



Autumn AT PAPILLON

Welcome ... to our latest edition of Papillon's newsletter.

We've got some tips for riding and handling horses, as well as details of our Autumn Program plus some news about our littlest pony, Evy. Read on!

Riding Tips - Building Harmony



A harmonious relationship between horse and rider is what Papillon is all about. Harmony includes a relationship of trust and respect between horse and rider. Building this relationship starts from saying 'hello' to your horse.

If someone else has groomed and saddled your horse, then your first 'hello' from the horse's viewpoint is when you get on. Your 'hello' can be a pleasant or an unpleasant experience for the horse and can colour the rest of your relationship (and your ride).

A horse's back and body are very sensitive (just like our own). To make it easier for the horse, it is a good idea to mount using a mounting block or step (so that you don't have to pull on the saddle to haul yourself up from the ground). When you put your left foot in the stirrup to get on, make sure that your toe is not digging into the horse's side. Make sure that your toe doesn't dig in the whole time that you are getting on. Get on slowly and smoothly, controlling your movement and making sure that you land very gently in the saddle. If getting on (your first 'hello') is a reasonable experience for your horse, it gets your lesson or ride off to a good start.

What if I haven't always gotten onto the horse gently?

Horses have long memories. If you don't mount gently, then the horse remembers this from ride to ride. Thankfully, horses are also forgiving and if we change our behaviour they will respond to us. It is really important that once you start mounting gently and sensitively, that you always do so. The basis for building trust between you and your horse is treating the horse well and consistently – so that the horse knows what to expect from you.



Evvy T-shirts now available!

We now have Evvy T-shirts in sizes 2, 4 and 6 for \$35 each. Have a memento of your child's ride on Evvy or consider a T-shirt and pony ride as your next present for a grandchild, niece or nephew. The T-shirts are high quality and very cute!



Wear your favourite pony!

Riding Camps

These 3 day camps suit children from 6 years up. They run from 9am to 3pm. Each day involves a group riding lesson, a ride to the park (weather permitting), lessons in grooming, tacking up and general care of the horse, as well as horse handling tips. Camps cost \$450 for three days or \$180 per day. Papillon clients receive a special price of \$400 for three days.

Autumn camp dates are: 6, 7 and 8 April (Tues-Thurs)

12, 13 and 14 April (Mon-Wed)

Private Riding Camps



Private Riding Camps follow the same format as the 3 day camps for children from 6 years up. Book and pay for a private camp at least 21 days prior and pay only \$1500. For this price, you can enrol up to 6 children (reducing the cost per child to \$250!). Autumn camps may be booked now or advance bookings can be made for the July, September/October or Christmas holidays. Payments, once made, are not refundable.

Riding Clinics

These one day clinics will be run by Pamela Bode and are for riders established at walk, trot and canter who would like to take their riding further. Each clinic involves a group riding lesson, as well as one on one tuition, plus discussion and observation of other riders.

The Clinic will aim to improve each rider's understanding of the horse – and provides an excellent basis for further work in dressage, eventing, jumping or pleasure riding. To ensure individual attention, Clinic numbers are very limited.

Each Clinic runs from 10am to 3pm and costs \$200. As a special offer, Papillon clients pay only \$180. Autumn Clinic date: 3 May.

Escorted Park Rides – Autumn Special Offer



A lovely way to spend some time, in the company of your horse, in the beautiful surrounds of Centennial Park. As a very special offer this autumn, Papillon clients can book park rides on Mondays or Tuesdays for only \$60 (save \$20 off the normal price!).



20% Off a Second Weekly Lesson **NEW**

If you are riding once a week (or more often), you can now book an extra lesson on a Monday or a Tuesday for 20% off. This means you will pay \$70 for a private one hour lesson or \$45 for a half hour lesson – big savings!

Part Leases Available **NEW**

Do you have time to ride more than once a week? Are you confident riding by yourself? Part leasing may be an option. This entitles you to ride a Papillon horse up to three times a week from \$50 per ride. Are you interested? Talk to Sigrid on 8356 9866 or drop by the office (Sun-Fri).

Back in the Saddle (BITS) Package **NEW**

Have you had a break from riding but would like to get back into it? Our new BITS package can help. The package comprises 3 x 30 minute private lessons, an optional 30 minute grooming/tacking up session, an escorted park ride and a one hour private lesson. All for just \$300!!

Pony Rides – Frequently Asked Questions



What's the difference between a pony ride and a pony lead?

Pony leads last 15 minutes and take place in the Equestrian Centre itself. They are suitable for small children, from approx 2 to approx 6 years old. They cost \$45 and are on Evy, our littlest pony.

Pony rides last 30 minutes and include a trip to Centennial Park, weather permitting. Pony rides cost \$65 and are suitable for children from 2 years upwards – although very young children may find a full 30 minutes tiring. Very little children ride on our littlest pony, Evy while older, taller children can ride one of our larger ponies – Star, Max or Jerry.

Can we go to Centennial Park?

Pony rides go over to Centennial Park, weather permitting.

If I have more than one child, can they share a pony lead or pony ride?

Absolutely. Two small children can share a pony lead, while 2 or 3 children could share a pony ride. Typically if two children want to share a pony ride, one child rides the pony on the way over to the Park and the other child rides back. This can be a cost-effective way of giving two children a riding experience.

Special offer for pony rides on Evy, our littlest pony – coming soon! Email info@papillonriding.com.au if you are interested and we will let you know as soon as it's available.



Riding is fun!



Medicine Chest – Greasy Heel

What is it?

Greasy heel is characterised by greasy, cracked or inflamed skin on the heels and rear of the pasterns (i.e.; Just above the hooves, at the back of each leg).

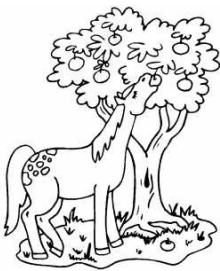


Greasy heel

Greasy heel is sometimes called ‘mud fever’ as horses can develop the condition when standing in muddy yards and paddocks during rainy weather. There are a number of other causes, including irritants or soil. Greasy heel is very painful for a horse, leading to lameness. It is therefore very important to prevent greasy heel.

How can we avoid Greasy Heel at Papillon?

Our horses can develop greasy heel if their feet are not thoroughly washed and dried following each ride. It is very important if you are asked to hose a horse's feet that you check (using your hand) that all grit has been hosed away from the legs, especially the back of each leg above the hooves. This is particularly important if you've been in the arena or lunge yard as the sand is very ‘sticky’. It is also important that you dry the legs well, using a towel, before you put the horse away.



All I Ever Need To Know In Life I Learned From My Horse

1. Ignore cues. They're just a prompt to do more work.
2. You can never have too many treats.



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