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A round up of News and Events – March 2009

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1. **CHARITY RACE – Sunday 15th March, 2009 at Southwell Racecourse**

Thank you to all who came and supported us at Southwell on Sunday and for the jockeys who took part in a great race at the end of the day. Full details and pictures will be in the next edition of *Living' Country* and on our website www.ucsw.org.

The theme of the National Hunt race day was “all things rural” with a farmers market, displays and trade stands. All money raised on the day will go to the Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire Air Ambulance and the UCSW.

2. **LIONEL EDWARDS EXHIBITION – Tryon Galleries London**

The Lionel Edwards Exhibition was well supported last autumn when over 40 pictures (oils, watercolours, line drawings and guache) were on display at the Tryon Galleries in London. The pictures were on loan from private owners making a unique display.

If you were unable to get to the exhibition or would like to have another look at the pictures, catalogues are now available for £12 each (including p&p) from the UCSW office. This may well become a collectors item, as many of the pictures have never been seen before.

The exhibition raised just under £4,000, which has been split between the UCSW and the Hunt Staff Benefit Society.

3. **AGM**

The 12th UCSW Annual General Meeting will be held at Syresham Village Hall, Syresham, Brackley, Northamptonshire, NN13 5HL on Sunday 10 May. The meeting will start promptly at 12 noon with a buffet lunch to follow (£3 per head). To help with catering, please let the Office know if you plan an attending.

4. **MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS – Members can now pay online...**

If you have access to the internet, you can visit our website and pay your membership subscription online using the secure Paypal system. This means you can now pay by credit card (online only) if you wish. Please remember to quote your member ID Number on all payments. The UCSW will continue to send out manual renewals to those who do not pay by standing order.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS CHALLENGE

Brian Friend, an Associate member of the Union of Country Sports Workers has heard that his claim against the Scottish Hunting Act has been lodged in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg and *joined* with his claim against the English Hunting Act which was sent to Strasbourg in December 2006. His new application has been assigned the same case number 16072/06 and both applications will be dealt with as one. The UCSW will continue to support Brian with his expenses.

Anyone wishing to speak to Brian Friend can call him on 01404 881357 or email: bkldfc@aol.com

6. EMAIL ADDRESSES

Do we have your correct email address? If you want to make sure we have your correct details, please email us with your name and membership number and we will check our system: office@ucsw.org

7. SHOWS

Do come and visit our stand! Dates for shows we will be present at for the first half of 2009 are:

June 11 – 13 South of England Show, Ardingly
June 20 – 21 Welsh Game Fair
June 25 Wales & Border Counties Hound Show
July 14 – 16 Great Yorkshire Show
July 18 – 19 Holkham Country Fair
July 22 Festival of Hunting, Peterborough
(a full listing can be found on our website).

8. ADVICE

Every week UCSW helps someone employed in country sports with an employment, housing or some other job related problem. If you need help, please call the office on: Tel: 01295 712719.

9. TRADE MEMBERSHIP

Why not become a Trade Member? If you run a business, small or large, this may be of interest. All Trade members receive a listing in our membership magazine *Living Country* (this includes all the essential contact details including description of your products) and a link from our website. Please contact the office for more details – subscriptions per annum are only £40.

10. UCSW MERCHANDISE



New car stickers available now at £1 each.

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, key fobs, 'hunting' mouse mats, NEW jute bags, etc. A larger selection of stock, including various books, are available on our show stand.

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. Thank you.

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 participants, to join us – together we can be stronger...