

# British Carriagedriving

## OFFICIAL NEWS

### Council meeting

The date for the next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council is Wednesday 28 September.

### AGM and Conference 2016

Hopefully you will all already have 29 October in your diaries for the 2016 BC AGM and Conference. This takes place in the Kegworth Hotel. If you wish to stay overnight, a discounted room rate is available of £50 per bedroom, which is for bed and breakfast. A number of rooms have been reserved until 3 October although the discount is still available after that date, subject to availability. Remember to mention that you are attending this event when you book.

### Single Pony Class Representative

Sadly, due to work commitments, Sue Mart is standing down as the Single Pony Class Representative after the National Championships. If you would be willing to take on this role, please chat to Sue about what it entails and send a note of your interest to the BC office. The person taking on this role can come from any of the divisions from Novice up to Advanced as they represent all Single Pony drivers' interests.

## EVENTS

### National Championships

BC would like to thank all the volunteers, officials and competitors for their contribution to the success of the 2016 event. There is a full event report on pages 24-27.

The glorious Bathurst Estate was again the venue for the 2016 BC National Championships. The event was well supported, particularly by novice drivers with a close contest in the strong novice single pony section which had 12 entries and 10 drivers contesting the novice single horse class. Numbers in the intermediate and advanced singles classes were somewhat disappointing but the open sections had 11 drivers in both the horse and pony sections.

The open pony pairs had 10 entries with Louise Kaiholm winning, having taken the lead after the marathon. She has been either second or third for the last three years so it was a case of fourth time lucky this year. The advanced horse pairs also enjoyed a good turnout as this was their first selection event for their FEI World Championships next year.

Pony fours enjoyed higher numbers than recently seen, while everyone was delighted to



*Above: British Young Driver Jack Ralph competing at this year's BC National Championships*

see the British team in horse fours, Dick Lane, Wilf Bowman-Ripley and Dan Naprous, who had contested their FEI World Championship in Breda the week before, all present at our own National Championships.

Ian Gilbert co-ordinated the whole event and still managed to find time to compete. Ian retires from council at the 2016 AGM so please see the advert for a job vacancy below.

The army of volunteers worked incredibly hard in the week running up to the championships and at the event itself. Without you, the drivers would not be able to enjoy such a fantastic venue. It is really hard work setting up and taking down the event so anyone who could volunteer their help next year will be welcomed enthusiastically.

The weather was kind throughout the event with the notable exception of Saturday's marathon. Overnight rain meant the course was reduced by 3km in Section A and 1.5km

in Section B. The ground became progressively heavier and the drivers were grateful for the reduction in the overall length of the marathon as the going in the obstacles got badly cut up. There certainly was some mud to wash off before Sunday's cone driving!

The obstacles offered a mix of open and flowing and tight and technical; this resulted in a number of changes to the placings after the marathon.

On Saturday evening there was a chance to relax and applaud the winners of the Fenix Driver of the Year Awards for the intermediate classes through to advanced and the Howden Novice Drivers of the Year.

A number of trophies are also presented on Saturday evening in addition to the dressage and marathon rosettes. The new Club Championship

Class	Driver of the Year	Reserve Driver of the Year
Novice Pony	George Wood	Elsa Herriman
Novice Horse	Charlotte Chard	MaryJane Campbell
Intermediate Pony	Clive Jones	Stephen Trebble and Granville Styler
Intermediate Horse	Brian Gauson	Amelia Roose
Open Pony	Nicola Blandin	Alice Pritchard and Linda Hill
Open Horse	Sara Clough	Gail Bain
Advanced Pony	Phillipa Howe	Chris Ainscough
Advanced Horse	Ellen Littlechild	John Ripley
Open Pony Pairs	Sara Bower	Angela Smith
Open Horse Pairs	Derrick Mayes	Stephen Williams
Advanced Pony Pairs	Alan Clarke	Wendy Wadsworth
Advanced Horse Pairs	Libby Priest	Lindsay Falloon
Pony Tandems	Jeff Ormerod	Louise Kaiholm
Horse Tandems	Judy Hilditch	Carol Boswell
Pony Fours	Helen Cruickshank	Sara Howe
Horse Fours	Dick Lane	Pippa Bassett

winners were announced for the first time and medals were awarded to those whose scores had contributed to their success. The 2016 Championship was won by Midlands Carriage Driving. Well done to all.

This year a new trophy, for the best overall marathon, was donated by the supporters of the 200 Club in memory of Amanda Saville-Nisbet, who lost a brave battle with cancer earlier this year. John Nisbet made the presentation to Rosanna Walters-Symons, who was the only competitor to finish the marathon with a score in double figures.

The championships also hosted the finals of the Young Horse and Pony and Evolution classes. While a number of qualified drivers did not make the trip to Cirencester, feedback has been positive with comments such as, "We were very excited to be there and are totally inspired for next year" and, "I got a real taste of what it's like to compete at such a prestigious event..."

"I can only liken it to being at the Badminton Grass Roots Championships next to the "big boys" doing their four star thing! The organisers at BC did a great job and it was lovely to be able to drive one of the actual national obstacles in our young pony competition."

Now that they have been started, these classes will hopefully grow in popularity next year.

## Job vacancy

BC still seeks a motivated individual to volunteer for the role of National Championship co-ordinator for 2017. Teams of people currently manage different aspects of the organisational process. A co-ordinator is required to pull these teams together and ensure the event runs smoothly. Knowledge of the sport would be an advantage but is not essential. Sadly, no-one volunteered for the opportunity to shadow the 2016 co-ordinator so if you, or anyone you know, is interested in assisting the sport in this way, please contact Ian Gilbert on 07850 873197 or by e-mail at tandem@btinternet.com.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Royal Windsor Horse Show

Horse pairs drivers will be delighted to hear that this class is returning to the Royal Windsor



Photos: Swingletree photography

Horse Show after an absence of two years. This will be an advantage for drivers seeking selection for the FEI Horse Pairs World Championships later in the year at Lipica, Slovenia which takes place from 20-24 September 2017.

The organisers have confirmed that the addition of the horse pairs will not reduce the numbers in the horse fours and pony fours classes. With the increase in numbers of competitors, additional space is required for stabling and horsebox parking so these, as well as the show secretary, will re-locate to the other side of the park, under the Victoria Bridge, where the training area was two years ago.

The horse fours will, as in 2016, be competing in the FEI 4\* CAIO which carries additional World Cup qualification points. The horse pairs and pony fours will run as FEI 3\* competitions.

## GENERAL

### 30% ticket discount for the London International Horse Show

The ticket office for The London International Horse Show at Olympia is now open and once again the event organisers have offered BC members a substantial discount of 30% on tickets for Thursday afternoon, Friday afternoon and Friday evening.

*Above: The 2016 reserve novice horse champion, MaryJane Campbell.*

*Below left: The Fenix Driver of the Year Awards*

The show dates are 13-19 December, with the Extreme Driving class on Thursday afternoon and the first round of the FEI World Cup™ Driving Leg on Friday afternoon.

When booking tickets, you will need to use the code BCOLYMPIA16. The organisers are happy for you to book tickets on behalf of friends and family.

Book your tickets now through the Olympia website or by calling the box office 0871 230 5580 and quoting the code above.

The sessions with driving are becoming increasingly popular so don't delay your order.

## UKCC courses

There are a number of forthcoming UKCC courses:

- Level 3 course planned for Oct 2016
  - Level 2 course planned for Nov 2016
- All assessments will be in March or April 2017 with the exact date still to be decided.

Prospective candidates should e-mail Angela Flanagan at amflan@hotmail.com.

Further information can then be sent to you regarding submission of a log, how to register, and the cost for each course.

Please e-mail Angela even if you have already spoken to her or been in touch by e-mail as she wishes to create an up to date list.





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