

# British Carriagedriving

## OFFICIAL NEWS

### Council Meeting

The next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council takes place on Wednesday 6 February 2019. Council always welcomes, and takes into account, feedback received from members, so if there are any matters or issues which you would like Council to consider, please send an e-mail to the British Carriagedriving office. The deadline for submitting matters to be considered at the February meeting is Tuesday 29 January.

### New Office Phone Number

As so many calls are made and received to mobile numbers, British Carriagedriving has transferred to a mobile office phone, which will be a considerable financial saving. If your call plan does not support calling mobile numbers, please text or e-mail the BC office and request a call back. The new office number is 07494 876814.

### Pre Season Training for Novice and Evolution Drivers

British Carriagedriving has received funding to support our efforts to promote our sport to new drivers and improve our retention of existing drivers. It is a regrettable feature of our sport that many club drivers who move up to the National Novice Classes do not then progress. In order to encourage better retention of members we will be expanding our "Try Driving" programme to offer pre-season training to Evolution and Novice drivers to encourage them to progress up the levels in National and Regional horse driving trials. This will be offered on a Regional basis. If this would be of interest to you, please contact Angela Flanagan on 07740 707729 or by email amflan1@hotmail.com.

### HarnessStuff to Sponsor Driver of the Year in 2019

The Driver of the Year Points leagues for Evolution, Senior and Intermediate to Advanced classes will be sponsored in 2019 by HarnessStuff.

Chris Smith, Chairman of British Carriagedriving, said, "We are indebted to Mark Broadbent for many years of generous support and wish him well with future projects for Fenix Carriages. We are now taking a step forward with a new partner and are delighted to develop a new relationship with HarnessStuff."

The owner of HarnessStuff, Sanchia May, is a keen carriage driver and British Carriagedriving judge. Sanchia said, "I am excited at the prospect of raising awareness

of my brand through the successful Driver of the Year Awards and extending my company's involvement with the sport." HarnessStuff is already a generous supporter of many events, including the 2019 National Championships at Bywell, and sponsors the Gold Medallist Anna Grayston, a successful Pony Pair driver and UKCC Coach.

### Membership Renewals for 2019

Memberships can be renewed on-line or by post. There is a £15 discount for 2 members at the same address and Young Drivers pay half the rate for the membership category in which they are joining. Your insurance cover lapses on 31st January if you have not renewed your subscription.

### Clinics

A number of training clinics have been arranged for 2019. Full details are on the web-site, in your December Office newsletter and in the January edition of "Carriage Driving". Bookings for the National and Club Judges Interactive Workshop and the UKCC Level 2 Conference should be made directly to Angela Flanagan. To book for the others, please complete the booking form, sent with your December newsletter, or use the on-line option on the British Carriagedriving web-site. Delegates attending the International Conference should send their FEI application, which can be downloaded from the FEI web-site, to the BC office. **Please do not send forms directly to the BEF.** Please note that Richard Nicoll (USA) replaces Wolfgang Asendorf as the presenter for the Course Designers seminar.

### BEF Medal of Honour

The British Equestrian Federation Medal of Honour is an award designed to recognise activities connected with international endeavour in relation to equestrian sport and is awarded for outstanding services to the BEF or one of its Member Bodies. British Carriagedriving are delighted that this year Jill Holah has been recognised for her commitment to the sport.

Jill has been a motivational force in Horse Driving Trials since organising the first Osberton event in 1978, with the benefit of organisational skills gained in the nine years she worked in the Burghley Three-Day Event office. She

went on to run Driving Trials at Wollaton Park and Castle Howard, as well as the National Championships at Windsor, and is still involved with event admin, although she has retired from the roles of National Course Designer, TD and Judge. She competed herself, winning the National Championship title on nine occasions in both Single Pony and Pony Pairs.

She was first appointed as Chef d'Equipe in 1995, undertaking the complicated administrative challenge of taking the Horse Pairs to the World Championships at Gladstone, USA, three years later. She now concentrates on the Ponies and has been their Chef d'Equipe since 2005, leading the team to many international successes. She admits to getting huge satisfaction from helping other drivers fulfil their FEI Championship ambitions, since there were no such opportunities when she was driving.

The medal presentation was made at the London International Horse Show, Olympia.

### BEF Journalist of the Year

The BEF Journalist of the Year award recognises great journalism in equestrian sport, celebrating the work of a written journalist, broadcaster or photographer who has gone above and beyond to promote equestrian sport over the last year. Representatives from the BEF's Member Bodies deliberated to decide the winner from a shortlist of eight candidates put forward by the 19 members.

Wendy Nix, who was nominated for her contribution to the sport of carriage driving,

receives a special mention for her voluntary ongoing efforts to publicise the sport to a wider audience.





Wendy is a talented journalist who, for no remuneration, gives her time and talent to promoting our non-Olympic discipline of carriage driving at every opportunity. Wendy writes with inspiration and with the same enthusiasm and sense of importance, whether she is reporting from a small club event, or our National Championships.

As a driver herself, Wendy is able to appreciate how hard organisers work to encourage and welcome new people into the discipline and this is embedded in her writing. She is also a talented photographer, taking images with which to illustrate her articles.

British Carriagedriving are extremely grateful to Wendy for her ongoing efforts to publicise our sport to a wider audience, through her love of journalism and carriage driving.

## EVENTS

### Competence Cards

If you are a club level driver at present, and wish to make the move up to compete in Novice

classes at a club's Novice Qualifying Event, Regional event or National Event, or any of the classes for multiples, remember you need to submit a signed Competence Card, with the results from the 3 events at which your card was signed, to the BC Office. If you are contesting the Indoor Finals at Open level, you may use this as one of the events on your Competence Card.

## INTERNATIONAL Team Veterinary Support meeting

The International Teams Committee recently organised a meeting of the vets and physios who support our international teams. All the Chefs d'Equipe were in attendance, and it was a really useful opportunity to discuss their roles and responsibilities, and share experiences. We are hugely indebted to our very dedicated vets and physios who not only give up their time free of charge to travel to the various championships, but also attend training sessions and selection events.

*Vets: Anja Walker, Rosie Mould, Sally Hodgson and Tony Collins*

*Physios: Hazel Potter and Daisy Collins*

## Olympia, The London International Horse Show

Once again Dan Naprous represented Britain as a Wild Card at this prestigious show. The build up was hectic as he was asked to arrange a display of the Devil's Horsemen when the advertised Azerbaijan – 'Land of Fire' display was delayed. Despite this, Dan drove expertly to finish 4th of 7 starters in the FEI Driving World Cup Leg in the opening competition, a mere 2 seconds slower than Kooos de Ronde in 3rd. This was the closest Dan has been to a drive off slot. On Saturday night an unlucky ball on cone 1 dropped him from 3rd to 5th. Overall a brilliant result as Dan only does this once a year and what a cheer he got from the crowd.

*Previous page: Jill Holah BEF Medal of Honour presentation.*

*This page above: Dan Naprous at Olympia 2018*

*This page left: Wendy Nix driving 'Tommy' at Catton Park in 2009*



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