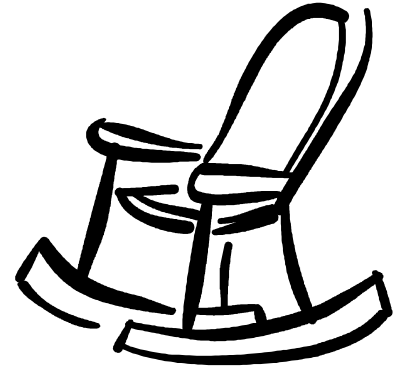




## NEWSLETTER October 2009



### Chairman Report

It has been satisfying to see so many members attending our events this year, and with the evenings drawing in, and the horses coats changing in anticipation of cooler weather, it is time to reflect on another season of carriage driving with the WDDC.

The second half of our driving year saw WDDC members gathering at Enville for our mini event. This was very well attended, with lots of thanks going to Vicky and Simon Poole for all their input to make this day such a success. It was also great to see so many non driving members come to help with the many tasks that add up to running a mini trial. This format, with its dressage test, 2 obstacles each driven twice and a cones course, is a very good way of testing ones skills. As we all know horses are great levellers – just when you think you have a skill cracked – they think of another test for you!

Our August event, the driving weekend at David and Lynne Smith's home in Rushock, was postponed till September, due to Lynne sojourn to hospital.

The event took place in the loveliest weather with again many members both driving and helping attending. Lynne and David's grounds were looking splendid – with many thanks to them and Team Bache – Tony and Jill, for making the weekend such a success. With the lovely facilities it was a great opportunity to work on those elusive driving skills, and put them to the test under event conditions, but always knowing that there was someone around to help and support if needed.

It was with regret that it was decided to cancel the event due to be held at Charlotte Farm near Bridgnorth, with Julie Wedgebury's 'at the helm'. Owing to a clash of dates the event date had to be moved and it proved impossible for enough participants to be able to take part. It is lovely venue and it is hoped to use it next year.

Our next gathering with horses will be a drive at Dudmaston on the 11<sup>th</sup> October. It is a great place to walk, so even if you don't have a turnout, come and enjoy the countryside and meet up with the drivers for a picnic lunch.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Quiz night on the 21<sup>st</sup> October (I am assured only a small brain capacity required to shine at this – phew!), and also at our dinner on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, and last but by no means least the AGM on the 24<sup>th</sup> November. The AGM is such a useful time to bounce ideas around for next years itinerary – so please attend and have a say about what you would like to see in next years WDDC 'What's On'.

My best wishes to you all. 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**

We have added a new results page and a notice board to the website. All the club results will be posted as soon as possible after the event, just follow the link below. If you would like any information posted on the notice board ( articles for sale/information you would like to share) please contact Elspeth Morgan. If you want to take a look at website log on to [www.wolverleydriving.co.uk](http://www.wolverleydriving.co.uk).

## **Young Drivers' Championships held at Escrick Park**

At the 2009 Young Drivers' Championships held at Escrick Park near York on 26/27 September, two of WDDC's Junior members excelled themselves.

Alice Stables won her 13-14 years class and Emily Ham took the 18-25s class. We should be justly proud of them. Well done!

Incidentally, we should all take note of the fact that they both won their respective dressage classes!

Tony Gregory.

**FOR SALE**

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

### **Three Counties Show 2009.**

On behalf of the committee, this is to thank all the WDDC members who planned, designed, laid out, scored, timed, stewarded, catered for and did the promotion tent and transported stuff.

It was you that put the event on the ground and made it a great success and up to WDDC standards!

I calculate there were 12 members helping on the day including spouses, plus one friend and a lot of these also took part too.

The majority of the competitors were also WDCC members.

We have received positive comment about the demo' in the main ring it being described as very professional and run spot on time.

Thanks again, sorry you did not get thanked on the day!

Dave Smith

### **Team Pawsons' Windsor adventure**

It was 14 years ago Team Pawson last qualified to drive a tandem of ponies at the BHDTA Championships at Windsor. In those days David and I could see to read without glasses, our 3 children mostly lived at home still – well their washing did, and we lived in East Kent. A pony originally bought for our children to ride, a Welsh section A called Joci was our leader, and our wheeler was Raffles a 12.2 dun mare we bought from a local dealer and broke in to ride and drive. Time has erased where we finished in the ratings but I do know I never did get to beat Tony Bache!

As our circumstances changed Raffles went on to live with a friend and did many years of sterling work both ridden and driven, and Joci on completion of 25 years work with the Pawson family and as an RDA pony for 20 of those, lives in rotund retirement now aged 32 with us at Far Forest.

We have been working with our latest equine partner Mearas, a Hackney Cob X, for the last 3 and a half years, with our goal always being to qualify to get to the BHDTA championships again. It hasn't been an easy route – 2 years ago Jill Holah wrote on our dressage sheet – “I hope you go as fast round the obstacles as you have in the dressage – nothing will catch you” !!! I had a horse with one thing on her mind - speed, and with standing still and walking an impossible dream, and one pace - a very hackneyfied fast trot.

But we made it against tough opposition – we qualified this year at the 3 day event at Farleigh in Hampshire. It was such an exhilarating weekend – it took me 5 days to come off cloud nine!

David and I then aimed all our events this year to hone our skills further, and achieved this with the usual ups and down that equines are so good at! We learnt to walk in the dressage – and I was so

amazed when we actually managed it, I promptly forgot what the next movement was! We also learnt to walk fast enough to be able complete the marathon walk section of a kilometre in under the time allowed of 8 mins 34 secs. With instruction from the ground and weekly video analysis of progress, we worked on establishing 3 distinct trot paces.

The great day arrived and Team Pawson – lorry stuffed to the gills, we set forth for Windsor.

A wonderful gathering of groupies from both our Kent life and the WDDC met up there, and a memorable party was organised by Dawn Tebbett (Dawn also having qualified with Katie) and held in her spacious tented complex on the Saturday night.

Dressage day dawned – after much polishing of carriage, horse and people we set off for the test area. Mea mistook the show ground for red hot coals – and wanted to be a race horse again, but when I remembered to breathe regularly things got better. My brand new hat managed to fly off on the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement of the test, only to land the right way up exactly on X, the shaving mark in the middle of the arena ----- Dilemma – run over it or round it. Straight over the top we went - Mea not batting an eyelid – what a star! Even more gratifying we found we had done enough to be in second place after the dressage!!

The 7 obstacles are very technical, long and with lots of choice – things have moved on so much in the last 14 years! We walked them till our shoes wore out, but come marathon day, following a storming section A and D we found ourselves not as confident about our routes as we needed to be, and this was reflected in our times.

On day 3 we duly repolished every thing and set off for the cones course, with my hat padded with window sealing tape and jammed well down on my head. The show ground was a mass of excitement – music, loud speakers, a car show, horse show, loads of people and Mea found this all a very different experience, and behaved as the saying goes – as though her hoof was plugged firmly into an electric socket. We hit 3 cones, in what was an extremely technical cones course – so not a bad score in the circumstances and the experience will stand us in good stead for next time. And yes – my hat did stay on!

Are we going to work to qualify again – you bet. To have achieved our goal made for a most enjoyable and satisfying weekend, and to spend it amongst friends and with our horse – what more could we want. Well actually I would like to win at Windsor -- but I think I will have to work a lot harder to achieve that.

Dreams to keep us warm over the winter months.

Carol Pawson

## **Results of Show held at Rushock on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

### Class 1 In Hand Ashford Creameries Plate

1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Taft	Chloe
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jasmine Parsons	Cos
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Linda Wiggin	Duke
4 <sup>th</sup>	Lucy Taft	Erin
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ivan Meredith	Srye

### Class2 Ride & Drive Overall Clows Top Ride & Drive Shield

1 <sup>st</sup>	Ivan Meredith	Chloe
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Linda Wiggin	The Duke
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jasmine Parsons	Cos

### Class 3 Exercise Vehicle The Andy & Jonathan Cup

5

1 <sup>st</sup>	Linda Wiggin	The Duke
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lucy Taft	Chloe
3 <sup>rd</sup>	David Smith	Jemima

Class 4 Private Drive Traditional Turnout Alan James WDDC Cup

1 <sup>st</sup>	Lee Parson	Cos
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Class 5 Concous d'Elegance J Sprigg Cup

1 <sup>st</sup>	Lee Parson	Cos
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Class 6 Millennium cones

1 <sup>st</sup>	David Smith	Jemima
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ivan Merdith	Chloe
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chris Kirk	Rui
4 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Kirk	Daisy
5 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Kirk	Daisy & Rui

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**Event Rushock Showing and  
Mini Trial**

Class	Large	Pen	Place	Cones			S ec A Pen	ob st 1	ob st 2	obs t 3	ob st 4	ob st 5	ob st 6	Tot al pe ns Com pE	Pla ce	Tot al	Over all Placing
				Ba ll	Ti me	Tot al											
1	Dawn Tebbit	31	2	5	0	5		9	6.4	8.8	9	12	8.4	59	1	90	1
2	David Smith	51	3	10	14	24		12	8.4	10.4	10	12	9	62	3	136	5
4	Tony Gregory	60	6	0	0	0		11	7.8	10.4	10	12	9.2	60	2	120	4
6	Claudia Bunn	59	5	5	22	27		14	9.8	16.8	20.6	19	23	E	6	E	6
9	Sue Wood s	53	4	0	0	0		10	8.6	10.8	11	13	9	63	4	115	3
10	Dawn Tebbit	27	1	5	0	5		11	8.6	10.4	10	13	9.4	63	5	95	2

E =  
Elimination

Class 2	Small																		
8	Linda Wiggin	58	1	10	5.5	16		12	8.6	11.8	12	14	9.6	68	2	14 2	2		
7	Rachel Riley	67	4	10	0	10		27	10	14.2 +20 CC	17	18	15	122	4	19 9	3		
5	Carl Warri low	62	2	0	0	0		11	7.2	11	9.4	12	8.8	59	1	12 1	1		
11	Maral yn Hard man	63	3	20	18	37		17	9.8	14.8	15	25	21	103	3	20 4	4		

CC =  
Correcti  
on of  
Course

Dudmaston on the 11<sup>th</sup> October is the next event. 9 miles of farm tracks country lanes and woodland on a lovely (hopefully) October day. Please contact David Smith