



BRAES NEWS

Greetings and welcome to the first edition of the Braes News for the 2006/7 season.

Autumn trail-hunting has already begun with some successful early mornings executed in mainly beautiful weather. Our hounds (both older and young) seem to have remembered what trail-hunting is all about, and have started the season with enthusiasm to burn, as of course have our master, hunt staff and followers!

Unfortunately, as we go to press, we hear of the devastating accident involving our Huntsman, Simon Kenny. Whilst trail-hunting this morning, Simon had a horrendous accident and has been taken off to hospital by our friends, the Air Ambulance. We have since heard that Simon has actually broken his leg. We wish him all the best for a speedy recovery, and Simon, you have all of our thoughts with you.

Forthcoming Hunt Meets 2006

SAT OCT 28	NEWLANDS ✓
WED NOV 1	KNITSLEY MILL
SAT NOV 4	WEST MINSTERACRES
WED NOV 8	BRANCEPETH MANOR
SAT NOV 11	NEWLANDS ✓
WED NOV 15	GREENCROFT
SAT NOV 18	UNTHANK
WED NOV 22	HOUSELOPE GRANGE
SAT NOV 25	HEALEY
WED NOV 29	DIPTON
SAT DEC 2	THE BAIRNS
WED DEC 6	SATLEY
SAT DEC 9	BROOMLEY
WED DEC 13	ROWLEY
SAT DEC 16	HEALEY
WED DEC 20	SALTERSGATE
SAT DEC 23	DR SYNTAX (CHILDREN'S MEET)
TUE DEC 26	LANCHESTER (BOXING DAY)
THR DEC 28	BARLOW
SAT DEC 30	CROWN & CROSS SWORDS

2007

MON JAN 1	KNITSLEY MILL (NEW YEARS DAY)
WED JAN 3	HOLMESIDE HALL

The Hunting Act 2004

The 2005/2006 season was the first full season under the new regulations for Hunting within the current law. It was a steep learning curve for everyone involved within the sport. It is our aim to ensure that when this Act is amended or indeed repealed the Braes of Derwent Hunt will be in a position to benefit from the changes that will occur. It is our intention to Hunt within the guidelines of the Act, however we must be very grateful for the continued support from Landowners, Farmers, Shoots and others for their co-operation, without whose support Hunting today would not be possible. On behalf of all the supporters and members of the Hunt may I take the opportunity to thank all of these parties.

Alan Chapman

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BDH Hounds

The BDH Hounds were seen out and about a few times during the summer. They paraded at Lanchester Show alongside the Weardale Beagles. Thanks to Ian Graham and John Brannen who whipped in to our Huntsman, Simon Kenny. Thanks also to John for kindly providing a horse for Simon. BDH members were also well presented with around a dozen subscribers joining the parade, including a number of our younger members.

A small selection of our hounds were also taking to Lowther show and shown by Simon Kenny. We had some impressive results as follows:

4 th place	Anchor	Unentered Dogs
6 th place	Angler	Stallion Hound
3 rd place	Worship	Brood Bitches
1 st place	Worship	Entered Bitches

Reserve Champion Bitch Worship

BDH Puppy Show

The BDH Puppy Show was held this year on Sunday 25th June. We had quite a good turnout despite the fact that England were playing in the World Cup, the weather was poor and Hexham races were on. The ratio of males:females was slightly unbalanced this year, primarily due I am sure to the football! Thanks to everyone who helped out especially those involved with the catering and those involved with the working party previously who did a vast number of jobs around the kennels. Simon Kenny again did us proud with the kennels looking beautifully presented, recently painted and a vast array of very impressive flowers. (Simon obviously has very green fingers!)

We had three judges this year, Charles Sterling, Peter Jones (ex-huntsman at the Pycheley for many years) and Margaret Smales. Together they awarded the Doghound trophy to Margaret Hedley who walked Anchor, and the Best Bitch trophy to Mrs Bell for Wicket. Anchor won the overall award for Best Hound. Many thanks to our judges and everyone else who helped out in any way.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Harry Chance and John Gully for the serious amount of work that they did in the Kennels throughout the summer. It is very much appreciated.

Dogs;

1st Anchor walked by Miss Margaret Hedley
2nd Anvil walked by Miss Margaret Hedley

3rd Arctic walked by Mr Patrick Headdon and family

Bitches;

1st Wicket walked by Mrs Anne and Miss Christine Bell

2nd Artful walked by Miss Helen Gibson

3rd Acorn walked by Mrs Val and Miss Harriot Armstrong

BDH - Champion; Anchor,
- Runner-up; Wicket

BDH - Best Working Hound; Warrior
walked by Miss Margaret Hedley

Once again a big thank you to all of our puppy walkers, without their time and effort the next generation of Braes Of Derwent Hunt Foxhounds would not be as educated and worldly wise as they need to be to carry out their duties in the future.
Thank you.

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Summer Round-up

Summer is an interesting time for many BDH subscribers, with a variety of other equestrian related activities taking place. Many of our members go eventing, show-jumping, driving, Riding Club events, hunter trials etc etc. After seeing people twice a week all winter it seems bizarre that many members are hardly seen all summer. However, this year, Trevor & Karen Gamble kindly hosted a really fun BBQ for us in mid-June. This BBQ was incredibly well attended to the point that we ran out of many alcoholic varieties of drinks rather early. Everyone therefore ended up drinking some very obscure and bizarre drinks for the rest of the evening resulting in some very interesting behaviour and some rather bad heads the next day! A good deal of money was raised for hunt funds, so thank you to our hosts and everyone else who was involved.

Eventing Round-up

Well, hunting obviously does great things for eventers! Our host of eventers have done us proud this season! Welcome back to Trevor Gamble who missed out most of last season's eventing with his broken arm. He had a fabulous season with Pre-Novice placings at Oasby and Floors Castle and then upgraded for the rest of the season to Novice culminating in a 7th place at Hendersyde. Vicki Cowie had a good season with places at both Central Scotland and Eglinton and a much more consistent season for Emma Forster this year, with her new horse Inch River (well conditioned by hunting last year!).

Jamie Atkinson did us proud as always with numerous placings and an impressive season including a great result at Burgie **. Sara Deary also had a good season although has unfortunately now broken her leg. We wish all the best to Sara and hope for a fast recovery. You will be sadly missed out hunting this year! Sara successfully took on the ride of Hindley Camargue this year (owned by one of our landowners, Tracey Kibler).

Sara also had a successful trip to Thirlestaine *** and many other placings.

Angus Smales had a very impressive season with good results at Blair ***, the Intermediate Championships at Gatcombe Park, Thirlestaine CIC**, Blair CCI *** and Burnham Market CIC ***. Tanya Davis had a very short and sweet season as her horse had a bad back for much of it. Their one and only outing after that ended in a placing at Hutton-in-the-Forest.

Harriet Armstrong did our younger members proud with a placing in the Pony Trial at Richmond. Unfortunately her season got cut short by an injury to her pony also resulting in her unable to compete in Ireland as was previously planned. Last but not least, Ashley Kelly (previously Hicks) had a very consistent season with her quite amazing horse Dudley resulting in a placing at Aske, and she also represented Corbridge & District Riding Club in both the Hunter Trial National Championships and the Horse Trials National Championships where she finished 11th Individually. Congratulations to Ashley for this good result.

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A Reminder on Etiquette and Courtesy

It's always a learning curve when the new season starts. You have to suffer the indignity of being told by another member to 'keep to the side of the field' and 'let the huntsman by please' and 'is anyone watching the road or have you just come out for a chat'.

The seasons barely started and I've already had to be reminded twice about some basic points. (Update Wed 04/10 – third reminder). I suspect that I'm not the only person who, unintentionally, forgets to practice good manners and sportsmanship, so I thought it may be a good idea to share with others a reminder of the common courtesies we should all practice on the field and our role whilst on the field. This may also be helpful to those who are new to hunting. This is not a list of rules, we are all out there to enjoy ourselves and have a good days hunting, helped along by plenty chat, chocolate and the odd drink.

- Park carefully and considerately at lay by's, giving sufficient clearance for loading and unloading horses, but also ensuring that as many people as possible can park in the lay by.
- Don't park in front of gates, block access, or park on grass that is maintained as part of a property or drive way.
- Arrive at the meet in good time (yes Jayne, I'm referring to you and it wasn't my fault that you met at the wrong place on Wednesday).
- Unless you're a fully paid up member, seek out the Secretary at the beginning of the meet to pay your cap for the day.

- If you bring a non member to the Hunt, advise the Secretary who they are and introduce them to the Field Master.
- Listen to any announcements at the beginning of the meet, advising on who the Field Master is, the area to be covered, and any special instructions.
- Make it your business to know who the Field Master is; follow his lead and instruction throughout the day.
- Stop when hounds check, or the Field Master holds up a hand.
- Keep a safe distance from the horse in front.
- Place a red ribbon or band on your horses' tail if it kicks out. Place a green ribbon or band on your horse's tail if it is new to hunting and may be unsettled.
- When drawing for the trail, listen to the hounds.
- Turn your horse towards the Huntsman/Whip if he comes past.
- Keep off growing crops and keep to the side of fields and don't gallop unnecessarily across soft ground.
- Keep off grass verges that are maintained as part of a property or drive way.
- Warn other riders of holes, wire or other dangerous situations.
- Be courteous and considerate to hunt followers, members of the community and farmers, particularly when hunting through a farm. A small 'thank you' or 'good morning' goes a long way. We are only able to continue hunting due to the goodwill and sportsmanship of the farmers and land owners and we must respect this by showing courtesy to everyone who comes out hunting.
- Be courteous to all road users and pedestrians. Do not hold up any traffic unnecessarily. Try to keep traffic moving.

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- Make way for Hunt Staff and alert others to do the same. Assist the Huntsman and the Whip when they're pushing on, by quickly opening gates for them.
- If someone ahead shouts 'gate please', either take responsibility for closing the gate or shout 'gate please' to the rider behind to take responsibility. If someone shouts 'gate please' to you and you are some distance away, raise your hand to acknowledge that you have heard them and will take responsibility for closing the gate. Don't leave anyone behind to close a gate on their own. Ensure all gates are closed. If in doubt, close the gate.
- Don't forget to thank some who holds open a gate. We are fortunate to have some very well mannered members who regularly take responsibility for doing gates. If you can't take your turn in doing gates, make sure you appreciate the help of others.
- If a gate or jump becomes damaged or broken, ensure that it is stock proof and advise The Master, Field Master, or Secretary.
- On leaving the field, remember to say goodnight to The Master, Field Master or Secretary, or if they are not available, ensure that someone knows that you have left the field.

what we're doing, direct them to The Master, Field Master, or Secretary. They will inform them whether we are hound exercising, trail hunting or a combination of the two. Be helpful and courteous.

- Alert the Field Master to any suspicious activity that may be anti hunt.
- All members of the Hunt should be members of the Countryside Alliance.
- All members of the Hunt should be members of the Hunt Supporters Club.

The Legal Challenge – Pony for Hunting Appeal

A big thank you to everyone who contributed towards this appeal last season. The Braes of Derwent Hunt achieved and exceeded its target by a considerable amount. This was due to your Ponies for hunting and some substantial payments made directly to the Appeal.

The legal challenge continues and will need to be financed accordingly. This year each hunt has been levied by the M.F.H.A. directly. Your committee will consider how we might finance this years appeal and inform you at a later time.

Thank you for your continued support.



- If any member of the public asks



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Presentation of 'Jack' to the Braes Hunt from the Supporters Club

Pavillion

Thursday 5th October was yet again a well attended and really fun evening at the Pavillion. As always the Braes Hunt took over the entire bar and restaurant, and enjoyed some fabulous Chinese cuisine, and one or two drinks in some cases.

Many thanks to everyone who was involved with organising this event...the food was amazing as always, and the company of course was great fun as well.

Braes News Magazine

Due to my forthcoming move (hopefully short-term) back to the dreaded southern part of our lovely country, I am pleased to let you know that the Editor of the Braes News Magazine will from now on be Lynn Graham.

The advertising side of things will be looked after by Diana Boyd. Any queries please contact her on diana.boyd@camb-lab.com or mobile number 07802667606.

Forthcoming Social Dates

16 th October	Hunt Supporters AGM
28 th October	Dinner @ The Carlton, Consett Hunt Supporters Club Event
18 th November	Hunt Ball, Ramside Hall Contact Joanne Storey, 0191 3700 340 No. 3, Tribley Cottages, Hett Hills, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH2 3JX Tickets £ 55 each. Cheques payable to Braes of Derwent Hunt
10 th January	Wrighty's Pie Night, Wardles Bridge Pub, Holmside Contact Ian Wright, 07771 657 687
20 th January	Deal or No Deal Contact Val Armstrong 01661 844 277
24 th February	The Full Monty Hunt Supporters Club Event
22 nd April	BDH Point-to-Point
Watch this space	
February 07	Interhunt Darts Match Hunt Supporters Club
March 07	Quiz at Castleside Club Hunt Supporters Club
May 07	Clay Pigeon Shoot Hunt Supporters Club
June 07	Cowboys & Indians BBQ
Dec 06	Carol Evening (contact Sarah Moralee)
End of season party	Knitsley Mill

Any queries on any forthcoming events please contact
Angela Moralee, 01388 746 315

Braes of Derwent Hunt Supporters Club

Monday 16th October 2006

Annual General Meeting, 8pm, Whittonstall First School

2006/7 subscriptions will be due, and while you have your cheque book handy why don't you have a flutter on the '100' club. It costs £ 12 per year for a monthly draw to win a £25 prize – much better odds than the lottery and for a very good cause "our hunt," give it a try – you might just be lucky!

All are very welcome and there will be a free raffle on the night and one lucky person will go home with two complimentary tickets to the Annual Dinner.

Saturday 28th October 06

Annual Dinner at The Carlton, Consett

Three course dinner and Disco – tickets are £ 15 available from Janet Clemitson, tel. 01207 560 280

Saturday 20th January 07

Deal or No Deal at Snods Edge

An evening of fun entertainment in the style of Noel Edmonds' latest hit television show. With cash prizes, supper & a bar – an event not to be missed!

Phone Margaret Smales on 01207 509 266 or Val Armstrong 01661 844 277 for more information and to reserve tickets

February 07 Inter-hunt Darts Match

Details from Margaret Smales on 01207 509 266

March 07 Quiz at Castleside Club, phone Violet Coulson on 01207 542 915

22nd April 07 Point to Point – Helpers Needed – Phone Val Armstrong 01661 844 277

May 07 Clay Pigeon Shoot, contact Bob Middleton, tel 01207 503 691

3rd June 07 Terrier and Lurcher show, contact Violet Coulson on 01207 542 915

BDHSC

Badges	£ 5
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Boundary Ride

Boundary riding or "riding the bounds" as it is still known in the Borders, has its origins in times when maps were a rarity and the whole village or a representative from each family, would ride (for the privileged) or walk around the perimeter of the area administered as that settlement. Thus the knowledge of the precise shape of the parish was passed from generation to generation with an annual refresher. Hundreds of years ago much taxation was in the form of tythes and it was vital for all to know where they lived and who was administering to them, be it church, justice or taxation.

Our quest on the 1st October was to follow the bounds of Lanchester parish which stretches from Burnhope in the East almost to Saltersgate in the West. The route we followed stretched over 18 miles. 21 members and friends left the Knitsley Mill just after 10am and enjoyed some superb scenery and grass to Oliver Ford where we were made very welcome by Alan and Julie Chapman. A brisk series of well built jumps in and around the Ripponburn valley brought us to Humberhill top, which at nearly 900 feet affords a superb view of most of the parish and much of the Wednesday country. Soon after we were entertained by Keith and Gillian Harrison at Coalpike. Crossing the Browney valley via Throstles Nest, Hole House and Ragpathside brought more good views to Hamsteels Hall, re-crossing the river to climb to Burnhope Mast where Jyoti Wright and family dispensed food and drink to about 15 of the starters. A quick gatecrash at Ray Emerton's saw us meet Ross Chapman at Espgreen on his pony racing

prospect and we collected a young Tomlinson at Hurbuck Farm for the last leg to the Mill.

Photo's kindly taken in the early stages of the ride were donated by Gary Fisher and distributed in the Mill afterwards to some pretty tired riders. As ever we have received huge support from our Landowners who allowed us to cross their bits of the parish. THANKS.

Four people who keep cropping up in the Braes story, Margaret, Barney, John and Beagle shepherded us across the roads and helped us with the food and drink. Thanks guys, your help on the ground is much appreciated. Thanks to Alan Chapman and Keith Harrison who organised the route and guided us around. Next year we propose a similar event taking in other parts of the boundary not visited this time – so watch this space – bottoms up! Wrighty

PS Some of our members - to avoid the boundary ride – elected to do the Great North Run instead. Tanya Davis achieved a very creditable 1hour 55 minutes and Dougal Reed, a potential Olympic prospect, of 1 hour 38 minutes. Some others are apparently still completing the course and haven't yet been seen since!

Out and About with Wrighty

GREETINGS HUNTLINGS! What a busy summer! While you have all been busy eventing, decorating (who did that?), driving, scuba diving, having replacement joints fitted, showing, dragon-boat racing, going to Appleby and car booting, I took a holiday in Scotland exploring Nuclear bunkers. I then returned to discover that the farm

STILL looked like the set of Animal Hospital and Scrapyard challenge out of which will hopefully emerge some transport and horse power for the coming hunting season. If anyone wants to see my holiday pics they are available on DVD for a vast amount of money!

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A TALE OF 2 VIADUCTS – ONE YOU CAN SEE – ONE YOU CAN'T

About the time the BDH was formed in the early 1850's two rival railways were both building lines to get to Consett where the Iron Industry was beginning to boom. The hilly nature of NW Durham dictated building viaducts spanning the many valleys and vicinities encountered.

Hownes Gill viaduct spans a glacial overflow channel carved by melt water from a retreating glacier. The present structure dates from 1856, is 730 ft long, 150ft high, contains 2,600,000 bricks and was designed for the Stockton & Darlington Railway by Sir Thomas Bouch, builder of the ill fated Tay Bridge. The bricks were supplied by Pease's of Roddymoor near Crook.

For 17 years prior to the building of the viaduct the Gill was crossed by lowering trucks down one side on a cradle and hauling them up the other on another cradle. This laborious route limited the capacity of the route, interestingly traces of the system can still be found below the viaduct. Traffic ceased in 1970.

Knitsley viaduct was built by the North Eastern Railway around 1861 as a wooden trestle 700ft long with 36 20ft spans. By 1915 the condition of the structure had deteriorated and the whole structure embanked by burying it in colliery waste, a process which took some years to complete. The line finally closed in 1966.

IAN WRIGHT

Fun Ride – Horns House Farm

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the fun ride at Horns House Farm. 50 riders enjoyed lovely weather, miles of stubble and a good selection of jumping. Margaret and Louise kindly produced the usual supply of fab food and drinks including some absolutely Moorish belly pork from James Little. The lead rein event organised by Zoe Wright (many thanks to Zoe) became a Blackberry Picnic.

As ever our landowners did us proud with fields being harvested so that we could ride through, and Headlands were left unploughed, so many thanks to all involved.

IAN WRIGHT

Inter-hunt Sailing Regatta

I know there are a lot of things that Braes Hunt members get up to outside of the hunting season, but I have to say I was completely clueless about the Interhunt Sailing Regatta held on the Solent, Isle-of-Wight, as I am sure the majority of our members were.

The Braes of Derwent Hunt team, headed by Charles Stirling, were in fact the only northern pack represented. The competition was very fierce with other packs represented including the North Cotswold, Heythrop, Cattistock, VWH and the Blackmore Vale, among others. Previous years have seen the BDH team complete only with the 'Politest Crew' award, which implies to me that a more aggressive approach may be required. With this in mind, Chef D'Equipe, Charles drafted in some more formidable sailors in the form of Henry Parish (hunting man from Wales & Dartmoor) and Mike McCallum from Yorkshire. The Regatta takes the form of 7 races over 2 days in 10 identical boats.

The BDH team were doing fabulously well and with 2 wins under their belt looked for a winning finish. Unfortunately, a last minute breakage allowed the Isle-of-Wight team, with their local knowledge of tides, to slip ahead. Thus, the BDH team won the whisky (2nd place overall) as opposed to the trophy won by the Isle-of-Wight team. A few little birds tell me that the whisky was much more desired than the trophy in any case, so I do wonder if the breakage was indeed intentional? I am sure we will never know the truth! The whole event was run very efficiently by Serena Prest, and was attended by some very amusing competitors including Otto Strachwitz Hamilton, whose father was reputed to be a u-boat captain!

Congratulations to the BDH team. Let's hope we have a winning formula for next year. If there are any interested members out there, please contact Charles Stirling on 01434 682 530.

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Huntsman / Kennels
Simon Kenny
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BRAES NEWS
Editorial & Advertising
Tanya Davis
tanya.davis@boudahead.co.uk



100 Club Winners

S. Harrison (x 2)
J. Aldridge
J. Coulson
J. Hicks
L. Foster
A. Hutchinson
R. Prescott (x2)
A. Forster
M. Hutchinson
A. Phillips

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**Taxi Jump at the Pardubice, Czech Republic
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