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Chidlow Weekend

29th to 30th August 2026

New members should read this entire document.

Older members – the information particularly relevant to this trek is in red text.

All participants (including volunteers/support crew and visitors) must:

- read, understand, and agree to abide by the [WAHTC Club Rules](#) and the [ATHRA Code of Conduct](#), and
- read these Trek Notes to ensure this trek is suitable for you and your horse.

Pre-Requisites

New and Returning Members

Prior to nominating for a club ride, new members (and returning members who have had a few years' break) must:

- complete an induction ride with a Trail Boss and;
- be approved for riding with the club.

Contact the [Club Secretary](#) for the date and venue of the next induction ride.

Riders/Drivers must:

- be a current financial member of the WAHTC and ATHRA (join [here](#)), or a current member of another ATHRA club;
- take directions from their Trail Boss at all times whilst on a ride;
- be able to:
 - maintain a controlled walk and trot (and canter for Nimble Neddies) in a group;
 - control their horse in a range of situations, and at any position within the group; and
 - control and maintain a steady pace on varied terrain, including hills and negotiation of obstacles.

Horse Suitability (more details [here](#)):

We expect that horses have had sufficient basic training to be able to:

- be controlled and safe in a group; and
- handle situations that may arise on a trail eg. low hanging branches, encounters with other animals (dogs, kangaroos, emus, wild pigs, alpacas, etc), water crossings, other horses becoming excited.

*Any horse that has raced, or been trained to race, must have undergone re-training and have successfully completed a WAHTC induction ride in a group of at least three horses, before participating in other club rides.

No dogs, stallions or donkeys please.

Trek Summary (see following pages for details)			
Trek Coordinator:	Anna Sheehan	Phone:	0412 926 932
No. of Spaces:	20	Closing Date:	27 th August 2026
Venue & Address:	Michael Borlaise Property, Chidlow	Ablutions:	None, must BYO
Water:	Horse Water only, BYO Human	Type of Hay:	Oaten, Wheaten, Lucerne, NO Meadow Hay, Weed Free hay only
Meals:	BYO Breakfasts, Saturday Lunch and Dinner. Sunday Lunch at Chidlow Tavern	Manure & Waste Hay:	Manure and excess hay can be scattered in the paddock.
Tracks:	Gravel tracks with rocky sections, gentle hills and some road crossings.		
Horse Fitness:	Medium fitness		
Schedule:	Campers can arrive Friday, please mention arrival date on Nominate		
	Saturday	13km (SE) – 16km (NN) ride	Class 1-2 Briefing time 11:30am
	Sunday	13km (SE) – 21km (NN) ride	Class 1-2 Briefing time 9am

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Additional Details

- Closing Date:** Nominations close on **28th August 2026**, unless maximum trek numbers are reached early. If trek numbers are met prior to the closing date, the trek will be closed for entries, but a wait list will be available. Contact the [Trek Coordinator](#) to go on the wait list.
- Nominate early to avoid disappointment.
 - No late entries will be accepted.
- Participants:** **Maximum of 20 riders.**
- Additional non-riding visitors and volunteers are welcome – please register separately on [Nominate](#).
- Harness Vehicles:** The trek is **suitable** for harness vehicles.
- Juniors:** **The trek is suitable for Juniors (12-17yo inclusive) who are capable independent riders, with a responsible adult to accompany them on the ridden portions as well as during the camp.**
- Volunteers:** Volunteers are welcome as part of the support crew:
- For insurance purposes, volunteers are required to register on [Nominate](#) and must sign the ride register at the event. You can find tips and instructions on how to enter Nominate [here](#).
 - Please contact the [Trek Coordinator](#) to discuss volunteer duties.
 - Refer to Clause 3.2 of the [Club Rules](#) for more details on attending as a volunteer.
- Visitors:** Visitors are welcome with the pre-approval of the [Trek Coordinator](#) and are required to register on [Nominate](#). You can find tips and instructions on how to enter Nominate [here](#).
- Please refer to Clause 3.1 of the [Club Rules](#) for more details on visitor attendance.
- Nominations:** Please ensure you enter all details carefully and correctly when applying on the [Nominate](#) site – inserting an answer in every box. Tips and instructions available [here](#).
- **Ensure you do your entry on a laptop or computer. This site does not work well with a touchscreen, phone or tablet.**
 - When you reach the “Class Entry” section where you pay the fees, please follow the instructions at the top carefully.
- Once you have selected your entries, click on “Add Another Class” **PRIOR** to clicking on “Next”**
- Host:** Michael Borlaise
- Address and Directions:** Old Northam Road, near Doconing Road, Chidlow
- Turn off Great Eastern Highway into Old Northam Road, which takes you into Chidlow, where there is a roundabout
 - Take second exit on to the continuation of Old Northam Road towards Wooreoloo
 - Travel about 4.5km and gate into paddock will be on your left. If you go past Doconing Rd, you have gone too far.
- Here is the google map link to the gate.
- <https://maps.app.goo.gl/CW8aEJhPS4QT93Yd6>



Camping

Parking:

Once inside paddock, follow limestone track up to sea containers. Dam for horse water is on the left, camp anywhere in the paddock around the sea containers.

Yards:

BYO yards/Yards are available at the venue (add details):

- Both electric and metal yards can be set up.
 - If you haven't set up your yards before, make sure you do a trial run at home first to ensure the yard is going to contain your horse. This is relevant for both metal and electric yards.
- Refer to Clause 7.1 of the [Club Rules](#) for requirements on electric fencing.
 - Ensure you have trained your horse with electric fencing prior to coming on the trek.

There is a perimeter fence but please make sure your electric fence unit is working and your steel yards are secure.

Halters:

For the safety of all horses in case of escape from yards, as per the [Club Rules](#):

9.5 When a horse is in its yard, it must at all times be wearing a halter.

9.5.1 It is recommended that the halter has a break point.

A halter (or headgear that is dual purpose) and lead rope must be worn/carried with you out on the ride.

Ablutions:

No Showers or toilets available, please bring your own Portaloo or toilet bucket (bucket lined with bin bag and filled with kitty litter). Owner has asked that no bush toileting please. You need to be able to take wees and poos back home with you.

Water:

Horse water from the Dam only available, you will need to bring bucket and rope to get water out easily. Please bring your own human water.

Rubbish:

Please take all your rubbish home with you.

Cooking & Meals:

Please bring all your own requirements, including meals, fridge/esky, gas stove, BBQ, crockery and cutlery.

Breakfasts:		BYO
Lunches:	Saturday	Eat lunch before the ride.
	Sunday	Eat Lunch once back at camp, bring a snack and drink with you on ride. No stop on ride, so no nose bag required for horse
Dinners:	Friday	BYO
	Saturday	Bungarra Wines will be showcased from 5:00pm Dinner at camp afterwards – BYO or Pub Dinner?

Fires:

Fires in firepits allowed.

Wood:

There is wood available in the paddock but will need a chainsaw to cut it up.

ONLY BYO purchased bagged wood, PLEASE do not bring wood from home as there is a no movement order for all wood and plants due to Polyphagus Shot-hole Borer - <https://www.dpiird.wa.gov.au/businesses/pests-weeds-and-diseases/animal-pests-diseases/pest-insects/polyphagous-shot-hole-borer/>

Fuel and Supplies:

Closest supplies – Chidlow Growers Mart Liquor Store – 4.5kms back to Chidlow

Closest fuel – Chidlow Growers Mart Liquor Store – 4.5kms back to Chidlow

Mobile Phones:

Mobile coverage is available at camp and on the trails.

Horse Feed:

There may be some pick for horses in paddock but it will be limited forage for horses.

Bring your own horse feed-

- Please use feed with non-viable seeds such as pellets, micronized or cooked seeds, as we want to be low impact in our forests, and don't want to leave weeds at the host property.
- Start feeding this feed a week prior so that your horse gets used to it and so that any viable seeds have been eliminated prior to your arrival.

Hay

NO MEADOW HAY PLEASE, NO EXCEPTIONS as we will be camping in a paddock used for oaten hay growing. **PLEASE only bring-**

- **Oaten, Wheaten, Lucerne or Rhodes hay (with no weeds) or hay/chaff replacement alternatives please.**

No hay is to be taken to lunch or break spots.

Clean Up:

Manure and excess hay can be scattered in the paddock.

Site must be as clean (or cleaner) than when you arrived.

- Holes – raked and flattened.
- Any manure deposited outside your yard should also be scattered.

Trek Details

Tracks:

Tracks are gravel with some very rocky sections and suitable for carts (options available).

Potential Hazards:

Motorbikes, emus, kangaroos, dogs rushing up and barking on other side of fences, other road/track users, traffic, main road crossings.

Degree of Difficulty:

- Day 1 track for everyone is Class 2 – Moderate due to very rough, rocky sections and small inclines.
- Day 2 track for everyone is Class 2 – Moderate due to being uneven, rocky and winding through the bush.

If there are enough Trail Bosses, there will be two types of ridden groups (this will also be dependent on the riders for this particular trek).

For this trek, there may also be a harness group (H).

Each of the ridden groups may be divided into smaller groups:

1. "Steady Eddies" (SE) groups, compulsory for first timers and designed for those who want to do a more relaxed and sometimes shorter ride (walking and trotting, with possible slow controlled canter if all participants are agreeable).
2. "Nimble Neddies" (NN) group/s for those who want to do a faster/longer ride, with walking, trotting and controlled cantering. Nimble Neddies must:
 - have ridden with the club before,
 - be able to control their horse in a group canter, and
 - **have been deemed suitable for Nimble Neddies by the relevant Trail Bosses.**

Please consider which group you have the experience and skills to participate in.

	Class 1 – Easy Green	Wide, consistent surface and width of trail, gentle slope. Recommended for riders and horses with basic skills and fitness.
	Class 2 – Moderate Blue	Variable trail with narrow sections and uneven surfaces, moderate slope, some obstacles. Recommended for riders and horses with moderate skills and fitness.

Rider/Driver Skills:

- Riders must be **competent independent riders**, with the ability, confidence and control to:
 - walk **and trot** (for Steady Eddies) and do a **controlled** canter (for Nimble Neddies);
 - cope with obstacles or bushy sections ie. stepping over logs, weaving around trees, ducking under branches;
 - cope with short steep sections of track eg. descending into a creek bed or going up the side of a track to detour around a fallen tree.
- Drivers must be **competent drivers**, with the ability, confidence, and control to navigate obstacles, and to walk, trot and canter in a group.
- Horses must be able to be **controlled** at each pace **in a group**, and in a range of situations and conditions.

Horses may not necessarily be able to be at the front of the group. Riders must be able to control their horse in this situation.

Horse Suitability

We expect that horses have had sufficient basic training to be able to:

- be controlled and safe in a group (please prepare by riding your horse out in a group prior to this trek); and
- handle situations that may arise on a trail eg. traffic, low hanging branches, encounters with other animals (dogs, kangaroos, emus, wild pigs, alpacas, etc), water crossings, other horses becoming excited.

Our treks are not designed to provide basic horse training/re-training.

Please choose treks that look like they will be suitable for your horse and the training it has had. If unsure, please contact the [Trek Coordinator](#) to discuss.

Any horse that has been trained to race, or has raced, must have undergone re-training and have safely and successfully ridden on a trail in a group of at least three horses.

Whilst on a ride, if a horse is deemed unsuitable for that ride, the Trail Boss may ask the rider to return to camp, accompanied by at least one other member (see Clause 11.4 of the [Club Rules](#) and Clause 3.29 of the [ATHRA Code of Conduct](#)).

This is to ensure the safety of the rider, and the safety and enjoyment of the other riders/drivers and horses on that ride.

Ride Briefings:

Please have horses groomed and booted, and all rider gear ready before Ride Briefings so that all you need to do is saddle and bridle your horse to be ready to ride out.

- Ride Briefings must be attended **without** your horse.
- Please ensure you sign the Ride Register each day at the Ride Briefing.
- Anyone not attending the Ride Briefing cannot go on the ride.

Schedule:

People may arrive on Friday late afternoon/evening, but please indicate on Nominate what day you are arriving and approx. what time. Otherwise, aim to arrive by **10:00am at the latest** on Saturday.

Day 1 Saturday

Group	Distance	Approx Ride Time	Pre-Ride Briefing Time	Ride Out Time	Details
SE/CARTS	13km	3 hours	11:30am	12:30pm	Ride out back gate into bush North or property
NN	16km	3 hours		12:00pm	Ride out back gate into bush North or property with optional additional Loop of 3.3km to make up the longer ride.

Day 2 Sunday

Group	Distance	Approx Ride Time	Pre-Ride Briefing Time	Ride Out Time	Details
SE/CARTS	13-20 km	3-4 hours	9:00am	10:00am	OPTION 1: Ride along Kep Track to Chidlow Tavern and return pipeline or Kep Track 13 or 14km OPTION 2: Kep Track and onto tracks south to Chidlow Tavern, Kep Track return - 17.5km
NN	21km	3-4 hours		9:30am	Kep Track and onto tracks south to Chidlow Tavern, return by Kep Track with option of extra Loop (17.5km or 21.5km)

Horse Fitness:

Steady Eddies – Normal Fitness

Nimble Neddies – Normal Fitness

Horse Tack:

Tack must be well maintained, correctly fitted, and appropriate for the rides as described.

- If you have new tack, make sure it fits your horse prior to coming on the trek.
- Please refer to Clause 9 of the [Club Rules](#) for more details.
- **Think about bringing horse rugs and wet weather gear for yourself, in case it is wet and cold.**

Boots/Shoes:

It is recommended that horses are shod or booted.

- If booted, the boots must be correctly fitted. It is recommended that you carry a spare boot when riding.
- If shod, it is recommended that you bring a set of shaped spares and tools should your horse cast a shoe on a ride.
- If not shod or booted, feet must be adequately conditioned to remain sound in the terrain and distances described. **If your horse becomes sore partway through the ride, necessitating slowing down the ride, or waiting for a float to pick your horse up, it will ruin the day for your fellow riders.**

If in doubt, please boot or shoe on all four feet as a sore horse will cause disruption to all the riders **and there is not necessarily a support vehicle to come and pick your horse up.**

Breast Plates:

Breast plates are recommended for all rides.

Food/Water on the Trail:

- Food – we recommend that you bring some snacks for yourself and perhaps for your horse.
- Hydration – we recommend that you always bring at least one bottle of water (hint: in summer, if you have access to a freezer, freeze your water bottle the night before, and you will have cold water for most of the ride.

Medications/First Aid:

- Please bring your own supply of medications (paracetamol, Ventolin, sugar/insulin for Diabetes, etc)
- Recommended to bring your own first aid kit for both you and your horse, as the club kit only contains basic requirements for humans.

Safety:

Important safety items:

- Helmets are highly recommended, and are compulsory for riders and passengers 12-17 (inclusive) years of age. Refer to Clause 8.3 of the [Club Rules](#).
- Suitable riding clothing and footwear for the environment and conditions described. Refer to Clause 8.1 and 8.2 of the [Club Rules](#).

- A red ribbon in the tail or a “Horse May Kick” sticker on the rump is compulsory for horses known to kick.
- All ride officials will wear fluoro vests and have two-way communications.
- Please ensure you have read, understood and agree to abide by the Riding Rules in Clause 12 of the [Club Rules](#).

Smokers:

Please refer to Clauses 7.5 and 11.10 of the [Club Rules](#).

Enquiries:

Further trek information is available from the [Trek Coordinator](#).

A Messenger group will be set up and any updates will be entered there. If you are not on Messenger, let the [Trek Coordinator](#) know so that they can contact you via text message.



Fees and Administration

Trek Fees:

All participants must make separate entries on [Nominate](#) to register for the weekend and pay fees.

Ensure you follow the Nominate instructions [here](#)!

Riding/Driving Members

- Riding/Driving/Admin/Ground/Camping Fees - \$30.00

Visitors

- No Charge.

Volunteers

- No ride or ground/camping fees are payable for volunteers.

Refund Policy for Treks

If a participant wishes to withdraw/scratch before or during a trek, no refunds will be made for trek entry fees after the ride closes.

- Prior to this, the participant can scratch their place on Nominate and request a refund from Nominate.
- Please let the [Trek Coordinator](#) know if you scratch.

If a trek is cancelled altogether (due to lack of numbers or inclement weather), Nominate will refund the fees for that trek (less the 5.5% Nominate administration fee).

WAHTC Membership

To ride with the WAHTC, you must be a current member of the Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA) and join as an Adult, Junior or Senior member. The ATHRA membership fee includes the \$10 WAHTC fee.

Join now to be eligible for the 2026 treks.

- The membership fees are:
 - Adult rider (18-79 years) - \$140
 - Junior rider (12-17 years) - \$50
 - Senior rider (80+ Years) - \$85
 - Social (non-riding) – \$50
- Previous members must renew each year before attending a trek.
- Go to [Membership](#) to renew your membership or to join as a new member.

Members of other ATHRA clubs can join as an “Associate” member by going to the [Membership](#) link, and choosing free ATHRA membership and the club fee. This will entitle you to receive club emails and information, and to participate in club treks.

Insurances

Members are covered by:

- Personal Accident insurance whilst on a club trek, and
- 24/7 General Liability insurance for their horse.

Volunteers are covered by:

- Personal Accident insurance whilst assisting on a club trek.

For any questions about ATHRA insurance, please go to [Insurance FAQs](#).

Ambulance:

There is no coverage for ambulance costs through ATHRA's insurances. Please ensure you have your own ambulance cover for all club rides.

Emergency Numbers:

Vet: Gidgegannup Veterinary Clinic – 9574 6262

Police: Mundaring Police Station – 9290 1900

Hospital: St John of God Public Hospital: 9462 4000