

# THE READING SHETLAND PONY SALE

15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008

Top price – 2,000gns; 11 prices over 1,000gns

21 sold for export to Europe (6 buyers) & 5 to Ireland.

142 ponies sold to average £544

Considering the current economic climate, the auctioneers at Reading were well pleased with the turnout of purchasers at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Reading Sale. Nearly 80% of the lots forward for sale found new homes which meant that vendors were in a main sensible with their expectations.

The show held on the Tuesday evening was judged by the President, Mr Guy Hurst and he had 9 classes plus 6 championships to adjudicate. This proved no problem to such an experienced judge! This year the auctioneers held special classes for standard size ponies and this was appreciated by both vendors and purchasers.

Mr Hurst found his first prize colt foal in the cream dun colt **Braywood Dexter**, (by Braywood Lusso) bred and consigned by Mrs D. Brown of Berkshire. This colt also won the Tyros Trophy as champion miniature foal, the Lakehead Cup for Champion foal, and became the champion miniature pony at the show. In the sale ring he changed hands for 190 gns to go to Mr Geven in Holland.

First prize in the miniature filly foal section went to John Hodge of Devon with his black filly **Halstock Melrose** (by Kerswell Socks) and she made 800 gns to join Mrs Thompson in Dumfriesshire. Miss L. Stevens was first in the standard bred filly class with **Madame Pomfrey of Catchpool** and this dark grey filly foal went on to make 460gns to Mr Chapman of Cambridgeshire.

The junior miniature mare class was won by Mrs C M Cook with **Carmaco Forget-me-not**, a blue & white daughter of Hermits Picador which sold for 700gns in the ring to Mr Lowe of Essex. The standard bred mare class went to Mr Fleet with Cumliebank Caitlin , a black mare which was sold for 460gns.

The overall show champion and winner of the Hose Cup as well as the auctioneers decanter went to the standard bred black stallion **Kerlock Reality** ( by Stow Review) and at auction he changed hands for 190gns.

The main business of the show and sale started at 10am on Wednesday when the colt foals started to enter the ring. Right from the start it was obvious that there was going to be a firm but level trade throughout the day but when lot 22 entered the ring, the sparks started to fly. Mrs Evans of Oxfordshire came into the ring with Mesdames Evans & Thorpe's eye catching piebald colt **Blenheim Orian** who is by the famous Blenheim Tonto. Mrs Evans, who was a vendor in the first Reading Sale

40 years ago, kept Orian moving and the bids did the same. But at 700gns Mr Probert of Hereford finally secured him.

Filly foals also had the same good trade with the top price going to local breeders Mrs & Mrs C. Percy for their piebald filly **Snelsmore Lexi** (by Merrylees Satchmo). She changed hands for £1,500. At 900gns, WJT Evans sold his piebald filly foal **Tawela Doris Day** to go to Mrs Mair of Oxfordshire who also secured Mr Evans's **Tawela Dolly Dimple** for 720gns, again a piebald. David Hodge got into the act with his yellow dun filly foal **South Sands Savvy Cinnamon** which also made 900gns to go to Jill & Kim Richards in Cornwall.

There was mixed demand for miniature stallions with the best wanted but lower trade for others. **The top price stallion and top price of the day at 2,000gns** went to **Balmedie Alfred** (by Tawna Cousin Jack) entered by Mrs Wady. At 1,250gns, Mr & Mrs Jones sold their dark brown skewbald stallion **Cranford Express** to Mr Mark of Cumbria and Mrs Page received 1,200gns for the blue roan stallion **Eiger Boxer** to Helen Bromley's stud in Cumbria.

Top price junior miniature mare was Mrs Page's piebald filly **Halstock Sonny's Kitten** at 1,850gns. The Hon Mrs Casswell, again one of the vendors at the first Reading Sale received 1,100gns for her skewbald filly **Monkshill Fenella** (by Blenheim Illusion). This filly has gone to Mr Froonincki in Belgium.

Standard junior mares sold to a wonderful top price of 1,600gns for Mr Joyner's bay filly **Somahouse Holly**. This filly was purchased by Mr & Mrs Page in Surrey.

Miniature senior mares always create the most interest at the Reading sales and this year was no exception with five prices over 1,000gns in this section. Leading the way was Mr & Mrs Jones's **Buxted Collectable**, a piebald ten year old who had been scanned in foal. Daphne Elphick of East Sussex had to bid 1,500gns to secure her in the ring. The same buyer paid 1,200gns for **Kerswell Sherry** a bay mare consigned by Elaine Curtis.

At the end of the day, both buyers and sellers could reflect on a good days business with trade holding up well and plenty of bidding in the ring. The auctioneers are now looking forward to their 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring sale and then welcoming all Shetland breeders and enthusiasts back to Reading for the forty first time in October 2009.

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