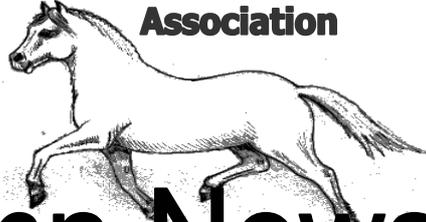




**North Eastern Counties Welsh Pony & Cob  
Association**



# Autumn Newsletter

## Message from the Editor

With the last local Foal Show already done and dusted, it is hard to believe that yet another showing season has come to an end. It doesn't seem any time at all since the first Youngstock Show, when most of the foals who graced our rings this year were still large bulges in their mothers' tums! I must say I do find the whole breeding business thoroughly fascinating. Wondering just what stallion will 'click' with a particular mare and produce that extra special offspring. I would certainly have no trouble taking one particular Sec A foal off Gill Farrow's hands!!! Waitwith Savannah is just the most delicious little filly and I am sure a very lucky child will have the pleasure of riding her in the ring in years to come, with a very proud Leader by her side.

Our own shows have been well supported in the main, although I do despair about the cob fraternity. Hardly seems worth the considerable expense of bringing judges all the way from Wales sometimes! Talking of judges, we do heartily congratulate Karen Hepple on passing the stringent assessment set by the Welsh Pony & Cob Society and becoming a fully fledged Judge on the Cob panel! Not that you will see her in action in our area of course, but we certainly wish her well as she takes on the often unenviable task of putting her considerable knowledge and experience to the test.

You will note that I put the wrong date for our new Ridden Show in the last newsletter. It is being held on the 27<sup>th</sup> January, as you will see from the schedule! This is very much a venture into the unknown, quite literally, as we will be taking entries on the day and therefore have absolutely no idea just how much support the event will receive. You will see that we have included as many P(UK) qualifiers as are available and the usual non-qualifying classes. We have also added BSPS qualifiers for the first time. Although we will not be producing a catalogue, we would encourage you to pre-enter as you will then be able to enjoy the cheaper rate. On the subject of entry fees, we have decided to increase the members' rates for our medal shows next year to £6 per class, although the non-members rate will remain at £10. We have had suggestions that we also increase the membership, but will leave that decision to the AGM. Expenses have obviously escalated in recent years and the income has remained the same, so we hope you appreciate why the increases are necessary. We also hope you agree that we do give value for money!

I am trying to get this newsletter out before Olympia so that we can officially wish Emily Stead the very best as she competes at one of the top events in the equine calendar in December on her Sec D Cob, Danaway Valentine. When you see the short list of Welsh qualifiers, it really is a massive achievement.

## FOAL/YOUNGSTOCK SHOW REPORT

With Gale force winds and driving rain forecast, it was a relief to arrive at Richmond with not even a gentle breeze to disturb the remaining leaves on the trees. I had heard that the outdoor collecting ring had been covered in, but was not prepared for the size of it! It was a real delight to be able to practice running the ponies in comfort before moving to the other collecting area to the side of the main arena.

There will be a new sound system in place by our next event, which will cover the new area, but it is still up to all competitors to make sure they are ready to take their place in the rings when their class is called. If you have to return to your vehicles to change over your equines, just let the steward know. There is simply no excuse for arriving at ringside when the class is nearly over, expecting to be allowed in!!!! Our cob judge this year was extremely lenient but the next one may not be so generous. If it were the Royal Welsh, you wouldn't get passed the gate! It is also not fair to those competitors who do have the courtesy to be on time and have to wait for latecomers. To avoid incidents like this recurring, we have now amended our rules. All in hand classes will now be closed when the last pony has done its individual trot and no ponies/cobs will then be allowed into the ring. No exceptions under any circumstances!

Entries were absolutely brilliant in just about every section and we do appreciate your support. Lucy McKenzie took Mrs Farrow's Waitwith Zoe into the ring and came out with the Section A Welsh Medal and both Welsh and Supreme Foal Championships. Another young lady, Katie Nee, took her high stepping Section D Filly Foal into Reserve spots in both, after securing the Section Championship. Mr McNeal took the Supreme Welsh Youngstock Championship with his own Section D yearling Filly and Mrs Marsden Hendy took reserve with her Sec A, Belchford Gwawr. Sandra Sanderson admits she loves plaiting up her Sec B ponies and came away with both the RPB and HPB Foal Championships, so it was well worth the effort. The RPB Youngstock Champion was Mrs Anderson's Dinsdale Scorpio and HPB Youngstock honours were awarded to Tim Aldred's Larchspur Oracle, who went one better than last year! Miss A Stonehouse's Chartersmeade Sir Digby took the Part Bred Championship and Tracey Neal's cute palamino Shetland foal took both Foal and Youngstock Championships in the Mountain & Moorland section.

My favourite part of the day is stewarding the ridden sections, especially our next generation of HOYS qualifiers in the lead rein classes! A very diminutive J. Dowson won both classes on Waitwith Cuddles, and then took the Mini Championship. Her only disappointment was that there was no sash! She had watched the Foals with their sashes and desperately wanted to win one too. (If someone would kindly sponsor this championship, I am sure we could arrange to have one for next time!) We also had an overall ridden championship, which was won by Jennifer Cowan on yet another pony from the Farrow's stud, Waitwith Solomon, with Jade Neal's Thistledown pony in reserve.

Just one more point and that is in regard to a complaint we received from several spectators who were understandably upset at the abusive behaviour displayed at ringside when children and their parents were present. This is something we will not tolerate at our events and a letter has been sent to the person in question.

Section A Champion Foal	Mrs Farrow	-	Waithwith Zoe
Reserve Foal	Mrs Dobinson	-	Brierdene Nightstar
Section A Y/S Champion	Mrs Marsden Henry	-	Belchford Gwawr
Reserve	Mrs Farrow	-	Waithwith Zoe
Section B Champion Foal	Mrs Randall	-	Llandar Princess Royal
Reserve Foal	Mrs Stewart	-	Elvet Atlanta
Section B Y/S Champion	Mrs Cockerton	-	Haverdale Midday Shadow
Reserve	Mrs Stewart	-	Elvet Arriane
Section C Champion Foal	Mrs McNally	-	Hafodyrynys Taz
Reserve Foal	Liz Hampson	-	Kirkhamgatge Game On
Section C Y/S Champion	Mr McNeal	-	Brynithon Minouette
Reserve	Mrs McNally	-	Hafodyrynys Taz
Section D Champion Foal	Katie Nee	-	Aberiogin April Rose
Reserve Foal	Keith Robson	-	Gwenside Casanova
Section D Y/S Champion	Mr McNeal	-	Hillgarth Rosie Ribbons
Reserve	Katie Nee	-	Aberiogin April Rose
Champion Welsh Foal	Mrs Farrow	-	Waithwith Zoe
Reserve	Katie Nee	-	Aberiogin April Rose
Champion Welsh Y/Stock	Mr McNeal	-	Hillgarth Rosie Ribbons
Reserve	Mrs Marsden Henry	-	Belchford Gwawr
RPB Champion Foal	Mrs Sanderson	-	Colandra Red Ruby
Reserve	Mrs Fox	-	Ben Neaugh Elegant Fox
RPB Champion Y/Stock	Mrs Anderson	-	Dinsdale Scorpio
Reserve	Mrs Fox	-	Ben Neaugh Elegant Fox
HPB Champion Foal	Mrs Sanderson	-	Colandra Keepsake
Reserve	Mrs Atkinson	-	Coatville Easter Star
HPB Champion Y/Stock	Mr T Aldred	-	Larchspur Oracle
Reserve	Miss Stonehouse	-	Chartersmeade Sir Digby
Welsh PB Champion Foal	Miss Stonehouse	-	Chartersmeade Sir Digby
Reserve	Mrs Anderson	-	Dinsdale Scorpio
M & M Champion Foal	Mrs Neale	-	Cotmullion Houis
Reserve	Leona Gregory	-	One Wish
M & M Champion Y/Stock	Mrs Neale	-	Cotmullion Houis
Reserve	Mrs Cox	-	Knix New Tricks
Supreme Champion Foal	Mrs Farrow	-	Waithwith Zoe
Reserve	Katie Nee	-	Aberiogin April Rose

# FAYRE OAKES SALES REPORT

I have always thought that the Fayre Oakes Sale is just as much about socialising as buying and selling ponies. It is certainly not true that quality animals rarely grace the auction ring and studying the eagerly awaited catalogue and marking it up with your own special 'code' is part of the whole experience! Sometimes the pony with the highest score does disappoint, but then there is always one you hadn't marked at all that impresses.

I shared Elaine Ferguson's family accommodation in the Stockman's for the first time and found it more than adequate. The children were beautifully behaved and Elaine was quite restrained! As predicted, the Ferguson wagon was full to bursting on the return home as both the 'Elaines' succumbed to the lure of the auction. I thoroughly enjoyed the Dinner after the High Flyers' Sale and would certainly recommend it. There were some good prices paid for good ponies and some happy, familiar faces I noted who sold well. So pleased they have abandoned the rousing music they used to play when a certain figure was reached! There were murmurings of discontent over Brightwells' policy to initiate a buyer's premium, as well as that of the seller, but I guess Fayre Oakes will survive and we will all be there next year.

## Cob Sales Report by Katie Nee

The sales realised a very good price all round this year with the top price being Thorneyside Magic Lady at £11,000, then another Thorneyside Tradition was the top price male at £10,000. So it was a good weekend despite the bitter cold weather! However, some afternoons came out a bit warmer! Juliet and Carl Costello had a colt foal of theirs going over to Denmark, then Neil and Carol McNally had a good sale, selling a few of their cobs that they took down. There were a few familiar faces buying new cobs, with the McNeal family buying a few. Dawn Gant also bought one, so there should be a few new names in the ring next season. But the best parts of the sale are buying and I did just that and bought myself a new filly foal, Aberloggin April Rose. You may have seen me at the show with her. We have done well the few times that we have been out.

So that was about it from the sales, Good luck to those who bought for next season.

## Young Members' Committee - Katie Nee

The young committee is going well but we could still do with a few more members and some more information about how you are all getting on with your ponies. I received a letter from Rowen Stranier and her younger sister. They have both had a wonderful season on their ponies including 1<sup>st</sup> in the M & M first ridden final at P.U.K summer champs, 2<sup>nd</sup> first ridden at the winter champs. They also qualified for Royal International, and many more. Well done, and good look for next season. I would like to remind everyone that we do run a raffle at all of our shows, so if you have any unwanted Christmas gifts, and would like to give them to us for our raffle, we would be very grateful.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Due to various factors, not least of which is the change of management at the Trimdon Labour Club, we regret that we are not having a Christmas Party this year. However, we will definitely be holding one next year so watch this space!!!!

## Annual General Meeting

You will note that we have included all the relevant forms etc. ready for the A.G.M. next year. Will all parents please make sure their childrens' Young Achievers sheets are sent to me in plenty of time. We would like loads of entries! Don't forget, the emphasis is on 'ACHIEVEMENT'. I know of at least one little girl who has successfully made the transition from Lead Rein to First Ridden, and is tackling the job with great confidence! All disciplines are counted from Olympia Qualifiers to Pony Camp.

Our A.G.M. will be held at Ceddarsfield Hall in Sedgfield on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2008. This is due to the re-furbishment of our usual venue. Ceddarsfield Hall is situated behind the Church that is more or less opposite the Village Hall. You have to go to the top of the road, turn left and then back along the road that runs parallel to the one you were on before you turned left!!

Unfortunately, the cost of hiring this venue is considerably more than the Council run Village Hall, so the raffle we usually hold will go a long way to make up the difference. All donations are therefore most gratefully received.

## TROPHIES

I am going to have a little moan! The trophies we award at our events have all been donated over the years by generous people, who have wanted to support our Association in this way. Quite often they are in memory of a special equine or person and are therefore irreplaceable.

When Sandra was Trophy Secretary, she did a sterling job of keeping track of them all, but even she was unable to retrieve one or two, for various reasons. The task of making sure winners are contacted before every show, has now fallen on me, and I am quite happy about that, as I do have plenty of space to store trophies, and all the members' details are on my computer!

Nearly all of you are very responsible and make sure the trophies are returned on the day, cleaned and polished ready for the next winner, so I am really only appealing to a very small minority. Please, Please make sure you make a note somewhere that you have a trophy to return and when it is due back. If you are not intending to be there on the day, please arrange for someone to return it for you and let me know who that person is, so that I can make a note on the sheet you signed.

It is very disappointing for winners to come to the Secretary's tent only to find that the trophy is missing, and causes me a problem in uniting the new recipient with their award. I must commend one lady I contacted, who, not realising she still had a particular shield, had it engraved with the two succeeding winners' names at her own expense. I will continue to send out letters a few weeks before each show, just as a reminder.

Here endeth my moan!

## **OUR NEW WEBSITE** -[www.necwpca.co.uk](http://www.necwpca.co.uk)

This site is now up and running so please use it! All suggestions for additions, contributions etc. are welcome

It will now be possible for you to be sent schedules and newsletters electronically. Just let Andy, our Webmaster, know and you will be added to his list and deleted from mine! Of course I will still post these out for members who prefer the postman to deliver them. They are also downloadable directly from our site.

So we have now fully embraced the modern technology available to us and hope this will greatly improve communication generally. It also means that we have the capability to reach every Welsh equine enthusiast in the entire universe. If that doesn't blow your mind, I don't know what will. It certainly does mine! When I was growing up, the only way I could get in touch with anyone not within shouting distance, was to take a walk to the nearest phone box and put two old pennies in the slot provided or put pen to paper and wait a week for a reply!

We want to use this facility to tell the world about our own wonderful Welsh equines, so please send lots of pics etc.

## **Young Achievers' Awards**

To be considered for these awards, we are inviting **ALL** our young members to submit a list of their achievements during 2007 with a Welsh pony/cob or part bred. The committee will then divide them into age groups and select the winners from the entries received. All place winners will be notified by post and will be presented with their awards at the A.G.M. on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2008.

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

**NB These awards are open to all children under 18 years as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007**

Date of birth.....

Membership no:.....

Achievements can include:- Showing in hand, all ridden classes, young handlers, triathlon, driving or any other equine discipline. If you have achieved anything at all that involves your Welsh or part bred pony/cob, you are most certainly eligible! Feel free to use more sheets.

Please return to:- Margaret Randall, Avenue Farm, The Avenue, Coxhoe, Co. Durham DH6 4AF by 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2007

**NORTH EASTERN COUNTIES WELSH PONY & COB ASSOCIATION**

**NOMINATION FORM FOR COMMITTEE**

CANDIDATE'S NAME & ADDRESS.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

SIGNATURE .....

PROPOSER'S NAME & ADDRESS.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

SIGNATURE .....

SECONDER'S NAME & ADDRESS.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

SIGNATURE .....

Please note: Candidate, proposer and seconder must be fully paid up members of the Association.

**PROFILE OF CANDIDATE**

Please include why you want to be a member of this committee and also what attributes you would bring to the association.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Continue overleaf if necessary.

Please return the form to the secretary no later than 1st February 2008 to the secretary:

Mrs M. Randall  
Avenue Farm  
The Avenue  
Coxhoe  
Co Durham DH6 4AF

**NORTH EASTERN COUNTIES**  
**WELSH PONY & COB ASSOCIATION**

The Annual General Meeting of the above Association is to be held at the Ceddersfield Hall, Sedgefield, Co Durham on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2008 at 7.30pm

**AGENDA**

1. APOLOGIES
2. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
3. MATTERS ARISING
4. CHAIRMANS REPORT
5. TREASURERS REPORT
6. TO RECEIVE AND APPOINT THE AUDITED BALANCE SHEET AND ACCOUNTS
7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE
8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
9. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

**At the close of the meeting, refreshments will be served followed by a Pub style Quiz ( with prizes!)**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT SEDGFIELD VILLAGE HALL 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2007

Present: As recorded

Apologies: Gale McNiff, Catherine Gallagher & Jackie Hetherington

Minutes of 2006 AGM: Acceptance proposed: Jane Stewart, seconded by Mrs Nee

Matters arising: None

Chairman's Report:

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Association Treasurer, Margaret Randall read the report.

There was an overall profit on the year of £12.05 however this is not a true statement as some expenditure was for the 2007 year and some money was banked after the 31<sup>st</sup> December. The previous three years the association had lost money so this was an improvement.

**Social Events:** An excellent income was derived from the Christmas party, organised by Sandra and Colin Sanderson. Our thanks also go to Karen Shiels and Gordon Appleby who were a great help on the night. We also appreciate Beverley Stevens donating her winning raffle prize to be auctioned to raise more money.

**Youngstock Show:** This event did make a small loss although nothing in comparison to the previous year. The return of ridden classes was mainly responsible for the improvement. Our policy of asking judges from far afield does increase our expenditure but altogether it was a successful day.

**Spring Show:** We did make a small profit but costs also increased.

**Summer Show:** The sponsorship obtained from the Mitsubishi Garage did not materialise until later so there was an actual profit of £4.60

**Foal Show:** This event made an excellent profit of £271.02  
Overall, the combined shows made a profit of 52p!

**Membership:** Our membership did decrease from last year by £107.50 but it had been steadily increasing over the previous three years so this was only to be expected.

**Postage & Stationery:** This has actually decreased by £69.87 but this is reflected by the reduced membership and the increase in more schedules being e mailed.

**Printing:** Following discussions with the Printer leasing company, we have upgraded our model which allows all our printing to be carried out more effectively. Overall costs for the year amounted to £909.31

**Misc. Expenditure:** This has increased this year due to the purchase of an answer machine for Gale and walkie talkies for our Streatlam shows. It also includes WPCS Advert, Website and running floats for Gale and Margaret.

Questions on the report were invited from the floor.

As there were none, Margaret asked for the report to be accepted and the same Auditor appointed. Mr Kevin Stuart proposed with Mrs Anne Conroy seconding the motion.

**New Committee Members:** No nominations had been received.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

- 
- We were hoping to involve the young people more with a view to having a Young Members' Committee eventually. Suggestions would be invited from all our younger members to ask what they would like from the association.
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- **Sponsorship:** As the Christmas Party is our only source of income, other than show revenue, it was essential that we appealed for sponsorship at every show. I would include a sponsorship form with every schedule and more publicity would be given to sponsors.
- 
- **Advertising:** Suggestions were requested from the floor on how we could increase our advertising without incurring expense. Other than the publications we already use, there were no other suggestions.
- 
- **Website:** We would appeal for interested members to offer their services to design and/or run our website. It would then be possible to generate further income from advertising on the site and we would be able to present our schedules and show results etc. ourselves. We would also be able to update the site easier if it were in our hands.

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- Winter Ridden Show: It had been suggested that we run a ridden only show in late January/early February. The general opinion from the floor was that there would be support for an affiliated show with a performance medal. We would continue to ask for support in all our newsletters and schedules before going ahead.

There being no further business we moved on to the Achievement awards.

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**– This was awarded to a Secion D cob, Danaway Valentine. She won both performance and NPS silver medals at our Spring and Summer shows and went on to an impressive collection of championships and high placings throughout the season.

**YOUNG ACHIEVERS' AWARDSs:**

Under 6 years

1<sup>st</sup> Maizie Walton

6 years

1<sup>st</sup> Amy Scott 2<sup>nd</sup> Zabrina Elliott

7 & 8 years

1<sup>st</sup> Tom Metcalf 2<sup>nd</sup> Abbie Walton 3<sup>rd</sup> Daniel Cubello

9 years

1<sup>st</sup> Anna Aldred 2<sup>nd</sup> Samantha Elliott 3<sup>rd</sup> Chloe Cubello

11 & 12years

1<sup>st</sup> Lucinda Elliott 2<sup>nd</sup> Stephanie Cubello 3<sup>rd</sup> Jade Neal

14 & 15 years

1<sup>st</sup> Rachel Metcalf 2<sup>nd</sup> Rebecca Richardson 3<sup>rd</sup> Ashleigh Ball 4<sup>th</sup> Nikki McNiff

The meeting was declared closed and the evening ended with a Quiz, given by Erica Carter.