

**Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015**



**The second day of the Conference took place at the Kadus Grand Hotel.** *Photo RS*

Fariba Hosseinabadi, Vice-President of the Equestrian Federation and a leading Conference organiser, opened the proceedings. *Photo JS*



(Left) Brenda Dalton, Chairman of the International Caspian Society, explained the importance of national Caspian societies and Registries in maintaining the International Caspian Stud Book. She later gave Kay Taplin's presentation on the ways the ICSB helps breeders. *Photo RS*

We also saw presentations (not photographed) by Dr Kiyumars Maladoost and Dr Ahmad Ghorbani.



Elizabeth Webster (CHS) spoke on the importance of Stallion Licensing. *Photo RS*



Margareta Lindahl showed us some inspirational photographs of working Swedish Caspians. *Photo BD*



Dr Farshad Maloufi described the vet's role in registering foundation and pure-bred Caspians. *Photo JS*



Ruth Staines (CHS) told us how national Registrars collect and provide vital information to the ICSB. *Photo BD*

Brenda and Ruth take a rest before lunch, beside Henry Dallal's photograph of Louise with her favourite riding horse. *Photo BD*



**Our afternoon visit to the TakTaz Riding Club at Bandar Anzali included the presentation of Attendance Certificates to aspiring Caspian judges. All had attended a Judging Seminar at TakTaz in April, conducted by Ateshe Firouz-Larsson and Elizabeth Webster.**

Fahimeh Vaezi, of the Nourouzabad Equestrian Centre outside Tehran, receives her certificate from Brenda Dalton, Chairman of the International Caspian Society. *Photo RS*





We were comfortably seated at tables on one side of the indoor school, well supplied with drinks and snacks and waiting for the show to begin! The TakTaz Caspians live in the first floor stables above us.

*Photo EW*

**After the presentations, we watched Margareta Lindahl's Workshop on 'Working with Caspians'.**



Her assistant was the 22 year old Caspian stallion Bayram, who behaved like a perfect gentleman, while she fitted him with a brand new bridle. *Photos BD*



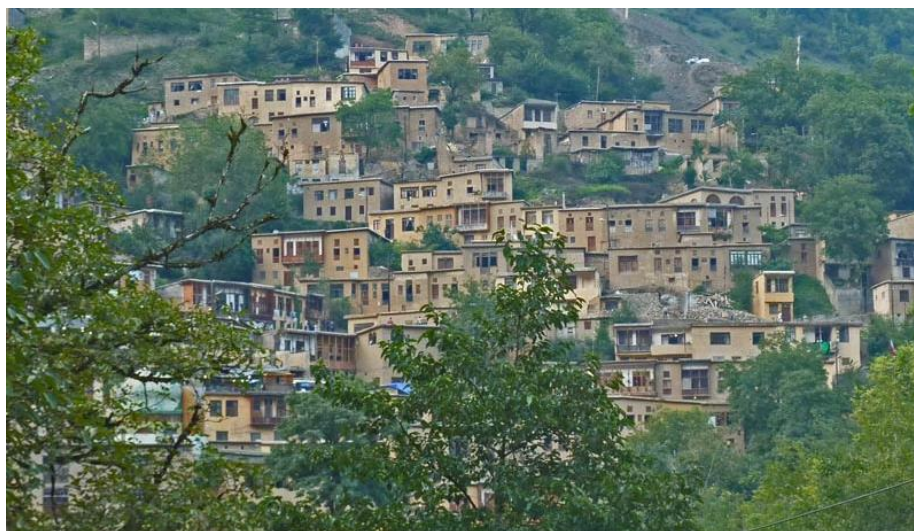
(Bayram is reputed to have jumped over a metre only a couple of years ago)

Finally, Tessa Clarke gave a demonstration of semen collection for Artificial Insemination, with a Caspian teaser mare and the black Caspian stallion Keeya. *Photo RS*

**At the end of the workshops, we re-joined the coach for an evening visit to the unique mountain village of Masouleh, 'Village on the Rooftops'.**







**MASOULEH, the village that we'd heard so much about, certainly lived up to its reputation.**

To get there we drove through the walnut-covered hills that Louise described so well during her searches for Caspians. We wound our way upwards through tightly bending roads, the roadside vegetation surprisingly English. *Main photo BD*

Our 'minders' shepherded us around Masouleh with unfailing patience, good humour – and 'walkie-talkies'!

*Photo EW*



There was honey of several types, with honeycomb in great mounds, tightly wrapped against the bees! *Photos EW*



Many stalls had piles of nuts, olives, and dried or preserved fruit. *Photo BD*



We wandered along the narrow streets on the rooftops, taking in the atmosphere and colour of the stalls and tea-shops.



The hat stand was particularly colourful. *Photos EW*





Ateshe and her family seemed to enjoy the evening, although it probably wasn't their first visit! *Photo RS*



These budgerigars were happy to climb onto visitors' hands. *Photo BD*



Fahimeh Vaezi, Hamid Marjaee and Nanda Smit-Le-Poole. *Photo BD*



Potato crisps come in one long spiral on a stick. *Photo EW*



Liz Webster gets the Budgie Experience. *Photo BD*

The man who made a Persian form of 'nougat' was popular. *Photo EW*



Smoking a 'hubble-bubble' is a favourite pastime. This patient man was photographed many times! *Photo EW*

By now the many teashops in Masouleh, with their colourful flags and rugs were beckoning... *Photo EW*







Doug Antczak and Tessa Clark take a rest.

*Photo EW*

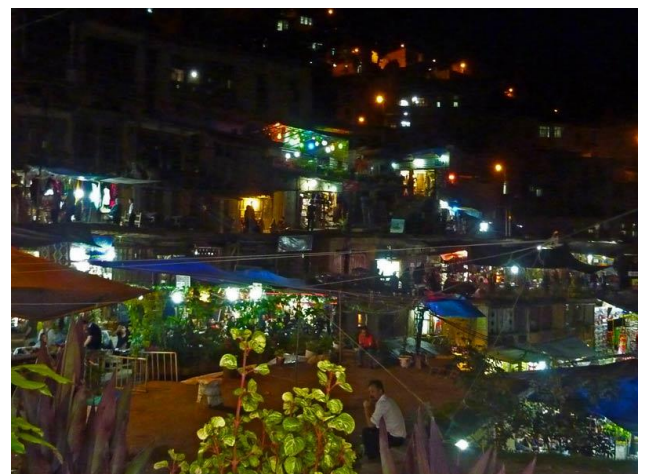
The tea-shop had a wonderful assortment of seats. We took full advantage of them to relax over a glass of tea and watch the lights of Masouleh come on as night fell. *Photos BD*



More attractions tempted us as we made our way slowly downhill to the waiting coach outside the village.

*Photos BD*

Luckily we had taken a rooftop group photograph before the light finally faded. *Photo JS*



Sadly, we had to say goodbye to the magical village of Masouleh. We had been warmly welcomed to Iran by everyone we met there. *Photo BD*