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A round up of News and Events – May 2010

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1. NEW MINISTERIAL POSITIONS OF INTEREST

The new **Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs** is Caroline Spelman, MP for Meriden. Caroline has a background in agriculture. She is a former sugar beet commodity secretary for the NFU and served as opposition spokeswoman for environmental affairs under Theresa May, the new Secretary of State at the Home Office. The UCSW has already been in contact with her and looks forward to liaising with her in the future.

Caroline Spelman's **Minister of State** is James Paice MP who is also chair of Conservative Rural Action Group (CRAG). Jim's special interests in Parliament are farming, forestry and the countryside; small business and employment issues; the racing industry.

The **Parliamentary Under Secretaries of State** for this department are Richard Benyon MP and Lord Henley.

Nick Herbert MP, who was widely tipped as taking the role of Secretary of State for Environment, is now a Minister of State for Justice and Minister for Police at the Home Office.

2. MEMBER DISCOUNTS

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

- **Membership to CCC3** Its benefits include insurance – see enclosed leaflet. Over the last few years UCSW members have been asking if the Union can offer insurance. As a result UCSW has been looking at the different insurances available for country sports people. It did not want to add compulsory insurance on to UCSW membership in a time of financial uncertainty, thus incurring additional costs for its members, who did not want extra insurance. Optional membership to CCC3, which includes insurance, is the best way to meet UCSW member needs.
- **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. webury.com is a family run business, deeply rooted in the countryside. They claim to be Europe's largest Driza-Bone ® stockists, and their expertise in Wellington Boots is second to none, with prestige brands Aigle (including the Equestrian ranges) and Le Chateau. Quality items to suit Gardeners to Gundogs, Campers to Coffee-holics, Foodies to Fashionistas, "there is something for everyone".

- **Special rates for websites, logos, brochures and photography from EquineIT.com** for UCSW members. Logos from only £75 and websites from only £250. Contact Ian Piper on 07811 450158 and mention that you are a UCSW member.
- **Utility Warehouse Discount Club** – Help us, Helping you.... please see enclosed pink leaflet.

3. **ADVICE**

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.

4. **SHOW DATES**

Below we have listed the shows that the UCSW will be attending during the first part of this year's show season. For more details on these and all the other shows (dates and links to show sites), please visit our website: www.ucsw.org Do come and visit us!

June 10 – 12	South of England Show, Ardingly
June 19 & 20	Welsh Game Fair
June 24	Wales & Border County Hound Show, Builth
July 13 – 15	Great Yorkshire Show
July 21	Festival of Hunting, Peterborough
July 23 – 25	CLA Game Fair, Ragley Hall, Warwickshire

5. **EMAIL ADDRESSES**

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 address recently, do let us know! Contact the UCSW office or email us on: office@ucsw.org

6. **MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS – Members can 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 so that you know when your subscription is due.

7. **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 product/s) and a link from our website. Please contact the office for more details – subscriptions per annum are only £40.

8. **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. 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 supporters, to join us – together we can be stronger...