

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

CHRISTMAS EDITION 2012

As is usual, there has been very little, in fact no news, from Societies around the world.

Does this mean that there are no Connemara Ponies working and performing, or, just that no one has the time or interest to report on their ponies and their activities???

Given the above, readers will have to accept that which is readily available! There is a gorgeous article from an owner of the Pony that has won the "Jo Heard" trophy down under. I shall send the full article for presentation as it indicates several things, the ability of the Connemara, the joy of a child competing and then the absolute pleasure of the owner who took the pony under her wing and competed not just "in Hand" but at ODEs!

State Royal Shows have been well supported by the Connemara owners. Perth Royal led mare went to "Margylyn Lady Gwynne" owned by J Rockman. Stallion Class was awarded to "Clare Downs Outlaw" prepared by the Clare Downs Stud and this Stallion was also awarded Champion Connemara with "Glenormiston Dundrum" taking out the reserves ribbon.

In South Australia at the Kapunda Show Led Pure bred Colt /filly was awarded to "Gracefield Park Dr. Doolittle"; led Mare was taken out by "Newlands Winsome with "Glenormiston Rosanna" accepting the 2nd place ribbon. "Newlands Winsome" was awarded Champion of the Show.

In Victoria the Geelong Royal Show saw a strong field of Connemarans competing.

Led mare was awarded to "Kahean Snow Blossom". Led Stallion ribbon went to "Gracefield park Mr. Ed" and the led pure bred gelding ribbon was awarded to "Kahean Knight Storm".

Champion Connemara at Geelong was awarded to "Gracefield Park Mr. Ed".

Ballarat, Victoria ran a Mountain and Moorland pony show that included Fell, New Forest and Connemara ponies. M&M Male class saw "Kahean Knight Storm" taking home the First ribbon with Connemarans taking the first 4 placings in this class.

News from Britain also indicates a strong representation of the Connemara pony in competition. One most interesting note that I received was concerning the Eldwick Riding Club's Quadrille team. This group competes on a team of Connemara ponies all of which have competed successfully at Dressage, Working Hunter, Show Jumping, Pony Club and general showing. After some trepidation in preparation the team was entered in the British Riding Clubs SEIB Quadrille Selection trials. With Connemara ponies as their mounts the team chose an Irish theme to the music of Lord of the Dance! The team was called back into the ring for the final placings to be announced. One can imagine the joy when "Eldwick Riding Club" was announced as the fourth team that would go to Olympia. What a great triumph for the Connemara pony and the riders who competed on them!

The British Connemara pony Super Sunday saw a Stallion Parade of 30 Connemara pony Stallions. These ponies ranged from mature aged Males down to recently inspected and graded Colts. Some were shown in hand and some were ridden. Also on Super Sunday was a 2 hour long "Showing Clinic" and this was followed by an "Open Jumping Clinic". From the reports on "Super Sunday" it is obvious that many people gained considerably from all aspects of this wonderful day.

With winter now well settled in the Northern hemisphere very little news of the Connemara pony will be forthcoming for a while. Down under, The Connemara Part Bred has once again indicated its capabilities with a strong performance by yet another part bred Connemara in the prestigious Adelaide International Horse trials. Last year saw "Exmoor Truffles" competing in the CC1 2 event and whilst not finishing in the placings competed extremely well in all sections. In 2011 yet another part bred "Feedale Mouse" competed in CC1 2 produced yet another confident round. Placings in this class are hard to determine as yet but I shall follow this up and try to get a final result for those who are interested.

May I take this opportunity to wish all Connemara pony owners, enthusiasts and riders the very best for the Christmas period. May the year 2012 be a happy riding time for you all and may your ponies produce many wonderfully keen and talented off spring to take you further into Connemara performance areas as yet untouched by you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

John Tennant

ICCPS Publicity officer