

## **NOMINATION FOR JO HEARD MEMORIAL TROPHY**

### **GLENORMISTON DIAMONDS FOREVER (Domo Cavallo Praize / Four of Diamonds)**

**Diamond was won of our very first Connemara ponies purchased from the estate of the late Sharon King of Ashmont. Also from the Kings came Green Hills Trooper Thomas, Glenormiston Laura and Candlebark Blossom, but Diamond was different. This pony was foundered and unable to be ridden for a long time but she was quiet, gentle and patient.**

**Diamond took Kate to Pony Club, Interschool competitions, games competitions and was used for trail riding but where she came into her own was in her ability to adapt to any situation and any rider.**

**Jessica Ellis found herself at a BRAG Sports Day without a mount to compete on the day. Diamond became Jess' pony for the day and between them won a swag of ribbons in dressage, jumping, activity and the showring. No one would have believed that this was their first effort as a team.**

**Birthday parties for children have been a specialty for Diamond. Glitter and ribbons turning her into the kind of pony little girls dream about. The way the faces of children light up, their joy at their very first pony ride and the carrots and treats that they bring to say thank you. She even carried an 80 year old grandfather in his first ride in 50 years.**

**A friend's sister with cerebral palsy had experienced RDA as a child but still wished, as an adult, to ride again. Diamond carried this very proud lady with great care. Despite the excitement of her rider, as well as balance and co-ordination problems a dream was fulfilled. Photos were taken and my friend is reminded every time he sees his sister of the day she rode Diamond.**

**Diamond is now 20 years old and in foal for the first time to her paddock companion, Green Hills Trooper Thomas. Founder is still a problem for her and I do not think that she will ever be sound enough to be ridden again but children love her and she is so aware to take care when they are around.**

**Diamond has won lots of Champion Connemara ribbons but that is not what makes her so important. This mare is a lady through and through. Her temperament, attitude and gentleness make her a joy to own and an asset to the Connemara breed.**