



# TRAIL

Winter  
2008

North Shore Horse and Pony Association

## BRIDLE TRAIL MEMBERS HELP REQUESTED

The North Shore Horse and Pony Association would like to inform horseriders in the community that we have liaised with Warringah Council on many occasions during the year to have parts of the Bridle Trail maintained. The Thuddungra corner and near the gun club is overgrown to the point of being unusable resulting in horses needing to be ridden on the road. We have all noticed how those BIG trucks thunder along. To date, no maintenance work has been done, despite our best efforts. It was even suggested by a council staff member that horseriders should be prepared to compromise.

We do not wish to compromise the safety of horses and riders and feel that the only way to get noticed by Council now is to ask our members to send emails directly to the General Manager of Warringah Council insisting that maintenance work be carried out as a matter of safety. The Association hopes that if enough people contact Council they will realize that horseriders need to be recognized, and just how many of us are concerned.

## action

Please address your emails to:

Mr Rik Hart, General Manager

[council@warringah.gov.au](mailto:council@warringah.gov.au)

## PRESIDENTS REPORT 2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 18TH JUNE Leonie Cains

This has been a rather disjointed year unfortunately. Our 2007 AGM was held in August and this was followed by the outbreak of Equine Influenza which meant there were no committee meetings in September and October. With no quorum available the December meeting was cancelled so we rather lost our rhythm. Much time was taken up through the last months of 07, advertising and attending meetings on the EI epidemic and sending letters requesting zone specifications etc. Most of us were also anxiously tending our horses through this period.

We met with the new General Manager of Warringah Council, Rik Hart, and expressed our needs for Terrey Hills but for the result of this, the Talk of the Town Seminar attended by Michelle Cooper, resulted in little satisfaction.

We have written letters requesting sensible restrictions on parking should Mosman Prep School achieve its end and are relieved that they ended up considering modifying their DA. Michael Symes was very helpful on the strategy which brought about this result.

We had an onsite meeting in February 08 at Rhoker Reserve with Sue Jacobs and Nicole McVicar of Warringah Council and also looked at Anembo Reserve. We then put in a submission on both reserves. Although they were very encouraging and declared work on Rhoker Reserve was high priority still nothing has eventuated.

Anembo Reserve Arena was put on hold because Council found that they had no papers concerning its existence. And disappointingly there is still no action either on Kinka Reserve.

We wrote letters to National Parks Department, and encouraged our members to do so as well, after reading the National Parks Association magazine article asking its members to write to the Environment Minister requesting aerial culling of the Snowy Mountains Brumbies. Appalled at the thought, we are encouraging people to become members of the Snowy Mountains Users Group to help them in their effort to keep the mountains opened to riders.

In March 08 Sally White went around the overgrown parts of the Booralie Road Bridle Trail with Doug Narker from Council and he agreed to do some clearing. Following this some examples of Duffys Forest threatened species group were discovered and so this clearing work has all been put on hold.

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To find out more about the North Shore Horse and Pony Association, contact us:

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President: Leonie Cains 9879 6709 Secretary: Mal Wilson 9450 0546

Peggy Brown has kindly volunteered to be a second representative with Lesley Nalbandian on the Animal Advisory Committee (AAC). The AAC has offered some money to have trees clipped back on Anembo Reserve Arena. We thank them for their time and help in attending these meetings on our behalf.

#### Some projects for 2008/2009:

- Pursue some better horse signage for the roads.
- Keep pushing for a bridle trial through Lot 446, 447 Joalah Road
- Work out a strategy for getting answers from Council. Perhaps letters need to be following by phone calls or personal visits.
- Meeting with Council again to look at Anembo Reserve Arena and its users and work out together how it can be managed.
- Sally has a suggestion that Council be encouraged to form a plan of management policy for horse riders and to show a pride and interest in having a horse riding area as part of their community.
- Resume our meetings with the National Parks Rangers because we see it as very valuable way to keep a good relationship with them. Happily, Natasha Funke and Chris Grudnoff have always been cooperative about working with us.

Thank you from me to all of the committee members for their ideas and efforts during the year and particularly to Linde for getting Autumn Trail out despite her difficulties this year.

### ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the AGM on June 18, 2008 the following Office Bearers and Committee Members were elected for the year 1 July, 2008 until 30 June, 2009:

#### President

Leonie Cains  
leoniecains@yahoo.com.au

#### Vice President

Sally White  
s.white@tooronga.com

#### Secretary

Mal Wilson  
willpower33@bigpond.com

#### Treasurer

Trine Dayhew  
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Michelle Cooper  
arjoaus@arjowiggins.com.au

BJ Stuart  
bj.stuart@bigpond.com

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE "JOHN PINNELL" HORSE RESCUE SLING

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1991 was a day Trine Dayhew will never forget: the day her beautiful Palomino mare, Missy, fell into a storm water drain on an agistment property at Ingleside/Elanora Heights. The drain was completely overgrown by lantana and undetectable to a browsing horse. (Top photo on page 3 shows just how difficult it must have been to get Missy out of this predicament). There were no adequate resources available to undertake the rescue and poor Missy suffered quite an ordeal, twice falling from ropes slung about her, just as she reached the top of the pit. After many hours she was finally freed from danger. This dramatic rescue was filmed and was shown for some years thereafter on *amazing animal rescue* television programmes.

Because of this ordeal the Manly Warringah and Pittwater Branch of the Animal Welfare League fundraised tirelessly and extensively and received donations from various organizations and members of the public (Dick Smith donated a substantial amount) to purchase a purpose built sling that the RSPCA patented, for use on the Northern Beaches.

Developing a suitable sling proved to be more difficult than you might think. The first version, demonstrated in 1992 at JJ Hills Reserve proved to be faulty. The poor horse used for the demonstration fell from the sling twice! The stitching gave way and the sling was unable to hold the horse securely. Subsequently that particular sling design was not purchased.

### SEEKING YOUR SURPLUS CHAFF BAGS

Peggy Brown of The NSW Animal Welfare League is in need of your chaff bags. If you have empty ones lying around the shed she would be grateful for them, they can be dropped off to her at the Manly/Warringah Animal Welfare, 160 Mona Vale Road, Ingleside, or alternatively give her a call on 9913 8731



It was back to the drawing board for the next four years! During that time many people were involved in research for the design of a fail-safe sling for horse rescue, including Peggy Brown, John Pinnell (well known local horse trainer), the Rural Fire Brigade, various rescue organizations and sail-makers in the area. The research was far and wide, taking in old film clips of Phar Lap being hoisted on to the ship, videos of horse rescues in Canada by helicopter and a cargo net type sling, a cow sling from New Zealand whose capacity was only 500kg. Finally, with all this input a workable sling was designed and named the *John Pinnell* sling. In 1996 a handover ceremony attended by the then Mayor Julie Sutton was held at JJ Hills Reserve. The horse sling passed its demonstration test and to this day it has never faltered.

The *John Pinnell* rescue sling is housed at Peggy Brown's residence at 160 Mona Vale Road, Ingleside - Phone 99138731. It has been used successfully for horse rescues; has been loaned to Tooronga Zoo on several occasions, and used for other livestock rescues around the metropolitan area. Thankfully the Manly Warringah and Pittwater Branch of the Animal Welfare League asked for a demo before handing over their hard earned cheque in 1992! We are grateful for the support they have always shown towards horses and riders in our area as well as for getting the job done and purchasing the sling all those years ago.



WE DO HOPE NO ONE NEEDS TO USE IT BUT.....

Thanks to Peggy Brown and Trine Dayhew for recounting this story to Mal Wilson. The photos were kindly provided by Trine Dayhew.

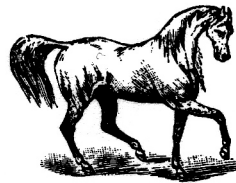
The phone number for the National Parks & Wildlife Service if you encounter trail bikes, or fallen trees on the trails is 9472 8949 which is a multi answer phone service.



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**OPTOMETRISTS**

and

Contact Lens Practitioners

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*Please send this form plus your subscription fee  
when renewing or applying for membership.*

**2008**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION**

**Annual subscriptions to the NSHPA can be sent to:**

The Treasurer,  
P.O. Box 333, Terrey Hills, 2084  
1 x year subscription to the NSHPA  
\$15 Single; \$25 Family; \$50 Club

Name .....

Address .....

.....P/Code.....

Telephone Home .....

Bus..... Fax.....

Mobile.....

E-mail .....

I would be interested to know about and perhaps participate in working bees!

Yes..... No .....

As most people are aware, we are constantly forced to protect our right to ride in the National Parks. NSHPA needs your support with membership if we are to have a louder voice when negotiating to keep trails open in the National Parks and local horse facilities maintained.

**Save our trails, help to keep the roadways safe for us and our children when on horseback.**

**Meetings are held 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month  
all members are encouraged to attend.**