



## NEWSLETTER Dec 2009



### Chairman Report

Since the last newsletter, the WDDC has enjoyed both the annual dinner and the AGM.

It was great to see so many members attend our annual dinner and prize giving, at a new venue for this year, The Brasserie in Kidderminster. Well, it certainly showed that not only can we enjoy the outdoor life but we can also 'scrub up' well when the occasion demands it!

The AGM got through all the intended business, including a heartfelt thank you to both Vicky Poole – retiring from the committee and Dorothy Billings, finishing a 5 year stint as President. We voted for our new President; with 2 candidates kindly putting their names forward, Sue Watkins and Madge Edwards. Both respected and long term members of our club. After a close paper vote, Madge just got her head over the winning post first.

I was somewhat disappointed when I asked for ideas that members would like to be included for 2010 diary, and no one at the AGM felt that they wanted to have a say. Well look on the bright side I told myself – they must think the committee is doing well, why interfere! If you have anything that you would like to be included in 2010 list – or a possible venue or any other related thoughts, do let us know.

Following a well earned break after the 2009 season, I have just clipped my horse Mea, and have started working her again – what a treat! You would think having been lucky enough to own a horse since I was 15, the pleasure and excitement would diminish as time goes by - not a bit of it! I may not bounce as well as I did as teenager and thank goodness for the very efficient outdoor clothing available now, but I still find it such a pleasure to be able to spend time with Mea and Joci.

The committee have lots of things in the pipe line to keep the WDDC members in touch and occupied in 2010, and we would like to think that as many of you as possible, will be able to attend in whatever capacity you feel comfy with. Anything from bringing a horse to drive/ ride / long reign, helping make tea and cakes, walking with friends, learning more about our sport, gaining skills as a back stepper, eating, drinking – whatever turns you on. We have tried to ensure there is something for everyone to enjoy, at whatever stage or age you are at in life.

Best wishes for a great Christmas holiday – am I allowed to say that or is it ethnically incorrect??? Well I shall say it anyway, and look forward to seeing you all soon.

Carol Pawson

Newsletter: - Please send details to [elspethmorgan@btinternet.com](mailto:elspethmorgan@btinternet.com) or Elspeth Morgan 2 Laburnum Close Wollaston Stourbridge DY8 4NQ. Next Issue August2009

## WDDC Website

Next year's provisional dates are posted on the notice board if you would like any information posted please contact Elspeth Morgan. Log on to [www.wolverleydriving.co.uk](http://www.wolverleydriving.co.uk).

### **FOR SALE**

No items for sale in this issue, but don't forget to send any items to be included in the next issue

## What's On

Monday 28th December Walk from Robin Hood Drayton 10.30 Linda details

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January Bangers and mash at Pawson's similar to last years details Carol details

4th April Indoor event David details

20th June 3Counties Malvern Elspeth details

14th & 15th August Two day Event at Rushock David details

### *Possible dates to be confirmed*

May 1<sup>st</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

June 6<sup>th</sup>

July 18<sup>th</sup>

September 5<sup>th</sup> and 19th

## VICKI POOLE

When I joined the club some 19 years ago, like many other members, I had no way of knowing what went on behind the scenes. It was the likes of Dorothy Billings, Margaret Ralphs, Linda Sprosen and Vicki Poole that allowed W&DDC to gain a reputation second to none as a local driving club offering everything from a social to a full blown driving trial. Now a reputation like this club enjoys does not come easily. A great deal of effort goes into organising even the smallest event.

With the resignation of Vicki, the club has lost a great worker and supporter. Unless you have attended a W&DDC committee meeting, you will be unaware of the work done by Vicki. You all know that she has been our Honorary Treasurer this past three years, but you may not be aware that she did her five year stint as Chairman, and became our first President for five years after the post was reinstated after a lapse of several years. And a great job she did too.

Having sat on W&DDC committee for 14 years, I know that without her input, meetings would not be the same. Who do you think has ordered and sorted out the rosettes, kept the accident book, helped organise the dreaded jumble sale and helped Linda compile the point's league? With Simon, she has looked after the white trailer, the flat trailer and the caravan, given house room to the items that we don't need too often and liaised with the insurance companies to ensure that we are adequately insured. She has talked the owners and staff of Enville Hall to allow us to hold events on their lovely estate, and been the event organiser there. She even learned to be a scorer for the trials we held there and at other events.

As I said earlier, committee meetings won't be the same; who will remember when the club did what, and when? Who will remember the little things that are easily forgotten? Who will pull us up over the infringement of rules? ***Who will scrub out the toilets and who will mark out the dressage arena?***

I hope that although she is leaving the committee, that she will not leave the club. Vicki, you are a treasure, and together with Linda, you are a hard double act to follow!

Tony Gregory

## Your Committee for 2010

President - Madge Edwards  
 Chairman – Carol Pawson  
 Secretary – Linda Sprosen  
 Treasurer – Hannah Walker  
 Membership Sec – Sandy Blakeway Smith

Committee Members

Elspeth Morgan

Julie Wedgebury  
David Smith



CHRISTMAS WALK  
ON  
MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2009

At The Robin Hood Drayton Nr Belbroughton  
DY9 0BW or (GR.906759)  
This is the old road which links Chaddesley Corbett to Belbroughton.



Time :- 10.30a.m. Start from Car Park

Walk approx 2 ½ miles which includes roads, fields and a few stiles.

Food afterwards at Pub.

Details on website for menu [www.therobinhooddrayton](http://www.therobinhooddrayton).



Can you please let me know by 18<sup>th</sup> December what food you require. Payment on day.

Bring along family and friends.

Name .....

No attending.....

Food required.....

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Please e mail to [lindasprosen@hotmail.com](mailto:lindasprosen@hotmail.com) or  
Tel;- Linda on 01562 824350 or post to  
156 Birmingham Road Kidderminster DY10 2SL

## **BHDTA Affiliated Clubs' Midland Region Rep's report November 2009**

The Affiliated Club Liaison Committee has only met twice during 2009, but all members have kept in touch via email and by meeting at National events throughout the season.

As I reported last year, one of our Committee, Audrey Barron, was co-opted to Council, and at our meeting prior to the October 2009 AGM, Mike Watts who represents clubs in the East was elected as our second representative on Council. This now means that we – YOU - have a direct line through me to the BHDTA Council. If you have anything to say, criticisms, or better still helpful suggestions, we are here to listen.

All Affiliated Club members should now have a pink membership card denoting that they are an Affiliated Member of the BHDTA. You will see that it says that you are now insured for up to £30m when attending or competing at events run by WDDC. If you want or need to extend this cover, you can contact the BHDTA to upgrade your membership. For instance, by becoming an Associate Member of BHDTA, costing £54/year, you will get this £30m of legal liability cover for 365 days/year. Cheap as chips I say!

The Club Liaison Committee is exploring the possibility of creating a model set of rules for driving trials, in the hope that they might become adopted in time by the Clubs, so that club competitors entering at 'other clubs' will not have to learn another set of rules.

The Club Pack, so well received by all club secretaries has been updated once in the past year, and is available for you all to view on line on the BHDTA website, under the heading of Affiliated Clubs – click on to Club Paperwork. Take a look – you'll be surprised at what goes on behind the scenes to put on an event!

It was the object of BHDTA Council that the regional reps would administer any grant funding that became available for a Regional Training Scheme. This has not yet come to fruition. The BHDTA made a grant application for training funding to Sport England via the British Equestrian Federation. The actual bid was largely ignored but they were granted funds specifically for UKcc Coach Training and assessment, developing greater involvement of disabled drivers and training for potential World Class competitors. The Regional Training Scheme was not considered. This was very disappointing, but as the Sport England funding runs until 2013, we have not yet lost hope and there is a meeting with the BEF tomorrow at which the emphasis of the 2010 bid will be discussed. To this end, I was asked to become the BHDTA's representative at the BEF Participation Steering Group to make sure that we remain represented.

Tony Gregory