

EDITORIAL

Bonjour!

Having recently returned from the Prix d'Amérique, complete with beret and onions which I hope to sell to cover some of my costs, I can only say it was quite a spectacle! If we are able to get harness racing in the UK to somewhere near to their standard, all of our problems would disappear. The professional manner in which they handled various matters and the overall showmanship left nothing to be desired! It gives me great pleasure to report back from the UET meeting that we were made extremely welcome and offered help and support from numerous countries in attendance. It will be a good road for us to go down and with everyone working together I think we will be able to achieve membership. I'd like to thank Jim McNally (Vice Chairman) and Gwenan Thomas (Stagbi) for their tremendous contribution during this trip.

The IHRC put their case to the UET in a professional manner and the general consensus was that they would achieve acceptance into the UET very soon. I would like to commend Mark Flanagan and his team for their presentation and the reports they offered.

Having recently returned from the Scottish AGM, I'd like to thank everyone for their welcome and hospitality throughout. The meetings were, at times, heated however, they were of good nature! Our friends North of the border have a passion and desire for our sport to move forward which I find extremely uplifting. The attendance at York Raceway on the 8th of February exceeded my expectations and the passion and desire demonstrated by those in attendance was overwhelming.

I will do my up most to help progress harness racing in a positive direction as quickly as possible enabling it to be something that we are all extremely proud to be a part of.

We are currently trying to become recognised by numerous governing bodies, including Sport England and the British Equine Federation. Jim McNally and Gwenan Thomas will be attending the World Trotting Conference in Australia later this month to represent the BHRC. They will be helped in their pursuit by Bill Hutchison, one of Australia's leading harness racing media personalities and form analysts. I am sure you are in agreement that we could not wish for better delegates to represent us at this conference.

Despite there still being a lot of hard work needed in developing the sport, I will try, to the best of my ability, to ensure that harness racing reaches the place where it belongs!

Roy Sheedy
Chairman of the BHRC