



**THE FELL PONY SOCIETY
MAGAZINE**

SPRING 2011 - Volume 23



*Townend Ruffle, ridden by Judith Williamson,
who had a very successful season in 2010.
Photo © David Gaskell, www.davidgaskellpictures.com*



Above: Anastasia Meadows and Aylestone the Merrie Monk taking part in Prince Philip Cup games. Photo © Pete Morris.

Below, Yyv Wood-Gee with Murthwaite Magic and Murthwaite Mikado on the ferry from Skye, en route to Smithfield—complying with the notices behind that say, “HANDBRAKE ON”.





THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

President: Mr R B Charlton
Chairman: Miss M G Longsdon MBE
Vice-Chairman: Mrs C H Robinson

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Council

To retire 2011: Mrs S Brunskill, Mrs M Dodd, Mrs C H Robinson, Mr A Thorpe

To retire 2012: Mr P Boustead, Miss J Glass, Miss M G Longsdon, Miss B W Walker

To retire 2013: Miss B Bell, Mr T B Capstick, Mrs M C Murray, Mr D Wilkinson

To retire 2014: Mr G H B Mallinson, Mr P Metcalfe, Mr W S Potter, Mr C Roberts

To retire 2015: Mrs S Charlton, Mrs G M Cockbain, Mr M Rawlinson, Mr T C Thompson

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DEADLINE for the Autumn 2011 issue of the Magazine: 1st September 2011



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

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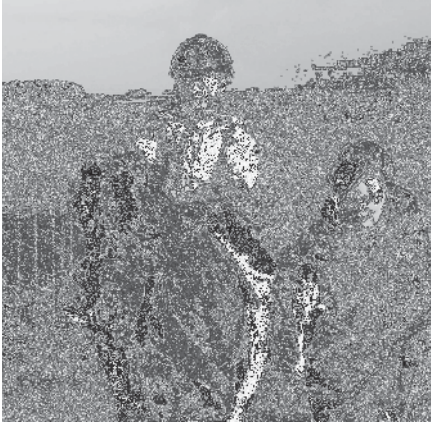
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Disclaimer

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



Editorial



For me, the winter snow and a shortage of hay have paled into insignificance in the face of family health problems. It is relatively soothing to turn to the Magazine once more and start compiling the news from the Society and from members. This time the stories of Fell pony adventures in 2010 are stunning and are accompanied by superb photographs. I wished I could print them ALL in colour.

I am relieved to see that you're all (well, *almost* all) taking on board my pleas not to put photos into Word files, so most of them were in good condition when they arrived—

thank you—and thank you also to those who printed and posted straightforward text for me to scan in and format for the Magazine. I look forward to meeting many of you during the summer, and receiving your news for the Autumn Magazine.

A bit of “arty” Fell news came from the Durham Book Festival in October. At the launch night party the Festival Laureate, the well known Northern poet Simon Armitage, read his specially commissioned poem, *Fell Ponies*, for the first time. “The poem,” according to the Festival, “is a Romantic-inspired account of walking across the misty countryside of County Durham and encountering the wild horses that were once pit ponies in the North East’s mining collieries.” I asked for permission to print some of it, but it hasn’t yet been published, so I shall have to look out for Mr Armitage’s next collection, which is due out next year (2012).

In the meantime, if you can catch Tom Lloyd’s films about Fells and Fell breeders, they are well worth seeing—and for anyone within reach of the “pop up cinema” in Penrith’s Devonshire Arcade, they were being shown free, which has to be good for raising public awareness of our ponies and the semi-feral herds.

You might think that in Cumbria this wouldn’t be necessary, but I still meet people here who not only think but *say* that Fell ponies are extinct, or that they can never be any colour but black, or that they’ve seen a herd of Fells which later turns out to be a field full of Shetlands, or that “the wild ones” don’t belong to anybody.

We have to keep doing our bit to educate people about the breed!

Sue

DEADLINE for the Autumn 2011 issue of the Magazine: 1st September 2011



Letters to the Editor: "Hello," and "Help!"

My name is Cindy Clevenger and I just recently became a member of the FPS. I am new to Fell ponies and purchased Scafell Pike Bob's Yer Uncle, "Tank," from Heather Kyle this past year. He's a 2 year old gelding and we are in love with him! Thanks so much and have a great day!

*Cindy Clevenger, Little Sandy Stables, Sandy Hook,
KY USA*

In 2010 (the 126th running of the Millom and Broughton show) the Show Jumping was cancelled, as entries didn't warrant the cost of affiliation and hire of jumps. Fell pony entries were also down and at least one class didn't run because of that. I resolved then to write this letter, for fear that they would go the same way. Unfortunately in 2011 the Fell pony classes will be amalgamated with the other Native breeds. So if you are reading this, are a Fell pony owner and live in the South of Cumbria please come and support us on Saturday 27th August 2011 at West Park in Broughton in Furness. It is a wonderful traditional agricultural show. If you don't live locally please check out your local show and if they have Fell classes please support them because if you don't they too may go.

Helen Bailey.

Please could I have pictures / photographs of Fell ponies at work, especially those working on the Fells.

Every year at the end of September we take one of our ponies to The RHS Autumn Show at Malvern where there is an exhibition of Rare Breeds in what is called "The World of Animals" (www.threecounties.co.uk/malvernautumn) Each exhibit has a display table / stand which tells the history of the breeds and what they were once used for.

We have found people are really keen to learn about Fells so would like to promote the breed as much as we can, so please could you send me as many pictures / photos as possible, with the pony and locality named.

I was most interested in the last magazine which had articles about Fell Fixing and the Pack Pony trip from Sedbergh to Troutbeck. We do a display which includes pack saddle work and I have to agree with Tom Lloyd that keeping the load in place is quite challenging. We always use breeching which helps a lot, as one can make a sort of parcel of the pony! Being careful not to restrict its movement of course.

*Mary Davies (Townend Donny)
annied40@btinternet.com
Hiandri, Hawkesbury Upton, Badminton, South Glos, GL9 1AU*



Letters to the Editor: Hadrian's Wall Quest 2011

“Shadow of the Wall” An expedition by David Anthony Murray F.R.G.S. to help save England's semi-wild ponies from extinction

27th January 2011

Dear Fell Pony Society Members,

Some of you will be aware that for almost three years I have been attempting to plan a route for Fell pack ponies along Hadrian's Wall, from coast to coast. This one-off expedition, east to west and back, will attempt to highlight the need to conserve the semi-feral Fell pony breedlines from extinction, and will emphasise their unique grazing and genetic characteristics. A key aim is to publicise the need to recognise semi-feral herds as 'biodiversity'. The expedition will be unsupported, i.e. the pack ponies will carry everything! The Fell Pony Society is officially backing the project.

I write with an update of expedition planning. I have now met nearly all of approximately 140 landowners and tenants along Hadrian's Wall. There are still many discussions to be had, but by March 31st I expect to have the expedition route more or less finalised. During November and December last year I also completed a reconnaissance of most of the route on foot, though some serious checking remains to be done. I am now hopeful that the expedition might, with much good fortune, proceed in the near future, possibly this summer or early autumn.

With this in mind, between now and The FPS AGM I shall be planning other expedition logistics - camping sites, equipment needed, pony selection, en-route interviews and landowner co-ordination. Additionally, a Roman Pack Saddle must be made - difficult because the template is proving hard to find! In this connection, I am examining with archaeologists tenuous links between Roman pack animals and modern-day Fell ponies.

Some route, diary and other details will be provided to schools during the expedition. Interviews with several scientific experts and primary school and farm park presentations are intended en-route. Publicity (newspaper, radio and TV) is anticipated. However, considerable planning remains. I would like at this juncture to thank the Fell Pony Society Council for their support. I am grateful to members of the Society for their expertise, time and interest during the planning phase particularly Bob Charlton, John Greener, Judy Hill, Mary Longsdon, Barry Mallinson, Elizabeth Parkin, Bill Potter and Christine Robinson.

An expedition of this magnitude requires excellent equipment. Accordingly, and as usual with expeditions, I rely to some extent upon sponsorship of technical and logistical kit from across the UK. I would like to thank the Estate of the late Eileen Davis and also The Shepparton Stud for unexpected, welcome donations in support of the expedition's educational aims. If any individual member, stud or support group wishes to offer any donation of any amount towards the cost of

research and planning educational visits, this would be gratefully received. Please do contact me via email in the first instance: david-anthony-murray@hotmail.co.uk, or by telephone (07973-783297). All donations will be acknowledged and will be recorded in my official expedition report to be lodged with the Royal Geographical Society.

There are many difficulties to overcome before I can say with certainty that this expedition will definitely happen this year. However, as a Bowness farmer said to me a week before Christmas, when I gave up route-finding across the frozen, snow-capped, fog-locked marshes: I am now, it seems, at the point of no return!

*Kind regards,
David
David Anthony Murray
© D A Murray 2011*



Letters to the Editor: Make a Will

Further to the obituary for our Midlands member Eileen Davis (Autumn 2010 Magazine), I would like to tell you of her thoughtfulness and forward planning which are an example to all of us who own livestock.

Eileen died unexpectedly of an embolism, far too young, but her will made her departure as stress-free as possible for her husband and sons. She had planned her funeral, left instructions for her organs to be donated for transplant, and remembered her ponies' future and her equine interests.

Her menfolk called her ponies her personal recreational "me time" and knew little of that world or its organisation, so Eileen left her instructions - Old Swallow has gone to a friend as companion to a Shire horse, while 7 year old Richard was willed back to me, his breeder, to sell to a suitably knowledgeable home, the proceeds to cover her interests in the FPS, research, conservation, education and welfare. With Chris's blessing I have sent donations to World Horse Welfare, FPS's Trust Fund, Dr Stuart Carter's ongoing FIS research and David Murray's current venture along Hadrian's Wall, as well as creating three perpetual trophies in her name (for FPS and locally) by which her many friends can remember her.

By far the greatest legacy she has left is the example to think ahead, write a will, let your wishes be known and plan for your animals' wellbeing and future. A non-horsey spouse may not be the best person to carry out your wishes.

*Judy A Hill
Shepparton Stud.*



From Our President

Despite sale prices being their lowest for many years, and forage prices reaching new heights, 2011 was a good year for our society and the Fell Pony breed. As such, I'm sure you will be most relieved to read, I have little to report on. For the few dilemmas that we have faced in the last year, thanks must go to the Council for their diligent work and dedication to the society in resolving problems and discussing the needs of the breed for the future, to Elizabeth Parkin and Katherine Wilkinson for running our office so efficiently and to Mary Longsdon, our Chairman, for her unceasing loyalty to the breed, society and you, its members and supporters.

So what is worthy of mention? I fear I must resort to a comment on the weather. It has affected us all in one way or another and our ponies have had their hardiness tested more in the last twelve months than they have for half a century. The challenge of keeping troughs running for ponies in-by, keeping ponies fit when three foot of snow is lying in the fields, and making it along treacherous roads and tracks to feed stock on precious and limited forage, has tested us all - fortunately for us our ponies are bred to cope with this challenging and chilly weather.

But, and it's a big but, fingers crossed, we seem to have emerged out of the coldest spell of the winter and are starting to look forward to Spring, and getting back in the saddle and enjoying our ponies.

Well done for surviving the winter, so far, and the best of luck for the coming year.

Bob Charlton

Your President Robert Charlton on Linnel Flighty (8575) 'Sweeping the Board' at The National Pony Society Championships at Roehampton in 1955.

Linnel Flighty was bred by his father, Roy B Charlton, but owned by his sister Mary Ormrod.

Sarah Charlton writes, "It was a chance ride as Mary was ill with appendicitis. She had done all the work and he got the ride! Love his style, not changed that much since then."





Chairman's Report

I start this with a sad note as we have lost two stalwart members of our Society, Don Eltringham and Henderson Dodd, both of whom have been enthusiastic and keen supporters of our ponies and who will be greatly missed at events this coming year. We send our sincere condolences to their families.

Winter started early this year with a heavy fall of snow, I do hope those of you who took spectacular photos will be sending them in for our next Christmas card / calendar etc! Our snowdrops are now peeping out so hopefully it will soon be spring and your newsletter will be filled with a huge selection of events for you all to look forward to. Very many thanks to Sue Millard for producing another fascinating edition of our newsletter, it must be very time consuming, but she has also managed to produce two new books designed especially for our younger members as well.

We have had considerable difficulties in getting our qualifiers sorted for HOYS and Olympia. Now there have been changes with the organisers and again we may be able to improve things for 2012.

I know I have said it before but if you are eligible do use your RIGHT TO VOTE. Our four serving Council members are all prepared to stand again and we have two new candidates as well, although they have both been on Council previously. It is most encouraging that people are so prepared to help and give their time for our Society and it is such a support to them if the membership will PLEASE bother to VOTE.

Our Breed Societies have been dealt a vicious blow by DEFRA wishing to centralise the issuing of passports in the name of "improving efficiency and reducing costs". They seem to have fallen short already owing to the fact they cancelled the meeting arranged, a day and a half beforehand, when we had mainly all booked and paid for our travelling! There are of course many serious implications, but until there is a meeting there is little I can say except that we will try our best to keep control of our stud book and our Society under these very irritating circumstances.

Before I close a big thank you again, to all our members who work so hard to keep our Society and Ponies going forward in spite of all the hazards!

With Best Wishes, Mary.



Secretary's Report, Spring 2011

Katherine and I were quietly congratulating ourselves on being up to date in the office, with only a few 2010 registrations left to resolve. It just goes to show that you never know what's round the corner, as a few days later we received an email from DEFRA informing us that they intend to change the current National Equine Database contract when it expires this year and move to a single equine identification organisation - meaning they will produce all horse passports.

Actually, to be truthful, we *didn't* receive the email from DEFRA - they sent out an email to 'all Passport Issuing Organisations' on the Wednesday, but didn't include us in the mailing list. We got it second hand from someone else wanting to know what our views were. Not a good start. They gave us notice of a meeting in London to 'seek our views' - the meeting was to take place 12 days after the date of the letter, not a lot of notice, and, from our point of view, an unfortunate choice as I had a holiday booked in Switzerland that week.

Fortunately, Mary, our Chairman, volunteered to attend, so we would be represented. The letter seeks to reassure us that 'Breed Societies will continue to be recognised by Government to fulfil their important studbook governance and breed preservation roles. They will also be responsible for the verification of pedigree information and will therefore continue to play a key role in the production of horse passports.' It appears that the new arrangement will come into force in October 2011, as they have extended the current NED contract to that date. Apparently the new contract 'will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the current system of passport data collection whilst at the same time reducing costs', and will deliver a number of benefits 'including the simplification of the process for customers; standardised quality and improved recognition of passports; the provision of a central database at zero cost to the taxpayer; standardised database records and potential cost reductions due to economies of scale'.

I wonder if they will be able to turn transfers of ownership round on the same day, and produce foal passports within 5 days of receipt as we do?

At the moment I find it difficult to foresee how this will impact on us and other Breed Societies, but I have a very bad feeling about it.

The day before I went on holiday and two working days before the date of the meeting, DEFRA contacted us to say that they had postponed the meeting until further notice because of the 'number of responses' to their original communication 'which raise significant and complex issues about Horse Passports and in particular how they are authorised and issued in the future'. Had they not considered these issues already before deciding they wanted a single passport issuing authority? Also, how many of the people intending to attend the meeting had already bought their rail (and in some cases, air) tickets, as had our Chairman? I shall be sending them an invoice for Mary's rail fare. Happy New Year?

Elizabeth



Calendar of Events 2011

2 April

Annual General Meeting
1 pm Orton Market Hall, Orton, Penrith,
Cumbria CA10 3RJ; see *Notice of AGM*

3 April

President's Lunch, Linnel Wood, Hexham.
Contact Bob & Sarah Charlton, 01434
673262 or
bob.charlton@ukonline.co.uk; See
Looking Ahead

3 April

Lunch, Meeting & Talk by Vyv Wood-Gee.
Allanbank Hotel, Greenloaning,
Dunblane FK15 0LX (just off A9).
Contact Diane Meikle, 01847 851448, or
diane.meikle@btinternet.com; see *Area
Support Groups*

10 April

FPS MESG Fell Spring Show, Bury Farm,
Slapton, Bucks.
see www.fellspringshow.com and *Area
Support Groups*

10th April

Cumbria Fell and Dales WARM UP SHOW,
Inglewood E. Centre, CA118RP, see *Area
Support Groups*

8 May 2011, Sunday

Dorset Fell Show, Hurn Bridge Equestrian
Centre, Hurn, Dorset BH23 6AD,
www.hurnbridgeec.co.uk
www.dorsetfellshow.co.uk or
sharron@dorsetfellshow.co.uk

14 May

FPS Stallion and Colt Show, Dalemain,
Ullswater, Penrith. For schedule please
send SAE to Mrs M Murray, Park Farm,
Baldersdale, Barnard Castle, Co Durham
DL12 9UT, Tel 01833 650474

14 May

Sandringham Show, West Newton Park,
Norfolk - Classes for Fells, Dales and
Fell-friends. For schedule send SAE to
Lisa Dunger, 41 Church Lane, Wolferton,
Kings Lynn, PE31 6HE.
lisa@lisadunger.wanadoo.co.uk

29th May 2011

Ride & Drive, Barbecue & Open Afternoon -

Hardendale Fell Ponies, Littlefields,
Hethersgill, nr. Carlisle, Cumbria. Tel.
01228 675814

4 June

Cumbria Fell & Dales Show, Jenkinson's
Field, Brougham, Penrith, Cumbria; see
Area Support Groups

26 June

Derbyshire Fell, Dales & Highland Pony
Show, Bakewell Show Ground, Bakewell,
Derbyshire. For schedule please send
SAE to Miss M Longsdon MBE, Eaglets,
Little Longstone, Bakewell, Derbyshire
DE45 1NN

13 August

Fell Pony Society Breed Show, Brougham,
Penrith, Cumbria. For schedule please
send SAE to Mrs M Murray, Park Farm,
Baldersdale, Barnard Castle, Co Durham
DL12 9UT, Tel 01833 650474

11 September

FPS Southern Show, Crown Farm, Ascott-
under-Wychwood, Oxon. SAE to
Georgina Blair, 18 Gurnells Road, Seer
Green, Beaconsfield HP9 2XJ, Tel 07796
695992, www.fellsouthernshow.com

25 September

FPS Performance Trials, Linnel Wood,
Hexham. For schedule, sAE to Mrs S
Charlton, Linnel Wood, Hexham,
Northumberland NE46 1UB.
Tel 01434 673262, email
bob.charlton@ukonline.co.uk,
fax 01434 673852

21 October 2011, Friday

Annual Show & Sale of Registered Fell
Ponies, Penrith & District Farmer's Mart,
Penrith, Cumbria CA11 0DN

22 October 2011, Saturday

Autumn General Meeting, 1 pm. Orton
Market Hall, Orton, Penrith, Cumbria
CA10 3RJ

Important - all these dates and venues are
provisional. Please check with the
Office for confirmation.



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Company No 3233346

Registered Charity No 1104945

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held on 2nd APRIL 2011 at 1.00 pm

At **ORTON MARKET HALL**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Approval and adoption of Autumn General Meeting Minutes 23 October 2010
- 3 Matters arising from the Minutes
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Result of Postal Voting for Council
- 6 Adoption of Accounts for year ended 31st October 2010
- 7 Resolution to appoint Langdales Accountants Ltd as Accountants to the Society
- 8 Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- 9 Reports from Delegates and Sub-Committees
- 10 Any Other Business
- 11 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

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 Kennedy's Chocolates.



MINUTES OF THE AUTUMN GENERAL MEETING 2010

Held at Orton Market Hall on Saturday 23 October 2010

Miss Longsdon opened the meeting and informed members that the Society had lost several good friends during the summer: Sheena Lawson, known to most members, a great support of Fells and a very well-respected judge; Peggy Wilson, mother of Glenis Cockbain and involved with Fells all her life; Eileen Davis, a supporter of the Midlands East Group and very keen on her Fell ponies; Alveria Pattinson who had kindly left the Society a legacy in her will, and Malcolm Billings, a keen member of Midlands West Group and a very keen driver of Fells. She invited members to stand in remembrance of them.

Miss Longsdon then welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially our President, Mr Bob Charlton.

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Mrs S Barbour, Miss M Brennand, Mrs L & Miss C Brooks, the Brunskill family, Mr P Boustead, Miss G Callister, Mrs S Camp, Miss D Chadwick, Miss J & Miss I Charlton, Mrs G Cockbain, Mrs R Douglas, Mrs A Edwards, Mr D Eltringham, Mrs M Enser, Ms J Fairburn, Miss H Fell, Mrs P Finch, Mr & Mrs W Ford and Miss D Ford, Mrs B Hartley, Mrs J Hill, Mr D Howe, Mrs E Jones, Mrs H Jones, Miss C King, Mr & Mrs J Langcake, Mr & Mrs P Leach, Mr D Lovegreen, Mrs H Moss, Mr D Murray, Mr & Mrs R Muttitt, Mrs J Reekie, Mrs S Rees, Mr R Relph-Briggs, Mrs E Robinson, Mr W Robinson, Miss C Savage, Miss R Sim, Mrs C & Miss I Slack, Mrs S Stewart, Mrs E Whittam, Miss M Wilkinson, Mrs G Williamson and Miss J Williamson.

2 Approval and adoption of Annual General Meeting Minutes of 27 March 2010

Mrs Millard pointed out that in Matters Arising (page 14), it had been minuted that: "Mrs Morton told members that the driving had been taken over by the North West Driving Club and there would be a driving competition at Holker Hall." In fact, the driving event at Holker was not being run by the North West Driving Club, it was a National event held under the auspices of, and run by members of, the British Horse Driving Trials Association.

With this amendment, she proposed acceptance of the minutes, Miss Walker seconded and the minutes were approved.

3 Matters arising from the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 March 2010

David Murray's walk along Hadrian's Wall with Fell Pack ponies was now planned for 2011. Planning was going well with permission for his route obtained from all but one landowner. Mr Charlton said he could confirm that that permission had now been obtained. Mr Murray was looking for three ponies to train in January.

Mrs Newall said that he was keen that they were 'wild' ponies - i.e. they had never been handled and had lived out.

Miss Longsdon reported that the 2010 Learning With Fells programme had gone well, and been much enjoyed by the young people who had attended. Anyone interested in taking part in 2011 should apply as soon as possible. She confirmed that it was for junior members up to the age of 18, and gave sincere thanks to all those who had given a hand this year.

Congratulations were due to the Metcalfe family and Severnvale Grey Bobby, who had come second in the Showing World Show Pony Personality of the Year. Mr Metcalfe thanked members for their congratulations and said it had been a good party.

Miss Longsdon reminded members that nominations for Council should be with the office by 31 December and that we were always looking for new (younger!) people with lots of ideas. She asked members to encourage others to make use of their postal vote to ensure a democratic Society. She reminded members that they must have paid their annual subscription by 15 February to be entitled to vote, and that Council needed their support.

Council had decided to disband the Publicity, Promotions and Projects Sub-Committee - the membership was so geographically scattered that they had found it impossible to meet regularly. It had been decided that if anyone had an idea for a project, it should be put before Council, and if agreed, a group would be formed to see it through.

There had been a very successful Judges Clinic at Moreton Morrell, together with the Dales and Highlands - the three breeds often compete in the same classes, particularly ridden. 50 to 60 people had attended and there had been a lot of audience participation. Feedback had indicated that people had found it enjoyable and informative. The hire of the school had been sponsored by the Midlands East Support Group and the Society was very grateful to them for that.

4 Chairman's Report

Miss Longsdon welcomed members again, with a particular welcome to the visitors from our Daughter Society in The Netherlands. The Society had had a good summer - the shows had gone well and avoided the worst of the weather. Five of the seven support groups had sent a pony to compete in the final of the new inter-group championship at the Southern Show - the champion was Llancloudy Gabriel, owned by Jules Jordan from the South East group. Fells had also done well nationally, with eight Fells qualifying for HOYS, congratulations to them, and also to the three going to Olympia - we wished them luck and hoped they would do well.

Miss Longsdon thanked everyone who helped the Society; members should be aware how much people do. She thanked Mrs Parkin & Mrs Wilkinson for working so hard in the office, Mrs Millard for another excellent magazine, and Mrs Robinson and the Council who work so hard on behalf of the Society, putting in

lots of thought and effort to get things right. If members felt something was wrong, they should feel free to contact Council and they would discuss it and try to put things right. She was well aware that most people in the room were involved in some way with the society and its sub-committees - thanks were due to them all, as the Society couldn't run without them.

She told members that Ian Smith, who had been an excellent Press Officer for us, keeping the Society news in the magazines, had now decided to give up the duties. He was not present at the meeting, but she asked Alastair, his son, to pass on our sincere thanks to him and we were very grateful for the time and effort he had committed to the job. The Society was fortunate to have had an offer from Claire Simpson to carry on where Ian had left off. Miss Longsdon encouraged members to contact Claire with their news and thanked her very much for taking it on.

Miss Longsdon and Miss Glass had attended the NPS show in August - all the breeds had attended with information stands and the Princess Royal had visited and chatted for a while.

Miss Longsdon thanked the Wilkinson family for a very good open day and ride and drive. She was sure everyone had enjoyed it - a great deal of effort had obviously gone into it and everyone had had a lovely day.

Vyv Wood-Gee had just completed another epic journey, this time from the Isle of Skye to Smithfield, with her Fell ponies. It was a tremendous effort and wonderful publicity for the breed and Miss Longsdon hoped we could look forward to another fascinating talk from her. It really showed that the ponies could still do the same job they were bred for years ago.

Next year, the World Sheepdog Championships would be held at Lowther from 15 to 18 September. The Society had been invited to put on a Fell pony display lasting 20 to 30 minutes in the main ring each day. Council had thought that we could do something based on Fell ponies through the ages, ending with a display of what the modern pony does - it would be great publicity for us. Stabling, passes and a tent for information and merchandise would be provided. We would need lots of volunteers and ponies - people needn't commit for all four days. Anyone interested in taking part should let the office know. Miss Walker suggested that it might make a good holiday for members - they could bring their ponies to take part in the display and have the opportunity to ride locally on the fells.

Miss Longsdon thanked those who provided and served the teas - they asked that people made a minimum donation of £2 - all the money goes to the Society as the food is donated.

The Lownthwaite Rob Trophy had been awarded to Skelgill May, Libby Robinson's pony, now resident in France, and being a great advertisement for the breed. Libby was unable to attend, unfortunately, but had asked Margaret Murray to tell members a little about the pony.

She was foaled in 1983 and Libby bought her in 1991, at which time she was being used as a driving pony delivering pizza in London. Libby used her with her other pony, Admergill Ursula, in driving courses, but she was also used as a ridden pony, taking part in trotting races, pony club activities and hunting. For two years the pony was part of the Black Country Museum's living demonstration of life in a Victorian carter's yard. In 1999, she moved to France with Libby and her family and has done much to promote the breed there, taking part in long distance riding, Le Trec and competitive driving, and is still an active pony today.

Finally, Miss Longsdon said that she had many failings, and that one of them was that, while she liked everyone to remember her birthday, she never remembered anyone else's. On this occasion, she felt particularly bad, because it was a rather special birthday - we had a bouquet for Betty Walker, who has done so much for the Society over the years, and has reached a rather special birthday - well done to her and many thanks from the Fell Pony Society - sorry we missed the right day.

5 Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Mrs Parkin reported that it had been another busy day at the Sale yesterday - there were 165 ponies in the catalogue - 40 more than last year. 141 were forward on the day and 97 sold. Prices were down again for the third consecutive year, the top price being 850 guineas for a filly foal. The average price was 290 guineas compared to 316 last year. Most buyers transferred their ponies on the day and we had gained one or two new members for the Society. Merchandise sales went well, taking £1,276, which was slightly up on last year. Thanks as usual to Katherine for helping her with the passports and transfers and also to the ladies running the stand.

She had mentioned in her report in the magazine that our grant from the Horserace Betting Levy Board was likely to be cut this year. It had been confirmed this week that we will receive £3,820 in January, compared to the £5,870 received previously. We were also notified that due to the cuts they are facing, one of the two people who deal with the grants there has been made redundant, which rather put things into perspective. Council had discussed how the reduced grant should be used when they met last month - we were already committed to paying the Performance Premiums, as members had been competing for them through this showing season, so Council had decided that next year the mare premium would only be payable for mares from the semi-feral herds producing live foals for full registration.

She had also mentioned in her report in the magazine that we had been awarded a grant by the RBST towards the cost of funding FIS tests for stallions licensed in 2010 and affected foals. If anyone had had an affected foal tested and had not claimed the cost of the test back from the Society, please let her know as soon as possible, so that she could reimburse it.

We were seeing the expected reduction in the number of foal registrations this year. When she was completing the grant return for the Betting Levy Board, the

number of stallion services in 2009 was over a hundred less than in previous years. We had registered 210 foals so far, and there are quite a few that we knew of still to come in.

On the Finance side, we had over six thousand pounds in the current accounts, £39,000 in the deposit account, and £9,580 in the Trust Fund.

It was the end of the financial year next weekend; she was having two weeks holiday, then she had to get the books to the accountants so that they could do the accounts before Christmas. She hoped members were all going to do their Christmas shopping on the stand when the meeting finished today.

Miss Longsdon thanked Mrs Parkin and told members that she had forgotten to mention the new office in her Chairman's report. It was much more spacious and easier to work with everything in one place now - also, Elizabeth had been able to reclaim the rooms in her house. She reminded members that it hadn't cost the FPS anything, nor did they pay rent for it, just electricity costs - members should call in and admire it if they were passing!

6 Reports from Delegates and Sub-Committees

Mrs Robinson told members that the Conservation Grazing Sub-Committee had not met recently. It was a slow process, but they were making some inroads. They had had ponies grazing in Ennerdale, to make the environment more suitable for butterflies - feedback had been very positive and they hoped to get more ponies grazing there. Next month she had an article to write for the Grazing Animals Partnership magazine - the next issue is concentrating on equine conservation grazing and there is more interest in ponies grazing on conservation projects as they are easier to move on and off farmed land.

Mrs Robinson also reminded members who had been competing in this year's Performance Points to return their forms as soon as they had finished competing, and definitely before 15 January. Ideally, they should send them by recorded delivery to ensure they arrive safely.

There was no report from the Judges Sub-Committee.

Mrs Millard, Overseas Sub-Committee, said they had only met once this year, when their main job had been to recommend the renewal of the certificates for the overseas branches; two in America, one in France, one in Belgium, one in South Germany, and this year two new branches in Denmark, one in the east of the country and one in the west. She thanked the Fell pony branches for supporting Fell pony owners across Europe and North America. She explained that another of the sub-committee's jobs is to assist the branches in getting translations done (currently in French, German and Danish) for documents such as the 'About Fell Ponies' article on the website, the Breed Standard, the Regulations and also the information on FIS testing. The French branch is now going to continue under the guidance of Libby Robinson, and the committee may need to meet soon to discuss anomalies in the registration of Fell ponies in Germany. Miss Longsdon thanked Mrs Millard for the amount of work she put in; this was one of

our expanding areas. She then asked if any of our Dutch visitors would like to say anything to the meeting. Mrs Postma thanked everyone for their welcome, they had enjoyed their day at the Sale - they thought the prices had not been too bad - it was the same in Europe and hopefully would get better eventually. The NFPS kept going - change could not be made in one night, and they had been pleased to welcome Miss Longsdon and Mr Goddard to judge at their Breed Show earlier in the year. They very much enjoyed visiting the UK and being able to talk to members about their ponies.

Mrs Murray, Show Sub-Committee, said that it had been a successful year overall, with good entries for the Stallion & Breed shows. She thanked all those who helped with the shows, both before and on the day - we couldn't manage without them. Competitors didn't really realise how much work was involved in organising the shows. This year, the Brampton Young Farmers had assisted at the Breed Show, which had been a great help. The Performance Trials had been a great success; thanks were due to the Charlton family for hosting the day and working so hard to make it a fun event. There had been 60 entries this year, of which 20 were Fells. The South Cumbria show had not been doing well over recent years - it lacked support and was losing money. The Show Sub-Committee had discussed this and were considering an earlier indoor show at Greenlands - it would be an opportunity to hold qualifiers. Miss Longsdon thanked the Show Sub-Committee - they did an enormous amount of work behind the scenes and the shows were good publicity for us as well as a great day out. As always, new volunteers to help would be very welcome.

Mrs Hodgson asked if there was to be a Foal Show this year, and it was confirmed that this was being organised by the North West Group and would take place on Saturday 20 November at Inglewood.

7 Foal Immunodeficiency Syndrome

Miss Longsdon reminded members that Council were to discuss the Society's policy on this at the November meeting. This year the Society had funded the test for all newly licensed stallions and for affected foals. The overall take up of the test had been good. She asked members if they had any views or ideas which they would like Council to consider.

Mr Thorpe told the meeting that he had tested many of his ponies, and the certificates had been put in their passports. When the ponies were sold, he thought there was a possibility that if the pony was a carrier, the certificate might 'disappear', and so he wondered if the passport could be stamped in some way by the Society, if the owner so wished. There was considerable discussion about this suggestion and it was confirmed that if it was agreed, the office could cope with the workload. There was also a suggestion that the office should keep a list of ponies that had been tested and their status - this might help Council to monitor the situation in the different bloodlines. It was also suggested that a list of clear stallions should be compiled, though if a breeder had a clear mare, they had a free choice of stallions. The catalogue for the stallion show could be used to indicate a stallion's status if the owner so wished. Mr Charlton said that in his

personal view, he could not understand why an owner would wish to hide a pony's status - if a pony was a carrier, it wasn't because the breeder had done anything wrong - it was just bad luck, so why not be honest? Miss Longsdon reminded members that we needed to be sure that any decisions we made were for the long-term future of the ponies. Comment was made about the cost of breeding and the current low sale prices - were we flooding the market? Prices were probably due to the general recession, but maybe we should be looking at breeding quality rather than quantity. Miss Longsdon thanked members for their views and assured them that Council would consider them when they met in November.

8 Members' Suggestions

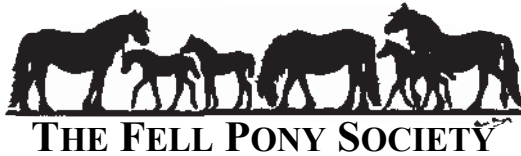
Miss Meikle said that in 2008 she had asked if minutes of Council and Sub-Committee meetings could be published on the website so that members could have a better idea of how Council members contributed and that this would assist members in making their decisions when voting for Council. This provoked discussion on the confidentiality of some issues discussed in Council. Also, minutes of Council were not verbatim, and tended to be 'anonymised' so that Council members would not feel inhibited about expressing their opinions. Additionally, if minutes were published on the website, making them available to members only would cause increased workload for our website manager, who does the job voluntarily. Mr Wilkinson pointed out that Council's telephone numbers were printed in the newsletter, so members were free to phone them to ask any questions they might have. Miss Longsdon agreed that the Society would look into the matter and find out what we were obliged to do, and what could be done voluntarily.

9 Any Other Business

Mr Rawlinson thought that the cancellation of the show before the Sale had been a big mistake. Miss Longsdon told the meeting that it had been done on Health & Safety grounds, as the hall that was available had a concrete floor, which was unsuitable for showing. Council would be discussing the matter at their meeting in November.

Mrs Savage raised the issue of local shows allowing entries that were a nomination under a stud name, rather than a specific pony. If the shows affiliated to the Society, we could ask them not to do this; however, if they did not affiliate, we couldn't do anything.

Cumbria Bridleways Society's maps of the Eden Valley Loops were available free of charge.



Registration and Other Fees

<p>To Register Colt or Gelding - registrations received to 30 November £10</p> <p>To Register Colt or Gelding - registrations received 1 - 31 December £20</p> <p>To Register Filly - registrations received to 30 November £15</p> <p>To Register Filly - registrations received 1 - 31 December £30</p> <p>Late Registration (does not include cost of parentage test) £50</p> <p>Duplicate Passport (does not include cost of parentage test) £50</p> <p>Transfer of Ownership (UK) £10</p>	<p>Transfer of Ownership (Overseas- includes postage charge) £15</p> <p>Transfer to Gelding FOC</p> <p>Stallion Licence (includes cost of DNA kit) £50</p> <p>Register a Prefix - UK Rate £40</p> <p>Register a Prefix - Overseas Rate £60</p> <p>DNA kit £50</p> <p>FIS kit £40</p> <p>Please note the increase in registration fees for applications received in December.</p>
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Advertising Fees for Autumn Magazine

Full page	£60
Half page	£30
Quarter page	£15
Small box.....	£10
Picture in any of the preceding	+£10
Classified lineage, text only	
.....	£2 per 20 words

Please send your advertisement to the Secretary, by 31 August 2011, with the appropriate fee payable to FPS.



2010 Membership Fees

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

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

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

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

Membership Renewal

Society memberships fall due on 1 January annually - not a difficult date to remember. We do not send out reminders at this time - it would cost the Society approximately £450.

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



Sub-Committees

Conservation Grazing Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs CH Robinson, 6 Crossgates, Lamplugh, Workington, Cumbria CA144TU. Telephone: 01946 862439.

Mrs GM Callister, Mr RB Charlton, Mrs M Dodd, Mr WS Potter, Mr A Thorpe.

Judges Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mr P Boustead, 33 Meadowside, Lancaster, Lancashire LA1 3AQ. Telephone: 01524 383665.

Secretary: Mrs E Jones, Mill Cottage, Sparket Mill, Hutton John, Penrith CA11 0LZ.

Mr TB Capstick, Mrs GM Cockbain, Mr TH Harrison, Mr AW Morland, Mr WS Potter, Mr P Metcalfe.

Overseas Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Sue Millard, Daw Bank, Greenholme, Tebay, Penrith, Cumbria CA10 3TA. Telephone: 01539 624636.

Mrs GM Callister, Mr TB Capstick, Mr GHB Mallinson, Mrs MC Murray, Mrs CH Robinson.

Show Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs S Charlton, Linnel Wood, Hexham, Northumberland, NE 46 1UB. Telephone: 01434 673262, Fax: 01434 673852.

Mr P Boustead, Mr I Brunskill, Mrs S Brunskill, Miss R Brunskill. Mrs M Dodd, Mr J Greener, Mrs MC Murray, Mrs CH Robinson.



Mr Donald Eltringham, Clarmount Fell Ponies



Fell pony breed show 1992, Don and Southwick Beauty winning the driving class. Photo © Roy Wallis, Northumberland

Don passed away peacefully in his sleep just before Christmas and will be sadly missed. My earliest memories of him go back to 1992 and the very first show I attended as his 'groom'. It was Barningham Fell pony show, a favourite of Don's and all very new to me but needless to say he kept me right and as of that day I was hooked on both showing and Fell ponies! I helped show Southwick Beauty, his first Fell pony, purchased around 1986 from Ruby and Keith Williams. This special little mare was a great partnership for Don and his passion for Driving. Beauty was perfect and I know just how much she meant to him. They had a hugely successful showing career, then she became the foundation mare for his Clarmount Stud. In the winter of 1990 Don made the trip to the late Sarge Noble's Heltondale Stud and returned with a colt and a filly foal, Heltondale Rob II and Heltondale Honey, and the rest is history.

Don's enthusiasm for showing and breeding was catching and every weekend we would be travelling the length and breadth of the country with a wagon full of ponies. In-hand, riding, driving, all aspects, Don loved the ambience of the showing circuit.

Don's Fell ponies were definitely the next best thing to a family, together with the huge circle of friends he met along the way. I recall many a time being up with the larks, then absolutely exhausted after a day's showing and we would still be the last wagon off the showfield because Don was chatting to someone!

His Clarmount stud grew year after year and so did Don's success. He was showing Heltondale Rob II who had become a very well known stallion. He

qualified for summer championships and so off we would go for a week's holiday which Don loved. He also loved the Royal show and would attend every year for a week at a time, sometimes with ponies and sometimes on his own, but always supporting the Fell pony breed, wherever he went.

After a difficult decision Don decided to retire from showing and breeding in 2002 to live the good life and so very well deserved too, though nothing could keep him away from shows and events especially if it involved his beloved Fells. He enjoyed being asked to judge at various shows and found it a privilege to use his years of knowledge in this way and still be involved.

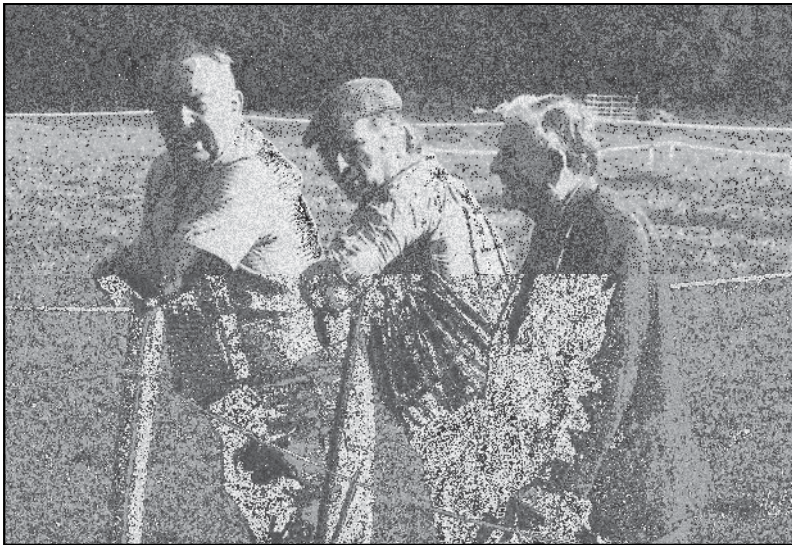
With his retirement gift to himself (in the shape of a luxury horsebox) he would be on hand to transport ponies to shows or provide a dry shelter for the night for anyone that needed it. He was very kind and accommodating in that respect, so long as he could have a meal cooked in return! He just loved to travel.

The very last trip he booked was to Olympia in December. Clarmount Benjamin had qualified for the NPS final and he was very excited to see a pony he had bred there. Sadly he didn't make the trip but I know he would have been so so proud.

I am sure every one who knew Don would agree he was a great ambassador for the breed and everyone who knew him will have lots of memories to share. Believe me I could write a book.

Lastly I would like to say a huge thank you to Don for introducing me to a very special breed of pony and for lots of happy memories that will stay forever in my heart.

Leanna Garbutt

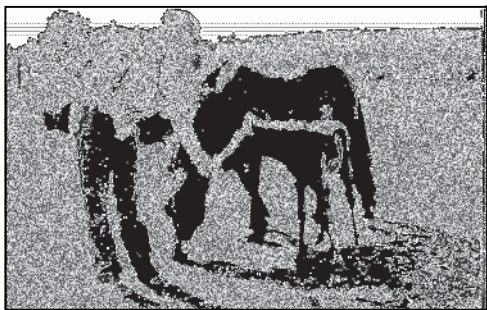


Don Eltringham (right) in company with George Guy (left) and Bill Potter last summer



Henderson Dodd 21st January 1934 - 9th January 2011

My father was born and brought up in Silloth on the Cumbrian coast. His mother ran a shop in the town but many of his weekends and holidays were spent on his Aunt and Uncle's small-holding at Low Flow, not far away. He developed a keen interest in, and vast knowledge of, the history and wildlife of the Solway Plain. It would always be his first love.



Henderson Dodd with High Heath Dainty and Kerbeck Night Music

Horses were something he saw lots of when growing up, when they were still very much part of the Solway farming scene, but it wasn't until I developed an interest in ponies that he had anything to do with them personally. However, anyone who knew him, knows that once involved with something, he would endeavour to learn as much as possible about his subject.

When I first starting showing my Fells in 1978 Dad was the chauffeur, and later, after I passed my test, he would still come to shows to help. I would drive there, he would drive back. Looking back he had one or two hiccups along the way, so I am slightly

surprised he kept going. One was when he was showing Kerbeck Night Music as a foal at Penrith. Music was being rather naughty and eventually reared up, knocking dad's glasses off. A voice piped up, "Careful, she's got her foot over the rope." Dad's quiet reply was, "I can think of a lot better place for that rope!" Music and he did make friends eventually. On another occasion he was left to hold Frizington Duke while I got ready to ride at the Stallion Show. Dad was somewhat embarrassed to find himself on the other end of an empty bridle whilst Duke went off for a play!

Driving was another thing he enjoyed, occasionally grooming for me at shows, also driving either Townend Princess II or her son Warborough Romany at club events, and once even taking to the show ring at Loweswater with Princess. He learned to ride, and whilst no expert, enjoyed several Fell Pony Pleasure Rides and early Performance Trials at Packway, as well as occasional Trek Leading when we had the Riding School.

Even back in the '80s farriers didn't come cheap, and as he had for some time been sticking the odd shoe on our ponies, our Farrier at the time suggested he register to shoe our own ponies, which he did, once again learning as much as he could along the way. He took part in a Farrier's Essay competition, which, to his surprise and delight, he won, receiving a very generous bursary towards further education and equipment purchase. He eventually gave up shoeing following

an operation, but kept up a strong interest in the World of Farriery.

Almost four years ago he suffered a stroke, which left him much less mobile and partially blind. However he remained interested in all that was going on, enjoying attending various Fell Pony events and meeting old friends and making several new ones. Just after the New Year this year he died peacefully at home and will be much missed by us and many other people who had got to know him through Fell Ponies.

Over the years he had many ponies he loved and admired - Guards Richard, his partner on his first ever Fell Pony Ride. Princess and Romany, our first Fell Ponies. High Heath

Dainty, with whom he is pictured, was another special pony for him and of course Frizington Duke with whom, despite Dad nicknaming him "Captain Chaos," he did get on very well.

Just before Christmas we lost one of his other favourites, Kerbeck Solar Fire, son of Duke, who belonged to Gillian and Sarah Kilburn. A couple of days after Dad's death, we realised that the keys to the Forest we ride in had gone - nobody could find them. Then just a few days after Dad's funeral the keys turned up on Solo's saddle in the tack room. We can only assume they went for one last ride and forgot to hang up the keys again.

Christine Robinson



FIS testing, Spring 2011

Council have agreed that the Society will continue to fund the FIS test for newly-licensed stallions, and for affected foals, in 2011. Owners must be members of the Society.

The cost of the test, £40, has been affected by the recent increase in VAT from 17.5% to 20%. The new cost is £40.85. The Animal Health Trust has kindly agreed to absorb this increase until the end of March. After that date, the Society will absorb the 85p increase for the rest of this year, so the cost of the test to owners remains at £40.

There are rumours circulating that is possible for a clear sire and a clear dam to produce a carrier/affected foal. There is no scientific evidence to support this.

The AHT recommends that the Society does not declare the offspring of two clear parents as clear, on the basis that the Society does not insist on parentage testing so there is the slight possibility that the parentage may not be correct.



Council Elections 2011

The following retire and are eligible for re-election: Mrs S Brunskill, Mrs M Dodd, Mrs C H Robinson and Mr A Thorpe. All four have indicated that they are willing to stand again. Two new candidates have been proposed, so there are six candidates in total and four vacancies to fill.

NEW CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION



MRS SUE MILLARD - prefix 'DAWBANK'

(proposed by Mrs J E Moffat, seconded by Mrs S A Charlton)

You probably know me best as the Editor of this Magazine, which is hard work but very enjoyable. I have worked with or owned Fell ponies since 1972, and own two ride-and-drive ponies.

I am a writer and a web manager, donating time to look after the Dalemain Fell Pony Museum's web site and two web forums of interest to Fell pony owners.

I have served one term on Council, which was a pleasure and a challenge, and went by incredibly fast. I chair the Overseas Sub-Committee which works to support owners and enthusiasts of the Fell pony abroad. Since 1995 I have been a Panel judge for the Society. I see the work of the Society as not only to "keep pure the old breed of pony", to educate our young members, and to present the ponies to the public, but also to defend the breed and its breeders when external bureaucracy tries to impose nonsensical rules upon them.

I would be very grateful to have your support, but I will in any case continue to offer my technical skills to promote the ponies, and serve owners, breeders, supporters and Council.



MRS EILEEN WALKER - prefix 'RACKWOOD'

(proposed by Mr R B Charlton, seconded by Mr D Wilkinson)

I have been involved with Fell ponies since 1974. My father's passion for breeding and showing Fell ponies soon became my pride and joy and has been a prominent part of my life for the last 25 years. I currently have a small herd of 14 Fell ponies and I try to breed ponies that are true to type and support traditional breed characteristics. I strive to promote the Fell pony as an all round family pony that all generations can enjoy. »»

I have recently retired from my work as a teacher so I am now in a position to dedicate some of my time to work with the Fell Pony Society and ensure the future of our beloved ponies. I am a practically minded, well organised individual and feel one of my main strengths is that of being a good communicator. I actively encourage young people by giving advice and helping them to get involved and learn all they can about Fell ponies. I am currently the North East Area Group organiser and have met many of you at our events. I would very much appreciate your support.

MEMBERS STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION



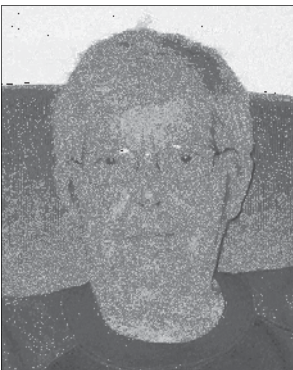
MRS SUSAN BRUNSKILL - prefix 'HYNHOLME' (1)

I have been involved with Fell ponies for a number of years and can regularly be seen getting soaking wet, stood in Ring 1, stewarding the mares class at the Breed show. I have been on the FPS council for 2 years and during that time I have enjoyed being personally involved with the society, from attending meetings, running the sales stand and to being an active member on the show committee.

I would like to be able to help move the society on whilst retaining the traditional type ponies and

encourage the younger generation to be actively involved

I would like to stand for re-election and thank everyone for their support.



MRS MARY DODD - prefix 'KERBECK' (0)

I have been a member of the Fell Pony Society since 1975 and am seeking re-election for my second term on the Council. I am a member of the Show Sub Committee, responsible for the Health & Safety issues at the Fell Pony Society Northern Shows, and a member of the Conservation Grazing Sub Committee. This latter committee is gradually making progress on the relationship with Natural England and other Conservation bodies.

I am treasurer for the Fell Pony Breeders Association, which has a very harmonious relationship with the Fell Pony Society. This can only be good for the Fell Pony, hill breeders, semi-feral herds and the environment in which they have to work.

If re-elected to Council I would strive to continue to promote the Fell breed and support young and new members as much as I am able. These are the new life blood of the Society.



MRS CHRISTINE ROBINSON - prefix 'KERBECK' (1)

Fell ponies have been a big part of my life since I met my first ones at a Trekking Centre where I used to ride. Although I was told "You don't one of those, you can't do owt with them" - meaning they were just trekking ponies - I did want one!

In 1975 I joined the Fell Pony Society and in 1977 realised a dream when I got my first Fell mare. From then on it was just a matter of proving that you could do (almost) anything you wanted with a Fell Pony.

I have been a member of Council now for what seems like half a life time, and I enjoy the work I do very much. I am honoured to be vice-chairman of Council and also to be Chairman of the Conservation Grazing sub-committee, which is slowly beginning to make progress in the right places. I also serve on the Show committee and run the Junior Points scheme and Performance awards.

If re-elected I will carry on trying to support the young members as much as I am able, as these people are the future of the Society, and continue to work towards getting more recognition of the importance of the semi-feral herds which are the life blood of our ponies.



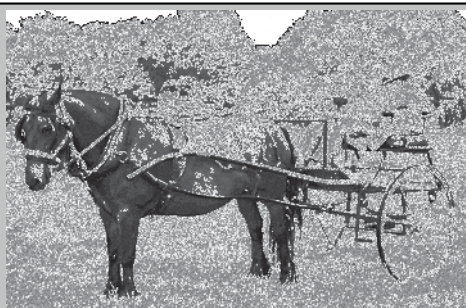
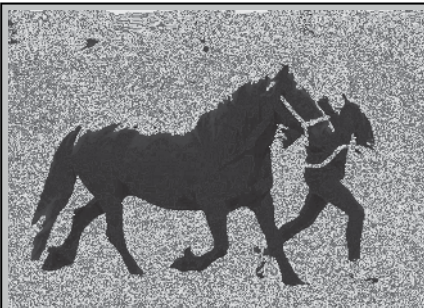
MR ANDREW THORPE - prefix 'WELLBROW' (0)

I am the breeder of the Wellbrow Fell Ponies which are kept as a semi feral herd on the hills and moors of the Rossendale valley in Lancashire. Fell ponies are a very large part of my family's lives and mine, and all of us either ride, drive, show, or shepherd on Fell Ponies.

Having been on the FPS council for the last 5 years, my aims are still the same, in particular to support and protect the hill bred ponies, as well as to remain approachable to the members of the FPS. I have never missed a council meeting. In today's world of economic recession, ever changing rules and regulations I consider that the FPS council will have to remain strong as it is at present, with a well balanced representation of FPS members.

I strongly believe that the Fell Pony is the most versatile family pony, I promote the Fell Pony at every opportunity whether on a show field, shepherding, or pleasure at home.

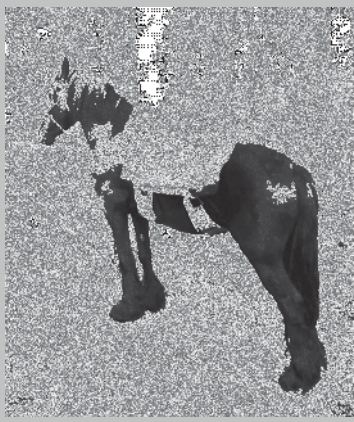
Numbers in brackets represent the number of regular meetings which have not been attended by those serving Council members over five years. (Two years for Mrs Brunskill.)



Versatility



*Clockwise from top:
practising trotting-out a
pony in-hand, at a Learning
with Fells day;
driving with the family;
Townend Ruffle at the
Veteran Horse Society's
Finals; Turkey Trot Sand
Lily ready to pack
equipment for hazard tree
removal; Murthwaite Mikado
and Murthwaite Magic Spell
inside a broch on Skye at the
beginning of their journey
to London;
the basis for it all—a Fell
mare on the fell.*





Fell Pony Society Southern Show

The 21st Fell Pony Society Southern Show returned to the scenic venue of Crown Farm, Ascott-under-Wychwood in the Cotswolds on Sunday 12 September. After a rather cold night on the showground for some, the show day itself started with a lot of frantic tent raising and table putting out by various officials, helpers and even one of the judges who made the mistake of arriving a little too early. There was a good turnout of ponies, and competitors made long journeys from as far as Sussex and Cornwall, and even Northallerton in North Yorkshire.

Judges Ian and Alistair Smith, from Perthshire, and Deborah Chadwick from Lancashire judged the showing classes. Youngstock champion was breeder Sue Petritz's yearling Richmond Bartholomew, from Horsham, West Sussex. Sue nearly decided not to bring him to the show, due to the absence of her normal helper, but a promise that there would be plenty of help available on the day convinced her to bring the youngster along with her broodmare Llancloudy Jezebel, and she'd like to thank the many people who did help her on the showground.

Winner of the foal class was the lovely Hemleyhill Genesis, a first homebred foal for Lorna Brooks from Oxfordshire. 'Thomas' is already showing that he knows his own mind at home, but he behaved beautifully at his first ever show.

Mare champion was Ludworth Donna, a previous multiple winner at Fell shows for owner Samantha Bloomfield. Breeder George Guy took mare reserve with Severnvalle Rosie. Gelding champion was Heather Mawrey's Wansfell Tobias, and they also took the best brown or bay in-hand title, making the long journey from Northallerton worthwhile. Xanthe Gould's all-rounder Inholmes Bilberry was gelding reserve. In-hand champion was Jules Jordan's stallion Llancloudy Gabriel.

Many of the successful in-hand ponies went on to show their versatility in the ridden classes. Llancloudy Gabriel won his stallion class and the traditional ridden geldings and stallions class, and went to be ridden champion. Ludworth Donna won the traditional ridden mares and the novice dressage class. Judy Hill and Christina Brooks' Shirdleyhill Tara won the ridden mares, and went on to be reserve ridden champion, piloted by Christina. Both Donna and Tara are mares who know their own minds, and their success is due to the tactful partnerships built by their riders.

There were also well filled dressage, working hunter and handy pony classes. Bewcastle ponies dominated the working hunter, with Mrs J Bremner's Bewcastle Brakethorn winning the novice and coming second in the intermediate, while Catherine Fuller's Bewcastle Bulbarrow won the intermediate and open. Bulbarrow, known as 'Bert' to his friends, was WHP champion while Brakethorn was reserve. WHP judge Kristine Johnson was extremely impressed with both ponies. Anastasia Meadows was second in the open WHP with her Pony Club

eventing partner Aylestone The Merrie Monk. They also won the children's championship.

At the end of a long day the judges picked Llancloudy Gabriel as supreme champion, and Ludworth Donna as reserve.

Show organiser Georgina Blair would like to thank the many people who helped in so many different ways to make the 21st Southern Show a success.

RESULTS

Judges:

Mr Ian Smith (Classes 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 22, 14, 17); Miss Deborah Chadwick (Classes 2, 3, 4, 11, 13, 24, 25); Mr Alistair Smith (Classes 6, 7, 32, 19, 20, 21, 18, 15, 16)

Ms Kristine Johnson (Classes 26 - 28 and 33); Mrs Debbie Beasant (Classes 34 - 36)

IN HAND

1. Stallions 2yrs & over

1st Llancloudy Gabriel, Mrs J Jordan
(photo in Colour section)
2nd Fairlawn Oliver, Mrs C Thompson

2. Mares 4 - 8 years

1st Roddlesworth Nancy, Miss J Glass
2nd Severnvale Grace, Mr G Guy
3rd Balmoral Vison, HM The Queen



Mares 9yrs & over—1st Ludworth Donna, Miss S Bloomfield. Donna was also Reserve Supreme Champion, Mare Champion and Best Turned-out In-hand.

Photo © Fleur Hallam

4th Townend Caitlin II, Mrs BC Hall

3. Mares 9yrs & over

1st Ludworth Donna, Miss S Bloomfield

2nd Severnvale Sadie, Mr G Guy

3rd Shirdleyhill Tara, Miss C Brooks &
Mrs J Hill

4th Hollyhouse Opal, Mrs BC Hall

4. Broodmares, with foal at foot or
certificate of service

1st Severnvale Rosie, Mr G Guy

2nd Llancloudy Jezebel, Mrs S Petritz

3rd Wolds Storm Petrel, Miss J Glass &
Miss C Brooks

4th Scotgate Sophie, Mr & Mrs K
Dorman

5. Foals

1st Hemleyhill Genesis, Mrs L Brooks

2nd Severnvale Krystal, Mr G Guy

3rd Meres Jemima, Mrs S Rees

4th Scotgate Starman, Mr & Mrs K
Dorman

6. Geldings 4 - 8 years

1st Wansfell Tobias, Miss H Mawrey

2nd Wellbrow Warrior, Mrs P Cox

3rd Inglegarth Yordas, Mr P Southwell

4th Ffrethi Commodore, Miss W Davies

7. Geldings 9 years & over

1st Inholmes Bilberry, Mrs X Gould

2nd Greenholme Terry, Mr GR Stallard

3rd Brackenbank Ronan, Mrs S Webster

4th Townend Rally, Mrs S Smith



*Veteran, 15 years & over—1st Packway Falcon, Mrs C Rear
Photo © Fleur Hallam*

8. Yearling, colt, filly or gelding
 1st Richmond Bartholomew, Mrs S Petritz
 2nd Severnvale June, Mr G Guy
 3rd Conkertree Infinity, Mr T & Mrs A Kay

9 Two year old, filly or gelding
 1st Meres Jamaday, Mrs S Rees
 2nd Merrythorpe Darling Buds of May, Miss T Hughes

10 Three year old, filly or gelding
 No entries

11 Veteran, 15 years & over
 1st Packway Falcon, Mrs C Rear
 2nd Meres Jenalea, Mrs S Rees
 3rd Meres Joker III, Mrs F Gray
 4th Heltondale Lady VIII, Ms D McGrail

12. Pairs
 1st Clandon Gabriella & Clandon Gabriella II, Ms G Blair
 2nd Llancloudy Gabriel & Ludworth Donna, Mrs J Jordan & Miss S Bloomfield

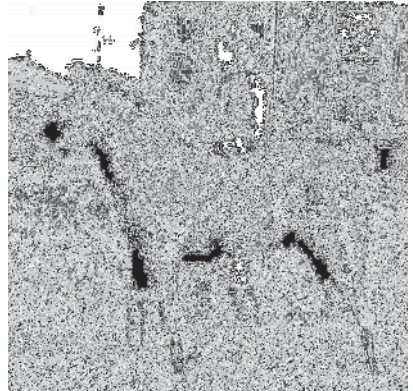
3rd Llancloudy Jezebel & Meres Joker III, Mrs S Petritz & Mrs F Gray

RIDDEN

13. Stallions
 1st Llancloudy Gabriel, Mrs J Jordan
 2nd Clarmount Bengema, Mr K Light
 3rd Lathomdale Romany, Mr T & Mrs A Kay

14. Mares
 1st Shirdleyhill Tara Miss C Brooks & Mrs J Hill
 2nd Ludworth Donna Miss S Bloomfield
 3rd Hollyhouse Opal Mrs BC Hall
 4th Aylestone Chamelee Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows

15. Geldings 4-8 years
 1st Bewcastle Brakethorn, Mrs J Bremner
 2nd Bewcastle Bullbarrow, Mrs C Fuller
 3rd Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
 4th Ffrethi Commodore, Miss W Davies
 16. Geldings 9yrs & over
 1st Inholmes Bilberry, Mrs X Gould



*Left, Youngstock Champion, yearling Richmond Bartholomew (Mrs S Petritz).
 Right, Foal class winner Hemleyhill Genesis (Mrs L Brooks).
 Photos © Fleur Hallam.*

17. Novice mares
 1st Chyvounder Water Lily, Mrs A Devonshire
 2nd Roddlesworth Nancy, Miss J Glass
 3rd Townend Caitlin II, Mrs BC Hall
 4th Aylestone Chamelee, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
18. Novice geldings
 1st Wellbrow Warrior, Mrs P Cox
 2nd Ffrethi Commodore, Miss W Davies
 3rd Inholmes Bilberry, Mrs X Gould
 4th Wansfell Rambler, Mrs S Bellem
19. Child 10 yrs & under - led
 1st Townend Rally, Mrs S Smith
20. Child 6 - 12 years
 Entries withdrew
21. Child 13 - 16 years
 1st Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
 2nd Inglegarth Yordas, Mr P Southwell
 3rd Clandon Gabriella, Ms G Blair
 4th Brackenbank Ronan, Mrs S Webster
22. Veteran
 1st Heltondale Lady VIII, Ms D McGrail
 2nd Clandon Gabriella, Ms G Blair
 3rd Clandon Gabriella II, Ms G Blair
23. Ridden pairs
 1st Hollyhouse Opal & Townend Caitlin II, Mrs BC Hall
24. Traditional ridden mares
 1st Ludworth Donna, Miss S Bloomfield
 2nd Hollyhouse Opal, Mrs B Hall
 3rd Roddlesworth Nancy, Miss J Glass
 4th Shirdleyhill Tara, Miss C Brooks & Mrs J Hill
25. Traditional ridden geldings and stallions
 1st Llancloudy Gabriel, Mrs J Jordan
 2nd Wellbrow Warrior, Mrs P Cox
 3rd Bewcastle Brakethorn, Mrs J Bremner
 4th Wansfell Tobias Miss H Mawrey
26. Novice Working Hunter Pony
 1st Bewcastle Brakethorn, Mrs J Bremner
 2nd Chyvounder Water Lily, Mrs A Devonshire
 3rd Clandon Gabriella, Ms G Blair
 4th Hollyhouse Opal ,Mrs BC Hall
27. Intermediate Working Hunter Pony
 1st Bewcastle Bullbarrow, Mrs C Fuller
 2nd Bewcastle Brakethorn, Mrs J Bremner
 3rd Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
 4th Aylestone Chamelee, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
28. Working Hunter Pony
 1st Bewcastle Bullbarrow, Mrs C Fuller
 2nd Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
29. Driving
 1st Hades Hill Faye II, Mrs ME Enser
30. Handy Pony
 1st Heltondale Lady VIII, Ms D McGrail
 2nd Aylestone Chamelee, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
 3rd Clandon Gabriella, II Ms G Blair
 4th Clandon Gabriella, Ms G Blair
- 30a. Handy Pony ridden by disabled rider
 Entry withdrawn

31. Fancy dress
1st Heltondale Ruby III, Mrs J Blair

32. Young handler
1st Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
2nd Brackenbank Ronan, Mrs S Webster
3rd Clandon Gabriella, Ms G Blair
4th Inholmes Bilberry, Mrs X Gould

33. Two Generations
1st Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
2nd Bewcastle Bullbarrow, Mrs C Fuller
3rd Aylestone Chamelee, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
4th Inglegarth Yordas, Mr P Southwell

34. Dressage - Walk/trot
1st Clandon Gabriella II, Ms G Blair
2nd Wansfell Tobias, Miss H Mawrey
3rd Chyvounder Water Lily, Mrs A Devonshire
4th Hades Hill Faye II, Mrs ME Enser

35. Dressage - Prelim 14
1st Heltondale Lady VIII, Ms D McGrail
2nd Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
3rd Aylestone Chamelee, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
4th Bewcastle Bullbarrow, Mrs C Fuller

36. Dressage - Novice 28
1st Ludworth Donna, Miss S Bloomfield
2nd Bewcastle Bullbarrow, Mrs C Fuller
3rd Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows

Points Awards

1st Aylestone The Merrie Monk, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
2nd Bewcastle Bullbarrow, Mrs C Fuller

3rd Aylestone Chamelee, Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows
4th Ludworth Donna, Miss S Bloomfield

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Youngstock
Champion Richmond Bartholomew (Mrs S Petritz)
Reserve Severnvale June (Mr G Guy)
Mares
Champion Ludworth Donna (Miss S Bloomfield)
Reserve, Severnvale Rosie (Mr G Guy)
Geldings
Champion, Wansfell Tobias (Miss H Mawrey)
Reserve, Inholmes Bilberry (Mrs X Gould)
Inter-Area Championship
Champion Llancloudy Gabriel (South East Group)
Reserve Ludworth Donna (Midlands East Group)

In-hand
Champion, Llancloudy Gabriel (Mrs J Jordan) *Photo in Centre pages*
Reserve, Ludworth Donna (Miss S Bloomfield)
Best turned out in hand, Ludworth Donna (Miss S Bloomfield)
Best brown or bay in hand, Wansfell Tobias (Miss H Mawrey)
Children's Championship,
Champion Aylestone The Merrie Monk (Mrs JS Ball & Mrs IK Meadows)
Reserve, Townend Rally (Mrs S Smith)
Children's best turned out,
Brackenbank Ronan (Mrs S Webster)



The FPS & Registered Native Pony Performance Trials 2010

Sunday September 26th 2010 at Linnel Wood, Hexham, Northumberland

The end of the season regularly sees many Native enthusiasts in the Northern region coming together for a final outing and a 'jolly' at Linnel Wood, and 2010 was no exception. Our Native ponies come to enjoy the challenge and the fun of a professionally built cross country course at Linnel Wood, home to British Eventing's Hexham Horse Trials. The event, run by The Fell Pony Society, who have been running a like minded event at this venue for over 15 years, had a great turn out of competitors and supporters.

Dressage, cross country and show jumping combine to provide a 'One Day Event' with a difference, attracting competitors of all ages and abilities, the only stipulation being that all must be registered Native Ponies. The results are based on a positive scoring system and with three full classes - Fell, Large Breeds (excluding Fells) and Small Breeds, the course was busy all afternoon.

All are always welcome and some competitors this year had never ridden a dressage test in their life, while others were familiar with doing a Novice test. Beginners and Veterans (of the human and pony variety - no matter) were all in attendance and a testament to the event's suitability for everyone.

It all came out in the wash with the XC and the timed section - some were quick at a gate, some nimble enough to leap on and off at the slip rail (others

clambered more sedately) and there was even help included for those who needed it. The choice of fences ranged in height from 12 inches to 3 foot - you picked your fence and were scored appropriately - no one was eliminated.

With over 60 entries and 55 forward, it was a hard task for all the volunteers to see the day through to the end. We must thank them, because without them we could not consider running such a day.

Two dressage arenas ran all morning, and then all were out to the cross country course, all competitors set to achieve their own goal, be it to get over the first jump, get through the water, or jump that one fence that they thought a touch too big for them. All achieved more than they thought they would and returned across the finish line with beaming faces and wishing to go round again! The ages ranged from 8 to over 70 and all breeds were represented this year, except Shetland - a miss this year, as we usually have a regular Shetland entry. (Our usual entry was sadly outgrown, with the jockey now competing on a Welsh C.)

Anna Clowes, having won the Best Newcomer in 2009, returned with Spenruss Flight to win The Overall Fell competition, plus taking the Junior Trophy and The Best Fell Mare, as well as competing in the team that won 'the best team name' The Cumberland Sausages. An excellent day for the pair. Anna and Flight just managed to knock 2009 winner Sandy Mawson and Sunnybrowe Mark into second place,

after the top few places were so close they had to be sorted by the timed section. Fenella Walsh took The Best Newcomers Trophy with Greenholme Wanderer, having gained confidence in the Spring attending the Fell weekend Pony Camp.

Gail Whetter and her Highland Pony Parklands Lord Roderick won the Large Breeds class and Laura Gray and her Dartmoor Springwater Ambassador won the Small Breeds Trophy. Laura also picked up a Special Rosette for her ride on her Welsh Section C Betws Dewr for her tremendous performance riding the competition side saddle. Rosie Bains and her Connemara Ballyuraneen Lad made a long trip well worth her while and surprised herself by winning the Over 50 Trophy.

The highly competitive Kerbeck Team Competition was won by a Highland

Team 'The Tartan Tornados' with a Connemara team 'The Con Artists' a close second. Third was a scratch team of mixed ponies with junior riders, who also won the special for the best team name. 'The Cumberland Sausages.' This fun part of the Day was instigated by Mary Dodd and Christine Robinson for the first time last year, and has become a keenly fought for prize. This competition is wonderful at bringing complete strangers together at the beginning of the day, who by the end of the day are friends.

Come and join us next year, compete, help or just come and watch on Sunday September 25th 2011.

Results

Fell Ponies

Dressage

- 1 Greenholme Wanderer, Fenella Walsh
- 2 Spenruss Flight, Anna Clowes
- 3 Holly Berry, Heather Wilson
- 4 Guards Joseph, Sue Wardle

Cross Country

- 1 Spenruss Flight, Anna Clowes
- 2 Sunnybrowe Mark, Sandy Mawson
- 3 Linnel Poppy, Lesley Wake
- 4 Kerbeck Night Serenade, Amy Messenger

Overall

- 1 Spenruss Flight, Anna Clowes
- 2 Sunnybrowe Mark, Sandy Mawson

- 3 Linnel Poppy, Lesley Wake
 - 4 Greenholme Wanderer, Fenella Walsh
- Best Junior** Anna Clowes, Spenruss Flight

Best Mare Spenruss Flight

Best Newcomer Fenella Walsh, Greenholme Wanderer

Small Breeds

Dressage

- 1 Cosmic Lacerta, Gail Whetter
- 2 Springwater Ambassador, Laura Gray
- 3 Hollybeck Tizel, Tyler Hutchinson
- 4 Silver Sunset, Sophie Richardson

Cross Country

- 1 Springwater Ambassador, Laura Gray

- 2 Durley Hall Silver Dollar, Lucy Hogg
- 3 Hollybeck Tizel, Tyler Hutchinson
- 4 Cosmic Lacerta, Gail Whetter

Overall

1 Springwater Ambassador, Laura Gray

- 2 Durley Hall Silver Dollar, Lucy Hogg
- 3 Hollybeck Tizel, Tyler Hutchinson
- 4 Cosmic Lacerta, Gail Whetter

Best Dartmoor Springwater Ambassador

Best Exmoor Cosmic Lacerta

Large Breeds

Dressage 1 Ridge Hill Elfin, Sally Addison

2 Parklands Lord Roderick, Gail Whetter

3 Cefncoch Crusader, Kate Sanderson

4 Stocks Ruaraidh, Michelle Parker-Vaughan

Cross Country

1 Cefncoch Crusader, Kate Sanderson

2 Kirtle Tarragon, Susanna Brown

3 Dunedin Rhuann, Christopher Grant

4 Parklands Lord Roderick, Gail Whetterson

Overall

1 Parklands Lord Roderick, Gail Whetter

2 Cefcoch Crusader, Kate Sanderson

3 Kirtle Tarragon, Susanna Brown

4 Priory Quickthorne, Emma Addison

Best Welsh Cefncoch Crusader

Best New Forest Priory Quickthorne

Best Dales Springgarth Storm, Ellen Jones

Connemara

1 Kirtle Tarragon, Susanna Brown

2 Kiltartan Justice, Sarah Robson

3 Ballyuraneen Lad, Rosie Bains

4 Ragged Robin, Louise Escritt

Highland

1 Parklands Lord Roderick, Gail Whetter

2 Dunedin Rhuann, Chris Grant

3 Lambrigg Black Jack, Lesley Dawson

4 Dunedin Finale, Lindsey Macdonald

Best Teams

1 The Tartan Tornados

2 The Con Artists

3 The Cumberland Sausages

Best Team Name The Cumberland Sausages

Best Senior 50+ Rosie Bains - Ballyuraneen Lad

Fastest Time Section Laura Gray - Springwater Ambassador

The Charltons' Special Rosette

Laura Gray - Betws Dwr - For Competing Side Saddle



FPS Foal Show 20 November 2010

'In the showing world it is easy to spot someone who shows regularly as they have learned good showmanship. A good showman can make a good pony look even better.' These were the words of David Wilkinson after he had judged the 3rd annual Fell Pony Society Foal Show, held at Inglewood Equestrian Centre, Penrith on 20 November.

The show is organised by Ellen Jones of the FPS North West Area Support Group and was originally the idea of Thomas Capstick, Bill Potter and Colin Roberts of the Murthwaite, Greenholme and Bybeck studs. Entries were down by about 25% on the last show, although for once the weather was not wet or snowing!

The classes were split into colts and fillies; and David, who has great success showing his own Brackenbank ponies, chose Michael Rawlinson's homebred Thornbeck Amy (sire Greenholme Heather Mist, dam Lunesdale Limelight) to take the Best Filly Foal Trophy, donated by Bill Potter.

Winner of the Best Colt Foal Trophy, donated by Colin Roberts, went to Bracklinn Crosbie (sire Bracklinn Jackpot, dam Bybeck Emerald) owned by Mrs E Smith from Greenloaning and shown by Alistair Smith. The colt went on to win the Championship Trophy donated by Thomas Capstick. David Wilkinson described his champion as having good joints, a nice little head and ears, and good feather; and added that it was easy to judge as the colt was well presented and ran out well.

The second placed colt, Greenholme Explorer (sire Greenholme Look At Me, dam Greenholme Nancy) won the Challenge Cup presented by Mr & Mrs RD Howe of the Rundales Stud, awarded to the highest placed Hill Bred foal..

The show would not be possible without the generous sponsorship of prize money from Colin and Heather Roberts of the Bybeck Stud and Lee-anne Huschka of Northern Pet Supplies, Scotland Road, Penrith.

Next year's foal show will be on the 19th November 2011.

Claire Simpson

Filly foal.

- 1st - Thornbeck Amy - Owner & Breeder - Mr Michael Rawlinson, Gretna.
- 2nd - Dalefoot Amber II - Owner & Breeder - Barbara Potter, Tebay.
- 3rd - Greenholme Elaine - Owner, Mrs G Rae, Highbonnybridge, Breeder - Miss Rebecca Jade Potter, Tebay
- 4th - Greenholme Ellie - Breeder - Rebecca Jade Potter, Tebay, Owner - John and Barbara Potter, Tebay
6th - Waverhead Ebony, Owner & Breeder, B.Bell, Waverhead.

Colt Foal.

- 1 - Bracklinn Crosbie, Owner & Breeder - Mrs E Smith, Greenloaning, Perthshire.
- 2 - Greenholme Explorer, Owner - RJ & BK Potter, Tebay, Breeder - RJ Potter.
- 3 - Linnel Mouse, owner & breeder, Mr and Mrs RB Charlton
- 4 - Towford Nik Nak - Owner & Breeder - Miss M Hall, Jedburgh.



*John Potter with Greenholme Explorer (highest placed Hill-bred foal), Alistair Smith with Champion Colt Bracklinn Crosbie and Mike Rawlinson with Thornbeck Amy (Best Filly).
Photograph, Ellen JM Jones*



Mountain and Moorland Pony Sale 2010

The Penrith & District Farmers Annual Mountain & Moorland Pony Sale was held on 22 October. There were 165 fell ponies entered, 40 more than last year, with 141 forward on the day and 97 sold. Prices were down for the 3rd consecutive year, the top price being 850 guineas for a filly foal - Bybeck Lady Diana (Murthwaite Timothy x Orton Hall Diana) a smart, well bred quality grey filly, bred on the Howgills by the Roberts Family. She was purchased by Gwen Rae from Denny, near Falkirk, who also took home the second highest priced pony, at 830 guineas, another filly foal - Greenholme Elaine (Greenholme Look At Me x Greenholme Wishful) bred by RJ & BK Potter from Tebay. Elaine is a full sister to Greenholme Caitlin who was champion foal at the 2008 Breed Show.

Claire Simpson



FPS Endurance Awards

I waited till well over the deadline, but still only got 3 entries back. Please contact Fiona Carradus, Overdale, Crook Road, Staveley, Cumbria LA8 9NG. Tel 01539 821790, or fionacarradus682@btinternet.com if you need a ride card, rules or information. All the very best for 2011.

Fiona Carradus
fionacarradus682@btinternet.com

Results

Highest Mileage Competitive Award and Fell Pony Society Trophy.

1. Liz Worthy, Dalewin Beauty, 276Km

High Point Award and Bramble Trophy

1. Liz Worthy, Dalewin Beauty, 392 points

Highest Mileage Pleasure Award and Hillhead Minstrel Trophy

1. Fiona Carradus, Littletree Smokey Joe, 235Km

2. Liz Worthy, Dalewin Beauty, 77Km

The Taster Award and Uldale Black Raven Trophy

1. Becky Sim, Kerbeck Night Princess

Accumulative Kilometres

Fiona Carradus, Littletree Smokey Joe, 250Km (423)

Liz Worthy, Dalewin Beauty, 1,000Km (1,277)



The 200 Club: Draws July—December 2010

Nos	Name	Prize	Nov '10		
Jul '10			1st	367	Miss S Pringle £25.00
1st	231	Mr WS Potter £25.00	2nd	411	Mrs S Brunskill £15.00
2nd	332	Miss JH Woods £15.00	3rd	438	Mrs EA Forster £10.00
3rd	376	Mrs M Thorpe £10.00	4th	290	Mrs K Bennett £5.00
4th	347	Mrs E Thompson £5.00			
			Dec '10		
Aug '10			1st	370	Mrs C Boardman £250.00
1st	424	Miss CA Pollitt £25.00	2nd	267	Mrs J Copeland £125.00
2nd	374	Mrs F Gray £15.00	3rd	347	Mrs E Thompson £50.00
3rd	227	S Mounsey £10.00	4th	279	Mrs CE Fergus £25.00
4th	359	Mr J Moore £5.00			
Sep '10					
1st	376	Mrs M Thorpe £25.00			
2nd	229	Mr RB Charlton £15.00			
3rd	383	Miss S Hartley £10.00			
4th	310	Mrs M Wilson £5.00			
Oct '10					
1st	285	Mrs S Newcombe £25.00			
2nd	270	Mrs P Cyster £15.00			
3rd	376	Mrs M Thorpe £10.00			
4th	263	Mr JHR Cook £5.00			

Remember, your
friends and family
can join the 200
Club ... they do not
need to be
members of the
FPS.

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

All profit goes to the Society's funds.

Please send your name, address and cheque for £12 made payable to:

The Fell Pony Society

to Glenis Cockbain, Rakefoot Farm, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4TE

FPS Performance Awards 2010

Overall, the number of people entering for this year's awards has remained roughly the same as 2009, although there has been a slight drop in those entering the Dressage section. It would also be nice to see some more Driving Turnouts having a go, I am sure there must be more of you out there. There are a few new faces which is always good to see, especially in the Youngstock and Junior sections.

For those wishing to enter this year, the points forms are available on the FPS website, or you can send me an SAE.

Christine Robinson

Foals (6 entries)

- 1st Thornbeck Amy FP5228. Owner/
Exhib Mr M Rawlinson. 1130 pts
- 2nd Kerbeck Night Breeze FP5244.
Owner/Exhib Mrs C H Robinson.
440 pts
- 3rd Dalewin Nifty FP5336. Owner/Exhib
Mr E Winder. 280 pts
- 4th Kerbeck Night Ruby FP5246.
Owner/Exhib Mrs C H Robinson.
230 pts
- 5th Rackwood Black Magic FP5251.
Owner/Exhib Mrs E A Walker. 165
pts
- 6th Thronbeck Adam FP71610C.
Owner/Exhib Mr M Rawlinson.
130 pts

Yearling (5 entries)

- 1st Brackenbank Gabriella FP5000.
Owner/Exhib Mr & Mrs D
Wilkinson. 925 pts
- 2nd Birkett Bank Pollyanna FP5041.

Owner/Exhib Mr R Relph-Briggs.
520 pts

- 3rd Rackwood Annie FP5053. Owner/
Exhib Mrs E A Walker. 460 pts
- 4th Dalewin Magic FP5122. Owner/
Exhib Mr E Winder. 440 pts
- 5th Kerbeck Night Shadow FP5200.
Owner/Exhib Mrs C H Robinson.
215 pts

Two Year Old (6 entries)

- 1st Lownthwaite Heidi FP4794. Owner/
Exhib Miss A Morton. 945 pts
- 2nd Brackenbank Flash Harry FP71155C.
Owner/Exhib Mr M Rawlinson.
900 pts
- 3rd Rackwood Princess FP4888. Owner/
Exhib Mrs E A Walker. 485 pts
- 4th Brackenbank Ebony FP4780.
Owner/Exhib Mr & Mrs D
Wilkinson. 330 pts
- 5th Fitzview Melody FP4765. Owner/
Exhib Mr J E Greener. 260 pts
- 6th Carrock Heather FP 4787. Owner/
Exhib Mr M Rawlinson. 80 pts

Three Year Old (No entries)

Four Year old and over - Inhand (15 entries)

- 1st Townend Ruffle FP2611. Owner. The
Williamson Family. Exhib. J
Williamson. 2510 pts
- 2nd Craggs Stardust FP3482. Owner/
Exhib Mr J E Greener. 1395 pts
- 3rd Wellbrow Black Jack FP70462C*.
Owner/Exhib Hayley Martin.
1350 pts
- 4th Bracklinn Maggie FP3184. Owner/
Exhib Mrs S Camp. 1260 pts
- 5th Brackenbank Romany FP3006.

- Owner Mr & Mrs D Wilkinson.
Exhib Megan Wilkinson. 950 pts
6th Brackenbank Gypsy III FP4421.
Owner/Exhib Mr & Mrs D
Wilkinson. 905 pts

Four Year Old and over - Performance
(14 entries)

- 1st Aylestone The Merrie Monk
FP70061. Owner Mesdames Ball
& Meadows. Exhib Anastasia
Meadows. 10,810 pts
2nd Spennruss Flight FP2901. Owner Mrs
S Clowes. Exhib Anna Clowes.
3240 pts
3rd Townend Ruffle FP2611 (as above)
2800 pts
4th Dene Decoris FP3330. Owner/Exhib
Miss S Pringle. 1310 pts
5th Greenhead Albatross FP70418G.
Owner Mrs S Stewart. Exhib
Gabriella Stewart. 1160 pts
6th Wellbrow Black Jack FP70462* (as
above) 1070 pts

Junior (7 entries)

- 1st Aylestone The Merrie Monk
FP70061. (as above) 10.810 pts
2nd Spennruss Flight FP2901. (as above)
3240 pts
3rd Greenhead Albatross FP70418G. (as
above) 1160 pts
4th Aylestone Chamelee FP70357.
Owner Mesdames Ball &
Meadows. Exhib Anastasia
Meadows. 990 pts
5th Brackenbank Rosanna FP4182.
Owner Mr & Mrs D Wilkinson.
Exhib Melissa Brennand. 400 pts
6th Brackenbank Romany FP3006.
Owner Mr & Mrs D Wilkinson.
Exhib Megan Wilkinson. 190 pts

Driving (4 entries)

- 1st Tynebank Danny Boy FP70880G.
Owner W D Parkinson. Exhib J
Parkinson. 620 pts
2nd Lownthwaite Fingerprint FP4050.
Owner/Exhib A Morton. 460 pts
3rd Lownthwaite Honnington
FP70622G. Owner/Exhib A
Morton. 180 pts
4th Greenholme Morning Mist
FP70895G. Owner/Exhib Mr M
Rawlinson. 100 pts

Dressage (7 entries)

- 1st Aylestone The Merrie Monk. (as
above) 850 pts
2nd Aylestone Chamelee. (as above)
790 pts
3rd Meres Julie-Anne FP3082. Owner/
Exhib Diana McGrail. 600 pts
4th Wolds Swift FP51124G. Owner
Mesdames Glass & Rawden. Exhib
Jane Rawden. 440 pts
5th Linnel Rosie II FP3518. Owner Mr &
Mrs Charlton. Exhib Sarah
Charlton. 340 pts
6th Kerbeck Thor's Fire FP51178G.
Owner Mrs S Morris. Exhib Mrs C
H Robinson. 320 pts

Stallion Premium: Greenholme
Heather Mist

Mare Premium: Dalewin Fern



Breed Type and the Work at Hand

A year ago I received an email from a Cumbrian who now lives in Maine, USA. She wrote, "Fell Ponies are not show ponies. They are work ponies who show well if you like to do that." At the time I didn't realize how fundamentally that statement would change my view of the breed.

Last summer I was perusing back issues of Fell Pony Society newsletters and found this description of the breed by Sylvia McCosh, vice president of the society, c. 1973:

The history of the Fell Breed goes back to time immemorial, and until recent years the horse or pony was one of a farmer's most valuable assets... The fell pony played its part well: it was a tough hardy breed, and could do a much longer day's work than its taller neighbours. By force of circumstances fell ponies had to be 'capable harness ponies' in the first instance; it was frequently a long, hard day when the family drove to market, especially if the farm was a long way off the beaten track. It also had to be a strong pony, able to carry a heavy man across the fells in all weathers to shepherd his sheep... Lastly the ponies would be needed to pull the mowing machine in hay time, on fell fields, frequently on slopes with outcrops of rock, much too difficult for a Clydesdale and dangerous for a tractor...⁽¹⁾

In 1995, Mr. Walter Lloyd, breeder of the Hades Hill ponies, wrote the following:

The Fell Pony has developed as a result of hundreds of years of breeding

on the hills of Northern England. It is hardy, able to live out on the hills all winter with no supplementary feeding and breed successfully the following summer. The hill land develops great stamina and the breed is also multi-purpose, so that in summer the owner can catch up the pony, hitch it to the mower and scaler and raker to make hay, to the sweep or sledge or cart to house the hay, to the Dales cart to get the muck out, and then ride it over the fells for shepherding, or in a gig to drive at a trot to market.⁽²⁾

Both of these descriptions point to the influence of the fell environment on the Fell Pony breed. However, both Mrs. McCosh's and Mr. Lloyd's descriptions also point to another strong influence, the work the pony does, both in terms of its variety and the strength and stamina required. While the fell environment helped shape the breed we know today, so too did the requirement that a single pony could be ridden, driven, and used for packing and draft work. Small ears, abundant hair, and large nostrils are necessary for survival on the fell, and a well-laid shoulder, round-ribbed from shoulders to flank, hocks well let down, and plenty of bone are all necessary for the traditional work of our ponies.

H.M. The Queen's Fell Ponies were described around 1973: *They are all kept at Balmoral and are primarily used as stalking ponies, for which purpose they are very good because they are lower than a Highland pony, and therefore it is so much easier to lift a stag onto them.⁽³⁾* The average

height of 13.2 hands is historically important for work as pack animals carrying loads as heavy as 16 stone while having sufficient bone and substance to carry that heavy load.

Clive Richardson, in his most recent book, *British Horse and Pony Breeds, and their future*⁽⁴⁾, points out that when ponies were regularly used for work, breed type took care of itself because of the way the ponies were kept and the work they were asked to do. Today, though, the work at hand has changed. As Walter Lloyd puts it: *Nowadays the hill farmer probably uses an ATV to do the shepherding, and a tractor and baler to make the hay, if he doesn't make all silage, and Fell Ponies are mostly used for leisure riding and perhaps private driving; many are kept in a stable all winter and on fertile grassland in summer, in fat or show condition.*⁽⁵⁾

I was attracted to the Fell Pony breed because of its history as a versatile animal. I regularly work ponies, and I was looking forward to putting a Fell to work alongside my other ponies. While I have been successful to some extent, I have spent considerably more time in the last ten years learning how to breed ponies that will allow me to maintain the Fell's historic versatility. It has been much more challenging than I anticipated. My first hand experience working a single pony under saddle, in work harness, driving, and packing, has taught me about the breed type required for a truly versatile pony. From my perspective, many Fell Ponies today are not up to that. The breed type, including conformation, temperament, and other

characteristics, has changed as the work at hand for the Fell has changed.

I have wandered around the draft horse world for twenty-five years, initially as a spectator at shows and for the past dozen years as a teamster. One of the things that most draft breeds have in common is a decline in their fortunes when tractors replaced equines on farms. The Fell Pony breed shared this fate with its fellow draft animals. *[Demand] for the breed slumped alarmingly in the first half of the twentieth century and it was not until the 1950s that the revival of horse riding and driving as a leisure activity saw an upturn in the breed's fortunes.*⁽⁶⁾ The change in use to leisure activities helped save the breed from extinction.

My interest has always been in using draft animals for work, so it didn't take me long to notice that draft animals used for work have a different look than those seen in the show ring. Animals in the show ring are taller and sleeker, while working animals have remained more compact and substantial. Fell Ponies also exhibit this difference. A Cumbrian Fell Pony breeder once described the show type as a traditional animal made of elastic and stretched in every direction - more hair, more height, longer back, less bone, less substance.⁽⁷⁾ The change from traditional work to the modern work at hand of showing and leisure activities has caused the breed type to change. Unfortunately these changes to breed type have not received much attention.

The work at hand has also changed for the people who breed them, and

(Continued on page 55)



Colour Photo Section



Alison Morton with Lownthwaite Heidi at the NCPA Pony of the Year show where she won the 2-3yr old Large M&M class.



Baronhill Ariel and Severnvale Kirby at the Vintage Tractor and Heritage Breed Show at Newark and Notts Showground in November.



*Above: Anna Clowes and her 14 y.o Fell mare Spenruss Flight at Craven Country Ride near Skipton. Matt Nuttall Photography.
Below: The bareback-trotting-race competitors at the Dansk Fell Pony Forening's second annual show.*

