

Laoise branch to host Linear Scoring Day

The Laoise Branch will run a day of Linear Scoring on Sun 8th Dec starting 11 am—5 pm. Beginning with a demo/practice run, participants will be formed into 4 groups and throughout the day will linear score a range of Draught horses. Later there will be a discussion and comparison on the scores, methods used, general conformation and a score/talk by a guest HSI inspector to end the day. The exercise should be very useful in helping to understand the inspection process and how to access animals before classifi-

cation. Please support this day out as great effort has been put into it. Sample linear score sheets available. A date for your 2014 diary is Sun April 27th at Stradbally Hall where for the second year running there will be an ID performance day. Classes for dressage, showjumping, crosscountry, endurance, and combined. This is an ideal opportunity to give horses an early run in preparation for performance classes throughout the coming year. All welcome. Info: Eileen 086 3777354.



The ID mare Ballyartan Princess Clodia (above) by Finns Clover Inn out of a Welcome Diamond mare won the Ballymalloe Ladies Final at Cavan and recently won the 1.20m there for owner Richard Hughes. In her first 1.30m competition she was placed second at the Northern Indoor Championships. Bred in Co. Mayo by Mary Corcoran the mare is ridden by Kelda Morgan.

If you have any news, views, or comments on Irish Draught matters please let us know. Branch secretaries/ reps don't forget to send in news/articles/photos/ads for the 2014 Yearbook asap please. Follow us on Facebook.

Northern Ireland Awards Night

The Annual Awards night of the IDHS LTD was held in Cookstown, Co. Tyrone in October and by all accounts it was a terrific night. Awards went to Robert & Jane Huey (foal); Roy Butler (performance); Kenny & Wendy Bell (yearling, youngstock, mare).

Membership of the IDHBA is €30 per annum and includes a free Yearbook worth €10 and another €10 returns to the nominated branch. Branches are located throughout Ireland in counties: Cavan/Monaghan; Cork/Kerry; Donegal; Dublin; Galway; Kilkenny; Laois; Leitrim; Sligo; Tipperary; Westmeath; Wicklow and Northern Ireland. Ring the secretariat for details of branches in your area.

The Irish Horse Board will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Mon 18th Nov at 7 pm in the Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. Copies of the 2012 financial statements are now available to IHB members. Contact IHB 045 854523

IRISH DRAUGHT HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION (IDHBA) Ph: 044 9661199 www.idhba.ie Email: idhba@eircom.net



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Donegal Branch members are looking forward to hosting the Annual Awards Night in the Radison Blu Hotel Letterkenny on Nov 9th. A great night is promised, enquiries: Shaun 087 1300962.

Call in to the IDHBA stand at The Equus Live Festival of the Horse at Punchestown on Nov 2nd and 3rd. Enquiries: Amber 087 9144120.

Goresbridge Irish Draught sale Dec 5th enquiries: 059 9775145.

Cavan Horse Sales are holding their Registered Irish Draught sale on November 28th, enquiries: 049 4332017.

As winter is now with us please be aware of the welfare of horses and in particular Irish Draughts. The IDHBA provides a free ad service online for horses for sale, it is a concern that good stock are being lost to slaughter to the detriment of the breed. Please advertise first before sending them to be destroyed.

IRISH DRAUGHTS HALLMARKED AT HOYS

An injection of hope and enthusiasm has been shot into Irish Draught breeding with the news of three pure



bred ID's taking three of the spoils at the Horse of the Year Show in Birmingham, and it was pure joy when Simon Reynolds riding the Welcome Flagmount sired Hallmark IX (pic above) took the overall Supreme Horse of the Year 2013 Award.

It started with the Crosstown Dancer gelding Loughkeen Dancing Lord (pic below) ridden by Claire Oliver winning the Heavyweight Show Hunter title ahead of another Irish bred Orions Cruiser in reserve. The winner was bred in Co. Offaly by Hugo Perdue out a Carrabawn View mare and has had a massive four wins and two seconds at HOYS in the past six years for owner Bernie White.

In the Cob of the Year championship the Lightweight winner Lady Caroline Tyrell's The Comedian by Welcome Flagmount out of a Pride of Glenogra mare stood ahead of the Heavyweight class winner and previous champion Starry Night (also sourced in Ireland).



Rider Allister Hood said despite the electric atmosphere his horse "stood like a rock". The Comedian was bred by Aiden Travers out of a Pride of Glenogra mare.

When it came to the Maxi Cob of the Year Championship it was another Welcome Flagmount gelding who stood top of the line. Hallmark IX ridden by Simon Reynolds for owners Heather & Tom Clay has now won at HOYS in five consecutive years. He was Lightweight champion in 2009 and 2010 and then moved to Maxi Cob which he took in 2011, 2012, and now 2013. He was bred by Martin Howley out of a Glenagyle Rebel mare.

The show culminated with the crowning of the 2013 Supreme Horse of the Year and Hallmark IX, who likes nothing better than a run on the gallops, returned home with the title. Reynolds said of his mount: "he is a real machine".

Welcome Flagmount sire of two of the winners represented Ireland at the World Breeding Championships in Lanaken and along with his sire Flagmount King (a speed specialist) were both Grade A showjumpers. He is now deceased, killed in a freak accident, he has two stallion sons on the IHR approved list, Cappa Cassanova and Welcome Emperor.

It is a wonderful achievement and congratulations to all concerned.



Goresbridge Ridden ID Sale proves demand still strong



The sale of ridden Irish Draughts held within the main September sale at Goresbridge turned up some nice horses and those with a bit of experience sold well. Unfortunately this section started late and went on until way past most prospective buyers bedtime.

It's the second year of the initiative which was run last year by the Dublin branch. With only 20 entries it was mostly the geldings which found new homes. The first of these into the ring created a stir when bidding went to €5000 for a good-looking Shenandoah Prince Holly/Merrymate 6 year old (*above*).

Two lots later a five year old Crosstown Dancer/Crannagh Hero realized €3700 and later a well-hunted Corran Ginger/Blue Rajah went for €3800. The only mare to change hands was a Mountain Pearl/It's the Quiet Man 5 y.o. which sold for €1800.

It's still questionable whether devoting a separate section to ID's improves prices for vendors when much earlier in the day a 6 y.o. Sir Stormy Breeze/Silver Wonder gelding made the second highest price of the day at €8000 and although he wasn't full ID it is proof that predominant ID crosses can and still do make top money.

For anyone with a clear view of their breeding goals now is an ideal time to invest in a good type of filly or mare. The future of ID breeding looks set to be concentrated on quality and upgrading breeding stock now should pay off in the years to come.

BEST OF LUCK!

The Goresbridge Go for Gold Show and Sale of top potential event horses will take place at Barnadown, Co. Wexford from Nov 11—13. Included as a qualifier is the Moylough Bouncer sired 4 y.o. "Do You Think" who is out of an unrecorded Mr Clover mare. Moylough Bouncer is a son of the much acclaimed former Grade A Grange Bouncer.

Annual Breed Show GB

Susan Quinn the new owner of Welcome Primrose took the Mare Championship and went on to be overall Reserve Champion at the IDHSGB Annual Breed Show. Sold to the UK by Miriam O'Sullivan who had many successes here both in-hand and under saddle with the Welcome Flagmount/Mountain Pearl bred, we wish her new owner every success.

Horse Sport Ireland NEWS

The recently established Irish Draught Taskforce committee consists of: Neil Henry (chair), Jack Murphy, Pat McCarthy, Kitty Cotter, Damien Kenny, Charlotte Moore, Michael Kirwan, Cheryl Anderson (IDHSC) and Gaynor Mitchell (IDHSGB).

A high number of Submissions were received from Ireland and some from internationally interested parties.

Future Taskforce meetings will discuss the following areas: Breeding objectives for the Irish Draught Stud-

book; Classification system for Irish Draught Horses; Inspection system (eligibility/ process); Suggestions for studbook initiatives to improve the overall quality of Irish Draughts and marketing of the breed.

HSI 2014 Stallion Inspections

Stallion inspections for the ISH and ID Studbooks will be held by HSI at Cavan Equestrian Centre commencing February 25th 2014. Closing date for returned Application Forms Dec 16th 2013.

Details from HSI: Antoinette 045 854508.

Inspections are open to the public. All welcome.



TRADITIONAL IRISH HORSE ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS ID

The Irish Draught was well represented during the final of TIHA's Hunter Show and Go Sale held in Knocklong recently. The catalogue of 44 qualified horses had strong ID pedigrees throughout, with 26 by an Irish Draught sire including 8 which had ID on both parental sides, it's remarkable to note five were by the now deceased Crannagh Hero.

It was a highly successful initiative which showed the hunters take on Chris Ryan's Scarteen Derby track which had a good selection of natural and manmade obstacles.

The quality was good and standard of turnout was excellent, it seems at least fifteen of the horses were sold with others being negotiated on privately. Among those taking part was Tim Beecher's Loughnatousa Angelo (pic above) the winner of the 4-5 y.o. ID Performance Class in the RDS, he is well hunted with the West Waterfords and has showjumped to 1.10m. We wish TIHA every success in bringing traditional and ID cross breeding to the fore.

End of an Era at Loguestown.

Loguestown Irish Draughts was established in 1989 by Ivan and Judith Adams when they bought their first ID mare by Lahinch and in foal to Clonfert. Since then they have successfully bred and exported ID's all over the world but sadly Loguestown has now sold its last ID mare to the UK and they are retiring from ID breeding. That mare is Moorspark Leading Lady and features as one of our rolling photographs on the website where she can be seen ridden under side-saddle.