

FPS-MESG Autumn 2024 Newsletter

Annual Points Awards

Since the last Newsletter, we held our Annual Points Awards celebration on 2nd March. We had a really good turnout, with Members travelling from all over the Midlands East Area and beyond. Trophies and rosettes were presented, celebrating everyone's achievements with their ponies in 2023. Also, members who completed the FPS 96 miles Challenge were presented with their rosettes.

Silver Jubilee Ride & Picnic

Our next event was our Silver Jubilee Ride & Picnic held on Sunday 21st April. In the weeks prior to Event, we were unsure if it would be able to go ahead due to the terrible weather we'd been experiencing, however, the weather changed that weekend and we had a lovely Ride followed by a Picnic. The Ride consisted of 8 Fell Ponies, together with 3 Fell Friends around some lovely countryside. Those taking part in the FPS 2024 Challenge were also able to use the opportunity to accumulate some hacking miles and take advantage of getting some lovely photos for their Bingo cards. Our Thanks go to Judy & Nick Hill for hosting the Event for the second year running at their home in Lutterworth.



FPS-MESG Midlands East Horse & Pony Shows

Then, the Show season started (or didn't.) We had planned to hold a WH & Showing Clinic, however unfortunately due to the horrendous weather we'd been experiencing, this event had to be cancelled. Also, with great sadness, our first Midlands East Horse & Pony Show, which was due to take place on 26th May was cancelled due to a waterlogged Show Field. For the 2nd (or 1st) Midlands East Horse & Pony Show which took place on 14th July and the 3rd Show, which took place on 8th September, we were fortunately blessed with good weather. Both Shows had a good turnout of ponies and horses and everyone had thoroughly enjoyable days. Full results can be found on the ME Facebook Group page and the MESG website. The final Show will take place indoors at Barton Equestrian Centre, NG11 0AA on 8th December - everyone is welcome, so please do come along and support this Show.

Sandringham Pony & Horse Show - Sunday 9th June - Report supplied by Lisa Dunger

“Following another very successful show which was held at a later date this year in June, was a dry but cooler day, and saw a good turnout of different breeds of equines. This year saw a change in the layout of the show with many more classes and more rings.



We had many more classes to include a wider variety of breeds, so that we could support the Fell classes and keep this little show going. It has become increasingly difficult with the rising costs of running a show. Next year we are keen to

incorporate more Fell pony classes into the schedule as we strongly believe in keeping the Sandringham show about the Fell pony as it always has been in the past. But for this to be a success we need as many Fell ponies to come to our show and support it. We can offer overnight camping on the show field, we can make a weekend of it, we have a BBQ on the night before the show where we can all socialise and celebrate.

We had lots of positive feedback after the show, and it seems that everyone enjoyed themselves, and there was something for everyone to take part in and enjoy. We have more people on the committee, and we wish to thank all the wonderful volunteers, all of whom we could not run the show without them. Who gave up their whole weekend to help with setting up the show, running the show on show day and clearing up afterwards when we all feel weary but happy. Of course more help would always be very much appreciated. We would also like to thank the sponsors, who were all incredibly generous and without their support we could not afford to run the show.

We had stalls again this year, and the FPS Display team joined us once again with their stand with merchandise and information about the Fell pony.

Judging the Fell pony's this year was Robin Avery which was a delight, we had a good turnout with some lovely quality ponies. All results can be found on the MESG Website.”

Midlands Fell Pony Show - Sunday 16th June

Everyone then had their fingers crossed that the weather would change for our Midlands Fell Pony Show which was being run in conjunction with the MWSG just three weeks after the cancelled Show on 26th May and although the weather wasn't 100% whilst we were setting up on the Saturday, with one of the gazebos nearly taking off over the Gotham Hills, Sunday turned out to be a perfect day for a Show; not too hot nor too cold nor too windy. We decided to run a joint Fell Pony Breed Show with the Midlands West Group, in celebration of the Fell Pony Society's Area Support Group's Silver Jubilee year. We thought it fitting that we joined our neighbouring Area to hold this event. We had a very good turnout of beautiful Fell ponies, very kindly judged by Michael Goddard who travelled quite a way up North to be with us and judge both our In-hand classes in the morning and the Ridden classes in the afternoon. We also had a WH course, Dressage and a Handy Pony course. All results can be found on the ME & MW Facebook Group pages and the MESG website. Libby Robinson from the FPHT very generously offered to travel down to us with her display tent and Janet and Georgina Blair very kindly brought some Fell Pony Society merchandise. I think it's fair to say that everyone thoroughly enjoyed their day out with us – so watch this space for 2025!

The Midlands East Centenary Book

There are still some copies of the book available to purchase. Priced at just £7 (plus p&p) you can request your copy by sending an email to mesgbook@gmail.com together with your details and how many copies you would like. Copies will also be available to purchase at our AGM on 9th November.

FPS-MESG AGM

Thank you to those Members who attended this year. Copies of the Minutes can be found both on the FPS-MESG Facebook Group page or on our website www.fps-mesg.co.uk

Annual Points Awards & Celebration

Please send completed Points sheets to Wendy Cordon before Sunday 12th January 2025 either by post to Wendy at 48 Brookhill Leys Road, Eastwood, Nottingham NG16 3HZ, or via email wendygcordon@gmail.com The Points Awards Celebration will take place in early 2025 (Date TBC) in celebration of everyone's achievements during 2024. Don't forget; you are able to collect your Points up until 31st December this year and next year The Points Awards will run as normal from 1st January - 31st December. Please don't hesitate to contact Wendy if you require any further information.

I'm looking forward to seeing lots of you at our Christmas Show and our Points Awards Celebration. And if anyone has any suggestions for future Events or would like to organise an Event, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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