

Scottish Connemara Group Show
Sunday 4th July
Springwood Park, Kelso

The Scottish Connemara Group celebrated their continued collaboration with Ettrick Forest Riders Association at Springwood Park, with a successful show that produced over eighty pure and part bred connemara entrants. With prizes in kind gratefully received from Stirlingshire Saddlery the day appeared to be enjoyable for both competitors and organisers.

The day began earlier than scheduled due to large working hunter pony entries and Essex based BCPS panel judge Michael Sharpley began by judging this section, generously sponsored by Mr and Mrs Sommervail (Bellindene Stud). With Ettrick Forest Riders Association kindly allowing the group to use their working hunter ring spectators could not help but be heartened with the quality and quantity of the ponies competing. The open winner, Bellindene Franklin repeated his success of last year by taking the working hunter pony championship. Ridden by Jenny Christie from Nenthorn Equestrian the home bred nine year old stallion also won the performance pony class and duly qualified for the final at the breed show in Warwickshire. The reserve working hunter award went to Emma-Jane Murray and Castlestrange Wee Sparrow. Nenthorn Equestrian was also the home of the part bred working hunter champion, Dreamboat II for Sarah and Alison Allan.

Again the Kirtle Connemara's sponsored ridden section saw exceptional entries in the nursery and novice classes with the eventual novice championship being awarded to Mr and Mrs Hodge's Sydserff Misty Morning ridden by Kirsten McMurray. The reserve ticket went to the nursery novice winner Kalewater Rulard for Cicely Thorne. The equivalent part bred/over height award went to Copshawholm Alpine Wizard for owner Robert Black and rider Miss J. Doughs with Mrs Paterson's Polly's Molly and Graeme Robertson taking the reserve novice accolade. The overall ridden section champion and overall reserve supreme was Mrs Brydie's consistent mare, Lockinge Flossy ridden by Vicky Campbell. The partnership won both the open ridden class and the Rosmeen Ridden Qualifying class. The daughter of the now deceased much garlanded Ballydonna Misterinna, Sydserff Misty Morning concluded her day by taking the reserve open championship. Tiercel Woodman not only sired this novice mare but also the part bred, Stobswood Cheeky Charlie who took the part bred championship for Fiona Hutcheson.

The in hand classes kindly sponsored by the Drummore Stud completed the day by supplying the supreme champion of the show, Eastlands Dunnielle. A home bred broodmare with her foal at foot owned by Mr and Mrs Staveley. The Staveley's Lockinge Frederick was also responsible for siring the reserve in hand and youngstock champion, the three year old Eastlands Wild Orchid owned by Mr and Mrs Williams. Reserve youngstock champion Macailish was sired by Castle Gizmo as was the part bred in hand champion, Mrs McAulay's yearling Joshua.