

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY MAGAZINE

SPRING 2016- Volume 32

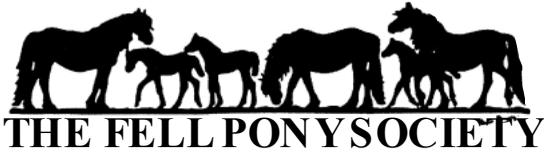


The stallion Townsend Schubert, owned and ridden by Rebecca Penny, won the Fell and Dales class at HOYS in October and then went on to take the ridden Mountain and Moorland Championship at Olympia in December.



Wellbrow Cas per (above) and (below) Wellbrow Bobby and Wellbrow Bangle, working for Peers Clough Packhorses .





Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

President: Miss M G Longsdon MBE
Chairman: Mrs Eileen A Walker
Vice-Chairman: Mr Andrew Thorpe

Secretary: Mrs K Wilkinson

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<http://www.fellponysociety.org.uk>

Council

To retire 2016: Mrs S Millard, Mrs C H Robinson, Mr A Thorpe, Mrs E Walker.

To retire 2017: Mr P Boustead, Mrs S Brunskill, Miss J Glass.

To retire 2018: Miss B Bell, Mr C Roberts, Mr D Wilkinson.

To retire 2019: Mr G H B Mallinson, Mr P Metcalfe, Mr W S Potter,
Miss C Simpson.

To retire 2020: Mrs A Bell, Mrs S Charlton, Mrs G M Cockbain, Mr M Goddard

Magazine Editor and FPS Webmaster: Sue Millard
Daw Bank, Greenholme, Tebay, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 3TA
Tel: +44 (0)1539 624636. E-mail: sue@dawbank.co.uk

Fell Pony Sales List: Please contact the Office

Show Affiliation Secretary: Mrs Michelle Thorpe, Winterbutlee Farm, Shawforth,
Nr Rochdale, Lancashire, OL12 8XE. Tel: 01706 853843. Fax: 01706 853906.
E-mail: info@wellbrowfell.co.uk

Press Officer: Claire Simpson, Hale Bank, Hale, Nr Milnthorpe, Cumbria LA7 7BL.
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Registered Office: Brosnans Chartered Accountants, Enterprise House,
56-58 Main Street, High Bentham, Lancaster LA2 7HY



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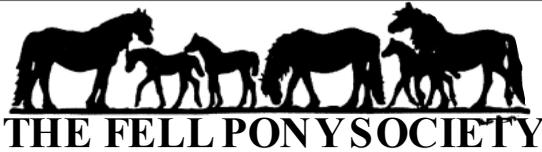
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Advance Notice of Dates for 2016

2 April (Saturday)—FPS AGM, Orton, Cumbria, CA10 3RJ	7 August (Sunday)—Breed Show, Dalemain, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 0HB
1 May (Sunday)—Dorset Fell Show, Hurn Bridge E.C.	1 September—FPS Magazine deadline, Autumn 2016
7 May 2016 (Saturday)—Sandringham Fell, Dales and Friends Show, Sandringham Estate, West Newton gates, PE31 6AZ.	11 September (Sunday)—Southern Breed Show, Berkshire College of Agriculture, SL6 6QR.
14 May (Saturday)—Stallion & Colt Show, Dalemain, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 0HB	25 September (Sunday)—Native Pony Performance Trials, Linnel Wood, Hexham
12 June—South Cumbria Show, Crooklands, Kendal, Cumbria	29 October (Saturday)—FPS Show and Sale, NW Auctions, Cumbria LA7 7FP
12 June (Sunday)—Derbyshire Fell, Dales and Highland Show. at Bakewell showground	13 November (Sunday)—Foal & Youngstock Show, Newton Rigg

..... All dates provisional.



Council Information

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Disclaimer

Whereas every care is taken to publish accurate information, the Editor and Council of the Fell Pony Society do not necessarily agree with all the views expressed within the Fell Pony Society Magazine and cannot accept any liability for erroneous opinions or suggestions in the Magazine.



Editorial

Over the past week, I have not had time to reply to telephone cold-callers by making them tell me which of my laptops is the one that has 'reported' to them that it has a virus. Nor have I replied in French to "lifestyle" surveys (nor even in Anglo Saxon). That's how manic the production of this issue has been. In fact I even asked the Thorpe family for a copy of Andrew's piece on conservation grazing when I'd actually had it on file for a fortnight.

We have some interesting reading for you in this issue, and although we haven't quite so many photographs as usual we are still pushing towards our 100 page limit. Fells and their owners have been very busy indeed in 2015!

However, no Fell ponies were made to work during the production of this Magazine!

Deadline for the Autumn edition will be, as always, 1st September.

Best wishes for 2016.

Sue



Letters to the Editor

Yet another wet and windy day at Foal Syke Farm. Spent the morning draining the yard again. Last week we had a bit of a flood in the house when the drains backed up. However we should count ourselves lucky compared to other people—we only lost some carpets.

On a brighter note it's starting to get lighter in the evenings, so more time to work ponies. Had to do a bit of improvisation as the lungeing pen is too wet and slippery, as are the fields. The barn is just big enough for some slow work.

The foals are now in for a while to get them halter trained, later than usual due to my bad back. They are coming along nicely. My old coloured cob has taken to babysitting them.

Stennerskeugh Bonnie Lad is still doing a good job looking after his son. They get on really well and Perry fortunately seems to be taking after his Dad.

I'm looking forward to riding again soon. Hamsterley Forest is ideal for getting the youngsters going because they see a bit of everything there. Once the brakes and steering are in place and they need "miles on the clock" it's amazing how much schooling can be incorporated on a hack.

All the best from all at Foalsyke Fell Pony Stud

Anne Richardson



From Our President

As I sit down to write this report a copy of Horse & Hound arrives with a spectacular front cover photo of Townend Schubert. Many many congratulations to all concerned with this splendid achievement. He looks absolutely lovely and well done for all the work put in to reach such a success.

Things don't just happen without a great deal of thought and energy, which also applies to our Society. Therefore I am glad of this opportunity to thank our chairman, Eileen, and Council, Katherine and Carol and all who help in a million ways for their dedication, our Society would be lost without you.

As we struggle through this appalling winter I moan about the weather but I am very aware that many of you have had serious conditions to contend with. I do hope we will have a beautiful summer to make up, especially as our Patron, H.M. The Queen celebrates her 90th Birthday—to whom we send our grateful thanks and our sincere good wishes for a Very Happy Birthday.

Mary



Letters to the Editor (continued)

I had to let my lovely Fell go to a new home last year because I couldn't ride him well due to arthritis. I am still able to see him when I am in the area. However I was very surprised to find him rugged up day and night and with shoes on. He was seven when he went and lived out all weathers with shelter and his feet were very hard and sound. We never had any problems with him and he was very happy. The new owners said they put rugs on their horses "because it is easier for us".

I hate the trend to rug up nowadays, especially native breeds. I often think of him and hope he is without a coat!

I hope you can help all natives enjoy as natural a life as possible by raising awareness and asking owners to ask themselves first "is what I am doing in the best interests of my horse"?

Best regards

Liz Nichols



Chairman's Report—January 2016

I hope you and your ponies are all safe and well following the December 2015 floods. The expression 'Dry January' was at the front of my mind at the beginning of 2016 and not in the alcoholic sense. My ponies have been up to their knees in mud for about six weeks so they really enjoyed the few frosty days we recently experienced. As I write this report at the end of January, here in the north east of England, we are experiencing daytime temperatures of 10C to 13C, and more rain is forecast.

Fell ponies were very much in the limelight at the end of 2015 with Townend Schubert winning at HOYS and Olympia. A tremendous achievement and very well done to everyone involved in delivering a brilliant show with a truly special pony. Another Fell pony, Guards Jester, won the in-hand veteran class at Olympia proving our ponies just keep on delivering. The 'Horse & Hound' magazine added to these positive promotions by featuring Townend Schubert on the front cover of a recent copy.

Unfortunately, during the last few years, the number of Fell foals being bred each year has fallen resulting in the Fell pony being placed into category 3, from category 4, on the Rare Breed Survival Trust register. It has been very difficult to encourage owners to breed foals when the market has been so depressed and animal welfare has been a real issue throughout the country. I was not surprised by the change in classification and I am sure that the breeding mares are still out there and that numbers will begin to increase again very soon.

Fell ponies are becoming more popular and this increase in demand helped to fuel some respectable prices at the autumn sale. It was good to see some quality ponies being offered for sale giving more people the opportunity to buy without the need to visit breeders or dealers. This increased popularity resulted in twenty-one ponies being exhibited in the in-hand 4yrs+ class at the Great Yorkshire Show held during July 2015, so I have persuaded the organisers to allow us two classes for adults. There will be a 4yrs+ stallions & geldings class AND a 4yrs+ mares class. This change will come into effect at the 2016 show, so please continue to support this highly prestigious northern show.

Many of you will have read in previous magazines that the FPS has introduced a Stallion Grading Scheme. This voluntary scheme is open to all 2yr & 3yr old colts and stallion during 2016 and all colts & stallions from 2017. Full details are given in the separate article which appears later in this magazine.

Once again, all paid up members will have the opportunity to vote for candidates who have declared that they are willing to serve on Council for the next five years. It is encouraging to see that there are nine candidates this year to fill six places. We don't always get it right but it's good to know that people are sufficiently interested to get involved and make the commitment of both time and

energy. Please use your vote and support members of Council who put a great deal of experience and wisdom into running your Society.

Finally I would like to thank Katherine, Carol and Elizabeth for continuing to run a happy and efficient office, despite all the disruption being caused by the new passport legislation. Also, my thanks go to all members of Council for their continued support in running the Society and a host of other events throughout the year. Our President, Mary Longsdon, is doing an excellent job and is always available to give sound advice when asked and frequently comes up with interesting new ideas for us to try. I believe that we have been through the bad times and are now coming out the other side stronger and more determined than ever so I hope the spring and summer provides better weather throughout the country and you all have the opportunity to enjoy your ponies.

Best Wishes

Eileen



Secretary & Treasurer's Report

As I write this report at the end of January, the rain is lashing down again and a flood alert is in force for Appleby. Thankfully the office is situated up a hill from the river level and is therefore not affected by flooding. Appleby was greatly affected in December and is still recovering. Closure of the road and foot bridges meant my normal journey was extended to over 15 miles each way but fortunately for just over a week. Thank you to all who expressed their kind thoughts since December, both in writing and by phone.

The number of foal registrations has increased from 2014 with a total of 251 registered to date (compared to last year's total of 237).

The RBST have recently advised us that they have re-designated the Fell Pony as Category 3, Vulnerable, on the Watchlist from Category 4, At Risk.

New EU regulations, relating to the Identification of Equines and Minimum Operating Standards for PIOs from Defra came into effect from 1 January 2016.

The main changes are:

- New passport layout and security standards.
- Requirement to issue a duplicate passport for pre 2004 passports which have no section IX.
- The obligation, as regards to passports, is very much with the keeper of the equine who must ensure that the passport at all times is up to date and correct, including ownership and food chain status and notification of death.

I would like to thank Eileen and Council for their support, and Carol and Elizabeth who complete the office team, for their hard work.

As you will see from the accounts enclosed with your magazine, the Society has made a profit in the last financial year. This was partly due to the funds raised from generous sponsorship received for the shows in 2015, well done to all those involved and from an increase in the HBLB grant. Income from registrations and transfers also increased on the previous year. We succeeded in reducing our expenditure again this year, helped by a £1000 government subsidy reducing employer National Insurance for small businesses from 1 April 2014.

Thank you to all those who have renewed their 2016 membership already and we look forward to receiving payments from those outstanding, in due course. Thanks to the Horserace Betting Levy Board who have confirmed award of the grant for 2016. Because of negligible uptake of the CEM testing vouchers the board have ceased the scheme. The sum previously allocated to the CEM voucher scheme is to be re distributed to societies, meaning an increase in the grant for this year. We are very grateful that we are still eligible for this. Council agreed, at the September meeting, some changes to the grant awards:

Reduction in the Group Progeny Prizes at the Breed Show, mares and stallions.

Reductions in some of the Youngstock & Performance Awards.

Mare Premiums to be paid to all UK mares producing a foal registered in the main section of the stud book and in the year of birth (ie not a late registration).

Best wishes, Katherine Wilkinson



At the FPS Show and Sale, judge Christine Robinson chose Thornbeck Cracker, a three year old black filly by Brackenbank Flash Harry, as winner of the class for ponies one to three years, and her overall show champion.

Cracker was shown by Megan Wilkinson of Brackenbank Fell ponies.



From the Office

- Changes to the 'Minimum Operating Standards' for PIOs that came into effect from 1 January 2016 state that passports issued prior to 10 June 2004 that have not been updated with a 'section IX' page (usually the back page) are no longer valid. In these cases owners need to apply for a new passport which must be treated as a duplicate passport application; this includes the completion of a new passport application form with a vet signing to confirm the microchip number. Council have agreed that a voluntary contribution of £5 per passport be requested to cover cost incurred by the Society including return postage. If a passport arrives in the office without a section IX, it cannot be returned, so a new passport must be applied for and the original will be destroyed, transferring any vaccination records over as applicable.

- It is a legal requirement that change of ownership should be notified to the Society within 30 days of the change. Also don't forget to send in the passport for updating when a pony has been gelded. There should be a form in the back of the passport or you can download one from the website.

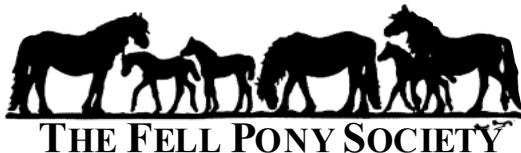
- It also a legal requirement to return the passport to the Society when a pony dies; it can of course be returned to you, if requested, after cancellation.

- Please do not ask your vet to use their own packet/form for the purpose of DNA testing (this is for parentage testing not for FIS). All DNA kits must be purchased from and issued by the Society. If not, then the Animal Health Trust will not process the sample. FIS testing can still be done direct with your vet although the AHT prefer samples to be purchased via the Society to reduce administrative costs, by issuing FIS certificates and invoices in batches as opposed to individual vets. The FIS test currently costs £40 for UK members when purchased from the Society, a small reduction on the actual cost charged by the AHT.

- New registration / passport application forms have been printed for 2016. Please do not use any old print forms as they can no longer be accepted. Forms cannot be downloaded from the website. They are only available by applying to the office or from Secretary at the Stallion and Breed Show and October sale. Please read the guidance notes carefully prior to completion of the forms.

- We are gradually introducing the new size membership cards during 2016, to 'credit card' size as requested by a number of members. Feedback on these new cards will be much appreciated.

Katherine



Company No 3233346
Registered Charity No 1104945

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
To be held on Saturday 2 April 2016 at 1.00 pm
At Orton Market Hall, Orton CA10 3RJ

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Approval and adoption of Annual General Meeting Minutes 28 March 2015
- 3 Matters arising from the Minutes
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- 6 Election of Council
- 7 Adoption of Accounts for year ended 31st October 2015
- 8 Resolution to appoint Brosnans Chartered Accountants as Accountants to the Society
- 9 Reports from Sub-Committees
- 10 Approval of Honorary member
- 11 Any Other Business
Members should notify the Secretary, in writing, of any matters relating to the Accounts, or any matter requiring a detailed answer that they wish to include in the Agenda under "Any Other Business". The Society's officers can then respond fully to any concerns. However, such business, if not raised in this way will not be discussed. Notifications must be received by the Secretary no later than Friday 11th March 2016.
- 12 Presentation of Awards

Notice of General Meeting - Memorandum and Articles of Association

5.2 The accidental omission to give notice to or non-receipt of a notice of a meeting by any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

APPROVED

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

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THE FELL PONY SOCIETY
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2015. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

03233346

Registered Charity number

1104945

Registered office

Enterprise House
56-58 Main Street
High Bentham
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA2 7HY

Trustees

Mrs E A Walker	Chairman
Mr A Thorpe	Vice Chairman
Miss B A Bell	
Mr P Boustead	
Mrs S Brunskill	
Mr T B Capstick	- deceased 9.6.15
Mrs S A Charlton	
Mrs G M Cockbain	
Miss J S G Glass	
Mr J E Greener	- resigned 28.3.15
Miss M G Longsdon MBE	- resigned 28.3.15
Mr G H B Mallinson	
Mr P Metcalfe	
Mrs C S Millard	
Mr W Potter	
Mr J M Rawlinson	- resigned 28.3.15
Mr C C Roberts	
Mrs C H Robinson	
Miss C E Simpson	
Mr D Wilkinson	
Mr M R Goddard	- appointed 28.3.15
Mrs A W Bell	- appointed 28.3.15

Company Secretary

Mrs K Wilkinson

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent examiner
Adam Brosnan FCA
Brosnans
Chartered Accountants
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Lancaster
North Yorkshire
LA2 7HY

COMMENCEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

The Fell Pony Society is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. It was incorporated on 2nd August 1996 and registered as a charity with effect from 9th November 2004. The company is governed by the Board of Directors and Trustees in accordance with its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The company's principal activity during the year was acting as a breed society.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the Charity. This review encompassed the nature of the Society's continued commitments and future growth. The review concluded that to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide a buffer for uninterrupted services, a general reserve equivalent to approximately 75% or 9 months of fund expenditure should be maintained.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25.11.2016 and signed on its behalf by:

EA Walker

Mrs E A Walker - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE FELL PONY SOCIETY**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 October 2015 set out on pages five to thirteen.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Adam Brosnan

Adam Brosnan FCA
Brosnans
Chartered Accountants
Enterprise House
56-58 Main Street
High Bentham
Lancaster
North Yorkshire
LA2 7HY

Date: ...th...*January*...*2016*

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2015 Total funds £	2014 Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	2	28,999	-	28,999	29,987
Activities for generating funds	3	2,926	-	2,926	6,025
Investment income	4	29	-	29	24
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
	5				
Fees		19,380	-	19,380	17,255
Grants		-	4,020	4,020	3,820
Sales		7,441	-	7,441	8,875
Shows and Other Events		6,678	-	6,678	6,637
Pony Sales List		418	-	418	680
Total incoming resources		65,871	4,020	69,891	73,303
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities					
	6				
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects		44,020	3,033	47,053	48,053
Governance costs		16,356	-	16,356	15,772
Total resources expended		60,376	3,033	63,409	63,825
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR		5,495	987	6,482	9,478
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		70,496	-	70,496	61,018
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		75,991	987	76,978	70,496

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 OCTOBER 2015

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2015 Total funds £	2014 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	13,322	-	13,322	13,371
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks		5,093	-	5,093	4,701
Debtors	13	253	-	253	-
Prepayments and accrued income		2,213	-	2,213	2,227
Cash at bank and in hand		60,371	987	61,358	54,103
		67,930	987	68,917	61,031
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(5,261)	-	(5,261)	(3,906)
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		62,669	987	63,656	57,125
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		75,991	987	76,978	70,496
NET ASSETS					
		75,991	987	76,978	70,496
FUNDS					
	15				
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				75,991	70,496
Restricted funds:					
Horserace Betting Levy Board				987	-
TOTAL FUNDS					
				76,978	70,496

The notes form part of these financial statements

- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 05-01-2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

E. A. Walker
Mrs E A Walker -Trustee

[Signature]
Mr A Thorpe -Trustee

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

INCOMING RESOURCES

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 25% on reducing balance

STOCKS

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

TAXATION

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME			
		2015	2014
		£	£
Donations		1,452	1,686
Subscriptions		26,706	27,526
Affiliation Fees		841	775
		<u>28,999</u>	<u>29,987</u>
3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS			
		2015	2014
		£	£
Advertising/Sponsorship		1,421	1,575
200 Club		1,478	1,345
Raffle		-	489
Promise Auction		27	2,616
		<u>2,926</u>	<u>6,025</u>
4. INVESTMENT INCOME			
		2015	2014
		£	£
Deposit account interest		29	24
		<u>29</u>	<u>24</u>
5. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES			
		2015	2014
		£	£
Registration	Activity	4,375	3,825
Transfers	Fees	9,955	8,015
Duplicate Passports	Fees	655	445
Prefix Applications	Fees	520	655
Stallion Licences	Fees	2,315	3,640
Passports	Fees	60	80
DNA	Fees	1,500	595
Horsrace Betting Levy			
Board	Grants	4,020	3,820
Stud Books and Gifts	Sales	7,441	8,875
Shows and Other Events	Shows and Other Events	6,678	6,637
Pony Sales List	Pony Sales List	418	680
		<u>37,937</u>	<u>37,267</u>

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 7)	Totals
	£	£
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	47,053	47,053

7. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2015	2014
	£	£
Staff costs	15,337	13,914
Insurance	3,102	3,025
Telephone	628	697
Advertising	310	323
Show and Exhibition Expenses	6,888	6,307
Prizes - Premiums (H.B.L.B)	3,640	3,933
Affiliation Fees	175	145
Prefix Registrations	265	325
Postage	2,583	2,747
Printing and Stationery	3,832	2,984
Computer Expenses	1,003	1,005
Travelling Expenses	184	73
200 Club	1,128	1,075
DNA Expenses	2,622	2,422
Stud Books and Gifts	4,808	8,306
FIS Expenses	548	772
	<u>47,053</u>	<u>48,053</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £
Governance costs	<u>16,356</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

8. SUPPORT COSTS - continued

Management

	2015 Governance costs £	2014 Total activities £
Salaries and Wages	5,119	4,397
Social Security Costs	-	126
Insurance	343	364
Telephone	209	233
Honoraria	450	289
Postages	4,250	4,000
Printing and Stationery	2,834	3,650
Computer Expenses	334	335
Room Hire	1,335	985
Office Overheads	200	166
Accountancy Charges	1,233	1,162
Depreciation of tangible and heritage assets	49	65
	<u>16,356</u>	<u>15,772</u>

9. NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES

Net resources are stated after charging/(crediting):

	2015 £	2014 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>49</u>	<u>65</u>

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 October 2015 nor for the year ended 31 October 2014.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 October 2015 nor for the year ended 31 October 2014.

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

11. STAFF COSTS

	2015 £	2014 £
Wages and salaries	20,456	17,933
Social security costs	-	504
	<u>20,456</u>	<u>18,437</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2015	2014
Administration	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Trophies £	Equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 November 2014 and 31 October 2015	<u>13,175</u>	<u>6,647</u>	<u>19,822</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 November 2014	-	6,451	6,451
Charge for year	-	49	49
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,500</u>	<u>6,500</u>
At 31 October 2015	<u>-</u>	<u>6,500</u>	<u>6,500</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 October 2015	<u>13,175</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>13,322</u>
At 31 October 2014	<u>13,175</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>13,371</u>

Trophies have been brought into the accounts at their current market value. If depreciation had been provided as required by Financial Accounting Standard No 15 the additional depreciation charge would have been in the region of £3,294.

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2015 £	2014 £
Trade debtors	<u>253</u>	<u>-</u>

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2015	2014
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,305	2,376
Social security and other taxes	188	160
Accruals	1,768	1,370
	<u>5,261</u>	<u>3,906</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.11.14	Net movement in funds	At 31.10.15
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	70,496	5,495	75,991
Restricted funds			
Horse Race Betting Levy Board	-	987	987
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>70,496</u>	<u>6,482</u>	<u>76,978</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	65,871	(60,376)	5,495
Restricted funds			
Horse Race Betting Levy Board	4,020	(3,033)	987
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>69,891</u>	<u>(63,409)</u>	<u>6,482</u>

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

	2015 £	2014 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Voluntary income		
Donations	1,452	1,686
Subscriptions	26,706	27,526
Affiliation Fees	841	775
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	28,999	29,987
Activities for generating funds		
Advertising/Sponsorship	1,421	1,575
200 Club	1,478	1,345
Raffle	-	489
Promise Auction	27	2,616
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,926	6,025
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	29	24
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Horsrace Betting Levy Board	4,020	3,820
Stud Books and Gifts	7,441	8,875
Shows and Other Events	6,678	6,637
Pony Sales List	418	680
Registration	4,375	3,825
Transfers	9,955	8,015
Duplicate Passports	655	445
Prefix Applications	520	655
Stallion Licences	2,315	3,640
Passports	60	80
DNA	1,500	595
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	37,937	37,267
Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
	69,891	73,303

RESOURCES EXPENDED

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2015

	2015	2014
	£	£
Charitable activities		
Salaries and Wages	15,337	13,536
Social Security Costs	-	378
Insurance	3,102	3,025
Telephone	628	697
Advertising	310	323
Show and Exhibition Expenses	6,888	6,307
Prizes - Premiums (H.B.L.B)	3,640	3,933
Affiliation Fees	175	145
Prefix Registrations	265	325
Postage	2,583	2,747
Printing and Stationery	3,832	2,984
Computer Expenses	1,003	1,005
Travelling Expenses	184	73
200 Club	1,128	1,075
DNA Expenses	2,622	2,422
Stud Books and Gifts	4,808	8,306
FIS Expenses	548	772
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	47,053	48,053
Support costs		
Management		
Salaries and Wages	5,119	4,397
Social Security Costs	-	126
Insurance	343	364
Telephone	209	233
Honoraria	450	289
Postages	4,250	4,000
Printing and Stationery	2,834	3,650
Computer Expenses	334	335
Room Hire	1,335	985
Office Overheads	200	166
Accountancy Charges	1,233	1,162
Depreciation	49	65
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,356	15,772
Total resources expended	<hr/>	<hr/>
	63,409	63,825
Net income	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,482	9,478
	<hr/>	<hr/>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Fees & Charges

	UK		Overseas	
	Member	Non-Member	Member	Non-Member
Registration to 30 November				
Colt	£10	£20	£15	£25
Filly	£15	£30	£20	£35
December				
Colt	£20	£40	£25	£45
Filly	£30	£60	£35	£65
Late Registration	£50	£100	£55	£105
(does not include cost of parentage test)				
Transfer	£10	£20	£15	£25
Transfer to Gelding	FOC	FOC	FOC	FOC
Prefix	£40	£50	£60	£70
Stallion Licence	See page 31			
FIS Kit	£40	£50	£45	£55
DNA Kit	£50	£60	£55	£65
Duplicate Passport	£50	£60	£55	£65
(does not include cost of parentage test)				

FELL PONY SOCIETY BANK DETAILS

Account Name: The Fell Pony Society Limited.

Bank: Lloyds, Penrith.

Address: 5 - 6 King Street, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 7AP.

Sort Code: 30-16-28. Account Number: 00254896.

BIC LOYDGB21572. IBAN GB86 LOYD 3016 2800 2548 96.

All Bank transfers should be in English pounds sterling - any charges should be paid in the country of origin. Also, our bank makes a charge for the receipt of an electronic transfer from overseas - please add £2 for transactions up to £100 and £7 for transactions greater than £100.



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Membership Fees

Membership Type	UK Fee	Overseas Fee
Full	£25	£30
Associate	£15	£20
Junior	£15	£20
Family	£50	£60

The range of overseas membership types has been extended to mirror the UK types, with an additional charge to cover the cost of overseas postage.

An Associate member is unlikely to own a pony and therefore will not wish to take advantage of the pony related privileges of membership.

Family membership may be applied for by married or co-habiting couples and their children under the age of 18 years, all residing at the same address. The two adult members enjoy the rights and privileges of full membership, and the children the rights and privileges of junior membership. Full details are in Section 2 of the Articles of Association.

Membership Renewal

Society memberships fall due on 1 January annually.

No member is entitled to vote for the election of Council if his/her subscription to the Society has not been paid on or before 15 February or to vote at an EGM/AGM if his/her subscription has not been paid by the date of the meeting (2 April 2016).

If subscriptions have not been received by the time we send out the Spring Magazine, a reminder slip is enclosed. Alternatively, members can arrange to pay their subscription by standing order on 1 January each year.



FPS Stallion Licensing

It is compulsory for a colt/stallion to be FIS tested before a Stallion License can be issued. The fees for a Stallion License application are:

	To include DNA & FIS kits	If already FIS tested*
UK member	£120	£80
UK non member	£240	£200
Overseas member	£125	£85
Overseas non-member	£245	£205

If already FIS tested, proof will be required (either sight of Certificate or confirmation from a relevant laboratory, eg. AHT, that colt/stallion has been tested).

If already DNA typed please apply to the office for appropriate fees.

FPS Member Directory

Listing in the Member Directory on the website is purely voluntary. The Directory page is http://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/member_dir.htm

If you wish your details to be added please complete the form online or send your information by email to the FPS Office, secretary@fellponysociety.org.uk

Please remember to update your details with any changes when appropriate.

Listings will be removed if current FPS membership lapses.



FPS Social Media and Internet Policy

1. INTRODUCTION

The Fell Pony Society acknowledges the importance of the internet and social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Linked in, home web-pages, chat rooms, BBM (Black Berry Messenger) and all other forms of electronic communication and the role which "social media" plays in the day to day lives of members.

This policy note is to remind members that the Rules of The Fell Pony Society apply to Members when using social media and the internet. Failure to adhere to this policy note could lead to disciplinary action being taken against a member.

2. USING SOCIAL MEDIA

a) You should be aware that The Fell Pony Society may from time to time carry out internet searches to identify postings which include references to The Fell Pony Society and its members.

b) The Fell Pony Society produced images are the subject of copyright and should not be copied or used in social media.

c) No-one should claim that what they post online is the opinion of the Society.

d) You must not post or transmit any material which could damage the name or reputation of The Fell Pony Society, its members or former members, or which is derogatory to the character of or prejudicial to the interests of The Fell Pony Society.

e) You must not post or transmit any material relating to The Fell Pony Society, members or former members or their horses or ponies, or which could otherwise be associated with or which may reasonably be attributed as coming from The Fell Pony Society, which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be in breach of The Fell Pony Society Rules, or constitutes a criminal offence, or which could give rise to civil liability, or otherwise be contrary to the laws of, or infringe the rights of any third party in, the UK or any other country in the world.

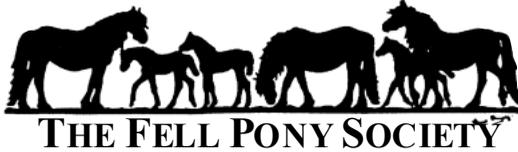
Any breach of this policy may constitute a breach of The Fell Pony Society Rules and could also lead to civil and/or criminal proceedings being brought against you.

f) If Officers of The Fell Pony Society deem that an inappropriate posting or transmission has been made the Society will contact the appropriate administrator to request that the item is removed.

g) Disclosure under law or regulation.

You should be aware that The Fell Pony Society will fully co-operate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting or directing The Fell Pony Society to disclose the identity or locate anyone posting any material in breach of this policy. If requested by the police or any other regulatory or government authority investigating suspected illegal activities to provide your personal information, The Fell Pony Society is entitled to do so.

January 2016



Sub-Committees

Conservation Grazing Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Eileen A Walker, Telephone: 01388 763607.

E-mail: eileen@rackwoodfellponies.co.uk

Mrs CH Robinson, Mrs S Charlton, Miss R Dalton, Miss N Evans and Mr A Thorpe

Judges Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Jean Ward, 10 The Hawthorns, Wigton CA79LE.

Telephone 01697 342600.

Secretary: Ms Anne Armstrong-Foxton, Becksides, Rosehill, Gilsland, Carlisle,

CA87DP. E-mail: anne.a_foxton@btinternet.com

Five judges from the FPS Panel are chosen at random at a Council meeting to serve on this Committee. Of these five, two are selected to remain on for two years, with 3 new judges selected at random plus two as reserves.

Overseas Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Sue Millard, Daw Bank, Greenholme, Tebay, Penrith, Cumbria

CA10 3TA. Telephone: 01539 624636. E-mail: sue@dawbank.co.uk

Mrs GM Callister, Mr GHB Mallinson, Mr C Roberts and Mrs CH Robinson.

Show Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs CH Robinson, North Fell Dyke, Lamplugh, Workington,

Cumbria, CA14 4SH. Telephone: 01946 861302.

E-mail: christine@kerbeck-fell-ponies.co.uk

Secretary: Miss R Brunskill. E-mail: fpsshowsecretary@hotmail.com

Mr I Brunskill, Mr M Goddard, Mr B Mallinson, Miss H Mawrey and Mr D Wilkinson.

Promotions Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Susan Brunskill, The Ramblings, Renwick, Penrith, Cumbria

CA10 1JT. Tel: 01768 870844. E-mail: Hynholme@hotmail.com

Secretary: Mrs Alison Bell. Treasurer: Rachael Brunskill.

Mrs S Millard, Mrs K Ellis, Mrs CH Robinson and Miss N Evans.



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

The 200 Club: Draw Results 2015

Nos	Name	Prize	Nos	Name	Prize
July '15			Nov '15		
1st	376 Mrs M Thorpe	£25.00	1st	300 Ms DJ McGrail	£25.00
2nd	262 Mr J H R Cook	£15.00	2nd	428 Mr M Barber	£15.00
3rd	353 A Twiname	£10.00	3rd	319 Mr J M Wayman	£10.00
4th	205 B Hall	£5.00	4th	228 Dr E J Whitley	£5.00
Aug '15			Dec '15		
1st	438 Mrs E A Foster	£25.00	1st	300 Ms D J McGrail	£250.00
2nd	375 Mr A Thorpe	£15.00	2nd	256 Miss P J Anderson	£125.00
3rd	321 Mr R Norris	£10.00	3rd	335 Miss M G Longsdon	£50.00
4th	297 Mrs K M Hope	£5.00	4th	225 Mrs J James	£25.00
Sept '15					
1st	204 Mrs S Stewart	£25.00			
2nd	219 Dr L Owen	£15.00			
3rd	355 Mrs G M Noble	£10.00			
4th	347 J Duffin	£5.00			
Oct '15					
1st	340 Mrs C H Robinson	£25.00			
2nd	234 Mrs I Potter	£15.00			
3rd	218 Mrs E A Walker	£10.00			
4th	228 Dr E J Whitley	£5.00			

**Still only £12 to join - and look at the prizes!
All profit goes to the Society's funds.**

**Please send your name, address and cheque for £12 made payable to
The Fell Pony Society
to the Promoter of the FPS 200 Club:
Mrs TM Mallinson, Rack Beck, Littlefield, Hethersgill, Carlisle,
Cumbria CA6 6HX.
Tel: 01228 675814—e-mail: tracykirkby@btinternet.com**



Council Elections 2016

The following retire and are eligible for re-election: Mrs S Millard, Mrs C H Robinson, Mr A Thorpe, Mrs E A Walker. Numbers in brackets represent the number of regular meetings which have not been attended by those Council members serving over the last five years.

Five new candidates have been proposed: Mrs E Ashcroft, Miss R Brunskill, Ms J Fairburn, Mrs S Mallinson, Mr J Potter.

There is an additional vacancy due to the sad death of Mr T B Capstick, plus a vacancy not filled in 2015.

Please use your postal voting paper enclosed with this magazine. Complete and return it to the Official Scrutineer, NOT to the Office.

New Candidates for 2016

MRS ELYNED ASHCROFT, prefix Banksgate

My love of Fell ponies was sparked off when I read about them as a youngster over 50 years ago. Eventually I bought a Fell gelding and later, in 1999, founded the Banksgate herd with my husband, Tony, from our farm at North Stainmore, Cumbria. Since then I have successfully bred and produced a number of ponies and in the last 2 years two of these have become Breed Show Supreme Champions.



By occupation I am a solicitor specialising in agricultural law with a particular interest in common land. I work in Cumbria and I am currently based in Appleby in the heart of fell pony country.

In 2002 I chaired the Joint Working Party which the FPS had formed to oversee the various issues arising out of foal immunodeficiency syndrome which needed clarification at the time.

I believe that, should I be elected, the professional skills, commitment and knowledge which I have would be invaluable to the FPS in serving its members and in upholding its core charitable values. My particular interest is in supporting the traditional hill breeders in the face of the many challenges they have to overcome. I am also keen that young members are encouraged and facilitated in developing their aims and ambitions within the breed and that the Fell Pony and its fantastic qualities are promoted, marketed and shouted from the rooftops as loudly as possible.

MISS RACHAEL BRUNSKILL, prefix Hynholme

I have been involved with Fell ponies since becoming hooked as a small child and now keep a small number of breeding mares. More recently I have taken on the role of official show secretary after being assistant secretary for a number of years.

During my time as a member of the FPS I have volunteered regularly and tried to promote our ponies to the best of my ability including being part of the show committee. I have recently joined the new promotional team and have agreed to dedicate my time to promote the Fell Pony in 2016.

Being part of the younger generation, I would like to encourage younger members to enjoy and promote this amazing breed, help the society to move forward whilst maintaining our true to type ponies.



MRS JUDY FAIRBURN, prefix Knockwood

I have been involved with Fell ponies for many years. The first Fell pony I owned was Gibside Dolly bought from John Gibson, we had many adventures together!

I have been on the judges panel for around twenty years and represent the Society on the Scottish Equine Breeders Association committee.

Over the years the Fell pony has remained a true all rounder, able to look after any member of the family.

If elected I will continue to promote the Fell pony and support all members whatever their ages, ability or interest in the breed.



MRS SUSAN MALLINSON, prefix Nabside

I have been involved with Fell Ponies for over 25 years firstly as a rider, then as a breeder and the Treasurer of the Fell Pony Breeders Association and latterly as a Society Judge.

Currently I believe that the distance between Council and Members is too great. Council have a difficult job to do in ensuring that the best is done for the breed but there is a need for more transparency about decisions made.

Members need to know and understand the rationale behind some of the decision making, confidentiality permitting, and I feel that this would be a way of bringing Council and Members closer together and thus strengthen the Society as a whole.

I have over 35 years experience in Governance and in decision making across multi-tiered organisations and think my skills in this area would be useful in narrowing the gap. This skill together with my commitment to and passion for the continuance of the breed will hopefully make a strong candidate for Council.



MR JOHN POTTER, prefix Greenholme

I would like to stand for the Fell Pony Society Council in 2016.

Greenholme Fell Ponies have always been a part of my life. I have been even more passionate about the breed over the last 9 years as my daughters, R.J. & B.K. Potter, have started breeding Greenholme ponies alongside other family members. The ponies run as a semi-feral herd on Birkbeck Common all year round, which in my opinion is essential to the Fell Pony as a breed. If fortunate enough to be elected to the Council I would support the hill breeders as much as I can. It is vital that future generations of breeders are encouraged, where possible, to keep Fell Ponies on the hill, where they belong.



Council Members Standing for Re-election

MRS SUSAN MILLARD (1)

I have worked with or owned Fell ponies since 1972, and still own two ride-and-drive ponies. I have served two terms on Council and you probably know me best as the Society's Webmaster and as the Editor of this Magazine, roles which I enjoy and which serve the Fell pony and the Society. I chair the Overseas Sub-Committee which works to support owners and enthusiasts of the Fell pony abroad, with the interests of the breed at heart. Since 1995 I have also been a Panel judge for the Society. I donate time to manage the Dalemain Fell Pony Museum's web site as well as helping to look after the Society's Facebook page. I am the author of the Fell pony books "One Fell Swoop" and "Hoofprints in Eden", plus two children's activity books written for the Society.



Last year I helped the Promotion Team to demonstrate the ponies' versatility with an arena display "Introducing the Fell Pony" at Lowther Driving Trials, and this year I will be extending our offerings by writing and producing a second "Border Ballad" script for Lowther and several other shows.

I offer my writing and technical skills to promote the ponies, and try to serve their owners, breeders, supporters and Council to the best of my ability.

MRS CHRISTINE ROBINSON, prefix Kerbeck (1)

I have been involved with Fell Ponies as long as I can remember. Seeing the ponies owned by our farming neighbours and later riding them at a local Trekking Centre made want to own one from an early age. I joined the Fell Pony Society in 1975 and finally got my first pony in 1977. I have been on Council now for what almost seems a lifetime and I think I have only missed one meeting—when I was in the USA Judging. There have been many changes over the years, some good, some not so good, but as a Society and Council we have to deal with what comes our way. Currently I am Chairman of the Show committee and also serve on the Overseas Committee, Conservation grazing Committee and am part of the newly formed Promotion team. My interests continue to be encouraging Young people to become involved with the ponies and finding ways to support our important Semi-feral herds.



MR ANDREW THORPE, prefix Wellbrow (0)

I have been on council for the last 10 years and vice chairman for 18 months. I have only missed one meeting since I was first elected. I would hope by now members whether they are 17 or 70 find me approachable and fair. I was and still am very keen to look after the interests of the breeders and the Fell pony and take every opportunity to promote the versatility of the breed.

Council duties/meetings can be challenging, lively and sometimes quite difficult. But at all times the members and their Fell ponies are treated in a fair and democratic way. If re-elected I will continue to listen to the membership and take their thoughts and suggestions to council. My personal objective is to ensure our council remains as open and transparent as it is today. I and my family have a lifestyle that revolves around Fell ponies, yes it is a business, but more importantly it is our pleasure and something I am extremely passionate about.



MRS EILEEN WALKER, prefix Rackwood (0)

It is 42 years ago that I met my first Fell pony and I have not owned any other breed of horse or pony since. I shared my father's passion for breeding and showing Fell ponies and together we established the 'Rackwood' herd. I currently have 12 Fell ponies which live out all year round mainly grazing north facing slopes close to Hamsterley Forest. I handle and school my ponies from being foals so that they can be shown in-hand and then break to ride and occasionally to drive when I consider them mature enough to do so.

During my most recent five years on Council, I have been involved in the planning and organising of events for the 90th anniversary celebrations which were held during the summer of 2012. Events that demonstrated the true versatility of the Fell pony and interested many people, members and non members, throughout the country. Since becoming Chairman in 2013, I have concentrated on balancing the books and putting the Society back onto a sound financial footing ready to face any unexpected future challenges. I have travelled around the country and visited different area support group events and talked to members to find out what they really want from the Society.

I would appreciate your support and if re-elected I will continue to promote the Fell pony as an essential family pony and work with other organisations and government bodies to secure the future of the Fell pony.



FPS Southern Breed Show

This year's 26th annual Fell Pony Society Southern Breed Show was held on 13th September at Crown Farm, Ascott-Under-Wychwood in Oxfordshire. Despite an unpromising forecast, we were blessed with a dry day for the Ponies to contest the many classes on offer at this popular show.

Our judges this year were Roy Ottink from the Wildhoeve Stud in Holland judging the stallion and young-stock classes, the mare classes by Russell Sutcliffe of the Darrenvale Stud in Lancashire, and the geldings by Michael Goddard from Dorset, who breeds Bewcastle Fell Ponies.

Mr. Ottink chose the two-year old colt Wellbrow Mikado as his stallion-class winner, bred and owned by Mr and Mrs Thorpe of the Wellbrow Stud. Second was the five-year old stallion Greenholme Elect, owned by Rob Relph-Briggs and shown by Hayley Reynolds. The foal class was next, and Llanerch Brook Absinthe won at her first show, owned and bred by Helen Wenden from Ross-on-Wye in Herefordshire. Absinthe is out of Helen's faithful broodmare Townend Finty, who went on to win the veteran class judged by Mr. Sutcliffe. Second in the foal class was Severnvalle Poppy, owned and bred by George Guy and Leanne Russell.

The yearling class winner was debutante Townend Cherry Blossom, bred by Mrs M Wilson and owned by Mr and Mrs P Ward-Burton. Second in this class was another granddaughter of Townend Finty, Brocklebank Cheeky Vimto, owned and bred by Helen Wenden and Alison Torode. Mr. Ottink awarded the two-year old class to Bob and Sue McNamara's homebred Lydvale May Rose who had travelled from Lewdown, Devon. Second in this class was Conway Clara Brown, bred by Nicola Stagnell and shown by her sister Karen Dipper.

The Youngstock Championship went to the three-year old class winner Severnvalle Mary-Rose, who is owned and bred by George Guy and Leanne Russell; she is by their own stallion Severnvalle Ivor, out of Severnvalle Gypsy Rose. Posy, as Leanne Russell calls her, was Reserve Youngstock Champion last year, so Leanne was delighted to go one better this time to lift the Coltscroft Trophy. This followed in the footsteps of Posy's grandmother, Severnvalle Rosie. Leanne felt this was the perfect way to end her youngstock career before taking on adult classes next year. Reserve Youngstock Champion was awarded to the yearling filly Townend Cherry Blossom.

There was a strong class of mares aged 4-7 years, which was won by Wellbrow Cari, bred and owned by Mr and Mrs Thorpe, and shown by Gemma Thorpe, and second place was also from the North West region, the five-year old mare Lunesdale Black Dahlia, owned and bred by Mr AW and Mrs CA Morland, and shown by Vicki Kenyon. The class for mares over nine years was won by Drybarrows Jess II for a second consecutive year, this being only her third show since coming off the Fell last summer. Jess was bred by TC Thompson and is owned by Frances Miller and shown by Gordon Miller. Severnvalle Sadie, owned and bred by George Guy was second in this class, and later went on to win the young handler class with Rachel Hemming. The broodmare class was then awarded to Greenholme Queen Bea, owned by Mr and Mrs P

Ward-Burton, with Severnvale Gypsy Rose, owned and bred by George Guy and Leanne Russell, in second place.

Greenholme Queen Bea put on a fine performance for Philip Ward-Burton, watched by her foal Llanai Elation, to take the In-Hand Mare Championship under Russell Sutcliffe. Queen Bea was bred by Mr Bill Potter; she is by Greenholme Look At Me, out of Greenholme Whisper. Reserve mare champion went to Wellbrow Cari.

The class for geldings aged 4-8 years went to Sarah Prior's six-year old Broxdown Tornado, with Brickell Cokey, owned by Mr and Mrs Davies in second. The older geldings class was won by the grey gelding Hillhead Horace, bred by Mr Stewart and owned by Mrs Heidi Bland. In second place was Dalefoot Sinbad owned by Frances Miller. Mr Goddard chose Broxdown Tornado, by Sunnybrowe Jack, out of Townend Whisper, as his Gelding Champion with Hillhead Horace in reserve.

The Inter-Area In-Hand Championship for the coveted Bewcastle Boy Blue Trophy, first held in 2010, has established itself as a real feature in the Fell Pony showing calendar. This year ten ponies from six FPS Area Support Groups were forward. All three judges together chose the four-year old stallion Boutime Wooster, representing the Midlands West Support Group, as Champion. Deb Vychinski, who had travelled from Hayfield in Derbyshire, bred Boutime Wooster from her own mare Darrenvale Katie whom she put to Lunesdale Warlord. Reserve champion went to Wellbrow Cari representing the North West Support Group.

This show offers a wide range of ridden and fun classes throughout the afternoon. Ponies can compete in many different disciplines, from working-hunter, dressage and handy pony, to the traditional ridden classes, demonstrating the versatility of the ponies.

The Olympia Semi-final Qualifier was awarded to Hayley Reynolds' Murthwaite Ice Man ridden by Terry Clynes. This was an emotional win for Hayley who was bequeathed Ice Man earlier this year by his breeder, the late Thomas Capstick. Ice Man had a very successful afternoon winning the Intermediate working-hunter class, the championship for the best non-black ridden pony, as well as the overall ridden championship. Second in the qualifier, also taking the ticket for the semi-final, was Ludworth Viking, bred by Mrs P Kell and owned by Miss N Ash. Ice Man and Viking were also first and second respectively, in the ridden stallion class.

The Working Hunter Pony championship, judged by Mr. D Sykes was awarded to Greenholme Yabadabadoo, ridden by Holly Mayling, who took second place in the Intermediate section. The novice WHP was won by Meres Just-a-Mo, ridden by Mrs Paterson, the intermediate section was won by Murthwaite Ice Man ridden by Terry Clynes and the Open by Greenbeck Back in Black ridden by Miss A Steele, who went on to take Reserve Working-Hunter Champion.

In the ridden classes, Mr and Mrs Parker's six-year old mare Littletree English Rose, who had travelled from Bridport in Dorset, won both the novice ridden and the traditional ridden classes ridden by Pippa Parker. Severnvale June won the open mare class ridden by a delighted Katherine Whitell. This was Katherine's first time at the Southern Breed Show riding for June's owners George Guy and Leanne Russell; she thoroughly enjoyed her day, saying 'this was the most friendly show I have ever been to, and I'm chuffed to win some silverware!' Katherine is now looking forward to

bringing her own ponies to the show in 2016. The novice ridden geldings class was won by Brickell Cokey, owned by Mr and Mrs Davies from Hawkesbury Upton in Gloucestershire, and the traditional ridden geldings was won by Hillhead Horace, who went beautifully for his owner Heidi Bland. This was a first visit to the show for Heidi who said: 'We were made to feel so welcome by everyone at the show, from the competitors to all the wonderful volunteers. Looking forward to 2016 already'.

Greenholme Yabadabadoo, the super-versatile ten-year old grey gelding owned by Nicola Mayling, won the Groovy Hooves Championship with his talented young rider Holly Mayling, which is awarded to the pony who takes part in all three disciplines of dressage, working hunter and handy pony. Holly also took the Children's Ridden Championship. Yabadabadoo also won the Two Generations class ridden by Nicola and Holly, and to top off a great day he also won the open ridden geldings class with Nicola on board.

The Handy Pony classes are always great fun, and this year ponies were asked to help out with posting letters, fishing, negotiating 'spooky' bunting, and jumping a small fence! Dalefoot Sinbad with Frances Miller won both the ridden and in-hand sections. The same combination won this in 2007, the last time the twelve-year old gelding bred by Barbara Potter came to the show - they were delighted to regain the trophy. Second in the ridden section was Holly Mayling with Greenholme Yabadabadoo and in-hand was Lydvale Jet with Mrs D McGrail. Lydvale Jet also won the Walk & Trot Dressage test with Mrs McGrail. Meres Just-a-Mo with Mrs N Paterson won the Prelim 13 and Novice 34 tests. Just-a-Mo is a fifteen-year old mare bred by Mrs S Rees.

Another fifteen-year old mare, Shepparton Kim, owned and bred by Mrs Judy Hill, did a great job in the children's classes, with Judy's grandchildren Millie and Euan competing with her in the young handler, the lead rein, the children's ridden, the traditional ridden mares, the veteran ridden, the handy pony (twice), the dressage, and the Two Generations class. A really fantastic family pony by Dene Beau Bawbee, out of Shirdleyhill Tara.

The Supreme Championship was awarded to the six-year old mare Wellbrow Cari for the Thorpe family from Shawforth, Lancashire, who also won the best owner-breeder in-hand championship. She is by Heltondale Mountain Mist II, out of Wellbrow Carmen. Reserve Supreme was awarded to the Ridden Champion, stallion Murthwaite Ice Man, ridden by Terry Clynes and owned by Hayley Reynolds.

Once again great thanks are owed to Georgina Blair and her committee who run such a well-organised and fun show for all competitors and spectators to enjoy. Many thanks also to all competitors and judges who helped to make the show a success. Judge Michael Goddard reflected after the show, that 'it was a great pleasure to judge so many quality ponies from all parts of the country'. We look forward to seeing you all on the 11th September this year, with a change of venue to the Berkshire College of Agriculture, SL6 6QR.

Frances Miller



The Fell Pony Society Annual Show & Sale 2015

The Fell Pony Society held its annual sale of registered Fell ponies at the NWA J36 Auction Mart, near Kendal, Cumbria, on Saturday 24 October. The sale was preceded by three in hand show classes: one for ponies four years and over; one for youngstock one to three years; and one class for foals. The classes were judged by Christine Robinson who thoroughly enjoyed the day, and commented that although the classes were fairly small they were full of quality; and the ponies forward would have held their own at any of the local shows.

A total of 61 Fell ponies were entered in the sale with 52 forward on the day, and 48 ponies were sold through the ring. Prices were better than in recent years, partly due to the introduction of a new 'upset' (lowest acceptable selling) price of 50 guineas for colt foals, and 100 guineas for filly foals and all other ponies.

The highest price of 2,000gns was achieved by Thornbeck Cracker, a three year old black filly by Brackenbank Flash Harry, sold by Brackenbank Fell ponies. The filly was the winner of the showing class for ponies one to three years and the overall show champion. The judge, Christine Robinson, particularly liked the filly's good limbs and feet and overall thought that she was a very nice typey pony. The highest priced foal at 1,220gns was the Dalewin stud's Dalewin Starburst, a grey filly by Banksgate Juno. The winner of the foal showing class, and reserve champion overall, was a black filly, Greenholme Jasmin from R.J. & B.K. Potter that reached 620gns; she was another pony that impressed the judge with her good limbs and type. A colt foal from the same consignment, Greenholme Jake, reached the highest price for a colt at 1,100gns; both ponies were sired by Greenholme Warrior. The highest priced pony four years and over was Bybeck Kayleigh, a six year old dapple grey riding mare by Murthwaite Timothy from Mr. B. Metcalfe who was sold for 1420gns.

Overall colt foals averaged 287gns (almost 100gns higher than 2014); and fillies 505gns (up over 250gns). One to three year olds averaged 660gns (up over 300gns); older ponies averaged 730gns (up over 300gns).

Auctioneer Ian Atkinson commented on the sale: "A fantastic atmosphere with the sale ring packed throughout. It is brilliant to see so much interest in the native and traditional breeds. A strong trade with the large number of buyers from all over the UK looking to purchase well-bred stylish ponies."

The sale of Tack and Equipment saw a wide range of items forward with well-maintained items easiest to sell. Machinery and carts sold to £150 for an Exercise Cart and £180 for a Driving Cart. A single furrow plough sold for £100.

It was a very good sale for the sellers and some super ponies going to lovely new homes. Best wishes to all the new owners—we hope that the ponies bring lots of pleasure in the future.

Claire Simpson



Overall supreme champion at the FPS Foal & Youngstock show was Carrock Elsa, a yearling filly by Murthwaite Timothy Reserve supreme champion and youngstock reserve was Edwin Winder's three year old filly, Dalewin Pippa, by Banksgate Jackdaw.

L to R: owner John Cockbain, Imogen Cockbain, Edwin Winder and David Morland. Below, Midtown Joker (by Lunesdale Beckham), bred by Craig Mallinson and owned by Zoe Marsden, took the champion foal trophy.



Christine Robins on with Linnel Doublet and Jenifer Morrissey with Hynholme Amber, on the packhorse bridge at Boot, Eskdale, Cumbria



Below, yearling filly Dalewin Roxanne shown by David Morland to take the Fell championship at Westmorland County Show



(c) Jenifer Morrissey



The Fell Pony Society Foal & Youngstock Show 2015

The Fell Pony Society North West Area Group (NWAG) held a Foal & Youngstock Show at Newton Rigg, Penrith on Sunday 8th November. The NWAG is very grateful to show sponsors Amanda Bridges & Ben Wiggan, Cath Wrigley - Murthwaite Green Trekking Centre, David & Katherine Wilkinson, Drybarrows Fell Ponies, Gordon and Frances Miller - Highbrook Fell Ponies, Helen Moss and Lownthwaite Fell Ponies.

Competitors and spectators were very pleased to be indoors on what was a very grey and wet day and were impressed with the new facility at Newton Rigg E.C. Penrith.

The Brackenbank trophy for the overall supreme champion went to Carrock Elsa, a black, but turning grey, yearling filly by Murthwaite Timothy, owned by John Cockbain. Elsa won her class for the 15th time this year and it was her 25th win from 26 shows in her two year career. She has won 13 championships this year including 4 supreme championships, was described as 'perfect' by judge Jean Ward who had not seen the filly in any of her previous outings. Elsa also won the youngstock championship and received the Laura Memorial trophy donated by Catherine Wrigley.

Reserve supreme champion and youngstock reserve was Edwin Winder's grey three year old filly, Dalewin Pippa, by Banskgate Jackdaw. Pippa lives her life on the Fell but has been brought home briefly for each of the six shows that she has contested this year.

Midtown Joker a grey colt foal won the foal championship for a delighted Zoe Marsden, who took home the champion foal trophy donated by the late Tommy Capstick, and the best colt foal trophy donated by Colin Roberts of the Bybeck stud. This super colt was bred by Craig Mallinson and is by Lunesdale Beckham. Zoe's work at home certainly paid off as Joker trotted around the arena like a professional making foal showing look very easy...others wished they had done more practising!

Reserve, and winning the best filly foal trophy donated by Bill Potter; and the best foal bred by a hill breeder presented by Mr & Mrs David Howe; was Andrew Thorpe's Wellbrow Isla, a black filly by Heltondale Mountain Mist II.

The judge, Jean Ward, was very pleased with the number and quality of the foals forward, but would have liked to have seen more ponies forward in the youngstock classes. Hopefully we will see some of this year's foals back as yearlings next year.

Claire Simpson



Area Support Groups

Contact details are given at the end of each Group's report and can also be consulted on the FPS web site.



Scotland Area Support Group

Members and friends from the Scottish Area Support Group in the North enjoyed another successful visit to World Horse Welfare, Belwade Farm, Aberdeenshire in October 2015. The weather wasn't too kind to us but with a great turnout we toured the centre and viewed some of their latest welfare cases with much interest. A nice opportunity to catch up with friends old and new as we come from a huge geographical area.

We are all looking forward to the first ever Highland, Fell, Dales Scotland show to be held on 15 May 2016 at Brechin Castle and we hope it will be well attended.

We have a few things in the pipeline for the future and if anyone would like to support us in the North of Scotland with ideas of activities/places we could visit please get in touch.

Jacqueline Cheetham—Email fellponies@btinternet.com or tel 01346 541250.



North East Area Support Group

Throughout 2015 the North East Area Support Group has made donations to various shows and the charity Diabetes Uk. They sponsored the Gelding Championship at the FPS Stallion Show, the Gelding Championship at the FPS Breed Show, The Fell Pony classes at the Native Pony Festival and made a donation to Diabetes Uk in memory of Jackie Parkinson's mother who died in February 2015, the day she came and talked to us at our Sunday Lunch Event. Also, we provided six special rosettes for the Native Pony Dressage competition, which is an annual event that takes place in the north east, so that the highest placed Fell pony in each class could receive recognition.

During October we held our annual pleasure ride on a mixture of moorland tracks, the Cleveland Way, forestry and country roads high above the North Yorkshire town of Thirsk. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon and we had magnificent views over the surrounding countryside as well as a visit to High Paradise Tearoom. This tearoom can only be reached by walkers or riders so after tying our ponies to the designated tying posts in a small paddock, we divulged our passion for freshly prepared homemade cakes and pastries. The afternoon concluded with a picnic lunch but after our stop at High Paradise Tearoom we had very little appetite.

We are trying some new events during 2016 which include a Beech Ride on Sunday 13th March at Seaton Carew and a Handy Pony Activity Day on Sunday 31st July at Abbots Close Farm near Crook. Your committee have also agreed to organise the Native Pony Performance Trials held at Linnel Wood near Hexham in September. The Performance Trials has been running very successfully for twenty-one years but the Charlton family have asked for help to secure its' future. Unfortunately in 2015 it had to be cancelled but we are determined that this event will continue as it is a fun filled day in superb surroundings with excellent facilities. Please look out for the schedule and come and support us.

A full list of events for 2016 has been displayed as part of the 2016 Newsletter on the North East Area Support Group page on the FPS Website. Appropriate information sheets and application forms will be available to download against each event as they become available. They will also be available on the North East Support Group Facebook page.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has attended or helped at one or more of our events during 2015. Many people help out behind the scenes and ensure that everything runs smoothly and we are always extremely grateful to them. If you are new to Fell ponies or the North East area then please come and introduce yourself and join in the fun during 2016.

Eileen Walker

Tel: 01388763607 Mobile: 07990521205

email: eileen@rackwoodfellponies.co.uk



North West Area Support Group

Looking back over the last 12 months, the North West Group have had a very successful, exciting and lucrative year! I feel we have grown from strength to strength and created a strong group of people dedicating their time to offer you all a selection of events situated in the North West. We finished 2015 on a high note with the Foal and Youngstock show being very successful and a good end to the year.

The Foal and Youngstock Show was held on 8th November at Newton Rigg College, near Penrith. There were plenty of competition in the foal classes with good entries in each class but the youngstock classes were unfortunately less supported. The judge Jean Ward said that the general standard of entries was very pleasing. It proved to be an excellent venue with the newly revamped indoor arena having good natural light and room for a sizeable show ring and a collecting ring, which definitely came in useful! The day was very wet and the indoor area for spectators was welcome as were the refreshments provided by Katy Edgar.

Margaret Plank - Chairman

Results were as follows: -

Foal Championship: Midtown Joker. Reserve: Wellbrow Isla.

Youngstock Championship: Carrock Elsa. Reserve: Dalewin Pippa.

SUPREME CHAMPIONSHIP: Carrock Elsa. Reserve: Dalewin Pippa.

The North West group would like to say a huge thank you to all of our sponsors for their continued support towards the show.

Our events for 2016:

As you read this, we will have already held our first event for 2016 at Crooklands Hotel, a talk hosted by Vyv Wood-Gee on her 'Coast to Coast Ride'.

We hoped you enjoyed it!

26th March - Julie Robinson Clinic held at Newton Rigg. Fully Booked - Thank you everyone for your prompt bookings.

22nd July - 24th July - Fell Pony Camp 2016 - Also fully booked! We have been overwhelmed how quickly this event has booked up so thank you for all your support. This is our main event and focus for this year as it will be the first camp that the North West Group have organised. We really look forward to reporting back to you all with pictures and an update of how it went in the Autumn Magazine.

4th September - Join us for a beach ride with your Fell pony (and friend). Silecroft Beach is around 6 miles of sand, ideal for horse riding with shallow waters to have a paddle...what's not to like?

Arrive between 9am - 10am, BBQ/refreshments to follow. Kindly hosted by Cath Wrigley, Murthwaite Green Trekking Centre.

13th November - Annual Foal & Youngstock Show, held at Newton Rigg Equestrian Centre. 11am - 3pm. Judge to be confirmed.

We would really like to emphasise that it is also a Youngstock show. The last few years have seen poor entries in the Youngstock classes (Yearling, 2 yr old & 3 year old) and we really want to change this. It's a lovely quiet show which provides a good opportunity to get your youngsters out and let them experience new things with a quiet surrounding.

For more information, please contact Amanda Bridges; 07809419464 or Amanda.bridges91@gmail.com. Booking forms for our events are available to download from the FPS website - North West Area Page, or follow us on Facebook.

Amanda Bridges
Secretary



Midlands West Area Support Group

Group Leader: Mary Longsdon 01629 640709
Secretary: Diane Key 01785 282922

Group events in the autumn were well attended beginning on the 17th of October with the much anticipated talk by Vyv Wood-Gee on her Coast To Coast Fell Pony Ride which was held at Great Bridgeford Village Hall, Stafford. The talk postponed from March 2015, proved to be well worth waiting for. An enthralled audience enjoyed Vyv's presentation with fantastic photographs of the journey and Vyv's amusing re-telling of the often heart stopping moments along the way. The talk was followed by a Chinese Auction. The Group were very grateful to Mrs May Kendall for providing the catering and of course Vyv for her time and travelling such a long way to attend.

Sunday October 18th Ride on the Chatsworth Estate, Derbyshire.

Hot on the heels of the talk, the Group's next event was a pleasure ride on the Chatsworth Estate, Derbyshire on the following day. There was a very good turnout of members and their ponies with fifteen Fell Ponies taking part. We were very indebted to the Dales Pony Society for generously allowing the MWFPS Group to join in what was ostensibly their event. Group rosettes were given to all those attending and for anyone further interested, photographs are available on our Face book page.

Sunday 1st November - Annual Group Luncheon at the home of Elizabeth Marshall at Merefield, Oaks Green, Sudbury. Another well attended luncheon courtesy of Mrs Elizabeth Marshall. This year we were treated to a talk by Frances Miller and Allie Slack on the FPS Young Persons Group which seems to be doing very well with a range of events and activities to offer their members. It was hoped that in the future the Midlands West Support Group could help promote the

Young Persons Group. Thank you Frances and Allie for attending and also for carrying out the very important roles of judging our Fell photo show and the highly contested pudding competition which was won this year by our own Performance Awards Officer, Alyson Hurcomb. As is customary, our three winners were presented with their engraved Fell Pony wooden spoons. The winners of the Happy Hacker and Performance Awards were also presented with their beautiful rosettes from Shropshire Rosettes. Results below. A big thank you to Elizabeth for kindly hosting the event.

The full results were:

PERFORMANCE AWARDS 2015			Points
1st	Tracey Last	Wellbrow Jacko	617
2nd	Ryan Davis	Sleddale Tommy	490
3rd	Heidi Saxon-Bland	Hillhead Horace	248
4th	Debbie Robert-Jones	Greenholme Gambler	239
5th	Sonyarisa Duckhouse	Chestermann Dandy	112
6th	Jo Hillman	Ashness Black Rupert	99
7th	Kate Merryweather	Bewcastle Blithe	88
8th	Fiona Dillon	Carsington Nethermost Pike 2nd	87
9th	Tamara Habberley	Greenholme Sandy	67
10th	Helen Moss	Greenfield Rhona	24

HAPPY HACKERS 2015			Hours
1st	Jo Hillman	Ashness Black Rupert	312
2nd	Helen Moss	Greenfield Rhona	151
3rd	Sonyarisa Duckhouse	Chestermann Dandy	134
4th	Kate Merryweather	Bewcastle Blithe	130¾
5th	Kate Merry	Baronshill Briar Rose	127¼
6th	Jayne Walster	Syward Blue Aconite ll	57½
7th	Georgina Blair	Clandon Gabriella ll	32¾
8th	Janet Blair	Heltondale Ruby lll	28

Well done to Tracey Last and Wellbrow Jacko who were the winners of the Eileen Davies Perpetual Fell Pony trophy and to Jo Hillman and Ashness Black Rupert for winning the Happy Hacker Section. The Group is to organise a shield to present to the winners of the Happy Hackers section in memory of Hugh Marshall. Once obtained Jo's name will be added.

Christmas Social

Following last year's successful pre-Christmas social get together organised by Debbie Roberts-Jones, Debbie very kindly undertook to organise another successful evening this time at The Dragon in Montgomeryshire. The food was apparently excellent with a good attendance and lots of interesting conversation.

Thank you to everyone who attended especially those of you who had some distance to travel.

Committee Meeting. The Committee met at the home of Barry Stamp and Diane Key in Seighford on the 10th January 2016 where a large part of the meeting was devoted to planning events for 2016. We do hope these will appeal to all.

Please note at the time of publication we have yet to confirm all of these dates and venues but our group newsletter and web site www.westmids-fellponies.org.uk will confirm details of these. Contact telephone numbers are included below for anyone wishing to find out more about our early events (*next page*).

Sunday 10th April ~ Spring Festival of Fells Show.

To be held at Radfords Equestrian, Lower House Farm, Llanymynech, Near Oswestry, Shropshire, SY22 6LG. The show will commence at 9.30am. We are pleased to announce that our judge will be Mr Paul Saunders (Peaseybeck Ponies). There will be the usual full section of registered Fell Pony classes for both ridden and in hand plus several fun classes, a trekking class, dressage classes and, new for 2016, a working hunter section. There will also be opportunity for Midlands West members to qualify for the Bewcastle Boy Blue Inter Area Challenge (final to be held at the Southern Fell Pony Society Breed Show in September). This show is also a qualifier for the NCPA Pony of The Year show.

The schedule with full details and entry form will be available to download from www.westmids-fellponies.org.uk Alternatively please contact show organiser Debbie Roberts-Jones on 01691 652843 or send a LARGE SAE to Diane Key, Ivy Cottage, Seighford, Stafford, Stafford ST18 9PQ.

On Sunday June 12th the annual **Derbyshire Fell, Dales and Highland Pony Show** will take place at Bakewell Showground. Schedules will be available to download from www.westmids-fellponies.org.uk or by sending a large SAE to Mary Longsdon, Eaglets, Little Longstone, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1NN nearer the time. For more information please telephone Mary on 01629 640709.

Sponsors for both shows are very welcome - Please contact the organisers.

LATER EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2016

Pleasure Ride ~ Kate White and Family have very kindly offered to organise a pleasure ride in the Ashbourne area (Derbyshire) possibly in July. Details will be available on our web site and newsletter as soon as they are confirmed.

Fell Pony Camp ~ In June on the 17th to the 19th, Steph Adams is holding a Fell Pony Camping weekend at Bunkhouse Tipi and Camping, Woodhouse Farm Ltd, Wood House, St Harmon, Rhayader, Powys LD6 5LY, UK. If you are interested please contact Steph on 01597 87 00 81.

Beach Ride ~ Plans are also afoot to organise a beach ride for our more intrepid Fells and their riders during the summer.

“Leg It” (Fell trotting races and gymkhana) plus show. If the venue in the Stafford area can be confirmed it is hoped that the popular Leg It event can be

resurrected in tandem with an autumn show. Also included would be fancy dress, handy pony and other fun classes.

If you would like to join the Midlands West Fell Pony Support Group please contact Barry Stamp at Ivy Cottage, Seighford, Stafford, ST18 9PQ, Tel: 01785 822723. A membership form is available to download from our web site. Please send a £5 cheque made payable to the Fell Pony Society Midlands West with your name and address and, if applicable, email address details. If you would like a receipt please include a SAE. Alternatively you can now complete a standing order form to pay your subscription. For more details about the group please visit www.westmids-fellponies.org.uk or contact the secretary, Diane Key, at diane@fellpony.me.uk



FPS Breeders Award 2015

All In Hand exhibits at the FPS Stallion & Colt Show, the FPS Breed Show and FPS Southern Show, are automatically be entered for the award, which is presented annually in memory of Chris Thompson and donated by the Thompson family.

The award is calculated on a points basis and will be presented at the AGM.

Results 2015

Position	Prefix	Total Points
1st	Wellbrow	94
2nd	Lunesdale	77
3rd	Greenholme	64
4th	Bracklinn	44
5th	Severnvale	41
6th	Banksgate	36

59 breed prefixes took part.

Eileen A Walker



Who drew the Fell Pony Society Logo?

I had a very interesting conversation last autumn with a gentleman named Stephen Skurray, the son of Dean Skurray who was the artist who produced the FPS logo. I had always wondered who the artist was.

Mr Skurray was also one of the founder members of the Ponies of Britain, set up in 1953 to help preserve the native ponies who were in decline following the war.

Katherine Wilkinson





Overseas Branch News: FPSNA

The Fell Pony Society of North America, Inc. 2015 Branch Report

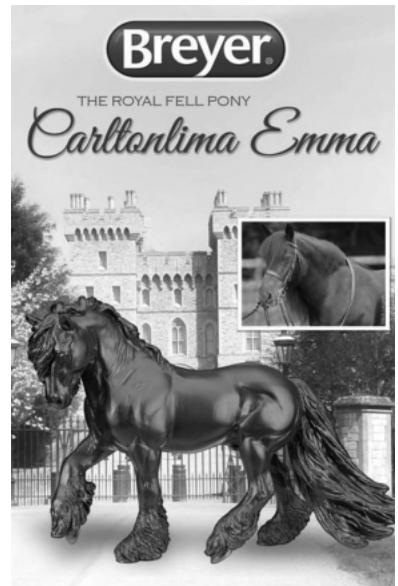
Fell Pony Society of North America, Inc. (FPSNA) members had a busy year as usual. Our promotional exhibits included the Virginia-North Carolina Horse Festival held in March in Chatham, Virginia. This was hosted by FPSNA member, Barbara Levchak, who brought along her Fell Ponies—Laurelhighland Brown Sugar and Laurelhighland Precious—for their very first exhibition. Barbara did a wonderful job setting up the booth, presenting her ponies and sharing our amazing breed, and our association, with the public.

Other ponies exhibited by members included Lunesdale White Heather and Stenerskeugh Danny Boy, who were exhibited for many weekends at the Bristol Renaissance Faire in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Finally, as you know, an original sculpture of Waverhead Model IV had been presented during BreyerFest 2014 at the Kentucky Horse Park (Lexington) by Breyer artist, Kathleen Moody. In 2015, the model was produced in a modified version in order to honor HM the Queen's current riding pony, Carltonima Emma, as "The Royal Fell Pony" in Breyer's "Best of British" series. We are thrilled that a portion of all proceeds from its sale will also be donated to two UK charities for which the Queen is Patron: The Fell Pony Society and Girlguiding. It is hoped that this beautiful model will help to educate children and further raise awareness about the breed, and we are very grateful for Her Majesty's support in this endeavor. This is Breyer's long-awaited, first-ever Fell Pony model, and we hope that Fell Pony Society members will enjoy this beautiful model, too.

The FPSNA Performance Premium & Awards Program 2015 had a banner year with a record number of participants. This program once again served as annual North American Fell Pony Championships, in which most if not all Fell owners in North America can realistically



*Barbara Levchak
with Laurelhighland Precious*



participate if they wish via competitions held across North America. Twenty-seven ponies were enrolled for the 2015 competition. Ponies successfully earned points in our Performance Division through a variety of competitions—ridden (flat, hunter, etc.), dressage, gymkhana, etc., including both open and Mountain & Moorland events. We also had entries in our Handy Pony Division, earning points as ambassadors. We are pleased to announce the 2015 Supreme Champion is Dreamhayven Double Agent, owned and shown by Helen Rich. Reserve Supreme Champion went to Mustahvonen Rheged's Lemon Drop, owned and shown by Jenni Moser and her daughter, Jayden Moser. Double Agent also won the Born in North America High Point Performance Award. Lemon Drop, who also earned points as an “ambassador” pony, won the Born in North America High Point Handy Pony Award, too. Please see the following for all the results and our North American Fell Ponies of the Year.

2015 FPSNA Performance Premium & Awards Program Results

Division*; Pony Name; Points; Placing; Owner; Rider /Handler /Whip;

Breeder (for Born in NA Awards)

A.1.1. Open Ridden

Broughhill Hadrian's Wall	190	1	Rene Bender	Amber Mangino
Mustahvonen Rheged's Lemon Drop	160	2	Jenni Moser	Jenni Moser

A.1.2. Novice Ridden

Copperbeech Casper	410	1	Cheryl Dutton	Kimberly Dunn
Braeberry Whimsical Legend	20	2	Rene Bender	Bridget Pauls

A.1.3. Junior Ridden

Mustahvonen Rheged's Lemon Drop	180	1	Jenni Moser	Jayden Moser
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A.2.3. Two year old In-Hand

Felllegend Westminster Abbey	50	1	Rene Bender	Nicole Vaillancourt
Felllegend Miss Potter	40	2	Rene Bender	Ardy Ganjouee

A.2.5. Four-Year-Old and Over In-Hand

Mustahvonen Rheged's Lemon Drop	410	1	Jenni Moser	Jenni Moser / Jayden Moser
Copperbeech Casper	120	2	Cheryl Dutton	Kimberly Dunn
Dreamhayven Double Agent	110	3	Helen Rich	Helen Rich
Braeberry Whimsical Legend	80	4	Rene Bender	Bridget Pauls
Broughhill Hadrian's Wall	30	5	Rene Bender	McKenna

McCafferty

A.3.1. Open Dressage

Willowtrail Black Robin O'Donnell	390	1	Anita Castricone	Jessica
Laurelhighland Victor	320	2	Lisa Lindholm	Kate Mikulay



Above, Mustahevonen Rheged's Lemon Drop with Jenni and Jayden Moser; below, Laurelhighland Victor with Kate Mikulay



Littletree Born Supremacy	140	3	Allison Wolff	Allison Wolff
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A.3.2. Junior Dressage

Stonecreek Black Pearl	740	1	Anita Castricone	Gracie Ruzzo
Lunesdale Shamrock	300	2	Chelsey Brien	Chelsey Brien

A.4.1. Open Driving

Dreamhayven Double Agent	720	1	Helen Rich	Helen Rich
Dreamhayven Double Agent Jansen	400	2	Helen Rich	Nichole Horsely-

A.5.1.1. Grand Champion Ridden Performance Pony

Stonecreek Black Pearl	740	CH	Anita Castricone	Gracie Ruzzo
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A.5.1.2. Reserve Grand Champion Ridden Performance Pony

Copperbeech Casper	410	Res	Cheryl Dutton	Kimberly Dunn
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A.6.1.1. Overall Grand Champion Performance Pony (Ridden &/or In Harness)

Stonecreek Black Pearl	740	CH	Anita Castricone	Gracie Ruzzo
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A.6.1.2. Overall Reserve Grand Champion Performance Pony (Ridden &/or In Harness)

Dreamhayven Double Agent	720	Res	Helen Rich	Helen Rich
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A.6.3.1. Grand Champion In-Hand Pony

Mustahevonen Rheged's Lemon Drop Moser	410	CH	Jenni Moser	Jenni Moser / Jayden Moser
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A.6.3.2. Reserve Grand Champion In-Hand Pony

Copperbeech Casper	120	Res	Cheryl Dutton	Kimberly Dunn
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A.6.4.1. Supreme Champion (Overall Champion In-Hand and Performance Pony)

Dreamhayven Double Agent	830	CH	Helen Rich	Helen Rich
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A.6.4.2. Reserve Supreme Champion (Overall Reserve Champion In-Hand and Performance Pony)

Mustahevonen Rheged's Lemon Drop Moser	750	Res	Jenni Moser	Jenni Moser / Jayden Moser
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A.7.1. Mare Progeny Performance Premium

Hiske v.h. Westerkwartier	920		Melissa R Kreuzer	
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A.7.2. Stallion Progeny Performance Premium

Littletree Bodini	1060		Melissa R Kreuzer	
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A.8.0. Born in North America - High Point Performance Award

DreamHayven Double Agent R Kreuzer	830		Helen Rich	Helen Rich	Melissa R Kreuzer
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B.1. Ambassador Pony

Lunesdale White Heather	660	1	Melissa Kreuzer	Melissa Kreuzer
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Copperbeech Casper 80 2 Cheryl Dutton Kimberly Dunn

Mustahevonen Rheged's Lemon Drop 20 3 Jenni Moser Jenni Moser

8.3. Born in North America - High Point Handy Pony Award

Mustahevonen Rheged's Lemon Drop 20 Jenni Moser Jenni Moser Larry

Ihlang & the late Wendy Ihlang

**(Divisions/subdivisions without winners this year are not shown above.)*

In addition, the annual Adequan®/USDF All-Breeds Awards Program for Fell Ponies was once again sponsored by FPSNA. Our 2015 winner, Laurelhighland Victor, is a multi-year veteran to the program, having won an All Breeds Award in 2009, 2010 & 2011 as well. Victor is an 11-year-old black gelding owned by long-time member and former FPSNA General Secretary, Lisa Lindholm of Minnesota.

Victor was ridden by Kate Mikulay of Minnetonka, MN. Victor competed in Third Level Ridden Dressage, achieving a median score of 62.46%, and he is the first Fell Pony in North America to ever achieve the All Breeds designation at Third Level competition. Kate and Victor also won 5th Place in Open Third Level competition (against all other pony breeds.) in the National Dressage Pony Cup's Year-End Awards. In addition, Victor's owner, Lisa, has also successfully competed with him in First Level (Freestyle) competition. Other competitors enrolled in this year's program were: Hinter owned by Kevin Tarsagian; Stonecreek Lily, Stonecreek Black Pearl and Willowtrail Black Robin, owned by Anita Castricone; Hardrockranch Deacon, owned by Katie Hasse, and Laurelhighland Duke II owned by Terry Flanagan. FPSNA is proud to be a Participating Organization in this USDF National recognition program, and plans to offer the opportunity to members once again in 2016.

Finally, FPSNA was also pleased to publish in 2015 the 14th volume (14th year.) of The Fell Pony Express, FPSNA's news magazine. This is circulated both in North America and abroad and we enjoy hearing from our readers overseas.

Best wishes for a great year with your ponies in 2016.

The FPSNA Council
www.fpsna.org
www.facebook.com/fellponysociety



Dreamhayven Double Agent with Helen Rich



Overseas News: France and Jersey

France

2015 has been a good year in France for Libby Robinson and family with the ponies in their carriage driving, continuing to bring on her driven pair of Fell ponies—Towford Harmarnie and Murthwaite Tonka Toy—at various long distance pleasure drives, driven Le Trec, and National Driven Endurance competitions. They qualified for the National Driven Endurance Championships in September 2015, and finished the season in 6th place in the rankings out of 40 pony pairs in the country. Both these ponies are a pleasure to drive and really rise to the challenge in competitions, and they never fail to impress and find new potential enthusiasts of the breed.



They also enjoyed some outings as single turnouts to long distance drives and training days. The team will look forward to continuing with competitions throughout the 2016 season. *[Their activities also won them the 2015 Edinburgh Prize for Driving. Ed.]*

A number of other Fell owners in France had great times throughout 2015 with their ponies, and have reported that they look forward to another enjoyable year with their ponies and the great versatility of the breed.

Jersey

My husband John Vibert is Vice President of the very active Jersey Horse Driving Society. Our competitions include skilled driving, field events, beach scurrries, three annual shows, indoor and outdoor driving trials, Le Trec and 'breezing' (shallow ploughing). Grazing is restricted in Jersey and landowners need permission if they want to put horses on their land rather than use the land for agriculture. We are lucky to own sufficient land round our property and that it is unrestricted. Our policy has always been that our horses are for life and we will never sell them. With a population of 100,000 in an island nine by five miles in size traffic is becoming a problem so we choose to ride the ponies to exercise them and only drive when competing.

Our first Fell pony Whinbush Robin was advertised as a forward going Fell and even at the age of thirty he can still keep up the pace. Our second Fell Burnhead Jester bought from Bob McCaw in Scotland ten years ago is the complete opposite. He is a stocky grey Fell who is placid and laid back. We also own Ben, an unregistered Dales pony from Yorkshire.

As we are senior citizens no more ponies were on agenda BUT we had been introduced to Globetrotter Mosquito when he was three years old in Guernsey. We later saw him being driven in inter-insular competitions and admired him, but never imagined that when he was thirteen we would be asked if anyone in Jersey,



June & John Vibert's Globetrotter Mosquito

familiar with Fells, would be interested in buying him. Fortunately he hadn't been advertised for sale and we knew immediately that he was special and wasn't going anywhere else but here with us. Within a week he was ours. His first competition with us was Le Trec and out of eight entries he was the overall winner with a welcome prize of a meal voucher. He was already earning his keep! Since then he has won his fair share of trophies. Two of our ponies are driven in tandem and my husband now has plans to pair Moss with Ben to pull our four panelled Guernsey van. He has already bought the reins.

Moss has plenty of stamina and likes to lead the ride. He has all the qualities of a special Fell although he does like to boss the other ponies. Robin who shares his paddock has found a lifelong friend.

Last year when on holiday in France we visited Libby Robinson and her partner David at the Globetrotter Stud in Abzac near Confolens where Moss was the first Fell that she had bred in France. She was thrilled to hear of his progress as a driving pony. Unfortunately his dam Skelgill May had died the year previous to our visit, at the grand age of 31, but we were able to meet the next generation of Fells. Libby says she has some regrets that she ever sold Moss, but we told her that her loss is definitely our gain. We didn't look for him, he found us.

June & John Vibert



People and Ponies: Team Bounced Back

British Dressage Team Quest Championships

Congratulations to team Bounced Back who took eighth place at the BD Team Quest Championships at Bury Farm.



The team is made up of Vicky Parker, Vicki and Holly Brown and Anneli Ferrier with Fell ponies Thornbeck Andrew, Townend Stardust and Broxdown Barracus.

Well done ladies, you have done so well to be eighth out of 320 teams entered. You have really proved that 'Whatever you need, a Fell will succeed!'



FPS Performance and Progeny Awards 2015

Once again we have had quite a good entry in all sections. It is rewarding to see more Juniors taking part. One young member entered two ponies which must have required some hard work from her and her parents. I am sure though, that there must be more Driving ponies out there? Don't forget this scheme is open to ALL members, regardless of where they live, although we are not allowed to award the cash prizes (which come from the British Horserace Betting Levy Board grant) to overseas members.

Please remember that In hand placings SHOULD NOT be put on your performance/Junior sheets—this is a separate category. Also, Pony Club rallies only count as points towards the Performance section, regardless of discipline.

Best of Luck to everyone for 2016 and well done to those who took part last year.

Christine Robinson

FOALS (5 entries)

- 1st Birkettbank Warrior. Owner/Exhib. Mr R Relph-Briggs. 1065 points
- 2nd Rackwood Rambling Rose. Owner/exhib. Eileen A Walker. 700 points
- 3rd Midtown Joker. Owner/exhib. Zoe Marsden. 490 points
- 4th Wellbrow Isla. Owner/exhib. A Thorpe. 150 points
- 5th Wellbrow Invictus. Owner/exhib. A Thorpe. 20 points

YEARLINGS (4 entries)

- 1st Carrock Elsa. Owner/exhib. J Cockbain, 1625 points
- 2nd Bracklinn Ella. Owner/exhib. Mr R Relph-Briggs. 955 points
- 3rd Bracklinn Glayva. Owner/exhib. Jane Rawden. 870 points
- 4th Wellbrow Mikado. Owner/exhib. A Thorpe. 460 points

TWO YEAR OLDS. (1 entry)

- 1st Midtown Hero. Owner/exhib. Zoe Marsden. 440 points

THREE YEAR OLDS. (5 entries)

- 1st Greenholme Gambler. Owner/exhib. Mrs D Roberts-Jones. 1330 points
- 2nd Kalamara Precious Mario. Owner/Exhib. K Hodge. 1200 points
- 3rd Conway Carole's Legacy. Owner/exhib. Stacy Longrigg. 900 points
- 4th Summerhouse Greta. Owner/exhib. K Hodge. 740 points
- 5th Wellbrow Freddie. Owner/exhib. Zoe Marsden. 270 points

FOUR YEAR OLD & OVER - In Hand. (10 entries)

- 1st Lathomdale Belinda. Owner/exhib. C Richardson. 945 points

2nd. Lownthwaite Bramble. Owner. A W Bell. Exhib. Charlotte Holliday. 905 points
3rd Carrock Princess. Owner/exhib. Mr R Relph-Briggs. 855 points
4th Wellbrow Cari. Owner. A Thorpe. Exhib. Gemma Thorpe. 840 points
5th Rackwood Maggie May. Owner/exhib. Eileen A Walker. 825 points
6th Wellbrow Edwin. Owner/exhib. Zoe Marsden. 480 points

FOUR YEAR OLD & OVER - Performance (12 entries)

1st Lunesdale War Dance. Owner. Ellen J M Jones. Exhib. Sophie Jones. 4320 points
2nd Murthwaite Looks Promising. Owner/exhib. Jane Rawden. 1945 points
3rd Lydvale Jet. Owner/exhib. Dianna McGrail. 1620 points
4th Hynholme Amber. Owner. Mr J I Brunskill. Exhib. Mrs C H Robinson. 1045 points
5th Lownthwaite Bramble. As before. 940 points
6th = Dalefoot Rio. Owner. Ellen J M Jones. Exhib. Lucy Jones. 860 points
& Carrock Stormbreaker. Owner. Helen Annall. Exhib. Sophie Annall. 860 points

JUNIOR (7 entries)

1st Lunesdale War Dance. Sophie Jones. 4320 points
2nd Lownthwaite Bramble. Charlotte Holliday. 940 points
3rd = Dalefoot Rio. Lucy Jones. 860 points
& Carrock Stormbreaker. Sophie Annall. 860 points
4th Kerbeck Night Shadow. Owner. Mrs CH Robinson. Exhib. Jack Nicholson. 730 points
5th Greenholme Kirstie. Owner. Mrs J Cheetham. Exhib. Miss E Cheetham. 500 points
6th Boyndlie Black Rose. Owner Mrs J Cheetham. Exhib. Miss E Cheetham. 230 points.

DRESSAGE (6 entries)

1st Lydvale Jet. 790 points
2nd Murthwaite Looks Promising. 680- points
3rd Carrock Whodathowtit. Owner/exhib. C Richardson. 310 points
4th Kerbeck Night Shadow. 160 points
5th = Lunesdale War Dance & Hynholme Amber 110 points.

DRIVING (4 entries - 2 pairs)

1st = Tynebank Brown Bobby & Tynebank Danny Boy. Owner. Dougy Parkinson. Exhib. Jackie Parkinson. 350 points.
2nd = Towford Harmarnie & Murthwaite Tonka Toy. Owner/exhib. Libby Robinson. 250 points.

Champion Stallion - Heltondale Mountain Mist II

Champion Mare - Wellbrow Carmen



Young Person's Group Bulletin 2016

The YPG enjoyed another very successful year with two wonderful, educational days at the Greenholme & Ryehouse Studs in Cumbria, as well as the Highbrook Stud in Monmouthshire, and we are looking forward to two more Fell-Pony filled events in 2016.

OPEN TO ALL AGES....

2nd / 3rd July - Fell Pony weekend with availability to camp with your pony at the Llanerchbrook Stud, Treworgan Farm, Llangrove, HR9 6HB, Herefordshire.

Helen Wenden and her family have invited us to a fun-ride for Fell Ponies and friends over 8-miles of beautiful countryside. There will also be a Fell pony feed forum and a showing clinic. You do not need to own a pony, you can just come along to meet everyone & enjoy the ponies & talks.

Further details of the weekend will be confirmed this spring, so please keep an eye on the FPS website 'Events' as well as the Young Person's Group Facebook page.

Put the date into your diaries—pre-booking will be essential!

21st August - We are delighted to be invited by the Lowthwaite Stud to see their ponies at home—stallions, mares & foals, as well as being able to visit the mares living out at the Fell in their natural environment.

The morning will start at 10.30 for tea & coffee, there will be an educational talk by FPS judge Mrs Christine Morton. Christine and Alison Bell (also an FPS judge) will be available to answer questions throughout the day. There will be a buffet lunch at the Shepherd's Inn at Melmerby on our way to see the mares at the Fell.

The cost to cover the whole day will be £10.00 to include lunch.

Address: The Lodge, Gamblesby, Penrith, Cumbria. CA10 1HR.

Numbers will be limited and pre-booking is essential.

NEW MEMBERS NEEDED: The Young Person's Group is looking to recruit new committee members, so if you know anyone who is under 35, lives anywhere in the country, and is a member of the FPS and has a passion of sharing their enthusiasm for Fell Ponies, then please get in contact.

2nd April - 10.30am: The YPG Annual General Meeting is at The George Hotel at Orton. The FPS AGM follows-on in Orton Market Hall. The YPG will be recruiting a new Chairperson & Treasurer & Secretary at the meeting, so please do come along and give your support.

Finally, we would like to wish everyone all the best for a great year with your ponies, and we look forward to seeing some of you at our events this summer.

Contact:

Frances Miller (Chairperson):

fvmillier@hotmail.co.uk 07779276888

Stacy Longrigg (Secretary):

ritson29@hotmail.co.uk 07912 697584



The Edinburgh Prize 2015

The Society is delighted to announce that the Edinburgh prize for 2015, presented by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, has been awarded to Libby Robinson, who is based in Abzac, France.



Libby has been driving for 40 years and has enjoyed driving Fell ponies from single to teams for 35 of them. She prefers Fell ponies over other equines and says that they never cease to impress her with their cleverness and ability. She has taught many people to carriage drive over the years, and at one stage ran the Carter's yard in a Victorian museum with her ponies. She also earned her Tandem Bars with her Fells.

Libby currently drives a pair: Murthwaite Tonka Toy, a six year old gelding; and Towford Harmarnie, a seven year old mare. Libby and the pair, together with grooms Laura Kendall and Libby's partner David Pooley, had a busy and rewarding year. They competed in long distance drives, driven Le Trec competitions, and driven Endurance competitions getting to the French National Driven Endurance Championships in September and finishing an excellent sixth in the pony pair rankings out of 40, a great achievement for the team.



Ridden Endurance Awards

Highest Mileage in Pleasure Rides

1st, Liz Worthy—Dale in Beauty. 156km, Accumulative Km: 2,162 km.

2nd, Margaret Plank—Townend Dillon. 87 Km, Accumulative Km: 193 Km.

Entry forms for the Endurance scheme are available from the Awards page of the FPS web site, <http://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/awards.htm#endurance>—there are 4 awards

so you have plenty of chances to win.

Fiona Carradus



Conservation Grazing

The FPS Conservation Grazing Committee during the last year has tried to raise awareness of the opportunities for Fell ponies to be used for a variety of conservation grazing tasks. The following article explains how the Wellbrow Fell Ponies have become involved on wet moorland at 1200-1600 feet above sea level. They have entered into a stewardship scheme that is working well for everyone concerned. Fell ponies are a very hardy native breed with the ability to thrive in all sorts of habitats. There are several grazing tasks out there but they need suitable ponies and flexible owners. Some tasks are only for a few weeks and might only need two ponies while others are much larger and may be over a longer period of time. If any of you are interested and have suitable ponies, then please contact your local wildlife trust and reserve staff and let them know. Land is owned and managed by so many different organisations and private landowners that there is no single easy place or person to inform that you would like to be involved.

Eileen A Walker



Wellbrow Fell Ponies and Conservation Grazing

On 1st October 2012 we entered our entire traditional family-run hill farm into a 10 year environmental stewardship scheme. This followed a 12-month consultation phase with our designated co-ordinators from Natural England and United Utilities.

Part of the scheme involved fencing a 49 hectare area of open wet moorland running from 1200 up to 1600 foot above sea level. The aims were to improve the habitat for bird life; encourage the growth of bog-mosses, in particular sphagnum moss; and also to contribute towards the genetic conservation of native breeds at risk. We were fortunate to have 2 excellent co-ordinators who were familiar with Natural England's idea of a Fell pony in relation to conservation grazing. This information was based on Dr David Murray's study of Fell pony grazing patterns and the Fell ponies' position on the Rare Breeds list.

It was decided that we could graze, through the summer months, 20 head of mixed registered Wellbrow Fell pony young stock and Pedigree Wellbrow Galloway heifers. This was the perfect solution for us to be able turn up to 10 colts on this remote, now secure, part of the moor. Previously colts had to live at the farm, alternating between being stabled and grazing smaller paddocks.

We are now coming into the fourth summer, and the results are already evident. We have had a tremendous increase in sky larks, Sphagnum Moss is more visible, and we now have a good covering of cotton grass in the spring. As for the Fell ponies, they thrive on this area. The colts run out in the summer and develop at their own pace; they have no distractions and are left peaceful, to develop into quality stallions or good geldings.

Andrew Thorpe



FPS Stallion Grading Scheme 2016

This new grading scheme is **FREE** and **VOLUNTARY** and will not affect the current FPS stallion licensing rules.

- Grading, during 2016, will take place at Newton Rigg Equestrian Centre, Newton Rigg, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 0AH on Sunday 29th May (10am - 1pm) and Sunday 26th June (10am-1pm) AND at the FPS Southern Show venue on Sunday 11th September.

- All colts / stallions born in 2013 & 2014 are eligible to be graded during 2016. Pony details must be sent to the FPS Office, on a stallion grading entry form, at least 21 days before the grading session. Every pony will be allocated a 20 minute slot in which to be graded and owners will be notified of these times approximately 7 days before the grading session.

- Ponies must be shown unplaited and untrimmed, including head, mane, feather and tail, which should not have been previously plaited as the hair should be straight and silky.

- Stallions and colts must be under the control of a handler aged 14yrs or over. The exhibits forward for grading will be expected to be well behaved. Ill mannered ponies will not be tolerated.

- All ponies must be presented in a 'fit condition' with feet in good condition. All ponies must be familiar with a 'hands on' assessment from the assessor i.e. pick feet up, feel feather & bone and check teeth.

- All ponies will be expected to walk and trot in a controlled manner.

- Grading will be undertaken by a panel of five assessors and marks will be independently awarded as per the Fell Pony Breed Standard (Breed Type / General Characteristics & Scale of Points). The marks awarded by each assessor will be totalled and the highest and lowest will be disregarded. An average mark will be calculated from the three remaining score sheets.

- There will be three grades:

Gold: will be awarded to ponies who achieve 80% or above. These will be of the highest quality and the ones which breeders should be encouraged to use.

Silver: will be awarded to ponies who achieve 65% - 79%. These will be of slightly less quality but still have an important role to play.

Bronze: will be awarded to ponies who achieve 50% - 64%.

- All ponies will receive a FPS certificate stating the grade and this information will be recorded by the FPS and available to members on request. A premium will be paid to pony owners: Gold £50; Silver £25.

- Colts / stallions who are graded Silver or Bronze in 2016 can be re-presented no sooner than two years from the first grading (2018).

- During 2017, stallion grading will be available to all who wish to take part and other suitable venues will be added to meet the demand.

Andrew Thorpe (Stallion Grading Chairman)



Results of the 2017 FPS Calendar Competition

Thanks to all of you who sent in photos last year and thanks too to the judges who were members of the North East Support Group. The judges had a large number of photos of a very high standard to choose from which made the task of selection very difficult but we hope you all like the final product. Two calendars will be on their way to the judges after the Spring AGM. The photographer of every selected image qualifies for a free calendar and the overall winner, Katie Chippendale, and the runner-up, Nicola Evans, will receive a £10 and a £5 FPS voucher respectively.

Cover picture	Nicola Evans	Cumbria
January	Rebecca Nelson	North Yorkshire
February	Katie Chippendale	Cumbria
March	Simon Ellis	Cumbria
April	Sarah Brown	Northumberland
May	Fell Pony Society Archives	
June	Greta Kreuser	U.S.A.
July	Alex Wrigley Photography	
August	Heather Roberts	Cumbria
September	David Hoggarth	Cumbria
October	Fleur Hallam	Scotland
November	Giles Hill	Leicestershire
December	Jennifer Morrisey	U.S.A.

Congratulations to all the above. Calendars should be available at the Spring AGM and thereafter. So now we look forward to entries for the 2018 calendar. As before landscape format images (i.e. wider than high) are preferred to portrait format although we still accept a limited number of good portrait images. Either digital or hard copy photographic prints can be submitted remembering that digital images have to scale up to the calendar format at 11" x 7" and so have to be of high resolution (300dpi minimum). Remember to give full details of the ponies shown and please submit no more than 3 photos in any submission. Please use a Drop Box facility if you want to submit more than one photograph electronically at the same time; otherwise send only one photograph per e-mail as broadband speeds are slow in the Durham Dales!

Professionally taken photographs are eligible providing the photographer is prepared to waive copyright for their inclusion in the calendar. Remember that only two professional photographs can be selected by the judges and that such

images cannot be included in the calendar competition. If you do submit a professionally taken photograph please make sure that you identify which photograph it is, together with a waiver statement from the photographer.

The closing date for submission of entries for the 2018 calendar is October 17th 2016. If hard copy prints are submitted they should be accompanied by a SAE if you would like then to be returned. Digital images can be sent to the following e-mail: ProfBarbaraBrown@aol.com, or alternatively CDs and photographic prints can be mailed to me: Barbara Dunne, West Briscoe, Baldersdale, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham DL12 9UP, U.K. Tel 01833 650059.



Equine Tourism Qualifications

Working in the equine tourism industry is an extremely demanding and rewarding job. I have just completed my equine tourism ride leader level 3 at Calliaghstown Equestrian Centre, Dublin, comprising 3 days of training at the centre and a full day practical exam.

I am a partner at Peers Clough Packhorses, our family run, BHS approved trekking centre. We are based in the heart of Rossendale, Lancashire and offer fantastic off road riding amid beautiful scenery. We offer treks tailored to suit any rider from novice to experienced. Unlike most trekking centres our clients are not just made up of visiting tourists looking to enjoy a ride on their holidays. For many of our regular clients we offer relaxation, enjoyment and an escape from their busy lifestyles. We work with a team of locally bred Wellbrow Fell ponies. Their kind and gentle temperament, great conformation and sure footedness make them excellent for trekking. Our small herd live and work together on our farm and have been with us from a young age.

As within any industry, we are always interested in continued professional development and are always looking to further our knowledge within the trekking industry. The qualifications available provided by the BHS are Equine Tourism ride leader level 2 (Assistant ride leader) Equine Tourism ride leader level 3 (Ride leader) and Equine Tourism centre manager. The examination process is practical and relaxed, allowing the candidate to show their skills and discuss their knowledge. It is great that the BHS appreciates and acknowledges the importance and need for these particular qualifications. For anyone that takes rides off their premises they are a must. They help members of staff cement the skills needed to lead and assist a trek and I would strongly encourage others to complete these qualifications. We believe that working with horses and riding outdoors is beneficial to the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of everyone. There is no greater feeling than being outdoors and enjoying life on board a fantastic Fell pony! For further information please visit our website www.peerscloughpackhorses.co.uk or Facebook "Peers Clough Packhorses" or www.bhs.org.uk.

Suzy Thomas



The FPS Promotions and Display Team

One Sunday evening in May 2015 I had a phone call from a fellow carriage driver, who had just been to a planning meeting for the August 2015 Lowther Show and Driving Trials. Someone had suggested that the Fell Pony Society might “fill in” some half hour gaps between classes in the Main Arena. Would I please contact the organiser to discuss it?

I phoned him next day and found that the FPS were being offered 2 half hour slots on both Saturday and Sunday. When I asked whether the society could bring a stand to display promotional material and merchandise, the answer was Yes—if we did the four displays, we could have a space free. Lowther is a show with around 40,000 visitors, and trade stand space is extremely expensive, so I was very pleased. When I put the idea to the FPS Council they were naturally keen that we should make as much use of the free publicity as we possibly could. By the time we’d press-ganged enough cast for both days, we were only able to have ONE rehearsal, on foot, at the end of the Breed Show—so performing in the main ring at Lowther was quite a challenge for everyone involved! Our display improved as the weekend went on and certainly demonstrated the versatility of the Fell pony throughout history to the present day. Fell pony enthusiasts in the crowd were complimentary and felt the performance had gone down very well with the public.

And then—Lowther asked us to come back in 2016!

With this in mind, the Promotions Team was formed. Susan Brunskill gathered a team of people who were prepared to take part in displays, and to create costumes for themselves and their ponies. We decided our sales presentation needed to be revamped—although lot of people had visited the FPS tent at Lowther and we had given out lots of leaflets and sold some £400 pounds’ worth of goods, the space inside the tent was interrupted by its supporting poles and visitors found it rather dark and unwelcoming. We got a very good deal on a lighter and roomier tent that was easy to put up. The Society agreed a start-up fund, and we made plans to sell Fell-themed goods that might be of interest to the general public and to children, as well as to the Fell pony enthusiasts who regularly buy from the Society at shows.

We have applied to take this Merchandise and Information Tent to several Cumbrian agricultural shows and we are just waiting for the various committees to confirm.

The Promotions Team will be performing arena displays this year at:

Lakeland Country Fair,	4th & 5th June.
Lowther Show,	13th & 14th August.
Blackcombe Country Fair,	29th August.

We will re-present the 2015 educational historical pageant, and we also have a new script, a “border ballad” story called “Fair Mary and the Black Knight” which we intend to be a theatrical crowd-pleaser...and with a cast that has a fair maiden, her young champion and his companions, a wicked knight, a flock of sheep and a very naughty dog—all mounted on Fell ponies—how can it fail?

Sue Millard



The FPS Learning With Fells Scheme

“Learning with Fells” has been in place for several years now. The scheme originally provided a way for junior members of the Society to visit Fell pony breeders in Cumbria and learn about the background of traditional herds associated with Fell farms. Adult members are now also welcome to apply.

Several studs have hosted these visits, including Greenholme, Murthwaite, Bybeck, Townend, Waverhead, Kerbeck and Hardendale. The visitors are transported up onto the high fells by quad bike to appreciate how the semi-feral herds live with the land, the vegetation—and the weather! At some visits they see how foals are handled and microchipped and how passport descriptions are filled in. Other times they see examples of showing skills such as walking and trotting a pony out in-hand and standing it up for a judge, and breaking and training skills such as mouthing and long-reining; and when it’s been practicable, they have been able to have ‘hands-on’ experience too. Over the year, these visits provide an insight into the life and the breeding of the ponies on the fell. Most importantly the breeders discuss with their visitors which ponies are good types, and can show them examples of the qualities they are looking for.

The ‘Learners’ are asked to write descriptions of their experiences, which are published in the Magazine—the articles are available in our back issues on line and well worth reading. [*See also the write-up on the next page from the 2015 series.*]

There will be four places on the scheme for 2016, plus two reserves. Priority will be given to junior members aged 10–18 years of age, but applications will also be accepted from adult members. There will probably be two studs involved.

If any members of the Society would like to take part, please can they contact the office as soon as possible. Email: secretary@fellponysociety.org.uk.

There is a bursary of £50, payable from the Mary & Henderson Dodd Memorial Fund, to assist each participant with travelling expenses, provided at least two visits are attended.

Saturday 15 October 2016

Fell Pony Society Social Evening

with

Auction of Promises and Gifts

Stoneybeck Inn, north of Penrith on the A6, Cumbria

We will be very grateful for offers of Promises and Gifts!

**Please get in touch with Mary Longsdon, Tel: 01629 640709,
or the FPS Office**



Learning with Fells—Report

I've owned Fell ponies since the early 90's and spent many years fascinated with the breed. When I saw the advertisement for 'Learning with fells, I thought it would be a brilliant opportunity to see how the native breeders handle and manage semi-feral herds.

With the visits being spread over the year it gives you a chance to see the breeding cycle at different stages. I would encourage participants to attend all, as you can ask questions on a one to one basis and not feel intimidated.

I learnt about conformation, how to start young ponies for riding and driving. Saw first hand how they cover the mares, micro chipped/passported the foals. And how the Fell ponies are managed on the fells. For me the Fell pony isn't a Fell pony without the Cumbrian fells; it's what makes these ponies so special. I would urge anyone to take part, as it provided me with a greater understanding of Fell ponies and their natural environment. A welcome insight into breeding my own Fells in the future. And some lovely memories of quadbiking over the Howgills.

Allie Slack



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CHARLES OWEN



Gatehouse



HORSEWARE IRELAND












The Irony of Packhorse Bridges

In the Spring 2007 issue of The Fell Pony Society Newsletter, a contest was launched asking Fell Pony owners to take a picture of their pony on an historic Cumbrian packhorse bridge. The contest sponsor was very disappointed when no pictures were submitted.

Fast forward to 2015 when I found myself planning a trip to Cumbria from Colorado. In the years since my last visit, I had made up for my remoteness from the homeland of my ponies by filling my library with relevant books. A few on packhorse bridges were included because of my interest in the working heritage of our breed. Somehow I got the idea of following one of the historic packhorse routes with pack ponies myself. The idea took a step closer to reality when Christine Robinson of the Kerbeck Fell Pony Stud agreed to provide ponies and transport to make this dream come true.

For several weeks my dining room table was strewn with maps and books as I tried to find a route that would work. It needed to be short enough to be easily walked in a day but long enough to be worth doing, be on a route with known historic connections, include at least one authentic packhorse bridge, and be a legal bridleway. I soon discovered why there hadn't been any entries in the contest. It was hard to find an easy answer!

The irony of packhorse bridges is that in many cases they were on the best routes from one place to another so they have since been adopted by motorized transport. Kirkstone Pass is an example of an ancient packhorse route that is now motorized, and Ashness Bridge is likely a wider version for vehicles of a previous packhorse bridge. I wasn't interested in trying to get a photo with a pony I didn't know well while avoiding impatient motorists or tourists. At the other extreme, the routes are so picturesque as to have been adopted by fell walkers to the exclusion of equestrians; Lingcove/Throstlegarth Bridge is one example in this category. Often, as we found when visiting various historic packhorse bridges without ponies, there have been fences or other obstructions built which make accessing the bridge with a pony not only illegal but logistically impossible—Rosgill Bridge is a perfect example. It's no wonder no Fell Pony owner took it upon themselves to enter the contest.

The route I decided on was over Burn Moor, starting in Wasdale Head and ending in Boot. It turned out that Christine met us in Boot on foot and we then all walked to Dalegarth train station where she had parked. I originally ruled out Burn Moor because a guide book said the route was easily lost. We did indeed lose the route, ending up in multiple bogs, but it was incredibly educational to see the ponies master that challenge. The guide book also stated that the route could be easily re-found, and that turned out to also be true.

Our pony companions across Burn Moor were Hynholme Amber and Linnel Doublet, called Rusty after his father Drybarrows Rusty. Rusty had been a pack

pony at the Lowther demonstrations a few weeks before, but Amber hadn't ever carried packs before. Our "packs" were makeshift: burlap bags carrying our lunches and extra clothing. Rusty began the trip with the packs, and Amber carried them toward the end. Amber, two days before, had taken champion at Ennerdale Show, including placing in ridden classes, and the following week took another championship, epitomizing our society's motto of "You can't put a Fell to the wrong job!"

Burnmoor was a great choice from an historical perspective because it was both a trade route and a corpse road. The Eskdale Show history page includes this tidbit about Burn Moor: "In some of the early years over 500 [Herdwick] tups came to Eskdale Show, the majority of which would be walked there, taking several days to reach the Woolpack. For example Keswick sheep would be walked up Borrowdale then over Styhead Pass into Wasdale, then over Burnmoor Tarn track into Boot and on to the Woolpack. In 1867 there were entries from as far away as Threlkeld, Buttermere, Windermere, Coniston and Cocker mouth. It would have been a tremendous sight seeing all the Herdwicks converging into the Show field." (1)



The second historical connection of the Burn Moor route was its use as a corpse road. Until the early twentieth century, Wasdale Head didn't have consecrated ground for burials, so bodies had to be transported to St. Catherine's in Eskdale to be interred. The route is considered lonely, and there is a sad tale that after the death of someone in Wasdale Head, the body was loaded on a packhorse and taken on its final journey to Eskdale for burial. The horse and corpse were lost on Burn Moor, never to be found, with the location of the disappearance noted in my guidebook. The location was approximately where we encountered bogs, so I easily came to the conclusion that they were sucked down into a bog, never to emerge again.

When we completed our journey, Christine expanded on the tale. She said that a young man had died in Wasdale Head, and the horse carrying his corpse over

Burn Moor was lost en route. When the news was relayed to the young man's mother, she became so upset that she died. When her body was en route over Burn Moor, that horse and corpse were also lost. The horse with the body of the young man was eventually found, but the lost grieving mother haunts the moor still.

Bob Orrell, in *Saddle Tramp in the Lake District*, recounts yet another story about the corpse road over Burn Moor concerning "a farmer in Wasdale who was plagued by a nagging wife." (2) Yet another story attributed to Clive Richardson appears in A.J. Dampier's book *Kingdom of the Workhorse*. Burn Moor, with its isolation, propensity for holding mist, and ideal location as a connecting route between different parts of the Lake District, is definitely worthy of the stories.

Our bed and breakfast hosts on the day asked why we had walked rather than ridden the route. The primary reason was that I wanted to experience the traditional work of Fell Ponies on their home ground. It's my opinion that not only the terrain but the traditional work of the breed on that terrain has shaped the ponies we know today. Of course, I live in a beautiful mountain location with my own Fell Ponies, so I have the opportunity to work them in traditional ways at home. I felt, though, that working them in their native terrain would give me new insights into the breed. I wasn't disappointed. Over time I know this trip will continue to inform my understanding of the Fell Pony breed. I am grateful to all who made it possible, pony and people alike.

Jenifer Morrissey, Colorado

- 1) "A History of the Eskdale Show" at <http://www.eskdaleshow.co.uk/index.php?id=history>
- 2) Orrell, Bob. *Saddle Tramp in the Lake District*. London: Granada Publishing Ltd, 1982, p. 35



*The rebuilt packhorse bridge in Wet Sleddale
[another photo in the Colour section]*



Fell Pony News: Guards Jester at Olympia 2015

To qualify for Olympia was my dream since childhood. That dream came true on the 27th September 2015 at Brook Farm in Essex, at the very last qualifying round for the Senior Showing championships. It was a clear dry day and I was excited to be contesting both the in hand and ridden classes with Guards Jester, and with my 80 year old great auntie watching from the side-lines. To our delight we won our in hand pre-senior (15-18 years) class, and then into the championship we went. After much deliberation we were called forward as champion—meaning a golden ticket to Olympia! Many tears and hugs were had all round and the journey to Olympia had begun.

The following 11 weeks were a blur of hard work and dedication, working to keep Pookie's coat and condition at its best. Working full time as a nursery nurse meant that my mother Lorna had to step in and help with the maintenance during the week, it was a real family effort—plenty of grooming to be shared!

Thursday 17th December dawned and it was time to travel to central London. Pookie received a final groom and was wrapped up in his festive red rug and bandages. We arrived at Kensington Olympia on schedule and proceeded to unload. The greeting and help of the SSADL stewards helped to put me at ease and made sure that everything ran smoothly. We walked into the stable yard, past the world famous household cavalry and Pookie settled into his stable tucking straight into his hay net. I made sure to hang up his stocking for Father Christmas!

Friday 18th December with a 7am start I took Pookie for a leg stretch while mum mucked out his stable. Our exercise slot in the main arena was 8.30 to 8.50 am and we were determined to make use of every minute, even if it meant going in wearing my Christmas pyjamas! Back to the stable to get dressed into my showing outfit and a final groom, we awaited the SSADL steward Joshua Frost's countdown. 9.30 am came and we arrived in the collecting ring where we were lined up in our numbered order, everyone excitedly chatting in line. 9.55 am and the call came to enter the main arena. I felt very excited but nervous at the same time. I could not believe I was setting foot into the arena I had watched every Christmas for years! The class begun. We walked and trotted around, then lined up to perform our individual show. I was very pleased with how Pookie performed and back into line we went. The judges then had to confer and tally up the marks for the 14 competitors. The results were announced in reverse order with horses and ponies being pulled forward into line. Standing in line waiting to hear my number was nerve-racking, I was quietly whispering into Pookie's ear to keep us both calm. It was now down to the top 3 and the excitement of knowing I was in the top 3 was amazing. 3rd place was announced, so I was now either champion or reserve champion. After what seemed an eternity, the reserve champion was announced and it was not us, we had won, Pookie and I were the Champions! I rested my head into his neck and hugged him tight, thanking him. Walking forward into the Champion spot between the flowers was overwhelming. The

tears flowed. We were presented with a magnificent sash and rosettes whilst photos were taken. It was now time for our lap of honour where we proudly trotted around the arena and down the centre line—this feeling will be with me forever.

My dream of competing at Olympia was achieved and more—winning my class was the icing on the cake. I am beyond happy to have shared this experience with my best friend—Pookie.

Christina Brooks



Paul Vaughan

Christina Brooks with Guards Jester at Olympia 2015



Fell Pony Society Breed Stand at H.O.Y.S. 2015

Early in 2015 four Native Ponies from around the world were selected to represent their Breed Societies in the Parelli sponsored Interactive Horsemanship Area at Horse Of The Year Show, NEC Birmingham 7-11 October.

Breeds represented were the Quarter Horse (America), the Connemara (Ireland), the Caspian Pony (Iran) and the Fell Pony (Cumbria).

Each society was responsible for manning a Breed Stand and attending each day with their Native Pony, who might be required for at least one or more demonstrations and to be available each day for five days, to welcome the 60,000 anticipated visitors to the show stables.

What an honour for 12 year old Fell Pony gelding Brackenthwaite Josh (Sire - Waverhead Prince II, Dam - Peepings Moss Rose). He would be attending H.O.Y.S. and demonstrating the capabilities of the Fell Pony Breed with Parelli professionals Lyla Cansfield, and husband and wife team Alison and David Zuend. We discovered closer to the show date that Linda Parelli from the USA planned to join her team of professionals over the weekend of H.O.Y.S., adding much excitement to the demonstrations each day.

On Tuesday 6 October leaving Cumbria behind, we joined the M6 in a deluge of rain, which persisted right up to our arrival at the gates to the NEC—where we stepped right into Autumn, dry golden days, sunny and warm and sparkling frosty evenings. What a contrast to Cumbria! Josh was in good shape after a 5 hour journey including two one-hour stops for stretching his legs and checking how he was dealing with his big journey.

First, our check in with the Veterinary Team, then navigating with care, our slim Toyota camper van and trailer came to rest in a harbour of luxury, expanding palaces on wheels. Our neighbours were very friendly and welcoming. As more wagons arrived we seemed to shrink, and finding ourselves was quite a challenge in the middle of the night! This spot was our base for six nights.

We queued at the stable manager's office for wristbands allowing entry to Retail Village, indoor and outdoor stabling and some performances day and evening in the main arenas; and for pony ID numbers for Josh's bridle and emergency cards for the show stable and night stable.

Meanwhile Josh was unloaded and we spent time watering and feeding and letting out the kinks before settling him down for the night. Stabling was surprisingly roomy with ample bedding. The new comer was rudely received by all in the stable block. Having nimbly avoided his rather indignant neighbour's snapping teeth, his little eyes peeked out over a tall stable door more suited to a sports horse. A kiss goodnight and there we left him, his little black head gleaming under the nearby neon lights of hotels and casino, a mist of frosty breath swirling around his enquiring wise head, so different to his noble looking neighbours. Then back to the harbour of horse wagons to grab something to eat before transporting the F.P.S. stand to the Retail Area. Kind

staff helped load up a stable buggy and piled us all in, posters, bags, boxes, all crammed in tightly, sitting on each other's knees. We smiled and waved extra politely when the mounted police rode past.

On arrival in the retail village we were amazed to find a very luxurious show stable, carpeted throughout and highly visible. My goodness, our little Fell was in for a busy time. In two hours we set up the F.P.S. stand, then off to bed before midnight.

It was a very noisy night, constantly interrupted by trains thundering past. I wondered how we would survive (though the days at H.O.Y.S. turned out to be so action packed, we slept like babies).

Our days began at 4.30am! We could feel the excitement immediately. Horses, ponies, owners, grooms, madly preparing ponies who steamed in the frost. A chorus of giggles and whinnies from the Pony Club. Little hooves careering around the wagon park and calls from the loud speaker for Pony Club warm up. We four warmed up with hot cocoa, then went to check Josh, feed and groom him, then ride to the Parelli ponies' early morning outdoor exercise arena. Sophie and Josh met many new situations on their rides over to this arena and I am sure it was a daunting experience with the precision required by the obviously very experienced competitors warming up. We were all so proud to watch as Sophie and Josh did their morning learning with intense energy building around them. Josh and Sophie managed all their groundwork in the centre. Josh had many compliments and Sophie felt much warmth and interest from competitors on her ability to work and ride Josh in a safe and controlled way in both the arenas and between show stable in the retail village and his outdoors stable. They met all these new situations with only a Parelli rope halter and bareback pad. Sophie and her brother Edward have spent a lot of time reaching this level of Horsemanship. They also realise anyone can do it and they are part of a movement of progressive riders who really enjoy playing with their horses every day and require their ponies to engage in these games to inspire trust and respect from their pony and overall improving safety and well being for both pony and rider. Josh did turn his attention to an amazingly handsome Shire Horse Stallion, showing how magnificent he could also be by arching his neck, lifting his feet and tail and trotting with vigour. (Everyone laughed.) Josh still managed to concentrate on his lessons, remained focused on what Sophie required and behaved most politely.

Each morning this exercise slot helped Josh deal with the day ahead of him. He encountered many unusual situations over the following five days. Five miniature ponies in sparkly flapping rugs made a big impression but most puzzling was the mounted police warm up, creating a carousel of shadows on the wall of a marquee which we needed to pass to reach his stabling each night. A big ask for him to deal with all the new situations but he put his trust in Sophie and followed her leadership. We met so many Fell Pony enthusiasts over 5 days many who already kept Fells. Many ladies 60 plus who were thinking of returning to the Fell after a big gap and at least 2 young male enthusiasts who were making in roads into following in their Grandpas' footsteps and deciding to be breeders.

Throughout the show Josh felt his role was to stand guard all day at the stable door. The organisers were thrilled that our Fell Pony greeted all the visitors to his show stable. We, on the other hand, had our work cut out to distract him from his sentry role in order to eat and drink. We realised Josh had assigned himself lookout for the

other 3 Native Ponies and he needed more feeds to help him deal with all these extra demands. We had done our homework prior to attending H.O.Y.S. and sourced a good quality haylage in smaller packs, easy to transport and staying fresh, grown near the iodine rich coast. We used a forage based feed of Lucerne that can be fed immediately prior to exercise, so a fantastic target feed. I am sure this is the reason

Josh coped so well and managed to be so available to his fans at H.O.Y.S.

We quickly developed a routine with Josh. He seemed to really enjoy the company of two very smart men who visited him twice a day and who presented the winners with prizes on a cushion in the main arenas. Josh took a real shine to them and liked to knock their hats so they tilted in a rakish way, and nibble their shoulder decorations. Visitors also enjoyed this photo opportunity. On Wednesday our youngest society member Mary Bell, the Lownthwaite Stud Babe, and her fan club, came to do some volunteering. After much clucking (me included) we had some time to spend with the Parelli team demo's and watch Josh showing his paces with Sophie in the Parelli Arena. Parelli level 4 professional Lyla Cansfield revealed she had had pre-conceived ideas about Josh and his Nativeness but was very pleasantly surprised. Sophie and her many hours invested in working with Josh had created a very soft and responsive pony to Lyla's requests whilst demonstrating Parelli horsemanship in the arena. (Further details on www.facebook.com/fellsandfaces) Again on the Thursday it really made the difference to have Fell Pony Society committee members volunteer to help. Thank you again to all who made the journey down to Birmingham and supported the Fell Pony and Stand at H.O.Y.S. The next five days as you can imagine absolutely flew. The warmth and artificial lighting, demonstrations and meeting so many people were exhausting for our little Fell Pony. We found his not-so-obvious stress levels were reduced by offering two or three small feeds during the day in the show stable, plus access to haylage, and the beck water we took to H.O.Y.S. was more appealing than city water.

During the demonstrations many learning situations evolved, some planned, some out of the blue. Sophie and Edward spent many hours soaking in the information available to them and were rewarded with the new Parelli manual from Linda and the team (very unexpected) and they were tickled pink to win a year's Parelli Savvy Club Membership in the after-demo raffles (very lucky kids). One or two evenings we stayed at the show to watch the evening performance. The children were really thrilled to watch pony Club competitions, Mounted Police displays and show jumping. The atmosphere was electric, an unforgettable experience for all. Our discovery of the Fell Pony Breed has inspired a family commitment to these Native Ponies of the North. Never could we have imagined how the heritage of these hardy clever breeding herds and work horses from the hill farms would spark such curiosity in our family. We continue to learn every day as we witness the special characteristics of the breed unfolding whilst they graze, forage, trot, climb, rest, or sunbathe; the way they rely on each other, use their innate ability to survive the most challenging weather conditions, and most of all are willing to offer their magnificent selves so respectfully.

Thank you Josh.

Josh has now returned to the Fell with his little mare Masie. The winds roar, the rains lash and the recent dips in temperature continue to challenge our Fell Ponies, who seem some days to have blended into a Cumbrian winter! We realise he is

special. He learns very quickly. He requires mindful leadership. Without a doubt Josh Is The Pony Of A Lifetime.

Thank you to F.P.S. and volunteers, the 3 Breed Societies also taking part, Safemix for the complimentary bedding bales, Pat and Linda Parelli and Parelli UK and most importantly our Sponsors for Goody Bag Gifts and Raffle Prizes (Further details re the amazing sponsorship and photographs on www.facebook.com/fellsandfaces.) Cumbria is a close community and many of the sponsors unbeknown to us had connections way back with the Fell Pony which I found fascinating. "Great Grandfather always allowed us to ride a Fell Pony on a Sunday." "Great Grandma grew up with ponies, before they were taken from the farm for Wartime." In rural areas many Cumbrian people still remember having Fells on the farm.

I wonder if readers outside of Cumbria might spare a moment and perhaps consider the generosity of the kind sponsors who genuinely wanted to help showcase the Fell Pony at H.O.Y.S. Only a few weeks post H.O.Y.S., severe flooding created much distress for those sponsors and their families, not just once but twice, even three times in the same month. You may already be aware that in some cases the rural road to work closed, literally washed away by massive rainfall. Becks turned into waterfalls and rivers to burst their banks, washing away roads, ancient bridges walls and even livestock in a terrifying way. Many roads remain closed (February 2016). Please spare a thought, when planning for a Birthday, Anniversary or Special Celebration, for those sponsors. Many of the gifts are made in Cumbria, some connected to our Fell Pony heritage. All the donated gifts were very joyfully received at H.O.Y.S. 2015.

Most importantly please let the Cumbrian Gift makers know why you decided to support them. I'm sure they would be thrilled to find their generosity reciprocated during such challenging times.

Jackie (The Quick Family)



Fell Pony News: Westmorland County Show

Congratulations to the Edwin and Hilda Winder on an excellent day at Westmorland County show under judge Michael Rawlinson; taking the championship with their lovely yearling filly Dalewin Roxanne shown by David Morland; and winning the 2/3 year old class with Dalewin Pippa [See photo in Colour Section]. Juliet Coates took the reserve championship with her consistent all-rounder, the bay 6 year old Rosefell T Reg who had won the in hand class for mares and geldings over four years. Courtney Savage riding Paul Metcalfe's versatile Greeholme Dec won the ridden class.



Fell Pony News: H.O.Y.S., Olympia—and Cumbria

2015 must have been the best season ever for Fell ponies in the show ring, with eleven ponies qualifying for HOYS; ponies taking championships at Olympia; and winning the over all champion animal accolades at agricultural shows.

Townend Schubert at HOYS

Of the ponies that qualified for the HOYS NPS/Baileys Horse Feeds Mountain & Moorland ridden championship, three were sired by the late Heltondale Bonzo Boy; namely Townend Schubert, Townend Candyman and Haltcliff Barley Sugar. This earned Greta Noble of the Heltondale stud the coveted Kellythorpe Stud Fell Sire Award, which was very well deserved, and a tribute to a lifetime's work in the breeding of the Heltondale Fell ponies for Greta and her husband, the late Sarge Noble. The Kellythorpe Stud Fell Breeder of the Year was awarded to the Greenholme Stud in recognition of the consistency shown by all the Greenholme bred ponies contesting the HOYS qualifiers; Claire Wigley and 'Mr Consistency' Greenholme Warbler made a large contribution to the total points that the stud amassed.



Townend Schubert, owned and ridden by Rebecca Penny.

Olympia

The lovely stallion Townend Schubert, owned and ridden by Rebecca Penny, won the Fell and Dales class at HOYS in October from a strong line up of fabulous ponies; and then went on to take ridden Mountain and Moorland Championship at Olympia in December. Schubert is produced by Aimee Devane of the Follywood Show Team, and Rebecca says that she takes no credit herself and it is Aimee who does all the hard work.

Schubert was bred by Margaret Wilson at the Townend stud near Penrith; and the result was particularly welcome in what was a miserable and difficult time in flood-battered Cumbria. Margaret doesn't blow her own trumpet, but it's quite an achievement for the Townend stud, which she ran with her late husband Eddie, to have bred at least nine ponies that have qualified for Olympia: Townend Candyman, Hamish, Biggles, Ruth IV, Sasha, Dainty, Callum, Patrick and Schubert; apologies to anyone that we have missed!

Rebecca first admired Schubert as a foal at the Sutcliffe's Darrenvale stud and was eventually able to buy him when he was three years old. She always thought that he had the potential to go far and he was virtually unbeaten in his novice season 2014. He qualified for Olympia in May 2015, at his first attempt, and although he contested very few shows during the season he took the supreme championship at NPS Area 13; and qualified for HOYS at the Fell Pony Society Breed show in August. Rebecca is no stranger to the national showing circuit having competed at Olympia and HOYS with various native ponies over the years; but she felt that the young Schubert really needed another twelve months experience before he would be performing at his best. She was delighted that he completely exceeded her expectations and, although she has had a lot of success with ponies that she has ridden for others, she was thrilled to have won on her own pony. Having achieved all that he has by the young age of six it is difficult to see where Schubert can go from here. Rebecca thinks that he has the potential to be even better in the future and plans to just enjoy having him, and maybe try for a Cuddy qualification as a new challenge.

At Olympia three days earlier Guards Jester, a.k.a. Pookie, won the Senior Showing And Dressage Limited series in-hand championship for a delighted Christina Brooks.

Cumbria

Far away from London, during the Cumbrian summer, the over all livestock champion of champions award went to three different Fell ponies at three of the county's agricultural shows. Littletree Bessie Bell won at Penrith; Townend Skylark at Skelton and Greenholme Buttercup (the Native Pony Bursary winner) at Dufton. It is remarkable for a Fell pony to reign supreme over the other equine champions as, where the winner is an equine, it is often the champion heavy horse, hack or hunter that takes the accolade. To have three Fell ponies take the champion of champions in one season is tremendous, well done all.

Congratulations to all who have had fun with our wonderful, versatile Fell ponies over the past year, and enjoyed successes large and small. All best wishes for 2016.

Claire Simpson



Ponies Past: Baronshill Duchess (1986-2014)

Baronshill Duchess came to us as a twelve year old in foal to Sleddale Bertie and she remained with us until she passed away peacefully at the age of twenty eight.

Her breeding was almost pure Heltondale, and the late Sarge Noble purchased her to spend some of her youth in the Heltondale herd, where she had her first and best known foals, Heltondale Bobby and Heltondale Rob II. She had eight foals altogether, including our beautiful filly foal, Scottondale Tamini. As first time foal owners, we were enchanted to see her caring for and teaching her daughter: they remained very close after weaning,

and lived happily together for many years.

Not many people actually met Duchess. She disliked changes and travelling, so she never went to shows, but thanks to her sons Heltondale Bobby and Heltondale Rob II, and her daughter, Baronshill Eternal Flame, her name appears in the pedigrees of an amazing 950 pure bred Fell ponies (488 fillies and 462 colts) up to the end of 2014, especially in those from the Murthwaite, Greenholme, Severn Vale, Brackenbank and Bybeck studs. She was a granddam of Murthwaite Look At Me, Murthwaite Iceman, Murthwaite Black Bobby and Severn Vale Grey Bobby, and great granddam of the 2009 Breed Show champion, Murthwaite Magic Moment. Several of Duchess's descendants have been winners of the Shawfell Silhouette trophy for the champion foal at the Breed Show. Fell ponies carrying her bloodlines have been exported all over Europe and the USA, and even as far as Australia.

Duchess was a very loveable pony. She had a pretty face, full of intelligence, and

while normally black in colour, some summers she had a beautiful dark brown, heavily dappled coat. She was unfailingly friendly and gentle with people and seemed to like little girls in particular. She had a sense of humour, her favourite trick being to seize a hat off your head and drop it on the ground, and she liked to swirl her muzzle vigorously in her water bucket and soak herself and anybody close by. Duchess was a lively pony, who loved a buck and a gallop even in old age and she would join in with my younger ponies' schooling, delighted to copy them lunging and walking over poles. Although always kind with people, she could be extremely forceful with other horses, even much bigger ones, and would drive them from the field gate and keep them at bay by sheer strength of personality when she saw me coming to visit her. She did like Shetland ponies, however, and was friendly towards them.

I was privileged to share so many years of Duchess's life. There were only two days in the sixteen years that she was with us that I was unable to see her. I am happy she lives on through so many descendants, but I will always miss my own very special Fell pony.

Susan Gooderham, Swineshead, Boston, Lincolnshire.



Ponies Past: Heltondale Rocky

The first time I saw Rocky I fell in love with him and I begged my mum to buy him for me. That was 25 years ago; Heltondale Rocky became my best friend and we had amazing fun together competing in cross country, showing, jumping, and he later took part in Horseball with my younger brother.

Despite being on the small side for a Fell at 12.3, he had the Fell pony attitude. He was gentle, kind and loving towards people, keen and enthusiastic, and would have a go at anything. He not only made me fall in love with him but all things Fell! This led to my owning and enjoying Drybarrows Roger (sadly no longer with us) and Greenholme British Queen.



Rocky has been part of my life since I was a teenager, adapting to new things such as me disappearing to University and my Mum kindly caring for him and Roger for me. On my return to the area he was shared by my Mum and me. In the last few years while he has been retired he was a great family pony for my children to enjoy learning to ride on and getting cuddles from all of us.

At the age of 30, our friend Rocky had enjoyed a lovely retirement and let us know that he was ready to join his pal Roger in the paddocks of Heaven. He is greatly missed by all of those who knew him. He has left us with a love for Fell Ponies; Mum and I are fortunate to have Queenie to continue to enjoy.

Goodnight Rocky, sleep tight, thank you for being such a wonderful friend for 25 years.

Zoe Styles



Ponies Past: Kerbeck Night Melody (1988-2015)

She always gave of her best, as her winnings all over the country testified, including H.O.Y.S. Working Hunter. A true performance pony, sunny-natured, reliable and a joy to work with. In and out of the ring she never failed to turn heads and was a great ambassador for her breed. She died quietly in her box after a great day out, in her own time and with no fuss. Simply the best.

Kind Regards, Susan Laniado

Society Merchandise Price List

Items	Price	P&P	Total	Items	Price	P&P	Total
CLOTHING (with FPS logo)				T Shirt (Adult)	£12.00	£3.00	£15.00
Baseball Cap	£8.00	£2.00	£10.00	T Shirt (Child)	£10.00	£3.00	£13.00
Crew Neck Sweatshirt (Adult)	£17.50	£3.00	£20.50	Tie	£12.00	£1.50	£13.50
Fleece Sweatshirt with Collar	£21.00	£3.00	£24.00	Waterproof Waistcoat	£30.00	£5.50	£35.50
Fleece Waistcoat (Adult)	£22.00	£3.00	£25.00	MISCELLANEOUS			
Hi Vis Waistcoat	£10.00	£1.50	£11.50	Back Paks	£12.00	£3.00	£15.00
Hoody - Full Zip	£24.00	£3.00	£27.00	Badge	£3.00	£1.00	£4.00
Hoody - Overhead	£22.00	£3.00	£25.00	Ballpoint Pen (basic)	£1.00	£1.00	£2.00
Knitted Hat	£8.00	£2.00	£10.00	Car Sticker - Round or Oblong	£1.00	£1.00	£2.00
Polo Shirt (Adult)	£15.00	£3.00	£18.00	Permit Holder	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00
Fleece Jacket	£22.00	£3.00	£25.00	China Mug	£5.00	£3.50	£8.50
Reversible Showerproof Fleece Lined Jacket	£26.00	£5.50	£31.50	Coloured Shoppers	£6.00	£1.00	£7.00
Rugby Shirt	£30.00	£3.00	£33.00	Earthenware Mug	£4.50	£3.50	£8.00
				Facecloth	£4.00	£1.50	£5.50
				Fridge Magnet	£1.50	£1.00	£2.50



Ponies Past: Sleddale Ruth III (1982-2015)

reserve Lincolnshire Champion

Sleddale Ruth III
FR 1235



Bess, 1982----2015 Wednesday Aug 19th

My darling Bess had to leave me, after all our lovely years,

she went because she had to -- I'll try to smile through all my tears.

She came to me a young black Mare - we did lots of things together,
like riding on the beach -- in all sorts of funny weather.

We went to shows, and when we won she really did look proud,
sometimes tho' she'd let me know, she didn't always like the crowd.

We had such fun together me and her, I now have a sad and lonely heart,
as my beloved Bess and I, will now have to be apart.

She has gone I hope, to Rainbow Bridge? where we will meet again
she will run and greet me - just like she did before,

and, be back to my darling Bessy - now that she has lost her pain.

audie

Items	Price	P&P	Total	Items	Price	P&P	Total
Glass Engraved Tumbler	£10.00	£3.50	£15.50	2007 to 2015 (each)	£6.00	£1.50	£7.50
Key Fob, leather	£1.00	£1.00	£2.00	Black Stud Book 1898-1980	£5.00	£3.00	£8.00
Large Lorry Stickers 8"	£8.00	£3.00	£11.00	Newsletter Back Copies	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50
Large Trailer Stickers 22"	£12.00	tbc		Studbooks to 1999 (each)	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50
Mouse Mat	£3.00	£1.50	£4.50				
Sticker "I Fell for a Fell"	£1.00	£1.00	£2.00				
Pencil	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	PICNICWARE			
Phone Purse	£7.00	£2.00	£9.00	Bowls	£2.50	£3.00	£5.50
Shoulder Bag	£8.00	£3.00	£11.00	Clear Tumblers	£2.50	£3.00	£5.50
'Ballpoint pen	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00	Cutlery Set, with logo	£3.00	£3.00	£6.00
Table Mats	£7.50	£2.00	£9.50	Cutlery Set, without logo	£2.50	£3.00	£5.50
Tea Towel	£3.00	£1.50	£4.50	Mugs	£2.50	£3.00	£5.50
Tote Bag (large)	£7.00	£2.00	£9.00	Plates	£2.50	£3.00	£5.50
Tote Bag (small)	£4.00	£1.00	£5.00	Trays	£5.00	£1.50	£6.50
Towel	£6.00	£3.00	£9.00				
Wallet	£6.00	£2.00	£8.00				
Wristbands	£1.50	£1.00	£2.50				
CARDS							
Calendars	£5.50	£1.50	£7.00				
Christmas Cards (pack of 5)	£2.50	£1.00	£3.50				
Notelets (pack of 5)	£2.50	£1.00	£3.50				
Postcards (pack of 10)	£1.50	£1.00	£2.50				
BOOKS / CD / DVD							
A Humbling Experience	£19.00	£2.00	£21.00				
A Lifetime with Ponies by Roy B Charlton	£20.00	£3.00	£23.00				
Binder for newsletters or studbooks	£7.00	£3.00	£10.00				
British Horse & Pony Breeds	£19.00	£3.00	£22.00				
Fell Diamonds	£5.00	£1.50	£6.50				
FPS Events 1995-1997 DVD	£5.00	£1.50	£6.50				
History CD (photographs & PDFs)	£13.00	£1.50	£14.50				
Hoopprints in Eden	£17.00	£3.00	£20.00				
Jubilee Book	£5.00	£2.00	£7.00				
Letters Home	£8.00	£2.00	£10.00				
One Fell Swoop	£5.00	£2.00	£7.00				
Spirit Of The Fell Pony	£5.00	£1.50	£6.50				
The Fell Pony (by Clive Richardson)	£7.50	£1.00	£8.50				
The Fell Pony DVD	£15.00	£1.50	£16.50				
Walk On The Wild Side	£12.50	£2.00	£14.50				
STUDBOOKS / NEWSLETTERS							
2000 to 2006 (each)	£5.00	£1.50	£6.50				

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, Bank House,
Boroughgate, Appleby, Cumbria CA1 6XF
Tel/Fax 01 768353100.

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.





Fenella Walsh

Riders enjoying autumn sunshine during the 2015 Pleasure Ride run by the North East Area Support Group

**If undelivered, please return to:
Fell Pony Society**

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THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

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