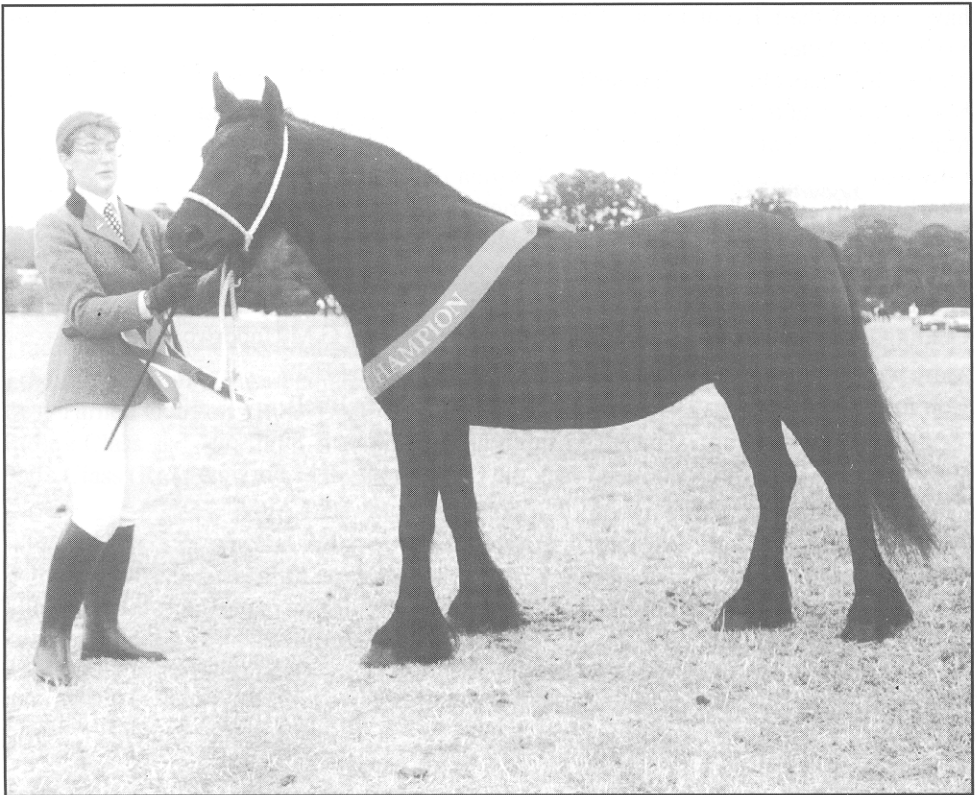


Handy pony class- Snrs  
 Handy pony - Juniors  
 Open W. H. P.  
 Novice W.H.P.  
 Best foot shod  
 Best foot unshod  
 Costume class  
 Olympia Qualifier  
 Youngstock Champion  
 Ridden Champion  
 Champion mare/filly  
 Champion colt/gelding  
 Best 3 yr old Riding type  
 Points Trophy  
 Supreme Champion

Guards Jonathan  
 Heltondale Beauty VIII  
 Guards Robert  
 Heltondale Rob II  
 Border Rambling Rose  
 Hardendale Lady  
 Drybarrows Duchess II  
 Townend Rebel II  
 Murthwaite Magic  
 Heltondale Sovereign  
 Townend Bridie  
 Sleddale David  
 Border Rambling Rose  
 =Barbondale Rambler  
 =Edenview Moonstroller  
 Townend Bridie

Mrs S McKinlay  
 Mrs L Keogh R: A Osbourne  
 Miss Lynn Flitney  
 Mr D Eltringham  
 Mr J Bell Blsmth: J Glaister  
 Mr B Mallinson  
 Miss J Fairburn / Laura Tate  
 Miss J Goodier  
 Mr T B Capstick  
 Mrs J A Jackson  
 Mr E M Wilson  
 Mrs G M Underwood  
 Mr J Bell  
 Mr ABrook  
 Miss J Brindley  
 Mr E M Wilson



1995 Breed Show Supreme Champion, Mr E M Wilson's 4 yr old Mare TOWNEND BRIDIE  
 FP2080, S: Heltondale Josh, D: Townend Candy, Exhibited by Miss Penny Baldwin  
 Photo: Roy Wallis

**SOUTHERN FELL SHOW** The Seventh Annual Fell Pony Society Southern Show was held at Shotover House, Wheatley, Oxon, on Sunday, 10 September 1995, by kind invitation of Lt Col Sir John Miller. We were grateful to the judges: Mr R B Charlton, Mrs R Eastwood, Mrs A Brown, Mrs C Errington, Mr & Mrs L Rowe and Mrs Rachel Bell. I am pleased to report that we had a large number of entries forward this year but in contrast to last year, the weather was much less respectable! This was a great shame but did not deter the competitors from having a great day. Sir John Miller has again kindly invited us to his home for the 1996 show, which we very much look forward to. I would like to thank Angela Einon and Paul Einon, all the helpers, sponsors, etc., to whom we are all indebted. The Southern Show results are appended: **Mary Longsdon.**

Stallions 2 years and over	Darrenvale Jason	Mr & Mrs R B Sutcliffe
Mares, 4-7 years	Barbondale Ruby	Mr D Wilkinson
Mares, 8 years and over	Heltondale Beauty VIII	Mrs L Keogh
Brood Mares, with foal	Townend Mountain Gypsy	Mr & Mrs R B Sutcliffe
Colt or Filly Foal	Darrenvale Desmond	" " " " "
Geldings, 4-7 years	Sleddale John II	Mr & Mrs D S & Miss J Paterson
Geldings, 8 years +	Wolds Donald Duck	Miss J Glass
Yearling, colt, filly, geld'g	Lindertis Heather	Miss Jane Baxter
Two yr old filly, gelding	Lownthwaite Lapis	Mr D Wilkinson
Three yr old filly, gelding	Waverhead Beauty II	Mr D Wilkinson
Veteran, 15 yrs and over	Greenfield Faith	Mrs Sue Rees
Pair Class (in-hand)	Guards Jonathan/Mrs S McKinlay	Guards Robert/Miss Lynn Flitney
<u>Ridden</u> (4 years and over)		
Stallions	Townend Robin	Mr R Hornsey R: Maria Hornsey
Mares	Boltonabbey Black Bess	Miss J C Matlock
Geldings, 4-7 yrs	Wolds Woodcock	Miss J Glass R: Mr S Audley
Geldings, 8 yrs and over	Townend Heathcliffe	Mrs S Prior
Novice mare	Eagland Dainty	Mrs R Jubb
Novice Gelding	Drybarrows Adam	Mrs A Webb
Lead Rein, Jnr under 8 yrs	Bewcastle Boy Blue	Miss M Longsdon & Mr R Goddard Rider: James Birchall
Junior 8-12 years	Guards Robert	Lynn Flitney/R:Rebecca Johnson
Junior 13-16 years	Heltondale Beauty VIII	Mrs L Keogh/R:Anna Osbourne
Ridden Pairs	Heltondale Beauty VIII/Wolds Donald Duck	
Open W.H.P. & W.H.P.Ch.	Boltonabbey Black Bess	Miss J C Matlock
Novice W.H.P.	Linnel Cragsman	Miss J M Groves
Driving	Sheparton Alexandra	Miss L Hill/Whip: Mrs J Hill
Fancy Dress	Wolds Pipit	Mrs M & Miss J Anderson / JBirch
Handy Pony	Windybank Duke's Rose	Mr & Mrs H K Marshall
Child Handler	Kerbeck Royal Fire	Mrs A Garcia Exh: Holly Brigden
Best Turned Out	Townend Mountain Gypsy	
Youngstock Champion	Waverhead Beauty II	Mr D Wilkinson
Junior Ridden Champion	Heltondale Beauty VIII	
Ridden Champion	Wolds Woodcock	
Supreme Champion	Barbondale Ruby	
Reserve Champion	Greenfield Faith	

**AUTUMN PERFORMANCE TRIALS** There were 15 competitors at this year's Trials, on 24 September, at Pict Hall, Blawith. The weather was lovely and a great day was had by all. Our thanks to Mr & Mrs R Baxter for designing and setting up such an excellent course and for inviting the competitors to enjoy their wonderful surroundings in the pleasure ride over the fells, following the competition.

- |       |                         |   |                                 |
|-------|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1st - | Bowderdale Jess         | - | Mr P Forsman/R: Suzanne Forsman |
| 2nd - | Baronshill Black Prince | - | Miss Beth Ingham                |
| 3rd - | Greenfield Topper       | - | Mrs Beth Slater                 |
| 4th - | Hiljon Black Magic      | - | Mrs Yvonne Marsden              |
| 5th - | Marlingdyke Millstream  | - | Mrs Rachel Bell                 |
| 6th - | Greenfield Cracker      | - | Mrs Brenda Dixon                |

Specials were awarded to the following:

- |                   |   |   |              |
|-------------------|---|---|--------------|
| Best Senior Rider | - | - | Brenda Dixon |
| Best Junior Rider | - | - | Beth Ingham  |

**PLEASURE RIDE, Sunday, 24 September 1995** Pictured below are the riders and Fell Ponies who attended the ride - G Cockbain - Carrock Amanda, C Chamberlin - Townend Sorrel, C Robinson - Firequest of Kerbeck, H Fell - Hadrian, B Ingham - Baronshill Black Prince, R Bell - Marlingdyke Millstream, B Slater - Greenfield Topper, S Wardle - Guards Joseph, C Smith - Black Fancy and Penny Baldwin - Townend Ruth IV. Photo R. Randell.



There was an encouraging turnout of 10 Fell Ponies and riders on the 1995 ride, which departed from Townend, Hesket Newmarket, the home of Eddie and Margaret Wilson.

Penny Baldwin led the ride which covered approximately 14 miles over true Fell Pony territory. The ride went via Mosedale and then on to Bowscale Fell stopping off at the Tarn, where many wished they had brought their camera! The ponies and riders then descended back down into the valley of Swineside where they were met by the backup team of trusted 'followers' and 'lunch box carriers'/. After lunch all the riders decided to continue on the higher level route, past Carrock mines, and up onto High Pike and West Fell. The ride lasted about four hours and culminated in a delicious tea provided by Margaret Wilson.

The weather kept fair, if not a little blustery, and everybody managed to see the spectacular views and scenery across the Solway to the Scottish Hills, the Pennines and the Skiddaw range. Many thanks to everybody who made it such a 'pleasurable' ride.

***Penny Baldwin.***

**MALVERN AUTUMN SHOW-** This was a new event held over the weekend 30 September to 1 October and which proved to be a great crowd puller. Although not a true 'horsey' event there were several breeds on display and thanks are extended to Mr & Mrs H Marshall and Miss Jane Glass plus several helpers for taking 2 ponies on display - Windybank Duke's Rose and Greenholme Ken. The picture below was sent in by Carolyn Grundy, from the NPS Centenary Show in 1993, showing Jane trying to draw the attention of the line-up of Fell Ponies for a good photo! The method employed was crawling along the ground at the same time making strange noises - which caught more peoples attention than the ponies! Carolyn adds she would like to wish Jane a 'Happy Retirement', presuming that is what Jane will do now she has reached a certain age! Adding "Not much chance of that I feel" - I'd agree with that. Ed!



## 1995 FORTHCOMING F.P.S. EVENTS

**EQUINE EVENT, STONELEIGH** To be held at Stoneleigh Park, Warwick, on 4th & 5th November 1995 - The F.P.S. have had a sales and exhibition stand at this event from it's inception, thanks to the organisation of Mr J Wykes, Mrs S Hardy and Mr J Bell, who also organise the Royal Show stand for the Society.

At both events as part of the stand, there is a Fell Pony on display. Several members contribute greatly to this 'shop window' by providing the ponies - which is much appreciated as it becomes ever more costly and complex to arrange each year, with changing show regulations. Thanks are due to all those involved.

It is a really good event for all the family, with all manner of trade stands for the horse enthusiast - we look forward to seeing and meeting more southern members there.

Following on from the Equine Event we will have another opportunity to meet with southern members:

**DEVON GATHERING:** Wednesday, 8 November 1995, 11.30 am to 3.30 pm, at Manerton Village Hall, Nr Bovey Tracey, Devon. We are planning to have a pooled cold lunch. There will be the information and sales stand, raffle, bring and buy stall, slides and talk of Fell Ponies of the past. If you would like to come please contact Molly Laing as soon as possible, tel: 013873 76272, so that we can be sure of numbers. Could anyone offer the use of a projector for the slides? We hope there will be sufficient numbers interested for this 'gathering' to go ahead, and look forward to meeting you there.

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### **Fell Pony News & Articles**

#### **ONCE MORE: THE "FELL-FRIESIAN-CONNECTION"**

At least every second person calling me for information about the Fell Pony will ask sooner or later; "The Fells are descended from the Friesians, aren't they?" This answer to this often heard question is given by me depending on my changing mood with a laconic "Hmmm", or a lengthy explanation. Since I had learned of Fell Ponies before I registered with the Friesian breed it became important for me to find an answer to this very question. I have therefore asked quite a few 'experts' and read about what they had to say in their books. The following is the result of my research:

Fells and Friesians are merely two representatives of a group of 10 or 11 horse and pony breeds, which live - with one exception in Italy - all along the coast of the Atlantic ocean, from Norway down to south Portugal. These are the Døle horses (Norw.Døle = Engl.Dales), the Fells/Dales, Friesians, Landais, Ariegois (Merens), Pottok, Asturcon, Garron and Losino. One further member of the group, the Bardigiano, lives in Italy. All these horses/ponies are dark coloured and have hairy legs, though with the most of them the 'feathers' are not as significant as with Fells. It is interesting to observe, that the Jutland (Danish mainland) cold blooded horse had been mainly black before the Suffolk Punch stallion 'Oppenheim' had been imported.

It would be narrow sighted to assume, that the Friesian from 2000 years ago would have looked the same as the Friesian of today. Even though the Friesian has been bred pure after the introduction of its studbook at the end of the last century, there had been cross breeding at times before this. In order to achieve a more elegant carriage horse out of the somewhat common looking Friesian horse, Spanish/Andlusian horses had been bred in. It is noteworthy that one of the ancestors of the Andalusian horse may have been the Garran Pony, which resembles the Fell.

Dark coloured, wild living animal populations are very rare but they do exist. Their natural habitat is the deep primeval forest, in which the dark colour is a good camouflage. Exactly a forest of this kind is assumed to have grown in the area where the waters of the Channel are today. Here the origin of the dark coloured horses may be located.

We can assume that furthermore, the coastline of the Atlantic has already been a narrowly interlaced area of trade in prehistoric times, the same as the mutual religious beliefs which lined this area together long before the birth of Christ. It is quite certain that one centre of the trade routes as well as that of the religious beliefs has been in Santiago de Compostela in the far north-west of Spain. We already know that the Neolithic period was a centrally important age of pilgrimage and Santiago represented one of the most important centres of pilgrimage during the middle ages. Since religion and trade have always seemed to be close friends and the horse has been a valuable trade article throughout history, we may agree to the fact that along these trade routes horses have been bartered and traded with since very early times. These circumstances may well have caused the similarity in type of these horse and pony breeds.

*Barbara Mueller, Germany.*

**NOTES ON BREEDING FELL PONIES** The Fell Pony has developed as a result of hundreds of years of breeding on the hills of Northern England. It is hardy, able to live out on the hills all winter with no supplementary feeding and breed successfully the following summer. The hill land develops great stamina and the breed is also multi-purpose, so that in summer the owner can catch up the pony, hitch it to the mower and scaler and raker to make hay, to the sweep or sledge or cart to house the hay, to the Dales cart to get the muck out, and then ride it over the fells for shepherding, or in a gig to drive at a trot to market.

There is a real risk of losing these characteristics. Nowadays the hill farmer probably uses an ATV to do the shepherding, and a tractor and baler to make the hay if he doesn't make all silage, and Fell Ponies are mostly used for leisure riding and perhaps private driving; many are kept in a stable all winter and on fertile grassland in summer, in fat or show condition.

If this continues, we may lose the very qualities that have made the Fell what it is, so that it becomes just another show pony, with perhaps a bit more hair. To prevent this happening, we must ensure that at least a nucleus of hardy ponies continue to live and breed on the open fells; where a small pony has a better chance of survival because it can shelter behind the stone walls, where the feed it can find is the roughest, where it can roam freely to find shelter and grazing and water and develop the sagacity and sure footedness and stamina.

The hill farmers who have grazing rights on the extensive mountain common land are practical men who have little love of paperwork and are suspicious of directives from the European Union in Brussels, but they are the people whose management over hundreds of years has produced the Fell Pony as it is and its continuing survival depends on them. At the same time many of the Fell Pony owners and breeders, members of the Society, do not have extensive grazing rights, and have to house their ponies in winter to prevent 'poaching' the land. Their interest is in the show ring, the local club, in organised rides and drives and in competition work. They happily accept blood testing and the prospect of DNA testing, they can appreciate the use of computers to maintain records and filling in forms is just another bit of fascinating routine that membership of the breed society entails. We must have the stock of Fell Ponies kept on fell land of the North of England to preserve the Fell Pony as a Fell Pony. We also need the membership all over the country to provide the interest and therefore the market, that is to say, the demand and the price of Fells.

To handle the increased size of the Society and the paperwork involved, we need the approval and the money, of the EU and the Betting Levy Board, which in turn means blood testing and similar requirements. But blood testing means rounding up ponies that are out on the fell, handling ponies that may be running completely wild, perhaps unbroken, in some cases never seen from one year end to another. Are they, the essentially true Fell Ponies, to be excluded from registration because they cannot be found in time? Surely not!

Blood testing and DNA testing may produce some interesting and difficult to reconcile results. The ancestry of the Fells is diverse. They are not all descended purely from native British ponies crossed

with demobilised Roman Army stallions. All sorts of other elements came into the breeding. Packway Royal, for example, owned by the late Secretary of the FPS, to whom we all owe so much, had a written pedigree going back to what we would now call Dales and Hackneys. Old Grey Shales said to have been living in 1755, was by Flying Childers who was descended from the Darley Arabian. When the registrations were all made by the National Pony Society, years ago, a Fell mare could be put to a Dale stallion and the resulting foal could be registered as a Fell, or a Dale, or both; and the Dales had Clydesdale blood to increase their size.

Despite all this, the Fells have stayed true to type, apart from their height that has always been very variable. Several of the ponies in the ancestry of Packway Royal were over 14 hh, one of them, Hasdale Comet, was 14.3 hh. We have to accept the ancestry of the Fells as it is - there is nothing we can do about that, but we can, should, ensure that we preserve the best elements that make up the hardy multi purpose pony.

So how do we reconcile these elements - the fell farmer, the lowland pleasure rider and the EU red tape? Or, putting it another way, how do we include the fell farmer who breeds the foundation stock, in the red-tape and show ring aspects of the F.P.S.?

I think a case can be made out for two things that could help. First, to establish a Register of mares that are kept out on the fell for, say, 11 months of the year, bringing in only to run with the stallion and paying a sufficiently large grant per head to make this worthwhile. Perhaps we could have a class at the Stallion Show for colts born and reared on the fell.

Secondly, we could engage a Field Officer or Ranger or some such title to visit these fell farmers and assist them with the paperwork, the form filling and the blood testing (including penning them and taking the sample). It should be possible to obtain the additional funding for these proposals from the EU - it is after all they who create the need. Ideas of this kind have been put forward before, but as every year passes, the problem becomes more acute.

If we do not do something practical to help the fell farmers, they may say - 'blow it' and cease registering their foals, or even form a splinter group and keep their own records - this happened to the Dales for different reasons.

The Society would need to keep a strict eye on the numbers involved so that the prospect of a subsidy does not lead to excessive numbers of low quality mares being kept, although 'Mr Winter is the best stinter!' as they say. The scheme should be reviewed regularly, we may even need a fresh definition of what makes a good Fell Pony. Mine is a hardy pony that can live rough, that will breed regularly, that can do ANY job - ride, drive, jump or carry a pack.

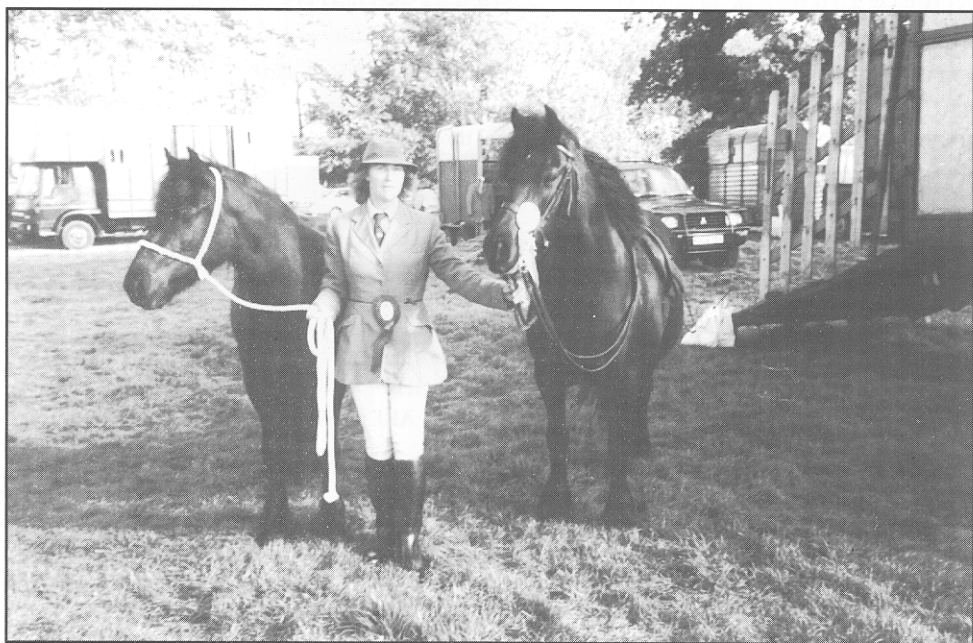
An old fell farmer once said to me "a Fell should have feet so hard they sound like a ring of bells as it trots towards you. So much hair that the farrier has to part it to rasp the hoof. And then bone, plenty of bone. After that, a bit of fat will cover any faults."

When DNA testing comes, I hope my grandchildren will be able to use it to give them additional guidance in breeding Fell Ponies.

**Walter Lloyd, Finsthwaite.**

Council is grateful to Mr Lloyd for his thought provoking letter which raises the concerns of the hill breeder. A similar letter was sent to Council members and the subject was discussed at the last meeting. It was agreed that we should approach the Horserace Betting Levy Board to assess the feasibility of a grant for the better type of Fell mare kept above the fell gate. DNA testing is to be introduced in place of blood typing which should ease the burden on hill breeders. The Council also agreed that a group of members would meet with the hill breeders to discuss their problems as soon as possible. (See at front of newsletter - *Council Information*)

**DEVONSHIRE CREAM** At the Devon County Centenary Show in May the Fell classes were well supported with 27 ponies forward in 3 classes. Pictured below are 2 ponies owned by Mrs Rosemary Chadwick, Truro, - her 3 y.o. homebred filly ROSMARTH RAINDROP FP2179, S: Townend Rory FP540C, D: Robbswater Rainbow 18108. Raindrop won the 1,2&3 y.o. class and her dam Rainbow (picture on right) came fourth in the ridden class - only her fourth time in a ridden class, as she is mainly shown in-hand.



Later, at the Native Pony Association of Cornwall Breed Show, Rainbow was Champion Fell and Champion large breeds and third overall from over 200 entries from all nine breeds. Rosemary says "We think we will let her daughter take over next year." After Devon show Raindrop travelled on to Mary Longsdon to be covered by Townend Duncan FP721C\*, and so they hope at last to breed from a home bred mare.

**A TRIBUTE AND NOTE OF THANKS:** To both the National Foal Bank and Mrs Stead - "I was born on 20 April 1995, a bouncing filly foal 'Salisbury Stella' is my name and survival was my goal. At 10 days old things started to go wrong. Mother's milk was scarce and I wasn't feeling quite as strong. Then we 'phoned the Foal Bank and were told of Mrs Gail Stead, with her mare called 'Tara'. They raised me from the dead! It's thanks to every helper and Tara (who is quite a tall 'Mum') that I am feeling fine now and look like surviving after all." *Sent in by Stella's breeder Mr Frank Cowings.*

**GIFT HORSE FOR SALE** Mr J E G Murphy, from Oxon, sent the following article, which will "surely amuse horsey people". (With no bearing on our own advertisers!) -

**Reading Between the Lines of a Horse Advertisement**

(A light hearted idea of what they might mean).

A BIG JUMP	- Looks and leaps	RIDE AND DRIVE	- Confused Pony
HOME BRED	- Dubious parentage	OFFERS	- Desperate to sell
FAST IN GAMES	- Excitable, rocket fuel	FIRST OFFER OF	- Really desperate to sell
FAST CROSS COUNTRY	- Uncontrollable	LIGHTLY BACKED	- A baby sat on it once
NOT NOVICE RIDE	- A Right Handful	READY TO SCHOOL ON-	(But not by me)



USED IN SCHOOL - Brain dead  
 BOLD OUTLOOK - Crazy  
 FORWARD GOING -Unable to stop  
 PLACED AT LOCAL LEVEL -Shown once in a class with two others  
 GOOD TO BOX, CLIP, TRAFFIC,ETC- Will play up with farrier  
 NO RIDER HENCE MUST SELL- Unmanageable  
 UNTAPPED POTENTIAL - Never schooled  
 CHILDREN LOST INTEREST -Boring old nag  
 A REAL GENTLEMAN - Unfortunately it's a horse  
 GOOD TO CATCH - If mounted on another horse  
 BIG BONED -Terribly fat and overweight  
 SHOW QUALITY -Photogenic  
 REMEMBER THERE ARE NO BAD HORSES, SOME ARE JUST BETTER BEHAVED THAN

GOOD SECOND PONY- Not for children  
 NO VICES -That we are going to tell you about  
 A GOOD DOER - Eats it's head off  
 LIVELY RIDE - Ready, steady, go  
 BROUGHT ON SLOWLY - Dim  
 WELL BALANCED - Has four legs  
 STRAIGHT MOVER - Non drinker  
 OTHERS.

**A MIGHTY LEAP FROM 'MAX'** Sisters Jacqueline and Heather Ironside from Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, share their gelding Clandon Demonstrator, who is pictured below at the Buchan Riding Club Charity Hunter Trials, with Jacqueline at their first ever cross country competition. Since then, they have come 2nd in Jacqueline's first attempt at showjumping. Max is proving to be a real all-rounder.





Pictured above at the Royal Windsor Horse Show, in May 1995. From a line-up of 12 Fells this year's winner was **Mrs Chris Rear's brown stallion PACKWAY FALCON**. Photo Pleasure Prints

### LOW GREEN TOPSY'S PROGRESS IN THE LONG DISTANCE BUSINESS:

It is now the end of Bramble's third season in Competitive Long Distance Riding. This year has been by far her best. She started the season in February by doing 20 mile Pleasure Rides. By the end of March she started Competitive Trail Rides. I had decided this year to have a go at longer distances, so on the 23 April we set off for the Yorkshire Wolds ride to do our first 36 mile ride. Unfortunately on the way round my friend's horse slipped on the road and fell. She was knocked unconscious for a few minutes. I waited for half an hour to make sure she was OK in the care of our crews. We went on alone, as although she was conscious she was too dazed to ride. Despite the sleety rain, and keeping Brable trotting in to keep her warm, she finished with a grade 2 and an average speed of 8.5 mph.

On the 27 May we drove down to the Dukeries ride in Sherwood Forest for a 30 mile ride. It was an easy ride, flat with no gates (which affect your time dramatically). We got a completion. The vetting area was roped off with plastic tape which flapped violently in the strong wind and was enough to unsettle even Bramble and shot her heart rate up to 50 bpm.

At Helmsley, on a 36 mile ride, on 11 June, was a tough ride, a lot of steep stoney tracks on moorland and a lot of gates, but again she got a grade 2.

On 24 June we headed for a weekend at The Summer Solstice at Market Rasen racecourse to have a go at the 42 mile ride CTR. I didn't know how she would react to this because it means going on 2 circuits of 21 miles, coming back to the venue for vetting. You have to present straightaway because the clock keeps ticking. Her heart rate was 58, she wasn't dehydrated and she was sound so away we went for the second circuit. To my surprise she didn't mind leaving the venue again but did hesitate a few miles down the road - I think she must have had a sense of "Deja Vue!" But once she'd got going again she knew the way and went faster the second time round. We had enough time to walk in the last mile or so. She wasn't tired at all and again got a grade 2. She and four other horses also came fourth in the Distance Rider Team Trophy.

On the 3 September we did the 35 mile Teesdale ride at Barnard Castle. Here at the vetting someone said to me "We've a Fell Pony in the field at home but it doesn't look like that". I also got

the chance to meet another Fell Pony owner, with whom I'd had several conversations on the 'phone, Alison Knight, with her pony Lady on whom she's doing very well this year in the Novice section. After a cold ride in the drizzle, but with very variable and enjoyable going we got a grade 3. It should have been another grade 2. I'm ashamed to say it was my fault, not Bramble's. I mis-read the map and took a wrong turn and incurred us a time penalty point.

Our biggest event came on 10 September at Harlington, Nr Doncaster. This time we were attempting a 50 mile CTR. The weather forecast said it was going to be cold and wet, so as it was to be her last event, although she was getting woolly I decided not to clip her out. So of course it was boiling hot! I thought it was a hard ride compared to last year's 25 miler. A lot of road work and quite a few of the stubbled fields had been rotovated up making them heavy going. Bramble and I sweated and drank profusely. At the half way vetting, after completing the first circuit at 8.5 mph, she had a heart rate of 55 bpm and was sound so on we went. We collected my friend on Willow, a half Arah mare at the venue, as she was doing the BHS Gold Horseshoe Qualifier (50 miles) and did the 20 mile loop together. Tracey had to do the last loop faster than me, so although I had 19 minutes in hand to walk in, I trotted in with Willow to give her a lead in. She didn't want to go without Bramble. (With the BHS if you are a minute late you are automatically disqualified, unlike the EHPS where you incur time penalties, 1 penalty for every 3 mins. over time, which affects your grade.) We gained a completion. The combination of the heat, her woolly coat, leading most of the way, and the trotting in at the end had affected her heart rate. But I was thrilled to have achieved the ride and to find that she had been awarded the High Point Native Rosette when I collected her vet sheet and rosette. The next day she was loose and fit and I didn't ache although I was tired after nearly 7 hours in the saddle doing an average speed of 7.5 mph.

This year Bramble had ridden 472 miles in social and competitive rides and has 1023 accumulative miles under her belt over the 3 years in our North Yorkshire Group. I think that Bramble has shown that the Fell Pony is quite capable of doing the longer rides at speed. On these distance rides the majority of the horses are mainly Arab types and about 2 hands higher than her! **Wendy Cresswell.**

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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 1995/1996

- 20 Oct.95 - F.P.S. Show & Sale of Registered Fell Ponies, at Penrith Auction Mart. Further details from Secretary or Auctioneers: Penrith Farmers' & Kidd's plc, Tel: 0768 62323. Catalogues - £1.40 (inc. P&P)
- 21 Oct.95 - F.P.S. Autumn General Meeting, Lowther Parish Hall, Hackthorpe, Penrith, at 1.00 pm.
- 28 Oct.95 - NCPA Cumbria - Ponies.UK, M&M winter Ch. Qualifier show. In-hand, ridden youngstock foal classes at Barton Equestrian Centre, nr Preston. Contact: Mrs B Hodgson, Tel: 015242 41428.
- 3 Nov. 95 - Barningham Park Fell Pony Show Buffet Supper Dance, at Glaxo Social Club, Barnard Castle. Tickets: Tel 01833 21261, or Tel016974 78638.
- 4/5 Nov.95 - Equine Event, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire. FPS Display/Breed Stand.
- 8 Nov.95 - Devon Gathering, Manerton Village Hall, Bovey Tracey. Contact Mrs Molly Laing, Tel: 013873 76272.
- 29 Dec.95 - Midlands Hairy Pony Club Christmas Show, Markfield Equestrian Centre, Leics. (Just off M1) Contact: Jane Glas, Tel: 0509 880261.
- 30.12.95 - N.E.Counties W.P.&C. Assoc., Winter Hairies Xmas Show, at Newstead Indoor Riding Centre, Darlington. Contact Karen Hepple: 01421 526729.

### 1996

- 13 Feb.96 - Spring Council meeting.
- 30.Mar.96 - F.P.S. 1996 Spring Annual General Meeting, Hackthorpe, Penrith.

- 31.Mar.96 - F.P.S. Open Day Instruction Teach-In - at George Bowman's Stables, Penrith. Tickets from Mrs Molly Laing, Tel: 013873 76272.
- 12 May 96- F.P.S.Stallion & Colt Show, Dalemain, Ullswater, Penrith, at 11.30 am.  
Contact: Mrs Rachel Bell, Tel: 013873 76251
- T.B.A. - F.P.S. Breed Show, Brougham Hall Farm, Penrith.  
Contact Mrs Molly Laing, Tel: 03873 76272
- 10 Aug 96 - F.P.S. Fell Classes at Lowther Horse Driving Trials.  
Contact: Mrs Rachel Bell, Tel: 03873 76251
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### **ADVERTISEMENTS**

**WANTED: GELDING** - very quiet, bombproof, approx. 13.2hh, aged 9-12 yrs, for middle aged novice. Contact:Dale Thatcher Work: 01225 444565, Eve: 01225 840581.

**WANTED:** Original type of driving vehicle to fit 13.2hh Fell Pony. NOT a governess cart. Tel: Pat Hodgkinson 01253 700358 (Lancs.).

**FOR SALE:** Black English leather driving harness. Made by Peter Lewin-Skenfrith for a Fell Mare. Quick release traces + 1 spare Q/R trace. S/S 5.5" Liverpool bit. All in excellent condition £425. Tel: D Billings, Bridgnorth, Salop. 01746 761021.

**FOR SALE/EXCHANGE:** Reg/Lic. Stallion - Lownthwaite Byron FP736C\*, f. 1990, S: Townend Samuel, D: Lownthwaite Starbye. Reluctantly offered only because we have kept his daughters for breeding. All Black, quiet nature, 13.2hh, blood typed, good neck and feathering. Contact Mrs D McGarry (Staffs) 01782 518607.

**ON LOAN:** for a minimum of 2 yrs, 14 hh Reg. Fell Gelding, 4 y.o. Professionally broken to ride & drive. Experienced home essential. Contact Sara Hartley 01609 776782 at weekends or 01482 875875 ext. 3874 office hours.

**FOR SALE:** Waterstolls Richard, Black 5 y.o. gelding. Broken to ride. Contact Mr John Williamson (Cumbria) 01229 583553.

**FOR SALE:** Windybank Gentian: Black, 11 y.o. mare, approx. 13.2hh. Placed well when shown at County and local level. Contact Mrs Frances Compton (Sussex) 01435 830681.

**FOR SALE:** Wolds Donald Duck: Black, 10 y.o. gelding. Bold, willing pony. Quiet in all respects. Make good working pony. Shown v.successfully both in-hand and under saddle. Also: Heltondale Tramp Black 3y.o. gelding. Recently broken; going well, v.quiet. Successfully shown, approx. 13.1hh. Contact J Glass (Leics) 01509 880261.

**FOR SALE:** Linnel Caraway FP1662, Bl. mare, f.1895. Brood mare scanned in foal to Rackwood Robin\*. NOT broken to ride. Would exchange for quiet riding pony. Contact Michelle Bonnar (Lancs) 01204 794577.

**EXCHANGE:** Wanted Fell Mare/Filly/Filly foal, suitable for breeding, to exchange for Reg. Welsh Section A 3 y.o. grey stallion, Revel/Dyfed lines. Bitted, lunged, backed, etc., approx. value £400/450. Contact Heidi Sands (Morayshire) 01340 871770.

**BRAMBLELEIGH FELL PONIES** 4 y.o. black gelding. Broken to ride. Kind nature and has won in-hand. Also bay colt foal. Tel: 01749 840015 (Eve Knowles, Nr Bath).

**FOR SALE:** Lazybank Cartoon Hero, Black 3 y.o. gelding, 13.3hh. Excellent R/D prospect. Well handled and shown v. successfully including having won his class for the last 2 yrs at Breed Show and has won recent Championship. Lack of rider and time to do justice forces sale. Also, Lazybank Ballad, black yearling gelding. Well handled. Contact Mr Barry Allen (Cumbria) 01229 774528.

**RIDING INSTRUCTION & HOLIDAYS:** Adam Senior NCMH. Full or part livery available in a secure fully covered yard with excellent facilities. All-weather arena, tuition/ schooling/breaking horses and ponies. Stable management days under professional guidance. Riding tuition/hour, adults or children, beginners, novices and experienced riders welcome. Reasonable fees. Open all year. Alston & Killhope Riding Centre, Low Cornriggs Farm, Cowshill, Weardale, Co. Durham, DL13 1AQ. Tel: 0388 537600.

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## THE AUTUMN GENERAL MEETING

To be held on Saturday, 21 October 1995, at Lowther Parish Hall, Hackthorpe, Penrith, commencing at 1.00 pm. Refreshments available after the meeting.

### A.G.M. AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
  2. Minutes of the previous meeting.
  3. Matters arising from the minutes.
  4. Secretary's Report.
  5. Reports of Delegates and sub-committees.
  6. Social Lunch - suggestions from members.
  7. Sales Stand - request for volunteers.
  8. Open Day Teach-In, 31.3.96 - appeal for ponies
  9. Members suggestions.
  10. Any Other Business.
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Thank you to everyone who has sent in articles and photographs. Please send any photos or articles by the first week in February. Look forward to receiving them! *Rachel Bell.*



**TWISLEHOPE DRUID** (centre) WITH HIS MARES AND FOALS, in the Scottish Border hills. Druid lived to 28 years old - still covering mares and being ridden. He had spent a working life hunting with the Liddesdale Foxhounds. In his last spring he proved he was still a working horse and cleared a five barred gate at a trot! Picture taken in 1975 by Charles Donaldson.