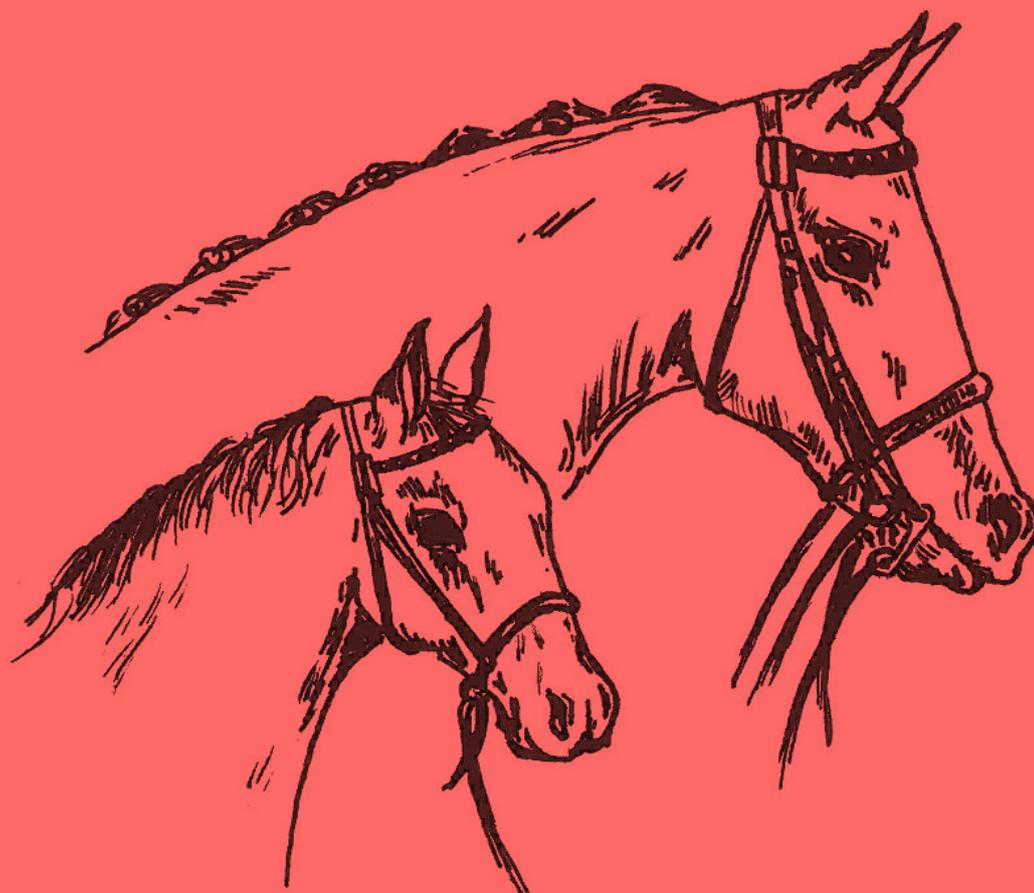


NORTHERN COUNTIES PONY ASSOCIATION

2021 ONLINE YEARBOOK



www.thencpa.co.uk

Registered Charity No 264796

Chairman's Report 2020

Was 2020 a wasted year, or did we all learn to appreciate what we had?

I am sure everyone found looking after their horses and pets gave them a purpose to life during lockdown and the restrictions over the summer, and having more time increased the pleasure we gain from them. Riding during this time certainly was a welcome relief from the devastating events happening in the world.

NCPA had to cancel shows as did everyone, but socially distanced events were organized once we had an approved blueprint to work from, and these were very successful.

We have such a dedicated secretary in Janet Bushell, her enthusiasm never wavers, and she put on a training clinic and two shows under the new format, while keeping the office running and planning for the future.

Thinking of the future the pandemic has highlighted that most of the people who help and steward at shows are in the older age bracket, and while many young people wish to become judges, it is the organization of shows that is in need of younger blood. In fact I have been involved in organization at NCPA Staffordshire branch for almost forty years whilst still competing with a growing family, and now I also have the four main branch show as well as the Treasurer's position. There is a lot of hard work in running a show, as well as committee meetings to plan events, but if people who compete don't give something back the whole sport will eventually stop. It can be rewarding when everything is done at the end of a successful day when everyone has worked together. Maybe some younger member could offer help to gain experience and look at things from a different point of view, to eventually take over the reins and bring new ideas with them.

We have shows and clinics in the pipeline for 2021 and let's hope the situation improves and we can get back to something near normal. Have no doubt we will be trying our best to keep the NCPA flag flying for years to come.

Keep safe everyone, and enjoy your horses and ponies.

Janice Fitchett

Presidents' Address

Covid disappointment!

Our first term in office was not exactly what we had in mind when taking on the presidency of the NCPA. Diary dates were scheduled for meetings and shows but having enjoyed meeting the members and area representatives at the AGM and at the Spring Spectacular, COVID arrived and put pay to most other activities for us!

Janet though and her amazing team did manage to hold an early training clinic/training show with Julie Templeton (February), training day flat & In hand again with Julie & WHP with Amy Smith (September) an Open Show (September) and their BSPS winter qualifying show (October). Sadly we were unable to make these events in person but believe they were much enjoyed by those who benefited from the training and being able to get out and show.

Our year consisted of furloughing staff at Rosettes Direct but trading as best we could with our great team multi tasking. Things improved towards the end of the season and we produced a few special orders and processed shows that did manage to hold their championships albeit in a scaled back format.

Our Mercer Print business traded well with books, signage and catalogues - sadly very few racecourse badges or car park passes were needed!

Life on Exmoor continues in our farm work bubble, we are lucky so far to be unaffected by the nasty illness. The sheep lambed and cows calved as normal, we did have a set of Angus twins who lost their mum but took to the bucket easily and are thriving now.

Gathering the Anchor herd coming home down the road



The Exmoor ponies struggled initially but by May all mares had foaled and we took the opportunity to have an in depth look at the bloodlines we had in the herd.

We decided to sell a few outstanding youngsters and a couple of good foundation mares and even a stallion have gone to new homes to breed or be handled for future ridden careers.



Anchor Lovestory: sold in June after a bloodline consolidation of the herd

We entered an online competition, which was one of the first to require a video entry. We spent several days getting in, handling, bathing and filming ponies and it paid off as our young stallion was young stock champion. Miranda's novice show horses enjoyed a stellar couple of shows in August and September, but the open horses remained unshown last year and enjoyed hacking.



Anchor Moonstone: virtual show young stock champion



The foal by Geminis Classic Opera out of riding horse mare ABC RiKKI Zee

The brood mares produced three fantastic foals, two by Gemini Classic Opera and one, a coloured colt by Woodvean Midnight Blue. The two big mares are back in foal to Amorous Archie the fabulous Irish Draught stallion so fingers crossed for this years offspring - one mare is going to return to her breeder at weaning and the other will act as a nanny for the youngsters.

David and myself wish to continue our support for the NCPA and its great team.

We hope this year we can be more hands on and look forward to seeing everyone, even if it is still socially distanced, at some shows.

David and Emma Wallace

CHESHIRE

Cheshire Branch began 2020 so positively with our February Show which was once again well supported by our competitors and enjoyed by all as a great start to the Season. The show had many qualifiers and a wonderful atmosphere on the day. Unfortunately the year has, for all of us, continued in a much more sombre note. We, like so many, have been forced to cancel two of our shows due to the current restrictions but are feeling positive for 2021. Our 2021 October Show, is due to be held at Reaseheath College on Sunday 3rd and we are feeling confident it will go ahead and are looking forward to seeing everyone there. We are hoping to arrange a Training/Showing Clinic and will notify members once a date has been arranged.

We would once again like to thank our members for their continued support and trust you stay safe and sound during these difficult times.

Kim Neal, Cheshire Branch Chairman

DERBYSHIRE

2020 was a very odd year for us all, in March we were fairly optimistic that although we would lose our Spring show at Speetley in April, everything would be fine for the Festival in June. How wrong we were!!

As one by one the big shows fell by the wayside, it became clear very quickly that nothing in 2020 was going to be "normal". As a committee we decided to postpone the Festival until September and try to put on our HOYS qualifiers if that show were to go ahead. This involved quite a bit of work for all, notifying judges, stewards and services and liaising with other shows who were trying to do the same, since we had very little else to do it was a welcome distraction.

We continued to hold regular committee meetings via Whatsapp and then signed up for Zoom to make the meetings even better. We are now all quite adept at Zoom and may well continue to use it during the winter months, even when things return to normal. Certainly our 2021 AGM on the 11th January will be held via Zoom.

Following the cancellation of HOYS we decided to cancel the rearranged Festival and as things gradually began to open up, to run a Clinic at Golden Valley Equestrian Centre Nr Ripley in Derbyshire. We felt it would be far easier to manage in a Covid safe way than a show. As a committee we were grateful for the Showing Council Guidelines for Showing which gave us a framework for our safety measures. Secretary, Jayne McAuliffe did a Covid safety course and we were ready to go.

Aimee Devane -flatwork and Amy Smith – WHP were booked and our Chairman John Elliott took charge of the arrangements. This was our first visit to Golden Valley and it proved to be a lovely venue for the smaller event. Extremely well kept with friendly helpful staff and very accessible from the M1, we shall certainly use it again in the future. Although the clinic was not a financial success, it was a glorious sunny day, everyone who came enjoyed it and learned something and it felt fabulous to catch up with a few friends, so well worth putting on.

For 2021 we are planning an extra Valentine's Day show on 14th February at another new venue for us, Abbey Farm Equestrian at Darley Dale Nr Matlock. Hopefully, if the weather is kind, a perfect opportunity to get out the novices and new combinations, ahead of the season. The Spring show will be at Speetley on Saturday 10th April and the Festival will be at Somerford on the weekend of 12th 13th June. Any other ideas that we have will be posted on our Facebook page or website www.derbyshirefestival.co.uk.

Looking forward optimistically to 2021

Derbyshire Branch Committee

LANCASHIRE

The AGM in February saw a number of changes to the Officers on the Committee with a few Committee members remaining to give their support to your area. The new Committee thanked the outgoing Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Show Secretary for all their hard work and experience over their many years of service.

With the Spring Show pending, the new Committee took up the challenge to make this show a great success, which would boost the much needed branch funds. We had an amazing response from our call for sponsors and helpers and looked forward to a wide range of classes designed for members, novices, children and breeds of horses and ponies. Then Covid 19 arrived and everything was mothballed. That show, and the future Foal Show in November, were not able to run at Myerscough College.

In these uncertain times we are beginning to make plans for 2021 whilst following all the guidelines that arrive daily. As Myerscough could not accommodate our submitted dates we have been welcomed by Warren Farm and we hope that our Spring Show will go ahead on Sunday, 4th April and our Foal Show on Sunday, 7th November. We are aiming to closely follow this year's Spring schedule and plan expansion to our Foal Show.

We ask our valued Lancashire members, and supporters of our area, to liaise with our Committee who are happy to hear their suggestions and requests which, we hope, will result in us making a great success of the Lancashire Branch

Jean Marsden

Chairman

LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND

We hope all our members and show attendees have stayed safe during this most eventful of years, we were disappointed not to be able to hold our shows.

However we now look ahead to 2021 and look forward to being able to hold at least one if not more shows during the summer and autumn.

Elizabeth Etchells



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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE & LINCOLNSHIRE

2020 has proved to be the most difficult of years in living memory...who would ever have thought that we would all endure a worldwide pandemic! Here at the Notts/Lincs branch we were so excited to be organising the branches 25th Anniversary Show, sadly this was not meant to be as the show would have been only two weeks after lockdown. However, we are very much planning for the 25th Anniversary Show in 2021 which we will certainly celebrate with a party!

Until then, please stay safe and follow the guidelines and we very much look forward to seeing everyone enjoying their showing again.

Best Wishes, Mark Moncaster Chairman

NCPA POINTS AWARDS 2020

IN HAND

1st HENGWYS CADI David Hexham

2nd NANTCOL SIR WILLIAM Lexi McSherry

3rd SMALLEYBROOK ROYAL OCCASION Victoria Summers

4th= STRATHMORE JASPER Zoe Marsden

4th= WITHYPOOLE PIXIE LADY Sheena Nicholson

6th PERBURN CLYDE Zoe Marsden

RIDDEN

1st SMALLEYBROOK ROYAL OCCASION Victoria Summers

2nd BARKWAY DAYDREAM Ava Houghton-Riding

3rd BLACKERTOR BURLINGTON BERTIE Beatrice Bailye-Hawkins

4th BROOKHALL ROYAL ADMIRAL Beatrice Bailye-Hawkins

5th= CAITHNESS BERTIE BASSETT Lexi McSherry

5th= GREENSYKE SONNY BOY Beatrice Bailye-Hawkins

NCPA TRAINING AWARD

The **NCPA Training Awards** are a wonderful opportunity to win the Pat Williamson Memorial Training Bursary, to be used for an equestrian course or training scheme at an establishment approved by NCPA. **The recipient of the 2020 award was chosen from those members attending the Clinic & Training Show with renowned trainer, judge & breeder Julie Templeton on Sunday 7th February at Warren Farm EC**

2020 Scholarship award Jack Ratcliffe & Islam Tartan

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