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Hidden Valley Bush Fire Appeal Night

Without doubt the horror and tragedy experienced by fire ravaged communities in Victoria recently have shocked us all.

To contribute to the national appeal to support these communities The Hidden Valley Social Club has organised a "Bush Fire Appeal Fundraiser", for **Saturday the 28th of February, 2009.**

"Penny Black", have happily donated their performance on the night. Donations will be collected during the night by a **Fire Appeal bucket and an auction** of members' donated goods which will be forwarded to the official Fire Appeal authorities on behalf of the

members of Hidden Valley.

The Band will kick off at 7:30pm and play through to 12pm. Please tell your friends about the night and encourage them to come along. Cabin bookings can be made through the office. **BYO your own food and alcohol** and join your friends at the Hidden Valley in supporting a good cause.

Please RSVP by Wednesday the 18th of February, 2009 as we need to secure the band for the night. **Contact Brandon Keogh on 02 43 290731 or Adam at the office on 02 43 62 1438** or email manager@hiddenvalley.com.au

**"Try before you buy
.....correction!!"**

*Please note:
The new incentive
TBYY rate is
**\$2,200 for
12 months**
NOT
\$2,800 as previously
reported!!*

**Even more
incentive to
potential new
members!**

*Remember this offer
only lasts till the end
of June 09*

ODE Working Bee & Call for Volunteers

The 2009 Hidden Valley **ODE will be held on the weekend of 21-22 March.**

While most of the hard prep work has already been done to the ODE course, we will be running a couple of working bees to make sure our course is the best it can be for the day.

One Working Bee is scheduled for the 28th of February and the other on the 14th and 15th of March. Please let Adam know if you are available to participate in either of both of these working bees by emailing him on manager@hiddenvalley.com.au

Jenny MacMahon also reminds us that it would be great if we had members or friends who were able to **assist with jump judging on the 22nd.** No experience necessary – however those that have helped previously would know that it is a very pleasant way to spend a morning at the valley.

If you would like to nominate a favourite jump, Jenny would be pleased to keep it especially for you. If you would like to help please give her a call on 0419 001 118 or email on macmahon@bigpond.com



Revised Duty Roster

Feb,09

14th & 15th
Adam

21st & 22nd
Board Member TBA

28th of Feb/1st March,
Adam

March,09

7th & 8th
Board Member TBA

14th & 15th
Adam

21st & 22nd
Adam and George

28th and 29th
Adam

Hidden Valley is not only about Horses you know

if you have an idea, contribution or story to show what Hidden Valley is to you, please send it to me at:

nell@blackbetty.com.au

for inclusion in the next Campfire

- Bikes
- Bushwalks
- Swimmers
- Orienteer's

Hidden Valley has something for you

Manager's Report ...Adam Little

Horse work tied up the most of the middle of January with shoeing and dentistry work going on most days. All horses were also wormed towards the end of January to continue the planned drenching.

Trail rides continued throughout the holidays. We tried to vary the trail rides with some fast rides back on the agenda.

On the 25th and 25th of January, Karen Jones conducted a one day **first aid course** which 14 members participated. The course was a great success and was aimed at those members wanting to carry out the Wranglers course which was held last weekend, 14th and 15th February

February 2nd saw **5 company horses sold** off as they were not suited to the trail riding task and served no purpose being here. The horses sold off were **Prancer, Dolly, Mike, Fudge and Tonto**.

We have also been spraying the ODE course with round up to clear the jumps and most of the fence lines around the property. This has made life easier for the ODE preparation.

The first **wrangler's course**, conducted here last weekend, has been designed not only to meet OH&S standards but also to get the members involved in the property on a regular basis and inducting wranglers to help with trail rides at the Valley. **This would eliminate the need for the second staff member to work on weekends and reduce the wage costs by about \$390.00 per month.**

The wrangler's course will be a huge benefit to all as the course covers various subjects which every rider can learn something new.

As part of the ongoing program of the course I am proposing that the new wranglers do one weekend day a month to update and deliver feedback.

After talks with the Catchment Management Authorities project leader Mr Tony Voller, we have discussed **the removal of a series of trees from three locations which will open up existing and new paddocks** so we can rotate paddocks more often. Tony has given the go ahead for the trees to be removed and earth works to be funded by the CMA to reduce erosion on the property.

ODE plans are well underway and everything to do with the property is under control with two working bees planned. **(Working Bee's have been scheduled; please see the article previous for details)**. There are only a few minor things to do to get the property up to standard, so we can run the event.

Jason Bates has resigned from his position as Farm Hand and a new Duty Roster has been drawn up. **(see column left)**

We are looking at filling the position with a more senior - Rural Maintenance - person, approximately 30 years old with experience and working Monday to Friday with limited weekend work.

The ad. for this position will be placed into 'The Land' newspaper after it is approved by the Board. We will then field the applicants through a culling process and follow with interviews. George and I will work through the applications and interviews and hopefully have a new person for the position by the end of March.

Until the position is filled, **Kirsten Allison is carrying out the duties as farm hand**. Kirsten is a capable person with a very good working knowledge of the property these days.

A Fire and flood plan is currently being worked on, so a set of operating standards can be issued to the Board. Once approved the standard procedures will be issued to every member of Hidden Valley. The Duty Manager for the weekend will also get a full set of operational procedures to run the property in the event I am off when an incident occurs.

Plans are also underway to build an all in one fire rig to fit a ute.

(Below: Adam Little takes novice HV Wranglers through a practical demonstration of Horse Moods – happily provided by Hayley)



Social Club Update ... Caroline Holdstock

The actual profit will be about \$8000. We still have 2 outstanding accounts to pay and we are awaiting the payment of the \$2000 eventing NSW grant (but I have included it in the \$8000).

The social club has approved \$1000 to be put back into the cross country course to repair a few jumps, build a couple of apex jumps, replace a few show jump poles and some paint for the jumps.

The rest of the profits will be put back into Hidden Valley where they are most needed and for the benefit of the WHOLE HV community not just horse riders.

WE have another ODE coming up in March with the potential to make even more money

as we are hoping to get more entries. As the whole of the HV community benefits from the profits it would be great if the whole community could get behind the event and help with one of the many jobs that go with running an event like this. It is great fun and fantastic to see the valley busy with so many people.

Once it is decided where the profits will go Campfire will keep you posted. If you have any ideas or requests speak to a board member or social club member.

Treasurer HV Social Club and HV Horse Trials Committee

To download a copy of the latest

HV yearly calendar

click on the link "Yearly Calendar" in the email that brought you this edition of Campfire or

View it on our updated Website!

Marketing / Membership Update

If you see some new faces at the Valley they may belong to Hamish and Dom Holley and Virginia Wong See, pictured right. (Like all HV pets, Lila the Schnauzer, waits at home)

Having already experienced Hidden Valley's climate extremes from searing hot 40+ degree days to drenching drizzle, like us all, Hamish, Dom and Virginia agree that Hidden Valley is beautiful in any weather – well almost.

Please make yourself known to our new members when you see them about.

As you will have noticed on the front page, the rate for our **TBYB deal is \$2,200**. If you know someone who might be interested please

encourage them to sign up – **the offer ends at the end of June.**

A **reformatted b/w flyer** is currently being developed. This flyer will be designed in black and white and will print 3 double sided flyers to a single A4 page. We will paper the ODE with this collateral promoting our TBYB deal and full membership at the Valley. A link to the flyers will be distributed to the membership as soon as they are complete and we would welcome your assistance to print out a few and **'paper your non Hidden Valley communities' whenever you can. Only 10 A4 flyers 10 pages = 30 flyers.**

Horse Day Groups

White Group, Saturday from 1pm to 3pm.
Catlin Garlick, Bianca Keogh, Maree Pickering and Shawn Pickering.

Red Group, Sunday from 8am to 10am
Roisin Burnett, Miki Moeller, Aleesha Langlands, Liam Olsson, Aaron, Steve & Julie MacKay, Paul and Angela Williams, Judy Warren-Smith, Tiffiney Warren-Smith, Carolyn Holdstock, Kirsten Allison.

Blue Group, Sunday from 10:30am to 12:30pm
Narelle Harris, Cabrini Burnett, Tayla Watkinson, Linda Watkinson, Lauren Mac Kay,

Fiona, Laura and Rachelle Lollback, Chelsea Moeller, Dom Holley, Kathryn Mac Mahon, Bridget Garlick, Isabella Olsson, Tom Olsson and Nell Rollinson.

Gold Group, Sunday from 1pm to 3pm
Georgina Moeller, Philippa Barrett, George Baczocha, Eliza Leung, Renne Langlands, Laura Holdstock, Stephie Collins, Maddie Garlick, Virginia Wong See, Rachelle Keogh.

Please try to be ready to ride at the right time as delays impact on the enjoyment of members following your session.

Welcome to our new members



Hamish, Dom, Virginia
(Lila is waiting at home)

The fun way to water horses....



They say you can lad a horse to water but you can't make them drink... but when the temperature tops 40°c, the pond may not be great drinking but it's great fun! Thanks Cooper!

....don't know that the geese thought it was anything special though...



From top:
Laura Holdstock on Cooper;
Nicky Simmonds on Tivvy,
Rocelle Keogh on Monte;
Liam Olsson, Laura and Belle Olsson on Cooper.....geese!



Do you like Bush Walking?

If so, come and join **Steve Mackay** and a few other fellow HV members on the first official

Hidden Valley Bushwalk!

Sunday March 1st
Starting Point: HV Cabins

We will be doing a 2 hour walk (moderate to difficult) to Somersby and returning after stopping off at a coffee shop

Time: TBA

If you're interested in joining this walk, please contact **Steve Mackay** on mackaysm@optusnet.com.au or let him know on **Saturday 28th** at the valley.

Wranglers training day pics.



Adam Little teaching in the room and in the round yard.



.... the big question of the day was "What was going on with Billy's hair?"



....how relaxed was Svlvia?...

Hidden Valley Co-op
Ourimbah Creek Road
Ourimbah

Phone:
02 4362 1438

E-mail;
manager@hiddenvalley.com.au



Discover Hidden Valley with the Whole Family



Bird watching ...David Simmonds alias Irving Downs

Brown Pigeon

Scientific name: Macropygia amboinensis

When I first saw the Brown Pigeon at Hidden Valley I rushed to my Field Guide to find out its name. What a surprise – a Brown Pigeon. This bird is a large brown pigeon of rainforests (400mm), with a very long, tapering tail. The female has a brighter chestnut cap and a scaly pattern on the breast. Their flight is strong and graceful, usually low among the trees. They make a sound like 'coo-crrork' or cucu-rrork rising at the end. ('Did you walk') This species is also known as the Brownie, Large-tailed or Pheasant Pigeon, Brown Cuckoo Dove.

The Brown Pigeon is found throughout north-eastern and eastern Queensland, off-shore islands, and eastern coastal areas of New South Wales. Its range is expanding down the coast of New South Wales. Brown Pigeons are often found in re-growth

along roads, in clearings and in weedy areas like lantana.

Brown Pigeons feed on fruit, berries and seeds from a variety of rainforest trees, shrubs and vines.

Brown Pigeons nest in rainforest trees, shrubs and the tops of vines and ferns, with the nest being a scanty collection of twigs and sticks placed sideways on a branch. The young are covered with long thick down when first hatched. Both parents share the incubation and care of the young.



HV Hits North Side Riding Club ...Maddie Garlick

Competitors: Chelsea Moller, Bridget Garlick, Maddie Garlick and Stephi Collins

Fan Club/Cheer Squad: Caitlin Garlick and Mikki Moller

Wonderful Parents: Vicki & Scott Collins, Georgie & Kurt Moller and Adam & Kim Garlick and a wonderful job oaf marshalling by Nikki Simmons

On Saturday the 7th of February a hardy crew of Hidden Valley faithful, hit the North Side Riding Club for a showjumping competition. Although temperatures scorched into the mid 30's we had heaps of fun and I'm sure the parents did too.

Chelsea and Bridget were competing in their first showjumping competition outside of Hidden Valley and did extremely well, each scoring a blue ribbon coming out of the 50cm arena. Maddie also had a successful round at 50cms giving her confidence to enter the 65cm.

After their excellent round of 50cm they went a bit bigger at 65cm and with a nervous tummy both Chelsea and Bridget did a wonderful job. Despite a couple of little mishaps, both girls completed their show jumping round with Bridget picking up an Encouragement Award.

Stephi and Maddie also did the 65cm and did very well. Maddie received 5th place. Stephi entered the 80cm round and did HV proud.

Our Wonderful parents helped put up show jumps and kept us hydrated along with the horses their efforts and encouragement were much appreciated.

I felt very lucky to do the showjumping and cannot wait to go back.