

NEWSLETTER

December 2006

Christmas

Cambridge and West Suffolk Driving Club



Leaders and Wheelers

Welcome to my first attempt at a newsletter. I have tried to include everything I have been sent. If I have left anyone or anything out, or made mistakes, I apologise. Thank you to everyone for your great support and for all the articles and photographs you have sent me. I hope you enjoy this Christmas edition.

The committee would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year—or was it the other way round? No, it was a very Merry Crimble and a Wobbly New Year. May you all have a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year, and we wish you a great driving season in what will be our Silver Jubilee Year.





The Proceedings of the AGM , 2nd December 2006

33 members of the Club attended the AGM at the Hall, Elveden by generous permission of Lord and Lady Iveagh, on Saturday 2nd December 2006.

In her address the Chairman began by thanking our hosts by letting the Club hold driving events and this AGM on their estate. Eunice went on to thank all the organizers of events and for making 2006 such a success. There were special thanks to Jayne for her Newsletters and a warm welcome to Linda for taking over the task.

Judith said, in her treasurer's report, that the finances of the Club were in good order, with a small surplus at the end of October, our year-end. Judith highlighted the fall in subscription income, the rise in secretarial expenses from the costs of printing and postage and the existence of a well stocked Club cellar.

The committee felt that item 6 of the Constitution was too restrictive and decided that a proposal to amend this section should be put before the members at the AGM. It was noted that the need to provide continuity in the way the Club was run would be through the offices of President and vice-President. These were permanent positions on the committee. There would be six members elected annually, four of whom would hold titled offices as Chairman, secretary, social secretary and treasurer. Two should stand down each year to enable other members of the Club to serve on the committee. The Chairman would be elected at the AGM, the other office holders would be selected from the membership of the committee.

Next year there would be two new drives in the calendar, one at Helmingham Hall, Suffolk arranged by Ben Denison and the other a week-end at Magdalen in Norfolk arranged by Mouse Winter. The new season lunch would be hosted by Liz Wheeler at Church Farm, in Great Eversden. The committee would plan an event to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Club in 2007.

The meeting climax was the presentation of awards for 2006:

Chairman's award	Sue and Tom
President's award	Wally
Collectors' china	Jayne, a Thank-You
A china "duck"	Bunty, a Game Bird
A large wine goblet	Richard, for lending a helping hand
A chef's apron	Ian, for his readiness to serve the Club's BBQ's



Newsletter Quiz Mouse won the quiz and the prize.

TW 20061207

For sale
Romalec Welsh Wizard,

Section D gelding, registered. Extravagant movement, bay 14HH+ 3 years.
Kind, easy to box and catch. Lunged, ready to back.

£1000 o.n.o.

Liz Wright, Hook House, Hook Road, Wimblington, March, Cambs. PE15 0QL
01354 741538 or 07967 33 96 86

Fun Day at Easton Farm Park in Suffolk.
24TH September 2006

This event was attended by 19 BDS Drivers with some of the five young drivers sharing ponies.

Judith and Richard came with Sunny and their daughter Felicity. Felicity groomed for Cathy Batty and her pony Flora. This foursome had travelled many miles to take part in this event but liked the area so much they did a second drive after the cones course in the afternoon, before going home. Ben and Davida came with Charlie and were placed 4th in the cones/obstacle course. Ben took Charlie home then returned to help us pack up, "as he does". Thanks Ben. The communal lunch was enjoyed by all with new and old contacts made or rekindled. We have been invited to drive the tracks in the Spring as well as the usual Fun Day next year being 30th September 2007. Perhaps a few more of you will venture down this way. Eunice and Wally.

If

If you can keep your head when others are trotting past you and swearing at you.
If I can trust you when all others doubt you but make allowance for their doubting too.

If you can stand and not fidget when standing,
Nor trot when you should walk,
Nor canter which is truly maddening,
And yet show action, collection, without a balk.

If I can dream – and make my dreams your master.
If I can think - and make my thoughts your aim.
If I can meet with dressage and cones disaster
And get on with it just the same.

If I can bear to hear the truth be spoken
 By judges who think we're fools.
 Or pick up all the cones and shafts you've broken
 And stoop and build them up with worn out tools.



If you can walk in crowds and keep your virtue.
 Or walk with hackneys and not lose the common touch.
 If neither balloons nor bouncy castles scare you
 And you are kind to all but love me so much
 If we can hold it all together in the end
 Yours is the rosette and the championship
 And – which is more – we'll be a competition turnout my friend!

Poem by Clare Iveagh

There are five in this magazine –but what are they? Not holly!
 You will need a running total at the end of the year.

Answers to the quiz will be in the next newsletter –mark your own and keep your score. The quiz is cumulative through the year.

BLANDING'S FARM

Saturday 5th August 2006

A three-phase event was held at Blanding's Farm. The dressage arena and cones course were set out for us by Louise Garget. We also used some of her excellent hazards. Sadly only five turnouts competed at this event.

The dressage came first. The marks were close, ranging from 96 to 90. As usual there were excellent marks in one movement, often counter-acted by poor ones in another! Some tests showed little difference in the paces. Circles could be improved by more attention to the shape of the last quarter as it returns to the track.

The cones course of twenty gates proved to be good fun. The best round being clear by Ian and Danny. The fastest round (by a large margin!) was by Clare and Porter with one ball down.

The six hazards however, were too long and complicated for most who needed help and advice to complete them.

Results:

1st: Sallie, Liz and Kelly – taking the Tangle Trophy

2nd: Clare, Rebecca and Porter

3rd: Linda, Ray and Millie

4th: Ian, Sandy and Danny

HC: Sue, Tom and Alfie for a good dressage score.

Shirley judged the dressage and Terence the cones. I feel that next year we could improve the hazards by making them more straightforward and enjoyable.

S.D.R.

