

Winter Newsletter

Message from the Editor

Another year older, etc. etc!! How was 2006 for you? For me personally? Those of you who were at the local foal shows will know that I had a brilliant end to the year and fulfilled both my ambitions. What made it even more special were the good wishes I received from you all. They were much appreciated. However, that was then and now we start all over again.

Your association had another successful year with four well supported shows. Our committee may be small but our shows are certainly not. There aren't many events around with twelve classes in each of the four Welsh sections! We have always tried to cater for our Mountain & Moorland members but, unfortunately, have not always received enough support to warrant the expense of NPS Silver Medals. After much discussion it has therefore been decided not to include in hand classes for them at our Summer Show. In fact there will be several changes for that event, all of which, we are sure, will make for a more efficient and enjoyable show for everyone. You will notice that we have included a Young Handler Qualifier at our Youngstock Show. Just to keep us all on our toes, P(UK) have decided to change some of their summer qualifiers, which now feature under the banner of the Newark Cup. These will still be held at their summer championships.

We have had a suggestion that we run a ridden only show sometime in Jan/Feb. It could be a morning only event, almost certainly at Richmond Equestrian Centre, but it could also run all day if there is sufficient interest. We are quite prepared to put on such a show but only if we can count on your support. Please e mail, write, text, or phone your thoughts, comments and suggestions.

You know I will be making my quarterly plea for stewards and other helpers for our Spring and Summer shows at some point in this newsletter, so here it is! As you will see from the schedule, our Spring Show is the one where we really need extra help. At the very least, we need four stewards but, with the ridden classes taking over when the in-hand championships have finished, we could really do with five. Even with the help and support of our families and various friends who man the gate and generally 'goffer' for us, it still 'aint easy folks!

SHOW DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Northern All Welsh - Mrs S Potter - Craven Garth, Allerston, Pickering, Nth. Yorks YO18 7PG

Sunday 22nd April and Sunday 10th June - Both at Wetherby Racecourse

NCPA - Mrs A Conroy - Paradise Farm, Easington Colliery, Peterlee, Co. Durham SR8 3JL 0191 5270221

Bank Holiday Monday 9th April - Stainsby Grange

Saturday 2nd June - Streatlam Park, Barnard Castle

Foal/Youngstock/Ridden - Saturday 20th October - Stainsby Grange

Scottish & Northern - Mrs J Redpath - Raisenside Farm, Dipton, Stanley, Co. Durham DH9 9AR

Spring Medal Show - Sunday 6th May - Richmond Equestrian Centre

Foal/Youngstock Show - Sunday 4th November - Swarland Equestrian Centre

NPS Area 4 - Mrs N Thompson - 65 Burnett Cresc. Kelloe, Co. Durham DH6 4PH

Sunday 24th March - Richmond Equestrian Centre

Bank Holiday Monday 27th August - Yorkshire Show Ground, Harrogate

Grass Sickness Show - Mandy Mitchell 01740 655607 or 07745242227

Sunday 20th May

Table Top Sale - Saturday 10th November

CHRISTMAS PARTY

While you were all enjoying yourselves on the night, I was confined to my bed of sickness, spluttering and coughing and feeling decidedly sorry for myself. So I really appreciate all those who rallied round and helped Sandra on the night. (I promise not to do it again next year!) A very big thank you for all the raffle prizes. Beverley very kindly donated her winning prize back to the association to be auctioned, which made a welcome addition to the coffers. Although the party isn't really a fund raising activity, rather an event where we can all get together and have fun, nevertheless it is the only one we have. Sandra gives a lot of her time to organise the whole evening and we really do appreciate her efforts. Ta kid, you're a good'un! Especial thanks also to Karen & Gordon for hosting the raffle and generally making themselves available. With only two members of the committee able to attend it is good to know there are others only too willing to step into the breech when needed!

Last, but by no means least, we are very grateful that Santa could make time in his busy schedule to bring some selection boxes down from the North Pole for the younger guests.

STUD REDUCTION

Llandar Regal Prince Sec. B Chestnut gelding, 3 years old, with superb temperament. Prince stands just under 13hh but has bone, presence and loads of character. Should do well in Gelding classes and is ready to break this year.

Llanarth Songbird Sec. B Grey mare, 10 years old and under 13hh. She bred an exceptional filly foal last year, which is also for sale, but is not in foal this season. Only shown a couple of times in hand with success. Has been backed but would probably be a better brood mare prospect. Can arrange covering this year.

Ring Mags on 07949 163810 or 0191 3771928 for further details. I could e mail pics of Songbird and her foal if you contact me:- margaretrandall3@hotmail.com

Young Peoples' Page

Just a reminder for you to complete your Young Achievers' Forms and post them to me as soon as possible. I haven't had any feedback about photos for the AGM competition but I would need those before Monday 26th February if you are going to enter. We have put on a Young Handler Qualifier for you all at our Youngstock Show. It will be the first event after lunch. That will give you a chance to warm up for the ridden classes later in the afternoon! Could you also ask your parents if they would like us to put on a Ridden Show sometime in January or February next year? It would run in the morning, or possibly all day if there were sufficient

interest, and probably be held at Richmond Equestrian Centre. We are thinking that it would be a good opportunity to try out young ponies, or have your first 'First Ridden' attempt!

AREA ASSOCIATION MEETING & A.G.M.

Circumstances outside our control prevented our attending the Area Association Meeting but, rest assured, you will be represented at the A.G.M. on 10th March!

OUR A.G.M. - 3RD MARCH AT SEDGEFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Could all parents please make sure we have your childrens' Young Achievers Forms in before 26th February. Every single child who is a member is eligible and we would encourage you all to participate. If you cannot find the form, just write the achievements on plain paper and make sure you include the child's name and date of birth. So long as the equine pursuits were on welsh or part bred welsh ponies or cobs, there is no restriction on the type of activity. Just remember that achievement is a relative word and does not necessarily mean loads of red rosettes etc. We take all factors into account when judging the awards so please put pen to paper and send us loads of forms.

You can e mail them to me if you prefer. margaretrandall3@hotmail.com

If you want to bring up anything of concern on the night, we would appreciate it in writing prior to 26th March. We hope you will stay for the Quiz as it did prove popular last year. (Kevin Stewart's lot will have 10 points deducted for being 2006 winners - and also 'cause they were the cheekiest on the night!)

And finally - Just a quick reminder that this will be the last mailing you will receive as 2006 members. Summer schedules will only be sent to those who renew their membership, or who send large S.A.E. to me!