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## FEBRUARY NEWS

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Firstly, welcome to a new year at the TEC. I hope this newsletter finds you all well; rearing and ready to go with your horse. Perhaps some of you have already started the year on the competition circuit and perhaps some of you have already got scores on the board. Congratulations if you have.



*Greer Maloney*

Like me, your heart no doubt goes out to those affected by the floods, and particularly those who have lost their beloved horses. The stories of drowned horses and those swept away in furious waters are extremely saddening. I remember being asked to write a story for a horse magazine following the Black Saturday bushfires. It focussed on Arabian horse breeders and owners in the worst affected areas. Some two years later, the accounts of those I interviewed still make the hair on the back of my neck stand on end so I can only imagine how horrific it must be for those who have lost their beloved horses in the floods.

The New Year at the TEC started with two new instructors at the January training day. From all reports members enjoyed the dressage and cross country instruction offered by Danielle Marwood (winner of CCI\*\*, Lakes and Craters in December 2010), and speaking personally, I found Greer Maloney to be extremely helpful in my jumping lesson. In fact I can directly attribute her advice and instruction to my success on the Australia Day competition where I won my first combined training competition. Hopefully we see more of Greer and instructors of her ilk in the future.



*Danielle Marwood*

We all take something from the instructors we come across, well, in 99% of cases anyway, but it's important for the TEC committee to get feedback to ensure we continue to offer you the best instructors we possibly can. So please let myself or Kim Mouser know your thoughts on those instructors you come across either within our club or elsewhere.

The Mitavite Jump For Fun series has commenced and I understand bookings came in thick and fast with some classes filling quickly. I hope entrants find this format enjoyable and I look forward to coming and watching some of you over the course of the year.

The February training day will be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of the month. [[Click for Form](#)]. The instructor is **Ebony Tucker**. When booking in make sure you let Kim know yours and your horses riding/jumping level so she can match class participants. There is nothing worse for riders and instructors when those within a class are poorly matched. No one gets anything out of it so for the benefit of everyone please ensure you advise Kim correctly. We've got a great club.... here's a reminder why! The benefits of Membership are:

1. Access to the best range of facilities available to any HRCV club, i.e. two larger than full-size indoor arenas, indoor showjumping, professional cross country course, stabling.
2. A variety of high quality instructors across the three key disciplines, dressage, show jumping and cross country.
3. Standard of instructors vs cost of lesson represents excellent value for money.
4. All weather facilities meaning despite the weather, training days are never cancelled.
5. Horse wash bays available.
6. Very safe facilities for both horse and rider.
7. Discounted fees and special offers to members.
8. Friendly, informal club atmosphere.
9. Open to all ages. Read membership rules.

I look forward to seeing you at the February training day or at sometime throughout the year either at the TEC or out and about on the competition circuit.

Cheers

*Helen Ward*

TARC President

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Ah, February... Christmas and New Year's is over... the indulgences of the last two months have come to an end at last. Sales have come and gone... credit cards start to resume normality (or do they?). Next up its Valentine's Day – another excuse to spend money. I'm sure though most of us would prefer a new bridle than a romantic night out at some over-priced restaurant.

[What would you choose?](#) [\[Vote Now\]](#) Results will be published in the March newsletter.



### FLOODS

Helen has already mentioned the Qld floods...but I want to tell you about my husband's trip to Brisbane. Tony needed to visit some warehouses after the floods; one of which was completely under the flood waters. He said the TV footage didn't even begin to show the devastation in Brisbane... it was much worse than he was expecting and was shocked by what he experienced. Not only the silt on closed roads, but the smell, rotting "bits and pieces" left behind, and the amazingly high water marks some 60m over the usual water level of nearby streams! Warehouse workers wore full biohazard suits as the food products (in the warehouse) were dangerously contaminated, as well as flood debris. So, it seems that you really have to be there to understand just how bad Brisbane (and of course all Qld) has been devastated by the floods. We're a bit removed here in Victoria, but think of our Queensland cousins, and donate a few dollars if you haven't already.

<http://www.qld.gov.au/floods/donate.html>



### GEORGE MORRIS CLINIC – REVIEW

I went along to the two day clinic that George gave at Adam Wooten's beautiful property at the Yarra Junction in January. I was the only person with a notebook, and I took 9 pages of notes! Luckily I wasn't a rider, as I'm too thin skinned to take the constructive criticism offered by one of the world's leading trainers.

The Showjumping Hall of fame says "George Morris conquered a childhood fear of horses to become a world-renowned hunter and jumper instructor, and is considered to be one of the most influential trainers in the history of equestrian sports". I sure wasn't going to miss this opportunity! And, he autographed my notes too!! ☺



*George Morris*

Here are some of my notes...

With all groups, there was considerable focus on position. You'd expect that from the king of equitation though.

What surprised me is that I thought we all knew that there had to be a straight line from the rider's elbow through hands and to the bit (on the flat). See in the image below of Cottage Norman, the rider has a perfect line from elbow to bit. It seems in Australia we have had drummed into us "hands down" (which often broke the straight line)... almost all riders were repeatedly coached "hands up" (so that there was a



Horse: [Cottage Norman](#)  
Perfect line from Elbow to bit and heels down

straight line from elbow to bit). The point here is that no matter where your hands needed to be (up or down), they needed to not break the straight line from elbow to bit.

Additionally, there was much “encouragement” for riders to break at the ankle and put their heels down. This seemed really basic stuff, and possibly not value for money from one of the world’s greats (you can learn that anywhere?)... what I mean where it’s a shame so much time was devoted to getting these basics satisfactory, and not on giving away real nuggets of wisdom gathered from a lifetime of experience.

George is known for teaching a lighter style of riding – that is getting off the horses back in 2 point position. The alternative is the European way (some riders now changing to adopt a lighter seat) which has the rider firmly in 3 point position.

One rider that demonstrates the “other” way (for lack of a better term) is Helena Lundbäck and Madick [[Click for Video](#)]. Notice how Helena sits very upright in 3 point position most of the time. In contrast, we can see Marcus

Ehning [[Click for Video](#)] who remains in 2 point position for some time, and only sits on approach to jumps. George did make mention that he admired Marcus’s riding.

George instructed his students to go into 2 point for jumping a fence and for riding tight turns; and 3 point position for normal cornering an approaching a jump (as per video of Marcus above).

Incidentally, I was at Aachen in 2009 (where both these video’s were shot) – what a great event!!! Definitely worth going!

Getting started – it all seemed basic... warm up on the flat, George wanted a steady rhythm and a relaxed horse. Most of the notes I took related to flatwork and warm up exercises... leg yielding, counter-canter, flying changes etc. Every lesson started over poles and then small cross rails – even the advanced class.

Some key points I noted from the classes were...

Let the horse travel out of the corner – ease off the contact and let the horse travel naturally out of the corner to the next fence. This helps see the distance.

George liked the method of not “helping” the horse too much – he repeatedly said “let the jumps teach the horse”. For example, if a horse got a rail, he instructed the riders to ride the jump exactly the same as before (assuming they rode it well the first time) and the horse would correct his mistake the second time.

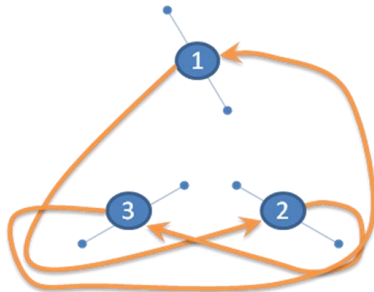


Mclain Ward

George taught students the release you can see in this photo of Mclain Ward. George also hammered students about having a straight back – not the Aussie slouch we seem to have developed (me included). Mclain (a former student of George) shows a perfect position – heels directly under his hip joint, straight back, head up, heels down and a good release.

Day two saw some jumping exercises – practicing turns and flying changes. George told riders to ease off the horses mouth (soften) when approaching a fence (but maintain contact).

When jumping an angle or tight turn, George said “when you see the distance, open the inside rein”. The diagram below shows the exercise used to teach horses to turn, and to get horses on their hocks and to soften.



George told the riders to be “definite about your distance”... meaning, decide how you’re going to ride the line – whether its long or short, and stick to the plan. He said “think it and it will happen”.

George had the students ride a grid without stirrups... the onlookers raised their eyebrows and thought there could be a few spills and thrills. Fortunately, all the riders could do the exercise really well, but the crowd may have been slightly disappointed.

Summing up, George said the keys to jumping are:

1. Speed and Rhythm
2. Line
3. Distance
4. Balance
5. Impulsion.

Other tips where...

6. Go with the movement of the horse.
7. Follow the horse to the fence and wait for the horse to jump it.
8. Be cool – don’t get emotional.
9. Teaching the horse self sufficiency – the rider can always help if need be but the horse needs to know what to do also.
10. Horse needs to be instant to the leg: turning left and right, forward and backward.
11. George hated the sawing Australian’s do in the horses mouth!!! He wanted the students to give and take with the hands... he said the students were (mostly) very heavy in the hands and needed to focus on riding off their seat and legs.
12. Most important aid in showjumping is the brain! “Think it and it will happen”.

At the end of each lesson, George stressed that this was his system, which is very different (it would seem) from the Australian system... and riders should only take what works for them. He said that for his method to work, the horse needed to be well schooled on the flat.

George really liked most of the horses in the classes, and would ride horses in each lesson. For me, it was a thrill to see this living legend riding at the age of 73 years old. George thought thoroughbreds were under-rated horses, and preferred them over “the half breeds” (referring to Warmbloods). George had his eye on a few horses to take home to Wellington Florida.

I’d take my horse next time, but I’d be ready for a grilling... my hair would (need to be) in a hair net and my boots shiny.

Until next month...

*Maryanne Fraser*

Newsletter Editor

## MITAVITE SERIES SHOWJUMPING RESULTS

29 AND 30 JANUARY 2011

Congratulations to the winners and place getters over the two days!! Results as follows...



SATURDAY 29 JANUARY 2011

CLASS 1 – FOXHUNTER		CLASS 2 – 1.05m HEIGHT CLASS	
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT	PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT
1 <sup>st</sup>	MELISSA BLACKMAN & DP WINCHESTER	1 <sup>st</sup>	PAUL BRENT & ATRAKTION
2 <sup>nd</sup>	JASMINE DENNISON & LAKEVALE STYLISH CENTURY	2 <sup>nd</sup>	ALANA POLA & AURISINA LODGE SPOTLIGHT
3 <sup>rd</sup>	TORI WATSON & BC SAILOR MOON	3 <sup>rd</sup>	TORI STUCKEY & VAN HELSING
4 <sup>th</sup>	PAUL BRENT & MAVELOCK BATMAN	4 <sup>th</sup>	NICOLE McLENNAN & BOBBY FISCHER
5 <sup>th</sup>	ALANA POLA & AURISINA LODGE SPOTLIGHT	5 <sup>th</sup>	JAMIE ELLIS & ALTICATION
6 <sup>th</sup>	MARION SHEARS & MAGNASTAR	6 <sup>th</sup>	MICHELLE BRENT & MACMILLAN
CLASS 3 – 1.10m HEIGHT CLASS		CLASS 4 – 1.20m HEIGHT CLASS	
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT	PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT
1 <sup>st</sup>	AMY CLELAND & VAL ROSSI	1 <sup>st</sup>	MELISSA FROESCH & GLENARRA BOLINGER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	SEUMAS MARWOOD & WILD OATS	2 <sup>nd</sup>	EDWARD WATT & BUZZ BOY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	MELISSA FROESCH & MOONWAR	3 <sup>rd</sup>	JULIE SPROULL & MERLIN PARK VIVA
4 <sup>th</sup>	PAUL BRENT & ATTRACTION	4 <sup>th</sup>	OLIVIA O'CONNOR & L'AMOUR DU PAS
5 <sup>th</sup>	STUART BRENNAN AND SNOWY RIVER KOJAK	5 <sup>th</sup>	MELISSA JULIUS & MAE WEST
6 <sup>th</sup>	MEGAN JOYCE & WEST SIDE RHYTHM	6 <sup>th</sup>	KYLIE WILSON & TAHREA
CLASS 5 – NOVICE		CLASS 6 – UNDER 14	
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT	PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT
1 <sup>st</sup>	JACOB WELLS & ALUMEAH SIMPLY TRUE	1 <sup>st</sup>	JASMINE DENNISON & LAKEVALE STYLISH CENTURY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	BRONTE ANDERSON & BACARDI	2 <sup>nd</sup>	MIKAYLA McPHILBIN & CAT BALOU
3 <sup>rd</sup>	SAM WATSON & DENELM CHIME	3 <sup>rd</sup>	HOLLY ROYSMITH & PRESLEY IS BACK
4 <sup>th</sup>	AMY CLELAND & JET PILOT	4 <sup>th</sup>	JACOB WELLS & ALUMEAH SIMPLY TRUE
5 <sup>th</sup>	EMMA HAIR & DOTTIE DOLITTLE	5 <sup>th</sup>	PIP SAMPSON & HECTOR HUGHES
6 <sup>th</sup>	ANDY RENDON & TIME TO ACT	6 <sup>th</sup>	SAM WATSON & DENELM CHIME
CLASS 7 – NEWCOMER		CLASS 8 – FOXHUNTER	
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT	PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT
1 <sup>st</sup>	PIP SAMPSON & HECTOR HUGHES	1 <sup>st</sup>	AIRLIE ROBINSON & AURELIA DE GWAIHIR
2 <sup>nd</sup>	TRACEY COLLISON & LIBERTY MISS	2 <sup>nd</sup>	SALLY MORRISON & HOWIE WHO
3 <sup>rd</sup>	HOLLY ROYSMITH & PRESLEY IS BACK	3 <sup>rd</sup>	MARNIE TOOGOOD & WELLINGTON DRIVE
4 <sup>th</sup>	ADRIEN BRIGHT & ASHEN SHUGAR	4 <sup>th</sup>	ANDY RENDON & TIME TO ACT
5 <sup>th</sup>	ANDY RENDON & TIME TO ACT	5 <sup>th</sup>	MADDISON RYAN & SIR ZAMELECT
6 <sup>th</sup>	SAMANTHA BAILLIE & JINCHILLA PLAYBOY	6 <sup>th</sup>	MIKAYLA McPHILBIN & BP ATHOS

SUNDAY 30 JANUARY 2011

CLASS 9 – FOXHUNTER CHAMPIONSHIP		CLASS 10 – 1.05m CHAMPIONSHIP	
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT	PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT
1 <sup>st</sup>	MELISSA BLACKMAN & DP WINCHESTER	1 <sup>st</sup>	GREG SMITH & PLAY MONEY
2 <sup>nd</sup>	PAUL BRENT & MAVELOCK BATMAN	2 <sup>nd</sup>	STEPH CUMMING & EMMAVILLE SNAP
3 <sup>rd</sup>	ALANA POLA & AURISINA LODGE SPOTLIGHT	3 <sup>rd</sup>	MICHELLE BRENT & MACMILLAN
4 <sup>th</sup>	TORI WATSON & BC SAILOR MOON	4 <sup>th</sup>	AMANDA RYBURN & CHICKEN BOY
5 <sup>th</sup>	JASMINE DENNISON & LAKEVALE STYLISH CENTURY	5 <sup>th</sup>	PAUL BRENT & MAVELOCK BATMAN
6 <sup>th</sup>	TINA VALANCE & TGALLANT	6 <sup>th</sup>	ALANA POLA & AURISINA LODGE SPOTLIGHT

CLASS 11 – 1.10m CHAMPIONSHIP		CLASS 12 – 1.20m CHAMPIONSHIP	
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT	PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT
1 <sup>st</sup>	ROB TRIGG & KIEWA	1 <sup>st</sup>	MELISSA FROESCH & GLENARRA BOLLINGER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	ALEX ROONEY & HYLTON PARK CALYPSO	2 <sup>nd</sup>	TORI STUCKEY & OAKLEY DOAKLEY
3 <sup>rd</sup>	STUART BRENNAN & SNOWY RIVER MASTERPIECE	3 <sup>rd</sup>	MELISSA JULIUS & MAE WEST
4 <sup>th</sup>	RUSSELL MORRISON & FROSTY GOLD	4 <sup>th</sup>	ROB TRIGG & KIEWA
5 <sup>th</sup>	RUSSELL MORRISON & JF LUDO	5 <sup>th</sup>	ELLIE KENNET & BUZARRE
6 <sup>th</sup>	MICHELLE BRENT & MACMILLAN	6 <sup>th</sup>	ALEX ROONEY & HYLTON PARK CALYPSO
CLASS 13 – NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP		CLASS 14 – UNDER 14 CHAMPIONSHIP	
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT	PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT
1 <sup>st</sup>	SAM WATSON & DENELM CHIME	1 <sup>st</sup>	PIP SAMPSON & HECTOR HUGHES
2 <sup>nd</sup>	AIRLIE ROBINSON & AURELIA DE GWAIHIR	2 <sup>nd</sup>	JASMINE DENNISON & FOSBURY FLOP
3 <sup>rd</sup>	PIP SAMPSON & CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS	3 <sup>rd</sup>	PIP SAMPSON & CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS
4 <sup>th</sup>	DYLAN GREGSON & GREY INTRIGUE	4 <sup>th</sup>	JACOB WELLS & ALUMEAH SIMPLY TRUE
5 <sup>th</sup>	MARK SMITH & MON JUAN	5 <sup>th</sup>	EMMA HAIR & TALKIN ALL THAT JAZZ
6 <sup>th</sup>	BRENDA WATTS & PRINCE	6 <sup>th</sup>	MIKAYLA McPHILBIN & CAT BALOU
CLASS 15 – NEWCOMER CHAMPIONSHIP			
PLACE	WINNING RIDER & MOUNT		
1 <sup>st</sup>	MICHELLE McBEAN & TRUE SPIRIT		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	ANDY RENDON & TIME TO ACT		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	MIKAYLA McPHILBIN & BP ATHOS		
4 <sup>th</sup>	JASMINE DENNISON & FOSBURY FLOP		
5 <sup>th</sup>	HOLLY WEBB & MAGUIVER		
6 <sup>th</sup>	ESTELLE LANDY & EL NINO VIVACE		

## TONIMBUK EVENTS

Sunday 6 February – Mitavite Jump For Fun  
**\*\*\* FULLY BOOKED \*\*\***

Sunday 13 February – Mitavite Jump for Fun [[Click for Program and Entry Form](#)]

Saturday 19 February – TEC Training Day [[Click for Entry Form](#)]

Sunday 27 March – Mitavite Jump for Fun



## SA MASTERS' GAMES

Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> & Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011  
 Naracoorte Show Grounds  
 Entries close 27<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Enquiries to Kristy Boord, 0417361269,  
 (08) 87621804 AH

Hosted by the [Mid South East Dressage Club Inc](#)  
<http://www.msedc.equestrian.org.au/>



## CUCUMBERS ARE COOL FOR...

1. Cucumbers contain most of the vitamins you need every day, just one cucumber contains Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B5, Vitamin B6, Folic Acid, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Potassium and Zinc.

2. Feeling tired in the afternoon, put down the caffeinated soda and pick up a cucumber. Cucumbers are a good source of B Vitamins and Carbohydrates that can provide that quick pick-me-up that can last for hours.

3. Tired of your bathroom mirror fogging up after a shower? Try rubbing a cucumber slice along the mirror, it will eliminate the fog and provide a soothing, spa-like fragrance.

4. Are grubs and slugs ruining your planting beds? Place a few slices in a small pie tin and your garden will be free of pests all season long. The chemicals in the cucumber react with the aluminum to give off a scent undetectable to humans but drive garden pests crazy and make them flee the area.

5. Looking for a fast and easy way to remove cellulite before going out or to the pool? Try rubbing a slice or two of cucumbers along your problem area for a few minutes, the phytochemicals in the cucumber cause the collagen in your skin to tighten, firming up the outer layer and reducing the visibility of cellulite. Works great on wrinkles too!!!

6. Want to avoid a hangover or terrible headache? Eat a few cucumber slices before going to bed and wake up refreshed and headache free. Cucumbers contain enough sugar, B vitamins and electrolytes to replenish essential nutrients the body lost, keeping everything in equilibrium, avoiding both a hangover and headache!!

7. Looking to fight off that afternoon or evening snacking binge? Cucumbers have been used for centuries and often used by European trappers, traders and explores for quick meals to thwart off starvation.

8. Have an important meeting or job interview and you realize that you don't have enough time to polish your shoes? Rub a freshly cut cucumber over the shoe, its chemicals will provide a quick and durable shine that not only looks great but also repels water.

9. Out of WD 40 and need to fix a squeaky hinge? Take a cucumber slice and rub it along the problematic hinge, and voila, the squeak is gone!



10. Stressed out and don't have time for massage, facial or visit to the spa? Cut up an entire cucumber and place it in a boiling pot of water, the chemicals and nutrients from the cucumber will react with the boiling water and be released in the steam, creating a soothing, relaxing aroma that has been shown to reduce stress in new mothers and college students during final exams.

11. Just finish a business lunch and realize you don't have gum or mints? Take a slice of cucumber and press it to the roof of your mouth with your tongue for 30 seconds to eliminate bad breath, the phytochemicals will kill the bacteria in your mouth responsible for causing bad breath.

12. Looking for a 'green' way to clean your faucets, sinks or stainless steel? Take a slice of cucumber and rub it on the surface you want to clean, not only will it remove years of tarnish and bring back the shine, but it won't leave streaks and won't harm your fingers or fingernails while you clean.

13. Using a pen and made a mistake? Take the outside of the cucumber and slowly use it to erase the pen writing, also works great on crayons and markers that the kids have used to decorate the walls!!

Source: Originally published in *The New York Times*, 2009



## DIVA WINS AT LYSTERFIELD!

Well, my year has started off with a bang. Having consumed a vast amount of courage pills the night prior to competition backed up by a great jumping lesson with Greer Maloney at the January TEC training day the Saturday before, Diva and I attempted our very first combined training competition on Australia Day.



All plaited up and looking a picture (left), we headed off at 9 a.m. for the long day ahead. Lysterfield ARC held a great official competition with many, many riders participating. Assessed at level 5 for combined training and jumping was fair for our first public outing. Diva is a very capable and quite bold young jumper but she and I need to learn to manage and control her energy and enthusiasm. Equally she needs to be exposed to a whole lot more infills, dazzle boards and all the other distractions that appear on a show jumping course before we even attempt to step up a jumping level.

With Greer's words going through my mind in the hours prior to our jumping competition I also took the advice of a well healed and experienced competitor who advised I walk the course whilst the jumps are higher so they won't seem so bad when it was my turn to compete. Sound advice.

With 12 competing in my level, we performed, what I thought was a strong dressage test, certainly one worthy of a place and then we had the three and a half hour layover until our jumping test. Far too long, and too much time to think but anyway we just took it all in and bided our time.

This day was a first in many respects for Diva and I. Our first combined training competition, our first time out together without my trusty strapper and support, my mum, and guess what? Our first win! Yes we won the level 5 combined training competition and now have proudly adorning a very visual spot in my lounge room, our very first blue ribbon and a trophy!

All I can say is what a buzz. I was so proud of Diva, for her performance over the entire day, and I was pretty pleased with myself for biting the bullet, taking a deep breath and just going for it. It has certainly given me great encouragement to continue with combined training competitions as I also try to finesse our dressage performance as we work towards several dressage competitions in March and April.

If I can do it so can you!!! And another thing, the more practice you get plaiting, the more your horse gets used to it and the better and faster you get at plaiting.

Cheers

*Helen Ward*

TARC President



## FOR SALE

17.5" Bates Caprilli jumping saddle black double grain seat and knee rolls. Excellent condition, barely used. Comes with leather web backed stirrup leathers and irons, Wintec girth (110 cms) \$1,700 neg. Contact Tayla 0417 165 532 (Narre Warren, Vic).

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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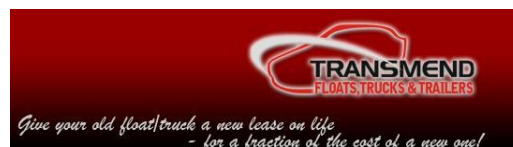
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