

BDS Lothian & Borders Area Show, Hopetoun House (Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2015)

Twelve turnouts gathered at Hopetoun House on a lovely, if cool and breezy day for the BDS classes held alongside Hopetoun House Horse Driving Trials.

The classes started off with judge on this occasion, Joan Martin, casting her eye over the seven turnouts forward. With a wide selection of turnouts from donkeys, Shetland Ponies, Cob's and finer riding pony types in both two wheel and four wheel vehicles, Joan Martin found her winner of the Exercise Vehicle class in Gillian McNinch driving her new coloured pony, The Longhouse Glam Rock to a Bennington Two Wheel Exercise Vehicle and in second place to Gillian was Heather Gow driving her Black Shetland Pony, Kinness Mentor also to a Bennington Two Wheel Exercise Vehicle.

Next in the ring after the Exercise Vehicle Class was the Private Driving Class. With five traditional turnouts forward, Joan Martin found her winner of this class in Richard Lanni's pair of Chestnut Gelderlander's, two of his team, Simon and Vinny, driven to his Beaufort Phaeton by Chris Nicholson built in the 1960's. In second place to Richard in this class was Annie Rushton-Green driving Mickey to a Dennett Gig.

The first and second place turnouts from both classes were then called back in for the Championship with Richard Lanni's pair of Gelderlander's, Simon & Vinny being called forward as Champion and Gillian McNinch and The Longhouse Glam Rock coming forward into Reserve Champion spot.

Once the showing classes were over, six of the turnouts were led out on a lovely drive round Hopetoun House grounds and along the side of the Forth and some fabulous views of the road and rail bridges and the new bridge being built by Richard and his pair. The six turnouts then gathered in front of Hopetoun House where judge, Lisa Wallace selected her winner of the Concours D'Elegance, Llanarth Tango, a Chestnut Welsh Cob driven to a Dogcart by Mulliners of Birmingham built in 1890 by Caroline Watson.

Once the classes were all over, the favourable weather meant it was a great opportunity for everyone to gather round and enjoy the communal picnic back at the lorries and trailers once everyone was packed up and enjoy a chat and all the food that everyone had brought to finish a fabulous day.

Results =

Exercise Vehicle Class            1 = Gillian McNinch driving The Longhouse Glam Rock  
                                                 2 = Heather Gow driving Kinness Mentor  
                                                 3 = Alice Thornton Kemsley driving Kinness Winsun  
                                                 4 = Claire Armet driving Jools  
                                                 5 = Ali Chaffe driving Max  
                                                 6 = Clive Rushton-Green driving Jim  
                                                 7 = Sheena McConnell Ferrie driving Sydney

Private Driving Class            1 = Richard Lanni driving Simon and Vinny  
                                                 2 = Annie Rushton-Green driving Mickey  
                                                 3 = Caroline Watson driving Llanarth Tango  
                                                 4 = Kim Pearson driving JD's El Dorado  
                                                 5 = Kendall Young driving Balgay Way No Way

Champion                            =     Richard Lanni driving Simon and Vinny  
Reserve Champion                =     Gillian McNinch driving The Longhouse Glam Rock

Concours D'Elegance        =     Caroline Watson driving Llanarth Tango