

# Melton Hunt Club

## 2017 NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2017

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

1st October

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Another season and another Members' Newsletter, and 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. 2016-17 was a very successful season for the MHC hunts, as always the support from the farmers was fantastic and hugely appreciated. Garthorpe had a very successful season with the weather being kind on all of the five race days. I wish everyone a very enjoyable season be it hunting, point to pointing or cross country riding! ! *Joey Newton*

### SUBSCRIPTIONS 2017/2018

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

#### Hunting Membership

(including Cross Country & Point to Point):  
£50 per annum by Standing Order or £60 p.a.

#### Existing Hunting Members

who pay by Banker's Order (£40 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.**

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Will be held on Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 7.00 pm 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 2016 AGM
- 2 Chairman's Address
- 3 Financial Statement
- 4 Election of Officers
- 5 Fixtures 2017/18
- 6 Any Other Business



## Accounts

### Profit/Loss 2016

X Country Ride Acc	2514.27
Point to Point Account	1675.02
Main Account	-1442.23

The Hunts received £4000 each as a direct donation and the Quorn a further £500 for holding the Cross Country Ride.

Donations were given to Hunt Staff Benefit Society and the Countryside Alliance.

## EVENTS in 2017/2018

**Sunday 19th November 2017** The Melton Hunt Cross Country Ride sponsored by 8 Outdoor, is in the Cottesmore country near Withcote. 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 £60 is expected to cover the damage and for entertaining the Farmers and sent with the entry form.

## HUNTING ARRANGEMENTS – 2017/18

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

Members, who must have paid their Hunting Subscription to the Club for the 2017/2018 season and those that live **outside** the hunt country of the MHC are allowed **TWO days** with each of the Hunts.

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

Application should be made to J R Newton (**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 J R Newton and PayPal

**Belvoir:** Saturday £90. Tuesday and Thursday £55

**Cottesmore:** Tuesday £85, Saturday £55, Thursday £40

**Quorn:** Monday/Friday £75 Tuesday £45

**Meynell/Derbyshire:** Saturdays & Derbyshire £75.

All other days £50

**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.

## 2018 POINT-TO-POINTS AT GARTHORPE

**Cottesmore** - Sunday 25th February

**Belvoir** - Saturday 17th March

**Quorn** - Sunday 29th April

**Melton Hunt Club** - Sunday 13th May

**Meynell and South Staffs** - Saturday 2nd June

Members Entrance Fee will be £10 per head (children free).

Forward Parking must be applied for 7 days in advance £20

## CROSS COUNTRY RIDE

The Melton Ride kindly sponsored by the Odey Absolute Fund took place in the Quorn Country on Sunday 19th February. It was a great course with many alternatives in the first two miles. Starting from Great Dalby in a loop round to Gartree Hill.

A strong field of 32 started with competitors coming from far and wide. There was fast pace set with no major incidents until a large gate caused the order to be reformed after a refusal and a couple of riders being bulked.

The Walker family took the lead after this till being overtaken by the eventual winner at the last road crossing.

1st Rowan Cope

2nd Harry Wallace

3rd Sophie Walker

1st Veteran Richard Walker

1st Heavyweight Chris Gibbon



## Garthorpe 2017 Point to Points Review

### Cottesmore:

Classy mare Popaway, ridden by Immy Robinson, upset the form books by winning the Ladies Open race. Beaten favourite Palypso De Creek struggled to compete on this occasion, despite having eight straight wins prior to this. "The Mens Open race was contested over the shorter 2m4f distance and was won in some style by Silver Roque (H. Morshead). The well-backed favourite wasn't challenged, beating Old Pride by about twelve lengths, making the long drive from the Cotswolds worth while for the Vestey team. Earlier in the day the locally owned and trained favourite Robin De Boss had taken the early spoils by winning the Members race under Dale Peters. The Waltham on the Wolds trained seven-year-old is owned by a Rutland syndicate headed by Oakham solicitor Paul Browne. The bookmakers' woes continued in the second race of the day when another favourite, Golden Tobouggan (Claire Hardwick), made it three wins from three this season. After a good challenge from En Passe (T. David) the six-year-old gelding pulled clear



to prove he had plenty left in the tank. The Conditions race for nine-year-olds and upwards was won by Hi Vic after the race had boiled down to a head-to-head with second placed Helpston (G. Andrews). Winning owner Nicholas Wright is the Cottesmore Chairman and the horse was ridden by his son Archie. The Restricted Race saw a three-way battle between favourite Teeton Power (D. Peters), Lord Golan (T. Strawson) and Tailspin (T. David). Teeton Power had made the running but Tailspin proved that he still had reserves as the race developed. Finally the Maiden race provided one of the best performances of the day, by Emtidaad (D. Mansell). The impressive four-year-old seemed to relish the dead ground to win well from Rainbow Bucks (J. Martin) and Le Fou Royal (A. Wright).

### Belvoir

The sun shone down on most of the country this weekend and the Belvoir's meeting at Garthorpe on Saturday was no exception. Despite 10mm of rain in the few days preceding the meeting, Brian Crawford and his team had done sterling work as usual and produced a track which started the day soft but dried steadily through the afternoon. The first race was the Teigh Old Rectory B&B PPORA Club Members race for Novice Riders. Even-money Beggar's Velvet looked sure to take this one when he opened up a big gap on the top side of the course on the last lap but weakened as he approached the last and had little left to

give when caught by Smiths Hill in the run in. This was an impressively ridden maiden victory for jockey Joanna Hewitt, in her first season at sixteen years old and part of the Bailey's team at Holdenby. The local support was vocal, especially from her mentor at the Bailey's, Tom McClorey. Tom Chatfeild-Roberts and Love Manhattan won the W. Spence and Son Garthorpe Hunts Club Members race after riding a sensibly-paced race which left the seven-year-old with enough in the tank to fight off the challenge provided by Sandpipers and Alex Vaughan-Jones on the run in. Although the winner has been second twice in February this was his first victory since 2015. The Connolly's Red Mills Intermediate race. Alex Vaughan-Jones and Ignite A Light were hoping that their improving

season could result in a victory here as they led for much of this race at a steady pace. As they reached the last, though, the tank ran dry and they all but stopped, allowing the stalking Pauline Harkin-trained Nelson's Legend and Tom McClorey to steal this one in the last few yards. The feature race of the day was the Timico Mixed Open, part of the Mixed Open Gold Cup series, and provided the most impressive display of the day. Nine-year-old Hazel Hill is yet to be beaten in this country and it never looked like it would happen on this occasion. The Roythornes Solicitors Restricted race provided more than a hint of *deja vu*. This time it was Milson Robinson-trained Hurricane Vic (Tom Strawson), fresh from a victory at Revesby Park, who seemed to have judged the race to perfection, only to run out of steam at the last. The seven-year-old ran right, giving well-positioned mare View The Dance, piloted by co-owner Kara Gregory, the chance to ease past and take the race; just reward for judging the ground and the pace well. This provided Pauline Harkin with a double, Tom Strawson's frustration was short-lived, though, as the Melton Mowbray Tyres Open Maiden (3m) went to his mount, the Tim Tarratt-trained Quizzacle Nomad. The final race of the day was a 2 mile, four furlong maiden race for 4,5,6 and 7 year-old horses and was kindly sponsored by local building contractors M. K. Bailey. This went Shammat, the mount of Richard Collinson, who overtook the impressive unraced four-year-old Daydream Aulmes (Leo

Mahon) on the final run in to give owner/trainer Martin Ward his second win of the season.

## Quorn

The Quorn Gold Cup, was won by Margaret Moody's 9-year-old gelding TheTalkingHorse, trained by Gerald Bailey. Despite being led for two of the three laps by Warden Hill and Tom Chatfeild-Roberts, the multiple hunter chase winner proved he had too much for the opposition as he eased ahead in the last half mile to win by six lengths. "The other feature race of the day went to Western Diva, who beat the impressive Top Smart (Gina Andrews) – looking for a sixth consecutive win - in the Ladies Open, by five lengths. Sam Davies-Thomas had previously partnered Queen Olivia to victory in the second



race of the day, the Midlands Area Club Members race, this time for Sarah Dawson. "I haven't been to Garthorpe for fifteen years!" Sarah told me. Easythingsarebest won the PPORA Club Members race, beating Bingo Star (Jack Andrews) by four lengths. Pay The King (Tom Strawson) was the eventual winner finishing three lengths ahead of gutsy Bravehearted Harry (Rory Bevin). Mr Syntax and Richard Collinson won the Members race for horses of nine or over, beating fancied Bravo Riquet and Can Mestret by two lengths and the same. Gina Andrews had thus far had a frustrating day with two seconds and a third but won impressively with Distant Rain in the last, the open maiden, beating Kinlochspelveand Toujours Libre by 12 and 8 lengths respectively. Trainer and husband Tom Ellis was not surprised, telling me it was his "sure thing for the day".

## Melton Hunt Club

Fair weather and good ground were the order of the day for the Melton Hunt Club's meeting at Garthorpe on Sunday 21st May. The card started with three pony races, the first of which was for novices. This produced a fabulous finish between Good Luck Rosie (Georgie Clayton) and Gulliver (Benoit de la Sayette), the latter very well ridden to victory. The 138cms open race which followed this was won in

impressive style by the prolific pony Push The Button, in the hands of Thomas Bradbourne, with Warmwell Lizzie (Harvey Poole) and Gazza Cruiser (Poppy Scott) in second and third respectively. The last of our pony races, the 148cms open, saw another impressive ride by Violet Barton on the appropriately named Miss Wonderful who led home Pick Pocket (Nia Kerlake) and Aries (Albi Tufnell).

The horse races started with the Fisher German Melton Hunt Club Member Conditions Race which attracted a field of 12 runners and provided a great race. The running was made, from the outset, by Ballalough and Sam Davies-Thomas, while favourite Shantou Prince bided their time in the chasing pack. The race continued at a good pace and Shantou Prince made their move late in the race

but it wasn't enough, as Davies-Thomas fought of the challenger to win it by a couple of lengths. "The Restricted race brought six horses to post and looked to be producing another win for Gina Andrews and Distant Rain, but as they reached the last, Demood, the mount of James Martin, reeled them in and timed a perfect finish to win by less than a head. "Double Handful (Joe Hill) won the 2m 4f PPORA Club Members race for horse

of ten years old or over, having taken over from favourite Ring Ben (Alex Edwards) as they entered the final turn and holding off a decent challenge from Gallox Bridge (James Martin) in the run in. "The feature race of the day was the Dodson & Horrell PPORA Club Members Race for Novice Riders Championship Final. Three very similarly rated horses took it in turns to lead this race at different points before the distance started to tell. Creepy (C. Dee) was the first to weaken and in as they approached the last favourite For 'N' Against (I. Marshall) could not hold on to Beggar's Velvet and Amy Cox who stayed on well to win by 15 lengths. "The Mixed Open which followed saw two of the best horses around coming to post in what promised to be a fascinating contest. Hazel Hill (Alex Edwards) was looking to add a ninth straight victory to their record while TheTalkingHorse who has had multiple wins at Garthorpe. As the race entered the last half mile it was Hazel Hill, carrying 3lbs less, who started to pull away from TheTalkingHorse, and continued to do so as they went on to win by 12 lengths. This was the first part of a quick-fire double for the owner Mrs Williams, jockey Alex Edwards and trainer Philip Rowley as they then won the Jockey Club Open Maiden for Mares and Fillies with home-bred four-year-old Gadrose. Despite her size she made the most of a 21lb weight advantage over her rivals and went on to win comfortably."Unfortunately the last

race of the day, the three-mile Open Maiden, had to be voided after a fall for Richard Collinson who had been riding Drive on Joe. The running rail was damaged in the incident, which was between two fences on a bend in the course, and the decision was quickly taken that it was not possible to route the remaining runners around the faller and damaged rail in a safe manner. We are grateful to both our volunteer fence judges and the other jockeys in the race for knowing the correct procedure and acting quickly to prevent any further accidents. Mr Collinson reports that he is sore but not badly hurt.

## **MSSH**

Gina Andrews who is dominating the national lady riders' championship, rode a double starting with a popular victory riding Can Mestret in the Cawarden Holdings sponsored Mixed Open race, and also cemented her position as leading lady rider at Garthorpe this season. The second leg of the Andrews' double came in the closing Bowcock & Pursaill Open Maiden race This contest was a match between Pass the Glass and Black Rose City ridden by first season jockey Huw Edwards; the five year old Pass The Glass readily quickened clear of his only rival after the last fence giving Gina a 28th success.

At the start of racing six points separated Tom Strawson and Dale Peters in the Midlands Area Gentleman rider Championship, and Peters rallied to close the gap to two when Dido scored an easy victory in the Alrewas Hayes Intermediate race. The even money favourite Dido beat Bravehearted Harry and Rory Bevin by twelve lengths, Tom Strawson's only ride of the day, Panama Canal provided him with one extra point when finishing third in the Mixed Open which left Dale Peters' with one last

chance to take the area title when he got the leg up on Why Lie in the Robert Baskerville Restricted race over the two and a half mile trip. Unfortunately, Why Lie was running well and disputing the lead when taking a fall. The pair were unharmed but this left the blinkered Derksen, ridden by Tabitha Worsley, to dominate the rest of the race, readily beating Too Much Too Soon by fifteen lengths.

The Fisher German PPORA Club Members race was won by Ed Glassonbury riding Oyster Shell. Henry Crow further enhanced his domination of the North Western area Novice award in the Stratstone Land Rover Nottingham PPORA Club Members' race for novice riders. Crow had Sue Ward's Double Dan at the head of affairs turning into the straight and powered clear to win by ten lengths. There was an ultra- confident front running ride from another novice rider when seventeen year old Philip Armson broke his duck at the 36th attempt, riding Max O in the Richard Winterton Auctioneers Ltd Open Maiden race. Armson, whose father Richard was a top Garthorpe jockey, led from flag fall and while Arcal Fifty rallied on the run-in he made no impression on the winner's three length lead. Max O, who was ending a hat trick of second places, was recently bought by the Armsons from Dale Peter's syndicate of owners.

**Clerk Of The Course Brian Crawford** and his team did a tremendous job once again in 2017. 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!



*Photographs courtesy of Nico Morgan*

**Joey Newton, Chairman**

01664 464411 or 01664 464259 • 07785 291 915 • chairman@mhc-mail.co.uk

Hall Farm, Stonesby, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE14 4PY

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