

## JERSEY HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY MIDSUMMER SHOW 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010

The Jersey Horse Driving Society Midsummer Show held its second show at its St Lawrence showground, though the conditions were blustery it was comfortable for the horses and ponies. The show judge was Mrs R Bown from Buckinghamshire who was impressed with the high standard though she would liked to have seen some younger animals, she was particularly impressed with the juniors, ten year old Ellie Carre who won the young driver class and Kieran O'Conner who has just started driving, both striving to drive coachman's style.

Rachelle Bownes won the first class, pairs in exercise vehicles and her three ponies were prominent in nine of the seventeen classes plus gaining a place in the British Driving Championships at Towerlands in the Autumn.

Sheila Vetier drove Charlie to win the horse and pony class from her sister Margaret Robinson driving her Hackney Gemma turning the tables on the Spring Show result.

The eye catching turnout of the day was Ivor Barette with his pair of black Gelderlanders driven to a Roof Seat Brake who won the pairs and the qualifier for Towerlands also the Show Championship. Reserve Champion went to Phyllis Gouedart driving her Welsh section C Cob driven to a Rallie car having won the country turnout class.

Julie Chalker won the single four wheeled exercise class and the qualifier also driving a Welsh section C Cob.

John Vibert drove Jester to win the Van class normally driven by his wife June who was indisposed, though she had polished all the brasses and fittingly won the Beast Brass Trophy and Rosette, Brian Raffray drove Charles Le Cornu's mare to Vincent's Obbard's Van in second place.

The show has many varieties of classes for all abilities, one of these is the pleasure driving class for newcomers, Kieran O'Conner driving Rachelle's obedient Ovington Hermes was the winner from Fleur White driving her dun pony Abercippyn Zodiac. The Open Whip Classes are judged entirely on the drivers ability to drive correctly and produce the horse or pony to the best out of it's ability, Emma Le Marquand drove faultlessly to win the open class driving her mother's evergreen Bleachgreen Firecracker, sadly there was only one entrant in the novice whip class but this did not detract from Laura Vetier's ability to drive Charlie who is a powerful cob.

The Ride and Drive classes are to show the ability of the horse to be driven as well as ridden and are required to perform a ridden show and jump a small jump, Junior Ellie Carre won the pony class. In the horse class Ivor's pair were ridden as a pair, Uniform ridden by Carol McDonalde who headed the ridden class from Sophie Olliviera riding Unique. The pair went on to win the class, Jean Michel rode Jester though a little nervous about jumping, acquitted herself very well to come second and appeared to enjoy the experience.

Concours D'Elegance classes were judged by Mrs S Le Marchand she chose Tom Robinson as her winner in the pony class and Ivor Barette's pair in the horse class.

Finally this show has a long tradition of holding a ridden trotting Derby. Health and safety demand they are ridden in saddles unlike in earlier years when it was a bareback derby with the farm horses who took delight in dumping their riders much to the amusement of the audience, Ellie Carre was under no pressure in the junior class as the only entrant, however there was much excitement in the senior class as once a horse breaks pace they have to turn a circle. The leading order kept changing during the two circuits and it was Carol riding Uniform who ran out the eventual winner.

The society would like to extend it's grateful thanks to the Sponsors and the many helpers who make this show a success.

