



BRAES NEWS

Hunting Reports

As always we have had some fabulous meets preparing us for a good day's trail-hunting. We kicked off this year with our New Year Day's hunting on January 2nd, enabling the die-hard Braes folk to recover from their hangovers. The meet was held at Land House at Satley, courtesy of Gavin and his family. We had a fabulous turnout of both horses and people. The following Wednesday we had a good spread at Wardle's Bridge pub at Holmside with thanks going to Bill and Maggie. On the 7th January we had a lovely meet at Broomley, so many thanks to our kind hosts there.

Wed 11th January we had a small field, but a very enjoyable day at Saltersgate courtesy of Philip Walker and family. Sat 14th we had a welcome return to the Manor House where very interesting 'stilton & red onion quiche' was enjoyed by some! The 18th we had a superb breakfast at The Moss at Sunnyside followed by the Pie Night at the Wardle's Bridge pub. Sat 21st we were entertained by Phil Stonehouse at Hedley North, and on the 22nd the Northern Point to Point season started at Ratcheugh at Alnwick where Kate Leckenby riding Man Murphy made her debut. We also had runners from Keith Anderson & Russell Ross, with the best showing made by Russell's horses.

After a short breather, it was time to regroup at Broadwood Hall to be entertained by Ms Cowie. The meet was most entertaining for the foot followers as fines were handed out to all of the field who were unable to clear a small but perfectly formed new jump. We had a superb day enjoying a lot of new fences in and around Saw Mill Wood. Congratulations to James, otherwise known as Beagle Bob for his first days hunting for many years riding one of Ian Wrights horses.

On the 28th January we had a meet at Edmundbyers and the country around Derwent Reservoir, and it was wonderful to have some new country to enjoy. After a long interval, we returned to the Anchor pub at Whittonstall on the 4th February. At the meet, the Hunt Supporters were pleased to present a cheque for two thousand pounds, raised at the pantomime, to the Great North Air Ambulance. This is a

particularly good cause for the Braes Hunt, as we are rather friendly with most of the crew due to the volume of business we put their way!

 **Sarah-Ann Stoker**
EQUINE & CANINE BOWEN THERAPIST
Fully Qualified & Insured to Treat Humans, Horses & Dogs

Bowen Therapy Can Be Used For The Following:

HUMANS - Sports Injuries, Spasms & Back Pain, Asthma, Headaches & Migraine, Circulation Problems, Stress, General Well Being & Relaxation

HORSES - Muscle Sprains/Strains, Uneven Wear of Shoes, Disrupted Gait, General Maintenance Pre/Post Competition, Behaviour Problems, Stiffness on One Rein & Sore Backs

DOGS - Hip/Elbow Dysplasia, Skin Conditions, Lameness, Muscular Sprains, Arthritis, Back Problems, Muscle Atrophy

Mobile Practitioner for the North East
Tel: 07719 163089 or 01207 507917
Competitive Rates - Discounts for Group Bookings

ASHFIELD VETERINARY SURGERY

• DOMESTIC, FARM & HORSE WORK

Established & Accredited by RCVS

24 Hour Emergency Cover



01207 520308

1 OSWALD ROAD, LANCASTER

BRAES OF DERWENT HUNT

Chairman / Acting Master - Alan Chapman 01207 590 972

Vice Chairman / Field Master - Philip Walker 01388 730 262

Hon. Secretary - Julie Ross - 01207 503 614

Hon. Treasurer - Ann Dale - 01434 673 326

Hunt Supporters Club Chairman - Margaret Smales 01207 509 266

Field Masters

Ken Sisterson 01207 560 203

Keith Anderson 01388 488 642

Linda Philipson 01207 545 686

Point to Point Chairman - Russell Ross - 01207 503 614

Huntsman / Kennels - Simon Kenny - 01207 560 789

Braes News Magazine - Tanya Davis - 01661 843 655

Hunting Reports continued....

Wednesday 8th we were entertained by Philip Walker in the Tunstall valley and everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the countryside. We can't quite remember who did the meet, but it was much appreciated all the same! This was followed by a meet at West Minsteracres the following Saturday, which merged almost seamlessly into Gordon and Angela's Extravaganza at Lanchester that evening.

Wednesday 15th Feb, we were warmly welcomed by John Harker who has recently retired to the Braes Country after a sojourn in the Zetland country. John's homemade Pheasant Sausages and Sausage Rolls went down a storm with the field who enjoyed a very interesting trip to Muggleswick. Saturday 18th we were entertained at Unthank by Sarah Pittendrigh and family.

Wednesday 22nd Feb was certainly not for the faint hearted. We were kindly welcomed by the Pavillion Chinese restaurant twice in a day, and enjoyed a formidable amount of food (and drink in some cases!) that evening.

Saturday 25th Feb we were welcomed by Ken Sisterton at Newlands, although the meet was kindly provided by Ian and Lynn. We had a lovely jaunt around Ken's fences and fields providing some

entertainment for the field.

Sunday 26th Feb the Braes sent a contingent to the Border weekend, who enjoyed lots of drinking and singing followed by some fresh air on the ranges the next day.

Thanks go in advance to the few people that are left who are still due to host a meet for us as we draw to a close for the season.

Fellside Veterinary Group

Horse, Cattle & Sheep Veterinary Services
24 hour Emergency Cover
Ultra Sound Scanning

Diana G. Hodgson MRCVS, BVMS
Cowgarth Hill, Stanhope
Bishop Auckland, DL13 12PA

Tel: 01388 528 349
eMail: diana@fellsidevet.fanet.co.uk



B T L WOOD SHEDS

- Suppliers of Sheds
- Summer Houses
- Play Houses
- Fencing & Decking Materials
- Logs & Sticks
- Railway Sleepers
- Telegraph Poles



TEL 01388 608 452 Toronto, Bishop Auckland

Stuart Wright Funeral Service Ltd, Durham

Complete Funeral & Monument Service To All Areas

Golden Charter Prepayment Funeral Plans
Private Chapels of Rest At
43 Front St, Langley Park, 0191 373 3700



23 Marshall Terrace, Gilesgate, Durham City
0191 366 3850

www.stuartwrightfunerals.co.uk

SUNNYSIDE GARAGE

MOTOR ENGINEERS, MOT'S
SERVICING, REPAIRS

COLLECTION & DELIVERY SERVICE

HORSE-BOXES PREPARED, TESTED,
REPAIRED & MODIFIED

CALL DOUGAL REED
TEL 07946 731 459 OR 0191 488 7298



G. Naylor (Optometrists)

- Professional eye care guaranteed
- Spectacles & Contact Lenses
- Competitive prices
- Laser Surgery After-care
- Retinal Photography



Tel 0191 388 3113

No. 170 Front Street, Chester-le-Street

Reopening soon - Gateshead practice
Tel 0191 477 4060 278 Durham Road, Gateshead
10% Discount to all Braes Members & Family

Lanchester Country Store

7 Station Road, Lanchester DH7 0EX
FOR ALL YOUR EQUESTRIAN NEEDS
Animal feeds, wormers, stable requisites,
pet food, country clothing, animal bronzes
FREE DELIVERY
Tel/Fax 01207 521710



Pie Festival

Huge thanks to everyone who helped and attended at the 2nd annual Pie Festival hosted this year by Bill and Maggie, our old friends at the Wardle's Bridge pub at Holmeside on February 18th. Most of the food was locally produced sourced within a fifty mile radius and covering North Yorkshire, County Durham, Cumbria and Northumberland.

Some old favourites were included such as Snowdonia Green Thunder and Bowland cheeses, Holly Bush of Jesmond's Apple & Pork Pies and of course Robinson's of Tow Law. New faces included Cranston's of Hexham Ullswater Pie (Ham, Chicken, Apple stuffing!), and the superb Ham, Cheese & Pickle Festival Pie from a delightful butchers in Masham. The Cheddar / Guinness cheese from Dobbie's at Ponteland and a superb smoked cheese from the Northumberland cheese company were memorable.

Dougal Reed rounded off the evening with a super auction of a selection of food and pledges. If anyone has any ideas for next years Pie Festival, please contact Ian Wright on 07771 657 687.



Sofas Unlimited
Clifford Road Centre
Stanley, Co. Durham
DH9 0AB
Tel (01207) 238111

Try it, Like it, Buy it!

MANOR HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

Builders specialising in stonework,
heavy garden work with patios.

Call Dougal Reed Tel 07940 731 459
or 0191 488 7298

WRIGHT EUROMOVE
REMOVALS · STORAGE · DISTRIBUTION



Removals · Container Storage
Local · National
Piano Specialists

0191 386 5747

Wright Move, 4 Park Lane,
Barnard Castle, Co. Durham

BRETT OILS LTD ONLINE

SUPPLIERS OF
AUTOMOTIVE - INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL FUELS

THE DOMESTIC HEATING OIL SPECIALISTS

Trade counter for commercial customers

• Rapid delivery • Fuel specialists
• Low emissions • Prompt payment service

Opening times: 9.00am - 5.00pm Mon-Fri

TEL (0191) 490 3100

A Celebrity in our Midst

Forget 'Wife Swap'. Forget 'Holiday Showdown'. This is 'Kitchen Showdown' with the Braes' one and only Val Armstrong and family taking a leading role. Each episode of the programme involves two carefully selected families pitting their culinary skills against each other under the watchful eye of expert Rosemary Shrager of 'Ladettes to Ladies' fame. Over a residential weekend at some very posh location the families will record their trials and tribulations, highs and lows, tears and tantrums! There will be no hiding from the camera!

Various members of the Braes and their horses will appear as extras as part of the 'Val at Home' section of the programme. This involved standing around for two hours in the pouring rain while Val was filmed taking her sausage rolls out of the oven 96 times and Harriet put on her make up. Filming then involved a 30 second dash across Braes country. Blink and you may miss it.

Although she was a little dubious about taking part Val has hopes of "being discovered as the next Fern Britten." Watch this space for details of when the programme will be aired. It will be one well worth watching!

Boundary Ride

A new event has been organised by Ian Wright on Sunday 9th April starting at the Knitsley Mill at 09.30am. This is a 20 mile boundary ride around the parish of Lanchester with some jumping and hopefully lots of galloping. We plan to finish at the Knitsley Mill at approximately 4pm for welcome refreshments. Dress code for this ride is Tweed / Hacking Jacket with a tie or stock. Cost is £ 30 per horse including four refreshment stops. Please do book in advance directly with Ian Wright on 07771 657 687. Numbers will be limited so please book

DAVE ASKEW

Washing Machines · Dishwashers
Fridges · Freezers
Electric Cookers
Including Built-in Appliances

Free Verbal Estimates All Work Guaranteed

Call on (01207) 500 884 or 07971 874 608

Rubber Mats

Highest Quality
Rubber matting for
Stables &
Horseboxes

Local delivery &
fitting service
available

Tel 07798 876 965
Philip Thompson

**Quality Whole & Crushed Oats
Plus
Clipping Blade Sharpening**

Call Neil Hunter
Tel: 01207 580 040

Out & About with Wrighty

'Dere Street'

"Know anything about Dere Street, Russell?"

"Yeah, Useful pointer from Kelso way, ran last season" came the reply.

Ringing round, John Brannen had seen it on the approach road to Centurion Equestrian Centre, Lynn & John had seen it running past Low Fold Farm. Dorothy said it came streaking across her paddocks. Angus reckoned he saw it outside his mams. Keith saw it across the road at Lanchester. Ken said it crossed the river at Ebchester. Val viewed it from Kennels all the way to Apperley cross-roads, and the Crozier's saw it go left and away to Corbridge. Some run even for a useful pointer!

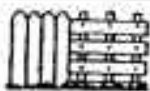
Running through the Braes country is Dere Street, the roman road which connected York to Edinburgh, built in approximately AD80. Only about half the course of Dere Street is present day road, the rest is lost in fields and woods. Along the road, the romans built a fort at Ebchester called Vindomora, a fortlet at Apperley Cross-roads on a small hill known today as Castle Hill, topped by a cover called the Fort.

In AD 140 the Roman Twentieth legion built a fort at Lanchester called Longovicium just west of the present village at an altitude of 500 feet. Due to a shortage of fresh water, a dam was built in the valley above New House Farm at about 700 feet altitude. Connecting the dam to the fort was an aqueduct, which would have been a stone-lined trough about one foot wide. The trough ran past Woodlands Park Farm along the north side of Saw Mills wood, north of Wheatley's plantation at Five Lane Ends to Blackhouse Farm and roughly along the side of the Lanchester - Satley road past Coalpike Hall to the Fort.

Even to this day, farmers are aware of the course of the trough by slight undulations in the fields detectable whilst ploughing.

After the Romans left approximately 410 AD, nothing much happened until the mid-19th Century when the BDH was formed. I hope that you all summer well - go home and prepare to hunt (within the law).

Regards
Wrighty



Emerson Fencing

Agricultural Fencing & Farm Contractor
Tel 01207 520817/07932 107813

Braes Dates

Knitsley Mill end of Season Party
15th March
Numbers to Julie Ross 01207 503 614

Wrighty's Boundary Ride
9th April
Contact Ian Wright on 07771 657 687

Braes Point to Point
23rd April
Downhills, Corbridge

Pam Atkinson's ride (from Newlands)
1st May
Tel. Pam on 01207 560 832

BBQ at Trevor & Karen Gamble's
16 June (Provisional)
Hole House Farm, Lanchester, Tel. 01207 529 696

Dressage competition at Angela Moralee's
18 June
Low Field Farm, Willington, Tel 01388 746 315

Puppy Show
25th June
By invite of the
master

Treasure Hunt
7th July (Provisional)
Contact Dave Smith
01740 652 501

Fun Ride
27th August
from Horns House Farm, Witton Gilbert
Contact The Ride Secretary, The Lodge, Satley
10am - 12 noon start, £ 15 Adults, £ 10 Under 16s
10 mile stubble ride with optional jumps

BDHSC

Badges £5

Ties £10

Polo Shirts £8 - £12

Tel M. Smales 01207 509 266

Or ask any Committee member

MECHANICAL SERVICES



Service & repair. MOTs.
Batteries, tyres & exhausts
All your motoring needs
Blackfield Garage, Front Street,
Shotley Bridge
Consett DH8 0HN
Tel fax 01207 502 042

Ford Parts

EST. 1989

**NORTH EAST'S LEADING SUPPLIER
OF TRADE PRICE NEW & USED
FORD SPARES**

1,000s of clean, shelved parts in our
central, easy to find location.
Helpful, professional service from our
specially trained staff.

All parts guaranteed

Brama Teams Ltd, Park, Hopery
Road, Dunston, Tyne & Wear

TEL: 0191 460 9699

'Every Little Helps'

The first time I hunted was on my fat little pony-Roly, when I was 10 years old. At the meet I was quite relaxed as my pony munched away at the grass.

When we set off I got a little nervous, as my pony got excited and was raring to go.

As we entered Hyons Woods, through a narrow gate and brambled low branched track, everyone was in a canter.

As nervous as I was I let my pony go. Although it was very brambly, my pony was very careful, and I felt he was looking after me- even if he did buck now and then! But this gave me a good start to hunting and what it was like.

A couple seasons later I was hunting on my newer pony Jake. Jake was very trustworthy and did anything you asked him to. This gave me a big confidence boost and I carried on hunting on Jake.

About three weeks ago at school, my class had to give a speech on a topic of their choice. I chose hunting.

This was a hard subject to talk about as most of my class are



HIGH PLAINS, NEAR RIDING MILL

livery yard – arena – show jumps – tuition
woodland ride & cross country course

- 4.5 km cross-country ride through woodland tracks and grassland
- Water jump and ditches
- Jumps from six inches up to about 3'3in.
- Suitable for all levels, including nervous riders or horses!
- Superb 60m x 40m all weather arena and full set of show jumps
- Available for hire throughout the year (Advance booking essential)
- Resident instructors - Julie Howard (BHSAI) and Sarah Linton (BHSAI) -tuition in Dressage, Cross Country and Show-jumping
- Easy access from A68 & A69
 - Good Parking

For further details, or to join our mailing list of events contact Julie Howard

07855 440757 or 01434 642580
e-mail: julie@highplainsnearriding.co.uk

townies. But I went ahead with the idea, and told them the basic points about hunting, like why we hunt and how we are helping and what would happen without the hunt.

After my speech an anti girl asked "Don't you think we kill more Chickens then foxes do?" It was a stupid argument but I explained that most the time foxes don't eat what they kill and they do it for fun. Where as we make money selling chickens and we eat what we kill.

But over all my speech did have some effect on others in my class. I managed to change 3 peoples views that I know of in my class, on fox hunting.

By: Megan Lewis

'A Childs View'

Hunting with the Braes is really, really great. Everybody is kind, helpful, sociable and caring. The meets always have good food no matter where they are. I have lots of fun out hunting. If you need me I will most likely be in the mud opening or closing the gates! My favourite meet and hunting area would have to be Lanchester, because there are some nice jumps and always a BIG sociable field, and it's close to home. When I go hunting, I get taken by my dad, but never see him at all during the day as he disappears into the blue....hopefully running into me at the end of the day so that me and my horse get a lift home.

By: Zoe Wright

Newsletter Updates

If you have changed your address, please ensure that you notify Julie Ross so that the Braes News still finds it's way to you.

eMail addresses

We are compiling a list of eMail addresses for as many people involved with the hunt as possible – it's a much quicker, cheaper and easier way for us to keep you up-to-date and informed. Please send details of your e-mail address to Dave Smith, smithdj5@btopenworld.com. Many thanks.

Caption Competition

Captions please to Tanya.davis@boundahead.co.uk. There will be a prize awarded to the best received! Entries by 1 May 2006 please.



Care of the Hunter during the Summer

We are rapidly approaching the end of the season, and I just wanted to make a quick plea to all you keen people out there to **PLEASE** take good care of your very good horses at the end of the season. I am always sad to see these very loyal and wonderful creatures thrown out in the field mid-March with no rugs, no care and shoes left on to fall off during the summer at will (I hope that some of you are now feeling guilty). Your horses work so hard for you all winter, all they need is a little care and attention.

Do keep rugs on them whilst the weather is still cold – remember they've been clipped and stabled all winter. Do ask the farrier to remove their shoes and ensure their feet are regularly trimmed all summer. This will make a big difference when it comes to shoeing time again, and will also ensure that feet remain in good condition, and are not punctured by the nails from the shoes that are half off!

Do make changes to their feed and management routine as slowly as possible, and remember to follow a worming programme.

Lastly, please keep your fields clear of ragwort. Following these basic principles will ensure that your horse has a wonderful holiday, and returns to fittening work with ease later on in the year. We look forwards to seeing you all back mounted again in the autumn!

HARDWOOD LOGS

€ 1.50 BAG
€ 40 LOAD
€ 70 LOAD
Tel. G. Welford
01207 506 401

Hillside Saddlery

- Equestrian Leather Goods Supplied & Repaired
- Saddle Fitting Service
- Rugs Cleaned & Repaired

1 Chapel View, Dipton, Stanley, Co. Durham, DH9 9EE
Tel HUGH 01287 671 341
Mobile 07951 954 754

Barcombe Lodge
Thornthorpe
Hexham

Liveries
We have space for 2 more horses DIY to Full Schooling Livery, short or long-term

- Small friendly yard
- 10 x 20 arena
- Horse wash
- 10 x 12 x 12 shed
- 10 x 12 x 12 shed
- 10 x 12 x 12 shed
- 10 x 12 x 12 shed
- 10 x 12 x 12 shed
- 10 x 12 x 12 shed
- 10 x 12 x 12 shed

Backing & Riding Away Horses & Ponies

Andrew Richardson, a coach, schoolmaster, rider and horseman will work together with you to produce a horse.

We will take your young horse and educate him to be a happy, balanced and obedient pony. Our regular produce well-trained, energetic horses for you to take of successful life in any sphere of your sport.

Flat-work & Show Jumping Clinic
with **Jeremy Spring** BHSI 88 Accredited Trainer

Jeremy is a long standing member of the Top Three Day Event Team and an experienced eventer. In the past he has been riding and driving every month for over 2 years. He has been with the club since 1995.

To find out more about Jeremy's qualifications and his training career visit www.jeremyspring.co.uk

Clinics are planned for August through to December, please contact Tricia for dates.

Tricia Bracegirdle
t:01434 344405 m:07886802553
triciabee63@tiscali.co.uk



www.housemouselets.com

WHEN YOU START TO ROAM
..Let this mouse find your perfect home

- ❖ Professional, student and short term lets
 - ❖ Room only vacancies
 - ❖ Houses with up to six bedrooms
 - ❖ Friendly helpful service
 - ❖ Homes to suit all budgets and requirement
- We offer a full management or let only service to new or existing landlords
 - We have a sister company OPEN DOOR DEVELOPMENTS LTD who offer exciting new investment opportunities
 - Our staff are trained in giving down to earth and professional advice on property investment
- £50 OFF your first months rent with this advert**

0191 276 75 75



BOUND AHEAD

**Provision of
Professional Sales
& Marketing
Services
Specialising in IT &
Manufacturing
Industries**

Contact: Tanya Davis
Bound Ahead Ltd
Tel: 0781 234 9805

www.boundahead.co.uk