



# Harness Racing Calendar

The official publication of the British Harness Racing Club

Volume 55 No. 2



# British Harness Racing Club

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# British Harness Racing Club



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**Chairman:** *Rotating Chairman*

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**Office Hours:** TBC

# BOARD REPORT

*Life as a director is challenging, and at times totally un-rewarding. It is no exaggeration to say that it overtakes your life, and at this time we should thank our families who put up with the endless interruptions and lack of quality family time.*

*However recently there has been some sunshine on what appears often to be a gloomy day - we thank those licence holders who acknowledge the work we do, or the efforts we have made.*

*We have also been told by a licence holder to put the problems into perspective that it is less than 5% of the licence holders who appear to have problems with the way the club is being run, and to have a change of perspective to our glass is half full - with the belief that 95% feel we are doing an ok job.*

**Insurance** - *it is well documented that we are having problems with WWHRA taking out the BHRC events insurance. Following on from the settlement of a recent landmark case it became obvious to Directors that serious accidents can and do happen. Having spoken to a number of professional people the way to limit the risk of an accident not being covered is by the BHRC holding all the insurance policies and by using the same UK underwriters. At the moment until our Insurance Broker and Solicitor inform us that it is safe to do so we will continue to insist that promoters use our insurance. This may not be a popular decision with some, however, we are not prepared to take a risk for the sake of all licence holders and the sport itself.*

**Cashflow** - *a cashflow is purely a prediction of the money flowing into and out of a business over a given period (in the future), allowing you to make strategic, informed decisions. For the first time in over 2 years we have been able to have confidence in the figures and use them to produce a predicted cashflow.*

*It appears that some members did not understand that these are just predicted figures, and we were, back in March, criticised for not running a balanced budget, or planning to run a balanced budget. We did try to explain that these were worst case figures and that they would change as we could update predicted figures to actual amounts..*

*Just three months on, due to the hard work of Hayley, the use of the new database and the continued free support of Directors acting as part of the Admin Team, we have managed to make over £3,000 savings. Be assured we continue to keep a tight rein on money out of the business whilst continuing to look for ways to increase money into the business.*

**Database** - *the new database (which was a necessity), the old one had totally broken and could not cope with the new handicapping system, or with the backups needed on a daily basis.*

*We had therefore, no choice but to invest in a new system. We are sorry it has taken a long time, however having bespoke software is not a quick fix, it is not like buying a program off-the-shelf (online or from a store) where you can buy it and*

install it on the same day.

Julie (a Computer Science teacher during the day) did tell us that it would take a couple of years. However, apart from a couple of minor teething problems with handicapping rules, the new database is starting to earn its money back, Hayley can turn data around much more quickly than previously and is coping on her own in the office.

**Website** - phase three and the final part of the re-designing of our computer system is the website. It is time to not only update our website and how it looks, but to repair the functionality so that you the licence holder can look at people (who have licences) as well as horse performance data. We know that this, to you, is the most important bit, however it links to the database of horses and database of people, so those two parts had to be built first.

We are now putting this final part out to tender. We thank you for your on-going patience. We hope that this will be functioning late season.

**Stewarding update reports** - we have always asked that our Regional Stewards provided us with all information after a days racing. Last year we introduced a Race Day Report form. This year Charles has suggested taking it a step further and sharing it with all licence holders.

These reports are posted on the website, (usually mid-week), following a race meeting. We have had some positive feedback from licence holders about the extra data that is now available for all to

see, and the transparency this has created.

**Promotion** - one of our directors and Hayley have been in contact with a couple of national magazines re them producing articles about Harness Racing in their magazine. Both have indicated an interest in running features on our sport. The aim of this is to try to encourage footfall at the gate. We are hoping that Your Horse will be linking up with Champion Trainer - Alexis Laidler very soon.

**Grants** - unfortunately our sport is too small to attract any form of national funding that we have investigated (Sport England and Sport Wales), we will continue to look as sources of funding do change. Julie has found a fund that we may be eligible for linked to integrity and in the somewhat limited time she has, is working on a bid. We wish her luck on her endeavours, we are also aware that she has found, and shared with members information about funding that was not suitable for us to apply for (as a club), but that was suitable for members to apply for. We encourage you to apply for funding, not only could it help you, but it could also help to put the sport on the map.

**Regional Stewards** - with the retirement of Andrea, and resignation of Garry and Craig, we have taken the opportunity to try to make a further financial saving. Directors will take on the role of Regional Stewards, luckily we have four with considerable stewarding experience. Looking at the accounts over the last couple of years, this could save us in excess of £4000 in travel costs, as directors have volunteered to take

on the role and ensure attendance whilst not claiming travel costs, in order to help the club at this difficult time. We therefore ask that ALL promoters give free access (on production of their BHRC DIRECTOR ID) to meetings.

**One person one vote** - this has been an embryonic period for all. When voting it was described as licence holders having a vote on 'big ticket items'. The original post of August 2021 even gave examples of the said big ticket items. The original post stated: **important** new rules, **major** handicapping changes and **major** new projects. We are seeking legal advice on a workable mechanism for this.

**Rule Book** - unfortunately although hour after hour was spent in the closed season improving the Rule Book, the deadline could not be met. Therefore we had no alternative but to delay the introduction until the 2024 season. We thank all those who did contribute, rest assured your work is not wasted, just on hold.

**NISA** - have made an application that we recognised their licence holders in the way that we recognise IHRA licence holders, and allow horses/drivers to compete here in Great Britain.

BHRC are the Governing Body of Great Britain made up of England, Scotland and Wales. IHRA are the Governing Body of the island of Ireland.

NISA would therefore need to be recognised as the governing body in order for us to be able to recognise their

members. NISA must therefore resolve their issues in Ireland before we can consider their request.

To recognise their members is a breach of our own Rule Book and Constitution, and a breach of ITA regulation and could affect our ITA membership, and the ability for our drivers to go and drive abroad, and for the export of our horses. It would also affect those members of IHRA who legitimately cross the water to race on GB shores.

**Medication Books** - all trainers should now be in possession of their BHRC Medication Book.

We plan to carry out desk based sampling on a monthly basis by asking for copies of these books from approx. 10 trainers (public/licence/permit) spread across GB.

We have already completed two rounds of desk-based sampling in May and June. We are now about to request the July sample. We thank the trainers for the prompt return of the requested samples.

**Constitution** - The current constitution is overly complicated, unwieldy and does not reflect the current structure of the BHRC with One-Person-One-Vote.

We have therefore asked for the professional advice of a solicitor about this and requested a re-draft in plain English. We will then present this to members for feedback.

Barry, Jason, Will, Carol, Julie, Charles &  
Hayley

# **STAGBI**

## **IMPORTING HORSES FROM IRELAND, EUROPE or NORTH AMERICA**

If you are importing a horse into GB from Ireland, Europe or North America, under DEFRA's current legislation on Equine ID, if the horse will be staying in GB for more than 90 days then owners are legally required to register imported horses with the appropriate GB Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO) within 30 days of import. For Standardbreds & Trotters the appropriate PIO is STAGBI.

Therefore, you will need to:

Contact STAGBI for the appropriate Import Form.

Return completed form, Passport, Health Documents & fees to STAGBI Office

Apply to the governing body of the country of export for an Export Certificate. This Export Certificate will be issued direct to STAGBI and will allow the horse to be registered on the STAGBI Database and Stud Book.

## **EXPORTING HORSES TO IRELAND, EUROPE or NORTH AMERICA**

Please contact your Vet, DEFRA or Transport Agent for information regarding the health checks, bloods or swabs required for travelling.

To facilitate the transfer of horse into the appropriate Stud Book or Database of the country of destination you will need to contact STAGBI for a Definitive (Permanent) Export Certificate.

NB: As the vet is required to complete a section of this form, the application form should be submitted BEFORE THE HORSE LEAVES THE COUNTRY.

Contact STAGBI for the appropriate Export Form

Once processed the Export Certificate (which includes race results & DNA) will be sent by STAGBI electronically to the Governing Body of the country of destination.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to apply for an export certificate before the horse leaves the country and the subsequent non-issue of an Export Certificate, will result in the horse not being permitted to race.

Application for Retrospective Export Certificates will be referred to and issued at the discretion of the STAGBI Board of Directors with additional costs incurred.

## **TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

Under current DEFRA legislation on Equine ID, a new owner is required to inform the appropriate PIO (STAGBI) of a change of ownership within 30 days of purchase. Please ensure that you complete the transfer of ownership form and return to STAGBI.

## **CASTRATION**

When a horse is castrated, please ensure that the Vet records this in the passport and that you inform STAGBI.

## DEATH OF A HORSE

When a horse dies, under current DEFRA legislation on Equine ID as the owner you are required to notify the appropriate PIO (STAGBI) that the horse has died and return the passport to STAGBI to be invalidated.

STAGBI is currently in the process of updating the website and the on-line database. It is hoped that the new website will be on-line within the next few months. Once the new website is up and running all forms will be available for download and it will also be possible for you to process some transactions electronically on line.

If you are unsure or require any assistance then please contact the STAGBI office. The office staff will be more than happy to advise and assist you.

### Contact Information

Tel Office: 01570 429361 / Tel Mobile: 07581 438805  
 Address: Room 2, Creuddyn, Pontfaen Road, Lampeter, SA48 7BN  
 Email: [info@standardbred.org](mailto:info@standardbred.org)

<p><b>BHRC</b></p> <p><b>Flu Vaccination Programme</b></p> <p><i>The BHRC have used 2022 as a transition period but from 2023 will require horses to have 6 monthly boosters.</i></p> <p><b>Primary course intervals (horses not previously vaccinated):</b></p> <p>Primary course intervals are only required for horses that have not yet been administered a primary course or are required to re-start a new primary course.</p> <p>An initial primary course of three vaccinations</p>	<p>must be given (V1, V2 and V3): the second vaccination (V2) must now be administered within <b>21-60</b> days of the first vaccination.</p> <p>Horses must not attend any official BHRC fixture/venue until 7 days after the second vaccination of the primary course.</p> <p>Vaccine 3 (V3) must then be administered within <b>120-180 days</b> of the administration of the second vaccination (V2).</p> <p><b>Boosters</b> should be administered no more than <b>6 calendar months</b> apart, according to calendar months rather than a fixed number of days. For example, a horse that is fully vaccinated on 01 January would require a booster on or before 01 July.</p>
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	Current	New protocol for 2022 (Primary Course)	New protocol ALL for 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023
V1 (1 <sup>st</sup> Vaccine)			
V2 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Vaccine)	21-92 days	21 – 60 days	
V3 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Vaccine)	150-215 days	120-180 days	
Booster	Not more than 1yr apart	Not more than 6 months apart	Not more than 6 months apart



# SCOOT AROUND 1999-2023

By Master Scoot (USA) out of Merry Go Round

- ◆ Two time Crock of Gold Winner
- ◆ Two time Sire Stakes Winner
- ◆ Top Class Free For All Horse
- ◆ Multiple FFA Winner
- ◆ Earnings in excess of £58,000
- ◆ BHRC Horse of the Year
- ◆ (2004, 2005 and 2010)
- ◆ Fastest time 1.56.9
- ◆ BHRC Hall of Famer
- ◆ 35 wins

We are sure that all avid harness racing enthusiasts were saddened to hear of the death of Scoot Around at the age of 23.

Scoot Around (Scoot), bred in Wales by Huw Evans, and owned for most of his life by the Fell family, trained by daughter Rachael and driven by local driver Alan Haythornthwaite will leave each of us with a different endearing memory. He was a true racehorse, crowd puller and family pet.



*The BHRC were saddened to hear of the passing of Scoot Around.*

*A genuine horse of a lifetime and certainly a trail blazer in his time.*

*Sleep tight Scoot and thank you for the fabulous memories*

**Breeder Huw Evans:** Scoot was foaled here in Tregaron back in 1999, the third foal from a decent race mare Merry Go Round-he was named Star by the kids, due to the obvious white marking on his fore-head, a name that fore-told his future.

He was weaned alongside American Beauty – also sired by Master Scoot, they spent their first winter together, Gwenan reminded me that he was not the brightest spark in the box at that time always being made a fool of by his more athletic companion.

He was an “old-fashioned” type, a big foal with a bit of “feather”, we didn’t break him in until he was two and didn’t try and race him until he was three – in fact as a three year old he only raced once in York, then trained by John Gill, and was not very successful – we decided there must be a problem (in fact there were two as he was a full rig) so he was despatched to the Vyrnwy Equine Clinic to remove the problem(s), before turning him out for the winter.

From there he never looked back I brought him into work the following January to prepare him for the Spring meeting here in Tregaron, he duly won his maiden in good style and his older brother Jump Jet won the Novice the same day.

We decided to take a trip to Appleby a fortnight later where he finished second to a rather good horse namely George Arthur. We stabled with Les Fell and family for the week-end and as one does I rang Les a few days later to thank him for having us stay for the week-end, it was during this conversation that Les dropped in the question “Would you like to sell that horse?” and a deal was made. Financially it was one of the worst deals I have ever made in my life but in reality the horse could never have gone to a better home where he proved he



was one of the best horses to be bred in this country – as my sister reminds me they only have one breeder, but obviously the Yorkshire air did him no harm whatsoever and I have always taken great pride in his phenomenal achievements!

One of my proudest moments was to see Rhys drive him to win the top grade race in Aberystwyth back in 2011, by this time Scoot was 12 years old – Les and Rachel brought him down specially so Rhys could drive him which was extremely generous of them. Unfortunately, I didn’t actually see the race as I was warming up his little brother Foolaround who won the very next race that day.

I told someone quite recently that Vino Rosa is the best horse I have ever owned but Rhys soon corrected me stating very clearly you can’t say she is better than Scoot!!!!!! If there is a Meadowlands in heaven he will certainly hold his own. **Huw Evans**

**Rachael's story** - Huw came to stay with us at the Appleby Spring Meeting, Scoot had just won his maiden race (with Huw in the sulky) at Tregaron.

When Huw left dad kept saying how much he liked Scoot, and after New Fair Trot he joined Team Fell, and the rest, as they say is history. How lucky were we?

Although on the Hall of Fame story it says he was meek and mild at home, this is not strictly correct, perhaps when training him, where he would trail around the track doing what he wanted to do, even cantering - I am amazed he ever got fit. However put the hobbles on and Scoot certainly knew it was time for business.

The rest of the meek and mild story is however a bit of a fairy tale, he loved attention, and it was quite common for him to show his affection with a little nip, which could be regularly seen in the form of bruises on my arms.

Scoot's best friend was a Shetland called Rocky, which is where the Haythornthwaite brothers Richard and James honed their driving skills in the Pony Races at York. Scoot later turned his affections to Sassy, mum's old mare and mother to Plan B and Rollercoaster. He was so protective of her, not another horse was allowed near his friend!

He had the biggest character, and we have loved every minute of owning him, we will all miss him and his antics so much. His love of racing was so great, that he has been known to back himself into the shafts on the wheelbarrow.

Life with Scoot was never boring, he had a mischievous side, and could be known to let himself out, at which point he would move headcollars, buckets and wheelbarrows, in general just cause as much mischief as he could.

**Good night old boy, we adored you, and we will miss you so much.**





## From a drivers view .....

I have been privileged to drive some of the best horses in Great Britain, each of them have been very different, and it would be unfair to say any one of them was better than another, however driving a good horse is always a privilege and something I will be eternally grateful for.

To me Scoot Around epitomised a classic 'good horse', he was uncomplicated, no extra equipment needed, as honest as the day is long, a horse that genuinely gave his all - in every race. He raced year-in, year-out, a natural athlete, he was such a genuine horse and one that gave me so many fabulous memories.

After my first drive on him, I remember thinking he was a big nice horse and getting off and telling Les "he's a nice horse, I'm not sure how fast he will be though", sometimes it is good to be proved wrong.

Driving Scoot Around was such a reward, not only was he an uncomplicated horse, who could do it from wherever in the race, his owners the Fell family never put any pressure on me as a driver, making the experience even more enjoyable. Their focus was to bring back their horse safe and sound. We would all like to thank the Fell family for their continued support, they are so much more than owners to us. If any owner deserves a champion it is certainly them.

Scoot Around won on hard tracks and grass, over different distances, on premier tracks and our more traditional farmers field type tracks, he could run from the front, or off the pace and for a big long striding horse, he could corner with the best. Thank you Scoot Around, as I reflect on our numerous laps together, I sit and smile, and will be eternally grateful to you, 26 wins, over 90 races and of course, the day in York when you nearly blew my hat off and you 'Scooted around' in 1.56.09. Goodnight Champ. Alan H



**Extract from the BHRC Hall of Fame:** Have you ever met anyone who is meek and mild, happiest going for a stroll in the country or playing with children, but changes into an aggressive determined go-getter when they enter their field of work. Scoot Around is such an individual, a family pet at home, yet when he enters his workplace, the trotting track, he has one thing in mind - winning.

He delights in destroying and destructing other horses. His skills are simple; blinding speed, dogged determination, superb stamina, awesome ability. It is this cocktail of greatness that has made him two time Horse of the Year, British Champion pacer, track record holder on five courses, the richest Standardbred ever and back to back winner of S4C's prestigious Crock of Gold race series.

Sure he gets beaten, but no horse has ever had the beating of him - he has always beaten

any horse more times than it has beaten him. He beat the "unbeatable" Canadian Champion, Scarlet And Gold, specially imported to win the Crock of Gold, along with many other top horses in his long career. Harness Racing may be a minority sport in Britain, but no sporting hero is better loved or more deserved of the accolades he has won.

**In closing:** let us not forget this magnificent horse who raced over 10 seasons, putting in 142 performances, 35 of them visiting the winners enclosure, 73 of those racing picking up a rosette, 18 sub 2 minute miles, a lifetime best of 1.56.09 and amassing prizemoney of nearly £59,000. The first double COG winner, and one of only four to achieve this magnificent feat. You were a genuine war horse. Good night Scoot and thank you for all the fabulous memories you left us.







# CHILDREN'S PONIES ✦ EXHIBITION DRIVES ✦





# CHILDREN'S PONIES ✦ EXHIBITION DRIVES ✦







# CHILDREN'S PONIES ✦ EXHIBITION DRIVES ✦







# CHILDREN'S PONIES ✿ EXHIBITION DRIVES ✿





# CHILDREN'S PONIES ✦ EXHIBITION DRIVES ✦







# CHILDREN'S PONIES \*EXHIBITION DRIVES\*





# CHILDREN'S PONIES ✿ EXHIBITION DRIVES ✿







## CHILDREN'S PONIES ✦ EXHIBITION DRIVES ✦

If you have taken part in an Exhibition Drive this year and I have not included your photo I am really sorry, can you please let me know and I will try to search for images we can use, and will include it in Pt 2 in our September Calendar.

These are our future drivers, we need to invest in our future, whether that be Exhibition Drives, shadowing opportunities, given positions of responsibility - whatever, our older generation will not be around forever. We need to invest in our own future.



As Sarah has a bit of a break from track photography, we wish her young protégée Tamzin Lees good luck as she investigates another area of media. Tamzin is again showing us all how multi-talented and dedicated she is.

Unfortunately this may mean that the livestream will be under-staffed and less races streamed.

## **BHRC Media Team:**

Our BHRC Media Team is growing, we would like to introduce them all and tell you a little about their roles, which are too often unseen and not always appreciated. Heading the team is:

**Sarah Thomas** - being from Wales and having lived in both Scotland and now England most members of the harness racing family are familiar with Sarah and the fabulous photographs that she takes on racedays. Sarah is the brains behind it all, she has the ideas, the technology and the confidence to experiment.

Many of you may have forgotten the promotional video that Sarah made and shared extensively on Facebook and other social media channels a few years ago, the one she won an award for at the 2019 International Media Awards (which was a component of the 2019 World Trotting Conference).

Sarah also collates and edits all the photos and videos used at the awards evening which add to ambience and suspense on the evening, or of course to be used on the BHRC website and in the BHRC Calendar. She is innovative, inspirational and highly motivated with her media work, and has approached the BHRC with a number of other ideas for this year in order to put together a wealth of promotional material going forwards.

To do this Sarah goes up and down the country at her own expense, she attends racedays taking photographs and only makes a small charge for the printing of photographs which barely covers the cost of the print never mind her time downloading, editing and then uploading photos to social media for you all to see or the cost of her equipment!

Sarah cannot put together the promotional materials without limitless videos and photos, and is busy collecting these from tracks up and down the country, from hard track to grass, big meetings to small. Should promoters not wish to be part of this please let the BHRC office know.

We cannot afford to pay Sarah for her endeavours, we wish we could, she gives her time and fuel to the sport, we do ask therefore, if promoters will please allow her free access to events, and unlimited access to all areas on a raceday. Sarah (and Tamzin) are covered by the BHRC Insurance, and are named as official BHRC Media Representatives.

An area often not mentioned is the key role Sarah plays behind the microphone in the formal post race interviews at some of our premier meetings, the post race summaries with Darren, co hosts the Sulky Show with Darren and the less formal but more fun Chico and Sarah show, where literally anything goes. We of course thank Graham Rees for his years of service behind the camera and Annette Sproul.

**Tamzin Lees:** many of our licence holders in the North of England and Scotland know Tamzin, she has been running the Facebook Live on NHR for some years now. Tamzin (now 13 yrs old) is starting to show an interest and skill in photography and can now be seen shadowing Sarah at every opportunity. Tamzin recently posted some of her photographs from the Appleby Spring meeting on NHR Facebook page, and there were a number of them that we could have considered for the front cover. Well done Tamzin, and thank you for all the work you do.

**Mandy Stanley:** we now regularly see Mandy and hear her dulcet tones on the microphone at some of our premier events, interviewing winning connections whether that be owner, trainer, driver, trying to bring inside information to us all, perhaps getting us a few tips along the way.

**Darren Owen:** the voice of harness racing. Darren not only commentates at tracks up and down Great Britain, but also organises a number of commentators for meetings where he cannot be in attendance. He co-hosts the Sulky Show with Sarah Thomas and carries out a review of the days racing on the livestream with Sarah from some of the premier events.

**Ollie Franklin :** Oli operates the drone at most of the meetings. From being a complete novice (at the racing game), he has quickly become very adept at capturing the moment, which enables the stewards to make an accurate call. It has been used both to prosecute and to clear

licence holders.

Oli is also working with Sarah to try to capture some unseen footage from a variety of angles in order for the BHRC to have some up-to-date promotional materials.

**Chico (aka Charles Inglis):** Charles co-hosts the The Chico and Sarah Show (Facebook), which is a bit of tongue-in-cheek racing 'banter' which provides us all with a bit of light-hearted entertainment.

**Julie Park:** Julie gets all the boring jobs, she collates all the content for The Calendar, editing pieces, preparing the artwork and the graphics and generally setting up the pages for the printer.

**Kirsty Legrice and team:** Kirsty the face behind the video (or one of them), along with Keith Thomas, Frank Leggett and Jack Stevenson.

We thank all the videographers who capture the raceday moments, not only used for stewarding and for a historical record, but they also provide the licence holders with lasting memories. It is good to see tracks either freely sharing them on Facebook or making them available to buy, thus enabling licence holders to be able to again keep a memory of their win.

**Roving reporters:** Carmel Steward, Mel Dandridge and Les Smith who provide invaluable results, updates and reports on Facebook. Well done to everybody who contributes in anyway to promoting out sport.

**Well done and thank you to just some of our BHRC Media Team**

# Appleby Spring Harness Racing

**Appleby Spring Harness Racing** the first premier event in the harness racing calendar were again blessed with fabulous weather. The sun shone, the winners came from across the nations of Great Britain and a fabulous time was had by all.

An eight race card on day one saw the first race go to the Bousfield Family with Artistic, on home territory - Holme Farm, with the patriarch of our sport Kit watching wisely on. Appleby Spring Meeting is all about the two handicaps, Day One saw the Grade Two Appleby Handicap being made up of three heats with the first three from each through to the final.

**Heat 1:** The Welsh postman likes this track, and came knocking again, with My Dude, who showed gate speed, quickly taking an early lead, but after having a lap on his own terms, Vicki Gill and Archie Camden started breathing down his neck, with a circuit to go the race was very much between these two, with Archie Camden looking like he'd done enough, however the persistent postman, and the courageous My Dude showed a never say die attitude, and

Photo courtesy of Tamzin Lees





popped his head out just before the line, taking out Heat 1.

**Heat 2:** Brywins My Beach made good use of her 1 draw, and a cool drive by Ryan Inglis, stacking up the opposition, holding off challenges from Smugglers Cove, gave Ryan the advantage in the back straight when he kicked for home leaving the opposition in his dust, from this point on he never looked like being headed.

**Heat 3:** Stashtecash meant business, from a 4 draw showed lightening gate speed to head the field from the paddock corner. Hugh Menzies played 'Joe Cool' stacking up the opposition, holding out Stateside Hill and boxing in Desert Cry. He had them all where he wanted allowing him to take the honours.

Good to see Coalford Stud back on Appleby turf and in the winners enclosure with Coalford Topguy, as well as our own steward Gary Dowse partnering Rhian Camden and local horse Midnight Diamond for the Winter stables all taking home red rosettes.

**Group 2: Appleby Final** - Stashtecash had a hard first lap sitting two wide, before driver Hugh Menzies decided press green for go, and took on Scottish challenger Checkon William. My Dude looked all the winner, but a gap didn't come, Stash the cash had the first run duly taking home the cash for Hamish to stash. Well done to all connections in the final, it was a fabulous race and a good end to Day One of the Appleby Spring Meeting.

**Day Two:** the sun shone, the crowd arrived early to take up their pitches track side, adorned with picnics, chairs





and rugs, as well as the odd beer or two. The meeting had a real holiday feel.



Day Two is all about the first Group 1 of the year, and one of the few now on grass. With three heats, and the first three horses going into the final, the crowd sat back for a thrilling afternoon of racing, and they were not disappointed.

**Heat 1:** National Treasure pushed the gate away, and as seemed to be the trend at Appleby over the weekend, James Haythornthwaite, 'racked and stacked them', making it look all so easy, leading from start to finish. One to watch - Blue La Vida Loca who came with a late swoop from the back of the field to take second place, with Roller Coaster picking up the yellow ticket.



**Heat 2:** saw another front runner in the winners enclosure, this time local runner Desert Diamond, for Jimmy Winter, steered by Richard Haythornthwaite taking the honours closely followed by GDs King and Stamphill George.

**Heat 3:** saw a somewhat reduced field in the high grade heat, which is disappointing for the crowd, with the withdrawal of two horses of the countries highest graded pacers. The crowd eagerly awaited the return of Merrington Movinup aka Joey, and were not disappointed. By the end of the home straight and with only the first 1/4 of a mile under their belt, Joey had gone from a 40 yd trail to heading the pack, and from this point on it was all about the placings.





Stable mate Yerkes Hanover, was perhaps the surprise performer, having not really shown much early season form at York, to take 2nd place and his ticket to the final with Oakwood Ardan in third.

Other winners on the day included the Laidler team with Majestic Smile, Rockaday for Alf Swinbank, JD Camden for Hugh O'Neil, Whirlwind White - first win for new trainer Rebecca Holmes and a very impressive Rhys Superfly who looks more than capable of a heat/final win sometime soon.

**Final:** Nine horses lined up for the final, with the early battle being between the two Haythornthwaite brothers, National Treasure however wobbled on James on the paddock corner and brother Richard seized the opportunity, cruising past with Roller Coaster. Roller Coaster kept the pressure on with lots of early pace, having them strung out like the proverbial washing, Yerkes Hanover however, made an early move, pulling out at the whirlpool corner on the first lap and from then on didn't see the paint again, picking off the opposition one at a time, and by the time we got to the paddock corner on the final lap, the winner was clear to see. Well done William Laidler Jnr on his first Group 1 Final.

Leading B/C Class driver of the meeting was shared between Ryan Inglis & William Laidler Jnr.

The Spring Harness Racing Committee would like to thank EVHRA stewards for all their hard work over the weekend, the sponsors, without their generous support events like this could not take place, the competitors, the crowd who made the event so special and anybody else who helped in whatever way to stage this event. Team work, does truly make the dream work.

Appleby Spring Harness Racing Committee hope that you support New Fair, Centenary and Brough Athletic Sport Committees at the next 3 meetings to be held on the Appleby Track.



Photo courtesy of Tamzin Lees



## International Dates for your diary

**August 5th - Hambletonian - Meadowlands (USA),**

**September 20th - Little Brown Jugette - Delaware, Ohio (USA),**

**September 21st - Little Brown Jug - Delaware, Ohio (USA),**

**November 14th - New Zealand Cup - Addington, Christchurch (NZ)**



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# Hannibal Harker

The BHRC were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Hannibal Harker. A stalwart of harness racing and a welcome sight at racing across the country.

Musselburgh was the highlight of the season for Hannibal, his love of the track started at a young age. As a child in the 60's he used to help Mac Miller in the stables with a horse named Lucky Miller. From this he was hooked and never missed a meeting at the track.

Hannibal also loved his trips to the Prix d'Amerique. On his first trip over with Tom Menzies, Hannibal was the life and soul of the party even making the cover of the BHRC Calendar.

He trained many horses over the years including Sly Dewy, who won at the bank holiday racing festival at York, as well as Sun Burst which went to the Isle of White and won the handicap there.

In more recent years he bought the mare So Intended at Builth Wells sale, which he then sold on to Chic Armstrong who later served her and named a foal after him, "Hannibal". It is somewhat poignant that on the day that Hannibal was laid to rest, Hannibal (the horse) broke his maiden tag, winning a race at Haugh Field

Hannibal you will be greatly missed by friends, far and wide.



# Haugh Field FRIDAY 2ND JUNE



## SHRC 3YO DERBY & 3YO OAKS

The 2023 Scottish harness racing season kicked off on a glorious sunny Friday evening at Haugh Field in front of a good crowd from either side of Hadrian's Wall.

The opening race, a maiden pace where 9 went to post was a highly competitive affair, Newmoors Amore (Lee Fletcher) made the use of her inside draw to hold off the early challenge from Evenwood Watahunk (William Greenhorn), this challenge was persistent throughout the race and both horses looked to have the race between them until half way up the home straight where a gap appeared from the gods for Hannibal (James Haythornthwaite) to arrive with a well timed run to get up and shed his maiden tag. This win was very fitting as the horses name sake and harness racing icon Hannibal Harker's funeral had been earlier that afternoon.

The main feature races of the opening night were the SHRC 3yo Oaks and SHRC 3yo Derby, fillies went to post for the

Oaks, it was Imperial Flame (William Greenhorn) who led from the gate with Louisville (Gordon Gilvear) also leaving well from the outside and landing in a close second and stalking the leader menacingly throughout, as the race went on not a lot changed and the crowd were all anticipating what was going happen at the finish, Louisville came with her challenge at the top of the home straight but Imperial Flame was more than ready



and stayed on well to take the race in impressive fashion, Matadora ran on well to take third after a mishap at the start.



The SHRC 3yo Derby saw 7 colts and geldings go to post and was on paper a race to savour, it did not disappoint! The action was fast and furious throughout with Coalford Topguy (Joe Maw) and JD Camden (William Greenhorn) having an early battle with Coalford Topguy holding his inside line and JD Camden settling into second, as the field passed the quarter Ronald Grieveson pulled out with I Shot the Sherriff to mount his challenge and going towards the half he cleared his way to the lead, the fractions were fast and many of the onlookers eyes were drawn to the mid pack to see where the main challengers would come from, JD Camden came back out down the backstraight with his burst but faded late on as I Shot the Sheriff came up the home straight in front, every one of his strides long and strong to win the 3yo Derby on his very first lifetime start. Toreador (James Haythornthwaite)



who had raced mid division throughout stayed on late for second with early leader Coalford Topguy holding onto third.

Good to see British bred horses flying the flag in our premier races, congratulations to Henry Hill (with his first stakes winner) and Tom Hill, both still standing at stud in Great Britain.

The other feature race of the night was the Queen of the Turf heat which was the first

leg of a new series for pacing mares organised by WWHRA which sees heats across the country with the top points scorers progressing to the final which will be staged at Aberystwyth on Sunday 17th September.

Making Credit (Hugh Menzies) led early from the gate and set an even pace throughout. The field raced in Indian file for most of the race, as the race hotted up Stash the Cash (James Haythornthwaite) came into the race from her 40yards trail, Making Credit made a break round the last bend but recovered to come back and challenge once again but Stash the Cash proved too strong and won convincingly at the finish to provide stable 1-2 for trainer and track owner Hamish Muirhead. This was Stash the Cash's third win inside 5 days having won heat and final the previous Sunday at Appleby.

The supporting card featured two other pacing races which went the way of Scottish trained horses Professor G (Grant Cullen) and Allrightjeff (Gregor Menzies) and two trotting races.

The 2023 season continues on Sunday **18th June at 2pm** - we hope you can join us for another action packed meeting.

The rest of the season fixtures are as follows;

18th June at 2pm  
Friday 14th July 7pm  
Sunday 6th August 2pm  
Saturday 19th August 2pm  
Sunday 3rd September 2pm  
Saturday 9th September 2pm  
Sunday 10th September 2pm

Laura @ SHRC

# Through a Fan's Eyes

At the time of starting to write this the season has not begun oh boy I am so so race ready, and itching to get out on the road, Mr D with his ear plugs in, my music blaring out of the car speakers , joining in with my totally in tune (to me) voice.

Having seen horses in training since January been sent pictures of their progress, I am ready to see the results of the hard work which precedes the horse getting onto the track to race.

Whilst on a trip out we were browsing around a gift shop this little sign caught my eye it read,

## **"I WISHED YOU LIVED NEXT DOOR"**

I can think of 3 sets of lovely friends this would immediately apply to.

So, in alphabetical order to make things fair. (I do not want any moaning about favouritism from any of you.)

THE JONES CLAN, and the handsome Rockin Mambo.

THE OWENS'S and Queen Ruby.

THE PARK FAMILY with Bubbles, Cocoa and the gang.

Imagine how amazing for us the Dandridge's to be surrounded by all you guys like a wagon train in the cowboy films being encircled by a tribe of native American Indians but in a friendly and non-threatening manner.

Now for us I am not sure about our friends thoughts on this but to us this is what dreams are made of.

We would absolutely love that pop round do some mucking out, nothing more rewarding than seeing the stable clean and ready for its occupants return. We

would be happy to do all those little tasks that eat into the day

And like it or not you guys we consider you more like family now. A Dandridge is for life not just for Christmas.

In February we were invited to a little gathering of harness racing community people at the Owens's house the day before said gathering we, all enjoyed a day at Sedgefield races followed by fish supper with a difference, it all started with David being travel sick and poor Sally also becoming unwell too, the gathering was in jeopardy, but Sally was a real trooper and insisted the show must go on, Personally, I think being a Yorkshire Lass she did not want to waste all the food, in the end a good time was had by all.

This spring I have been on the usual Forgeside foal watch with 6 mares due to foal, I was guaranteed to see some little standardbreds enter the world but no, so far, I have successfully missed five with this going to press one left to go. I am doing well. I missed two little Rockin Mambos entering the world I am devastated. Jenny even rang me at two in the morning I was in a deep sleep with a rotten cold the only response she got was heavy breathing as only half awake I tried to work out how to answer my phone there's no hope.

STOP PRESS I have now missed foal number 6 to be fair she foaled out in the field in the middle of the afternoon so not in view of the camera's

We have had an amazing May and a great start to the season putting a few more miles on the clock, we have enjoyed 8 days of good racing so far.

I know I repeat myself but we are truly very lucky to be invited to different stables we very much enjoyed a trip to Bentham lodge home of the



Haythornthwaite's. A perfect morning spent cup of tea in hand sat on a bench Jack Russell terrier on my lap watching Alan and James jogging their string of horses, with a treat at the end of some fast workouts one of these being American Sniper who had a formidable win at Tir Prince winning the OPH by 7 lengths.

As I have mentioned before most of our holidays are planned around the harness racing season this May Bank Holiday week being no exception, we had the whole week mapped out but as George Burns wrote "The best laid schemes o' mice an men", we made a sudden change of direction, As planned we left Appleby where we spent a fantastic weekend with Brian and Julie, thoroughly immersing ourselves into their everyday routine with the horses, and two days of excellent racing, the weather was kind, being nicely cooked in the afternoon sun. it did become a tad chilly in the evenings, we did however, enjoy a pleasant BBQ on the Bousfield's lawn before it cooled off, and we all started wrapping up in our winter woollies.

We left Appleby and headed for a little village called Tittensor that's a place name I would like on my home address, a couple of days doing the touristy things, Trentham gardens and monkey forest the plan was to head on down to Sennybridge, and the Forgeside gang. However, on hearing the news that Amman valley was cancelled, and that all the Forgeside mares had gone off to stud so no foals for us to coo over, and no mane man there, the lure of racing at York got the better of us, so we did a u-turn and headed back up to Darlington to see a very special someone, I'm sure the Forgeside gang breathed a sigh of relief.

Yes I am sure most of you have guessed Rockin Mambo was the special someone

who we went to see,, standing at stud with John and Sue Thompson.

As we trundled up the motorway Mr D said he had that deja vu feeling and was sure we had already done this journey once before that week, commenting that he felt a little like the man in the Milk Tray Advert but changed the punchline a little to, All because the lady loves Rockin Mambo, for the youngsters among you or those who didn't have a tv in the 70s it was an iconic advert of its time, although I do think Mr D diving and swimming in shark infested waters is not on his itinerary, driving his obsessed excited wife to Darlington who talked about nothing else there and back to the hotel afterwards and continued on into the evening is probably more of a sacrifice mentally than physical but very much appreciated by this obsessed woman.

Rocky looked very well and I like to think, he recognised us he was a tad quiet not a lot to say for himself but with, Matador Hall and Sportstrick as neighbours he certainly wasn't the mane man like he is at home - he certainly is having competition for the ladies. It was so lovely to see him happy and so well looked after by John and Sue.

I hope I am not boring people with our stories, this is our life and I want people to know the how this sport enriches our lives, this is how we spend our leisure time the amazing people we have met who are the stars of this sport. I am often reminded by them they are know one special, just ordinary people, but before you all became friends to us we had watched you race, win races and we cheered you on not as friends but as sports people, we feel truly humbled to be part of your harness racing journeys.

To everyone involved within this sport keep doing what you're doing, David and I are truly grateful.

**Mel**



## AN UPDATE FROM BOB MEADOWCROFT

It is winter here in New Zealand but for Harness Racing fans there are plenty of meetings to invest a dollar or two on. The grass track racing has finished and its all hard tracks now for the next 3 months.

The end of May saw the Auckland Trotting Club run 3 group one races.

The Auckland Cup at Alexandra Park, first run in 1890, was won this year by Akuta from stablemate and hot favourite Self Assured in the time of 4.00.5 for the standing start over 3,200m or 2 miles.

The stake this year was \$170,550, compared to \$600,000 in 2009. This huge drop reflects on the state of things concerning the Auckland Trotting club due to building large apartments on the track and losing millions of dollars putting the club into huge debt!

The Rowe Cup for trotters also run from a stand over 2 miles saw the raging hot favourite galloping away where as Love the Port, by French sire Love You , stepped beautifully from no 1 at the barrier and never gave the others a chance. He trotted the 2 miles in 4.06.8 (last half 59.5).

The other group 1 was the Great Northern Trotting Derby for 3yr olds and was won by Love Me To, by What The Hill out of Love Ya Doosie by Love You. The 3yr old trotted the 2,700m event in 3.25.7.

Kings Birthday weekend is traditionally a big weekend for the Ashburton Trotting club. The 2 yr olds colts and fillies take centre stage with the running of the NZ Sapling Stakes and Helen Pope fillies classic.

Raklou from the deep south of the South Island trained by Peter Hunter brilliantly won the fillies race. She paced the rain affected track over 1700m in 2.06.1 after sitting parked .

The main event for 2yr olds the N.Z.Sapling Stakes was taken out by locally trained Shards Matrix. It is the ultimate race for 2yr olds, a race all owners aspire to win. The win gave sire Sweet Lou a brilliant weekend by siring both 2yr old winners.

Shards Matrix gave young driver Sarah O'Reilly her first group race win. O'Reilly is currently well in front chasing the Junior Drivers Premiership.



Big changes ahead for NZ.

A deal, the biggest in N Z history with International betting agency Entain has been approved by the N Z Government. With the promise of big increases in stake money over all 3 codes (thoroughbred, harness & greyhounds), the Harness Racing fraternity are hoping this comes to fruition.

Entain employ 29,000 people worldwide and in more than 30 markets, Ladbrokes being one of them. The Harness Racing industry in New Zealand employs a huge amount of people so now it's wait and see.

That's all from this part of the world. Enjoy your summer Racing.

**Bob Meadowcroft**



Photo courtesy of [www.hrnz.co.nz](http://www.hrnz.co.nz)

## The Calendar

The Calendar this year will continue to be in a paper format for those who requested it  
There will be 4 publications  
End of March/June/Sept/Dec

As per usual we request that any individual, promoter, advertiser with any content send it to us ASAP (we collect information all year around)

We prefer content by the end of the preceding month (this allows us 2 weeks to produce the artwork, 1 week for printing and a week for postage)

## BHRC Facebook Page

Should any promoter have information they want posting on the BHRC Facebook Page please send your request to the office.

Where it is an urgent notice (ie a meeting cancelled due to weather, please phone either the office (if in office hours, or a Director if out of hours).

For general posts please allow 24 hours in racing season for posts to be published.

We will try to upload before where possible, however this is not always possible due to the streamlining of our office staffing.



# Yearlings to follow

## AYR STANDARDBREDS



All colts will be consigned at the York Sale on 7th October



### Ayr Exchange

Colt

Hasty Hall/ Sold Out by Western Ideal

Full brother to Ayr Corleon

Half brother to Ayr Ambition, Ayr Blaze and Ayr Dave

### Ayroplane

Colt

Stay Hungry/Talk Time by Well Said

First Uk foal from a dam who has produced four winners from four foals in the US including Somebeachsometime p.2, 1.52 BT 1.50.4 at 2 (died at 3), Better Not Talk p.3, 1.50,

### Ayr Admiral

Colt

Always B Miki/Ayr Queen by Albert Albert

The latest offering from this multiple producing dam

Admiral is a half brother to Ayr Majesty, Ayr Regal, Ayr Major, Ayr Trooper, Ayr Elegance, Ayr Empress, Ayr Contessa & Ayr Emperor





# Yearlings to follow

## FORGESIDE STANDARDBREDS



### Forgeside Eternal

**Bay Filly**

Rogue Hall / Eternal Lobell

Sister to Eternal Luck - winner at Tregaron 2023



Bred to pace  
Born to race



### Forgeside Fore Gee

**Filly**

Foreclosure / Strictly Mambo

Full sister to Strictly Paige and half sister to Strictly Tyler who finished 2nd in Welsh Dragon 2023

### Forgeside Always

**Colt**

Always B Miki / Jessies Conquest

Brother to Jessies Hallmark (Junior Welsh Dragon and York Graduate winner) and Sweet Ivan



# Yearlings to follow

## IMPERIAL STANDARDBREDS



### **Imperial Concorde**

Sire - Tom Hill (USA)  
Dam- Camden Cotroni - Yankee  
Lariat

This is a very intelligent colt with great confirmation and from a great family he stands 14 hands. he's a half brother to Imperial Attitude numerous race winner in the Uk & Ireland



### **Imperial Spitfire**

Sire - Tom Hill (USA)  
Dam - Rhyds Firebird - Hasty Hall

He's a very intelligent colt with outstanding confirmation all round he stands at 14.3hh  
Full brother to 2yr old SHRC Futurity winner and 3yr old SHRC Oaks winner Imperial Flame



# Yearlings to follow

## OAKWOOD STUD



### **Oakwood Loretto**

Roll With Joe x Dontfailmenow  
(Somebeachsomewhere)

### **Oakwood Maggie**

Foreclosure x Trend Setter  
(Grinfromeartear)



### **The Groomsman**

Stag Party x Emily Car (Art Major)





# Yearlings to follow

## OAKWOOD STUD

### **Oakwood Louis**

Sweet Lou x Capri Hanover  
(Western Ideal)



### **Oakwood Roxie**

Always B Miki x Oakwood Dragoness  
(Dragon Again)

### **Sweet Touch**

Sweet Lou x Mocking Jay  
(Rogue Hall)







# Yearlings to follow

## OAKWOOD STUD

### **Oakwood Dezzie**

Sweet Lou x Oakwood  
Destiny  
(Western Terror)



As the juvenile racing season starts in earnest, we start to think about next year, and with this in mind some of our breeders have shared a sneak preview of their yearlings, our future stars, possibly our future barn inmates.

### **Which ones will be topping the York Sale in October?**

Thank you to those who contributed: Ayr Standardbreds, Forgeside Standardbreds, Imperial Standardbreds, Oakwood Stud and Rhyds Stud, who have kindly supplied pictures and breeding.

If any breeder would like to submit their yearling photographs and breeding we hope to do a Pt 2 in the September Calendar (subject to space).

**York Sale Day - Saturday 7th October - where the dream begins**



# Yearlings to follow

RHYDS STANDARDBRED

**Rhyds Seeker**



**By: See and Ski**  
**Out of: Kentucky Sunshine**

A half brother to the top class filly Rhyds Rainbow

**Rhyds Super Cool**



**By: Hasty Hall**  
**Out of: Letter Perfect**

Our last yearling by Hasty Hall using natural cover and we think his conformation is as good as any we have ever bred

# STAGBI BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIPS



The series is aimed at 3 and 4yo horses, sired by a STAGBI registered stallion standing in GB at the time of breeding. Where possible there will be 4 divisions: 3yo Fillies, 3yo Colts & Geldings, 4yo Fillies and 4yo Colts & Geldings at different regional tracks.

No nomination or sustaining fees. Entry fee £100 (via BHRC on line entry) and £100 Breeders Bonus to each winner.

Purse £2000 per division or £2550 for combined divisions

## Conditions:

- Eligible horses to be sired by a STAGBI registered stallion standing in Great Britain at time of breeding.
- For horses aged 3 and 4 years old, with colts & geldings and fillies divisions within each age group
- Races to be run over 1 mile
- Maximum of 10 entries per race. In the event of more than 10 entries, preference given to highest BHRC rated horses at time of entry
- Minimum of 5 entries per race. In event of less than 5 entries in each (age) division, a combined race for colts, geldings and fillies will be run
- Gate position to be determined by horse's rating at time of entry (preferred draw)
- Horses on the same rating will draw for position.
- In event of a combined race (colts, geldings & fillies) gate position will be determined by BHRC rating (preferred draw)
- Owner to be a STAGBI member

## STAGBI BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP RACES 2023

3yo Races	
<del>13 June</del>	<del>Tir Princee</del>
23 July	Amman Valley
19 Aug	Haugh Field



4yo Races	
18 June	Haugh Field
15 July	York
23 July	Amman Valley

#####

*Don't forget the STAGBI British Championship Supporters Club*

*Tickets cost £100 and are available from Sarah Thomas, Gwenan Thomas, Sue Young or the STAGBI office*



# LUKE HUMPHREYS

Meet Luke Humphreys. It's fair to say many of you will not have heard of him, those with a keen ear and an interest in Australian harness racing may have heard his commentaries, as would those who attended the meeting at Monmouth on June 11th, 2016.

In 2016, with his father Paul, the then teenage Luke was on a European tour, taking in the Elitloppet, French Oaks and Royal Ascot, in addition to his British born father returning to his roots in Swindon.

Initially, British harness racing would not have been part of the itinerary, however ITV commentator Richard Hoiles contacted me, as he knew of Luke's plans to visit the UK and his interest in harness racing.

So, to Monmouth in 2016, Luke and his father rock up to the circuit which, to be fair, wasn't the biggest you're going to see.

Having already established Luke's ambition to become a commentator, I asked had he ever called a race live, he answered no, to which i responded, this is your lucky day.

Having already established Luke's ambition to become a commentator, I asked had he ever called a race live, he answered no, to which i responded, this is your lucky day.

Recently, at Epsom on Derby Day, I caught up with the now 22 year old Luke for a chat about his career and aspirations.



These are the questions I posed;

## **WHY DID YOU WANT TO BECOME A COMMENTATOR?**

"My father Paul always had a few horses and I used to go to the trots with him. It was during this time I met the world class race caller Dan Mielicki and thought, I'd like to do this.

At this time I was only 10 years old, I had a practise watching the tv but found it difficult. I left it for 12 months then went to the trots at Victoria's top track Melton, where I would sit in the grandstand and practice. This, along with sitting in front of the tv honing my skills became my life".

Six months after cutting his teeth a Monmouth, Luke was presented with the opportunity to call races at one of the minor meetings on Boxing Day.

It obviously went well, because March 2017 saw the young caller make his debut on Sky Channel.

Since May 2019 Harness Racing Victoria have been Luke's employers, which means he calls at three meetings per week, with the commentaries going out on course, tv and radio.

His biggest domestic race calls have so far been on the cups at Cranbourne and Kilmore. It's fair to say these have been surpassed by an adventure to Solvalla for this year's Elitloppet. With the added interest of Australian challenger Just Believe, Luke called the meeting for the home based fans.

### **WHICH FELLOW PROFESSIONALS DO YOU ADMIRE MOST?**

"Back in Australia, obviously the legendary Bill Collins, known as 'the accurate one'. He was obviously of a different generation, nowadays it's Dan Mielicki and Matt Hill. Whilst in Britain I'm a big fan of Richard Hoiles, Simon Holt and Ian Bartlett".

It should be noted that all the Australian commentators Luke mentioned have called harness as well as thoroughbreds, and remember the current voice of the Melbourne Cup Matt Hill, called at Amman Valley the year of the Tregaron transfer.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR AMBITIONS?**

"In terms of harness races to call, the Inter Dominion would be on the list along with the Prix D'Amerique.

Thoroughbred racing is a field I'd like to break into at some point, with the Melbourne Cup and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe races to call on the ultimate



bucket list.

Never say never, so if a job opportunity arose abroad I would certainly consider such a move".

### **OKAY, HOW GOOD A TIPSTER ARE YOU? CAN WE HAVE A HORSE TO FOLLOW IN AUSTRALIA?**

"Honolua Bay should be a major player in the Inter Dominion in December after a fairly fruitful campaign last season, finishing fourth in the Grand Final".

So, my gratitude to Luke Humphreys for taking time out to speak to us about his career and we wish him well in the future.

Australasia has a fine tradition in producing some of the world's best race callers, here in Luke they have another exceptional talent, and British harness racing can take great pride in the fact, it was here where he made his first live broadcast.



# INTEGRITY UPDATE

The Integrity Team continue to work with other international promoters and governing bodies to share information and best practice.

We remind all trainers of their duties to be aware of the Y Section of the BHRC Rules and Regulations and the changes publicised on the website on the 5th May along with the published Unformed Classification List. If in doubt, ask your vet.

Desk based sampling: earlier this year as trainers renewed their licences we provided them with a BHRC Medication Book. Trainers had been informed that we would be carrying out sampling of these books.

In early May we carried out our first sample, asking approx. 10 trainers from all three licence categories, across Great Britain to submit copies of their medication records. We have recently just carried out the June sampling, targeting different trainer categories, across all geographical areas.

We thank trainers for their timely responses. A list of all trainers sampled to date are printed on pg 56 of The Calendar.

We continue to work with other Governing Bodies and countries in our quest to improve the integrity of our sport. Recent meetings with America have proved to be particularly helpful, we are positive that the information shared with us will help us in our quest for a clean sport.

Testing so far: we try to keep the website as up-to-date as possible, but as of Sunday 11 June, we had carried out 15 tests, 5 blood gas and 10 full blood, two of which were elective tests and therefore self-funded. All full blood tests have been sent to Newmarket for analysis. The amount of

testing is comparable with 2023 when (in the same period) we carried out 17 tests, 8 blood gas and 9 full blood.

Results are being returned in approximately 8 working days, we check the Integrity email daily, and ring the responsible person and the track promoter the same day to update them of the results.

We have an excellent working relationship with Newmarket Laboratory who are equally passionate about cleaning up equine sport.

Please remember that if you are planning to stable any registered race horse away from the nominated training premises you MUST inform the BHRC office.

## NOTICE TO ALL TRAINERS:

Due to insurance restrictions PLEASE ensure that all staff, helpers and visitors to your horsebox /vehicle and trailer (which is within the licensed area) hold a BHRC licence.

Any unlicensed person in a licensed area such as the lorry park, stabling areas etc will be asked to leave.

This is not an official being difficult, it is because they are NOT insured. If an uninsured person were to have an accident it could be the end of our sport.

**WE MUST ALL TAKE OUR  
RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY**

# STEWARDING UPDATE

The 2023 season is now well and truly underway and has seen racing all over Great Britain from Amman Valley in South Wales to Haughfield in Scotland.

In the past there has been criticism of stewarding within the different regions / promoters of racing within the BHRC and the fact that there is differences in how licence holders are dealt with. It's my opinion that it doesn't matter if you're an 'A' class driver, a professional stable or a licence holder that owns trains and drives their own horse, everyone should be treated the exact same with professional conduct and dealt with under the same rules.

Another criticism that kept re-appearing was the one of protecting certain drivers. We are a small pool, and the stewards that stand at meetings are all connected and have friendships with various licence holders, in fact most of the stewards are actually licence holders themselves,.

Last season the BHRC created a document which was to be filled out by the Chief Steward or the Regional Steward present, this was to be completed and kept as a record. It included details race by race, including stewarding information, integrity, accidents and any other incidents. It also provided us with a list of who had been stewards on the day.

In 2023, with the standing down of the three Regional Stewards the BHRC directors agreed to take on the role of Regional Stewards. They have agreed to take on this role, without claiming travel expenses in order to save money at this challenging time.

With directors now at meetings and carrying out this role we can ensure the completion of the Race Day Form, at a Director's

Meeting over the winter we also made the decision to publish the documents (as soon as possible) after each meeting, to enable licence holders to see how enquiries have been dealt with.

Of course in publishing these, licence holders can see that incidents have been noted and dealt with.

The race video footage (side view) and of course the drone footage allows the stewards to see exactly where and when horses have moved into positions and the impact of these moves, when used in enquiries, allows drivers to see the full picture, drivers often themselves then change their minds and admit their error making the whole stewards enquiry a much easier process.

The drone was introduced early season last year (as a pilot) and has been used at every meeting this season. It is a great resource for the stewards and also gives clear evidence to allow the stewards to come to the correct and fair decision.

We feel that the introduction of the drone has also led to more careful driving, ultimately keeping the drivers and the horses safer on the track.

The Race Day Reports clearly identify the incidents seen and how they were dealt with. As well as letting the public know official qualifying times, and any other issues addressed on the day.

We would also like to ask that if anyone has any input or would like to see anything else recorded on the document, please feel free to contact Charles or the office with your suggestions.

Charles Inglis, Director



# NEW STAGBI WEBSITE

Over the past few months STAGBI has been busy working with Jeanius-Design on the NEW STAGBI WEBSITE which will be launched in the next few weeks . The website will have the same address **www.standardbred.org** but you'll be greeted by a completely new site. It is hoped that the new website will be a helpful resource for STAGBI Members, Standardbred Owners, Breeders, enthusiasts and anybody seeking information about the breed.

Key changes and new additions to the website include:

**NEW BREEDING DATABASE:** The New Grassroots On-Line Database will replace the existing Breeding Database. The on-line database will provide members with information about registrations and pedigrees of ALL STAGBI registered horses. This information held on the database will be updated daily, allowing members access to the most up-to-date information. For 2023, STAGBI have agreed to allow free access to everyone. Thereafter it will only be available to STAGBI Members or by subscription.

For current STAGBI members, by using your own personal login details you will be able to access your own information regarding your membership details and horses you own. You will also be able to update information relating to horses that you own eg you can notify STAGBI that the horse is sold or died, or notify STAGBI that a colt has been castrated or enter sales via an on line entry system etc. Stallion owners will also be able to apply for mating certificates on line and sales entry can also be done on line.

Personal login details (username and password) can be obtained from the STAGBI office.

**STANDARDBREDS OUT OF RACING:** STAGBI are very aware that there are a high number of Standardbreds in the UK that are out of racing (in fact the majority of horses registered with STAGBI). While every Standardbred is primarily bred to race, it is important to STAGBI that we can show that the Standardbred is a breed that has great versatility and is able to excel at so many different equine activities after their racing days or even if they did not make the track.

The new website has a designated section for 'Standardbreds Out of Racing', the page includes images and stories about Standardbreds that are enjoying a life off the track. Their ability to adapt is incredible from happy hackers to eventing, and from dressage to carriage driving.

**HORSES FOR SALE:** STAGBI members are invited to list any STAGBI registered horses they have for sale. This will be a free service for STAGBI members. Members will be able to submit the details on an on-line entry form. There are conditions which will be checked before the advert will be uploaded. **If you currently have a horse for sale and would like it listed in the Horses For Sale section when the website goes live, then please contact the STAGBI office for more information.**

STAGBI sincerely hopes that you enjoy the new website and hope you will find it helpful and informative

# BRETT CORBETT



In the words of Gabrielle  
“Dreams can come true”  
and they did.....

Bank Holiday weekends are usually memorable to most people, this year will certainly be one ingrained in Brett’s memory.

As we all know, Brett has faced a long arduous battle to walk again following the amputation of his lower leg, let alone get back in the sulky and win a race.

I won’t repeat Brett’s journey back into the cart (it can be found in earlier versions of the Calendar), however it only seemed right to celebrate with him, as he did what he told me he would do three years ago, shortly after his operation - he would be back and be in the winners enclosure.

Well done Brett, the first of many, just sorry I wasn’t there to witness it, however knowing your determination, I guess it will not be long before you make a repeat trip back to the winners enclosure and hopefully next time I will be there to witness it.

*Julie*

**BRETT IS PASSIONATE ABOUT ‘C’  
CLASS DRIVER RACES - IF  
ANYBODY IS WILLING TO  
SPONSOR A ‘C’ CLASS DRIVERS  
RACE TO CELEBRATE BRETT’S  
ACHIEVEMENTS CAN THEY PLEASE  
CONTACT ME VIA BHRC OFFICE**



# York Championships Day



## 3 Year Old Championship Fillies Division

From barrier 3, Maidsweet made a dash to the front, a positive drive, going 3 wide into turn, with Louisville also jostling for position meant Maidsweet came out of the corner in pole position. Unfortunately, Oakwood Lucy Lou went into a break on the first bend, and at this point, it looked like her race was all over. The opening quarter went in 29.6 seconds with, at this point, Oakwood Lucy Lou trailing the field.

To the half in 1.07 it looked like the main opposition to Maidsweet was to be Louisville, however Oakwood Lucy Lou was not going to go down with out a battle, showing tremendous speed and determination she was soon back on the shoulder of

Maidsweet, thus holding Louisville in a box.

On the home straight small gap appeared, Louisville seized the opportunity, but the stewards judged not a big enough gap for Louisville, and it proved to be just not her day.

After a lengthy stewards enquiry Maidsweet with Patrick Kane in the hot seat took the spoils back to Ireland for owner Graham Bryne and Trainer John Paul Murdock, in a time of 2.01.8 with Oakwood Lucy Lou in second (2.02.0) and Louisville in 3rd (2.02.1).

We look forward to seeing the fillies fighting it out again later in the season in the next juvenile competition.



# York Championships Day



## STAGBI Future Broodmares

First to strike her hobbles, Wearvalley Lucy showed us all what a warrior she is.

This little mare, may not quite be quite the same calibre as some of the others in the race, but she gives her all every race, and she certainly put up a valiant fight, and has certainly been some fun for the Fletcher family. As she drops back down to handicap company it looks likely we will see her back in the winners enclosure.

At the half it was still Lee Fletcher at the front end controlling the race, but the artillery was certainly approaching, with Newtown Jody and Apopka G breathing

down her neck. In the end the race was all about these two, with Newtown Jody taking the spoils on this occasion. It was good to see both Jody and Apopka G back and fighting, and I feel sure will see both of these be back in the winners enclosure very soon.

Final result: Winner - Newtown Jody (2.00.3), owned by Vivien Gill, trained and driven by Vicki Gill, in 2nd - Apopka G (2.00.8), Kaiya Camden (2.01.3) and Wearvalley Lucy (2.01.9) holding on to 4th.

Since conception these races have provided us with fabulous fields, this race did not disappoint. Thank you to STAGBI for their valued and continued support.

# York Championships Day



## 3 Yr Old Championship Colts Division

Off to a good start from a gate 3 position was Toreador, with James Haythornthwaite in command and parking out Born in Lockdown, showing all he meant business, going to the first quarter in a blistering 27.9 seconds.

Heading to the judge at the halfway marker the eventual race winner had only Oakwood Hey Miki behind him.

I Shot The Sheriff (the recent Scottish Derby winner) with driver Ronald Grieveson made his run for home from the paddock corner with a lap to go, however, having to sit two and three wide at pace proved too much for him today, today was not his day, but there will be another day for him.

Toreador continued to apply the pressure

from the front with lots of pace going to the half in 58.7, holding off the challenge of I Shot The Sheriff.

By the three quarters marker (1.28.1), the Coalford duo (Goodfella and Topguy) were still playing a waiting game, but the early pace played into the hand of the back markers, and a patient drive from Richard Haythornthwaite saw Coalford Goodfella swoop around the outside of the paddock corner and take the honours on the line from Top Dollar, Oakwood Hey Miki with Toreador holding on for 4th.

An impressive win for Coalford Goodfella in the fastest time of the day (1.59.9) and the Coalford Stud, their third consecutive British Championship and a cool drive from Richard Haythornthwaite.

# York Championships Day



## Other winners on the day:

York looked fabulous in the early summer sun, the temperature was perfect, the track sounded amazing for quality, safe racing - well done to Mick Welling. A special thanks to Carol Krebs for the finishing touches with the flowers.

Well done to Race Manager Craig Stephenson and the team of stewards – it was a mammoth day's racing with 8 qualifying/workout races before racing, followed by 7 pacing and 3 trotting races. There was also a film crew in attendance from a Yorkshire Vet, we look forward to hopefully seeing harness racing on the TV later in the year.

Other winners on the day included: Niki Beach trained by Sally Teeboon and driven

by Richard Haythornthwaite, Frankie B, trained by Alexis Laidler and driven by William (Rocker) Laidler, Strictly Tyler trained and driven by Vicki Gill, Churchview Camelot trained by John Paul Murdock and driven by Patrick Kane.

## Future Meetings:

**15 July** - include BHRC 2yr old Sire Stakes, STAGBI 4 yr old Pace and the first heat of the Champion of Champions Series.

**29/30 July** - PACT weekend

**5th August** - second heat of Champion of Champions Series

**23 September** - 3 yr old BHRC Sire Stakes and STAGBI Mares and third heat of Champion of Champions Series

**7 October** - Open Sale Day and Graduate Series and STAGBI Mares Final

**14th October** - Champion of Champions Final

## BHRC MEDICATION BOOKS SAMPLED

Name	May	June	July
Allan, Gary		x	
Cassells, Hayley	x		
Clarke, Simon			x
Cullen, Keir	x		
Dyer, Jess	x		
Edwards Joss			x
Eltringham, Mark			x
Gill, Vicki	x		
Gilvear, John			x
Hall Kia			x
Haythornthwaite, Teresa		x	
Holmes, Rebecca		x	
Jones, G D Alan	x		
Jones, Marc			x
Laidler, Alexis			x
Langford, Emma		x	
Maw, Joe		x	
Muirhead, Hamish			x
Nicholson, John		x	
Park, Brian	x		
Paterson, Gregor		x	
Podmore, Cheryl	x		
Shields, Cathy		x	
Swinbank, Alf		x	
Teeboon, Sally	x		
Wakefield, Debbie			x
Wilson Rhun			x

### SUSPENDED/WARNED OFF PERSONS and SUSPENDED HORSES

From the 1st April where persons are suspended (because of breaches of rules, or unpaid debts\*), the Directors have made the decision to list them on the website, and to publish names in subsequent editions of The Calendar.

A list of horses suspended, because of integrity issues, or due to the non-payment of debts by an owner, will also be published on both the website and in The Calendar.

For the avoidance of doubt (and to protect potential purchasers), the suspension (under certain rules) will apply whether or not the horse remains in the same ownership at the time that the costs order was made.

#### David Moncrieff:

DKs Deuce, DKs Happy Forever, DKs Happy Moments

#### Leanne Coulson:

Mountain Dew

\*for clarification of a 'debt' this is where an aged debt has not been paid, or an agreement to pay off an aged debt (over 30 days) has not been made or kept up to-date.

The BHRC politely remind all trainers that they MUST notify the office when stabling horses away from their registered base (ie for race days which involve overnight stays or overnight stays at a veterinary practice etc. Horses must always be located at the registered yard.



# Introducing: Warrawee Will

CAPTAINTRACHEROUS WARRAWEE QUICK SPORTSWRITER

CAPTAINTRACHEROUS

SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE

WORLDLY TREASURE

WARRAWEE QUICK

SPORTSWRITER

GREAT MEMORIES



WARRAWEE WILL is an outstanding individual, a \$200,000 yearling purchase at the Lexington Select yearling sale. He is by the most expensive pacing sire at stud today Captaintreacheros who stands at Hanover Shoe Farms for \$30,000 with a full book each year, on the dams side he is a grandson of hall of fame broodmare Great Memories who is the dam of Warrawee Ubeat (winner of over \$2million and world record holder for 2yo fillies 1.48.4), Warrawee Needy (winner of \$1.2million ,winner in 1.46.4) Warrawee Vital (winner of \$690k, also a winner in 1.46.4) and crucially Warrawee Wills dam Warrawee Quick.

With his handsome looks, great confirmation and pedigree he is set up for a stellar career as a successful stallion.

**Contact Jody Foody**  
**07817026864**



# BHRC Fixtures 2023

## APRIL

Sun 16th Amman Valley (Qualifiers/Work Outs)  
Sat 22nd York (Qualifiers/Work Outs)  
Sun 23rd Amman Valley (Qualifiers/Work Outs)  
Sat 29th York (Qualifiers/Work Outs)

## MAY

Mon 1st Amman Valley (Qualifiers/Work Outs)  
Sat 6th York  
Sun 7th Amman Valley  
Fri 12th Haugh Field (Qualifiers/Work Outs)  
Sun 14th Tregaron (4YO Senior Dragon)  
Fri 19th Haugh Field (Qualifiers/Work Outs)  
Sat 20th York  
Sun 21st Prestevigne ( WWHRA)  
Sun 28th Appleby  
Sun 28th Amman Valley (STAGBI Mares)  
Mon 29th Appleby

## JUNE

Fri 2nd Haugh Field (SHRC 3YO Championship)  
Sun 4th Amman Valley  
Sun 4th York  
Tue 6th Tir Prince (STAGBI Mares)  
Sat 10th York  
Sun 11th Talgarreg  
Tue 13th Tir Prince (STAGBI 3YO)  
Sat 17th York (3YO Championship & STAGBI Mares)  
Sun 18th Golden Valley (WWHRA) \*  
Sun 18th Haugh Field (STAGBI 4YO)  
Sat 24th Tir Prince (North Wales 2/3/4 Yr Olds)  
Sun 25th Amman Valley  
Sun 25th Hellfield

## JULY

Sun 2nd Appleby New Fair  
Sun 2nd Talsarn (WWHRA)  
Tue 4th Tir Prince (STAGBI Mares)  
Sat 8th Tregaron (Strata Florida, Welsh Dragon)  
Sun 9th Tregaron (Welsh Classic, Welsh Dragon)  
Fri 14th Haugh Field  
Sat 15th York (2yo BHRC Sire Stakes & STAGBI 4YO)  
Sun 16th Ivington  
Sun 16th Wolsingham (Eden Valley)  
Sun 23rd Appleby  
Sun 23rd Amman Valley (STAGBI 3YO & 4YO)  
Sat 29th York PACT  
Sun 30th Ivington  
Sun 30th York PACT

## AUGUST

Sat 5th Cannock  
Sun 6th Haugh Field  
Sun 6th Lampeter  
Sat 12th Tir Prince (VDM)  
Sun 13th Ivington  
Sun 13th Tir Prince (VDM)  
Sat 19th Haugh Field (STAGBI 3YO)  
Sun 20th Boughrood  
Tue 22nd Tir Prince (Breeders Crown 2/3/4 Yr Old)  
Sun 27th Appleby Brough  
Mon 28th Amman Valley (British Pacing Classic & STAGBI Mares)  
Tue 29th Kilsney Show

## SEPTEMBER

Sat 2nd Wolsingham Show  
Sun 3rd Clmtery  
Sun 3rd Haugh Field  
Thu 7th Longnor Sports  
Sat 9th Haugh Field (SHRC 2YO Futurity)  
Sat 9th Stanhope  
Sun 10th Haugh Field  
Sun 10th Almeley (WWHRA)  
Sat 16th Tir Prince (COG,Derby,Oaks, National Pacing Futurity)  
Sun 17th Aberystwyth (WWHRA)  
Sat 23rd York (3yo BHRC Sire Stakes & STAGBI Mares)  
Sun 24th Pkehall  
Sun 24th Amman Valley  
Sat 30th Wolverhampton

## OCTOBER

Sat 7th York (SALE DAY, Graduate Series & STAGBI Mares Final)  
Sun 8th Amman Valley  
Sat 14th York

\*new venue subject to track inspection