

BRITISH HORSE DRIVING TRIALS

OFFICIAL NEWS

The Council wish all the BHDТА members, their friends and our loyal supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Council Meeting

The next meeting of the BHDТА Council takes place on **Wednesday 19th January 2011**.

2011 Clinic Dates

Sports Psychology Talk with Jennie Killilea takes place on **Saturday 22nd January**, starting at 1 pm in the Lancashire Manor Hotel, Wigan.

She can help you achieve a winning state of mind and how you can achieve your goals through controlling nerves, tackling competition pressures and getting into 'the zone'.

National Course Designers take place on **Saturday 19th February** and will be taken by Christian Isjeli from Switzerland. The venue is the Lancashire Manor Hotel, Wigan at 9.30 for 10am and will cost £25 which includes tea and coffee.

National TDs take place on **Sunday 20th February** and will be taken by Philip Bateman. Venue times and cost as above. If anyone wishes to attend both clinics, the cost will be £40.

Should you wish to stay over, the Lancashire Manor Hotel is able to offer a special bed and breakfast rate of £50 for a single or £75 for a double room. These have to be reserved in advance and early booking is recommended.

Please phone the hotel direct on 01695 567260.

Two course lunches will also be available at a cost of £12 which includes a choice of main courses (hot dishes and cold meats with salads), followed by a choice of dessert and coffee. Should you prefer, there will also be a bar snack menu. Dinner will be available in the evening, with your order placed earlier in the day from the table d'hôtel menu, priced at £20 per person.

National Judges takes place on weekend of 26th/27th February and will be taken by Diana Brownlie and Andrew Counsell. The venue is the Unicorn Trust at 9.30 for 10am and will cost £40 which includes refreshments and lunch on both days.

AGM and Conference 2010

Please make a note of the 2011 BHDТА Conference and AGM date in your new diaries. Saturday 15th October. This should miss the Welsh Pony and Cob sales and also the BDS function.

Membership

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that memberships for 2011 fall due on 1st January and your insurance cover will lapse if this is not renewed before 31st January. You should have received a renewal form in December with your office newsletter. If, over the festive period this has been misplaced, you can print one from the web-site or join on-line. Membership cards will be sent with the Yearbooks before the end of January.

New Vice Chairman

At the recent Council meeting, Jock McFarlane was proposed for the role of BHDТА Vice Chairman and elected unanimously. Jock converted from ridden eventing to driving trials and started out with his event horse in harness on the Scottish club circuit.

He progressed rapidly and purchased Wodka as a more specialised driving horse with whom he won the Open Single



Owen Pilling with Jed (near side) who has been doing some ridden dressage and has been rather successful!

Horse National Championships in 2010. He is keen to move up to the Advanced class and in due course will drive a horse pair. He started competing them at some club events last year.

New Committees

Individual BHDТА committees have been updated on the website. Frank Campbell will liaise with Chris Hillman to promote marketing through use of social media, Jock McFarlane has joined the F&GP committee, Fiona Bonney now takes on the task of chairing the Judges Committee and will be joined by Philippa Thompson while Philip Bateman and Mark Ingham have joined Jean Lane to head up the Training Committee.

2011 National and Regional Events

15-17 April	NAT	Arena UK (Grantham, Lincs.)
6-8 May	NAT	Ashfields Carriage Centre (Essex)
14-15 May	REG	St Fort (Newport on Tay, Fife)
27-29 May	NAT	Hopetoun (Broxburn, West Lothian)
5-6 June	REG	Windsor Park (Berkshire)
18-19 June	REG	Newnham (Plymouth)
24-26 June	NAT	Sandringham (Norfolk)
8-10 July	NAT	Catton Hall (Derbyshire)
16-17 July	REG	Allerton Park (North Yorkshire)
22-24 July	NAT	Erddig (Wreccsam, North Wales)
5-7 August	NAT	Holker Hall (Cumbria)
12-14 August	REG	Necarne (Co Fermanagh)
20-21 August	REG	Goodwood (Chichester, West Sussex)
27-28 August		Young Drivers and Para Equestrian Championships, Henbury Hall
9-11 September		National Driving Championships, Windsor

ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL NEWS

International Events

11-15 May Royal Windsor International Grand Prix
24-28 August World Pairs Championships, Conty (FRA)
22-25 September World Combined Pony Championships, Lipica (SLA)

Horse Pairs Class Rep

Margi Hawkins has stepped down as Horse Pairs class representative after many years of offering effective communication for the competitors in the class.

Louise McCutcheon has agreed to take on this role. She can be contacted as follows:

Springfield Farm, Biggar, ML12 6NP. Tel: 01899 220140, mobile 07957 222028, email louise@wellsgray.co.uk or louise.mccutcheon@talk21.com.

Selection Events

The following selection events for 2011 World Championships are now confirmed as follows:

Horse Pairs: Ashfields, Hopetoun, Sandringham and Erddig

Combined Ponies: Ashfields, Hopetoun, Sandringham and Catton
Selection events in 2011 for 2012 World Championships are confirmed as follows:

Horse Fours: Holker

Qualifying Events

Qualifying events in 2011 will take place at Ashfields, Hopetoun, Sandringham, Catton and Erddig. Royal Windsor will offer a further opportunity for those invited. Please check with the event which classes will be allocated qualifying status and try to qualify your horses as early as possible.

INTERNATIONAL

FEI Driving Committee

The FEI have confirmed that Australia's Boyd Exell has become a member of the FEI Driving Committee. He replaces Mieke van Tergouw, who was the driver's representative on the Committee since 2006.

The FEI Driving Committee currently consists of:

Richard Nicoll (USA) - President 2001 - 2011

Diana Brownlie (GBR) 2007 - 2011

Michael Freund (Ger) 2007 - 2011

Karoly Fugli (Hun) 2008 - 2012

Boyd Exell (Aus) 2010-2014

GENERAL

Out and About

Jock McFarlane has competition for his driving horse as his wife Mary, a ridden dressage judge and trainer, recently enjoyed a mark of 81.11% in the Novice Music at the Gordon Dressage Group competition in Aberdeenshire, riding to a Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Queen compilation.

The judge was very impressed, saying, "He's uphill, light on his feet and has the most amazing rhythm." Mary noted that she is allowed to ride Wodka over the winter to improve his dressage so he can show off in his driving trials.

Owen Pilling's horse, Jed (his original single horse), has been doing some ridden dressage and has been rather successful! Emma Fenwick, Team OPG's event groom, qualified him for the Scottish Farmer finals at Rowallan EC where she was placed sixth.

This encouraged her to try for the Scottish & Northern Equestrian series where she qualified at her first attempt with wins in both Prelim and Novice classes. In the finals she was second in the Prelim with 68% and ninth in the Novice with 61% - a great achievement considering Jed is a marathon specialist all summer!

Horses Inside Out 2011

The Unicorn Trust, Stow on the Wold, hosts the Horses Inside Out Conference 2011 titled Posture, Performance and Injury Prevention. The dates are **5th and 6th March** and features:

- Rachel Murray MA VetMB MS PhD MRCVS Dip ACVS Dip ECVS, a vet with particular interest in sports horse training, performance and injury

- Eric Smiley FBHS, Coach FEI International Judge

- Dr Andrew Hemmings MSc, Neuroanatomist
This Conference will look at practical aspects, the science behind training and the support of the horse as he progresses.

For an application form, or more details, email shirley@horsesinsideout, ring 01159 212648 or see www.horsesinsideout.com/lp110305.html.

Jock McFarlane, the new BHDTA Vice Chairman, ex ridden 3-day eventer who with Wodka won the Open Single Horse National Championships in 2010.



Photo: Dicky-Jim

British Horse Driving Trials Association, East Overhill, Stewarton, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire KA3 5JT.
Tel: 0845 643 2116 Email: bhdt@horsedrivingtrials.co.uk Website: www.horsedrivingtrials.co.uk
Office open Mon-Fri 8am to 12 noon