be glad to help her, and then adds, that it will cost 99 cents a word.

Well, after paying for the bull, the brunette realizes that she'll only be able to send her sister one word.

After a few minutes of thinking, she nods and says, 'I want you to send here the word 'comfortable'.

The operator shakes his head. 'How is she ever going to know that you want her to hitch the trailer to your Ute and drive out to pick that bull up and drive it back to your farm if you send her just the word 'comfortable'.

The brunette explains, 'My sister's blonde. The word is big. She'll read it very slowly

'Com-for-da-bul'.



We would like to thank the author of this article Mr. Jon Hall, Managing Director of Float Safe for the use of his information in our newsletter. With thanks from the Bendigo Pony Club.



Is your float safe?

If you think you'd struggle to find one thing more loyal than your horse then look no further than your horse's float.

Faithfully, the float is there to hitch behind the vehicle; it follows faithfully down the road, there is no need to worry if it will start or not, there's no need to change gear and the paint work seems to hold despite its years. From the outside it looks in great shape.

But is it?

Although horse floats do not have engines or gear-boxes or need oil changes, they are never-the-less a vehicle with mechanical and structural stresses and strains. Many of the mechanical and structural components that come together to build a float cannot be seen at a glance or sometimes even on casual inspection. If some of these components fail to do their job - due to lack of maintenance - then it is time to expect that faithful float to experience some kind of hiccup. Your float has mechanical parts that are subject to wear and tear in a manner no different to the parts of your car such as braking systems and wheel bearings. These parts need regular inspection and servicing and in some cases replacing to keep your float safe and in good working legal order.

1. Braking Systems.

There are three types of braking systems on a float:

- Electric
- Hydraulic
- Cable

The most common type is hydraulic. This system comprises a master cylinder mounted at the front of the float on the towing hitch. This master cylinder supplies brake fluid to the slave cylinders located within the brake drum on the wheels of the float when the brakes are applied. This is an effective braking system but does require regular maintenance. Brake fluid is able to absorb moisture. If the fluid is laden with too much moisture, its boiling point can be lowered when moisture-tainted brake fluid is subjected to the high heat of a modern braking system.

Due to the hydraulic system being exposed to all weather and road conditions; it's recommended that the braking system and master cylinder be serviced and purged of all old brake fluid and filled with new fluid every 12 months. The brake drums and shoes need to be inspected and serviced regularly. Brake lines and hoses are located underneath the float. Due to their location they are subjected to vibration, corrosion and road debris. Regular inspection and servicing is a must as these conditions can lead to brake failure.

2. Wheel Bearing & Tyres.

Each wheel is made up of a hub on the axle, which spins on two sets of bearings. An inner cone bearing and outer

cone bearing is again a regular maintenance item on your float.

The bearings need to be inspected for worn rollers, cracks or heat damage and the bearings races for damage and wear; if these are present the bearings need to be replaced.

If the bearing is in good condition they can be cleaned and repacked with high temperature grease, reassembled and the hub assembly put back together.

3. Tyres

Tyres should be checked for wear and the correct tyre pressure in all four wheels and the spare. Rims need to be inspected for signs of corrosion.

4. Axles and springs.

Axles are connected to the springs by U bolts and the springs connected to the chassis.

The U bolts again are underneath the float. They are subject to rust and under body damage; a broken or damaged one could cause serious damage to your float. They should be inspected regularly and replaced when signs of corrosion are evident. Springs should be checked for sagging, connection bolts and bushes for signs of wear and replaced where necessary, spring hangers should be checked for cracks where connected to the chassis.

5. Floors.

Floors in floats come in a variety of materials, including

- Timber
- Ply wood
- Steel
- Aluminum

The rule of thumb is that no floor is maintenance-free although some do the job better than others. Floor needs regular inspection. They are constantly subjected to corrosive elements from inside and outside, including water, urine and droppings - all fairly harsh agents.

Due to these elements many floors stay wet for extended periods, which cause rotting in timber and fly, rust and thinning of steel floors, so therefore regular inspection of floors is a must. The consequences of a poorly maintained floor may have very bad consequences for your horse.

6. Chassis and body structure.

Chassis and structural frame-work are usually fully welded structures manufactured from R.H.S. and S.H.S. or angle iron. Most are manufactured from black steel, which without corrosive protection is at high risk of corroding - rust being the worst problem.

Newer floats are being manufactured from dura gal steel (galvanized coated). This offers better protection from rust and corrosion. However, most dura gal sections are only galvanized on the outside which leaves the inside of the steel section prone to corrosion and rust. Where ever two sections are welded together the galvanized protection is burnt away leaving the metal open to corrosion.

Frequent inspection of chassis structural frame work and body panels will help identify corrosion of rust early. Maintenance at this stage can help prevent more serious and expensive damage repairs, thus keeping your float in a safe and sound condition.

TO THE STABLE¹⁹⁹

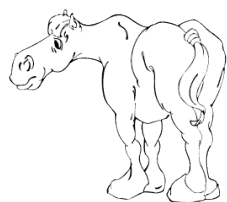
The grass is always greener...

Take a look at your winter pasture. It may look nice and green to you with all the rain that winter brings, but what you're actually looking at is millions of green stalky packages of water and maybe some weeds that are also taking advantage of the wet weather.

There is very little nutrition in winter pasture so it's important to supplement with plenty of hay and chaff to make sure that your horses are getting enough roughage in their diets. For the average 500kg horse, you need at least 1.5% of body weight in forage, that's 7kg of hay and chaff per day or about 4 biscuits of hay for 25 litres of chaff each day!

Hay and chaff have the added bonus of creating waste heat in the hind gut as it is digested. Giving a couple of extra biscuit of hay on really cold days will help your horse to stay warm.

For horses that need a bit of weight gain, a good quality Lucerne or clover mix is great. There are also some good, well formulated complete feeds available that take all the 'brainwork' out of feeding hard feed. The best way to use these feeds is to choose one that is designed for the type of horse you have and the work you are doing as well as the temperament and age of your horse. If your horse of pony friend tends to get a little too rounded and gorges himself whenever he can, then just stick to the 1.5% of body weight amount and feed quality grass hay, which will prevent your friend from blowing up like a football!!! Winter horse care can be fun, fewer flies and cool afternoon rides are a welcome relief, but there are some general tips that everyone should remember for good winter management. Winter is also a good time for checking on your worming programme, make sure you use a different active ingredient in your wormer each time you worm to make sure you get them all and avoid feeding the worms rather than your horse! Remember your horse doesn't need to be in show condition through the entire winter, but most horses need a little extra TLC to ensure that they come out of winter in tip top condition. Your horse relies on you to make the appropriate



changes to his management in the winter time; he can't simply whisk himself off for a holiday to Queensland when the going gets tough!!



- Did you know that there are people in the world who have a phobia of horses? Guess what it's called. **Equinophobia**. That wasn't that hard to work out.
- Horses sleep between two and three hours per day. Only 45 minutes of this sleep time is spent lying down.
- Breeding a male donkey to a female horse results in a mule. Breeding a male horse to a female donkey results in a hinny. Mules and hinnies are almost always sterile.
- The average horse's heart weighs approx. 9 or 10 pounds. The great Phar lap had a heart that weighed 14 pounds.
- A horse's splint bones are thought to be remnants of toes from prehistoric horses. The splint bones are small bones (about the size of a pencil at the top tapering down to be much smaller) found on each side of the cannon bone.
- Horseshoes are said to be lucky and the luckiest horseshoe of all is one from the hind leg of a gray mare??
- Horses have been on this planet in some form or other for at least 50 million years?
- A horse has two blind spots - right behind the horse and just in front of and beneath the nose?
- The last remaining truly wild horse is the Przewalski Horse. It has 66 chromosomes - all other horses have 64?
- Many horses live and work until they are over 30 years of age. The oldest recorded horse was a barge horse in England known as "Old Billy". He lived to the grand old age of 62.

D.C's Message

Hello All,

Our combined training day proved to be another successful event for our club. It was wonderful to see our riders and riders from so many other clubs competing and enjoying their horses. I received comments on how well we manage on our VERY small grounds. People from other clubs are always astonished that a big successful club like Bendigo has such inadequate grounds. It is disappointing that the Bendigo City Council doesn't seem to understand what income could be derived from major equestrian centre and a horse facility. However, we will continue to make the most of what we have!!

On the wish list is a grant to fence and sand our jumping arena and new horse yards should be a reality by the end of this year.

A very big thank you to all the families who turned up to help at the working bee for the combined training day, on the coldest day this winter! Many hands got the job done but some families are conspicuous by their absence. Please remember that a condition of membership is that your family helps at, at least two working bees and events per year. Failure to do will mean that your reapplication will not be accepted next year.



Riders who attended the school holiday clinics at Glenlyon and at our grounds the following day, had a great time and improved their dressage, show jumping and cross country skills. Luckily, the predicted show failed to fall!!

The next clinic is with Allan Mitchell and Deb Browell at our grounds on August 9th Details are on the website.

Maddison Maud and Tori Faull are sitting for their "C" certificate this month. Best of luck to you both, girls!

'Til next month,
Happy Horsing! Sue.



HORSE WORD JUMBLE

Can you unjumble all these words to make new horsey one??

rinse =
shore hose =
trance =
more dog =
mud farts =
grey nail =
point =
bleats =
red gases =
a tall shed =
gleam train =
odd pack =

For the first person to bring them into the canteen correctly answered there will be a lolly of your choice.

THE WORLDS EASIEST QUIZ

(Passing required 4 correct answers)

1. How long did the Hundred Years' War last?
2. Which country makes Panama hats?
3. From which animal do we get cat gut?
4. In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
5. What is a camel's hair brush made of?
6. The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
7. What was King George VI's first name?
8. What colour is a purple finch?
9. Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
10. What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane?

Remember you need 4 correct answers to pass.
Check your answers below.

What do you mean, you failed? And if you try to tell me you passed you lie!

