

POACHER HARNESS CLUB



President – Mrs. Sheila Brookes

September 2008 Newsletter

There is a lot to report in this newsletter so I will try and make it as brief as possible.

I must firstly apologise for the fact that my internet connection & email has gone down and BT seem unable to find a fix for it at the moment, so if there is anything that you need to let me know please either phone or contact another committee member by email. They have a contact button on the website.

Since I last reported to you in July we have had some great days out and lots of variety. This is what makes Poacher rather special and popular.

On a very hot day at Riseholme (can you remember the sun?) we had our first and long awaited event at this venue. Richard Wheeldon was our dressage judge and he did a great job, and had some rather nice things to say about the standard, too. The Novice class result was 1st Kelly Wilson, 2nd Kelly Burton and 3rd Trevor Fairburn. Open class was won by a visitor, Edward Foster, 2nd Duncan Sethsmith and 3rd Sarah Braybrook.

On 6th September we had a non-horsey social event at Sheila Brookes' house and despite the rain we had a good turnout and had a very pleasant evening with lots of chat taking place and some very large pork chops coming off the forks of the Gleadle family. (Nigel apparently did the shopping!) Thank you to those who came for taking the risk and making the effort to turn out.

Our next event on 14th September will be in The Mausoleum Woods in Brocklesby Park. We intend to follow much the same format as last year i.e. no dressage, a cones course which will be followed straight on by a drive through the woods as your own pace (it is not timed) interspersed with some obstacles. There will be no need to walk the course prior to the start as you will be allowed to dismount and walk the obstacles before driving them. We have a good entry and I am pleased that we are still attracting good numbers so late into the season.

Cathy Towle has offered a 13k drive with 4 obstacles on 28th September. Would anyone interested in taking this up please get in touch with John Cooke so that we can gauge interest and plan whether to go ahead or not. Responses as soon as possible would help the process, please.

Nigel, and Gill Patrick are holding an inside out event on 12th October at Messingham and I hope that the entry forms will be on the website within a day or two. The entry fee will be £10 and it will end our 2008 season with a really fun event. I hope you can all make it.

Finally, our AGM is coming up on 1st November at Willingham by Stow Village Hall. Notices and application forms will be in the post very shortly and we hope that it will be as well (or better) attended as last years. Visitors and non members are welcome to come along and join in the evening.

We have changed the venue due to the increase in our membership and the inability of last year's venue to hold even one more person than attended last year. There are lots to look forward to on the evening, starting with a 3 course meal, followed by a very witty and funny after-dinner speaker and the presentation of awards to our members.

We shall also be electing our committee for 2009 and it is very important that you complete and return the nomination forms so that we have a large pool of willing members who will bring fresh ideas and vigour to our club organisation. Once elected the duties are not daunting, we meet about 9-10 times a year to decide on policy, programme and content of events. Please nominate yourself, a friend or someone who you think would be good for the future of the club. You can choose several names to put forward, but please make sure that your nominees are willing for you to nominate them.

That's all folks, and I haven't even filled 2 pages. There's economy of words!

Your editor

Angela

p.s. please return your nominations by the closing date or they will be invalid.

[Message from the Chairman](#)

In view of the fact that our Secretary (Angela) will be standing down at the end of this season we very urgently need 2 people to step forward to take on her secretarial duties and also of event scorer. **The scorer's position is vital if we are to have any hope of having events next year** and so please get thinking. If you know of anyone who is computer literate and willing to spend a couple of hours to take on this task – any age we would welcome them with open arms. It may be possible to offer some small remuneration for this post. They do not have to be part of the committee to be scorer.