ISSN 2754-9356 (Online)

THE MARKET

# FELL PONY SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Spring 2025



Champion M&M Fells of 2024

Victoria Taylor and her Champion at London International Horse Show,

Birkettbank Master

Ruth Roberts' Champion at Horse of the Year Show,

Wildhoeve Okidoki, ridden by Clare Fitch







(Above) Birkettbank Master John (Greenholme Elect x Carrock Princess) bred by Robert Relph-Briggs, being shown as a youngster at the FPS Stallion & Colt Show. Article on p83

(Left) Wildhoeve Okidoki (Klompjes Ivanhoe x Uldale Black Misty), bred by Roy Ottink in the Netherlands, receives his trophies at the Horse of the Year Show. Article on p81

# Dates for 2025

# Recurring fixed dates

1 January - all FPS membership subscriptions due for renewal

1 February - FPS Magazine copy deadline, Spring issue

15 February - For eligibility to vote for Council, annual subscription must be paid by this date

1 October - FPS Magazine copy deadline, Autumn issue

Dates and venues are correct at time of printing.

Please check the Calendar on the FPS web site or ask the Office for confirmation.

# 2025

5 April - AGM, Orton, Cumbria

10 May - Stallion & Colt Show, Dalemain, Cumbria

TBC early June - South Cumbria Show

10 August - Breed Show, Dalemain, Cumbria

14 September - Southern Breed Show

TBC late October - FPS Show & Sale at NW Auctions, Crooklands

TBC November - Foal & Youngstock Show



The Fell Pony Society is a Company Limited by Guarantee, No. 3233346.

Registered Charity, Number 1104945.

President: Miss Barbara Bell Chairman: Mr Peter Boustead Vice-Chairman: Mr John Greener Secretary: Mrs K Wilkinson

Society Office: Bank House, Boroughgate, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6XF

http://www.fellponysociety.org.uk

## Council

To retire 2025: Mrs A Bell, Mrs S Charlton, Mrs G Cockbain, Mr M Goddard To retire 2026: Mrs S Millard, Mrs C Robinson, Mr A Thorpe, Mrs E Walker To retire 2028: Mr P Boustead, Mrs R Brunskill, Mr J Greener, Mrs J Rawden To retire 2029: Mr T Lloyd, Miss H Mawrey, Dr L Whitley, Mr D Wilkinson To retire 2030: Mr G H B Mallinson, Mr W S Potter, Miss C Simpson, Mr K Turner

FPS Secretary: Mrs K Wilkinson, Tel/Fax: 01768 353100 Society Office: E-mail: secretary@fellponysociety.org.uk

# FPS Magazine Editor and FPS Webmaster

Sue Millard, Daw Bank, Greenholme, Tebay, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3TA Tel: 07340 309636. E-mail: ponywriter001@gmail.com

# **FPS Show-Affliation Secretary**

Mrs Michelle Thorpe, Winterbutlee Farm, Shawforth, Nr Rochdale, Lancashire, OL12 8XE. Tel: 01706 853843, Fax 01706 217886.

E-mail: info@wellbrowfell.co.uk

# **FPS Press Officer**

Claire Simpson, Hale Bank, Hale, Nr Milnthorpe, Cumbria LA7 7BL. Tel: 07767 838662. E-mail: claire.halebank@yahoo.co.uk

# Fell Pony Sales List

Please contact the Secretary via the Society Office

# Registered Office, Accountants

Dodd & Co, FIFTEEN Rosehill, Montgomery Way, Rosehill Estate, Carlisle, CA1 2RW FPS Sub-Committees and their Secretaries are listed on p13

# Contents

Dates for 20252	Thinking Space: The FPS Auction Sale55
Society Information3	Thinking Space: Working Too Young?59
Council Information5	Free Services to Members61
Chairman's Report6	FPS Show and Sale62
From Our President6	Calendar Competition64
Secretary & Treasurer's Report7	Area Support Groups65
From the Office7	Plea for Area Information65
Increase in Postage Costs8	Midlands West68
Letters9	Midlands East71
Fees & Charges10	South West72
FPS Bank Details10	North Scotland73
Membership Fees11	FP Conservancy of the Americas74
Stallion Licensing12	Sweden75
EU Owners and Breeders12	Conservation & Grazing75
Sub-Committees13	Display Team75
Editorial14	STARS Champion of Champions76
Council Minutes15	HOYS: Wildhoeve OkiDoki81
Nominations for Council16	LIHS: Birkettbank Master John83
Advance Notice of Office Vacancies19	Young Handler Award & Competition84
Accounts22	Trainee Judges Scheme84
Performance & Youngstock Awards41	You Have to Start Somewhere85
Award Winner Profiles43	Learning With Fells 202586
Colour Photograph Section47	Attitude88
Endurance Awards52	Book Reviews89
WHP Classes - Entries Needed!52	Guards Jester90
Junior Handler classes53	For the Next Issue91
DNA Testing Fillies53	Merchandise List92
Training Bursary 202554	

# 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.



# THE FELL PONY SOCIETY Council Information

Secretary: Mrs K Wilkinson, Tel: 01768 353100

Society Office: E-mail: secretary@fellponysociety.org.uk Bank House, Boroughgate, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6XF

http://www.fellponysociety.org.uk

Alison Bell: 07765 405509

E-mail: pjamesbell @hotmail.com

Peter Boustead: 01524 383665

Mobile: 07790 736192

E-mail: peterboustead @gmail.com

Rachael Brunskill-Tarn: 07990 606362 E-mail: neighfear @hotmail.com

Sarah Charlton: 01434 673262

Mobile: 07398 263097

E-mail: linnelwood @gmail.com

Glenis Cockbain: 01768 772133 E-mail: wllmcckbn @aol.com

Michael Goddard: 01258 817161

Mobile: 07964 209243

E-mail: michael.goddard2014 @gmail.com

John Greener: 07808 170830 E-mail: kinkryhillfells @gmail.com

Tom Lloyd: Mobile: 07967 483374

E-mail: tom @fellpony.co.uk

Barry Mallinson: 01228 675814

Mobile: 07393 506100

E-mail: tracykirkby @btinternet.com

Heather Mawrey: Mobile: 07791 748384

E-mail: hmawrey @hotmail.com

Sue Millard: 07340 309636

E-mail: ponywriter001 @gmail.com

Bill Potter: 07757 577405

Jane Rawden: 07970 297642

E-mail: janerawden @yahoo.co.uk

Christine Robinson: 016973 51854

Mobile: 07802 733309

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

Claire Simpson: 07767 838662

E-mail: claire.halebank @yahoo.co.uk

Kevin Turner: 07577 536517

E-mail: greenriversfell123 @gmail.com

Andrew Thorpe: 01706 853843 E-mail: info @wellbrowfell.co.uk

Eileen Walker: 01388 763607

Mobile: 07990 521205

E-mail: eileen @rackwoodfellponies.co.uk

Liz Whitley: Mobile: 07774 29278 E-mail: liz @doverbeck.co.uk

David Wilkinson: 01768 352861

E-mail: wilkinsonfellponies @hotmail.co.uk

Council meets every 2 months, in January, March, May, July, September, & November, usually the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

# Chairman's Report

2024 proved a very successful year for the Fell Pony in National showing classes. Wildhoeve Okidoki became the first Fell to be overall Mountain and Moorland champion at the HOYS since Townend Breeze in 2002. This pony was bred in the Netherlands by Gerard Ottink and has had a fruitful career in the UK for several years. Congratulations go to all those involved with this pony.

The London International Horse Show also had a Fell Pony champion in Birkett Bank Master John, a 9 year old stallion, bred by Robert Briggs and named after Joe Baxter's stallion Master John, at the request of his late step father John Whittam, a staunch Fell pony supporter. Birkett Bank, one of the oldest Fell Pony studs, is at Threlkeld, near Keswick, where Joe Baxter also lived. Congratulations to the connections of Master John.

This magazine continues to go from strength to strength and it is reassuring to find that, even in a digital age, members still prefer paper copies. Please keep sending in your stories. It is uplifting to read, for example, about the exploits of Feisty Freda and the Liddlepark twins and the pleasure our wonderful breed gives to so many in such a variety of ways

This year will see several personnel changes within the society when both our Secretary and Treasurer retire in October.

Katherine has served as an administrative assistant since 2005 and from 2013 as Secretary when she took over this role from Elizabeth Parkin.

to face criticism having implementing decisions that were made by Council, Katherine has always adopted a professional approach. Several people have mentioned how helpful and understanding she always is and we wish her a happy retirement.

Elizabeth retained the positions Treasurer and Stud-Book editor, supposedly on a 'temporary' basis, when she resigned as Secretary in 2013 but she is definitely retiring this time. Thank you Elizabeth for all your dedicated work over the years.

Three long-serving Council members, Sarah Charlton, Glenis Cockbain and Michael Goddard, have resigned this year, and thanks go to them for their valued counsel over the vears.

Peter Boustead

# From Our President

It has come to the end of my second term as President for the Fell Pony Society and I am proud to have served the Society after a lifetime with Fell Ponies, and grateful for the friendships I have made with fellow pony breeders, which have been a big part of my life.

variable but on the whole a good turn out of ponies and prospective buyers.

It was very disappointing that the Foal & Youngstock Show was cancelled due to the extreme weather but safety of ponies and exhibitors was a priority.

The FPS Sale went well, prices were I was honoured to be invited, with other breeders, to the launch of The Fell Pony's Enduring Stewards book, which was hosted at Rheged by Libby Robinson's Fell Pony Heritage Trust team. The book was produced by Melissa Kreuzer and edited by Jenifer Morrissey. It was an enjoyable lunch and afternoon, and we all received a copy of the book.

The Society AGM will soon be upon us and I look forward to seeing many members there.

I would like to wish the next President the best of luck in their new term and hope they enjoy their time as President as much as I have. Thanks must go to our outstanding Secretary, Katherine Wilkinson, for keeping me up to date with everything, and also to Council members for keeping the Fell Pony Society and most importantly the Fell Pony at the forefront as an outstanding native pony breed.

Thank you Barbara Bell

# Secretary & Treasurer's Report

I am writing this report following a very stormy weekend. I hope that everyone and their ponies throughout the world have not had too many problems to encounter. Hopefully we can look forward to an improvement in the weather as we head towards the Spring.

I have recently notified Council of my intention to 'retire' as Secretary in October - it's time to let someone else have a go at this, mainly enjoyable, but very demanding position!

The number of foal registrations has increased from 2023 with 348 registered to date. Memberships for 2024 totalled 1122 which is slightly less than in 2023. We are receiving several new memberships which is encouraging, and we are continuing to receive a good number of passports to transfer ownership although the numbers were down in 2024. Pleasingly there is still lots of interest in the breed.

Thank you to all members who have renewed their membership for 2025. All memberships are due for renewal on 1 January, irrespective of when you joined the Society.

There are still some of you who haven't read the notice that memberships have increased by £5, so please update your standing order now, in time for next year.

You will not be eligible to vote at the AGM unless you have renewed your membership.

If you wish to receive copies of your magazine electronically rather than by post, please send your request by email to secretary@fellponysociety.org

As you will see from the accounts included in your magazine, they are showing a loss in the last financial year. The Society is still paying out for the upkeep of 1 pony. If we take out the expenditure for the upkeep of this pony we can see a more realistic figure of -£1421.

The Society is very grateful for donations received during the year, as well as generous sponsorship received for the shows in 2024.

I would like to thank Council for their continued support and also my colleagues in the office for all their hard work.

Best wishes Katherine



FELL PONY SOCIETY

# From the Office

# - we're here to help

The best way to contact us is by email, secretary@fellponysociety.org

# Registrations / Passports

Registration / Passport application forms cannot be downloaded from the website; they are only available by applying to the office who will send them out by post. Do not photocopy the form.

# Before sending in the form please make sure that:

- The description has been written in BLOCK LETTERS
- All the whorls have been recorded in black ink and all white has been recorded in red ink.
- The location of the chip has been recorded by the vet
- The vet has signed and stamped the form

Please read the guidance notes carefully prior to completion of the forms. Any forms incomplete or incorrectly completed will be returned.

#### Service Books

Service books are not issued automatically, so if you need a book you must request one. Service certificates / notifications of coverings online must be notified by 31 December in the year of covering; if not, any resulting foal will have to be DNA typed to confirm the sire prior to registration.

If you choose to input the details online you will receive an email acknowledging the successful receipt.

If you don't receive an email the information has not been received and you should contact the Society without delay.

 If you are a mare owner using someone else's stallion, check with them that the relevant details have been lodged with the FPS by 31 December.

# Changes to a Passport

Any changes to a passport should in the first instance be notified to the Fell Pony Society. For example

- change of address/contact details of the current owner,
- castration
- change of ownership
- notification of death
- change in 'food chain status'.

Please do not notify the Central Equine Database: the Society will do this once the changes have been verified. If you are unsure of the procedure, then please ask.

# **Stallion License Applications**

Please allow plenty of time for the license to be processed; the colt/stallion cannot be used for stud purposes until the Stallion License has been issued.

Part of the requirement for Stallion Licensing is for the pony to be DNA typed. This is currently done through Weatherbys. Issue of the DNA report can take 5/6 weeks from when the sample is returned to the FPS.

# Payments by BACS

Please always include your name (even if it's just your surname) as the reference, when sending payments this way.

# Renewing your Membership

When renewing your membership you just need to send the payment; there is no need to send in a completed membership form, unless we ask you to or you have changes to your contact details.

# Correct Postage to the Office

Please make sure you add the correct postage when sending mail to the FPS office; if in doubt get it checked at the Post Office. Do not use old stamps (without a bar code). If the Society incurs a surcharge then you will be asked to pay.

# **Passports**

Passports are returned by Royal Mail Tracked 48 in the UK, and with a proof of posting overseas. If you wish to have your passport posted by 'Special Delivery' in the UK or by 'International Track and Sign' overseas, please add £5.00 to the fee and let us know you wish to have it returned this way. If you require the Society to send an item first class/Tracked 24 then you will be required to pay the extra cost.

Thank you Katherine

# Letters

I am pleased that Foalsyke April and Foalsyke Jenny have found a nice home together with Miriam Bibby (Supersizing the Herd, Autumn 2024, p87).

April and Jenny were born in 2005. April had a bit of a trying start as her mother Hillhead Henrietta hid her in the muddy bit of the field instead of in the nice straw of the barn. I knew Henrietta had been born but had a job finding her in the dark! Happily after a bit of a warm and a good breakfast she picked up and was out in the field later that day. Jenny's birth was much smoother, born about 1:30pm. Her mother Dalehead Vicky was in labour but stood eating hay, so I nipped into the house for a cuppa, and when I went back out lo and behold, there was a foal up and sucking!

I would have loved to have been able to have them retire back here when Tracy (Grahamsley Stud) was looking for a home for them, but it was impossible as I already have 20 so not enough grazing. I know it was a hard decision for Tracy and we both tried to find somewhere more local for the girls. But I wish Miriam all the best and thank her for giving the girls a home. May she have many wonderful years with them. Both sets of their parents are alive and well and still here, all in their 20s!

Best wishes to all from Foalsyke Farm Anne Richardson

# **Increase in Postage Costs**

In an attempt to reduce our postage costs, we will no longer be sending out cheques to make payments from the HBLB Grant. With effect from 1 January 2025, payments will only be made by bank transfer.

If you haven't returned your form providing us with your bank details, then do so now. If bank details are not provided, then the Grant amount due to you will be treated as a donation to the FPS.

Members agreed at the AGM that the subscription fees should be increased from 2025 to ensure that they continue to receive both a Spring and Autumn Magazine through the post.

If you pay by Standing order, please remember to update the amount before it leaves your account (see page 10 for bank details and page 11 for new subscription rates).

If you normally receive more than one magazine per household eg family membership and you are happy to just receive the one copy, then please drop us an email and we'll add you to the list.

All items of post will be sent 2nd class or Tracked 48 (and overseas, with proof of postage only).

If the FPS is requested to send an item of post 1st class (or Special Delivery) or overseas with tracking, then the additional postage will need to be paid for.

**Additional** Charges, with immediate effect.

Special Delivery	£5.00
Standard 1st class	£1.00
Tracked 24	£1.00
Overseas Tracked	£5.00

Thank you Katherine



NEW FEES From 1st January 2025

# Fees & Charges

L January 202	25	UK	(	Ov	verseas	
		Member	Non-Member	Member	Non-Member	
Registration						
to 30 November	Colt	£15	£30	£20	£35	
	Filly	£15	£30	£20	£35	
December	Colt	£30	£60	£35	£65	
	Filly	£30	£60	£35	£65	
Late Registration		£50	£100	£55	£105	
(does not include	cost of p	oarentage t	rest)			
Transfer of Owners	ship	£10	£20	£15	£25	
Transfer to Gelding	g	£5	£10	£10	£15	
Prefix (new application)	ation)	£45	£55	£60	£70	
FIS Kit		£40	£50	£45	£55	
DNA Kit		£50	£60	£55	£65	
Duplicate Passport		£50	£100	£55	£105	
(does not include	cost of p	arentage t	est)			
Al Permit		£25	N/A	£25	N/A	
Passport update		£5	£10	£10	£20	
(to add vaccinations pages, repair, etc)						

# Fell Pony Society Bank Details

Account name: The Fell Pony Society Limited.

Bank: Lloyds, Carlisle. Address: 6 Lowther Street, Carlisle CA3 8DB

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

BIC LOYDGB21572. IBAN GB 86 LOYD 3016 2800 2548 96.

All bank transfers should be in English pounds sterling and 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**, so for **overseas members only**, please add £2 for transactions up to £100 and £7 for transactions greater than £100 (no need to add anything if you are sending payment from within the UK). Please ensure that you use your name as the reference when sending a payment by bank transfer.



NEW FEES From 1st January 2025 Membership Fees

- - - NEW FEES From 1st January 2025

(including renewals for 2025 received before 1st January)

Type of Membership	UK	Overseas
Full	£35	£45
Associate	£25	£35
Junior	£25	£35
Family	£70	£90

# !! PLEASE NOTE THE UPDATED FEES for 2025 !!

If you pay by Standing Order please update your Order to the correct amount.

Underpaid membership fees will be treated as donations and not memberships, unless topped up to the amount of the current fee.

The range of overseas membership types mirrors 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. Please note that Family membership does not apply to adult couples without children; in these cases the membership is for 2 Full memberships (separate membership forms required).

# Membership Renewal

Society memberships fall due on 1 January annually. PLEASE NOTE the increases in membership fees, shown above, which were approved by a vote at the AGM in April (see the AGM Minutes in the Autumn 2024 issue).

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 of the current year, or to vote at an EGM / AGM, if his/her subscription has not been paid by the date of the meeting. Please have your membership card ready to show on arrival.

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



# **FPS Stallion Licensing**

	Includes	Already Already		Already
	DNA/FIS	FIS tested**	DNA typed**	DNA/FIS**
UK Member	£120	£80	£70	£25
UK Non Member	£240	£200	£190	£50
Overseas Member	£125*	£85	£75	£30
Overseas Non Member	£245*	£205	£195	£60

<sup>\*</sup>Apply to the office for the appropriate fees if DNA/FIS tests are to be carried out through an overseas lab.

# Information for FU owners and breeders

Breeders in the EU are encouraged to 'register' their foals with the Fell Pony Society once the passport has been issued in their home country.

The FPS can issue the non statutory pages normally included in the FPS passports. These pages will be issued as a separate document, providing the passport has been issued as per the FPS regulations, and this would confirm registration in the FPS Stud Book.

NB the entry can only be added to FPS Stud book providing the application is as per the FPS rules.

There should be no need for DNA typing providing the passport has been issued in the year of birth.

Fell Ponies will not be included in the UK Grassroots online unless they are first 'registered' in the FPS Stud book.

# The Society can:

 issue stallion licences, stallion service books and accept service details online.

Please also note that applications for a FPS stallion licence can usually only be considered for ponies already registered with the FPS or NFPS, so please check with the FPS.

- Process applications and renewals for FPS membership
- · issue FIS test kits
- issue DNA test kits
- issue prefix applications to register a prefix with the Central prefix register in the UK.

Please get in touch with the FPS office if you have any questions or you would like to find out more about registering your Fell Pony with the FPS.

<sup>\*\*</sup>If either the FIS test or the DNA typing has **not** been done through the FPS then a letter will also be required from the vet who took the sample, confirming that the identity of the pony was checked.



# Sub-Committees

# Conservation & Grazing Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Christine Robinson, The Shieling, Anthorn, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 5AH. Telephone: 016973 51854. E-mail: christine @kerbeck-fell-ponies.co.uk Mrs A Bell, Mr I Brunskill, Mrs R Brunskill, Mrs S Charlton, Miss R Dalton, Miss N Evans, Mrs S Millard, Mr A Thorpe, Mr E Winder.

# **Judges Sub-Committee**

Chairman: Mr Michael Goddard, Oak Tree Barn, Hazelbury Bryan, Sturminster

Newton, Dorset DT10 2DP. Telephone: 07964 209243.

E-mail: michael.goddard2014 @gmail.com

Secretary: Mrs Jenny Grealish, Shotley Hall, Shotley Bridge, Consett DH8 9TE.

Telephone: 07557 30998. E-mail: fpsjudgessecretary @gmail.com

Mrs GM Callister, Mr P Metcalfe, Mrs J Rawden.

Master judges and reserves for assessment of candidates are chosen at random

from the FPS Panel at a Council meeting.

# **Display Team Sub-Committee**

Chairman: Mrs Susan Brunskill, Ling House, Southwaite, Carlisle CA4 0JH.

Telephone: 016974 75975. E-mail: Hynholme @hotmail.com Secretary: Mrs C H Robinson. Treasurer: Mrs Rachael Brunskill. Mr I Brunskill, Mrs K Ellis, Miss N Evans and Mrs S Millard.

# **Show Sub-Committee**

Chairman: Mr P Boustead. Tel: 01524 383665, mobile: 07790 736192. E-mail:

peterboustead @gmail.com

Secretary: Mrs Lara Kneale. Tel: 07867 663545. E-mail: Larakneale77 @gmail.com Mr M Goddard, Mr J Greener, Miss H Lightfoot, Mr B Mallinson, Mrs M Murray, Mrs J

Rawden, Miss C Simpson and Mr D Wilkinson.

#### Overseas Contacts

Please see the International Affiliates page of the web site https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/affiliates.htm

# **Editorial**

Thank you all for sending me so much interesting material, your stories and beautiful photographs. It's great to have pieces to publish about Fell ponies achieving high honours at HOYS and LIHS, as they did so triumphantly in 2024 (see the relevant articles elsewhere in this issue!). It's equally pleasing to receive so many letters and profiles about ponies cheerfully doing the ordinary stuff that all our lives are made of. This is one of the points about our FPS Magazine that make it quite different from other breeds' Year Books - plus the fact that we publish it twice a year and not just once.

# Thinking Space

A new Magazine feature, Thinking Space, is where I plan to feature articles that should be helpful for our members. We have always carried pieces by people with ponyrelevant skills, by researchers and vets, by experienced trainers and so on; so Thinking Space will just be giving these a home.

In contrast to the majority of the Magazine's content, an article in Thinking Space will probably not be about your own ponies. I have some ideas for pieces in future issues, and I'll be asking people to write those, but do you fancy sending something to us? There is no set theme. Here are some ideas to get you going: Bits and saddles that fit Fells (this one's already in the pipeline for Autumn). Shoeing / not shoeing? (again, in the pipeline, for Spring 2026!) Schooling suggestions specific to Fells. How to show correctly within the rules. Feeding in winter, keeping svelte in Getting your pony fit for summer. performance goals and keeping interested and keen. Compare your experience of choosing the stallion for your mare using your own knowledge, versus using the new technology available on Grassroots. Etcetera!

If your article will help owners to treat their ponies well and get the best from them, it will probably find its place in Thinking Space. Please send it to my editorial email

<ponywriter001@gmail.com>.

Even if a Thinking Space piece is critical of certain matters it will still have a good chance of being published! BUT articles MUST include *practical suggestions* for improving something. They have to be for the good of the ponies. So complaints,

whether about individuals or organisations or official procedures, will not be accepted for publication in Thinking Space. Those should be sent in writing to the Society office and dealt with by Council.

If you want to send a reply to a Thinking Space article I will print it in the following issue. Please send responses to my editorial email, not via social media.

# **Photographs**

Many thanks to you all who write and send photos, and especially to Claire Simpson who is our Press Officer and my Main Woman for collecting show reports, photographs and owner-and-pony profiles.

A plea here, from Claire as well as from me: We would prefer NOT to receive digital photographs of prints because unless you SCAN them on a flatbed there are usually problems with the image being distorted. We spend a lot of time trying to cure problems, eg removing the date and time and the black outlines of phone camera images, but we can't make a small, skewed, poor quality image larger or more flattering for printing. If your photo has been printed very small (see STARS report!) or it looks odd or it's not been printed at all, these may be some of the reasons. PLEASE READ the advice in the Submission Guidelines that are available on the Magazines page of the web site.

If you absolutely must send us a photo of a photo, do your best to hold your camera straight, take the photo out of the picture frame, focus to exclude the table surface, avoid reflected light, and please do NAME your image before you send it - it's hard work for us trying to identify photos from the camera's long numbered filenames.

# Advertising

Another point where our Magazine is different from others is our limited amount of advertising. Obviously, advertising brings revenue, but during a recent discussion Council members remarked that large amounts of ads in breed Year Books are irritating and obscure the content. Council don't want the Magazine to go down that route, especially if advertising might exclude news from members, which otherwise I could have fitted in.

As Editor I am happy to accept half-page and quarter-page ads, if they are Fell-related. They will be printed in black and white / monochrome, which doesn't involve any extra technical work (cost) for the printers. I can fit them relatively easily into spaces where an article or report doesn't fill a page. Advertising should be sent to the FPS Office, with payment.

For members' ads:

Half-page in black and white / monochrome, one issue £50, Quarter-page £25.

For non members' ads:

Half-page in black and white / monochrome, one issue £100, Quarter-page £50.

Don't forget that FPS members can advertise ponies and Fell-related items for 3 months on the Sales page on the Society's web site.

Breeders' individual Stud ads can go on the web site for 12 months. All these can be sent to the FPS Office, and there is no charge.

But do keep writing about your ponies! As always, it's the personal stories that you send to me are what make this Magazine special - even if sometimes exasperating!

The deadline for the Autumn 2025 issue of the Magazine is 1st October.

Have a good year!

Sue Millard

Editorial email: ponywriter001@gmail.com

# Web Site Search & Council Minutes Online

# Searching the web site

Whether you want information about the ponies, the Society, the breed's history, welfare issues, showing, conservation or what-have-you, just go straight to the FPS web site,

https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk.

There's a comprehensive Menu and a Search function on the FPS site, and between them they will provide you with correct information. Google and other search engines will often misdirect you to old and outdated pages elsewhere. Make life easier for yourself and use the Society's own web site and Search functions.

I should mention that the Search function on the FPS web site will not connect you to any pedigree data. Searches on names will bring you show results, and articles in the back catalogue of Magazines, but they won't connect you to the extended pedigrees on Grassroots. FPS members get a pass code to access that, separately from the FPS web site which is public. Unlike Wiki 'pedigree' websites which can be changed by anyone, the data on Grassroots are input solely by the Society Office, which with our printed studbooks give an accurate record of ponies for our breed.

## Summaries of Minutes

For several years we have made the Agenda of each upcoming Council meeting available on the Society's web site. We are now putting summaries of Council Minutes online as well.

The Agenda and Summaries can be found via links on the About The Society page. Summaries are being published 2 meetings in arrears, ie, after matters have been discussed and after the minutes of that meeting have been approved by Council at a subsequent meeting.

Sue Millard



Company No 3233346 Registered Charity No 1104945

# Nominations for Council 2025

Council members are directors of the Limited Company as well as Charity trustees, so proposer and seconder should check that their candidate is eligible for both, eg, not disqualified, and with no conflicts of interest.

Candidates should read the information on the FPS web page, "About the Society": in particular, follow the links on the right hand menu, "Information on the Council and How to Become a Council Member".

# **Postal Voting for Council Members**

Ballot papers will be sent out with this Magazine to those eligible to vote. Completed ballot papers have to be returned to the Scrutineer appointed by the Council, not less than 10 days before the date of the AGM.

No member is entitled to vote in the election for council if his/her subscription to the Society has not been paid by 15th February 2025. You will find the details on Votes of Members under Section 7 of the Articles of Association. Election to the Council is Section 8.6.

Please send your ballot paper to the Scrutineer before the deadline.

Do not waste your chance to vote in the running of your Society.

# **Election of President**

Our President Miss Barbara Bell's term of office ends in 2025.

There is one candidate nominated for the role: Mrs G Cockbain. Election will be confirmed by a poll held at the Annual General Meeting.

The elected President shall become a member of the FPS Council ex-officio (by reason of his/her office).

# Nominations for Council

Mrs S Charlton, Mrs G Cockbain and Mr M Goddard are to retire and Mrs A Bell is to stand for re-election.

### New nominations

Miss Deborah Chadwick, proposed by Mrs G Cockbain and seconded by Mr B Mallinson. Mrs Jenny Grealish, proposed by Mr M Goddard and seconded by Mrs E A Walker. Mr Paul Metcalfe, proposed by Mr P Boustead and seconded by Mr D Wilkinson.

Number of meetings missed during 5-year term in brackets ().

# Alison Bell (0), Prefix, Lownthwaite



My family have been keeping Fell Ponies since 1889 and I am the fifth generation to breed Lownthwaite Fell Ponies, so one could say they are in my blood. The ponies continue to run as a semi-feral herd on the Northern Pennines as they have done for over a century. Having a semi-feral herd has its own challenges but I hope to be able to continue to keep them in their natural environment in the traditional manner for as long as possible.

Being a council member brings another set of challenges but always at the forefront of my mind is the Fell Pony, the breed which we all cherish. As a council member I hope to the represent the whole membership but particularly breeders and - as the mother of two young pony enthusiasts, and

not being too long in the tooth myself - the younger members of the society, but most importantly I want to be a voice for the Fell Pony. If re-elected to council, I will continue to fulfil the role to the best of my ability, continuing to work hard to sustain the traditional Fell pony and promote the breed as much as I can.

# New Nominations Deborah Chadwick, Prefix,



I breed the Hedgethorpe Fell ponies. I have been successfully breeding Fell ponies for more than 30 years.

We bought our first Fell Pony when I was 11 years old, and I became smitten with this breed.

I have been a Fell pony Society member for 45 years, and a Fell panel judge for 30 years. I am also on NPS, BSPS and UK Ponies & Horses. Last year I went to Denmark judging Fell ponies, and I have judged all over the country and at HOYS.

Our ponies have been extremely successful going to HOYS and Olympia but my most memorable moment was winning the Breeders' Supreme with Hedgethorpe Bluebell at the Royal Show.

I am also the Secretary and Treasurer of NPS Area 5, which I have been committed to for over 20 years.

I feel I can bring a lot to the Fell council and would be honoured to serve on the council. I feel this would give me an opportunity to giving back to the best breed, that has given me so much pleasure over the years. There is never a boring day owning a Fell pony as they are so versatile and will do any discipline.

I feel we need to support our hill breeders, as without them we will lose the hardiness and breed type.

# Jenny Grealish, Prefix, Linnel



Like many FPS members I have been around ponies since I was a child. I was lucky to grow up at Linnel Wood and I'm extremely proud to be part of the fifth generation of Charltons who breed, produce, and judge ponies. Most of what I know about Fells is thanks to my parents. But I also attribute much of my knowledge to the 'old and bold' of the society; breeders, judges and producers alike who've taught me so much.

I've judged ponies since my early twenties and feel I've a keen eye for a proper pony. have also stewarded, volunteered alongside the show committee to help set up the Breed Show site, and have for the past decade been secretary of the Probationer Judges' Scheme. I'm now fairly hands off in terms of competing, and as such keep a distance from social media and any 'politics' that surround the showing circuit. When I stand in the ring, I aim to judge as my father did; with integrity, kindness and in search of the best pony on the day - values I'd continue to live by if I were elected to Council.

I'm keen to join Council to act as a forward thinking, fair and vocal ambassador for the FPS, to offer my time, knowledge and skills to the society, and to work alongside other council members to ensure that the society is managed effectively and sustainably, and most importantly to ensure our precious breed is preserved and celebrated.

# Paul Metcalfe, Prefix, Ryehouse

I have been involved with Fell ponies for more than 50 years and served on the FPS committee for over 20 of them.

I believe one of the most important roles of the society is to encourage young people to come through the ranks, not only in breeding and competition but also in judging.

I feel we should be promoting true-to-type Fell ponies, which can perform in both ridden and driven spheres, as this is where the market is. I am actively involved in championship and county level showing and think continuing to promote the breed through the show ring is one way we can expand the popularity and market for our breeders.

I have also enjoyed being part of the restoration of the South Cumbria Fell Pony Show.

While admittedly I am not even a member of Facebook, I do believe using social media can further help communicate the positives and successes of the breed and create a network of passionate enthusiasts who are keen to support our ponies. I think it's positive that the society also moves with the times.





# Advance Notice of Office Vacancies

The Society will be looking for a Secretary and Treasurer to take over from October.

Council will be framing the job descriptions at the March meeting, so if you're interested, look out for advertisements on the FPS web site and social media which will include details of how to apply.



Company No 3233346
Registered Charity No 1104945
NOTICE OF THE FELL PONY SOCIETY
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
To be held on Saturday 5 April 2025 at 1.00 pm
At Orton Market Hall, Orton CA10 3RJ

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Fell Pony Society will be held at Orton Market Hall, Orton, Penrith, Cumbria on Saturday 5 April 2025 at 1.00pm for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, passing the following Resolution which will be proposed as a Special Resolution.

# 2.4 MEMBERS

#### FROM

Family membership may be applied for by married or cohabiting couples and their children under the age of 18 years all residing at the same address.

# TO

Family membership may be applied for by married or cohabiting couples or single parents and their children under the age of 18 years all residing at the same address.

Competitors in one of the bareback trotting races that were held at the Windermere show in the 1990s



Eddie MacDonough



Company No 3233346 Registered Charity No 1104945

# NOTICE OF THE FELL PONY SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held on Saturday 5 April 2025 at 1.00 pm At Orton Market Hall, Orton CA10 3RJ

# **AGENDA**

Guest Speaker: Miriam Bibby: "Border Families: The Galloway, the Fell and the Dales" Followed by -

# EGM (see separate agenda)

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Approval and adoption of Annual General Meeting Minutes 6 April 2024
- 3 Matters arising from the Minutes
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- 6 Election of Council
- 7 Election of Persident
- 8 Adoption of Accounts for year ended 31st October 2024
- 9 Resolution to appoint Dodd & Co Accountants as Accountants to the Society
- 10 Reports from Sub-Committees
- 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 14 March 2025

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

# Directions to Orton Market Hall CA10 3RJ

From Junction 38 of the M6, take the B6260, signed to Orton and Appleby. Follow the road for three miles to Orton - the Market Hall is in the centre of the village opposite Kennedys Chocolates.

# Accounts to 31 October 2024

# The Fell Pony Society

(A company limited by guarantee)

# Annual Report and Financial Statements

# 31 October 2024

Company registration number: 03233346 Charity registration number: 1104945



# The Fell Pony Society Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' report	3
Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements	5
Independent examiner's report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the financial statements	9
The following does not form part of the statutory financial statements:	
Detailed income and expenditure analysis	19

# The Fell Pony Society

# Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary K Wilkinson

Accountant Dodd & Co Limited

FIFTEEN Rosehill Montgomery Way Rosehill Estate CARLISLE CA1 2RW

#### Reference and Administrative Details

The Fell Pony Society Charity name

Charity registration number 1104945

Company registration number 03233346

Principal office Bank House

Boroughgate APPLEBY-IN-WESTMORLAND CA16 6XF

Registered office

FIFTEEN Rosehill Montgomery Way Rosehill Estate CARLISLE CA1 2RW

Trustees P Boustead, Chairman

> P Metcalfe, Vice Chariman (Resigned 6 April 2024)

J E Greener, Vice Chairman

A W Bell R J Brunskill S A Charlton G M Cockbain M R Goddard T E Lloyd G H B Mallinson H G Mawrey

C S Millard W S Potter J L Rawden C H Robinson

C E Simpson A Thorpe

(Appointed 6 April 2024)

E A Walker E J Whitley D Wilkinson

K Turner

Page 1

# Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to theaccounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, as amended by the CharitiesAct 2022, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable tocharities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

#### Structure, governance and management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, Memorandum and Articles of Association, a deed of trust and constitutes a limited company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2016.

The trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems or procedures have been put in place to manage those risks.

#### Trustees recruitment and training

Trustees are appointed as per the Society's Memorandum & Articles, 8.1 - 8.6.6, as follows -

Council consists of twenty members of the Society. Four members of the Council retire each year but are eligible for immediate re-election at the Annual General Meeting without further nomination. Members shall not be eligible for election to the Council unless they have been Voting Members of the Society for a period of at least five consecutive years.

Nominations for the Council shall be delivered to the Secretary on or before 1st January preceding the Annual General Meeting. Nomination forms will be supplied by the Secretary on request. Nomination forms must be signed by two members qualified to vote at the meeting (the proposer and seconder respectively) and the person proposed must sign the nomination form to signify his or her willingness to be appointed.

The person proposed shall include in the nomination form a statement not exceeding 250 words in support of his or her election. No written canvassing other than the statement in the nomination form shall be permitted.

Election to the Council shall be by way of secret postal vote as follows:

The proposer shall have responsibility for ensuring that the nomination is given to the Secretary on or before 1st January preceding the Annual General Meeting.

Ballot papers listing all validly nominated candidates shall be posted to all paid up members entitled to vote (paid their subscription on or before 15 February) at their addresses set out in the register of members not less than twenty one clear days before the date appointed for the Annual General Meeting.

Completed ballot papers shall be returned to the scrutineer appointed by the Council in a sealed envelope marked "Fell Pony Society Election of Council" to reach the scrutineer not less than ten days before the date appointed for the Annual General Meeting and it is the responsibility of members to ensure delivery. Non UK residents may return their ballot paper by facsimile or e-mail to the scrutineer.

Only correctly completed ballot papers shall be valid and no other form of vote will be accepted.

The validity of any ballot paper shall be determined by the scrutineer.

The result of the ballot shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

Newly elected trustees are issued with a Declaration of Eligibility and a Confidentiality Statement to read and sign. Trustees training was held during the year together with another equine breed

New information sent to the Society by the Charity Commission is forwarded to all trustees.

# Objectives and activities

The Fell Pony Society's aim is to foster and keep pure the old breed of pony which has roamed the northern fells for years and to circulate knowledge and general information about the pony breed.

# Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

The Society's principal activity during the year was acting as a Breed Society and Passport Issuing Office (approved by DEFRA), dealing with registration of ponies/issuing and updating of passports, applications for memberships, publishing a Stud Book and producing two magazines for the benefit of members. The magazine provides a wealth of information about the administration of the Society, news and reports on events held and forthcoming events, merchandise available to purchase and awards presented.

In determining these objectives and activities the Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

#### Achievements and performance

The overall number of members was very slightly less than in 2023.

Society events continue to be well supported by exhibitors as well as spectators. There is new and continued interest in the Fell Pony, which is pleasing to see.

The Society very much looks forward to a successful 2025.

#### Financial review

See analysis following report and statements.

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.

The total unrestricted reserves held by the charity at 31 October 2024 were £120,521 with free reserves of £107,336, which exceeds the current reserves policy.

#### Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board on 14 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

P Boustead Trustee J E Greener Trustee

#### Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees (who are also directors of The Fell Pony Society for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 - 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

#### The Fell Pony Society

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 October 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 18.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 as amended by the Charities Act 2022 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

#### Basis of 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 statement 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 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting requirements of section 396 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.

Joanne Thomlinson FCA Dodd & Co Limited Chartered Accountants

14 January 2025

FIFTEEN Rosehill Montgomery Way Rosehill Estate CARLISLE CA1 2RW

The Fell Pony Society

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the Year Ended 31

October 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	4,799	8,000	12,799	21,518
Other trading activities	3	1,988	-	1,988	2,255
Investment income	4	3,390		3,390	1,420
Charitable activities	5	70,198	-	70,198	71,042
Total income and endowments		80,375	8,000	88,375	96,235
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		84,615	14,781	99,396	100,270
Total expenditure		84,615	14,781	99,396	100,270
Net movements in funds		(4,240)	(6,781)	(11,021)	(4,035)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		124,761	108,601	233,362	237,397
Total funds carried forward		120,521	101,820	222,341	233,362

All of the Charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above periods.

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Company registration number: 03233346

#### Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2024

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		13,185		13,189
Current assets					
Stocks and work in progress		6,677		6,526	
Debtors	12	3,251		2,800	
Cash at bank and in hand		207,037		217,726	
		216,965		227,052	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(7,809)		(6,879)	
Net current assets		_	209,156	<u></u>	220,173
Net assets		-	222,341	_	233,362
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds			101,820		108,601
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted income funds			120,521		124,761
Total charity funds		-	222,341	_	233,362

For the financial year ended 31 October 2024, the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Board on 14 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

P Boustead Trustee J E Greener Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

#### 1 Accounting policies

## Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis of preparation

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

# **Fund accounting policy**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 17.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

..... continued

#### Income and endowments

Donations are recognised when the Charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the Charity before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacy gifts are recognised on a case by case basis following the grant of probate when the administor/executor for the estate has communicated in writing both the amount and settlement date. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measured with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title to the asset having been transferred to the Charity.

Income from Government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Where services or facilities are provided to the Charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this benefit is included in the financial statements at its fair value unless its fair value cannot be realiably measured, then at cost to the donor or the resale value of the goods that are to be sold.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

# Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

## Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### **Taxation**

The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### **Fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £100 or more are initially recorded at cost.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

# ..... continued

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Equipment 25% reducing balance basis

Trophies Not depreciated

The trophies are included at market value and as the residual value is likely to be at least equal to their cost, no depreciation has been charged on these assets.

#### Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs. Items donated for resale or distribution are not included in the financial statements until they are sold or distributed.

#### **Trade Debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Liabilities

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Operating leases**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

..... continued

#### **Financial instruments**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the Charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the Charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the Charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

# 2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations and legacies				
Legacies and bequests	-	-	-	6,000
Donations	4,784	-	4,784	8,018
Miscellaneous	15	-	15	-
	4,799	-	4,799	14,018
Grants				
Horserace betting levy board		8,000	8,000	7,500
	4,799	8,000	12,799	21,518

Of the donations and legacies income in 2023, £8,018 related to unrestricted funds and £13,500 related to restricted funds.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

..... continued

# 3 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Advertising and sponsorship	1,988	-	1,988	2,255

All of the other trading activites income in 2023 related to unrestricted funds.

# 4 Investment income

Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
3,390	-	3,390	1,420
	Funds £	Funds Funds £ £	Funds Funds 2024 $\pounds$ $\pounds$ $\pounds$

All of the investment income in 2023 related to unrestricted funds.

# 5 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Subscriptions	32,645	-	32,645	32,697
Affiliation fees	433	-	433	412
Al permit	150	=	150	100
Miscellaneous	1,110	-	1,110	178
FIS income	2,930	=	2,930	2,325
Stud books and promotional merchandise	5,936	-	5,936	8,938
Shows and other events	6,929	-	6,929	6,669
Registration	5,870	-	5,870	4,876
Transfers	6,890	-	6,890	7,915
Stallion licences	3,625	-	3,625	2,685
DNA	2,010	15	2,010	2,520
Pony sales list	60	-	60	142
Duplicate passports	485	(=	485	585
Prefix applications	1,125	-	1,125	1,000
and advantagement of the angular agraphed a province	70,198	-	70,198	71,042

All of the income from charitable activities in 2023 related to unrestricted funds.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

..... continued

# 6 Expenditure

£	£	
		£
9,600	9,600	10,705
8,471	8,471	7,518
5,181	5,181	6,715
4,702	4,702	5,867
32,976	32,976	31,129
152	152	172
716	716	699
2,313	2,313	1,795
4,156	4,156	3,928
1,596	1,596	1,496
69,863	69,863	70,024
62	62	86
5,161	5,161	4,964
765	765	679
99	99	105
1,026	1,026	1,176
6,549	6,549	9,313
10,755	10,755	9,365
1,800	1,800	1,440
196	196	258
1,716	1,716	1,455
600	600	600
800	800	800
4	4	5
29,533	29,533	30,246
99,396	99,396	100,270
	99 1,026 6,549 10,755 1,800 196 1,716 600 800 4 29,533	99 99 1,026 1,026 6,549 6,549 10,755 10,755 1,800 1,800 196 196 1,716 1,716 600 600 800 800 4 4 29,533 29,533

Of the expenditure in 2023, £82,850 related to unrestricted funds and £17,420 related to restricted funds.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

#### 7 Governance costs

..... continued

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accountancy fees	1,716	1,455
Independent examiner's fee	600	600
Trustee meeting venue hire	196	258
Legal and professional fees	800	800
Section Section (Control of the Section Control of the Section Contr	3,312	3,113

# 8 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year 1 trustee received a honorarium totalling £996 (2023 - £996).

## 9 Net expenditure

Net expenditure is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4	5

# 10 Employees' remuneration

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

2024	2023
£	£
32,976	31,129
	£ 32,976

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year (2023 - No. 0).

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were  $\pounds 0$  (2023 -  $\pounds 0$ ).

#### The Fell Pony Society

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

..... continued

#### 11 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Trophies £	Total £
Cost			
As at 1 November 2023 and 31 October 2024	6,647	13,175	19,822
Depreciation			
As at 1 November 2023	6,633	-	6,633
Charge for the year	4	-	4
As at 31 October 2024	6,637		6,637
Net book value			
As at 31 October 2024	10	13,175	13,185
As at 31 October 2023	14	13,175	13,189

#### 12 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	424	181
Prepayments and accrued income	2,827	2,619
	3,251	2,800

#### 13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	4,793	4,221
Other creditors	340	226
Accruals and deferred income	2,676	2,432
	7,809	6,879

#### 14 Members' liability

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

#### The Fell Pony Society

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

..... continued

#### 15 Operating lease commitments

As at 31 October 2024 the charity had total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Other	
	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	569	533
Within two and five years	2,276	-
•	2,845	533

#### 16 Related parties

#### Controlling entity

The charity is controlled by the trustees who are all directors of the company.

#### 17 Analysis of funds

	At 1 November 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2024
	£	£	£	£
General Funds				
General fund	124,761	80,375	(84,615)	120,521
Restricted Funds				
Horserace Betting Levy Board	9,002	8,000	(5,181)	11,821
Fell Pony Upkeep	99,599	-	(9,600)	89,999
and the statest according to the statest accor	108,601	8,000	(14,781)	101,820
	233,362	88,375	(99,396)	222,341

Horserace Betting Levy Board - grant received to cover prize expenditure and premiums payable.

Fell Pony Upkeep - legacy received for the upkeep of one fell pony.

# The Fell Pony Society Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

..... continued

#### Prior period

	At 1 November 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2023
	£	£	£	£
General Funds		-		
General fund	124,876	82,735	(82,850)	124,761
Restricted Funds				
Horserace Betting Levy Board	8,217	7,500	(6,715)	9,002
Fell Pony Upkeep	104,304	6,000	(10,705)	99,599
	112,521	13,500	(17,420)	108,601
	237,397	96,235	(100,270)	233,362

#### 18 Net assets by fund

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
£	£	£	£
13,185	-	13,185	13,189
200,550	101,820	216,965	227,052
(93,214)	-	(7,809)	(6,879)
120,521	101,820	222,341	233,362
	<b>£</b> 13,185 200,550 (93,214)	Funds         Funds           £         £           13,185         -           200,550         101,820           (93,214)         -	Funds         Funds         2024           £         £         £           13,185         -         13,185           200,550         101,820         216,965           (93,214)         -         (7,809)

#### Prior period

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	13,189	-	13,189	13,194
Current assets	211,241	108,601	227,052	232,071
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(99,669)		(6,879)	(7,868)
Net assets	124,761	108,601	233,362	237,397

Page 18

The Fell Pony Society

Detailed Income and Expenditure Analysis for the Year Ended 31 October 2024

Donations         4,784         8,018           Legacies and bequests         -         6,000           Advertising and sponsorship         1,988         2,255           Deposit account interest         3,390         1,420           Subscriptions         32,645         32,697           Affiliation fees         433         412           Al permit         150         100           Miscellaneous         1,125         178           FIS income         2,930         2,325           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           8,375         96,235	In a second	2024 £	2023 £
Legacies and bequests         -         6,000           Advertising and sponsorship         1,988         2,255           Deposit account interest         3,390         1,425           Subscriptions         32,645         32,697           Affiliation fees         433         412           Affiliation fees         433         412           Miscellaneous         1,125         178           ISI income         2,930         2,325           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Uplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         9,600         7,50           Prefix paplications         9,600         7,50           Prefix politium         9,600         7,50           Shows and other events		987900000000	
Advertising and sponsorship         1,988         2,255           Deposit account interest         3,390         1,420           Subscriptions         32,645         32,695           Affiliation fees         433         412           Affiliation fees         1,125         178           All permit         1,00         1,00           Miscellaneous         1,125         178           FIS income         2,930         2,325           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Upplicate passports         485         565           Prefix applications         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events		4,704	
Deposit account interest         3,390         1,420           Subscriptions         32,645         32,697           Affiliation fees         433         412           Al permit         150         100           Miscellaneous         1,125         178           FIS income         2,930         2,325           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         12           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           Expenditure         1         1,000           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Staff costs         32,976<		1 988	
Subscriptions         32,645         32,697           Affiliation fees         433         412           At permit         150         100           Miscellaneous         1,125         178           FIS income         2,930         2,325           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,500           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Upiciate passports         465         585           Perfix applications         1,125         1,000           Prefix applications         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Stud books and promotional merchandise         3,297         31,129           Stud books and promotional merchandise         2,31         1,795 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>			
Affiliation fees         433         412           Al permit         150         100           Miscellaneous         1,125         178           FIS income         2,930         2,235           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,692         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         8,000         7,500           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Uplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           Expenditure         8,375         96,235           Expenditure         8,471         7,518           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B.)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise <td>•</td> <td>•</td> <td></td>	•	•	
Al permit   150   100			
Miscellaneous         1,125         178           FIS income         2,930         2,325           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         485         585           Prefix applications         9,600         1,705           Expenditure         1,125         1,000           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,			
FIS income         2,930         2,325           Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,829         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           Respenditure         8,375         96,235           Expenditure         9,600         10,705           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         32,976         31,129           Atfliiation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA	•		
Stud books and promotional merchandise         5,936         8,938           Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           Expenditure         88,375         96,235           Expenditure         9,600         10,705           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Pries registrations         152         172           FiS			
Shows and other events         6,929         6,669           Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Dny asles list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           Bregit applications         1,125         1,000           Shows and other events         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         9,600         10,705           Shows and promotional merchandise         9,600         10,705           Shows and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affliation fees         152         172           Frefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         <			
Registration         5,870         4,876           Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           88,375         96,235           Expenditure         8,471         7,518           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Stud books and promotional merchandise         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161		5	
Transfers         6,890         7,915           Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           8,375         96,235           Expenditure         W         8,471         7,518           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86 <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>			
Stallion licences         3,625         2,685           Horserace betting levy board         8,000         7,500           DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           Expenditure           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Stud books and promotional merchandise         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Frise registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipmen			
Horserace betting levy board   8,000   7,500   2,520   2,520   2,520   2,520   2,520   2,520   3,600		-	
DNA         2,010         2,520           Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           8,375         96,235           Expenditure         Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         1		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Pony sales list         60         142           Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           88,375         96,235           Expenditure         9,600         10,705           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800			
Duplicate passports         485         585           Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           Expenditure         88,375         96,235           Expenditure         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,228           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,900           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         1,80         1,440           Accountancy a	DNA		
Prefix applications         1,125         1,000           88,375         96,235           Expenditure         Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         1,80         2,44           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055 <td>Pony sales list</td> <td></td> <td></td>	Pony sales list		
Expenditure         88,375         96,235           Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800 </td <td>Duplicate passports</td> <td>485</td> <td></td>	Duplicate passports	485	
Expenditure         Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,355           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment <td< td=""><td>Prefix applications</td><td></td><td></td></td<>	Prefix applications		
Upkeep of fell ponies         9,600         10,705           Shows and other events         8,471         7,518           Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,		88,375	96,235
Shows and other events       8,471       7,518         Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)       5,181       6,715         Stud books and promotional merchandise       4,702       5,867         Staff costs       32,976       31,129         Affiliation fees       152       172         Prefix registrations       716       699         FIS expenses       2,313       1,795         DNA expenses       4,156       3,928         Honoraria       1,596       1,496         Insurance       5,161       4,964         Travelling       62       86         Telephone, office and computer expenses       1,890       1,960         Printing, stationery and equipment       6,549       9,313         Postage       10,755       9,365         Office rent       1,800       1,440         Trustee meeting venue hire       196       258         Accountancy and independent examiner's fee       2,316       2,055         Legal and professional fees       800       800         Depreciation of equipment       99,396       100,270	Expenditure		
Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)         5,181         6,715           Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270	Upkeep of fell ponies	9,600	10,705
Stud books and promotional merchandise         4,702         5,867           Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270	Shows and other events	8,471	7,518
Stud books and promotional merchandise     4,702     5,867       Staff costs     32,976     31,129       Affiliation fees     152     172       Prefix registrations     716     699       FIS expenses     2,313     1,795       DNA expenses     4,156     3,928       Honoraria     1,596     1,496       Insurance     5,161     4,964       Travelling     62     86       Telephone, office and computer expenses     1,890     1,960       Printing, stationery and equipment     6,549     9,313       Postage     10,755     9,365       Office rent     1,800     1,440       Trustee meeting venue hire     196     258       Accountancy and independent examiner's fee     2,316     2,055       Legal and professional fees     800     800       Depreciation of equipment     99,396     100,270	Prizes - premiums (H.B.L.B)	5,181	6,715
Staff costs         32,976         31,129           Affiliation fees         152         172           Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270	A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	4,702	5,867
Prefix registrations         716         699           FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270	The state of the contract of t	32,976	31,129
FIS expenses 2,313 1,795  DNA expenses 4,156 3,928  Honoraria 1,596 1,496  Insurance 5,161 4,964  Travelling 62 86  Telephone, office and computer expenses 1,890 1,960  Printing, stationery and equipment 6,549 9,313  Postage 10,755 9,365  Office rent 1,800 1,440  Trustee meeting venue hire 1,800 1,440  Trustee meeting venue hire 2,316 2,558  Accountancy and independent examiner's fee 2,316 2,055  Legal and professional fees 800 800  Depreciation of equipment 9,396 100,270	Affiliation fees	152	172
FIS expenses         2,313         1,795           DNA expenses         4,156         3,928           Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         4         5           99,396         100,270	Prefix registrations	716	699
DNA expenses       4,156       3,928         Honoraria       1,596       1,496         Insurance       5,161       4,964         Travelling       62       86         Telephone, office and computer expenses       1,890       1,960         Printing, stationery and equipment       6,549       9,313         Postage       10,755       9,365         Office rent       1,800       1,440         Trustee meeting venue hire       196       258         Accountancy and independent examiner's fee       2,316       2,055         Legal and professional fees       800       800         Depreciation of equipment       4       5         99,396       100,270		2.313	1.795
Honoraria         1,596         1,496           Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270		~ D * C * C * C * C * C * C * C * C * C *	
Insurance         5,161         4,964           Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270		1.596	1.496
Travelling         62         86           Telephone, office and computer expenses         1,890         1,960           Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,555           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         4         5           99,396         100,270			
Telephone, office and computer expenses       1,890       1,960         Printing, stationery and equipment       6,549       9,313         Postage       10,755       9,365         Office rent       1,800       1,440         Trustee meeting venue hire       196       258         Accountancy and independent examiner's fee       2,316       2,055         Legal and professional fees       800       800         Depreciation of equipment       4       5         99,396       100,270			,
Printing, stationery and equipment         6,549         9,313           Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         4         5           99,396         100,270	Š		
Postage         10,755         9,365           Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270			
Office rent         1,800         1,440           Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         99,396         100,270			
Trustee meeting venue hire         196         258           Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         4         5           99,396         100,270			
Accountancy and independent examiner's fee         2,316         2,055           Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         4         5           99,396         100,270			
Legal and professional fees         800         800           Depreciation of equipment         4         5           99,396         100,270			
Depreciation of equipment 4 5 99,396 100,270	and the property of the state o		
99,396 100,270			
	Depreciation of equipment	<u></u>	
(11,021) (4,035)		99,396	100,270
		(11,021)	(4,035)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

# Performance Points and Youngstock Awards 2024

#### Foal (2 entries) 1st Brackenbank Bluebell. Applegait Indigo Archie x Brackenbank Violet. Owner/Exhib. Mr & Mrs D Wilkinson. 220 points 2nd Rackwood Nigel. Dalewin Victor x Rackwood Black Magic. Owner/Exhib. Mrs F A Walker. 170 points Yearling (8 entries) 1st Bracklinn Sadie. Banksgate Jupiter x Bracklinn Mabel. Owner/Exhib. Miss C Hincks. 875 points 2nd Wansfell Ozin. Greenholme Lancelot x Wansfell Tanzin. Owner/Exhib. Heather Mawrey 600 points 3rd Hollowtops Bucks Diamond, Boutime Wooster x Greenrivers Ruth Lea. Owner, Emma Drewett, Exhib. Liam Bruno. 545 points 4th Carrock Majestic. Carrock Blackthorn x Carrock Lilly. Owner/Exhib. John Cockbain 500 points 5th Brackenbank Lilibet, Dalewin Vesper x Brackenbank Ruby. Owner/Exhib. Mr & Mrs D Wilkinson. 370 points 6th Fleetham Thank You Ma'am, Boutime Wooster x Fellside Cheap as Chips. Owner/Exhib. Susan Lamb. 165 points Two Year Old (1 entry) 1st Fleetham Judith's Rose. Wildhoeve Adiction x Greenholme Rose. Owner/Exhib. Susan Lamb 450 points Three Year Old (2 entries) 1st Bankwood Felicity. Greenholme Bobby Dazzler x Tvnebank Rubv. Owner/Exhib. Mrs N Brierley 550 points 2nd Halstone Free Spirit. Drybarrows Controversy x Drybarrows Dainty. Owner/Exhib. Leanne Shipley Four year Old and over - In Hand (5 entries) 1st Murthwaite Sid. Murthwaite Ice Man x Murthwaite Dainty. Owner/Exhib. Julie Smith 1445 points 2nd Drybarrows Ranger. Drybarrows Rusty x Drybarrows Jan. Owner/Exhib. Susan Lamb 1225 points 3rd Lydvale Leo. Greenholme Eddy x Lydvale Owner/Exhib. Diana McGrail 680 points 4th Harthouse Hillman. Lownthwaite Gary x

Tarnbeck Mona Lisa.

Owner/Exhib. Georgia Ellis

5th Lydvale Pearl. Greenholme Eddy x Waverhead Jewel III. Owner, Paul Viney Exhib. Diana McGrail 160 points Four Year Old and over - Performance (9 entries) 1st Bracklinn Sam. Bracklinn Jackpot x Townend Truffle II. Owner, Claire Simpson. Exhib. Tamara Francova 2640 points 2nd Greenholme Dillon, Greenholme Yabadabadoo x Greenholme Adele. Owner, Claire Simpson. Exhib. Tamara Francova 1440 points 3rd Roddlesworth Harriet. Dalehead Scott x Alice. Owner, Ms R & E Woodruff. Exhib. Holly Watson 985 points 4th Harthouse Hillman. Owner/Exhib. Georgia Ellis 920 points 5th Lydvale Leo. Owner/Exhib. Diana McGrail 840 points 6th Thornbeck Amy. Greenholme Heather Mist x Lunesdale Limelight. Owner, Jacqueline Cheetham. Exhib. Emily Cheetham 720 points Junior (3 entries) 1st Roddlesworth Harriet. Owner, Ms R & E Woodruff, Exhib. Holly Watson 985 points 2nd Thornbeck Amy. Owner, Jacqueline Cheetham. Exhib. Emily Cheetham 720 points 3rd Boyndlie Black Rose. Carrock I'm Yer Man x Greenholme Kirstie. Owner, Jacqueline Cheetham. Exhib. Emily Cheetham 450 points Dressage (8 entries) 1st Waverhead Primrose. Lownthwaite Gary x Waverhead Poppy. Owner/Exhib. Frank and Morven Lawson 910 points 2nd Stunstead Dylan. Wellbrow Leo x Cathvilbert. Owner, Gary Richardson. Exhib. Carrie-Ann Richardson 720 points 3rd Rackwood Maggie May. Wellbrow Samson x Rackwood Mavdew. Owner/Exhib. Mrs E A Walker 630 points 4th Ruby III. Murthwaite Gurkha x Ruby II. Owner/ Exhib. Carrie-Ann Richardson 380 points 5th Bracklinn Sam. Owner, Claire Simpson. Exhib. Tamara Francova 315 points 6th Greenholme George. Greenholme Wanted

350 points

Man x Greenholme Becky.

Owner/Exhib. Fiona Bubb

290 points

#### Driving (2 entries)

1st Raisbeck Cappuccino. Guards Jester x Orton Hall Dusky. Owner, Fiona Bubb.

Exhib. Linda Wiggan 1360 points

2nd Greenholme George. Owner, Fiona Bubb. Exhib. Linda Wiggan 200 points

#### TREC (2 entries)

1st Boyndlie Black Rose. Owner, Jacqueline Cheetham.

Exhib. Emily Cheetham 820 points

2nd Thornbeck Amy. Owner/Exhib. Jacqueline Cheetham 740 points

#### Champion Stallion

Greenholme Eddy

Champion Mare (jointly)

Lydvale Alice and Tarnbeck Mona Lisa

#### FPS Breeders Trophy

In memory of Chris Thompson and donated by the Thompson family. All In Hand exhibits at the FPS Stallion & Colt Show, the FPS Breed Show and FPS Southern Show are automatically entered for the Breeders' Trophy. They do not need a special entry form.

The award is calculated on a points basis and is presented at the AGM to the Fell pony breeder whose prefix accumulated the highest total in the previous year.

#### Champion: Bracklinn

- 2 Greenholme
- 3 Lunesdale
- 4 Murthwaite
- 5 Ravensmill
- 6 Carrock

# Performance Points Report 2024

Once again, thank you to all those who take part in the Points awards and very well done to you all! It is always good to see what people have been up to with their ponies. It would however, be great if a few more people took part. I am sure there must be more Junior members out there doing things with their ponies and a few more people taking part in Driving events? Entrants have the chance of winning some lovely rosettes, perhaps a Trophy and a cash reward too. It is also a great way to "thank" the Breeders of our wonderful ponies, as they too can receive awards when the ponies they bred do well.

Just a little note about sending in your completed forms - PLEASE send them to me (address and email below) and not to the Office, as this just causes more work in forwarding them on. Also, if you do send by post, it's not a bad idea to send them "signed for." Yet again this year we had a competitor who had posted everything off in good time and nothing arrived with me - luckily she had a proof of postage, and also contacted me to see if they had arrived.

Here's looking forward to a happy season of enjoying your ponies - Good luck! Christine Robinson, The Shieling, Anthorn, Wigton, Cumbria, CA7 5AH christine@kerbeck-fell-ponies.co.uk

# **Nominated Awards**

Queen's Trophy: awarded to Barbara Bell

Edinburgh Prize: awarded to Jeanette Marsh, Dreamhayven Irish Rose (USA)

Lownthwaite Rob & Peahill Basil Trophies: awarded to Claire Dawson, Sunnybrowe Prince

It would be good to see a few more nominations for these awards this year. You can nominate yourself / your pony, or someone else who deserves mention. Details are on the FPS web site on the Awards page.

# Performance and Youngstock Awards: Winner Profiles

#### Foal - Brackenbank Bluebell

(Applegait Indigo Archie x Brackenbank Violet) Owner/Exhibitor David & Katherine Wilkinson



Bluebell is the first foal from Brackenbank Violet and granddaughter of the hugely successful Brackenbank Gypsy III. She took showing in her stride, and even showed her dam the way, as Violet had not been in the showring herself until last season.

Bluebell was placed 3rd in the filly foal class at the Breed Show and then went on to win the Fell foal class at both Crosby Ravensworth and Dufton Agricultural Shows. She is now with a new owner and hopefully will be out at shows again soon.

#### Yearling - Bracklinn Sadie

(Banksgate Jupiter x Bracklinn Mabel) Owner/Exhibitor Colette Hincks

Sadie is out of Bracklinn Mabel who stood Supreme Champion at the Fell Breed Show in 2024. Colette first saw a photo of Sadie online and she caught her eye, there was just something about her.

They attended some local riding club shows for experience before moving onto a couple of agricultural/county shows. The first was Great Harwood where Sadie stood 1st and Reserve In Hand champion then a



fabulous day at Cumberland County show where she was 1st Yearling Fell Pony, In Hand Fell Pony Champion, Overall Fell Pony Champion then went onto stand NPS Silver Medal Champion. Excellent results followed at the Royal Highland and Royal Lancashire where Sadie won the Fell youngstock class then went onto stand overall In Hand Fell Pony Champion.

Colette absolutely adores Sadie who is a great little character with a very bright future ahead of her. Colette has her fingers crossed that one day Sadie might follow in her dam's footsteps and stand supreme at the Fell Breed Show.

#### Two Year Old - Fleetham Judith's Rose

(Wildhoeve Adiction x Greenholme Rose) Owner/Exhibitor Susan Lamb



Fleetham Judith's Rose has continued to impress the judges as a two year old, following on from her successes as a yearling. Jude, as she is called at home, is named after her dam as well as Sue's late mum. She has a special place at Fleetham

being their first Fell pony bred under the Fleetham prefix as well as being out of their beloved Greenholme Rose.

Susan reports that Jude is shown locally but they are beginning to travel further afield. She is an absolute pleasure to show and there are times when it is a hard decision to leave her at home, however, it is also important to recognise that she is only a youngster.

Susan has enjoyed seeing her develop and fill out this year as she was a late foal she is often competing alongside older horses and ponies but is certainly holding her own.

#### Three Year Old - Bankwood Felicity

(Greenholme Bobby Dazzler x Tynebank Ruby) Owner/Exhibitor Nic Brierley



Nic Brierley said that it was a lovely surprise to hear that Bankwood Felicity had won the 3 Year Old Section in this year's Points Awards Scheme after winning the 2 Year Old Section last year.

After a late start due to the awful weather, they accumulated their points by attending the MESG shows and local shows; mainly in the youngstock classes but a few open classes too.

They also enjoyed taking part in the Handy Pony class at the MESG where Felicity's trust and confidence improved considerably over the season.

A lovely pony, who tries her hardest to please and takes everything in her stride, Felicity has now moved on to pastures new. She is starting the next stage in her life; being broken to ride around the forests of Scotland and trying some In Hand Le Trec.

Nic is really looking forward to watching her journey with her new owner and wishes them all the best of luck for their future together.

Four year Old and over - Murthwaite Sid (Murthwaite Ice Man x Murthwaite Dainty) Owner/Exhibitor Julie Smith



Sid took a year out in 2023 while Julie was showing her mare but returned to the show circuit for 2024; and what an amazing year they had together.

One of Julie's favourite days was attending Driffield show, one of the biggest one day Agricultural shows, where Sid won all his classes then went on to win the overall in hand championship.

Julie has had Sid for eight years and although they enjoy showing Sid also loves riding around the countryside and getting attention from the people that they meet.

# Four Year Old and over Performance - Bracklinn Sam

(Bracklinn Jackpot x Townend Truffle II) Owner Claire Simpson. Exhibitor Tamara Francova



Twelve-year-old Bracklinn Sam had a busy season at FPS, Lakes Riding Club and other South Cumbrian shows. where competed successfully in the full range of classes from equitation and dressage, to show jumping, and everything in between. He won three reserve championships at Lake RC for his overall performance through the season, representing the club in the equitation final at the Stars Champion of Champions finals; he also contributed to Tamara winning the Lakes Overall Senior Points Championship for 2024.

#### Dressage - Waverhead Primrose

(Lownthwaite Gary x Waverhead Poppy) Owner/Exhibitor Frank and Morven Lawson

Morven reports that Primrose is a very sspecial pony with a lovely kind nature who always tries her best and makes everyone happy. Riding her has helped Morven to become a more confident rider again, and in 2024 she decided to concentrate on dressage to see what they could achieve together.



They are now regularly getting scores of 65% plus and remarks such as "lovely forward thinking pony" "nice active paces" and "a very willing pony with a lovely attitude to her work" are a few of the encouraging comments from judges.

In 2025 Morven is looking forward to continuing to improve their scores and to join British Dressage and try some affiliated competitions.

#### Driving - Raisbeck Cappuccino

(Guards Jester x Orton Hall Dusky) Owner Fiona Bubb. Exhibitor Linda Wiggan

Fiona reports that 'Cappa' or 'His Lordship' has been part of the family for eleven years now and was very kindly gifted to the family by his breeder, Diana Slack (adding 'How can we ever thank you, Diana?!').

In the past few years, he has been competing at Club level with West Midlands Driving Group and Midland Carriage Driving. He is super consistent in all phases and rather than slowing down in his late teens, his obstacle times are getting faster.

He can, however, be a diva and usually once a year, he does throw his teddy out of the pram for reasons unknown, just so that his fan club realise that he isn't as straight forward as he might seem.

He has a reputation for his style and flair in the obstacles phase, with his welltimed, clean flying changes, and so far he has been difficult to beat in the dressage phase.

Fiona adds that his only weakness is the person holding the reins, but says that she will let mother off as she is seventy-four now, and she can occasionally forget the cones course or the route she was intending through an obstacle.

Like so many Fell ponies, he is a true allrounder and has been very successful in ridden dressage; also last year he started doing some training for Working Equitation and won the Pleasure Driving class at Kings Heath Horse Show in 2024.

His great pleasures in life are trotting around the lanes and eating. He is very adept at combining the two and sees it as his personal service to trim hedges and mow verges while out hacking.

#### TREC - Boyndlie Black Rose

(Carrock I'm Yer Man x Greenholme Kirstie) Owner, Jacqueline Cheetham. Exhibitor Emily Cheetham



Emily reports that Rosie has spent a few years being the family's "spare" pony, with an aversion to travelling, despite having travelled from Aberdeenshire to Windsor Castle back in 2016 for the Royal Guard of Honour. Once the family realised that trailers were the issue the travelling

problem was resolved, and young rider Emily discovered her talent for the relatively new sport of Le TREC; tackling tricky obstacles and outdoor orienteering.

Emily was delighted to be Novice Horse Champion for 2023 with her local North East Scotland TREC, competing against experienced adult competitors, after her previous pony Hardendale Rowan retired. Rosie is a real character and well known for her antics in her classes and showing true Fell pony spirit.

#### Junior - Roddlesworth Harriet

(Dalehead Scott x Alice) Owner. Rachel & Emma Woodruff. Exhibitor Holly Watson (photo on p91)

Emma Woodruff was delighted to hear that Roddlesworth Harriet and Holly Watson (16) had won the Junior section of the Points awards. Holly has been loaning Harriet and broke her to ride herself last year. They have worked really hard together and proved to be quite a combination; competing in showing and some dressage classes.

A great start, and they are looking forward to seeing where their 2025 season takes them.

#### **Endurance Awards 2024**

# Competitive Section - Lownthwaite Vincent

(Lunesdale Tarquin x Lownthwaite Phoenix)
- Jeanette Gilmour

Having missed most of the 2023 season due to Vinnie being kicked in the field, Jenny's goals for 2024 were to have a full season, with as much fun as possible and to achieve their 2500km accumulative award with the Scottish Endurance Riding Club. Thankfully, Vinnie made a full recovery and with some extra schooling to help strengthen him they were ready to go.

Jenny and Vinnie had a lot of fun achieving their goals; there were plenty of rides and, in particular, competitive rides.

continues on p51

## COLOUR PHOTOGRAPH SECTION



Above: Colette Hincks and 2 y.o. Bracklinn Sadie who won the Fell youngstock class at Royal Lancashire Show then went onto stand overall In Hand Fell Pony Champion.

Right: Lunesdale Celine and Zoe Bradley from Crowtree Fell ponies had a happy first season together. Celine won her class and was reserve champion at Royal Lancashire show and 4th in a very strong class at Great Yorkshire show.

Zoe is looking forward to their 2025 season together.





Foalsyke Jenny has designs on Miriam Bibby's rose bushes (see letter from Anne Richardson on p9)

BroughHill Hadrian's Wall, a.k.a. Deryni, who passed away this year, was the favourite mount of his owner Victoria Tollman's daughters, and he was a popular sight at the Kentucky Horse Park when he was on loan there to represent his breed.



Victoria Iolli



An excellent day out in Aberdeenshire in December, for North Scotland pony enthusiasts to enjoy a private collection of carriages and tackroom curios.

Below, a view across Roundthwaite Common, taken by the late Carole Morland - she assured me there were 3 Fell ponies in this photo!



role Morlar



Claire Simpson's Greenholme Dillon competing at STARS, ridden by Tamara Francova Below, Castle Hill Glenfiddich shown by owner Kay Hardy at STARS. Report on p76



50

#### Points Award Winner Profiles

(continued from p 46)

Jenny Gilmour's favourite events are 30 km competitive rides, which she finds are easy enough to achieve with a fit 18 year old pony, even in warmer weather.

All horses that participate in competitive Scottish endurance rides are thoroughly examined by a vet, pre- and post-ride.

They have their heart rates taken: a skin 'tent' check for dehydration; mucous membranes and capillary refill times noted: a trot up and gut sounds check. There are grades awarded, depending on these results, and obviously the quicker the recovery time the better. It's a great sport for learning about fitness and getting to know your pony inside out, because you spend so much time together.

Vinnie is a full on, very forward going type of Fell pony. Jenny considers herself very lucky to have him, and loves how enthusiastic he is when they're travelling over beautiful open country; adding, 'He really is the best pony.'

She is aiming to keep him ticking along for a few years yet, as endurance is also great for weight control. (Vinnie eats as much as he wants, and his weight rarely fluctuates).



Last year, Lammerside Busy Lizzie (rising 4) joined them, so Jenny is hoping she will step into Vinnie's shoes over the next few years and enjoy going out exploring the countryside at endurance rides too.

#### Pleasure Ride Section - Townend Wispa (Heltondale Bonzo Boy x Townend Ripple) & Karen Hvnes



Karen and Townend Wispa, a.k.a. Doris, had a very successful year in 2024, completing 22 Endurance GB pleasure rides amounting to 494kms; their best ever season. They won six trophies, including highest overall mileage, with the Durham and Teeside Endurance Group and the most mileage award with the Pure Native group.

Karen reports that Doris really enjoys it; and that she finds endurance such a friendly sport. People think you must have an Arab to take part, but you certainly don't, and Karen and Doris have more than proved that point.

> Well done everyone! Claire Simpson

#### **Endurance Awards**

#### **Competitive Rides**

1st Lownthwaite Vincent Janette Gilmour 370km, Accumulated. 2,183km

2nd Tynebank Harry Sarah Norris 115km, Acc. 1,333km

#### **Pleasure Rides**

1st Townend Wispa Karen Hynes 514km, Acc. 937km

2nd Shadowcroft Pagan Princess Alison Knight 268km, Acc.883:5

3rd Lownthwaite Vincent Janette Gilmour 146km

4th Tynebank Harry Sarah Norris 22km

Well done to you all, and all the best for 2025.

Please remember to send your achievements in on the correct form, which is on the FPS website in the Awards page. Please don't send me your group ride card.

Please also make sure that if your results are in an email attachment it's in a format that I can read! Otherwise please post your form to me: Overdale, Crook Road, Staveley, Cumbria LA8 9NG. If you need any advice: email me at fionacarradus682@btinternet.com or telephone 01539 821790.

Thank you Fiona Carradus

## Breed Show WHP Classes - Entries Needed!

The WHP classes at the Breed Show have run at a financial loss for several years and the Show Committee has been debating whether to continue to offer them.

They are obviously a great all-round test of the versatility of both the pony and the rider, and great fun; but there is a lot of effort and expense involved in running the classes for only a handful of entrants. For example, the cost of jump hire is more than £350 and additional judges and stewards have to be found.

The Committee has decided to let them continue again in 2025, but we really need more entries to justify the extra effort that the classes take to run and to reduce the financial loss that they make.

There are classes to suit all levels of competitors, from beginners to open, and entries can be taken on the day where ponies have been pre-entered in other classes.

To encourage more entries in 2025 we will also reintroduce the clear round option at only £5 per class, payable at the ringside. So, this means that competitors will have an opportunity to school around the course before the formal classes start.

Sadly, this really has become a case of 'use it or lose it', so those of us love WHP classes and want them to remain part of our favourite show would like to say, 'PLEASE ENTER!!'

# Voluntary DNA testing of filly foals in 2025

Voluntary DNA testing of filly foals (1 test per filly) will again be offered for filly foals born in 2025. The test will be paid by the FPS: UK and overseas via Weatherbys where possible, but US breeders can use a lab in their own country and then be issued with a credit against future transactions once confirmation of amount paid is received, up to a maximum of £50.

On request the DNA kit will be issued with the passport application form. The foal should be microchipped at the same that the vet takes the hair sample. The hair sample must be taken by a vet.

Parentage testing is to be carried out where possible.

One test (per filly) only, will be paid for by the FPS.

The FPS will not pay for the DNA test when

- i) the foal is as a result of Al
- ii) the sire is required to be confirmed as there is no service certificate or the service certificate was submitted late
  - iii) it is a late registration requiring parentage testing
  - iv) the passport application is received after 30 November in the year of birth.
  - v) Any other reason that the FPS requires DNA typing prior to registration.

# New "Junior Handler" Section in the Points Awards & Junior Handlers Competition

The Support Groups have put forward the idea of a new Junior Handler section within the FPS Performance Awards Scheme from 2024, using the same form as the other points awards sections.

We would like to encourage them to record their successes in Junior Handler Classes. The Points record card has been updated on the Awards page of the FPS web site so they can list their achievements in this section. For this section, the points card can now be signed by a parent or guardian rather than a judge or show secretary.

Junior members are also invited to take part in a new "Young Handlers" competition.

From September 2024 to August 2025, juniors can take part in Young Handlers classes at FPS affiliated shows, events, open days and so on, and they can qualify to take part in a final at the FPS Breed Show in 2025.

Details are being finalised now and they will shortly be available on the Awards page of the FPS web site, https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/awards.htm, and the FPS Facebook page.

## Training Bursary 2025

The aim of the bursary is to offer a grant up to the value of £250 to a Fell Pony Society member under 25 years of age.

- Applicants who are under 18 as of 1 January 2025, must be current junior FPS members or their parent/guardian must be a current Full FPS member.
- Applicants over 18 must be current FPS members in their own right.
- Training must be completed on a registered Fell Pony.

The bursary may be used for:

- A series of lessons with an instructor, in any discipline.
- Attendance on a short, intensive training course with approved instructors.

The bursary will be paid to the successful candidate either direct to the instructor on production on an invoice, or by re-imbursement to the candidate on production of receipts for the training.

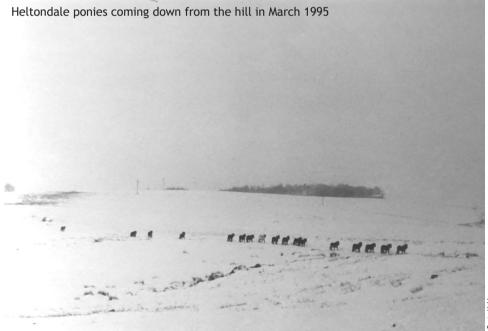
A condition of the successful application will be to send photos and write a short report for the FPS Magazine to say how the bursary has been used and what has been learnt.

If you are interested, please download the application form from the website (or request a form by email), and return it, either:

- 1) By post to The Fell Pony Society, Bank House, Broughgate, Appleby, CA16 6XF or
- 2) By email to secretary@fellponysociety.org

Closing date for applications: 1 May 2025

The successful candidate will be notified by 31 May 2025.



# ברמ ואסמוב

# Thinking Space

Experienced owners and breeders may well find all of this is "old hat", but remember there are always first-time Fell pony owners reading here. You could even be new to ponies in general. Whichever you are - please read and think... perhaps even reply?

#### The Fell Pony Society Sale

The FPS Sale takes place in October each year at North West Auctions (NWA) near M6 Junction 36. It attracts large numbers of spectators, many more than the numbers who actually bid on the ponies presented. Perhaps you will be attending our sale for the first time this autumn - if so, here are some tips for either buying or selling.

#### Buying a Pony at the Auction

This is something that a lot of people find daunting, but hopefully the following will prove to be helpful and make the process less of a challenge.

Firstly, study the catalogue well, not just to spot any prospective purchases, but also, and very importantly, so that you understand the Auction Company's terms and conditions. These are usually pretty general to all Livestock auctions (Livestock Auctioneers Association rules), but occasionally there will be differences.

The Fell Pony Sale is a Pedigree sale, therefore the ponies are sold in Guineas -£1.05. Traditionally the 5p on each Guinea was the commission to the auction. How do you pay in the event of actually being the winning bidder?

Carole from NWA told us: "It depends who is buying as to whether we would let buyers pay by BACs. They need to be known to us for us to allow them to go away without paying and take the pony. We would allow [personal] card payments on a horse sale day, and cheques also, only from known customers. Our sellers commission is 5.6% (just slightly over the guinea) and I think a 1% buyers commission to cover the online bidding will be added this year."

Have your details to hand and be prepared to convince your bank that you really ARE intending to spend that amount of money and your account has not been hijacked by thieves! NWA do not accept cash payments.

VAT is something else to be aware of: any lots subject to VAT will be marked in the

catalogue, so that you can factor this into your overall budget. It's important when setting your budget to be aware how much you will actually be bidding - it's amazing how those 5.6ps and 20% VAT can add up if you are thinking in £s!

Keep your budget in mind when your chosen lot numbers come forward to the ring, so that when the bidding gets going you aren't carried away in the noise and the excitement to bid beyond what you can afford.

On the day of the sale, make sure you get to the office in good time to register and obtain your buyer's number, then you can set off and have a good look at the ponies to choose one or two that could be right for you and mark your catalogue.

Move to the selling ring well before your chosen lots are due to go through, because it will give you a chance to soak up the atmosphere, and by watching the Auctioneer, the ponies and the bidders, you'll get an idea of how things work.

Try and get in a position where you can see the Auctioneer as clearly as possible, but he will also have one or two "spotters" who are watching for people bidding, so if he doesn't see you, hopefully they will point you out to him. Don't be afraid to call out and wave your number if you think they have missed your bid.

The FPS Sale has an "upset price" ie, a baseline for the first bid on every lot, across the board. In 2024 the upset price was £150. Sellers also often place a "reserve" on their ponies, the minimum final bid they will accept. If the bidding



Edwin Winder and Dalewin Quest in one of the alleys between the pens at the FPS Sale in 2015

doesn't pass that figure, the seller can either choose to accept the final bid or to send the pony out of the ring unsold. If it's "passed out" you might be lucky and be able to catch the buyer later and make him an offer in the pens, but the marts don't like that, and you get no guarantees.

The auctioneer will start his calling on each lot somewhere around the seller's reserve price. Often he will drop the starting figure a couple of times to get the bidding going, and when buyers begin to bid he will go upwards from then on. It's the auctioneer who decides what increments he is going to make as bids come to his attention. Often, the higher the price goes, the bigger the jump with each bid, but he will sometimes take "a half" of that if bidders offer it.

Whoever has made the highest bid when the hammer drops wins the lot, so long as the reserve has been met. If the final bid hasn't met the reserve, it wins only if the seller in the ring agrees to accept it.

If you are really worried and don't want to try bidding yourself, take a friend who will do it for you, or maybe there will be someone there you know that you could ask? Personally, I would help out if asked, and I'm sure there's a few others who would do the same. Alternatively, just put in a bid with the auctioneer: the people in the Mart Office can help you with this, and you set your maximum figure and the auctioneer does the rest.

Nothing beats being able to look at the ponies in the flesh, but if you can't attend the auction in person, NWA also set up "Live Ring Streaming" so you can watch the lots going through the ring and follow the bidding online. If you pre-register with the Mart office, you can bid by phone or online.

#### Taking Your New Pony Home

You will need a Pass from the sale office, which you get when you pay, that allows you to take your pony off the premises. Passports are help by the FPS, and you must collect it before you rush to get loaded up. Use the Transfer of Ownership slip to have the pony transferred into your name, which legally you must do within 30 days of purchase; the Society's staff will update the passport and return it to you.

If you won't have transport on the day of the sale, many transporters advertise their availability leading up to the sale. Failing that you can ask at the mart office whether there are any sellers with a space going home to your area (check the catalogue for addresses on their other lots) or any livestock hauliers. They should be able to put you in touch.

#### Transport by new owners

Under the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006 with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales, there are some general provisions for the protection of all animals during transport. It is an offence to transport animals, including people transporting equines, in a way that will cause injury or unnecessary suffering. Ponies must be transported in a means of transport which takes into consideration the conditions required for them such as space, ventilation, temperature, security, liquid and oxygen needed.

Some ponies may not be used to travel, or may be a little wild, which may mean you have no ability to secure them safely.

• Ensure the animal is fit for the intended journey, it is not lame, heavily pregnant nor has any open wounds.

- Minimise the length of your journey as much as possible.
- Ensure the vehicle you are using is suitable and considers the requirements above, including having suitable loading ramps and gates for the species. For example, lifting a Fell pony foal into the back of a Landrover is NOT acceptable!
- Provide bedding if a pony may not have been used to travelling, this helps reduce stress and slipping
- Ponies can be transported loose if they are not halter broken or used to being tied up, but please remember to secure ramps, windows and escape routes! Animals that are halter broken, should be tied. Partitions can be removed but consider the use of breast and breech bars to ensure the pony can't escape upon opening the ramps/loading doors. You should not transport more than 4 (un-haltered) ponies together in one compartment. Haltered animals must travel separately.
- Provide sufficient space. The pony should have enough space to stand in a natural position. Any pony which does not have enough space can easily become stressed.
- Ensure you carry water and check your pony at appropriate points during the journey home.

#### Transport by a transporter or 3rd party

If you have to contract a transporter to take your pony home from the sale, please ensure that you contract one that holds the correct licences!

The rules concerning the commercial transportation of animals are set out in assimilated Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and in domestic legislation listed above.

Anyone who is operating as part of an economic activity (and you pay them to take your pony) on journeys over 65km (40 miles) must be authorised by the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) and hold a Transporter Authorisation. There are two types of licences:

Type 1 (Short journey - up to 8 hours) and Type 2 (Long journey - up to and exceeding 8 hours).

In most cases, ponies are transported to from their original home to the sale and then onwards to the their new home in a matter of hours. In this case your pony's journey starts from loading at their home and ends when they are delivered to their new home after the sale (this may differ if they go somewhere else for a period of time in between).

Your transporter must hold appropriate authorisation to cover this entire journey (not the journey the transporter is taking), so most transport should be completed by a Type 2 Transporter. APHA publish a list of authorised long journey transporters: List of Type 2 (Long Journey) Authorised Transporters - data.gov.uk

If you would like more information on welfare in transport, please visit: Animal welfare in transport - GOV.UK or contact WIT@apha.gov.uk

Often a seller will be happy to take a pony back home until you can collect it, but if they live on the distant side of the mart from where you live this may not be ideal. There are sometimes people local to the mart who will offer a stable. You could ask on social media beforehand if you think this might be a route for you - very often someone will offer you a box for a night or two until you can collect.

Strictly, it is your responsibility as the purchaser to have a lead rope ready for the pony's headcollar. There are stalls outside the mart entrance where you can buy if you haven't brought one with you!

A pony catalogued as "quiet to ride" or "quiet to drive" must be capable of being managed and ridden/driven in traffic by a reasonably experienced person. If there is any complaint under warranty, according to LAA rules you have until 12 noon on the Monday following the sale to complain to the Mart - as the Sale takes place on a Saturday this doesn't give you much time, but the complaint would have to be decided by the Auctioneers. Unbroken

ponies - and the majority of the FPS sales entries are unbroken - are not warranted.

#### **Selling Your Pony at Auction**

Preparing your pony for the Sale is much like the preparation you would do if going to a show. The obvious bit is making sure it is clean, tidy and looking at its best. The atmosphere in the auction though, is much different to a show, so try and get your pony used to loud noises and busy places if possible beforehand - I always like a radio on when I bring the ponies in at home, fairly loud too, as I find it helps in noise desensitisation.

Carole from NWA pointed out: "Ponies must be microchipped and this must match the passport. If no chip can be found (and it does happen even with foals) we cannot sell them and they would need to go back home." The mart staff must scan your pony's microchip and check it against the passport which should be handed to mart staff on arrival. Do a little practice at home with strange people shifting your pony's mane about and waving unusual objects near its neck - and check the chip yourself if you possibly can. There is an option at the mart to call a vet to re-scan if a chip can't be found, and if the vet is happy to insert a second chip this can be done at the vendor's expense, but there may not be time to arrange this.

Make your entry in good time and provide all the details that are needed on the mart office's entry form. In particular, the pony has to be registered in your name with the Society before the date of the sale - this date is publicised each year on the FPS web site and Facebook page. At the FPS Sale, all entries are catalogued and no pony that is not entered in the catalogue can be brought onto the premises.

You must supply a serviceable head collar or halter which will remain with the pony after it has been sold.

If you are selling a weaned foal via the Society's Sale it must be more than 4 months old at the date of the sale - the precise cutoff for its date of birth can be

checked with the FPS office but it is usually at the end of June.

Part of your entry fee is returned to you if you bring the pony to the sale - if you don't, you forfeit the whole unless you have a veterinary note to explain why your pony is not fit to be sold that day.

On the day remember to take a haynet, so the pony has something to browse and entertain itself with, as well as a bucket for water. The mart provides sawdust for the floor of the pen, and will not allow you to bring in straw or shavings. After the pony is sold, the responsibility to provide food and water passes to the buyer.

Consider entering your pony into the presale show, which gives people a chance to see the pony outside the pens before the actual sale. Entry is free - just turn up when the classes are called.

Have some photos on display at your pen, showing your pony doing various things, or even just enjoying itself in the field, to help draw people to you. Be there, to answer questions.

The Mart staff will help you to get from your pen to the sale ring in time, and back to it after selling. Only the owner and a handler can go into the ring with the pony. If your pony is broken to ride, you can bring it into the ring mounted. Once in, stay calm and focused. You've got very few minutes in there, so make the most of them. Walk round a few times on each rein, to give buyers a good overall view. If your pony is happy to be stood-up, like in a show, then bringing it into the centre for a short time will also be useful. Also turn it round when standing in the centre so bidders can clearly see front and back and side view.

If the final bid doesn't make your reserve price you can choose whether to accept it or take your pony out of the ring unsold. You will still need a Pass from the sale office to take your pony off the premises.

You may be approached by the successful buyer to see if you will offer "luck money" - a small discount given as cash in hand for

luck - this gesture is traditional, but not compulsory! Do remember to complete and sign the transfer of ownership slip to give to the buyer.

If you have sold, but the buyer can't take the pony immediately, you could offer to take it home and keep it for a short while until they can collect. The Fell Pony Society Sale was compiled by Christine Robinson (Kerbeck); Rachael Brunskill (Hynholme); Sue Millard: the FPS Office: and NW Auctions

Notes for The Fell Pony Society Sale:

Animal welfare in transport - GOV.UK or contact WIT@apha.gov.uk

Transfer of Ownership form https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/forms.htm

The FPS Sale is conducted under the Conditions of Sale of the Livestock Auctioneers Association - LAA Conditions of Sale Schedule 4, page 32.

#### **Working Too Young?**

As a breed organisation, the Fell Pony Society is automatically on the side of the ponies. We talk about preserving their type and conformation, about defending traditional hill-breeding in the north of Britain and encouraging the best presentation of the ponies to the public at shows, but we also have to encourage Fell pony owners, wherever they may be, to maintain each pony's welfare in everyday use.

The Society's advice on working young ponies is clear. In its show schedules, Ridden and Driven classes are for 4 years old and up.

On the Sales page of the web site (Note 1), the 3 and 4 year old section states: "While three and four year old ponies may have been broken, they are not fully mature and should not be worked hard." Please note, the FPS page doesn't say anything about 2 year olds, because 2 year olds shouldn't be working, let alone working hard.

For FEI carriage driving events (2), the rules exclude horses under 5 y.o. and the Government guidelines for hiring out riding horses (3) state: "The following must not be hired out: (a) a horse aged under 3 years" and they also say of driving horses (4): "It is recommended that any horse which is to be used for the carriage of passengers should be at least 6 years old".

This is a welfare decision in all cases.

#### Experience Backed Up by Science

In Hoofprints in Eden (5), 'The Fell Year: Growing up, Maturity and Training' lots of hill breeders gave me their views on breaking-in, and there isn't one that would work a pony under 3 years old.

They start in the autumn of a 2-year-old's life, do a couple of weeks, then turn her away to think about it and to grow.

Horse anatomist and zoo-archaeologist Dr Deb Bennett (6) points out that skeletal maturation happens from the ground up -



Sue Millard driving Coppyhill Suzanne (Ruby) at a Packs and Tracks demonstration day at Dalemain in 2009. Ruby, now aged 30, was retired just 2 years ago.

- the spine and neck joints are the last to fuse, in the years from 5 to 7. Before that, a pony's hocks are not yet ready for prolonged concussion or sideways stresses and her spine is not ready for prolonged weight carrying.

Breeders' practical experience of the stages of maturity is backed up by science. Referring to X-rays of legs and spines of young horses, Dr Bennett also writes: "Hocks... don't fuse until the animal is four ... the hocks are a known 'weak point' - even the 18th-century literature warns against driving young horses in plow or other deep or sticky footing, or jumping them up into a heavy load..."

Intensive lungeing, and arena schooling with its constant turns and its preference for imposing "an outline", can cause damage to immature spine and hocks, so if you school a young pony hard for prolonged periods in that "outline" you are probably also teaching her to tense her back and neck muscles against pain - entirely the opposite of the strong but supple, rounded-up shape that we want for an athletic pony.

#### Mental Maturity

A horse or pony younger than four years is a baby both in mind and body. Too often an owner saying "she's happy working" or "she wants using" only means they resent having a pony "eating and doing nothing" or else they want to turn profit by selling her as "broken" as soon as they possibly can.

# Common Practice is Not Necessarily Good Practice

We all know there's a popular driving sales web site that frequently displays advertisements for 2 year olds "broken to ride and drive", so obviously early breaking is a relatively common practice. How many of the ones who are hard-worked are still sound at 15, it's hard to say.

We all know that the flat-racing industry breaks thoroughbreds as yearlings trains and races them at 2; but don't forget it also dumps many of them because their immature bodies fail.

#### Ponies are Stoic

Ponies are prey animals so they hide their weaknesses - the weak are the ones the lions pick to kill. So the fact that you don't see a pony showing pain doesn't mean pain isn't happening, and it's very easy to miss it, especially if you are driving rather than riding.

"Common practice", "industrial racing norms" and "pony stoicism" are very bad reasons to expect our rare-breed "family friends" to put up with hard work at too young an age. If you shoe an immature pony and trot her for miles on the roads every day, or if you school her hard for

show performance, you will almost certainly shorten her working life.

#### What Should We Do?

Let your newly-broken but immature pony grow up. Let her body and brain develop without stress. Please read Dr Bennett's article (note 5) for more ideas of what you can be doing in the meantime.



In 2013 at an FPS Learning With Fells day: Barry Mallinson teaching Sophie Quick how to long-rein, using Hardendale Tiffany

If you buy a 2 or 3 year old pony that you're told is already "ride and drive", PLEASE don't start feeding her up or getting her fit until she's at least 4.

- If you've done the basics of training with a very young pony, and she has "got the idea" - STOP. Turn her out in company on rough grazing and let her grow without being over-stressed before starting again next year.
- Don't sour a young pony's mind, which is just as difficult to heal as her body.
   STOP. Turn her out in company on rough grazing and let her brain process what it's learned before starting again next year. She won't forget.

I'm *not* saying, "don't educate your youngster."

I'm **not** saying, "don't start your pony at a young age."

I am saying, "establish the basics, and then turn her away to grow up."

Sue Millard

## Free Services: FPS Sales List, FPS Member Directory & Grassroots

#### Sales List

Turnover on the Sales list of Fell Listing in the Member Directory ponies generally finding new homes in less than a month of being advertised.

The Sales List can be found at https://www.fellponysociety. org.uk/sales list.htm.

they are received.

Each advertisement is shown for 3 months, after which time it will be reviewed. To advertise Fell Ponies for sale or place a Wanted ad, please submit details to the FPS Secretary by email.

Non-members can advertise Fell ponies of which they are the recorded owner, for the fee of £10 for 3 months.

Fell Pony related items such as saddles, carriages, and harnesss can also be advertised on the FPS website, subject to approval.

#### **Member Directory**

**Ponies** on the FPS web site on the FPS web site is purely continues to be satisfactory, with voluntary. We do not otherwise publish your personal data.

> The Directory page is https:// www.fellponysociety.org.uk/ member\_dir.htm.

If you wish your details to be added please be guided by the It is updated with fresh adverts as listing request form online. Please remember to update your details changes when appropriate. Your Listing will be removed at your request, or if your current FPS membership lapses.

#### **Grassroots Online Registry**

FPS members can flag their ponies for sale on the database.

Use the 'Manage My Animals' option in the drop down menu. then select 'Flag animals for sale'. should go to the Grassroots Log In You need to give permission, if not screen and already done, for potential buyers Password", and you will be sent a to see your address, phone number link, via the email we have for and email address.

Please check with the Secretary if you are unsure.

The Grassroots web address is https://breeds.grassroots.co.uk/ FELL. It is also linked from the foot of the FPS Home page (the fastest way to find the link is to click the 'Menu' option at the top of the Home page, which takes you to the foot of the page.)

#### Grassroots Passwords

Passwords are not automatically assigned by the system any more; members allocate their password. New members receive a link via email to 'set a password' for Grassroots when they join the Society.

If for some reason as a current member you no longer have your 'log in' details, you should not need to contact the Office. You "click to Reset you, to reset your password.

#### Notes for Working Too Young? (previous page):

- (1) FPS Sales page, https:// www.fellponysociety.org.uk/sales\_list.htm#3-4YO
- (2) FEI Driving Rules https://inside.fei.org/sites/ default/files/ Rules\_FEI\_Driving\_ for\_Young\_Horses\_2019\_Clean.pdf
- (3) and (4) "Code of Practice for Horsedrawn Vehicles" and "Hiring out horses" https:// www.gov.uk/government/publications/
- (5)"Hoofprints in Eden", Chapter 'The Fell Year: Growing up' (Breeders' views on Maturity and Training) https://www.jackdawebooks.co.uk/ hoofprints.htm
- (6) Dr Deb Bennett, Timing and Rate of Skeletal Maturation https://www.hoofrehab.com/ ArticlesPDF/Timing%20and%20Rate%20 of%20skeletal%20maturation%20in%20Horses.pdf



Greenholme Sienna, top priced foal at the FPS Sale (next page)

#### FPS Show and Sale - 26 October 2024

The annual Fell Pony Society Show and Sale was held at the NWA Auction Centre near Kendal on 26 October. A total of 92 ponies were entered in the Fell pony sale, and the day included the sale of around 100 Shetlands on behalf of the Shetland Pony Society and 50 other M&Ms and part-breds.

The Fell pony sale was preceded by a show where judge, Kevin Turner, chose Keith Anderson's Oscar II, a 2 year old black colt by Lunesdale Black Ice and winner of the youngstock class, as his overall champion, with David & Katherine Wilkinson's foal, Brackenbank Kaleb, in reserve.

The highest prices were made by the 4 year old, Dalewin Xtreme, an unbroken bay mare, winner of the 4 years and over class, selling for 4200gns; and by Bybeck Mervyn, a 12 year old, quiet to ride gelding, at 4000 gns. Two newly broken mares, Lathomdale Blossom and Lathomdale Amy sold for 2200gns and 2000gns respectively, whilst Greenholme Onyx a 4 year old mare ready to break made 2800gns.

Youngsters were topped by Lunesdale Courtney, a 3 year filly, scanned in-foal for 2025, selling for 3200gns, followed by the show champion, Oscar II, selling for 2800 gns.

The top-priced foal was Greenholme Sienna, a black filly by Heltondale Prince V, selling for 3000gns. The Greenholme Stud also sold filly foals at 1300gns and 1200gns. The Hardendale Stud sold Hardendale Cortina at 2200gns, Mercedes at 1600gns and Capri at 1400gns.

Colt foals were headed by Lunesdale Frankie at 1000gns, with Bert Morland winning the Fell Pony Heritage Trust trophy in memory of Isobel Potter for the highest priced colt foal. The Lunesdale Stud also sold Lunesdale Freddie for 800gns. Other colts sold at 700gns for Dalewin Blizzard and Dalewin Billy Joel and Greenholme Starman.

As always, the Sale is a very popular event in the Fell pony calendar and a great opportunity to catch up with like-minded Fell pony friends around the pens or in the café. Society Secretary Katherine Wilkinson and her team were kept very busy dealing with transfers of ownership and the merchandise stall did a good trade as buyers treated themselves and picked up some early Christmas presents.

Thanks to the staff at NWA Auction Centre, vendors, buyers and everyone who contributes to make the day such a success.

#### **Pre-Sale Show**

Judge: Mr K Turner

Class 1 - Four Years and Over

1 Dalewin Xtreme FP6873, E Winder

2 Wellbrow Icy FP6149, I Billington

Class 2 - One-Three Years

1 Oscar II FP73538C, K A Anderson

2 Lyndarick Fern FP7239, D Dale

- 3 Chestermann Jet FP73645G, N Gwynne
- 4 Chestermann Henrietta FP7320, N Gwynne
- 5 Rundales Addison FP7343 E Howe

#### Class 3 - Foals

- 1 Brackenbank Kaleb FP73928C, D & K Wilkinson
- 2 Thirnbeck Eclipse FP7578, H Holme
- 3 Lunesdale Freddie FP73947C, A W Morland
- 4 Brackenbank Jeremy FP73927C, D & K Wilkinson
- 5 Carrock Millie FP7582, J W Cockbain
- 6 Lunesdale Florence FP7597, A W Morland

CHAMPION: Oscar II

RESERVE: Brackenbank Kaleb



At the FPS Show and Sale, judge Kevin Turner chose Keith Anderson's Oscar IIas his Champion, a 2 year old black colt by Lunesdale Black Ice and winner of the youngstock class, and Brackenbank Kaleb (below) as his Reserve Champion



63

# Results of the 2026 Calendar Competition

Thank you to everyone who submitted photographs. There were so many outstanding entries, making judging very challenging.

This year the calendar competition was judged by a member from the Northern Scottish Area Support Group - they will receive a calendar with our grateful thanks.

The photographer of each selected photograph qualifies for a free calendar. The overall winner of the calendar competition, Ruth Eastwood and the runner-up, Sophie Edwards, also receive an FPS voucher (for £10 and £5 respectively).

Cover picture Gilly Chippendale, Cumbria Imogen Cockbain, Cumbria January February Eileen A Walker, County Durham March Sophie Edwards, Cumbria April Katie Pearce, South Yorkshire May Gilly Chippendale, Cumbria Liz Scourfield, Carmarthenshire June July Graham Roose, Lancashire Ruth Eastwood, Wigtownshire August September Sophie Edwards, Cumbria October Katherine Wilkinson, Cumbria November Heather Mawrey, North Yorkshire December Mike Hinson, Cumbria

Congratulations to everyone listed above. Calendars should be available at, and following, the Spring AGM.

Now we look forward to entries for the 2027 calendar! As before, landscape format images (i.e wider than high) are preferred to portrait format although we still accept good portrait images. Either digital or hard copy have to scale up to the calendar format at 11" X 7" and therefore need to be of high resolution (300dpi minimum). See the FPS website for more information.

Thank you again Michael Goddard



## **FPS Area Support Groups**

Area Support Groups arrange events for all ages in their area. FPS Members are welcome at all events. The Groups cover the following areas:

Scotland - North - Jacqueline Cheetham

01346 541250.

Email: fellponies @btinternet.com

Scotland - South - Judy Fairburn 01556 670037.

Email: knockwood @btinternet.com

North West - Catherine Wrigley 01229 770876.

Email: catherine.wrigley @sky.com

North East - Eileen Walker

01388 763607, Mobile: 07990 521205.

E-mail:

Eileen @rackwoodfellponies.co.uk

Midlands West - Diane Key 01785 282922.

Email: diane @fellpony.me.uk

Midlands East - Nic Brierley
Email: nicshortland @yahoo.com

South West - Sue Howes

Email: whereswoolly4 @gmail.com

South East - Rowena Day 07950 163616.

Email: rowenaday\_@hotmail.com

# Scotland North West Midlands East South West South East

#### Missing Area & Branch Information

Would Areas that have not sent any copy for this issue send their list of planned events to the Office as soon as they can, please? Our insurers ask us to list publicly all the events we run, so we must update the FPS web site's Calendar of Events.

Updates or confirmation of contact details would also be appreciated, especially for the Overseas Branches.

# North East Area Support Group

'Happy New Year' everyone! I'm rather hesitant at making too many plans this early in 2025, until I see how the weather is going to treat us. We've had a reasonably good autumn, but winter has been a real mixed bag alternating between warm and dry and very wet and cold. Today we are feeling the effects of storm Eowyn, so I struggled to stay on my feet when I took hay to Hamsterley this morning. The ten days of snow and ice that we had earlier in January were more than enough for me to call this winter. On a plus side, the days are getting longer and it is a real bonus to have lighter nights so spring isn't too far away.

On the 11th December 2024, I attended a book launch at the Rheged Centre, near Penrith. 'The Fell Pony's **Enduring** Stewards' was published by the Fell Pony Society of North America in collaboration with the Fell Pony Heritage Trust, and was printed in Great Britain by Amazon. It was a very enjoyable and informative afternoon where many of the breeders who were featured in the book, were presented with a copy, myself included. All studs detailed in the book had to have been in existence for at least 30 years, but a great many go back much further. It is a great read and can be purchased from Amazon. I have read it cover to cover, but plan to do so again in the very near future. I have been involved with Fell ponies for more than 50 years, but enjoyed reading about how others became involved with this wonderful breed.

Our first event of this year will be our annual Sunday Lunch, to be held at Hardwick Hall Hotel on Sunday February. This is a social event, without ponies, so everyone can come along and have a good meal and catch-up as well as making plans for the year ahead. The North East FPS Group has their own award scheme and members receive rosettes for their achievements during the previous year. Our North East trophies will be presented to: Volunteer - Sarah Charlton; Senior Rider/Handler - Susan J Lamb and Fell Pony Representative -Rackwood Bonnie Lass. Unfortunately, we have not had any junior members participating during 2024 so one of our trophies cannot be presented this time. If you have any friends or family members aged up to 16 years, then please encourage them to compete with a Fell pony, either in-hand or ridden, during 2025.

In 2024 the North East Group offered a £200 training bursary and it was won by Rebecca Elliott and her pony Rackwood Bonnis Lass. Becca wished to do dressage to music so applied for the bursary to help her fulfil this dream. The following is what Becca wrote about her training.

"I was incredibly fortunate to be awarded the Fell Pony Society North East Area Group's 2024 training bursary. My pony and partner in this exciting journey is Rackwood Bonnie Lass, a 5-year-old whom I backed myself just last year. After spending much of her 4-year-old year hacking and dabbling in a bit of showing, I stumbled upon the Fell Pony BD Team Quest dressage team — and that's where the inspiration for my bursary application began.

"I've always been intrigued by the idea of dressage to music. The opportunity to design my own test and pick music that character reflects mγ ponies complements her way of going incredibly appealing, however I have always been unsure of where to start. When I joined British Dressage in January 2024 to participate in Team Quest, I decided it was time to dive deeper into this and with some research. I discovered a few nearby event centres that offer freestyle dressage to music tests, and I knew this was where I wanted to invest my bursary.

"One of the most daunting parts of dressage to music, for me, was designing the floor plan and choosing the music. That's where I decided to start. I created a floor plan, incorporating movements I

thought would suit Bonnie's style. Then, I had a lesson with an instructor experienced in dressage to music to ensure my test included all the required elements and to get advice on picking the perfect soundtrack.

"As it turns out, selecting music was the trickiest part! I knew I wanted a theme, and I also learned that instrumental music, without lyrics, was best for these routines. It wasn't easy finding songs with the right beats per minute to match Bonnie's walk, trot, and canter—all while sticking to a chosen theme. After what felt like endless hours of Googling and scrolling through Spotify playlists, I finally landed on three songs by The Beatles that fit perfectly.

"The rest of the bursary has been



dedicated to arena hire so I can practice my routine in a full-sized (20x60) dressage arena. After several tweaks to both the test and the music, I'm now confident with the result and we are preparing for our first competition! I'll be starting with an unaffiliated winter series, with hopes of stepping up to British Dressage next.

"I have really enjoyed learning new skills and trying something different with Bonnie. I am very excited to don our dancing shoes, showcase all our hard work, and proudly represent the Fell pony's incredible versatility.

"Rebecca Elliott."

The North East Group Committee have decided to offer the same training bursary during 2025. An application form can be obtained bν emailing me. @rackwoodfellponies.co.uk> and should be returned to me no later than 11th March 2025. Please be specific, for example, "I want to learn to jump a course of show iumps at 50cm and take part in a competition." You may want to try endurance, horse agility, dressage or trec, to name but a few. Be imaginative but specific.

Our annual Highland & Fell Pony camp will be held at Linnel Wood, near Hexham, between 2nd and 4th May 2025. This event is organised by Sarah Carlton and Chris Grant and entry forms will be available soon. Let us hope that the weather is kind to us this year and allows us to stay the full weekend and make full use of the excellent facilities including the cross country jumps.

Finally, our summer picnic is being planned to take place on Saturday 14th June 2025 here, at Abbots Close Farm. This is a free event where you either bring your own picnic lunch or order from a local fish & chip which will deliver to our farm. Last year we were forced to move into the farm shed because of showers, but ideally we sit out on the lawns.

There will be a few Rackwood Fell Ponies here for you to look at as well as the opportunity to chat to Fell pony enthusiasts in our area.

We have already started working on an exciting new competition to keep you entertained.

Wishing you all a successful summer doing whatever you enjoy most with your Fell ponies.

Eileen A Walker (eileen@rackwoodfellponies.co.uk) North East Area Support Group

# Midlands West Area Support Group - Autumn 2024/Spring 2025

Editorial apology: I accidentally omitted this report from the Autumn 2024 issue, and I can only apologise for losing it among the 200+ emails I received. This is the missing report with the 2025 additions included.

Following our Group committee meeting last year on 21st January 2024 we were able to implement most of the events planned for Spring and Summer. Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions we were unable to hold our Paws for Mary' Dog Show (in memory of Mary Longsdon MBE) and our Emergency First Aid clinic (for both pony and rider). We are looking to try and hold these two events in 2025, preferably earlier in the season or at an indoor years.

The events that did go ahead were as follows:

#### Silver Jubilee Celebrations Group Pleasure Ride, Sunday April 21st 2024

Many thanks to Karen and Laura Bennett, who not only hosted this event, but also led the ride which was held at their home in Stockport, Cheshire. While the take up for the ride was small, the riders taking part thoroughly enjoyed themselves and there were many complements about the location of the ride through the beautiful Cheshire countryside. Members also gained some useful miles and photo opportunities for the FPS Jubilee Challenge. Again, thank you to Karen and Laura for hosting this and their kind hospitality with stabling and catering.

#### Sunday 16th June 2024 - Midlands Fell Pony Show, Gotham Showground, Nottingham, NG11 0LE

In order to mark the Silver Jubilee of the Area Support Groups. the eagerly anticipated show with ioint our neighbours, the Midlands East Area Support Group, took place in June despite the preceding days of very wet weather. Show day arrived and following a grey start, the sun started to shine and we all enjoyed a beautiful hot summer's day. We had good entries from each area group and our main winners were as follows:

Youngstock Champion
Drybarrows Illustrious - Mrs D Vychinski
Adult In Hand Champion
Severnvale June - Mrs L Harman

#### Ridden Champion

Hillhead Horace - Mrs H Saxon Bland

#### WH Pony Champion

Severnvale Tyson - Mrs M Martin

#### Driven Champion

Waverhead Bombadere - Ms S Roper

#### Reserve Supreme Champion

Hillhead Horace - Mrs H Saxon Bland

#### Supreme Champion

Severnvale June - Mrs L Harman

(Full results are available from our Group website, http://www.westmidsfellponies.org.uk)

Many thanks to our judges, who included: Mr Michael Goddard - Ridden, In Hand and driving; Mrs Jill Baxter - Working Hunter Ponies; Ms Gabriele McGrady - Dressage, and Mr Danny McCarthy - Handy Pony classes. Thank you also to our hard working stewards, especially the main ring stewards Mr Barry Stamp and Mrs Lyn Saxon, and FPS Secretary Katherine Wilkinson for collating entries etc.

We were indebted to Chine House Veterinary Hospital Limited, Sileby Hall, Sileby, Loughborough for the provision of emergency veterinary cover; Nigel Carter for human first aid cover; H & H Rosettes for the beautiful rosettes and sashes and Cordelia Deady who broke all records for the sale of raffle tickets. Thank you to Janet and Georgina Blair for organising FPS merchandise stand and Libby Robinson for bringing the Fell Pony Heritage stand. A special you thank must also go to Nicola

and Russell Brierley and their team from the Midlands East and finally, a huge thank you to the many show and class sponsors whose kind generosity contributed to this being such a successful inaugural joint show.

At the time of writing we have now agreed to hold our next joint show on Sunday 7th September 2025 at Gotham Showground, Nottingham, NG11 OLE. We are very pleased to announce that our ridden and In Hand judge will be Mr Colin Turner. The schedule will be available in early Spring and we anticipate having the usual showing classes plus Working Hunter, Dressage, Handy Pony and Young Handler classes.

# Greenrivers Stud Open Day Saturday 31st August 2024

Midlands West members were invited to attend the recent Greenrivers Stud Open day by breeder and owner, Mr Kev Turner. The stud was founded by Kev in 2013 and this visit was another chance to visit the stud and see Fell ponies living naturally in the West Midlands in large semi feral herds. There were a lot of ponies to see and some lovely foals which members enjoyed meeting. We were able to get up close and mingle with the ponies and ask Kev and son Luke all sorts of interesting questions as to type, the logistics of running such a large herd in terms of management, as well as breeding related issues.

There was so much to see that the afternoon just flew by and concluded with some delicious refreshments including freshly made doughnuts to order! Kevin's mantra for the Greenrivers Stud is "Do it with passion or not at all" which again was very much in evidence during this visit.

A big thank you to Key, family and team for such great hospitality.

#### **Group Performance Awards 2024**

Thank you to all of you who attended the Group Performance Awards presentation for 2024 which was held on November 30th 2024. Members enjoyed the usual fabulous carvery lunch at the Hollybush Inn, Seighford and we were well looked after by Mike and his team. Many thanks to Heidi of H&H Rosettes for supplying such lovely rosettes; also Jayne Walster for raffle ticket selling and Barry Stamp who acted as both MC and auctioneer.

The main section winners were as follows:

Overall Performance and Winner of the Eileen Davies Memorial trophy was Hillhead Horace and Heidi Saxon Bland. Horace also won the Working Hunter Pony section and was the winner of the MWFPSS Group Rose Bowl as the highest placed veteran pony.

The Ken Saxon Memorial Trophy for the highest placed In Hand pony was awarded to Bankwood Felicity owned by Nicola Brierley.



Greenrivers Stud Open Day

Both the Competition and Leisure Driving sections were won by Raisbeck Cappuccino and Linda Wiggin. Linda again took home the Windybank Duke's Rose Driving Cup.

Rackwood Hugo and Fiona Dillon were the 2024 TREC trophy section winners. The Dressage section and the MWFPSS Group Salver was won by Littletree Dizzy Rascal and Wendy Gallin.

Kate White and Greenholme Waterloo ll again won the **Happy Hacker** section with an impressive amount of hours spent in the saddle.

It was unanimously agreed that the MW Group Committee Award for 2024, which is awarded to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the breed, would be given to longstanding committee member and stalwart supporter of the breed. Mrs Karen Bennett.

At the awards lunch, we also had the opportunity to present the members who had completed the FPS Silver Jubilee Group Challenge with their well deserved rosettes. Many congratulations to Karen Bennett and Townend Libra, Barbara Crossmore and Dalefoot Flicker/Blackash William's Ruby, Joanne Exley and Nicola Foster with Lune Valley Beauty and Liz Scourfield with Rosefell Jacobite and Syward Blue Aconite and Jayne Walster.

The results of the annual John Glaze Memorial Photography competition were also announced. The theme for 2024 was "A Favourite Moment with My Fell" and was judged by Jo and Vicky Glaze. The winning

photograph was that of Bowthorne Jed owned by Cordelia Deady.

(Full results are available from our Group website, http://www.westmidsfellponies.org.uk)

#### **Committee Meeting**

We will holding our next committee meeting early in the New Year, but if you have any suggestions for events for 2025, please do contact us as we love to receive suggestions from members.

#### Membership

New members are always welcome, and membership of the Group remains at £5.00 for the forthcoming year. Details of how to join the Group, membership forms and full details of events along with schedules and entry forms are available to download from our Group website - www.westmidsfellponies.org.uk or find us on Facebook Fell Pony Society Midlands West Support Group.

#### **Trophies Appeal**

Many thanks to those of you who have returned trophies to us, however there are still several trophies outstanding from the 2022 Derbyshire Fell Pony Show which was held at Barleyfields EC. We would be very grateful to have these sent back to us or arrangements made for collection so that they can be re-presented.

Diane Key Midlands West Area Co-ordinator 01785 282922 / diane@fellpony.me.uk



The Midlands Fell Pony
Show Supreme and
Reserve Champions,
Severnvale June with
Leanne Harman and
Hillhead Horace with Heidi
Saxon Bland and judge Mr
Michael Goddard

# Midlands East Area Support Group

Since the last Magazine, we held our annual AGM on 9th November 2024, where last year's Events were discussed and ideas for this year were put forward. Please see below for Events with some dates confirmed and some yet TBC.

Our annual Christmas Show, organised by Christine Poole and her Show Team was unfortunately cancelled by the venue just a week before it should have taken place in December. Although this was very disappointing, it was just as well because it coincided with Storm Darragh!

Our next Event will be our Annual Points Awards celebration on Saturday 1st March. We're hoping to see lots of our Members there to enjoy celebrating everyone's achievements with their ponies in 2024.

#### Events for 2025

Following the success of last year's joint Breed Show with the Midlands West Support Group, we've decided to make this an annual Event to add to the Calendar.

The Show will be taking place on Sunday 7th September at the Gotham Show Ground, Gotham, Nottingham NG11 OLE.

We're hoping lots of FPS Members will come along to support us; being very accessible from both the M6 and M1 Motorways.

We have a dedicated Facebook Group page for the Show 'Midlands Fell Pony Show' where further details can be found and updates will be posted.

We are pleased to announce that Mr Colin Turner will be judging both the In hand and Ridden classes this year.

Stud visit - Date TBC

Pleasure Ride - Date TBC

WH & Showing Clinics - Date TBC

I hope you all have an enjoyable 2025 with your ponies.

Nic Brierley

FPS-MESG Area Coordinator

#### **Contacts**

**Area Coordinator:** Nic Brierley, nicshortland@yahoo.com

**Treasurer and Accounts:** Nic Brierley and Wendy Cordon, wendygcordon@gmail.com

Performance Awards: Wendy Cordon

Membership Secretary: Janet Copeland, 07973 620191, copeson@hotmail.co.uk

Essex and Suffolk

Julia Baldwin, 07766 395779 Jo Whitelaw. 01473 832734

Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire

Kate Merry, 01788 823215, bkmerry@gmail.com

Norfolk

Lisa Dunger, 01485 298327

Northamptonshire

Kate Merry

Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Rutland Janet Copeland, 07973 620191, copeson@hotmail.co.uk

Oxfordshire

Nic Brierley

Lincolnshire

Nikki Ash 07771 590938

Cambridgeshire

Rachael Nicholls, 07827 727678, kernow witch@hotmail.com

Buckinghamshire

Tabitha Bennet, 07969 003724

# South West Area Support Group

I have not much news for this magazine, I think everyone has been hibernating! Sadly, neither the Dorset Fell Show nor the SW show at Dunster Country Fair will run this year.

There will, however, be plenty of classes for your Fells at the South West Hairy Pony Fest on 4th May 2025. This will be held at King's Sedgmoor Equestrian Centre. The SW Area qualifier for the FPS Young Handler competition will be held at this show as well as many other qualifying classes. Suzy & Molly run a lively show with a lovely happy atmosphere, so please do support if you can.

There is the possibility of setting up another group ride on Exmoor later in the year. If this would interest you, please let me know. If this does happen I will of course post it on facebook, and email those of you on my email list. As before, other breeds are welcome to join, as long as they are accompanied by a Fell.

Sue Howes

#### Shout it from the rooftops!

My parents introduced me to the joys of riding at the tender age of 7, dropping me off at the local riding stables (a scruffy place filled with feral ponies) which provided them with free childcare most weekends and instilled in me a lifelong passion for ponies, horse poo and Carr and Days Saddle Soap. The riding school owner somehow managed to persuade my non horsey parents to invest in part ownership of Albatross, an almost blind 12.2 albino gelding who spooked at everything we encountered and had me off at least once every ride. I learned not to make a fuss (even with a broken collar bone) and just get back on board; good life lesson!

I never grew out of "that horsey phase" and 50 years later, my passion is still ponies, but this time last year I very nearly gave up altogether. As I could no longer ride my horse Rolo (an Irish cob, who I'd owned 19 years) due to his arthritis, I'd bought 4 "wrong" horses in succession; William (cob x Appaloosa) who bucked me off from a stand still with such ferocity it smashed my helmet fractured my spine, Guinness the Git (another cob) who was great to ride but had no manners, barged into me constantly and broke both a finger and metatarsal, Bonkers Billy (Connemara) whose party trick was to rear out on the road entertaining passing traffic, then finally Sam (cob x warmblood) who had nothing wrong with her at all, but terrified me.

With my confidence in tatters I concluded that I was past it and that it was time to give up. I was heartbroken. I felt old, depressed (I had lost both Rolo and my Dad early in 2024) and I felt like my life was over.

Then one day last Spring I had a Eureka moment. I'd met a lovely lady called Jane MacEwan who owns a gorgeous Fell pony, Daydream. I asked her lots of questions about Fell Ponies, a breed that had never crossed my mind before, having been born and raised in the South West, where we are surrounded by Exmoor, Dartmoor and New Forest ponies but we rarely see Fells.



Stephanie Blackmore and Waverhead
Patience

But the more I learned about this very special breed, the more convinced I became that this was the route I must take.

I bought 12 year old Waverhead Patience on 4 May last year from Jane Cottingham, a wonderful experienced Fell owner from Dorset. Patience has literally changed my world. Just watching her in our field lifts my spirits. Having thought I would never have the courage to hack out alone again, we were doing this together within weeks. Our roads are busy but Patience is brave and doesn't bat an evelid at the biggest of lorries. It's years since I'd done fun rides. but we did 6 last year and can't wait for the season to start again. We've joined our local riding club where we enjoy regular pole classes, we have done a bit of showing (at Dunster no less!) and, best of all, we love boxing up with friends and exploring nearby Exmoor. I've never had a pony with so much character, nor one who is so vocal, nor one who enjoys being made such a fuss of, or is so clearly keen

to please or easy to catch! We're never going to set the world on fire, but Patience has re-ignited that sense of joy and excitement and challenge that had died within me. I'm not brave enough to hunt any more and I keep making excuses about not wanting to do jumping lessons (although I know P would be brilliant), but I know for sure that I am truly blessed and am so grateful for every moment we spend together.

I really regret not having discovered this wonderful, versatile breed when I was younger and now feel that I owe it to fellow pony lovers to shout from the rooftops just how fabulous they are. If more people were aware, surely they wouldn't be an endangered breed so I have vowed to make it my mission to spread the word. We definitely need more Fells in the South West, if only to ensure the future of our show at the annual Dunster Fair in July!

Stephanie Blackmore

# North Scotland Area Support Group

We had an excellent dav out Aberdeenshire in December, for Scotland pony enthusiasts to enjoy a private collection of carriages and tackroom curios - with many dreams of breaking ponies to harness, and very hospitable hosts. This was followed by a restaurant lunch, new friends, chat and the presentation of 2024 Challenge rosettes and silk scarves. We may be a small group to cover such a huge area but we have loyal supporters who have been there since the very start of the Area Groups 25 years ago. If anyone has any interesting ideas of things to do for 2025 please get in touch with Jacqueline Cheetham.

I took a few too many photos of our day out but they will let you see what this interesting chap from Lancashire has in his back yard.

Jacqueline Cheetham





# The Fell Pony Society & Conservancy of the Americas

Last year marked the 25th year of operation for the Fell Pony Society and Conservancy of the Americas, and its 20th year as a North American Overseas Branch of FPS.

The Fell Conservancy is pleased to report the success of the 3rd North American Fell Pony National Championships in Virginia last June went as planned.

Our Fell pony Nationals were a sub-component but stand-alone show as part of SANA (Stewardship Awards of North America), of the largest rare breed equine event in North America, coordinated by the equine conservation nonprofit, the Equus Survival Trust, that celebrated its 20th anniversary this past year.

FPS Council gave its approval of The Fell Conservancy's NA championships as an Affiliated show, a first for the Fell Conservancy and for North America and for an overseas branch.

FPS kindly provided rosettes, including a special performance rosette, the FPS Wolds Songthrush rosette sponsored by FPS council member Liz Whitley, a close friend of the late Jane Glass (Wolds prefix). Class results and photos appeared in the FPS Fall newsletter.

The 3rd Fell Pony NA Nationals were judged by FPS Council member and licensed Fell pony judge, Christine Robinson. In-hand and ridden Fell pony breed classes were offered as well as open competition in-hand & ridden pony classes, dressage, jumping, arena trail obstacles, and driving. The turn out and quality was excellent.

We also had an educational booth with handouts, photos and a new coloring page. Two board members were present, President Alison Emslie-Smith and myself as SANA event coordinator and Fell Conservancy Secretary/Treasurer.

Shortly after SANA and our 3rd Nationals, the Fell Conservancy hosted a Fell demonstration at BreyerFest at the famous Kentucky Horse Park.

Two board members, myself and Kimber Bishop, were on hand to coordinate a demonstration of Fells under saddle, in single cart, and one of only two 4-in-hands in NA, to the thrill of 30,000 spectators throughout the weekend.

Our 2024 board continues with the same 5 members as 2023, consisting of 3 Americans and 2 British, spread geographically in four US states (Minnesota, North Carolina, Missouri, and Ohio) and our UK member in Devon who keeps us anchored in the mother country.

The Fell Conservancy is pleased to continue supporting and promoting the Fell pony community on this side of the pond, networking and educating wherever needed on behalf of our North American Fell Pony community.

We remain committed to helping any and all registered Fell ponies and owners and breeders without bias of affiliations.

> Victoria Tollman, Secretary/Treasurer Fell Conservancy Pony Society and Conservancy of the Americas

# Swedish Fellpony Association

There have been 8 board meetings + constituent and one working meeting (before the show) during the year. The annual meeting was held on 3/2 at Annika's place in Falkenberg. Several of us participated in person and some were online. Yvonne Larsson taught us a little about Centered Riding, which could also be followed in the newly started Facebook group for members of the association.

The board granted exemption to the 10 SH was a week after our show. It was the first judges who participated in the online training with FPS Peter Boustead on 31/1, to judge Fells in 2024.

The Association joined SPAF. (Swedish Pony Breed Association)

The Association's National Show was held in Hemsjö, Alingsås at Berit's place on 14/9. For the first time we also had a riding and driving class. Ben Thorpe judged, and at his side was also one of SH's judges. Annika Ben also told us Strindgård. about Wellbrow's stud farm.

The association entered a Fell (the winner of the national show, who had very high scores) for SPAF's "Pony of the Year", which time a Fell participated there.

Our Fell magazine is published 4 times a year where members receive news, tips and stories. The "Fell of the month" is posted on the website and shared with different groups 12 times/year. A calendar for 2025 with members' pictures has been made. Work on a new logo has begun. Lisa is updating "All Fells in Sweden". This is a list of all the Fells we know of and the place they are located in.

We had a Fell pony meeting at Asa's place in November.

Åsa Pettersson, chairman Swedish Fellpony Association

### Conservation & Grazing Sub-Committee

This last year has seen an increase in people and organisations contacting the Society to enquire about the use of Fell ponies in conservation grazing projects. It is good to see that, albeit slowly, word is We go to a variety of different events, from getting out. Some people are looking to buy ponies, either for grazing, or sometimes with the view to setting up their own breeding herd, whilst others are looking for ponies on loan, both long and short term, on acreages of various sizes.

We also have some people getting in touch who own ponies available for grazing projects. It is good to be able to offer help and advice and hopefully be able to match up ponies to various situations.

As always, we try to be proactive and keep an eye out for possible grazing opportunities that touch through our Facebook page - Fell Pony may come up, and any help that members can Society Display Team, or email our Secretary at give in that way would be very gratefully <christine@kerbeck-fell-ponies.co.uk> received.

# Fell Pony Society Display Team

Once again the Team are looking forward to a busy show season and we have a new member joining us, which we are looking forward to.

small Country Fairs to large County Shows, and all things between, mainly in Cumbria, but we do travel further afield at times. At some events we take the Information and Sales tent, occasionally with a pony for the public to meet, and at others we take our ponies and put on a display documenting the History and uses of the ponies, plus a short Ride to music.

If you would like to help out and showcase our wonderful ponies, either as Ground crew, or perhaps with a pony or two, then please get in

### STARS Champion of Champions 2024

STARS was established in 2018 as an end of season finale for riding and pony club competitors, with the aim of giving many young and aspiring equestrians something to aim for, and the honour of representing their riding clubs. Based at Aintree racecourse, it is now the biggest Riding Club of the Year championship event and has attracted the support of clubs from Cornwall to the Highlands, with more and more interest every year. Affiliation is limited to 60 clubs and most classes had massive entries with almost all of their qualifying combinations attending.

Qualification is managed by the individual riding clubs, who run a points scheme, or points shows during the season; and their classes are mapped to the appropriate Stars Championship Final. In addition, 'wild cards' may be offered, which the riding club committees are able to allocate to their most deserving member who hasn't qualified; so, entries can exceed 60 in each class.

The whole event is live streamed on the Horse & Country channel, so friends and families can share in the excitement and get a taste of the atmosphere in the buzzing arena. There's a great team spirit and huge pride in all those taking part, especially those who are lucky enough to be placed in the top 12. Their results contribute to the overall riding club championship, which in 2024 was won by Selston E.C.

Additionally, special awards are presented in each class: Rising Star to the combination with most potential, Shining Star to the combination that tried the hardest, Best Turned Out, Best Dressed Groom, Best Rider, Highest Junior Rider in all open classes, and finally in memory of Mike Hanigan, an award in each WHP class for the rider with the biggest smile.

The 2024 event comprised 42 championships held over four days, covering various in hand, ridden flat and WHP classes.

The esteemed HOYS Star judges travelled from all over the UK and were extremely encouraging. The STARS and the Aintree teams and stewards all did an excellent job of keeping the massive entries in order and providing support to competitors, ensuring that everything ran like clockwork. Simon Richardson from Cheshire provided his usual witty and informative commentary.

At Aintree, competitors were able to follow the path used by world famous steeplechasing legends and Grand National winners, and ride down the racehorse walk past the iconic Aintree stands and winning post to the indoor arena; quite a beautiful picture as the sun was rising on the first day, but very cold, wet and windy in the days that followed with the arrival of Storm Bert and its horrific hailstones!

Fell ponies were out in force representing clubs from all over the north west and beyond. As might be expected, there was a good entry in the large M&M, both in hand and ridden, and in the riding club pony final; but there was also a good number in the open youngstock final, and others in both the M&M and plaited WHP, veteran, young handlers and equitation finals.

The highest placed of the Fell ponies was Castle Hill Glenfiddich, a 3 year old colt, owned and exhibited by Kay Hardy, who took second in the mixed youngstock final, narrowly missing out on first place by one



point, then was fourth in the M&M large breeds final which had 63 entries, 12 of which were the Fell ponies.

The four year old Ringstone Belladonna (Birkettbank Warrior x Drybarrows Belgravia) also coped with the atmosphere very well in what was her first season showing, and stood eighth in the same final for Ryan Granby-Seal.



There was more Fell pony success in the WHP finals where Greenholme Dillon (Greenholme Yabadabadoo x Greenholme Adele) a.k.a. Bob, gualified for both the plaited and the M&M WHP finals. His owner was astonished and delighted when he and jockey Tamara Francova were placed 11th in the plaited under 153 cm, despite having a pole down and then 3rd in the M&M, the first short-legged hairy, after a cracking clear round. Bob was an impulse buy from the FPS annual sale as a three year old when he was being knocked down very cheaply to a local dealer; and the purchaser's family decided he was too good to go where he was heading. Despite the



purchaser not wanting another pony, and certainly not a grey, Bob has given them all immense pleasure over the twelve years since, although he does keep everyone on their toes with his antics; like trying to climb out of Aintree's portable stabling.

The seven-vear-old Hazelgill Hector (Murthwaite Smoking Joe x Murthwaite Diamond) and young Cheska Connor (12) were also celebrating after the Mountain & Moorland under 153 cm WHP Final. Mum Louise said that the family had the most amazing day; just one very unlucky pole down in the jumping phase; but happily, the pair went onto win the prizes for both the Best Rider and the Most Smiley Competitor in the class! Louise added something that we all already know: 'Fell Ponies are the most amazing breed!'



Twelve-year-old Bracklinn Sam (Bracklinn Jackpot x Townend Truffle II) competed in the Senior Equitation with Tamara Francova. There was a straightforward set show which wasn't overly demanding, so Sam introduced some 'airs above the



ground' as a finale. Fortunately, the judge decided that the set show had been completed, and the rider had coped well with the bonus movements, so the pair were awarded 10th place.

All the other finalists were already champions representing their own clubs, and all were very pleased with their ponies and thoroughly enjoyed their STARS experience, despite Storm Bert and the overwhelming size of the classes.

Andy Morris was very proud to be invited to represent his club with the yearling Bracklinn Elton (Wildhoeve Adiction x Bracklinn Marcie). Elton looked superb and performed amazingly well to finish in the top half of the mixed youngstock final. He looks like he will have a very bright future ahead of him.



Andy had never been into horses, but his middle son Mikey loves them. Although Mikey is a great jockey, when he went to high school he decided he didn't like riding any more, possibly because the other kids were making fun of him. So, Andy said he'd buy a pony, and they would work together and see what the kids would say then which is how Andy's addiction started.

Elton has been very successful in their short time together with excellent results in the showring, even though it is all brand new to them both.

The two year old filly, Firbank Whitby Jet (Heltondale Prince V x Murthwaite Meadowsweet) and Izzy Ridding were also in the mixed youngstock final. It was Jet's first season showing and Izzy didn't expect to qualify for STARS at all, so the whole experience was a huge learning curve and a big challenge for such a young pony to go from outdoor showing into such an electric atmosphere.



But Jet took it all in her stride and behaved impeccably and stayed super focused. Izzy is currently doing various groundwork exercises with Jet in preparation for her ridden career.

Linda Farr thought that she was very lucky to have qualified for the STARS youngstock final for the third year in a row with her three-year-old filly Greenrivers Misty (Hebdenwood Silver Storm x Greenrivers Sheila Mary), sadly not placed for 2024, but her super well behaved young pony took it all in her stride once again.



**Greenrivers Misty** 

Linda thought that it was a great atmosphere and had some good chats with other Fell owners.

Murthwaite Frost (Murthwaite Ice Man x Heltondale Polly Perkins X) and Emma Tilson competed in the large M&M and the veteran in hand finals.



Emma was absolutely delighted to qualify fourteen year old Frosty and compete in the enormous classes. Frosty was 'star struck' though and found it all a bit too exciting.

The six year old Wellbrow Lucas (Charellbre Prince x Wellbrow Tosca) competed in the M&M in hand with his owner Dawn Smalley and ridden M&M with Hannah Brown.



Wellbrow Lucas

Lucas was bought straight off the fell from his breeders, the Thorpe family, and is being schooled for Dawn's daughter to ride in future years; hopefully, she will be competing with Lucas at STARS in the future.



Murthwaite TBC

Liz James qualified for the M&M ridden final with Sparket Equestrian Events. She attended STARS for the first time this year with Murthwaite TBC (Teddy) her home produced Fell gelding who is one of the last of her cousin Thomas Capstick's foals before he sadly passed away ten years ago. Teddy was rejected by his mother and needed to be bottle fed for a week or so until a surrogate mother was found, and Liz always knew he was something special. With impressive results in hand Liz was determined to ride at shows and would have loved Thomas to see how far they have come together.

Liz modestly says, "We will never be the best, but we are doing 'our' best." And that she'd never a change a thing apart from wishing she could share it with Thomas.





The pair finished above half way in their enormous class and Teddy took it all in his stride, did a good show and had a good conformation mark.

Patsy Drake's Crowtree Bluebell's Grayson (Greenbeck Bamboozle x Crowtree Bluebell) aka Perry, a five-year-old grey gelding, qualified for the M&M in hand final with Amanda Kenny. (photo on previous page)

Perry has had some great results with championship and reserves at qualifying shows. Patsy reports that he was a STAR on the day at Aintree, his first time at such a busy indoor show. He wasn't placed but held his own in the very strong final.

He behaved really well, only getting slightly over excited in his trot up and insisting on facing the wrong way when waiting his turn, but it was all great experience for him.

Holly Jones (10) competed in the junior ridden equitation and best turned out with Wellbrow Lennie (Wellbrow Royer x



Wellbrow Chancy). She has owned Lennie for two years and he is her dream pony.

Laura Mandley has owned Summerhouse Rascal (Hotchberry Carver x Hebdenwood Look At Her) (a.k.a. Roscoe) since September 2023 and competed at a handful of shows throughout 2024, qualifying for STARS in the M&M in hand, representing Knightley Riding Club.



Laura explained that Roscoe was bought for her stepdaughter Olivia back in 2023 and they have been slowly getting to know one another, participating in some local pony club activities and training clinics.

Roscoe has a bright future ahead and as he is only six years old the family hope that they can make lots of memories all together in the future. They had a lovely time at Aintree and Roscoe was an absolute super star.

Claire Simpson

Credit for All STARS show images: Equinational



## Wildhoeve Okidoki - 2024 Horse of the Year Show Champion

Oki was bred by Roy and Gerrard Otttink at the Wildhoeve Stud in Holland and purchased by Gordon and Frances Miller who imported him into the UK. Only the best of UK lines founded the Wildhoeve stud, keeping the Fell ponies very true to type. Roy and Gerrard successfully showed Oki in Holland, where as a youngster he took the top conformation marks in their breed show. Roy always said to me that he knew Oki was special and he is more than proud of his accolades in the UK.

Having been involved in showing for many years I decided that I wanted to source a lovely M&M pony for the top county circuit. Clare Fitch, a friend of mine, had always been involved with my Arabs and part breds and was herself keen to have another M&M so she was on board with my dream. What I wanted was a pony true to his type, a stallion that could move, with a trainable attitude and good manners as it's no fun dealing with a pony that doesn't enjoy what you expect them to do. I was quietly looking.

After some time I found Oki had been advertised by the Millers. He immediately caught my eye, and he had already been guite successful with Gordon and Frances, having a win at Olympia in 2017 ridden by Jonny Stevens, I phoned Clare, who didn't believe me at first, though she had admired him from afar with Jonny, but she didn't hang about and got straight on the phone, so Oki was immediately purchased, with Gordon and Frances more than happy for him to come to us.

Oki's purchase, like most of my animals, wasn't to "be successful and sell on" - his purchase was to make memories, and enjoy participating in a hobby with my pony and friends. Neither I nor Clare had ever had anything to do with the Fell ponies but within days he had converted us.

I am a firm believer that if you commit to an animal and expect your friend to care for him, train and produce him, she must love him almost more than you do, and in Oki's case Clare was smitten. He is such a character, he certainly knows his own mind, and he loves 'doing' otherwise he can be, let's say, a sweet villain!



The bond was there from the start and as far as Oki is concerned Clare is his human. He is more than selective about who he likes, and when you get that from a native stallion the sky is the limit. I think they have proved this with amazing moments throughout the years, winning HOYS twice, taking the Baileys Supreme Mountain and Moorland Championship at HOYS, which has not been done for over 20 years for the Fell breed, winning Olympia best of breed and London International best of breed, plus standing top at prestigious Royal Shows throughout the UK both in straight breed classes and mixed. He has acknowledged by some of the finest judges with extensive knowledge of his breed, and we are thankful for that.

Oki resides with Clare and is kept like a little lord in the American barn, with his door being made lower so he can survey what's going on. He is a stickler for routine, with daily turnout in what he thinks is "his" paddock, next door to his best pal, my Highland stallion Valerock Monroe.

Oki is a firm favourite when it comes to the story telling in the lorry, as he loves being a clown at home and with his antics he can run rings around the grooms and Clare's daughter Domenica. He is the sweetest personality and can be quite wicked but never malicious.

Many people have asked us what he will do now. Well in my opinion and Clare's he won't stop doing what he loves, he didn't win HOYS to be retired. He won because he was happy showing off how well trained he is and how literally magnificent he looked, and how a good example of his breed he is.

He won because he thrives off competing with Clare, from the preparation in the wash room to the show day. Oki loves it, he owes us nothing and their results are proof of that, from the breeder who is passionate about their programme with each foal being a result of their decision to create, to the owner who loves what they have bred, to the trainer who puts their love and dedication into the pony. It doesn't come overnight, it's a journey that becomes a story. With patience and loyalty to that pony you can make dreams come true. Oki, Clare and I are blessed.



Okidoki as a 2 y.o. in the Netherlands

He will be shown this year in the Price in Hand classes. As these are breeding classes we feel it is a good call for him to represent the Fells. We are not ruling out some under saddle outings which he loves.

He will also be available to stud, Al only. We have already been approached by individuals and breeders from here and abroad interested in this service.

We now have his nephew Wildhoeve Hurricane who will step up in the future, god willing, and he too will represent his breeding, being almost the image of his uncle, so another journey with Clare will soon begin, with another little Fell.

**Ruth Roberts** 



Birkettbank Master John as a youngster (see article on opposite page)

### Birkettbank Master John - LIHS Champion

Bred from my small stud in the Lake District, a superstar is making the headlines, and I can't emphasise just how proud I am as a breeder to see a home bred pony doing so well. Birkett Bank Master John, "Jay", b. 2016, always held a special place in our hearts, from seeing him stand on his own four feet for the first time, to his recent amazing, beautiful performance as supreme Mountain and Moorland pony at the London International Horse Show

He was honoured at the 2018 FPS Stallion & Colt show as young stock champion and reserve supreme champion, which made for a very proud family day outing. As his owners Jane Sonnex and Rider Victoria Taylor well know, I am ever so grateful for them achieving so many amazing accolades and I send a huge thank-you for all their hard work in getting him to the level he is performing.

As a small time breeder compared to the larger hill breeders I am massively proud to see a Birkett Bank pony achieving success on such a grand scale, something I wish to be part of in the future.

"Jay" was bred from extra special "family ponies"(in my eyes) that will always hold very special places in our hearts and memories. His Sire Greenholme Elect, b. 2010, gave me most of my passion for showing and breeding, with great success. From buying Elect, "Jack", from the sales I knew he would be a star, and he has picked up multiple championships and supreme championships, all of which led to my continuation of the Stud that was left by my late Grandfather Wilfrid Relph of Birkett Bank, Threlkeld. Jay's Dam Carrock Princess, b. 2004, the last filly out of the highly successful Carrock Pollyanna, has stood loval and been such a lovely, kind successful mare. My Mum, Mary Whittam, made a deal with Glenis Cockbain when Princess was just a foal, and my late stepdad John Whittam was unaware of it until he saw them shaking hands at Keswick Show.

Jay went to begin his ridden career with Sam Roberts, then returned to Derbyshire to his new owners as a four year old.

He won numerous novice championships, before his time came to pick up qualifiers for HOYS, where he was placed twice. Jay picked up his London International ticket at the BSPS Heritage Championships after winning the Fell Breed Class.

We're all very much looking forward to seeing what the future holds for this special pony.



teal Time Imagin

Master John "Jay" will always be close to our hearts and thoughts, as he was named by my late stepdad John, which made it all extra special when we heard the news that Jay had been placed top M&M in the country.

I send the best of luck and continued well wishes to Jane, Victoria and family and of course the "Stunning Stallion" Master John.

Robert Relph Briggs Birkett Bank Fell Pony Stud

## The Fell Pony Society Trainee Judges Scheme — Assessment Day

The FPS Probationer Judges Scheme are running the next trainee judges assessment day on Saturday 27th September 2025 at Rest Harrow Equestrian centre, Nr Carnforth, for anybody who would like to put themselves forward as candidates for the probationer judges training scheme.

The purpose of the day is to assess the knowledge base of candidates and their motivations for becoming a judge.

This will be done by a panel of senior judges through practical assessment of candidates' judging abilities, by asking some theory based questions on the FPS scale of points, and discussion of hypothetical showing scenarios.

We are looking for committed, open minded, enthusiastic and diplomatic people to join the judges panel, so a breadth of experience is valuable and we would like to see examples of this in applications.

Alongside competing and breeding, we encourage applicants to visit ponies in their native habitat at a range of studs, as well as stewarding at events and attending a variety of open days and shows to observe Fell showing classes.

Applicants must have been a full senior member of the FPS for a minimum of 3 consecutive years and have the support of two current FPS judges or a Fell pony breeder.

We have received a handful of applications so far, and anyone else who is interested would be most welcome to apply. Application forms can be obtained from the secretary of the judges scheme, Jenny Grealish.

If you would like further information please give Jenny or Michael Goddard, the chairman of the scheme, a call or email using the contact details listed below.

> Jenny - 07557 309987, fpsjudgesecretary @gmail.com Michael - 07964 209243, michael.goddard2014 @gmail.com



## New "Young Handler" Points Award & Competition

#### Junior Handler Points Award

The Support Groups put forward the idea of a new Junior Handler section within the FPS Performance Awards Scheme, using the same form as the other points awards sections.

Until now juniors could only take part in ridden or driven events, but now we would like to encourage them to record their successes in Junior Handler Classes. The points form should be signed by a parent or guardian rather than a judge or show secretary.

### Young Handlers Competition

Junior members are also invited to take part in a new 'Young Handlers' competition, as of September 2024. By competing in Young Handlers classes at FPS affiliated shows and events, junior members can qualify to take part in a final at the FPS Breed Show in 2025.

Details will be available on the Awards page of the FPS web site, https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/awards.htm#juniors, and the FPS Facebook page.

### You Have to Start Somewhere

When I gave up hunting aged 60 I set myself a challenge: to breed a foal which would be safe enough for the grandchildren (that I haven't yet got!) to ride.

I knew that a Fell would be kind and yet not a walkover. In the 1990s I had done RDA carriage driving with a superb Fell, Underwoods Benson. He carried children out hunting and me too for the odd short dav.

My first attempt with a Fell mare ended within 2 days of her stepping off the lorry. She had sweet itch. Caveat Emptor! But I had just joined the FPS. Great contacts! Such as Beverley Hodgson who advised:

"Why not get a catalogue for the next J36 Rural Auction Saturday Sale?" So we did. My husband, John, and I drove up from Kent on the Thursday and enjoyed staying and dining at The Hare & Hounds at Levens, and on the Friday Beverley introduced us to her ponies at Moorgate Farm. We have found that if you can turn a horse trying or buying mission into an outing it calms the nerves, and if you go home empty handed at least you've had fun.

Saturday 30th October 2021 was the first Fell Pony Sales since Covid. The place was heaving. A wonderful spectacle: huge lorries from Holland parked outside; pens filled with a great selection of nervous furry foals and I particularly recall one impressive stallion breathing fire and shaking a thick mane of dreadlocks. I don't mind admitting the joyous relief John and I felt at knowing we wouldn't have to join in the bidding ... because we had already made our purchase.

Beverley's phone call to Margaret Wilson on the Friday night had us dashing 50 miles through the rain to Hesket Newmarket to view Townend Tarn. I will never forget being led by torchlight to meet a wonderfully placid Townend Eden with her 4 month old foal Tarn, in their stone barn. After weaning Tarn would travel down to Kent 1st class in a Douglas Horse Transport lorry all to herself.

3½ years later and I am overwhelmed by admiration and love for my pony. I suppose humans have been riding for roughly 5,000 years but I hadn't imagined that starting a



young horse would be so intuitive for animal and rider. She has taken to it so willingly.

That's not to say that I wasn't absolutely overjoyed by the milestone of picking up every foot easily or getting her to accept having her mane washed. The first time I attempted that she pulled back and sat down on a wooden bench! So I stood her outside a stable with a lunge rein looped from one side of her headcollar to the other over her poll and then attached it firmly inside the stable. She accepted the water immediately and loves baths now. We came 3rd at a little local in hand show this summer but my running isn't great and, to be honest, too much shining and washing isn't really my thing!

I have only ever owned geldings, never mares. I didn't know that mares might need to be cleaned in the delicate area

between the udder/teats. When Tarn started itching her tail I thought, "Oh no, not the miserable sweet itch again." But I've now learnt that cleaning away the black gunk that can build up on a pony's undercarriage is a strangely satisfying task. There are many books giving conflicting horse care tips but none had told me that. Mostly you just have to work things out for yourself.

A book I have found to be full of advice which does work is Richard Maxwell's "From Birth to Backing". He is a charming man whom I have spoken to on the phone. I hope I get to put the birth section of his book into practice one day.

Tarn and my little neighbour, Orla, were lucky enough to appear in the 2023 Christmas edition of Pony Magazine. It has quite a considerable circulation, being mostly aimed at horse mad under 12s, and is a sister publication of Horse & Rider. The editor was very keen to have any suggestions about Fell Pony material which they could publish. I would like to think that any publicity about the breed is good publicity.

Tarn and I have had our hairy moments and it possibly wasn't such a bad thing that 8 year old Orla was there to witness one.

The cute little pin-up of one moment can be 300kg+ of out of control black fur the next! I lost control of Tarn when I was long reining (we don't have an arena so everything I do has to be in the open fields) and this happened again. And again. I needed the help of an experienced friend. She fed the long reins up from a loop on Tarn's girth and through the bit rings before going up to the top of her surcingle and then to my hands. I'm not that keen on draw reins, which these had effectively become, especially on a young pony. But Tarn wasn't totally new to lunging and long reining and is 100% clear about voice commands, and after a few big circles just at walk she had a new respect for me. I still remind her occasionally in this way that I am stronger than her and she is still so eager to learn do anything I

Just as Orla wrote in her letter to Pony Magazine, I can't wait to ride Tarn.

Sarah Stevenson

## Learning with Fells 2025

The Society will consider applications from any FPS member, irrespective of age.

It is hoped that sufficient numbers will come forward for visits to 2 or 3 studs during 2025.

If you're interested, please send an email to the FPS office secretary@fellponysociety.org by no later than 30 April 2025.

Stud Owners - if you think you could accommodate visitors, then please get in touch with the FPS office with possible dates.

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

Unfortunately, in the past there has been many non attendees who don't even notify the host. Please, if you have been allocated a place and you can't attend, contact the host even its last minute. Our hosts for these events give their precious time to share their ponies and it is only courteous to let them know if you are unable to attend.

## Rosie Shield and Highbrook Phantom Fire

This is my daughter Rosie Shield, aged 11, and her loan pony Highbrook Phantom Fire owned by Michelle Thompson from Fox Fell Ponies.

Rosie has had Phantom for a year now and he's her first pony. 2024 season was their first time competing together and what a fab time they had. Both of them have grown so much together and come home with plenty of ribbons and placings, meeting some lovely fellow fell people along the way.

Some highlights included their first breed show at Dalemain House, qualifying for an evening performance at the Vale of Lune Hunt show, and featuring in Pony Magazine and also on the LeMieux website.

Phantom was a stallion up until September 2023 and had successfully done some inhand showing with great results such as coming 2nd at Royal Windsor. He was fairly green and inexperienced ridden wise when he came but, testament to his breed, he is safe and looks after his little jockey (except maybe the odd cheeky moment).

Rosie has fallen in love with the Fell breed and Phantom has become her best friend. You can follow their adventures on Tiktok and see what they get up to @rosieandphantomthefell.

Phantom is the best first pony we could have wished for and we can't wait to see what 2025 brings with lots of fun times ahead.

**Emily Wallace** 



Rosie Shield, aged 11, and her loan pony Highbrook Phantom Fire owned by Michelle Thompson from Fox Fell Ponies. See a larger photo of them both inside the back cover.

## Attitude





Three heads are better than one?

Lammerside Secret Code

Gilly Chippendale sent in a group of photographs of her 2024 Lammerside foals looking very cheeky...

 $\dots$  while Lammerside Eclipse seems to have been studying Sue Millard's cartoons in  $One\ Fell\ Swoop.$ 



OK kid, let's get this straight - I ain't no teddy bear, right?



### **Rook Reviews**

### **Fading Hoof Prints**

The Equine Legacy Project has been five years in the making. It is about raising awareness of endangered and rare breed equines around the world. Minh Dan Vue (photographer), Valerie de Vrles (writer) and Alieke Datema (videographer) have documented seven breeds in this volume. The Clydesdale, Paso Fino, Sorria, Kladruber, Marwari, Kentucky Mountain Pleasure Horse and of course, the Fell Pony.

There are several chapters which detail the such things as the their importance in both the Social History and environment of Cumbria, their past and present uses as working ponies and also the important part they play in regenerative and conservation grazing systems and the management and breeding cycle of the free living herds.

The inherent hardiness of the ponies and the importance of the semi wild herds in maintaining this is also explained, with annecdotes from a couple of breeders, plus a longer profile of Bill Potter and his life with the Greenholme herd.

Although people who are familiar with Fell ponies are probably (hopefully) aware of much of the above, there are interesting new things to learn within this section, including information about the Galloway horses and the part they played in the development of the breed.

There are also lots of photographs, capturing the natural beauty of the ponies in the landscape, as well as in working situations.

The section ends with four very important points which tell people how they may be able to help Fell ponies, or any Rare breed for that matter, which I hope every person who loves Fell ponies does in some part or another -

Seek out Experiences. Become an owner. Volunteer and support. Be an advocate.

Christine Robinson

Fading Hoof Prints - The Equine Legacy Project: Hardback, Classic Edition, https://equinelegacy.minhdanvu.com/buy - £125.00

### The Fell Pony's Enduring Stewards

I was asked to review the new book published by the Fell Pony Society of North America called The Fell Pony's Enduring Stewards.

What a pleasure this was. I could hardly put it down. The 26 chapters are biographical sketches of breeders of our ponies with more than thirty years of experience. The views of older breeders still hold fast today, a Fell pony should stand on a good set of legs. Interestingly some wanted more hair than others, same as today.

The book includes some photos not seen before, which was nice. Some interviews from years ago help to put a face to breeders in pedigree lines of today's ponies.

This book will be loved by people new to the breed and by those who have known Fell ponies for many years.

A fascinating read.

Ruth Eastwood

The Fell Pony's Enduring Stewards: Hard cover, edited by Jenifer Morrissey, available from Amazon - £31.75

## Guards Jester (Pookie) 1999-2025

16 years with you doesn't feel long enough, but having you in our family was a privilege. The first stallion I ever rode was you, the first time I rode a pony on the beach was you, the first photoshoot I have had was with you (a naked one at that!), the first time qualifying for Olympia was with you, so many firsts and memories I will treasure forever.

Anyone who knew Pookie knew he loved a show, especially in May, with spectators commenting 'Are you sure he's a senior?' 'He really has got his balls between his ears today hasn't he?!' But that just made the show days even more memorable and I always took the best pony home.

The friends we have made in our 16 years together, I hold close and thank you for your support at this unbearable time.

Lizzie, if it wasn't for you saying 'jump on' at Newbury show, after coming out of a class with Tara (doing her legendary buck across the centre line), me being afraid of sitting on a stallion, I know my life would have not been so full. One short ride around the show ground and I knew Pookie had to come home with us; thank you Dad.

2013 Pookie underwent major surgery to remove cancerous growths and we very nearly lost him in recovery, because he couldn't handle sedation.

September 2015, the last SSADL qualifier of the year and Pookie qualified - a dream come true! My mum and great auntie Julie watching ringside their faces beaming. I don't think I quite believed it at first. Looking at the photos of the moment our number was called out, there seemed to be too many legs - again typical Pookie!

December 2015 - Olympia Champion - a pinch me moment even now. If you dream it, do it. You won't regret it. Christmas Day saw my grandad pass away and Pookie was just the rock I needed, his big fat cheeks and hairy neck were the perfect place to hide away from the rest of the world.

The last few years, we took a step back from showing and enjoyed dressage and hacking together. Meandering around our peaceful lanes or galloping across the field was so treasured and I looked forward to it every weekend. I didn't look forward to the grooming though! Pookie loved mud and actually won a competition with the NPS for 'scruffiest pony'.

Anyone who came to the farm was warned about Pookie. He was a biter, sometimes affectionately known as 'Teeth'! My sister actually drew a chalk hazard pattern outside his stable so you wouldn't get your arm ripped off when walking past too closely! His stable was of course labelled as the 'Naughty Corner'.



He was the kindest stallion in reality though, allowing Bella to brush, pick out his feet, ride and sing to him for the last 8 years. He loved children, but couldn't eat a whole one.

He was a creature of habit, out every day in his little paddock no matter the weather and in with dinner and a bed for a king for the night. Whilst I sat at home or abroad watching him on the CCTV! Most days polos, carrots and apples were of course on offer. This last year he made a friend in Henry our rescued donkey. The two of them would scream to each other, groom over the fence, race and drag each other round by their head collars. As bad as each other, but real good friends.

Saying goodbye to Pookie has been the hardest decision I've ever had to make, and deep down I know it was the right one, not that it feels like it right now, but I am so thankful I was with him at the end holding his big cheeks in my hands.

I could talk about you all day. My pony of my lifetime. The sun came out for you, my gorgeous boy.

Thank you Christina Vaughan





(Left) Lammerside Hazel and Lammerside Lady of the Lake (Right) Holly Watson (16) won the Junior section of the Points awards with Roddlesworth Harriet. Holly has Harriet on loan from Rachel & Emma Woodruff and she broke her to ride herself last year.



## For the Next Issue...

If you've got a Fell story to tell, pass it on to Claire Simpson or Sue Millard for the Magazine! E-mail claire.halebank @yahoo.co.uk or ponywriter001 @gmail.com

### **Deadlines**

Please make a note of the Magazine's copy deadlines. Currently they are:

1st February for the Spring issue.

1st October for the Autumn issue.

Those dates can always be found on the web site on the FPS Calendar page, and the Magazine page.

## Merchandise list

Merchandise list								
CLOTHING	Price	P & P	Total	BOOKS/CD/DVD	Price	P&P	Total	
CAP, baseball	£9.00	£2.00	£11.00	A5 BINDERS	£8.00	£4.00	£12.00	
GILET, fleece	£25.00	£4.00	£29.00	BRITISH HORSE&PONY BREEDS	£19.00	£4.00	£23.00	
GILET, soft shell	£30.00	£4.00	£34.00	CD, History, photos & news clippings	£13.00	£2.00	£15.00	
HAT, beanie	£8.00	£2.00	£10.00	CENTURY OF FELLS	£20.00	£3.00	£23.00	
HAT, pompom	£9.00	£2.00	£11.00	DVD - FP Events 1995-1997	£5.00	£2.00	£7.00	
HOODY, full zip	£24.00	£4.00	£28.00	DVD - The Fell Pony	£15.00	£2.00	£17.00	
HOODY, overhead	£22.00	£4.00	£26.00	DVD - Type and Conformation	£15.00	£2.00	£17.00	
JACKET, fleece	£21.00	£4.00	£25.00	DVD - Windsor	£15.00	£2.00	£17.00	
JACKET, soft shell	£30.00	£4.00	£34.00	FELL DIAMONDS	£5.00	£2.00	£7.00	
SHIRT, polo (adult)	£15.00	£4.00	£19.00	FELL FACTS	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00	
SHIRT, polo (childs from age 2)	£10.00	£2.00	£12.00	FELL FUN	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00	
SHIRT, rugby	£30.00	£4.00	£34.00	FELL PONIES in the East Midlands	£7.00	£2.00	£9.00	
SWEATSHIRT, crew neck	£17.50	£4.00	£21.50	HOOFPRINTS IN EDEN	£13.00	£4.00	£17.00	
TIE	£12.00	£2.00	£14.00	HUMBLING EXPERIENCE	£19.00	£3.00	£22.00	
T-SHIRT "Fell for a Fell" (adult)	£12.00	£2.50	£14.50	JUBILEE BOOK	£5.00	£3.00	£8.00	
WAISTCOAT, fleece	£22.00	£4.00	£26.00	LETTERS HOME	£8.00	£3.00	£11.00	
WAISTCOAT, high-vis	£10.00	£2.00	£12.00	LIFETIME WITH PONIES	£20.00	£4.00	£24.00	
MISCELLANEOUS				ONE FELL SWOOP	£5.00	£3.00	£8.00	
BACK PACK	£14.00	£4.00	£18.00	SPIRIT OF THE FELL PONY	£5.00	£3.00	£8.00	
BADGES	£3.00	£1.00	£4.00	THE FELL PONY (C RICHARDSON)	£7.50	£3.00	£10.50	
BAG, coloured shopper	£6.00	£2.00	£8.00	TRAVELS WITH A PONY	£10.00	£3.00	£13.00	
BAG, shoulder	£8.00	£4.00	£12.00	WALK ON THE WILD SIDE	£12.50	£3.00	£15.50	
BAG, large tote	£7.00	£2.00	£9.00	STUDBOOKS / MAGAZINES				
CRAYONS, pack 6	£2.50	£1.00	£3.50	BLACK STUD BOOK 1898-1980	£5.00	£4.00	£9.00	
FACECLOTH	£4.00	£2.00	£6.00	MAGAZINE, back copies	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	
FRIDGE MAGNET	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00	STUD BOOKS 1981-1999 (each)	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	
HEADSCARF, centenary,				STUD BOOKS 2000-2006 (each)	£5.00	£2.50	£7.50	
limited edition	£100.00	£10.00	£110.00	STUD BOOKS 2007-2024 (each)	£6.00	£2.50	£8.50	
MOUSE MAT	£3.00	£2.00	£5.00	PLASTICS				
MUG, centenary, china	£8.00	£4.00	£12.00	BOWLS	£2.50	£4.00	£6.50	
MUG, pot	£5.00	£4.00	£9.00	CUTLERY SETS (WITH LOGO)	£3.00	£4.00	£7.00	
PEN, ball point	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00	CUTLERY SETS (NO LOGO)	£2.50	£4.00	£6.50	
PEN, gel	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00	MUG	£2.50	£4.00	£6.50	
PENCIL	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	PLATES	£2.50	£4.00	£6.50	
PERMIT HOLDER	£2.00	£1.00	£3.00	TRAYS	£5.00	£3.00	£8.00	
STICKER, round or rectangle	£1.00	£1.00	£2.00	TUMBLER, clear	£2.50	£4.00	£6.50	
STICKER, "I Fell for a Fell"	£1.00	£1.00	£2.00	. on been, ered.	22.50		1//2024	
STICKER, lorry 8"	£8.00	£1.00	£9.00					
STICKER. Trailer 22"		on applic		Please contact the office for de	tails of a	vailable d	olours/	
TABLE MAT	£7.50	£2.00	£9.50	sizes for clothing and picnicwar	sizes for clothing and picnicware. Some items are not			
TEA TOWEL	£4.00	£2.00	£6.00	held in stock. Please give the office at least two weeks to fulfil an order. Send order and cheques payable to The Fell Pony Society to:  The Fell Pony Society, Bank House, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6XF. Tel/Fax 01768 353100.  Payment is accepted by online banking; send the office an email, secretary@fellponysociety.org.uk, with your order, and pay by BACS - see details on page 10 or on the FPS				
TEDDY	£4.50	£4.00	£8.50					
TOWEL	£6.00	£4.00	£10.00					
UMBRELLA	£15.00	Collect onl	y £15.00					
WALLET	£7.00	£2.00	£9.00					
WRISTBANDS	£1.50	£1.00	£2.50					

e an and pay by BACS - see details on page 10 or on the FPS website. All prices quoted for P&P (post and packing) are for shipment within the UK. Different prices apply for shipments outside of the United Kingdom.

£10.00

£2.50

£2.00

£2.50

£1.50

£2.00

£2.50 £12.50

£2.00 £4.50

£3.00

£4.50

£2.50

£3.00

£1.00

£2.00

£1.00

£1.00

CARDS CALENDARS

CHRISTMAS CARDS PACK 5

HAND DRAWN CARD, EACH

NOTELETS PACK 5

POST CARDS PACK 10

POST CARDS PACK 12



Rosie Shield, aged 11, and her loan pony Highbrook Phantom Fire owned by Michelle Thompson from Fox Fell Ponies. (see p87)



"Rundales Princess with my husband Peter Troy. I can't run out at shows these days so I do the ridden classes and Peter does the inhand ones. The two of them have a strong relationship - he openly admits she's his best girl." Ann Marie Troy

If undelivered, please return to:

The Fell Pony Society

Bank House, Boroughgate, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6XF

© The Fell Pony Society ©

Registered Charity, Number 1104945

Printed by Reed's Limited, Southend Road, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 8JH