

# Meet new Council members



Time to renew your membership, get the dates in the diary for training and clinics planned for February and March. Thank you to Jill Holah as she steps down as Pony Chef d'Equipe and introducing new Council members.

## OFFICIAL NEWS Council Meeting

The date for the next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council is Tuesday 11th February. 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 no later than Monday 3rd February to allow time for the papers for Council to be prepared and circulated.

## Membership Renewals are now due for 2020

All members should have received a newsletter in December (by email for the majority of members and by post for those without email addresses). BC is encouraging members to renew on-line. This will be done through the new on-line portal. Login details and membership renewals were sent out early in December by email.

If you are unsure which membership option best suits you, please contact the BC office for advice. Remember there is a £15 discount for two members at the same address and Young Drivers (8 to 21 years) pay half the rate for the membership category in which they are joining.

## Using the new on-line portal

There's a link on the front page of the BC website. If you have been a member in either 2018 or 2019 your details should already be on the database so you do not need to register; you will have received an email with your login details and a separate email with a password re-set token. New members will have to register first before taking out a membership. In the first year, if you wish to change your membership category, you'll need to contact the BC office. In future years, it's hoped that you will be able to select any category of membership at the time of renewal. Once you're signed in just follow the instructions. Hopefully the process will be clear when you come to use it but please contact the BC office if you experience any difficulty.

You can also register your horses to speed up your event entry process.

There will also be an event entry section but please note that late entry fees are now automatically added after the closing date. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED! Under Events, you will also find clinic booking options.

All FEI passports, registrations etc., rule books and event tickets will be available from the shop.

You can also register as a volunteer without being a member and this allows you to note the roles you have previously performed, or if you are new but keen to get involved. You can list the events at which you would like to volunteer to enable those organisers to contact you directly. Members can also add themselves to the volunteer list for events at which they are not competing.

## 2020 British Carriagedriving Rule Book

The FEI have now confirmed the rule changes for 2020. A summary of the main changes is published in your 2020 Yearbook. The 2020 British Carriagedriving Rule Book is now published and available to order from the website.

## A.G.M. and Conference Reports

The AGM and Conference took place on 16th November in the Yew Lodge Hotel, Kegworth.

Conference notes were emailed to members with their December Office News.

## Meet the new members of Council

### Rod Holdsworth

Horses and ponies have been an important part of my family life for over 30 years. I've done cross country trials and one day events, local dressage competitions, pony club with the children and even some Skill at Arms at Herstmonceux.

Five years ago I was introduced to the world of carriage driving which has led to many wonderful adventures, as well as learning new skills, making many new friends and visiting lots of interesting new places, at home and abroad. Having backstepped for 2 years I have recently started driving and did my first event at Osberton

in October. I am looking forward to improving my skills at some indoor events this winter season.

I bring to the Council my enthusiasm and fresh perspectives as a relative newcomer to the sport. On the professional side, whilst I trained as a civil engineer, I moved across to pursue a career in finance and have worked as a Finance Director for over 20 years in organisations both small and large.

I am looking forward to working with the rest of the Council and to maintaining British Carriage Driving on a sound financial footing as we endeavour to expand and take the sport forward. I would like to thank Dave Titmuss for all his friendly guidance and support during the handover of the treasurer's responsibilities.

### Jamie March

Jamie used to be a rugby player before he met Rebecca Boswell (Bex). Suddenly he discovered there was an equally important sport: carriage driving! Conflict resolution is frequently employed to manage clashes of dates with rugby matches and driving events (although their wedding and honeymoon were planned to avoid significant driving dates)! During the day, Jamie works as a Chartered Building Surveyor for Paragon Building Consultancy as an Associate Director.

Jamie embraced the role of backstepper with enthusiasm and was able to draw on a wealth of knowledge gained over many years as his mother in law, Carol Boswell (BC judge, UKCC coach, four times National Tandem Champion and daughter of the legendary Gladys Dale) was on hand with help and advice.

The partnership of Bex and Jamie, driving Woodie, progressed rapidly from Novice to Advanced with the Intermediate National Championship added on their journey. Jamie recently took the reins to drive at his first indoor event while Bex has a few months off to await the next generation of the family, appropriately due in March.

As a member of the British Carriagedriving Council, Jamie feels that he will be able to offer a different perspective, coming as he does from a non-horse background. He says, "I believe

the experiences I have developed and gained from playing a vast number of sports at school, club, University and County level will enable me to be able to bring a different and modern perspective to help take British Carriagedriving forward. The areas where I feel most passionate about driving the sport forward include:

- Educating the wider non-equine community that carriage driving exists as a sport and is not only for the elite.
- Educating the existing equine clubs that carriage driving exists as a sport, particularly at junior and novice levels.
- Increasing awareness that you don't have to be a driver to take part in carriage driving, through backstepper training clinics, to allow people who don't/can't own a horse and carriage to enjoy the sport.

British Carriagedriving are delighted to welcome Jamie to Council and look forward to his contribution to taking the sport forward.

## Clinics

Booking, for all the 2020 clinics, is available on-line via the BC website and a booking form was sent with your membership renewal reminder in December.

Delegates attending the International Conference should send their FEI application, which can be downloaded from the FEI website, to the BC office. **Please do not send forms directly to the BEF.**

## National / FEI Clinic 2020

**Date:** 22nd/23rd February 2019

**Trainers:** Judges – Andrew Counsell (GBR)  
Course Designers - Christian Iseli (AUT)

Technical Delegates – Philip Bateman (GBR)  
Stewards - Leen Devaere (BEL)

**Venue:** Unicorn Trust, Netherswell, Stow on the Wold, Gloucestershire, GL54 1JZ

**Times:** 9am for 9.30am – approx. finish 5.30pm Sat and 3.30pm Sun

**Cost:** £75 to include lunch and refreshments. Saturday night dinner £24.

## Club Workforce Clinic

**Date:** Saturday 29th February 2020

**Venue:** Oakridge Equestrian Centre near Newark

**Times:** 10am to approx. 3pm

**Cost:** £15. Bring own lunch.

Workshops include:

- Dressage judging (and writing)
- Course design (cones and obstacles)
- Organisers
- Scoring (Watts and Leinart)

**Booking:** Please book with Angela Flanagan, including your name and contact details, at amflan1@hotmail.com or text 07740 707729. Everyone welcome to take part or to observe.

## Club Judges North 2019

**Date:** Saturday 28th March 2020

**Trainer:** Philippa Thompson and Paul Hayler (Paul has successfully competed at international level on a vast number of horses at both international small and big tour level. In September 2014, Paul was appointed Training Director for British Dressage. He is also a List One Judge.)

**Venue:** North Lakes Hotel & Spa, Ullswater Road, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 8QT

**Times:** 10am for 10.30am – approx. finish 4pm

**Cost:** £25 to include lunch (soup and sandwiches) and all day refreshments

## Club Course Designers North 2019

**Date:** Saturday 28th March 2020

**Trainer:** Colin Smith

**Venue:** North Lakes Hotel & Spa, Ullswater Road, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 8QT

**Times:** 10am for 10.30am – approx. finish 4pm

**Cost:** £25 to include lunch (soup and sandwiches) and all-day refreshments

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Rod Holdsworth



Jamie March