

October
2009

NESHPES NEWS



As I am sure many of you will know, the North-east Highland pony community lost a dear friend and dedicated member last month with the passing of Bill Watson. Bill was a truly committed and long standing member of NESHPES and supported the club in many ways, shapes and forms and with his wife, Pat, the Edindurno stud became a prominent force. I am sure I speak for everyone when I say our thoughts go out to Pat and her family at this time. His sense of humour and support will certainly be sorely missed throughout the Highland pony world.

We also lost another prominent figure recently, with Elizabeth Compton peacefully passing away. As a past president of the Highland Pony Society, Mrs Compton was a great source of advice and support for many people - whether new to the show scene or a long term friend. As founder of the successful Turin Hill Stud she will be sadly missed.

NESHPES Annual Awards Dinner

Friday, 20th November 2009

The Barn and Bushal, Thainstone, Inverurie

7.30 pm for 7.45 pm

£20 per head including a complimentary glass of wine on arrival.

Please bring a raffle.

Please contact Susie prior to the evening if you have any dietary requirements.

Tickets **MUST** be purchased in advance and by Monday, 9th November.

2009 Photo Competition

The deadline for entries has been extended to Monday, 19th October, so there is still time to get your prize shots to us. This year entries will be judged by amateur photographer Brian Martin.

NESHPES 2010 Calendars

Page per month calendars featuring entries from this year's photo competition.

Available from mid-November and at the annual dinner.

Only £4 - perfect stocking filler!!

End of season ride out
Sunday, 27th September, Durris

After a break of a few years, NESHPEs returned to Durris to take advantage of miles of off road hacking and the quiet country lanes.

14 ponies and their families saddled up for a relaxing couple of hours in the saddle followed by a fantastic spread of sandwiches and home made soup courtesy of Karen Stewart.

Everyone set off together and headed straight into Warren Wood which saw some people tackle a bit of 4 x 4 riding for the first time! Everyone survived 'the hill' (just!) and coped well with the Sunday walkers. From here the ride split into two with those not wishing to do any road work heading back in the direction of home and the rest heading to take in two further woods.

As the smaller group headed home to relax and heat up the soup the rest headed out onto the quiet roads to take in Brachmont and Hilton Woods. Unfortunately there were felling operations in Durris Forest at the time so we couldn't take advantage of the fantastic routes on offer. However the alternative route provided a great mix of terrain and speeds.

Within the group we had fit and clipped endurance partnerships and those who had only managed to get shoes on a couple of days before so we erred on the side of caution, which left plenty of time to chat to those beside you and take in the fantastic scenery.

On return to the yard, horses were watered and fed and everyone gathered to chat about the summer past, the ride out and their hopes for 2010.

It really was a superb day, with all horses - from those out on their first group hack - to seasoned NESHPEs pleasure-riders getting home in once piece, dry and with a smile on their face!

Hopefully Robin and Karen Stewart will be kind enough to invite us back again and we can explore more of the many miles of hacking that Durris offers.



Remember, Remember the 9th of November!

Scrutiny Night

East Brachmont, Durris

This is your chance to review the score sheets submitted for the NESHPEs annual awards prior to the presentation dinner.

Please let Susie know if you intend popping in past.



COMMITTEE CONTACTS

www.neshpes.co.uk

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