

# Melton Hunt Club

## 2015 NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2015

[www.melton-hunt-club.org.uk](http://www.melton-hunt-club.org.uk)

1st October

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Another season and another Members' Newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Masters and the Hunt committees for all their help and support of the Melton Hunt Club. I would also like to thank all the farmers that allow the MHC members to hunt over their land. 2014 was a very successful season for the MHC hunts, as always the support from the farmers was fantastic. Garthorpe had a very successful season with the weather being kind on four of the five racedays. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to Sally Thornton for all her hard work. I wish everyone a very enjoyable season be it hunting, point to pointing or cross country riding! *Joey Newton*

### SUBSCRIPTIONS 2015/2016

The following Subscription Rates have been agreed for the current season:

**Hunting Membership** (including Cross Country & Point to Point): £40 per annum by Standing Order or £50 p.a.

**Existing Hunting Members** who pay by Banker's Order (£35 or more) will remain the same.

**Cross Country Ride Membership:** £10 per annum

**Point to Point:** £5 per annum.

It is a rule of the Club that all members must be paid up members of the **COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE AND SUBSCRIBERS OF A RECOGNIZED HUNT.**

### EVENTS in 2015/2016

**Sunday 7th February 2016** Cross Country Ride in the Belvoir country with the start near the Waltham to Freeby Road and the finish near Stonesby. The line will be approximately 3.5 miles over natural hunting country. Entry Forms can be downloaded from the MHC website.

Please state which special prizes you are eligible for. There is no entry fee but a minimum donation of £50 is expected to cover the damage and for entertaining the Farmers.

Cheques should be made payable to Melton Hunt Club Cross Country Ride Account and sent with the entry form.

### HUNTING ARRANGEMENTS – 2015/16

By kind permission of the Joint Masters, arrangements are as follows:

Members, who must have paid their Hunting Subscription to the Club for the 2015/2016 season and live outside the hunt country are allowed TWO days with each of the Hunts.

Members living within the hunt country are allowed ONE day with each Hunt. All days have a 50% reduced cap for the required day.

Application should be made to Sally Thornton (NOT the individual Hunt Secretary) as soon as possible as numbers are very limited per day. Availability can be checked by telephone or email as detailed below.

Caps must be paid, in advance via Sally Thornton and Paypal

**Belvoir:** Saturday £85. Tuesday and Thursday £55

**Cottesmore:** Tuesday £75, Saturday £60, Thursday £30

**Quorn:** Monday/Friday £70 Tuesday £40

**Meynell/Derbyshire:** All days £60

Anyone giving less than 48 hours' notice of cancellation will be expected to pay the appropriate cap to the Hunt.

The Masters wish me to point out that the Hunts sacrifice a number of Full Caps so that Melton Hunt Club members can hunt. The Committee would like to impress on members that they are guests of the Hunt and the Farmers and this concession can be withdrawn at any time.

### 2016 Point-to-Points at Garthorpe

**Cottesmore** - Sunday 28th February

**Belvoir** - Saturday 19th March

**Quorn** - Saturday 23rd April

**Melton Hunt Club** - Sunday 8th May

**Meynell and South Staffs** - Saturday 4th June

Entrance will be £10 per head (children free). Forward Parking can be reserved in advance at £10 extra per car – contact the meeting Secretary. Forward parking paid for seven days in advance £20 for MHC members at the MHC point-to-point.

### Annual General Meeting

Will be held at 7.00 pm on Monday 9th November 2015 at The Manners Arms, Knipton.

Nominations for the Committee and notice of Any Other Business should be received by the Secretary in writing at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.

#### AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of the 2014 AGM
- 2 Chairman's Address
- 3 Financial Statement
- 4 Election of Officers
- 5 Fixtures 2015/16
- 6 Any Other Business

## Accounts

	Profit/Loss 2014
X Country Ride Account .. .. .	£427.75
Point to Point Account. .. .. .	£3737.43
Main Account .. .. .	£2660.65

The Hunts received £4500 each as a direct donation and the Cottesmore a further £500 for holding the Cross Country Ride. Donations were given to Hunt Staff Benefit Society and the Countryside Alliance.

## Cross Country Ride

The ride took place on Sunday 16th November on a very foggy morning in the heart of the Cottesmore country.

Congratulations to Zoe Gibson on her fourth win! A very high class field of 38 starters with a number who fancied their chances had problems including Rowen Cope, joint master of the Pytchley, who was in contention on ex-chaser Wedge Parly when taken out at the seventh fence but carried on to finish fifth! One of many valiant tales.

The Cottesmore laid on a very good course and a great evening of entertainment before the race and a wonderful post race entertainment.

1st	Zoe Gibson
2nd	Heather Moody
3rd	Harriet Gibson (1st U25 )
1st	Middleweight Rupert Onslow
1st	Novice Jo Aston
1st	Veteran William Fox Grant
1st	Heavyweight Tom Ryall

## Garthorpe Point to Points 2015

### Cottesmore – Sunday 8th March.

Garthorpe season opened with 60 runners contesting 7 races on “good ground”. Legal Legend continued his progression from winning an Intermediate in February to land the Men’s Open feature race beating Gonalston Cloud by half a length. A minutes silence in honour of the recently deceased Jill Dawson, who won so many races at Garthorpe, preceded the Ladies Open race. The race was won by It Was Me who was handed the race when Top Smart unseated his rider at the last fence. She’s Real took the Member’s race for Helen Connors and John and Tom Chatfeild – Roberts. This was the first race in the Garthorpe series and the Belvoir went into an early lead with both She’s Real and the third horse, the pace setting Elsafer qualified with the Belvoir. There was a local winner in the PPORA Club Members race for Novice riders when Lough Inch and Kelly Morgan made most of the running to open their account for the season. Trainer Gerald Bailey saddled the first two horses home in the Nine Year olds and Over Midlands Area Club Members Conditions race. Bailey trains the winner Mr Madeit for Countess Cathcart and her rider / son George Greenock.

### Belvoir – Sunday 29th March

Despite the showery weather a reasonable crowd enjoyed some excellent racing with 47 runners taking part. It was a good day for favourite backers but not the bookmakers as all 7 market leaders obliged. The Open race went to Richard Russell’s Gunmoney ridden by his son John and trained by Gerald Bailey. The Bailey stable also sent out Fearthedark to score for Alex Vaughan- Jones in the Restricted race. Lough Inch and Kelly Morgan put in another bold front running display to land the Garthorpe Hunts Club Member’s

race. The Belvoir maintained their lead in this series for the £600 prize at the end of the season. Former Belvoir Point-to-Point Secretary James Henderson’s Otto The Great who was always prominent and looked like winning the Novice riders’ race fairly comfortably. However Fred Henderson had to pull out all the stops to get Otto The Great’s neck in front of Murphy’s Promise on the line. Fred Henderson completed a double when steering Chris Bealy’s Dream Mistress to victory in the Maiden.

### Quorn – Sunday 25th April

The spring weather ensured a large crowd attended the Quorn meeting to witness some excellent racing. Kelly Morgan and Lough Inch completed a Garthorpe hat trick in the Garthorpe Hunts Club Members Conditions race. Tom Strawson added to his already unassailable lead in the Midlands Championship with a double. He gave Milson Robinson’s Panama Canal a perfect ride to take the Quorn Gold Cup, settling his mount towards the rear as a fast pace was set. Milson Robinson, who celebrated his 70th birthday at the end of the season, had always harboured an ambition to win this prestigious race. Strawson followed up in the Club Member’s Conditions race with his own Tomstar. The easiest winner of the day was Qoubilai ridden by Lottie Crane. The party in the bar with a live band proved popular after racing.

### Melton Hunt Club – Sunday 10th May

A fair crowd enjoyed three pony races followed by a seven race Point- to- Point card. Lough Inch and Kelly Morgan landed an incredible fourth win in the Midlands Area Club race. This sealed both the Midlands Area Lady rider and Novice rider’s titles for Morgan whose brother Tom also saddled Tulsa to take the Maiden race. Tom Strawson, the Midlands Area leading male rider, brought his tally to 10 winners for the season when teaming up with Roger Jackson for a double. Gonalston Cloud put a disappointing tilt at the Intermediate Final at Cheltenham behind him with victory in the Lance & Urky Newton Mixed Open race. Lord Golan confirmed earlier promise by scoring in the three miles Maiden. She’s Real claimed the Leading Mare award with an easy win in the TBA Club Member’s race For Mares and Fillies while Proximo returned to form for Judy Wilson and Johnny Bailey by winning the Melton Hunt Club Members Conditions race. The closest finish of the day came in the Restricted race when Wood Park beat Treacyswestcounty by a neck. Wood Park, who is trained by Jake Coulson for Nick Carter.

### MSSH – Sunday 30th May

The much appreciated efforts of Brian Crawford and his team ensured that competitive racing prevailed right up to the final Garthorpe meeting in May. Proximo almost followed up his MHC victory when finishing runner up to Sheila Crow’s Irish Anthem in the Intermediate race; in the fastest time of the day. Awesome George added to National Leading Novice rider Lara Mahon’s tally in the Novice Riders’ race. Cheshire trainer Gary Hanmer, who has now taken out a full licence, sent out a double. Time Gentleman was a comfortable winner of the Mixed Open while Alfiethegreat followed up a Tabley Maiden win with a seven length victory in the Restricted race. 17 year old Tom Broughton, enjoyed his second win when the mare Kayjaydee landed the Open Maiden.

**Clerk Of The Course** Brian Crawford and his team did a tremendous job once again in 2015. The proof of this was in the large number of runners and very favourable comments.

We are extremely fortunate to have such a knowledgeable and hard-working clerk of the course. He is always both optimistic and cheery!

**Joey Newton, Chairman**

01664 464411 or 01664 464259

**Sally Thornton, Secretary**

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