

Chairman – Dave West

President – George Spencer



MIDLANDS CARRIAGEDRIVING

PRESS RELEASE

Midlands' celebrates an all-round successful year

Midlands Carriagedriving (MC) held its AGM and Competitors' Conference towards the end of 2015 (22 November) at The Kegworth Hotel, with some 30 members present plus a full complement of the Board, bar one.

Two vacancies had arisen on the Board as both Wendy Nix (Publicity Officer) and David Smith had opted to stand down after several years' of office. There had been two nominations for the vacant positions and Chairman Dave West announced that David Wheeldon and Stephen Trebble had been duly elected. Stephen, a former treasurer for the club, makes a welcome return while Pam Brown takes on the club's publicity role.

Current treasurer Mike Hawley presented the club's financial situation which remains in robust health; Dave West proposed a small increase of £5 on entry fees for 2016 to cater for the foreseeable expense of replacing the secretary's caravan and the inevitable rising costs of putting on competitions. The proposal was passed unanimously.

The Competitors' Conference followed immediately after with Dave reviewing the past season and congratulating club members who had been successful at the National Championships. He then looked forward to 2016 when the club will celebrate competing at Catton Park for 25 years when it opens the season in April; other highlights to look forward to will be the return to Belvoir Castle Estate and hosting the British Young Drivers' National Championships at Onley.

Angela Flanagan reported on training days in 2016 that will include separate ones for backsteppers, stewards and drivers, the latter being organised to suit individual drivers' needs and convenience rather than on set days.

Dave West explained the new rules for back/body protectors before several of those present contributed to a discussion on the proposed Countryman Fairs competition, giving a cautious welcome to the format and expressing a desire for British Carriagedriving involvement to ensure safety and animal welfare.

The club's website, www.midlandscarriagedriving.co.uk, will post event and training dates plus other information in the coming weeks.

The day concluded with MC President George Spencer presenting the annual trophies and points' league rosettes.

Trophies:

The Gateway Trophy (Novice)	Cathy Gilbert
The Weston Trophy (Intermediate)	Emma Burton
The Jill Neill Trophy (Open Pony)	Elisabeth Greensmith
The Geoff Samson Trophy (Open Horse)	Ruth Auton
The Ben & Zog Trophy (Pony Pairs)	David Wheeldon
The Dainty Trophy (Horse Pairs)	Angela Flanagan
The Tandem Horn	Claudia Bunn
The Roger Godfrey Trophy (Teams)	Angie Smith
Chairman's Trophy	Rosemary and Ian Wall

Points League Winners:

Pre-Novice	Lianne Dolan
Novice	Megan Wheeldon
Intermediate	Stephen Trebble
Open Pony	Elisabeth Greensmith
Open Horse	Sara Clough
Pony Pairs	David Wheeldon
Horse Pairs	Ruth Auton
Tandems	Anne Chambers
Teams	Angie Smith

ENDS

*Issued on behalf of Midlands Carriagedriving by
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Tel: 01205 480190 – Mob: 07973 218834 – E: kingswood.associates@btconnect.com