



Established for over 48 years, Bennington Carriages is Britain's foremost Carriage Manufacturer - designing, building and maintaining the very finest carriages for pleasure and competitive use.

Combining innovative design and materials, the very finest craftsmanship and our renowned customer service, plus an extensive range of carriage driving accessories, Bennington Carriages offers a wealth of products and advice for all carriage driving enthusiasts.



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Bennington News

Autumn
2011



The newsletter for all things Bennington...



Welcome to our new look newsletter...

It's been a very busy 2011 for all of us here at Bennington. July saw the completion of the move to our new premises and whilst less than a mile from our old Sparrow Lane location, it did at times feel as if we were moving to another continent!

It's been quite a challenge - rooting through 45 years of accumulated paperwork, tools and machinery - and trying to decide what to take with us and what to leave. Whilst the large machinery was moved in January, it took a further 5 months to get everything properly in place and running smoothly. Lots of elbow grease, late nights and many

cups of coffee - but we are delighted to be at our new premises and would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our loyal customers & staff who helped us achieve this major milestone in Bennington's history.

The new premises ('Moor Lane' as we refer to it) provides so much more opportunity than Sparrow Lane. We've invested in new machinery and have much more space - 10 acres - as well as a much bigger showroom and of course the Bennington Carriage Driving Academy. Many of the team cycle to work and everyone loves the new location and the peace and tranquillity it offers - some even taking up bird watching! If you'd like a tour, do get in touch - we'd love to show you around!

We've also been busy in other areas too - developing the Carriage Driving Academy, promoting the sport through more Try Driving days and also sponsoring the premier BHDTA events, awarding a £100 voucher to the fastest single horse and single pony through the Bennington obstacle.



Charlie, youngest member of Team Bennington, getting some expert coaching

decided to forego the pub in favour of a hot cup of tea and a cake back at Bennington. Many laughs were had as the drivers returned looking rather dishevelled but beaming - the drive seemed to be the perfect tonic after a busy week.



A summer drive at the Academy

We've had a great summer at the Bennington Carriage Driving Academy and we've enjoyed every minute of helping drivers develop their skills and further enjoy the sport of Carriage Driving.

Try Driving continues to grow in popularity and we've seen many new faces this year as well as those regulars who love to come along and get expert tuition in the peaceful surroundings here at Bennington.

We were very pleased to host a BDS 'Summer' drive recently. The group set off in blue skies and high spirits for a 10 miles drive - with a brief refreshment stop scheduled at a local pub. Needless to say, torrential rain arrived and the group

ideas for other courses you would like please get in touch! Course details will be published on our website.

New for the Autumn, we've hence teamed up with local fitness instructor Anita Ross. As founder of Core Equitation, Anita offers a new and innovative way of training aimed at the equine individual. It gives the driver the knowledge and tools to enhance their athletic performance whilst competing or simply 'being at one' with their horse. Her unique concept focuses on the building blocks of performance, developing balance, core strength, flexibility & functional movement.

We will be holding weekly Core Equitation sessions at the Academy and don't fear - it's not just going to be 'skinny young things' in Lycra but real women (and men!) who want to improve their personal fitness and get the very best out of their Carriage Driving.

Wicker Basket

Beautifully made and available in a range of 3 sizes.



Prices from £15.00

NEW PolyPads

The ever popular British made Polypads available in a range of sizes & colours. Ideal for saddles & breastcollars.



Prices from £15.00

NEW Driving Aprons

A wide range of Driving Aprons available to suit all requirements including Reflective, Waxed Cotton & Fleece Lined.



Prices from £35.00

Driving Bits

We stock an extensive range of bits including British made Abbey bits. Please call for expert advice.



Prices from £17.50

Bennington Spares Bag

Made at Bennington & perfect for storing spares - ideal for all types of driver. Quality waterproof material, securely fixes to carriage with Velcro.



Price £38.00

Horse Safety Magnet

An excellent product that clearly displays your contact details and ensures you can be quickly contacted if your horse is in distress.



Prices £10.00

Harness Rack Set

Set of 4 powder coated Harness Racks. The simplest way to maintain the quality of your harness, keeping it clean, tidy and well organised.



Price £35.00

NEW Tack Step

Handy, tough tack box with handle & a million uses! Can be used as a temporary step. In Black.



Price £39.00

Large Harness Rack

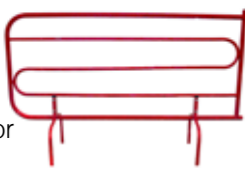
Keep your harness tidy with this large, powder coated harness rack.



Price £20.00

Bennington Rug Drier

The fastest and easiest way to dry horse rugs. In red, it uses a 500w element for economy.



Price £249.00

Bennington Cap

Navy Blue with silver embroidered Bennington logo. Suede peak and adjustable strap.



Price £10.00

NEW Heated Waistcoat

Our favourite product of 2011. Uses Li-ion rechargeable batteries to keep the wearer toasty for up to 4hrs. Unisex: S,M,L & XL



Price £149.00

Carriage Number Holder

Attaches to the carriage for holding the competitors number for dressage and cone driving phases.



Prices £13.50

Sports Driving Book

The complete guide to Horse Driving Trials by leading driver Amanda Saville. Foreword by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.



Price £18.95

Zilco Quarter Sheet

Waterproof exercise quarter sheets available in:
- Small / Pony
- Medium / Cob
- Large / Full



Price £45.00



Mini's can have fun too!

One thing we've noticed over recent years is the **increasing number of drivers** who simply love to drive small or miniature ponies.

There seems to be **something unique about the small pony** and the way it creates unparalleled levels of joy amongst drivers. Regardless of whether they drive for pleasure or competitively, both pony and driver always seem to have a wonderful time!

If you didn't already know, **Bennington manufactures a wide range of competition and pleasure carriages specifically for the small pony driver.**

Each carriage is **made to individual order and to our exacting standards**, with every carriage combining legendary Bennington engineering and **cutting edge materials with innovative design** that minimises stress on the pony.

Further information on our carriages for the small pony can be found on our website. Alternatively, why not give us a call to discuss your requirements, book a test drive and understand more about how a **Bennington Carriage can help you get more enjoyment from your small pony.**

The indoor season is coming...

The 2011 Indoor Championships at Keysoe saw Bennington owners perform spectacularly, winning Supreme Champion, Reserve Champion and a number of other class wins. Key to their success, in addition to their skill, was of course the

quality and performance of their Bennington carriages.

Michael Hodgson, winner of two classes in his Bennington Spirit, offered that **'the carriage rides really well and holds itself in the corners... this stability allows me to**

carry top speed around the corners.'

Nicola Blandin, who won Supreme Champion driving her Bennington Spirit said **'the Bennington Spirit is, without doubt, the ultimate pony carriage for indoor driving...'**



Showroom & Factory Tour

Bennington has the largest selection of **British made carriages** and an **extensive range of quality carriage driving accessories** on display in our new, purpose built showroom.



Why not combine your trip with a tour of our factory to learn a little more about how we make our carriages?



All our carriages are 'powder coated' to achieve the best possible paint finish. An ultra fine mist of dry 'powder' paint is expertly applied by **Chris, our master painter**, before being baked in a giant oven that melts and bonds the paint, creating the lustrous, exceptionally tough finish.

Bennington 'Going to Cover' Cart



Bennington Carriages was delighted to undertake a commission to create a replica of the famous cart as featured in Charles Cooper Henderson's famous painting 'Going to Cover'.

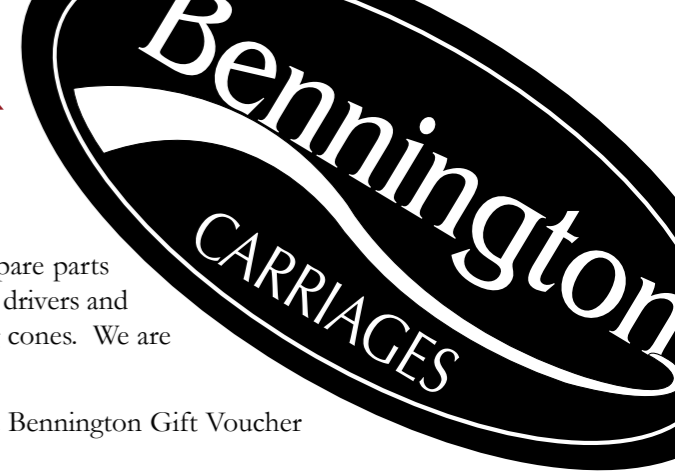
Manufactured for a US based client, the cart was actually a replica of a cart made by Brewster & Co (New York) who took their design from the original painting. The cart can carry four people and its balance can be adjusted via a crank handle next to the driver which allows the body to move along slides mounted on the shafts.

The Bennington Team used their expertise to create the replica, using traditional skills and manufacturing techniques where possible. Michael Mart added 'It was an honour to produce a carriage of such superb design and of Brewster manufacture'

The carriage, now being enjoyed by its owner in the US, has wooden shafts and was fully coach painted and coach lined. Finished in beige Bedford Cord upholstery, the 'Going to Cover' Cart is yet another unique carriage from Bennington that is delighting its owner.



NEW PRODUCTS & ACCESSORIES



At Bennington, we stock an extensive range of quality accessories and spare parts for the discerning carriage driver. We offer a full range of products for all drivers and disciplines, including clothing, bits, whips, gloves, DVD's and FEI driving cones. We are also the largest stockist of Zilco harness in the UK.

Stuck for a gift to buy a Carriage Driving enthusiast? Why not consider a Bennington Gift Voucher or simply pop along to our showroom for some inspiration!

Zilco 'Oscar' Helmet

Lightweight, stylish and adjustable helmet.

Small: 51 - 54cm
Medium: 55 - 58cm
Large: 59 - 61cm

Price £63.00



Christys' Bowler Hat

Traditional wool bowler with luxurious Christys' red lining.

Sizes 53cm-64cm

Price £75.00



Body Protectors

Bennington has worked closely with Airowear to develop the Carriage Driving Body Protector.

Full details available on our website.

Prices from £145.00



Number Bib

Worn by driver or backstepper to display competitor number for the marathon phase. Adjustable straps.

Price £14.00



Gift Voucher



The simplest & easiest way of ensuring friends and family get the perfect carriage driving gift!

Available from £10

SSG Driving Glove

SSG Deerskin Carriage Driving Gloves (pictured). Sizes: 6,7,8,9 & 10

Wide range of other styles available.

Price £38.00



Bennington Bench

The Bennington Bench is designed and handcrafted at Bennington.

Powder coated in Black - 4ft wide.

Price £495.00



Carriage Driving Mug

'I'd rather be Carriage Driving' mug.

Essential for all carriage drivers!

Price £7.50



Zilco Harness Bag

Harness bags to transport your harness easily.

With velcro loops to keep harness secure.

Prices: Tedex: £17.00
Classic: £19.00
ZGB / Elite: £35.00



Gullet Safety Strap

Prevents the bridle from being accidentally pulled off and includes a D-ring to attach a lead rope.

Price £7.00



Stopwatch & Bracket

The essential item for the Backstepper!

Strong metal bracket enables secure fitment to all carriages.

Stopwatch available without bracket: £35.00

Price £65.00



Under Halters

Wipe clean, lightweight and slim.

Designed to fit discreetly underneath a driving bridle.

Pony, Cob, Full, X Full

Price £18.00



Driving Cone

British made solid plastic red FEI Driving Cone - ideal for training at home.

Stackable for easy storage.

Price £18.00



NEW Supastuds

Unique in design and available in a wide range of stud type for all types of terrains.

Price from £2.00 each



Morris Memo

The perfect pet for your desk, Morris looks after memos, pens and pencils!

Available in Black, White and Red.

Price £9.95

