



Maryborough Active Riders Club Inc.

PO Box 563

Maryborough QLD 4650

## Maryborough Actives Rider Club Inc.

### Newsletter

### February 2025

Monthly meetings are usually held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, at the Carrier's Arms Hotel, in the Coach House Function Room, upstairs.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 11th March** at 6.30 pm for a 7.00 pm start.

### 2025 Committee Members

<b>President</b>	Roslyn Barker	0422 427 630
<b>Vice President</b>	Pam Thurlow	0427 122 965
<b>Secretary</b>	Karen Spencer	0421 404 786
<b>Treasurer</b>	Luzette Leighton	0428 722 179
<b>Risk Manager</b>	Melinda Macaulay	0401940862
<b>Dressage Co-ordinator</b>	Lynne Larkin	0447 249 912
<b>Dressage Assistants</b>	Pam Thurlow	0427 122 965
	Leah Van Tonder	0419 971 970
	Linda Muldoon	0408531337
	Roslyn Barker	0422 427 630
	Cathy Evans	0408453190
<b>Show Co-ordinator</b>	Cate Puschmann	0431 544 409
<b>Working Equitation Co-ordinator</b>	Liz Pappin	0438 786 546
<b>Working Equitation Assistants</b>	Michelle Russo	0438 222 658
	Anna Szyszka	0403 275 886
<b>Rally Co-ordinator</b>	Kelly O'Connell	0429 121 073
<b>Website Manager</b>	Lynne Larkin	0447 249 912
<b>Facebook Managers</b>	Linda Muldoon	0408531337
	Liz Pappin	0438 786 546
<b>Points Scorer</b>	VACANT	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Catherine Evans	0408453190
<b>Patron</b>	Marilyn Costigan	0438 246 243
<b>Patron</b>	Virginia Wyatt	0490 175 313

## Letter from the Editor

Our Annual General Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February was well attended and all but one of the positions for 2025 have been filled. Thank you to those who have made this very valuable commitment this year.

We still need a Point Scorer for this year. You do not need to be on the Committee or attend meetings to take on this position and it requires about 30 minutes a month to update our points. A huge thank you to Meghan Kennett who has been our Points Scorer for the last couple of years.

This newsletter includes 2024 reports by our President, Dressage and Rally Coordinators. A flyer for our Dressage Competitive/Participant Competition on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March is also included. Nomination is via Nominate and entries close on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March.

On a very sad note, we wish to pay tribute to Shirley Demelt, a Life Member, who passed away recently. Shirley was a huge supporter of MARC activities, and we benefitted greatly by her special skills of cooking and sewing. A memorial story by Pam Thurlow in this newsletter is dedicated to Shirley.

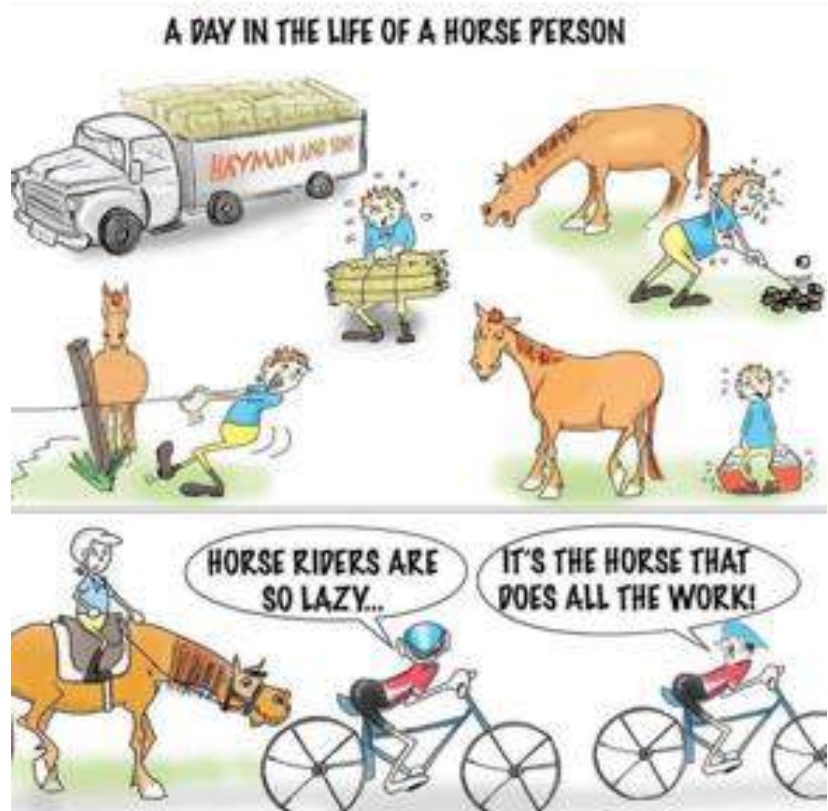
This newsletter is being emailed to all 2024 members, but it is important to renew your membership if you have not already done so through Nominate in order to be emailed our next March edition. Our newsletter is also on our website. One last thing, if members would like to purchase a club shirt could you please email Pam Thurlow [cullow5451@telstra.com](mailto:cullow5451@telstra.com) with the size, and whether you would like long or short sleeves.

Credit [Funny Horse Cartoons](#)

Until next month, happy riding

**Cathy Evans**

**Newsletter Editor**



## 2025 MARC - Proposed Event Calendar

Please note this is a preliminary calendar and it may change \*\* recent changes or additions

### **MARC CALENDAR FOR 2025 (as at 11/02/25 - subject to change)**

<b>Sat</b>	<b>01/03/2025</b>	<b>MARC – Dressage Training Competition</b>	<b>Covered Arena</b>
<b>Sun</b>	09/03/2025	MARC – Working Equitation Rally	Centre Ring
<b>Sun</b>	23/03/2025	MARC - Official Dressage Competition	Covered Arena, East Arena, Livestock Arena, Witches Hat
<b>Sat &amp; Sun</b>	12-13/04/2025	MARC – ANWE Working Equitation HOTY	Covered Arena, Centre Ring
<b>Sat</b>	10/05/2025	MARC – Poles clinic with Desi Roos	Covered Arena
<b>Sun</b>	11/05/2025	TBA	Covered Arena
<b>Sun</b>	1/06/2025	MARC Official Dressage Competition	Covered Arena, East Arena, Livestock Arena, Witches Hat
<b>Sun</b>	15/06/2025	MARC – Dressage Training Competition	East Arena
<b>Sat &amp; Sun</b>	12-13/07/2025	MARC - All Breeds Hack Show	Covered Arena
<b>Sun</b>	27/07/2025	MARC – Dressage Training Competition	East Arena
<b>Fri, Sat, Sun</b>	15-17/08/2025	MARC Star Dressage Championships	Covered Arena, East Arena, South Arena, Livestock Arena, Centre Ring, Witches Hat
<b>Sun</b>	31/08/2025	MARC – Dressage Training Competition	East Arena
<b>Sat &amp; Sun</b>	13-14/09/2025	MARC Hack Clinic & Show (TBC)	Covered Arena
<b>Sat</b>	11/10/2025*	MARC – Dressage Training Competition	Covered Arena
<b>Sun</b>	12/10/2025	TBA	Covered Arena
<b>Sat &amp; Sun</b>	25-26/10/2025	MARC Club Dressage Championship	Covered Arena, Centre Ring
<b>Sat</b>	15/11/2025*	MARC – Poles Clinic with Desi Roos	Covered Arena
<b>Sun</b>	16/11/2025	MARC – Fun Day	Covered Arena
	??/12/2025	MARC Christmas Party & Awards	

*\*Note events have been changed on 11/10/25 & 15/11/25, Additional events may be added*

## **MARC PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2024**

It gives me great pleasure to submit my fourth MARC President's report. How the last few years have flown by.

In 2024, I believe that MARC proved once again what a great club we have. We ran two very successful official dressage competitions, along with the Star Championships, followed by our Club Championships in October. The dressage training days were popular and provided opportunities for riders at all levels to compete in an environment where they can receive help and support from not only the judges but from their fellow competitors.

Unfortunately, we did not have a Show Committee in 2024 and it remains to be seen whether this activity can be reinvigorated. However, Cate Puschmann ran a very successful Hack All Breeds Show in June, with sponsorship obtained for all classes. I thank Cate for all her hard work to make the show a reality.

Working Equitation has gone ahead in leaps and bounds, thanks to Liz Condon's commitment. MARC is now affiliated with the WE national group and we have set aside a number of dates in 2025 for these events, including a Horse of the Year competition. Again, thanks to Liz, we have purchased quite a bit of equipment, including a bridge, and this all makes for interesting and challenging obstacles for our horses, most of whom seem to love the new discipline.

Congratulations to the Club Member of the Year, Sue Dale, who has been such a wonderful supporter of the club generally, but the Dressage Committee in particular, in her capacity as a hard-working judge and committed competitor.

I believe we have a wonderfully supportive group of members across all disciplines...there is always someone ready to help anyone in difficulty, whether it be assistance with a horse, a float, a stable, calling a test or any of the other myriad problems that can arise in our dealings with the beautiful animals we are all so passionate about.

As usual, I thank Pam and Lynne for their generous assistance to me and wise counsel throughout the year, everyone on the MARC Committee, and all those wonderful members, friends and family who come along and help at our events. It is hard to name them all, but they are the glue that help keep everything going so again, thank you.

I am sure we are all looking forward to another great year of club activities in 2025 and I hope to see all members, old and new, at our events this year.

**Ros Barker**

**MARC President**

## **DRESSAGE CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT FOR 2024**

2024 was a certainly another busy year for MARC dressage events with competitions and training days well supported and enjoyed by record numbers of competitors.

Two official days were held in March and June, with the Star Championships once again being very successful. We ran our second club Championship in October and it really was a lot of fun for all involved with great prizes, raffles and special awards being handed out. At each of these events all tests were well supported with some very good scores, which I think it's a testament to not only the exceptional facilities that we are able to use for our events but also because so many of the club members assist in making the days run smoothly and professionally. This has been especially rewarding when I hear about the struggles of many rural clubs in attracting competitors and finding enough helpers. A variety of sponsorship was collected for the Championships and we are hopeful that this can be carried over to the 2025 event.

The main success of the year was the increased number of people competing at the training days. It is great to see so many more people having a go at dressage and the confidence of horses and riders improving over these times. I think the opportunity to participate on these days has both encouraged people who might not normally, to have a go and so a great improvement in the quality of tests which are now being ridden. The relaxed and encouraging atmosphere of these days is second to none which has also provided the chance to give each other some tips, and to socialize and catch up with each other. The number of nominations at the last couple has reflected the popularity of the days.

Our 2025 calendar promises to be a busy one with many types of days for everyone. Judges, catering, accommodation and arenas are all booked but I would appreciate someone stepping forward for each event to assist with running an individual day as it isn't hard but a necessity for the longevity of our club, and extremely rewarding.

A big thank you must be included to all who have assisted in the organization and running of the events. Thanks to

- my wonderful assistants Roslyn, Pam and Linda who helped with nominations, the draws, difficult questions and keeping me on track with what I was supposed to be doing.
- Roslyn, Linda and Cathy for the scoring and points collating
- Everyone else who gear checked, stewarded, pencilled, judged, collected the coffee or just smiled at the visiting competitor to make them feel welcome, this is truly a team effort and I firmly believe that we can be mightily proud of the professional and cooperative way in which dressage is presented at MARC.

Here's to a wonderful 2025. May our transitions be balanced and our paces free and active!

**Lynne Larkin**

**(MARC Dressage Co-ordinator)**

## **Rally Co-ordinator's Report for 2024**

This year we became affiliated with Australian National Working Equitation Ltd (ANWE), enabling us to hold official working equitation days, and use their written tests and rule book. We ran two Linda Shore Clinics, held two training competitions, and held two "Come & Try" events. We also have had two riders venture out and compete in fellow club's HOTY's, coming back raving of the loveliness of the crowd of people.

We grew our equipment collection by adding a beautiful bridge made James Scott, and a near "legal to spec" gate, and other small assets.

The rally committee also held 2 poles/jumping clinics with Dezi Roos, which were very well received, and unfortunately the end of year Pot Luck Novelties day couldn't hold up to compete with the heat, and was cancelled due to low numbers.

Many helpers to thank for their contributions over 2024 – firstly Monique Bonus and Anna Szyszka for their help through the year in the working equitation; Ros Barker, Pam Thurlow and Lynne Larkin for their endless knowledge with Nominate.com and countless other questions they answered; Linda Muldoon for her support, organising the poles clinics and wonderful spruiking of events on Facebook; then the repeat helpers on the day – the likes of Karen and Steve Spencer, Michelle Russo, Linda Sauer & many more.

Also, a personal thank you to the committee and fellow club members in their support and congratulations as I also got married this year. Such a wonderful bunch of people!

Here's to another successful year in 2025,

**Liz Pappin**

**2024 MARC Rally Coordinator**

## Vale Shirley Demelt – MARC Life Member

Some of MARC's longer-term members may remember Shirley Demelt who passed away recently.

In the early 2000's, Shirley was a huge supporter of MARC events, for which she was given Life Membership. Shirley had endless energy and enthusiasm for many community activities, and for several years MARC was lucky to benefit from two of Shirley's special skills – cooking and sewing!



When all events were held in the Centre Ring (before the Covered Arena was built, and before MARC had its own catering caravan - few current MARC members would remember that!) Shirley did the catering for all of MARC's events from the canopy of Petrea's float parked at the side of Centre Ring.

And for a few years when MARC ran its first few Dressage Championships (without much in the way of funds or sponsorships), Shirley made some great useable trophies such as bridle bags and plaiting aprons.

However, Shirley really excelled when she made all the costumes for MARC's display for the "Opening Extravaganza" of the Covered Arena in 2002.

Now this was not your typical "Opening" event... It was an "EXTRAVAGANZA"!! This Extravaganza was advertised far & wide, and although hard to imagine, it resulted in so many spectators turning up that there was a traffic jam on the highway leading into the showgrounds, the extra seating stands around the arena were filled to capacity & apparently, they had to turn some people away!

Local equestrian groups and individuals were asked to perform various weird and wonderful acts. Memorable acts included trick horses, "Lady Godiva"(!) and a group (including some MARC members) of 8 flag-carrying riders doing patterns & criss-crosses of the arena - mostly at a thundering gallop with near-misses only adding to the spectacle!

MARC's contribution was a horseback Pantomime loosely based on Peter Pan, in which he travelled the world searching for something (I forget what) and met up with various amazing characters on horseback including Circus Clowns, Arabians, American Indians, Unicorns and Fairy Princesses, Xena the Warrior Princess, Australian Gumnut Babies, sword fighting Pirates and a dog dressed as a Crocodile! (I'm giggling to myself with memories as I write this!!) Shirley made ALL the amazing costumes for ALL of these characters, and they were FANTASTIC!

Perhaps some members might share some more photos in the next newsletter!



Shirley owned some lovely Shetlands with her daughter Kerri-Anne. Not surprisingly, she also made some amazing costumes for Kerri-Anne's daughter Isabeau to wear on the Shetlands in Fancy Dress classes at the Show.

She also was very involved in many other Maryborough events – making many of the costumes worn by the Town Crier and Mary Heritage, as well as costumes for the Nannies pram race and other characters at the Mary Poppins Festivals, and leading Walking Tours of Maryborough.

A picnic to honour Shirley's memory was held at the Rotunda in Queen's Park, which Petrea & Rodney Bates and I attended. A sad but up-lifting event as stories were shared about an amazing lady.





## **First Aid Certificates**

**Did you know that MARC will refund 50% of the cost of training for MARC members who complete a First Aid Certificate?**

**One never knows when such training might be helpful, not only with horse incidents but perhaps to help family members at home!**

**It is now a requirement that there must have an accredited person with a First Aid Certificate at each event.**

**Members who have current accreditation include:**

- Liz Condon
- Mel Macaulay
- Monique Bonus
- Dianne and Ron Clements
- Pam Thurlow



**If anyone else has current accreditation and is able to assist, please advise the Risk Manager, Mel Macaulay 0401940862.**

# MARYBOROUGH ACTIVE RIDERS CLUB INC.



## Competitive/Participant Dressage Competition 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025



Maryborough Showgrounds and Equestrian Park  
(PIC # QBMB0072)

(Classes in Covered Arena and Eastern Sand Arenas)

### CLASSES

#### EA Competitive Classes (must be EA members Competitive)

- |     |                |   |     |
|-----|----------------|---|-----|
| 1.  | Preliminary    | - | 1.1 |
| 2.  | Preliminary    | - | 1.3 |
| 3.  | Novice         | - | 2.1 |
| 4.  | Novice         | - | 2.3 |
| 5.  | Elementary     | - | 3.2 |
| 6.  | Elementary     | - | 3.3 |
| 7.  | Medium         | - | 4.1 |
| 8.  | Medium         | - | 4.2 |
| 9.  | Advanced       | - | 5.2 |
| 10. | Prix St George |   |     |
| 11. | Intermediate 1 |   |     |
| 12. | Intermediate A |   |     |
| 13. | Grand Prix     |   |     |

#### PARTICIPANT & CLUB Classes - must be a MARC or EA member for classes 14-19- must be a member of MARC for class 20-21.

- |     |                 |   |     |
|-----|-----------------|---|-----|
| 14. | Preparatory     | - | 1   |
| 15. | Preparatory     | - | 2   |
| 16. | Preliminary     | - | 1.1 |
| 17. | Preliminary     | - | 1.2 |
| 18. | Novice          | - | 2.1 |
| 19. | Novice          | - | 2.2 |
| 20. | Club Elementary | - | 3.1 |
| 21. | Club Elementary | - | 3.2 |

*Neither the organising committee of any competition to which these rules apply, nor Equestrian Australia accept any liability for any accident, damage, injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, grounds, spectators or any other person or property whatsoever.*

## **Special Conditions**

**Please do not complete an entry unless your horse has a bridle number.**

If your horse does not have an EA bridle number, please contact Roslyn Barker on email [roslyn.barker@gmail.com](mailto:roslyn.barker@gmail.com) and she will allocate one to your horse.

Bridle numbers are essential for electronic scoring.

- Full Membership \$60 or Limited Membership \$30 – membership by [www.nominate.com.au](http://www.nominate.com.au)  
Full membership enables participation at all MARC events while Limited Membership enables participation at 3 days at MARC events for the year.
- Horse health declaration form must be brought to the event and handed to secretary office before competing.
- **As the Event is run under current EA rules**, the onus is on the on the rider to understand these rules before they compete. Gear check has now become compulsory (**immediately**) AFTER the test!!
- Max of 3 EA/Participant classes per horse or 2 FEI classes per horse over 2 consecutive levels and max 2 horses per rider.

### **ENTRY Fees:**

MARC Member Discount	\$5.00 per class
Official Competitive	\$45.00 per class
Participant/club	\$35.00 per class

All riders competing must pay an administration fee of \$25.00.

- Facility fees \$10.50 per day per horse & stabling \$16.00 per day per horse & camping to be paid through [www.nominate.com.au](http://www.nominate.com.au) (Stables vary in size so please check the maps when booking).

### **NOMINATIONS:**

- will be accepted on [www.nominate.com.au](http://www.nominate.com.au)
- **CLOSE: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED).**

### **DRAW:**

- Will be posted on [www.maryboroughactiveriders.org.au](http://www.maryboroughactiveriders.org.au) and [www.nominate.com.au](http://www.nominate.com.au)

### **PRIZES:**

- Prize money and ribbons will be offered for Official Competitive classes.
- Ribbons to 6th place for Participant/Club classes

**ENQUIRIES:** Roslyn Barker Ph: 0422427630 or Email [roslyn.barker@gmail.com](mailto:roslyn.barker@gmail.com)

Lynne Larkin- Ph: 0447 249912 or Email: [larkin26@bigpond.com](mailto:larkin26@bigpond.com)



## Advertisements

**RUG REPAIRS Maryborough area**

**Contact – Jenny 0408 062 480**

Clean rugs please



### **Direct Deposits to MARC Bank Accounts.**

**MARC Inc**

**BSB 06 4421**

**Acc No 00906677**

Please make it clear **who** the payment is from & **what** the payment is for...  
**SURNAME, EVENT and EVENT DATE.**

## **MARC Shirts**



**Cool, sun protective and wash up beautifully!**

**Available in Size 6 to Size 20**

**Long Sleeve = \$55**

**Short Sleeve = \$45**

**Contact Pam Thurlow 0427 122 965 or [cullow5451@telstra.com](mailto:cullow5451@telstra.com)**



**Old style MARC shirts. Comfortable, Cool & CHEAP!**

**Perfect for everyday riding.**