



# Scottish Carriage Driving Association

## Newsletter

January 2006

Happy New Year to everyone from the SCDA. Hopefully you all enjoyed the Christmas festivities and received the new set of harness from Santa as requested.



### ★★★ Stop Press ★★★ CHANGE OF DATE – now 4<sup>th</sup> March SCDA AGM

Sadly, a few days after the last newsletter had been distributed, the BHDTA issued dates for clinics in 2006. Our original date clashed with the course builders' clinic. Both Club and National course builders are invited to attend and this will be a particularly relevant year as the requirements of cones courses will be a main topic for discussion. For this reason it has been necessary to change our A.G.M. and Dinner Dance to Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2006. We regret the confusion and inconvenience this will cause but no other date or option is practicable. The venue remains the same and is the Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan.

There will be a speaker in the morning preceded by a slide show with pictures from the 2005 season (this proved very popular last year). As usual, anyone with a fully paid up subscription will be able to collect their Omnibus for 2006.

Coffee will be available from 10am with the morning session starting at 10.30am. This will conclude with time for lunch in the hotel. Please use the form at the end of this newsletter or the website link to indicate if you wish to partake of the buffet lunch at £10 per person. At 2pm we will conduct the formal business of the A.G.M. It is hoped that as many of you as possible will attend.

To find the hotel **by car**:

From **The South** M1, M6, A74, follow the signs for Stirling, M73, M80, M9 to junction 11. At junction 11 there is a large roundabout; take the fourth turning on the left which is sign posted Bridge of Allan. Follow this road (A9) into the village centre, where you will find the Royal Hotel on the left-hand side.

From **The North**, join the A9 and follow the signs for Stirling/Glasgow. At the junction of the A9 there is a large roundabout. Take the second turning on the left, which is sign posted Bridge of Allan. Follow this road (A9) into the village centre, where you will find the Royal Hotel on the left hand side.

**By Rail**, take the train to Bridge of Allan train station. When leaving the station turn right onto the main road (Henderson Street). Continue through the village, seeing the Royal Hotel on the left-hand side.

### Election of Directors

This year Amanda Saville has notified the SCDA of her resignation from the Board of Directors. The association is extremely grateful to her for her contribution during her time in office.

Ian Bertram and Ian Thornton-Kemsley have indicated that they are willing to be re-elected and Mike Brown was co-opted for one year and has been proposed for a full three year term on the Board. There is therefore one vacancy and if there is anyone that you would like to nominate for this position, please pass their name to the Secretary using the form at the back of this newsletter.

### Photo Competition

The lucky winner of the SCDA Photo Competition will have their photograph used on the front cover of the 2006 Omnibus. The winner will be announced at the A.G.M. As well as the winning entry becoming the 2006 Omnibus cover picture, all submitted entries will be shown at a presentation during the SCDA AGM in March and will also be featured on our website.

### SCDA Dinner Dance

This year's fun and frolics now take place in The Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan, on the evening of Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, after the A.G.M.

Overnight accommodation is available at a rate of £60 per room for a twin or double. Single occupancy is charged at the same room rate. Tickets are priced at £27 per person which means that we have been able to hold prices at the same rate as last year.



We are hoping that there will be an excellent turnout this year to get this function well and truly "on the map". Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves last year and we hope to see even more of you present this year. Please use the booking form at the end of this newsletter to reserve tickets.

### 100 Club

A live draw was made at the Conference for the 100 club with bumper bonus Christmas prizes.

The lucky winners were as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	£75	Heather Reid
2 <sup>nd</sup>	£50	Susan Bertram
3 <sup>rd</sup>	£25	Anne Gilbert

## SCDA Conference

Due to a combination of unforeseen circumstances, it was not possible to combine the SCDA conference with the BDS Dinner Dance this year. Despite this the conference was very well attended in the new venue, The Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan. Members enjoyed an interesting and often hilarious view of life as a carriage driving commentator and journalist from Andrew Cowdery.

A number of interesting points were raised during the Conference. The rule for vaccinations has been relaxed by the BHDTA and reverts to an annual vaccination required although 2 per year are still needed for international competitions.

**NOTE:** Following the SCDA vaccination survey last year, it has been decided that all animals competing at SCDA events should have at least an annual 'flu vaccination. You should carry your passport now at all times and this will have the animal's vaccination record in detail. Event organisers will be entitled to ask to see this documentation and anyone without the necessary inoculations will be asked to leave the competition field.

**NOTE:** Another new SCDA rule entitles competitors to wear boots in the dressage. It has been felt that horses and ponies are more at risk of a knock due to the increased cone speeds and it is not particularly safe to apply boots, while put to, between dressage and cones. It must be stressed that this is a local rule.

In order to increase the number of local competitors at National events, competitors will be entitled to one National entry per person without being a BHDTA member. If possible, try and compete at Hopetoun or Castle Kennedy using this new initiative if you are not a regular National competitor.

Due to the increased cost of staging events and provision of paramedic cover, a £5 increase to event entries is being recommended. Events are still at liberty to set their own entry fees to suit their needs where necessary. It was unanimously agreed that this still represented excellent value for money as events are of a very high standard.

Provisional dates for the 2006 calendar were discussed and these have been posted on the website. The Omnibus will contain details of the confirmed events in due course.

The Open Forum raised a number of interesting points. Issues such as grooms being able to drive at the same event and drivers being allowed, in the same way as at ridden events, to compete with more than one animal were considered. This was broadly agreed in principle and will be deliberated in more detail at the next Directors' meeting. The subject of appropriate dressage tests was raised. There is a working party considering the possibility of introducing a different test and copies will be included in the Omnibus.

Overall, this was an enjoyable and interesting conference and the Chairman thanked so many members for attending.

## Presentation of Awards

The new "Fun and Friendship" trophy has been presented by the Rome family, in memory of Viv. Anne Gilbert spoke movingly about Viv's contribution to carriage driving and her huge enjoyment of the sport. This trophy was awarded to Irene Donald who has been involved with so many people in so many ways over the years and her enthusiasm never seems to wane.

The directors have chosen to present the Buddy Trophy to Karen Blair-Imrie, in recognition of her contribution to carriage driving by encouraging newcomers through her event at Lunan.

The Bellcrown Shield was presented to Jacky Jeffrey as the best placed Scottish Novice from the two Scottish National events in the horse or pony classes.

The Archie Donald memorial trophy was awarded to David Brown in recognition of his contribution to carriage driving in Scotland. He even takes a week off work to help at events!

The Graham Murray trophy, awarded this year to the best single horse from the two combined Scottish National events, was presented to Andrew Smith. Andrew spoke about the level of support he had received when he lost Basil earlier this year and thanked everyone for their kind wishes.

He then made a special award to Zoe Ross in recognition of her contribution to the new scoring system in 2005.

Finally, the Scottish Points awards were made to the prize-winners in the different sections. The results are on the website and were printed in the November newsletter. Vic Kusin had prepared a visual presentation with a photograph of every competitor as their award was received and a musical finale as the winner of each class was announced.

## Scoring

There has been a good response so far and a number of people have volunteered to work with the computerised scoring system. A clinic will be arranged to take place after the A.G.M. To register interest, please contact the secretary,



Mary Kusin.

## Training Day

There will be a training day on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April at Lunan. This is an excellent opportunity for newcomers to learn more about the requirements of competition driving which can then be put into practice the following day at the Lunan grass roots event.

Further details will be posted on the web-site in due course.

## Hopetoun 2006

Hopetoun National Horse Driving Trials is scheduled to take place on 26th-28th May 2006.

It has been confirmed that Hopetoun is one of the three remaining selection events for the World Horse Singles Championship to be held near Rome in September 2006.

Help will be needed before the event in the form of wood staining, but the good news is that (according to Ian Gilbert) there will be no stone picking!



Over the last few years floral displays have brightened up the event and we would encourage any one with even the palest of green-fingers to get growing! Please contact Jacky Jeffrey (01505 850218) if you would be willing to help in any way.

As usual the event cannot run without helpers - volunteers will be needed so pencil this date into your diary - and if you're not there helping we hope to see you competing!

## SCDA Merchandise

A new range of SCDA branded merchandise will soon be available through the web-site or from Mike Brown directly. This will include top quality sweatshirts, fleeces, polo shirts and rugby shirts in a wide choice of colours and all embroidered with the SCDA logo. SCDA stickers will also be available for your car or lorry.

All items will be very reasonably priced and a full illustrated catalogue will soon appear on the web-site and in the Omnibus 2006. We hope the range will have something to suit everyone and be widely seen during the forthcoming competition season.

## www.scda.co.uk

The full event results are posted on the web-site as soon as Vic receives them. This means that you can pore over your obstacle times, in comfort, at your leisure. If you are not familiar with the web-site, log on to [www.scda.co.uk](http://www.scda.co.uk) for the up-to-date news and chat on the discussion page. Don't forget that the web-site operates an advertising service, free of charge for members, where you can post "wanted" or "for sale" items and reach a wide audience quickly.

## West Area Quiz

The always popular quiz, with a driving theme, will take place in the West Area on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2006, in the Fairweather Hall, Newton Mearns. This will be a fun night and non-members and friends are all invited to attend.

## ANDREW MAY LHHI

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## SCDA Contacts

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<b>Website</b> 0845 226 9498	Vic Kusin <a href="mailto:website@scda.co.uk">website@scda.co.uk</a>

## SCDA information

### Newsletters

Material and adverts for the newsletter should be sent to: Mary Kusin, East Overhill Farm, Stewarton, Ayrshire, KA3 5JT. Tel. 0845 226 9498, e-mail [newsletter@scda.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@scda.co.uk)

### Adverts

Private adverts in the newsletter cost £5 and business adverts cost £10. Please make cheques payable to the Scottish Carriage Driving Association and send them, with details of your advert to: Mary Kusin, East Overhill Farm, Stewarton, Ayrshire, KA3 5JT.

Don't forget that you can also place an advert on the SCDA website. This service is free to members. Go to [www.scda.co.uk](http://www.scda.co.uk)

Latest information, news and results  
on the SCDA website

[www.scda.co.uk](http://www.scda.co.uk)

# Scottish Carriage Driving Association

Dinner Dance at the Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2006



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to book \_\_\_\_\_ places for the SCDA Dinner Dance.

I am booking for (please give names): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If possible, I would like to sit with: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_ (£27 per person) payable to "Scottish Carriage Driving Association".

Please return this form to:

**The SCDA Secretary, Mrs. Mary Kusun, East Overhill Farm, Stewarton, Ayrshire, KA3 5JT**

IF YOU REQUIRE CONFIRMATION OF YOUR BOOKING, PLEASE ENCLOSE AN S.A.E.

## NOMINATIONS FOR THE SCDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006

There is one vacancy on the SCDA Board of Directors for a term of three years.  
Mr. Ian Thornton-Kemsley and Mr. Ian Bertram are willing to stand for re-election.  
Mike Brown, co-opted for one year, is willing to stand for election.

**We, the undersigned, being two adult members of the Scottish Carriage Driving Association, hereby nominate the following member to the Board of Directors of the Scottish Carriage Driving Association Ltd. (N.B. - The consent of the nominee MUST be obtained)**

Name of candidate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed by \_\_\_\_\_

NAME IN CAPITALS

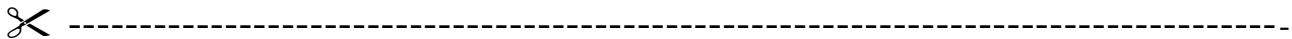
SIGNATURE

Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

NAME IN CAPITALS

SIGNATURE

Please return this form to:  
SCDA Secretary, Mrs. Mary Kusun, East Overhill Farm, Stewarton, Ayrshire, KA3 5JT  
to arrive by **Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2006.**



## *Scottish Carriage Driving Association*

AGM lunch at the Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2006

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to book \_\_\_\_\_ places for lunch at the SCDA AGM. This can be paid in advance or on the day.

I enclose a cheque for £ \_\_\_\_\_ (£10 per person) payable to "Scottish Carriage Driving Association".

Please return this form to:

**The SCDA Secretary, Mrs. Mary Kusun, East Overhill Farm, Stewarton, Ayrshire, KA3 5JT**

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