

The Connemara Pony Society of New Zealand Incorporated

Newsletter October 2005

PRESIDENT

Taieri Hore
Ph 03 431 1740
Fax 03 431 1750
email wayne.tairi@xtra.co.nz

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Sharyn Greer
Ph 03 3121775
Fax 03 3121779
email fj.sim.greer@xtra.co.nz

REGISTRAR

Phoebe Turner
Ph 03 614 3770
Fax 03 614 3772
email aturn@xtra.co.nz

Jottings From Your President

The 13th August 2005 turned out to be a beautiful day, the night before was so stormy it was hard to believe our luck but then we are an 'Irish' group!!

The Connemara Stud Tour got away following the AGM right on time!

Aquila Stud owned by Heather and Michael Ringland at West Melton was the first. This stud specializes in breeding part breeds using their resident anglo- arab, 'Manak'. **Aquila Troy** and **Aquila Tyrone** were very pleased to have us look at them. Tyrone is Heather's long distance riding horse and he is proving to be outstanding. Virginia Saunders from near Amberley kindly bought her children's ponies into Aquila Stud. I had not seen these ponies for over 6 months, it was amazing how they had matured, and they are all in work. **Ridgeway Vision** now aged 25 must surely be one of the most versatile Connemara ponies. She has taught and continues to teach so many the joys of riding. I sold her as a youngster, bought her back for our very nervous 10yr old daughter (who incidentally is still riding and never looked back after getting Vision), sold her and now the Saunder's family own her and I have the joy of seeing her again. **Ridgeway Callie** has really surprised me; she could be likened to the 'ugly duckling' story. She is so like R Solitaire, also mid 20's, who went open Pony Club eventing and like Vision taught countless to ride. **Briar of Ridgeway** is looking a picture and Virginia tells me the Show Hunter series is what she is going to be doing this season. **Scarlet of Ridgeway** continues to gain confidence in life and is now ridden by Paddy Saunders age 11yrs. She had a series of mishaps that almost led her to go to a 'far far better place'. She was a lucky pony indeed when our daughter bought her and leased her to the Saunders family.

Tallyho Connemara Pony Stud owned by Sharyn and Fen Greer at Coopers Creek was our next stop. Prior to viewing the ponies we had a 'feast', all provided and prepared by Sharyn and Fen. Thank you from us all. Then out to the fields where each paddock had a list of the ponies and their breeding on the gate. Stud stallion **Glenormiston Jasper** along with his paddock mates, his two yearling colt sons thought we were just the best and they loved the attention. Jasper is also in his 20's now and like all the aged ponies we viewed at each stud he looked wonderful. Then off to a newly fenced area where little grey ponies came to show how social this breed is. It was another 'feast' of seeing so many ponies; all stamped with the 'standard of excellence' the type, the temperament and conformation. We could have stayed for ages and the ponies looked as if they would not have minded. You would have thought at least the really young ones would have minded but no it was 'look at me' from each one of the 10 or so aged from yearlings to 4 year olds. Some that I can

remember **Tallyho Lilly, Tallyho Poppy, Tallyho Jasmine, Tallyho Iris and Ridgeway Ailish. Lonsdale Gentle Breeze, Devon of Ridgeway, Plover, Timaunga Kilfenora, Ridgeway Kilkieran, Tallyho Diva, Ridgeway Pendant** were some of the mares. Tallyho ponies are already out there performing with success in all fields and by the number that await for Fen and Sharyn to prepare for sale there will soon be many more.

Wemblybrook Stud owned by Gloriann and Paul Mullen at Brookside was the third and final stop. 40 minutes driving between each. A list of the ponies we were to view with their breeding and show successes as given to each of us. We lined the fence and had 6 ponies led out with a very comprehensive resume on each by Gloriann. 2 of the Studs part bred young stock were first, followed by purebred mares **Timaunga Chuckles** and the elderly **Galway Jeanette. Bunratty Kerry Gold** showed us how a pony can really move following a long period of ill health and injury (an outstanding example of dedication and hard work by Gloriann and Paul). The latest stallion to arrive in NZ, imported from Australia, **Capparis Casanova**, was the last to show us how important he felt led out in front of a group of 'kiwis'. Just when we think our day is drawing to a close, this 'new' kiwi comes back under saddle and ridden by Gloriann and Paul's young 12yr old daughter Courtney.

Wow what a conclusion to a perfect day. A beautifully presented unit fit for the 'unity classes' in the show ring—and we will see a lot of success I am sure from these two.

'But wait there is more'—**Galway Jeanette** also comes out under saddle and she gave approx 6 little girls the most wonderful time cantering around, so full of life and so happy not to mention the happy kids.

This was the picture of all pictures-- what we are breeding these ponies for—thank you 'Netty'.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this day such a success. It is not easy to have such knowledgeable people viewing your ponies and it was obvious how many hours had gone into the preparation of the ponies and the studs.

Thank you to the ponies that not only showed us how exceptional the bred is but reminded us why we were all there—maintain and breed these little 'Irishmen' in NZ. I for one had a day to remember.

A chance to see all those ponies in one day and to top it off I only had to drive the day before and the day after, that was 730km! Thank you for the taxi rides Sharyn and Heather.

Talari Hore

From the Secretary's Office

I am very excited to be taking on my new role of Secretary and Treasurer for the Society following the last AGM. I hope you will all forgive me any bloopers I make during these early months!

Following is the Minutes of our last AGM, and a list of the new Committee with their contact details.

You will notice the position of Newsletter Editor has not been filled. If anyone is interested in taking on this interesting job, please let me know.

Sharyn Greer

**The 21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the CONNEMARA PONY
SOCIETY of NEW ZEALAND Incorporated**

Held at Yaldhurst Hall, Christchurch, 10.30am Saturday 13th August 2005

Present: Taieri Hore (Chair), Fiona & Lori Comer, Paul, Gloriann & Micaela Mullen, Penny Mahy & Poppy, Annah, Sarah Garrett Burke, Ms McKay, Sheila Ramsay, Liz Gillespie, Erica Gee, Sharyn Greer, Heather Ringland, Virginia Saunders, Susan O'Brien, Kevin Sapsworth, Tony & Bridget Turner.

Apologies: Anne Ryan, Ann Crump, Mary Kelly, Karen Garner, Phoebe Turner, Len & Colleen Thompson, Julie Barclay, Tania Taylor, Annabel Riley, Val Taylor, Fiona McCabe, Julie Hall, Michael Ringland, Fen Greer, Wayne Hore, Rachel Lindsay, Jackie Davidson. Heather moved that apologies be accepted, seconded Virginia Saunders.

Minutes: of the 2004 AGM were read & confirmed. Sharyn Greer / Heather Ringland.

Matters Arising: None.

President's Report: Taieri Hore read her report & moved that it be adopted, seconded Penny Mahy.

Performance Competition Report: The Chair read Mary Kelly's report, adding that Mary suggested that individual sections would result in more ponies being involved in the placings & thus more names in the results in the NZ H&P. Mary also wishes to give an award for the most attendance at pony club. Taieri moved that it be adopted, seconded, Kevin Sapsworth. The meeting agreed to support Mary in the running of the competition as outlined in her report.

Area Reports: Fiona Comer, Virginia Saunders, Erica Gee & Sharyn Greer read their reports. Heather Ringland added an update on S.I. Allbreeds show.

Financial Report: Bridget Turner read the Secretary/Treasurer's report & moved for its adoption, seconded Penny Mahy.

Fees: It was agreed that Fees should remain the same. Sharyn Greer / Heather Ringland.

Ratification of Officers: Postal nominations were received & accepted from Taieri Hore (President), Heather Ringland & Sharyn Greer (Committee).

Nominations from the floor were:

Mary Kelly (Committee) (Heather Ringland / Sharyn Greer).

Karen Garner (Committee) (Mary Kelly / Virginia Saunders).

Gloriann Mullen (Committee) (Tony Turner/ Sharyn Greer).

The Chair announced Sharyn Greer had agreed to take the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Sharyn accepted Bridget's offer to continue until the end of the financial year.

General Business:

The Chair suggested that, in recognition for all her work, the meeting look favourably on bestowing the position of Patron, to Anne Ryan. Sheila Ramsay /Heather Ringland.

The Chair thanked Erica Gee & Liz Gillespie for their work on the A.I rules, to be ratified by the committee.

Discussion followed the Chair's suggestion that the Society have a badge.

Gloriann Mullen / Sharyn Greer. Adopted.

Sharyn Greer moved that the committee look into design, seconded Kevin Sapsworth.

Penny Mahy asked about confirmation of processing of a DNA sample she sent off last year with a cheque. It was explained that the processing business is owned by NZ Thoroughbred Racing and they send the accounts. The incumbent Registrar has received no official list or any reports from the Equine Bloodtyping & Research Centre at Massey where samples are sent, despite requests to Dr Anderson who runs the centre.

It was left to the Committee to approach the NZ Thoroughbred Racing with regards to making a new sample envelope which specifies the pony as Connemara & has the name & address of owner, thus ensuring traceability.

Penny Mahy asked if there was any interest from Connemara breeders to collectively advertise. She enquired if, providing there was reference to the Society, would it assist with costs.

Susan O'Brien suggested a block advertisement could be put in magazine at the same time as the Performance competition results.

Gloriann Mullen asked why we don't have a Publicity Officer?
Records show, this position has not been filled for some years.

Penny Mahy said she trained as a journalist and offered to act as Publicity officer. This was gratefully accepted.

Discussion followed Sheila Ramsay's suggestion that the Committee look into purchasing a multi function laser printer as she believed documents were not legal unless laser printed- Cost for black & white with scanner & photocopier approximately \$600.

Erica Gee enquired about the Society brand. The Chair said the Society owned three firebrands with the clover on, made by Denis Axe. One is with herself.

There was some discussion on the venue & date for next AGM.
It was decided to have it on the 8/9 July 2006 at Massey.

The meeting ended at 12.30 pm.

Committee Members 2005

President	Taieri Hore, Doctors Creek Road, R D 8k, Oamaru Ph 03 4311740, Fax 03 4311750, Email wayne.taieri@xtra.co.nz
Secretary/Treasurer	Sharyn Greer, 674 Woodside Road, R D 1, Oxford Ph 03 3121775, Fax 03 3121779, Email fj.sim.greer@xtra.co.nz
Registrar	Phoebe Turner, 125 Galways Road, R D 14, Cave Ph 03 6143770, Fax 03 6143772, Email aturn@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Heather Ringland, Flat 4, 9 Kipling Street, Christchurch Ph 03 374 9813 Gloriann Mullen, Brookside, R D 2, Leeston Ph 03 325 3219

Mary Kelly, 3 Hartley Avenue, Onetangi, Waiheke Island
Ph 09 3729027, email marykelly@paradise.net.nz

Karen Garner, 34 Three-Oaks Drive, Albany, R D4, Auckland
Email amejkg@xtra.co.nz

Publicity Officer Penny Mahy, 227 Teddington Road, R D 1, Lyttleton
Ph/Fax 03 3299073, Email pmahy@paradise.net.nz

Newsletter Editor -

From the Registrar

Name	Reg#	To	From
Scarteen Doulus	G39	Erica Gee, Manawatu	Megan Smythe, Fielding
Aquila Ka Lee	PM170	Sharyn Greer, Oxford	Heather Ringland, Chch
Lonsdale Gentle Breeze	M49	Sharyn Greer, Oxford	Winnie Tatham, Te Kuiti
Tallyho Tulip	PM147	Ellen Walker, Kaiapoi	Sharyn Greer, Oxford
Ridgeway Jewel	M17	Sharyn Greer, Oxford	Cynthia Muir, Akaroa
Lonsdale Silken Wind	M18	Odine Johnstone, Plmstn Nth	Winnie Tatham, Te Kuiti
Lonsdale Selene	F033	Freda Harre, Howick	Winnie Tatham, Te Kuiti
Lonsdale Mistral	M65	Trish Thompson, Te Awamutu	Winnie Tatham, Te Kuiti
Martray Orion	PG133	Naomi Hall, Papakura	Anna Stewart-Neate, Patumahoe
Kelly of Seahill	RM97	Debbie Hancock, Ruawai	Karen Shanley, Whangameta
Ridgeway Jewel	M17	Christine Angland, Outram	Sharyn Greer, Oxford
Sonshine Legacy Mystic	RG77	Holly Brown, Waiheke Island	Michaela Lewenz, Waiheke Island
Glenormiston Rowan	F047	Anne Lindsay, Bay of Islands	Sue Clarke, Australia
Scarteen Ins na Bro	G43	Emma Burrell, Blenheim	
Glenardon Valencia	PM182	Judy Drummond, Oamaru	R Drummond, Timaru
Ridgeway Ailish	F039	Sharyn Greer, Oxford	Taieri Hore, Oamaru
Bunratty Irish Prince	G35	Amanda Moon	D Penney, Matakana
Capparis Casanova	S19	Casanova Partnership, Chch	L & W Lord, Australia
Timaunga Skylark	M63	Penny Mahy, Lyttleton	J Jackson, Timaru
Emerald Star	PM166	Natasha McRoberts, Kaukapakapa	R & W Clark, Waitoki
Timaunga Erinmist	PM73	Lisa Snook, Timaru	A McLachlan, Culverden
Biwares Madonna	M101	Kohatu Partnership, Chch	E Reid, Australia
Sheemore Diamond Express	M79	Kim Jerard, Chch	Catherine Barrington, Chch
Connie O'Mara	M152	Tui Williams, Te Puke	R Chester, Helensville
Martray Double Tegan	PM161	C Barber, Wairarapa	J A Stewart, Matumahoe
Glenardon	PG165	S Falconer, Oamaru	R Drummond, Oamaru
Inishmoore			
Galway Jeanette	M34	G Mullen, Leeston	Sharyn Greer, Oxford

Attention All Breeders

Would all stallion owners and breeders please note that there have been some changes made to the Stud Book and Non Stud Book Register regulations. In particular I would refer you to the “Foal Registrations” and “Branding” sections. A copy of the Regulations can be found on the CPSNZ website www.horsetalk.co.nz/connemara or from the Secretary or Registrar.

General Interest

The following article is reprinted from the Connemara pony Breeders Society of Australia Newsletter with the kind permission of Sue Clarke.

SHOW PREPARATION OF THE NATIVE PONY

I always say that what goes down a pony's throat the 6 weeks before a show (and indeed all his life) matters much more than what you do the day/week before the show if you want to win in the show ring. And of course we all want our ponies to look good and to win.

Things to do well before the show

Well before your first show of the season, stand back and have a good look at your pony. Is he too fat, too thin, is his coat dull or is he just not looking like a winner? This is the time to start your show preparation feeding programme. Your worming programme should also be up to date if you want him to look and feel well.

A cotton, flag, hession or shadecloth rug and hood will keep the sun from dulling the coats of the non grey ponies at this time and will polish his coat as he moves around. Or you can bring him into a stable during the daytime and turn him out at night so the sun can't bleach his coat. This is where I feel greys come into their own. They may not be so easy to wash but I find they are much easier to keep looking good without rugging and they can be clipped without turning a completely different and often strange colour.

This is also the time to start training your youngsters to stand square and to walk and trot out well on the lead. Do a little at a time so it won't sour them. Get someone else to lead your pony out and you can stand back and work out where is the best position for him to hold his head. Each pony is different.

If you decide to clip your pony, do this at least 4-6 weeks before the show so that he doesn't look clipped. He should look as though his coat is natural. Clipping is not strictly correct but with shows being in the winter time in some areas it saves having to keep them rugged and stabled for longer than necessary. Adequate rugging after he is clipped should keep his coat looking good for the entire winter. Lights and timer switches in your stables work very well to keep his coat short during the winter and are preferable to clipping especially for non greys – of course only useful if you have a stable and can do this. Personally I find that with my mares, especially broodmares, it is not practical for me to be stabling them for the show season when they have big foals on them. They are happier in the paddock and so clipping becomes an attractive option ☺

Just before the show

Make sure his feet are trimmed and neat (or shod if he is being ridden). This is best done the week of the show and should be repeated every 4-6 weeks through the show season.

Trim his 'hairy bits' up so he is tidy. I assess each pony and trim each differently depending on what looks best on that pony

Tidy up any long hair forming a beard under his chin and on the back of his legs but leave the feathers at the fetlock. It should look natural without looking untidy.

Remember these are native ponies and not show hacks

Never clip out the hair inside the ears. Hold the ear lengthwise and flatten it and then just clip off the excess hair that juts out. Muzzle hairs can be trimmed to tidy them but don't remove them. Never touch the long hairs above his eyes.

Pull (don't cut) his mane so that it comes around $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ way down his neck but still looks natural. A long mane hanging below the neckline detracts from the overall outline of the horse. A very short pulled mane isn't right for stallions and mares (breeding stock) but is fine for geldings or partbreds (riding stock). Likewise partbreds and geldings can be plaited but don't plait your purebred Connemara mares and stallions as this is not acceptable.

Bridle paths are also not acceptable for native ponies although you can cut a tiny one (the width of your bridle headpiece) if this makes it easier to put the bridle on in a hurry at a show. This won't show once the bridle is fitted. Likewise a small plait in the mane near the bridle (as in the Welsh pony presentation) is not correct for the Connemara pony.

Tidy up (by pulling) the excess short hair that fans out at the top of his tail but only enough so that it doesn't fan out untidily or look unnatural. A wet bandage and hairspray on show day will help the tail to lie flat. Take this off just before you enter the ring.

The day before the show

Wash your pony well with a good shampoo and conditioner; comb out his mane and tail and rug him to keep him clean and warm. There are some wonderful preparations for getting the yellow tinge out of grey ponies. Check them out at your local horse shop. You can also paint his feet at this time but they will probably still need a tidy up the next day. Oiling rather than painting feet is a good option.

On show day, travel to the show in plenty of time as a pony who is rushed into the ring can be very unsettled. You will need time to comb his mane and tail again, brush off any dust and hay and blacken or oil his feet. It helps his appearance to apply a little highlighter around his eyes and muzzle but makeup on native ponies should definitely be minimal. A shine and conditioning spray can make his coat look better - sparkle and glitter sprays on his coat are definitely not acceptable.

Once in the ring (be on time as it is very annoying for a judge to be kept waiting) walk around quietly until you are asked to go into your class. Always be polite to

judges and stewards even if you think they are wrong and only speak to the judge when you are spoken to.

Allow yourself plenty of room to trot your pony out and remember when working out to turn him to the right ie away from you rather than pull the pony around you.

What to wear

Bridles should be simple and not too ornate. Arabian show halters are not suitable for Connemaras as they are too fine and too ornate. The width of the straps again depends on your ponies head. Stand back and look at him with different bridles on and see what suits him best. A narrow dainty bridle doesn't look good on a pony with a larger head and a heavier thicker bridle does nothing for a dainty head. Check where your noseband comes and position it to suit your pony. An inch can make a huge difference in appearance.

Stallions and colts must be shown in a bit and preferably a chain. Check on the regulations of that show society if in doubt. Some shows also don't allow junior handlers or riders for stallions. A leather or webbing lead and clips or a chain onto the bit is suitable for all led classes. If you are going into a ridden class it is often easier to use reins for a led in class rather than have to change from the lead.

The handler's clothing should be suitable and simple and easy to run in.

Shoes or boots should be flat and ideally have a non slip sole

Moleskins or similar trousers are suitable for both men and women. A skirt is suitable for a woman but please don't make it long and flappy (or short and tight). The judge needs to be able to see your pony move and not be distracted by masses of flowing material or a mini skirt! You can alternatively wear riding attire especially if you are going to riding soon afterwards but remember top boots are very hard on the heels when running in them. Jeans or very bright colours are not acceptable.

A coat or vest should be worn unless it is a very hot day and you have been told that coats are not necessary.

A hat or a cap should be worn and at some shows this is compulsory. Gloves are optional but they finish off an outfit nicely. A dressage whip should be carried. It pays to check dress regulations in the schedule for major shows.

And the important thing is to remember to enjoy yourself. We are doing this for pleasure. Go into the ring with a smile on your face and come out with a smile on your face no matter what happens in the ring

Good luck with your showing.

A website that offers some suggestions is

<http://somis.dundee.ac.uk/~amdouglas/showing.htm>

Information on Connemaras

The Modern Connemara, by Nicholas O'Hare.

Nicholas O'Hare is a breeder and stallion owner and has for 30 years been the sport horse breeding correspondent of the Irish Field newspaper. This is a book about one of Ireland's national treasures, the Connemara pony. It is a book with a mission – to seek out performance in a breed which has for long been dedicated to the show ring. There have been outstanding Connemara performance ponies in the past but they have been over shadowed by decisions in the ring at Clifden. The journey through the breed records via the information supplied by owners and breeders has been a difficult one. Many of the performance ponies of former years have been forgotten. Today performance is still not in its rightful place. This book seeks to identify bloodlines and individual ponies of recent times to express a new dimension. The market for ponies is changing. The overseas buyers who once sought breeding stock now have their own stud farms and no longer come in such numbers as they did years ago. The Connemara pony breeder must take the need for performance on board and support the bloodlines which will give him that vital ingredient of the modern equestrian world. This book while paying tribute to the breeders who have produced beautiful ponies for the show ring endeavours to point the Connemara pony world in a new direction.

Price: Twenty euros, postage paid.

Nicholas O'Hare, 16 Tailteann Close, Windtown, Navan, Co Meath, Ireland

Connemara Video, produced by Pat Lyne.

The DVD or Video is £ 20.00. plus £ 5 for P&P. There is 7 mins in the museum another five or so explaining how the inspections take place in Ireland and the rest is travelling around Connemara with the inspection team, a real good introduction for those who do not have the opportunity to visit the region. It is 45 mins in total.

Contact Pat Lyne email pat@lyne262.fsnet.co.uk

Conclusion

I am expecting this to be the last newsletter I have the privilege to produce for you all. Please support your new Editor (who ever that may be!) and supply them with heaps of news and interesting articles.

Regards

Sharyn Greer