

THE 
FELL PONY
SOCIETY
MAGAZINE

Autumn 2025



Digital Worls Photography, Kevin Owens

Rebecca Rawlinson Allen with Nabside Gracie after winning the Concours class at Sedgfield Show



KRIS CLAY

Alesha Murison and Greenholme Maid Marion competed as part of the Scottish team at the Endurance Home Internationals in August - see article on p82

Dates for 2025-26

Recurring fixed dates

- 1 January - all FPS membership subscriptions due for renewal
- 1 January - nominations for Council due
- 1 February - FPS Magazine copy deadline, Spring issue
- 15 February - For eligibility to vote for Council, annual FPS subscription must be paid by this date
- 1 October - FPS Magazine copy deadline, Autumn issue

2026

- 28 March - Annual General Meeting, Orton, Cumbria
- 9 May - Stallion Show, Dalemain, Ullswater, Cumbria
- Early June, TBC - South Cumbria Show
- 9 August - Breed Show, Dalemain, Ullswater, Cumbria
- 12 September, TBC - Southern Show, Berkshire College of Agriculture
- 24 or 31 October, TBC - FPS Show & Sale at J36 NW Auctions, Crooklands, Cumbria

Dates and venues are correct as far as is known at time of printing and will be updated with more events in the Spring 2026 issue.

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



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

The Fell Pony Society is a Company Limited by Guarantee, No. 3233346.
Registered Charity, Number 1104945.

President: Mrs Glenis Cockbain

Chairman: Mr Peter Boustead

Vice-Chairman: To be confirmed

Secretary: Mrs Bryony Richardson

Society Office: Bank House, Boroughgate, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6XF
<http://www.fellponysociety.org.uk>

Council

To retire 2026: Mrs S Millard, Mrs C Robinson, Mr A Thorpe, Mrs E Walker

To retire 2027: Mr P Boustead, Mrs R Brunskill, Mrs J Rawden

To retire 2028: Mr T Lloyd, Miss H Mawrey, Dr L Whitley, Mr D Wilkinson

To retire 2029: Mr G H B Mallinson, Mr W S Potter, Miss C Simpson, Mr K Turner

To retire 2030: Mrs A Bell, Miss D Chadwick, Mrs J Grealish, Mr P Metcalfe

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Fell Pony Sales List

Please contact the Secretary via the Society Office

Registered Office, Accountants

Dodd & Co, FIFTEEN Rosehill, Montgomery Way, Rosehill Estate, Carlisle, CA1 2RW

FPS Sub-Committees and their Secretaries are listed on p14

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THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

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

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.

Chairman's Report

I am delighted to announce that Bryony Richardson has joined us as the new Secretary and Treasurer. Initially, Bryony will work closely alongside Katherine in the Office to ensure a smooth transition, as Katherine prepares to hand over. Bryony is keen on the outdoors and is passionate about country life in general and likes to support the rural economy and help preserve our heritage.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Katherine, who has served the organisation with dedication over the last two decades—first as an administrative assistant, and later in her role as Secretary. Our appreciation also goes to Elizabeth, who has been a committed and reliable Treasurer throughout the same period.

It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of Dennis Brunt. Dennis was a valued and longstanding member of the FPS, serving as Secretary and founding FP2000—a charitable group established in 1998 to investigate the mortality of Fell pony foals and to fund crucial research.

Thanks partly to these efforts, the cause of foal deaths was eventually traced to FIS, and a carrier test was subsequently developed. (Further information about FIS is available on the Health page of our website.) We offer our sincere condolences to Dennis's family and friends.

It is with great sadness that we also remember the loss of Mark Lupton, a dedicated member and breeder within the Fell Pony community. Mark's greatest passion was his ponies. He was the proud owner of eight Fell ponies, breeding under the Westlindum prefix, and was in the process of creating a remarkable home for them at a beautiful location in Glossop. His commitment and enthusiasm for the breed will be missed by all who knew him.

Last year, a total of 350 foals were registered, marking the highest number

since 2008. Of these, 36% were classified as "Hill bred," according to the Council's agreed definition as "having rights on common land to graze".

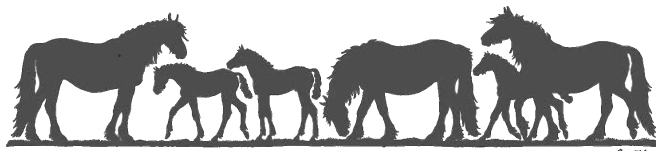
Despite the overall increase in numbers and a broader distribution, the Fell Pony continues to face significant challenges to its core traits and native habitat.

A continuing concern is the decline of the semi-feral herds that inhabit the Cumbrian fells throughout the year—the breed's traditional homeland in the UK. In recent decades, many of these essential breeding herds have been lost due to an aging population of breeders and growing pressures on the use of common land.

To echo Ian Smith's words from the Autumn 2008 FPS newsletter:

"With so many ponies being bred away from the hills, now more than ever it is essential to retain these hill herds for other breeders to go back to, in order to keep the breed true to type with the characteristic movement and hardiness for which it is renowned."

Peter Boustead



From Our President

First of all let me begin by saying what an honour it is to be the Fell Pony Society President. I very much hope that I can live up to the very high standards set by previous presidents.

I have been passionate about Fell ponies since I was a young girl, and still remain so as a not so young girl. I will do all that I can to help promote our fantastic Fell Pony Breed and importantly its members.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate those members who have had a successful showing season, and those who have qualified for either HOYS or the London Horse Show.

I must also thank Katherine Wilkinson for all her hard work and dedication as FPS Secretary over many years, and we wish her well for the future, although she is

going to be around for a little while longer showing our new secretary Bryony the ropes. Welcome, Bryony.

Finally I hope the winter isn't too hard given shortage of fodder in the Country, and that every member continues to have fun and pleasure with their Fell Ponies.

Glenis.

Secretary & Treasurer's Report

By the time you read this I will have retired as FPS Secretary. I will however be working alongside Bryony, our new Secretary, for a couple of days per week from November.

I started working in the FPS office in February 2005 and took over from Elizabeth Parkin in June 2013. I have been privileged to meet so many like minded people over the years and so honoured to have met HM The Late Queen Elizabeth, twice. Many thanks to all those who have sent messages of thanks and good wishes.

Please be patient as Bryony gets to grips with her new position, there's a lot to learn. You can help by using your magazine and the website to find out a lot of information without having to get in touch with the office.

However, we are of course happy to receive your queries and would rather you get in touch at the onset particularly if your situation is not quite straightforward.

Our Stallion Show and Breed Show were well supported by exhibitors and spectators/visitors at both events. The South Cumbria Show was held on a very wet and blustery day but was still a successful day with good entries on the day.

Many thanks to the Horserace Betting Levy Board for receipt of the Rare Breeds grant, it is very much appreciated.

Thank you also to our Patron, His Majesty The King, for his donation sent together with his warmest wishes for the forthcoming year.

Membership for 2025 is just under 1100, and we are delighted to have processed many new memberships, some coming back to us after a break and some completely new members. We also have new memberships waiting to be processed for 2026.

I would like to thank President, Glenis Cockbain, and Chairman, Peter Boustead, as well as Council for their continued support, also thanks to my colleagues Val, Chris and Elizabeth. Elizabeth is also retiring at the end of October, and we wish her well.

I wish the Society and its members all the best for the future.

Katherine Wilkinson

Our New Secretary Introduces Herself

My name is Bryony Richardson and I am delighted to be joining the Fell Pony Society as the new Secretary and Treasurer.

I have lived in Appleby for over 30 years, where I met and married my husband and we have raised three beautiful daughters.

I have many years experience in office administration, bookkeeping and accounts, but my passion in life is everything equine.

I have owned or loaned many different breeds of native pony and ridden all sorts from Shetlands to Shires.

My love of the Fell pony began as a child, when my family moved from Yorkshire to Cumbria, and I was mesmerised by the wild ponies that I could see roaming the fells.

We lived in the village of Caldbeck, and the ponies were a regular sight on Caldbeck Common, grazing on the village green or seeking shelter from the weather in our yard.

On many occasions I would shut the gate on them in the hope that I could keep one of these 'free' ponies. After all, who would notice if just one foal went missing?

Sadly my parents always realised when I was hatching a plan and I was ordered to open the gate and release them all.

Many years later my youngest daughter has inherited my love of ponies and she was thrilled to steward at the Breed Show in August. I'm sure she will be in regular attendance with me at future shows and sales.



I hope this role will allow me to combine my administrative strengths with my passion for ponies and I look forward to getting to know our breeders, owners and members over the coming months.

Bryony Richardson



From the Office - we're here to help

Email

The best way to contact us is by email, secretary@fellponysociety.org. Please don't use the old Gmail one, because it no longer receives emails.

It's more efficient for us to contact you by email, so please let us have your email address if we don't already have it, and remember to let us know if your email changes.

Registration / Passports

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

Before sending in the form please make sure that:

- The description has been written in BLOCK LETTERS
- All the whorls have been recorded in black ink and all white has been recorded in red ink.
- The whorls must be both recorded on the silhouette and as a written description.
- The location of the chip has been recorded by the vet
- The vet has signed, dated and stamped the form

Please read the guidance notes carefully prior to completion of the forms. Any forms incomplete or incorrectly completed will be returned and this could delay the issue of the passport.

Service Certificates

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

confirm the sire prior to registration. If you choose to input the details online you will receive an email acknowledging the successful receipt. If you don't receive an email the information has not been received and you should contact the Society without delay.

- If you are a mare owner using someone else's stallion, check with them that the relevant details have been lodged with the FPS by 31 December. If the service details have been reported online you (as the mare owner) as well as the stallion owner will receive a system generated email to confirm the details. Keep this safe to accompany the foal registration / passport application.
- Stallion owners - please complete the correct covering dates or running from and to dates (including the year). If the foal birth date is unreasonably outside of the range from the covering dates, then the mare owner may be required to DNA test the foal to confirm the sire.

Changes to a Passport

- Any changes to a passport should in the first instance be notified to the Fell Pony Society. Please do not notify the Central Equine Database, the Society will do this once the changes have been verified. If you are unsure of the procedure, then please ask.

For example

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

Stallion Licence Applications

- Please allow plenty of time for the license to be processed, the colt/stallion cannot be used for stud purposes until the Stallion License has been issued. Part of the requirement for Stallion Licensing is for the pony to be DNA typed. This is currently done through Weatherbys. Issue of the DNA report can take 5/6 weeks from when the sample is returned to the FPS.

Payments by BACS

- Please always include your name (even if it's just your surname) as the reference, when sending payments this way.
- With effect from 1 January 2025 payments of premiums from the HBLB grant will only be paid by BACS. If we don't already have your bank details, please send them through as soon as possible. We have a form you can complete if you prefer.

Renewing your Membership

- When renewing your membership you just need to send the payment, there is no need to send in a completed membership form, unless we ask you to or there are changes to your contact details.
- The membership fees increased from 1 January 2025, so if you have not already done so, please update your Standing Order in time for 1 January 2026.
- It really helps us if you send the correct amount.

Postage

- Please make sure you add the correct postage when sending mail to the FPS office, if in doubt get it checked at the Post Office. Do not use old stamps (without a bar code). If the Society

incurs a surcharge then you will be asked to pay.

- Passports are returned by Royal Mail Tracked 48, in the UK or with a proof of posting overseas. If you wish to have your passport posted by 'Special Delivery' in the UK or 'International Tracked' to overseas, please add £5.00 to the fee and let us know you wish to have it returned this way. If you require the Society to send an item first class/Tracked 24 then you will be required to pay the extra cost.
- In an attempt to keep postage costs down, we only send mail by 2nd class (or with a proof of postage for overseas). If you request us to send an item of post by 1st class or Special Delivery or overseas with tracking, then additional postage will need to be paid for as follows:

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

Sending fees and payments

It really helps the Society and avoids delays if you can send the correct amount. A list of all the fees and membership rates can be found in every copy of the FPS magazine and on the website.

Payments can be sent by bank transfer, cheque or PO made payable to 'The Fell Pony Society' or by cash if you are sending an item by Tracked or Special Delivery.

Unfortunately we cannot take a payment by debit or credit card.

Thank you



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Fees & Charges

	UK		Overseas		
	Member	Non-Member	Member	Non-Member	
Registration					
<i>to 30 November</i>	Colt	£15	£30	£20	£35
	Filly	£15	£30	£20	£35
<i>December</i>	Colt	£30	£60	£35	£65
	Filly	£30	£60	£35	£65
Late Registration		£50	£100	£55	£105
<i>(does not include cost of parentage test)</i>					
Transfer of Ownership		£10	£20	£15	£25
Transfer to Gelding		£5	£10	£10	£15
Prefix (<i>new application</i>)		£45	£55	£60	£70
FIS Kit		£40	£50	£45	£55
DNA Kit		£50	£60	£55	£65
Duplicate Passport		£50	£100	£55	£105
<i>(does not include cost of parentage test)</i>					
AI Permit		£25	N/A	£25	N/A
Passport update		£5	£10	£10	£20

(to add vaccinations pages, repair, etc)

A stamped addressed return envelope would be much appreciated when return of the passport for a deceased pony is requested.

Fell Pony Society Bank Details

Important - Please include your name as the reference against bank transactions sent to the FPS.

Account name: The Fell Pony Society Limited.

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

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

Bank Transfers / Electronic Payments from Overseas (outside of the UK):

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

All bank transfers should be in English pounds sterling and any charges should be paid in the country of origin. Also, our bank makes a charge for the receipt of an **electronic transfer from overseas**, so for **overseas members only**, please add £2 for transactions up to £100 and £7 for transactions greater than £100 (*no need to add anything if sending payment from within the UK*).



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Membership Fees

FEES as from 1st January 2025

All memberships are due for renewal on 1st January, irrespective of the date joined.

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

!! PLEASE NOTE THE UPDATED FEES !!

If you pay by Standing Order and you haven't already done so, please update it now, in time for 2 January 2026. If you haven't paid the correct amount in 2025 either by standing order, bank transfer or cheque, and if the balance is not received, your payment for Full membership will be processed as Associate, and for Associate members the amount received will be treated as a donation.

The range of overseas membership types mirrors the UK types, with an additional charge to cover the cost of overseas postage.

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

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

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



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

FPS Stallion Licensing

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

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

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

Information for EU owners and breeders

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

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

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

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

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

The Society can:

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

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

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

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



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Sub-Committees

Conservation & Grazing Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Christine Robinson, The Shieling, Anthorn, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 5AH. Telephone: 016973 51854. E-mail: christine@kerbeck-fell-ponies.co.uk

Mrs A Bell, Mr I Brunskill, Mrs R Brunskill, Mrs S Charlton, Miss R Dalton, Miss N Evans, Mrs S Millard, Mr A Thorpe, Mr E Winder.

Judges Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mr Michael Goddard, Oak Tree Barn, Hazelbury Bryan, Sturminster Newton, Dorset DT10 2DP. Telephone: 07964 209243.

E-mail: michael.goddard2014@gmail.com

Secretary: Mrs Jenny Grealish, Shotley Hall, Shotley Bridge, Consett DH8 9TE. Telephone: 07557 30998. E-mail: fpsjudgessecretary@gmail.com

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

Master judges and reserves for assessment of candidates are chosen at random from the FPS Panel at a Council meeting.

Display Team Sub-Committee

Chairman: Mrs Susan Brunskill, Ling House, Southwaite, Carlisle CA4 0JH. Telephone: 016974 75975. E-mail: hynholme@hotmail.com

Secretary: Mrs C H Robinson. Treasurer: Mrs Rachael Brunskill.

Mr I Brunskill, Mrs K Ellis, Miss N Evans and Mrs S Millard.

Show Sub-Committee

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

Secretary: To be appointed

Mr M Goddard, Miss H Lightfoot, Mr B Mallinson, Mrs M Murray, Mrs J Rawden, Miss C Simpson, Mr D Wilkinson, Dr E Whitley.

Overseas Contacts

Please see the International Affiliates page of the web site

<https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/affiliates.htm>

These Council members occasionally work as a sub-committee.

Editorial

I am wading through a very welcome flood of articles and anecdotes and photos, which arrived following a shout on social media a mere 48 hours before the copy deadline. Perhaps this is the way I should always do it - leave it till Almost The Very Last Minute so members can't say to themselves, "I have plenty of time" - then they won't have time to forget! Thanks to all your last minute contributions, this issue can showcase a very fine array of Fells showing their versatility.

We have a lot of Overseas news in this issue as well as lots of stories from UK members, both showing and non showing.

I'm really sorry that our Autumn copy deadline always coincides with the Horse of the Year Show. Claire Simpson reports it on the FPS Facebook page as the classes progress, and sometimes, as this year, I just have time to fit-in the bare list of results. However, we can't get a full profile of winners before the Magazine must go to press - then over winter that "forgettery" principle often seems to come into play again; ditto with the London International Horse Show. So if you're taking part in either show, I'd love it if you wrote and sent something to me straight afterwards for the Spring issue.

Thinking Space has two articles for you, about hoof trimming and saddle fitting. If you have expertise on anything equestrian, and especially Fell pony based, that you'd like to share to Thinking Space in the Magazine, do drop me a line via <ponywriter001@gmail.com>. I'm also pleased to have commissioned one article already for the Spring issue (*eat your heart out, Great British Sewing Bee*).

I enjoy shuffling the blocks of text and photos around but I am always worried in case I miss one and disappoint somebody. You'd think that after editing this Magazine since 2008, and having three or more proof readers as back-up, producing a completely error-free issue should be a doddle. Not so, I haven't managed it yet. Maybe this, my 34th issue as Editor?

Mind you, I will also add: PLEASE if you plan to send me complex material, READ THE GUIDELINES on the Magazine page of the web site so you don't waste your time

and mine. Honestly - I don't need your text to be bold, underlined, italic or otherwise decorated, and I only want your show placings listed line by line, so please don't bother with any fancy formatting. I'll tidy up punctuation and grammar and UK spelling for you so it reads clearly, so don't worry about that too much; some USA spelling differences I will leave alone.

Those of you who still type the old-style "two spaces after every full stop" - please will you use just one? The extra spaces become very obvious in our small pages of justify-aligned text. I do remove them using edit / replace, but along with stripping out unwanted formatting it's "yet another job to do" and over many articles the time mounts up. The Magazine takes six or seven 8-hour days of work to get your contributions into an overall shape that I can send out for proof reading, so any time I don't need to spend on "tidying up" your text is a welcome saving.

All right, Editorial moan over. Be reassured: Most Of You Are Doing It Right! Thank you!

I was very pleased to make the acquaintance of our new Secretary, Bryony Richardson, at the Breed Show. As Webmaster and Editor I know I shall be corresponding with Bryony quite a lot and I hope we will make a good team.

And finally - Katherine Wilkinson has been a wonderfully steady presence as Secretary for the FPS, and she will be a hard act to follow. Thank you, Katherine, for the work you've done over the years.

Sue Millard

Editorial email:
ponywriter001@gmail.com



Show Committee Needed

Some of our key members of the show committee will be retiring after the 2026 Breed Show, and one member has already retired.

This means that for the Stallion and Breed Shows to continue in 2027 the Society needs more active Show Committee members now.

We need people who will reliably:

- turn up to set up the show field
- transport tents, posts, signs, tables and chairs etc to the shows and take them away after the show
- store the above
- take down the show field after the event
- attend meetings via Zoom, usually in January, April/May, July and September

If you can help please contact the FPS office.

Email
secretary@fellponysociety.org.uk

Show Secretary Needed

for the Stallion Show and Breed Show

Lara Kneale, our current Show Secretary, has done a marvellous job over the past 12 months, but she has taken on more work commitments and doesn't feel able to continue. She is very happy to help the new Secretary settle into the role.

The job requires a few hours a month plus extra leading up to the Stallion Show in May and the Breed Show in August.

If you are interested or want to know more about what's involved please contact the FPS office.

Email
secretary@fellponysociety.org.uk





THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Company No 3233346

Registered Charity No 1104945

Nominations for Council 2026

The following retire and are eligible for re-election :

Mrs S Millard, Mrs C Robinson, Mr A Thorpe, Mrs E Walker.

Members wishing to make a nomination for Council should obtain a form from the Office in good time to return it, completed, before the deadline of 1st January 2026.

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

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

Postal Voting for Council Members

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

No member is entitled to vote in the election for council if his/her subscription to the Society has not been paid by 15th February 2026. You will find the details on Votes of Members under Section 7 of the Articles of Association. Election to the Council is Section 8.6.





THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Company No 3233346

Registered Charity No 1104945

FOR APPROVAL - DRAFT MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

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

The Chairman opened the meeting and explained the reasons for the proposed Special Resolution:

ALTERATION TO THE CRITERIA FOR FPS FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Special Resolution of the Articles of Association to amend Clause 2.

2.4 MEMBERS

FROM

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

TO

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

When put to the vote all members voted in favour of the resolution.

The resolution was duly passed.

How to Nominate for Council

Nomination forms will be supplied by the Secretary on request. The completed form should be signed by two members and forwarded to the Secretary on or before 1 January preceding the Annual General Meeting. Please note: Nomination forms may change from year to year so please check with the FPS office before completing an old form which may be rejected. Please apply in good time as the office is normally closed over the Christmas and New Year period.

Election to the Council shall be by a poll.

In addition to the nomination form, and also for those standing for re-election, please send a head and shoulders photograph and a short statement from the nominee giving biographical details and experience / reasons for wishing to stand for election. The photograph and statement will be included in the Spring issue of the Magazine prior to the AGM.



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Company No 3233346

Registered Charity No 1104945

FOR APPROVAL - DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

Held on Saturday 5 April 2025 after the EGM At Orton Market Hall, Orton CA10 3RJ

The meeting was preceded by a talk by our Guest Speaker, Dr Miriam A Bibby, entitled “**Border Families: The Galloway, the Fell and the Dales.**” Members found the talk most interesting and Miriam was happy to answer questions after the talk.

Mr Boustead asked members to remember those no longer with us by observing a minute’s silence for Mrs V Brown, Mr J Cunliffe, Ms H Rich.

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Mrs S Camp, Mr John & Mr Jamie Cockbain, Miss C Dawson, Mrs S Densham, Mrs R & Mr A Douglas, Ms J Fairburn, Mr A & Mrs R Douglas, Mrs K & Miss G Ellis, Mrs L Gear, Mr M Goddard, Mrs J Hill, Mrs K Hynes, Mr T Lloyd, Mr P Metcalfe, Mrs H Moss, Mr R & Mrs P Randell, Mrs J Rawden, Mr W Robinson, Mrs Stewart, Dr E Whitley, Mr D & Miss M Wilkinson, Mrs M Wilson, Mrs J Wood.

2 Approval and adoption of the Annual General Meeting Minutes of 6 April 2024

Mr Boustead asked for a proposer and seconder for approval of the minutes published in the Autumn Magazine. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Miss Simpson, seconded by Mr Mallinson and approved by members, with 1 against.

3 Matters arising from the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2024

Mr Brunskill said that the minutes did not report a true and correct account of the meeting.

4 Chairman’s Report

Mr Boustead reported on the Fell Pony success in the show ring, eg, overall M & M ridden champion at HOYS, Wildhoeve Oki Doki bred in the Netherlands, from Heltondale and Townend breeding; and Birkettbank Master John, M & M ridden champion at the London Horse Show, bred from a prefix originating pre 2nd World War. The Fells were well represented at STARS.

Mr Boustead thanked the 3 long serving Council members who are retiring - Mrs Charlton, Mrs Cockbain and Mr Goddard.

Mrs Parkin, who has been Treasurer since 2013, and Mrs Wilkinson, who has worked in the office since 2005 and as Secretary since 2013, will both be retiring later in the year.

Mrs Wilkinson was presented with flowers, which were gratefully accepted.

5 Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Mrs Wilkinson reported on how it's so nice to be enjoying a good spell of dry and often sunny weather and it certainly makes it easier looking after our ponies and other livestock.

The better weather also makes us think about what we are going to do with our ponies over the coming months. Don't forget to share your photos on social media so that everyone can see what great ponies the Fells are.

Registrations for 2024 are now complete, now working on the stud book it will be available at the Stallion Show. Total Registrations for 2024 are 351 (311 in 2023). Unusually, in 2024 there were 42 more colts registered than fillies; normally the difference is single figures. In addition 29 ponies were registered by the Dutch Society (37 in 2023). The number of foals registered to the Hill bred herds, as agreed by Council, was 126 (36% of the total registered).

There are currently 828 members who have renewed their membership for 2025. Over 300 who were members last year have still to renew and there have been 81 new members so far in 2025.

Schedules and entry forms for the Stallion Show, South Cumbria Show and the Breed Show are available today and are available to download from our website. The HOYS qualifier will again be held at the Stallion Show in May.

The Society is again offering voluntary DNA testing of Filly Foals, born in 2025, with the support of the Horserace Betting Levy Board grant.

The Learning with Fells Scheme will be available this year. There are already some names forward but there is still time for members to put their names down; let Mrs Wilkinson know as soon as possible, as dates for visits will be agreed soon. Also hosts are requested.

The Society is offering a Training Bursary to a member under the age of 25. Details are on the website and application forms are available today.

Earlier in the year the annual return was submitted to The Horserace Betting Levy Board who have confirmed award of the grant for the coming year, which is very much appreciated.

We are delighted to receive a donation from His Majesty The King, for which we are very grateful.

In an attempt to keep costs down, particularly postage, we have been phasing in the payment of premiums by bank transfer and from this year we will only pay premiums by BACS. If you haven't already let us have your bank details then please do so as soon as possible, forms available today. Council agreed that any premiums due will be treated as a donation to the Society if bank details are not provided. Please be assured that we won't be storing anyone's bank details apart from on the Society's bank account under the payee list.

As you will see from the accounts included in your magazine, they are showing a loss in the last financial year. The Society continues to pay for the upkeep of 1 pony, (now aged 23), from the funds issued in 2018. If we take out the upkeep of the pony the loss is reduced to £1421.

Finally, Mrs Wilkinson thanked Council and President, Barbara Bell, for their continued support. She also thanked Glenis, Sarah and Michael for their support whilst they have been on Council. Thanks also to the office team, Chris, and Val and to Elizabeth who will be retiring at the end of the year. Mrs Wilkinson said how grateful she was for her support with the accounts over the last 12 years.

6 Election of Council

Mr Boustead reported that there had been 4 candidates for 4 places, therefore no voting was required.

New nominations Miss D Chadwick, Mrs J Grealish and Mr P Metcalfe joined Council, and Mrs A Bell re-joined.

7 Election of President

There was one nomination, Mrs G Cockbain. The majority voted in favour.

8 Adoption of Accounts for year ended 31 October 2024

Adoption of the accounts was agreed by members.

Mrs Brunskill asked if the income and expenditure for the shows could be included in the accounts.

9 Resolution to appoint Dodd & Co as Accountants to the Society

The resolution was proposed by Miss Simpson, seconded by Mr Mallinson and agreed by the members.

10 Reports from Sub-Committees

Conservation Grazing - Mrs Robinson reported that an estate in the Langholm area is offering around 1,000 acres for grazing of Fell Ponies. The farm manager is to visit some breeders but it is expected that the arrangement will be up and running within 12 months.

A smaller scale land owner in Northumberland is looking to purchase their own ponies.

Display Team - The team plan to attend Country Fest 31 May/1 June with a stand and ponies, Sandringham on 8 June with the stand and possibly a pony, Torver on 17 August, Midlands Fell Pony Show on 17 September and Westmorland County Show with ponies and the stand over the 2 days 10/11 September. As always additional helpers welcome.

Overseas committee - Mrs Millard reported that reminders had been sent to the Overseas Branches to request their annual report.

Once reports and accounts have been received it will be recommended to Council that the Certificates are issued for the coming year.

Judges Committee - The Trainee Judges Assessment, held in alternate years, will be held on 27 September at Rest Harrow EC. Anyone interested to contact Mr Goddard or Mrs Grealish.

Show Committee - Lara Kneale, our new Show Secretary, reminded members that schedules were available today and to download from the website. She made the usual request for volunteers and stewards to help at the shows. Anyone interested in sponsoring, contact Lara or Mrs Wilkinson.

11 Any Other Business

2 questions were received prior to the AGM.

i) A member asked: "Would the Council and Members discuss the possibility of re-introducing the Fell Pony Society International Convention week, to be held every 10 years as intended and first suggested, the first one in 2022?"

Council agreed to discuss the possibility of arranging a convention in 2027 and it was hoped some ideas and volunteers would come forward, possibly from the Area groups.

ii) A member asked "Please can you confirm how much has been spent on legal

representation for the Society and separately, that which has been spent on legal representation for Council members in the last 8 years?

"Also how much the Society paid out in damages / reimbursements relative to legal issues in the same time period?

"Can you confirm if a named individual has been reimbursed as indicated in the 2019 Autumn magazine and if not that an amount has been accrued in the accounts in 2019 or a subsequent year?"

Council replies as follows were read out -

- 1) *Please can you confirm how much has been spent on legal representation for the Society in the last 8 years - £7116; this includes an annual membership for legal advice, of £800 per year.*
 - 2) *and separately that which has been spent on legal representation for Council members in the last 8 years - this information is private and confidential.*
 - 3) *Also how much has the society paid out in damages / reimbursements relative to legal issues in the same time period - Nothing.*
 - 4) *Details requested about a third party: Council are unable to disclose these without authorisation from the said person.*
- iii) There was some discussion following a suggestion that Council should set up a sub committee for breeders. It was unclear exactly what this committee would achieve but agreed that Council would discuss the suggestion further.
- iv) Miss Bell said a few words about her time as President and how enjoyable it had been. She thanked everyone involved in the running of the Society.

11 Presentation of Awards

The Lownthwaite Rob trophy was awarded to Sunnybrowe Prince.

The Queen's Trophy was presented to Miss Barbara Bell.

The Edinburgh Prize was awarded to Dreamhayven Irish Rose.

The Peahill Basil Trophy was awarded to Sunnybrowe Prince.

The winners of the Youngstock & Performance Awards and Endurance Awards were announced, with winners invited to take part in a 'photo shoot' with Claire Simpson following the presentations.

The Fell Pony Society Breeders Award in Memory of Chris Thompson was awarded to **Bracklinn** with rosettes to:

- 2nd Greenholme
- 3rd Lunesdale
- 4th Murthwaite
- 5th Rainesmill
- 6th Carrock





Retiring Secretary Katherine Wilkinson received flowers from the FPS from Chairman Peter Boustead



Before the AGM, Dr Miriam Bibby spoke about the Galloway Nag and its legacy



Prizewinners after receiving their rosettes and awards at the AGM



Katherine Wilkinson and Ben Smith who received the Breeders Trophy won by Bracklinn



The Queen's Trophy was awarded to retiring President Barbara Bell

HOYS Leading Breeder Awards

It has recently been announced that the Greenholme Stud has won the Fell Breeder of the Year in the HOYS Leading Breeder Awards Series sponsored by the Kellythorpes Stud. The award is given for outstanding results in all the HOYS qualifiers throughout the 2025 season. Well done to the Potter family and all competitors!

Claire Simpson

All photos by Claire Simpson

Free Online Services for FPS Members

Member Directory

Listing in the Member Directory on the FPS web site is purely voluntary. We do not otherwise publish your personal data.

The Directory page is https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/member_dir.htm.

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

Grassroots Online Registry

The Grassroots web address is <https://breeds.grassroots.co.uk/FELL>. It is also linked from the Health page.

The data on Grassroots are input solely by the Society Office, which with our printed studbooks give an accurate record of ponies for our breed.

Extended pony pedigrees can be searched on Grassroots.

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

Use the 'Manage My Animals' option in the drop down menu, then select 'Flag animals for sale'. You need to give permission, if not already done, for potential buyers to see your address, phone number and email address.

Please check with the FPS Secretary if you are unsure.

Grassroots Passwords

Passwords are not automatically assigned by the system any more; members allocate their own password.

New members will receive a link via email to 'set a password' for Grassroots when they join the Society.

If for some reason as a current member you no longer have your 'log in' details, you can go to the Grassroots Log In screen and "click to Reset Password", and you will

be sent a link, via the email we have for you, to reset your password.

Sales List

Turnover on the Sales list of Fell Ponies on the FPS web site continues to be satisfactory, with ponies generally finding new homes within less than a month of being advertised.

The Sales List can be found at www.fellponysociety.org.uk/sales_list.htm.

It is updated with fresh adverts as they are received.

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

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

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



Claire Simpson

FPS President Glenis Cockbain presented the Supreme Championship trophy at the Breed Show to Alistair Smith for his winning mare, Bracklinn Beth

Tribute - Mark John Lupton, 13 June 1975 - 5 August 2025

The Fell pony world has lost a great advocate of the breed. Mark will be sorely missed by many.

I have known him since 2006, sharing and caring for each other's ponies both here in Leicestershire and on the West common in Lincoln. He told me how he got into equines, aged 14, when his friends thought they would see some fun and bought him a riding lesson for his birthday. However, it backfired on them, as he was truly hooked!

His first introduction to horse riding was at Mawers Farm Riding School in the West End of Lincoln, run by Ken and Pauline Bell who had many pedigree and first cross Fells with temperaments to suit novice children. Mark kept horses in his life when he moved south as an adult, gaining qualifications and experience on the way. He bought Karl, his big competition ex racehorse and they were together until Karl, in his early 30s, decided to have an afternoon snooze in his stable in August 2024, and didn't wake up. Mark felt the loss greatly and had him cremated to eventually be buried with him, never thinking it would happen so soon. We wish them both many happy rides together in the hereafter.

Time moved on and Mark, now with a meaningful career in community health for security (and pension!), returned to Lincoln. There he could develop his Fell pony herd as his leisure and recreational interest. This was where I met him in 2006. At the 2007 FPS sales we bought some weaned foals and a 2 year old to run on the West common in Lincoln and at his rented land at Branston. It was at this time that he registered his prefix "Westlindum". Lindum is the old name for Lincoln.

He moved his day job to Manchester and had upwards of eight ponies including his stallion, Applegate Indigo Archie, lodging at various sites around the Midlands. He was well liked and progressed well in his career as his colleagues testify online. In 2024 Archie sired 3 colt foals with his prefix, one of which may develop into stallion material. The first foal to carry Mark's prefix is Westlindum Annie who was born at my home; regretfully the mare lost her life and Annie was fostered by an Irish sports mare.



After nearly five years of setbacks and broken promises, in early 2025 Mark eventually took possession of 29 acres of suitable land for Fell ponies near Glossop in Derbyshire, on the edge of the Peak District. We visited him in early June for a birthday picnic in one of the fields, with his mares looking over the fence. He was so happy telling us his plans for the future, a lovely day I'll never forget. Sadly the plans were not to be and he unexpectedly passed away there a couple of months later.

Mark had a great talent for getting on with people from all walks of life and all ages; he had many interests and he did voluntary social work at the local prison and unbeknown by many he was also an accomplished puppeteer, making his own puppets! He will be sadly missed by many people and in the Fell world we are thinking of creating a lasting trophy memorial in his name; all ideas and suggestions are welcome. I am also hoping to breed from Westlindum Annie so his legacy will carry on.

Our dear friend and colleague, rest in peace, you left us far too soon.

Judy A Hill.

Shepperton Stud

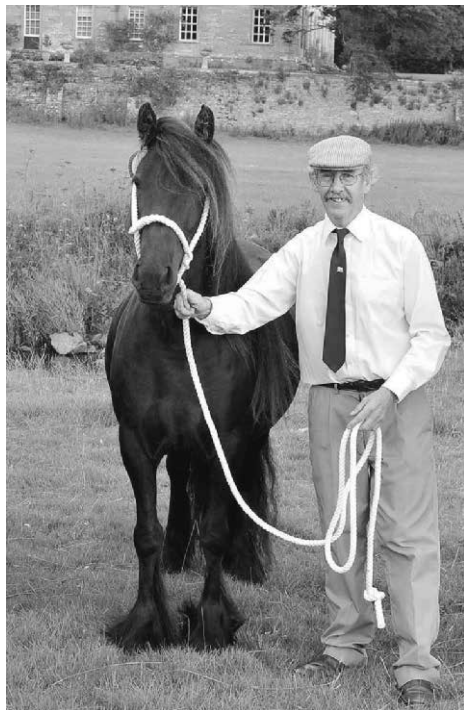
Tribute - Tony Ashcroft

The Fell Pony Heritage Trust would like to mark the passing of Tony Ashcroft, Banksgate Fell Ponies, on the 17th September 2025.

Tony bred so many quality ponies and was very well known as a Fell Pony breeder. On the show circuit he had a lot of success owing to the quality of his ponies as he was never part of any clique and always let his ponies and showing skill do all the talking.

He won the overall Supreme Champion at the Fell Pony Society Breed Show, twice,

with two home bred mares Banksgate Vember in 2014 and Banksgate Galway Girl in 2015.



He was also a respected livestock farmer and drystone waller. There is a long stretch of wall he put up for Eddie Wilson at the foot of Carrock Fell which stands as testament to his craft.

He lived and farmed at Banksgate, high on the North Cumbrian Pennines. It suffered the harshest of climates owing to its elevation between 1100 and 1300 feet above sea level and openness to the prevailing Westerly weather.

Tony Ashcroft put his ponies first in every way and always concentrated on breeding quality. He was a man of many talents being a talented and bold rock climber, mountaineer, rugby and football player in his younger days. He leaves his wife, Elyned, 3 children, Catherine, Alan and Hannah and 7 grandchildren. His funeral will take place at Aberffraw on Wednesday 8th October.

The Banksgate herd will be retained by his wife and children in whose hands and God willing, it will continue to flourish.

Tribute - Keven Dunger, 1 October 1958 - 18 January 2025

Keven was born and raised in Norfolk. He then went on to Lambourn in Berkshire to work with the racehorses. He first started working at the Royal stud at Sandringham on New Year's Day in 1992. He mainly looked after the mares and foals. He then became head of his yard and in charge of breaking in the yearlings. He worked on the stud for thirty three years! He had the honour of being awarded the RVO by HMQ in 2015 and then the MVO by HRH in 2024. He was very proud to work for the Queen.

Keven was a long term supporter of the Fells and the Sandringham Fell and Dales show. He and his wife Lisa have owned their own Fell pony since 2000. He would help out at the shows and was the contact for the Sandringham estate.

Keven was a very popular and well respected man and loved by all.

We send all our best wishes to his family and friends.

Catherine Merry

The Fell Pony Society Annual Stallion & Colt Show 2025

The annual Stallion & Colt Show was again held in the magnificent setting of Dalemain near Ullswater, by kind permission of the Hasell-McCosh family. A good crowd enjoyed watching judge Colin Turner assess the ponies, and catching up with friends in the glorious May sunshine.

Colin was pleased with the quality ponies, and the results demonstrate that Greenholme and Lunesdale bloodlines were firmly to the fore, again testament to the quality of the ponies bred by these well-respected Cumbrian studs.

Colin chose Deb Vychinski's homebred Boutime Wooster to be the Supreme Champion. This magnificent 14 year old was sired by Lunesdale Warlord after Bert Morland suggested the sire would be a good match for Deb's mare Darrenvale Katie. Reserve Supreme went to four year old Castle Hill Glenfiddich, owned by Kay Hardy, and sired by Boutime Wooster, a firm endorsement of the quality of the supreme champion's progeny.

The Youngstock Championship went to Alistair Smith with his yearling Lunesdale Freddie (Lunesdale Union Jack x Lunesdale Ice Queen), bred by Bert Morland and purchased through the Society's annual sale in 2024. The Youngstock Reserve Champion was Rainesmill Conker (Lunesdale Black Ice II x Fellside Special Edition), owned by Sammy Jo Spours and bred by Katie Raine.

The Gelding Championship went to Gilly Chippendale with her homebred three year old Lammerside Sir Tristan (Greenholme Kingsman x Clifford Silver Slipper). The yearling Wellbrow Ronan (Wellbrow Mikado x Wellbrow Gracie), took the Reserve for Louise Younger.

The class for two year old colts went to Thomas Partridge with Carrside Midnight Mischief (Bracklinn Dynamite x Greenholme Hermione) and expertly shown by Bethany Cousins. The winner of the class for geldings four years and above was Mrs

Walker's Globetrotter Lancer (Greenholme Warrior x Globetrotter Polikarpov) bred by Libby Robinson. Winner of the Ridden class was Barry Mallinson's lovely dapple grey 7 year old Cargenwater Casanova (Murthwaite Misty's Boy x Lune Valley Petal) ridden by his daughter Georgina.

The Fell Pony Society Horse of the Year Show qualifier class is also held at the show. It is the first of ten qualifiers that take place throughout the country from May to the end of August, so a great opportunity to secure a qualification ticket right at the start of the season. Pam Cox judged the ridden show and freedom of movement element, and Michael Goddard the breed type and conformation. Ultimately it was Greenholme Kipper (Greenholme Look At Me x Greenholme Wishful), who won this very strong class with a delighted Anna Metcalfe.

Grateful thanks to the Hasell-McCosh family; the sponsors - Rundales Fell Ponies, in memory of the late Margaret Howe; Emma Drewett; Horngill Fell Pony Stud; BJC Equine - Freelance Groom; The Fell Pony Heritage Trust; Mrs C T Davies; Mrs Helen Moss; and to the judges, stewards, competitors, and all the tremendous volunteers who work tirelessly to make the show such a lovely event in the Fell Pony calendar.

Claire Simpson



Claire Simpson

Deb Vychinski's homebred Boutime Wooster (Lunesdale Warlord x Darrenvale Katie) was Supreme Champion at the Stallion and Colt Show.



Claire Simpson

Reserve Supreme went to four year old Castle Hill Glenfiddich (Boutime Wooster x Sleddale Rosebud), owned by Kay Hardy, and bred by Claire Crow.



Claire Simpson

Horse of the Year Show qualifier was Greenholme Kipper (Greenholme Look At Me x Greenholme Wishful), who won a very strong class for Anna Metcalfe.



Claire Simpson

The Youngstock Championship went to Alistair Smith with his yearling Lunesdale Freddie (Lunesdale Union Jack x Lunesdale Ice Queen), bred by Bert Morland.

STALLION & COLT SHOW RESULTS

Judge: (Classes 1-8) Mr Colin Turner

Judge: (Classes 9a-9b) Mr A Smith

Judges: (Class 10) Mrs P Cox (Ride), Mr M Goddard (Conformation)

Class 1 Yearling Colts

- 1st Lunesdale Freddie, FP73947C, f2024, Owner Mr A Smith, Breeder Mr A W Morland
- 2nd Rainesmill Conker, FP73870C, f2024, Owner Mrs S J Spoons, Breeder Miss K Raine
- 3rd Setmabanning Malcolm, FP73919C, f2024, Owner & Breeder Mr M G Fearon

Class 2 Two Year Old Colts

- 1st Carrside Midnight Mischief, FP73795C*, f2023, Lic FP1080, Owner Mr T Partridge, Breeder Miss E Cowgill
- 2nd Wansfell Ozin, FP73771C*, f2023, Lic FP1076, Owner Miss H Mawrey, Breeder Mrs W E Dickinson

Class 3 Geldings 1, 2 & 3 Years Old

- 1st Lammerside Sir Tristan, FP73629G, f2022, Owner & Breeder Mrs G Chippendale
- 2nd Wellbrow Ronan, FP73936G, f2024, Owner Miss L Younger, Breeder Mr A Thorpe
- 3rd Firbank Just William, FP73537G, f2022, Owner Miss O Robinson, Breeder Mrs S E James

Class 4 Licensed Stallions 3 & 4 Years Old

- 1st Castle Hill Glenfiddich, FP73428C*, f2021, Lic FP1049. Owner Mrs K Hardy, Breeder Miss C Crow
- 2nd Oscar II, FP73538C*, f2022, Lic FP1075, Owner Mr R N Beaty, Breeder Mr K A Anderson
- 3rd Greenrivers Tonka Toy, FP73417C*, f2021, Lic 1065, Owner Miss K Raine, Breeder Mr K Turner

Class 5 Geldings 4 Years Old & Over

- 1st Globetrotter Lancer, FP73444G, f2021. Owner Mrs A Walker, Breeder Mrs E H Robinson
- 2nd Drybarrows Granite, FP73491G, f2021, Owner Mr G Pigney, Breeder Mr D C Thompson
- 3rd Birkcross Midnight Magic, FP73258G, f2020, Owner Miss J E Singleton, Breeder Mr D McDowell & Mr A Birkett

Class 6 Licensed Stallions 5 Years & Over

- 1st Boutime Wooster, FP71820C*, f2011, Lic FP720, Owner & Breeder Mrs D Vychinski
- 2nd Dalewin Victor, FP72927C*, f2018, Lic FP926, Owner Mrs E A Walker, Breeder Mr E Winder
- 3rd Dalewin Vesper, FP72928C*, f2018, Lic FP955, Owner Miss C Simpson, Breeder Mr E Winder

Class 7 Riding Class For Licensed Stallions Or Geldings, 4 Years & Over, To Be Shown Under Saddle

- 1st Cargenwater Casanova, FP72857G, f2017, Owner Mr & Mrs G H B Mallinson, Breeder Mrs E & Mr J Martin, Rider Miss G Mallinson
- 2nd Dalewin Vesper, FP72928C*, f2018, Lic FP955, Owner Miss C Simpson, Breeder Mr E Winder, Rider Miss A Robinson
- 3rd Urwins Storm, FP73045G, f2018, Owner Miss A Kinsella, Breeder The Late Mr D R Urwin, Rider Miss A Kinsella

Class 8 Licensed Stallion Or Gelding 4 Years & Over To Be Shown In Harness - NONE FORWARD

Class 9a Colt, Stallion Or Gelding Any Age, With Best Set Of Feet Shod

- 1st Boutime Wooster, FP71820C*, f2011, Lic FP720, Owner & Breeder Mrs D Vychinski, Farrier Louis May

Class 9b Colt, Stallion Or Gelding Any Age With Best Set Of Feet Unshod

- 1st Drybarrows Granite, FP73491G, f2021, Owner Mr G Pigney, Breeder Mr D C Thompson

Class 10 NATIONAL PONY SOCIETY RIDDEN FELL PONY OF THE YEAR

HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW QUALIFIER 2025

- 1st Greenholme Kipper, FP6238*, f2016, Owner Mrs B & Miss A Metcalfe, Breeder Mr W S Potter, Rider Miss A Metcalfe
- 2nd Kalmara Fantasia, FP6208, f2015, Owner & Breeder Miss K Hodge, Rider Ms L Brill
- 3rd Bybeck Stella, FP6215, f2016, Owner Mr C Stewart, Breeder Mr C Roberts, Rider Mr K Wray

STALLION & COLT SHOW CHAMPIONS

Youngstock Champion	Lunesdale Freddie
Youngstock Reserve	Rainesmill Conker
Champion Gelding In Hand	Lammerside Sir Tristan
Reserve Gelding In Hand	Wellbrow Ronan
Champion Stallion In Hand	Boutime Wooster
Reserve Stallion In Hand	Castle Hill Glennfiddich
Oldest Stallion On The Day	Boutime Wooster



Gelding Championship went to Gilly Chippendale with her homebred three year old Lammerside Sir Tristan (Greenholme Kingsman x Clifford Silver Slipper)

'Our Fell Farming Heritage' Exhibition and Special Events

Saturday 18th October - Sunday 16th November
at The Old Courthouse, Shap, Cumbria
FREE Admission to the exhibition

A display of photographs, artefacts and crafts relating to local fell farming and traditions. The local farming landscape is fast changing and we would like to recognise the contribution of farming families, particularly those for whom keeping stock on the common was an integral part of their farming way of life.

Some of these events will have taken place by the time the Magazine goes out. However, we hope the Magazine will reach you in time to visit the exhibition or attend the closing event:

Sunday 16th November 2.30pm - 'A Westmorland Gather'
A social afternoon with music, song, poetry, stories, images and tea,
led by Bill Lloyd

Tickets £5

Please pre-book online or contact Janet tel. 01931 716273, or email: janet@theoldcourthouse.org as places are limited.

Visit www.theoldcourthouse.org for opening hours and further information.

We are grateful to Westmorland and Furness Council Arts Fund who have provided grant funding towards our 'Our Fell Farming Heritage' events.

The 'Common Ground' film shown on 20th October is a prelude to a full length documentary about Hill Farming to be released in 2026.

South Cumbria Show

The South Cumbria Show was held on 1 June, but the day was not at all Spring-like. It was dark and miserable with torrential rain and howling wind that saw several ponies object and sensibly turn their backs to it - yet despite the weather, the show still made a profit!

Congratulations to everyone who "stuck it out" and especially Juliet Huddleston who took the Supreme and Ridden Championships with Bowins Nightingale with Alex Robinson in the saddle. In Hand Champion was Anna Metcalfe's Ryehouse Northern Dawn who also took Reserve Supreme.

In Hand Reserve Champion was the Potter family's Greenholme Rose II, and Junior Ridden Champion was Harry Milburn with Townend Sherry, who also took the Reserve Ridden Championship. Junior Reserve Ridden was Llanerchbrook Cardamom with Lucy Webb.



Windswept and wet! Juliet Huddleston took the Supreme and Ridden Championships with Bowins Nightingale with Alex Robinson in the saddle. In Hand Champion was Anna Metcalfe's Ryehouse Northern Dawn who also took Reserve Supreme.

SOUTH CUMBRIA SHOW RESULTS

RING 1 RIDDEN CLASSES

Judge Miss G Callister

Class 1 Best Turned Out

1st Townend Sherry, FP6024, f2014, Owner Mrs D Milburn, Rider Harry Milburn

2nd Brackenthwaite Jos, FP72617G, f2016, Owner Mrs H Littler, Rider Miss A Fox

Class 2 Traditional Ridden, Walk & Trot Only, Mare, Gelding or Stallion

1st Townend Sherry, FP6024, f2014, Owner & Rider Mrs D Milburn

2nd Urwins Storm, FP73045G, f2018, Owner & Rider Miss A Kinsella

3rd Greenholme Juliette, FP6133, f2015, Owner & Rider Mrs A Wilson

Class 3 Novice Ridden Mare, Gelding or Stallion, Mare, Gelding or Stallion

1st Murthwaite Donna Marie, FP5963, f2014, Owner Mrs E Lawson, Rider Lily Lawson

Class 4 Veteran Ridden, Mare, Gelding or Stallion

1st Heltondale Bonny Lass VI, FP4580, f2007, Owner Mr & Mrs B Mallinson, Rider Miss N Jackson

Class 5 Junior Ridden, rider 14 years and under, Mare or Gelding

1st Townend Sherry, FP6024, f2014, Owner Mrs D Milburn, Rider Harry Milburn

2nd Murthwaite Donna Marie, FP5963, f2014, Owner Mrs E Lawson, Rider Lily Lawson

Class 6 Junior Ridden, rider 15-18 years, Stallion, Mare or Gelding

1st Llanerchbrook Cardamom, FP6401*, f2017, Owner Miss S Ashburn, Rider Lucy Webb

Class 7 Open Ridden Mare

1st Bowins Nightingale, FP6958, f2020, Owner Mrs J Huddleston, Rider Miss A Robinson

2nd Townend Sherry, FP6024, f2014, Owner & Rider Mrs D Milburn

3rd Greenholme Juliette, FP6133, f2015, Owner & Rider Mrs A Wilson

Class 8 Open Ridden Gelding or Stallion

1st Urwins Storm, FP73045G, f2018, Owner & Rider Miss A Kinsella

Ring 1 EQUITATION

Judge Miss A Metcalfe

Class 16 Junior Equitation - NO ENTRIES

Class 17 Senior Equitation - NO ENTRIES

RING 2 IN HAND CLASSES

Judge Mrs S Mallinson

Class 9 Yearling Colt, Filly or Gelding

1st Setmabanning Malcolm, FP73919C, f2024, Owner Mr M Fearon

2nd Greenholme Stacy, FP7567, f2024, Owner Misses R J & B K Potter

3rd Halstone Dakotas Dream, FP7554*, f2024, Owner Miss C Wood

Class 10 Two Year Old Colt, Filly or Gelding

1st Greenholme Rose II, FP7374, f2023, Owner Misses RJ & BK Potter

2nd Dalewin Arianna, FP7416, f2023, Owner Mr E Winder

Class 11 Three Year Old Colt, Filly or Gelding - NO ENTRIES

Class 12 Mare 4 years Old or over with or without foal at foot

1st Ryehouse Northern Dawn, FP7037, f2021, Owner Miss A Metcalfe

2nd Dalewin Willow, FP6731, f2019, Owner Mr E Winder

3rd Lammerside Hazel, FP7059, f2021, Owner Mrs G Chippendale

Class 13 Gelding or Stallion 4 Years Old or over

1st Henry, FP71034G, f2007, Owner Miss N Evans

2nd Brackenthwaite Jos, FP72617G, f2016, Owner Mrs H Littler

3rd Stenerskeugh Pandemic, FP73210G, f2020, Owner Miss A R Wilson

Class 14 Veteran Stallion, Mare or Gelding 15 Years or over not to be shown in any other in hand class

1st Henry, FP71034G, f2007, Owner Miss N Evans

Class 15 Young Handlers

1st Mary Bell, Age 9, handling Lownthwaite Heidi, FP4794, f2008, Owner Mrs A W Bell

SOUTH CUMBRIA SHOW CHAMPIONS

In Hand Championship

Champion Ryehouse Northern Dawn

Reserve Greenholme Rose II

Junior Ridden Championship

Champion Townend Sherry

Reserve Llanerchbrook Cardamom

Ridden Championship

Champion Bowins Nightingale

Reserve Townend Sherry

Supreme Championship

Champion Bowins Nightingale

Reserve Ryehouse Northern Dawn



Fell Pony Society Breed Show, 10th August 2025

The sun shone again at Dalemair for the 52nd annual Breed Show and the event brought not only a good crowd of dedicated Fell pony enthusiasts but also several groups of holidaymakers visiting in the area, who watched our beautifully presented ponies showing off their versatility, in hand, ridden, driven, and in the dressage and working hunter rings.

The Supreme championship was decided by the judges from the in hand and open ridden rings who chose the Smith family's 6-year-old homebred mare Bracklinn Beth, winner of the class for mares with colt foals at foot. Back to back wins for the Smith family who had taken Supreme and reserve Supreme at the 2024 show.

Reserve Supreme went to Deb Vychinski's homebred 8 y.o. Boutime Esther, winner of the class for mares with filly foals at foot; Esther was sired by the 2025 stallion show supreme champion, Boutime Wooster.

John Cockbain took the class for mares 4-7 y.o. and the reserve champion mare award with his homebred multi champion Carrock Daenerys.

The colt Townend Fanfare took the three-year-old class and then the youngstock Championship for Sarah Clayton, with Matthew Fearon's homebred yearling, Setmabanning Malcolm, in reserve.

Bob Beaty took the gelding championship with his super consistent 8 y.o. Stennerskeugh Nicholas, with the Mallinson family's Cargenwater Casanova in reserve. Katie Raine won the best foal trophy with Rainesmill Delilah.

In the ridden sections Heather Crane's veteran Raisbeck Calico won the open and overall ridden championship, with Tamsin Bell-Heather and Cargenwater Casanova in reserve.

Anna Metcalfe took the novice ridden championship with her homebred 6 y.o. Ryehouse Northern Dawn while Heather Crane's Nicholwalls Firefly took reserve ridden by Tamsin Bell-Heather.

It was lovely to see the next generation of Fell pony enthusiasts coming through. This year the first Junior Handler Championship took place at the show. Qualifiers had been held throughout the Country during the year, and the championship went to Mary Bell (10) who, together with her youngster sister Sarah, had a super day with the family's homebred Lownthwaite Heidi. Sarah (8) won the lead rein class on Heidi with Mum Alison being her leader.

Lucy Webb (18) won the ridden class for juniors 14-18 years and the junior ridden championship with Llanerchbrook Cardamom; Jasmine Singleton (14) won the class for juniors 14 years and under with Birkcross Midnight Magic and was junior reserve. Harry Milburn (8) won the class for young judges.

In the working hunter ring Andrew Hunter's novice 4 y.o. Fellsides Firefly took the championship, ridden by Pam Brown. Isabella Chippendale (9) confidently rode her Mother's

Greenholme Hot Rod with great success, and after winning the First Ridden flat class she also won the beginners working hunter class and took the reserve championship.

The driving class included two very different exhibits, both of which were top class, and so Barbara Bell decided to award them joint first place. Malcolm Hogg drove 10 y.o. Midtown Jemima; while Mark Jopting drove a team of 4 well matched Hotchberry geldings, the 6 and 7 year old full / half brothers Glint, Gallant, Fender and Flame.

The three dressage classes, which included NPS qualifiers in the Prelim and Novice classes, ran throughout the morning and into the afternoon so that competitors could fit their tests in around their other classes. Winner of the Susan McKinlay picture for the best test overall was Alex Robinson with Dalewin Vesper.

The Packway Bellman trophy, for the best performance across the flat, WHP and dressage classes, was won by Claire Simpson's Bracklinn Sam, ridden by Katerina Haufova.

Well done to all the prize-winners and, as always, grateful thanks to the Hasell-McCosh family, to all our sponsors, judges, competitors and stewards, and to all the volunteers who so generously give their time to make the show a success and a lovely day for all.

Claire Simpson

BREED SHOW RESULTS

JUDGES

Classes 1-8	Mrs C Wigley
Classes 9-17	Mr P Boustead
Classes 18 (a) and (b)	Mr R Alty
Classes 19-20	Mrs C Pickering
Classes 21-26	Mrs R Eastwood
Classes 27-31	Mrs C Pickering
Classes 32	Miss B Bell
Classes 33-34	Mrs R Williams
Class 35	Mr M Goddard
Class 36	Mrs G Cockbain
Classes 37A-37C	Jane Butler
Classes 38-41	Mr R Sutcliffe & Mr K Turner

IN HAND CLASSES

Class 1 Mare 4 to 7 years old

- 1st Carrock Daenerys, FP6736, f2019,
S: Carrock Stride The Nite, D: Townend Sugar,
Owner Mr J W Cockbain
- 2nd Dalewin Willow, FP6731, f2019,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Dalewin Fern,
Owner: Mr E Winder
- 3rd Lammerside Hazel, FP7059, f2021,
S: Heltondale Prince V, D: Stockleylane Annie,
Owner: Mrs G Chippendale

Class 2 Mare 8 years old and upwards

- 1st Bybeck Stella, FP6215, f2016, S: Wellbrow
Lancashire Lad, D: Murthwaite Fern, Owner:
Mr C Stewart
- 2nd Nabside Gracie, FP6372, f2017,
S: Lunesdale Beckham, D: Banksgate Shooting
Star, Owner: R J Rawlinson-Allen
- 3rd Salisbury Diva, FP6222, f2016, S: Lunesdale
Black Ice II, D: Greenholme Vicky, Owner: Miss
C P Wood

Class 3 Veteran Mare or Gelding 15 years and over

- 1st Heltondale Bonny Lass VI FP4580, f2007,
S: Murthwaite Look At Me, D: Heltondale
Bonny III, Owner: Mr & Mrs G H B Mallinson
- 2nd Brackenbank Gypsy III, FP4421, f2006,
S: Murthwaite Look At Me, D: Brackenbank
Mayblossom, Owner: Mr & Mrs D Wilkinson
- 3rd Rundales Princess FP5001, f2009, S: Tunstall
Jake, D: Rundales Elley, Owner: Mrs A M Troy

Class 4 Mare 4 years old and upward with own colt foat at foot

- 1st Bracklinn Beth FP6771, f2019, S: Auckside
Freddie, D: Bracklinn Tess, Owner: Mr A Smith
- 2nd Dalewin Uptown Jen, FP6455, f2017,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Dalewin Amy,
Owner: Miss K Raine
- 3rd Brackenbank Gypsy III, FP4421, f2006,
S: Murthwaite Look At Me, D: Brackenbank
Mayblossom, Owner: Mr & Mrs D Wilkinson

Class 5 Colt Foal

- 1st Brackenbank Jim Bob, f2025, S: Bybeck
Angelo, D: Brackenbank Gypsy III, Owner: Mr
& Mrs D Wilkinson
- 2nd Rainesmill Donald, f2025, S: Greenrivers
Tonka Toy, D: Dalewin Uptown Jen, Owner:
Miss K Raine
- 3rd Bracklinn Raptor FP74067C, f2025, S: Rocky
II, D: Bracklinn Beth, Owner: Mr A Smith

Class 6 Mare 4 years old and upward with own filly foal at foot

- 1st Boutime Esther FP6374, f2017, S: Boutime
Wooster, D: Sleddale Rosebud, Owner: Mrs D
Vychinski
- 2nd Rainesmill Edna, FP6858, f2020,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Fellsides Special
Edition, Owner: Miss K Raine
- 3rd Dalewin Uptown Girl FP6421, f2017,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Dalewin Fern,
Owner: Mr E Winder

Class 7 Filly Foal

- 1st Rainesmill Delilah f2025, S: Greenrivers
Tonka Toy, D: Rainesmill Edna, Owner: Miss K
Raine
- 2nd Greenholme 'Filly' f2025, S: Heltondale
Prince V, D: Banksgate Rhian, Owner: R J & B
K Potter
- 3rd Dalewin Clemmie f2025, S: Waverfoot Gary,
D: Dalewin Uptown Girl, Owner: Mr E Winder

Class 8 Group Class - Stallion Progeny

- Lunesdale Black Ice II FP71130C*
- Dalewin Uptown Jen, FP6455, f2017,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Dalewin Amy,
Owner: Miss K Raine
- Rainesmill Edna, FP6858, f2020, S: Lunesdale
Black Ice II, D: Fellsides Special Edition,
Owner: Miss K Raine
- Dalewin Willow, FP6731, f2019, S: Lunesdale
Black Ice II, D: Dalewin Fern, Owner: Mr E
Winder

Class 9 Gelding 4 to 7 years old

- 1st Stennerskeugh Nicholas, FP73013G, F2018,
S: Lunesdale Ace of Spades, D: Stennerskeugh
Amanda May V, Owner: Mr R N Beaty
- 2nd Hotchberry Glint, FP7307G, f2019,
S: Banksgate Jack High, D: Holling Bramble,
Owner: Mr M Jopling
- 3rd Hotchberry Flame FP72889, f2018,
S: Banksgate Jack High, D: Hotchberry Orchid,
Owner: Mr M Jopling

Class 10 Gelding 8 years and upwards

- 1st Cargenwater Casanova FP72857G, f2017,
S: Murthwaite Misty's Boy, D: Lune Valley Petal,
Owner: Mr & Mrs G H B Mallinson
- 2nd Kinniside Simon FP 72819G, f2017,
S: Burnhead Black Bobby, D: Bowthorne Marie,
Owner: Miss J Woolaghan
- 3rd Townend Libra FP72446G, f2014,
S: Heltondale Bonzo Boy, D: Sleddale Lib IV,
Owner: Mrs K Bennett

Class 11 Yearling Filly

- 1st Waverfoot Songbird FP7649, f2024,
S: Waverfoot Gary, D: Waverhead Skylark,
Owner: Miss H Lightfoot
- 2nd Halstone Dakota's Dream FP7554*, f2024,
S: Banksgate Jupiter, D: Salisbury Diva, Owner:
Miss C P Wood
- 3rd Smithills Helsinki FP7601, f2024,
S: Calderbrooke Flint, D: Cringlemire Lilly,
Owner: Miss L Blundell

Class 12 Yearling Colt or Gelding

- 1st Setmabanning Malcolm FP73919C, f2024,
S: Boutime Wooster, D: Drybarrows
Blencathra, Owner: Mr M Fearon
- 2nd Waverfoot Prince FP74002G, f2024,
S: Waverfoot Gary, D: Laurel Highland Blossom
OThe Hill, Owner: Mrs L Richardson
- 3rd Hardendale Discovery FP73880C, f2024,
S: Lunesdale Dixie, D: Hardendale Dainty
Lady, Owner: Mrs R Stott

Class 13 Filly 2 years old

- 1st Carrock Majestic FP7405, f2023, S: Carrock
Blackthorn, D: Carrock Lady, Owner: Mr J W
Cockbain
- 2nd Drybarrows Isla FP7440, f2023,
S: Drybarrows Exclusive, D: Drybarrows Jan III,
Owner: Mrs A Woodburn
- 3rd Stennerskeugh Anna FP7383, f2023,
S: Lunesdale Ace of Spades, D: Stennerskeugh
Amanda May V, Owner: Mr R N Beaty

Class 14 Colt or Gelding 2 years old

- 1st Carrside Midnight Mischief FP73795C*,
f2023, S: Bracklinn Dynamite, D: Greenholme
Hermione, Owner: Mr T Partridge
- 2nd Hotchberry Kilne FP73716G, f2023,
S: Banksgate Jack High, D: Hotchberry Orchid,
Owner: Miss K Chafar

Class 15 Filly 3 years old

- 1st Bracklinn Aubrey FP7211, f2022,
S: Bracklinn Jackpot, D: Bracklinn Jillian,
Owner: Mr A Smith
- 2nd Fleetham Judith's Rose FP7357, f2022,
S: Wildhoeve Adiction, D: Greenholme Rose,
Owner: Mrs S J Lamb

Class 16 Colt or Gelding 3 years old

- 1st Townend Fanfare FP73533C*, f2022,
S: Nabside Ferdinand, D: Townend Fantasy,
Owner: Mrs S Clayton
- 2nd Lammerside Sir Tristan FP73629G, f2022,
S: Greenholme Kingsman, D: Clifford Silver
Slipper, Owner: Mrs G Chippendale

Class 17 Group Class Mare Progeny

NO ENTRIES

Class 18(A) Pony age, with the best set of feet - shod

- 1st Townend Fanfare FP73533C*, f2022,
S: Nabside Ferdinand, D: Townend Fantasy,
Owner: Mrs S Clayton, Farrier: Ben Dewhurst

Class 18(B) Pony age, with the best set of feet - unshod

- 1st Globetrotter Lancer FP73444G, f2021,
S: Greenholme Warrior, D: Globetrotter
Polikarpov, Owner: Mrs A Walker
- 2nd Ellergill Edna FP7585, f2024, S: Lunesdale
Ace of Spades, D: Cringlemire Rosie Lee,
Owner: Miss G Ellis
- 3rd Llanerchbrook Liberty Faith FP6930*, f2020,
S: Murthwaite Boy Blue II, D: Greenholme
Joanne, Owner: Miss N Evans

JUNIOR RIDDEN

Class 19 Lead Rein

- 1st Lownthwaite Heidi, FP4794, f2004,
S: Peepings Raven, D: Lownthwaite Bramble,
Owner: Mrs A W Bell, Rider: Sarah Bell (Age 8)
- 2nd Greenholme Hot Rod, FP72249G*, f2013,
S: Greenholme Diego, D: Greenholme White
Rose, Owner: Mrs N Chippendale, Rider: Clara
Chippendale (Age 4)

Class 20 First Ridden

- 1st Greenholme Hot Rod, FP72249G*, f2013,
S: Greenholme Diego, D: Greenholme White
Rose, Owner Mrs N Chippendale, Rider:
Isabella Chippendale (Age 9)
- 2nd Highbrook Phantom Fire FP72684G*, f2016,
S: Birkettbank phantom, D: Wellbrow Elsie,
Owner: Miss R Shield, Rider: Rosie Shield (Age
12)

- 3rd Townend Cheviot FP73261G, f2020,
S: Nabside Ferdinand, D: Townend Cxhoccy,
Owner: Mrs S Fraser, Rider: Annabel Fraser
(Age 12)

RIDDEN CLASSES

Class 21 Nursery Novice

- 1st Nicholwalls Firefly FP5958*, f2013,
S: Greenholme Emblem, D: Bracklinn Rosie,
Owner: Miss H Crane, Rider: Miss T Bell-
Heather
- 2nd Ryehouse Northern Dawn FP7037, f2021,
S: Greenholme Kingsman, D: Lunesdale Aurora,
Owner & Rider: Miss A Metcalfe
- 3rd Casterfell Galway Girl FP6883, f2020,
S: Lunesdale Union Jack, D: Greenholme
Buttercup, Owner: Miss R & Miss K Morland,
Rider: Miss A Metcalfe

Class 22 Veteran Ridden Class - Mare or Gelding to be 15 years and over

- 1st Raisbeck Calico FP5287, f2010,
S: Murthwaite Look At Me, D: Raisbeck Casino,
Owner: Miss H Crane, Rider: Miss T Bell-
Heather
- 2nd Rundales Princess FP5001, f2009, S: Tunstall
Jake, D: Rundales Elley, Owner: Mrs A M Troy,
Rider: Mrs A M Troy
- 3rd Heltondale Bonnylass VI FP4580, f2007,
S: Murthwaite Look At Me, D: Heltondale
Bonny III, Owner: Mr & Mrs G H B Mallinson,
Rider: Miss N Jackson

Class 23 Riding Class For Stallions or Geldings 4 years old & upwards

- 1st Cargenwater Casanova FP72857G, f2017,
S: Murthwaite Misty's Boy, D: Lune Valley Petal,
Owner: Mr & Mrs G H B Mallinson, Rider: Miss
G Mallinson
- 2nd Urwins Storm FP73045G, f 2018,
S: Greenholme Aden, D: Urwins Mallie, Owner
& Rider: Miss A Kinsella
- 3rd Midtown Joker FP72500G, f2015,
S: Lunesdale Beckham, D: Murthwaite Pick Me
Up (B), Owner: Miss Z Marsden, Rider: Miss Z
Marsden

Class 24 Riding Class For Mares 4 years old and upwards

- 1st Raisbeck Calico FP5287, f2010,
S: Murthwaite Look At Me, D: Raisbeck Casino,
Owner: Miss H Crane, Rider: Miss T Bell-
Heather
- 2nd Bybeck Stella, FP6215, f2016, S: Wellbrow
Lancashire Lad, D: Murthwaite Fern, Owner:
Mr C Stewart, Rider: Miss H M Stewart

- 3rd Greenholme Kipper FP6238*, f2016,
S: Greenholme Diego, D: Salisbury Pippa,
Owner: Mrs B & Miss A Metcalfe, Rider: Miss A
Metcalfe

Class 25 Traditional Ridden (Mares) - Walk & Trot Only

- 1st Bowins Nightingale, FP6958, f2020,
S: Brocklebank Absinthe, D: Midtown Harmony,
Owner: Mrs J Huddleston, Rider: Miss A
Metcalfe
- 2nd Nabside Gracie, FP6372, f2017,
S: Lunesdale Beckham, D: Banksgate Shooting
Star, Owner: R J Rawlinson-Allen, Rider: R J
Rawlinson-Allen
- 3rd Drybarrows Emillie FP6826, f2019,
S: Wildhoeve Adiction, D: Drybarrows Joy,
Owner: Mrs M Reynard, Rider: Miss A Metcalfe

Class 26 Pairs Ridden

NO ENTRIES

Class 27 Ridden Class for Mares or Geldings 4 years old and upwards

- 1st Birkcross Midnight Magic FP73258G, f2020,
S: Carrock Stride The Nite, D: Fitzview Poppy,
Owner Miss J Singleton, Rider: Jasmine
Singleton (Age 14)

Class 28 Ridden Class for Mares Or Geldings 4 years old and upwards

- 1st Llanerchbrook Cardamom FP6401*, f2017,
S: Severnvale Ivor, D: Brocklebank Brown
Velvet, Owner: Miss S Ashburn, Rider: Lucy
Webb (Age 18)

Class 29 Traditional Ridden (Stallion or Gelding)- Walk & Trot Only

- 1st Cargenwater Casanova FP72857G, f2017,
S: Murthwaite Misty's Boy, D: Lune Valley Petal,
Owner: Mr & Mrs G H B Mallinson, Rider: Miss
G Mallinson
- 2nd Urwins Storm FP73045G, f 2018,
S: Greenholme Aden, D: Urwins Mallie, Owner
& Rider: Miss A Kinsella
- 3rd Bracklinn Sam FP72131G, f2012,
S: Bracklinn Jackpot, D: Townend Truffle II,
Owner: Miss C Simpson, Rider: Ms K Haufova

Class 30 Ridden Class for Novice Stallions or Geldings 4 year old and upwards

1st Kinniside Simon FP 72819G, f2017,
S: Burnhead Black Bobby, D: Bowthorne Marie,
Owner & Rider: Miss J Woolaghan

Class 31 Ridden Class for Novice Mares 4 years old and upwards

1st Ryehouse Northern Dawn FP7037, f2021,
S: Greenholme Kingsman, D: Lunesdale
Aurora, Owner & Rider: Miss A Metcalfe

2nd Nicholwalls Firefly FP5958*, f2013,
S: Greenholme Emblem, D: Bracklinn Rosie,
Owner: Miss H Crane, Rider: Miss T Bell-
Heather

3rd Llanerchbrook Cardamom FP6401*, f2017,
S: Severnvale Ivor, D: Brocklebank Brown
Velvet, Owner: Miss S Ashburn, Rider: Lucy
Webb

Class 32 Driving Class - Stallion, Mare or Gelding 4 years old and upwards

1st = Midtown Jemima, FP6140, f2015,
S: Brackenbank Oscar, D: Wellbrow Roxanne,
Owner: Mrs S Hogg, Driver: Mr M Hogg

1st = Hotchberry "Team of 4", Hotchberry
Gallant, Glint, Fender and Flame, Owner &
Driver: Mr M Jopling

Class 33 Young Handlers (Qualifier)

1st Handler: Summer Ali (Age 15), Midtown
Natasha, FP6723, f2019, S: Lunesdale
Beckham, D: Dalehead Lakeland Lucky Star,
Owner: Mrs S Ali

2nd Handler: Annabel Fraser (Age 12), Townend
Cheviot, FP73261, f2020, S: Nabside
Ferdinand, D: Townend Choccy, Owner Mrs S
Fraser

3rd Handler: Sophie Woolaghan (Age 12),
Kinniside Simon FP 72819G, f2017, S: Burnhead
Black Bobby, D: Bowthorne Marie, Owner: Miss
J Woolaghan

Class 34 Young Judges

1st Harry Milburn (Age 8)

2nd James Meikle (Age 14)

Class 35 Young Handlers (Championship)

1st Handler: Mary Bell (Age 10), Lownthwaite
Heidi, FP4794, f2008, S: Peepings Raven,
D: Lownthwaite Bramble, Owner: Mrs A W Bell

2nd Handler: Jack Greener (Age 11), Craggs
Stardust, FP3482, f2000, S: Lownthwaite Gary,
D: Biglands Bonnie (B), Owner: Mr J Greener

3rd Handler: Summer Ali (Age 15), Midtown
Natasha, FP6723, f2019, S: Lunesdale
Beckham, D: Dalehead Lakeland Lucky Star,
Owner: Mrs S Ali

Class 36 Fancy Dress

1st Raisbeck Calico, FP5287, f2010,
S: Murthwaite Look At Me, D: Raisbeck Casino,
Owner: Miss H Crane

2nd Lownthwaite Heidi, FP4794, f2008,
S: Peepings Raven, D: Lownthwaite Bramble,
Owner: Mrs A W Bell, Rider: Mary Bell (Age
10) & Sarah Bell (Age 8)

3rd Bybeck Winston, FP73077G, f2019,
S: Wellbrow Lancashire Lass, D: Bybeck Jade,
Owner: Miss N Evans

DRESSAGE CLASSES

Class 37A BD Introductory 2 (2024) Walk & Trot Only

1st Nabside Gracie, FP6372, f2017,
S: Lunesdale Beckham, D: Banksgate Shooting
Star, Owner & Rider: R J Rawlinson-Allen

2nd Greenholme Hot Rod, FP72249G*, f2013,
S: Greenholme Diego, D: Greenholme White
Rose, Owner: Mrs N Chippendale, Rider:
Isabella Chippendale (Age 9)

3rd Fellsides Firefly, FP7111, f2021,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Fellsides Special
Edition, Owner: Mr A Hunter, Rider: Miss P
Brown

Class 37B Prelim 2 (2024)

1st Dalewin Vesper, FP72928C*, f2018,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice, D: Dalewin Grace,
Owner: Miss C Simpson, Rider: Miss A Robinson

2nd Bracklinn Sam, FP72131G, f2012,
S: Bracklinn Jackpot, D: Townend Truffle II,
Owner: Miss C Simpson, Rider: Ms K Haufova

3rd Greenholme Dillon, FP71412G, f2009,
S: Greenholme Yabadabadoo, D: Greenholme
Adele, Owner: Miss C Simpson, Rider: Miss K
Haufova

Class 37C Novice 3 (2024)

1st Waverhead Fantasy, FP6253, f2016,
S: Lownthwaite Gary, D: Waverhead Molly III,
Owner: Mr F & Mrs M Lawson, Rider: Mr J P G
Cameron

2nd Wellbrow Dodger, FP71672G*, f2010,
S: Heltondale Mountain Mist II, D: Wellbrow
Polly Flinders, Owner & Rider: Miss M L
Younger

WORKING HUNTER PONY

Class 38 Beginners

- 1st Greenholme Hot Rod, FP72249G*, f2013,
S: Greenholme Diego, D: Greenholme White
Rose, Owner: Mrs N Chippendale, Rider:
Isabella Chippendale (Age 9)
- 2nd Townend Cheviot, FP73261, f2020,
S: Nabside Ferdinand, D: Townend Choccy,
Owner: Mrs S Fraser, Rider: Annabel Fraser
(Age 12)
- 3rd Urwins Storm FP73045G, f 2018,
S: Greenholme Aden, D: Urwins Mallie, Owner:
Miss A Kinsella, Rider: Miss A Kinsella

Class 39 Novice Pony

- 1st Fellsides Firefly, FP7111, f2021,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Fellsides Special
Edition, Owner: Mr A Hunter, Rider: Miss P
Brown
- 2nd Dalefoot Yogi, FP73058C, f2018,
S: Greenholme Warrior, D: Dalefoot Bryna,
Owner: Miss L Cassell, Rider: Miss H McGauley

- 3rd Greenholme Mayfower, FP6578, f2018,
S: Greenholme Warrior, D: Murthwaite Fauna,
Owner & Rider: Mrs C R Huck

Class 40 Intermediate Pony

- 1st Bracklinn Sam, FP72131G, f2012,
S: Bracklinn Jackpot, D: Townend Truffle II,
Owner: Miss C Simpson, Rider: Ms K Haufova
- 2nd Fellsides Firefly, FP7111, f2021,
S: Lunesdale Black Ice II, D: Fellsides Special
Edition, Owner: Mr A Hunter, Rider: Miss P
Brown

Class 41 Open Pony

- 1st Greenholme Dillon, FP71412G, f2009,
S: Greenholme Yabadabadoo, D: Greenholme
Adele, Owner: Miss C Simpson, Rider: Ms K
Haufova
- 2nd Llanerchbrook Cardamom, FP6401*, f2017,
S: Severnvale Ivor, D: Brocklebank Brown
Velvet, Owner: Miss S Ashburn, Rider: Lucy
Webb

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lakeland Cup

- Champion Townend Fanfare
Reserve Setmabanning Malcolm

Shawfell Silhouette Memorial Cup

- Champion Rainesmill Delilah

FPS Challenge Cup

- Champion Townend Fanfare

Farleton Cup

- Champion Stennerskeugh Nicholas
Stennerskeugh Joe Trophy

- Champion Cargenwater Casanova

Alan Shuttleworth Trophy

- Champion Bracklinn Beth
Reserve Boutime Esther

The Tufton Silver Challenge Trophy

- Champion Bracklinn Beth

The Jim Bell Memorial Trophy

- Champion Boutime Esther

The Sylvia Mary McCosh Memorial Rose Bowl

- Champion Mr A Smith

Heltondale Lucy X Cup

- Champion Bracklinn Aubrey

Brackenbank Trophy

- Champion Bracklinn Beth

RIDDEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Greenfield Memorial Trophy

- Champion Ryehouse Northern Dawn
Reserve Nicholwalls Firefly

The Littletree Trophy

- Champion Llanerchbrook Cardamom
Reserve Birkcross Midnight Magic

The Carrock Pollyanna Trophy

- Champion Raisbeck Calico
Reserve Cargenwater Casanova

The Toby Tankard

- Champion Raisbeck Calico
Reserve Cargenwater Casanova

The Briar Trophy

- Champion Cargenwater Casanova
Reserve Llanerchbrook Cardamom

Lunesdale War Dance Trophy (WHP)

- Champion Fellsides Firefly
Reserve Greenholme Hot Rod

The McDonough Shield

- Champion Townend Fern

"Junior Handler" Section in the Points Awards & Young Handlers Championship

The new Junior Handler section within the FPS Performance Awards Scheme is running for the first time, accumulating points during 2024-25.

Young handlers are recording their successes in Junior Handler Classes on their Points record card - the card can be downloaded from the Awards page of the FPS web site. <https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/awards.htm>. For this section, the points card can be signed by a parent or guardian rather than a judge or show secretary. Remember to send your cards in before January!

Young Handlers Championship

Junior members were also invited this year to compete in a new "Young Handlers" competition. They took part in Young Handlers classes at FPS affiliated shows, events, open days and so on, to qualify for the Final at the FPS Breed Show in August.

Champion in the Final was Mary Bell, aged 10, showing the homebred mare Lownthwaite Heidi (*below left*), and Reserve Champion was Jack Greener, aged 11, with Craggs Stardust.



Plea for Area & Branch Information

Would Area Support Groups that have not sent any copy for this issue please send their list of planned 2026 events to the Office as soon as they are available?

Our insurers ask us to list publicly all the events we run, so we must keep the FPS web site's Calendar of Events updated, and the information also goes into the Spring issue of the Magazine.

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

Fell Pony Information Online

Searching the web site - <https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk>

Whether you want information about the ponies, the Society, regulations, forms, health and welfare, showing and show results, articles about Fell ponies or the history of our breed, you can probably find it on our web site without needing to telephone the Office. This may take some weight off our new Secretary's shoulders while she settles in!

On the FPS Website

There's a comprehensive Menu and a Search function to lead you to current Society information. (Beware: Google and other search engines will often misdirect you to outdated pages elsewhere.)

- Search
- About Fell Ponies
- About the Society
- Society News
- Join the FPS
- Events Calendar
- Show Results
- Magazines
- Area Support Groups
- International Affiliates
- Sales List
- FPS Merchandise
- Stallion Listings
- Conservation & Grazing
- Education
- Member directory
- People & Ponies
- Photo Gallery
- Awards
- FAQ
- Links
- Regulations
- Forms & documents
- Registration Fees
- Showing Rules
- Judging Guidelines
- Health / Grassroots pedigree data
- Contacting Us
- Privacy Policy (GDPR)

Summaries of Minutes

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

Back Catalogue of Magazines

Each FPS Magazine is added to the back catalogue on the web site one issue in arrears: for instance, the Spring 2025 issue has just been uploaded, now that the Autumn one is in your hands. You can read news about Fell ponies as far back as 1966!

Sales List

Turnover on the Sales list of Fell Ponies on the FPS web site continues to be satisfactory, with ponies generally finding new homes in less than a month of being advertised. It is updated with fresh adverts as they are received. Each advertisement is shown for 3 months, after which time it will be reviewed.

To advertise Fell Ponies for sale or place a Wanted ad, please submit details to the FPS Secretary by email. Non-members can advertise Fell ponies of which they are the recorded owner, for the fee of £10 for 3 months.

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

Trainee Judges Assessment Day

The Fell Pony Society held its most recent Trainee Judges Assessment Day at Rest Harrow Equestrian Centre, near Kirkby Lonsdale, on Saturday 27th September.

These assessment days are held every two years and are an invaluable opportunity for aspiring judges to test their skills. We were fortunate to have an excellent selection of ponies kindly brought forward by volunteers, giving candidates the chance to assess and then discuss their decisions with our master judges.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who made the day such a success: the owners and handlers who generously gave their time and ponies, our master judges for their expertise, the candidates who travelled from across the country, the scheme organisers, and Rest Harrow for the use of their superb indoor and outdoor arenas.

Looking ahead, the next assessment day will take place in Autumn 2027. If you are considering applying for the FPS Trainee Judges Scheme, it's never too early to start preparing.



We strongly encourage potential applicants to:

- Visit different Fell pony studs to see a variety of types and bloodlines
- Attend FPS breed shows and breed classes at larger shows to observe judging in action
- Gain hands-on experience stewarding, which will help develop your ringcraft and confidence
- Develop both your theoretical and practical knowledge and understanding of conformation, type and performance

When you join the scheme, you will be paired with a mentor judge, who will support, advise, and guide you as you increase your knowledge and experience.

For more information, please contact:
either Michael Goddard

michael.goddard2014@gmail.com
or mobile 07964 209243

or Jenny Grealish

fpsjudgessecretary@gmail.com
or mobile 07557 309987 or 07964 209243

FPS Display Team 2025

Once again the Team had a busy and enjoyable season attending a number of events, although sadly we did miss a couple, one due to one of the team members having an accident and the other due to the event we were attending being cancelled. We did manage to attend Country Fest at the Westmorland County Show Ground at the end of May / beginning of June, the Lakeland Country Fair at Torver in August and the Westmorland County Show in September. We gave displays or demos at each of these events which were well received, and of course we had the sales and information tent, which was visited by numerous people, all very interested to learn more about the ponies. It's always so nice to hear people's stories and their memories of ponies and people they have known in the past.

Our display work was made easier this year thanks to a donation from the North American 'Equus Survival Trust - Rare Steeds', in recognition of the work we do in promoting the Fell Pony. This went towards the purchase of some new equipment, namely a lighter set of jump stands and a heavy-duty 4-wheeled trolley to transport our gear to and from the ring. The latter was very much appreciated by our hardworking ground crew!

2026

Next year we have the following events already pencilled in, with some of the dates to be confirmed.

Cragg House Farm Open Day, Buttermere	17th May
Country Fest, Westmorland County Showground	Date TBC (end May / start June)
Arthington Show, Otley, Yorkshire	15th August
Ennerdale Show	26th August
Westmorland County Show	Date TBC (2nd week September)

We are always looking for volunteers who would like to help us at events, with or without ponies, so if you enjoy talking about Fell ponies and would like to join us, even if it's only for an event or two, please get in touch via our Facebook page - Fell Pony Society Display Team, or email our Secretary at christine@kerbeck-fell-ponies.co.uk.

Nominations for FPS Awards

Queen's Trophy

Edinburgh Prize

Lownthwaite Rob Trophy

Peahill Basil Trophy

It would be good to see a few more nominations for these awards this year. You can nominate yourself / your pony, or someone else who deserves mention.

Details about the Awards, and how to nominate people or ponies, are on the FPS web site on the Awards page,

<https://www.fellponysociety.org.uk/awards.htm>.



FPS Bursary winner 2025, Annabel Fraser with Townend Cheviot. See more on p66

Horse of the Year Show Results

National Pony Society/Supreme Products Mountain & Moorland Ridden Fell Pony of the Year

- 1 GREENHOLME KATE, Owner Chantelle Bryan, Rider Mrs Aimee Devane
 - 2 BYBECK RODNEY, Owner Lauren Nichols, Rider Ms Rebecca Penny
 - 3 GREENRIVERS LUKE, Owner & Rider April Gilmartin
 - 4 SUMMERHOUSE GATSBY, Owner Emily Dodgson, Rider Ms Vikki Smith
 - 5 HARDENDALE RAY, Owner & Rider Mrs Laura Marshall
 - 6 DRYBARROWS EDGE, Owner & Rider Ms Vikki Smith
 - 7 URWINS STORM, Owner & Rider Amy Kinsella
 - 8 GREENHOLME KIPPER, Owner & Rider Ms Anna Metcalfe
 - 9 RAISBECK CALICO, Owner Heather Crane, Rider Tamsyn Bell Heather
- Well done everyone!

National Pony Society/Supreme Products Mountain & Moorland Ridden Pony of the Year Championship

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to Aimee Devane and Greenholme Kate on standing Reserve Ridden M&M Champion at HOYS below the Champion, Welsh Section C Thistledown Superstar.

HOYS Working Hunter Classes

There were two Fell finalists in the 133cm M&M final on Friday, Littletree Heartbreaker ridden by Katherine Marks; and Townend Schubert ridden by Sarah Parker.

HOYS Junior Classes

Junior riders took their turn in the Top Spec arena in the Thor Atkinson Junior M&M Ridden Large Breeds final on Friday.

We were well represented with 4 Fells among the 23 ponies entered.

DALEFOOT YOGI & Safiya Sawar

MELLIVER WILLY WONKA & Daisy-May Ovens

SALISBURY MCCOY & Evie Walker

WAVERFOOT SOLITAIRE & Aimee Baldwin

A huge Well Done to the Junior riders, and congratulations to Daisy-May Ovens and Melliver Willy Wonka on taking 3rd place!

Apologies if we have missed anyone when going to press! We'd love to print your individual stories in full in the Spring 2026 issue. E-mail your write-ups and photographs to claire.halebank@yahoo.co.uk or ponywriter001@gmail.com - copy deadline is 1st February 2026.



COLOUR PHOTOGRAPH SECTION



Claire Simpson

Alistair Smith's Bracklinn Beth, winner of the Mares 4y.o.+ with colt foal, was Supreme Champion at the Breed Show, winning the Tufton Silver Challenge Trophy, Alan Shuttleworth Trophy, and Brackenbank Trophy

Barry Mallinson's Cargenwater Casanova won the Ridden class for stallions or geldings, ridden by Georgina Mallinson, and took the Reserve Ridden Championship at the Breed Show



Claire Simpson



Reserve Supreme Champion at the Breed Show was Deborah Vichinsky's Boutime Esther who had won the class for Mares 4y.o.+ with filly foal

Deborah Vichinsky's Reserve Champion Boutime Esther (left) and (right) Alistair Smith's Supreme Champion Bracklinn Beth with Championship judges Ruth Eastwood (classes 21-26), Claire Wigley (classes 1-8), and Peter Boustead (classes 9-17) at the Breed Show





*Driving class Joint Winners at the Breed Show
1= Malcolm Hogg and Midtown Jemima*

*Driving class Joint Winners at the Breed Show
1= Mark Jopling's four-in-hand team of Hotchberry geldings,
full- or half-brothers Gallant, Glint, Fender and Flame (Banksgate Jack High x Holling Bramble
and Banksgate Jack High x Hotchberry Orchid)*





Claire Simpson



The magnificent array of rosettes and trophies waiting to be presented at the AGM to the Points Awards winners

Sarah Bell aged 8 won the Lead Rein Class at the Breed Show, riding Lownthwaite Heidi. Sarah's mum, and Heidi's breeder, is Alison Bell

Having been Champion in the Ridden classes at the Breed Show, the veteran Raisbeck Calico also picked up a win for Heather Crane in the Fancy Dress Class



Claire Simpson



At the FPS Breed Show Sarah Clayton's colt Townend Fanfare was the best 3 year old and won the Youngstock Championship, Lakeland Cup and FPS Challenge Cup

Matthew Fearon's Yearling Setmabanning Malcolm was Youngstock Reserve Champion



FPS Area Support Groups

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

Scotland - North - Jacqueline Cheetham

01346 541250.

Email: fellponies @btinternet.com

Scotland - South - Judy Fairburn

01556 670037.

Email: knockwood @btinternet.com

North West - to be confirmed

North East - Eileen Walker

01388 763607,

Mobile: 07990 521205.

E-mail:

Eileen @rackwoodfellponies.co.uk

Midlands West - Diane Key

01785 282922.

Email: diane @fellpony.me.uk

Midlands East - Nic Brierley

Email: nicshortland @yahoo.com

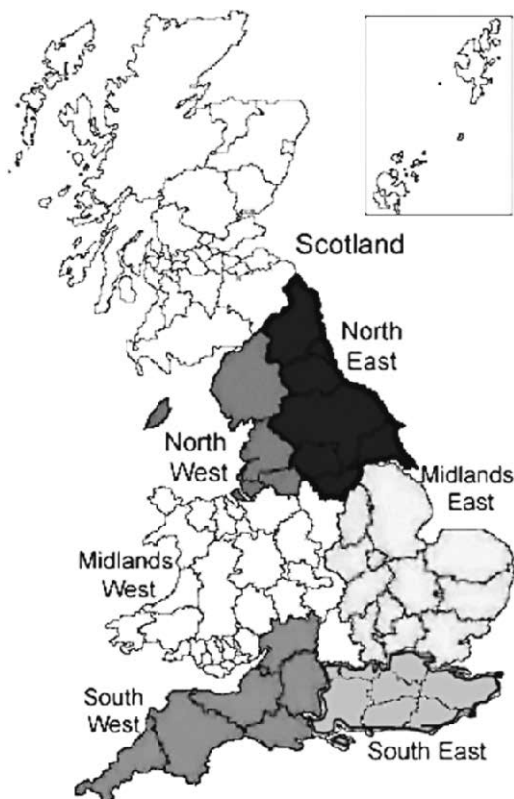
South West - Sue Howes

Email: whereswoolly4 @gmail.com

South East - Rowena Day

07950 163616.

Email: rowenaday_ @hotmail.com



North East Area Support Group

Early in May 2025, we held our annual Fell and Highland Camp at Linnel Wood near Hexham, courtesy of the Charlton family. The weather was kind so we could offer all of our usual activities, including the cross-country jumps. I believe there were 36 ponies present, being an equal mixture of Fell and Highlands. Group support is what makes this camp so special, and some participants perform activities that they would never attempt on their own. Everyone goes home looking forward to doing it all again next year. Hairy Camp, as it has become known, has been running for 19 years, under the leadership of Christopher Grant and Sarah Charlton. Sarah is passing her role on to daughter Lucie, so we hope to be using Linnel Wood for many more years.

During June we held our summer picnic/social at Linnel Wood, home of the Linnel Fell Pony Stud. This event has been held at Abbots Close Farm, home to the Rackwood Fell Ponies, for the previous three years, so we thought it was time to let everyone see some different ponies. Thirty-five people attended with some bringing their own picnic, while others took advantage of the culinary skill of Lucie Gear, and enjoyed a lunch prepared by our hosts. The afternoon concluded with a raffle, which was very well supported by everyone.

In 2025 the North East Group offered a £200 training bursary and it was won by Natalie Wall and her pony Bowthorne Maggie May. Natalie wished to compete at the Great Yorkshire Show so she applied for the bursary to help her fulfil this dream.

The following is what Natalie wrote about her training.

I was absolutely thrilled to be selected for the North East Fell Pony Bursary in 2025 after I applied with a view to competing in the Great Yorkshire Show with my 12 year old Fell pony Bowthorne Maggie May.

Maggie and I have only been together for a few years but sadly had our 2024 competing season cut short when Maggie suffered a stifle injury requiring veterinary treatment. This included a period of box rest and weeks of careful rehab before I decided to turn her away for winter. In that time, I was lucky enough to borrow some team mates' Fell ponies to continue to compete in a few BD Team Quest competitions and attend the North East Highland and Fell Pony camp.

Maggie and I slowly started riding again at the start of 2025, much I think to Maggie's disgust as she thought she was retired!

It was difficult bringing her back into work as we had both been set back in our fitness training and I felt I really needed a focus to help get me through. The bursary gave us just that.

I'd dreamed of competing with Maggie at the Great Yorkshire Show and decided that, after our difficult year, we would apply for the bursary to train, enjoy every moment and work towards making some wonderful memories together.

I used the funding towards flatwork lessons to help Maggie and I increase not just our fitness but our confidence in working together again in the ring. Additionally, Maggie had some equine touch sessions to keep her feeling her best.

I'm over the moon to say we competed in the Great Yorkshire Show 2025 and enjoyed every single moment. I honestly think I smiled all day despite melting in the intense summer heat. I can't describe the feeling of joy I felt riding around the White Rose Ring, Maggie came alive and performed at her absolute best enjoying every moment.

We're both still working hard to improve our riding and continue to compete in our fell pony BD Team Quest team 'The Fellowship'. We are lucky enough to have made it through to the Regional Final competition in October where Maggie and I will be competing.



Great Yorkshire Show 2025

Thank you to the bursary for giving us this opportunity, focus and for contributing towards us making everlasting memories.

Natalie Wall

By July, the time of the Great Yorkshire show, we were experiencing drought conditions. Grass had stopped growing and hay/haylage crops were very sparse. Most people in our area were reporting a yield of less than half their normal crop. By August many livestock owners were feeding in the fields, feeding what should be kept for their winter fodder. The ground was rock hard and burnt by many days of hot temperatures with no moisture. The summer of 2025 will definitely be remembered for its dry, hot days.

Throughout this year, The Fellowship, the all Fell pony dressage team, have been competing in the BD Quest Team Events. As I write this article, I am proud to announce that they have secured a place at the Regional Finals to be held on 11th October at Holmside Hall Equestrian Centre. The team consists of myself, Angela Cairns,

Rebecca Elliott, Samantha Summers, Natalie Wall, and Yvonne Wilkinson. I would like to wish the team an enjoyable day and the best of luck.

I hope that you all have a peaceful winter and recharge your batteries ready for a busy 2026. Our first event of 2026 will be our Sunday Lunch event early in February. Please remember to complete your north east points sheets and send to Heather Mawrey (hmawrey@hotmail.com) by 15th December in order to receive your rosettes at our annual Sunday lunch event. All trophy winners need to return their trophies to me by the end of the year so that they can be engraved before being given out in 2026.

Eileen A Walker
(eileen@rackwoodfellponies.co.uk)

Midlands West Area Support Group

We have had no events as such to report on since Spring, or any other news. However, we will definitely have a report for Spring 2026 including a piece on the forthcoming points awards.

Midlands East Area Support Group

Since the last Magazine, we held our Annual Points Awards celebration on 1st March. The presentation of Awards was followed by tea and cake with everyone being asked to bring a cake; either bake it or fake it! The baked cakes were then judged and Sue Meakin was awarded with a prize for her delicious home baked cake.

I am extremely sad to report the loss of one of our Members, Mark Lupton, in August. Although Mark no longer lived in the Area, he was a great support to the Group and had many friends in the Area. In the FPS Centenary year, he came up with the idea of creating a book for the MESHG and took on the role of collating, editing and organising our FPS-MESHG Centenary Book to be published. Copies of the book are still available to purchase via the FPS Office or alternatively you may contact me directly.

Our joint Breed Show with the Midlands West Support Group, due to take place in September, unfortunately had to be cancelled due to lack of entries. This was very disappointing for those competitors who had submitted entries, as well as for the organisers. As many of you know, such a lot of hard work, time and effort is put in behind the scenes into running these Shows.

Undeterred, though, we are planning to hold another joint Breed Show in 2026 - date to be confirmed. Even though we have been unable to hold an Area Group Show this year, we are still encouraging MESHG members to submit their Points Awards sheets for the Annual Points Awards celebration early next year.

Our AGM will be taking place imminently; please see the MESHG Facebook page for further information. All members are welcome to attend.

Area Coordinator: Nic Brierley,
nicshortland@yahoo.com

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

Performance Awards: Wendy Cordon

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

Essex and Suffolk: Julia Baldwin, 07766
395779; Jo Whitelaw, 01473 832734

Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire: Kate Merry,
01788 823215, bkmerry@gmail.com

On behalf of myself and the Midlands East Support Group members, we would like to wish Katherine "All The Best" in her retirement. Katherine has been a great support to me and the Group over the years and we would like to send our Thanks. Katherine, you will be missed. And on that note, we would also like to welcome Bryony to your new role; I'm sure we'll meet in due course.

Finally, as some of you may be aware, we are currently looking for a new Area Coordinator for the Midlands East to start a.s.a.p. Details of what the role entails can be found on the FPS-MESHG Facebook Group page and website. Please contact me in the first instance to express your interest.

Nic Brierley

FPS-MESHG Area Coordinator
nicshortland@yahoo.com

Norfolk: Lisa Dunger, 01485 298327

Northamptonshire: Kate Merry

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

Oxfordshire: Nic Brierley

Lincolnshire: Nikki Ash 07771 590938

Cambridgeshire: Rachael Nicholls, 07827
727678, kernow_witch@hotmail.com

Buckinghamshire: Tabitha Bennet, 07969
003724

South West Area Support Group

I do apologise for the lack of events this year, life rather got in the way. If anyone would like to get involved with organising any events, please do get in touch with me. I could do with some help!

A date for your diaries: The South West Hairy Pony Fest will be on 3rd May 2026, at Kings Sedgemoor Equestrian Centre. This is a lovely spacious venue and easy to get to from the M5, as well as being the friendliest show I think I have ever been to. It's worth a visit.

News from our members:



Ally Knight and Dalehead Midnight Express have achieved Advanced one star level at Horse Agility. I have competed at Horse Agility and it is a lot harder than it looks, especially as you rise up the levels. Well done Ally & Maya.

Leanne Harman sends news of **Severnvale Ruby Rose**. Ruby got placentitis during pregnancy, which was followed by complications during foaling and led to her being admitted to B&W Equine Hospital.

They managed to deliver Ruby's foal but very sadly despite their best efforts the foal died shortly afterwards.

At the same time a mare owned by Barrington Sports Horses was being delivered of a colt foal by C-section.

This foal was alive but his dam didn't make it, so he was offered to Ruby Rose and they began to bond right away.

Ruby Rose has done a grand job of bringing up Apollo. He is nearly as tall as she is already.

Sue Howes

Voluntary DNA testing of maiden mares in 2026

Voluntary DNA testing of maiden mares (uncapped numbers) will be offered for maiden mares producing their first foal eligible for FPS registration in 2026.

The test will be paid by the FPS, UK and overseas via Weatherbys where possible but US breeders can use a lab in their own country and then be issued with a credit against future transactions once confirmation of amount paid is received, up to a maximum of £50.

On request the DNA kit will be issued with the passport application form for the foal. The passport for the mare should be made available for the vet at the time the hair sample is taken. The hair sample must be taken by a vet.

Parentage testing to be carried out where possible.

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

South East Area Support Group

Sandringham Show

Sandringham Show committee has run another successful show this year with a good turnout of horses and ponies.

We ran a Fell ring, judged by Kevin Turner. These included in hand youngstock, junior handlers, ridden classes, traditional walk and trot, junior ridden and veteran.

Some very nice ponies competed. We received very positive feedback from competitors and everyone seemed to have an enjoyable day. We held a fun dog show which was very well supported. There were artisan stalls, a raffle, with some amazing prizes.

Julie Southwell and Carol Fox kindly loaned us their Fell ponies for the day to promote the breed. They were Inglegarth Yordas and Birkettbank Prince, both very well behaved.

We wish to thank the volunteers who gave up their whole weekend to help. A huge thank-you to the sponsors, who were very generous indeed with their donation of such wonderful prizes. And also the people who very kindly sponsored the classes. Thank you to everyone who came on the day and supported us.

RESULTS

Classes 1-4 No entries

Class 5 Yearling colt, Filly Gelding

1st Hannah Miller-Burton, Waverfoot Albert

Class 6 2 and 3 year old filly, gelding

1st Greenholme Roxanne

Class 7 2 and 3 year old colts No entries

Class 8 Veteran

1st Hannah Whyman-Naveh, Greenholme Sapphire

2nd Sarah Nelson, Brackenthwaite Bonnie

Class 9 Mares 4 years and over

1st Hannah Whyman-Naveh, Greenholme Sapphire



Fae Loudoun

2025 Supreme Champion, Veteran and Ridden Champion, Suzanna White's Murthwaite Ted's Lass

Class 10 Geldings 4 yrs and over

1st Emily Organ, Clifford Blue Chip

2nd Hannah Miller-Burton, Waverfoot Albert

Class 11 Stallion

Murthwaite Heir Hunter

Adult Pony Champion

Clifford Blue Chip

Reserve Murthwaite Heir Hunter

Youngstock Champion Greenholme Roxanne

Reserve Champion Waverfoot Albert

Class 12 Junior handler No entries.

Ridden classes:

Class 13 Traditional ridden class

1st Millie Bagnall, Roddlesworth Lucas

2nd Hannah Miller-Burton, Waverfoot Albert

3rd Sarah Nelson, Brackenthwaite Bonnie

Class 14 Open Ridden

1st Emilie Organ, Clifford Blue Chip

Class 15 Veteran Ridden

1st Suzanna White, Murthwaite Ted's Lass

Class 16 Junior ridden 4 - 10 yrs No entries

Class 17 Junior Ridden 11 - 16 yrs

1st Betsy Simonds Greenholme Majestic

Junior Rider Champion Greenholme Majestic

Ridden Champion Murthwaite Ted's Lass

Reserve Clifford Blue Chip

Supreme Fell Champion

Murthwaite Ted's Lass

Reserve

Greenholme Majestic

Sandringham Show Fell classes to end

Unfortunately we, as a committee, have decided that this will be the last Fell and Friends Horse and Pony Show. Due to many hardworking committee members retiring, and due to other commitments, we want to end on a good note.

Starting in 2001, I hosted a social evening held in Wolferton Social Club in aid of the Fell Pony Society. This was held in memory of Salisbury Monty, a Fell pony that I had the pleasure of owning and sadly lost at a very young age.

The idea of holding a Fell Pony show/clinic was born, and with a great deal of help and support from Judy Hill and Jean Bateson we held this the following year at Wolferton. Jane Brindley came down from Cumbria with her friend Celia Pitts to do the honours. She and her friend also joined us for our Patron's Jubilee visit to her Majesty's T.B stud at Sandringham, again enjoyed by a lively crowd of MESH members.

For many years we were joined by the Dales local support group, who ran their own show ring. From the early days we included a 'Fell and Friends' class for people who rode out with Fells, which is where the 'Fell and Friends' show title came from.

In 2022, we celebrated our 21st and the Fell Pony Society Centenary with fizz and a

beautiful cake made by my daughter Lauren Field. The Queen's Estate Agent, Simon Hinkley, came to represent HM and cut the cake!

However, people's lives have got busier and their needs change over the years. So we bow out remembering the good times and thanking everyone who supported us, joined in, and enjoyed our fun and friendly shows over the last 24 years!

Also, thank you for the support given by our area co-ordinators who helped organise so many activities, namely Judy Hill and Kate Merry.

And in the last couple of years Perdee Gould, who has worked so hard behind the scenes to keep this show going, and to everyone on the committee.

I could not have done so much without this help, and especially that of my late husband Keven.

Lisa Dunger

The Queen's Estate Agent, Simon Hinkley, came in 2022 to represent HM The Queen and to cut the Centenary cake



The Fell Pony Society of North America

FPSNA continues with our twenty+ year history, providing education and support for Fell Pony owners across North America. Our most recent complete membership year, ending in 2024, closed with more paid memberships than any other year over the last decade! Thank you to everyone for continuing to strive for the best for our breed.

FPSNA coordinated with FPS to offer the 2024 FPS Challenge to North American participants. By the end of the challenge, we had a total of 10 Fell Pony owners here who accomplished both their mileage requirement and pony 'selfies' along the way. The Challenge is a wonderful way to bond with your pony, no matter their age (or yours!).

FPSNA continues to provide more value to members through its the website, with the popular new "How Do I?" series becoming especially indispensable. This type of step-by-step guidance proves especially helpful when considering the registry services we offer in tandem with the FPS.

2024 offered us the second annual Virtual Breed Show opportunities, modeling our offerings closely after the format used by FPS with a spring show for geldings and stallions, and a fall show for mares and young stock.

Our first show of the year, concluding on July 15th, was judged by Roy Ottink, and saw a fifty percent increase in the number of entries from the year before, with a total of 9 Fell Ponies participating! When combined with our fall show in August, with Hayley Reynolds judging, this was a grand total of 19 ponies being judged to the FPS Breed Standard by FPS Approved judges. Full results are found at the end of our report.

Since 2008, FPSNA has proudly provided our dressage competitors the opportunity to vie for the distinguished USDF All Breeds Award each year without interruption. While it had been since 2019 that a Fell Pony last met the program's rigorous requirements, we were thrilled to see the breed once again represented in 2024. This recognition was earned through the dedication of member Jeanette Marsh and her mare, DreamHayven Irish Rose, who, under the capable riding of Raymond Helmuth and Tristen Wigg, achieved a median score of 64.197 at Open Training Level.

Our year-end awards celebration, the Performance Premium and Awards Program (PPA), had competitors enter in English, Western & Novice Ridden Divisions as well as In Hand Trail & Obstacle, Driving and traditional In Hand. This year's Supreme Champion 'Fell Pony of the Year' was DreamHayven Irish Rose, owned by Jeanette Marsh, and bred by Melissa R Kreuzer. Our Reserve Supreme Champion was JKL Istas, owned and shown by Jane Snar, and bred by Kathy Haines. Both of these mares had competed in last year's program as well. Congratulations to all who participated, and thank you for raising the bar of what the Fell Pony can do!

The end of 2024 unveiled a first for our organization, with the culmination of nearly two years of dedicated work strengthened by 18 years of content, as FPSNA along with the collaboration of the Fell Pony Heritage Trust and Libby Robinson, published its inaugural book, 'The Fell Pony's Enduring Stewards', focusing on Fell Pony breeders anywhere in the world with at least 30 years of registered Fell Pony stock.

These profiles, largely as told to long-time breeder and FPSNA member Jenifer Morrissey of Willowtrail prefix (and Turkeytrot), give a comprehensive viewpoint of the lives and history of twenty-six various breeders, largely told in their own words, which provides an invaluable resource to Fell Pony breeders going forward at a time in our existence where all must recognize our long-standing breeders as the cherished resource they are. This 160 page book is available for purchase through www.FPSNA.org, the Fell Pony Heritage Trust and Amazon retailers across the globe.

As always, members are encouraged to share their events and activities with FPSNA by emailing info@fpsna.org. Now in its third decade of service, FPSNA is proud to be the longest-standing, membership-based Fell Pony Society overseas branch in North America. Entirely volunteer-driven, our organization continues to foster community, provide education, and create opportunities for competition across a wide range of disciplines.

We warmly invite dedicated volunteers to join us in working alongside our Council to elevate awareness of the Fell Pony, safeguard exhibition standards, and ensure this remarkable breed flourishes for generations to come.

Our program results follow:

FPSNA Virtual Breed Show Summer 2024

Judge: Roy Ottink

Yearling Colts:

- 1st Cumberland Crown Prince, owner Melissa Kreuzer
- 2nd Southmoore Edward, owner Tricia McGuire
- 3rd Desiderata Donato, owner Cherie & John Hansen

Geldings 4 years and Older:

- 1st DreamHayven Perfect Storm, owner Cherie Hansen
- 2nd DreamHayven Odin, owner Candyce Klin Lebeduik
- 3rd Littletree Matador, owner Jane Snar
- 4th Llancloudy Magic Diamond, owner Cherie Hansen

2 Year Old Colts:

- 1st Moonlit Blue Bruce, owner Melissa Kreuzer
- Licensed Stallions 4 Years & Older:
- 1st Murthwaite Talisman, owner Lisa MacBurney

Champion: FPSNA Virtual Summer Show

DreamHayven Perfect Storm, owned by Cherie Hansen

Reserve Champion: FPSNA Virtual Summer Show

Moonlit Blue Bruce, owned by Melissa Kreuzer

FPSNA Virtual Breed Show - Fall 2024

Judge: Hayley Reynolds

Weanling Fillies:

- 1st Conwood Ivy, Owner Pamel Clapp, exhibitor Ashton Kirkeide
- 2nd DragonflyAcres Tanna Viresse, Owner/ exhibitor Rachel Conley

Yearling Fillies:

- 1st AwesomeAcres High Tea, Owner/exhibitor Catherine Martin

Two Year Old Fillies:

- 1st Featheredfoothill Fjola, Owner/exhibitor Karla Rogge

Fillies 3-5 Years:

- 1st DreamHayven Stolichnaya, Owner/exhibitor Pamela Clapp
- 2nd Moonlit Tiffany, Owner Lisa MacBurney, exhibitor Michelle Bernhard

Mares 6-14 Years:

- 1st DreamHayven Irish Rose, Owner/exhibitor Jeanette Marsh
- 2nd DreamHayven Selene, Owner/exhibitor Cherie Hansen
- 3rd Moonlit Night Shenanigans, Owner/exhibitor Susan Foley

Stallion Progeny Class (needs 3 ponies entered)

- 1st Stallion & Progeny: Stennerskeugh Danny Boy, owned by Melissa Kreuzer

Champion: FPSNA Virtual Fall Show 2024

DreamHayven Irish Rose, Owner Jeanette Marsh

Reserve Champion: FPSNA Virtual Fall Show 2024

DreamHayven Stolichnaya, Owner Pamela Clapp

FPSNA 2024 Virtual Breed Show Series

(both shows combined, as selected by judges Hayley Reynolds & Roy Ottink):

Supreme Champion DreamHayven Irish Rose, Owner Jeanette Marsh

Reserve Supreme Champion DreamHayven Perfect Storm, Owner Cherie Hansen

2024 Performance Premium and Awards Program Results

English Ridden:

- 1st (tied) DreamHayven Irish Rose, Owner Jeanette Marsh
- 1st (tied) JKL Istas, Owner Jane Snar

Western Ridden:

- 1st JKL Istas

Novice Ridden:

- 1st Clifford Silver Slipper, Owner Taylor Bie.
- 2nd DreamHayven Perfect Storm, Owner Dr Cherie Hansen

Two Year Old In Hand:

- 1st Lammerside Guinevere, Owner Taylor Bie

Four Year Old & Over In Hand:

- 1st DreamHayven Irish Rose,
- 2nd Clifford Silver Slipper,
- 3rd DreamHayven Perfect Storm

In Hand Trail & Obstacle:

- 1st JKL Istas

Open Driving:

- 1st DreamHayven Irish Rose

Grand Champion Ridden Performance Pony: JKL Istas, Reserve DreamHayven Irish Rose
Overall Grand Champion Performance Pony (ridden &/or in Harness): DreamHayven Irish Rose, Reserve JKL Istas

Grand Champion In Hand Pony: JKL Istas, Reserve Lammerside Guinevere

Supreme Champion Overall (In Hand and Performance Divisions): DreamHayven Irish Rose, Reserve JKL Istas

Mare Progeny Performance Premium: Hiske van het Westerkwartier, owner Melissa Kreuzer

Stallion Progeny Performance Premium: Stennerskeugh Danny Boy, owner Melissa Kreuzer

Born in North America High Point: DreamHayven Irish Rose

Born Overseas FPS High Point: Clifford Silver Slipper

Most Versatile Pony: DreamHayven Irish Rose

The All Rounder Award: JKL Istas

Ambassador Pony:

1st Royalcrest Mirabelle, Owner Shannon Barnes

2nd Littletree Matador, Owner Jane Snar

3rd JKL Istas

4th Greenholme Peggy, Owner Jane Snar

Recreational Pony: Royalcrest Mirabelle, 88 miles

Ten Years of Fell Pony Magic: Honoring JKL Istas

This year marks a special milestone for me—over a decade with my American-born Fell pony, JKL Istas, the mare who started it all. Though we’ve since imported six Fell ponies from Cumbria, Istas will always hold the place of honor as the foundation of our passion for the breed. Born in 2010 on the Oregon coast, Istas carries the JKL prefix from the family who bred her. Her name, Istas, comes from an American Indian word meaning “snow.” Out of Mustahevonen Rhegeds Inkeri and by Geordans Prince Baloo, her pedigree reaches back to Heltondale, Sleddale, Wellbrow, Guards, and Townend. Her dam was acquired after the sudden passing of Wendy Ihlhang of MustaHevonen Farm in 2009—Wendy being the West Coast’s very first Fell pony breeder.



Istas: A Decade of Excellence

Petite yet powerful, Istas has proven herself in many disciplines over the years. From Mountain Trail, where she has earned Champion and Reserve Champion titles, to Working Equitation, liberty work, and breed showcases, she’s been a true ambassador. She also shines at showing in-hand, and the FPSNA Virtual Shows have been a welcome challenge, where she consistently places well.

She’s represented the Fell at events like the Mother Earth News Fair (2018, 2019), the Washington State Fair (2022), and the Northwest Horse Expo (2024, 2025), always charming the public with her steady demeanor, curiosity, and unmistakable Fell pony character. Through the FPSNA Performance Premium and Awards Program (PPA), she has collected numerous All Rounder awards and this year earned the title of Overall Reserve Champion.



JKL Istas and Jane Snar at the National Mountain Trail Show at the Oregon Horse Center. They have been competing at national level for 7 years now.

Beyond the accolades, Istas has carried me through my journey from a green rider to a confident pony partner. She's been a steady trail companion, camping buddy at Mildred Kanipe Park, and the one who sparked this life I now live among the Fell ponies.

Welcoming Our New Colt

This year also brought the arrival of Featheredfoothill Finnegan's Wake, a jet-black colt by Multi-Champion Lunesdale Warlord out of Bybeck Victoria. True to his heritage, he thrives on steep ridge pastures with strength and a gentle disposition.

His half-sister, Featheredfoothill Faith (by The Reggae King, out of Bybeck Victoria), will make her debut in the

Greenie Mountain Trail classes this year. Meanwhile, Drybarrows Illicit continues to grow with grace, her grey coat shifting in soft, silvery hues as she matures, and Drybarrows Havana has begun her early education—showing promise for dressage as she develops. Bybeck Victoria will wean her colt in spring, returning to trail work in summer.

Cumbria Trip & Breed Connections

My yearly trip to Cumbria was another highlight—attending the FPS Breed Show at Dalemain, spending time with dear, devoted friends addicted to adventure as much as I am, and exploring the hills and meeting breeders who generously share their knowledge and ponies. Each visit deepens my appreciation and reminds me of the roots of this hardy, noble breed.

Looking Ahead

I'm excited for more FPSNA Virtual Shows, liberty work, and mountain trail adventures, and new collaborations with other Mountain & Moorland breeds here in the Pacific Northwest.

Through it all, my gratitude runs deep—for the ponies, the people, and the journey that continues to unfold. From Istas' first steps to today's thriving herd, the magic of the Fell pony carries me forward—shaping not only my farm, but my future.

Jane Snar
Feathered Foothill Farm



BroughHill Hadrian's Wall – 1999-2024

(Waverhead Robbie x NewFarm Valencia)

HADRIAN in NORTH CAROLINA

From Breeder Victoria Tollman / BroughHill

BroughHill Hadrian's Wall was the first Fell pony born in North Carolina, the first for me as a Fell pony breeder, and the first for his dam Newfarm Valencia. Valencia was the first North American-bred Fell pony, making Hadrian the first of the 2nd generation.

Hadrian made an entrance in broad daylight, in a grassy paddock, in the afternoon of a sunny August day at feeding time. He was the first foal I'd ever seen born and my two young children (ages 3 and 5) were there to witness it.

Hadrian was a delightful foal who grew into a kind, willing, curious and trustworthy Fell stallion. Hadrian was a quarter brother to my 4 year old herd stallion Newfarm Midsummer's Night aka "Deryni". They shared the same

while he napped, and playing with the boisterous colt while the mares grazed further away.

When he was old enough to wean, at six months of age, Hadrian was exported to Ontario where a new chapter of his life began.



HADRIAN in ONTARIO

2nd Owner

From Joan O'Brien / Deerstones

Erica Brunner and I purchased Hadrian *in utero*, which is not ideal, but at the time it was the only way to buy a Fell pony in North America. We were hoping for a filly but of course we got a colt, well not to worry, we both had mares.

Though I saw pictures, I actually never saw Hadrian in person till he was about 6 months old. I had previously purchased several Fell ponies in England, all as foals, and only brought them to Canada after waiting until they were 6 months old, an age that gives the foal time to recover from weaning before being stressed by travel.

Hadrian had been shipped to a transit farm in upper New York State where Erica and I were to

classic head and extra sweet temperament and love of people, especially children.

Hadrian was promised to Canadian breeder Joan O'Brien and business partner Erica Brunner before he was born. When he was up on his "pins" he and his dam went back with Heltondale Sparkler IV, an older mare and with my herd stallion Deryni who, after a short inspection, took Hadrian under his wing, as did Sparkler. I was amused to find that Deryni was often left to babysit, standing over Hadrian

pick him up. We arrived at the farm in late spring to find a long driveway covered in ice. There was no way the truck and trailer were going to negotiate the ice, and I had misgivings about leading a six-month-old foal over such treacherous terrain. We walked up to the barn and received our first view of Hadrian. He was in a huge box stall and looked so tiny and frightened. His whole world was so changed.

We decided I should try and lead him to the trailer and Erica would bring up the rear and encourage him if necessary. I tried to pick the least icy path and found little Hadrian was quite happy to follow my lead. At the trailer, which was out in the open, I expected a loading battle and was prepared with a lunge line around his rear - but all for nothing - he just hopped aboard. Mission accomplished and we were out of there.

We were out on the road and heading for the border when I felt movement in the trailer and asked Erica to pull over. I checked the trailer and found Hadrian had managed to climb on top of a small cabinet in front of the trailer. I eased him down and retied him. We moved on and again I felt movement in the trailer, had Erica stop and this time he had his leg through the tie rope. I removed the rope and left him loose. He was fine the rest of the trip even as we crossed Toronto during rush hour.

When we arrived home with Hadrian, I was determined he should have as happy a life as possible, living like a pony not just a stallion, so I turned him out with the geldings and kept an eye on him. Everyone grazed and played together so all was well. Later Hadrian would go out with mixed groups of geldings and mares all happy to be together. When his co-owner Erica Brunner first visited Hadrian she wrote to Victoria Tollman, "Hadrian comes running to the fence when he hears his name. He doesn't nip or bite, such a gentleman!"

Hadrian proved to be one of the easiest ponies I ever had to break to ride and drive. He seemed to understand and take to the whole process as

if this was exactly what he wished to do. He went out on trail rides with groups of ponies and although he encountered many scary things like snowmobiles and four-wheelers, Hadrian never seemed overly impressed by them. Later the children would ride him and he was a gentleman.

When it came to breeding mares, Hadrian was downright courteous and easy to handle, taking his time and never injuring a handler. Hadrian produced many quality purebred foals (most of which went state-side) and several talented partbreds including hunter trials and dressage winners. We discovered that Hadrian was a carrier of the Foal Immunodeficiency Syndrome. Although the recommended course of action was to avoid carrier to carrier breedings, at the time there was no test and we had one fatality from Erica's mare that showed she was also a carrier.



In 2001 at the tender age of two, Brough Hill Hadrian Wall and Heather Rutherford's aged mare Derna of Windfield a.k.a. "Ebony" were the first Fell Ponies to have attempted embryo transfers. We transferred three and had two live foals. One ET filly was out of an aging E.P. Taylor* mare and although she was not eligible for registration as an ET foal (though we did try!), she grew into a lovely mare and went on to be a therapeutic riding pony.

* E.P. Taylor was a Canadian business tycoon, investor, and philanthropist. He was a famous breeder of Thoroughbred race horses, including Kentucky Derby winner Native Dancer, and was a major force behind the evolution of the Canadian horse-racing industry. He imported a number of registered Fell ponies and used them as nurse mares for his Thoroughbred foals.



With the history I was able to uncover about the Taylor Fell Ponies, we believe Heather's "Ebony" was Derna of Windfields, born May 21, 1981 which was in sync with the information on her passport. She would have been sired by Johnnie Walker (also on her passport) out of Lassie of Windfields, by Borwick Daring.

During this time, we were contacted by Shawn Hamilton of Clix Photography who was compiling a book on ponies and wanted photographs of Fell ponies. She came over and spent half a day photographing Hadrian, using him in "Crazy About Ponies" and on the cover of the popular equine magazine, "Horse Illustrated".

By 2002, we were lightly riding Hadrian and he was behaving well. In an unrelated accident, I broke a hip and decided my foal rearing days were over, which led to me selling the much loved Hadrian back to the States.

HADRIAN in OREGON

3rd owner

From Cheryl Dutton/Braeberry Fells

Wendy Ihlant / Mustahavonen invited me to join her at an expo in Washington state in October 2024. At that time, I had purchased two mares, but neither were trained and one had a foal at her side.

I was in the process of purchasing and importing Brough Hill Hadrian's Wall from Deerstones in Eastern Canada. Hadrian was meant to arrive about three months before the Expo. But it was not to be. Transport was a mess. By the time he arrived, I was able to ride Hadrian once (first time he'd ever had a western saddle, my first time to ride a stallion), put him with the mares for hopeful breeding, then pull him out the next day for another ride.

My family then headed to the UK for three weeks to visit family (and some Fell events!) When I got back, I didn't have enough time for another ride. I loaded Hadrian and all the other Expo things up and headed north from Oregon to Washington state. An hour before I was due in the arena I was shopping for a headstall that had a fitting brow band, mine was too short and squeezed Hadrian's ears. Rushed, excited and very nervous (Hadrian and I didn't really know each other, it was his first expo and he'd never been in a covered arena) I saddled him up in my youth saddle and his new headstall, and we headed to the arena with Wendy's trainer riding one of her Fells.

My focus was to keep attentive, keep calm -and not fall off! (Oh yes, did I mention I'd not really been riding at all for at least 10 years?) The plan

was I'd stay to the outside of the arena at walk and trot, while the trainer used the center of the arena for more active displays of cowboy style haunch turns, sliding stops, and cow cutting movements. Hadrian and I did ok, he did take a wide pass on the railing banners, but no spooking. As we started to leave, the applause behind him startled him into a canter but he quickly let me slow him down and I stayed on!

Back at the stalls, lots of people came by to compliment our ponies and us. So many would say what a great 'gelding' and how well I rode him. That's when I'd tell them the story: 3rd ride, first arena, new bit and bridle, saddle was at least an inch too small for me (discovered that in the ring!), just got him, and oh yes, he's a stallion. I think the British word to describe their response is 'gob smacked'.

Hadrian's temperament and behaviour under 'new management' and a really green stallion owner was exceptional! He was a perfect starter stallion for me.

Second expo was the Northwest Horse Expo 2005 in Oregon. Rene Taylor/ Fell Legend came up from California to help and asked if she could ride. Hadrian was the first Fell pony Rene had ever ridden. It was also the first time to have Fells on display in Oregon at any public event.

We were across from a full row of Friesians. I learned lots and taught lots about the differences that week. Some of the great comments...

Spectator: 'Look, it's a baby Friesian!'

Me: 'He's seven.'

Spectator: 'Is he stunted?'

Me: 'He's a Fell Pony...' then I'd share about the breed.

Spectator watching Rene ride Hadrian in the warm up round pen - at the end of 10 minutes: 'Will you be demonstrating the tolt in the big arena?' (Icelandics had a big presence at this Expo for quite a few years.)

Two spectators walking behind Rene riding Hadrian to the demonstration arena: "I didn't know Haflingers came in black."

While Hadrian lived in Oregon, he was an excellent ambassador for the breed. Everyone who met him, fell for him. Those at expos, those who came to visit my farm, and those who helped care for him while in transit.

My cousin, Del, is a very experienced horseman, cowboy circuits, stallion handler of multiple breeds (including race horses and draft), driver of various sizes of draft teams,

packer with mules and horses. It's in his family back a few generations.

Del laughed initially seeing my 'little' mares and Hadrian. Then he had the opportunity to have some boarded at his place and help train some of Hadrian's offspring. Del doesn't laugh any more, and has owned a few, plus helped me keep my herd going by helping with breeding, foaling, training and boarding my ponies when I was moving farms or had to deal with fencing issues, etc. He's even said now he'd love to have a string of Fells for his hunting trips where he packs in and out.

When I purchased Hadrian, there were so few Fells in North America, he was likely related to three-quarters of the Fells in the country. Still, Hadrian set high standards for me of what to expect from my next stallion and from all my foals too. His temperament was stellar, his pasture manners to mares and foals was excellent. Once he was even in the pasture when mare foaled 3 weeks early. I wasn't home but a neighbor watched it all. She said Hadrian watched from a distance, but never invaded the mare's space.

Hadrian was my first herd stallion. The only reason I replaced him was to import new lines to expand the bloodlines in North America.

HADRIAN in CALIFORNIA

4th Owner Rene Bender / FellLegend

Hadrian was named after the famous wall in Northern England, where the wall is still visible after 2000 years. Hadrian had a true to type Fell pony head with small ears and wide expressive, soft eyes. His mane, tail, forelock, and feather were long and full, and his tail dragged the ground. I called his coat color "blue black" as he never faded in the summer.

Hadrian was the first Fell Pony I ever rode. I traveled from California to the Oregon Exposition for his then owner Cheryl to ride him. Hadrian was green, and I rode him English in front of the crowds, and though he was forward, he never took a mis-step. After the event, before I left, I asked Cheryl Dutton, if in the future, she wanted to sell him, if I could have first dibs, as he stole my heart that weekend. Eventually, my dream came true.

We purchased Hadrian from Cheryl in 2006 and brought him home to California where he was our beloved senior stallion at Fell Legend Farm. Hadrian was ridden both English and Western at the Pacific Coast Classic (PCC) Welsh Pony show, Mountain and Moorland classes under many different U.K. Judges, winning multiple times,

Best of Breed Fell Pony and many Mountain & Moorland classes over the years.

Hadrian loved attention and was super easy to take anywhere stallions were allowed. In 2013, we went to a Reenactment of the Pony Express.



Some would just ride, some would carry mail. I was one of the ones asked to ride, but not carry the mail. That morning, two of the horses that practiced this leg were substituted for mounts that they knew would not be ok to carry the mail pack. The ride officials asked me if Hadrian would be ok to carry the mail. These were over the saddle, heavy leather packs with real U.S. Mail - two packs in the front and two packs in the back. I trusted Hadrian. I said, "Sure, let's try."

I was so proud; when they lowered this heavy pack on his saddle Hadrian never flinched. and we rode 4 miles at a gallop to the next exchange. He was awesome that day and was the first Fell pony to ever participate in this ride. That was one of our best days together.

The following year in 2014, at the age of 15, Hadrian learned to jump. In preparing Hadrian for the Pacific Horse Classic M&M every year, my job in the weeks before the show was to ride and condition him for these multiple classes for my trainer. Because the weather in August was always so hot, I would wait to ride him at dusk. My best rides on Hadrian were in the dark. I could not see even the arena fence, but Hadrian could see and this trust between us and his steady gaits made these rides incredibly free and heavenly. It was like riding on a cloud. One of my best memories our time together.

Hadrian returned to the Pacific Horse Classic M&M Show, winning his classes and the High Point award. He was shown locally and participated at

the Western States Horse Expo twice, Sacramento, the Lincoln Holiday Parade multiple times, and the 4th of July Parade, and many other local events and firsts over the years.

Hadrian drew attention wherever he went with his good looks and charming well-mannered temperament. He always alerted us with his familiar call when someone arrived at the ranch. He loved children and the attention of all his admirers young and old. He loved the camera too, and never took a bad picture. I truly believe Hadrian knew how special he was. His foals were just as special.

Below are some of his accomplishments here on the U.S. West Coast and Canada.

- Cover of Horse Illustrated
 - First Appearance at Washington Expo
 - First Appearance at Oregon Expo
 - First and Multiple Appearances at Grass Valley Celtic Fairs
 - First and Multiple Appearances at Draft Horse Classic
 - First and Multiple Appearances at Paradise Horse Exhibits
 - First and Multiple Appearances at the California State Fair Exposition
 - First and Multiple Appearances at Pacific Horse Classic M&M Show
 - First and Multiple Appearances at the Horse Expo, Sacramento
 - First Fell Pony in North America to carry the U.S. Mail (a reenactment of the Pony Express 4-mile leg)
 - Trail ridden on public trails including Hidden Falls, Folsom Lake, Spenceville Nature Preserve, Oroville Dam, Loomis Nature Preserve
- BroughHill Hadrian's Wall's last show was the [Equus Survival Trust] SANA West in 2019 at the

Horse Expo. My trainer rode him in all the English classes, and on the last day, I thought I would attend the Western Dressage Clinic and ride Hadrian. I had never ridden him before in this new discipline, but we had learned and done a lot together, and I decided to ride him myself in the novice test.

We only had a few hours to learn the test, and I was struggling with remember it all. We started just fine, we circled around the arena just fine, but when we came around to the next stop, I got confused, but Hadrian took the initiative; he knew we were supposed to stop - and we won the class! The Judge commented that though the stop was not smooth, if this was truly our first time riding a test, we did well. I cherish that day and will remember it was Hadrian that won us that class.

I didn't know it then, but that was my last ride on Hadrian. He was such a beautiful, strong, confident stallion; kind, "famous" with all his wins, and everyone wanted to meet him.



Hadrian was easy to ride, courageous, true, and honest -- and I will miss him every day for the rest of my life.

Correction to the Spring 2025 edition of the Magazine - I mistakenly attributed the stable name "Deryni" to Hadrian when captioning the photo on p48, but Deryni is in fact the stable name of NewFarm Midsummer's Night, who is still alive.

Ed

Streamlet All Inclusive in Germany

Ann Fishburn reports: Andrea and Ecki Hofmann live in the Altmark area of Germany, between Berlin and Hamburg, and are the owners of Fell Pony mare Streamlet All Inclusive (Ally), (Nabucco vom Schieferberg x Bluewater Lilly). She was bred by Uta Hillscher, owner of the Streamlet stud, in 2022.

In May this year they took her to the Brandenburg-Anhalt Horse Breeders' Association to have her registered and were thrilled that she got the highest score, 8.0, and was thus eligible to attend the State Premium Show in Magdeburg on 20th September. Before that, however, they took her to a Native Pony Show at the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Regional Stud where she also gained a score of 8.0.

Ally, with her long white mane and tail, attracts many admirers wherever she goes. The show in Magdeburg was no exception but she takes it all in her stride. The state premium for brood mares was granted and she came first in the Special Breeds class with a score of 8.4. Now Ally will start her training as a driving pony and Andrea and Ecki are on the look out for a suitable stallion for her.



FPS Bursary Winner 2025 – Annabel Fraser

The bursary offers a grant up to the value of £250 to a FPS member aged under 25.

The FPS would like to thank each applicant who applied for the 2025 Bursary. It was extremely positive to have a high number of applications from young, very keen Fell Pony enthusiasts.

To simplify the selection process the committee looked for a candidate who was new to Fell ponies and truly grassroots; and the FPS is delighted to announce that the Bursary Winner for 2025 is Annabel Fraser, aged 12, with Townend Cheviot (*photo on p43*).

Cheviot is the family's first Fell pony, and he arrived in October 2023 as an unbroken 3 year old. Annabel helped her Mum with lunging and long reining and she was the first person to sit on him at the end of March 2024.

She reports that being young herself and bringing on a young pony has been both challenging and rewarding.

She feels that she would benefit greatly from extra training to help fulfil his potential and prepare for many happy years together. She is planning to have some lessons with local producer Richard Nichol.

Congratulations to Annabel! We wish you every success in the activities that you pursue.

We would also like to encourage all FPS members to consider joining our "Learning with Fells" scheme in future years, to help connect to the wider Fell pony community.

Claire Simpson

It is hoped to run the bursary offer again in 2026. More details will follow in the Spring magazine and on the website.

THINKING SPACE

Saddle Fitting

Is your saddle helping, hindering or harming your pony? This question is the crux of making sure your saddle is working for your pony, and for you.

I'll start by saying that firstly, above all, ALL saddles should be fitted properly - and should be checked properly - using a suitably qualified fitter, not simply a saddle seller, at least twice a year.

Secondly, but as importantly, preferably ALL riders should learn the basics of a correctly fitting saddle, so they can check theirs frequently. I do believe it is our responsibility to also learn the basics of a "well-made" saddle - its integrity.

So what precisely are we looking for when we talk about the saddle that fits? What are we thinking about when it comes to fitting specifically for Fell ponies?

The saddle must not hinder the horse in its movement, and it should help in its job of carrying a rider. However too many traditional saddles do the former, and not the latter! We generally have a tree made of wood and metal, with an arch shape to go over the horse's withers. Originally this arch (the pommel) was not designed to help the horse, but the stability of the rider - to prevent a warrior being pulled off his mount. It furthermore was designed to be an attachment for stirrups (according to some sources the stirrup is estimated to have been the second most important development for battle, enabling the fighter to stay on top during battle).

The points of the tree i.e. the base of the arch that goes over the wither, create a shape that is not conducive with the flatness of a Fell pony's withers. An arch shape does not fit snugly around a table top.

In our saddles, we are also looking for the rider's weight to be distributed evenly across the pony's back muscles. We don't want more weight or pressure in one place over another. With a badly fitted saddle, you might get pressure points just behind the wither, and then as the horse moves, diagonally consequential pressure points develop under the rider's seat bones.

So what should we be looking for? When the saddle is on and the girth fastened normally, we should be able to get the flat of our hand underneath where the tree point sits. The pommel should not be down upon the wither and the saddle should sit still as the rider rides.

I often people hear ask, "Why does my pony show such lovely action in hand, but he seems to go much shorter and more slowly when there's a rider on board?"

Presuming that the pony is fit and strong enough, and schooled enough to carry the rider, then ideally that beautiful action should be visible. Unfortunately too often an ill fitting saddle is hindering our ponies, and in fact can be doing them harm.

We want a saddle to be generous across the horse's back. If it's too narrow it will pinch and if it's too wide it can bridge. Fell ponies, even though they're often ridden by smaller people, are also often ridden by larger people. Most Fell ponies have decent shoulders, quite a flat back, lowish withers often, and sometimes no wither at all! It's useful to remember the breed standard when we're thinking about saddles, and it's also useful to remember the Fell pony's heritage - that it was developed as an all-round useful farming tool.

As one child said to me at a workshop I did last year for the Epona project, "So, Fell ponies were the tractors of their day!"

This means they were bred to do a variety of jobs in a variety of conditions. Driving, riding, to carry deadweights, and to cope with a variety of terrain and weathers. Therefore the Fell pony of today can often present a difficult back shape when it comes to fitting a saddle for the

demands we place on them in the 21st century.

Many ponies now are leisure ponies - they are shown (which can often lead to weight problems as well as a saddle fitting issue) or they are hacked out, and some are driven. Saddles in the past were mainly designed to do the job of keeping a rider on board.

It is a general fact that we are larger than we used to be 70 or 80 years ago. The Fell pony's saddle space may be quite small so having weight pressing down unequally or behind the last rib could cause some issues. This 'rule of thumb' to not fit the tree of the saddle beyond the horse's last rib has been based on anatomical and biomechanical knowledge and can serve to help limit the size of rider for the individual horse.

However, there's still a gap in research in this area and, as some non-traditional saddles function differently from traditional saddles (especially small show saddles), they are consequently fitted differently, too.

It is not unusual for riders to have the dilemma of trying to find a saddle to fit their short backed horse whilst still maintaining their own comfort, balance and effectiveness in the saddle.

Balance is a crucial factor when fitting any saddle. It is possible to fit a longer saddle to a shorter back; however, the rider must be in balance otherwise the horse and rider will both be compromised.

Some riders don't realise that if they use a short saddle because of the "last rib" guidance/advice or belief, they are actually putting MORE pressure on the pony's back, per square inch. Sadly some show saddles have small bearing surfaces, and are made specifically "short" for Native ponies for a "smarter look". However, this really can cause more problems.

Squeezing a rider into a saddle that is too small for them may prevent them from

riding in balance and instead create a sore backed and reluctant pony unable to do their job well. We will see reined-in ponies, short-striding ponies, unhappy expressions, reluctance to canter (and spurred riders), resistance and "fussiness", and being heavy on the forehand.

Ideally your saddle should:

- be fitted comfortably both laterally and longitudinally,
- not restrict the shoulder
- provide even contact along the panel, so the weight of the rider does not press down at the back of the saddle.
- allow your pony to use their back properly - engage the hindlegs and utilise the ventral muscle chain, in conjunction with the dorsal muscle chain.
- not compress the back muscle beyond the last rib. The word "compress" is key here.
- be fitted so that it cannot touch the spine; it should engage with, and be carried by, the long back muscles, so the saddle can't press onto the bony transverse processes.

We want our saddles to do the job of safety and performance for the rider, and welfare and performance for the pony. The rider needs to be safe in their riding so the usual checks on the condition of the leather and sound stitching are paramount, as is the design of a saddle that puts you, the rider, in the most effective place so that you can ride well and safely.

A saddle that doesn't keep you in good balance means it is easier for the pony to unbalance you and it is more difficult for you to be effective.

When we're checking for saddle fit, there are a number of things we look for. Some of them are on the pony and its conformation, and some of them are on the saddle; some will be on the rider.

Saddle

Unfortunately there are too many asymmetrical saddles out there, sometimes because of errors during construction and sometimes because the movement of the pony/rider can gradually twist the saddle.

There are numerous ways you can check for symmetry such as:

- "Sit" the saddle on a table without girth or stirrups/leathers. Do its points and the rear of the panel all touch evenly on the flat surface?
- look down the length of a straight edge placed centrally from pommel to cantle. Look from the back and from the front - do both sides of the saddle look the same or does the cantle lean off to one side?
- are the stirrup bars placed symmetrically? (you'd be surprised how many are not)
- are the girth straps attached symmetrically?

On the pony:

- How does the pommel arch compare to your pony's wither and head of scapula / slope of shoulder? Does it follow the line, or is it a bell jar sitting on a table top?
- Is the seat fairly horizontal or does it slant up or down?
- Is the gullet too narrow or too wide for your pony?
- Does your saddle slip a lot?
- When was your saddle last reflocked?
- How do the panels feel? Are they soft? Are they hard? Lumpy?
- Are the panels symmetrical?
- Are the panels small, or generous?
- Are you sitting on two hard "rolling pins" or two cushions with "give"?
- Have you fastened the girth straps symmetrically when the saddle is on the pony?

Rider

Many women have an anterior tilt to their pelvis which means they like to ride a little uphill - this needs to be factored in with regards to the seat. A downhill sitting seat can make the rider feel as though they're constantly tipping forward and having to straighten up.

If you find any of the following happening when you're riding, your saddle may not be balanced correctly:

- Are you having to pull your legs back?
- Do you find you are tipping forward?
- Do you have to rise quite high at rising trot?
- Do you have to consciously push your heels down or do you lose your stirrups a lot?
- Do you have backache when you dismount?

"Yes" to any of these suggests your saddle may not be balanced correctly.

Pony

Sadly, far too many ponies are just too fat! Fell ponies don't do the same kind of work that they used to (and were originally developed and bred for) and they are often overfed, even unintentionally. Being overweight creates not only health problems for the pony (they are carrying much more than is healthy for their heart and lungs) but this can affect saddle fit.

Below is a list of questions you might want to ask about the pony.

- Does the pony move away when you bring the saddle to their back?
- Do their ears go back or do they flinch, nip or cow kick when you fasten the girth?
- Are they difficult to mount?
- Do they throw up their head as you move off? (*Whispering now* - are you "under-horsed"?)
- Do they struggle sometimes finding the correct canter lead?

"Yes" to any of these suggests that the saddle is causing pain.

Many alternative choices

And finally - over the last 20 years there has been a real sea change in the variety of saddles available on the market, with a variety of approaches designed to deal with the issues of fitting, safety and performance. Traditional trees have created many problems on many horses and ponies, hindering their performance and even doing damage, but now there are flock panels, foam panels, air panels, adjustable panels, adjustable pommel widths, saddles without trees that are just

pads, and saddles, designed through 3D scanning of many horses' backs, with no rigid parts at all. There are a lot of options available - so really, none of us should be using saddles that hinder, or even harm, our horses and ponies!

Alex Jakob-Whitworth, September 2025

Alex is an Equine Massage Therapist, has been fitting Solution/Smart saddles since 2004, has taken the Equinology Saddle Fitters course, trained to Stage 3 at the Yorkshire Riding Centre, and has delivered lectures and workshops on Saddle Fitting, Long-lining, Equine Massage and Equine Behaviour

Foxy the Fell Pony Visits Garstang Memory Café



Michelle Thompson / Sandra Perkins, Garstang Memory Café

Fellacres Herbert, "Foxy", recently visited the Garstang Memory Café as part of research into how Fell ponies can support people living with dementia. The project explores whether interaction with Fell ponies can help reduce agitation, frustration, and anxiety offering a natural, holistic approach alongside traditional care.

Dementia often brings restlessness and withdrawal, but non-medical interventions such as music, art, and animal assisted therapy are proving effective. Fell ponies, with their calm temperament and cultural links to rural life, can spark memories, encourage conversation, and provide comfort.

During his visit, Foxy prompted smiles, stories, and moments of calm among participants. Early observations suggest that ponies may lower stress and encourage social connection, supporting wellbeing in a gentle and meaningful way.

Foxy's visit marks the beginning of wider research into using Fell ponies in dementia care blending heritage, companionship, and holistic support.

Michelle Thompson

THINKING SPACE

The Barefoot Advantage

As Fell Pony owners, we are fortunate that our ponies tend to have hardy feet, ‘of good size, round and well formed, [and] open at heels’. Some owners decide to shoe their ponies, but we often see Fells living and working unshod or ‘barefoot’. I have re-trained in mid-life as a barefoot trimmer, and I can share some interesting benefits seen when horses are kept barefoot and how these relate to our Fell Ponies.

Improved movement and economy

Everything that we do to the foot, or in this case don't do, affects the horse's body higher up. We want our ponies to develop a correct, easy way of going and a healthy musculature as this will improve their ridden or driven work and help them stay strong into later life. An unshod foot, as evidenced in a Swedish study presented in 2023, makes a faster change between loading and flight than a shod foot, resulting in the foot being on the ground relatively longer during each stride. In human athletes this is called ‘duty factor’ and an increase is associated with better energy efficiency and a lower incidence of injury. In practice, riders of barefoot horses tended to report them as being more ‘light-footed’.

Heightened proprioception

Another benefit experienced by barefoot horses is increased proprioception (the ability to know where one's body parts are) which reduces injury risk and uneven loading. They can place their feet more carefully and intentionally than when shod, and feel changes in terrain. Dr Robert Bowker (a professor, veterinarian, and expert on the equine foot) goes so far as to classify the horse's foot as a neurosensory organ, due to the high number of receptors in the foot which provide feedback to the central nervous system. This information contributes to unconscious decisions such as how long or short to make the next stride and tells limb muscles how much to contract. Allowing a Fell Pony to have full access to this bodily information helps them to make the most of the sure-footedness they have been blessed with.

Reduced wear and tear

If our ponies are working, we also wish for them to have a long and injury-free career. Bare hooves flex and expand with each step, which, in addition to a role in the function of pumping blood around the foot and back up the leg, provides shock absorption and reduces the concussive forces going up the limb. Diseases of wear and tear such as osteoarthritis, navicular disease or tendon strains are common causes of lameness in horses, and therefore, maximising the dampening of the ground impact by enabling the hoof to function naturally is thought to be preventative.

Day-to-day advantages

There are also some more superficial management benefits to keeping a pony barefoot, such as increased traction on the roads and other slippery surfaces; a reduced likelihood of injury through accidents such as getting hooves caught in fences or through overreaching; and not waking the neighbours as you set out on a summertime early morning ride!

The recipe for barefoot success

Frequency and quality of trimming

An important aspect of maintaining or attaining a strong bare hoof is using a qualified and experienced hoof care provider (be that person a barefoot trimmer or a registered farrier), who is knowledgeable about what the shape of a natural hoof should be. A healthy bare foot is not simply one without a shoe on it: the way in which it is trimmed needs to mimic natural wear and thus help build up the strength of the internal structures.

Consistent good trimming ensures the hoof maintains its natural shape and balance, and for most horses this would need to take place approximately every six weeks. This is, however, obviously dependent on wear and balance - ponies with good conformation roaming large areas, with access to abrasive terrain, are likely to need far less frequent intervention. Growth should not be allowed to get too far in front of wear because this invites distortion to creep in, as well as having the potential to cause a pony to be sensitive following a trim where large amounts of excess have needed to be removed.

Diet

A pony needs to receive the right nutrients to grow strong hoof horn, and at the same time should not be given non-species-appropriate foods which could cause inflammation and foot sensitivity.

The modern version of the horse, *Equus caballus*, evolved in the Great US Basin where it ate predominantly warm-season grasses which grew sparsely in arid conditions. Whilst our Fell Ponies have been shaped by the landscape in the UK, their gut and nutritional needs have not significantly changed since leaving their aboriginal habitat. Ponies living on improved pasture can be at risk of laminitis and other associated metabolic issues. This is often seen when ex-dairy farms diversify into offering livery services but still have grazing that is mostly perennial Rye-grass, too high in sugar, potassium and nitrates.

Biotin, iron, copper and zinc

A correct balance of vitamins, minerals and amino acids is essential and ideally should be obtained from consuming a broad range of grasses, herbs and woody plants, but as discussed, many ponies have to live where grazing lacks diversity. Biotin seems to be quite well-known amongst owners as a supplement for improved hoof quality, but less so is the need for adequate copper and zinc, in the correct

ratios. The NRC guidelines indicate that internal synthesis of biotin (in the hind gut) should be sufficient to meet daily needs; however studies have consistently found that supplementation of 15-20g daily has a beneficial impact when horn quality is poor. White line disease, another cause of poor hoof quality, and repeated thrush, or abscesses, can indicate copper deficiency, which may be accompanied by coat bleaching in bay, black and brown ponies. Absorption of copper can be affected by too high a dietary iron intake from food (or even water sources), because iron, zinc and copper must be consumed in a ratio of 4:3:1.

This complexity can make it hard to know if a pony is receiving an optimal diet, so if an owner is observing hoof issues then mineral testing of forage and water sources, alongside the advice of an independent nutritionist, can be very helpful. Hoof care providers who are experienced in improving barefoot horses will usually be well versed in nutrition by necessity, and so can also be a good source of advice. A simple change such as the addition of a good quality mineral balancer carried in an un-molassed alfalfa-free chaff, can make a big difference - Forage Plus (www.forageplus.com) and Progressive Earth (www.progressive-earth.com) are highly recommended retailers of such.

Movement and varied terrain

Encouraging movement over varied terrain (gravel, grass, and hard surfaces) helps to stimulate hoof growth and toughen the sole. This should always be at a level suitable for the pony's stage of comfort. If the pony is very sensitive, then brushing the soles daily with a wire brush can help to add stimulation as a starting point. Exercise increases the blood supply to the foot and helps to build its internal soft tissue and digital cushion, as well as helping insulin regulation. Equally, standing for long periods, for example when stabled, reduces blood flow as the foot

experiences prolonged loading, which is unnatural, and has been shown to cause damage similar to that of supporting-limb laminitis.

Bridging the gap

Modern technology has given us the option of using hoof boots, enabling the provision of round the clock therapeutic support to ponies who are transitioning out of shoes or recovering from laminitis, or to give occasional protection for ridden and driven ponies. Hoof boots allow for protection when needed, without losing the benefits of being barefoot. There are many brands available, each with desirable features, but the best boot is the one which fits your pony well.

Most hoof boot issues occur when the boots are not fitting correctly and therefore twist or come off, leading to great frustration for owners. Without help it can be easy to end up with unsuitable boots, so to avoid this, just as you might employ a saddle or bridle fitter, there are trained hoof boot fitters available. Search

online for an in-person hoof boot fitter, or utilise the help offered by retailers such as Urban Horse (www.urbanhorse.com) who offer remote fitting guidance and sizing kits for hire.

Conclusion

Transitioning to or maintaining a 'barefoot' lifestyle can offer many benefits for our ponies by allowing the hoof to function as it has evolved to do. Fell Pony owners have an advantage in the hardiness of the breed, and we can capitalise on it to improve wellbeing and performance throughout the lives of our ponies.

Josie Sanderson (CHCP)

Natural Hoofcare Northwest

josie@naturalhoofcarenw.co.uk

N.B. I have not listed references here, but if anyone would like further information regarding the sources mentioned, or a barefoot related chat, please feel free to contact me.

Learning with Fells

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

It is hoped that sufficient numbers will come forward for visits to 2 or 3 studs during 2026.

If you're interested, please send an email to the FPS office secretary@fellponysociety.org by no later than 1st March 2026.

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

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

A booking fee of £20 per person is required for the season, with £10 refunded for members once you have attended (no refund due for non members). This is because, unfortunately, in the past there have been non attendees who don't even notify the host they won't be attending. Our hosts for these events give their precious time to share their ponies and it is only courteous to let them know if you are unable to attend.

Dalehead Midnight Express

I bought Dalehead Midnight Express, a.k.a. Maya, 7 years ago to be a hacking pony and maybe do some Endurance. However, after taking her to a short 12km Endurance ride I found out it really wasn't her kind of thing.

My other Fell pony Pagan had been doing some Agility at Cheltenham RDA with an accredited Agility Instructor so we decided to take Maya and see how she liked it. She seem to be really interested with the different obstacles and did very well at it. Along came Covid and lock down so we continued to practise at home.

Then I came across a remote way of doing Agility with the International Horse Agility Club, where countries competed from all over the world. Every month the Club put up a course which you set up and practise at the level you are working at and then film yourself doing the course in one take, no editing allowed! You then create a sharable link (I use YouTube) and email it to the Club.

They have several accredited Horse Agility Instructors who watch the videos and do the marking and give constructive feedback. You can opt in for a rosette.

I signed both of my ponies up and they both went in on Starter level, where most of the obstacles were easy to source from local shops or online.

Both ponies were enjoying the Agility, and we started to get better scores and move up the levels: Starter, First, Medium, Advanced one star*, Advanced 2 star*.

Both of my ponies have done really well over the last 7 years at Agility. Pagan is my Endurance pony but she is also doing Agility at Advanced level and Maya has recently moved up to Advanced one star*.

I've had Fell ponies now for over 30 years and find they are such a versatile breed that can turn a hoof to almost anything, you just have to find an activity that suits.

Ally Knight



Veteran Fell Ponies

Veteran Horse Society Championship Show 2025

For anyone thinking of going to the Veteran Horse Society championship show with their Fell pony, I think it's fair to say we can highly recommend it. This show is special because you get the feel that everyone absolutely adores their old horse or pony that is there competing.

There are many special rosettes, one of which is for the highest placed Fell, Dales or Highland, kindly sponsored by the Hardy family. What is extra special is that many of the classes are sponsored with a sash and rosette 'in memory of' a pony and it really does bring a little emotion when you receive it.

Our Fell Ponies did us proud, and hopefully we can keep up the profile of our ponies at future shows by encouraging others to attend.

All Pictures Credit to SBM Photography

Murthwaite Looks Promising

Owned and Ridden by Jane Rawden

Age: 18

'Cappy' had a great first ridden season back after his shoulder injury, and qualified for the Veteran Championships. A phone call with Katy Downing, who has Waverhead Ted, developed a plan to have a go at the dressage to music class.

The theme was to recognise military veterans, with this year being the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE). Several top-secret meetings took place to plan rehearsals, a story was written to celebrate our amazing veterans, and the end result was a true display of how Fell ponies bring people together.

Cappy became a Lancaster bomber, with actual wings. A team of ladies from the village, dressed in war time outfits, with red lipstick, and their hair in scarves or rollers, waved Cappy goodbye.

Andy Rawden, (Jane's husband) lent his RAF skill with batons to ensure Cappy 'the Lancaster bomber' took off down the right runway.

Katy and Molly Downing, dressed in RAF uniforms, took the salute as Cappy set off down the centre line.

Jane's mum, Peggy, and a number of other competitors, friends and family were in the audience ready to wave the Union flag at the end of the dressage.

Within the music Cappy showed a range of movements, from leg yield to halt to canter. The story unfolded to the 'red button' being pressed and Molly on her 'bouncing bomb' busted through the dam. The crowd went crazy. *Land of Hope and Glory* came on. Cappy cantered round the arena with the Union flag, giving a little extra buck as the crowd clapped, sang and cheered. The audience waved their flags, the judges were presented with decorated cupcakes to celebrate VE Day, and the war time ladies and the team of RAF members





slow-marched behind Cappy down the centre line. When we halted and took the salute, everyone involved had a tear in their eyes, with the crowd and commentators on their feet - what a moment.

Out of 12 competitors who provided the Friday evening entertainment with the dressage to music, it was one little Fell pony and his team that won a beautiful sash, stunning rosettes for each member who took part, a bottle of fizz and a fabulous trophy: what a memory.

Lydvale Jacob

Owned by Fellacre Stud, Gemma Hopkin-Samuels and Katie Saberton; Ridden by Rachel Scarlett

Age: 22

Rachel and Jake attended the VHS Champs this year for their second visit



after some fantastic results last year including 2nd Reserve Champion in the Supreme Finals.

This year they carried on their success with some great results, Saturday started well, taking 1st M&M Working Hunter and then the Overall Reserve Champion in the evening performance, along with a second in the M&M large breeds ridden for another spin in the evening performance

They also contested the M&M Supreme Finals, taking 9th place in both the Inhand and Ridden Classes.

Sunday was the Overall Supreme Finals for more fantastic results in the 20-24 category taking 3rd inhand out of 34 horses and a 9th in the ridden with a highest ride mark of the class with 45/50

At home and to take out and about Jake is the perfect gentleman combining his ridden outings alongside his stud duties for Fellacre Stud, he has even been out following hounds around Burghley house behaving absolutely beautifully and enjoying a gallop through the famous river!

Hillhead Horace

Owned and Ridden by Heidi Bland

Age: 21

Horace had the most fabulous show, being placed in a number of classes, but possibly the most significant and special was the Regional Final where he ended up Reserve Champion, and we think that means he beat around 50 plus veteran horses and ponies to get there.



Dalefoot Amber II

Owned and Ridden by Olivia Swailes

Age: 15

Amber is our pony of a life time and over the years we have achieved amazing results and made so many memories. Amber is a 4-times HOYS finalist (placed every year) and we have competed at RI for 5 years on the trot in the Amateurs, Open, Pretty Polly and also the Workers.

After finishing 4th and best Mare at HOYS last year we made the decision to take a step down from the qualifiers and attend the VHS instead.

This meant an evening performance which neither Heidi or Horace had had before. It gave us another reason to celebrate!

Heidi reflected on how lovely and friendly fellow competitors were, and their grooms, in supporting those who were there on their own. She also wanted to give a special shout out to Peggy, Jane Rawden's mum, who groomed for numerous people regardless of their pony's breed or type.

Heidi said:

"I've owned Horace since he was 8 years old. He was a total project when I bought him as he was just a field companion for a Welsh section A. We've had many successes over the years, getting through to the Olympia Semi finals, many breed show successes and Championships, in hand and ridden, at Midlands West and East Fell Pony group shows.

"Horace is a part of the family and even my non horsey husband has shown him in hand on several occasions with success.

"He loves life, especially his hacking around the farm, where we are on DIY livery. He competes at Arena eventing and dressage through the winter, and he loves his jumping. He's been produced totally by myself. Horace is loved and enjoyed by all the family and friends."



It was our first time attending the VHS show. We were lucky enough to qualify at Aintree for both the inhand M&M supreme final and the ridden inhand final where we ended up reserve inhand and champion ridden then overall supreme M&M. Amber had the best time and loved her spin in the supremes, she didn't miss a beat.

Amber is our family pony of 8 years. At home she is shared between myself, my 5 year old daughter Lily, and my mum. We mainly hack out at home and attend fun rides. Amber is currently teaching my little girl how to canter.

She really is the most versatile and fun pony, she puts her all into everything. We love her so much and she will be a part of the family forever.



Inglegarth Premier

Owner: Amy Geraghty

Age: 24

We came to the VHS championships on Friday with Inglegarth Premier (Davy). Our first class was the Veteran Pony in which he came first, putting us through to the championships.

His second class was the M&M Wild Card in which he also took 1st place, putting him through to the M&M championships later that evening. He came 6th out of 26 ponies and we were very pleased with his placing.

Saturday was the Veteran Pony Championships and Davy went on to be Veteran Pony Champion.



Davy is loved by everyone on the yard and will turn a hoof to anything. He has two more shows this year and then he's off for a well earned rest.

Elmbanks M.J.

Owned and Ridden by Katie Morrisroe

Age: 15

It was Katie's first year at the Champs and Bruno exceeded all expectations by placing well in both WH and ridden classes, showing how versatile the breed is.

Katie loved the show and said, "I can't wait for next year and seeing you all again throughout the season - it was a pleasure, ladies."



Townend Shanti (left) and Susanna White's Murthwaite Ted's Lass on the beach at Goring on the South coast

Daphne Powell and Shirdleyhill Jolene

We purchased Jolene as a rising 6-year-old in April 2024, to be a best friend for our disabled daughter (cerebral palsy, visual impairment, hydrocephalus, epilepsy and learning difficulties). Her Shetland was a fabulous lead rein pony and good to handle on the ground but was just too cheeky to be a first ridden.

Jolene was bred and correctly started by Yvonne Marsden then sold as a safe hacking pony to a lovely lady who just thought she wasn't 'the one' for her ... luckily for us.

Jolene has transformed Daphne's life. In a year she has taken her from lead rein classes to the specialised ability dressage at the National Pony Club championships. They came 6th!

They canter at jumps, do mounted games, gallop across fields, hack, go on pub rides. You name it, they've done it.

Jolene is truly a one in a million pony. Daphne can also do everything for her, she passed her Pony Club D test on her and is doing D plus later this month.

Jolene has started a family Fell obsession, we now have 4!

Jessica Powell



Shirdleyhill Jolene and Daphne Powell

Ride and Stride with Raisbeck Casino

The first time that I heard about Ride and Stride was when it was announced from the pulpit in our village church. You had to obtain sponsorship and walk or ride to the next church in a neighbouring village or town. In my case that was going from North Somercotes St. Mary's Church to South Somercotes St. Peter's.

There and back was about four miles, which was asking the impossible from our congregation, as most are not in the first flush of youth and some are in their nineties or have mobility issues or need walking aids.

One brave soul suggested that I could be sponsored by riding my push bike along the B road. I would have needed drop handle bars and a Lycra suit to manage that! I suggested instead that I went on the journey astride Raisbeck Casino a.k.a. Cassie, my wonderful veteran Fell mare whom Diana Slack has entrusted to me for life.



Cassie didn't let me down and we tackled the route with gusto. She strode out and devoured the miles like a true Fell and we could soon get on to the bridle ways which were a longer but safer route.

Sponsorship monies came in and this year I believe the total is already over £200, which will go to the upkeep of historic old churches. Our village church is nearly one thousand years old.

But it didn't finish there. I had sent a whimsical but truly factual account to *Horse & Hound* about our adventures, quoting our combined ages of one hundred and three years. A few weeks later Cassie and I were invited to take part in Songs of Praise on BBC 1. How exciting it all was and I can honestly say that it was one of the most brilliant days of my life. The team spent four hours filming (and eating cake) on my little yard and Cassie was a paragon of virtue. We are on BBC I player if anyone wants to look.

I don't think my future lies in television but what a wonderful experience it was and I did try and boost Fell ponies. She is such a wonderful ambassador for our breed.

Erica Norman, North Somercotes, Lincolnshire.

Nabside Gracie

Nabside Gracie spent the winter out with the Hamilton bloodhounds in Suffolk.

We then decided to send her to Ashrigg Fell pony stud in Lancashire to have her covered by Foaksyke Little Topper.



On her return to mum's in Darlington we decided to do a few local shows, and the little mare certainly rose to the occasion!

Sedgefield show, 2nd and Reserve Ridden M&M, 1st and Champion in Concours (*see front cover*). Fell Breed show, 2nd Mare 8 years and over, 2nd Walk and trot and 1st in the Intro dressage. Reeth show on August Bank Holiday Monday, First inhand and ridden M&M, and Champion.

She finished her season by standing Fell champion at Wolsingham.

She is now on well earned maternity leave and we are very excited about 2026!

Rebecca Rawlinson Allen,
RJR Native ponies



Rebecca Rawlinson Allen with champion Fell Nabside Gracie, Judge Ruth Eastwood and trainee judge Jane Rawden

Greenholme Maid Marion

Alesha Murison (14) and Greenholme Maid Marion (Winnie) were selected to be part of the Scottish team at the endurance Home Internationals at Three Rivers in Hampshire at the end of August

Alesha and Winnie successfully completed their 43km ride at a respectable speed of 12km/hr and were awarded 2nd place Novice Horse & Rider. Their ride buddy had to retire after 20km, so Alesha rode and navigated alone for the remainder of the ride

I bought Winnie last autumn as a 6 year old and she has looked after Alesha beautifully. The pair hunted all winter with the Fife Bloodhounds and have gone on to complete seven 30km endurance rides so far this season. They also qualified for Pony Club Regionals dressage at Auchlishie.

Most importantly though, Alesha is able to hack out at home on Winnie for hours, on her own.

Claire Murison

See Alesha and Winnie in action in the colour photo on inside front cover



Guards Fell Ponies



This year has been another exciting one at Guards Fell Ponies. In my update last year, I shared that we had a stallion, Banksgate Jupiter, running with some of our young mares. We are overjoyed that they have produced two strong colts and two beautiful fillies. All four have fantastic movement, hold themselves proudly, and are full of character, so typical of the Guards line! Jupiter also ran briefly with the mares again this year, so we're looking forward to next spring and summer with great anticipation.

I also shared that I hoped to get out and about more this year with Guards Charlie, my 6 year old ridden pony. I am delighted that we have achieved just that. We've had great fun at various events including a farm ride and a hunter trial competition, and he has exactly the passion for jumping that I'd hoped for. I can't wait to continue our adventures together!

Guards Maestro also got out to a couple of shows earlier this year. He is maturing beautifully, and while we are still learning about showing together, we had such a lovely time at a few Sparket events, where he achieved Reserve Champion. I'm very much looking forward to getting him out more next year as he continues to develop.

Charlotte Pattinson
Guards Fell Ponies



Murthwaite Ted's Lass and Townend Shanti



Fac Loudoun



*Above left, Murthwaite Ted's Lass and Susanna White winning their class at Sandringham
Above right, on the Downs near Ditchling with Townend Shanti (leading) and Ted's Lass*

I entered my 16 year old Fell mare, Murthwaite Ted's Lass, for fun in a veteran Fell class at Sandringham. It was the first time I had ever ridden her in the ring, but much to my surprise she won the class. She went on to win ridden Fell, plus Champion Fell and Supreme Champion in the show. It was an amazing day as I had never shown her myself before.

We have some lovely pictures of the show classes, and of myself riding on the South Downs with my friend and her Fell, Townend Shanti, and also at the beach.

Our Fell ponies give us so much pleasure.

Susanna White

Heltondale Royal III

It has been another fabulous season for Evie Meakin and Heltondale Royal III (Oliver).

It's been another year of great shared experiences, from dabbling in in-hand classes to qualifying for the NCPA Pony of the year show and Reserve champion In hand M&M at Ashbourne Show.

Travelling was a first for 16 year old Oliver as he'd never been away from home in the 13 years we've owned him.

Evie and Oliver are a fantastic team.

Sue Meakin



Real Time Imaging

Summer Ali and Midtown Natasha

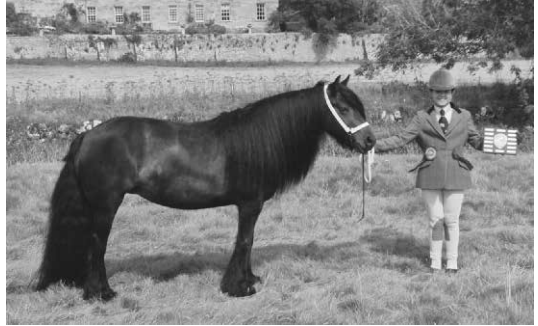
After a challenging year of trying to manage my epilepsy, I had to make the difficult decision to take a break from riding. However, following numerous appointments and adjustments to my medication, I finally reached a milestone - 10 weeks seizure-free.

With renewed confidence, I began hacking Midtown Natasha, a mare whose gentle nature made my return to the saddle feel safe and uplifting.

That progress gave me the courage to enter the junior handler class at the FPS breed show which, to my amazement, I won.

Tasha's calm temperament and kind spirit have played a huge role in my journey back into the equestrian world. I'm excited to continue hacking with her and look forward to showing her again next season.

Summer Ali



Summer Ali with Midtown Natasha after winning the Young Handlers Qualifier class at the Breed Show at Dalemain.

Carrock Daenerys



What better way to acknowledge the late Townend Sugar than picking up breed champion with her last filly at Heskett New Market show, the very same show where Sugar picked up her last ever Championship back in 2016.

Carrock Danaerys won Breed Champion, overall Champion Horse and then Reserve Champion Animal at the show!

Danaerys had a fantastic 2025 picking up Breed Champion at the Great Yorkshire show and Royal Lancashire show and 4 other local agriculture shows.

Pictured is Imogen Cockbain with 'Danny' and their trophies.

John Cockbain

Dressage with Drybarrows Belgravia



LRG Photography

Drybarrows Belgravia (Minnie) and Lucy Greenwood competed at the 2025 National Pony Society Dressage Finals at Bury Farm Equestrian Village in May. The annual finals are preceded by qualification classes across the country and then the entrants are divided into classes depending on breed and size. Lucy and Minnie won the Novice level small Mountain and Moorland class, which qualified them to compete in the Supreme Championship, where the 12 class winners were invited to perform a freestyle test to music. The judges enjoyed the Johnny Cash/Kenny Rogers medley and Lucy and Minnie were thrilled to eventually place 3rd in the Championship, behind two Welsh Section Cs.

Lucy bought Minnie in 2021, broke her in and since and has done a variety of things with her, including hunting with the South Downs Blood hounds, arena eventing, fun rides and working equitation. Their focus is on dressage, and Lucy and Minnie affiliated with British Dressage in 2024 and participated in the 2024 Area Festivals, the 2024 Summer Championships and the 2024 Associated Championships.

Sunnybrowe Prince

Angela Dawson's Sunnybrowe Prince (Mac) was awarded the Lownthwaite Rob Trophy for achievements, performance or service that promote the breed, usually outside the showing arena, and the Peahill Basil trophy, given for achievements by a pony aged 15 years or more. Mac is 23.

"It was so nice of Jane to present me with the trophies at National Pony Society in Malvern when we were both there," Angela wrote, when sending the photo of Mac with his awards. "Memories have been made."



The Midtown Twins 2025

On 21st May Midtown Fell Ponies welcomed a beautiful set of twin fillies. The foals are out of Murthwaite Kim Renee, a 17 year old mare bred by the late Tommy Capstick and purchased in 2015. The sire is Lunesdale Dixie co-owned by Craig and Georgina Mallinson. Dixie is a 3 times Olympia winner of Best of Breed Stallion and was bred by Bert Morland of Kirkby Stephen. Bert recently recollected that at around 8 years old he cycled with his mates from Kaber, near Kirkby Stephen where he was brought up, to Smardale Hall because word had gone around there was a pair of live foals born to a Clydesdale mare. A very rare occurrence both then and now.

Kim was the last of our mares to foal and hung around for some time very quietly and looking like a barrel - little did we know what was to come! Kim was decidedly bemused when her twins arrived and quickly footed, she clearly thought she had her foal at her head and couldn't work out where the other foal belonged. The family were boxed and checked over by Paragon Veterinary and from then on Kim has excelled at being a very patient mum feeding both foals.

Midtown Tottie was significantly smaller at birth and would easily walk under Kim's belly. Over the past months she has gradually caught up with big sister Midtown

Tasha. The foals were labelled "the zoomies" by some of their followers and this couldn't have been more appropriate as they zoomed about from the very early days, whether inside or out, with mum keeping a watchful eye as they circled her.

Midtown are very blessed to have had a pair of healthy twins. They are a joy to care for and have given immense pleasure to their numerous visitors, Internet followers, and all those who have appeared at the roadside to get a photo of the Shap twins. They are becoming their own characters and we hope will continue to flourish in the coming months.

Ann Mallinson



Greenrivers Holly - our first Fell pony year

We purchased our pony just over 12 months ago. We had never owned a Fell pony so it's been a large learning curve but a very enjoyable one.

Willow as she is known to us was bred at the Greenrivers stud by Kevin Turner - big thanks needs to go to Kevin for his advice and support for one of his homebred ponies. Our longterm plan is to do a mixture of things with her. She is a mother-and-daughter share, and this year we've concentrated on inhand showing, bringing her education on as she is very green, and getting her out and about and seeing the world. We have had success with her at an unaffiliated level.



The highlight of the year has definitely been the qualification for ESUK at arena UK in Grantham. Willow gained qualification in the best turned out, mountain and Moorland large breeds and rare and foreign breeds classes. It was such a great pleasure to see her win the rare and foreign breeds. She then went on to win the supreme championship in the in hand Horse championship, celebrating and highlighting the breed to so many more people.

A winter of dressage and hacking is the plan so far. Our first year of owning a Fell pony has been challenging, but rewarding, and has made us very proud of her and of our 13yr old daughter who has been by her side. The bond they have is growing by the day.

We look forward to many more years of fun with a very characterful Willow.

Regards, Katy Pickering



Brackenbank Black Prince

Just delighted at my age (66) and new to showing to have been talent spotted at a TSR (The Showing Register) Stoneleigh show earlier in the year! This gave me the opportunity to compete in September again at Stoneleigh in an Amateur of the year mixed Mountain and Moorland qualifier. I couldn't believe I came fourth with Welsh ponies taking the first 3 places.

Living my little dream with my lovely Brackenbank Black Prince!

Gill Hancocks

Raisbeck Belah

Our carriage driving members may have noticed that I haven't been mentioning my driving exploits recently. This is because for the past 3 years I have been "on the Dark Side" driving a late-gelded grey borrowed from Anna Pennell's Nipna herd of Dales ponies - and I didn't feel I could write about a Dales in this Magazine. Eric was certainly a sight to behold as he clattered along the road, with his stallionly bearing and huge flouncing mane, but alas, he was not a mare! So between his White Rabbit ears there couldn't be a Fell-mare "thinking brain" – and I did miss that terribly!

This year, my daughter's Best Friend Forever (and therefore also my "Honorary Daughter"), decided to sell Raisbeck Belah, who was bred by Di Slack at the upper end of the Lune Valley and named after the River Belah. My daughter told me firmly, "This is the one for you!" and sent me photos.

Despite me saying, "No, no, a good long Borrow is better than a short Buy!" she said, "Bee's done commercial work in town on the Isle of Man. She lives in a field under the flight path to the airport. She's a bomb-proof driver and if I didn't have a geldings-only yard I'd buy her myself!"

It was this headshot with the wide-apart ears



peeping over the wagon partition that made me think, *She's not just pretty... There is a Fell-mare "thinking brain" in there...*

Belah was ferried across from IOM to my daughter, who competed with her at Henbury Driving Trials in Cheshire on August Bank Holiday weekend. Coming back north to Cumbria they broke their journey at our place. I tried Bee on the Monday and I was hooked. Not only did my carriage and gear fit (you'd expect that) but right from the start I could read her behaviour, she seemed to understand me and I felt we could trust each other. So here she is.

I will excuse one blip in her first week when I brought the ponies in and "little" 13.1 Bee thought she and I could both squeeze our fat bods through the stone-framed stable doorway

at the same time. We stuck fast – without panic but for much longer than I would have liked!

In our first month of driving she has waited calmly on a motorway bridge to drive through single-lane traffic lights – ignored very heavy plant machinery working at the roadside on a construction site – and on our single track road



(above) she stood perfectly in another "squeeze" involving our carriage, a neighbour's car, and the sudden appearance of 2 low-flying military jets.

My retired 30-y.o Ruby is pleased with Bee's company, though they still do the occasional female flattening-of-ears, squeaks and swings-of-the-rump, especially if food is involved.

When I'm too busy to drive, as I am with the Magazine at present, I can always spend a few happy minutes just sitting on a rock in the field watching TWO driving mares!

Sue Millard



Jen Bernard driving Bee through Cockermouth and at Henbury Hall Driving Trials

Bee (14) on the left and Ruby (30), doing their sister act



THE FELL PONY SOCIETY

For the Next Issue...

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

Deadlines

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

1st February for the Spring issue.

1st October for the Autumn issue.

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

Merchandise list

	Price	P & P	Total		Price	P & P	Total
CLOTHING							
CAP, baseball	£9.00	£2.50	£11.50	DVD - FP Events 1995-1997	£3.00	£2.00	£7.00
GILET, fleece	£25.00	£4.50	£29.50	DVD - The Fell Pony	£15.00	£2.00	£17.00
GILET, soft shell	£30.00	£4.50	£34.50	DVD - Type and Conformation	£15.00	£2.00	£17.00
HAT, beanie	£8.00	£2.50	£10.50	DVD - Windsor	£15.00	£2.00	£17.00
HAT, pompom	£9.00	£2.50	£11.50	FELL DIAMONDS	£5.00	£2.50	£7.50
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TIE	£12.00	£2.00	£14.00	SPIRIT OF THE FELL PONY	£5.00	£3.00	£8.00
T-SHIRT - "Fell for a Fell" (adult)	£12.00	£3.00	£15.00	THE FELL PONY (C RICHARDSON)	£7.50	£3.00	£10.50
WAISTCOAT, fleece	£22.00	£4.50	£26.50	WALK ON THE WILD SIDE	£12.50	£3.00	£15.50
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CD, History, photos & news clippings	£13.00	£2.00	£15.00				
CENTURY OF FELLS	£20.00	£3.00	£23.00				

Oct-25

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Please give the office at least two weeks to fulfil an order.

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THE FELL PONY SOCIETY
Calendar 2026



*Craig Mallinson's Murthwaite Kim Renee with her twin foals
Midtown Tottie (left) and Midtown Tasha - article on p86
Photo, Ruth on the Hoof (Ruth Chamberlain)*

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