

POACHER HARNESS CLUB



Newsletter March 2014

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 March newsletter. This will be the first newsletter of this year and we're looking forward to exciting times ahead.

MEMBERSHIP

We are only just into the third month of this year and already nearly all the existing members have renewed their membership for this year, plus we have 9 new members - some of which have taken advantage of the "15 months for 12" membership in order to be able to compete indoors for the Poacher Indoor Championship that has been held monthly from October to March.

We'd like to welcome **Julie Tomkins, Maggie Nicholson, John Gadsby, Caronne Daft, Ian Townsend, Anne Rhodes, Lucy Foster, Linda Sumpner and Julie Jones** to the Club and we look forward to seeing you all at events throughout the season.

QUIZ NIGHT

The Quiz Night & Buffet held on Saturday 8th February at the Heneage Arms was very successful with 43 "quizzers" turning out, with a total of 12 teams taking part. The quiz was very ably managed by Barry and Lorraine, who managed to pitch at us some easy and some very taxing questions. Whilst Barry had the unenviable task of marking the papers everybody enjoyed a finger buffet laid on by the Heneage. The winners of the written quiz were **The Barton Boffins** and the winners of the picture quiz were **3 plus 1**. Full report and pictures at the end of the newsletter.

POACHERWEAR

The Club is also hoping to revive our "**Poacherwear**" lines and Mike Lawson has been sourcing some very good quality clothing, which will carry our logo on the front top left hand side.

These will be on sale as soon as we have confirmation of prices and will be available in a large range of colours with sizes from Small to 4XL and the range will include but not be confined to polo shirts, sweatshirts, Regatta waterproof $\frac{3}{4}$ Jackets, Fleece jackets, "hoodies" and overalls.

We will keep you updated and some samples will be on display at events for you to "touch and feel" the quality. Please support the Club by buying these as they are of a very high quality and will represent excellent value for money. Order forms will be available on the web page shortly.

TRAINING DAY

As we head into March, with the weather getting warmer and drier - we hope - a reminder that our first outing of the season - the Training Day will take place on 30th March.

NOTE: DUE TO A MOLE INVASION WE HAVE HAD TO RELOCATE FROM DOG KENNEL FARM AND HAVE BEEN VERY LUCKY TO SECURE MARKET RASEN RACECOURSE ON THE LEGSBY ROAD FOR THIS EVENT.

We shall still be holding the BBQ - weather permitting - and anybody who is not taking part in the Training and wishes to join us for BBQ only should send the enclosed form to Carol by Monday 24th March so we know how many to cater for.

This relocation means that we are not compromised for horsebox / trailer parking, so are able to accommodate more people. However, we still have to limit training places to 10, all of which have now been taken. If any club members wish to come along to practice on the cones and obstacle without tuition, take part in the afternoon fun cones and obstacle competition and/or to drive the optional way marked ride along the Lindsey Trail, we will be making a charge of £12.50 (includes BBQ for 2). If you are interested please send an entry into Carol on the normal entry form but only send a £12.50 entry fee.

If this venue is a success, then we have been assured that we shall be able to re-use it on other occasions. Please remember the Club policy of leaving the area as we found it "so nobody knows the Poacher has been".

EQUIPMENT

The Committee has been hard at work "behind the scenes" during the winter (well Mike Lawson has) making new lightweight durable yellow way markers, letters and posh new numbers for the cones that can be seen from all directions. Mike has also managed to get some lightweight barriers that will make the trailer loading easier and better to tow.

The Committee has also been looking at alternate transport for Club equipment in the way of a different trailer but has decided that at present, it would be too much of a drain on the Club finances, so Mike Lawson has also been making repairs and alterations to our existing trailer to make it more user friendly. Hopefully his efforts will be on view at the Training Day.

INDOOR DRIVING

The Indoor Driving Championship was won by **Mike Charlesworth** and the runner up was **Sarah Daley**. Both received rosettes. Mike was also presented with a Trophy. Congratulations to you both and well done to all the other members who took part. Whilst Mike won comfortably the runner up was not decided until the day - there were 4 possible runner ups, Sue Lawson, Maggie Nicholson, Sarah Daley and Carol Wood but on the day Sarah came out on top!!!

FRIENDS REPRESENTATIVE

As was mentioned in the December newsletter, Judith is the Clubs' "Friends Representative" this year and she will be contacting all Friend members shortly to introduce herself.

Judith is keen to make all friends (and grooms) feel included in the Club and will be running a small, free raffle at Club events whereby all friend and groom membership numbers will be entered into the hat and if pulled out will win a prize. Only members at the event will be eligible. If your number comes up but you're not there then another number will be pulled. This will take place whilst the scoring is being done whilst you are enjoying tea, coffee and cakes etc.

REFRESHMENTS

Just a little gripe. The club provides tea and coffee plus cake and biscuits after each event free of charge. The amount of hot water available is limited as we have no facilities to boil more, so we would ask you to please, to use the cups provided when you make your cuppa and not your own jumbo sized mugs. This way, everybody should be able to have a cuppa.

VENUE CONFIRMATIONS AND UPDATES

In addition to the re-location of the Training Day the following changes have been made to the Event Calendar.

27th April - Willingham by Stow is **CONFIRMED**. Details of Venue and Dressage judge to follow.

15th June - This will now be at **DANETHORPE** and not Beelsby as originally planned.

13th July - This will now be at **BEELSBY** and not Danethorpe as originally planned

7th September - Venue to be confirmed still

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU UPDATE YOUR DIARIES AND CALENDARS.

Updates are on the webpage with updated entry forms.

CLEAR OUT TIME

It's that time of the year for spring cleaning. If you have anything to sell that you want included in the newsletter or on the webpage, please let Carol know. There is no charge for Club members' private classified ads.

Also, let us have your bits of news - maybe you've had a special achievement that you'd like to share.

AND FINALLY

Please let me have any suggestions or ideas for the Webpage that you think might be beneficial to the Club.

To keep up to date with what's going on in the Club, don't forget to follow us on **Facebook** or visit the website **www.poacherhc.org**

That is about it for Club news at the moment. We look forward to seeing you all at the Training Day and hopefully we'll have "Poacher" weather.

The Committee

QUIZ NIGHT REPORT

One of the questions in Barry & Lorraine's quiz was about the actors who starred in the film "High Society". The highlight of that film was Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby singing "What a swell party this is". This summed up our evening very well. The function room at the Heneage Arms was full of Poacher members and friends enjoying a great social gathering.

Thanks to Barry and Lorraine for two extremely well-balanced quizzes with a range of questions to test older and young alike. The room gradually quietened as we all racked our brains, trying to find those elusive answers tucked away somewhere in our memories. Pete Smith announced that he was aiming for the booby prizes but only succeeded in the general knowledge quiz, for which his prize was a box of tissues to wipe away his and Angie's tears. However, the wooden spoon for the picture quiz went to Sheila's Wheels (led by Sheila Brookes). Never mind, Pete, you can stir things up without a wooden spoon!

The Barton Boffins, led by John and Carole Cooke and backed up by Mike and Judith Margason, excelled in the general knowledge quiz, though marks were quite close. 3 plus 1, led by Sarah and Gavin Daley won the picture quiz. Perhaps being one of the younger teams, their eyesight was better. Once again, other teams were snapping at their heels in what was a very close finish.

We had a lovely finger buffet whilst the marking proceeded and thank the Heneage Arms for their hospitality.

Mike and Sue bought along a selection of the new Poacherwear for everybody to see and try during the course of the evening, with sizes from small, which was modelled by Sue, to 4XL, which was modelled by Judith Corker (with the help of Jeff Crowder)! Anne Chambers tried on a very large, very warm Regatta jacket (into which she could probably have fitted the pony as well).

Sympathies go to Barry and Lorraine as they tried to give us the correct answers amongst groans of "I knew that really" and a bit of barracking on the side. Barry gave us a few history lessons as well - perhaps next year's quiz will involve remembering what he said!!!

After people finally stopped filling their plates, the raffle was drawn. Sophie once again was put in charge of extracting money from people - a task she is exceedingly good at!!! John Cooke, the first winner, found the prizes so fantastic he needed help from Carole in choosing! By the time he had made his choice Sarah Daley and Sue Lawson had had their tickets drawn. The crowd around the prize table increased as Anne Wilkinson, Julie Tomkins, Pete Smith, Joanne Gadsby, Richard Wood, Judith Margason, Sophie Nash and Faye Crowder joined in the fun!!! Apologies if any winners have been missed out but it did get quite hectic with so many donated prizes. Thank you to everybody who kindly donated a prize. A total of £78 was raised for Club funds.

At the end of the evening, Anne Chambers, the new Chairperson, thanked everyone for making it such a "swell party". Special thanks went to Sheila Brookes who started the ball rolling back in October last year and to Carol Wood for all her efforts, through many trials and tribulations, to ensure that the evening actually happened as planned. Also, Barry and Lorraine were once again thanked for their effort.

Your Committee are amazing, reminding me of a group of swans, remaining calm and collected on the surface whilst paddling like fury under the water. Please, members and friends, support them through the coming season and help keep alive the spirit of the "Poacher Harness Club".

Judith Corker

(Some pictures on the next page)

QUIZ NIGHT



THE BARTON BOFFINS - QUIZ WINNERS
AND
SHEILA'S WHEELS - BOOBY PRIZE WINNERS, PICTURE QUIZ



JUDITH CORKER MODELLING A POACHERWEAR FLEECE
ASSISTED BY
JEFF CROWDER



TEAM LAWSON
AND
TEAM CHARLESWORTH

TRAINING DAY BAR-B-QUE

DATE: SUNDAY 30TH MARCH 2014

VENUE: MARKET RASEN RACECOURSE, LEGSBY ROAD, MARKET RASEN, LN8 3EA

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO CAROL WOOD, MILL HILL, MARSH LANE, NEW HOLLAND, N. LINGS DN19 7PY BY MONDAY 24TH MARCH 2014



TRAINING DAY BAR-B-QUE

I WOULD LIKE TO BOOK.....PLACES FOR THE BAR-B-QUE

IF YOU ARE NOT ENTERING THE EVENT THERE IS A CHARGE OF £5 PER HEAD

(MAXIMUM 2 PER MEMBER OR INVITED GUEST)

(CHEQUES PAYABLE TO POACHER HARNESS CLUB)

SIGNED..... DATED

NAME

ADDRESS.....

TEL NO:..... EMAIL:.....

THE TRAINING DAY WILL START AT 10AM. IT IS HOPED TO START THE BBQ AT ABOUT 3.00PM

THE CLUB WILL SUPPLY SAUSAGES, BREAD ROLLS, SALAD AND A PUDDING. IF YOU WANT TO BRING EXTRA MEAT FOR YOURSELF TO GO ON THE GRILL PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DO SO.