

Miniature Horse Club Of Great Britain

NEWS REVIEW

Autumn/Winter Edition

67



Seasons Greetings

NATIONAL SPRING SHOW GALLERY 2007



FRONT COVER

NATIONAL SUPREME GRAND CHAMPION

UJENIK DARE TO DREAM

OWNED BY THE PALLATT FAMILY

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Editors Note

This is your club. We are always delighted to hear from our members. Please send us any suggestions, news, recommendations or your success stories.

We are always keen to receive any articles or photos for our News Review.

Please email to simon.hall14@ntlworld.com

Presidents Letter

Dear members

Its that time of year again when even the most dedicated horse owners must wonder if they have completely lost their marbles dedicating their lives to these hairy, muddy creatures!

So to brighten even the dampest spirits Christmas shows are now getting underway, a chance to let your hair down and have a bit of fun with your horses. If you haven't an area Christmas show - ask your Area Rep if they would like some help organising one for next year.

MHCGB have had an exciting last three months. First came our end of year National Championship show. Pictures and results are further on in this magazine. Congratulations to all our worthy winners, once again the quality of horses and standard of presentation has increased. I've heard it said on more than one occasion MHCGB is the society where your National title will be most cherished. We have an important announcement regarding 2008 National Championship. We feel we have now outgrown Sheepgate, our thanks go to them for the past four years. **Our new venue will be Southview Arena, Wrettenhall, Cheshire.** Giving our members in the West of the country a more accessible show. This superb facility is now owned by Charles Britton the surface manufacturer who has greatly improved the venue of late. We are increasing the show to two day show. **Our dates will be 13th/14th September 08.**

Once again our AGM in November was well attended by our clubs most loyal supporters. The consensus of opinion was that this was our most positive and productive meeting to date. Lots of new ideas from the floor will be added next year with emphasis on promoting our breed and our club to a wider audience. I would like to say thank you to Cheryl Clarke, of Minara Halters. Cheryl has very kindly offered her services as our PR person and will be in charge of promotion, advertising and sponsorship.

Last month MHCGB also hosted visits from AMHA President, Mr Michael Want and AMHA consultant Mr Wayne Hipsley from the US. MHCGB organised two meetings in the UK, Lumley Castle, Durham in the North and Alveston Manor, Stratford Upon Avon in the South. Further details of the meetings are in this magazine, however I would like to say a thank you to all the MHCGB members who came along. Both meetings were extremely well attended, lots of ideas where bounced back and forth. We will of course keep you informed of all decisions made when the European trip is completed.

The directors of MHCGB would like to say a huge thank you to **Margaret Hillier** who has donated some fantastic large silver trophies for the coming season. The trophies are extremely valuable. We would ask the winners of this trophies to respect them and return them as received. If anyone has any ideas as to how we can ensure safe return of the trophies please get in touch. From my own experience I won a beautiful silver trophy at a county show with my Hack. I had my photo taken with trophy at the show and then had to return it to safe keeping of the show. Their policy was not to hand them over. We do not wish this to happen but having had a number of trophies not returned we must look to finding some way of protecting our valuable trophies.

Hope you enjoy the magazine, if you have any photos or articles you would like to contribute Simon would love to hear from you. On behalf of the Directors of MHCGB I would like to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

Jill Robinson
President

Miniature Horse Club Great Britain

Five years on.....

Many, or even most of you may be relatively new members to MHCGB and perhaps Miniature Horse ownership. I'd like to give you a brief history and look back in time to the humble beginnings of MHCGB.

In the 2002 MHCGB was formed by Priscilla Cox, a Texan lady residing in the UK. Priscilla had brought her American horses over to show in the UK and like many of us was getting very disgruntled at the quality of judging in the UK. Priscilla approached the American Miniature Horse Association whilst visiting her family back in Texas to form a UK AMHA club. Priscilla was granted approval and so began the first AMHA club in the UK. The club held a few meetings and sadly one cancelled show open to AMHA horses only. In 2003 Priscilla decided to move back to Texas and handed over the reins to Janice Sandford Goudie and myself.

Janice and I realised if we wanted the Club to succeed we needed to hold classes for every type of Miniature Horse. There were only a handful of American horses on the show scene, but there were a lot of disgruntled Miniature Horse owners who were sick and tired of having their horses beaten by clipped ponies, unfair judging and the lack of typey horses being promoted in the show ring – I'm sure many of you have 'been there'! The industry was stagnating and interest was beginning to dwindle. We needed a huge boost.

Our thoughts turned to running our very first show. The 'Spring Fling' was held at my home, New Close Farm, we had no funds to hire a venue. New Close Farm in previous ownership been a well known riding school, we had a car park and an indoor arena....perfect. Our mums became the 'café ladies'. We promoted our show hard to the fed up showing exhibitors and in the local press. We were going to give them something different. We thought about judges and really struggled to come up with an experienced Miniature Horse judge in the UK. I travelled to Belgium in 2002 to Miniature Horse club Europe shows and was delighted to be judged by Mr Wayne Hipsley a senior AMHA judge. I'd also attended a seminar Mr Hipsley had conducted trying to help European judges understand the differences between the 'Miniature Horse and the Miniature Pony'. Mr Hipsley was invited to come to the UK and judge our show and conduct an exhibitors seminar the next day a huge move for a small club with very little funding. The extra added pull being, Mr Hipsley was a World Show judge that same year, we were also bound by AMHA rules that we required a independent Show Manager. Another step in the right direction.

Catherine Marshall was employed as Show Manager. An experienced horse person Catherine has no involvement with minis other than our shows. Catherine is paid by MHCGB, she selects and liaises with judges making all hotel and travel arrangements. Taking all show entries, deals with exhibitors and of course runs the show on the day. We were like no other society in the UK.

I was then contacted by Duane McPherson, the then Chief Executive of AMHA who had heard we were holding the first AMHA show in the UK and wished to be present. Janice and I were slightly flabbergasted. Imagine the pressure... Janice had quite a number of years experience running shows I had had a few years on Riding Club committee and here we were, running this show, literally in my back garden with an American judge and the CE of AMHA coming to watch!! I'm glad to say all went well, the show was well attended, AMHA gave us rosettes and our Supreme Champion trophy. We actually made a small profit and that set the ball rolling.

We were the UK's AMHA approved club with World judges, a paid show manager with the added benefit – we offered classes for every type of mini. Our club was the one to join, we listened to members and give them what they wanted. We were literally 'The fastest growing Miniature Horse organisation in the UK'.

That year we held our first championship show, Angie Allison Founder of IMHPS very kindly offered us a ring for the day at their championship show MHOYS. A favour we repaid at our 2007 Championship show.

In 2004 we held our Spring show again at New Close Farm, funding was still very low however we looked back at our success with our American judge and invited Joyce Swanson a 2004 World show Judge. Once again the status of our judge pulled huge entries from all over the UK, not only for the show but for the seminar the next

We relied on the entry fees to pay for the judge expenses – a gamble that was paying off.

Over the course of 2004 we invited members to become Area Representatives for MHCGB. A local point of contact in each area. Local knowledge for organising and gaining shows who would affiliate to MHCGB, another first.

We introduced the High Point Awards and a Presentation Night another UK first.

Our own championship Show.

We also achieved DEFRA approval for issuing passports for AMHA horses and 50% partbreds.

In 2005 we introduced the Area Shows to give exhibitors a chance to qualify locally for the National Championship show. The UK's first gelding incentive programme with cash prizes and implemented British bred classes adding to our established American & Falabella bred Classes at members request.

We held a judges seminar conducted by Mr Hipsley to train new & existing judges.

The 2006 AGM voted for the continued employment of AMHA judges for our two National shows, we are the only society employing experienced and qualified Miniature Horse judges. Unlike UK judges, Judging in the US is a paid profession. We need to cover not only travel expenses & accommodation but also the judges fee. Many members were unaware of the financial burden this brings.

In 2007 came the Futurity scheme again cash prizes rewarding sound breeding programmes. The area High Point Awards. We moved our Spring Show, historically held in the North to a more central location. The prestigious Arena UK Grantham proved to be a winner with record entries forward. We are re booked for 19th April 2008.

In September I was contacted by Mr Hipsley, now a consultant working with AMHA with regard to the International programme. No overseas visits or seminars had been carried out since 2003. MHCGB organised two meetings one in the North and one in the south of the UK for AMHA to meet members and listen to happenings in our country. Funding is available through the US Government to help with promotion of our breed, which will include trade stands, judges training and help with international travel of US judges. Great news as we are now employing two US judges per year at pricey venues. Our two meetings were very well attended and extremely positive. So exciting times ahead – watch this space.

So looking forward to 2008. We are not resting on our laurels. We are still listening to our members. Our AGM held in November was probably the most positive and constructive meeting ever.

Our National Championship Show has now outgrown Sheepgate Arena, our venue of the last four years. We have moved our show to a two day show and we will try Southview Arena in Cheshire on 13th & 14th September 2008. Which will be more accessible to members on the West of the country. We want to make this show have real championship show presence. You tell us “a MHCGB National Championship title is the one with real credibility on your stud card or advertising”. The facilities look good, stabling is extremely reasonable. Our title classes will take place on the Saturday and more fun and performance classes on the Sunday. Please come and support us. Only downside - will you all still be able to show the next day following the Saturday Night ‘After Show Party’?? Time will tell.

I am happy to say the overall quality of horses, presentation and showmanship has improved dramatically from our early days. I feel MHCGB has made a huge contribution to this move by consistent judging and rewarding type and quality.

We want to promote Miniature Horses to the wider audience and with the AMHA funding we hope to achieve this. We want to cater for our members who wish to show at prestigious shows and we want you to be judged by knowledgeable, fair judges. Again AMHA funding is going to help us. We want you all to enjoy your Miniature Horses and have fun with MHCGB. We will achieve this. With the continued support of you our loyal members MHCGB will go from strength to strength.

Jill Robinson
President

TRAINING YOUR HORSE FOR HALTER OBSTACLE

One of the newest classes to be added to the show schedule is the UK version of the American Halter obstacle class.

These classes are great fun, you do not need a top show horse to compete and are won on performance only. The more you train for this class the better you and your horse will become.

So where to begin.....

Firstly your horse needs to know the command 'Whoa'. With a standard head collar and lead rope attached, that fits correctly, begin by walking the horse. With a slight tug down on the rope say 'Whoa' in a stern voice making him stop and stand. If he moves even one step return to the original position and try again. This procedure should be repeated until the horse understands 'whoa' means stop and stand, limit the standing to no more than 20 seconds at first so as to avoid frustration from the horse and you!! Gradually build up the time standing day by day.

There is no set pattern to learning the obstacles. Do not lose your patience and stay with one thing until it is accomplished before moving onto the next. Always give lots of praise for a correct move. You will find minis quick learners who enjoy the attention and the fun they are having.

Side passing

When teaching side passing it is very important to remain patient and stay with it until he takes a step. So to start... Make sure he understands 'whoa'

1. Back him up against a solid wall so he cannot back away from you.
 2. Stand directly in front of him and hold his halter with your left hand to keep him from moving forward.
 3. With your whip in your right hand, start tapping (not hitting) his entire left side, making sure you are not hitting him with the end but using the entire whip to tap along his body.
 4. At the same time use the word of your choice 'side' or 'over' but be consistent whichever you choose.
 5. The horse's reaction will either be to go forward or he will lean into the tapping of the whip, keep tapping until he makes even the tiniest move away.
 6. When he moves away, even the slightest step, drop the whip and say 'whoa', then give lots of praise.
- Repeat the same procedure again one more time before trying the other side. **DO NOT OVERDO THIS AS IT CAN BE CONFUSING.** Walk round in between asking for side passes to give him a break.

Turn on the haunches

This manoeuvre also can be used in showmanship classes. The objective of this move is to pivot the front end whilst not moving the back end.

Start with the horse standing square.

Turn and face his left shoulder, while walking towards him, pulling slightly back at the same time, ask him to move away from you while walking towards him.

His front legs should cross over each other while keeping the left rear foot planted in one spot.

Backing up

Horses on the whole are not fond of backing it is an unnatural movement for them.

To start teaching your horse to back..

1. Make sure he understands 'whoa'
2. Stand directly in front of him and push on his chest with your hand while pulling back on the lead with a little give and take.
3. Use the word BACK or any other word you choose.
4. Some horses may plant their feet and refuse to move, if this occurs turn his head in either direction and make him step up a step, then immediately ask him to step backwards. (this helps unlock their minds).

Once he has grasped the above it is time to introduce him to back through poles. Place two poles on the ground parallel to one another. Walk into the poles from one end and walk to the other end stand him up between them. Use fairly large pole so he knows if he has hit them. Ask him to back, if your training has worked he should be able to back in a straight line out of the poles. (This will be one of the obstacles we will be using).

Jumping

The majority of minis love to jump and are natural jumpers. To begin with place a pole on the ground and encourage him to walk over it, when he is confident try trotting. With the use of jumping wings increase the height of the pole, gradually, as his confidence grows.

Beware of the type of poles that you use. Standard weight horse jumping poles are simply far too heavy. If your mini hits one of these (which is an absolute certainty when they are just learning) he/she will certainly feel it and will not be very keen to try again. The lumps and bumps will not enhance them in the show ring either

very good and cheap alternative is plastic drain pipes these can either be painted or covered with a plastic sleeve. These plastic sleeves can be purchased quite cheaply from many tack shops in an array of colours.

That's all there is to it.....

with lots of patience and practice your horse will be able to cope with the obstacles with ease. The main objective is to take your time and be consistent and above all else have some fun with your horse.

THE STORY OF TWIST.

Our Colt "Twist" went his first show this year winning two classes then over all championship. Our next outing was to Three Counties Show at Malvern, he was 2nd in a very strong class, we were looking forward to all the other shows he was entered in. But one morning we went out to his stable and found him rolling around with colic we phoned Dyffryn Tywi Equine Clinic straight away and Jenny (one of our vets) came out to us, not a lot she could do but asked if he was insured and did I want him to go to Bristol Veterinary Hospital? the answer was yes (although it cost me an arm and a leg I would do it again). Things were quickly arranged and off we set for Bristol, all sorts of tests done and it was suggested we leave him. I wondered if I would see him again, on the way home we had a phone call asking for permission to operate, the go ahead was given. He was very poorly for several days then the call came they thought he was going to make it.

Ten days later we collected him. He was so dejected looking and he had lost so much weight but by the next day he brightened up he knew he was home. He now had to have box rest for eight weeks, he had a stable over looking the yard. After a couple of weeks we fenced off our lawn so he could have a few hours there. He went from strength to strength and by week seven he was so well we thought as he had qualified for a Championship show in Wales we would take him. He loved it, he was able to show off again he won both his classes and their Championships and went on to take the overall Supreme.

We are so proud of him after all he has been through and would like to thank all the vets that helped him on his way.

He is our little star

Jill Duke



Ladies First

How often have you been asked about the breeding of one of your horses?? I guess most of us have been approached at one time or another and questioned about our minis. As breeders and producers we get this question a lot. HOWEVER I can almost guarantee that the first question with regard to breeding will be "What's it by?" Ok, valid question, BUT..... How often does anyone go on to ask "What's it out of?"

We all know that the Stallion is important in our breeding programmes, but how many of us give enough time and thought to the Mares?? I have seen plenty of examples of people who think by buying a good Stallion they will automatically get good foals, regardless of the type of Mare that he is put to.

I recently had a conversation with a breeder in the US who consistently breeds Championship winning stock and she put the basis of her breeding programme to me in this way.....

"Go out and buy the best Stallion you can afford..... and then buy BETTER Mares."

At the end of the day the maximum that the Stallion can put in to its stock is 50%. He only passes on 50% genetic material required to produce the next generation.....Where does the other 50% come from?.... THE MARE! Not only that..... Who raises the foal for the first few months of its life?..... THE MARE! Who is responsible for teaching manners? THE MARE! (I know there are a few Stallions out there that are quite happy to babysit whilst mum goes off with her friends, we have one of those, but who does he not argue with when she comes back to reclaim her offspring?..... THE MARE!)

When you first start thinking of breeding your miniatures you need to take a long, hard look at everything involved. If you have a Stallion already then look at him constructively. Seek someone else's opinion if necessary, decide where his strengths and weaknesses lie. THEN go out and find Mares that are better in all those respects.

As breeders ourselves we firmly believe in showing all of our youngstock, as it is a good way to seek out constructive criticism. All of our fillies are shown, not only to seek the opinion of others as to the quality of our animals, but also in order to accustom them to all the unusual sights and sounds associated with the showground, travelling etc. They in turn will be shown as broodmares with foals at foot, the fact that they know all about the job means they will immediately pass this confidence onto their offspring, in turn producing better mannered and confident individuals. (Who will, in time, pass these traits on again) Good temperament is something that is produced over many years of careful handling, breeding and repetition, it doesn't just "happen".

Good Mares are worth their weight in Gold, and most experienced breeders will not part with their best ones at any price. We have been offered large sums for our best broodmares on several occasions, and people can be very surprised when we turn down their offers. After all "Anything can be bought for the right price". WRONG. Experienced breeders have spent time, money and hours of research looking for the right Mares to cross with their Stallions. When they get that cross working then they KEEP those Mares. The whole point of a breeding programme is to continue to improve the breed and to strive to get as close as possible to the breed standard. That can only be done by research, and then constant observation of the stock that you are breeding. If you see good broodmares for sale then you should always be prepared to ask searching questions. The breeder may be selling simply because the Mare does not "nick" with his or her Stallion, but if she is consistently not producing the type of animal they are striving for, even when tried with several different Stallions, then is she really good enough?

One of our best producing Mares is our original foundation Mare. Visitors never take any notice of her, she is a 36" bay frosted spot Mare and quite a big girl, BUT, when they see the stock she produces they have to think again. Although she is a taller Mare, she ALWAYS breeds to the Stallions height, and passes on her good health and limbs. (Research in her pedigree shows that although she is tall, all of her close up ancestors were under 34", Subsequently her height is throwback and she does not pass it on.)

The homework you do before purchasing Mares should be as in depth as it is when you are looking for a Stallion, if not more so. The more you can find out about her breeding, the colour behind her, and especially the heights, the fewer surprises she is likely to throw you in years to come. If she has been shown then her show record should be available too. (The above mentioned Mare was a National Champion as a 3 yr old.) Mares are the mainstay of your breeding programme. You do not have to have a Stallion in order to breed (there are plenty of good, proven Stallions out there to choose from) but you DO have to have a Mare. Why not make it a good one???

Sharon Matthewman of Shadel Stud



CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW REPORT



The Miniature Horse Club Of Great Britain held its annual National Championship Show at the popular Sheepgate Equestrian Centre, Boston in Lincolnshire on Saturday 8th September.

Over four years ago the Directors of MHCGB made the decision to appoint a Show Management team to run all of our Club Shows. The concept was to bring impartiality to the Show Scene this is now being emulated by other Miniature Horse Societies in the UK.

The National Championship Show was once again ably managed by our Show Manager Catherine Marshall and her team. Catherine's new ring layout proved a huge success enabling the smooth running of the Seventy Classes on offer.

Catherine selected Judy Warner from the USA and Linda Cheshire from the UK to judge.

Top quality entries once again up on last year made for strong competition in all sections making the National Grand Championship awards on offer the most prestigious and hard to earn titles in the UK.

Preliminary judging commenced at 9am with the top six Horses from each class coming forward to the Evening Performance to be awarded with their placings. The Evening Presentation of Awards with competitors in Formal Dress makes for a nail biting and glitzy finale to the show season.

The Performance Classes proved popular seeing an increase in entries particularly in the Driving section with the evergreen "Del Terras Dellas Joe Berry" in wonderful condition giving his usual faultless performance to win the Single Pleasure driving Class and the Halter Obstacle.

The first Championship of the Evening saw "Ujenik Extacys Cappochino" take the Grand Champion Colour Title with Sue Bradshaws well marked "Asils Spot On" taking the Reserve.

The hotly contested National Scaled Down Show Horse of 2007 was awarded to the winner of the Cob section "Looking Glass Baby Rocco" for Janice Goudie and Simon Hall with Reserve going to the Hack Winner "Supreme Dreams All That Jazz" for Jill Jones.

The Draft Grand Championship gave the Stallion "Looking Glass Baby Rocco" his second Championship win of the day with Pat Englands bay Gelding "Asils Pretty Boy Floyd" taking Reserve.

Refined Classes saw huge entries forward Judy Warner choosing as her Champion "Ujenik Dare To Dream" with Reserve "Lucky Four Classy Dude" as Reserve both owned by the Pallatt Family.

National Grand Champion Falabella went for the third year running to "Looking Glass Baby Rocco" with reserve going to "Looking Glass Mesmerize" both from the stable of Goudie and Hall.

Philip and Sandra Matthews-Brown took the British Bred Grand Championship with their spotted Gelding "Conundrum Hand Painted" Reserve going to Joanne Martlews "Hermit's Tiger Lily".

The Pallatt Family took the Part Bred Falabella Title with the eye catching "Ujenik Extasys Cappuccino" Reserve going to Laura Bias with "NCF Little Sweetheart".

For the second Year running Bev Robinsons "Honeybrook Slim Jim" won the Grand Champion Category B section with delighted new junior member Emma Blackburn taking Reserve with "Looking Glass American Dream".

Grand Champion Gelding went to "Conundrum Hand Painted" giving him his second Grand Championship Title of the day.

Foal/Weanling Champion was J Alpes "Pipruda Topics Flashman".

The newly introduced Futurity Class held a prize fund of £410 which went to Jill Jones homebred "Supreme Dreams All That Jazz".

Worthy winners of the Grand Supreme title were the Pallatt family repeating their success of last year with their homebred "Ujenik Dare To Dream" with Reserve going to their US Imported coloured Stallion "Lucky Four Classy Dude".

Special THANKS must go to our generous Sponsors Margaret Hillyer, Jill Jones and Eric and Cheryl Clark. Also to our amazing Show Management Team, to MHCGB judge Karen Hamilton-Smith who stewarded all day and into the evening for our USA Judge Judy Warner and to Peter Karen's husband who was a fantastic help throughout the day, not forgetting our official photographer Patrick from Natural Expressions.

The end of the 2007 Show Season was marked by a jovial "After Show Party" with food and drink provided by MHCGB to thank its members for their continued support.

We look forward to the 2008 season which starts with our National Spring Show making a return to Arena UK on 21st April. We would like to wish all of our supporters a very MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MHCGB Championship Show

Incorporating

The UK AMHA Miniature Horse Show

**Saturday 8th September 2007
Sheepgate Equestrian Centre**

Judges

**USA Judy Warner AMHA senior judge
UK Mrs L Cheshire**

LQ2

- 1st Honeybrook Slim Jim / B Robinson
2nd Looking Glass American Dream / M Blackburn

Halter Horses.

Class 1. Yearling filly, draft type. champion of 2007

Class 2. Yearling filly, refined type. champion of 2007

- 1st Supreme Dreams All That Jazz / G Jones
2nd NCF Lunars Koh I Nor / J Robinson
3rd Conundrum Eyecatcher / J Alpe
4th Lincs Roseanna / D Humphries
5th Dukes Dancin Colours / G Jones
6th NCF Lunars Shooting Star / J Robinson

Class 3. Yearling filly, falabella. champion of 2007

Class 4. Yearling/weanling filly, AMHA registered. champion of 2007

- 1st NCF Lunars Koh I Nor / J Robinson
2nd Dukes Dancin Colours / G Jones
3rd NCF Lunars Shooting Star / J Robinson

Class 5. Yearling filly, British bred. champion of 2007

- 1st Millponds Little Tulip S Bradshaw

Class 6. Yearling colt, draft type. champion of 2007

Class 7. Yearling colt, refined type. champion of 2007

- 1st Asils Ambassador / P Matthews-Brown
2nd Stars Out All Night / P Armitage
3rd Ujenik Extasy Impresive / Pallatt Family
4th CDM Blaze Of Glory / C Clark
5th Aesthete Playboys Ego / M Hillyer
6th Highgatehead Morning Surprise / J King

Class 8. Yearling colt, falabella. champion of 2007

- 1st Fallabellos Florenco / D Humphries

Class 9. Yearling/weanling colt, AMHA registered. champion of 2007

- 1st CDM Blaze Of Glory / C Clark
2nd Aesthete Playboys Ego / M Hillyer

Class 10. Yearling colt, British bred. champion of 2007

Class 11. Yearling filly, colt or gelding partbred Falabella. champion of 2007

- 1st Highgatehead Morning Surprise / J King

Class 12. Yearling filly, colt or gelding partbred AMHA champion of 2007

- 1st Ujenik Extasy Impresive / Pallatt Family
2nd Supreme Dreams All That Jazz / G Jones
3rd Conundrum Eyecatcher / J Alpe

Class 13. Yearling filly, colt or gelding Category B draft type. champion of 2007

Class 14. Yearling filly, colt or gelding Category B refined type. champion of 2007

Class 15. 2 & 3 year old filly draft type. champion of 2007

- 1st GoldenOak Silver Tinsel / S Moore

Class 16. 2 & 3 year old filly, refined type. champion of 2007

- 1st Ujeniks Dare to Dream / Pallatt Family
2nd Lucky Four Spotz Simply Striking / G Jones
3rd Palace Majestys Lady Venus In Gold / E Yaxley
4th WashBanks Ladybird / P Englund
5th Hermits Tiger Lilly / J Martlew
6th Donabi UK Clouds of Gold / K Phillips

Class 17. 2 & 3 year old filly, *falabella*, champion of 2007

Class 18. junior (2yrs) old filly, *AMHA* registered, champion of 2007

1st Donabi UK Clouds of Gold / K Phillips

Class 19. 2 & 3 year old filly, British bred, champion of 2007

1st Hermits Tiger Lilly / J Martlew

Class 20. 2 & 3 year old colt, *draft type*, champion of 2007

1st Baloo of Haybrake / J Martlew

2nd Looking Glass Supremo / Hall/Goudie

3rd Looking Glass Little Africa / M Hillyer

4th KBM Kickin Back Easter Willy / P Armitage

Class 21 2 & 3 year old colt, *refined type*, champion of 2007

1st Ujenik Extasys Capuccino / Pallatt Family

2nd NCF Mister Magic Man / J Robinson

3rd Honeybrook So Cool / P Matthews-Brown

4th Lucky Four Skippa Velvet Gold / D Jones

5th Ujenik Extasys Destiny / Pallatt Family

6th NCF Mystical My Key T / G Jones

Class 22. 2 & 3 year old colt, *falabella*, champion of 2007

1st Looking Glass Little Africa / M Hillyer

2nd Looking Glass Masquerade / Hall/Goudie

3rd Looking Glass Supremo / Hall/Goudie

Class 23. junior (2yrs) colt, *AMHA* registered, champion of 2007

1st Honeybrook So Cool / P Matthews-Brown

2nd Ujenik Extasys Destiny / Pallatt Family

Class 24. 2 & 3 year old colt, British bred, champion of 2007

1st Baloo of Haybrake / J Martlew

Class 25. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding *partbred Falabella*, champion of 2007

1st Ujenik Extasys Capuccino / Pallatt Family

2nd WashBanks Ladybird / P Englund

3rd NCF Berrys Princess / M Blackburn

4th Ujenik Extasys Gladiator / P Armitage

Class 26. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding *partbred AMHA* champion of 2007

1st Ujenik Extasys Capuccino / Pallatt Family

2nd NCF Mister Magic Man / J Robinson

3rd NCF Berrys Love Potion / Y Mc Math

4th Ujenik Extasys Gladiator / P Armitage

5th GoldenOak Silver Tinsel / S Moore

Class 27. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding Category B *draft type*, champion of 2007

Class 28. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding Category B *refined type*, champion of 2007

1st Honeybrook Slim Jim / B Robinson

2nd Looking Glass American Dream / M Blackburn

Class 29. Junior Gelding *AMHA* registered champion Of 2007

Class 30. 4 years plus mare/gelding, *draft type*, champion of 2007

1st Asils Pretty Boy Floyd / P Englund

2nd Ujenik Bustinos Little Emma / G Jones

Class 31. 4 years plus mare/gelding, *refined type*, champion of 2007

1st NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias

2nd Asils Spot On / S Bradshaw

3rd Mainestar Nevada / B Barlow

Class 32. 4 years plus mare/gelding, *falabella*, champion of 2007

1st Looking Glass Mesmerize / Hall/Goudie

2nd Looking Glass Wild Scarlet / Hall/Goudie

Class 33. Senior mare, *AMHA* registered, champion of 2007

1st Ujeniks Dare to Dream / Pallatt Family

2nd Lucky Four Spotz Simply Striking / G Jones

3rd Palace Majestys Lady Venus In Gold / E Yaxley

Class 34. 4 years plus mare/gelding, British bred, champion of 2007

1st Conundrum Hand Painted / P Matthews-Brown

2nd Asils Pretty Boy Floyd / P Englund

3rd Asils Spot On / S Bradshaw

Class 35. 4 years plus, stallion *draft type*, champion of 2007

1st Looking Glass Baby Rocco / Hall/Goudie

2nd Asils Artic Sun Storm / S Bradshaw

3rd Looking Glass Simply Magic / Hall/Goudie

4th Basil of Sandground / J Martlew

Class 36. 4 years plus stallion, *refined type*, champion of 2007

1st Lucky Four Classy Dude / Pallatt Family

2nd Mostly Minnies Key West / P Armitage

3rd Meadowfox Miniature Masterpiece / J Martlew

Class 37. 4 years plus stallion, *falabella*, champion of 2007

1st Looking Glass Baby Rocco / Hall/Goudie

Class 38. senior stallion, (3 yrs plus) *AMHA* registered, champion of 2007

1st Lucky Four Classy Dude / Pallatt Family

2nd Lucky Four Skippa Velvet Gold / D Jones

3rd NCF Mystical My Key T / G Jones

Class 39. 4 years plus stallion, British bred, champion of 2006

1st Asils Artic Sun Storm / S Bradshaw

2nd Basil of Sandground / J Martlew

3rd Meadowfox Miniature Masterpiece / J Martlew

Class 40. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding *partbred Falabella*, champion of 2007

1st NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias

2nd Ujenik Bustinos Little Emma / G Jones

3rd Looking Glass Simply Magic / Hall/Goudie

4th Darkhorse Highlight / P Armitage

Class 41. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding *partbred* AMHA champion of 2007

- 1st Mainestar Nevada / B Barlow
2nd Ujenik Bustinos Little Emma / G Jones

Class 42. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding Category B draft type. champion of 2007

Class 43. 4 years plus stallion, colt or gelding Category B refined type. champion of 2007

Class 44. senior gelding. AMHA registered champion of 2007

Class 45 MHCGB GELDING Champion of 2007

- 1st Conundrum Hand Painted / P Matthews-Brown
2nd Asils Spot On / S Bradshaw
3rd Asils Pretty Boy Floyd / P Englund
4th Darkhorse Highlight / P Armitage

Class 46. Ultra Mini open to horses expected to mature less than 30".

- 1st Conundrum Topic Of Conversation / P Matthews-Brown
2nd Lucky Four Skippa Velvet Gold / D Jones
3rd Supreme Dreams My Boy Lollipop / G Jones
4th Donabi UK Clouds of Gold / K Phillips
5th Fallabellos Florenco / D Humphries
6th Ujenik Bustinos Little Emma / G Jones

Class 47. Broken colour, any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- 1st Looking Glass Masquerade / Hall/Goudie
2nd NCF Mystical My Key T / G Jones
3rd Honeybrook So Cool / P Matthews-Brown
4th Lucky Four Spotz Simply Striking / G Jones
5th KBM Kickin Back Easter Willy / P Armitage
6th NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias

Class 48. Spotted/Pintaloosa, any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- 1st Ujenik Extasys Capuccino / Pallatt Family
2nd Asils Spot On / S Bradshaw
3rd Meadowfox Miniature Masterpiece / J Martlew
4th Hermits Tiger Lilly / J Martlew
5th Supreme Dreams All That Jazz / G Jones
6th Highgatehead Morning Surprise / J King

Class 49. Solid Colour (bays, blacks, chestnuts, palamino) any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- 1st Asils Pretty Boy Floyd / P Englund
2nd Looking Glass Simply Magic / Hall/Goudie
3rd Lucky Four Skippa Velvet Gold / D Jones
4th NCF Berrys Love Potion / Y Mc Math
5th Green Mantle Song At Twilight / D Blackburn
6th Looking Glass Little Africa / M Hillyer

Class 50. Other Colour (silvers, roans, dilutes) any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1 st | Mainestar Nevada | B Barlow |
| 2 nd | Ujenik Extasy Impressive | Pallatt |
| 3 rd | Dukes Dancin Colours | G Jones |
| 4 th | Supreme Dreams My Boy Lollipop | G Jones |
| 5 th | Goldenoak Silver Tinsel | S Moore |
| 6 th | Ujenik Extasys Gladiator | Armitage |

Scaled down show horses.

Class 51. hack type

- 1st Supreme Dreams All That Jazz / G Jones
2nd Asils Ambassador / P Matthews-Brown
3rd NCF Lunars Shooting Star / J Robinson
4th NCF Mystical My Key T / G Jones
5th NCF Lunars Miss Behaving / J Robinson
6th NCF Berrys Love Potion / Y Mc Math

Class 52. hunter type

- 1st Asils Pretty Boy Floyd / P Englund
2nd Looking Glass Little Africa / M Hillyer
3rd NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias
4th Looking Glass Simply Magic / Hall/Goudie
5th Asils Spot On / S Bradshaw
6th Honeybrook Slim Jim / B Robinson

Class 53. cob type.

- 1st Looking Glass Baby Rocco / Hall/Goudie
2nd Bazil of Sandground / J Martlew
3rd Asils Arctic Sunstorm / S Bradshaw
4th Baloo of Haybrake / J Martlew
5th Goldenoak Silver Tinsel / S Moore
6th Looking Glass Little Africa / M Hillyer

Class 54. 2007 Futurity Champion – open to nominated horses. Prize fund £410.00

- 1st Supreme Dreams All That Jazz / G Jones
2nd NCF Lunars Koh I Nor / J Robinson
3rd NCF Mystical My Key T / G Jones
4th NCF Lunars Miss Behaving / J Robinson
5th Dukes Dancin Colours / G Jones
6th CDM Blaze Of Glory / C Clark

Class 55. Broodmare with foal at foot or stinted. champion of 2007 *

- 1st Lucky Four Spots Simply Striking / G Jones
2nd Ujenik Bustinos Little Emma / G Jones

Class 56. Foal/weanling champion of 2007 *

- 1st Pipruda Topics Flashman / J Alpe
2nd Supreme Dreams My Boy Lollipop / G Jones

Class 57. Get of Sire * (two or more horses by the same sire)

- 1st Little Kings Double Extasy / Pallatt Family
2nd FLF Stars Lunar Eclipse / J Robinson

Class 58. Produce of Dam * (two or more horses by the same dam)

Miscellaneous section. (this section is not required for the evening performance).

Class 59. best male head

- 1st Del Teras Dellas Joe Berry / L Robinson
2nd Asils Pretty Boy Floyd / P Englund
3rd Mostly Minnies Key West / P Armitage
4th NCF Mystical My Key T / G Jones
5th Looking Glass Baby Rocco / Hall/Goudie
6th CDM Blaze Of Glory / C Clark

Class 60. Best female head.

- 1st Supreme Dreams All That Jazz / G Jones
2nd NCF Lunars Miss Behaving / L Robinson
3rd Looking Glass Mesmerize / Hall/Goudie
4th Lucky Four Spotz Simply Striking / G Jones
5th NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias
6th Mainestar Nevada / B Barlow

Class 61 Concours d'Elegance In Hand

- 1st Supreme Dreams All That Jazz / G Jones
2nd Mainestar Nevada / B Barlow
3rd Conundrum Hand Painted / P Matthews-Brown
4th Asils Pretty Boy Floyd / P Englund
5th Looking Glass Splendiferous / P Lee
6th Aesthete Playboys Ego / M Hillyer

Class 62 Best draft type turnout.

- 1st Bazil Of Sandground / J Martlew

Class 62b Miniature Pony not exceeding 38"

- 1st Castle Jessica / S Wilford

Performance Section

Class 63. Halter obstacle

- 1st Del Teras Deltas Joe Berry / J Robinson
2nd La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
3rd NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias

Class 64. Jumping

- 1st Ujenik Bustinos Little Emma / G Jones
2nd La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
3rd Del Teras Deltas Joe Berry / J Robinson
4th Asils Spot On / S Bradshaw
5th NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias

Class 65. AMHA jumpers

- 1st NCF Mystical My Key T / G Jones

Class 66. Novice driving champion of 2007

- 1st Castle Jessica / S Wilford

Class 67. Country pleasure driving champion of 2007

- 1st Conundrum Hand Painted / P Matthews-Brown
2nd La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
3rd Castle Jessica / S Wilford

Class 68. Single pleasure Driving champion of 2007

- 1st Del Teras Deltas Joe Berry / J Robinson

Class 69. Cone Driving champion of 2007

- 1st La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
2nd Castle Jessica / S Wilford

Class 70. Liberty champion of 2007

- 1st Looking Glass Mesmerize / Hall/Goudie
2nd Looking Glass Simply Magic / Hall/Goudie
3rd Looking Glass Baby Rocco / Hall/Goudie

Colour Grand Champion 2007

Ujenik Extasys Capuccino

Reserve Asils Spot On

Scaled Down Show Horse Grand Champion 2007

Looking Glass Baby Rocco

Reserve Supreme Dreams All That Jazz

Grand Champion Draft type of 2007

Looking Glass Baby Rocco

Reserve Asils Pretty Boy Floyd

Grand champion Refined type of 2007

Ujeniks Dare To Dream

Reserve Lucky Four Classy Dude

Grand Champion Falabella of 2007

Looking Glass Baby Rocco

Reserve Looking Glass Mesmerize

Grand Champion AMHA horse of 2007

Ujenik Dare To Dream

Reserve Lucky Four Classy Dude

Grand Champion British Bred horse of 2007

Conundrum Hand Painted

Reserve Hermits Tiger Lilly

Grand Champion partbred falabella of 2007

Ujenik Extasys Capuccino

Reserve NCF Little Sweetheart

Grand Champion Partbred AMHA horse of 2007

Ujenik Extasys Capuccino

Reserve Ujenik Extasys Impressive

Grand Champion Category B refined type of 2007

Honeybrook Slim Jim

Reserve Looking Glass American Dream

**SUPREME GRAND CHAMPION
HORSE OF 2007**

Ujenik Dare To Dream

Reserve

Lucky Four Classy Dude

1st Reserve

Ujenik Extasy Capuccino

THE CONTINUING STORY OF DARKO

I am not sure if any of you can remember the 'story of Darko' in which I told the story of how Darko was born and how my husband, Chris and I, spent 12 weeks of his life hand rearing him in our kitchen etc.

Well, now this is the continuing story! Darko did very well throughout the winter. We even took him for lessons, along with Chris, to Jane Davenport. Foal's that have been hand reared are very hard to handle and especially when they are colts. For some reason Darko was also quite aggressive towards me even though it is me that feeds him!! Anyway he was coming along fine and was even placed at shows.

My daughter and I had clipped him in April no problem and I decided to clip him again as his coat was getting quite long. I managed to get his body done, but he wouldn't let me do his legs at all. I rang the vet to come and sedate him whilst I finished him off. However, the sedation didn't work and we just couldn't hold him whilst I did his legs. Even with 3 people holding him down. I decided to leave him just as he was and hoped the judges wouldn't notice too much!! We were told not to feed him for a couple of hours until the sedation had worn off. I also had put a new bedding of Auboise down too.

Then the following Saturday afternoon, just before I was going to get him bathed for a show the next day, I noticed the electric fence had broken. I shouted to Chris to come look to see what had happened and to also help me fix it, as Darko normally attacks me when I go into his paddock. Anyway, this day he didn't attack me but just came and stood next to me while I tied the fence back together. This wasn't normal and I knew straight away that something was wrong. By this time Chris had joined me and I asked him to walk Darko around so I could see if he was lame or anything, but he seemed ok. When Chris let go of him he just walked back to me and stood by my side! This just wasn't him at all!! He then just got down and lay by my feet like a dog. I immediately rang my daughter, who said it sounded like colic and to ring the vet. I rang my vet and luckily he lives virtually 10 minutes away. I then walked Darko to his stable and whilst doing this he had projectile diarrhoea. By this time the vet arrived and said yes he did have colic and gave me two injections, one of buscopan and morphine. He then said to watch him for the next 6 hours and to keep him (the vet) informed of how he was getting on. He was to have no food or water for a couple of hours. Within twenty minutes he seemed fine. The vet called me back an hour later and said to put his water back with him but no feed until later. However, within an hour he was rolling around the stable in pain. It was like seeing his mother give birth again. His legs kept going stiff. He also wanted me to be with him. I rang the vet and he said to get him ready to go to Leahurst, the equine hospital.

We had to get the trailer ready by putting extra bedding down in case he got down whilst we were travelling. I normally travel with him in a partition but was told to take the partition out and let him have the whole trailer to himself. We then had to get the 'go ahead' from Leahurst to take him in.

Our vet said to check him once before getting on the motorway and if he was lay down, the vet would come out to sedate him for the journey. (we live about 40 minutes away from the hospital). Chris drove and I sat on the back seat of our Land rover and looked through the window to keep checking that Darko was still standing. I have never been so fast in trailer on the motorway. We had to go at 70 to get him there before he lay down again.

When we arrived the vets were already waiting for him. We took him into a 'recovery' stable, which is padded for when horses come out of surgery. We put him in there in case he wanted to get down again. At first they did an ultrasound on his stomach, which looked fine. They then stuck a needle into his stomach to look at the colour and to send it off to be analysed to see if there was any blood in it, It looked ok. Then they had to sedate him to get a tube up his nose and into his stomach. It took 5 people, even though he was sedated, to do this. They said they have never come across a horse so strong!! Anyway everything again looked normal. We then put him in a stable and they said they would check him every hour to make sure he was ok. They said he should be going home in a couple of days.



At 10pm that night, we got a phone call to say Darko was in a lot of pain again and it had been decided to do surgery. He would be taken down at around 11pm as they had to get theatre ready and him prepped and they would phone me again when they had done the surgery. They said it usually takes around 2-3 hours. At 12.30 I got a phone call to say they had done the surgery and Darko was fine. They were waiting for him to get to his feet and they would call me again when he was stood up. He had an impaction of the dorsal large colon. About 20 minutes later they phoned to say he was up on his feet and that he was fine. We could go and see him the next day.

When we saw him the next day, he looked fine apart from a bandage wrapped around his stomach. He also had 10 stitches. We were allowed to walk him round for a couple of minutes and was told he would most probably be allowed home on Thursday. We also learnt that Maxine Foulkes had a horse admitted with colic a few weeks before and we decided to ring her to see how it had got on. Maxine told us her horse had to be put down 4 weeks after surgery. We were very upset to think something could go wrong that far after surgery! On Monday I phoned to see how he was and was told he was ok, but not as good as he should be. I asked could I visit him on Tuesday and was told yes. You have to check when you can visit. Anyway Tuesday morning I got a phone call to say could we go in at 4 pm as the vet wanted to speak to us. When we arrived we noticed his stable was empty! The vet told us he had been moved as they thought he had salmonella. We couldn't touch him but could look over the stable door. He was in a stable that had barriers around it so no one could go near it and all the vets and staff had to wear protective overalls, gloves and masks before they could handle him. We were told he was 'very very' poorly. He looked ever so sorry for himself and when I shouted his name he came over to the door and neighed. The vet said that was the happiest they had seen him all day. He had a drip attached to his neck too as he was dehydrated because he kept oozing diarrhoea. We were shocked to see him so ill after him being so well on the Sunday.

That night, we got a phone call at 8pm to say that Darko was in terrible pain and that could they have permission to give him this very strong painkiller. Morphine wasn't touching him at all. They had to have permission because it was expensive. They also said if he didn't pick up in two hours time they would have to put him to sleep. We had to keep the phone by us at all times. I hadn't heard anything through the night, so we guessed he had survived. I rang the hospital at 10 am and they said he was stable and that the vet would ring me later. When they rang later, they said he was much comfortable but he didn't have salmonella but clostridium difficile toxin A & B, which apparently is much worse! He seemed to be ok on Wednesday and Thursday, but on Thursday night at 8 pm I got another phone call to say he had taken a turn for the worse and that they thought he only had hours to live. They told me to prepare for the worst and to keep the phone by my bed again.

On Friday morning I rang Chris (who works away during the week) to say that I wanted to visit Darko if he was still alive in the afternoon. My last memory of him was of him looking very sorry for himself and I wanted to see him again in case anything happened to him. Chris arrived home early so we could go and see him together. When we arrived at the hospital they said he was much better, but wouldn't eat. So they asked whether we could get him something he really loved. Well, he loves carrots and apples so we spent the next hour driving round to find a shop that sold them. We emptied a local village of carrots and apples! When we got back we gave Darko an apple and carrot and he wolfed them down. We left the bag for the assistants to give him during the day.

Darko then went from strength to strength. I visited him several times and he looked much better each time. The hospital even put CAUTION on his door and the students and technicians were told not to go in alone but in two's!!

I eventually got the phone call to say that Darko could come home. I was told he had to have 8 weeks of box rest only being allowed out twice a day for 15 mins eating grass in hand. After that he has to have 8 weeks in a very small paddock. So small he cannot run around. Only after this is he regarded safe after surgery. Once again I was told by the vets at Leamington that they didn't think he would survive. On the day I brought him home the vets took his stitches out. It apparently took 8 men to hold him while they did it; the vets said they have never had that many taking an 18 hand horse stitches out!!

At this time in writing this article he has just reached the 8 weeks after surgery. We will be letting him out in a small paddock over the next week. Darko has been through such a lot in his very short life and we know he is a fighter. After all he has been through he can be assured we will never part with him.

Anne and Chris Deakin



MHCGB HIGH POINT AWARDS 2007

Many thanks to all who took part in the High Point Awards, please remember to return your card no matter how few shows you may have attended. We have beautiful rosettes and perpetual trophies for each High Point winner you can see from the results we did not have any entries from some areas!

Points cards will be available from January.

The Directors were disappointed to note that five High Point trophies were not returned this year - all won by the same person. Not only is this a huge disappointment to this years winners but replacement of these trophies is hugely expensive. We have been donated some beautiful trophies for the coming season and would respectfully ask all competitors to care for these trophies and return them in good time in the condition they receive them in. If you feel unable to care for the trophies you win or are unable to return them once the year is up please leave them in our care.

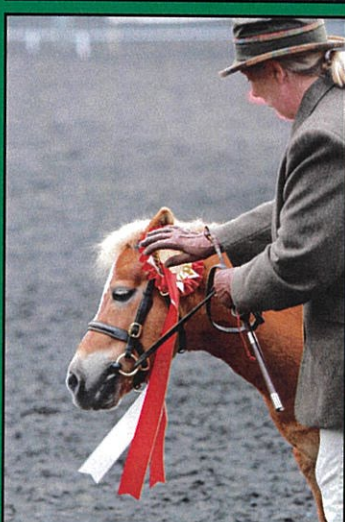
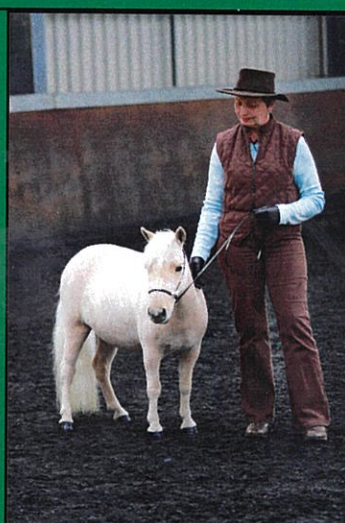
Area 2	Janice Goudie & Simon Hall
Area 2b	J Martlew
Area 5	Pat Englund
yearling filly	NCF Lunars Koh I Nor J Robinson
yearling colt	Asils Ambassador P Matthews Brown
2 year old filly	Heathside Silver Rose H Way
2 year old colt	NCF Mister Magic Man J Robinson
3 year old filly	Conumdrum Alicia Rose W Lees
3 year old colt	Looking Glass Masquerade J Goudie/S Hall
Mare	NCF Little sweetheart L Bias
Stallion	Looking Glass Baby Rocco J Goudie/S Hall
Gelding	Asils Pretty Boy Floyd P Englund
Broken Colour	NCF Little Sweetheart L Bias
Spotted/pintoloosa	Looking Glass Baby Rocco J Goudie/S Hall
AMHA registered horse	NCF Lunars Koh I Nor
AMHA partbred	NCF Mystical golden Moon M Lovelace
Falabella	Looking Glass Baby Rocco J Goudie/S Hall
Partbred Falabella	Looking Glass simply magic J Goudie/S Hall
British Bred	Asils pretty Boy Floyd P Englund
Performance Horse	Del Teras Deltas Joe Berry J Robinson
Junior Award	Lewis Robinson



NATIONAL SPRING SHOW GALLERY 2007



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW GALLERY 2007



THANK YOU to all exhibitors and the following sponsors who helped to make the show such a great success: Minara Halters, Supreme Dream Miniatures, Margaret And Malcolm Hillyer and Shirley Charlton

SPECIAL OFFER* There is a **15%** discount on the **MHCGB Spring and Championship Shows** on all products. (Ceramic Mugs, Mouse Mats, Greetings Cards, Postcards and enlargements)

This offer **starts immediately** and **ends 15th January 2008**.. All events will be taken permanently offline on 20th December.

To take advantage of the offer you will need to enter a code. The discount code is **MINI** (in capitals). In the ordering process there is an 'Order Confirmation' page (step 3 of 4). This page shows the breakdown of the order and the amount due. At the bottom there is a box to enter your discount code. Enter it and update, and the discount will be automatically applied.

DON'T FORGET ALL EVENTS COME PERMANENTLY OFFLINE ON 15th January 2008 .

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Our visit from Mr Michael Want, President of AMHA.

In September I was contacted by Mr Wayne Hipsley working as a consultant on the International programme for AMHA. Some of you may remember Mr Hipsley who has judged for MHCGB in the past and also conducted Educational seminars for us. AMHA have been granted US government funding to help with International programmes for the AMHA affiliated clubs, such as ours. Initially the first round of fact finding meetings were to be conducted in Australia & New Zealand. The outbreak of Equine flu in Australia ended this. So acting in my role of AMHA overseas Director for the UK, at very short notice I was asked to set up two meetings for our club and AMHA members to attend. Lumley Castle with its gracious setting in Durham was a natural choice for the North being close to the A1 and Alvaston Manor in the beautiful Stratford Upon Avon, as recommended by Area rep Jane Parker, was our choice in the South.

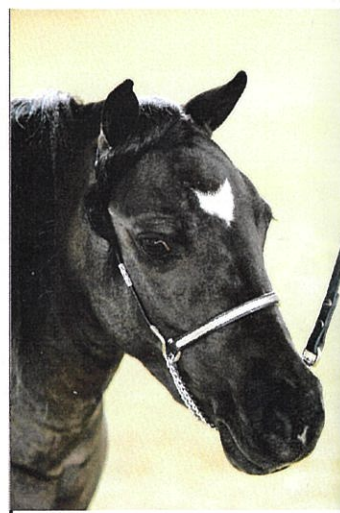
Mr Hipsley gave an opening power point presentation on how and why AMHA were in the UK and Europe. AMHA are the fifth largest breed society in the world. After Canada (which could be classed as the USA), UK has the largest number of horses registered in the stud book and has nearly twice as many members of any country outside of the US. We covered topics like funding for promotion of the breed, i.e. trade stands, advertising in National Magazines, US judges expenses being met at MHCGB shows, these judges would then conduct a UK judges seminar following the show.

Handing over to Mike Want, Mike asked how best AMHA could facilitate its overseas members. Talk of International classes at the World Show, easier registration procedures and potential funding for classes at prestigious shows ensued.

All in all I believe we gave our visitors a good solid understanding of how passionate we are about our horses and gave them lots of common ground on which we can work together.

Mr Want, his wife Carol and Mr Hipsley then continued their gruelling three week trip into Europe meeting European AMHA clubs.

We will of course keep members informed of any decisions made following these meetings and what funding is made available to us



Members Photo Gallery



Member in the Spot Light

It all started when I was two years old. The Horsy bug hit me by the way of a Shetland Pony Stallion called "Bobby". I rode my pony every weekend around Bolton and South Shields for miles and miles, with poor family members on foot! I knew then I was meant to be around horses.

"Bobby" grew older, school friends and careers came into my life and sadly "Bobby" passed away. The shock of losing something so special in my life made me take a step back from the equestrian world. I carried on with life, as you do fooling myself that horses were a thing of my childhood, until seven years ago I got roped into helping a friend out with her Dales pony called "Golli". Suddenly all those feelings came flooding back (I don't think they ever actually left!) I had "Golli" for six months or so when I came across the most beautiful Welsh Cob filly called "Tallulah", I was finally back home again, back in the saddle so to speak. I decided I wanted a companion for "Tallulah", so looking around in books and magazines I came across British Miniatures and Falabellas.

I decided on a British Miniature by the name of "Pryse Eden" bred from "Prince Darshaan" and the lovely "Toyhorse Princess Sorina". A year or two passed and I needed another fix, so off I trot to the Stud again to purchase another filly or so I thought!! I took along a good friend BIG MISTAKE, my friend only likes Stallions, so after a big discussion my friend won and I came home with TWO falabellas the first being "Pryse Galaxy" a beautiful red leopard spot filly bred by "Limelights" and "Mistletoe Aleka" and a very boisterous in your face colt (my friends choice!!)



By "Aesthete Maximo" out of "Lolita of K" his name "Pryse Fernandez"



Oh dear what had I done!!? The best thing ever! I own a colt who is so special I love him to bits, you only get out what you put in. He is so stunning, he walks around the yard demanding respect and attention but it doesn't end

there. The showing bug came to me last season with great successes I love every second of it. Well yes I know readers will be raising an eyebrow thinking of all the work involved but I do love everything from the hours of ground work, the clipping, bathing, early starts and expense I could not be happier just being with these lovely horses, its all worth it !

Showing is a way to catch up with other Horsy friends, who we never get to see otherwise.

One show I was at I locked eyes on a beautiful palomino colt, I knew I had to have to have him for our stud. After pestering the owner she finally gave in and agreed to sell him to me. His name is "Romeo Crie" he is by the AMHA registered Stallion "Toyhorse Prince Baluga" out of "Brookside Golden Orchid". He is a treasure to own, we have big plans for him next season.



Having just got back from the Royal London Show, rosettes hanging on the stable doors, thinking about next season we have so much to look forward to. "Tallulah" is due to foal in the Spring to a stunning Fresian Stallion owned by the afore mentioned pushy friend. The Colts are standing at Stud and we are all looking forward to the shows starting again. As I sit here tack to clean, mucking out to do, rugs to wash and work to think about I ask myself "Is it all worth it?" YES I say without a doubt.

Jo-Anne Stokes of POLKA DOT MINIATURES

MHCGB CHAMPIONS FROM AROUND THE SHOWS



Sincere apologies to Kay Broad for the incorrect name accompanying her horses photo (Left) In our Summer Edition. It is in fact "Knells Obviously After Dark" Champion At Royal Cornwall

Below photo of "Seahorse Scouts Gold Melody Glitz" Champion at Dorchester Show

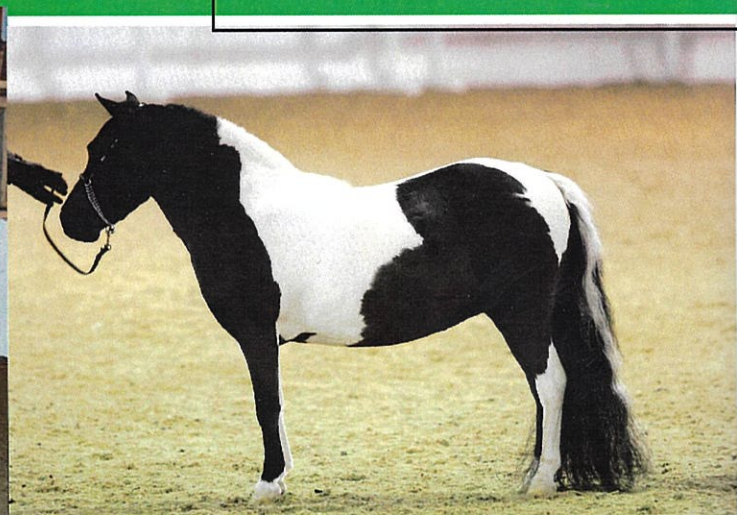


Left photo of "Conundrum Topics Reflection" Champion At The All Miniature Breed Show (MHCGB Classes)



Below photo of "Mostly Minnies Key West" (left) Champion at Area 5 Christmas show and Preston Park

Below photo of "NCF Little Sweetheart" Champion at Port Royal August show 2007



THOUGHTS ON RING-CRAFT & SHOW PREPARATION

Well we have all but reached the end of the showing season and we have a few months respite before the hard work begins in order to campaign stock in 2008. This is the ideal time to reflect on our 2007 showing successes or otherwise and if we were not successful try to work out how we can improve on the performances in the future. It is sometimes all too easy to blame judges although I have seen some appalling judging this year conducted by very well respected judges of other breeds or hunters. As an exhibitor I think that on the whole the best judges have been those judging Miniature Horse Club GB events. I don't just mean at the Spring and Championship show where American judges have been flown in from the States but also at more regional shows where much effort by the club has been made to educate the judge before being placed on the clubs panel of Judges. It is really a great privilege to show under an American judge who has vast experience of judging Miniatures and sees thousands of them in the States. Also MHCGB go to great lengths to make sure that the competitors have no influence in the selection of any judge as they are selected by Catherine Marshall the show organiser, who does not own or show Miniature Horses.

Those competitors who are new to showing horses, let alone Miniature horses would do well to seek advice from more established producers. It may cost a bit to have lessons but it would be well worth it. After all you would not expect to be given a piano, watch someone accomplished play and expect to be able to recreate that same tune without practice and help. If you won many classes this year you are probably doing most things correctly but if you didn't there may be a number of aspects that you could improve on in order to move you up the line. So why did your horse not get placed higher than you had hoped and how can you improve his placings?

Firstly I would take a long hard look at my animal and ask myself has he or she got the correct conformation to be a show horse. Many people have bought horses for a lot of money, from people who have told them that they are top quality with "perfect" conformation, only to find when they are shown they are down the line. To be fair judges will rarely say to a competitor why they have placed that particular horse low down the line, as they don't wish to offend the owner or lay themselves open for criticism. If in doubt seek the advice of an impartial, knowledgeable person who can help you understand your horse's conformational shortcomings. No horse is perfect, Multi Champions have faults. By understanding your own horse's faults you can perhaps work to improve them or understand how you can possibly make them less obvious in the ring.

Conformation is one thing, but type another, and a heavier type of Miniature may appeal to one judge where another will prefer a more refined animal. On this subject make sure that you are competing in the correct section, for example have you been trying to compete in refined classes with an animal that is a bit underweight rather than it carrying correct weight for its bone structure and thus more suited to the draft sections. Conformation is really where I start when assessing my show horses because being critical of my own animals and understanding their faults and shortcomings emphasises the areas for me to pay particular attention to on show preparation.

Next have you really prepared your horse for the show ring? Standards among the top producers are very high and newcomers would do well to study those producers. High standards are not achieved by taking shortcuts and a great deal of time and effort goes into the well-presented miniature show horse. The horse needs to be scrupulously clean, with the coat having been recently clipped or very fine and sleek if the coat is left on. I showed some horses this year that were clipped every few weeks, and one who had only one clip in February and another in late September, before the Championships. The coat was retained to show off his stunning colour, which all but disappears when freshly clipped. This horse was heavily rugged all season and strapped each day, which was very hard work. Regular grooming even if newly clipped is essential to keep the skin in good condition, improve muscle tone and create a shine to the coat.

Exercise is also essential for the show horse. It is no point feeding and grooming the horse but keeping him restricted to stable and pen. So many people do this and cannot see that their miniature horse has no muscle tone. My show horses are walked out, lunged, or loose schooled a number of times a week depending on the individual. Also they are turned out on grass each day for hours. I believe in feeding my horses well, on a reduced scale of that of a large horse, rather than inadequate feeding in order to keep them slim. Exercise, correctly done, is vital to build muscle tone and topline and can prevent the clunking of hip joints that are often heard in a number of exhibited miniature horses.

Freedom in the field alleviates boredom and so your horse can look fresh and bright when taken to a show rather than perhaps jaded and disinterested. I have to say that too much showing can also bore an animal. Some horses are campaigned at more than one show at a weekend with 5 or more classes per day, week after week. Horses are not toys and individual personalities must be taken into account and excess showing will lead to disappointment. Understand if your horse stresses in transit as this too can lead to under performance.

I have seen some competitors this year who have no idea about ring-craft. The term ring-craft refers to how you show the horse to his best advantage and maximising your chances of success in the show ring. When I enter the ring I am "working" to show my horse off to what I hope is his best advantage. I don't just mean when I trot my horse in front of the judge or stand him up when the judge looks at him but I try to not let him go "off the boil" all the time he is in the ring. This is somewhat easier in MHCGB showing classes when one is in the ring for so little time compared with exhibiting in the English fashion. At any time the judge could glance at your horse in the line up, just momentarily comparing him with the one that has just trotted, and if your horse has gone to sleep and you are busily talking to another competitor your horse could look dreadful at that moment and be placed further down the order. Also consider the trot out. Is your horse moving forward freely, are you running him too fast or maybe too slow to maximise the impact of his movement. Standing the horse again to show him to his best advantage to show length of neck and correct topline. All things to be practised at home and that practise and preparation demonstrated in the show ring. It is very useful if you have a helper at home taking photographs, so you can see what your horse looks like from a Judges perspective, and may show if you need to stand him slightly differently in order to improve his appearance. I personally try to imagine what the judge sees when I present a horse so that I can present the appearance that I want.

Finally, try to be a good loser, none of us like to lose but take it on the chin and think that there is always another day. The judge's decision is final, we may not necessarily agree with him but we have chosen to show under that judge. I have been at the top and at the bottom of the line with the same animal on different days and to some extent that is the pleasure of showing. If it were the same animal winning every time out, showing would become very predictable and boring. If the Judge has judged the class badly and is not up to the job, then simply don't show under that judge again.

I hope that the above thoughts may be of some help as a reminder for the experienced or as an insight to the less experienced. Whatever, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and much success for 2008. If there are readers, perhaps who are new to showing, who need some individual advice then please feel free to contact me.

Philip Matthews-Brown
Washbanks Miniature Horse Stud Tel: 01353 698498

Area 3 Christmas Show 1st December 2007

Judge Liz Shewell

<<Area 3 of the MHCGB held a Christmas show at its usual venue at Low Farm Easton Maudit. Our judge for the day was Liz Shewell, who owns the venue and is a very experienced pony and horse judge, although this was her first time judging minis. She tells me she thoroughly enjoyed her day and was really pleased with the quality of the exhibits forward. Gemma took entries and ran the collecting ring and made sure everyone was where they should be and I stewarded for Liz.

We had plenty of classes and as other areas had decided to go with a fun Christmas theme we decided to have an actual conformation show with a driving class. We had a Christmas tree and plenty of Christmas cheer in the form of mince pies and Christmas music. Wendy was doing her usual sterling work in the kitchen, providing yummy bacon and sausage cobs and hot drinks. The raffle was well supported as was the Christmas cakes sweeps.

Supreme in show was the Armitage family's Mostly Minnies Key West, with Reserve Supreme going to Jayne and Gemma Alpes Bepetons Sirs Hot Topic. The Armitage family also won the high points award for the day with the supreme horse, this was cash to the amount of £24 so not so dusty!! We had the most gorgeous rosettes and Wendy had put one of her many skills to work and made some wonderful champion and res sashes, which looked stunning on the horses. Although there were not many people there, I think everyone had a good day, the venue was heated which makes a winter day so much more pleasant, and the mood and atmosphere was great.

Wendy Gemma and I wish all of you a very happy Christmas and a Happy and succesful 2008

Area 3 Christmas Show

Refined Type

- 1st Mostly Minnies Key West
- 2nd Bepettons Sirs Hot Topic
- 3rd Pipruda Topics Flashman
- 4th HMH Amazing April

Falabella

- 1st Looking Glass Crown Jewel

Part Falabella

- 1st Ujenik Extasys Espresso

British Bred

- 1st Aesthete Pied Piper
- 2nd HMH Amazing April

AMHA

- 1st Mostly Minnies Key West
- 2nd Bepettons Sirs Hot Topic

Part Bred AMHA

- 1st NCF Mystical Golden Moon
- 2nd Conundrum Topics Stryker
- 3rd Ujenik Extacys Espresso
- 4th Pipruda Topics Flashman

Gelding

- 1st La Vista Really Remarkable
- 2nd NCF Mystical Golden Moon
- 3rd Conundrum Topics Stryker

Cat B

- 1st Looking Glass Crown Jewel

Ultra Mini

- 1st Pipruda Topics Flashman
- 2nd Southash Premo Marco

Foal/Weanling

- 1st Pipruda Topics Flashman
- 2nd Fifi Trixie Belle
- 3rd Southash Premo Marco

Best Male Head

- 1st Mostly Minnies Key West
- 2nd Bepettons Sirs Hot Topic
- 3rd Pipruda Topics Flashman

Best Female Head

- 1st Fifi Trixie Belle
- 2nd Looking Glass Crown Jewel
- 3rd HMH Amazing April

Broken Colour

- 1st Mostly Minnies Key West
- 2nd Pipruda Topics Flashman

Spotted/Pintaloosa

- 1st Aesthete Pied Piper
- 2nd HMH Amazing April

Solid Colour

- 1st La Vista Really Remarkable
- 2nd NCF Mystical Golden Moon
- 3rd Looking Glass Crown Jewel
- 4th Southash Premo Marco

Open Driving

- 1st NCF Mystical Golden Moon
- 2nd La Vista Really Remarkable

CHAMPION OF BREED AND TYPE

SECTIONS

MOSTLY MINNIES KEY WEST

RESERVE

BEPETTONS SIRs HOT TOPIC

COLOUR CHAMPION

MOSTLY MINNIES KEY WEST

DORSET COUNTY SHOW

Judge Mr Robert Parker Jones

Yearling

- 1st Darkmoons Orions Shez Dynamite / C Cardwell
- 2nd Aesthete Playboy's Ego / Mrs M Hillyer

2 & 3 yrs

- 1st Seahorse Scouts Gold Melody Glitz / E Yaxley
- 2nd Donabi UK Clouds of Gold / Mrs K Phillips
- 3rd Blackertor UK Quicksilver Classy Bay / E Gawler

Open

- 1st Uno Tom Thumb / E Yaxley
- 2nd Nehi Chinchee May / E Yaxley

Broken Coloured/Spotted

- 1st Seahorse Scouts Gold Melody Glitz / E Yaxley
- 2nd Uno Tom Thumb / E Yaxley
- 3rd Aesthete Playboy's Ego / Mrs M Hillyer

Solid Coloured

- 1st Blackertor UK Quicksilver Classy Bay / E Gawler
- 2nd Blackertor UK Arrows for Victory / C Cardwell
- 3rd Looking Glass Little Africa / Mrs M Hillyer

Champion : Seahorse Scouts Gold Melody Glitz

Reserve Champion : Darkmoon Orions Shez Dynamite

Letters, News And Views

Hi,

I just would like to thank you all for a most enjoyable weekend at The Championship Show and to say how much we appreciated all the hard work and organisation that must have gone into such an event.

We found every one most helpful and friendly to us newcomers.

Our little MunchKin "Falabellos Florenco" would like to apologise for turning into a Manic Buckeroo! during the evening performance! and promises to try not to be so immature and objectionable next time, providing his owner promises to get him a better fitting show bridle and to generally be more efficient as a handler!

Thanking you all once again for a thoroughly enjoyable weekend and we look forward to seeing you in the not too distant future.

Yours,

Diana Humphries.

Hi all,

Once again we would like to say that we really enjoyed ourselves at your Championship show and look forward to coming again next year.

Hopefully ours will be a bit more successful next time as they will be a bit older and we will be more experienced.

Again as usual we learned such a lot from the people who came, in particular the classes we should be entering (it seems I have been getting it a bit wrong with my American miniature). Pat England and a friend of hers helped me out there.

Showing techniques were improved for the youngsters by Janice of MHCGB and Image from the MHSBS.

All in all we had a lovely day with lots of learning experiences which we hope will improve our chances in the future and that in turn will keep us coming back.

Thank you all for such a well organised friendly show and thank you for the food provided at the end of a long day showing, it was most welcome.

Kind regards,

Margaret Hillyer

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the MHCGB for yet another successful year. I am pleased to see that the club goes from strength to strength and is very much a club for its members. Having recently attended the AGM I was delighted to find that the club took on board the views of its members and is willing to listen to new ideas and give them a try.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Catherine and Kerry for yet another fantastic Spring and Championship show. Both girls put alot of time and effort in both on the day and in the planning stages. I'm sure that I speak for all the members when I say that they did a great job. The championship show is a particularly long day of showing, however Catherine and Kerry ensured that the day ran smoothly and efficiently. I sincerely hope that both Catherine and Kerry will continue their efforts for the 2008 season, after all, we would be at a loss without them!!

Laura Bias

An inspiration to us all this summer must be ten year old Charlotte Purdy from County Durham. Charlotte was born with Cystic Fibrosis and illness that affects the internal organs, especially the lungs and digestive system, by clogging them with thick sticky mucus. This makes it hard to breathe and digest food. Dealing with her own horses and the associated dust was affecting Charlotte so much that she was finding it difficult to carry on riding, Mum Heather wondered if a miniature horse would be easier for Charlotte to manage so she could carry on fully with her passion for horses.

Heather contacted Jill Robinson, club President, looking for a pet miniature for Charlotte to have on loan. Jill immediately thought of NCF Magic Silver Prince, a silver dapple yearling colt who had tragically lost his mum to colic when he was sixteen weeks old. The pair hit it off straight away.

Mum, Charlotte and Prince began competing at local shows but it wasn't long before Mum and Charlotte were bitten by the 'mini bug' and they began travelling to shows all over the country also competing with Mums coloured shetland

Charlottes other passion is the colour pink.. anything pink. After launching an appeal in a local newspaper for donations for a horse box so Charlotte could compete with her riding pony, it wasn't long before Dad Ian was kitting out a lorry from top to toe with a customised pink living.

Brave Charlotte won this years Win Smith award at All Miniatures Breed show, and qualified for all the mini championship shows.

Heather organised another appeal in the local newspaper to help with funding to compete and travel to the Championship shows. To finish the show season Charlotte and Mum Heather coped with a ten day stay in their new horsebox at Arena UK to ensure Charlotte could compete at Royal London and MHOYS and stress of travelling did not worsen Charlottes health.

MHCGB would like to wish Charlotte and her family our love and lots of luck for 2008.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



JANIS WILLIAMS	CHESHIRE
KAREN HAMILTON-SMITH	NORTH YORKSHIRE
PETER HAMILTON-SMITH	NORTH YORKSHIRE
DEBBIE ANDERSON	ESSEX
VAL CRIDGE	SOMERSET
ANN HAWKE	SOMERSET
SOPHIE WAGHORN	KENT
AMBA WAGHORN	KENT
LYNN McDOWELL	LANCASHIRE

PRESS RELEASE

NEW SHOWING CLASSES IN THE SOUTH WEST AREA OF MHCGB

DATE: **AUGUST 15TH 2008**

NEW VENUE: DUNSTER SHOW NEAR MINEHEAD, SOMERSET

QUALIFYING CLASSES FOR: MHCGB & IMHPS

PRIZES: RUG AND BRIDLE FOR CHAMPIONSHIP and good prize money

SPECIAL ROSETTES AWARDED

PERPETUAL CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 1ST

We are delighted that this prestige show has agreed to introduce Miniature Horses into their programme this year. Dunster Show is a first class agriculture show in its 162nd year, held below Dunster castle on the polo grounds a perfect setting by kind permission of J.F.Luttrell Horses, cattle, and masses of trade stands also good entertainment are present at this one day show. There are good facilities, always affording spacious rings, good catering, and parking, well signposted, panel judges, well stewarded and good prize money. Entry date July 1st. Local over night stabling can be arranged for those wishing to travel the day before by calling 01643703126 or 01984641500. Further details available from the above telephone numbers.

SECRETARY:

Mrs R, Langdon

Appletree House

Higher Vexford Lydeard ST Lawrence

Taunton. Somerset

TA43QF

Tel: 01984656900

STOP PRESS

TO ALL MEMBERS OF MHCGB IN THE SOUTH WEST

WE ARE COMPILING A STUD DIRECTORY FOR OUR AREA TO APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE MHCGB MAGAZINE WITH A SOUTH WEST MAP AND LOCATION DETAILS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED PLEASE SEND FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND AN APPLICATION FORM

THIS IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE YOUR STALLION AT STUD, SPECIALITY BLOODLINES, INDICATE THAT YOU HAVE STOCK FOR SALE. AND PUBLISH YOUR WEBSITE, ALL AT VERY THE REASONABLE PRICE OF £10 PER ENTRY. FURTHER DETAILS FROM: VAL CRIDGE 01643703126

E-MAIL VALERIE.CRIDGE@BTINTERNET.COM

Show Dates 2008

19th April 2008

MHCGB National Spring show.

**Arena UK, Grantham, Lincoln.
secretary Catherine Marshall**

27th April 2008

NPS area 14 show

Secretaries Mrs M Kidman, Romans Farm, Rettendon Common, Chelmsford Essex.

judge Mrs J Kilbey

18th May 2008

Weyhill shows

Secretary Mrs S Matthewman, 41 Abbatt Close, Ludgershall, Andover, Hampshire. SP11 9PQ tel 01264 398324 email shadel@ntlworld.com

no. of classes 5

judge Mrs Louise Belcher

5th - 7th June 2008

Royal Cornwall

Secretary

Mr C P Ruddle

Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge, Cornwall, PE27 7SB

no of classes 4

judge Miss N Faulconbridge

8th June 2008

Cadnam Show Society,

Hazel Long, e-mail: hazel-long@yahoo.co.uk

**Or Tel: 07789 888375 or 02380 776854
www.nfed**

22nd June 2008

Derbyshire county show

secretary Mrs E J Rushton

50 Spencer Avenue, Sandiacre, Nottingham, NG 10 5 DA

judge Mrs Elaine Kind

7th September 2008

Weyhill shows

Secretary Mrs S Matthewman, 41 Abbatt Close, Ludgershall, Andover, Hampshire. SP11 9PQ tel 01264 398324

email shadel@ntlworld.com

no. of classes 5

judge Mr Peter North

13 & 14th September 2008

MHCGB National Grand Championship show.

**Southview Arena, Wrettenhall, Cheshire.
secretary Catherine Marshall**

AREA NEWS AND REP CONTACT DETAILS

AREA 1 SCOTLAND

KELLY WILSON TEL 01698 791554 EMAIL hooves-and-paws@hotmail.co.uk


Hi everyone,

I hope you have all enjoyed a successful and most importantly enjoyable show season with the mhcg. As I'm writing this once again it is raining in sunny Scotland and my poor minis are stuck in their houses having another day in their jimjams. I do hope next year brings us all some better weather and for those of you affected by the floods I hope you have recovered and have a safe winter ahead. This was my first season with mhcg and showing minis infact, I tried one other show run by a different organisation and I have to say I am so pleased my first show was mhcg as I don't think I would of continued showing! I am hoping to attend more mhcg shows in 2007 what with the flooding and family commitments travelling down this year has been very difficult so I do apologise for being unable to support other representatives shows. We have done some showing up in Scotland and have some interest from show organisers to hold mini classes in 2008 so hopefully we can increase the turn-out of minis in Scotland. I wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and new-year and hope to see you all in 2008 Merry Christmas!!

AREA 2a NORTHUMBERLAND, ,DURHAM, N YORKS, E YORKS, W YORKS, S YORKS

JILL ROBINSON TEL.01642 534544 EMAIL jrnewclose@aol.com

Great excitement and happenings in area 2. Last weekend our area hosted Mike Want President of AMHA and his wife Carol together with one of our clubs stalwart supporters Wayne Hipsley Senior judge & educator and con-

sultant to AMHA. Many thanks to members who allowed Mike to visit their studs albeit to see hairy horses . As a breeder himself nothing he hasn't seen before. Our AMHA visitors were extremely impressed with our very grand venue of Lumley Castle and thoroughly enjoyed their stay there and the hospitality of our members. There is a full report of the visit within the mag. 16th December we look forward to fun and frolics at Area 2 Annual Christmas show. New Close Farm will be awash with Santa's, fairies, elves of all descriptions and that's just the horses! A chance to let your hair down, forget the serious side of showing and have a bit of fun with your horses. No need to clip your horse cover them with tinsel, glitter and a Christmas costume instead - don't forget your cameras. If anyone would like to start halter, obstacle or driving training nights, in preparation for the forthcoming season give me a shout - anything can be arranged at short notice.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all area 2 members A Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

AREA 2b CUMBRIA, LANCS., MANCHESTER, MERSEYSIDE, CHESHIRE

ANNE DEAKIN TEL. 01925 821444 EMAIL annedeakin@aol.com

Not much to say this time. I think we are getting more new members in our area which is good. As you will have read in this edition The National Championship Show in September is moving across to Area 2B, It will be held in 2008 at Southview Equestrian Centre so I hope to see Area members there. Please let me know your results so I can give them a mention. Next March/April I am hoping to put on a training/show day. This will be very informal and will give you a chance to get those new yearlings out. It will also give the newbies a chance to meet some people and be shown how to show your mini's. Jane Davenport-Lister will be doing the training in the morning and then we will hold a very informal show in the afternoon to put into practice what you have learnt. I hope every one has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you all showing next year.

AREA 3 DERBYSHIRE, STAFFS, LEICS, SHROPS, HEREFORDSHIRE, WORCS, WARWICKSHIRE, NORTHANTS

JANE PARKER TEL.. 01530 223594 EMAIL pp@conundrum.fsworld.co.uk

Well the show season has pretty much ended! By the time this goes to print we will have held our Area 3 Christmas Extravaganza Show (Results in this edition).

Sadly I was not able to make it to our Champ Show, as I was flying back from holiday on the day, but I hear it was a great success and continues to go from strength to strength, it is good to be involved with this Club It gives so much back to its members and exhibitors.

So far the Autumn has been nice, with little rain and lots of nice crisp days. I for one hope it continues this way into Winter, the horses do far better when it is dry and cold than when its wet. Also the bugs get killed and we don't have so many colds and viruses. I hope all your minis are well and that your foals and weanlings are looking good for next years season. I wish you all a very "Happy Christmas and a very Happy and successful New-Year"

AREA NEWS AND REP CONTACT DETAILS

AREA 4 WALES

JILL DUKE TEL. 01269 822033 EMAIL jill@dukespalominos.fsnet.co.uk

I wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Look forward to meeting you all in 2008. Hopefully we will have a drier Summer next year!

If any members of Area 4 have any ideas for events you would like in 2008 please contact me.

AREA 5 Lincs, Notts, Cambs, Norfolk, Suffolk

PAT ENGLUND TEL. 01205 871970 EMAIL maricabeel@msn.com

I think we had a pretty good year with good turnouts at all the shows. our Championship show was a great success, with entries up on last year, the only downside is that the photographer has had so few orders that he may not do the show next year as it wouldn't be worth his while. so I ask all members, please support our photographers as they do a stunning job in their own time and their expenses and wages have to come from the photos they sell.

Royal London and IMHPS were exceptionally well attended and our members were at the top of the list all round. congratulations to all, it goes to show that the MHCGB is the among the best, if not the best miniature horse club, we improve from year to year. Comments received from around the shows from new members and spectators alike say how friendly and helpful our club is and how much fun it is, long may it last.

There are a couple of Christmas shows happening in Dec and I hope people will support them.

I haven't been able to put a show on as Sheepgate is fully booked. They have a Christmas "show" of their own in aid of charity, at the time of writing I don't have any details as such except it will be the same as last year, individual shows to music and judged on performance and fancy dress, not conformation etc.

I'm still trying to get classes at the Newark and Notts County show in May, we have our foot in the door and hopefully by the time this newsletter comes out, I will have more definite information.

I hope that everyone has a good Christmas and that all little ones remain healthy and happy, and we look forward to seeing everybody in 2008 at the Spring show.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL.

AREA 6 HERTS, ESSEX, LONDON, KENT, WEST SUSSEX

LINDA LUMLEY TEL. 01268 711081 EMAIL lumleyjim@aol.co.uk

Merry Christmas to all Area 6 Members.

AREA 7 GLOU, OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKS, BEDS, BERKS, WILTS, HAMPS, SURREY, W SUSSEX

SHARON MATTHEWMAN TEL. 01264 398324 EMAIL shadel@ntlworld.com

Merry Christmas to all MHCGB Members. I look forward to seeing you all in 2008 we have a couple of new shows in Area 7 that I hope will be well supported. . If you have any news or ideas please feel free to contact me.

AREA 8 CORNWALL, DEVON, SOMERSET, DORSET

EILEEN YAXLEY TEL. 01398 331813 EMAIL donabiuk@btinternet.com

With a great improvement in the weather towards the end of the season, Dorset County Show once again had a beautiful day for our classes and extended their usual warm welcome. We were pleased to see some new faces amongst exhibitors, as this is a show that really appreciates Miniature Horses, so put it down in your 2008 diary now !!

We have had some enthusiastic new members join us this year, namely Kathy Phillips and her daughter Amy, Annie Hawke, previously very well know for her exquisite black Arabians, and Val Cridge, again with an 'Arab' background - all now totally obsessed with Miniature Horses.

Although Kathy only bought her first miniature in February, she has enjoyed a busy and successful show season and has already built her herd up to 5, including an infoal mare for 2008, and a future herd stallion from the United States.

Annie has five weanlings arriving from the US by January, and she and Val have been busy using their influence and connections from the 'Arab' world to secure classes for miniature horses at the Dunster Show, Somerset in 2008. With the added advantage of a big name sponsor, Val has approached the Royal Bath & West Show about classes, and has received a promise of short listing for the 2009 schedule. Devon County too have agreed to review our case for classes in 2009 - so miniatures are moving onwards and upwards in the West Country.

Some of us made the long journey 'up country' to support our classes at shows including Doncaster All Miniature Breed Show, our MHCGB Championship Show in Boston and IMHPS Mini HOYS at Arena UK. It was great to meet members from other areas and to compete against different horses. Together with Area 4 Wales, we are still researching the possibility of a suitable venue to hold a joint Indoor Area Show, but meanwhile how about some of you coming down for a West Country break in 2008 to support some of our shows - we would love to see you.

Personally I enjoy this time of year when we have finished showing, the horses can relax and grow their winter woollies, their slimming routine grazing restrictions can be eased, and the broodmares are steadily getting heavier in foal. The stallions' masculine desires have abated for a while ---- **It's Heaven** - but then Christmas is around the corner, and then we will be getting impatient for the show season to start once again.

Hope everyone has a **Happy Christmas** and a **Prosperous New Year**.

Preston Park Summer Show

Judge Mrs Hamilton-Smith

Class 1. Yearling filly, colt or gelding draft type.

Class 2. Yearling filly, colt or gelding refined type

- 1st NCF Lunars Koh I Nor / J Robinson
2nd Stars Out all Night / Armitage
3rd Pitter Patter Ponies Touch of Class / C Rowbottom
4th NCF Mystical Silver Prince / C Purdy

Class 3. Yearling filly, colt or gelding falabella.

Class 4. Yearling/weanling filly, colt or gelding

AMHA registered.

- 1st NCF Lunars shooting Star / J Robinson
2nd Stars Out all Night / P Armitage
3rd NCF Mystical Silver Prince / P Armitage

Class 5. Yearling filly, British bred.

- 1st Pitter Patter Ponies Touch of Class / C Rowbottom

Class 6. Yearling filly, colt or gelding partbred Falabella.

- 1st Ujenik Extasys Espresso Armitage

Class 7. Yearling filly, colt or gelding partbred

AMHA

- 1st Ujenik Extasys Espresso Armitage

Class 8. Yearling filly, colt or gelding Category B

Class 9. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding draft type.

- 1st KBM Kickin Back Easter Willy / P Armitage
2nd Looking Glass Supremo / J Goudie

Class 10. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding refined type.

- 1st Fairdo Buck-a-roo / J Baker +
2nd Maru Queen Of Scotts / Mascot Miniatures

Class 11. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding falabella.

- 1st Looking Glass Supremo / J Goudie

Class 12. junior (2yrs) old filly, colt or gelding AMHA registered.

Class 13. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding British bred

- 1st Heathside Silver Rose / H Way

Class 14. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding partbred Falabella

- 1st Ujenik Extasys Gladiator Armitage
2nd Pryse Fernandez J Stokes
3rd Mary Queen Of Scotts Mascot Miniatures
4th Pryse Galaxy J Stokes

Class 15. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding partbred AMHA

- 1st Ujenik Extasys Gladiator / P Armitage
2nd Fairdo Buck-a-roo / J Baker +
3rd NCF Balooga that's my boy / Mascot Miniatures
4th Romeo Crie / J Stokes

Class 16. 2 & 3 year old filly, colt or gelding Category B

- 1st Heathside Silver Rose / H Way

Class 17. 4 years plus, stallion, mare or gelding, draft type.

- 1st Looking Glass Baby Rocco / J Goudie
2nd NCF Berry Lucky Joe / Mascot Miniatures
3rd Pryze Eden / J Stokes
4th Gizmo / G Purdy

Class 18. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding, refined type.

- 1st Mostly Minnies Key West / P Armitage
2nd Scott Creek Mister Black Velvet / Mascot Miniatures
3rd NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias
4th Conundrum Rebel Yell / J Baker +

Class 19. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding, falabella

- 1st Looking Glass Baby Rocco / J Goudie

Class 20. Senior stallion, mare, or gelding (3 years plus) AMHA registered.

- 1st Mostly Minnies Key West Armitage
2nd NCF Lucky Joe Mascot Miniatures
3rd Scott creek Mister Black Velvet Mascot Miniatures

Class 21. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding, British bred.

- 1st Aesthete Pied Piper Armitage
2nd Conundrum Rebel Yell J Baker +
3rd NCF Sweet N Petite S Hunter

Class 22. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding partbred Falabella.

- 1st NCF Little Sweetheart L Bias

Class 23. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding partbred AMHA

- 1st NCF Princess Amazing Mascot Miniatures

Class 24. 4 years plus stallion, mare or gelding Category B

- 1st Gizmo / G Purdy

Class 25 MHCGB gelding Incentive class open to geldings any age/type

- 1st La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
2nd Fairdo Buck-a-roo / J Baker →
3rd Conundrum Rebel Yell / J Baker →
4th Gizmo / G Purdy
5th Pepper Pot Spot / S Hunter

Colour section

Class 26. Broken colour, any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- 1st KBM Kickin Back Easter Willy / P Armitage
2nd NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias
3rd Stars Out all Night / P Armitage
4th Fairdo Buck-a-roo / J Baker →
5th Gizmo / G Purdy

Class 27. Spotted/Pinto/aloosa, any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- 1st Aesthete Pied Piper / P Armitage
2nd Pryse Fernandez / J Stokes
3rd Pryse Galaxy / J Stokes
4th Pitter Patter Ponies Touch of Class / C Rowbottom
5th Pepper Pot Spot / S Hunter

Class 28. Solid Colour (bays, blacks, chestnuts, palomino) any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- 1st La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
2nd Romeo Crie / J Stokes

Class 29. Other Colour (silvers, roans, dilutes) any age. To be judged on 80% colour, 20% conformation.

- 1st Ujenik Extasys Gladiator / P Armitage
2nd NCF Mystical Silver Prince / C Purdy

Colour champion

KBM Kickin Back Easter Willy / P Armitage
Reserve Aesthete Pied Piper / P Armitage

Scaled down show horses.

Class 30. Hack type

- 1st NCF Koh I Nor / J Robinson
2nd Heathside Silver Rose / H Way
3rd Pitter Patter Ponies Touch of Class / C Rowbottom
4th NCF Mystical Silver Prince / C Purdy

Class 31. Hunter type

- 1st Del Teras Dellas Joe Berry / J Robinson
2nd Mostly Minnies Key West / P Armitage
3rd NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias
4th Fairdo Buck-a-roo / J Baker →
5th Romeo Crie / J Stokes
6th Conundrum Rebel Yell / J Baker →

Class 32 cob type.

- 1st Looking Glass Baby Rocco / J Goudie
2nd Pryse Eden / J Stokes

Breeding Section

- Class 33.** Broodmare with foal at foot or stinted.
1st Conundrum Gold Sparkle / W Lees

Class 34. Foal/weanling

- 1st Minutia Topics Millionaire / W Lees
2nd Mascot Ebony's Lasting Legacy / Mascot Miniatures

Class 35. Get of Sire * (two or more horses by the same sire)

- 1st NCF Lunars Shooting Star
NCF Lunars Koh I Nor
(get of FLF Stars Lunar Eclipse)

Class 36. Produce of Dam * (two or more horses by the same dam)

Miscellaneous section

Class 37. best male head

- 1st Mostly Minnies Key West / P Armitage
2nd Pryse Fernandez / J Stokes
3rd Romeo Crie / J Stokes
4th NCF Mystical Silver Prince / G Purdy
5th Gizmo / G Purdy

Class 38. Best female head.

- 1st NCF Little Sweetheart L Bias
2nd Heathside Silver Rose H Way

SUPREME CHAMPION

Mostly Minnies Key West / P Armitage

Reserve

NCF Koh I Nor / J Robinson

Performance Section

Class 40. Halter obstacle

- 1st Del Teras Dellas Joe Berry / J Robinson
2nd La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
3rd NCF Little Sweetheart / L Bias
4th Gizmo / G Purdy

Class 41. Jumping

- 1st La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage
2nd Del Teras Joe Berry / J Robinson
3rd NCF Balooga that's my boy / Mascot Miniatures
4th NCF Berry Lucky Joe / Mascot Miniatures
5th NCF Sweet N Petite / S Hunter

Class 42. Novice driving, open to horses not having been placed 1st in any driving class.

Class 43. Country pleasure driving

- 1st La Vista Really Remarkable / P Armitage

Class 44. Single pleasure Driving

- 1st Del Teras Dellas Joe Berry / J Robinson

STALLIONS AND FERTILITY

When is a young stallion fertile? When can I start using my stallion to breed mares? How many mares can a young stallion breed in a season? How often can a young stallion be used in a given week? They are all good questions and bear discussion. First, however, it seems important to discuss some general points about stallion development.

CRYPTORCHIDISM and MATURITY

We have noticed a number of differences between the development of miniature horse stallions and full sized stallions. There have been numerous cases where veterinarians have evaluated yearling miniature colts and found that both testicles have not descended into the scrotum. As a result, the veterinarians have cautioned about infertility. Stallions whose testicles do not descend into the scrotum are given the name "cryptorchid". This syndrome is looked at unfavorably in stallions. With a testicle retained in the body cavity, fertility is considered to be reduced. Sperm must remain lower than normal body temperature in order to develop properly and remain viable. If a testicle is retained within the body of the horse, the sperm produced by that testicle are theoretically infertile therefore seriously reducing the fertility of the stallion. In full sized horses, the conventional wisdom appears to be if both testicles have not descended into the scrotum within the first year of life the horse will be a cryptorchid. This logic has also been applied to miniature horses. Unfortunately, it does not hold up in the vast majority of cases. It is our opinion that with miniature horses, it is not abnormal to see stallions whose testicles do not descend into the scrotum until they are three years of age. These "late bloomers" become very successful and fertile stallions and suffer no adverse effects from their testicles late decent into the scrotum. We have heard of very few true cryptorchid miniature horse stallions who's testicles totally fail to descend. It is not uncommon to find two year olds that do not show outward evidence of one or both testicles. By the time they are three, they are usually "intact" and fully functional as a breeding animal. The development of miniature horses is different than full sized horses. Some miniature horse stallions are mature as yearlings and can conceive pregnancies. Others do not reach maturity until they become three year olds. There are individual differences much the same as there are with the development and maturity of adolescent humans.

FERTILITY

There are a significant number of factors that influence the fertility of a stallion. Such things as descended testicles, testicular size, testicular consistency, sperm morphology (conformation in horse lingo), sperm concentration and motility (ability to "swim") as well as how often the stallion is used for breeding are a few of the more obvious factors influencing fertility. The quantitative measure of a stallion's fertility is a pretty difficult concept to get a person's mind around. In general **fertility is a measure of the number of motile sperm present per ejaculation of a stallion.** Through collecting semen from the stallion and doing some fairly precise counting of moving sperm under a microscope, the number of motile sperm per ejaculation is estimated and compared to norms for stallions. A normally fertile stallion produces in the neighborhood of 3,000,000,000 motile sperm per ejaculation. That is a bunch of sperm. The literature states that typical adult stallions produce approximately 6,000,000,000 sperm per day.

When a person takes into account the definition stated for fertility, the number of motile sperm per normal ejaculation and the number of sperm produced per day by the normal adult stallion, it doesn't take too much figuring to recognize that there are barely enough sperm produced per day for two ejaculations under perfect circumstances. When one factors in a percentage for motility, the fertility will drop below two ejaculations per day for optimum fertility. Young, developing stallions have a number of factors that reduce their general fertility from that of the adult. One of the limiting factors to sperm production is size of the stallions testicles. The testicles of young stallions have not fully developed. As a result, they are not yet able to produce sperm in the quantity per day that they will when they are a fully developed stallion. Less available sperm production equates to fewer ejaculations in order to maintain the normal fertility of 3,000,000,000 sperm per ejaculation.

The bottom line is that young stallions are not able to breed mares at the same frequency as adult stallions and maintain fertility. Normally young stallions have a huge portion of libido and are eager to breed mares. Mares can be covered, however the important factor of sperm/ejaculation is the overriding determiner of fertility. If the young stallion is used frequently, there will not be enough sperm available per ejaculation and his rate for settling mares will be sub-standard.

BREEDING POTENTIAL

There is substantial variation in opinion as to what is appropriate for breeding the young stallion. Authorities on the subject seem to vary in opinion. An article written by K.F. Dowsett in Current Therapy in Equine Medicine recommends that stallions below three years of age not be used for breeding at all. He and others state that there can be damage to the reproductive potential of stallions if they are utilized for breeding before they are fully mature. Larryann C. Willis in the text, The Horse Breeding Farm has developed a table of breeding frequency. Obviously the numbers of horses stated here are quoted for very large breeding farms. The most important point is to take note of the frequencies for the given stallions.

STALLION AGE	NUMBER OF MARES BRED / YEAR	FREQUENCY OF BREEDING
2 years	up to 12	2 to 3 services per week
3 years	up to 18	5 to 6 services per week
4 years	up to 28	once daily
Mature Stallion	up to 45	daily + 2 doubles per week*

* Willis explains the doubles as follows: "Some authorities recommend a limit of one breeding per day or six services per week. Others, however, believe it is safe to 'double' the stallion once or twice a week providing it is a 12 hour interval. Obviously doubling means covering two mares in the same day.

Willis continues by saying, "Although sperm is generally present in stallions 12 to 15 months old, at this age the horse is decidedly immature and should not be allowed to breed. A stallion of 24 months old usually is quite developed sexually. Sperm is present in sufficient volume and potency to allow limited breeding use of the horse..."

Please understand that this information being quoted is written based on conventions for full sized horses. To date, there has not been any published documentation that speaks directly to the fertility of miniatures. However, we have participated along with others in the Northwest United States in a groundbreaking study by Dr. Lisa Metcalf DVM, M.S. on this subject. At the time of this writing, results have not been published, however.

On our farm, we evaluate the maturity of each stallion individually. We have bred no more than 8 mares to a 2 year old stallion. Why? I'm not sure. It's probably because due to all of this reading, we are afraid that his "plumbing" will fall off. We do understand the valid reasons for spacing out breedings in order to let the young stallions sperm supply build up. It seems a waste of effort to breed the young stallion feverishly if one recognizes he is probably "shooting blanks" due to his immaturity and with developing sperm production rate. This situation is most likely to occur if the horse is repeatedly bred a number of times per day.

The unfortunate situation on breeding farms is that Mother Nature frequently does not cooperate. More than one mare comes into heat at the same time. This generally boils down to making value a judgment on the breeder's part. Do you over-use the stallion or pass up the heat cycle of one of the mares? If a farm ends up with a young stallion that is attracting a lot of attention, keep in mind that it is probably good business to be somewhat conservative about booking mares to him when he is young. If he is used to service many mares, the breeder can run the risk of having a healthy percentage of the mares come up open. Of course the stallion will, more than likely, get the bad rap of being a infertile. This is more than likely NOT the case. It is probably due to over use rather than some organic problem with the horse. It certainly is a lot better to produce a few foals the first year or two than to run the risk of setting the rumour mill afire about the perceived incompetence of your prized stallion.

Veterinarians can run a fertility check on stallions by collecting a sample of sperm. Those of you who are considering standing a young stallion, may consider having a fertility evaluation performed. At least, it would be useful to obtain guidance from a qualified veterinarian as to their recommendations for breeding the young stallion.

Thanks to Joanne & Larry Ross of Scott Creek Miniatures For the Permission to Reproduce this article

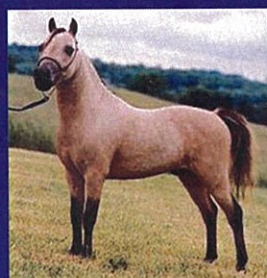
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(BMHS) British Miniature Horse Society

- . *Horse Of The Year Show (HOYS)*
Supreme Grand Champion 2006 (Ujenik Alpine Boy)
- . *BMHS Champion Breeders 2005 & 2006*
- . *BMHS Champion Horse 2006 (Ujenik Alpine Boy)*
- . *BMHS International Champion Of Champions 2006 (Ujenik Extasys Alpine Boy)*

(IMHPS) International Miniature Horse & Pony Society

- . *MHOYS Horse Of The Year - Supreme Grand Champion 2006 (Lucky Four Farm Classy Dude)*
- . *MHOYS Horse of the Year Show Res Supreme Grand Champion 2006 (Ujenik Extasys Alpine Boy)*
- . *IMHPS Arabian Supreme Champion 2006*
- . *IMHPS AMHA Supreme Champion 2006*
- . *IMHPS Colour Supreme Champion 2006*
- . *IMHPS Elite Supreme Champion 2006*



(MHCGB) AMHA - Miniature Horse Club Of Great Britain

- . *MHCGB Supreme Grand Champion 2006 (Ujenik Dare to Dream)*
- . *MHCGB Res Supreme Grand Champion 2006 (Lucky Four Farms Classy Dude)*
- . *MHCGB 1st Res Supreme Grand Champion 2006 (Ujenik Extasys Cappachino)*
- . *MHCGB AHMA Supreme Champion 2006 (Ujenik Dare to Dream)*
- . *MHCGB Spot Supreme Champion 2006 (Ujenik Extasys Cappachino)*
- . *MHCGB Get Of Sire Supreme Champion (Little Kings Double Extasy)*
- . *MHCGB Get Of Dam Supreme Champion 2006 (Lucky Four Farms Rebels Timbalette)*

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