



BRAES NEWS

The Braes of Derwent Hunt newsletter for farmers and members in the Braes Country

ISSUE 55

www.braes-of-derwent.com

JUNE 2003

Collection and Disposal of Fallen Stock

Farmers will be well aware that from 1st May this year the government has made it illegal in England and Wales to bury farm animal carcasses. Britain has come inline with EU legislation to reduce pollution and the risk of spreading disease.

The hunt will continue to provide a fallen stock service for as long as is practical. However, all hunts are now required to ensure that their flesh houses are at a standard which will meet slaughterhouse standards which are enforced by local authorities. These standards may be prohibitive for the service provided and make the feeding of carcasses to hounds unviable.

The Braes of Derwent are currently in discussions with the local authority to ascertain any necessary upgrades that will be required, when these upgrades are known a firm decision will be made as to future policy. It is the committee's hope that this service can be continued as long as is possible. Farmers thoughts or suggestions would be welcomed on this difficult subject, please contact committee members if you wish to contribute to the debate prior to our next meeting in June.

D.A.C.

If the Braes News is duplicated to your address please contact Karen Gamble on 01207 529696.



Braes Horse wins the George White Heart of England Maiden Hunters Steeplechase

The Braes of Derwent Hunt were well represented at Hexham Races in this prestigious in the Heart of all England Steeplechase on Saturday, 3rd May.

Two horses were entered and ran from our hunt, Hadaway Lad from Keith Waters' stable and Kilcaskin Gold from Russell and Julie Ross's stable and owned by the Pavillion Syndicate. In a large field both horses performed well with Kilcaskin Gold finishing strongly, forging to the front and **Winning** by 3.5 lengths.

Our congratulations to the Pavillion Syndicate and the Ross' on their tremendous success. A Braes horse has not achieved such success for a very long time.

Well done keep it up.

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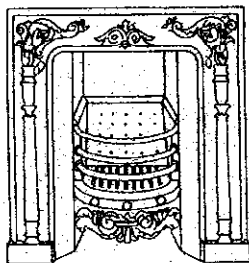
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Master's Report

Hunting Season 2002/03

Our first complete season under the auspices of a committee run hunt, new contacts to be made, lessons to be learnt and confidence created, quite a task. During autumn hunting the conditions were dry with hard ground. Hounds had difficulty travelling when on open ground, then within a short period during November we were all travelling hock deep in mud. Unfortunately these conditions lasted well through the season until mid march when conditions changed to firm which would eventually threaten the running of our Point to Point at Downhills.

Into the New Year a number of days were lost due to winter conditions although some of the hardier did hunt on foot when possible. As the season progressed the hounds certainly enjoyed their task accounting for a good number for the season with over 40% accounted for, above ground.

Our thanks must go to Landowners and Farmers for their support and permission to hunt across their land during this wet season, we are all very grateful, to the shoots that are prepared to accommodate foxhunting within their plans and allow us all to enjoy our sport, the hunt members who liased and gave up their time to make it all work. Thanks also to the staff at the kennels whose dedication is seen through the hounds when they perform their task in the countryside and the ladies who turned out hunt horses whose importance is second only to the hounds that they follow. Thanks to all who assisted in so many and varied ways.

We look forward to the season ahead, puppies are bred, walked and entered into the pack, lessons must be learnt from last season to enable improvements next season, all this with the political threat hanging heavy above our heads. With everyone's support we will approach the 2003 / 2004 season with enthusiasm and look forward to enjoying our sport for many years to come, thanks in anticipation.

Alan

Monday, 21st April

The weather conditions were a big problem with this year's P-T-P.

The Wednesday prior to the event taking place, the course was inspected by the Jockey Club Inspector and was found to be unraceable! This was due to the holes that had not been put back after the Tynedale P-T-P and no rainfall for many weeks.

After numerous phone calls a large number of Braes supporters turned out on Good Friday and Easter Saturday, armed with shovels to fill holes by hand. Approximately 60 ton of soil and sand was needed to repair the course. A big THANK YOU to every one who helped in making the day happen.

Following the course repairs Martin Bell watered the course for 2 days, and on Easter Monday the course was in a race able condition. Thank you Martin.

After the initial problems the day was a success with small fields and some good racing.

The day only took place through hard work and commitment from the people who gave up their free time prior and on the day.

Thank you.

Recent winners:

January	James Mason
February	Julie Ross
March	John Greener
April	Julie Collinson
May	Mr Smales

HOUND SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

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March	John Greener
April	Maurice Miller
May	Mr & Mrs Tainter



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R. Ross

RESULTS

Members' race

- 1 Kilcaskin Gold / Miss C Metcalf
- 2 Wire Willie / Mr A Findlay
(only two finished)

Intermediate

- 1 Hoh Tel / Mr C Gillon
(finished alone)

Mens Open

- 1 Mini Cruise / Mr L Morgan
- 2 Gauiter Gale / Mr A Findlay
- 3 In Demand / Mr T Oates

Ladies open

- 1 Supercharmer / Miss C Metcalf
- 2 Harden Glen / Miss J Riding

Restricted

- 1 Ben From Ketton / Mr S Robinson
- 2 Jac Del Prince / Mr R Walker
(only two finished)

Maiden

- 1 Be A Better Boy / Mr J Walton
- 2 Starbuck / Mr T Scott
- 3 Rutherford / Mr T Oates

Mare's Maiden

- 1 State Express / Mr A Richardson
- 2 Llanfillin / Mr J Thompson
(only two finished)

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Farewell and thanks to Marian

After many years of compiling and publishing Braes News, Marian Green has decided to call it a day and has produced her last issue.

As we all know Marian worked hard in pulling together the editorial and advertising and we are very grateful for the amount of time and effort she has put in over the years. Thank you Marian, you will be a hard act to follow.

Future Braes News will be produced by Karen Gamble. If you would like to contribute articles or photos, please contact 01207 529696 or email braesnews@aol.com.

Social Events

Friday 13 June

BBQ Bansley Lane Farm, Ravensworth

Tickets from Linda Philipson, 01207 545686 or Julie Ross, 01207 503614.

Sunday 27 July

Schooling Day, Camperdown Farm, Shotley Bridge.

Contact Vi or Adam, 01207 590628.

Sunday, 14 September

Hamsterley Forest Fun Ride

Tickets from Sara Ann Stoker, 01207 507917.

Wednesday, 24 September

Pavillion night. Contact Andrew Adams 01207 521814 or Julie Ross, 01207 503614.

Sunday, 28 September

Annual Horse Show, Barlow.

Schedules from Linda Philipson, 01207 545686.

Saturday, 18 October

BDHSC Dinner Dance, Royal Derwent Hotel.

Contact Sara Ann Stoker, 01207 507917.

Saturday, 1 November

60s & 70s night at Lanchester Club

Tickets from Gordon Minto, 01207 239594.

Saturday, 15 November

Auction at Black Hill School, Shotley Bridge

Tickets from Julie Ross. 01207 503614.

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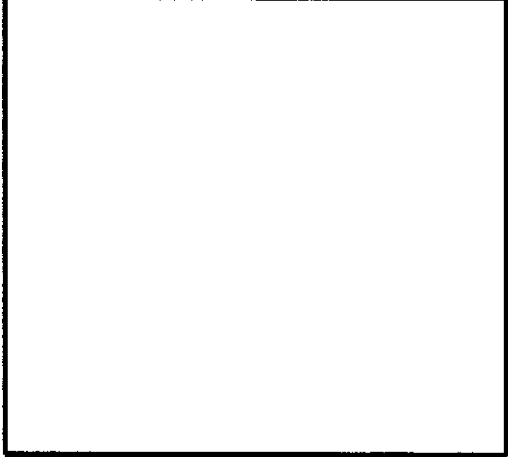
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Hunting Report

Wednesday, 12 March

Hounds met at Woodside Farm for the last meet of the season on a dry and sunny day. There were about 40 in the field and there were loads of visitors. We had a wonderful welcome thanks to Andrew Adams and family. Andrew and Patricia's family were also riding that day and seemed to have a good time.

The first draw was blank, then on to George Herdman's Farm where there was a brace afoot. Hounds spilt – one fox going for Greencroft and the other making for the back of Iveston. Simon was pulling his hair out by then but he did well to get the pack back together. At about 2pm, hounds were taken to Castle Hill and Black Wood – known to us hunters as Boggle Hole.

Here hounds found a big dog fox. He crossed Stockley Lane and was turned. He ran back over Stockley Lane with hounds on his heels, through Little Greencroft, on through Carribbes Plantation turning for Crookhall. He then went right to the sewage works and back into Boggle Hole. Here hounds checked. Charlie was viewed and we were off again. He went the same run again, hounds close on all the way. By now horses were well tired and hounds must have been shattered but they kept on going.

Once again after a short check, off we went again. This time Charlie took a new route. Crossing Stockley Lane again but this time heading for Sunnyside Farm. Hounds were right at his heels. Carol and I were down the ride at Sunnyside, with hounds coming towards us. There were plenty mounted to see him cross the road. Hounds ran well and then all went quiet. Billy Walker and John Gully walked along the run and found hounds had accounted for him.

Simon blew for a kill. Hounds and Simon had worked very hard. It was one of the best hunts I have seen. A hunt of about 2 hours.

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