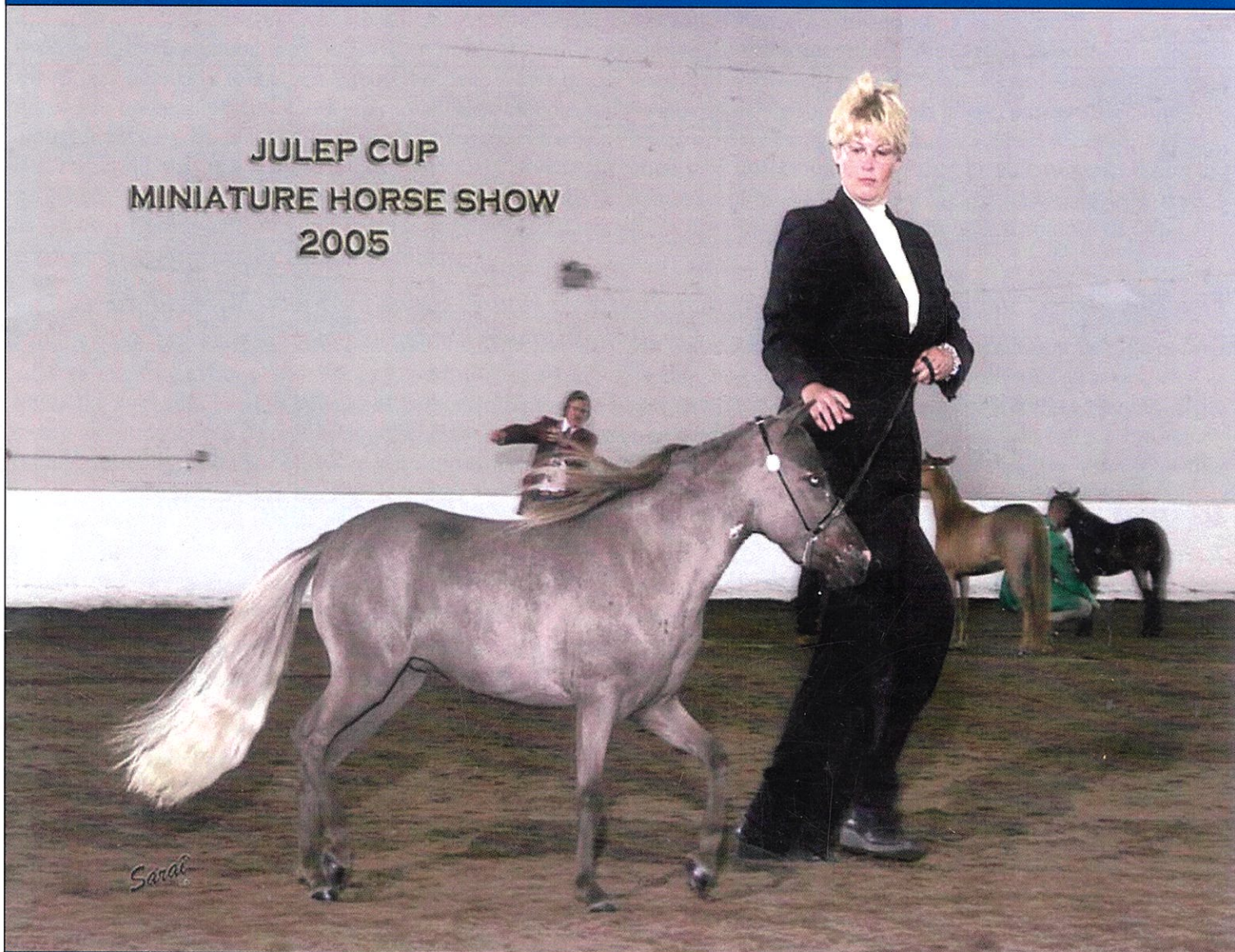


Miniature Horse Club of Great Britain **NEWS REVIEW**

March 2006

Price £2.95

JULEP CUP
MINIATURE HORSE SHOW
2005



Inside this Issue...Special Stallion Feature, Show Dates for 2006, and NEW FEATURE by Special Overseas Guest Writer ...Top USA Trainer and Breeder Jennifer Groters from Alvadars tells us how to check out the health of our horse in the first of a series of articles. PLUS...Important Show News including how to WIN a MERCEDES-BENZ at our Area 2 Summer Show !!!

Welcome to your News Review

March Issue 2006

Front Cover: Jennifer Groters from Alvadars, USA.



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News items, pictures and stories please email: hailstoneminis@btinternet.com

We welcome items from all our members but would you please ensure you put your name to anything you send in otherwise we will not be able to print it in the magazine. Please send emails marked Magazine.

Advertising Rates

For camera ready A4 adverts (design and production available)

Colour - Full Page £97.50	Half Page—£60	Quarter Page £37.50
Mono - Full Page £65.00	Half Page—£40.00	Quarter Page £37.50

Front Cover £100 (Good quality pictures only please)
Lineage free to club members, subject to space availability.

Deadline date for June magazine 1st May 2006

Check out the new look Club website www.mhcgbl.co.uk

A Welcome from your Club President

Dear Member's,

Foaling time and the show season will soon be upon us and with it we hope for some better weather. We have a couple of articles in this issue which will hopefully whet your appetite for the season ahead. Not long now until the show teams will emerge from their hairy disguises! Not that I'm looking forward to hours of back breaking clipping!

MHCGB kick off the show season with the National Championship Area Qualifier incorporating the UK AMHA Spring Show, held in Area 2 which will be the first qualifier for our National Championship Show, in September. This year, bringing a change, the Club will be holding qualifying shows for the National Championship in each area, look for further details in this issue and on the Area News page. Your area show will provide a full day of showing for your miniature horse, please support your local show. If you are not interested in showing your horse, please still come along, meet new friends and perhaps lend a hand. Our Spring Show will be judged by eminent AMHA Senior Judge Bill Fairchild, this is a change to our previously advertised judge who unfortunately will not be able to make it due to health reasons. Bill is a very experienced judge and will be running a clinic the day after the show. Please book early as we are offering half hour training sessions with Bill, so spaces are limited although there will be plenty of room for spectators. Further details are also in this issue.

I would, on behalf of MHCGB and its member's, like to say a big thank you to all of our sponsors for the National Qualifier inc. UK AMHA Spring Show. The response has been overwhelming and we really would not be able to host such an exciting event without your generous support. I would like to point out, on a rather more serious note however, that sponsors need to beware of persons claiming to be connected to the MHCGB. An incident has been brought to my attention of an attempt by another British miniature horse club, who shall remain nameless, to induce further contributions from one of our very kind sponsors. They tried to mislead the sponsor into believing they were in some-way connected to the Club in order to raise money for their own event. I find such actions deplorable and rather sad and can only hope that this desperate society will in future put their energy to better use, rather than using unimaginative attempts to freeloader off someone else's hard work. Obviously, the growing popularity and success of the Club's prestigious events is turning some people to underhand tactics in a bid to emulate our winning formula. Still, they do say copying is the biggest form of flattery!

I hope you all enjoy our second edition of our new look magazine. Don't forget if you want a mention or have any pictures you would like adding to our pages please contact Alison Johnston.

Also, a reminder for the Spring Show...don't forget any horses wishing to compete in the AMHA classes must be owned by a current AMHA member and the horse must be registered in their name. So if you've just bought a new horse get your registration transfers to the AMHA office today. Stallions over 3 years need a testicle certificate completed by a vet, the form's can be downloaded from the AMHA website.

Also, hello to all our new members and of course old members who have rejoined, I hope to see you all out and about this year at the shows, or clinics. If there is any help you need or if you have any ideas about what you would like to see the club offer, do get in touch. MHCGB is a club for everyone and we do listen to what our members want and try to do the best we can to please all. Thank you for all your support and positive emails, the Club is rapidly growing and I am very pleased at the tremendous support we had last year in show entries up and down the country. We had lots of feedback from show organisers who were delighted to see such a high standard of miniature horse and well filled classes. So a pat on the back to all concerned!

Warmest regards

Jill Robinson President

A Note from the Editor,

Welcome to our New Look Magazine! I hope you enjoyed the last one because I have now taken over as editor and I shall look forward to your comments good or bad. Thank you for the many emails we have had with your kind comments about the last magazine. I hope you will find the articles and information we bring you each issue very helpful. As always we try and include something for everyone and at this time of year the two things that all of us are thinking about are foaling and showing.

*We are very fortunate to have overseas guest writer from one of the USA's top stud farms, **Jennifer Groters from Alvadars Farm, a Top Training and Breeding Ranch**, who will be sharing with us some of her vast knowledge from the miniature horse world. Jennifer lectures throughout the USA and as a professional trainer she has produced many American Champions. We cannot thank Jennifer enough for her kind contribution and I am sure we are all going to learn a lot from her over the following issues. Her first article has been co-written by **Dr. Elena Marshelle Richmond, Veterinary Surgeon**, who we also extend our huge thanks to, for imparting with us some of her medical expertise. This first article looks at the health of your horse and also the new born foal, helping us to identify the signs which show they may need attention. It is a very well written and informative piece and I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I did. Jennifer has also kindly offered to answer any questions you have.*

Would member's please note that Martin Johnson, managing Director of Bellcrown Carriages has kindly invited anyone who is interested in driving to visit their new showroom, there will be lots of carts and carriages on display and I am sure this will be a worth while trip.

We will try to publish all the results from around the shows and bring you news of anything that is happening in the industry. I am pleased to say that all the new changes being made, together with the events and awards that are up for grabs this year, has filled all of us with excitement. I am looking forward to the first spring show and seeing all the new horses in the ring, it really is going to be a fantastic event and of course I shall be devoting plenty of pages to this in the magazine. Don't forget to send me all your pictures too, we need to keep the pages full and interesting. This issue also contains our stallion feature with some very nice ones too! Also, if you are thinking about advertising our distributorship is now international so the magazine is a great way to promote your stud or foals for sale. Incidentally, if anyone has any ideas about what they would like to see in the magazine please let me know, as this is a magazine for all of our member's and your views and comments are always noted.

*Look forward to hearing from you,
Alison.*

Dear Member's,

Don't forget passporting your AMHA registered horse or 50%Part-AMHA horse could not be easier with MHCGB.

Application forms are downloadable on our website, www.mhcgb.co.uk. We provide a quick turn around and at a cost of £16 this makes MHCGB a very reasonably priced option. Some points to consider before obtaining a passport anywhere else,

We are : -

- **DEFRA Approved**
- **No Hardshipping Fees! This could save you up to 30 times the amount compared to that which some other British Miniature Societies charge.**
- **All parentage stated on your horses AMHA papers will be transferred intact! Not always the case with some.**
- **Quick turnaround, our average being two weeks. People have been known to wait over two years with another Miniature Society.**
- **Affiliated to the American Miniature Horse Studbook.**

PASSPORT WITH MHCGB



NEW AREA QUALIFIER SHOWS

We are pleased to announce that we are now holding qualifier's for our
MHCGB National Championship Show inc. AMHA Miniature Horse Show 2006

AREA 3

***13th May 2006 Low Farm, Easton Maudit, Nr. Wellingborough, Northants,
NN29 7NR. Contact Jane Parker 07773295742***

A full day's showing with 23 classes including the usual Refined, Draft, Category B, AMHA, Part-AMHA, Falabella, Part Falabella, Gelding, Ultra mini, Driving, Colour, Show Hack, Hunter and Cob, Best head male and Female...Superb Rosettes, Supreme Champion and Reserve to receive the
Donaldson Trophy AND Sashes.

AREA 6

***2nd July 2006 Clottersgate Show, Hylands Park, Chemsford, Essex. Contact
Linda Lumley 01268 711081***

Ten Classes are on offer including refined, draft, British, AMHA, Falabella, Colour, Category B. Rosettes 1st-6th, Supreme Champion and Reserve Sash, Best member rosettes, Please support this show and all our area shows!

AREA 5

30th July 2006, Sheepgate Equestrian Centre, Boston, Lincs.

Show secretary Pat Englund Tel: 01205 871 970

A full day of classes to suit everyone, newcomer, ultra mini, colour classes, refined, draft, AMHA, Falabella, Part Breds, British bred, John Morfield Gelding Incentive Fund, open driving class, best female, best male head, scaled down hunter, cob and hack.

Sashes to Supreme and Reserve Champions, fabulous rosettes. Equestrian Life will be in attendance at this show!

Please support these Shows!!!

MHCGB would like to Thank Jane Parker, Linda Lumley and Pat Englund, our area representatives for their hard work in organising the above shows.

*******NEWS FLASH*******

***Rycroft MERCEDES-BENZ Sponsor MHCGB
Area 2 Summer Show.***

Special EXCLUSIVE INTERNATIONAL Feature



We are very privileged to have the expertise of Jennifer Groters and Dr. Elena Marshelle Richmond from the U.S.A and Thank them both for their contribution in sharing their knowledge with the MHCGB and its Member's. We hope you enjoy reading this very informative article which is the first in a series aimed at helping you understand and learn a little more about your miniature horse.

Jennifer Groters was raised in Western Nevada where she spent many hours learning and enjoying the way of life with horses. She currently resides in Western Michigan with her husband and two children, where she owns and operates the **Alvadar Farm** and specializes in difficult to breed mares and stallions and Halter training.

Dr. Elena Marshelle Richmond was born and raised in Lowell Michigan. She attended Michigan State University for both grad and undergraduate school. She has been working for Equine Medical since 2002. Dr. Richmond enjoys Riding her quarter horses in team penning and team sorting events. She also enjoys working with her mini donkeys.

Do I have a healthy Horse?

Written By Jennifer Groters – Alvadar Training & Foaling Stables, L.L.C.
Dr. Elena Richmond, DVM- Equine Medical, L.L.C.

When I was young and growing up our Veterinarian came to see us once a year. He wasn't stingy with his time, quite the contrary, he spent the whole day. He arrived early enough to be there for feeding time and share a cup of coffee with my grandfather and possibly a muffin from my grandmother (actually always a muffin or 3 from my grandmother). Doc Barns would walk with Grandpa through the last years' crop of horses and cattle discussing the good things that had happened and whether we could possibly do anything to avoid some of the bad. He spent the time needed to see just about every animal. Doc Barns and Grandpa would both ask questions each gleaned information that was necessary to maintain their way of life. Grandpa was just as important to Doc Barns as Doc Barns was to him. You see, Doc Barns covered a large portion of the state of Nevada, which was why we saw him once a year. During his visit he brought our years supply of medicines, but mostly he asked questions. Had we been plagued with spring fever like other farms...did we face such problems... how did we avoid them... And what to watch out for...the list went on for hours. For me it was a lesson in what finding a really good Vet would mean to me later in life. Doc Barns always set the standard. He was always available by phone and knew his clients and their animals. There must be something said here about being a good client too. Doc Barns had great admiration for Grandpa, not only was my Grandfather born in such a time when there were no automobiles around and grew up learning about horses as a way of life, but most importantly Doc Barns knew that when Grandpa called with a problem or a question he knew what to ask and what the problem was. Which brings me to the point of this whole article "How can I judge the health of my horse?"

Today I am lucky to have an association with a great set of Veterinarians at Equine Medical. There are 4 vets on staff and they offer a myriad of services. For this article, I requested and received the help of Dr. Elena Richmond who graciously gave of her time to provide the help I needed. Most vets have a routine they use to evaluate a horse (any horse) and Dr. Richmond's is a good way to start. Using the basic premise that either side of the horse should mirror the other she begins looking directly at the horses head starting with the ears, are they responsive to their environment? Basically, do they seem alert if not what is different. Are the horse's eyes bright? Discolored? Dull And Droopy? Swollen? Is it both eyes or is it just one? Then on to the nose and mouth, is the nose runny or dry? Are the gums a natural pink and moist? Either too pale or a dark ridge along the tooth line are bad signs. Know your horses mouth when it's healthy it will pay off when you are judging illness. While at the mouth and nose area notice how your horse is breathing. Is there any coughing, grunting? Is the breathing shallow and rapid or normal and relaxed? After making judgments on health at the head of the horse Dr. Richmond starts down the side of the horse. First she does the skin test to check for hydration- This is done by grabbing skin between your thumb and finger about halfway down the neck and pulling the skin away from the horse. If the skin bounces right back tight up to the horses neck the horse has good hydration. If the skin stays out or is slow to respond the horse is having hydration problems. From the neck she runs her hands down to the left front leg checking for swelling, cuts, and unusual warmth. For this leg as for all the others she checks for lameness and to see if it is weight bearing. Next is the trunk of the horse. Is it distended or normal and she listens with a stethoscope for gut sounds (if you don't own a stethoscope buy one and have your vet teach you how to hear gut sounds). While judging the trunk of your horse take a minute to notice the health of the hair coat. Is it healthy and shiny or dull and flaky?

Use your hands to feel for lumps and bumps. As you continue on, run the same check for the back leg as you did for the front leg. Then on to the tail, I always check for signs of Diarrhoea. And it is important to note if there is recent manure in the stall and how it looks. Also is your horse urinating regularly? Now you are ready to complete the basic health check following on to the other side in reverse from back to front. Two other things to note that are rather important are appetite and attitude. Is my horse eating and drinking like normal and if not what is different? And the next is attitude. This is where you as the horse owner will benefit greatly by knowing your horse's attitude. Your vet doesn't see your horse everyday and it's up to you to know when your horse is telling you that something isn't right.

The Basic bodycheck is a great process to determine the daily health of your horse, but as in most things there is more. What follows is the basic scale used by most Veterinarians to rate the overall condition of horses. It is a basic scale from one to ten, however, 10 is not the best rating. The scale runs in a triangle shape and depending on the breed of your horse 4,5,6 are the best ratings. The scale is as follows:

- 5) Very Fit with more body, Well Defined Muscles
- 4) Very Fit, Racehorse looking, Good Muscle, No Fat, Shiny hair
- 3) Very slight fat can be felt over the rib area individual vertebrae not seen
- 2) Very thin only slightly better than #1
- 1) Sunken Eye, Poor skin coat, No Muscle, No fat Skeleton Like, backbone easily seen
- 6) Finished look, no Ribs, Well defined muscles, full-bodied, healthy hair
- 7) Some Fatty Deposits in Neck, Croup & Withers still healthy looking
- 8) Fatty Deposits are shown as a crease down the back ribs are difficult to feel, fat around the tail head shoulders very fleshy, fat along the inside of the buttocks.
- 9) Extremely fat, fat rolls around shoulder and tailhead
- 10) Morbidly Obese, Horse may have problems walking and Breathing

This information should help you on your way to understanding what is wrong with your horse and how to tell your veterinarian where you think the trouble lies. There is always more to know but there can never be enough of the basics.

As I write this it is foaling season so I thought I'd cover the basics of what to look for in a healthy foal. I think the best place to start is with the delivery. Did things go well? Was there unusual stress on the foal or mare during the delivery? Is the foal breathing normally? If the answer to any of these questions has you concerned call your vet. Foals have no reserve and can crash without warning. Next is to sterilize the navel. We recommend either Bentadine solution mixed with distilled water or Novasan Mixed with distilled water. I use a cover for a 3c syringe full of solution and dip the cord in it. The cord should be checked each day. The Stump should shrink in size. If there is swelling or heat or pain, notify your vet. Assuming that everything is going along well within 5 minutes of delivery the foal should be trying to stand and suckle. I like to see a foal nursing well within the first hour, however there are good nursers and the not so good kind. Most of them eventually get it, but if after 2 hours your foal hasn't been drinking mother's milk, call the vet. Your vet may tell you to wait a bit longer and that is ok provided that your foal is doing well. We often use a bit of corn syrup to help keep up the foal's blood sugar and energy level. If your foal is of great concern have the vet tube with colostrum and that will give you a few hours more to help junior get started in the road to good eating. After eating has been successfully tackled I start looking for the meconium stool, which should happen within 2-6 hours. If not or if the foal is having trouble pushing I use a baby enema. Less stress on the foal and on me. The next big check is the IGG test. This is where blood is drawn from the foal at about 15 hours after birth, put into a solution, poured on a snap test and read after five minutes. This lets us know whether or not the foal received enough immunities from mom (for more information on IGG tests and how to read then please email me) we do our own here with test kits we purchase from our vet. For those just starting out or for those who feel uncomfortable drawing blood I recommend that you have your vet perform this test. After a few hours and baby is doing fine I do a basic body check mostly the same as above except I take a bigger inventory of the new foals joints. When some foals are born their joints are contracted, others are lax in both cases I just make a note to check on them in a week or so. Most of the time they correct themselves. If you don't see improvement in 7-14 days call your vet. You will also need to check for other leg problems – bowed, in or out, and breaking over the fetlocks, of all these things your vet should be made aware. On a daily basis I check for hydration using the skin test method. I then take a minute to look at their eyes; is there the appropriate wetness? Is there any redness? Ambiotic fluid irritates the eyes of some foals during delivery. The basic eye ointment will usually fix this problem. Another tough one on the eyes is mother's hair. Before each delivery we take the time to shave a good portion of mom's belly where the newborn would be searching for food, this helps but does not always prevent hair in the eyes. I was asked the other day when I stop worrying about the foal making it to maturity, my answer was this there isn't a day that goes by that I don't take an express interest in foal activity. This means that I check to see if the foal is bright and alert when awake and that their appetite is good. Checking manure quantity and consistency is also a daily process I guess I ease up after their first round of Vaccinations and about 2 months after they are weaned. Then I feel that we are on a good road ready to start preparing for the next go'round.

If any readers have any questions they would like to put to Jennifer please get in touch with me (editor) and I shall pass these on, also any feedback or thoughts on an area you would like to know more about.

Member In The Spotlight

This issue we put new member Ann Joye, from Joy Horses, Belguim, in the spotlight. If you would like to be included in this feature for future magazines then please email: info@hailstoneminis.com. We look forward to reading about all our members no matter how many mini's you have, so come on we're waiting to hear from you.

Joy Horses by Ann Joye

It all started in 1999. We were looking in a horse magazine "hippo-revue"...and saw for the first time in our life pictures of miniature horses. It was love at first sight and we started to search all over looking to buy some of those gorgeous creatures. We were told it would be very difficult and very expensive...

Finally, we arrived in Pepingen at Miniatures Hippodrome and saw them for the first time in real! That same day we bought: Tuffs Eros (3 months old) and reserved a filly foal (two weeks old), that would be the start of our horse passion! We would soon know that in Eros...a star was born! From his first show he has been winning a lot of championships all over Europe. He really is a master on show and breeding! He is without a doubt the most well-known Miniature horse stallion in Europe!

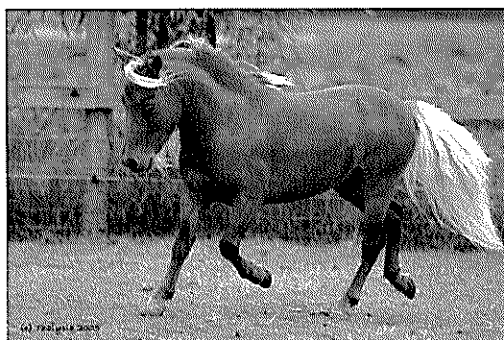
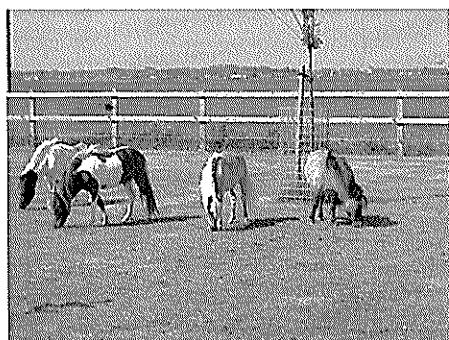
At that time we owned a field (1 ha) and boxes (10 km from our home) but we rented it to a farmer. From that time on we started using it for our Miniature horses. We started to visit breeders all over Europe. We bought a lot of horses in the first two years in England, France, Belgium, Holland...Soon we had a big herd of about 60 miniatures, American miniatures, pure bred Falabellas, part-bred Falabellas, foreign bloodlines...

Two years later our passion became that big that we decided to sell our new build house and we bought an old farm that needed to be rebuilt completely. As we would like to enjoy our horses as much as possible, that would be the best way to do it! We had 6 ha of field, too much for only our miniatures, so we decided to rent some of our fields for big horses during the summer and to build a stable for those and rent the boxes. Now 5 years later...we have 11 ha of fields, 50 boxes that we rent, 3 outdoor and 1 indoor arena, a walker and a training center for arabian horses. The arabian horses are coming from all over Europe and even from the Middle East, USA and Canada, for their show training. Tom and Glenn Schoukens do the conditioning and showtraining. As you see my life is full of passion for horses, big and small ones. We showed a lot of our mini's in the past few years all over Europe and achieved a very good reputation, being honest breeders of high quality miniature horses and stud of Champion Miniature Horses!

Over the years I sorted out for myself that I most of all like the American miniatures. For that I imported in 2004 quite a few new ones from the USA. One of them was Little Kings Bourbon Street Buck. He was the first and only Boones Little Buckeroo son ever imported in Europe! He has it all, the look, the pedigree, the attitude. He is one of a kind, really an arabian in miniature. A long neck, a gorgeous "Buckeroo" head with large eyes, level topline, athletic action. He exhibits all the show ring brilliance, spirit, exuberance, personality and fire of his father. We had his first foal in 2005 and I can tell you Joy Horse Little Buckeroo is superb! I hope his progeny for the future will 'speak for themselves'. This year we are expecting six foals and we are really looking forward to seeing them being born. To me that is the most beautiful time of the year.

Nowadays my herd consists of about 25 miniatures, 75% of them are amha horses. My intention for the future is to have a herd of horses of the best bloodlines, all of high quality and a diversity of colour. My wish is to achieve to breed also the buckskin colour. I have the intention to buy some buckskin mares this year. I would like that at least 50 % of my herd will consist of Joy Horses that I bred myself. Two years ago I started to keep each year at least one or two of my foals. In my opinion that is the right way a real breeder should do it. I like that my clients can see both of the parents at my farm. As a breeder it is my intention to breed even better quality horses than the ones we bought over the years. Normally with a little luck of course and a lot of knowledge and high quality horses ...we must achieve...for our next generations. We like to breed quality instead of quantity. As my husband and I adore the arabian horses, we like to breed...arabians in miniature...powerful, beautiful, graceful!

Here are some photographs of my horses.



Many Thanks to Ann for sharing her very interesting story.

*Breeding & showing champions
for today ... and ... for tomorrow*



Tuffs Eros

17.04.1999

33 ½ inches, AMHA registered



**Little Kings
Bourbon Street Buck**

01.05.2002

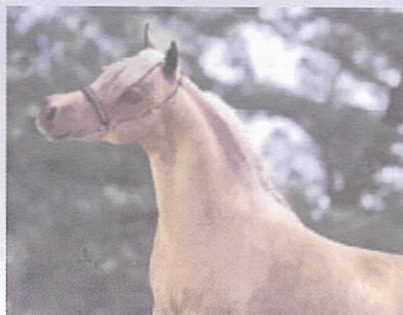
31 inches, AMHA registered



**Ltd's Magic
Mans Tex Tan**

27.04.1999

34 inches, AMHA registered



Lucky Four Thrillers Tuff n Rowdy

x

Princess Zara

First premium stallion
Multiple champion (Europe)
Multiple national champion

Magic Man of LTDS

x

Lucky Ledanes
(just me and my shadow)

First premium stallion
Multiple reserve champion (Europe)

Boones Little Buckeroo

x

Little King Vanessa Supreme

First premium stallion
Multiple champion (USA)
Multiple champion (Europe)

Life foal guaranty

*For more pictures and offspring
please visit our website*

Weidestraat 1, 8670 Koksijde - Wulpen, gsm +32(0)478 388 588, fax +32(0)58 28 73 92
www.joyhorses.be - info@joyhorses.be



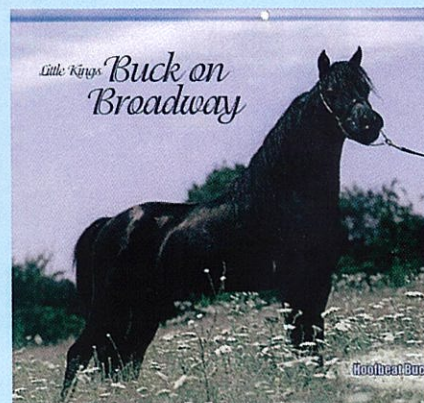
Buck Ons Silversmith

**Silver Dapple 33.50" AMHA stallion
USA Import**

**Sire: Little Kings Buck On Broadway
A.k.a. 'BOB'**

AMHR Leading Futurity Sire

Dam: Hoof Beat Acres Little Miss Priss



Hailstone Miniature Horses

www.hailstoneminis.com

Show Dates 2006 (check out the website regularly for full up to date list)

8th April, Have-a-go-show, Sheepgate,
(full details inc. schedule on area news page)

2nd May, Hambleton District Riding Club, Richmond.

30th April to 2nd May, Leicestershire County Show
Entries close early March 17th.
Sec. Mr. J.A. Hardy-Smith, Leicestershire Agricultural
Society, Dishley Grange Farm, Derby Road,
Loughborough. LE11

8th, 9th & 10th June, Royal Cornwall. Sec: Mr. Riddle, Royal
Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge, Cornwall. PL27 7JE

25th June, Derbyshire County Show, Mrs. Kay Godson, Bushy
Cottage, Grassy Lane Burnaston, Derby DE65 6LN

27th August, Moorgreen County Show, full details will be on the
club website.

2nd September, Moreton in the Marsh, Sec: T. Gardner MRICS
FAAV, Moreton In the Marsh Show Office, Oxford Street,
Moreton in the Marsh, GL56 ONA

Area National Qualifier Shows: -

**Area 2, 16th April, National Qualifier & UK AMHA Spring Show
(full details in this issue)**

**Area 3, 13th May, Low Farm, Easton Maudit, Nr. Wellingborough,
Northants, NN29 7NR. Contact Jane Parker 07773295742**

**AREA 6, 2nd July 2006 Clottersgate Show, Hylands Park, Chemsford,
Essex. Contact Linda Lumley 01268 711081**

**AREA 5 30th July 2006, Sheepgate Equestrian Centre, Boston, Lincs.
Show secretary Pat Englund Tel: 01205 871 970**

**Area 2 Summer Show, Preston Park, Middlesbrough, Monday 28th Au-
gust 2006**

**NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW INC. AMHA MINIATURE
HORSE SHOW. Details opposite, don't miss this one!!!!**

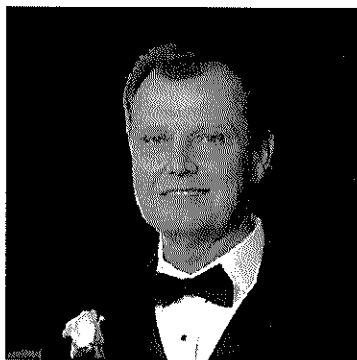
MHCGB National Championship Show incorporating the AMHA Miniature Horse Show 2006

9th September, Sheepgate Equestrian Centre, Lincoln

The One not to be Missed!!!

We have one of the AMHA's Senior judges and from this years Worlds...

Mike McCabe



Mike McCabe---Short biography

My wife Barbara and I are the owners of McCabe's Training Center in Miamisburg, Ohio. I have been showing and breeding horses for around 50 years. I have trained Quarter, Arabians and Miniatures to National Awards in many aspects and disciplines of the horse world. I have judged nationally and internationally holding cards in several breeds. I have devoted the last 15 years to breeding, training, showing and judging the Miniature Horse.

We have Championship Classes with Top Titles to be Won...National Yearling Champion, National British Champion, AMHA National Grand Supreme Champion, National Performance Champion...to name but a few. We have over 50 classes, including Halter, Driving, Part-bred, Gelding, Obstacle, Showmanship, Weanling, Two by One Owner, Decorated draft, Junior classes, Senior classes, we have classes for everyone and every horse! We have Fabulous Rosettes, Lots of Trophies, Beautiful Sashes. All in All a Truly Spectacular event.

*Also....Don't forget our MHCGB National Qualifier Inc. AMHA UK
Spring Show 2006.*

16th April 2006 Stainsby Grange Equestrian Centre, Thornaby, Cleveland.

Show Secretary, Catherine Marshall, 19 Whitestone Close, The Ings, Redcar, TS10 2PS Tel: 01642 511330

Please note there has been a change to the judge and we are pleased to welcome AMHA Senior Judge Bill Fairchild.

Bill has a background in breeding Arabs and he is very experienced in judging miniature horses, having become carded in 1991 and judged at the Worlds in 2004. Bill will be hosting a clinic the day after the show. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn how to improve your performance and how to make the most of your horse. We have a massive number of classes at this show. The rosettes and sashes are beautiful and there are trophies to be won!!!

We would especially like to thank our very generous sponsors for their support at this show; Minara Halters, New Close Farm, Dave Wilson Harness, Aesthete Stud, John Morfield Ltd, Hailstone Miniatures, Supreme Dreams, Mc Clarron Insurance, Mascot Miniatures, Julie Hunt, Starmyers Farm, Many Thanks to all of you.

Please note we will be producing a timetable for this show and this will be posted on the website. Also there will be extra rosettes in the gelding class for those horses castrated in 2006 (or after the show season in 2005), do enclose proof with your entry form or bring along verification on the day.

Breeding Miniatures

When deciding whether or not to breed from your miniature horse, you should think very carefully before rushing your mare off to stud. There are a lot of pet miniatures on the market and sadly all too often because of an unplanned or ill-thought out breeding programme. I have seen many of these sad looking animals at the local auction, or advertised in the local paper where I have come across them many times neglected and kept in unsatisfactory conditions. One horse I bought was tied up by a chain in a dark and dirty stable when I viewed him, he was unhandled, wild and very scared and my biggest reward was bringing him home and getting him to have trust in us humans. It didn't take long and just 3 weeks after arriving with us, he went on to take reserve champion at his first show.

It is a mistake to think you can make some easy money from these little horses, the cost of keeping a well fed and well cared for horse, far outweighs any profit you think you might make. Plus, there is always the risk that if you are not present at foaling time you may lose your mare and your foal. Mare's need almost constant supervision when they are nearing the time, as I write this article I am on to week two of interrupted sleep patterns, getting up and down during the night to watch a mare on camera. Please don't be tempted to think that just because you have a mare it will be cute to have a foal too. There are many unwanted horses out there so why not just go and rescue one and give it a loving home.

Apart from the mares, you should also consider whether your stallion or young colt is really worth producing from, don't be barn blind, take a good long hard look at him and be honest. If he doesn't have all the qualities a good stallion should have then don't be afraid to geld him. Every breeder is going to produce horses that just don't quite measure up, it happens, so why not be a responsible breeder and have them gelded before selling them on, that way no-one else gets to breed from them either. If he's not good enough for your own breeding programme why let him go into someone else's. That's what I call RESPONSIBLE breeding! Just because a horse has been gelded it does not necessarily mean it is a bad horse, simply means you have better things in the barn that you'd prefer to breed from. Some people might argue that a horse that is average to one breeder, might be of a high standard to another breeder, so why geld him? Why not let him improve the quality in somebody else's programme? Well I don't believe a horse will improve the quality if he isn't of a seriously high quality himself. Much better to spend your money on top quality mare's and take them to a good stallion standing at stud, rather than buying a cheaper stallion that is not of good enough quality. You won't produce top class foals that way, even if it's a full AMHA bred horse with good lines. Or if you are going to buy a stallion, buy the best you can afford bearing in mind your stallion will produce many foals a year for you, whereas your mare will only produce one. Don't be misled into believing any AMHA stallion will improve your British, or part-bred mares! It won't!! So buying any AMHA horse just because it's AMHA is a waste of money, but buying a quality horse with a proven record or a traceable pedigree is a wise investment and personally speaking I find these horses more often than not, do come from the AMHA studbook. I just happen to think that the American breeders have done a lot more with their breeding programmes to advance the breed that it catapulted them ahead of the staunch British breeders a long time ago. That does not mean all imports are better than what you can get in this country, there are just as many bad horses over there as there are good, time and research go a long way to helping you find the right horse.

There is a lot of incentive now to show a gelding, not like before when they struggled to compete with the presence of a stallion. MHCGB has so many awards on offer, to Geldings Only! Big cash prizes, fabulous rosettes, trophies, etc... **The John Morfield Gelding Incentive Fund** was a step we took to encourage people to geld their horses and give them financial reward for doing so, last year £1,000 cash was put into the pot. This year more money is being donated to the fund and we are hoping to spread the prizes out further, so that more people have a chance of winning something and there will be some fantastic awards handed out at the Points Awards Evening in October. So it really is worth owning a gelding with so much opportunity to win great prizes. We have decided to set an example and have already had one of our colts gelded and he is a well bred full AMHA horse. So it doesn't have to be just for the draft types of unknown breeding, any horse no matter how good its lines should be gelded if he isn't going to make a top class stud, or if he isn't better than what you've got already. I believe once you breed a horse you have a responsibility for life to make sure that animal is going to be properly cared for. If you cannot find a good home for it, then you should be prepared to keep him until you do. Geldings are fun to own, they're easy to handle, generally friendly and you never have to worry about them accidentally reproducing, they also make good companions for stallions and mares. I hope more people will take the responsible step of honestly assessing their horse and geld it if necessary. The knock on effect will mean more geldings in the show ring, more classes for geldings, competition gets harder and therefore creating a market for quality geldings! Surely that's a better option than having a market flooded with average horses providing fodder for the continent? Personally, I would much rather show a good gelding in a gelding class and stand a chance of doing well with him, as opposed to showing a colt/stallion where I may not even get into the ribbons. Makes sense to Me!

By Alison Johnston

Stallion Review 2006

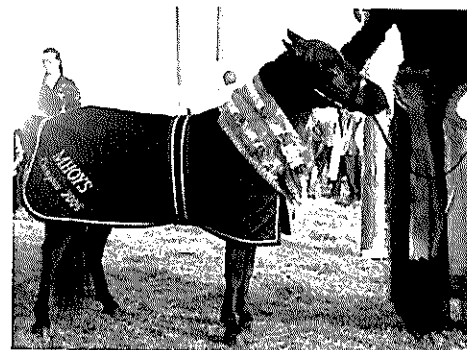
NCF Berrys Love Potion

Sire: Dell Teras Delles Joe Berry **Dam:** April Love

Part AMHA Black 31'' Two year old Junior Stallion.
This young colt was IMHPS Supreme Champion of Champions
2005. His sire is a multi champion in both USA and UK.
He is standing at stud this year, fee £500

Contact: Jill Jones
(m) 0797032169

Or email: supremedreamminis@hotmail.co.uk



MASCOT MINIATURES

Proudly offer at stud to a limited number of mares...

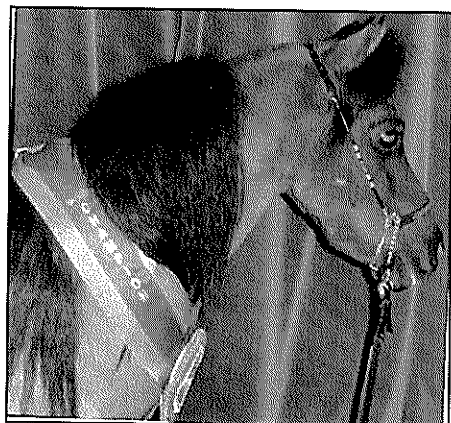
NCF BERRY LUCKY JOE

(pictured left)

AMHA Registered
2003 Black Pinto Stallion c.29.5''

Sire: Dell Teres Deltas Joe Berry

Dam: Aesthete Lady Luck



SCOTT CREEK MYSTER BLACK VELVET

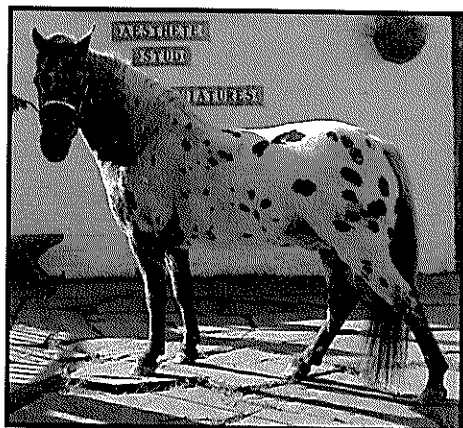
AMHA Reg & IMHPS A Elite Reg
2003 Black Stallion c.26''

Sire: Brewers Orion Mystic

Dam: 3DS Black Velvet Dippers Annie

Further details available on request contact Marrieanne Lavelle Tel: 07725 216526
(After 6:00)

Contact Marrieanne Lavelle on 07725 216526 (After 6:00)



AESTHETE STUD

Bo Bo GRIMECROFT

Our Newest Stallion Contact: 01427 873602

Mobile: 07890667056

www.aesthetestud.com

Hailstone Miniature Horses

Introducing Our Multi-Champion Stallion...

Scott Creek Mystical Magnum



Magnum has been a prolific winner on both sides of the Atlantic. In his first and only show season here in the UK he amassed a staggering total of over 7,000 MHCGB points to take National High Point Champion AMHA Stallion, Senior Stallion and Champion Solid Colour 2004, a record breaking score that no other horse has even come close to. He made such an impact in his first season we retired him from showing for he had nothing more to prove. He still competes in the occasional driving class and last year he took the titles of National High Point Driving Champion and National High Point Performance Champion proving what an outstanding all rounder this horse is. Magnum has a proven record as a sire in the US and his off-spring have taken regional championships.

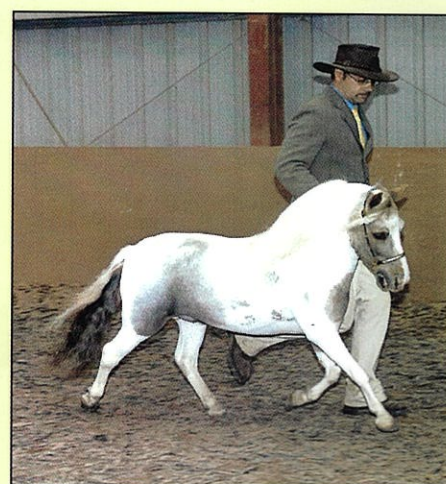
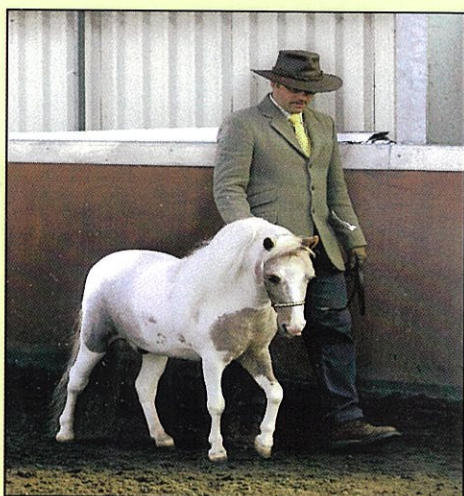
For further information about stud availability and foals for sale please contact: info@hailstoneminis.com or visit our website www.hailstoneminis.com

STANDING AT STUD



LOOKING GLASS BABY ROCCO

Falabella Pintaloosa stallion Graded ELITE with IMHPS.



“Rocco” is a real head turner combining tremendous presence, outstanding temperament, good conformation and eye catching movement winning the Best Movement Class at MHCGB Championship Show 2005.

Notable wins in 2005 include;

BSPA National and Northern Performance Point Championships

Champion Miniature Horse at Durham County Show

1st Falabella any age at All Miniature Breed Show

1st Falabella any age at North East of England Summer Show

1st 4yrs & Over at North East Of England Summer Show

Reserve Champion at North East Of England Summer Show

Champion Falabella at MHCGB Summer Show

Reserve Champion Scaled Down Show Horse at MHCGB Summer Show

Supreme Champion Falabella of the Year at MHOYS

Supreme Champion Draught Type of The Year at MHOYS

Supreme Champion Falabella at MHCGB Championship Show

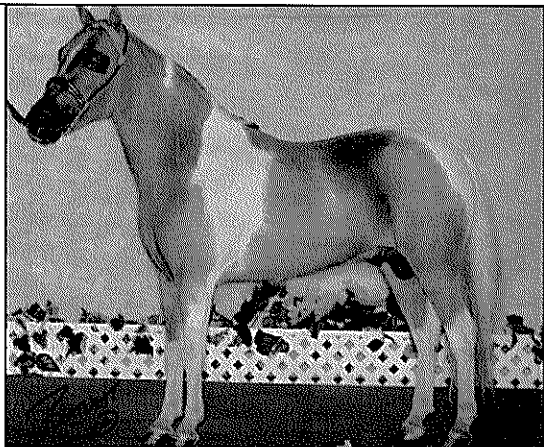
MHCGB High Point Stallion 2005

MHCGB High Point Falabella 2005

Topping off the 2005 show season by taking THE CHAMPION MINIATURE HORSE OF GREAT BRITAIN 2005 title at the prestigious Royal London Show.

Contact Janice Sandford Goudie,

Tel: 0191 536 2763 email: jsg123@supanet.com



Aprina Jn Ovarions Mashena

Sire: Scott Creek Standing Ovation Dam: Whispering Firs Princess Ann
31" Sorrel Pinto AMHA Imported stallion.

2004 Worlds Top Five and Top Five Honour Roll
2005 MHCGB National Champion AMHA Stallion
And National AMHA Reserve Supreme Champion

'Mike' has had a very successful first year in the UK winning many more major titles. His pedigree reads like a who's who of the AMHA stud book including such greats as Sierras Dawn Uno De Mayo, Skip A Star, Rowdy,

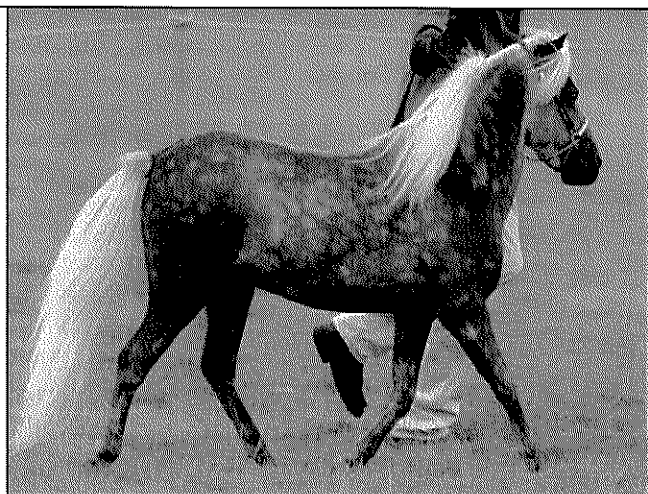


Scott Creek Mystical Magnum

Sire: Brewers Orion Mystic Dam: Komokos Little Carmen
31.75" Black AMHA imported stallion.

His sire is a USA National Champion and Top Ten Leading Futurity Sire. His Grand Sire is the legendary Orion Light Vant Huttenest. Magnum himself was Western Regional Champion 1999 and his off-spring are also multi-champions. In 2005 he was National High Point Driving Champion and Performance Horse. Magnum makes a real pretty driving horse as he holds his head beautifully, he is very showy and has lots of presence. If you want to improve your breeding lines by adding generations of pure AMHA pedigree, as well as refinement and beauty, Magnum is available to a few select outside mares this season and some of his foals may be for sale.

For further information visit our website: www.hailstoneminis.com

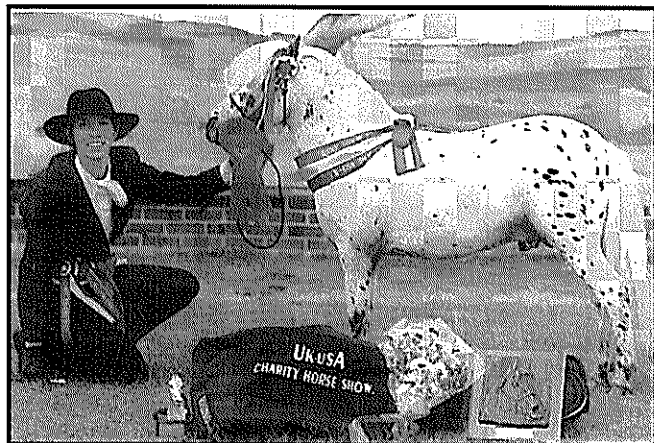


Buck Ons Silversmith

Sire: Little Kings Buck On Broadway Dam: Hoofbeat Acres Little Miss Priss
33.50" AMHA Imported stallion.

Silver Dapple, very striking and possessing true Arabian qualities with a high tail set and long legs. This horse has hardly been shown but in his limited career he was Yearling Winner and Reserve Champion N.C.P.A 2004 and Yearling Winner Staffordshire 2004. He will be shown more in 2006 making his debut in the driving classes and his first foal will be due this year. His sire is three times Futurity leading sire by Buckeroo.

Further Details: info@hailstoneminis.com



AESTHETE STUD

Blackwater Tarot

Leading Sire 1999, 2000, 2004, 2005.

Contact: www.aesthetestud.com Tel: 01427 873602



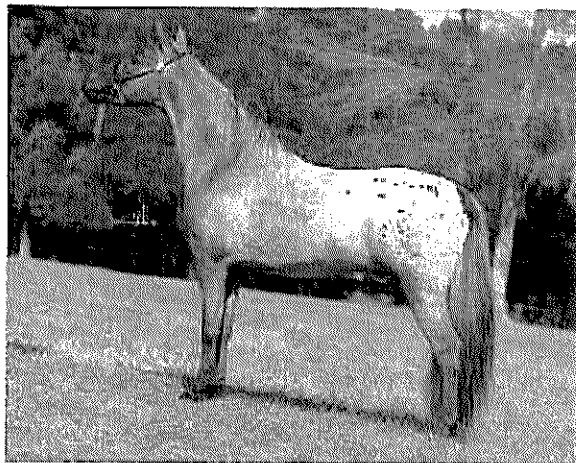
DELL TERAS DELLAS JOE BERRY

33" REGISTERED AMHA, BMHS, ELITE GRADED IMHPS.

Joe Berry needs no introductions, he is probably the best known miniature horse in the UK. His UK offspring are becoming supreme Champions in their own right. NCF Berrys Love Potion Supreme champion MHOYS 2005. He is the ultimate driving horse having never been beaten in the UK even against full size horses! He has an outstanding show record being a past European Champion and a UK Supreme champion. His outstanding temperament he passes to his stock.

Available to a limited number of approved mares.

Contact: Jill Robinson



FLF Stars Lunar Eclipse.

31.75" AMHA registered Appaloosa Stallion.

'Shooter' stood supreme Champion at his first show in the UK MHCGB Spring show and again at MHCGB prestigious national Championship show. He possesses true horse balance and truly outstanding movement which he displays as a top driving horse. His first foal crop in the UK are available this summer.

Available at stud to a limited amount of approved mares.

Contact: Jill Robinson

New Close Farm



Royal Oaks Mystical Silver Moon

33.75" AMHA Registered Silver Dapple

Moon is 2004 European Senior Stallion Champion & 2004 MHCGB National Champion senior stallion. His ultimate refinement makes him an excellent choice for shorter stockier mares. He has certainly stamped his offspring to date with his modern miniature horse qualities.

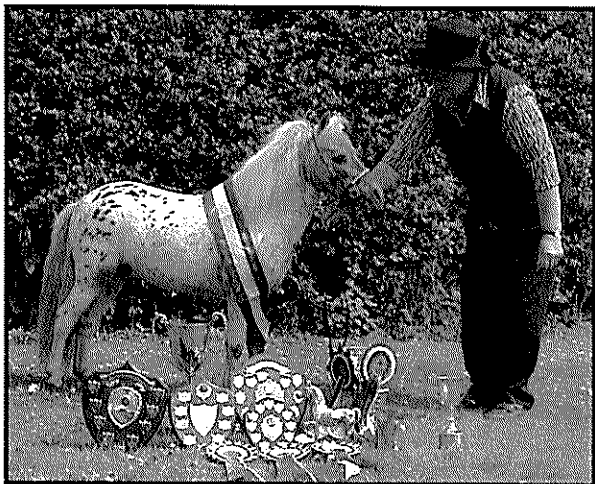
Available to a limited number of approved mares.

Contact: Jill Robinson

New Close Farm

Email: jrnewclose@aol.com

New Close Farm



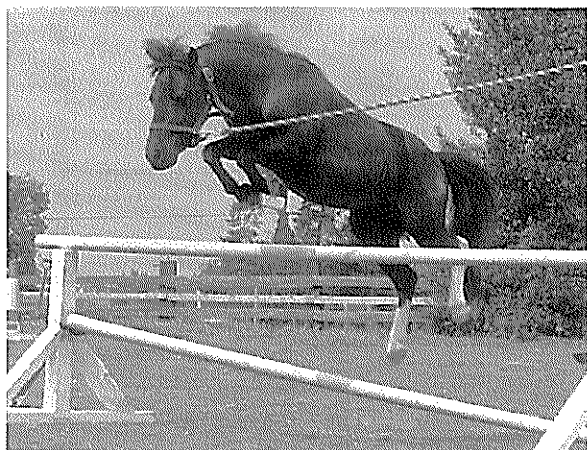
AESTHETE STUD

Aesthete Taboo

National Champion 2005

Contact: www.aesthetestud.com

Tel: 01427 873602



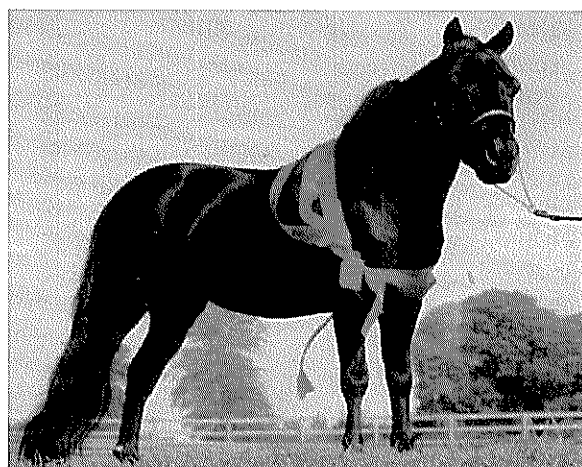
Pitter Patter Ponies

Currently has the following three stallions at Stud.

All are licensed with BMHS & IMHPS.

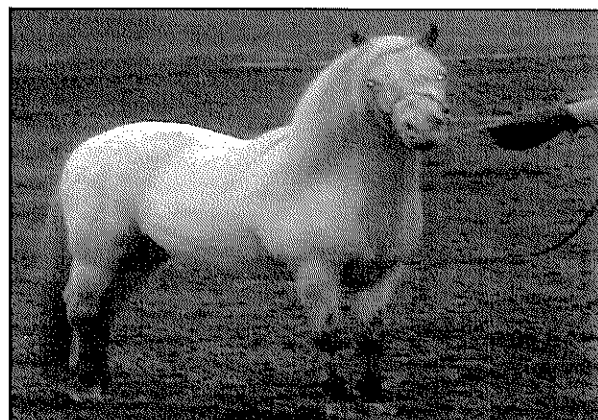
We are situated in the West Midlands.

Hack Type, 31.50" 6 year old, Refined Performance Champion. This chap is an atheletic jumping and obstacle horse who excels in driving. Stylish, intelligent stallion with flair, poise and flashy white legs.



Hunter Type: 33" 5 year old show horse. Successfully shown in 2005 winning many major titles and qualifying for HOYS. Unbeaten in Showmanship 2005. Well trained now diversifying and being placed in performance classes.

Available for Sale £2750



Draught type, 33.750" Well proportioned and balanced horse. This few spot showman attended only two shows in 2005 but took major championships, in good company. He is titled IMHPS Champion Colour, Champion Draught and Reserve Supreme Champion MHCGB at the Royal London Show.

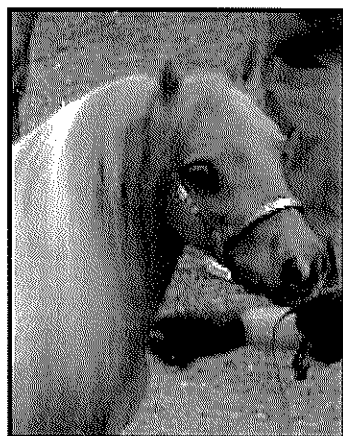
For Further Details and Progeny photo's please contact
Wendy on 07780908609 Or, Bev on 02476361688
or www.pitterpatterponies.co.uk

AESTHETE STUD

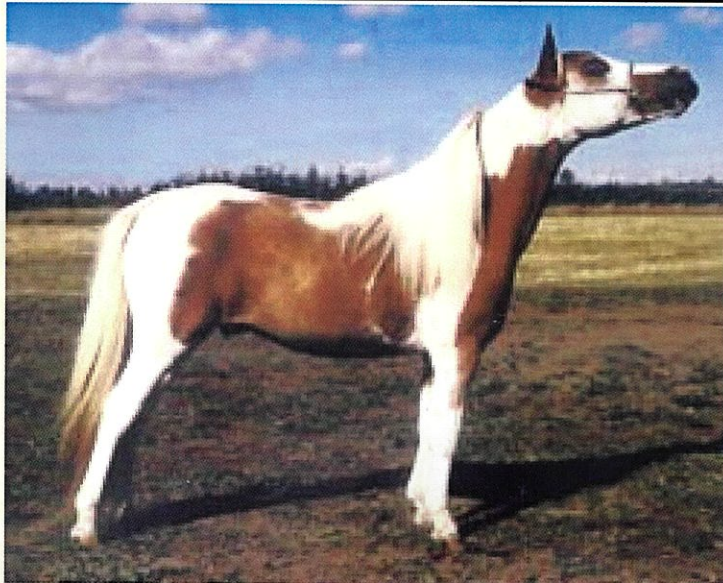
Aesthete Prince Charming

BMHS Reserve Supreme 2005, AMHA and BMHS Registered.

Contact: www.aesthetestud.com Tel: 01427 873602



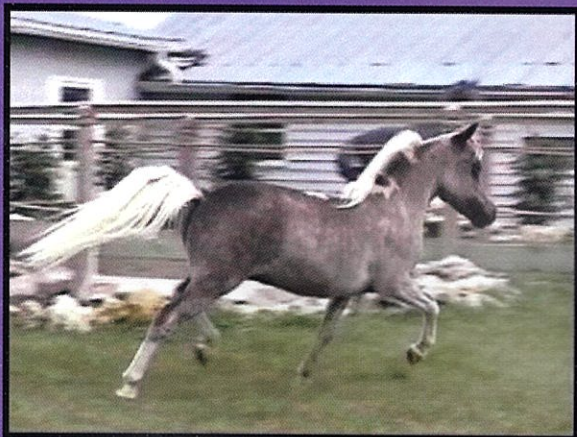
Celebrations Lucky Royale



Sire: Charles Legacy Royale Dam: Excels Lucky Lady
31" AMHA Registered Sorrel Tovero

"Lucky" combines colour, confirmation and an outstanding character, his tovero markings and two china blue eyes make him a real paint horse in miniature. His sire "Charles Legacy Royale" is a National Reserve Grand Champion, a National Champion and producer of National Champions. Both Lucky's sire and dam trace back to the legendary "Orion Light Van't Huttenest.

Lucky will be available to a limited number of outside mares
Stud fees: £350 for AMHA mares , £175 others, Live Foal Guarantee
Contact Cheryl on: 01388 603927 or 07743234554



Bepettons Sirs Hot Topic

Conundrum Miniature Horse Stud

Offered to a few discerning ladies only

"Bepettons sirs Hot Topic"

A stunning Minimal Pinto Silver Dapple Stallion
with two icy blue eyes.

Type, style, movement and razzamatazz with total stallion
presence in a 30 1/4" package.

Also at stud

"Conundrum Colin the Pirate."

Full leopard Appaloosa with type and colour to burn.

These stallions are confidently offered at reasonable stud
prices and mare care.

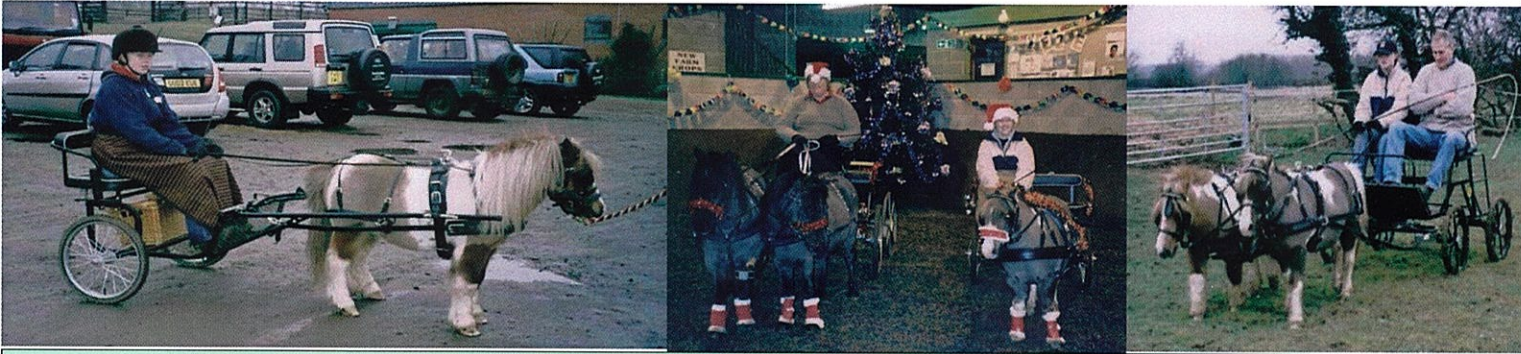
Jane Parker: 01530 223594 Mob: 0777 3295 742

Email: pp@conundrum.fsworld.co.uk



Conundrum Colin the Pirate

Members Gallery



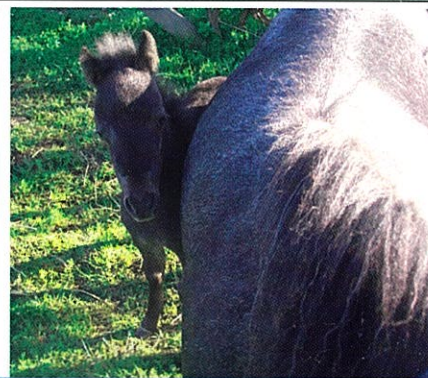
Left: Sammy Fairburn and Paddington Bear at a training day, it was the first time Sammy had driven him. Middle: Sammy with Matriarch Miss Independence and Carole Davenport with her ponies at the Xmas party for Disabled Children who were waiting to be taken for a drive. Right: Matriarch Miss Independence and Paddington Bear driven by Sammy, the first time they had done pairs.



Hello to New Member Yvonne Graham and this lovely picture of her miniature Brambles!



News from Scotland, New member Connie introducing herself to the rep and horses at Starmyers and Misty safe behind mum, checking out the camera.



Washbanks Ladybird, Pat Englands new mini for 2006 and again with Pat's son. Ebony Forrest with Dolly Mixture and Pat Englund with Shirrford Isis winning the fancy dress to music. They were the oldest and youngest.



Visitors from Canada, Carol & John of Hewetson Miniatures, Ontario, meeting our new foal at Hailstone Miniatures, a black colt born on Valentine's Day, called...Mystical Valentine!



Rocco (left) looking very woolly, owned by new member Yvonne Graham.

Don't forget to send in your pics if you'd like them to appear in the Member's Gallery.

Send your pics to:
hailstonemi-
nis@btinternet.com

My Introduction To Driving

By Sammy Fairburn

In April 2005 my mum held a driving demonstration at Kenwick LRAC, Louth, Lincs, for the B.S.P.A. Carole Davenport demonstrated and explained the concept of driving and long reining both pairs and singles. Carole who is a friend of the family told me I should get driving Matriarch Miss Independence, to give her another interest in life. So I set to and broke her to harness with the guidance and experience of Carole. I bought myself a little miniature exercise cart and got driving straight away. All last summer we did Pleasure Drives with the Lincolnshire Carriage Driving Group, Show Drives at various shows, demonstrations and also carriage rides for the RDA children at their Christmas Party.

I enjoyed driving Matriarch so much that I thought it would be nice to drive a pair of minis. So my parents and I started the search for a suitable match to go with Matriarch. So the search went on and mum phoned about a miniature advertised in Horse Deals, only to be told it was sold, but they did have another little one which was already broken to drive. We arranged to go look at him and when we saw him we knew he'd be the one! He is called Paddington Bear or Paddy for short. My mum says that he is a scruffy little thing at the moment and he is Dennis the Menace in disguise. Paddy is a lot more placid and loving than Matriarch, he's always escaping and never where he is supposed to be. Many times we have found him in the feedroom when he is supposed to be in the field and when he is in the field, he's beating up mum's part-bred Welsh yearling who is 3 times bigger than him!!

My mum and Dad have now bought me a miniature pairs carriage and a set of brand new harnesses. I have just started to drive them together and it was a gamble whether they would drive together but they are going very, very well, so the gamble has paid off. Our first competition is in March where we are doing Dressage, Cone Driving and Obstacles, we have quite a few events lined up for this season already, the main one being on the first October at Owestry nr. Grantham, which is a big driving extravaganza. We will be representing the Lincolnshire Carriage Driving Group on the day and I am so looking forward to that.

Hope to see you all soon.

Sammy Fairburn.

Please take a look at the pictures of Sammy and her horses on the adjacent page.

News Flash...Congratulations to Sammy for winning the overall driving at Lincolnshire Carriage Driving Group, this consisted of three parts; dressage, scurry and obstacle. Well Done Sammy!

Junior Photo Competition Free to Enter!!!

For all our Junior members under the Age of 16 years, we are running a photo competition, rosettes 1st—6th are the prizes. There are three categories: -

Best Miniature Horse and Owner

Funniest picture of your Mini

Favourite Picture with a short explanation why.

Please send entries to the Editor and enclose a large A4 S.A.E. for their return.

Photo's and prizes will not be returned unless you enclose s.a.e.

Closing Date is April 20th 2006

Information on Passports & Registration

Dispelling the Myths!

Miniature Horse Club of Great Britain offer DEFRA approved passports to AMHA and Part AMHA horses (must be 50% or more to be classed as part bred). These passports are like any other passport issued by a DEFRA approved organisation and are a completely valid document for use whenever your horse travels either within the UK or abroad. So long as a passport is DEFRA approved IT IS recognised wherever you travel. There is a lot of nonsense being broadcasted recently which implies that if you do not have your horses passport with a particular society you will encounter difficulties inside and outside the European Community. Rest assured, DEFRA do not favour any particular society over another and such talk is inaccurate and purposefully misleading.

In 2002 myself and the then Chief Executive of AMHA, Duane McPherson, met with DEFRA and ADAS officials to apply for DEFRA recognition to issue passports for AMHA horses, born and being imported into the UK. As the AMHA is outside of the European Union they do not issue passports themselves for horses registered with them. AMHA is the largest Miniature Horse Breed Society in the world and is our mother stud book. When you passport with the MHCGB your horses parentage will be recognised and will be stated on your passport to protect your investment in your horses pedigree. This has not always been the case with other passport agents when they have disregarded generations of AMHA parentage and shamefully stated 'unknown' on the passport.

Our passports are £16 no extra charges for newly imported horses or offspring of horses whose parents are not registered with us, nor do we charge any inspection fees. Our turn around time is usually within two weeks of your application. Don't forget any of you who have imported AMHA minis over the winter or breed from AMHA stallions or mares the club can offer you DEFRA approved passports for your horses.

I hope this clarifies any queries you may have had regarding passports and puts to rest the myths and nonsense being talked about on this subject.

Furthermore, as regards registration of your horse, it makes no difference whatsoever with which society your horse is registered. I myself, have competed in Europe and have exported horses many times. In order to travel abroad your horse will need to have the official export licence from DEFRA, as well as a travel health document which is completed by your vet after he has certified your horse fit to travel. The only other document you need for your horse is in fact it's passport and it does not matter with which society it comes from. Your horse does not need to be registered with any society, it is not a requirement of DEFRA. So do not be misguided into believing your horse must be registered with a particular society. MHCGB issue approved passports without the need to register your horse at extra cost! If you are travelling abroad be sure to get a green card from your horse box insurance company, this allows you to drive on European roads. You will also need a valuation for your horse in order to get the export licence, basically this is to certify your horse is worth more than a minimum amount which last I heard was something like £300 but do check. You should have all paperwork sent to DEFRA and approved by them prior to your journey, along with a journey planner. I would advise anyone wishing to export horses, visit a stud, or compete abroad, to contact DEFRA in the first instance for current legislative requirements. They are the people who apply the law and who will give you unbiased advice.

If you need any further information, help or advice about passports for your horse, please get in touch and we will help as best we can.

Jill Robinson

Stallion Review Continued

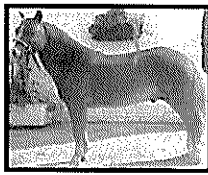
STANDING AT STUD



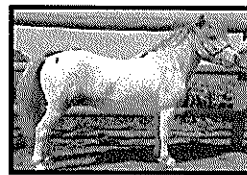
TH Lucky Home Boy AMHA &
BMHS Reg. Multi-Champion



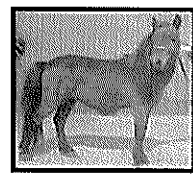
Dragonslair Obsidian Knight
Silver Dapple USA Import



Gaterley Fernando
Siring Champions

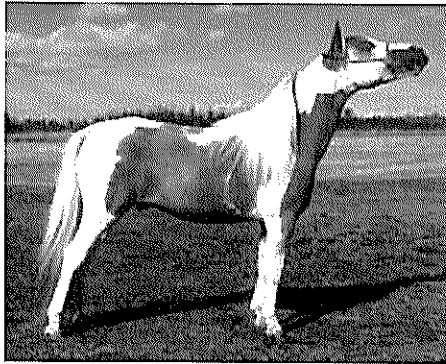


RG MAXWELL
Champion producing Champions



RG El Pampas
Refined Falabella

AESTHETE STUD For information on any of these stallions contact: www.aesthetestud.com
Tel: 01427 873602 (M): 07890667056



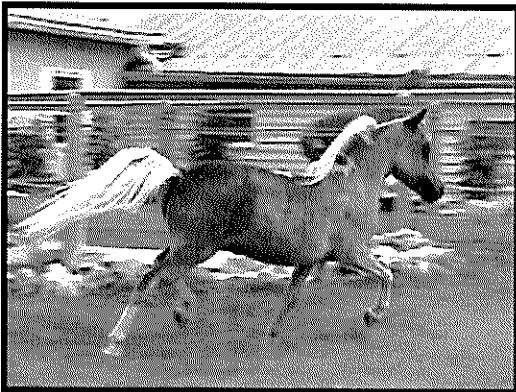
Celebrations Lucky Royale

See main advert for further details

Contact: California Dreams
www.californiadreamsminiatures.com

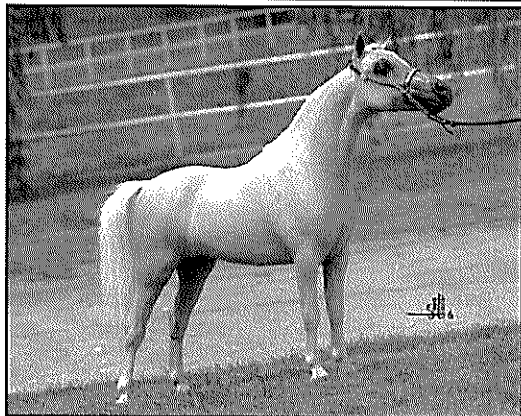
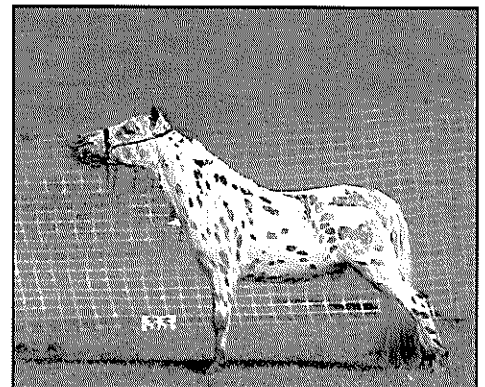
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And
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See Main Advert for further
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Lucky Four Skippa Velvet Gold

a.k.a. Squiggy

AMHA Worlds Top Five

Chris Hadfield
Kilton Farm Miniatures
www.kiltonfarm.com

AREA NEWS AREA

Area 1 Scotland. Julie Hodgson, Tel: 01466 751113 Email: starmyersfarm@aol.com,

Greetings from/to Area 1. I trust you all had a splendid Christmas. We certainly did. Our next meeting is March 10th, where we shall discuss trying to get a show together. "Connie get your thinking cap on!" We shall be involved in 3 charity events with our miniature horses this year and it is an amazing opportunity to meet people who have never laid eyes on a mini before! We had "big motor bike lads" cuddling our tiny horses. Just goes to show, size isn't everything. As the members in Area one have a phone contact I shall be in touch. To all areas, good luck to those who are foaling. And take care of you and your horses.... Julie Hodgson.

Area 2 Northern England, Northumberland, Cumbria, Durham, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Jill Robinson Tel: 01642 534544 Email: jrnwclose@aol.com

Not long now until the first and I think the most exciting show of the season! Kicking off our area shows we have the Spring National Championship show qualifier and AMHA show on Easter Sunday, probably our biggest show of the year. Stainsby Grange is the venue, which I'm sure everyone in area 2 must have been to at one time or another Stainsby is a top show jumping venue, easily accessible with good facilities, so hope to see you all there. We have more and more classes on offer so I'm sure there must be a class for every member with every horse, they own! If anyone has any ideas on how horseboxes can be converted to double deckers please share. With 5 driving classes on offer at the show if anyone is interested in practising their driving or learning scurrying, as we now have our own cones please contact me. The days are getting longer so if anyone fancies practise nights give me a shout and we'll arrange some get togethers. Invaluable for novice horses to get them used to other horses travelling near them. Hope to see you all Easter Sunday, happy clipping. Jill

Area 3 Midlands. Cheshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire.

Jane Parker Tel: 07773295342 Email: pp@conundrum.fsworld.co.uk

Hello every one, Well, here we are in mid February and I expect you are all starting to think about getting horses ready for this years show season, I know I am. Lets hope winter doesn't have any last surprises to throw at us, here in the Midlands we have got off pretty lightly so far, it has been mainly dry and cold, which I can cope with very well thank you, much better than rain and everlasting MUD! Well, we have an exciting year of showing coming up, with some new and prestigious shows on the list. In the Midlands we have Leicester County as a new show, and I urge everyone to try to enter, we want to keep these classes and the more we enter the more likely we are to keep them. Also new for this year are the regional qualifiers, this is a forward thinking initiative from our committee and again, we will all hopefully be supporting as many as we can....which brings me to the Midland one, to be held a Low Farm, Easton Maudit, Northants, an easy venue to find and hopefully one we will all be happy with. The date is Sat 13th May, lots of classes and hopefully sponsorship, if anyone wants to sponsor some classes with either money or a prize, do let me know soon. Again, if we don't use it we may lose it so come on everyone, get your entries in early....there will be a photographer on the day and also a "chippie" which I am assured does good eats. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the champ show. Jane Parker 07773295742 PP@conundrum.fsworld.co.uk

Area 4 Wales. Jill Duke Email: jill@dukespalaminos.fsnet.co.uk

Well not much to report from Wales but just a quick word to anyone in this area to get in touch with Jill if you want to organise a get together or anything mini. Happy showing to everyone.

Area 5 Eastern England. Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire.

Pat Englund Tel: 01205 871970 Email: mariebeel@hotmail.com

Hello everyone. Here we are in 2006, so owing to the problems with the last Review, my last piece was written in August so may I take a second to wish you all a very happy new year and hope you all had a marvelous christmas.

Our Championship Show at Sheepgate was once again a great success. Thanks from us lowly members to all the committee and those who worked very hard to organise and obtain the sponsorship for the show. A big thank you must also be extended to Patrick from Natural Expressions Photography who was there from the start to the finish and produced some beautiful photos for us all.

Following various comments after last years show, new ideas and classes have been introduced for this years shows which will hopefully encourage all who own equines of small stature, especially the heavier types, (i.e. mini shetlands, reg or unregistered), to come and join us and have some fun. The committee are to be applauded for listening to thier members and making changes aimed at improving our club and encouraging more members and mini horses. We are moving towards being the friendliest and most successful mini club in the U.K. Long may it continue.

On Sat 8th April, there will be a "mini" mini championship at Sheepgate Equestrian Centre in conjunction with their end of winter season supreme show. Regretfully we only have 3 classes plus a Champion and Reserve. Placings to 6th place, medals to 3rd place, small trophy for the 1sts. Chapion will recieve a rosette, sash, medal and trophy and the reserve a rosette and medal.

All competitors may also compete in the Sheepgate Show. Suitable classes are as follows; Best condition, young handler, best coloured, most appealing pony and the open class of any age, breed or size. During the charity Show we made a good showing against the "big ones" so why not again. It would be nice to have a good turnout again.

Now I'm pleased to announce a new show for 2006. We will be having a M.H.C.G.B. National Championship Qualifying Miniature Horse Show in Area 5. The venue is at Sheepgate Equestrian Centre, Leverton, Boston, Lincs. The date for this will be Sunday 30th July 2006. There will be classes for all, though we wont be able to do the performance classes owing to lack of equipment and personnel. There are 20 plus classes so I think a good time will be had by one and all. I sincerely hope you will all support this show, made possible with the kindness of the Grant family and Sheepgate Equestrian Centre. Now I'm desperately trying to find sponsorship to help with this show so if any of you feel so inclined all donations will be gratefully recieved and publicity ensured. Schedules will be made available as soon as possible and can be obtained with an s.a.e. to Miss P. Englund, Briar Lodge, Cowbroads Lane, Old Leake, Boston, Lincs. PE22 9QU. Enquiries can also be made to myself on 01205 871970 or mob. 07904804019.

NEWS AREA NEWS

Area 6 South East, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, E.Sussex and London

Linda Lumley, Tel: 07810207117 Email: lumleyjim@aol.com

It is now 2006 and another year has just begun. With spring just around the corner, new foals on the horizon, and then of course the showing season begins. Let's all get together and show our 'little people', I am hoping to get some venues sorted out so that we can have more shows in our area, not only 'shows' but qualifying shows !!, I am in the process of contacting a few clubs, in both Essex and Kent and surrounding areas. We will be approaching the organisers of the Orsett Show as this year they will be celebrating 100 years, so it could be very beneficial if we were allowed to get something going on their ground, Orsett show is always held on a Saturday. On this same ground the Foxhound riding club have several shows throughout the year, they used to have miniature classes there so I will ask Sarah what the possibilities of us having classes on one of their show days. There are two venues on the Kent side that I am awaiting replies, I will also be contacting the Wix, Equestrian Centre, we have the offer of going back to the Basildon Equestrian, again this year (those that attended enjoyed the day so they said) and those that did not come missed out, I will soon be getting some dates for this area, it is on the A130, good ground, plenty of parking and both food and beverages are always available. Over the last couple of months I have spoken to several people that are now going into the miniature horses, (some not so miniature !!) but these are people that show an interest that would like to see shows locally, I would be nice if people could contact me with any ideas they have, including dates, preferred show day (Saturday/Sunday) how would you feel about having an evening show in the summer months.

Can members in area 6 please contact me with their interest in the shows and how many of you would attend if we can get this sorted, we would of course welcome members and their friends, I can be contacted by either phone, 01268 711081 leave your land line number only please, pls ref area 6 mhcg, or write to: KHANTISCI MINIATURE HORSE STUD, TABARD, CM 11 1PH

Time to close now, watch out for the shows and for those of you breeding, hope you don't have too many sleepless nights
all the best

Linda

Area 7, If anyone is interested in being our area rep for Southern England please get in touch.

Area 8 West Country, Devon, Cornwall, Somerset.

Eileen Yaxley Tel: 013983331813 Email: Eileen.yaxley@tesco.net

Nothing much to report in the way of area news at present, but please don't forget to support the following shows, particularly the DORSET COUNTY SHOW in September. The secretary of this show put MHCG classes on for the very first time in 2005 and offered them again to me for 2006. It is an exceptionally generous show with prize money of £40 FIRST PRIZE and £26 SECOND PRIZE, plus a trophy. SUNDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER. We also have classes at The Cornwall Open Show, Scorrier, Cornwall - SATURDAY 27 MAY The ROYAL CORNWALL SHOW in June Good luck with your foaling and show season, and hope to see you at some shows. Regards Eileen

Schedule for the Mini Miniature Championship Show, to be held at Sheepgate Equestrian Centre, Leverton, Boston, April 8th 2006.
Qualifying show for the MHCGB Championship Show held at Sheepgate Equestrian Centre, 9th September 2006. 1st to 3rd will qualify.

In conjunction with the Have-A-Go-Supreme Show.

Class 1. Refined Any Age, Any Sex, not exc.34"

Class 2 Draft, Any Age, Any Sex, not exc.34"

Intermediate section B, Any Age, Any Sex, 34-38"

Championship 1st and 2nd from above classes.

Rosettes to 6th place, medals to 3rd.

Rosette and qualification card to best 1yr, 2yr, 3yr not in the first three.

Championship trophy, sash, medal, rosette.

Reserve Champion sash, medal and rosette.

Other classes open to miniatures from the Have-a-go-supreme are Best condition, Best Young Handler, Best coloured, Most Appealing horse or pony, open class, any age any breed.

Enquiries to Pat England Tel: 01205 871970

See also the Area Qualifier Show on July 30th, details are inside this magazine.

Please note Points Cards are only available until 31st May 2006.
Don't forget to buy your points cards see back page for further details.

There were some results missing from the Categories in the last issue these were:

High Point National 3yr Filly, NCF Little Sweetheart, Laura Bias

High Point National Jumping, NCF Little Sweetheart, Laura Bias

High Point National Solid Colour, Aesthete Crystal Dragonslayer.

Louise Armitage.

*****News Flash*****

Area 2

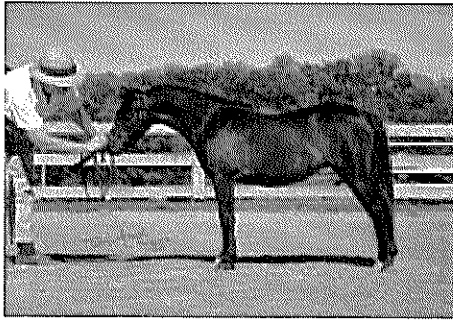
We have been invited to do a display at Preston Park on the two days leading up to the show.

We will also have a stand. This is a great opportunity to show off your mini's. If anyone would like to take part please get in touch with either Jill or Myself. Let us know whether you want to bring your mini or even just man the stand.

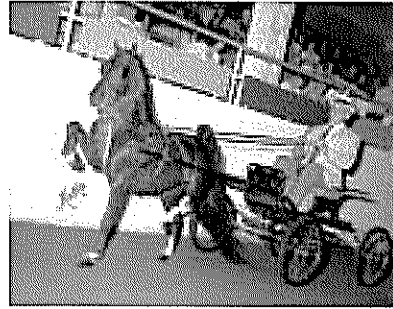
Also if anyone is interested in Lincoln display please let us know.

Ask the Panel

If you have any question you would like to ask please email: info@hailstoneminis.com, if we cannot answer it we will find someone who can. This issue we have had many questions about the origin of the American Miniature, so we have carried out some research taken from books, websites, and internet sources, to provide this collective answer.



The Classic American Shetland Pony



The Modern American Shetland (Hackney cross)

Photo's courtesy www.shetlandminiature.com

Which is the most established studbook?

The first formal registry is reputed to be the American Miniature Horse Registry. The first horse was registered in 1972. In 1978, the AMHA was formed and is today the only registry in existence that deals exclusively with true miniatures, 34" and under.

What is the history of the American miniature horse?

There are numerous articles and information on the miniature horse, and most of them have similar ideas on the history of the American miniature horse. They would appear to be the result of mixed breeding of various horses including Shetland, Arabian and Thoroughbred types to ultimately produce a true refined horse in miniature. Interestingly, the American Shetland pony is very different to the British Shetland. As you can see from the pictures above, the American Shetland is much more refined as a result of crossing the breed with other breeds such as the Hackney. This could explain the superior refinement of the best examples of the American miniature horse.

Does buying an AMHA registered horse guarantee quality?

The simple answer is No! At the end of the day, a good horse will always be a good horse no matter what its pedigree or registrations. There is no guarantee of producing a top quality horse even when combining the very best stallion and mare, in big horses as well as with miniatures. However, pedigree is one of a number of factors which contribute to the overall quality of a horse and should be a consideration when choosing your horse. There has been some confusion caused by the AMHA allowing hardshipping. In some cases, horses of inferior quality have been hardshipped into the AMHA registry and their offspring offered at inflated prices as a result. Inexperienced buyers have purchased these horses without researching their pedigree history and have assumed they would be getting a refined American Horse, leading ultimately to disappointment. Nowadays, the AMHA miniature has widely become regarded as being the ultimate for quality and refinement. But as with any horse purchase, you must carry out intensive research. Conformation, movement, pedigree and the overall look of the horse all play a part. Also, you generally get what you pay for. If a horse is being sold very cheaply, there is usually a good reason for it – genuine bargains in the miniature horse world are very rare!

Show News

Area 2 Summer Show, Preston Park, Middlesbrough, Monday 28th August 2006

A full day of miniature classes, halter, colour, performance, Driving, British, AMHA, Falabella, Part Bred, Showmanship, Show hack, Best Head, Mare and Foal...etc! This is a fantastic show with great prizes, rosettes, trophies.

*This show is sponsored by **Rycroft MERCEDES-BENZ** with Sashes and Perpetual Trophies being awarded to **Supreme Champion, Reserve Supreme and 1st Reserve Supreme**. There will also be a fantastic prize on offer **KINDLY** donated by **RYCROFT Mercedes-Benz**...*

WIN A MERCEDES-BENZ for a weekend!!!!

Don't Miss This One.

Miniature Horses and Items of Tack For Sale

MINSTRELS CREME DE LA CREME, (harry) 33" , 4 year old, part bred falabella, cream/palmino GELDING, DRIVES, reg. BMHS, IMHPS, TOO MANY WINS TO MENTION, for sale due to no fault of his own, a real pet to do in all ways, £1,200 o.n.o contact jill jones on 07970372169 or email supreme-dreamminis@hotmail.co.uk. Also for sale SUPREMEDREAMS INSPIRATIONAL BLACK KNIGHT, (louis) IMHPS & MHCGB CHAMPION FOAL 2005 , out of multi-supreme champion miniature falabella LOOKING GLASS INSPIRATION, stunning black yearling colt 29" (make around 31") reg. imhps and bmhs, great showing potential, £2000 o.n.o cotact jill jones on 07970372169

Mercedes 612 Horse box, R reg, tested 12 months, tax April 30th, Power steering, walk thro cab into living, Carries 3 ponies easily take 5 minis, rubber floor horse area and ramp, fully fitted living hob, sink, wardrobe, tack cupboard and skirt lockers, immaculate condition Offers around £13,950 Also, Mini show jumps, 4 X pairs of wings, 20 poles £275, Also, Horse rug making/repair equipment including industrial sewing machine, fabrics, webbing, binding Contact: c.king@btconnect.com Tel: 01945 774495

MH Buccaneer, 4yr chestnut appaloosa stallion, foaled 1/5/02 32.25" last mane hair, 33" withers, Orion and Buckeroo lines, very refined with exceptional movement and presence. Reg AMHA, BMHS and IMHPS Exceptional breeding and show home sought for this wonderful horse. Price negotiable to the right home. Contact: c.king@btconnect.com or Tel: 01945 774495

Joy Horses—Offering a Multiple National and International Champion For Sale Tuffs Eros. Eros is extreme in Type, Quality and Charisma! Master breeding...Master on Show...for pictures and offspring please visit our website: www.joyhorses.be

American Show Halter, Black with Gold detail on noseband and cheeks, includes lead rein, lead has fancy gold buckle £60 contact: Sally on 07970935702

Gelding for Sale, Full AMHA pedigree, Bay yearling, Can be seen at Spring Show, should mature around 32-33" Good home essential, Would be competitive for Gelding classes and AMHA gelding classes. Contact: info@hailstoneminis.com

*****NEWS FLASH***** Two miniature horses have been found and the owners need to be traced. Full details on club website home page please have a look and see if you can help reunite these horses with their owner.

Stallion Raffle

In Memory Of Vicky Johnson...20 yrs...for C-R-Y

Many top stallions very kindly nominated by top studs throughout the UK .. a fantastic chance of winning a free covering by purchasing a raffle ticket at just £10.00 each....there will be three tickets drawn ... so 3 winners!!!

by contacting me jackie johnson via email or phone vandeenaminis@hotmail.com

A brief description of the charity , it works with families unlucky enough to lose a loved one to sudden cardiac death , 8 people under 35 yrs are lost every week to sudden death, due to undiagnosed heart conditions..

This is a silent killer syndrome, ...that devastates families forever...

tel ..01924 -781580...many thanks ...johnson family



OAKLODGE WHISKERSSKEWBALD ...28"
donated by blackmins stud

AUGHTON RAGGED ROBINCHESTNUT NEAR LEOPARD
SPOT...32"
donated by sue dickinson

CELEBRATIONS LUCKY ROYALESORREL TOVERO...31"
donated by cheryl @ california dreams miniatures

CHOICE OF ONE
AESTHETE PRINCE CHARMINGSKEWBALD / HOMOZYGOUS
GATERLEY FERNANDO...CHESTNUT
RG MAXWELLPINTALOOSA
donated by j davenport-lister @ aesthete stud

HALLMARKED MIDAS TOUCH ...HARLEQUIN LEOPARD SPOT ...37"
donated by mandy @hallmarked stud

TENS LS LA TATOOPALOMINO PINTO ...32"
AESTHETE SILVER SPIRITSPOTTED ...30"
KEYWEST.....BLACK WHITE PINTO31.75 "
donated by kelly durkin

SHADOW PLAY SUPER STAR CARILLION ..PALOMINO ...31" OR
SHADOW PLAY EPSOM DOWNS.....SORREL 30"
donated by lillian graham

BIRCHWOOD UK PAINTED COLOURS
RED WHITE TOBIANO PINTO27 1/2"
donated by j parker

TOYHORSE PPRICE BALUGACREMELLO ...32"
donated by jill robinson @ newclose farm

Don't Forget to Buy Your Points Cards Early!

If you want to stand a chance of winning one of these Illustrious Awards

******Cards are only available until May 31st******

We have fantastic Rosettes and Trophies as well as the Title of National High Point Champion...yearling filly, yearling colt, two year old filly, two year old colt...etc...

Please remember Special Bonus Points will be awarded to horses Castrated in 2006 and the Awards for the Gelding Category include beautiful sashes, trophies and cash prizes going up to five places, this will be increased according to demand. Proof of castration will be required.

Cards available from Jill Robinson and priced at a very reasonable £5



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