



Pony Club News

Winter 2016



Mildura-Alcheringa Pony Club

Instructional Camp

By Geoff Dickson



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The MAPC Instructional Camp was held on the weekend of 21st and 22nd of May. Quite a few families braved the cold and camped out at the [Sunraysia Equestrian Centre](#) on both the Friday and Saturday nights, with many coming from out of town for the weekend. We were very fortunate with the weather on both days. Saturday was cool and cloudy, with most of those not riding keeping their jumpers and jackets on all day. The clouds cleared overnight to make way for a warm and sunny day on Sunday, with jumpers and jackets soon discarded.

The classes started on Saturday morning, with modified classes for junior riders, and ran throughout the weekend, with expert instruction from local and visiting instructors.

Cross Country [lessons](#) were led by [Kerrie Bowman](#) from Millicent. Kerrie is a regular and popular instructor at our camps. She proved on many occasions over the weekend that there is no such word in her vocabulary as "Can't", as she built confidence in her pupils. Her persistence was incredible and she never

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Pony Camp Adventure

By Vienna Douglas age 9

I felt a mixture of excitement and a little bit nervousness in the lead up to my first Mildura-Alcheringa Pony Club instructional camp. I knew I was going to have a lot of fun, but to help my nerves I started planning and packing early. My sister Rachael and I spent many hours getting our ponies Skye and Penny fit for their part in the adventure. We cleaned and packed all our tack and horse feed for the weekend in the horse float and helped mum pack all the camping gear in the campervan.

The day before the camp, Skye had a pamper session that included a good scrub until she was squeaky clean, much to her disapproval, then after a rub down and dry, I brushed and braided her tail.

This was not the first time I'd camped with my pony so I knew all the things I had to pack to be prepared. My mum would sleep in the campervan and my sister and her friends in the tent, while I had the king size swag all to myself.

We woke early on day one, my mum cooked bacon and egg toasties for what seemed like the whole camp, as the smell of breakfast seemed to draw everyone to our outdoor kitchen.

The lessons started at 9am and it was awesome, we did a lot of fun stuff, from mounted weapons training (tent pegging), show jumping, musical rides and the highlight of the day was that I got to, not only go in the water jump, but to jump the grade three water jump for the first time! We did do a dressage lesson too, but Skye was very naughty so we won't talk about that.

On Saturday night we had a really good time, the disco was awesome and go Kelly with her groovy moves, but she had some stiff competition with my mum and sister Rachael doing their best to win the dance off. Rachael won much to our mum's disappointment. I am sure everyone was really tired the next morning after so much dancing.

Day two started with cross country first we didn't go in the water again, but we did the big and small banks and when we were doing the big banks, Skye tried to go up the grade one drop, but much to everyone's relief, she stopped at the last minute. In the afternoon we showed everyone our musical ride, then did show jumping and then we had games and challenges. At the end of the day all we pack up and went home and gave our ponies a well-earned rest and some yummy dinner. I learned so

Camp comments

"Saturday the 21st and Sunday the 22nd of May at the Mildura-Alcheringa Pony Club camp one of the activities there was musical ride with Kylie breeze, in the musical ride we learnt how to work as a team and to communicate to each other it was quite hard at first but then we started understanding and working together as a team to make it work, when we did the musical ride we had to make sure that we were all going at the same pace and that we were making it work, it was a lot of fun and a great experience. On the Sunday we had three groups who performed at lunchtime to everyone that was at the camp which was a lot of fun and we got to show them what we learnt at the camp for the two days with Kylie, I hope next year at the camp we get to do it again."

Kaitlyn Martin

"Briony Tremby was great in the dressage lessons. Identifying individuals' areas to work on, she tailored exercises to each combination in the class, resulting in an interesting and productive lesson."

Emily

"This year was my first MAPC instructional camp. It was a really good experience for me to try things that are out of my comfort zone and to give things a go. The instructors were really supportive and helped us all achieve some great things. My favourite thing on the camp would have to be the final cross country lesson. I decided to not let my nerves hold me back and just have fun. I feel like I have improved so much and am looking forward to more camps to come."

Clancy

"I liked how everyone encouraged each other and how well the event was run. I learnt to trust the instructors when I was nervous because they wouldn't put me in danger."

Mack

"On Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May MAPC had another successful Pony Club camp. I think this is my 5th camp that I have attended and they just keep getting bigger and better. A big thank you to the MAPC committee for organising a great camp this year and making sure that we had fantastic instructors. Well done to everyone that rode over the 2 days and all the parents that helped out. Thank you to Sue and all her helpers for feeding us and to the DJ for a fun Saturday night."

My instructors for the weekend were Briony for dressage, Merv for tent pegging, Adam for showjumping, Leanne D, Bev and Lucy Mckee for Activity Mount and Kerry Bowman for X country which I must say was my favourite instructor even though I nearly broke my jaw in the first XC lesson. (not her fault) I think if Kerry can't get you and your horse jumping XC then I don't think any one could. Gotta love her style."

Also thanks to Geoff for walking a million miles again to get some great photos of the weekend. I hope everyone enjoyed the weekend as I know that I got a lot out of it. " Cheers Mackenzie Farr."

Geoff's Pic of the pics



If you'd like a copy of any of Geoff's Pics Bring a USB memory stick to the next rally.



Continued from page 1

gave up – something we can all learn from.

Show Jumping instructor Adam Metcalfe, from Adelaide, did his bit to instil confidence into the riders, and by the end of the weekend had riders jumping with precision and confidence. His lessons were enjoyed by all and the second day showed how much he had taught you all.

Briony Temby the Dressage instructor for the weekend, also travelled here from Adelaide. Her lessons were described by one rider as being great lessons, identifying individuals' areas to work on. She tailored exercises to each combination in the class, resulting in an interesting and productive lesson. If these comments are anything to go on, then I'm sure everyone gained a lot from Briony's lessons.

Undoubtedly, one of the most popular classes had to be the Tent Pegging under instruction of Merv Membrey who travelled to Mildura from Cohuna. Merv is an experienced instructor who, quite clearly, had just as much fun in his role, as the riders did in theirs. The classes comprised of lances, swords and pistols. It was incredible how most riders took to the sport, and by the end of the weekend everyone had spiked targets with lance and sword, and popped balloons with pistols. It was great for desensitising horses and building confidence in riders. If I was a horse rider, this is definitely a sport I would love to have a go at.

The Musical Ride, instructed by Kylie Breeze, was another popular class that proved how quickly you can learn. The display on Sunday was well received by all watching, and each team's performance looked like it had been polished over weeks, not the few hours that it had really taken.

Activity Mount was led by Leanne Dellar, Bev Blanch and Lucy McKee. Riders were encouraged to take their horses through a series of obstacles, including, among other things, a gate, bridge and a gateway of multi-coloured noodles. It was great for desensitising nervous horses and a great way for the riders and their horses to bond with each other to get through the course.

A big thank you goes out to all the instructors for the weekend. It was great to have the out-of-town instructors, and the local contingent also did a great job.

Fortunately there were no injuries despite some close calls.



Rally Dates

7th August

4th September

2nd October

13th November

- 1 **Mildura Horse Trials**
29 July Official Dressage & Freshmans SJ Plus 6 Bar Trials 30 – 31 July
- 2 **PCAV Inter Zone Team HT**
10 & 11 Sept
- 3 **Northern Zone Dressage SJ State Qualifier**
18 September
- 4 **Northern Zone Instructional Camp**
23, 24 & 25 September

(Continued)

This year's Instructional camp lived up to its name. Whether you conquered a fear, learned to do something you didn't think you could, tried something new, or all of the above, you all left on Sunday a little more educated, and will take what you learned with you into the future. Well done, everyone!

Special thanks.

To all those who helped to organise the camp. An event like this takes a lot of time to organise, and a lot of people were involved. Thank you to all of them.

To all those involved in the catering for the weekend, who made contributions and helped in the kitchen. A couple of days of instructional camp makes for a lot of hungry mouths to feed, and your input made certain that there was more than enough lovely food to fill even the hungriest of them. Thank you to all of you.



Committee Page



Mildura-Alcheringa Pony Club

Winter 2016

Mildura-Alcheringa Pony Club

ARN: A0013338D

2016 Committee Contact Information

Pony Club News

Chief Instructor Contact Details:

Jill Wheatley
jillywheatley@bigpond.com

Ph: 0400464506

Remember to
contact **Jill** one week
before the rally to let her
know if you are
attending or not.

President

Leanne Dellar 0418144530
longrun1234@hotmail.com

Vice President

Julie Lyons 0408257313
jml Lyons234@gmail.com

Secretary

Bev Blanch 0427132504
mapc26161@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Mel Lyons 0459257313
melville.lyons@bigpond.com

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Phone: 0139336142 or 0408296783

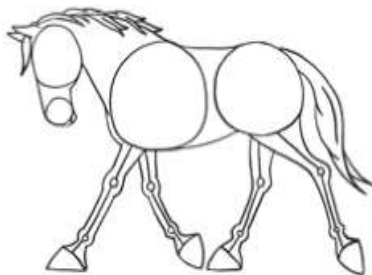
Mildura Alcheringa Pony Club is a Good Sports club
Good Sports works with communities to make sports clubs safe and
healthy by providing advice about managing alcohol responsibly and
making clubs more family-friendly.
We already provide an alcohol-free and smoke-free environment so
are proud to display Good Sports accreditation.
For more information visit GoodSports.com.au
or Facebook.com/GoodSportsClubs



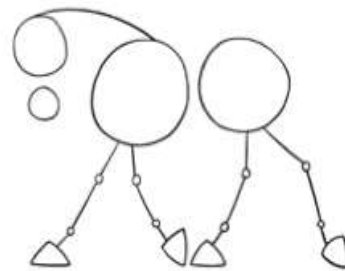
funstuff activities
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DRAW

'Blaise' the Warmblood with Peta Taylor



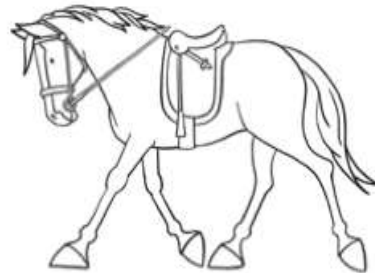
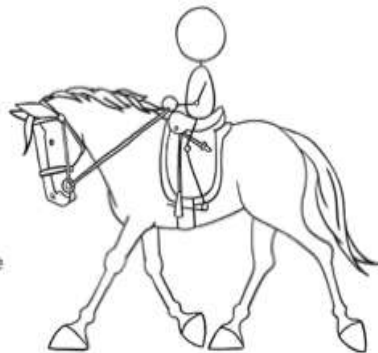
Start with some sketchy circles for Blaises' head and body. Add lines for her legs and mark in with circles where the joints go. Use big triangles to mark in her hooves.



Draw smooth lines around the lines and circles from the first step, adding in a mane and tail.

Draw a saddle and bridle on Blaise and rub out the sketchy lines from the previous steps.

Add a rider by drawing an oval for the body, a circle for the head and lines for the limbs. Line up the foot with the stirrup iron and the hand with the reins.



Fill in the figure around the circles and lines, adding a shirt and jodphurs, boots and a helmet.

Finally, rub out all the sketchy guidelines and finish the drawing off with a felt tip marker. Add some exercise bandages to Blaises' legs and colour in your picture.

