Following our recent very popular Questions and Answers with members of the Beaufort Hunt, we have been lucky enough to also spend time chatting to one of The Hunts Fieldmasters – can you guess who from the photo below!?



We hope you enjoy the read below!

- How old were you when you started hunting and do you have a photo?

 "Records suggest 3 years old on the lead rein, where I preferred to be for many years! Attached pic must have been 'set' as not on the leading rein! "

- What is your most memorable Pony or Horse?

 "Tinker, kindly handed down from the Llewellen- Palmer's. Easy, fun, chestnut (didn't need washing as much as my sister Tors white pony Muffin!) and got me off the lead rein."

- What is your most memorable moment hunting?

- "Hunting with the Belvoir at Saltby, it wasn't a great days hunting, poor scent, but I met Beanie (my wife and a Thursday Fieldmaster!)"
 OR
- o "Hacking home and coming across two men laying hedge near Shipton Moyne, I walked past and looked enviously at their very tidy work. During a chat on their hedge laying I said I thought it could be a bit laid a little lower the Prince of Wales thought it would be fine!"

Did you hunt as a child and if so did you ever do anything wrong?

"I once kicked a hound, I should have turned my pony around so it could the hounds coming. There are no excuses for kicking a hound. A horse that does should be told off and you should expect to go home."

- Do you have a most memorable fall?

o "Failing to check my girth on Charlie as we set off towards Widleys! I made 2 hedges but was unsaddled before the third... always check your girth once on, even if your sister said shed checked it before!"

As a Field Master What are your definite 'don't do's' / 'pet hates'?

- o "Always say good morning to the hounds, huntsman and hunt staff."
- o "Always smile and thank other road users."
- o "Always jump off to do gates or wire for the hunt staff or field master."
- o "Always get out of the way of the hounds and turn your whole pony or horse towards the main body (kicking a hound is completely unacceptable)"
- o "Do not go off from the field, you may ride on land we've agreed to keep off that day.
- o "Always book in as much hunting as you can"

If you were to give advice to a child who was new to hunting or perhaps doesn't have hunting parents what would it be?

- o "Allow plenty of time to get to the meet, park and hacking on."
- o "If you have got ANY questions before you come out, call or email the secretary or the field master in good time on the day they have lots to think about."
- o "Then on the day arrive early and come and fine them at the meet, just after saying good morning to the hounds and hunt staff."

- If you didn't become an Estate Agent what did you want to be or what do you think you would have been?

"I may have stayed in the army - commanding soldier and tanks, jumping out of working aeroplanes and serving in London on Cavalry Blacks is always exciting."

- Do you have a favourite Hound this season?

o "The one that leaves the covert first."

What do you carry in the pocket of your hunting jacket?

"Penknife, string, safety pin and nuts or dark chocolate. Paracetamol are a good idea too. This season a face mask too! Perhaps a hairnet in case you meet a young lady who's lost hers!"

- Have you ever got lost while hunting?

"In a blizzard in Northumberland with the Tyndall. Our eyelashes had icicles on and the horse mains ice on. A local led us around the same wood twice....."