

BRIGHTWELLS SPRING SALE OF WELSH PONIES, COBS AND WELSH PART BREDS.

Royal Welsh Showground, 9th May 2009

158 Welsh ponies, cobs and Welsh part-breds were sold for a total of £161,770. The average of £1,024 was within £20 of what it has been for the last five years despite the recession. The 41 section A's and B's sold for £32,920 with an average of £803 up from £544 in 2008 and £477 in 2006. 16 animals sold for over £2,000; 36 over £1,500 and 71 over £1,000. 9 were sold to Germany, 5 to France and 2 to Holland.

Top of the Sale at £6,400 was Miss Hibbert's spectacular palomino medal-winning three-year-old section D colt Owfen Vanilla Ice, home-bred in Chorley, Lancashire. His sire Erw-Wastad Llwynog, bred in Tycroes, Ammanford, is a well-known performance sire and is also sire of Swannhill Golden Rocket, winner at the recent Lampeter and Glanusk Shows. Vanilla Ice was bought by David Matthews, Tyr-Y-Wen Farm, Bedlinog.

Next highest lot at £6,000 was another section D three-year-old colt, the dun Avonvalley Pendderyn, bred by John Llewellyn-James in Worcester and consigned by Julie Evans of the Haighmoor Stud, Llanfyllin who was top of last year's Sale, also at £6,000 with a dun two-year-old filly Rhencullen Chardonay. Pendderyn, who won championships and supremes last year, was bought by a young farrier, Ross Anderson from Dumfries. Ross is a riding specialist, his other Welsh cob Haylers Jazz, by the same sire as Pendderyn, qualified for last year's Horse of the Year Show where he had high marks for conformation and performance.



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Next at £4,500 was Lady Forwood's six-year-old Welsh part-bred gelding Pentaran Special Edition, bred at Beaumaris, Anglesey, sired by the Welsh cob Hendrewen Deryn who is having his 30th birthday party next month, out of a Thoroughbred mare Another Chapter. Special Edition, who was bought by Lady Forwood at the 2004 Brightwells Spring Sale for £900, was ridden by her daughter Jane Weller, organiser of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society performance competition and has won at dressage, show jumping, working hunter and eventing. It was very impressive to see a 17-hand horse completing a canter figure-of-eight in such a small ring.

The Popsters Stud from Cinderford had the top section C price of £3,000 for their six-year-old palomino mare Keeshen Lady Arwen, sister to the ridden champions Keeshen Lightning and Keeshen Renegade. This stunning mare is Synod-bred on her sire's side and Parc and Cwnlle on

her dam's and she returns to the area of her ancestors bought by Carol Prater of the Rhencullen Stud, Cwmsychpant.

Top section B at £2,000 was the elegant six-year-old grey stallion Pennwood Alakai consigned by Clive Morse of the Pennwood Stud, St Clears. Sired by Eyarth Savero son of Carwed Charmer who was three times Royal Welsh champion, Alakai's dam was Downland Sailaway bred by Mrs Kathleen Cuff of Cardigan who passed away last year aged 98 years. Alakai was bought by Miss Berrington of Loughborough.

Two six-year-old section A's shared top honours at £2,000, the grey mare Glebedale Sing Song consigned by Rhian James of Pontyates and the chestnut roan stallion Tygolau Crusader. Sing Song, who was a prize-winner at Carmarthen and Cothi Bridge last year was sired by the late Flydon Henri ap Pip and she had a most impressive free-moving stride. Tygolau Crusader was bred by Lisa Perrott of St Brides Wentloog and was bought by the late Claire Howell as a yearling at Hay-on-Wye with the intention of producing him under saddle. Crusader, who had a great length of rein and free, long stride has the most illustrious performance pedigree, his sire Bengad Rumex sold at the 2007 Brightwells Fayre Oaks Sale for £6,000 and is one of the top riding ponies in Britain and his dam Waitwith Cloe is related to many Waitwith Horse of the Year Show riding pony qualifiers. Dafydd and Sian Morris, Neuaddparc Stud were the under-bidders on Crusader hoping to have him as a stud stallion but the purchasers, the Cartwright family from Lower Cefnpenarth, Llandrindod Wells intend to bring him out under saddle where he is sure to make a name for himself. The larger-than-usual offering of section A's capable of becoming useful performance animals resulted in the average being up 50% on last year and 70% on 2006.

Wynne Davies