



# **DAYBORO TRAILRIDERS CLUB INC**

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## **Newsletter – October 2020**



Enjoying the all-day Graham Court Ride.

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## Date claimers



*Thursday, Oct 22: DTR monthly meeting, 7.30pm at clubhouse*

*Sunday, Oct 25: Club Ride \*PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO BIG OCTOBER RIDE THIS YEAR.*

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## Dayboro Trailriders receive grant!

Great news... our clubhouse is about to undergo some improvements thanks to a \$9,556 grant from the Queensland Government.

The funding has been provided under the Government's *Active Restart Infrastructure Recovery Fund* and will pay for an upgrade to our well-used kitchen plus new hitching rails adjacent to the clubhouse.

We are one of many community groups to benefit from this program which is all about stimulating the local economy through minor upgrade, repair or maintenance works. A big thankyou goes to Bridgette who sourced quotes from tradespeople and completed the application paperwork.

Now that we have had official confirmation of the grant from our local State Member, Nikki Boyd, work will start in the coming weeks.

# SEPTEMBER RIDE REPORT

*By Debra Shanahan (Trail Co-ordinator)*

Dayboro Trail Riders held the biggest ride for the year on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September – our Graham Court Memorial Ride. We decided to run the ride a month later than usual due to only recently returning to the trails since the COVID restrictions were eased, thus giving everyone a bit more time to get horses fit enough to do a fairly hard ride. Our ride was held on Saturday to allow anyone travelling a long distance the opportunity to camp overnight.

It had been two years since we last rode this trail and those of us who love being in the saddle all day were keen to go. We have a small group of riders who rarely miss a ride and regularly travel throughout the year to attend camps with other trail riders; and they were the seven club members who turned up for the full day ride, accompanied by four visitors.

The day started out a bit blustery and one of our visitors (on a horse borrowed from her daughter) quickly found out that riding an excitable Warmblood across a paddock in a big group with a howling tail wind can be rather unnerving. After a few half rears, it was understandable when our lady rider (on her first outing with us) decided to dismount and not continue. As we rode through the new Stewart Rise Estate we now had a group of 10, including our remaining visitors, Wayne from Conondale (a horse trainer, bravely riding a green horse), Stephen from Woodford (who recorded some amazing video footage of our ride) and Mark from England Creek (who volunteered to open and shut all the gates, giving Trail Bosses an easy day) – and all of them doing a big early morning drive to join us.

We made our way down Sellin Road before heading into the first of many cattle properties. As we rode past the old dunny that appeared to be leaning into the wind, our horses had their heads in the air and were a bit unsettled, but everyone was in control. Most trail riders are wearing helmets these days, so we didn't have the added challenge of hats becoming airborne and spooking our horses as they fly past. As we started to head toward Mount Mee, the steep climb which is always a challenge for the horses at the beginning of this ride was quickly left behind as we arrived at the highest point. This is one of the few places where we can enjoy 360 degree unobscured views of the City, Moreton Bay and Ocean View, and take in the panorama of the D'Aguilar Ranges. However, it's not the most desirable place to be on a windy day! Our stop was brief.

As soon as we left the exposed ridge and started riding through sheltered pockets, we were out of the wind and our ride was so much more enjoyable. The horses were still keen to move along at a fast walk up and down the hilly trails, taking us through bush and gullies and very tranquil creek crossings before eventually coming out onto Fred's Road. After climbing all morning, we had a brief stop on the side of Mount Mee Road to tighten girths before descending the steep track that takes us to Mt Pleasant. At 11.30am we were riding into the Court property – a little early for lunch, but with perfect timing. Kym and Kerry (our lovely ladies who volunteered to make our lunch, instead of riding) drove in as we arrived. Thank-you to Lorraine Court and family for welcoming us to their home for our lunch stop; and to Greg, who always makes sure the track down off the mountain is clear for our horses.

While we had lunch our horses had a restful hour in the cattle yards, with some being unsaddled so they could enjoy a lovely pick of green grass. Two local ladies arrived with their horses to join us for the ride back to the showgrounds. Janelle, opting to do a half day ride, had organised for her hubby Ken to bring the horse float to pick her up, so we lost one rider and gained two more.

The second leg of our ride over undulating terrain is the easier and shorter part of our ride. As we made our way through more properties, the wind died off. All seemed to be going smoothly, until we looked back to find our two new riders were a little stuck on the side of a hill. David (our Tail Drover) and I headed back to help them negotiate the cattle track that their horses were finding a little difficult.

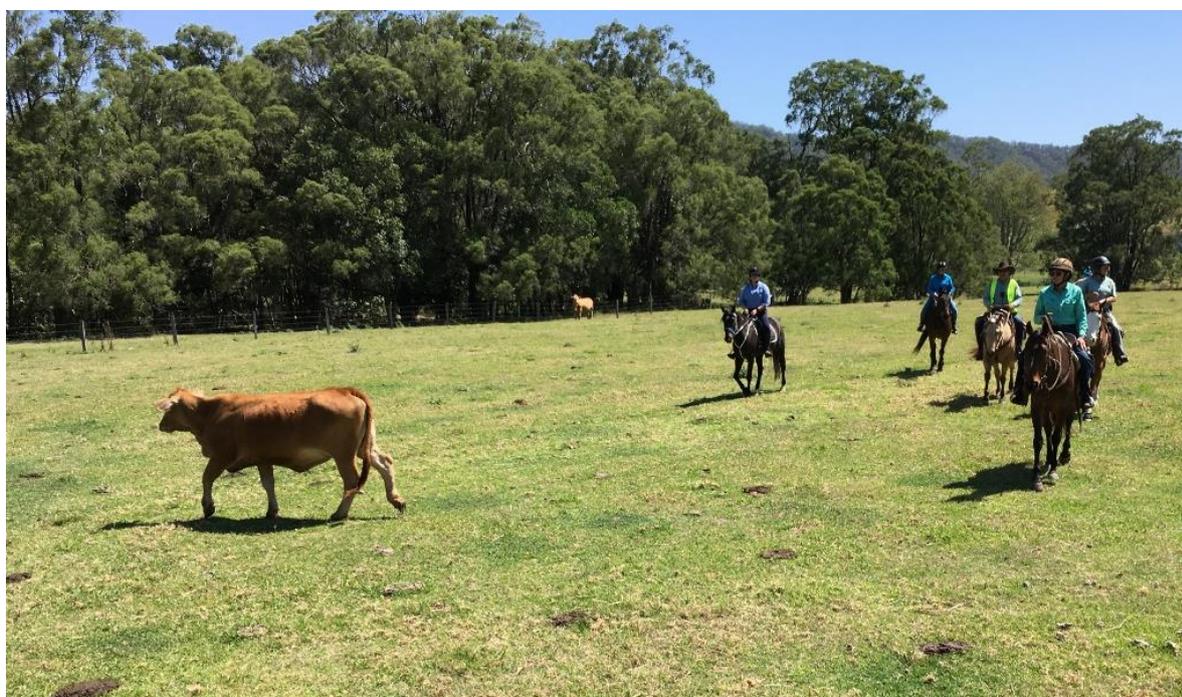
As we continued on, it was becoming more apparent that one rider was becoming quite anxious and in need of extra support. Thankfully the horse was worth his weight in gold – an ex-pacer who was not putting a foot wrong and would just stand and wait until his rider was ready before continuing. Our other rider was on a younger mare that had only been on one trail ride with us before and was a little unsure of where it was safe to put her feet. At this point we were falling behind the rest of the group, and Julie was also called back to assist us. So with the three of us giving lots of moral support, we continued our ride to Rahes Road.

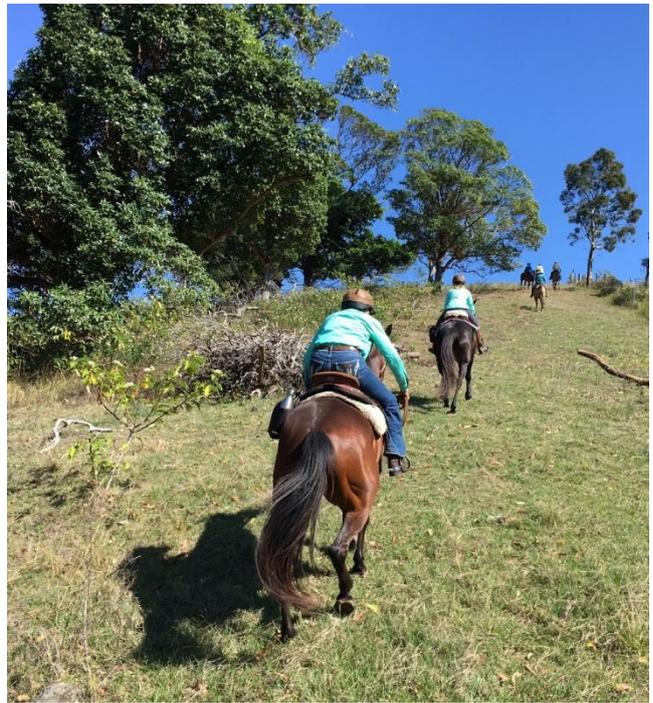
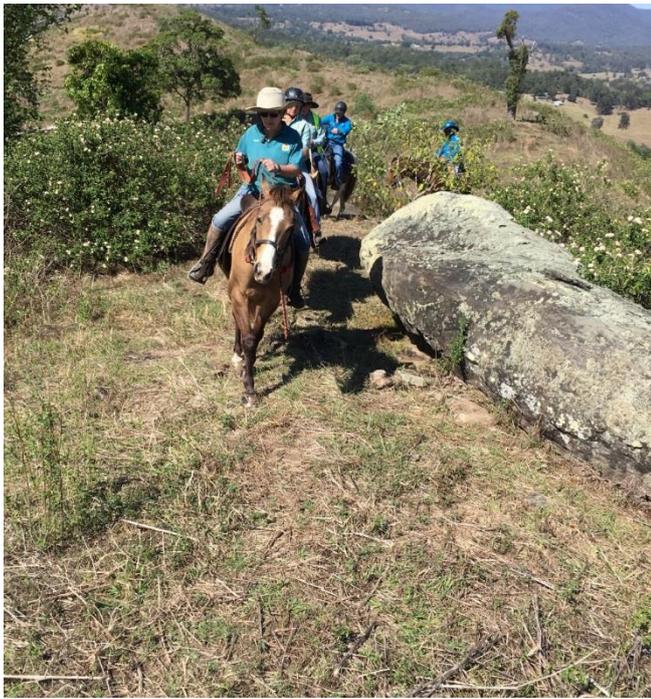
We were riding at a more sedate pace than everyone else, but we were heading in the right direction and getting close to home. An unexpected steep incline taken by Bob (our Lead Drover) brought us to a stop. It was managed by all the very experienced riders, but it was clear that the younger horse was not ready for such a challenge and our lady on the reliable older horse was certainly not confident enough for anything so extreme.

An easier trail was needed; and as we searched further up the gully we found a crossing that looked like it was frequented by cattle, which we had to check first before taking anyone else across. Julie made the first attempt and her horse went belly deep in the quagmire of black/green mud before leaping out onto the opposite bank; not ideal! Now, mud is not my friend when I'm riding my daughter's mare, Tash, who isn't known for her athletic abilities, but more for her lovely long thick white tail. My attempt at a different crossing was knee deep mud, which we could walk across without plunging to get out. Even so, we emerged with a high tide mark much to everyone's amusement. After a little hesitation from our two ladies, and much encouragement from us, everyone made it across safely.

By the time the five of us arrived back at the showgrounds the rest of our group had unsaddled and washed their horses down. However, a trail ride is not a competition, nor a race. It's meant to be an enjoyable outing with our horses and it's a great ride if everyone enjoys it and gets home safely. Our apprehensive rider hopefully gained a little more confidence in herself and her amazing horse, and has realised she can do much more than she ever thought possible.

Our 26km ride (5hrs 30min in the saddle) of ever-changing scenery, over hills, up mountains and down through valleys was only possible because of the generosity of 13 wonderful property owners and our fantastic Club Members who volunteer their time and participate in our rides.





*Thanks to all who contribute such great images of our rides.*



*This all-day ride took the club through many private properties. We greatly appreciate the access permission granted by these property owners. Thank you!*



## Welcome new member!

Welcome new member, Stephen Amos, pictured on the Graham Court ride. As well as riding, Stephen was busy producing a great *Relive* interactive video of the ride, which is on our facebook page. Thanks! The production provides a whole new perspective of a DTR ride.

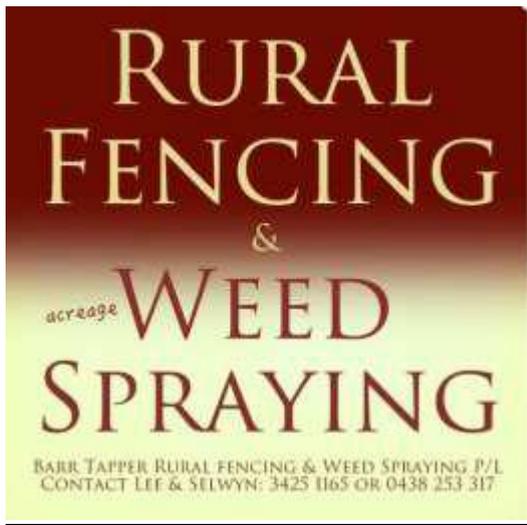


NO HOUR OF LIFE  
IS WASTED THAT  
IS SPENT IN THE  
SADDLE.

AZ QUOTES

Winston Churchill

# Supporters



Raffle prize sponsor for our Sept fundraiser.  
\*5% discount no longer applies for members.



Phone: 07 3425 1636



Gleam O'Dawn at Samford (230 Mt Glorious Rd) offers 5% discount to members on bags of feed & electric fencing. Show your TRA m/ship card.



Strathpine—3881 2446 Ken

**Kevin McKenzie**  
**Farm Machinery Service**  
**0418 722 925**

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**Lacey's Creek Rd**  
**Call Danny 3425 1320**