



## Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 - Adelargo Ride

Is your backside sore yet? No? Great! You're in for another lovely ride today then. Today we are heading in another direction (just to confuse our mounts as to which way is 'home') and will head north-east, out along the Gooloogong Road. We go past the tennis courts and golf course before heading across the road into private property.

Our ride today is through the Adelargo hills and consists of a lot of timbered country, mostly cypress pine and ironbark. The soils in this area are shallower and the land lends itself to smaller grazing blocks and hobby farms, particularly in the sections before morning tea and later in the day.

### **Did you know?**

*Sport is an important social factor in our rural town and Grenfell fields strong teams in many sports. Popular sports include rugby union, rugby league, soccer, tennis, squash, lawn bowls, cricket, golf, netball, swimming, shooting, karate, go-karts and cycling.*

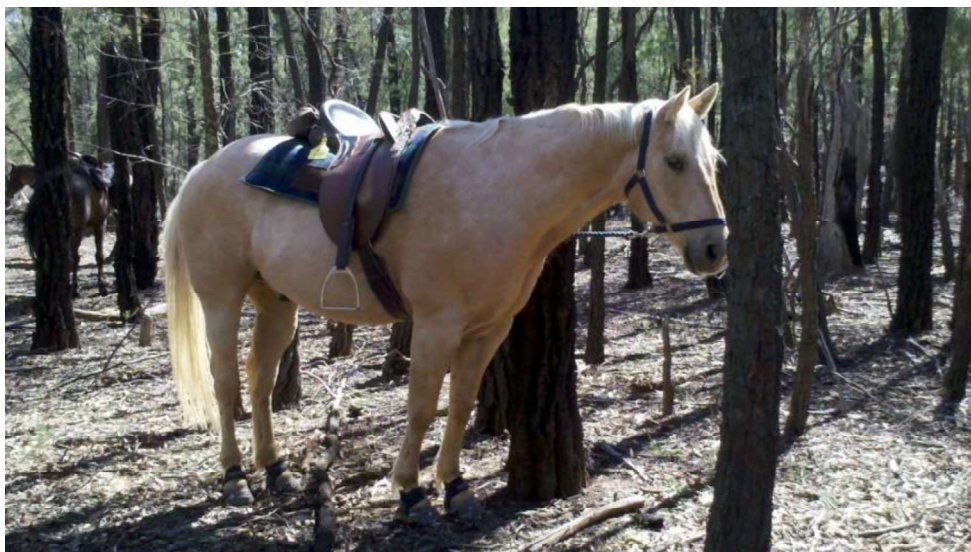
*Grenfell has produced many talented sportspeople who have excelled in their achievements including tennis legend Jan Lehane (O'Neill), test cricketer Stan McCabe and cycling sensation Reggie McNamara.*

*In April 2017, Grenfell's 'Sporting Hall of Fame' was opened with 24 people who had represented Australia inducted. The Sporting Hall of Fame is located at the Grenfell Bowling Club. Why not check it out while you're here?*

Sections of the ride today will be single file through heavily timbered areas. The ride is across undulating hills. The majority of the ride is through private property and along fire trails.

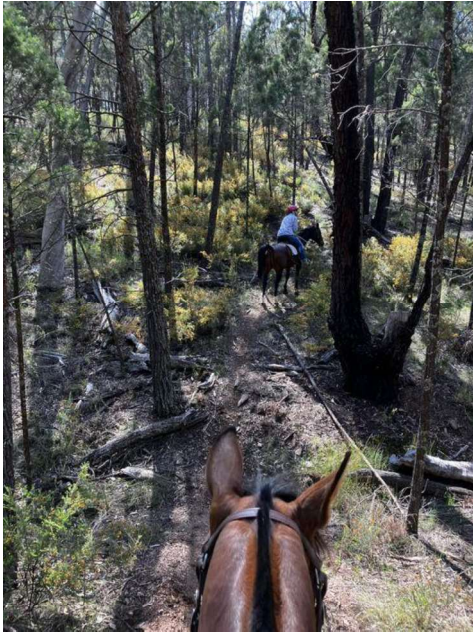
By now you are no doubt addicted to the vanilla slice so we will stop for morning tea in a heavily timbered area. We do a loop ride through the forest after morning tea and then have lunch in the same spot so if you would like to rest between morning tea and lunch, you are welcome to do so. Please do not mount your horse while the group is away as there may be very few Committee Riders that stay.

Many of the dams and troughs along our rides are not great for drinking so make sure you water your horse during the breaks at our watering station. There is plenty of time and plenty of water so try not to all rush in at once.



The morning tea and lunch site is in a heavily timbered area so there's lots of trees to tie up to and plenty of shade!

From the lunch site we begin to head west, back to Grenfell along the same route we followed out, winding along the timbered firetrails before we pop out on the outskirts of Grenfell and head back through town. Before long we arrive back at the showground, having ridden approximately 23.5 km.



*Firetrails through the forest along the Adelargo Road. Hopefully some of the wildflowers will still be in bloom!*

As you ride along, be sure to have a chat to our vested riders. Most of our vested riders are locals and can probably provide you with other snippets of information about the local area. All of our committee are volunteers. They are here to ensure you have a safe and enjoyable experience so please respect and obey their instructions.

### **Early settlers**

*Many farming families have been in the district for many generations. Before the discovery of gold in 1866, the Grenfell district was a squatter's paradise. Reports from surveyors George Evans and John Oxley of the beautiful pastures encouraged settlers to push west from Bathurst and it wasn't long before large pastoral runs were established. In 1833, John Butler Wood squatted at 'Brundah', located to the east of Grenfell, and was one of the district's first settlers, claiming large portions of land both east and west of what is now known as Grenfell. Coincidentally, it was Wood's shepherd, Cornelius O'Brien, who discovered the Grenfell goldfield in 1866.*

### **The changing face of farming**

*The introduction of different crop varieties, modernisation of farm equipment, improved transport links and shifts in markets have changed the agricultural landscape to one dominated by cropping. Most farmers still run livestock, which helps to diversify their business and maintain ecological functions, and some have even branched into boutique markets and agrotourism. The Weddin Mountains Region now has a canola trail, farm tours and sunflower fields that attract large numbers of tourists every year.*

As you sit around your campfire tonight don't forget to put pen to paper for our wordsmithing competition on Friday night!

\*Please note: the information provided in this document is correct at the time of writing. The Weddin Mountain Muster Committee reserve the right to change the format of the rides if necessary.