

Bendigo Pony Club  
P.O. Box 2257  
Bendigo Mail Centre 3554

November/December 2010

# Pony Express

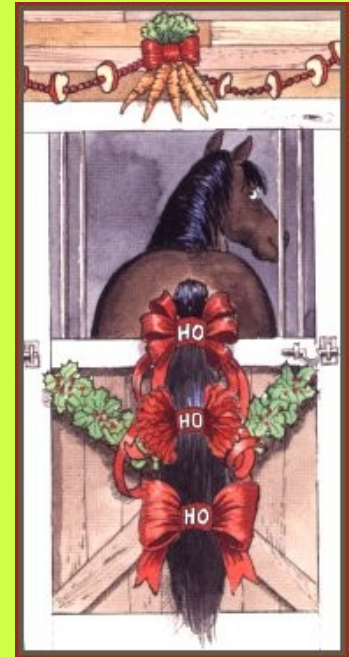


Emmaby & Milly at Mandurang  
Gymkhana. They came home with

Ribbons for showing and a 1st place in the  
Showjumping.

Congratulation Emmaby.

Love that smile.



## November

20th - Bealiba PC Show-  
jumping & Dressage

21st - Mandurang South  
PC Gymkhana

28th - Huntly-Spring gully  
PC Gymkhana

## December

12th - Midland Zone Dres-

## President's report for December 2010

Hi everybody and merry Xmas,

Who would have expected to have green grass at our grounds in December? Hasn't the year gone quick?

It seems like yesterday that I was elected President of our great club. It's been a pleasure working closely with the committee and I now understand the amount of work that is required to run a successful club.

Through the year we have been lucky to obtain great instructors for our rallies each month. (Thanks Sue)

We have held successful events this year such as the Donaldson Day, the Interschool, combined training day, our show including the Jack McKenna memorial event, our rally at Bealiba with Mandurang and all of Sue's clinics.

This year we have upgraded and bought some much needed equipment such as new Jump for Joy Jumps, a new trailer to carry these jumps, new portable dressage arena, new bunting in green and gold, new BBQ which won't slice your fingers off when trying to shift it, secondhand pie warmer, two way radios and some portable tables plus other much needed items.

We have some wonderful club members who have helped with setting and packing up for these events that we hold at the showground's, preparing the grounds before our rallies, running the canteen each event and every rally. These members I thank very much as you are the ones that keep this wonderful club going.

The committee members have attended meetings with the City of Greater Bendigo over the relocation of our club and with a hostile attempt by another organization to take over our existing grounds. But with our strong committee members this attempt failed and the relocation still continues. All these meetings are time consuming but done with the knowledge that it is for the benefit of our riding members.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all members and parents that rallies cannot be run without your commitment and support. It is part of the commitment you make when joining our club.

Have a safe Xmas and happy New Year,

Mr. P.



Important rally  
Info for riders:

If you wish to leave a group early or want to swap please ask the DC. You may not always get what you want dependant on the size and dynamics of a group so please don't be disappointed.

### BIRTHDAYS

#### November

Emmaby Barton - 22nd  
Hannah Trahair - 7th

#### December

Mellissa Harvey - 15th  
Morgan Marshall - 2nd  
Samantha McIntyre - 2nd

#### January

Jacinta Morrissey - 20th



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D.Cs report November 2010

Hi All,

It was great to see so many of our riders competing at Bendigo Show. Our club was well represented in the show rings, the pony club ring, the jumping arena and the novelties. I was so proud of our riders. You all looked fantastic and rode beautifully. Please remember to let me know of your results as the results from the novelty ring and the open rings count towards the end of year awards. I would really appreciate photos for the website and our Facebook page.

Our club's Jump for Joy show jumps were a very professional touch to the main arena at the Bendigo Show. They looked brilliant and I noticed that Lola, our newest jump, caused some riders and horses a bit of grief!

The November shared rally with Mandurang at Bealiba was so much fun. We were very lucky with the weather and I think all the riders and supporters who attended enjoyed the weekend.

Special thanks to Trish Goudge and Leanne Nelson for organising and taking the browband making class. The browbands were very popular and all who made one have a memento of their weekend. Every family contributed yummy food to Saturday night's barbeque. Thank you to Daryl and Matt for the BIG camp fire. Thanks also to Sally Dwyer, Angela Goudge, Shelby Thompson and Melissa Harvey for the campfire games.

A reminder that along with Neangar, Mandurang and Spring Gully/ Huntly pony clubs our section is hosting the Midland Zone show-jumping and dressage qualifiers at Spring Gully/ Huntly on December 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be a working bee to set up on December 11<sup>th</sup>; I have emailed the entry form and will be making up teams. Every rider who is graded in show jumping and /or dressage is eligible to compete and it is a great opportunity to put in to practise all that you learn at pony club.

I have a couple of clinics coming up and will email the details to everyone later this week. The first is an eventing clinic with Yona Lloyd, Deb Browell and Allan Mitchell at Glenlyon on November 27<sup>th</sup>. These clinics are fantastic fun and very beneficial to both horse and rider. The second clinic is a show jumping clinic with Allan Mitchell at our grounds on December 4<sup>th</sup> which is a good opportunity to have a lesson before the qualifiers

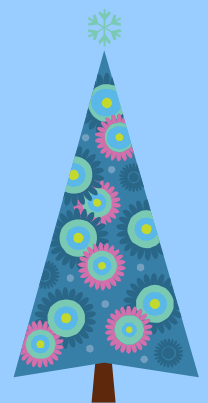
Happy Horsing,

*Sue*

Wishing all  
PC families  
a very  
Merry  
Christmas  
as well as a  
safe and  
Happy New  
Year.

See every-  
one in 2011.

Please read  
the piece -  
A dog's pur-  
pose - from  
a 6 year old  
- there are  
lots of great  
tips in  
there!!!!



## Bendigo camps at Bealiba - by Angela Goudge

On Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of November we combined a pony club camp with Mandurang south at Bealiba pony club grounds.

We all rolled in on Saturday afternoon, set up and made the horses comfortable.

When everyone was ready, Trish Goudge and Leanne Nelson instructed a number of members from both clubs on how to make ribbon brow bands with their horse's names or their pony clubs name on them in pony club colours while the rest of us worked our horses and went over some of the cross country jumps.

After that dinner was cooked and the fire was lit. Thanks to Matt and Daryl it was the best camp fire ever, and then the games began! We played a number of games and the group was split into Mandurang and Bendigo.

The games were great and we fought it off to become the winners but Mandurang put up a great fight. I'm sure they will be aiming to take us out next year though. Soon after that all the kids went to bed but the adults stayed up drinking and talking loudly!



Sunday morning we were up and fed all the horses and then it was 7.30am and time for breaky Thanks to the Mums, some of the kids and Daryl. It was amazing.

The grounds got set up and the rally started with Liam for show-jumping, Jason for flat, Trish Goudge and Leanne Nelson for brow-bands, Brian Davidge for polo cross, Dawn Berry for cross country and Jaclyn Long for Saddle Club.

All in all it was a great camp. I'm sure Mandurang feels the same. Thank-you to everyone for making this one of the best camps ever and thanks to Bealiba Pony Club for allowing us to use your great facilities for the weekend!!

## A dog's purpose - from a 6 year old

Being a veterinarian, I had been called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolf hound named Belker. The dog's owners, Ron, his wife Lisa, and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience.

The next day, I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. We sat together for a while after Belker's Death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, 'I know why.'

Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I'd never heard a more comforting explanation. He said, 'People are born so that they can learn how to live a good Life -- like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?' The Six-year-old continued, 'Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay as long.'

So remember to learn from your dog and...

Live simply.

Love generously.

Care deeply. Speak kindly.

### **Remember, if a dog was the teacher you would learn things like:**

When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.

Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.

Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure Ecstasy..

Take naps.

Stretch before rising.

Run, romp, and play daily.

Thrive on attention and let people touch you.

Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.

On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.

On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.

When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.

Be loyal.

Never pretend to be something you're not.

If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.

When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently.

ENJOY EVERY MOMENT OF EVERY DAY!



*An Obituary printed in the London Times - Interesting and sadly, rather true.*

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, **Common Sense**, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- *Knowing when to come in out of the rain;*
- *Why the early bird gets the worm;*
- *Life isn't always fair;*
- *and maybe it was my fault.*

**Common Sense** lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place, reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

**Common Sense** lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.



**Common Sense** lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

**Common Sense** took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

**Common Sense** finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

**Common Sense** was preceded in death, by his parents, Truth and Trust, by his wife, Discretion, by his daughter, Responsibility, and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 4 stepbrothers;

*I Know My Rights  
I Want It Now  
Someone Else Is To Blame  
I'm A Victim*

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.



## Allan goes to the Alice!



Alice Springs was visited by Allan Mitchell mid October. The organisers of the Masters Games invited Allan to judge the Show Jumping for the Masters this event is a fantastic event with 210 rounds of SJ completed on the Thursday and Friday, it is run by volunteers and you must be over 30 years of age to enter. Allan sent me the course and I lost hours of sleep worrying that I would not do a good job building the course – to only find out the Allan had spent many hours worrying about judging. The masters is great fun and we encourage anyone to come to Alice Springs to compete – all out of towners are welcomed. Alice Springs has an approximate influx of 5000 people for the Masters; Shannon Noll is one of the attractions at the

opening ceremony. Many of the equestrian riders enter every event as it is very rare that we have the opportunity to compete against other riders and horses. Allan was a wonderful judge he ran out every time to pick up his own rails and always ready to help those struggling with a jump or horse, I have had nothing but excellent reports back about Allan he was approachable and always willing to share his wealth of knowledge.

On the Saturday and Sunday we held a two day clinic with the Pony Club all of the Pony Club members young and old loved their time with Allan and many came back looking for further lessons, I have had so many requests as to when Allan will be able to come back. Many of the comments made where relating to Allan's ability to build the children's (and adults) confidence and encourage them to try new things, attempting jumps and grids that they may not attempt previously, Allan did not come in and change how we ride he worked with us and assisted us to improve what we already do. Allan was always complimentary, offering encouragement.

Sunday evening we went out to dinner. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Allan and Fay became tourists and visited many of our tourist spots leaving early morning and returning late in the evening. It has been a long time since we have had someone of Allan's knowledge and experience visit Alice Springs, both Allan and Fay are wonderful people to be around and the passion that Allan has for Show Jumping is infectious, Alice Springs welcome Allan and Fay back any time, I hope that all of your members realize how lucky they are to have access to wonderful people like Allan and Fay.

**Louisa Spicer** | Employment & Training Advisor | **Jobfind Centres Australia** | Shop 5 Noble Drive, Alice Springs, NT 0870



“No matter how carefully you stored the lights last year, they will be tangles again this Christmas”



## Congratulations Indi & Paris

Indi Shephard and Beauparc Parisienne came 3rd in Smartest on Parade and 5<sup>th</sup> in their Open Pony class at the Royal Melbourne Show 2010.

Photo credit Bridey Lee

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**Not a Creature  
Was Stirring...**

