



NESHPES NEWS



Since our last newsletter in September the club has enjoyed a very successful event and is looking forward to the awards season! Points are now closed for the annual NESHPES awards and we look forward to seeing everyone at the dinner - details of which are below.

The scrutiny night, which gives any member the chance to view the score sheets prior to the awards being presented, will take place on Thursday, 13th November at Karen's between 7.30 - 9pm. If you would like to view the sheets please contact Karen in advance.

We look forward to seeing you at the dinner on 22nd November - please note the dinner has moved to a SATURDAY this year! We hope to see many people weighed down with rosettes and trophies by the end of the night.

Unfortunately Lee-Anne Matheson has had to stand down from the committee due to growing work commitments. We were very sorry to hear this but thank Lee-Anne very much for the work she put into the committee during her time. Hopefully we haven't put her off having a go again in the future!

For those of you who have internet access, you will be pleased to hear that the NESHPES website is undergoing a bit of a face lift! The new site will be going live over the next week and will provide the club and members with an up to date, user friendly site that we hope you will all enjoy visiting regularly.

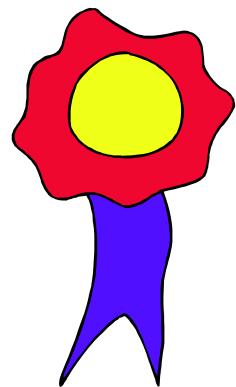


The NESHPES Annual Awards Dinner

Saturday, 22nd November 2008

The Red Star Inn,
Kirkton of Skene
7 for 7.30pm

3 course festive meal
£15 per person
Please bring raffle donation



Tickets from Susie must be purchased in advance and by Saturday 15th November
Friends and family are more than welcome to this social event.



Driving Day and visit to Kincardine Highland Pony Stud

A rather windswept and moist day (slight understatement there!!) met us on Saturday, 4th October. Thank goodness Audrey Barron had kindly agreed to welcome us to her yard for the day - including the luxury of her fantastic indoor school! I think everyone went away dreaming of having a facility like that on hand - I'm still working on my lovely livery yard owners!!!!

We had an overwhelming response to the day, with people travelling from all corners of the NESHPEs area to make the most of Audrey's very kind invitation.

Once the 40 or so people had warmed up slightly, Audrey introduced her team - Bluebell, Gillian and Steve - who made us all very welcome.

Firstly Audrey set about explaining everything associated with driving, from the first instance of what to look for in a pony to breaking and competition. It turned into an invaluable opportunity to ask those questions you had always wanted to ask.

As well as having Audrey's experience and knowledge, guests were also invited to have a go following Audrey and Bluebell's demonstration at each stage - an opportunity which wasn't one to be missed for many people!

Firstly we were shown how much ground work you can achieve with your pony through lunging and long reining, following this Bluebell then demonstrated pulling a tyre and then a "home made" training sleigh - complete with young volunteer!

At each stage the turnout of the pony was explained and when it came to finally putting the pony into the trap the group were encouraged to take a closer look, asking any questions about the fit of the harness etc.

Audrey had many interesting stories to tell of her travels around the country competing in driving competitions. One of the most memorable stories involved the time when Prince Philip asked if he could pass Audrey and her team on the way back to the lorry park with his team of Fell's. As the Prince passed Audrey, Bluebell thought better of being left behind by royalty and proceeded to hot hoof it after the royal team - much to Audrey's surprise!

Before venturing out of the indoor school into the blustery day, everyone had a chat and regained the feeling in their feet thanks to a superb spread of sandwiches and snacks, along with very important soup and tea and coffee!

We would like to thank Audrey very much for allowing us to tour the Kincardine ponies. This really was a fantastic opportunity for people to have a look at a great spread of ponies, including some very striking partbred youngsters.

Thanks to everyone's generosity, the club also raised over £50 for the Equine Grass Sickness Fund and Audrey pulled her own ticket out of the hat - adding a new teddy bear mascot to her lorry!



Foxy's Championship Day!!!

Silver Fox Banais, or "Foxy" as she is more affectionately known, has been a riding school pony at Cowton since 1999. She is a lovely little Highland pony and at 21 years young is very popular with all the riders at Cowton. Foxy turned 21 this year but she is a fit and active pony who has helped many people to learn to ride.

Foxy was previously a show pony and still relishes any opportunity to show off in the ring. As a treat for a select few ponies and riders, Lesley – aka the boss - closes the riding school for Banchory Show and we all have a day away every year.

This year I was allowed to take Foxy for the veteran classes, where she performed well, prancing and showing off as is her way, and was placed third and fourth, gaining a qualifier for the North East of Scotland Championship Show.

After much debating, Lesley finally agreed to let us go to the championship show, although it meant we would both be off work for the day. The morning of the show came around on the 12th September, and I was at the yard very early shampooing Foxy – again! She always manages to get mucky in her stable, no matter how well wrapped!

We arrived at Fountain Equestrian in good time, and once again I went to work with magic shampoo and tonnes of chalk. Finally Foxy was gleaming and I got dressed myself. We were both very excited to be at the show and although there was a lot of waiting around, Foxy was very patient.



We weren't placed in our in hand class, which had a large entry, but we still had the ridden class to look forward to.

It was early evening by the time our ridden class came around, but the sun was shining and as soon as I mounted Foxy began to prance and preen, she was gleaming in the evening sunlight. We qualified for the evening performance so it was time to get the glitter out as it was going to be a full on razzle dazzle affair!

It was 10.30pm before our class came round and although it had been a long day for Foxy she was still as bubbly as ever and she loves performing to an audience. When we were placed second, I was over the moon, and Foxy was doing her Lippizaner impersonation, cantering on the spot and dancing around the arena.

So it was the end of a very long but enjoyable day, Foxy and I were on the way home with our lovely rosettes for a very well deserved rest. I am sure Foxy couldn't wait to tell all her friends what a star she is, she certainly is a star to me, and I look forward to taking her out again next year.

Well done to the organisers of the championship show, although it was a very long day Foxy and I both enjoyed it immensely immensely.

Louise Watt

Dear Susie,

May I take this opportunity to thank NESHPEs for the great night we had at Inverurie on Friday, 12 September. The cheese and wine tasting evening organised was a fantastic event and a great chance to relax and unwind! Our palate was certainly well tested guessing the origins and descriptions of the tasters provided. The evening was concluded with a hilarious beetle drive - I suspect many of the beetles looked more like spiders towards the end!!

Thanks to everyone involved in organising the night. If you didn't make it along you missed a very good and well organised night out. I hope the committee considers holding the event again, we will certainly be the first to buy our tickets!

Hugh Duncan

The return of Donnie!!!!

Aye aye a'body, me here again!

The fence pingin' has been coming along nicely, and I managed to excel myself a couple o' weeks ago. I can noo dae whit Fay calls 'the splits' – I pit one leg far far oot in front, and the ither far far behind, then I go rite doon and squeeze ma heid and neck sideyways tae get at the grass wi'oot getting a dunt off the 'lectric. Onyway, one day I sorto got one o' ma legs over the bottom wire, and I couldna get it oot! I jumped and jumped and Fay and Mither and Unty Oulie all came running across. They were absolutely nae use, so I hid to break the wire all by masel'. The wifie jist happened to be oot at the time, goin' 'ogodogodogod' (she dis that a lot), and whit a fine whooshing noise the wire made as it pinged across the field like a big snake looping itsel' intae big coils. I hinna seen the wifie move so fast for ages – she went and got big scissor-y things and chopped the wire intae bits she could roll up and carry (she's a bittie feeble if you ask me). I wis trying to help her but she didna seem to appreciate it, screeching 'get oot o' the bliddy way you monster'.

My sister Fay, she's gone all huffy on me – the wifie has been taking her oot o' the field and putting stuff on her back and in her moo', and leading her round the wee paddock and makin' her run roond in daft wee circles and ower poles and a' sorts o' nonsense. Fay think's she's the bees knees, 'I'm a big girl now, I canna be playing stupid games with daft wee lads' (I dinna ken who she's talking about....).

The wifie took her oot a walk past oor field and intae another field and I wis going 'help!!!, murder!!!, polis!!!' tae Fay, and running up and doon and screeching ma heid aff, so Fay gets rite upset and runs across tae see me, leaving the wifie standing their goin' 'ooyah, that's the last time I long line without gloves'. I've even seen her sitting on Fay so I'm hoping they'll come past me soon so I can throw a wobbly and make her rin about fine and fast.

Mither's also been awa her holidays, she's gone to see ma Dad again and I'm hoping she'll bring me back a fine present. The wifie says tae me 'heh heh, your Mum'll no be so nice to you when she has another wee foalie to look after this time next year and it'll serve you right'. I huv absolutely nae idea whit she's witterin' on about, so I jist gave her a wee bite tae shut her up.

See ye soon!

Donnie



'This is me just before my 2nd birthday –I ken it's nae fair, but I am just the handsomest loon in the field'

NESHPES 2008 Photo Competition

Thank you very much to Margaret and Katharine Mieras who kindly judged this years competition. A selection of photos will feature in the 2009 NESHPES calendar - which will be available at the dinner or from any of the committee. The ideal Christmas stocking filler!!!!

Those lucky enough to have won a rosette can collect them at the dinner or they will posted to you.

Class 1 - Stallion

- 1st - Amy Sylvester-Evans - "Clandon Moriorsi"
- 2nd - Karen Stewart - "The old boy"
- 3rd - Amy Sylvester-Evans - "Balmoral Dee"
- 4th - Hugh Duncan
- 5th - Hugh Duncan

Class 2 - 1,2 or 3 year old

- 1st - Susie Shepherd
- 2nd - Susie Shepherd

Class 3 - 4 years and over

- 1st - Martha Dalgarno - Dalmunzie Baurley-Bee
- 2nd - Angela Cresdee - Falcon of Forglen

Class 4 - Mare with Foal

- 1st - Karen Stewart - "Greys"
- 2nd - Susie Shepherd
- 3rd - Lindsay Gunn - "Kerria of Gelsa with foal"
- 4th - Hugh Duncan
- 5th - Amy Sylvester-Evans - Malvern Show 98
- 6th - Hugh Duncan

Class 5 - Foal

- 1st - Karen Stewart
- 2nd - Susie Shepherd
- 3rd - Susie Shepherd
- 4th - Lindsay Gunn
- 5th - Hugh Duncan
- 6th - Hugh Duncan

Class 6 - NESHPES Event

- 1st - Lindsay Gunn - "Dressage at the Performance Show"
- 2nd - Martha Dalgarno - "A great day at AHPS!"
- 3rd - Angela Cresdee - "The performance show"



Photo competition continued ..

Class 7 - Head Shot

- 1st - Karen Stewart
- 2nd - Hugh Duncan
- 3rd - Susie Shepherd
- 4th - Hugh Duncan
- 5th - Martha Dalgarno
- 6th - Hugh Duncan

Class 8 - Best Caption

- 1st - Hugh Duncan - "Always look for good conformation"
- 2nd - Karen Stewart - "Have you heard the one about ..."
- 3rd - Karen Stewart - "Come on someone, give me a leg up!"
- 4th - Kirsten Binnie - "Have you seen what the judge is wearing?!"
- 5th - Karen Stewart - "Shhhh - she's behind you!"
- 6th - Hugh Duncan - "Ok, so I sunbathe a lot!"

Class 9 - Landscape

- 1st - Susie Shepherd - "Highlander and family in autumn"
- 2nd - Amy Sylvester-Evans - "Mither tap from Mill Stone Hill"
- 3rd - Hugh Duncan

Class 10 - Blast from the past

- 1st - Karen Stewart - "1985"
- 2nd - Karen Stewart - "1987"
- 3rd - Lindsay Gunn - "Berra of Gelsa 1988"
- 4th - Karen Stewart - "1989"

Class 11 - Best pair or group

- 1st - Hugh Duncan
- 2nd - Karen Stewart
- 3rd - Lindsay Gunn
- 4th - Hugh Duncan

Class 12 - Performance Shot

- 1st - Lindsay Gunn
- 2nd - Lindsay Gunn
- 3rd - Martha Dalgarno
- 4th - Lindsay Gunn
- 5th - Lindsay Gunn
- 6th - Martha Dalgarno

PLEASE VISIT www.neshpes.co.uk and direct any club emails to info@neshpes.co.uk

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Chairman - Lesley Carnegie - 01569 767370 - l.gunn@rgu.ac.uk

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Club Secretary - Susie Shepherd - 01330 811 449 - info@neshpes.co.uk

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Committee members - Helen Gauld