UNION OF COUNTRY SPORTS WORKERS

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A round up of News and Events – November 2011

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1. MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would urgently request that all hunting folk restrain from making any remarks that could be used against hunting on Twitter, Facebook or going onto the antis websites and making inflammatory remarks guaranteed not to help our cause. Throughout the country things are financially tight and we could do without any additional legal expenses or court cases resulting from these types of comments and activities.

2. CHRISTMAS CARD

We are delighted to be able to offer a new, specially designed, cartoon Christmas card for 2011, only on sale through the UCSW. Cartoon illustrator and supporter, Caroline Hill from *One Only by Linee* has once again generously created and donated the illustration for UCSW.

To order your cards, complete the enclosed form or place your order on our website www.ucsw.org This year we can offer an overprinting service for those who would like to include their address details inside the card. The cost of this is an additional £1 per pack.

3. CHARITY FLAT RACE – Sunday 11 March 2012

in aid of the Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance & UCSW.

Following the success of our previous three charity races, UCSW is organising another charity race which will be held at **Warwick Racecourse on Sunday 11 March, 2012** at the end of their "Countryside Day".

Might you, or someone you know, be interested in taking part? It is a great opportunity for someone who either wants the thrill of racing or who is just starting out on his/her career in racing….

Race Rules (in brief – more information available from UCSW):

- There will be a maximum of 12 runners
- The flat race will be run under British Horseracing Authority Rules held over approx 1m 4f
- The weight to be carried will be a minimum of 12 stone
- To comply with regulations, riders may have to participate in a training course (to be financed by the rider). Those exempt from this include professional hunt staff and stable staff (who must present written confirmation from their employer that they ride out on a regular basis
- Riders must be over the age of 16 to participate
- To qualify, all riders need to raise a minimum of £500

Interested? Contact Rachel Verdon at UCSW as soon as possible, so that places can be allocated. Tel: 01295 712179 or Email: office@ucsw.org or write to: UCSW "Charity Race", PO Box 129, Banbury, Oxon, OX17 2HX. We look forward to hearing from you!

4. FOX DUMPING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE – FACT OR FICTION?

With the apparent increase in the numbers of urban foxes since 2003, when UCSW first researched this subject, now seemed an appropriate time to re-open the files and try to ascertain whether fox dumping in the countryside is 'Fact or Fiction'.

If you have any information, or better still photographic evidence to show our team, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the UCSW Office or visit our website to download a short form and send information, including photographs, to the above address. All photographs will be returned.

5. ADVICE, EMAIL & POSTAL ADDRESSES

The UCSW is here to help those employed in country sports with their employment, housing or other job related problems. If you need help or would just like to talk through a work issue, please call the Office on: Tel: 01295 712719.

As we are using email more and more for relaying information, please make sure we have your current email address – and if you have changed your email or postal address recently, do let us know! Contact the UCSW Office or email us on: office@ucsw.org

6. *LIVIN'* COUNTRY

If you have an article, photographs or comments that would be of interest to fellow members and you would like us to consider them for *Livin'* Country, please email us at: office@ucsw.org. Alternatively, if you would like take out an advertisement in a future issue, or upgrade to Trade Membership and have a listing in the Trade Directory and on the website, please contact the Office. Back issues of the magazine can now be viewed on our website: www.ucsw.org.

7. UCSW MERCHANDISE

The UCSW holds various items of UCSW branded stock including: ties, baseball caps, polo shirts, sweatshirts and enamel membership badges which can be viewed by looking on the website under Merchandise: http://www.ucsw.org/Merchandise.htm. There are also a number of fun/gift items such as sporting notelets, badges and car stickers, 'hunting' mouse mats, jute bags, etc.

Merchandise can be purchased through our website with a credit card using the secure Paypal system or send in your request noting which item/s you require together with a cheque (made payable to "UCSW") to the Office including a donation for p&p or enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for all orders.

8. MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The UCSW has organised discounts for members on a range of products:

- **Membership to C³** Benefits include insurance – see the home page of our website www.ucsw.org for more details or contact the Office for more information. Cost for one year for UCSW members is £16.95 (normally £24.95).
- **Utility Warehouse Discount Club** – With extra financial pressures on us all, why not reduce your utility bills, save on your shopping – these are just a few benefits from joining the UWDC. Call 0800 13 13 000 quoting our reference number **E62770** for more information: If you join up – this helps us too!
- **Webury.com** – UCSW Trade member – is offering UCSW members a 10% discount for items on their website www.webury.com. To find out how to take up this offer email the UCSW: office@ucsw.org.

We would like to thank all our members for their support through their membership, fundraising and donations, without which the UCSW would not be here. Please encourage your friends who are involved in country sports, whether workers or supporters, to Join Us – Together we can be Stronger…