

National Hall of Fame Award 2018

Padraig Fitzpatrick

The Irish Draught Horse Breeders Association was delighted to nominate Padraig Fitzpatrick as their 2018 recipient of the National Hall of Fame Award.

Coming from Manorhamilton County Leitrim, Padraig has been involved with the Irish Draught horse for more than sixty years. Back in the 1950s, he would have completed all farm work with horses, including mowing and ploughing. He purchased his first Irish Draught mare in 1958 and he never looked back.

He has bred Irish Draughts and shown them with great success. He qualified as a judge in the 1980's and has judged across Ireland, England and America. He is also a Horse Sport Ireland approved inspector. He was delighted to judge at the GB National Breed Show in 2016.

A mare Padraig bred in the early 1980's jumped in Austria. She was by Kells Audience, an Irish Draught Sport Horse stallion that stood with Frank Higgins in Drumkeerin, Co. Leitrim.

In latter years, his mare, Benbo Hero, by Grosvenor Lad out of Mayo's Pride has bred the Reserve Champion Irish Draught colt foal in both 2015 and 2017. Both foals were by the RID stallion Millhollow Stroller". Her 2017 foal was sold to Derry Rothwell and is now named Greenhall Stroll in The Park. Her 2015 foal, Ballindereen Stroller is now standing at stud with his owner, Edmund MacDonagh. Benbo Hero's first two foals, both by Coolcronan Wood, sold exceptionally well at Cavan sales in 2005 and 2006, achieving €6,000 and €7,200. She is due a foal by Hollypark Diamond in 2019.

Padraig attended the awards ceremony with his wife of 48 years, Bridget and his family.



*Congratulations to Padraig Fitzpatrick, Co. Leitrim,
the 2018 recipient of the Hall of Fame Award.
Pictured receiving his award from Denis Naughten TD*