

THE LONDON HARNESS HORSE PARADE SOCIETY

Incorporating
The London Cart Horse Parade Society and the London Van Horse Parade Society

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PRESS RELEASE

LONDON HARNESS HORSE PARADE

The famous London Harness Horse Parade will again take place at the South of England Centre, Ardingly, West Sussex on Easter Monday 28th March 2016. The annual event is an amalgamation of The London Cart Horse Parade (first started in 1885) and the London Van Horse Parade (started in 1904) and depicts transportation through the ages.

The parade Committee is pleased to announce that 2016 will be the 50th Anniversary of the amalgamation of the London Cart Horse Parade and the London Van Horse Parade which combined in 1966. To celebrate this Anniversary, a special commemorative brass will be issued together with special rosettes. In addition, the entry fee of £25. (which has remained at the same rate for the past seven years) will be REFUNDED to all those exhibitors who attend with their turnouts on Easter Monday, 28th March 2016. This refund will be made in 2016 only as part of the Anniversary celebrations.

We are hoping that the 2016 Parade will be bigger and better than ever and would encourage as many people as possible to take part in this special Anniversary Parade. We would also be delighted to hear from anybody whose family attended the 1966 Parade and has attended regularly ever since.

The closing date for entries is 1st March and schedules are available to download from www.lhhp.co.uk. Email lhhp@edenbridge-show.co.uk or telephone 01737 646132 if you would like to be put on the mailing list or for trade stand enquiries.

The recently introduced Newcomers' Award is bringing in a greater number and a wider variety of exhibitors. This award is open to all new exhibitors or exhibitors who have not entered the London Harness Horse Parade within the last five years. All qualifying entries will receive a special rosette and a copy of the Centenary History Book "Parade", in addition to any other prizes. The Award is kindly sponsored by The Worshipful Company of Loriners as part of their continuing celebrations of their 750th anniversary in 2012 of their grant of Ordinance.

The London Harness Horse Parade has been a popular Easter spectacle for 130 years, and ten years ago moved from its central London location to the spacious, purpose-built South of England Centre in Ardingly, Sussex RH17 6TL with free parking and easier access. The Parade has since been expanded to include a display of the earliest motor cars to enhance the spectacle of how transport developed over the ages. In addition to the 100 + horse drawn vehicles the Parade will include vintage tractors, historic and classic cars, allowing spectators to experience the progression from horse drawn transport to mechanically propelled vehicles.

This annual Easter event is excellent value for a family costing just £7. per adult with children and parking free. The event will also feature stationary engines, trade stands, refreshments and horse drawn wagon rides.

Special rosettes are offered by the The British Driving Society, The Clydesdale Horse Society, The Donkey Breed Society, The Friesian Horse Society, The Hackney Horse Society, The Percheron Horse Society, the Shire Horse Society, The Suffolk Horse Society, the Traditional Gypsy Cob Association and the Welsh Pony & Cob Society. Richard Fuller of Fullers Brewery provides special rosettes to the best Young Whips. The Sir Walter Gilbey Memorial Company Ltd. will provide rosettes for the best pre-1940 vehicles and the John Young Memorial Award will be given to the exhibit turned out in a traditional manner but not driving a pre-1940s vehicle.

"As always we are looking forward to an even bigger Parade in 2016" said Jackie Shearman (Parade Secretary). "Indications are that there will be a good cross-section of transport through the ages to entertain the spectators this Easter Monday and I urge anyone who hasn't taken part before or hasn't joined us for a few years to support us this year and see just how much the Parade has expanded whilst still retaining the same family traditions from years gone by."

The 2016 Parade will take place on Easter Monday 28th March, starting at 10.30 am with the Veterinary and Farriery inspections, followed by judging of the light and heavy horse turnouts. The gates open at 8.30 am for spectators to watch the exhibits being prepared, admire the historic and classic vehicles in attendance and visit the trade stands to do some Easter shopping as well as enjoy refreshments. The Main Parade and presentation of prizes will take place following completion of judging and inspections later in the morning.

Note to Editor:

For further information, please contact: Jackie Shearman. Secretary.

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