



## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2008

### Chairman Report

Well the driving season is drawing to a close, only two more events to go, the clipper rally at Ivan and Carol's on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September and the Picnic Drive out at Julie's on the Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

I hope you all enjoyed the event at Enville Hall this year I know we did. Thank you to Teresa, Wayne and their family for supplying and delivering the road work barriers to the event. They made the task of setting up the obstacles so much easier. Unfortunately these particular barriers were only on loan, but Wayne has promised to donate some to the club as soon as he can organise it. We hope Kellie is feeling much better after her recent illness and that we will be seeing Theresa stewarding again, if not this year, next.

The week-end at David & Lynne Smith's was once again a success and well attended. A lovely venue, and once again on behalf of the club I would like to thank every-one involved in setting up and running the event for all their hard work. I hope every-one enjoyed themselves.

Thank you to Dorothy and Malcolm who have very generously donated their gazebo to the Club. It was very useful at David's event and I am sure we will make full use of it in the future.

I look forward to seeing every-one at the winter events:- The A.G.M, Annual Dinner and Christmas walk.

If you have a query or problem just give me a call and I will do my best to help you sort it out.

See you all soon.

Sue Woods

**Newsletter:- Please send details to [lindasprosen@hotmail.com](mailto:lindasprosen@hotmail.com) or Linda Sprosen 156 Birmingham Road, Kidderminster DY10 2SL Next issue December 2008**

## **WDDC Website**

The Website is now up and running, but, it is still in its early stages. Stephen Pond is liasing with the gentleman who set the site up and hopefully we will be able to update it with all our Club information in the near future. If you want to take a look at website long on to [www.wolverleydriving.co.uk](http://www.wolverleydriving.co.uk).

## **Tony Bache**

Tony has been a member of the WDDC for over 25 years with just a short break when he and Gill moved to Scotland. Unfortunately we have now lost him from our committee as he has aspired to greater things.

Tony was elected to the BHDTA council as Vice Chairman but has recently been elected to the position of Chairman.

Thankfully Tony and Gill are still members of the WDDC and help us as much as their busy schedule allows.

## **Tony Gregory**

Congratulations to Tony Gregory who has been a member of the WDDC for the past 13 year on becoming the BHDTA Regional Representative for England: Midlands Area. He has six clubs to lias with in his area.

Hopefully if we have any problems we can go straight to Tony for the answers.

## **Richard Watkins**

We are sad to inform you of the death of Richard Watkins, Sue Watkins brother with whom she lived and helped to run the Post Office and newsagents shop at Wolverley for many years.

He was obviously very well known in Wolverley and the village church was packed for his funeral with the congregation including some past WDDC members from the Wolverley area.

Our thoughts are with you Sue.

Vicki and Linda

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**Autumn Sale**

Most stock items reduced  
A good time to buy because with oil and steel prices rising  
We are expecting increases next year.

## FOR SALE

RIDE & DRIVE FELL CROSS 14.1HH 13YEARS OLD. GOOD IN ALL WAYS, THIS HOME LAST 3 YEARS AND PREVIOUS HOME I BELIEVE SINCE A YOUNGSTER, SO FULL SERVICE HISTORY AVAILABLE. GENUINE REASON FOR THIS SAD SALE. WOULD LIKE TO SELL WITH EXERCISE CART & HARNESS AND A SET OF ZILCO CLASSIC WITH EMPATHY COLLAR. PRICE AROUND £3000 FOR EVERYTHING. PHONE JILL CRANE 01 989 750256 NEAR ROSS ON WYE.



## **Sandringham Driving Trials**

Early in the year we decided to visit one of the National Horse Driving Trials, we looked at Lowther, Castle Kennedy but decided on Sandringham as Cyndy was keen to visit the area and Sandringham House.

I decided to volunteer to steward as events are always short of stewards and it gets you more involved.

We took the caravan and after a 4 hour journey arrived and set up, everyone was very friendly and it was nice to be in the field with the other stewards and competitors.

We did not think much of the weather at the time, but it turned out to be good compared to what we have had later in the summer.

There were 14 teams entered, dressage day was very interesting with all types of vehicles and standards, one team competitor had what could have been a very nasty accident in the dressage when one of the wheelers sort of lunged, half reared and ended up with a front leg over the leader bar and a hind leg over the pole, the horse was very calm and people were very calm and willing to help and everything ended okay.

Marathon day started wet but then turned out dry and sunny by the time the first competitor was on the course. I think all the obstacles drove well, I was on the water obstacle and we did not have any problems not even a hold up.

Cone day was fine but very windy, last year the balls kept blowing off so this year they used heavier balls.

We had a really good few days and thoroughly enjoyed the event, the area is very interesting and pleasant countryside, we also found Sandringham House well worth a visit.

There were 83 entries and the results are on BHDТА website, they always need stewards so you will be made very welcome if you decide to go.

Stephen Pond.



### TROPHY 2008 JUNIOR WORLD

Two teams of young drivers were chosen by British Young Drivers and the BHDТА to represent England and Wales at Stadl Paura in Austria from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> July.

Our members should be justly proud that the Welsh team of five contained two of our very own members, Emily Ham and Alice Stables. Not only this, but of the five, four of them had attended Junior Camps organised by W&DDC. They all acquitted themselves very well, but unfortunately, eliminations put the team out of the running for a medal.

The England team fared rather better, gaining a Bronze medal with the distinction of Mark Bell receiving a Gold for his first placed position in the age 17-18 class.

Conditions were not easy apparently, with heavy rain and attendant mud, followed by hot sun and attendant midges!

There are many tales to tell, of how to transport horses and people across Europe, etc, but others would better tell that. In fact, if you come to the Club's Annual Dinner at the Granary on November 14<sup>th</sup>, Tony and Paddy Marris will be giving a talk, and telling us all about it!

Full results can be found at [www.jwt08.com](http://www.jwt08.com) or [www.horse-driving-trials.co.uk](http://www.horse-driving-trials.co.uk)

Tony Gregory

### **Mini Driving Trials at Solihull**

The 29<sup>th</sup> June dawned dry and bright. Vicki was our chauffeur for the day and we set off in high spirits, Sue Woods, Hannah Walker, Vicki and myself, complete with refreshments for the judges and a fruit cake from Linda which she had delivered, still warm, to Vicki the evening before.

This was a joint event between Wolverley Driving Club and West Midlands Driving Club. Linda Wiggin greeted us when we arrived pleased that we had sent helpers even though the entries from Wolverley were not as numerous as hoped!

The venue was superb, with hard standing parking for the boxes, lovely fields for the events and amazing toilet facilities with HOT water (including showers!).

Everything ran like clockwork being really well organised and the competitors all seemed to enjoy the event.

The judges enjoyed substantial lunches which Sue laid out in the caravan.

Well done to David Smith with Hannah as groom, Sandy Blakeway-Smith with Jessica as groom, and Julie Wedgebury with Emma Buxton as groom for flying the flag for Wolverley at this event.

The obstacles drove beautifully and Vicki and I had a good overall view of the course from the fence we judged in the afternoon.

At the presentation at the end of the day, all the Wolverley members were in the ribbons and the afore-mentioned fruitcake was very well received indeed many competitors commenting appreciatively on the tradition of 'Wolverley cakes'

Our luck with fine weather finally gave out and the heavens opened during these proceedings but not in time to have spoiled a lovely day.

Pam Stanton

## Results West Midland & Wolverley Driving Club Event

Class 1	1 <sup>st</sup>	Linda Wiggin
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kathy Suter
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sandy Blakeway Smith
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Lynn Green
Class 2	1 <sup>st</sup>	Lindsey Doran
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rosemary Wall
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Carl Warrilow
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Pam Moore
	5 <sup>th</sup>	Pauline Thompson (Frosty)
	6 <sup>th</sup>	Pauline Thompson (Toffee)
Class 3	1 <sup>st</sup>	David Smith
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Amanda Lawson
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Janice Carly
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Marian Gibson
	5 <sup>th</sup>	Aubrey Parkinson
Multiples	1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Wedgbury
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lynn Green

### Enville Outdoor/Indoor with mini marathon on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2008

On Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup> the heavens sent bucketfuls of water descending over Enville and some people going to the competition the following day wondered if it would have to be cancelled. However Sunday began fine (at least over Pensax) and although wet under foot the sun shone amongst the clouds and it stayed fine until the competition was over when a very short sharp shower was all that bothered us.

Thus the day began with the dressage followed by the cones. Vicky supervised the laying out of the dressage arena, a job she has done for years and with coils of string and pegs has it down to a fine art. This time Hannah helped her but perhaps other young members should also learn from her the tricks of the trade ensuring accuracy in right angles and getting the arena correctly laid out! Carol Pawson again designed and set up the cones course and although long grass at first appeared as if it could be a handicap for little legs the time allowance was fair and it drove well.

After the cones there was a break for lunch and a chance to walk the two obstacles which were effectively obstacle one and three, two and four .

Then when stewards and judges were in place the afternoon fun began. Smaller ponies were first and the format was to drive around the big field that included going up the hill and across the top. (The field was the one used as the lorry park for those of you who know Enville) Once back at the start there was a walk twice round the dressage arena first round the outside and then round the inside. This was followed by a ten minute rest which gradually became optional to later competitors. Oy was very happy to take advantage of the break and stand and watch the buzz of activity at the start and finish of section E. He realized we had to go round twice (!) which also included driving the obstacles and so when we were near the end of our two

circuits he charged to the finish and as some one said “ it looked as if you were in the Grand National “ Oh the joy of little legs !

Indoor /outdoor only gives a little actual driving so to extend the driving proved an excellent outdoor event. Okay we had a few teething hiccups but nothing that cannot be overcome by one or two minor adjustments.

Once again we should thank the land owner, as well as Linda , Vicky and those few who helped to put everything ready on a very wet Saturday. On Sunday there was a band of helpers , those who make the smooth running of an event so much easier , there was Simon who was on standby with the tractor and needed to pull out one stuck horse box and Ivan who although not competing helped with all the obstacle equipment .

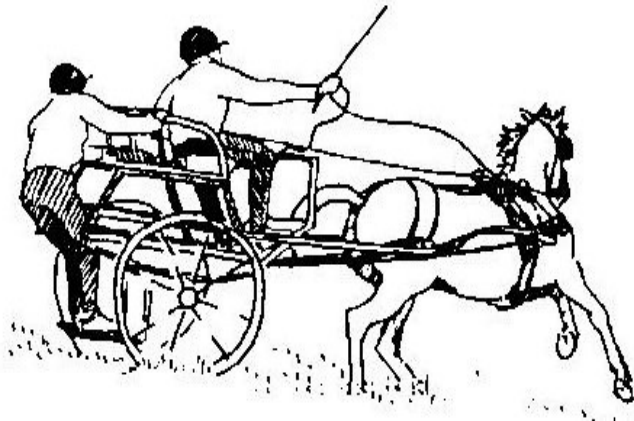
A big thank you to every one who helped to make it such a happy day.

Sandy Blakeway-Smith

### **Results Outdoor Indoor Trials held at Enville on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

			<u>Grooms</u>
<u>Small Class</u>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Wedgbury	Emma Buxton
	2 <sup>ND</sup>	Linga Wiggin	Judith Ashwin
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sandy Blakeway Smith	
<u>Middle Class</u>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dawn Tebbetts	Madge Edwards
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Emily Ham	Chris
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sue Woods	Elsbeth Morgan
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Hannah Walker	David Smith
<u>Large Class</u>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Tony Gregory	Carol Gregory
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lisa Lewis	Glyn Lewis
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sara Hobbs	Joe & Kate Adams
	4 <sup>th</sup>	David Smith	Hannah Walker

### **IS CARRIAGE DRIVING GOING TO THE DOGS?**



We were unsure what to expect when Mike and Chris Cleland invited us to help at the British Carriage Dog Society national trials which took place in July at Lincomb.

As is the way with the best laid plans of mice and men our cob Tom unfortunately developed a corn, so we had to sub our mare Lady at short notice.

Friday night found us with Mike, Chris and their Dalmatian Gunner at Lincomb equestrian centre. Where after a fish and chip supper we listened to the “pre match” briefing, a very comprehensive run through of the forthcoming event with every eventuality catered for. So that even those of us who had no previous experience of carriage dogs knew just what to expect.

A set piece of driving with the dog at the axle then a demonstration that the dog would “stay” when it was put in one position, followed by an endurance marathon of 10 kilometres.

We then had the opportunity to drive around the endurance course in cars, enabling us to familiarise ourselves with the route, and spot any potential problems. It also gave those of us who have not been before a chance to see the marvellous selection jumps on this extremely picturesque course, there is indeed something for every one, from novice to true professional.

Saturday saw us with Mike and Gunner ready for action, we watched one or two of the obedience routines and then came our turn. Lady performed admirably with Gunner in close formation. After the short “stay” test we were off on the endurance course. Unfortunately at the 8 kilometre mark Lady suffered a case of the don’t want tos, being subbed at the last minute for the event showed up in her lack of stamina.

In the evening with the dogs fed and horses stabled, we were treated to a mouth-watering barbeque cooked in true Jamie Oliver style, with a delicious variety of meat and salads I would recommend the chefs speciality, stuffed peppers.

Sunday morning saw the “stable dog” competition, a demonstration of obedience and initiative with a particular bias towards the stable environment; although I am not sure that “leaving the boss’s dinner” will ever loom large at Crufts.

The fitness, condition and general behaviour of these dogs is a real credit to their owners; it was obvious that the animals’ welfare was, at every turn, of primary importance with competitive results a secondary consideration. We have had a truly interesting weekend, meeting a group of entertaining and friendly people who combine a love of horses and dogs. What could be better?

Sandra & Geoff Phillips

### **REVELS AT RUSHOCK, 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August**

This is the fifth year that the Club have held a weekend of driving at David and Lyn’s home. Initially, the idea behind two days was because ‘helpers’ were there on the Saturday to set up for Sunday and it was seen as an opportunity for a fund raising get together in the evening. Then a few were able to stay overnight, so we drove on two days, and the last two years, the Show has been reinstated after a gap of about five years.

It was very warm on Saturday and Dorothy Billings, our President, looked extremely smart and appeared to remain very cool whilst judging four classes. There were one or two old hands and one or two very new ‘hands’ at the job (myself definitely in the latter category!) This was followed by an interesting cones course, driven firstly as a round of the Millennium Cones competition, then by the groom, the combined time counting for the day.

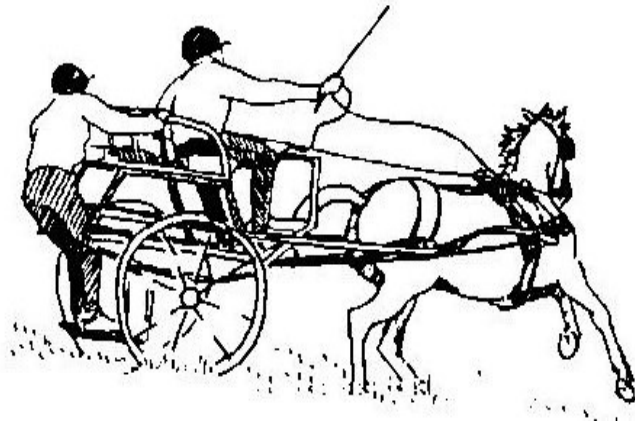
For the barbeque in the evening, we were joined by a few new faces and missed several of those who have been ‘regulars’. The salads and puds were definitely up to Lyn’s usual standards, with an interesting variety of meats on the barbeque, which was standing rather alarmingly (I thought) very close to David’s haystack. But nothing exciting happened!

Thunder and lightening was forecast for Sunday, but all we got was a very thick mist to start with, followed by varying density of rain for most of the day. We have to be thankful it wasn’t worse.

As Tony and I were driving separately, my groom arrived early and had a quick tour of the cones course and all the obstacles. She has never done this before so I was very glad that she ‘cottoned on’ very quickly and was a great help to my stressed brain (I’ve only done it once before!). Tony had the experienced help of Tony Bache, who by the end of the day was very experienced at changing number tabards – I think he groomed for about four different people! The cones course and the six obstacles were great, varied and interesting, I hope David didn’t have too many of his young trees demolished in obstacles one and two! A big bonus this year was real water in the water obstacle, not too much, just right; perhaps the weather hasn’t been so bad after all. This was a great opportunity for an ex member now turned photographer – if you want to see her excellent results, her website is [www.picasaweb.google.co.uk/sallyashwin10](http://www.picasaweb.google.co.uk/sallyashwin10)

A total of 18 turnouts took part over the weekend. This must be what everyone wants - a chance to have a go at all the skills, or just go for a drive and then watch everyone else. Even to help out if you’re not driving. Many, many thanks to all who planned, set up, cleared away, and of course ran everything over the weekend.

Carol Gregory



**Rushock Fun Weekend 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008**

**Results Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

**In Hand Small Class**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Wedgbury	Ronnie
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lee Parsons	Bristles
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rachel Reilly	Smartie
4 <sup>th</sup>	Sandy Blakeway Smith	Oy

**In Hand Large**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Tony Gregory	Rocky
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Linda Wiggin	The Duke
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Daneilla Lyons	Ted

**Ride & Drive**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Linda Wiggin	The Duke
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tony Gregory	Rocky
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Wendy Martin	Ted
4 <sup>th</sup>	Julie Wedgbury	Ronnie

**Best Turnout**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Linda Wiggin	The Duke
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wendy Martin	Ted & Novice Horse
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lee Parsons	Bristles
4 <sup>th</sup>	Tony Gregory	Rocky
5 <sup>th</sup>	David Smith	Jemima
6 <sup>th</sup>	Julie Wedgbury	Ronnie
Special	Rachel Reilly	Smartie

<b>Concours D'Elegance</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Lee Parsons	Bristles
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Linda Wiggin	The Duke
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rachel Reilly	Smartie
<b>Whip &amp; Groom</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Wedgebury	Groom Tony Bache
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tony Gregory	Groom Carol Gregory
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	David Smith	Groom Tony Bache

**Results Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August**

<b>Cones for Grooms Small Ponies</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Wedgbury
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Emily Ham
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dawn Tebbett
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Sandy Blakeway Smith
	5 <sup>th</sup>	Joe Adams
<b>Cones for Grooms Large</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Tony Gregory
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Carol Pawson
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Carol Gregory
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Woods
	5 <sup>th</sup>	David Smith
	6 <sup>th</sup>	Sandra Phillips
<b>Mini Event Small Class</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Julie Wedgbury
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Joe Adams
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sandy Blakeway Smith
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Rachel Reilly
<b>Middle Class</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dawn Tebbett
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Emily Ham
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sue Woods
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Paddy Marris
<b>Large Class</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Carol Pawson
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	David Smith
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Claudia Bunn
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Tony Gregory
	5 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Gregory

**Mighty shetties on driving holiday**

The Shropshire driving days, is a five day driving holiday held a Brampton Bryn near Leintwardine. Each day consists of drives with distances ranging from 20 - 25 miles, over varying terrain and incorporating breathtaking Shropshire views. Everyone has a detailed map with instructions, so that you can go off individually or in groups and at halfway point there is a picnic stop, where the picnic wagon meets with sandwiches tea and wine, so that everyone can have a break.

On arriving there were a few looks of disbelief as Shetland after Shetland appeared off the back of the lorry, after the whispers had died down and the gazebo come side stables had been put up, we were ready to start the first of the five drives. We set off with beautiful weather and our lunch packed with the spares (an essential that should be added to every spares kit). After several miles in the unicorn were motoring, hundreds a little legs whizzing along in one blur, soon the back of a carriage appeared in the distance, to our amazement and a rather hot cob pulled over to let us by, this happened several times including a pair of 16.2's, who says size matters!

Hannah Walker



### **Joint Event Wolverley & District Driving Club & West Midlands Driving Group**

I would like to say a big thank you to Linda Wiggin and the West Midlands Driving Group, for holding a joint event with the Wolverley Driving Club.

Thank you to our members who assisted Linda and her helpers to set the event out on Saturday:- Sue Woods and Hannah Walker. To Vicki Poole, Pam Stanton, Christine Woodall and Sue Woods who took the Club Caravan to Solihull on Sunday and stewarded wherever necessary. To Linda Sprosen for sorting the paperwork out and making a delicious cake and last but not least Keith Henderson Burns who is not a club member, and under difficult family circumstances called in to Solihull and dismantled the dressage arena for us, and for the record has never turned the club down when I have asked for help.

Solihull is a superb venue and a good day out was had by all, but, somehow I do not think the West Midlands Group will be inviting the Wolverley to a joint event again, what do you think?

Chairman

Results from Club members at Events

Claudia Bunn & Electra have had a really good showing season this year.

1<sup>st</sup> in Private in Driving at Three Counties Show, 1st in Concourse de Elegance and then won the Championship at Hickstead

1st in Private Driving at Royal Show and qualified for HOYS again.

**FOR SALE**

**Pair Leather driving reins hardly used £20**

**2 Liverpool driving bits 4 1/2" £15 each**

**17" GP saddle brown/tan English leather £150**

**For further details ring Pam Stanton on 01746 780637 or 07763 074701**



**WOLVERLEY & DISTRICT DRIVING CLUB**

**WHAT'S ON**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

**Clipper Rally. This offers a funday for everyone who enjoys a**

**good drive out in the Country + treasure hunt. Help will be on hand so have a go. S**

- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October**      **Picnic Drive at Old Faintree Garage. Bridgnorth.  
Enjoy a drive at in the countryside, it might have stopped raining  
by then.**
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November**      **Annual Dinner at Granary, Shenstone, Nr Kidderminster  
Menu to follow, But please book earlier. Details attached**
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>  
November**      **A.G.M. To be held at the Queens Head, Wolverley.  
Agenda attached**
- Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>  
December**      **Christmas Walk around Wolverley Village, finishing at the  
Queens Head for Lunch. Details to follow.**

**If anybody has any items for sale, stories to tell, details of events or events they have been to please send reports to Linda for next newsletter**

**Please support the above events as a lot of time and effort goes into organising them. Thank you.**