

Presidents Report / September 2006

Input, input, input! It is essential in running an effective organisation. To this end Committee have over the past year worked to improve communication with members and the promotion of the Connemara Pony and our Society. Committee welcome comment – if you have a suggestion, tell someone! If you have a query, ask someone!

*'If you always do what you've always done,
You'll always get what you've always got' (Ed Foreman)*

The newly devised CPBSA website is developing at a galloping rate – and we thank Vicki and Bob Plummer for the hours spent creating the pages/information for all to access and keeping it up to date and continually making new links on the worldwide net. Our newsletter is available now via email to members upon request to Vicki Plummer and the minutes of our AGM and General meetings on the website. For members convenience we also have most forms downloadable and internet banking.

On the International scene we are appreciative of the time devoted by John Tennant to the preservation of the Connemara Pony. It is a difficult task to work with such a vast network of countries, and whilst frustrating at times, it is John's determination and his vision for the breed which keeps him focused, creative and accessible. John has in his role as President of the ICCPS given the CPBSA a high profile worldwide and with his fellow colleagues has at times been the forerunners in the implementation of initiatives vital to the maintenance of this versatile breed of pony.

Committee work diligently to fine tune areas of need and address queries and suggestions from members.

In the past year ...

- Research on embryo transfer has been undertaken and the necessary paperwork put in place.
- All colts inspected will be required to undergo a crème dilute test and fillies encouraged to do so also – this process will help owners and breeders and determine the extent of the BEC gene within the Australian herd.
- Blue eyed cream purebred geldings are no longer placed in the Sport Horse section of the Stud Book unless over height.
- Upon payment by the vendor of the appropriate transfer fee the paperwork for geldings and Sport Horse Section ponies will be forwarded to new owners together with 4 copies of the Federal newsletter.
- Passports now being issued to ponies at adult registration.
- Insurance – extensive contact with members and companies has been sought to assist with this ever increasing problem to our budget.

I would like to thank all Committee members for their support over the last twelve months. These people give their time so willingly and work well as a team to assist members and make the CPBSA a progressive body.

*'The measure of success is not whether you have a tough problem to deal with,
but whether it's the same problem you had last year' (John Foster Dulles)*

The CPBSA and its Committee have many roles and at this stage, in recognition of the work undertaken, I would like to outline areas which demonstrate just who we are.

- The Keeper of the Stud Book, both pure and part bred Connemaras
- The Registrar of all pure and part bred Connemaras in Australia
- Affiliated member of the ICCPS
- The CPBSA is administered by an elected body of 12 voluntary members with an executive of President and Vice President. Of the 12 Committee members, each state has elected State and Federal representatives where possible.
- The Federal Secretary/Treasurer and Newsletter editor and website designer is a paid position.
- The Secretary is also the Registrar and Keeper of the Stud Book.
- Information is disseminated to the member body via the website, quarterly newsletters and an information booklet.
- Committee and general meetings are held twice per year with venues rotated throughout Australia.
- Action Groups encourage and inform members at a local level within each state.
- Committee provide marketing opportunities and secure promotional material.
- Communication is maintained/fostered with other breed societies and classes sponsored at agricultural shows.
- Facilitate Inspection of ponies to ensure the maintenance of the breed standard of excellence.
- Actively seek/research relevant information on behalf of members.
- Implement new initiatives to ensure the CPBSA remains viable.

*'Excellence can be attained if you ...
... care more than others think is wise
... risk more than others think is safe
... dream more than others think is practical
... expect more than others think is possible' - author unknown*

*Take care,
Sue Dodds*