

# BRITISH HORSE DRIVING TRIALS

## OFFICIAL NEWS

Everything was very picturesque for the festive period this year but the cold snap certainly played havoc with the stable water supply and horse turnout.

Hopefully your event schedule was not disrupted too badly and your horses coped with the distinctly Arctic conditions at the start of the year.

## Council Meeting

The next meeting of the BHDTA Council takes place on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February**. Sadly the January meeting has had to be postponed due to the difficult travelling conditions and the forecast of yet more snow.

## Membership

Your 2010 membership card and yearbook should be with you by the end of January if you have renewed your subscription for 2010. Remember to tell your friends about the benefits of membership and there is a discount for the affiliation fee paid by clubs if you are a BHDTA member.

## 200 Club

Sheila Hawking is running the 200 Club again on behalf of the Supporters. This provides a valuable source of funds as the profits are returned to the sport.

You should have received an application form with your December newsletter but if it has become misplaced over the festive period, please contact the office for a replacement.

## CLINICS

A booking form for clinics was sent out with the December newsletter and can be downloaded from the website. A number of new clinics have now been added so please make sure you give details of the clinic for which you are booking if the details are not on the booking form.

## National Training and Clinics

### Judges, TDs and CDs:

The Training Committee has organised a joint conference on the weekend of **27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February** at the Unicorn Trust, Stow on the Wold.

This is intended for qualified and probationary officials.

### First Aid:

The Unicorn Equestrian Trust is hosting a second 2-day BHS Equine Specific First Aid Course on **28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> January**. The course is accepted by the BHS for their trainers in place of the more expensive 4-day generalist First Aid at Work Course.

To maintain the resulting qualification a 1-day refresher course is required to be undertaken once every two years.

The BHS training cost for this 2-day course is £99 per head. There are limited places so please help us by applying to the Unicorn Trust as soon as possible.

Please ring 01451 832317 or email [info@unicornequestriantrust.org.uk](mailto:info@unicornequestriantrust.org.uk).

## Club Training and Clinics

**North:** There will be a Club Judges' Clinic and Club Course Designers' Clinic on **3<sup>rd</sup> April** at Croft Top Equestrian Centre in Haslingden, just north of Bury and Manchester. The judge's trainer is Sarah Garnett who has a wealth of experience judging at all levels and Mark Ingham will be sharing his extensive knowledge of the art of course design.

The clinic starts at 10am and will finish at approximately 4pm. The cost per person is £20 including a light lunch.

**South:** As the Regional Representative for the South, Julian Burleton has been working hard to secure a venue for a Club Judges' and Course Builders' training day.

The date has been set for **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March** to be held in the Guards Polo Club's club house on Smith's Lawn in Windsor Great Park starting at 10.00 am. The trainer for the judges will be Liza Wood and the trainers for the course builders will be Mark Ingham.

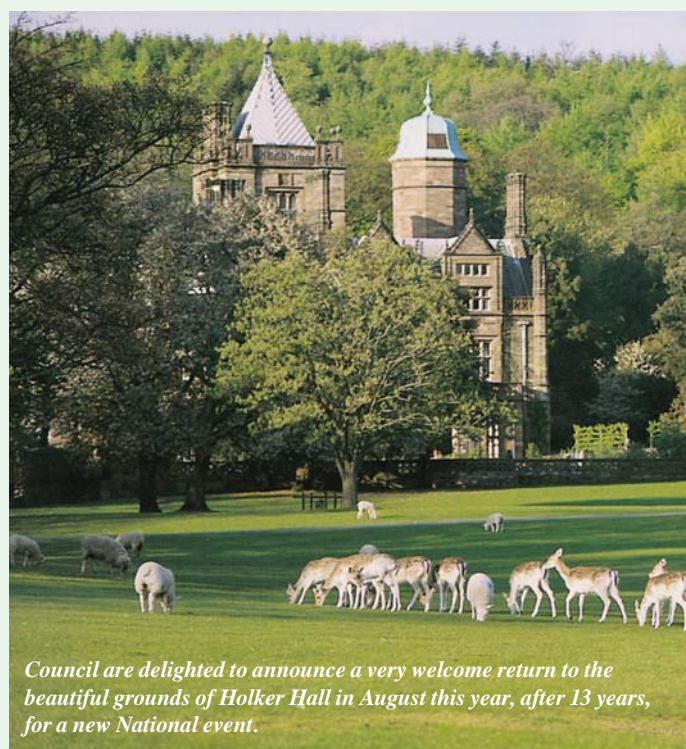
The fee will be £10 which will include refreshments and a light lunch. Tea and coffee will be available as delegates arrive. This will be followed by class room training in the morning with practical training outside after lunch (weather permitting).

A Stewards Training Clinic will also take place (dates and venue as above) where all aspects of stewards' duties in all three phases of an event will be discussed. The cost is £10 and the clinic starts at 9.30 for 10.00 am.

## EVENTS

## New National

There is a new national for your diary - Holker Hall **6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> August**. Please note that this event is not listed in your yearbook so please make a note of the date. You will receive details on a separate



*Council are delighted to announce a very welcome return to the beautiful grounds of Holker Hall in August this year, after 13 years, for a new National event.*

# ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL NEWS

sheet enclosed in your yearbook when you have renewed your subscription. Alternatively you will be able to access the schedule from the website.

By kind permission of Lord and Lady Cavendish, Holker Hall is returning to the national calendar after a break of 13 years. It will run on the Lowther weekend and all classes will be qualifiers for the national championships.

The venue is about 30 minutes from Junction 36 of the M6, with dual carriageway and 'A' class roads to get you within 5 miles of the Estate.

Holker Hall boasts beautiful scenery where the picturesque marathon course will take you along the edge of Morecambe Bay, and across the parkland, with the Lakeland Hills as its backdrop.

There will be a 'Welcome Reception' in the estate buildings on the Friday evening for competitors, stewards and sponsors to mingle. On Saturday evening there will be music provided, and the bar facilities will be open to us both evenings.

Competitors' facilities will include hot showers!

Further details and schedule will be available shortly. (Postcode is LA11 7PL.)

Please visit [www.holker.co.uk](http://www.holker.co.uk) for further details of Holker Hall and gardens.

## Side stabling

We have received a plea from some of the event organisers (particularly Catton) who have asked if competitors could please consider putting down matting under the bedding in their portable stabling to protect the grass and prevent it being killed off.

Competitors may be unaware that it often takes many months for the ground in the stabling field to recover which can cause embarrassment for landowners whose land is used for other events during the summer.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Seafrance rates

Julie Camm has again been negotiating furiously on behalf of BHDTA members to secure an excellent rate for ferry crossings in 2010. Please let Julie know if you are able to obtain a better rate elsewhere. The more people that use Seafrance, the lower the rate will be.

Prices have only risen £1.50 for each category and Seafrance have offered the following rates each way:

Vehicles up to 6.99 metres	£88.50
Between 7-9.99 metres	£103.50
Between 10-11.99 metres	£128.50
Between 12-14.99 metres	£150.50
Vehicles over 15 metres	£168.50

Prices include one passenger and VAT has still to be added. There will be a fuel levy charge to pay, which is amended monthly. Full details of the surcharge calculations are available on

request, or can be found on their website, [www.seafrancefreight.com](http://www.seafrancefreight.com).

To book, either call or fax the freight office in advance on 01304 203030 (phone 24/7) or 01304 212726 (fax 24/7).

Bookings can also be made by email on [freightcustomerservice@seafrance.fr](mailto:freightcustomerservice@seafrance.fr).

You will need to quote the account number, 26452, the vehicle registration and the vehicle length along with the payment method.

Bookings must be prepaid by credit card or paid at the port prior to departure. Alternatively bookings can be made on the day of departure.

## Horse passport alert

All horses and ponies competing at international events abroad need to have an FEI passport. This is in fact a cover which goes round your horse's existing passport. FEI passports last for 4 years and should be applied for or renewed through the BHDTA office.

If you need an FEI passport or if your horse's passport is out of date, please download the FEI Passport Application/Renewal Form from the Reference section of our website. Remember that the passport application/renewal **procedure can take several weeks**, so apply in plenty of time. An additional fee is charged for express applications.

When the forms have been completed, send them with the original passport and appropriate fee to the BHDTA office. The paperwork is completed here and then forwarded to the BEF (British Equestrian Federation).

If it is a **new** passport, the BEF add the FEI cover and return it to the owner. The owner then signs the passport and sends it back to the BEF to be over-stamped. The BEF will then return the passport to the owner.

If the passport is being **renewed**, the BEF will stamp it and return it to the owner so renewals are processed more quickly than new applications.

At peak times when demand is high, the **BEF can take a number of weeks** to process each application so it is advisable to keep a photocopy of your horse's passport before sending it away. We also recommend that Special Delivery is used for added security.

## Horse and driver registration

Please remember that all horses/ponies and competitors taking part in International FEI classes at national horse driving trials, require to be registered with the FEI annually.

Forms can be downloaded from the BHDTA website.

British Horse Driving Trials Association, East Overhill, Stewarton, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire KA3 5JT.

Tel: 0845 643 2116 Email: [bhdt@horsesdrivingtrials.co.uk](mailto:bhdt@horsesdrivingtrials.co.uk) Website: [www.horsesdrivingtrials.co.uk](http://www.horsesdrivingtrials.co.uk)

Office open Mon-Fri 8am to 12 noon

