

HAMALAND INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL SHOW 2020

Frank Megens should be congratulated in organizing this show where competitors submitted one picture for each entry for consideration by the judges. There can only be thanks for the hundreds of Welsh enthusiasts who submitted pictures in the various classes including South Africa – this made it a truly International field. Naturally, it was difficult to judge only on pictures which may not always be showing off the pony or cob in the most favourable light but the judges gave of their best. There were 490 Section A entered, 366 Section B, 266 Section C, 435 Section D, 324 Partbred in the In-Hand alone – truly remarkable. Congratulations to the Supreme Champion, Talponciau Cameo and the Reserve Supreme, Amilas Mendelssohn FR with the second reserve being Shamrocklake Silk Hortensia.

Regrettably some of the pictures were of such low quality that they were not suitable for printing in the Journal. It would help if in future entrants submitted pictures which showed off their ponies/cobs to their advantage and a quality which could be printed. Many of the relevant prizewinners for South Africa are reflected at the end of this article. If the photo you submitted was one of the prizewinners and is not featured later, the reason can only be that it was not of the required quality.

Welsh Mountain Pony Section A In-Hand

In total we had 490 entries with an amazing 88 foals alone! Judge Jo Sheil of the Dukeshill Stud had this to say: Wow, what a task. So big in fact I had to enlist the help of Kathy Sheil...thank you. So many photos, so many lovely ponies. And much more difficult to judge than a live show as a photo only gives a snapshot, no going back for a second look, and of course could not pick up faults I would ordinarily pick out. The quality of the photo was a huge factor, the wrong angle made it difficult to assess the pony even if it was an attractive picture, a shadow in the wrong place making a front look short or quarters weak. So many ponies I know I really like did not figure high in the results as the photo didn't do them justice, so just because your pony didn't place in this does not mean I would not like it in a real life show! Also if a pony figured high in one class I took it out of the placings in other classes to give all a chance, but left the highest placing. The winners are all very worthy, lovely ponies with photos showing them to best advantage. Well done everyone and thank you for your support from all over the world. A truly international show!!

Overall Champion: Shamrocklake Silk Hortensia; Reserve: Airborne Montgomery.

Welsh Pony Section B In-Hand

We had 366 entries with an amazing 65 foals alone! Fiona Leadbitter of the Thornberry Stud was the Judge. Her comments were; Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to post pictures today. I have so enjoyed looking at all your ponies. The sheer numbers meant that I didn't have an easy task selecting my winners. I feel very lucky to have been so spoiled by choice but it did make my decisions so much harder.

Unfortunately you can only judge what you see in the picture and there were some photos that really didn't capture the ponies at their best. I am sure if seen in the flesh it would be a different story. It would certainly be interesting to be able to see and assess all these ponies at an actual show. I suspect the result might be very different!

Just because I haven't selected a picture of your pony today it certainly doesn't mean that I don't like it, so please don't be put off from taking ponies under me in the future! The task of placing them was very hard and I had to whittle large numbers down to arrive at a top 10, not being able to view them from all sides or see them move and assess conformation makes it an extremely difficult task. Some ponies I obviously knew but I tried not to take that into account as that would have been unfair when assessing others that I had never seen.

Whilst this form of judging has been great fun, I must say I am looking forward to getting back in the ring (hopefully in 2021) where I hope I may get the opportunity to see some of the ponies that I have viewed today. My thanks go to Frank Megens for asking me to undertake this judging, it has been a real honour and something I won't forget! Whilst this can never really replace the real thing, I do think it is a great way of keeping in touch and I am sure it has provided a very welcome distraction in these difficult times – what is there not to love about spending time looking at pictures of beautiful Welsh ponies! I would like to finish by wishing everyone all the best with their ponies in the future and let us all hope that once we get to the other side of this dreadful pandemic we will all be able to meet up once again. Take care everyone and stay safe. Thank you.

Overall Champion: Zwaluwenburgs Fairy Lustre; Reserve: Wildzang's Sunstar

Welsh Pony of Cob Type Section C In-Hand

Clare Granger of the Dycott Stud was the judge, commenting – Firstly, I would like to thank Frank Megens for asking me to judge the section C's. Secondly, I'd like to thank you all for sending in your pictures. I have done what has been one of the hardest things I've ever had to do. To judge a pony from a picture is very, very difficult and I would rather judge them in a field in the flesh any day. The results I have placed could have been “VERY DIFFERENT” if the ponies had of been

standing in front of me on show day. There were some ponies I have seen and really like, but the photos submitted never really did them justice in places, so I had to judge what I see from the picture. Well done to you all and thank you all for supporting me with your pictures

Overall Champion: Tycwm Abigail; Reserve: Glebedale Razamataz

Welsh Cob Section D In-Hand

In total we had 435 entries with amazing classes for Barren mares, Foals and Stallions. Thank you from all over the world who joined in the fun and made this a truly international field.

David Roberts of the Tawelfan Stud was the judge. There have been some amazing photos from all around the world of terrific animals. Even though there has been a great deal of negativity and unrest surrounding the Mother Society, this competition shows that in fact the breed and the grass root members go from strength to strength. I found this to be an extremely difficult job to judge from pictures as like my fellow judges, it's far easier to judge an animal in the flesh, but hope that I have been able to do them justice. Diolch yn fawr! Kind regards

Overall Champion: Horeb Teyha; Reserve: Ring Rosebud

Welsh Part Bred In-Hand

In total we had 324 entries with an amazing class of Foals. Thank you from all over the world who joined in the fun and made this a truly international field.

Judge was Matthew Everitt of the Saltre Stud who reported – I would like to start off by thanking Frank Megens for the invitation to judge the Welsh partbred section of the International Welsh Show Hamaland which was a privilege. The quality of the animals was amazing and I would like to thank people who sent their pictures in for me to judge in these uncertain times. Hope you are all keeping safe. Many thanks.

Overall Champion: Talponciau Cameo; Reserve: Riegal Secret Love

Welsh Harness

The entries from South Africa dominated the placings with eight of the first ten places in the Section A single harness going to South Africa with all the first ten places in the double Section A/B double harness also coming to South Africa. George Mitchell of the Dycott Stud comments as the judge –It's extremely difficult to judge a horse or pony just from a picture. There are many ponies

amongst the pictures that are fantastic ponies, but some of the pictures submitted never showed them to their best ability. The results that I have given for the pictures submitted, could and probably would be very different if I was judging them in real life. Well done to all of you.

Overall Supreme Driving: Bioci Pride; Reserve: O'Lee Senna

Welsh Ridden

Sonia Smith of the Trevallion Stud reported: It has been a very enjoyable but challenging experience; a real pleasure to be able to look at photographs of so many beautiful animals and challenging as only one photograph of each animal obviously no moving pictures. I have spent many hours looking through pictures and have made my decision purely on the photograph of the animal and not the real animal itself, so in real life things may have been different. Some photographs were much better quality than others and some taken at better angles. Please do not think that I don't like your animal if it wasn't placed. These are truly unprecedented times and this show has I hope brought a little bit of normality to us equine lovers. I would like to wish you all the best and hopefully it won't be long until we can all meet again in the showing. Please keep safe and thank you all once again.

Overall Ridden Champion: Broadgrove Little Star; Reserve: Trylsglvyn Deio



International Supreme Champion – Talponciau Cameo (Ch Part Bred)



Sec A Ch Shamrocklake Silk Hortensia



Sec A Res Airborne Montgomery



Sec B Ch Zwaluwenburgs Fairy Lustre



Sec B Res Wildzang's Sunstar



Sec C Ch Tycwm Abigail



Sec C Res Glebedale Razamataz



Sec D Ch Horeb Teyha



Sec D Res Ring Rosebud



Partbred Res Riegal Secret Love



Harness Ch Bioci Pride



Harness Res O'Lee Senna



Harness 3rd Caspian Master Prime



Harness 4th Lanika Blazing Spirit



Harness 5th Buinderinks Arno



Harness 7th Hansu Express



Harness 8th Zwelleshove Westy



Res Supr Amilas Mendessohn FR



Ridden Ch Broadgrove Little Star



Ridden Res Trylsglvyn Deio



Pairs Champion



Pairs Reserve



Pairs 3rd



Pairs 4th



Pairs 5th