



*Above: Supreme Champion at the Southern Show: Llancloudy Gabriel who was also Ridden Champion.
Below: Gelding Champion in the Interbreeds Show, North-East representative Wansfell Tobias.
Both Photos © Fleur Hallam.*





Lunsdale Fell ponies in the snow above Roundthwaite – true Fell ponies living the Fell pony life. The herd includes Breed Show Supreme champions, Evening Star, Warrior Queen, Rebecca and Lady Rebecca.



Vyv Wood-Gee riding Murthwaite Mikado and leading Murthwaite Magic Spell as they complete their charity ride from the Isle of Skye to Smithfield in London. Photo © Martin Spaven

(Continued from page 50)

that is perhaps my biggest concern. Very few people use animals to get their work done. There are very few of us, then, that have first-hand experience with the conformation necessary to do real work or understand from first-hand experience how traditional work contributed to the breed type. I am concerned that the traditional Fell Pony is endangered not only because its population numbers were once so low or because ponies kept on the fells are falling in number, but also because so few people understand the traditional work of the breed and its contribution to breed type.

My research⁽⁸⁾ shows that in just a ten year period, the majority of the Fell Pony breeding population is replaced. As working ponies have declined in number and ponies used in leisure and showing activities have increased, it is inevitable that selection for showing success has occurred. And selection for the characteristics needed in a versatile work pony has received less emphasis. Have we selected for narrower barrels in our ponies because the wider barrel desirable in a pack pony is uncomfortable to sit astride? Have we selected for higher withers so that a saddle stays in place when lower withers may be more consistent with correct conformation? Are we breeding taller animals because riders want to feel 'well-horsed' despite the 13.2h height having historic significance? Are we selecting for more hair when abundant hair may not be desirable in more traditional settings? Are we favouring temperaments that 'show well' rather than those that can be relied upon to 'keep their heads' in

traditional work? Are we losing the breed's "beautiful flowing movement, quite impossible to miss"⁽⁹⁾ because we have unknowingly selected away from it? Are we selecting for colour and lack of markings at the expense of propagating conformation faults?



Laurelhighland Tabitha mowing the lawn. Tabby also accepts riders of all ages and pulls an Amish buggy. Photo courtesy of Adam Schmucker.

Breeds have historically changed with changes in market demand. The current change in breed type due to the change in the work at hand is consistent with this history. Is it right? Does it matter? The Fell Pony's fate continues to improve from the perspective of population numbers, so perhaps it doesn't matter that type is being impacted by the change in the work at hand. At least the breed is not going extinct.

Managing Breeds for a Secure Future, a book published by the American version of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, admits that breed-type-questions present challenges. *Controversies over type have no easy answers, but maintaining type is fundamental if conservation is to truly save the unique genetic package that breeds are.*⁽¹⁰⁾ The book also

concludes, *The original form of breeds is important to keep so that choices remain available to future agriculturalists.*⁽¹¹⁾

When I attended the FPS Stallion & Colt Show in 2005, a woman approached me and thanked me for working my ponies. She never introduced herself nor even said anything more, but her words have stuck with me ever since. This past year I've gained new insight into her words. And now I find myself returning to the original statement: "Fell Ponies are work ponies who show well if you like to do that." The type necessary for traditional work can also be used for showing and leisure pursuits. The opposite is not true. The important point is to preserve the opportunity for both.

This article is adapted from an article published in 2010 in *Feather Notes from Willowtrail Farm*, Gould, Colorado.

Jenifer Morrissey

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- 10 Sponenberg, Phil and Don Bixby. *Managing Breeds for a Secure Future: Strategies for Breeders and Breed Associations*. Pittsboro, North Carolina, The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, 2007, p. 92
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Ridden Bursary, 2012 and 2013

Like some help with your pony, going to the Breed Show?

A new bursary award will be offered this year and in 2012 and 2013.

The award is being offered to help FPS members interested in showing and will be available to members riding their own pony or a pony owned by an immediate family member or on permanent loan, who are entered in the ridden classes at the Breed Show.

One pony will be nominated to go forward to the final from the novice, open and 13-16 y.o. ridden class.

Finalists will be invited to a selection panel in September or October when the successful pony and rider will be chosen.

Further information will be printed in the Breed Show Schedule.



The Pennine Pack-Saddle

The Romans built very good roads, but after the Empire was disorganised by the invading Goths, Vandals and other barbarians, the Legions left Britain and what authority remained was unable to keep the whole system in repair. Before long, in what we call the Dark Ages, there were very few roads with a surface good enough for wheeled vehicles like carts or chariots, so ALL goods had to be carried on the backs of people or pack animals until the turnpike roads and canals came along.



*Italian pack mule painting.
Capt. G W Lloyd R.N. circa 1886*

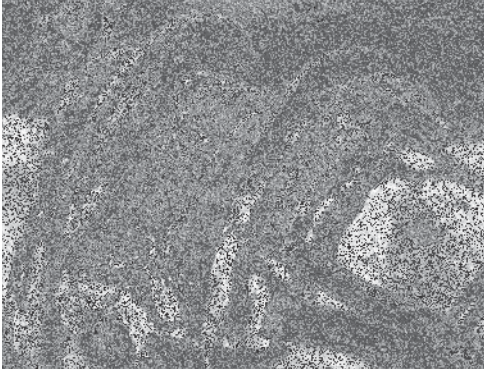
The farmer had to get the dung or farm yard manure from the barns to the fields, and fetch hay and corn and bedding back, and perhaps seaweed for fertilizer if he lived near the sea, and to take his surplus produce to the market or fair—apples, cheese, wool and so on—and he used a couple of the local type of pony, suitable for local conditions and the type of work.

In the towns, the tradesmen had to fetch raw materials, and deliver the finished goods and would have one or

two ponies that they kept for this. Long distance trade could mean carrying heavy loads day after day, between fairs and towns and cities and ports. Even in the troubled Dark Ages there was considerable trade—Salt, salt fish, wheat, barley, malt, flour, wool and linen, tan bark and hides and leather, minerals, especially metal ores and ingots, and bars of iron, and fabricated metal like nails, knives and other tools, and other materials like sand and gravel, clay for pottery and bricks and tiles, stone for building and cobbles for paving. Fuel - charcoal, some coal, peat or turf, firewood. Alum and pot-ash. Wooden bowls and spoons, hay rakes and forks. Hemp for ropes and coarse cloth. Dyes and soap. Beer, cider, vinegar and wine, fruit. Packaging varied from bales to barrels, baskets, boxes, bundles, nets and sacks.

At one time there was a legal requirement to have an attendant to every ten pack animals in a string. The load has to be kept from rubbing on the pony's back-bone and from banging on its sides as nasty sores can develop, so a saddle is used to separate the load from the animal. This can be a simple double pad or cushion with an air gap in the centre over the backbone, or it can be more elaborate with a frame of one or two wooden or metal arches to keep the padding in the right place. The simple pad is satisfactory for light loads and short distances, but for more serious work, something better is needed, with a rigid frame to keep the pad in place.

Over several hundred years, a type of saddle with a padded double-arched frame was developed which was general purpose, and could be used



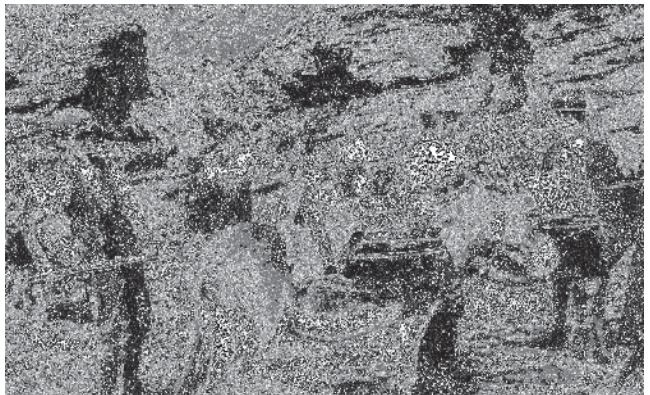
Detail of pack saddle

satisfactorily with this wide variety of loads, although there are several accessories that make the carrying of certain loads much easier; they are described in detail below. This type of double-arch pack saddle is also found in Italy, so an early version might have been brought over by the Romans.

This British double-arch Pack saddle, that I call the Pennine Pack Saddle for convenience, although it was used all over Britain from southern Scotland to Devon and Cornwall, consists of two wooden arches that are joined together by two wooden panels, one on each side with a gap in the centre over the backbone. In the past, old oak beer barrel staves were often used to make these panels, and the arches were usually of ash, about 1 ½ inches thick and 3 inches wide. The “feet” of the rear arches were about 25

inches apart, of the front arch about 17 inches. The gap between the arches was about 14 ½ inches. This size seems to fit a wide variety of ponies, in varying condition - I think that the curve combined with plenty of padding must be very adaptable. The padding consists of two separate pads of hessian or jute stuffed with straw, the front and rear edges turned up and tacked to the outside of the arches through a strip of leather to reduce the risk of tearing at the tacks. A pair of girths are nailed or screwed to the arches close to the outer surface of the wooden panels, a crupper and/or breeching is fastened to the rear arch to prevent the saddle from slipping forward when going down hill, and a breast collar to the front arch to stop it from slipping back going up hill. Rope can be used but leather straps are better. A long surcingle or “wantie” is used to go over the load to hold it in place, and for some loads, a long rope is also used, especially with the “Diamond Hitch”.

Some loads can be carried in panniers, a pair of bags or baskets that



Dorsal boxes with hinged base. Photo source, The Donkey Sanctuary

are usually joined so that they can hang over the saddle, often with open tops for ease of loading. Some bulky loads like dung or seaweed, or sand and gravel can be carried in “dung pots” or “dorsals”, or in Ireland, a “par-dog”. This is a pair of boxes or baskets that have hinged bottoms, so that by unfastening the catch, the load can fall to the ground. A different kind of box, again in pairs, has an open front so that heavy or awkward loads can be lifted in and then fastened with ropes or straps. Milk was often carried like this, in a pair of cans holding perhaps 6 or 8 gallons each. These open fronted boxes can be seen at the Hawes Museum in Wensleydale, where they are called Hebbles. The standard load of a pack horse on the long distance routes was 2 hundredweight, one on each side; this is probably why beer is still measured in multiples of nine gallons, which with weight of the oak barrel itself makes half a load.

Also at the Hawes Museum are a pair of very simple Crooks for carrying hay

or bracken or corn. They consist of a pair of semicircles of hazel or willow rods, the semicircles filled with a very loose network of binder twine (sisal cord) and joined so that they hang over the saddle projecting outwards to support a bulky load such as hay. A stronger version of crooks was made from sawn spars or round poles to make a frame that fits over the saddle. In recent times crooks were sometimes of iron. They could carry loads like wet seaweed or firewood.

The best height for a pack pony is about 13 hh. 14 hh makes it difficult to lift loads onto the saddle, so the old fashioned smaller Fell Pony was ideal. Not all ponies take readily to a pack load, so it is advisable to train it, by putting the saddle on its back for an hour or two while tied up, and then taking it out a few times with light loads that are expendable.

*By Walter Lloyd,
author of “How to build a Bow Top”
December 2010*



Crooks for bulky loads. Photo source, The Donkey Sanctuary.



Walking with Fell Ponies



On the Howgill fells

Many of you will have seen the set of 5 short films that I made with Emma Aylett last year for the Fell Pony Breeders Association, following Bert Morland, Bill Potter, Andrew Thorpe, Thomas Capstick, Christine and Alison Morton.

I had hoped to capture as much knowledge as possible, but soon realised that much of the knowledge we carry is hard to put into words, even for someone who has spent their life amongst ponies, and even harder when there is a camera pointing at you. But right at the end of the filming process whilst interviewing Alison Morton, she expressed it beautifully.

"Sometimes you've just got to live it. Haven't you?"

And so what I have tried to do with these films is capture a sense of what it is like to breed ponies on the open fell first hand, and to try and capture some of their own ways of handling semi-feral ponies, and hopefully to inspire others to go out and do the same.

Even before starting filming, I was aware that the big story is really about how we preserve the semi-feral herds in the future, and that there is a bigger film to be made. After many weeks of editing the footage I had gathered over the last year, there were many, many shots and pieces of interview that were



In the Howgills

little gems, but I couldn't make fit into the films. I needed a way to turn the 5 shorts into a longer documentary. But short films are an art in themselves, and putting a few shorts together doesn't make a longer film. You need more layers of story to weave the shorter sequences together.

I had also been struggling with the amount of footage I had that was typical wet windy snowy Cumbria, and little of mares and foals in the sun. So I decided to get out onto the fells with my cameras, and this soon became a plan to walk with my camera gear on pack ponies across the Howgills, revisiting the breeders I had already filmed.

At the end of August 2010, a group of seven of us and four ponies set off from Murthwaite heading up into the heart of the Howgills, with the intention of making it over to Colin and Heather Roberts' Bybeck farm at Tebay. The first couple of hours we were having to stop every 5 or 10 minutes to straighten and re-tie our loads. We were using an assortment of traditional and hand fashioned packs

and bags. Each had their problems. By lunchtime we had made it into Bowderdale.

We walked for miles and miles that day. We saw a few ponies, but the mares with foals I suspect were always in the next valley. Camera shy.

At the edge of dark we made it to Bybeck where we met up with our wives, partners and children, and another friend Jonah Maurice with his young daughter Hester and their 5 year old unregistered fell gelding Seamus. Jonah had missed the first day as we had thought it too far and tricky for young children. We were right in that call, but the next 2 days were easy travelling and we were now 13 adults and 5 ponies.

We left Tebay towards Greenholme. We waded across the Lune, found many beautiful camps on the sides of lanes, and (as always when travelling with horses) were frequently meeting people who wanted to know what we were doing and where we were going.

The third day it rained. Constantly sideways. But by late afternoon we had made it to Bampton, where we made

camp on the rough common at the edge of the village and found good food in the pub.

Here our numbers grew again with some friends joining us who I had travelled with from Cumbria to Cornwall in 1995 with two ponies and a small dray.

Our plan was now High Street, the great old Roman Road. So the 4th day was just a couple of miles up the slopes to make ready for a big day ahead.

What can I say about that day?

That the weather was perfect?

That the ponies were beautifully behaved?

That the scenery was awe inspiring?

That without fail everyone we passed wished that they were in our shoes?

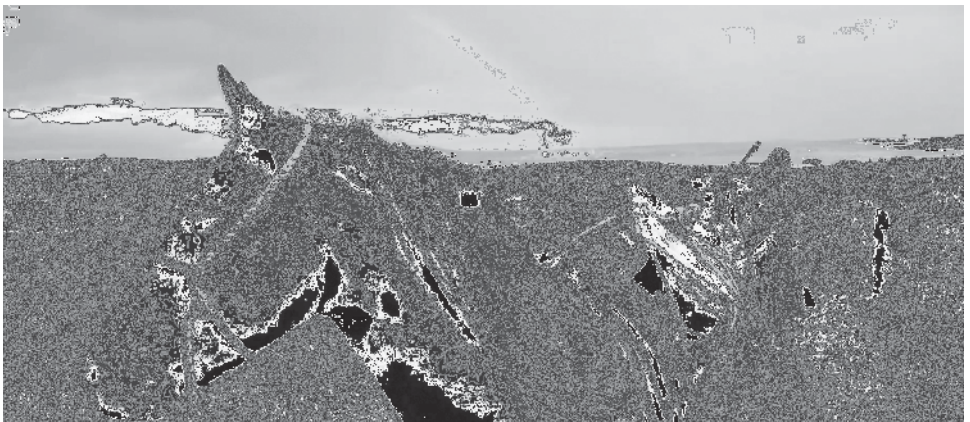
All of the above and much more.

I got some great shots that make a beautiful sequence on film. And now begins the ever so slow process of trying to weave a bigger story.

What I am hoping to do with the footage now is open it up to look at what we might do now to help preserve the semi-feral herds. We all know that the breeders are an ageing population, and for someone to start a new herd would require not only the will, but the finances to buy a farm with fell rights.

It is not that there is no-one who has the desire to take on or start a new herd, but we need to see the big players round the table, talking and planning to make it easier to be able to get access to the fells, farms and rights.

My own view is that we should see DEFRA and the National Park round the table alongside the FPS and hill breeders. If we could at least establish one herd that is subsidised then someone could be paid a wage to manage it on a long term basis. It would not have to be a huge income if for example the National Park could provide a farm with fell rights and enough land to make a go of it. That way, while other herds may reduce in numbers or disperse completely, we



Between Shap and Bampton on the "cement road" when the rain finally showed signs of letting up



On High Street: Hades Hill Fairmile

will have had the vision to maintain at least one semi-feral herd as part of our heritage.

Many of the existing Fell pony hill breeders also have a stock of hill sheep on the open fell. Perhaps a subsidised herd could combine with a flock of sheep?

I can't say I have all the answers, but I am aware that if we are to preserve semi-feral herds for our future, we must start to act now.

Tom Lloyd, January 2011



I'm here somewhere! One of the Charltons' Linnel ponies during the December snowfall.



On the Hoof to Smithfield



Setting off over the Drovers' Bridge on Skye

City gents in their bowler hats could be forgiven for doing a double take on 25th August 2010 when they met two Fell ponies riding through the City of London. For Murthwaite Mikado (Micky) and Murthwaite Magic Spell (Magic), it was a special day in marking the end of our 900 mile journey on the hoof from the Isle of Skye in the footsteps of the drovers, in aid of Cancer Research. For other Fell ponies, it was a momentous day in proving just how versatile the breed is, how much stamina they have - and that the Metropolitan police are clearly riding the wrong horses!

My telephone call to the police a few days previously to discuss my route had met with a mixture of incredulity, that anyone could be daft enough to think of riding one pony through London leading a second pony with a pack on, outrage from the inspector who maintained that I had no right to do so, and fear from the person in charge of training the Met's police horses. Apparently it takes them 6 months of careful acclimatisation before they dare take any horse on the streets.

Many never make the grade because they fail to cope with the claustrophobia of riding between high rise mirror-sided buildings.

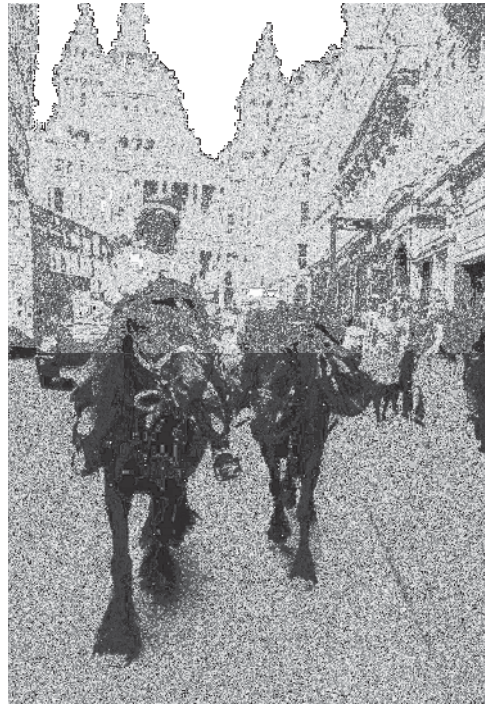
I concluded it was better not to mention some of Micky and Magic's escapades over the preceding 8 weeks: galloping off into the gloaming over the hills and far away while I fastened a gate, the impromptu race down the A7 south of Hawick with two thoroughbreds in an adjacent field, or my being pulled off backwards on a road at the end of a long day when Magic paused momentarily to relieve herself, and Micky's brakes failed.

Perhaps Micky's twitching ears really had taken note, at last, of my threats if he didn't behave. I'd been telling him since we set off from Dunvegan about the 100,000 cattle which for centuries walked on the hoof from the Highlands of Scotland to Smithfield market, and that if he wasn't careful, he would meet a similar fate. Having snorted at every pigeon we'd met on our journey, when we reached London, butter wouldn't

melt in Micky's mouth. Magic, as ever, was a real trooper, taking everything calmly in her steady stride.

Nothing could be more different from the rugged mountains over which we'd ridden across the Cuillins on Skye, around Ben Nevis and down the Devil's Staircase into Glencoe; from the drove road we'd followed across the North Yorks Moors; the cabbage fields we'd ridden through in Lincolnshire on our way to the former market near Norwich, or the ancient Icknield Way we had followed from Thetford down to Newmarket. Yet Micky and Magic never batted an eyelid as we rode past the 2012 Olympic developments, the Gherkin and endless other iconic London landmarks. High rise buildings, the mirror windows, double decker and bendy buses, ambulances and police cars screaming past with sirens blaring, jackhammers, flyovers, cranes, trains, traffic lights, roundabouts, people who'd read about us in the Telegraph the previous day who ran out to shake my hand ... you name it, we met it, and wondered what all the fuss was about. Only the revolving adverts on the end of bus shelters prompted a quizzical look from Micky, who was clearly thinking "you don't get those where I come from".

Those who think that we were probably too tired by the time we reached London to flinch at anything don't know us well enough. I am full of admiration for those perfectly schooled ponies who behave impeccably all the time, but sadly mine aren't in that category. The fitter they are, the greater their capacity for pranks. Equally, I know that I can count



Nearly there—heading for Smithfield with St Paul's Cathedral in the background.

Photo © Martin Spaven

on them when the chips are down. They have proved time and again that they are more than willing and able to climb every mountain and ford every stream the length of Britain, to sail over the sea from Skye on an open-sided ferry, to survive overnight in exposed mountain sheep fanks in torrential rain with nothing to eat. And never to complain as I ride along singing "Let me take you on the hoof and lead you through the streets of London, I will show you something ..."

You can read more about our ride on www.ride-for-research.org, or www.droversfootsteps.blogspot.com. Donations to Cancer Research can still be made online at www.justgiving.com/droversfootsteps, or sent to Vyv Wood-Gee, Shortrigg, Hoddum, Lockerbie, Dumfries DG11 1AW.



North East Area Support Group



Wansfell Tobias

One of the highlights of 2010 was the new Inter - Area Championship which took place at the Southern Show in September. The North East Area Group held two qualifying events at Lanchester Show and Hexham Native Horse & Pony Show. Wansfell Tobias (Toby) owned and exhibited by Heather Mawrey was selected to represent the North East Area Group.

Toby had a great show, winning both the gelding and bay/brown championships.

The Inter-Area winner was Llancloudy Gabriel with Ludworth Donna in reserve.

We shall be holding two qualifiers during 2011. If any member living in the south of our region can suggest a show/venue where future qualifiers may be held, please let me know as I realise that the two shows we are currently using are both in the northern part of the area.

Our final event of 2010 was our annual pleasure ride which took place on Sunday 4th October in Hamsterley Forest. Saturday had been a lovely sunny day so when we woke on Sunday morning to the sound of rain we were not put off. More than 30 riders came to enjoy the wildlife and scenic views but I have no photographs from this event because it turned out to be the wettest day imaginable. We thought we might keep fairly dry riding between the trees but it just kept coming down in torrents. The idea of a group picnic was forgotten as we huddled together in the back of trailers, with water dripping in parts I dare not mention, and then rushed off home for a change of clothing. To my annoyance, at about 3pm, the sky brightened and the sun shone and it turned into a beautiful afternoon. Far too late!

During January 2011 our annual Newsletter was sent out to all North East Area members. It would be a tremendous saving both in printing costs, postage costs and my time, if this could be emailed so if you are happy to receive the newsletter by email, please let me have your email address. Details of all our events and appropriate contact details and/or application forms will be displayed

on the FPS Website and on my own website at www.rackwoodfellponies.co.uk as they become available. All FPS members are welcome to participate and places are allocated on a first come basis.

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Email: rackwoodeileen@yahoo.com or eileen@rackwoodfellponies.co.uk



Midlands East Area Support Group

The Midlands East group had a busy time last year. 3 shows were held at Gotham show ground by Christine Poole with good turnout from both fell ponies and friends. These are great starter or warm up shows for anyone but especially welcoming if you feel you need a little bit extra help or encouragement. There are lots of rosettes so no one goes home empty handed. Classes include traditional showing, trotting and handy pony, with a bit of jumping for the intrepid.

October saw the MESHG host a successful judges' conference on behalf of the FPS for Fells, Dales and Highlands.

In November a contingent of Fell ponies attended the Vintage Tractor and Heritage Breed Show at Newark Showground. This is an excellent showcase of our native breeds and everyone worked hard to show them as they would have been in the past. Nichola Ash took Ludworth Viking and his son Ludworth Viking Silver as well as her mare Notlaw Linnet and did a lovely ridden show for the public. They also held an excellent raffle with very good prizes raising £100 for the FPS and donating a lot of feed vouchers to Bransby home of rest for horses. Janet Copeland and Andy Gibson took Baronhill Ariel and her foal Severnvale Kirby, the former of which was shown happily carrying a pack around the ring as she would have done across the fells (*photo in centre pages*). As representatives of the Fell Pony Society we won first prize for the best presented stall.

A well attended Christmas dinner saw our return to the Fairways Restaurant, Six Hills. Following a tasty 3 course meal as well as coffee and mince pies, the obligatory raffle was held and the FPS merchandise stall did a good trade.

Very sadly the Christmas show had to be cancelled due to the large amount of snow and ice around at that time. If only we had a crystal ball, as that particular day dawned bright and clear! Sadly decisions cannot be left until the last minute and we did not want to risk anyone or any pony slipping on the ice.

We are looking forward to our upcoming presentation evening for points gained at events during 2010 and winter socials; do come along if you can.

We would be pleased to see some new faces at our shows and events this year.



MESG Fell Spring Show 2011

The third annual MESG Fell Spring Show is to take place on Sunday 10 April at Bury Farm Equestrian Centre in Slapton, near Leighton Buzzard. It's a great chance to start the season among friends and an ideal time to introduce novice ponies or riders to the show ring. There are in-hand and ridden showing classes, as well as children's classes and dressage, working hunter pony and handy pony. New this year is a Performance Pony trophy, to be awarded to the top scoring pony which competes in dressage, WHP and handy pony. Performance rosettes will be awarded to sixth place, and there will be a special prize for the highest placed veteran (15 years and over).

The Spring Show also hosts the first of the MESG's qualifiers for the Inter Area In-hand Championship. The highest placed MESG members in each in-hand class will go forward to a mini-championship, and the winner of that championship will be eligible to compete in the final at the Southern Show in September.

Overnight stabling is available at Bury Farm, and there will be a pre-show meal at a local pub. Details of local B&Bs are available on the show website www.fellsspringshow.com

Sponsors are needed to help cover the many costs involved in staging the show. Sponsorship starts from £10 for class sponsorship or if you would like to help further you can sponsor an arena, or the paramedics. Volunteers are also needed to help on the day. If you could steward or write for a dressage judge please get in touch with Georgina Blair, Show organiser on 07796 685992 or mesgspringshow@fsmail.net

And lastly, can anybody help? An experienced SWSG member who lost her pony last year would love to ride at the Spring Show - if you need a rider for your pony please get in touch with Georgina and she'll pass your details on.



Scotland Area Support Group

We have organised a short meeting aimed at setting up an area committee, followed by a talk by Vyv Wood-Gee, for Sunday 3rd April 2011 (day after FPS AGM). Venue: Allanbank Hotel, Greenloaning, Dunblane FK15 OLX (just off A9).

12 noon - Optional Pub Lunch

1 pm - Members' meeting to form committee

1.30 pm - Talk by Vyv Wood-Gee on her 2010 journey "From Skye to Smithfield"

2.30 pm - Tea/coffee and chat

RSVP by 21st March 2011 by phone or email, so that we can confirm catering numbers.

Diane Meikle, Tel: 01847 851 448, diane.meikle@btinternet.com



Midlands West Area Support Group

2010 saw the Midlands West Group enjoying a very successful season of events.

The first event was in March when a showing clinic was held at Glebe Farm, Craven Arms, Shropshire organised by Jane Cooper and team. Mary Longsdon was invited to act as judge. Everybody had a very enjoyable and interesting day thanks to Jane and her team.

This was followed by our annual pleasure ride over Cannock Chase in May, kindly organised again by Sandra Newcombe. Despite the smaller number of riders taking part this year everybody had an enjoyable ride.

June saw another successful Derbyshire Fell and Dales show at Bakewell Showground with Highland ponies coming on board this year.

At the end of July the group met at Seighford, Staffordshire for the annual Yews Farm Leg It (trotting races and gymkhana).

In the beginning of August the group met at Comer Wood, Dudmaston Hall, Shropshire to watch a superb logging demonstration given by Richard Channing and the Channing Family's super pony Brocklebeck Border Buster. The group also had chance to visit the gardens at Dudmaston by kind permission of the National Trust. Also in August, Lesley Weston led out a good turn out of ponies and riders across Burwarton Park, Shropshire for a group pleasure ride with the kind permission of Lord Boyne.

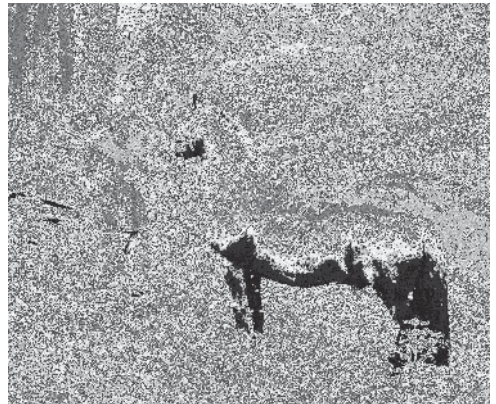
October saw us all enjoying lunch at the Derbyshire home of Hugh and

Elizabeth Marshall for our annual luncheon. The guest speaker was Margaret Murray who gave the group an exceptional talk. There were also the usual events such as the pudding competition, Fell Photo Show and raffle. The FPS merchandise was also available. The winners of this year's group activity awards were also announced.

Finally in November the group held their AGM at Joan and Keith Dorman's. The meeting was open to all members of the group. Following the meeting we all enjoyed a veritable feast provided by Joan and Keith.

A report of all these events will be featured in our next group newsletter (due out very soon).

Following the group AGM in November 2010 another season of events has been planned, which we hope, will appeal to all. Please note at the time of publication all of these dates and



Richard Channing and "Buster" in the midst of the woods at Dudmaston Hall, Shropshire

venues may be subject to change, but our group newsletter will confirm most of these and contact telephone numbers are included below for anyone wishing to find out more.

Saturday March 19th 2011 - Illustrated Talk By Vyv Wood-Gee on her epic journey from the Isle of Skye to London's Smithfield. Commencing at 12.00 noon at the William Shrewsbury County Primary School, Burton on Trent, DE13 0HE. The talk will be followed by a buffet lunch. All are welcome. Admission (including lunch) £5 (children under 16 half price).

Tickets are available from Mary Longsdon, Eaglets, Little Longstone, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1NN. Telephone 01629 640709.

There will also be a Chinese Auction. If you would like to donate an auction prize please contact Diane Key on 01785 822723.

Sunday May 8th 2011 - Pleasure Ride on Cannock Chase. Once again Sandra Newcombe has kindly offered to organise a ride across Cannock Chase. Rosettes for all taking part in the ride. Riders should have their own insurance. Ride will leave at 12.30 prompt. For more details please contact Sandra on 07947 708081.

Sunday June 26th 2011 - Fell Dales and Highland Pony Show at Bakewell Show Ground. For schedules and details please contact Mary Longsdon on 01629 640709 The Eaglets, Little Longstone, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1NN.

Saturday 2nd July 2011 - Wales and Mid West Fell Pony Fun Show. With dressage class. This event will be

held, weather permitting at Glebe Farm, The Fish, Hopesay, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 8HG. For schedules and more information please contact Jane Cooper on 07916 812263.

Sunday July 31st 2010 - 'The LEG IT' Midlands West Trotting Races (plus Adult & Children's Gymkhana) at The Yews Farm, Seighford, Stafford ST18 9PQ by kind permission of Mr and Mrs F C Waterfall. A great fun day for us and our ponies! For more information please telephone Diane Key 01785 822723 or email diane@fellpony.me.uk.

Sunday 30th October 2011 - Annual Luncheon at the home of Hugh and Elizabeth Marshall at Merefield, Oaks Green, Sudbury, (Near Uttoxeter), Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 5HX with guest speaker, Fell Pony Photo Show, Pudding Competition and Fell Pony Society merchandise for sale. If you would like to attend this highly popular event please telephone Elizabeth Marshall on 01283 585358 one week before as places are limited.

Other Possible Events:

Mid Season Pleasure Ride at Burwarton Park, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

Driving Event at Scropton, Near Uttoxeter, Derbyshire. A demonstration aimed at introducing driving. Ideal for anyone thinking about starting to drive. For more information please contact Sarah Clements/John Harding on 01889 508745.

The Spring issue of Midlands West Group newsletter will be available shortly and if you have any sales or wants to be advertised FREE OF CHARGE please contact Diane Key on

01785 822723 or email
diane@fellpony.me.uk

If you would like to join the Midlands West Fell Pony Support Group please contact Membership Secretary Mrs Lisa Williams, tel. 01270 747117, or send a £4 cheque made payable to the Midlands West Fell Pony Society Support Group to:

37 Linley Grove, Alsager, Stoke on Trent, ST7 2PR, with name and address and, if applicable, email address details. Thank you for your support -

new members with or without ponies are always very welcome.

For more details about the group please visit www.westmids-fellponies.org.uk

*Group Leader: Anne Shuker
Tel: 01629 822098
Secretary: Diane Key
Tel: 01785 822723*



North West Area Support Group

As I write, our last event has been an Emma Williams Training Day at Great Asby. This is now a regular event for riders to improve on their skills from four times Olympia Fell Pony Finalist, Emma Williams, and her husband Brian who is also an Olympia Finalist!! This event will be held again for those who missed it. All abilities catered for.

Our Foal Show was held on 20th November at Inglewood Equestrian Centre. Whilst entries were down on previous years, the rain and snow held off and a good sociable day was had by all. Thornbeck Amy was the winning Filly, owned and bred by Michael Rawlinson, and the winning Colt was Bracklinn Crosbie, owned and bred by Alistair Smith of Perthshire. Next year's Foal Show will be at the same time of year also at Inglewood, Penrith.

This year's **CUMBRIA FELL AND DALES PONY SHOW** will be on Sat 4th June. This is a week later than last year.

We are delighted to tell Members that we will be holding a **HOYS Fell Pony Qualifier** and a **Regional Olympia Dales Pony Qualifier**. The show is on the same field as previous years. We hold classes for everyone. We have In Hand, Ridden, Working Hunter and Dressage classes for both Fell and Dales Ponies.

Whilst we host NPS Qualifiers for the serious competitor, we also hold classes for the novice pony and rider such as "Pony in its first season showing" and "Traditional Walk and Trot" classes. We have a wide variety of dressage tests: Introductory Walk & Trot test and Prelim and Novice tests which carry qualification to NPS Dressage Finals at Addington, Bucks.

Despite generous support from Carrs Agriculture and Paragon Veterinary Group, Cumbria Fell & Dales 2010 made a loss of £250 last year, so in order to ensure this doesn't happen again, entry fees will have to increase.

(Continued on page 72)

To cover last year's loss, a fund raising show is planned for the 10th April at Inglewood, see below.

WARM-UP SHOW, 10TH APRIL, INGLEWOOD EC, PENRITH

This show will hold In Hand and Flat Ridden Classes. You can find the schedule on the FPS web site under North West Area and on www.sparketmillcottage.co.uk. In Hand classes will be in the morning and Ridden in the afternoon. We will put Young Handler and Young Rider Classes on for our younger Members to make it a family show. Hopefully, everyone will be able to use the show as a good warm-up to the summer shows so we anticipate new young ponies as well older ponies we already know! We may have to ballot entries if we have a huge entry as parking at Inglewood can be

limited. If we do, please can I ask for your understanding.

Our area belongs to all Fell Pony Society Members in the North West. If anyone wishes to arrange their own activity, please let us know and we will give you all the help and publicity you may require.

The FPS North West Support Group is now on Facebook! Please find us on CUMBRIA FELL AND DALES PONY SHOW page. Feel free to post your area pics, stories and notes there for us to see! We will put schedules, area news and any changes on there.

*With All the best for 2011,
Ellen Jones and Hilary Fawcett.
01768 341417, 01768 483511
www.sparketmillcottage.co.uk*



Farmkey are the original freeze-marking company with over 30 years experience. We offer discounts for Fell Pony Society members as well as discounts for group bookings. We offer a nationwide service and are happy to come out to one pony or to groups. We

offer our unique 4 digit code, which you can personalise if you want, or our trade marked micro-mark for micro-chipped horses. So please contact us on 0870 870 7107 or visit us at www.Farmkey.com for further details.



Overseas Branch News—France

It has been fairly quiet this winter for most Fell owners in France. We've had some very cold weather and a fair covering of snow during December. Spring and Summer bring events and competitions to take part in and continue to help promote the breed.



Heltondale Stroller

Lydia Brumm and her family own and breed Fells in the north east of France, last year she brought in a new stallion, Heltondale Stroller (Tebay Campbellton Victor x Heltondale May Dew). He has a nice character and good qualities, and his first foals for Lydia will be born this year. Lydia has now got a couple of generations in her stock. We also had news from a French lady north of Paris who sent word of her Fell gelding Guards Fred who is a wonderful family pony, can turn his hoof to everything asked of him and is loved by all.

Bracklinn Red Lady - owned by the Globetrotter Stud - had her first foal at age 12, a lovely strong colt born in October 2010 - Globetrotter Phantom, a late foal but worth the wait! Lady is proving to be an excellent broodmare and both mare and foal have wintered well. Phantom's sire is Murthwaite Oliver. The Globetrotter Stud also hosted a long reining demo for members of the Charente Horse Group in January 2011 which was a success with over 20 people attending. Townend Oran was long reined and showed herself off well, and Skelgill May (Precious) came out of retirement and demonstrated her skills in harness, and allowed those who wished to have a go at long reining using the Danish style.



Guards Fred

Interest in the breed remains small but constant within France, and there is light at the end of the tunnel with Haras Nationaux (French National Stud) towards supporting other breeds growing in numbers and interest within their country in a more positive manner. More will be known on this during the coming year and hopefully the Fell Pony can gain more recognition in France. For further information about the French Branch or for a list of future events planned, please contact us. Best wishes for 2011.

Branch Secretary - Fleur Hallam

www.freewebs.com/associationponyfell or email fellponyfrance@aliceadsl.fr



The year 2010 was very busy for me as the Belgium Branch representative of the FPS. As you know I took on the challenge, together with Roy Ottink, to organise a European International Breed show.

Considering the fact that Roy has been in contact with the Fell probably half his life and I only for the last 6 years or so, we divided the workload between promotional activities and the “paperwork”.

Roy knows lots of people so it was clear from the start that he would take the lead in organising the breed show and I would take care of all the administrative duties that come along with such an enterprise.

We both dedicated a lot of time to it, and were confident that we would be able to pull it off. However, as reported in the last Magazine, we had to postpone the breed show to 2011. The planned date proved to be a problem for a number of foreign breeders. It would be difficult to have enough entries. Considering the costs involved with organising the show, including providing accommodations for the Fells for a couple of days, we had to decide to postpone the show.

This was a big disappointment for both of us. In the article for the autumn 2010 Magazine we expressed our confidence that we would be able to simply change Breed Show 2010 into Breed Show 2011.

But, you never know what life has in store for you!

Due to circumstances the intended location for the breed show is no longer available. This leaves us with the problem that all the plans we made so far, will have to be rewritten. Major problem however is that a suitable new location is hard to find, especially if you are starting a new event with no financial means to work with. At this moment the odds that we will succeed in finding a new location in time, are not in our favour.

Of course, we hope that our luck changes. Sometimes things have a way to turn out just fine. For this moment, we don't see how we can set a date for a show if we don't have a 100 % certainty that we have a location available.

We keep looking for opportunities to make the idea of an international breed show a reality. Perhaps 2011 is simply not our year to make it happen.

*Mia Aerdtz
Representative Belgian Branch
28 January 2011*



Overseas Branch News—Denmark

In August 2010, the Dansk Fell Pony Forening received branch status, which we are very proud of.

2010 has been an active year for our group. Our members have been really good at showing the Fell Pony in many different ways and venues around Denmark. In Denmark the biggest equestrian event is “The great horse day”. The show was held at one of Denmark’s largest fairgrounds from Friday morning to Sunday night, and 14,383 people visited the event. More than 1000 horses and ponies were judged, and numerous clinics were held. 18 Fell Ponies were judged, and we ran a 6 minutes demonstration both days showing the use of the Fell Pony, both as driving and riding ponies. We had an information stand where people could ask questions, which was manned by members of the show committee and the board, introducing many interested visitors to the fantastic Fell Pony.

In November, we had our second annual Fell Pony show. Again we had the pleasure of having Mr. Peter Boustead judging. Mr Boustead held a seminar, and made us all much more enlightened regarding our great pony. 20 ponies were judged and this year we also had ridden classes. We all had lots of fun, especially doing the trotting event, which some even did without saddle! The children’s ridden classes (*photo below*) were a big success, and the looks of pride in the faces of the little ones were absolutely wonderful. It really made all the hard work putting on the show, worthwhile.

Please take a look at our web site: www.danskfellponyforening.dk where you will find videos and lots of pictures from the events.

Best regards and wishes for a long and nice summer to all the Fell Pony people around the world, from Denmark.

*Iben Toft Simonsen,
Dansk Fell Pony Forening*





Overseas Branch News—Fell Pony Society of North America



Ann Fiore, Jessica Viveiros, and Hinte (Photo courtesy of Kathryn King Leacock)

The Fell Pony Society of North America has had another busy year. Our members and their ponies have again participated in a variety of events from coast to coast. FPSNA sponsors competitions and awards programs designed to encourage participation by our members, to promote the breed and of course also to have fun with our ponies. These include sponsorship of the USDF All-Breeds Program. In this program, registered Fell ponies may compete in in-hand or dressage classes (Training Level through Grand Prix) in recognized USDF/USEF competitions and earn special awards for Fell Ponies sponsored by FPSNA. The All-Breeds Award recipients for 2010 were: Champion Fell Pony, Kevin Tarsagian's Hinte (Heltondale Bobby x Drybarrows Linda), ridden by Jessica Viveiros. Hinte competed at four competitions in 15 classes with scores ranging from 59.211% to 68.889%, and a median score of 63.422. Hinte was awarded First Place for First Level both at Adult Amateur and Open. Reserve Champion Fell Pony, Laurelhighland Victor (Towerview Spirit of Joy x Sleddale Lib V) owned by Lisa Lindholm of Minnesota, and ridden by Keri Erickson, competed at four competitions in 13 classes with scores ranging from 59.429% to 65.600%, and a median score of 63.056. Victor was awarded 2nd Place for Open 1st Level.

FPSNA also co-sponsored the 3rd Annual National Dressage Pony Cup July 30- August 1, 2010 in Wilmington, Ohio, including Fell Pony High Point Breed Award (for Ridden Dressage Classes for Ponies ages 4 years and up). Hinter, owned by Kevin Tarsagian of Rhode Island, was the National Dressage Pony Cup Fell Pony Champion and also 1st Level Champion with a score average of 68%, ridden by Jessica Viveiros.

In addition, FPSNA also again co-sponsored Mixed Mountain and Moorland competitions, including the Welsh Pony and Cob Association of California's annual Pacific Coast Classic at Brookside Equestrian Park in Elk Grove, California, in September 2010. Seven Fells participated in this Mountain & Moorland show. It was judged by Mr. D.S. Lloyd from Teifi Stud, Temple Bar, Lampeter, Ceredigion, UK. The Fell Ponies' placings in the M&M classes were as follows:

CLASS 150 - Mountain and Moorland Pony 3 and Under

2. Braeberry Magna Carta (Handler: Jami Collins, Owner: Susie Atchley)

3. Laurelhighland Oliver (Handler: Christel Grigard, Owner: René Bender, Fell Legend Farm)

4. Braeberry Whimsical Legend (Britney Benson, Owner: René Bender, Fell Legend Farm)

CLASS 151 - Mountain and Moorland Pony 4 and Over

3. BroughHill Hadrian's Wall (Kate Stuehm, Owner: René Bender, Fell Legend Farm)

4. Stonecreek Spencer (Handler: Nicole Valliancourt, Owner: Elaine Dunson)



Braeberry Magna Carta (Handler: Jami Collins, Owner: Susie Atchley) at Pacific Coast Classic in California

CLASS 152 - NPS America Champion and Reserve M&M Pony: Braeberry Magna Carta won a spot in this championship class.

CLASS 154 - Ridden M&M

2. BroughHill Hadrian's Wall (Rider: Kate Stuehm Owner: René Bender, Fell Legend Farm)

CLASS 156 - Novice Ridden M&M

1. Stonecreek Spencer (Rider and Owner: Elaine Dunson)

We also held the 3rd Annual FPSNA Pony Points Program, a year-long competition aimed at getting all our members out and about and helping to promote the breed with their Fell ponies. For the 3rd year in a row, our winners were Oregon's Sherry Bouris with MustaHevonen Taisto, whom she calls "Royce". They participated in numerous and varied outings this year, earning themselves 19 points and another consecutive win. Events included Airplane Desensitizing Clinics, parades, group trail rides and 4H

clinics, just to name a few. Way to go Team Royce. Our runner-up this year is Cara Hartigan and Laurelhighland Pearl, owned by Ann Riveiro. This was Cara's first time participating, and she did a great job with Pearl, taking her to four different events including a gymkhana and a six day horse show. Great effort from this first-time team. Other participants in the program this year included Vivian Hall with FellConnection Thunder, and Nancy Weiss with Laurelhighland Lily of the Valley & Laurelhighland Sonny Boy.

FPSNA members also attended several large exhibitions and other similar venues where spectators were able to learn more about the Fell Pony. Among these were the Bristol Renaissance Faire that was held throughout the summer weekends in Kenosha, Wisconsin, featuring DreamHayven Farm's Littletree Bodini and Lunesdale White Heather, owned by Melissa Kreuzer of Wisconsin. For those who are not familiar with this type of event, a "renaissance faire" is a type of amusement park with a historical theme.

In September, the English Equestrian Studies Program at the University of Findlay (Findlay, Ohio) hosted their fourth annual Equestrian Festival/Mini-Prix. In order to properly welcome new University President Katherine Fell and her husband, Mr. Roger Fell, to their Equestrian Festival, the program coordinators decided that they needed Fell Ponies to greet them. Michael and Beth Knott from Grass Lake, MI., were gracious enough to bring two of their Fell Ponies down to Findlay from Michigan for the festival. President Fell and her husband were thrilled to meet the ponies, Laurelhighland Beauty and Laurelhighland Shimmer.

In October, René Bender (Fell Legend Farm) and Elaine Dunson participated with Fell ponies at the Celtic Fair, in Grass Valley, California. Four ponies attended and represented the Fell pony breed with ridden and on-hands demonstrations. BroughHill Hadrian's Wall and Stonecreek Spencer were dressed in period costumes and rode well next to the boisterous Celtic music, sword fighting and spirited crowds.



*Lisa Lindholm riding Waverhead Robbie at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Canada
Photo © Laurelhighland Farm*

In November, the Fell Pony made its debut at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Canada—the world's largest indoor agricultural fair and international equestrian competition. Drawing more than 340,000 visitors, there are over 1000 horses at the event, in addition to other livestock. Laurel Highland Farm's Waverhead Robbie represented the Fell Pony breed at the "Spirit of the Horse" Exhibit. Robbie was ridden by Lisa Lindholm, the Secretary of FPSNA (who is from Minnesota), for the Fell Pony breed demonstrations.

In December, Fell Legend Farm entered the Lincoln Lights Parade, with 5 Fell ponies dressed in beautiful red costumes, designed and tailored by Elaine Dunson. All the ponies handled this festive event well and the crowds loved them.

In addition, as a great testimony to the versatility of the breed, many of our members enjoy using their ponies for pleasure and/or showing, while others also use them for work and earning their keep. (The latter, for example, include Jenifer Morrissey's Willowtrail Farm Fell Ponies in Colorado, and Adam Schmucker's Fell ponies in New York.) With all of this in mind, FPSNA's new Performance Premium & Awards Program/Fell Pony of the Year Awards, is designed to encourage participation by our members and their Fell ponies throughout a wide range of activities all across North America. This new program is mirrored primarily after the Fell Pony Society (UK) Performance Premium Awards Scheme, and also after the US Equestrian Foundation's Horse of The Year Awards, as well as

incorporating features of our original (and hereby replaced) Pony Points Program. Given the vast size of North America, it is very difficult for rare Fell ponies that are scattered across the continent to get together in sufficient numbers for any meaningful Fell Pony championships. This program will allow members to compete locally, and provide a practical means to participate in North American Fell Pony Championships (through our Fell Pony of the Year Awards.) Performance and Handy Pony divisions include formal competition, non-judged events such as parades, or working pony-type activities, so there is something for everyone in this program. We hope that it will continue to promote the Fell Pony in North America, and encourage our members to go out and have fun with their ponies.

And finally, we would like to thank all of our members who generously donated to support FPSNA in 2010, despite these very difficult economic times, including Marilyn Beaudry, John and Else Brunner, Anita Castricone, Cindy Clevenger, Linda Corlett, Ed Earley and MJ Gould-Earley, Lisa Lindholm, Jan Gustman, Eliza Mitchell, Jenifer Morrissey, and the Baird Foundation, Inc. We also thank those who donated their time: as an organization run by volunteers we could not accomplish all we do without everyone's help.

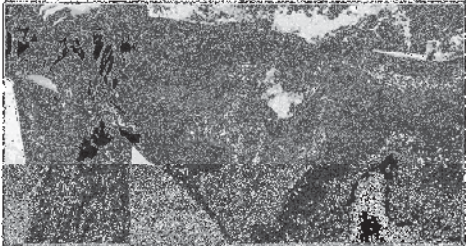
We look forward to sponsoring many more programs and events in 2011. For more information, please see our website at www.fpsna.org, or contact us at info@fpsna.org.

The FPSNA Council

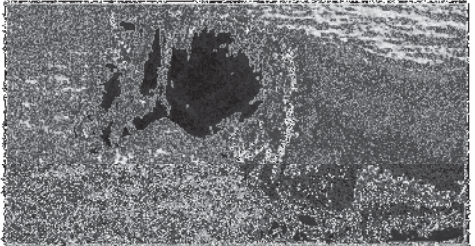


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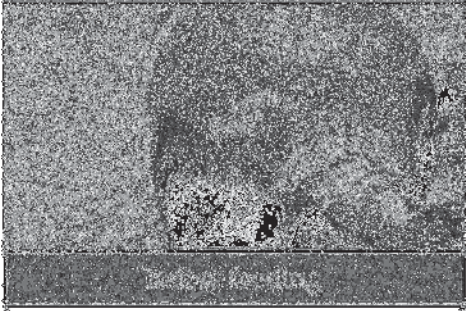
Think Itch - the brand new nutritional supplement for horses sensitive to midges



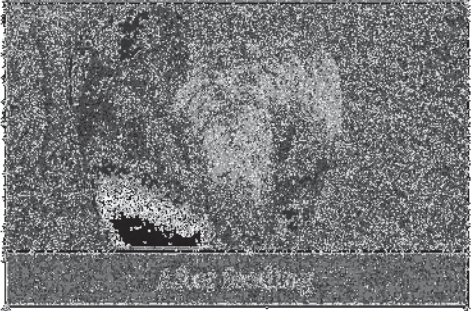
Before feeding



After feeding



Before feeding



After feeding

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Deven Brintcombe Group,
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People and Ponies: A Year in the Prince Philip Cup

It was a truly miserable night back in February 2010 when we realised that due to strict height and weight rules Anna could no longer ride her Welsh B pony in the Atherstone Hunt Games Teams. After much heartache and no new games pony on the horizon we decided to take Aylestone The Merrie Monk along to the Games practices to 'keep Anna's hand in' while we searched for a new partner.

I think our DC's wife thought we had lost our minds when we turned up with Merrie one Friday night!

What we weren't expecting was how good he would turn out to be. Right from the start none of the equipment fazed him and all the dressage training meant that he was quick to respond to the aids and obedient. Within the month he had made it to our 'D' Team and took part in his first Competition at Solihull, where they won the 'D' Final.

From then on the search for a new games pony was put on hold and training began in earnest. At the beginning of April he made the leap onto the 'B' Team and travelled all the way to Cheshire to take part in the first Competition outside, the Team achieving 6th place, the very next weekend it was a journey down to the M25 in Hertfordshire to the Old Berkeley Hunt where they were 8th in a very tough Competition, he then travelled onto Slapton that night for a full days Showing at the Midlands East Support Groups Spring Fell Show the next day!

We spent the summer travelling up and down the country competing although Merrie couldn't quite get the hang of corralling and was found wandering on several occasions.

The biggest highlight was The Chatsworth International Horse Trials where they were 4th in front of a large crowd in the most beautiful Derbyshire surroundings.

May saw the first step to the coveted Prince Philip Cup with the Area Competition, they came a close second to our A Team and landed themselves a place at one of four Zone Finals.

Winners of the Zone book themselves into the PPC Final at Hoys while teams placed 2nd to 9th book a place in the runners up Final at the Pony Club Championships, and teams placed 10th to 13th book a place in the Intermediate Final also held at the PC Championships. We thought with a little luck an 8th or 9th place might be in sight, but on the day we were astounded to achieve 6th place just three points behind the current PPC holders The Percy Hunt!

We were thrilled to ride at the Pony Club Championships and while the Team was not placed we had an amazing time, being one of only three B Teams to ever make it through to this Competition.

Anna and Merrie also kept up their Dressage and Showing through the year achieving a 5th at the Novice Pony Club Dressage Area, a Team 1st in the Dressage to Music at the Pony Club Winter Championships, a place in the third

round of the Fit For The Future Competition at the NPS Championships, The Children's Ridden Champion at the Southern Breed Show and a 10th place in the Novice Dressage to Music at the Pony Club Championships.

Merrie was the only Pony to compete in the Dressage and the Games at the Pony Club Championships. *(Photo inside front cover)*

It was an amazing year for the pair and while Merrie has never lit the Showring alight I am sure you will agree that that he is a true ambassador for the breed.

Isabel and Anastasia Meadows



The FPS Sales List

The Sales list can be accessed on the Fell Pony Society's web site, www.fellponysociety.org/sales_list.htm, or a printed copy is available on receipt of £3 + SAE. Enquiries to Barry Stamp: Tel 01785 822723, e-mail: barry@fellpony.me.uk

The Sales list has 4 sections:

Section 1 - Foals, Yearlings and Two Year Olds.

Section 2 - Three and Four Year Olds

Section 3 - Five Years and Over

Section 4 - Stud adverts (may not contain listings of individual ponies for sale)

NEW

There is a special rate for studs who wish to advertise for a whole year - reducing the cost from £40 (4 three month adverts at £10 each) to just £30 for the whole year if the ad is paid for in one go.

The application form for listing ponies for sale is available on the FPS site:

<http://www.fellponysociety.org/forms/SalesListApplicationForm.htm>

A payment of £10 per listing/pony is required. Details will be included and remain on the list for a maximum period of three months. Please forward pony details together with a cheque payable to 'The Fell Pony Society' to:

Barry Stamp

Deerhurst

Newport Road

Haughton

Stafford

ST18 9JH

Photos may be included in posted listings in the sales list by emailing JPG/JPEG to the webmaster - see the web site, <http://www.fellponysociety.org/forms/SalesListApplicationForm.htm> for details.

Please let Barry Stamp know when a listing can be removed from the list.



People and Ponies: Ludworth Viking

In the short time I have owned Jack he sure has been put through his paces!! He was backed gently before Christmas but then he started having problems with a nasal discharge. Jack had a sinusal cyst in his forehead. I took my vet's advice and he went down to the Royal London equine hospital where he was seen by a specialist who was amazing. We left Jack there for 4 days to have surgery. To the vets' horror the cyst was bigger than expected, but was all removed. He has fully recovered and you would hardly know he had a big operation, but he was lucky as in another few weeks we would have lost him because it was putting pressure on his brain. I'm glad my vet was on the ball.



Cysts are still not really fully understood but the Royal London think it could be a chip of bone that was floating about from a old injury etc, not anything to do with breeding issues, it's just one of those things. Next year I want to try and organise a ride or a show here at our yard and donate the proceeds to the Royal vet school and the Fell Pony Society also.

Well that's the dull side. From March when Jack had completely healed we started hacking out with the others and he never put a foot wrong. In April we took him to a few local shows. He did his first walk and trot dressage test in May at the Sandringham Fell Show and was placed 4th and the next day we went to another show and he took in hand championship, and qualified for Amateurs, Equifest, Royal London, Equestrian life, Horse Parade, Blue Chip Championships etc.

Then we thought "ummmmmmm Concours with Jack" as he is so stunning, so I went to local charity shops and found a Victorian wedding dress which was a wonderful bargain at £45.00 in Karen's size, so I brought it home, got Karen into it and put her on Jack! He didn't care - liked it I think!!

Karen did her first concours and won it, doing a full show in the wind. All the way through Jack was getting better in the ridden classes and taking

championships most weekends. It was great. We took him and his son (Ludworth Viking Silver) to the Amateurs Showing Championships and that was a great few days. On the first evening performance Jack was inside doing the pairs with Gibside Hannah Grace and they were excellent and were placed 3rd, then next class was concours and again Jack was amazing, he also won his M and M in hand class.

We took Jack and Merlin to Equifest and they stayed over for the 4 nights and were good boys. Not many liked the grey Fell, but Jack was again fantastic. We found a stunning black Fell gelding (Lownthwaite Galileo) in a ridden class and asked if they would do the pairs with Jack and Karen, to which they said yes. We had 15 minutes practise and a rummage through lorry to see if top hats etc would fit. That night it rained very badly and the ponies looked drenched. The girls Karen and Sarah were also soaked but got through the pre judging to the final ten pairs. They then had to wait again for the doors and lights and clapping and crowds to go and do their show. They only won it! I nearly had a heart attack, the crowd went crazy and there were many tears of joy.

We have been again to the rare breed show and took one pony of each colour. We raised 50.00 for the society via the raffle and were 3rd in show. We took Ludworth Viking Ludworth Viking Silver and Notlaw Linnet to the parade and they were all fantastic. Karen, my best friend who normally rides, had broken her shoulder, so we asked Megan Millson who rode Viking, Kay Twigger who rode Silver and Jo Carrington Hunt who rode Notlaw Linnet. Karen and I manned the stall which was huge this year and had more information. Also Judy Hill asked us ages ago to attend the Equine Fair in Peterborough and asked if Ludworth Viking would represent the Society in the stallion parade (a long way for 5 minutes but we were honoured to be asked). Karen and I were grooming, he was perfectly behaved and Megan Millson rode him beautifully.

He is a truly amazing pony, takes everything in his stride and just has the most stunning temperament. Hope you enjoy the pictures and the little story. It started as a horrible year but ended up the best.

Thank you to Royal London vet college, my local vet Richard Morris, Mrs Pam Kell, Karen Duncan who rides Jack in the ring for me and is the best friend ever, and everybody who has helped get Jack back to good health. If anybody wants to keep in touch or view pictures etc we are on Facebook - all Fell lovers welcome.

Nichola Ash & Karen Duncan, Fell Fields Stud
ash.nichola@yahoo.com



People and Ponies: Missi and Hanah

It is a big decision to put a mare in foal. It is of paramount importance that the foal produced has a good chance of having a useful place in the equine world.

In mid to late summer of 2008 it became increasingly clear to us that my granddaughter's love of riding, caring for and competing ponies will be more than a passing phase. She enjoys competing in WHP, dressage, mounted games, show jumping and x/country. She is very keen to take part in P.C. eventing when she gets the chance. At 12 years old she was taller than her Mum or me, so it was obvious that with her ambition the best equine partner for her when she reaches her early teens would be a 15'2 hh approx, sports horse.

We felt the best thing we could do was to put my Fell mare, Old Mill Mystique, in foal to a good quality thoroughbred.

In February 2009 we went to look at 16'0 hh advanced event stallion, Washington Postman. We were lucky: the first stallion we looked at was just the type of animal we had in mind. First class manners and temperament, good conformation and excellent paces and a proven service record.

Arrangements were made and later that year Missi went to stud, taking with her many hopes and plans for the future.

Sadly these dreams were to remain just that, dreams.

On Easter Sunday this year with still a month to go before her due date Missi went into premature labour, and her filly foal died during a long and difficult labour. Thanks to the first class skills of our vet we managed to save Missi.

I immediately contacted Joanna Vardon at the National Foaling Bank to put her in the picture, in the hope that a surrogate foal could be found. I decided that I could keep milking Missi until Tuesday lunch time and that length of time would be enough for both of us.

12.30 Tuesday arrived and so far no foal had been found. I had to go out to buy feed for the ponies and just before I left, on the off chance, I contacted the other local equine veterinary practice in our area to put them in the picture.

I am so glad I did. When I returned from my errand it was to deal with several 'phone calls from them and a local dealer / breeder to say that they had lost a Belgian Warmblood mare that morning with a prolapse. They had a strong healthy filly foal in need of a Mum.

At 6-30pm Hanah arrived. Obviously the first worry was, would the size difference be a big issue. It wasn't!

Missi is a natural Mum and while we took all the sensible precautions, carrying out the introductions over a barrier of straw bales, and putting the skin of Missi's foal on Hanah, it went remarkably well. By 8 o'clock Hanah was suckling happily and we left them for a short while and started to get to know her owners over a

much needed cup of tea. By 9 o'clock they were on their way home and I was left as night watchman. It was a joy to see Missi's depression lifting and Hanah suckling and sleeping in the very contented way only new born foals have.

Many people have asked if we think Missi realises that this is not her foal. I think she does. It was her third pregnancy; she knows foals don't disappear at birth and then reappear nearly 3 days later. She wanted a baby and was more than happy to foster one. It is odd to see a foal of four months with its head over the box side by side with Mum's. At that age our Fells can barely get their noses to the top of the door. We anticipate Hanah will make 16'2"-17'0" hands at maturity.

Hanah is due to be weaned and return to her owners at the end of September and I feel we will be able to congratulate Missi on doing a fantastic job in rearing a foal of such a different type to the age of five months. When I purchased my first Fell Pony I was told "You can't put a Fell to the wrong job". It would never have occurred to me all those years ago the "job" I would one day put my Fell mare to.

Well done Missi and Hanah.

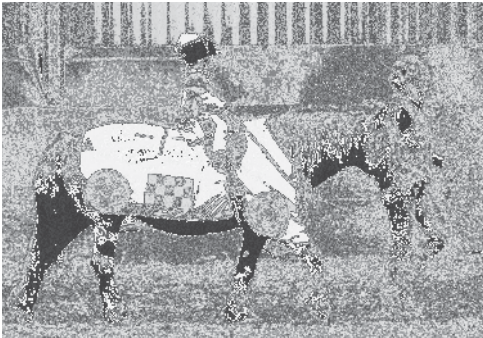
*Jo Ball
Aylestone Stud, Leicester*



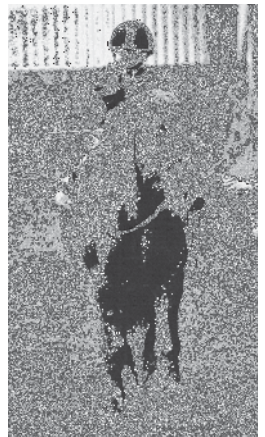
People and Ponies: Emily Cheetham and Greenholme Kirstie

These photos show the next generation of Fell Pony enthusiasts. My daughter Emily at her first show (aged 3 years and 4 days) riding our pony Greenholme Kirstie. I bought Kirstie as a yearling at the Penrith sale in 1999 and she has been a super, versatile, bombproof pony.

She has shown in hand at local shows, taken part in endurance pleasure rides, tried polo, bred a lovely filly by Carrock I'm Yer Man and is now learning to be a lead rein pony while still hacking out with me (mum Jacqueline). After winning a 3rd and 5th place I was so proud of them.



*Mrs Jacqueline
Cheetham
Ceres House, Boyndlie
FRASERBURGH
Aberdeenshire*

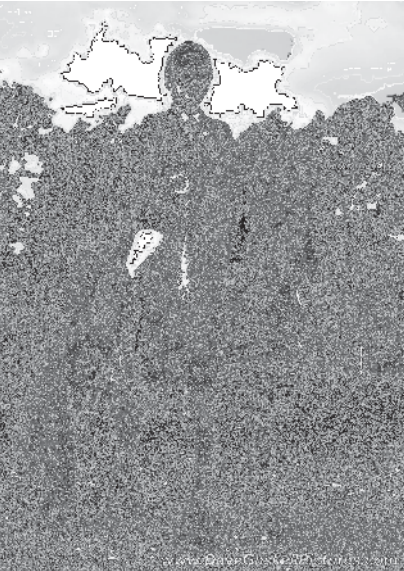




People and Ponies: Townend Ruffle

In 2009 after many years of being successfully by the Williamson family, Townend Ruffle (sire: Heltondale Josh, dam: Townend Truffle II) ridden by Judith Williamson, entered into the Veteran Horse Society showing world. Following her successful start with a win at the 2009 County show and reserve in her Olympia qualifier, she did very well in the Veteran points awards, taking reserve in the 15-19 section with the VHS, winning the in-hand Fell pony section, and reserve in the performance section.

Ruffle continued her winning ways in 2010 winning 3 section championships, in-hand Supreme and reserve ridden Supreme Champion at the NCPA Cumbria summer show. She qualified for the President's and Chairman's cups at the finals held at Uttoxeter, where she was reserve in the in-hand and ridden veteran sections. Ruffle then went on to take 4 firsts and 3 championships at Cumberland County show in July, with many other wins at local shows and riding club shows, where she qualified for the Festival of Champions show held in October.



In September Ruffle competed in 2 Olympia qualifiers, taking 2nd in the ridden at Rodbaston, and 3rd ridden at Hargate E.C. in very strong classes. Judith writes, "We were very pleased with this as we took the top ride marks!"

To finish on a high Ruffle and Judith took part in the Festival of Champions and Equifest Qualifiers held at Barton Equestrian Centre in October. On the Saturday they won the ridden veteran 15-19 class, then the ridden veteran championship. This meant that the partnership qualified for the evening performance where they took reserve in the overall supreme ridden pony championship.

On the Sunday they held qualifying classes for the summer festival show. At this one, Ruffle won the Equitation Champion, the ridden M+M Champion and then won the overall Supreme Ridden Champion. In the 2010 Veteran points awards Ruffle not only won the Fell section but ended up Supreme Champion over all 8 sections. She was also the winner of the Four Year old and over In-hand section of the FPS points awards for 2010.

Judith's mother Gwen writes, "Ruffle does so much to promote the breed and at 16 she is still doing well at the shows. Her huge success at the Festival of Champions was quite an accolade for a Fell amongst the best." And Judith writes, "What a great way to finish a brilliant season, thanks to a very special pony!"

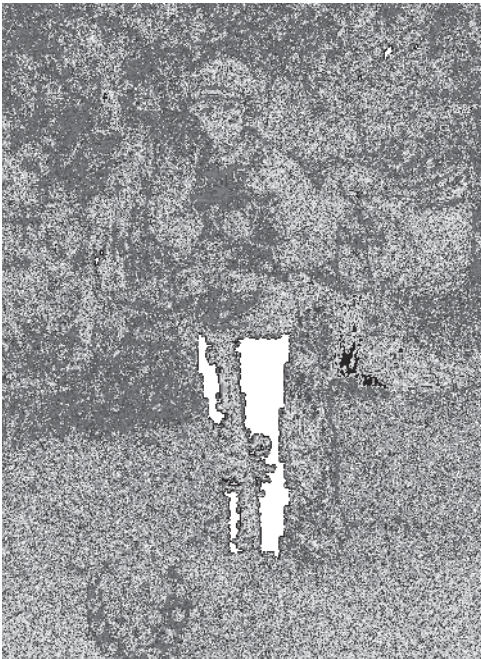


People and Ponies: Spenruss Flight—A Dream Come True

In 2004 I bought a 13.3 bay fell mare, Spenruss Flight, 8 years old, for my daughter and me to share. Her history was very much an unknown quantity. All we really knew was that she was a brood mare. However Beverley Hodgson, whom I bought her from, very bravely tried riding her a couple of times and announced that she was broken to ride, very forward-going and hated water. By this time I had searched hill and dale for a suitable pony and was very disillusioned. But Flight was gentle, beautiful, was the right height for us and was 100% in traffic. So that was how we came to buy her.

The intention was that I, as a happy hacker, would use Flight for pleasure rides and long-distance rides, while my daughter Anna, who was only 9 years old at the time, would gradually grow into her. I soon discovered that Flight did everything at breakneck speed (including downhill!) and could go on all day without tiring. Luckily she did have brakes. For the next 2 years we experienced many white-knuckle rides but gradually Flight learned to walk instead of jog and I learned to relax and loosen my reins. In the meantime Anna continued having lessons on riding school ponies.

When Anna was 11 she started having lessons on Flight (quite scary to watch) and that was when we discovered she could jump, and more importantly, loved to jump. I remember that year; Anna's ambition was to win her first red rosette as we had never competed in anything before.



They joined Pony Club and were soon being selected for the showjumping team - what a joy seeing people's faces at jumping competitions when we unloaded a hairy short-legged Fell pony and she proceeded to jump clear! Flight and Anna were also in demand in the games team, where Flight famously changes leg between each bending pole at a very fast canter and turns so fast that Anna has to hold on very tight! (Flight was Miss June in the 2010 FPS calendar).

Anna Clowes and her 14 year old Fell mare Spenruss Flight. Their trophies at the Linnel Performance Trials included: 1st Overall, 1st Junior, 1st Fell Mare, 1st Overall Cross Country winner & 2nd in the dressage phase. Colour photo in centre pages.

But not everything ran smoothly - at one point Flight caught flu, which has left her with a respiratory problem, and she also has a pelvic condition which sometimes causes her difficulty cantering on the correct leg (very irritating in Working Hunter & Showing classes!). Despite this, Anna and Flight have had some fantastic achievements including Champion & Reserve Champion in Showjumping, Working Hunter and Showing and County Level, and Reserve Champion at the South Cumbria FP Show.

We also in the early days were unable to transport her anywhere after she panicked and collapsed in the trailer - after months of struggling and almost giving up, this was cured very quickly and successfully by Natural Horsemanship.

In 2007 we went to Hexham to watch the FPS Performance Trials and were totally in awe of the competitors. It became Anna's dream to be good enough at dressage, cross-country and showjumping to have a go at competing there - dressage was always their weak point as Flight had been known to jump out of dressage arenas on more than one occasion.

In 2009 they gave it a cautious go, did very respectably and won Best Newcomer. But in 2010 they really went for it! Flight did an impeccable dressage test, and then it was time for their speciality, cross-country. Flight, who can jump over a metre high, totally trusts Anna and will jump anything Anna aims her at. They cleared every single obstacle at the biggest of the 3 height options, and even went through the water. I had said to Anna that she must give Flight a rest whenever she needed due to her respiratory problem, but there was absolutely no stopping them - I couldn't believe my eyes. Unfortunately they knocked a pole in the showjumping, typically the smallest jump, but had accumulated so many points in the X-Country that they were First Overall.

We were thrilled. It had always been our intention to semi-retire Flight after the Performance Trials, as she is nearly 15, but to end her career on such a high note was wonderful. Anna and I would like to thank Spenruss Flight, the best pony in the world, for all the fun, happiness, and love she has given us.

Sue and Anna Clowes



New Driving Trophy at the Stallion Show

Eddie MacDonough has very kindly donated a new trophy for the Driving class at the Stallion show. The Bob Silvertail Trophy will be awarded to the best stallion or gelding shown in harness, put to an exercise cart. Eddie explained, "This trophy may not necessarily go to the winner of the class. I would like to encourage people to show the working abilities of their ponies, even if they don't have a smart show vehicle."



Ponies Past: Townend Scilla 1986—2010



Townend Scilla f. 1.6.1986 FP1514

s. Townend Flash II, d. Adamthwaite Sandra II

In the night of 17/8/2010 we had to put Scilla to sleep. She had been fit and full of the joy of life, then she had a day without eating, neuro symptoms, and the animal hospital could not help her. The autopsy result showed intestinal cancer with a rupture. We are so sad at her loss, but remember the time with her as our best memories.

Scilla was a wonderful, lovable Fell pony.

Kathrin Tschirky, Lotti and Peter Moor

P.S.: On the 20th National Pony show in Bern 28/29/8/10, in honour of Scilla, her daughter Lo-Pe Supple (Fabienne Friedlis) was first in Gymkhana and granddaughter Lo-Pe Elderflower (Bettina Salzmans) was best in show.

Reminder from the FPS Office: deceased ponies

We know how hard it is to lose a pony, but by law the owner should return the pony's passport to the Society for cancellation. It can then be returned to you if you wish to keep it.



Ponies Past: Meres Julie-Anne 1997—2010

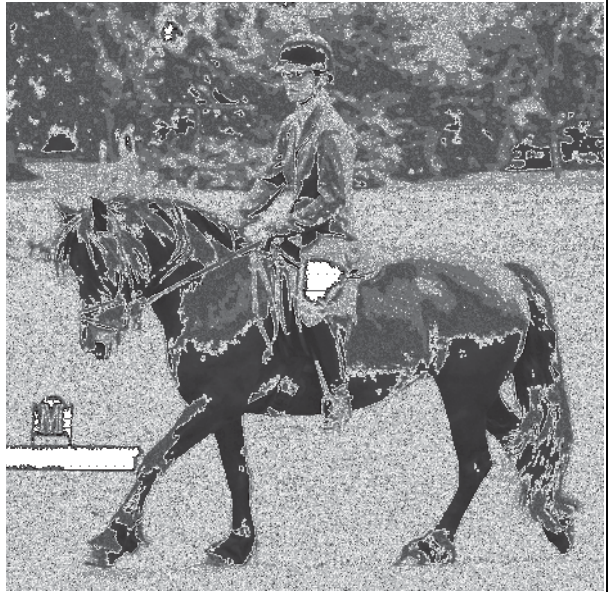
I bought Julie-Anne as an unbroken 3 year old from her breeder Sue Rees. She was such a character and made a huge impression on everyone she met, either behaving impeccably or with her naughty antics! I very often had to ride every stride as we didn't always agree on our direction of travel or how many feet should be on the ground! Monsters would lurk and one couldn't take a chance of being got by one!

We had so much fun together regularly competing at dressage and in the M&M classes with the local riding clubs and going to the Fell shows in the South.

She excelled at dressage. She had wonderful conformation and many dressage judges complimented her on her paces and way of going. She was always placed in the FPS Dressage performance awards.

She had a cough for over 18 months, which the vets were convinced was caused by an allergy, and drugs were prescribed to control it. Then in September 2010 the cough came back with a vengeance, and then her breathing became affected. I never gave up hope that one day she would get better, until the last few days when despite having tried everything, it was heartbreaking to see her struggling. I made that awful decision to have her put down to end her suffering.

Rest in peace Julie-Anne. You taught me so much and you'll never be forgotten.



Diana McGrail



Learning with Fells—Reports 2010

Editor's Note: all the 5 participants in "Learning with Fells" reported back to the Society on their experiences, some very fully indeed! They were all most appreciative of the time and effort that their hosts had put into the Learning days, and all expressed their thanks for the delicious lunches that they enjoyed. For reasons of space, and because of the unavoidable duplication of the subject matter, only extracts from their reports are published here.

This year I managed to take part in three of the four 'Learning With Fells' days. The first day was at Thomas Capstick's. It was interesting to see the herds of ponies together, almost untouched. Unfortunately the weather was bad so we couldn't go up on the fell or do the foals' passports.



*Fell mare on the fell.
Photo, Jess Kelly*

The second day was at Bill Potter's farm. We learnt how to do all the foals' paperwork. We also saw some of Bill's mares out on the fell, all the range of colours that a fell pony can have and learned how to tell if a black foal is going to turn grey.

The third day I attended was at Colin Roberts' farm. We saw his stallions and went up onto the fells on quad bikes to see his mares and geldings. Colin also showed us how he halter breaks his foals.

It was interesting to compare a herd of ponies up on the fells to my ponies down on lower ground. I thank everybody who has put the effort in to make these days such a good experience, and I advise other people to go on these days to learn about the amazing Fell ponies. Thank you also to Glenis Cockbain who I have been learning with and helping to show throughout the past couple of summers.

Ruby Nicholson

Unfortunately due to dates clashing with shows or other commitments I could only make it to one stud this year, the Hardendale stud, owned by the Mallinsons.

Once we got there we were greeted with a warm welcome and refreshments. The other participants were already in the pens with Barry, learning how to put headcollars on the ponies. Tracey gave me a lovely mare to put the rope halter on and I put it on correctly. In the morning we went to have a look at his mares and foals that are out in the field. The foals were very inquisitive and friendly, and they weren't bothered with the amount of people stood around them talking, taking pictures and stroking them.

We were then told that we were going to do some leading with ponies. I was the only one in the group who had had previous experience showing them in hand but Tracey and Barry explained everything so well that the others quickly picked it up and did extremely well. I was given Bonny Lass; Barry did it intentionally to see if I could get her to stand squared—what a job I had! But in the end I got her to stand and was happy with what Tracey and Barry had talked about and the tips they had given us.

Barry talked to us about how he buys in, breaks and sells the ponies and also how he brings them on from foals and then we went back into the barn to have a look at Barry using his micro-chip scanner and showing us how it works. Everyone asked lots of questions, so we all got lots of information about the micro-chip scenario and why we use it. I was then talking to Tracey about the different types of Pelhams they use and why, and then I looked at a couple of them as I had thought about putting my Fell in a Pelham. She was very informative about each bit and said what bit she uses on what pony.

Barry, Tracey and Nicola were very helpful and made excellent hosts. I'd like to say a big thank you to the Mallinson family and also a big apology to the studs I couldn't make it to. I would very much like the chance to do it again next year.

Gabriella Ellis

My first visit was to Barry Mallinson's Stud. He and his wife Tracey showed us their ponies in the fields and in the barn, and then they went on to show us their way of breaking their ponies in. First we saw Barry halter two foals, Longbank Boxer and Hardendale Tilly. This was their fourth time with a halter on so they both stood happily. Then Barry showed us how he was breaking a pony for the bit. He used chewing keys to keep her mouth active, and she walked around the pen quite happily too.



Photo, Jess Kelly

After that, Barry long-lined Wellbrow Arthur. He explained that it was important to give very clear voice commands whilst giving us a quick demonstration of how to guide Arthur around the school and in and out of the barrels. We all had a go at that and walking him up the lane next to the school. Tracey said that they were very careful not to sicken the horses by repeating exercises too many times.

Tracey and Nicola showed us how they got on and off a pony from both sides to make sure that it would be ok if a rider ever had to get off the “wrong” side for any reason. Barry then led the pony around with Tracey on. They made sure that they finished on a good note; never leave on a negative one.

Then we went back to the pony that had the chewing keys in and Barry long-reined it. It was very responsive for a first time; they normally go backwards away from the reins but this one was very forward going.

The next visit was to Bill Potter’s stud on the fell. First, we went to see the mares and foals being rounded up by the quad bikes into a pen so that we could register the year’s foals. We named 11 of them, all beginning with the letter ‘e’.

This was harder than it sounds, as there were a lot of names that had been taken when they had last named the foals starting with the letter ‘e’! We also had to find some markings on the foal to identify them. That was difficult too as the foals kept hiding behind their dams!

After that, we jumped on the quads to try and find a group of the Fells on the fell. We finally managed to find a herd after a long time searching; it was really special to see them wild on the fell in their natural habitat. After lunch, an experienced vet and two

that were recently qualified came to microchip the foals. We helped herd the foals and their dams into a stable so that the vets could get close enough to the foals to microchip them. Finally, we took one of Bill’s stallions back to his field and then went to catch a very wild mare and her foal. It took a long time...but in the end we managed it! Going to Bill’s stud gave me an insight into what breeding is like on a larger scale. I had a lot of fun and learned a lot too.

The last visit was to Colin Roberts’ stud. We got straight onto the quads and spent most of the day on the fell with the ponies. I shared a bike with Ruby, and there were a few moments when we jolted, banged heads and nearly fell off! We saw how difficult the conditions can be for the ponies on the fell when one slipped on some scree. Luckily it managed to get back up, but it shows how hard it can be. On the way back we passed the pack pony bridge, it was great to see it as it is a fantastic way to remember what Fell ponies can do.

When we got back we had a lovely lunch, and then went out to see Courtney Savage ride their grey stallion. It was really interesting to see how she worked with him and how that differed to riding a mare or gelding. Finally, we saw a foal being tied up for the first time.



Lana Purcell, Ruby Nicholson, Bill Potter, and his grandson, Carl.

Photo, William Purcell

I think that one of the main things that I have realised after taking part in the scheme is that breeding and living on the fell is vital to keep Fells special. Thank you to everyone who has made this scheme possible.

Lana Purcell

My second visit was to the Bybeck Stud with the Roberts family. The day dawned very rainy and grey. We arrived to again, a very warm welcome and as we sat in the kitchen, having a chat and eating bacon butties, we watched rain continue to pour down!

When we got outside, we set off on the quad bikes driving up to the Howgill fells. It was my first time on a quad bike. Sometimes, the landscape became really steep so it was quite scary but fun at the same time. The weather soon cleared up and we were able to see lots of the ponies in their natural habitat, where we could really appreciate how the Fell pony's endurance and hardiness is so well suited to their natural terrain.

On the way home, we stopped to have a picture taken on an old pack-horse bridge which was fun - as long as we didn't look down for the river was flowing really fast and looking rather wild! (*Photo on back cover.*)

After lunch, we watched Courtney give a riding display on Timothy the grey stallion before finally going to see two filly foals, "Lulu" and "Lisa" haltered for the first time. We saw the pulling method being used and how effective it was, as after only a very short while, Colin was able to touch them and they would stand quietly.



I massively enjoyed the Learning with Fells programme and would definitely encourage anyone to take part. I would recommend it to anyone with a real interest in the breed. All the breeders were really generous in giving so much of their knowledge and personal opinions. I learnt a huge amount and it was lovely to be able to see the Fell Ponies in the hills and to be able to have a proper insight into all the preparation that is needed for a pony to enter the show-ring.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made it all possible and also, of course, to the breeders and their families for being so hospitable and generous and for giving us such a unique and wonderful experience.

Cleo O'Callaghan-Yeoman

In August we were invited to Tracy and Barry Mallinson's. The thing I learnt there which I have used most was how to use a rope halter. My pony Pikestone



The Learners practising leading and showing a pony in-hand. Photo, Kate White.

Linnet has never been keen to have a head collar on but when she sees a rope halter she doesn't run away but puts her nose out ready for you to put it on. This has made both Linnet's life and mine easier.

In late October we met again at Colin Roberts' farm near Tebay. Colin Roberts and Thomas Capstick got the quad bikes out - however Thomas' had a puncture which he showed us how to repair quickly. We went along the road and along a track then up onto the fells and climbed up onto a high point to look where the ponies were and take some photos of them from a distance. Then we went down into the valley and got close to them and took more photos of them. We carried on along the valley to see more ponies but they ran off, so we went back along another valley to a packhorse bridge which was barely wider than a quad bike. We had a group photograph taken on the bridge. (*see back cover*)

After lunch we saw Courtney ride a grey Fell stallion and then we went to the barn and a head collar was put on a foal, for the first time, and we watched it fight against a metal ring and a rubber matted wall.

We had a wonderful time seeing sights and hearing tales that we will never forget.

Although I only managed to make it to two of the days this year they were both thoroughly enjoyable. Even though they were very different, I learnt lots from both and despite growing up with Fells at home I now understand things about them that only a few months ago I wouldn't have thought of. A few days ago we were out riding and one of our ponies wanted to dig in a boggy ditch. I realised she was doing this to create a pool of water in the middle of it to have a drink from. This just shows you how clever Fells are.

I do hope I will be able to take part in this wonderful opportunity again next year.

Jess Kelly



Results of the 2012 FPS Calendar Competition

This year the submitted photographs were judged by two members of the Scotland Area Support Group who will each receive a calendar with our thanks. Every selected photograph qualifies for a free calendar and the overall winner, Shannon Albert, and the runner up, Freya Zinovieff, will also receive a £10 and £5 FPS Voucher, respectively.

Cover picture	Shannon Albert	Texas, U.S.A.
January	Wim Aerdt	Netherlands
February	Paul Delaney	Cumbria, U.K.
March	Liz Andrew	Greater Manchester, U.K.
April	Richard Dunne	Co. Durham, U.K.
May	Roy Wallis	Northumberland, U.K.
June	Katherine Wilkinson	Cumbria. U.K.
July	Sharron Camp	Dorset, U.K.
August	Michael Goddard	Dorset, U.K.
September	Viv Wood Gee	Dumfries, U.K.
October	Sally Arnup	North Yorkshire, U.K.
November	Lisa Kyer	New York, U.S.A.
December	Freya Zinovieff	Cambridge, U.K.

Thanks to all of you who submitted photographs for the 2012 calendar. I hope that those of you who were not successful in this round will not be too disappointed but encouraged to try again with your best photographs for the 2013 calendar. The 2012 calendars should be available at the Spring AGM and thereafter.

Points to remember for the 2013 Calendar competition

1. We welcome photographs which show the versatility of our ponies (dressage, jumping, driving, packwork, WHP) as well as images of life on the fell and of course, young foals.
2. Landscape format images (i.e. wider than high) are preferred to portrait format though excellent portrait photographs are also acceptable.
3. Either digital images or hard copy photographic prints can be submitted.
4. Commercial standard photographic prints: **Minimum** 6 x 4 inches.
5. Digital images: **Minimum** 11" x 7" at 300 dpi—width 3300 pixels, height 2100 pixels, taken at a “good” or “fine” quality setting. Smaller images and lower resolutions do not scale up adequately for the large size calendar format. This is a really important fact to bear in mind because

several of the images I received last year could not be used because the resolution was not high enough for printing.

6. Closing date for entries is **10th October 2011**.

If hard copy photographic prints are submitted then they should be accompanied by a SAE if you would like them returned.

Digital images can be sent to the following e-mail: ProfBarbaraBrown@aol.com or alternatively CDs and photographic prints to Barbara Dunne, West Briscoe, Baldersdale, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham DL12 9UP, U.K. Tel. 01833 650059.

*Thank-you
Barbara Dunne*

Submissions for the Magazine

Photographs

By comparison with the Calendar, requirements for the Magazine are a little more flexible. I use colour photographs for the covers, inside covers, or centre pages. I reduce them to black and white for the main pages. The widest image we print is 5.25 inches (13 cm) so your digital photograph does not really need to be wider than 1600 pixels. Of course, if I have to crop off unwanted space round the main subject, your original image should be a bit bigger to leave a reasonably high resolution for the remaining chunk. Smaller images can be usable if they are in sharp focus, because I fit them to just one column instead of the full width of a page. Hard-copy commercial prints of 5 inches wide or more will also work fine. Please enclose an SAE if you want them returned.

Please do not send me your digital image in a word-processed document or PowerPoint slideshow. It ruins the quality (plus being a huge file for me to download and then throw away!). Just send me a .jpg please.

Text

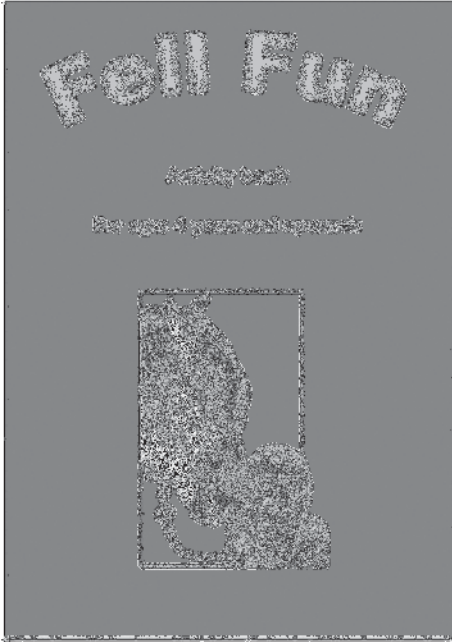
We would like informative articles to be around 1500 words, and pony news with one photo about 400 words. We can be flexible about it, but your submission may have to be “fiddled with” to fit the Magazine’s content into 100 pages or less. Please check details before sending, especially unusual names.

There are very specific settings for the Magazine text which keep its “look” consistent, so please don’t spend time on special layouts or fonts, because I will remove them. In particular, don’t use tabs to create columns, e.g. of show results, because they do not translate into the Magazine’s shape and size. Simply list the items in a normal page of text. I will apply column formatting if it’s needed. Our regular Magazine contributors are very good, so please don’t think I am getting at you! It’s usually first time contributors whose offerings cause extra work. Read and take note here, and we will all be happy with the result.

Sue (contact details on page 3)



New Books: Fell Fun and Fell Facts



FPS Vice-Chairman Christine Robinson noticed last summer, after attending a couple of "Country Fairs" with the ponies, that FPS was "lacking in the Kids' Books department."

We needed something that would appeal to the younger end of the market, especially those not already involved with Fells.

She ran the idea past Council and the result is not one book but two!

Fell Fun, for ages 4 to 7 years, offers early learning puzzles like spot the difference, colouring in, mazes, simple counting, starting letters, rhyming, matching, identifying colours, dot to dot, and identifying walk, trot and canter, even the dreaded cutting and sticking—all using pictures of Fells.

Christine said on seeing the draft copy, "I really enjoyed it, so did Wilson, we both were looking for colouring pens and doing dot to dot!"

20 pages, £2.00 & .50p P&P

Fell Facts, for 7 years and upward, contains the Description of the Fell Pony and Scale of Points, a junior version of "About Fell Ponies", crosswords and wordsearches with a Fell theme, quizzes, a short story and lots of Fell photos.

20 pages, £2.00 & .50p P&P

Both books can be purchased from the FPS Office and 2 can be sent together for a single postage fee.





The President's Lunch

**Bob & Sarah Charlton
Invite you to Lunch**

**at Linnel Wood on Sunday April 3rd at 12.30pm
for an informal get together and time for a chat**

**Followed by a Short Initial Presentation of Lucie Charlton's University
Dissertation on 'The Fell Pony Past, Present and Future'**

Based on the success of previous Hexham Native Horse & Pony Show Lunches held at Linnel Wood, Lunch will be 'Cottage Pie' and Peas, with Vegetarian Option available if pre-booked.

Followed by A' Pudding Club' of Donated Puddings. We would be very grateful for any help with puddings. Everyone loves the variety. Please bring your favourite pudding! If you are able to bring a Pudding with you please let Sarah Charlton know on the contacts below.

Tickets £10 each, available on application to Sarah Charlton. Please send your application, with a list of names of all applicants and guests, with an SAE for acknowledgment. Please include your address and Tel number. You do not have to be a member of The FPS - ALL are welcome. NO TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED. Your name must be on the list at the door on the day with an accompanying sticker of your name and all who are accompanying you. Tickets will be limited, if only 30 we will be having a party, but 70 we can manage with a squeeze!

A few ponies will be in the stables for you to chat to, I hope to have some archive photos on display for you to see, and those in the know will tell you a trip to the loo is essential to see the photo gallery! There is always the other loo with no photos, so you will not be caught with your legs crossed!

Lucie Charlton is in her final year at The Royal Agricultural College in Cirencester doing a degree course in Equine Science and Business Management. She is a fifth generation Charlton to breed Fell Ponies, but that does not give her all knowledge. She is hoping to develop her knowledge through her research for this dissertation on 'The Fell Pony Past, Present and Future.' A Presentation to a knowledgeable audience of Fell Pony People will be far more daunting than her Final Presentation to her examiners, and be of great help to her!

TICKET APPLICATION TO:

Mrs Sarah Charlton, Linnel Wood Farm, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 1UB

Enquiries to - bob.charlton@ukonline.co.uk or 01434 673262 (please no phone calls after 9.00pm)



NPS / HOYS and BSPS / Olympia Qualifiers 2011

The majority of Fell Pony Showing enthusiasts will be aware of the changes that have happened as regards Olympia and The Horse of the Year Show. Briefly BSPS have taken on the Olympia Competition and NPS are now running a Competition with the Final at The Horse of the Year Show.

We have been offered a Fell Pony Qualifying round for each, with the NPS/HOYS going direct to the final, and the top two ponies in the BSPS/Olympia Qualifier going to a semi-final at the BSPS Heritage Show in October. The FPS Council would have preferred to hold the NPS Qualifier at the Breed Show, but unfortunately the date clashes with NPS Scotland at Kelso, and they would not allow us to run it on the same day. Your council was adamant that we should not change the date of the Breed Show for a Qualifier, so for this year the NPS/HOYS Fell Breed Qualifier will be held at The Fell and Dales Show on Saturday June 4th 2011. The BSPS/Olympia Qualifier will be held at the Breed show on Saturday August 13th 2011.

A Fell Breed Qualifier for NPS/HOYS will also be held at Malvern in August, and a BSPS/Olympia Fell Breed Qualifier also at The BSPS Heritage show in October.



Fell Pony Display at Sheepdog Trials World Championships 2011

These trials are to be held at Lowther on September 15th, 16th, 17th & 18th 2011. Our Society is proud to have been invited to do a display, each day, in the main arena. We plan to show the various activities of the ponies over the last centuries, ending with a short ridden display.

We will need lots of ponies and help! You need not come on all four days if you can't manage the time. There will be free stabling available for those who have travelled. We will also have a publicity tent and will need a nice sociable pony to chat up the visitors.

This is a golden opportunity for us to show off our versatile breed at a local event, so please we need lots of support. More information will be available at the AGM. In the meantime if you can help please leave your details with the FPS office.

Society Merchandise Price List

CLOTHING (with FPS logo)

Reversible Showerproof			
Fleece Lined Jacket	£26.00	£3.00	£29.00
Reversible Waterproof Waistcoat	£24.00	£3.00	£27.00
Rugby Shirt	£30.00	£2.50	£32.50
Hoody	£22.00	£2.50	£24.50
Fleece Sweatshirt with Collar	£21.00	£2.50	£23.50
Crew Neck Sweatshirt (Adult)	£17.50	£2.50	£20.00
Crew Neck Sweatshirt (Child)	£14.00	£2.50	£16.50
Polo Shirt (Adult)	£15.00	£2.50	£17.50
Polo Shirt (Child)	£12.00	£2.50	£14.50
T Shirt (Child)	£10.00	£2.50	£12.50
Fleece Waistcoat (Adult)	£22.00	£2.50	£24.50
Fleece Waistcoat (Child)	£16.00	£2.50	£18.50
Fleece Hat	£7.00	£1.00	£8.00
V Neck Lambswool Jumper (Navy only)	£15.00	£2.50	£17.50
Hi Vis Waistcoat	£10.00	£1.50	£11.50
Tie	£10.00	£2.00	£12.00
Baseball Cap	£8.00	£0.50	£8.50

MISCELLANEOUS

Towel	£6.00	£2.00	£8.00
Facecloth	£3.50	£1.00	£4.50
Key Fob	£1.00	£0.50	£1.50
Ballpoint Pen	£1.00	£0.50	£1.50
Softgrip ballpoint pen	£2.00	£0.50	£2.50
Pencil	£0.50	£0.50	£1.00
Badge	£2.00	£0.50	£2.50
Car Sticker - Round or Oblong	£1.00	£0.50	£1.50
Car Tax Disc Holder	£2.00	£0.50	£2.50
Mouse Mat	£3.00	£0.50	£3.50
Tea Towel	£3.00	£0.50	£3.50
Coaster	£2.00	£0.50	£2.50
Fridge Magnet	£1.50	£0.50	£2.00
Boot Bag	£12.00	£2.50	£14.50
Monostrap Bag	£14.00	£2.50	£16.50
Tote Bag (large)	£7.00	£1.50	£8.50
Tote Bag (small)	£4.00	£1.00	£5.00
Tote Bag (coloured)	£7.50	£1.50	£9.00
Drawstring Bag	£10.00	£1.00	£11.00
Wallet	£6.00	£0.50	£6.50

CARDS

Christmas Cards (pack of 5)	£2.50	£0.50	£3.00
Notelets (pack of 5)	£2.50	£0.50	£3.00
Postcards (pack of 10)	£1.50	£0.50	£2.00

BOOKS / VIDEOS/ CD

The Fell Pony DVD	£15.00	£2.00	£17.00
A Lifetime with Ponies by Roy B Charlton	£20.00	£2.50	£22.50
Dales Ponies	£15.00	£2.50	£17.50
The Fell Pony (by Clive Richardson)	£7.50	£2.00	£9.50
Jubilee Book	£5.00	£2.00	£7.00
One Fell Swoop	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00
Hoofprints in Eden	£17.00	£3.00	£20.00
Showing Native Ponies	£4.95	£1.00	£5.95
Letters Home	£7.99	£2.01	£10.00
A Humbling Experience	£19.00	£2.00	£21.00
Fell Fun (for children 4-7 years)	£2.00	£0.50	£2.50
Fell Facts (for older children)	£2.00	£0.50	£2.50
Binder for newsletters or studbooks	£7.00	£1.00	£8.00
History CD	£13.00	£1.00	£14.00

STUDBOOKS / NEWSLETTERS

Black Stud Book 1898-1980	£5.00	£2.50	£7.50
Studbooks to 1999 (each)	£1.00	£0.50	£1.50
2000 to 2006 (each)	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00
2007 to 2009 (each)	£6.00	£1.00	£7.00
Newsletter/Magazine Back Copies	£1.00	£0.50	£1.50

PICNICWARE

Clear Tumblers	£2.50	£1.00	£3.50
Mugs	£2.50	£1.00	£3.50
Bowls	£2.50	£1.00	£3.50
Plates	£2.50	£1.00	£3.50
Cutlery Sets	£3.00	£1.00	£4.00

Please contact the office for details of available colours/sizes for clothing and picnicware. Some items are not held in stock.

Please give the office at least two weeks to fulfill an order, especially near Christmas.

Send order and cheques payable to The Fell Pony Society to:
The Secretary, The Fell Pony Society, Ion House, Great Asby,
Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6HD Tel/Fax 01768353100.

All prices quoted for P&P (post and packing) above are for shipment within the UK. Different prices apply for shipments outside of the United Kingdom.



The Bristol Renaissance Faire in Kenosha, Wisconsin, featured DreamHayven Farm's Littletree Bodini and Lunesdale White Heather, owned by Melissa Kreuzer of Wisconsin.

Right, Littletree Bodini and Melissa Kreuzer.



Below, Alison Morton and Lownthwaite Fingerprint a.k.a. "Peanut", as a "red devil", taking part in the North West Driving Club's Halloween Fancy Dress arena-driving contest. Alison has exchanged her pointy hat and broom for a more conventional helmet and carriage whip to compete in the cone-driving section.





*“Learning With Fells” includes learning to cope with fell weather!
On a packhorse bridge in the Howgills during Colin Roberts’ LWF day in 2010.
See the learners’ reports on p. 92.*

If undelivered, please return to:

Fell Pony Society

Ion House

Great Asby, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6HD

www.fellponysociety.org.uk

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THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

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