



FPS-MESG Newsletter– Winter/Spring 2008

“Forelock”

Welcome Members and Friends to your new look MESG. You will see elsewhere in this newsletter we have some new faces to welcome, and new activities to consider. Let's look to a positive future for our Fell ponies and our Fell Friends of all breeds and sizes.

I am still walking with a stick and my ponies are out working with members, so I hope to have time to support you all. I'd like to visit at least one activity a year within each area, starting after March. Tomorrow I'm off to warmer climes for five weeks, including a visit to the Llancloudy Stud, which has just emigrated from Hereford to New South Wales. Two days ago Gina told me she was trying to make hay or silage in a rainstorm, so it doesn't sound that much different from here! In between times it is 30°C.

Please do contact me anytime after March 15 if you have concerns, need help or just for a chat. If I can't help you personally I'll direct you to someone who can.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and successful 2008.

Judy S Hill
MESG Co-ordinator

Editor's Notes

There are a number of forms enclosed with this newsletter. Most important is your **MESG 2008 membership form**. Please make sure you fill this in and return it with a cheque for **£3.00 per member** to **Janet Copeland**, our new membership secretary, by the end of February 2008. It would help us if you would return the questionnaire, even if you have already paid your membership. No further mailings will be sent out to people who do not renew their subscriptions before the end of March 2008.

The sheets for the **2008 Points Awards Scheme** are also enclosed, and we hope everybody will take part this year. The awards supper for the highly successful 2007 Points competition is on Friday 22nd February (details below) and everybody is urged to come to receive their awards and to spend a highly enjoyable evening talking ponies.

A report and results from the Fell & Friends Christmas Show at Canaan Farm, Notts, held on 16 December 2007, will be featured in the next newsletter. Photos are currently available on www.3dphoopic.com (tel. 07855 806488/07891 834878).

Details of the current planned events in our area are listed below. Please try and make an effort to come to some – we'd all love to meet more Fell people and Fell friends. Christine Poole's shows at Lambley Show Field are always super fun for everybody – the first one is on Sunday 27th April.

Please note the names and contact details of the new committee members listed at the bottom of this newsletter – especially our new membership secretary, Janet Copeland (tel. 01509 856298).

Diary dates

Friday 22nd February 2008 – MESG Points Awards Supper, Fairways Restaurant, Six Hills Golf Course, Six Hills Road, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE14 3PR (tel. 01509 889347). On the B676 road - between Six Hills on the A46 and Shoby Cross Roads on the A6006. Starting at 7.30pm. Presentation of the awards for the 2007 Points Competition. Three-course meal for £14.95 per person. Booking essential. Contact Jane Glass on 01509 880261 to reserve your places. Well priced overnight accommodation is available in the Thrussington Travelodge.

Menu:

Vegetable Soup or Fruit Juice
Cottage Pie with Chips and Vegetables or Vegetarian Option
Fruit Crumble & Custard or Lemon Chiffon Torte



Friday 18th April 2008 (provisional) – FPS-MESG Supper at Fairways Restaurant, Six Hills Golf Course, Leics. Three course supper – booking essential – please contact Jane Glass on 01509 880261 for details.

Saturday 19th April 2008 – Chiltern and Thames Valley Connemara Group Pleasure Ride (10 miles), West Wycombe Park, Bucks. An opportunity for any Bucks based Fells and friends to come and enjoy a gentle ride in some lovely countryside with some other natives. Contact Bucks Co-ordinator Georgina Blair (details below) for more information.

Sunday 27th April 2008 – FPS-MESG Fun Show, Lambley Show Field, Gotham, Nottingham. Classes ranging from the traditional show classes to trotting, handy pony and games. Contact Christine Poole on 0115 984 4729 or 07817 442293 for schedule & entry form or see the MESH page of the FPS website.

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th May, 2008 – FPS “Away-weekend” at the MESH Sandringham Show & Ride. Fell & Friends show on Saturday, social on Saturday evening with guest speaker, and a charity ride on the Sandringham estate on Sunday. There is plenty for non-riding partners or family to do in the vicinity, and stabling is available. Further details are available on the FPS website (www.fellponysociety.org.uk).

Sunday 27th July 2008 – FPS-MESH Fun Show, Lambley Show Field, Gotham, Nottingham – as above.

Sunday 7th September – FPS-MESH Ride & Picnic, Gotham, Nottingham. Contact Christine Poole on 0115 984 4729 or 07817 442293 for more details.

Sunday 14th September 2008 – FPS Southern Breed Show. Once again at Berkshire College of Agriculture near Maidenhead. The college is easily accessible and is situated on the A404 between J8/9 of the M4 and J4 of the M40. This is a super venue, with lovely level fields and good facilities. See FPS website for schedule and entry form.

MESH Contacts - (please only phone up to 9.00pm)

Judy Hill – Area Co-ordinator	01455 552534
Denise Bumford – Secretary & Treasurer	01327 262959
Janet Copeland – Membership Secretary	01509 856298
Margaret Enser – Sponsorship	01455 552196
Georgina Blair – Press & Newsletter	07796 685992
Jane Glass & Debbie Hudson – Performance Awards	01509 880261

Area Representatives	
Buckinghamshire Georgina Blair – Tel: 07796 685992 E-mail: clandongabriella@fsmail.net	Norfolk Lisa Dunger – Tel: 01485 541097
Cambridge & Suffolk Vacant	Northamptonshire Kate Merry – Tel: 01788 823215
Essex, Herfordshire & Bedfordshire Ingrid Foxton – Tel: 07812 908626	Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire & Rutland Jane Glass – Tel: 01509 880261
Lincolnshire Debbie Castle – Tel: 07866 492742	Oxfordshire Lorna Brooks – Tel: 01844 350404 Fax: 01844 342648

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Newsletter articles: e-mail to Georgina Blair at clandongabriella@fsmail.net