

NPS Area XI Newsletter

It seems difficult to believe the NPS 2011 Show calendar is almost complete, with only the NPS Main Branch Autumn Festival still to be held! The nights are drawing in, this weekend the clocks change and so before we know it winter will be upon us! No doubt some of you are busy breaking/schooling your young ponies before the hours of daylight shorten in readiness to campaign the shows in 2012!

This year the Area held two shows; the first was our inaugural Winter Show held at Rodbaston College on Sunday 20th February. Prior to the Show was an anxious time for the Committee, with only five pre-entries. However, our concerns were short lived as the horseboxes and trailers started arriving! Everyone attending appeared to enjoy the show and the ridden classes were particularly well supported. Our main Show saw us back at Solihull on 21st May; this was well supported despite the current financial climate, though entries were slightly down on previous years. Our HOYS M & M Lead Rein, First Ridden and Working Hunter Pony classes continued to be keenly contended. As always we would like to extend our thanks to all our helpers, judges and stewards for giving up their time to assist and our generous sponsors for their continued support, as well as the competitors because without all of these our shows would cease to exist.

Liz Bradbury, Caroline Cook, Millie Elliott, Hope Fisher and Alice Serby did us proud in the 2011, NPS Main Branch Young Judges Competition (Mountain & Moorland Section); Caroline exceeded her 2010 achievement and claimed the 22-25 year old age group title, this has given the younger ones something to aspire to for next year! Alice, Hope, Liz and Millie were all "in the ribbons" in their respective age groups – so well done Area XI!

We do appreciate the time and effort freely given by everyone who hosted events for our potential "Young Judges"; Mark Armstrong & Alan Charlesworth (Centurion), Janine Bradbury, Edna & John Careless (Fairley), Liz Mansfield-Parnell (Rotherwood), Kerry Wainwright (Skellorn) and Edwina Waller (Delmai). They made everyone welcome and we all increased our knowledge whilst having fun.

If you want to take part in 2012, either as a participant or by assisting in training/helping those wanting to take part please contact either Caroline Cook (07817 522693) or Gill Simpson (07725 246412).

*Finally for those who aren't already aware our last event on our 2011 calendar will be our AGM, luncheon and presentation of the NPS Area XI President's Achievement Award will see us return to **The Moorings Restaurant, Darnford Moors Golf Club, Lichfield, WS14 9JG** (just off the A38 & A51 – directions available on request) on **Sunday 4th December**.*

The format for the day is... for those attending the AGM arrival is from 11.00am (coffee/tea will be available), with the AGM at 11.30am, followed by lunch (12.30pm for 1pm), presentation of the NPS Area XI President's Achievement Award and then we will have free time giving you the opportunity to catch up on events with everyone.

*We have kept the price for the luncheon at **£15.00** each (subsidised) – this is excellent value! To apply for your tickets, please contact: John Careless (01543 682707), Liz Mansfield-Parnell (01530 412095) or Karen Morgan (01889 504479). Alternatively just return your tear off to: **NPS Area XI, c/o Fairley Stud, Chestnut Cottage, Shute Hill, Chorley, Nr Lichfield, Staffs. WS13 8BZ.***

Finally, the Committee would like to say "We do hope you will take time out to support your NPS Area on Sunday 4th December!"

NPS Area XI Committee

The Committee currently consists of: Caroline Cook Lynda Cluer, Eloise Hayes, Janet James, Liz Mansfield-Parnell, Karen Morgan, Kelly Phillips, Gill Simpson, Kerry Wainwright and Danielle Waller who have recently been joined by Jane Carey, John Elliot and Maeve Serby. However with Lynda Cluer and Janet James both standing down with effect from this year's AGM in December plus Penny Francis and Samantha Toon having resigned this year, there are vacancies on the Committee for new proactive Committee Members, so should you feel you have any spare time you could give to the Area it would be appreciated.

Covering such a large area there are geographical constraints, so for ease we have tended to meet four to six times a year, and then take issues forward outside this format.

So, if you are interested in joining us, please complete and return the enclosed nomination form which is to be found on the AGM Agenda sheet or if before taking the plunge you would like further details please ring; Gill Simpson (01433 621885/07725246412) Janet James (07800 823046/01889 500518) or Liz Mansfield-Parnell (01530 412095)

2011 NPS Area XI President's Achievement Award

The NPS Area XI, President's Achievement Award, which is kindly presented by Mrs Liz Mansfield-Parnell, is open to all Area Members.

There are no parameters on nominations, so if you know of anyone you feel should be nominated whether it be for an outstanding achievement either in or out of the show-ring, combating adversity/overcoming difficulties, helping others or an ongoing contribution to the pony world, please do so.

The presentation of the Award will take place at our AGM on 4th December.

If you wish to nominate someone for this year's award, please contact either Liz Mansfield-Parnell (01530 412095) or Janet James (01889 500518) with the details, as soon as possible.

Alternatively if you would prefer let us have your nomination in writing, please send this to: NPS Area XI, c/o Vaughan Farm, Lea Lane, Newton, Rugeley, Staffs. WS15 3NP

NPS AREA XI – 2012 SHOW

Our main Show for 2012 will be held on **Saturday 19th May at Solihull Riding Club**. As in previous years we hope to hold many major qualifiers, but are still awaiting confirmation of this. In addition to qualifiers held in recent years our Area Chairman Gill Simpson is actively seeking additional prestigious qualifiers for us and details will be provided should she be successful in obtaining further qualifiers for us. When printed schedules will automatically be sent to Area XI Members (entered in 2011). Schedules will also be available to download via the **Area page of the Main NPS Website** or input "**npsareaxi.com**" or "**npsareaxi.co.uk**".

COMMUNICATIONS

We are aware that more and more people are using e-mail as their preferred method of communication. With this in mind Area XI are now looking to send mail shots/Show Schedule(s) to Area Members by this method, where preferred. To facilitate this, could anyone wishing to receive details of forthcoming Area XI events/shows etc. by this method please e-mail your electronic contact details to **redgateprecision@xlninternet.co.uk** and we will add your details to our address book.

Please note AGM details will be sent hard copy to ALL Area Members as to comply with the NPS constitution.

URGENT

2012 REVIEW/JOURNAL

As you are no doubt aware every year the Area submits a report to NPS Main Branch (by 26th November) for inclusion in their Annual Review.

We try to include as many details/successes from within our Membership as possible. However this can only happen if we are aware of what our Member's have achieved!

So, if you want to send brief written details to me of any wins/successes you have had this season or alternatively call me with the details – please do and then I can include these in my report.

We are also allowed to include a maximum of **2** photos, so if you have a photo you feel is suitable for consideration for inclusion with the report, please let me have this/these at the same time that you send your news (these will be returned in due course).

Please send details to me at the postal or e-mail address detailed below by **Monday 14th November**.

Janet James - NPS Area XI c/o Vaughan Farm, Lea Lane, Newton, Rugeley, Staffs. WS15 3NP or redgateprecision@xlninternet.co.uk Telephone: 01889 500518 (after 6.30pm)