



NEWS LETTER

Masters Update

To start could I say how pleased Jamie and myself are at how welcome we have been made to feel by the Jed Forest members and it has really helped us go the extra yard to make this season a success.

The lockdown had its upsides with it giving us more time to spend at the kennels getting to know hounds, Plodder and his voluntary helpers. It is always dangerous to name names with a lot of people giving up time to help take hounds out etc. There were a lot of lads with racing interests coming to help. I have to mention Annabelle and Holly who have regularly helped and are both very good with the hounds who naturally take to them, and latterly Bungle who I know is a great help to Plodder.

Covid 19 had some impact on Jamie and my summer visiting of farmers and landowners, but as things settled we were able to start our rounds, and have been gladdened by the reception we have received on the doorstep or more correctly in the farmyard. Whether supportive or not it is very important to give the hunt a face and contact that they can aim there concerns. We are forever grateful to them as without there would be no hunting. It would be fair to say the feedback that their main concerns are being notified when in the area and frequency in some areas, the first is common decency to try and not turn up unplanned, and from the meet card you will see that we have tried to keep to no less than a four week cycle. I don't want to give the

impression there is a problem as there is lots of support out there, but we must always work to keep it that way.

Mounted hound exercise took place on Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings and it was pleasing to have a number of mounted followers.

Plodder has very kindly been loaned Frank the horse from Annie Finch which is incredibly kind, he is very settled with hounds and will be a great asset.

Autumn Hunting started from the kennels on the afternoon of 8th September, which was a baptism of fire for Plodder with 6/7 present day or retired huntsman not to mention an army of followers both mounted and on foot, but the afternoon concluded with a fox accounted for which was great.

Plodder I feel is taking to the job well and settling in well with the hounds. The hounds I am happy with on the whole, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the pack are 2nd and 3rd season so have to be excused a bit of youthfull exuberance but have shown that given foxes they are capable of doing the job. 6 couple of puppies were sent to walk and thank you to all puppy walkers.

Paul Henry and John Dickson will be terrier men with help from John Cook (my terrier man for 20 years) when available.

We are very lucky to have Matthew whipping in and he is a great help to Plodder and me.

We must never forget that Plodder and Matthew are amateurs who both hold full time jobs elsewhere, so any help is welcome and much appreciated. In our secretaries we are also very fortunate, they are so efficient and make Jamie and my work so much easier, as we would not be big on that side of things!

Arrangements

This season nobody will need telling is going to be very different with Covid 19. We are putting out a meet card into the new year. Meets on card will just be meeting places with no mounted hospitality and where possible on private ground and away from public places. We will when possible try to arrange parking places for lorries etc. This obviously means that Opening meet, Boxing Day and New Years Day meet will not be in their traditional places. This will be the case UK wide.

May I on behalf of the Joint Masters wish you all a good and happy season.

One day God knows when, we will be able to have a proper piss up and chew over the fat.

TA

Secretaries Update

We would both like to welcome the new team to the Jedforest Hunt, and already they are proving to be great assets.

Plodder has settled in well at the Kennels and is doing a great job with the hounds.

Trevor and Jamie have been busy visiting Farmers and Landowners, which has resulted in a super meet card for the start of the season.

Obviously with Covid 19 things have been slightly different this year, and will continue to be throughout the season. Most of you will already be sick of us asking for your details for track and trace. We realise not everyone is happy to have their lives tracked, traced and controlled, but unfortunately we need to adhere to Government Guidelines and regulations which have been put in place to protect ourselves, and ofcourse to let us continue to enjoy this season. We can not reiterate enough how essential it is for all followers to adhere to social distancing at all times and booking in if your attending the meets. Also whilst we do not prohibit the taking of photographs, we do however ask you to please keep for your own personal use.

We have taken advice from the Hunting Office that there should be no Red Coats worn out hunting this season, we are asking our followers to wear, tweed, ratcatcher, black or navy.

On a happier note! Autumn hunting has been very well supported (even on rainy days), and we have had a few visitors which is lovely and hope to see them out again over the season. We have had a great interest in subscriptions, resulting in a healthy number of subscribers, but always on the lookout for more! Huge thanks to all subscribers and ofcourse to everyone who has made and sent donations.

We were also fortunate to be able to hold 3 very well supported Hunt Rides, thank to everyone who helped with the organising and running of these and to the farmers and landowners, who were able to make these rides possible. We raised a grand total of £3,345.68!

We would like to wish you all a very happy season, and hoping that next season things will perhaps be back to some normality!

TC,GB

Amateur Huntsmans

Update

Due to Covid 19 it has been a quieter start to life at the kennels than would be normal, but it has given me plenty time to settle in, so plenty time to spend with the hounds and learn their names before exercising started in June. This quickly turned to Autumn Hunting and the steep learning curve, which seems to be going well.

Thanks to Trevor and Jamie whos years of experience is invaluable to me and I am sure they will keep me right going into the season proper.

I would also like to thank Annie Finch who has helped me out with the loan of her horse Frank.

So it seems that everything is in place for this great opportunity that I have been given!

GS