

Mylor Valley Pony Club Inc

Newsletter August 2009



Mylor Valley Pony Club
Hopper Rd (cnr Strathalbyn Rd)
Mylor

Rally Information

Saturday 5th September:

Regular rally @ Pony Club grounds 12.30pm gear check for 1pm start

Saturday 19th September:

Regular rally @ Pony Club grounds 12.30pm gear check for 1pm start

Photos from August 15th Rally at Tilling Hill



2009 Sept- Dec CANTEEN ROSTER

The MVPC Canteen is one of the main fundraisers for our pony club.

It is set up to provide riders, instructors, parents and visitors with a simple lunch, afternoon tea and refreshments on rally days.

The canteen also operates during special events held at the grounds with special rosters on those days.

		LUNCH	AFTERNOON TEA
Sept	5th	Taylor/Frisby	Compton/Nettle
	19th	Haydon/Atkinson	Fischer-Bent/Horan
Oct	3rd	Blake/Little	O'Loughlin/Kamm
	17th	Tetzlaff/Davis	MacDonald/Robins
Nov	1st	SHOW JUMPING DAY	ROSTER TBA
	21st	Thomson/Tugwell	Adcock
Dec 5th	XMAS	GYMKHANA	ROSTER
TBA			

If a rostered date is unsuitable for a family it is the responsibility of that family to contact someone else on the roster to swap.

Clubrooms open at approx 12 noon. Lunch needs to be available for riders from 12.30 pm and closing around 3.30 pm.

It is the responsibility of the afternoon tea crew to clean up the kitchen at the end of day and to clean & lock up the new toilets & to turn off pump.

Out and About News

ZONE EVENTS NEWS

Many thanks to the following families that took advantage of the opportunity to fulfil their Zone Event commitment at the Zone Finals last weekend. Those rostered on were Edginton, MacDonald, Tugwell, Tetzlaff, Morgan/Little, Bannister, Ashcroft, Josephs, Reynolds, Robins.

Your commitment has now been crossed off the Work Roster list for Zone Events 2009 - 2010, thanks again!!

The next Zone event is the Mitton Gymkhana on 22nd November, we are organising the Hacking section so will be looking for a penciller, a marshall, a gear checker and Belinda Nettle has kindly agreed to find us a judge. Please let me or Belinda know if you would like to fulfil your Zone commitment at this event.

When a program is available we will distribute it to all members. This is a fun day with led classes upwards and aggregate trophies for all age groups.

As a follow-up from the last newsletter, the committee is still looking for someone to take over the Zone Events role, so if you may be interested in taking it on and would like more details, please contact me.

Alex Robins

HORSE FOR SALE

Dark Brown 16hh Thoroughbred gelding 18yo. Quiet. Sound.

Good to catch/shoe/float. Excellent for Pony Club, trail rides, beach rides (loves water), good on roads, nice movement. Recently evented PC 3 & EFA Introductory. Good allrounder. \$1500 o.n.o

Phone Miriam Ashcroft on 0419 038 195



Mylor Valley Show Jumping Day Reminder

This years Show Jumping Day will be held at the Strathalbyn Polo Grounds on Sunday November the 1st. We would like everyone to support this major fundraiser as much as possible.

You can do this by:

- Donating a prize for the raffle. It can be something horsey or not e.g. horse brushes, a halter, wine, gift voucher etc. Just make sure it's not a perishable item please. Donations can be left at the clubrooms on rally days leading up to the event
- Sponsoring a jump. For \$100 you can sponsor a jump at the event. If you run your own business or if you work for a company who would like to sponsor a jump it's very cheap advertising.
- Offering to help with setting up or on the day. We will need help setting up the jumps on the Saturday (they are all at the polo grounds on trailers so it's quite simple). On the day we need judges, marshalls, timekeepers, announcers, a secretary, gear checkers, a jump crew (to rebuild knocked jumps), canteen helpers, helpers to put the jumps away, raffle ticket sellers, parking support etc. If you would like to volunteer for any of these jobs please email me your preference cackland@internode.on.net .
- Any jobs not filled will be allocated to members and if you are unable to help you will need to find a replacement.

Thanking you all in advance

The Showjumping Day Committee

Horse and Rider Profiles

Rider Details

Name: Hannah Korhonen-Bannister

Age: 16

School: St John's Grammar

Favourite food: Chocolate and Pizza

Favourite riding activity: Eventing (x-country)

How long have you been riding? 7/8 years

What is your best riding achievement? Winning my first event at Reynella

Future riding goals: Going Prelim and hopefully Pre-novice

Other interests: Netball, Tennis



Horse/ Pony Details

Name: Red

Show Name: Interrupt

Height: 15.3 1/2

Colour: Chestnut

Age: 15

Horse's funny habits: Just generally completely insane

Horse's favourite food: Completo Muesli

Horse's favourite discipline: Eventing (x-country)

Rider Details

Name: Milly Atkinson

Age: 11

School: St Michaels Lutheran, Hahndorf

Favourite food: Chocolate :) and mangoes

Favourite riding activity: Cross-country!

How long have you been riding? about 2 years

What is your best riding achievement? Monarto camp

Future riding goals: go to local gymkhanas and get to know Forte better

Other interests: music, piano, catching up with friends, and other interesting things.

Horse/ Pony Details

Name: Forte

Show Name: Willowcroft Cavalier

Height: 14.2

Colour: bay

Age: 10

Horse's funny habits: Licks about everything in sight! and always breaks free of my quick release knots!

Horse's favourite food: pellets, chaff, anything that he can and can't eat!

Horse's favourite discipline: cross-country (he likes to go fast)



What are laminitis and founder?

The terms **laminitis** and **founder** are often used interchangeably. This is incorrect, although laminitis frequently leads to founder. Laminitis is an infection of the laminae, or tissue that connects the coffin bone to the hoof wall. It is a debilitating disease that causes the delamination of a horse's hoof. As the layers of the hoof wall delaminate (separate) they cause extreme pain in the sensitive tissues underneath the hoof wall. (The sensitive laminae are living tissues that connect with the insensitive laminae to form a strong and durable bond between the hoof wall and the coffin bone.)

Founder occurs when the bond between the sensitive and insensitive laminae completely fails, as the laminae die. This causes the attachment of the coffin bone to the hoof to break down, damaging arteries and veins and crushing the remaining living tissues around the coffin bone. In extreme cases, as the

whole weight of the horse bears down on the coffin bone, it will rotate downwards and through the sole of the hoof to the ground. (The term "to founder" is a maritime expression meaning to sink.)

Usually the horse's front feet are affected, although laminitis can affect the back feet as well. (The front feet are usually affected because they support close to 60 percent of the body weight.)

What are the signs of laminitis and founder?

It is far easier to prevent laminitis and founder than it is to treat these conditions. Treatment can be difficult, expensive and time consuming. Worse, even the most aggressive treatment may end in failure, requiring the horse to be euthanized.

Early symptoms of laminitis are often subtle. The horse may be slightly stiff, particularly the forelegs. Always check with your veterinarian if your horse appears stiff as it is better to be safe than sorry.

When laminitis has set in to the forefeet, the horse will typically stand in the "founder stance" with his hind legs well up under the body carrying as much weight as possible, and the front legs placed forward with the weight on the heel. He will be reluctant to walk, due to the intense pain (known as "walking on eggshells"), and will turn round by leaning back and pivoting around on the rear legs. (Some horses have a high pain tolerance and will not develop this stance until laminitis is well advanced.)

If all four of the horse's feet are affected, he may lie down and not want to get up. If forced to stand however, he will pull his forelegs and hindlegs in towards each other under the centre of his body, in an attempt to reduce pressure on the hooves.

Other symptoms include heavy breathing and glazed eyes due to pain. The feet will feel hot and the digital artery, located over the fetlock joint, will have a pounding pulse.

Each attack of acute laminitis can leave a ring formation on the hoof. A horse suffering from chronic founder will often have multiple rings on his hooves.

He may also have "seedy toe," a separation of the hoof wall from the sensitive laminae in the toe area. If left untrimmed, the hoof wall will overgrow to form a "slipper foot". In advanced stages of laminitis, the coronary band may ooze blood or serum.

What causes laminitis and founder?

The following are risk factors for laminitis and founder.

- Heavier breeds of horse, such as draft horses.
- Horses that are overweight.
- Horses on a high grain diet.
- Unrestricted grain binges such as when a horse breaks into the feed room or overfeeds on lush pasture. (If this happens, do not wait until symptoms develop to call your veterinarian. Call immediately so that corrective action may be taken before tissue damage progresses.)

- Horses that have had previous episodes of laminitis.

Helping the horse with laminitis and founder

If you suspect that your horse is developing laminitis, it is important to act immediately. Even a few hours can make an enormous difference in the outcome of laminitis and founder treatment.

First, call the veterinarian and follow his/her instructions. Take your horse off the pasture immediately and make sure he does not have access to any grass.

Even if your horse shows only mild symptoms, such as slight stiffness in the forelegs, you should make sure he is taken off grass as even a small amount will pose great danger to a horse with laminitis.

Feel for heat in your horse's feet. If possible, direct a spray of cold water from a garden hose over the affected feet to reduce inflammation. (Inflammation contributes towards separation of the laminae.)

When the veterinarian arrives, he/she will be able to assess the situation and start treatment to relieve pain and reduce swelling, if necessary.

Treatment for laminitis and founder

The earlier treatment for laminitis begins, the better. With early diagnosis and treatment, your horse can go on to live a happy and useful life.

Treatments for laminitis vary according to the severity of the condition but include:

- Encouraging the horse to lie down to relieve pressure on the hoof/hoooves.
- Imposing dietary restrictions to prevent overeating and obesity.
- Treating with mineral oil via a nasogastric tube to purge the horse's digestive tract. This will limit the absorption of bacterial toxins, especially if the horse has overeaten.
- Administering fluids if the horse is ill or dehydrated.
- Administering natural medicines and/or drugs, such as antibiotics to fight infection, anti-endotoxins to reduce bacterial toxicity, anticoagulants and vasodilators to improve blood flow to the feet. (Corticosteroids are contraindicated for laminitis as they can cause it to worsen.)
- Administration of painkillers. Since moderate to intense pain often accompanies laminitis and founder, the veterinarian will likely prescribe painkillers and/or anti-inflammatories for your horse. These may include NSAIDs.
- Use of a magnetic hoof pad. This recently introduced treatment is said to increase local circulation and help relieve pain.
- Stabling the horse on soft ground, such as sand or shavings.
- Opening and draining of any abscesses that may develop.
- Co-operation between your veterinarian and farrier. (Corrective shoeing is often very effective, particularly in preventing founder.
- Treatment of the primary problem by your veterinarian. (A delay of even a few hours can literally be the difference between continued healthy living and euthanasia.)

Preventing laminitis and founder

Laminitis is a disease that is avoidable when proper horse management is practised consistently.

The following points are important to preventing the condition:

- Avoid feeding excesses and keep your horse at a reasonable weight.
- Watch for and avoid grass blooms on pastures. Pull your horse off the fields and onto a dry lot if necessary. Feed hay in the morning and turn the horse out after dew has evaporated from the grass.
- Keep grain in closed bins and the door to the feed room closed.
- Give your horse unlimited access to fresh, clean water, except immediately after exercise, when the amount should be regulated.
- Make changes to routines slowly and progressively, to avoid stress.
- Some breeds and body types are more likely to founder than others. Be particularly careful with horses that have thick, cresty necks and with ponies. If you have a horse or pony that has previously foundered, be extra careful to avoid a recurrence.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this newsletter, your support is greatly appreciated. Please email items for the September newsletter to cackland@internode.on.net before September the 20th. Photos are excellent, results from events and keep the rider profiles coming in.