



## POACHER HARNESS CLUB



### Newsletter December 2012

Apologies for any duplication of items from our website but not all of our members are on the internet and this is their only way of receiving our news.

Welcome to the December newsletter. This will be the last newsletter of this year and it is the first from your new Committee for the year 2012 / 2013.

As announced in the October newsletter, the AGM was planned for Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November and despite the wet and blustery weather that was passing across the county the occasion was a warm and friendly affair.

Twenty six club members, including their guests, gathered in the Function Room at the Heneage Arms, Hainton for the "formal" part of the evening, where the Chairperson, Sheila Brookes, welcomed everybody to the meeting and spoke of the events of the season and of the Club plans for the next season.

This was followed by the Treasurers' report from Richard Wood, who confirmed that income had increased on the previous year, due mainly to the increase in entries at events and that the Club finances were in a reasonably healthy state.

The Programme of Events for 2013 was also made available and distributed to all. Ahead of the game, all our next year's events have been confirmed and published!!

Sheila announced that 2 Committee members would not be standing for re-election - John Cooke, as he keeps gathering Grandsons - now totalling 6 - and both him and Carole, who has very kindly been our "note-taker" and minute writer at all Committee meetings, want to spend more time with their expanding family. The second member to step down was Sarah Daley, who wants to have time out to concentrate on Scurry Driving. Both members have stressed that they still want to be involved with Poachers but in less demanding roles. They were thanked for their valued contributions to the Club and wished well for their futures.

The formalities were concluded with the distribution of voting slips to eligible voters and the completed slips were passed to 2 independent adjudicators, Mark Chambers and Jules Gray, for counting, the successful candidates to be announced after the meal.

We were all shown into the very cosy dining - room where we were served with a delicious 2 course carvery consisting of a choice of meats and vegetables, followed by a choice of steamed treacle sponge and custard or lemon meringue pie with lemon sauce and finished off with tea or coffee.

After we had all been suitably fed and watered, Sheila announced the result of the ballot and announced that the Committee for the next year would be **Sheila Brookes, Richard Wood,**

**Carol Wood, Sian Penney, Mike Charlesworth, Mike Lawson and Sally Iremonger** whose roles within the Club have now been formalised following the first Committee meeting on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November. [Published at end of Newsletter]

This was then followed by the Presentation of Trophies. The winners were:

Barnabus Memorial Challenge Trophy – Open Class – Mike Lawson

Cobweb Memorial Challenge Trophy – Novice Class – Mike Charlesworth

The Combined Leagues Points Champion Plate - Mike Charlesworth

Rainbow Trophy – Most Improved Novice – Richard Wood

Swiss Derby Challenge Plate – Mike Charlesworth

The Louis Memorial Challenge Trophy – Highest Average Dressage Score – Richard Wood

The Joy Beard Trophy – Steward with the most stewarding points – Mike and Judy Margason and Barry Whitley

The Mike Brookes Memorial Trophy – Sportsperson of the Year – Faye Crowder

The Epic Plate – Sue Lawson

Unfortunately, Mike Lawson was unable to attend due to illness, so wife Sue received his award on his behalf.

As neither Mike & Judy Margason nor Barry Whitley were able to attend, due to prior engagements, John Cooke received their award and rosettes on their behalves.

The final task of the evening was to draw the raffle, which raised a respectable £65 for Club funds, due entirely to Sophie's relentless pursuit of unsuspecting victims as soon as they walked in the door!! Also to her watching when spouses vanished to the bar, caught one half for a fivers worth of tickets, then, as quick as a flash, shot through to the bar to catch the second half for another fivers worth!! Well done Sophie!!!

There were many prizes on offer, ranging from a voucher for Bennington, alcohol and "mystery prizes" and winners were swift in their choices. The evening finally concluded at about 10.30.

A great deal of laughter was heard that night and, hopefully, in the coming year a lot more will be heard.

Our next event will be the **Quiz Night & Buffet on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January** - again at the Heneage Arms - 7 for 7.30pm, entry forms for which are enclosed.

As we head into December, with the weather getting colder and we hurtle with alarming speed towards Christmas and 2013, it is necessary to remind all our members that Annual subscriptions fall due on 1<sup>st</sup> January. The subscription stays the same as 2012 at £40 for a Driver member, including nominated Groom and £5 for a Friend membership and membership renewal forms are enclosed.

Due to the rise in cost of postage, wherever possible newsletters and other correspondence will be distributed by email, so please include an email address wherever possible.

As we keep a list of all members details on a database, we are bound by the Data Protection Act 1998, which means that we are not allowed to give any member information to a third party without the members' permission.

Your 2013 your membership renewal form will give you the option to say whether or not you agree to having your information divulged to other members.

This information will NOT be made available to anyone other than club members.

The Club has a wide variety of events already arranged for next year, details of which are already available on the webpage. The Committee are in the process of looking at events and venues that will give our "non-driving" contingency a chance to become involved and pitch their wits against the drivers, so continue checking the web page for updates.

#### **COMPETITION TIME:**

As the winter months in Poacherland are always quiet it is always great to hear your amusing tales of how you and your horses managed with the cold, the wet or the snow and to get your photos, so, this year we're holding a competition.

It doesn't matter whether it's a sentence or a rival to War and Peace. Keep them coming. There will be a prize for the most amusing anecdote, the most amusing photograph and the most amusing video clip.

Rules are that they must arrive by email and must be suitable to be included on the webpage.

Please send them to: [competition@poacherhc.org](mailto:competition@poacherhc.org)

The winner will be announced 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

#### **THE ROLES FOR THE NEWLY APPOINTED COMMITTEE ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

<b>CHAIRPERSON</b>	<b>SHEILA BROOKES</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>RICHARD WOOD</b>
<b>SECRETARY / SCORER</b>	<b>CAROL WOOD</b>	<b>STEWARD SECRETARY</b>	<b>SALLY IREMONGER</b>
<b>FRIEND OF POACHER REP</b>	<b>SIAN PENNEY</b>		
<b>COURSE BUILDERS:</b>	<b>RICHARD WOOD, MIKE CHARLESWORTH AND MIKE LAWSON</b>		
<b>H &amp; S OFFICER:</b>	<b>MIKE CHARLESWORTH (ASSISTED BY MIKE LAWSON)</b>		

We are also very pleased to announce that John Cooke has been invited to be and has accepted the position of President of the Club.

#### **AND FINALLY**

**THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OUR STEWARDS FOR THEIR  
HELP THROUGHOUT THE YEAR  
AND TO WISH EVERYBODY  
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**



## SOME OF THIS YEARS' CUP WINNERS



SUE LAWSON RECEIVING THE OPEN TROPHY  
ON BEHALF OF HUSBAND MIKE



MIKE CHARLESWORTH RECEIVING THE  
NOVICE TROPHY



RICHARD WOOD RECEIVING THE TROPHY  
AWARDED FOR BEST AVERAGE DRESSAGE  
SCORE FOR 2012



JOHN COOKE RECEIVING THE JOY BEARD  
TROPHY ON BEHALF OF MIKE & JUDITH  
MARGASON AND BARRY WHITLEY WHO  
WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND

**WELL DONE TO ALL THE CUP WINNERS!**

