



## **MIDLANDS CARRIAGEDRIVING**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Thoresby Park provides a close finish in the Pairs at Midlands Carriagedriving's Club Championships**

It was a tremendously close finish in the Midlands Carriagedriving's (MC) Club Championships Combined Pairs class at Thoresby Park on 14 and 15 September. Driving his pair of Dutch horses for the first time in public, Keith Henderson played nip and tuck with Angela Flanagan, leading after the dressage by 0.73 of a penalty. After the cones phase Angela took the lead for a margin of 4.56 penalties, however, Keith put up a strong challenge in the obstacles to close the gap, but it wasn't quite enough as Angela held on by just 0.06 of a penalty for the win.

It was a first time for Paul Hart and his horse Rio in the Open class and Paul had done his homework well to lead after the first phase. British Young Driver Megan Wheeldon overtook him with a double clear in cones – one of just two throughout the competition – for an overnight lead with Nicola Corby in second and Paul third. However, it was fourth-placed Julie Tomasik who won the obstacles to finish third overall with Megan first, Nicola second and Paul fourth.

The Intermediate class saw changes in the leader board too as Emily Viller's double clear in cones enabled her to leapfrog both Fiona Powell and Chris Patrick to take the lead going into the marathon. Emily, another British Young Driver, did not relinquish her lead although Fiona was rapidly overtaking her in the times through the obstacles until a 'senior moment' resulted in a correction of course in Obstacle 6 which left her in third overall with Emily first and Chris in second place.

Things were more straight forward in the Novice class where Julie Howard and her attractive grey horse led throughout. Joanne Gadsby, fourth in the dressage and again in cones, pulled up to complete in second place with Rosemary Armstrong in

third. David Wagstaff-Myers has been chasing Anne Chambers in the Tandem class most of the season but this time it all went to plan as David led after dressage, won the cones phase and sealed his victory with a strong marathon. Anne may be forgiven for any lapses in concentration as her dog gave birth to nine pups over the weekend!

It was good to see Barry Capstick with his team of chestnut Dutch horses again at an MC event but it was Angie Smith's Welsh pony four that led after dressage. Barry won the cones phase to close the gap to just 0.18 of a penalty prior to the marathon where, unfortunately for Angie, it all went wrong with an uncorrected error of course in Obstacle 4, leaving Barry to take the red rosette.

Four drivers took part in the Short Format class which was won by Lyn Chorlton from Graham Clements in second, Joanne Gadsby's husband John in third and Anne Chambers, training up a contender for her tandem, in fourth.

The next event for Midlands Carriagedriving is the club's AGM and Competitors' Conference on Sunday 24 November at the LORUS Hospice in Leicester. For full results of the Club's Championships and further information, visit: [www.midlandscarriagedriving.co.uk](http://www.midlandscarriagedriving.co.uk)

**ENDS**

*Images: As captioned  
Credit Kingswood Associates*

*Issued on behalf of Midlands Carriagedriving by  
Kingswood Associates*

*Tel: 01205 480190 – Mob: 07973 218834 – E: [kingswood.associates@btconnect.com](mailto:kingswood.associates@btconnect.com)*