

CONNEMARA NEWS FROM ENGLAND - FEBRUARY 2011

The Scottish group have a diary of events for 2011 that should be of interest to members. This includes clinics, group shows, and visits to veterinary clinics, a racing yard and of course the AGM. Something for every one and it is hoped that as many as possible can attend and thus foster the Connemara pony even further in the North.

Just across the border in Northern Ireland a new show will take place on 4th June in County Wicklow. Ponies from the UK have been invited to attend. 25 classes are planned and this includes a semi-final qualifier for the BSPS Olympia ridden Mountain and Moorland final, working Hunter and high Jump, as well as in hand classes. Lovely to see new shows and events being developed to indicate the Performance qualities of our wonderful ponies.

The 2010 Olympia Mountain and moorland Championship was won by a Dartmoor Stallion, Pumpkin Buckthorn whilst the reserve was taken out by a Connemara Stallion, Connemara best of breed *Lecarrow King*. (*Village Boy – Lecarrow*) owned by LDY Vestey and her sister Henrietta Knight.

The British Connemara pony Society Performance Award scheme for 2009 – 2010 that covers Show jumping, Dressage, One day events, Working Hunter, Driving and Endurance riding has been determined. The overall winner was Gay Worrow's *Silver Fox*. Runner up was *Delmrose Applejack*, owned by Kath Wilkinson. Third place was filled by Mrs S Evans Hookey Quaverlough. The part bred Connemara award was taken by Mrs J Brown's *Windchimes Blue Jazz* with Jan Funnell's *Deards Blue Peter* being awarded third placing.

With summer appearing from the doom and gloom of the English winter the winter greater performance news should begin to appear soon.