



Horse Safety Australia

THE ASSOCIATION FOR HORSEMANSHIP SAFETY & EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA INC. ABN 44 215 962 886

NEWS: May 2007

A word from the Office

The Trademark : Horse Safety Australia is on the way, not quite through the red tape yet...but we are using it everywhere regardless. We are not expecting there to be any difficulties...the time for anyone to object is over! So Horse Safety Australia we are.

New Website

We seem to be getting more 'hits' than ever on this...which is encouraging. This may be partly because we are using our new name, and possibly also because our renewed website is easier to navigate.

Check it out, it still goes by the same address: www.ahse.info

Leaders workshop in July

We are holding our annual workshop for clinic instructors and committee members in July. If there is anything you think we should discuss at this time please drop me a line, ring or email me.

Write to: Box 209, Strathalbyn 5255:

Phone 08 8536 3274 or 0411 685 211

or email nina@ahse.info

Nina Arnatt Executive Officer

CLINICS:

More clinics are planned for the next few months:

Wirraway, Strathalbyn, SA	8-12 June
Teen Ranch, near Camden NSW or if this one doesn't go ahead	17-21 June
Vision Valley, near NSW	later in 2007
Howqua, near Mansfield Vic	10-14 September
Cairns, Qld	late in 2007



Clinics still cost \$880 per person, with an additional cost of \$110 (once per site) which includes the provision of a copy of Jane Myers' book "Horse Safe" as well as a 75 page Horse Safety Australia document containing useful resources for horse businesses. Recent clinics have been held at Mountain Trails (near ACT) Myella Farmstay (near Rockhampton:in-house for their staff) and Sonshine Ranch (pictured above- Minden, Southern Queensland). They all went well, covering the usual diversity of participants from trail riders to dressage instructors, and trick/exhibition riders to 'bushies'.

Mounting Blocks



Mounting blocks have been a 'hot' topic...and as you would know from your clinic, milk crates are definitely out!!!! Don't get the ones pictured to the left: they tilt, sag in hot weather and are heavy and awkward to move around. Try for the purpose built ones that you can get from saddlery shops, or maybe try IKEA (!) which has a 'stool' that looks like it will do the job for half the price! I haven't tried them, but they are built for standing on, are not heavy, with independent legs (i.e. will work on uneven ground) and cost around \$30

...very like the ones illustrated to the right!

Please let us know if you find anything that does the job well and is not ridiculously expensive! Aim for something with slightly splayed legs, lightweight and easy to move with you as you get people on, but sturdy enough to take some weight. This one → was really good, but they no longer make it, and the current version in saddleries is around \$85!



Other product news:**Helmets:**

We have been advised that the European standard helmets (EN1384) are no longer recommended as suitable, as they do not meet the high testing requirements of the Australian system....

	AS/NZS 3838	EN 1384
Type of Certification	Standards Mark	CE Mark
Manufacturing site visited	Yes (2 day audit)	No
Use of independent test laboratory	Yes	No
Quality system requirements	Yes (audited regularly)	No
Traceability of helmets to raw materials	Yes	No
Each batch independently tested	Yes	No
Mandatory follow-up of complaints	Yes	No
Ongoing certification administered	Yes	None

For this reason they will not be endorsed in the revised Australian Horse Industry Council code of practice, or by Horse Safety Australia . We hope none of you have purchased large numbers of these (!). It is probably more likely you may have a personal one (which no doubt you would keep for the 5 years of its lifetime) or may have a client or guest with the EN versions. You will need to decide your policy on this for your site...at least think about what you will do before it happens! (The information above is from the Standards people, so we need to take it seriously.)

Aussie Rider21 (whose brochure is enclosed in this newsletter) is offering their helmets to you at a reduced rate: the offer right now is for some Aussie 21 "cosmetic seconds". The blemishes are things like glue over-runs, colour imperfections etc. They are all Fully AS/NZS 3838 Certified and have a manufacture date June 06 or later. Price for these will be \$49.95 including GST per helmet (a great price!). They are recommended by Horse Safety Australia , as they are lightweight and comfortable, and look good!

Now....a new product:

Decent Brims on Lightweight Helmets...AT LAST!

Additionally, as mentioned above, this company has responded to the marketplace and produced an acceptable brim for these lightweight helmets ! The brim is leather and can be moved/shaped to suit your taste, the combination of helmet and brim is only very light and it looks OK!!!!

We were delighted to see these, as they are so much better than the first time around, as they really look like a stockman's hat, but are still light and, because of the mesh, the airflow is still great. The only drawback now is that the mesh is light in colour, and would look better blending in with the rest

We have been told that they cannot source a darker coloured mesh at this stage. I have seriously thought about dying that part myself as it would look so much



Special price for Horse Safety Australia members is \$69.95 (normal rrp is \$79.95)- also free post for a minimum of 4. At last we have an OHS compliant product: a lightweight helmet which protects the rider from the sun!

General news:

Over the past 12 months we have had lots of questions from schools and others re. safety issues (especially since we changed our name) plus consultation with WA, NSW, SA and Vic governments re. guidelines to schools. We also had a movie related enquiry that some might find interesting:...people running the behind the scenes work for Baz Lumen's new movie *Australia* (Nicole Kidman/Hugh Jackman) wanted advice on helmets and OHS for their horse activities ...so we are getting involved across the industry!

In our new website we want to include a list of those qualified through AHSE . We will be putting in your name, and the list will be divided up by states. If you do NOT want your name included please let me know. If you want full business details also included (contact and business details, qualifications etc.) it will cost you \$22 per annum. Please contact us immediately if you **do not** want your name to appear, or if you want this extra service.