

What a Final! The College Equestrian Centre at Keysoe has under gone improvements since last year. The indoor school is now big enough for two arenas. P&P was well observed by many spectators during the day, while the cones went on at the other end of the school with limited viewing possible. Unfortunately the juniors did their P&P in the outside arena – and some of them got somewhat wet as the weather was not very kind to us, but the rain did not dampen the enthusiasm! After P&P and Cones the juniors ran their first two obstacles during Saturday evening. A large number of spectators were given a great amount of excitement. All eighteen of them, gave many a 'heart in mouth' moment during the obstacles. They drove like demons! Amanda Saville spent more time driving between Lockerbie and Keysoe than she did sleep, to bring a large contingent of ponies, carriages and children. Carriages were changed, Karen and Anna were jumping from one back step to another, it was like a mad merry go round in the collecting ring, but it paid off! Megan Carruthers won the class driving one of Amanda's British Spotted ponies that went like the wind, the spots turned into a blurr! Tina Graham driving Dick Carey's Domino had a slow time in Obstacle One but then went into top gear and nearly caught Megan; Andy Pilkington was not so far away to take third place.

Many other juniors qualified in other classes, six in the Novice Pony class. Everyone's heart went out to Ben Edmed who was well in the lead, when the wrong gate got in his way in the last obstacle and an error of course was recorded, putting him down to sixth. Leonie Marshall, definitely not a junior celebrated her \*\*th birthday on the Saturday by getting a good P&P + cones score, which put her well into contention, finishing third after the obstacles. Alan Beverly started to climb up the leader board after Obstacles 1 & 2, being fastest in the class in 2, 3 & 4 were just as fast, putting Alan into second. The class honours went to another junior, Claire Varley, who sped through all four obstacles to finish a whole ten points in the lead, taking the Novice Pony Championship. Yet another Junior, Rachel Ball drove her parents horse, Duke to take the Novice Horse Championship in good style. A good 15 points ahead of Gary Snow in second with Kate Fincham Powell in third. This was a very even class, with only 29 points between the first four placings.

Yes you have guessed it, yet another junior blazed the way in the Open Pony class. To those of us from the South East region this was no surprise as Phillipa Howe had won every event entered during the season. Phillipa set her mark on the class right from the start with a 31.4 P&P and just 4 in the cones. Not the fastest in Obstacle 1 but made up for it 2 & 4 being the fastest in both. Janet McDonald was pushing hard all through the competition, beating Phillipa in 1 & 3 but could not quite catch up being just 5.68 points behind in second. Fiona Powell was giving chase, well in touch during the obstacles but could not make up for a not so good P&P phase and finish third.

No juniors in the other classes, what a relief for the competitors. Heather Logsdon set the pace in the Open Horse class with a P&P of 25.6, not so fast in Obstacle 1 & 4 but made the rubber fly in 2 & 3, taking the Class Championship. Bev Ball had the misfortune of not being able to bring her own horse Max as a virus had hit the yard where Max is kept, but Julia Crockford loaned her Barron for the championship. Bev, full of apprehension did an average P&P, not a cricket score in the cones and felt a little better. Went into Obstacle 1 and Barron said I like this bit and recorded the fasted time in the obstacle, having done this once Bev and Barron promptly repeated the exercise in Obstacle 3 & 4 but could not make up the P&P score and finished a well deserved second, just 1.03 points ahead of David Rockall, who did a good P&P and cones but was just a little slower with his bigger horse in the obstacles.

The Pair Class was very exciting with Jacqui Pillinger some 4 points ahead of Barry Marshall, Jo Sore and Trevor Kimber after P&P and Cones. The obstacles were going to sort this class. Sarah Owlett clocked up the fastest time in 1. Trevor fastest in 2. Amanda Saville fastest in 3 & 4. No one could make up the advantage that Barry Marshall had gained with his superb P&P. Who said Shetlands cannot extend!! Barry and his mighty white mice had the crowd on the edges of their seats as he roared round the obstacles to win the class and the

Pair Championship. Barry was ecstatic, having won many ridden dressage championships at home and aboard but had never been a National Champion before, and now had achieved this accolade with a pair of Shetlands! The Tandem Championship was the well-deserved reward for Sara Jane Cook, who completed a well-driven P&P, to be complimented on her rein handling skills by P&P judge, Sarah Garnett. Sara Jane was fastest through obstacle 1 - 3 & 4 although Lesley Cox and her Eriskay ponies were pushing hard but were not able to make the time. Minta Winn had fun in 1, made up time in 2 & 3 but had more fun in 4 to finish third.

It was quite a weekend for the Howe/Marshall family. Phillipa is Leonie and Barry Marshall's granddaughter. Leonie was third Novice Pony, Barry Pair Champion, Phillipa, Junior - Open Pony – and Supreme Champion.

A great achievement for one family.

Our grateful thanks to Sarah Garnett and Patrick Sowerby who judged fairly all day, and a very long day it was indeed. Also to all the Indoor Team who came to help at Keysoe and during all the wet, cold, windy winter days.

Opposite a letter received from College EC proprietors. WELL DONE to everyone that stayed at Keysoe for the whole weekend.

Official photographers, Bev & Malc Huntingdon of Foto-forum were taking photos at the Finals. These

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Rita Bundock C/0 Indoor Driving Trials 15 Hollow Lane Canterbury Kent CT1 35B
Dear Rita
Just a quick note to express our thanks to all your members, your organisational team, and competitors for such a great weekend.
It makes such a refreshing change to thank our customers after they have gone!! All stables left clean, yards swept, and cheerful families who obviously enjoy their sport as a result of your great enthusiasm and management team
We so much enjoy hosting your event you at our Centre, long may it last!
Kind regards



Patsy & Simon Bates and all the team

can be viewed and ordered by logging on to <u>www.foto-forum.co.uk</u> - There are lots of everyone!!

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## **STRONGID – P SAY GOODBYE**

After six years Pfizer Ltd, makers of Strongid – P Wormers have declined to sponsor Indoor HDT. We are very grateful to Pfizer's and Strongid – P for their support over the years. Wormers are still available from Dick Carey (01424 892051) at good discounted prices. So we are now looking for new sponsors. We have ideas to over come this but they need to be worked on. Watch this space!!!

## **BRIGHTON and NORMANHURST HDT's.**

Indoor HDT UK have been organising and running the Normanhurst HDT (31 July -1 August) with National qualifying and Club classes for the last three years and is doing so again this year. Club schedules are available by sending a A5 SAE to Rita the address above. at National qualifying classes are as per BHDTA Year Book. As usual we need stewards on both days. Are you available? If so please contact Sarah Owlett on 01732 838716. Last season

Normanhurst HDT was somewhat short of cash, the event was doubtful, the future was doubtful, but the event went ahead with many cut backs. and run on а shoestring. This year will be much different thanks to the great efforts of Sarah. Over the winter Sarah has organised many fundraising events, tack sales, evening meals, breakfasts, sponsored walks. afternoon dog dressage, sponsored rides, the list is endless. The response has been fantastic. Everyone that is involved with organising the event, everyone that competes at the event this year has Sarah to thank for her tremendous effort in helping save the Normanhurst HDT.

Normanhurst HDT is at Catsfield, near Battle, East Sussex. A good road from the motorway!

We are also organising Brighton HDT as from 2005. We look forward to seeing many Indoor drivers at both of these National and Club events.

# FOUR IN HAND CHALLENGE.

Indoor HDT are having a party! and inviting top four in hand drivers to show their expertise at obstacle driving with a difference. This will be at Merrist Wood EC, near Guildford on Saturday 18 September. More details will be published nearer the date.

## **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Everyone that is a member of any Carriage Driving Club must now be fully aware that the BHDTA members levy has been increase to £5 per member of every Club. Indoor HDT UK, like ever other Club in the UK that is affiliated to the BHDTA, has been forced to raise the membership fees accordingly. Although membership subscriptions are not due until  $1^{st}$  October for the 2004 – 2005 Winter season, you will find a renewal form attached. I would be very grateful indeed if membership was renewed well before the start of next season. It is an absolute nightmare when dozens of membership forms arrive on the doormat day after day at the beginning of the season. So please send your membership in plenty of time, (it will save me many new grey hairs!). All new and renewed memberships will be valid until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005.

### VACANCY

NEWSLETTER EDITOR. Any offer to take on the Indoor News for next season. Due to my everincreasing workload I am looking for some kind soul to take on collecting information from all over the UK. Formatting and producing a Newsletter three/four times a season. Any takers? Please ring Rita.

#### FOR SALE.

#### INDOOR SWEATSHIRTS

Sweatshirts are ideal for your marathon colours; we have in stock or can order various sizes and colours. At only  $\pm 19.99$  each plus  $\pm 1.50$  p&p they are truly good value. Wash well and do not shrink in the tumble drier. (or at least mine have not done so). Just send sizes and colour required along with a cheque to cover shirts and postage and we will send to you. ASAP.

#### WORMERS.

Wormers are still available from Dick Carey, not only Strongid – P. Just give Dick a call on 01424 892051 for your special members discount prices.

#### Indoor HDT Badges.

We are considering producing Indoor HDT metal badges, who would be interested in buying a badge. Please let us know by letter, email, fax or phone or come and see us at various National events around the country.

#### FOR LOAN.

Remember the great show jumping tandem leader of the 2002/03 National Finals? Now there is a opportunity to loan this great character. Unfortunately Amanda Wells has been told she will not be able to carriage drive after a stay in hospital and is looking for someone to take on this super bay gelding, (13hh I think) Rupert has been there, done it all and has got the tee-shirt. Ring Amanda on 01371 856684 for more details, be quick or you will miss out.

## JACK IN A BOX.

Suppliers of Fleck Driving Whips. Driving Polly Pads in various colours. Plus gloves, boots, and much more. Visit us around the shows and events this summer. Makers of Jack's Dog Beds For any Enquiries please call Ian Collings on 01424 756021 or Email: frances@fcollings.f9.co.uk We only accept cheques or cash.