

BDS Lothian & Borders Area Show – Hopetoun House – Saturday 28th May 2016

This week's show was at Hopetoun House on a lovely warm sunny day for the BDS classes held alongside Hopetoun House Horse Driving Trials. The judge this year was Mr J Carnduff from Ireland.

The classes started off with four exercise turnouts forward. There was a single Shetland Pony turnout, a tandem of donkeys and two cobs. Mr Carnduff found his winner of the Exercise Vehicle class in Heather Gow driving her black Shetland Pony, Kinness Mentor to a Two Wheel Exercise Vehicle and in second place to Heather was Abby Sclater driving her coloured cob, Chief to a four wheel exercise vehicle.

Next in the ring after the Exercise Vehicle Class was the Private Driving Class, with some fabulous traditional turnouts forward, Mr Carnduff found his 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 Caroline Watson driving her Welsh Cob, Llanarth Tango to an original 1890, Dogcart by Mulliners of Birmingham.

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 Caroline Watson's Welsh Cob, Llanarth Tango coming forward into Reserve Champion spot.

Once the showing classes were over the turnouts did a couple of laps of the ring before being led out on a short drive by Richard and his pair 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. The turnouts then returned to the ring for the presentation of the Concours D'Elegance awards. Judge, Melissa Mowat selected her winner of the Traditional Turnout Concours D'Elegance as Kendall Young driving Sophie to a Stick Back Gig by Carmichael of Worcester, Circa 1905 and her winner of the Exercise Vehicle Turnout Concours D'Elegance was Abby Sclater driving her coloured cob, Chief, to a four wheel exercise vehicle.

Once the classes were all over, the lovely weather gave a fabulous opportunity for everyone to gather round and enjoy a picnic back at the lorries and trailers once everyone was packed up and enjoy a chat and food.

Class 1 = Open Exercise Vehicle

- 1 = Heather Gow driving Kinness Mentor
- 2 = Abby Sclater driving Chief
- 3 = Claire Armet driving Baxter and Jools
- 4 = Peter Falconer driving Millie

Class 2 = Open Private Driving

- 1 = Richard Lanni driving Symen & Vinney
- 2 = Caroline Watson driving Llanarth Tango
- 3 = Elinor Steven driving Glenbanchor Somerled
- 4 = Kim Pearson driving JD's Eldorado
- 5 = Kendall Young driving Sophie

CHAMPION = Richard Lanni driving Symen & Vinney

RESERVE CHAMPION = Caroline Watson driving Llanarth Tango

Class 3 = Open Concours D'Elegance

Best Traditional Turnout = Kendall Young driving Sophie

Best Exercise Turnout = Abby Sclater driving Chief