



Jayne Purcell-White at Glamis Castle



**Our fourth Newsletter finds you after two successful events in summer 2024. Read about Glamis and Sandringham below and follow the link for more information.**

<http://www.attelagedetradition.co.uk>



## 2024 Dates

**Glamis** 18/19<sup>th</sup> May

**Sandringham** 29/30<sup>th</sup> June

**Beamish** 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> July

**Ashfields** 3/4<sup>th</sup> August

**Mostyn** 31<sup>st</sup> Aug/1<sup>st</sup> September

**New Forest** 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> September

[https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/1917391/duchess-sophie-drinking-game-carriage-riding?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAAR1Kr9I3r5XpPatLnbbUI3A1-fsErwltUMCyHzE4eigwZajoGA8wHCF-v38\\_aem\\_hTIHr2nf-r18Si3SxgHWng](https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/1917391/duchess-sophie-drinking-game-carriage-riding?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAAR1Kr9I3r5XpPatLnbbUI3A1-fsErwltUMCyHzE4eigwZajoGA8wHCF-v38_aem_hTIHr2nf-r18Si3SxgHWng)



HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh is a good sport at CIAT Sandringham



Alan Ross driving his pony to a Canterbury Cart by Ingates of Aylsham c 1870



## **A Weekend at Glamis from the pen of Sam Searle**

As we pulled into the entrance to Glamis Castle on Thursday 16th May, driving down the main drive we had time to appreciate what a wonderful location the first CIAT event of 2024 in the UK really is. The weather couldn't have been more perfect - and thankfully stayed with us all weekend, the field was dry, the grounds looked absolutely pristine and we were met by a welcoming committee of our fellow CIAT friends, many of whom we hadn't seen since September last year. Throughout Thursday evening and Friday there was a slow trickle of competitors, stewards and helpers arriving for what was going to be a lovely weekend. The hospitality at Glamis House on Friday evening was second to none, from Richard and his band of helpers ferrying people backwards and forwards to and from the event field, to Brian, Sandi, Alex and their team producing a feast for supper. Food and drink was aplenty – as well as laughter and camaraderie.

Saturday morning and everyone was up, polishing, grooming and making the final adjustments to their turnouts before the judging commenced at 10.00am. At five minute intervals each turnout presented themselves in front of three Judges - the first one being in front of the Castle. Everyone was spick and span and on their best behaviour to try and gain the most points as possible. A big thank you to our three fabulous Judges - Eduardo Cruz who had come over to the UK from Portugal, Paul Mills and Sarah Dance. Then back to the lorry for lunch before the Routier started at 1.30pm. Richard had covered everything from going through the route the night before to his brainwave of putting large diagrams of the five difficulties in the hospitality tent - a great help to anyone who was a newcomer to the CIAT.

After the Routier, we had plenty of time to get ready for the Champagne Reception and Gala Dinner in Glamis Castle itself. It is a great honour to be able to eat in the Grand Dining Room, after being piped in by a traditional Scottish Bagpiper. The food or wine could not be faulted, the staff couldn't do enough for us, the setting was perfect - even down to the table decorations. Richard had gathered some fabulous Raffle Prizes - all which were gratefully received.

After we had finished dinner, Alex had a fantastic idea "Night Capping and Toe Tapping" back in the hospitality tent, where there was Gin, Whisky, Rum, Wine in abundance - even Tequila Rose Shots (Strawberry Milkshake!) were being passed around as the evening drew to a close. Sunday morning, and thankfully the Cones



## Glamis Castle cont'd

Geraldine Pearson



Rosemary Neale Overall Supreme Champion



didn't commence until 11.00am! A course of 10 sets of Cones but each pair had to be driven twice - once one way and then in reverse order. Finally at 2.00pm all competitors gathered in the ring for the Prizegiving. Each class was placed and then the Reserve Champion was pulled forward - experienced driver Sharon Wootton with her lovely Section C. She was then pipped to the post by her neighbour and friend - Rosemary Neale taking Supreme Champion with her pair of Welsh Section C's - well done Rosemary and team. After being awarded her trophy Rosemary then dismounted and took the microphone from Richard - as Chairperson of the AIAT in the UK Rosemary thanked all the Competitors for making the journey and attending this event - as without the support of the Competitors they would not be able to go ahead. All Competitors went home with a goody bag and a smile on their face - all horses and ponies had behaved and what could be better - a weekend with friends, your horse or pony, the best hospitality (from bacon and sausage rolls in the mornings to a BBQ on Sunday evening), the best weather we've probably had all year and doing the thing we all love - traditional carriage driving.

I think everyone would agree in saying my thanks go to Richard, Sandie, Alex, Brian and all of the helpers and stewards that make these events possible. A big thank you to the Glamis Management and the Earl of Strathmore who gave his permission for Glamis Castle to be used for the event . We couldn't have wished for a better first CIAT event - well done everyone!



## CIAT Sandringham



What a festival of driving! Many disciplines were to be seen at the Royal Estate in June from every level of Horse Driving Trials to Coaching, Scurry and of course our beloved Attelage de Tradition.

Rosemary Neale and her team received over 30 entries arranged over 6 classes and the standard was high. 18 entrants earned a sub 10 presentation score giving some indication of the quality seen by the judging committee of Richard James, Sophie Adkins and our founder Baron Christian de Langlade of France.

The Royal Household brought forward a number of extremely interesting turnouts which did not always make completing the routier very easy! HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh proved her sense of fun when attempting the Champagne Challenge and Deputy Head Coachman Jay Oakley driving a team of Cleveland Bays to the enormous Skeleton Break received warm applause for his round.

Sharon and Derek Wootton showed, again, that their preparation and attention to detail gives consistency by scooping both the Steve Jarman Memorial Trophy for best presentation award and the Overall Supreme Champion. Rather fitting that their beautiful Phaeton by Laurie of Paisley 1900 was once owned by Steve.

Gilly Chippendale has been snapping at Sharon's heels for some time and this time deservedly took Reserve Champion. Gilly and Nicola's smiles said it all as they drove forwards to receive the prize with the elegant Section B pony aptly named Bunbury Sandringham!

The Pairs classes were hotly contested with 9 pairs of horses and 2 pairs of ponies all completing the three phases with aplomb. James Jeffery and his picture perfect team of Amanda, Ben and the dutiful Dalmatian Eris took first place on his presentation score. This score was just out of the championship sashes with third best score of the whole event. Relative newcomer, George Lock and his very young and lovely pair of Friesians came in an extremely creditable second place. Claire Bourne and her versatile spotted ponies won the pony pairs with Modris Kesans a close second. It was smiles all round for this very friendly and sporting class. Full results can be seen by following this link.

<http://www.attelagedetradition.co.uk/events/sandringham.html>



An excellent photo gallery is available from our very own Paul Orchard. You can order your own picture direct from [www.paulorchardphotography.co.uk](http://www.paulorchardphotography.co.uk)

These delightful images of the routier were taken by Chris Maydew. Thank you for allowing us to use them.



With two wonderful GB events completed we now have Beamish and Ashfields to look forward to on the near horizon. A huge thankyou to all the hardworking committees for undertaking the organisation of events for our pleasure. There is continued growing interest in AIAT GB which is very encouraging. The effort and attention to detail that goes into every turnout is remarkable and testament to the original premise of the sport, to get the original carriages 'out and about' and on display whilst in use. The social side of Attelage de tradition is obvious from the moment the horsebox wheels stop turning and long may that continue!

Please do enter as early as possible to aid event organisers:

<http://www.attelagedetradition.co.uk/events/beamish.html>

<http://www.attelagedetradition.co.uk/events/ashfields.html>

<http://www.attelagedetradition.co.uk/events/mostyn.html>

<http://www.attelagedetradition.co.uk/events/new-forest.html>

Good Luck to all competitors and bring your friends!

