



Mt Gravatt District Horse and Pony Club Newsletter

December 2009

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Contact Us

<http://www.mtgravattponyclub.freehomepage.com/>

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Christmas party



Our Christmas party was again a hit for young and not-so-young with an array of rides including a big slide, jumping castle, and a mechanical surfboard for the very skilled, (like Grant Bradshaw pictured below). Thanks to Linda, Cherie and others involved in organising the event so we could all have heaps of fun.



2010 committee

Executive management committee

President **Clare Fowler**

Vice-President **Peter Weiss**

Chief Instructor/Vice-President **Linda Udell**

Secretary **Diane Palmer**

Treasurer **Cherie Contessa**

Other positions

Nominations secretary *Jo Griffiths*

Grounds booking officer *Sally Gates*

Publicity officer *Jo Morris*

Minutes secretary *Cathi Collier*

Canteen coordinators *Peter and Debbie Jamieson and Ross and Debbie Mountford*

Agistment liaison officers *Danny Oliver and Sally Gates*

Sportsmasters *Caroline McDiarmid and Donnalee Hardcastle*

Instructors *Amy Godsall, Caroline McDiarmid*

Maintenance supervisor *Jeff Palmer*

EFA coordinator *Clare Fowler*

Evening secretary *Lara Fowler*

Sponsorship officer *TBA*

Trophy officer *Kathy Wade*

Uniform officer *Amanda Wolski*

Workplace health and safety officer *Jenny MacDonald*

Sunscreen and water officers *Sherilee Hughes and Deb Somes*

Horse care officers *Jenny MacDonald and Colleen Elson*

PCAQ zone delegate *Adelle Godsall*

Committee meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm.

2010 membership fees

Remember that membership fees for 2010 will remain unchanged at \$100 per riding member and \$50 per additional family member.

The club service levy will increase by \$20 to \$120 per family, payable with 2010 fees renewal.



Reports

Chief instructor's report to Annual General Meeting

Well, what a year we have had. First and foremost I have to start with my fellow instructors and sportsmasters because without their help and support throughout this year our members would not have been able to attend all the musters that we did have. So to Linda Udell, Clare Fowler, Caroline McDiarmid, Lara Fowler, Jenny McDonald, Clare Rosoman, Amy Godsall, Donnalee Hardcastle, Rob Harrison and Debbie Eggersdorff – I sincerely thank all of you. I couldn't have done it without you.

We started the year with the rain – it wiped out our first muster but we did manage to complete our sign on at least. The rain in fact was to become our close friend throughout the year as it proceeded to wipe out two more musters and an official pony club competition. The musters we did have were well attended to the max! I can remember at one muster turning around and looking out across the paddock and thinking "shit" I think I'll tell them I'm sick and go home! There were actually a few musters that when I whistled everyone to line up we were struggling to fit everyone across in a straight line. Then there was one muster that we had 14 riders! Regardless of how many riders we had at our musters they were all attended to by instructors and sportsmasters and they have all learnt something along the way. Apart from our musters we have also had three member days – jumping equitation, dressage and gymkhana. We had planned to have three PCAQ official competitions too, but we had to cancel two due to lack of numbers. We did manage to start our ODE but our friend the rain came over and canned it after 3 hours.

We also had two huge EFA one day events, one in May and one in August this year. These events over the last few years have proven to be great for the club and we have been able to purchase quite a few worthwhile items for our members to utilise. Of course, our musters and competitions could not be run without people to help. You guys, the members of the MGDHPC have given your time over and over and over again. You have all constantly put your hands up to help in whatever capacity and it is this and only this that have allowed our musters, members days and official competitions and EFA events to be as successful as they have been with rave reviews coming back each and everytime regarding our these events. I know that we as the committee have expressed in the past our sincere gratitude to you all but i would personally like to sincerely thank you all for supporting me over the last 4 years.

Some of you may not know that I will not be taking up the chief instructor role next year. It has come to that time where I need a little break and the next "CI" will have my full support. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as CI and yes, there have been some tough times over the years but the continued support that I have received from this club has got me through. There are so many people that I would like to thank and if I started to read their names we could be here all night! Therefore, I would just like you all to know that it has been a great pleasure for me to teach your children and I have enjoyed watching them grow over the years. I wish you



and your families health and happiness and I would encourage "my kids" to keep striving for their goals, whatever they may be, and realise that the hard work they put in now will be rewarded in the future.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my fellow committee members –Clare, Cherie, Cathi. I have enjoyed working with all of you this year – Clare congratulations on a job well done as president this year. Cherie you have just finished your second year and have proven to all of us what a professional you are. Cathi thank you so much for hopping on board and taking the role of "minute taker" although, I have cursed your name on a couple of occasions when I've been stuck taking the minutes but learnt to quickly throw it over to Peter but then he would throw it back at me to type them up.

There are two very special people on this committee that have been with me from the start. Peter, we go way back, not everyone knows that I was a "hooker" – but I was. I worked with you as your secretary at LJ hooker head office (hence the term hooker for those of you with your jaws dropped), 20 odd yrs ago and I couldn't believe it when I read in the newsletter acknowledging support from LJ Hooker Coorparoo for printing and there was your name. Could that be the same guy I worked with and of course it was. Now, you had aged a bit where I hadn't aged at all and just like you were back then you quickly supported me as chief instructor. You have continued to do so over the last 4 years and you have always had my back and have jumped to my defense when you felt it was necessary. Peter, it is in your nature to help people and this is what you have done for me and for this club. Whenever I needed something to be done you were there, even showing your skills as an "instructor" I thought my job was on the line if word got out and I'm very disappointed that I didn't put you through your level c instructor certificate – you are a star in my eyes! Thank you so much Peter.

Okay Linda, where do I start. When I first arrived I looked at you and thought my god this girl has got it together, she knows everything, she's organised – I haven't got a hope in hell! I admired you then and i still admire you today. Since the very beginning I could rely on you to help me out, no matter what it was. I dragged you in to becoming an instructor because in my eyes you would be great and you have proven that I wasn't wrong.

Linda, during a certain period of time last year you helped me on a personal level and I will always be grateful to you for that – you were there when I needed someone. Over the years, you have been there for a lot of our members, supporting them in whatever way, many very personal, regardless of what was going on in your life, you were there for them. In my lifetime, I have only come across a few people like yourself and I feel extremely privileged for meeting you and also working with you. I wish you all the happiness in the world and from the bottom of my heart – thank you .

Thank you again to everyone.

Kym Luis



President

We had several highlights and a couple of lowlights in 2009. Two EFA events provided the club with revenue to purchase new equipment including new cross country portable jumps, jump wings, yards and a round yard. A number of clinics were held during the year including Kevin McNabb and Rebel Morrow. Lowlights were rain which interrupted pony club events, a Hendra virus scare and theft of equipment. A big thank you to Mitchell Pugh for his excellent detective work in recovering the club's stolen ride-on mower.

Plans for next year include holding only one muster per month (on the last Sunday of each month), continuation of EFA competitions which are the club's major revenue earner, a dressage/jumping clinic in December, and club official ODE, show jumping and dressage competitions next year. The club will continue to maintain our grounds, improve the supply of portable equipment, and actively search for future new grounds.

Clare Fowler

Secretary

Thank you to everyone for attending the AGM. Pony Club this year started with a lot of enthusiasm and a lot of new riders and their families. Our muster attendance was amazing and we noticed people were giving more of themselves to help make our grounds a showpiece. This is my fifth year as secretary and again this year the committee has faced a number of challenges that we have managed to come through. Having been on numerous committees over the past 25 years, I have never been on one where the committee was so united in trying to achieve the best for the club. Thank you to everyone for their assistance over the past year.

Thank you also to all the people who took care of so many little things help lighten my workload. You know you are and I am hesitant to thank individual people because I know I will leave someone out, but particularly I would like to thank Kym so her hard work over the past five years and I wish you all the best. Thank you to the members who took up committee positions those who supported the club at muster. I also want to acknowledge the previous committees who have given the club a strong foundation on which to build.

Linda Udell

For sale

Romeo is up for sale for \$3,800 however, he is being offered for \$3,000 if he goes to a Mt Gravatt member or new member for next year. So if anyone knows anyone looking for a pony for Christmas see the ad below. Not suitable for agistment however, must be home paddocked. Phone Amanda 3245 7369 or 0424 954 564. See add in Trading Post at

<http://www.tradingpost.com.au/Pets-Horses/Horses-Agistment/AdNumber=TP003111170?BackToResult=true&AdOnTop>

Rebel and Sasha December clinics

If you are interested in participating in show jumping and dressage clinics on 19 and 20 December please contact Lara Fowler, email lj.fowler@hotmail.com

Sign on Day 2010

See you all on Saturday 6 February at 9.30am for sign on.

Club calendar 2010

Our proposed calendar of events for 2010 is posted on the notice board at the club. Please note this is subject to change so please refer to monthly newsletters and emails for updates.

The giant slide ride

