

Glamorgan Welsh Pony & Cob Association.

Summer Newsletter – August 2007.

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Royal Welsh Show

This time last year we were basking in glorious sunshine; the hay was cut and baled; I was pondering whether or not to plant some vines on my southern facing slopes (knowing our Chairman's penchant for the grape juice I thought I'd have a ready market!); and a number of Shows relaxed their competitors dress codes (remember Barry Show!?!). Here we are twelve months later having endured the wettest July since records began; having attended a Royal Welsh where wellies were more evident than flip-flops; still waiting for a couple of consecutive dry days to get the baling finished; wondering which Shows will go ahead and which will be cancelled. Regardless of the inclement weather it was an auspicious 2007 Royal Welsh for Glamorgan Area Association Members. Edwin Prosser judged the Section B classes over two days and Fiona Leadbitter judged the Mountain & Moorland Working Hunter Pony Confirmation.

Not to be out done a number of breeders from our Area Association enjoyed particular success.

The Davies Family won the Section C Barren Mare Class with Rhyd-ddu Rhisian (ably shown by one of the junior members of the team) and then went on to be awarded Reserve female.

T. G. Hughes won the Section D Yearling Filly with Ionos Lluan Non (also ably shown by one of the junior members of their team).

Robert Manchip won the Section D Three Year Old Filly Class with Ffald Autumn Gold (ably shown with much aplomb by the senior member of the team).

The conditions for showing in hand were difficult at best with many exhibitors resorting to footwear more usually seen on the football and rugby pitches of the Principality. This presented no problem for the majority of the younger competitors most of whom managed to dust off some studded sporting footwear without too much difficulty. However, our Chairman hung his boots up a few years ago, and, like most of us chaps was somewhat surprised when his good lady was unable to locate them – after all it was only thirty-five years ago he last saw them! But help was at hand, a fellow competitor was charitable enough to lend Robert his “lucky” boots. I am not sure luck had much to do with it, but our senior showman certainly managed to show his junior counterparts a clean pair of heels.

My only minor disappointment being that there was not an equivalent class for the Cobs as Class 79 for the Section C's, (the Tyssul Cerdin Memorial Prize – Oldest Handler), surely that would have been brought home by a Glamorgan member! . Maybe there is a Sponsorship opportunity for our Area Association – the Robert Manchip Perpetual Challenge Cup – Senior Handler?

This brief report is by no means exhaustive and if I have omitted to report anyone's success please let me know.

Annual Stud Visit

I am delighted to be able to announce that this years Stud Visit will be to the highly acclaimed Trefaes and Menai Studs. The trip will be a joint trip with our western neighbours, the Carmarthen Association, the date has been booked for Sunday 2nd September 2007, with central collection point(s) in our locality and in Llandeilo. With such prominent hosts it is inevitable that our allocation of places will be taken up very quickly; therefore if you wish to come would you let me know on 01443 691394 or 07774 832349 or by e-mail to secretary@glamorganwpca.com As always places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Show Update

The two latest casualties of this summer's inclement weather are St. Mellons and Chepstow Shows both of which have been cancelled.

Summer Supper

Our annual Summer Supper was held last month in the Barley Mow in Penllyn. Forty members filled the venue for what I think was generally considered a very enjoyable evening. Such was the success of the night it led me to wonder if this type of social evening is something members may want to do on a more regular basis – would you like more social evenings through the summer? Let me know your thoughts.

October Sales

Entries for this autumn's Cob Sales in Builth Wells close on Thursday 9th August; this year's sale will be held over three days on 19th, 20th & 21st October. So if you are intending to sell this autumn you will need to get your entries off promptly. Hay-on-Wye Sale is on 6th & 7th October with entries closing 6th September.

Committee Members:

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