

Royal Highland Show – Saturday 23 July 2018 (Judge = Mr Gordon Marks)

Scotland's largest agricultural show, The Royal Highland Show, is held over four days at Ingleston, next to Edinburgh Airport. With hundreds of stands selling everything from Agricultural Machinery and Tractors to handmade crafts, clothes and food as well as the hundreds of cattle, sheep and horses who compete over the four days. The Highland Show is Scotland's only qualifier for the Private Driving Class at Horse of the Year Show which is held at Birmingham's NEC in October.

The driving classes were held on the Saturday afternoon in the Thistle Ring and the judge this year was Mr Gordon Marks from Cambridgeshire.

The first class for Mr Marks to judge was the Multiples class for turnouts other than Single Turnouts so this would include Pairs, Tandems, Teams etc. There were two turnouts forward and Mr Marks found his winner of this class in Richard Lanni's pair of Chestnut Gelderlander's, two of his team, Symen and Vinny, driven to his Beaufort Phaeton by Chris Nicholson built in the 1960's. In second place to Richard was Kendall Young driving her delightful tandem of a Dartmoor Cross pony called "Sophie" and a Mule, called "Small Person" to a lovely Cab Fronted Gig by Morgan.

The next class was the Over 13.2 Private Driving Class. This again had two turnouts forward and the winner this year was Caroline Watson driving her Chestnut Roan Welsh Cob, Llanarth Tango to an original Dogcart by Mulliners of Birmingham which dates from 1890. In second place was John Bulmer driving Monnington Maatje.

This was followed by the 13.2hh and Under, Private Driving Class. This had only one entry and first place went to Gilly Chippendale driving her grey Fell Pony, Stennerskeugh Smoke, to a varnished 1906 Ralli Car by Morris Bros of Tavistock.

The Shetland Pony Driving Class was next in, with just one entry again the red rosette went to Laura Chaffe driving her Chestnut Shetland, Almondell Crusader, to a Bennington two wheel exercise cart.

The Scottish Native Breed classes then continued with the Highland Pony Driving Class with two turnouts forward the first place rosette going to Christine Bassett driving her Grey Highland Pony, Staffin Peigi of Castlegreen to a Mulliners Country Cart with Rachael Stewart driving her Highland Pony, Ardnagaik Amos to a four wheel exercise vehicle.

The Championship was in next with first and second place turnouts from the first five classes asked to come back in to the ring. After asking each turnout to perform a set show for him, Mr Marks found his Champion and HOYS qualifier in Richard Lanni's pair of Gelderlanders, Symen and Vinny, this pair will make their second appearance at HOYS in October after winning the Driving Class there in 2016. The Reserve Championship went to Caroline Watson's Welsh Cob, Llanarth Tango.

The Exercise Vehicle class was next in with six turnouts forward and Douglas Robertson driving his chestnut Shetland mare Erray Rosebay to a Bennington 2 Wheel Exercise Vehicle took first place and Susan Robson driving her Welsh Section B, Llanarth Honeysuckle in second place.

The Donkey class was next with two turnouts forward. Sheena McConnell-Ferrie driving Sydney taking the red rosette and in second place to Sheena and Sydney was Claire Armet driving Alexandra.

The driving classes finished off with the Pleasure drive class with three turnouts forward where Laura Chaffe driving her Shetland, Almondell Crusader took first place and Rachael Stewart driving her Highland Pony, Ardnagaik Amos were in second place.

RESULTS

Class 1= Private Driving - Other Than Single Class

- 1 = Richard Lanni driving Symen & Vinny
- 2 = Kendall Young driving Sophie & Small Person

Class 2 = Private Driving - Over 13.2hh

- 1 = Caroline Watson driving Llanarth Tango
- 2 = John Bulmer driving Monnington Maatje

Class 3 = Private Driving - Up to and including 13.2hh

- 1 = Gilly Chippendale driving Stennerskeugh Smoke

Class 4 = Shetland Pony In Harness

- 1 = Laura Chaffe driving Almondell Crusader

Class 5 = Highland Pony in Harness

- 1 = Christine Bassett driving Staffin Peigi of Castlegreen
- 2 = Rachael Stewart driving Ardnagaik Amos

CHAMPION AND HOYS QUALIFIER = Richard Lanni driving Symen & Vinny

RESERVE CHAMPION = Caroline Watson driving Llanarth Tango

Class 6 = Two or Four Wheel Exercise Vehicle Class

- 1 = Douglas Robertson driving Erray Rosebay
- 2 = Susan Robson driving Llanarth Honeysuckle
- 3 = Carol McAllister driving Craigwell Holly
- 4 = Abby Sclater driving Chief
- 5 = Maizie Walton driving Bodwenarth Juliana
- 6 = Rachael Stewart driving Ardnagaik Amos

Class 7 = Donkey and Mule Open Class

- 1 = Sheena McConnell-Ferrie driving Sydney
- 2 = Claire Armet driving Alexandra

Class 8 = Pleasure Drive

- 1 = Laura Chaffe driving Almondell Crusader
- 2 = Rachael Stewart driving Ardnagaik Amos
- 3 = Abby Sclater driving Chief