

Hon Treasurer's Report - Season 2019/2020

It is unfortunate that I cannot deliver my report to you this year in person. I am reporting on the audited accounts for the last (2019/2020) season as set out in the current Red Book. Much of it is self-explanatory.

At last year's AGM I reported a deficit in the accounts of £5,450. Last season's accounts show that the deficit increased to £8,934. Whilst we were able to keep a firm hand on expenditure (NB the Joint Masters meet a significant amount of costs themselves) and Corporation Tax was back at its usual level, income was significantly down.

Subscriptions and field money stayed on par (give or take) with the previous season - a positive sign! Despite some excellent fund raising efforts, donations were disappointing (no R K Harrison) and, of course there was no Hunt Ball in the diary/planned. The Hunt Supporters, as they always do, played their part for which we are ever thankful. That said, for all the good PR it does, one has to question whether hosting a point to point is worthwhile. That is a debate for another day.

The Joint Masters' Guarantee increased for last season to £80,000. It is worth noting that Tim does not pay himself a wage and claims no expenses. Despite this, the guarantee comes under more and more pressure every year as we fight to maintain income levels. We donated to The Hunt Staff Benevolent Society, paid our dues to MFHA/SFHA and paid the appropriate point-to-point levy. We also donated to The Scottish Countryside Alliance.

An enormous amount of effort and energy went in to fund-raising last season. We are indebted to all the families and individuals who gave so much of their time, homes and farms to hold these events. In no particular order, fund-raising income was as follows:

Hunt Show £1,617

Ladies Lunch £1,322

Rawflat Fun Ride - £1,316

Hunt Ride - £500

Rawflat Hunt breakfast - £933

Red Book advertising - £650..

..and last but not least the Glenmayne Drinks Party - £12,060!!

This season we are budgeting to just about break-even so please, despite the current restrictions (extended further today), honour your monthly

payments (if that, or otherwise, is what you have arranged with The Hon Secretary). The Hunt Ball, programmed for February, has been "postponed"... more about that from elsewhere I suspect.

Otherwise, fund-raising has been going well, kicked off by Shelley Allen's duck-race bringing in £430. This was followed a few months later by The Floors Fun Ride (brilliantly organised by The Veitch Family) raising £7,360. A few weeks later The Galbraith Family and Shonagh Hunter laid on The Rawflat Fun Ride, adding £3,340 to the coffers. Recently, Emma McCallum cleverly organised a highly successful on-line auction netting c. £9,081. It is also worth noting that the Masters' own "company" applied for, and received, the C-19 grant of £10,000, which they generously donated to The Hunt. Huge thanks to all of you.

The balance sheet remains relatively healthy. However, there is concern that losses in the region of £30,000 over the past five years have dramatically reduced our reserves. These currently stand at approximately £43,500. This trend needs addressing sooner rather than when it is too late.

It is incumbent on me, on behalf of us all, to thank everybody who helps to raise funds for the Hunt and to thank Sandra for continuing to work so hard agreeing/collecting subscriptions, caps, donations and feeding back information in order for me to account for this income. Thank you to everybody for making much more use of on-line banking. It is a huge help.

This year I am not up for re-election. However, it is with regret, after almost fifteen years on The Hunt Committee (mostly as Hon Treasurer), circumstances dictate that I have to tender my resignation as at 30/4/21.

Out in the field this season hounds are going well, I see smiling faces and a well-run, happy Hunt. I have enjoyed some very good days. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss anything contained in this report, please get in touch with me.

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