

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2007

As I reflect on my 12 years with the CPBSA Committee, I am thankful for the friendships and hospitality I have been extended. I admire and respect these Connemara owners, breeders and enthusiasts for the time they so freely give, the initiative they demonstrate; and their ability to debate, prioritise and work towards a resolution or mutual understanding.

I am appreciative of the continued support over the past twelve months from all the Committee, Vicki and Bob Plummer and the membership. I would like to especially thank Christa Jones for working so closely with me and affording me such patience. To those Committee members retiring, thank you for your years of dedication, I am assured you will continue promoting this versatile breed and assist where possible. Congratulation to the newly elected Committee, whom I am confident, will work with the membership to develop, maintain and preserve the Connemara breed within Australia.

Planning and conducting the seminars and tour by Tom MacLochlainn was the highlight of the year and this sharing of expertise and hospitality was an opportunity not to be missed.

Our contact with the global Connemara Community has been successfully maintained through the ICCPS and I congratulate and thank John Tennant for his continued involvement and re-election to the Chair. The website continues to evolve thanks to Bob Plummer and all additions have been welcomed by the membership.

Sadly this year we lost a founding member of the CPBSA in Muriel Dawkins, but there is no doubt John, Maggie and Alice will continue the tradition with their Stud in South Australia. In conclusion, the spirit in which Connemara Pony Breeders and owners conduct themselves during the current Equine Influenza crisis and in situations such as the drought conditions experienced in the past few years is to be commended. The resiliency and resolve of the membership is akin to that of this versatile breed we all admire.

Smiles

Sue Dodds