POACHER HARNESS CLUB







Newsletter December 2013

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 2013 / 2014.

As announced in the October newsletter, the AGM was planned for Saturday 23rd November and in contrast to previous years the weather was kind to us and as usual, the occassion was a warm and friendly affair.

Twenty eight 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. Particular reference was made to remind drivers to say "Thank you" to their stewards as they leave an obstacle as, whilst the stewards might enjoy the sunshine at Hackthorn, on the top of an exposed hill at Danethorpe in pouring rain is something different and the "Thank you's" make a big difference to whoever is sat out in all weathers!!!

This was followed by the Treasurers' report from Richard Wood, who confirmed that the annual income was up by £696.98 due largely from the proceeds of the raffle and that the Club finances were in a healthy state. It was also confirmed that, mainly due to the success of the fundraising, the Club was able to keep membership and entry fees at the same level as previous years.

The Programme of Events for 2014 was also made available and distributed to all. Ahead of the game, most of our next year's events have been confirmed and published!!

Sheila announced that 2 Committee members would not be standing for re-election - herself and Sian Penney.

The formalities were concluded with the distribution of voting slips to eligible voters and the completed slips were passed to 4 independent adjudicators, Anne Wilkinson, Paul & Maggie Nicholson and Judith Margason for counting, the successful candidates to be announced after the meal.

After the main formalities of the evening we remained in the Function Room to sit down to an excellent meal of chicken breasts, stuffed with mozzarella cheese, vegetables and potatoes which was followed by a choice of either apple and blackberry pie or Eton berry mess and finished 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 **Anne Chambers, Richard Wood, Carol Wood, John Gadsby, Mike Charlesworth, Mike Lawson and Sally Iremonger** whose roles within the Club have now been formalised following the first Committee meeting on Sunday 1st December. [Published at end of Newsletter]

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

Barnabus Memorial Challenge Trophy – Open Class – Mike Charlesworth

Cobweb Memorial Challenge Trophy – Novice Class – Richard Wood

The Combined Leagues Points Champion Plate - Mike Charlesworth

Rainbow Trophy – Most Improved Novice – Joanne Gadsby

Swiss Derby Challenge Plate – Mike Charlesworth

The Louis Memorial Challenge Trophy – Highest Average Dressage Score – Judith Corker

The Joy Beard Trophy – Steward with the most stewarding points – Barry Whitley & Lorraine Beale

The Mike Brookes Memorial Trophy – Sportsperson of the Year – Anne Chambers

The Epic Plate – Joanne Gadsby

Unfortunately, as Barry and Lorraine were able to attend, due to a prior engagement, 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 £67 for Club funds, due entirely to Sophie's relentless pursuit of unsuspecting victims as soon as they walked in the door!! Well done Sophie!!!

As usual, Club members were very generous with their raffle prize donations and there were many prizes on offer, ranging from Chocolate, alcohol and carrots. Winners were swift in their choices. The evening finally concluded at about 10.30.

It was a merry evening, with lots of "new" faces attending and hopefully we shall be seeing you all in the New Season.

Our next event will be the **Quiz Night & Buffet on Saturday 8th February** - 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 2014, it is necessary to remind all our members that Annual subscriptions fall due on 1st January. The subscription stays the same as 2013 at £40 for a Driver member, including nominated Groom and £5 for a Friend membership and membership renewal forms are enclosed. Also, would all driver members note that if you are a member of BC (ex BHDTA) we need your membership number as we have to inform BC when renewing the club insurance which of our members has dual membership.

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 2014 your membership renewal form will give you the option to say whether or not you agree to have 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.

INDOOR DRIVING

The Indoor Driving Championship is now halfway through with Mike Charlesworth in the lead on 24 points, Sarah Daley in 2nd on 19 points and new comer Maggie Nicholson just one point behind Sarah on 18 points, so it is still anybodies race!! Next event at Tickhill is Sunday 12th January 2014, so why not give yourselves a break from the warmth of the fire, wrap up warmly (emphasis on warmly!!!) and come and watch some exciting driving in the indoor school at Tickhill! There is a refreshments van there that sells hot drinks and hot food at very reasonable prices and a group of very friendly people to pass the time of day with!!!

THE ROLES FOR THE NEWLY APPOINTED COMMITTEE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

CHAIRPERSON:	ANNE CHAMBERS	TREASURER:	RICHARD WOOD
SECRETARY / SCORER:	CAROL WOOD	STEWARD SECRETARY:	SALLY IREMONGER
COURSE BUILDERS:	RICHARD WOOD, MIKE CHARLESWORTH, MIKE LAWSON & JOHN GADSBY		
H & S OFFICER:	MIKE LAWSON (ASSISTED BY MIKE CHARLESWORTH)		

JUDITH CORKER ATTAINED THE PERCENTAGE REQUIRED IN THE BALLOT BUT TIED WITH ANOTHER NOMINEE AND VOLUNTEERED TO STEP DOWN FROM THE MAIN COMMITTEE. AS THE CLUB FEELS THAT OUR "FRIENDS OF POACHER" NEEDS A VOICE, THE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO CO-OPT JUDITH ONTO THE COMMITTEE FOR SPECIFIC DUTIES.

FRIEND OF POACHER REP: JUDITH CORKER

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



JUDITH CORKER BEST AVERAGE DRESSAGE SCORE



MIKE & JUDITH MARGASON STEWARDS AWARDS



MIKE CHARLESWORTH OVERALL POINTS LEAGUE CHAMPION



JOANNE GADSBY MOST IMPROVED NOVICE



WELL DONE TO ALL THE CUP WINNERS!







HENRY THE REINDEER AT TICKHILL INDOORS Page 4 of 4

