

New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders' Society (Inc.)

NEWSLETTER
June 2022



New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders' Society (Inc.)

530 Marshland Road

Christchurch 8083

(All correspondence should be directed to this address)

Phone: (03) 385 6163

Email: lewises@xtra.co.nz

Website: www.shetlandpony.org.nz

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/New-Zealand-Shetland-Pony-Breeders-Society-Incorporated-1542870245987457/>

COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICE BEARERS 2021/2022				
	Name	Address	Phone	Email and Fax
PRESIDENT	Bernadette Woffenden	"Mill Farm" 186 High Street Leeston 7632	03 324 3271	laelshetland@gmail.com
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mark Harden	2558 South Eyre Road	03 310 2699	mharden@pggwrightson.co.nz
SECRETARY	Lesley Lewis	530 Marshland Road	03 3856 163	lewises@xtra.co.nz
TREASURER	Christina Lewis	1145 Coaltrack Road, RD1 Christchurch 7671	021 0225 9457	christinawil@gmail.com
REGISTRAR Stud Book, Transfers and Registrations	Catherine Crosado	1173 Telegraph Road	03 317 8018	duncree@xtra.co.nz

COMMITTEE MEMBERS (and their responsibilities)			
End of Year Awards Results Co-ordinator, Show Results Collector, Merchandise-Co-ordinator	Lorraine Martini	406 Courtenay Road, Charring Cross.	027 827 2727 03 318 1328
RAS Liaison	Diana Humphries	RD 2, Motukarara	03 329 7871
Health and Safety Rep	Rachel Marley	87 Park Hill road, Motukara	027 308 7630 jason.rachel.marley@xtra.co.nz
Newsletter Editor	Christina Lewis	1145 Coaltrack Road, RD1 Christchurch 7671	021 0225 9457
Animal Welfare Act MPI Liaison	Lorraine Martini	406 Courtenay Road, Charring Cross.	027 827 2727 03 318 1328
Website & Facebook	Catherine Crosado	1173 Telegraph Road	03 317 8018

AREA REPRESENTATIVES			
<u>These members are the local points of contact in your area</u>			
<u>NORTH ISLAND</u>			
Lower North Island	Ann Abernethy	Taihape	06 388 9220
Waikato / Upper North Island	Kathy Drake	Auckland	09 238 5576
<u>SOUTH ISLAND</u>			
Mid/Lower South Island	Beth Prescott-Ballagh	South Canterbury/ North Otago	027 512 4967 or 03 689 1340
Canterbury / Upper South Island	Kirsty Whiting	Canterbury	zeberdee_equine@outlook.co.nz

- New registrations, transfers and stud book queries can be sent directly to the Registrar
- Newsletter articles, photos, items of interest, classifieds, queries or corrections can be sent to the Newsletter Editor
- Show results can be sent directly to the Show Results Collector
- Financials can be sent directly to the Treasurer
- Website and Facebook items can be sent directly to the appointed Co Ordinator

Please note: while every care is taken during the compilation of the NZSPSB newsletter, the New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders Society Inc. does not accept any responsibility for any errors or omissions.

From the President

Presidents Report June 2022

Thank you to all members who made the effort to attend our AGM on 28th May at Leeston. It was a great turnout for the stud tours and meeting. It was wonderful to be able to meet new members and to catch up with familiar faces.

Thank you again to Oaklea, Duncree and Cotswold Shetland Pony Studs for hosting us so warmly. We were privileged to see approximately 130 ponies over the course of Saturday and Sunday which was fantastic.

I would like us to be future focused and welcome any new ideas and initiatives from the wider society members. One thing I proposed at the AGM was for all society members to collaboratively co-construct a mission statement for the NZSPBS. A statement that encompasses the vision and purpose of the NZSPBS, to help us stay on track and pull together as a collective, unified society. Many of you may have varying ideas around this so it will serve as an effective tool to hear your voice, and respond to the membership's aims, desires and beliefs about what this should be.

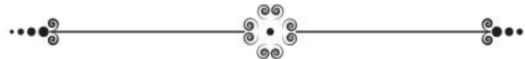
Please email me directly with your ideas. Alternatively click on this link and you can write directly on a shared google doc. [Access doc here](#)

The goal will be to arrive at an agreed mission statement to be voted on and ratified at the next AGM and this will be added to the NZSPBS letterhead and logo.

Every individual's contribution has the capacity to make this a great society to be a part of and to further the Shetland Pony breed in the regions and New Zealand.

Thank you for your continued support.

Bernadette Woffenden
NZSPBS President



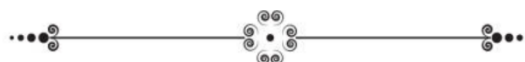
From the Newsletter Editor

Well, another AGM has been and gone, and the weather could not have been more different than last year's floods. Two beautiful Canterbury days saw stud tours around three of our local studs. Along with the write ups of the stud tours, there is an interview with John and Diana Humphries about their Cotswold Stud - that John and Diana are much loved in our Shetland community shines through in Lorriane Martini's writing. Kirsty Whiting, our new Canterbury Area Delegate introduces herself (also with appreciative words for John and Diana) and we look 'across the Ditch' to see the performance of one young New Zealand competitor on the Australians' home turf. Finally, to round off the newsletter we report the end of year show results for our ponies.

If anyone has any articles or items of interest and/or photos of your beautiful ponies that you are happy to share, please send them to me at christinawil@gmail.com for our next newsletter.

The next newsletter publication is planned for mid-August 2022 so items for the next newsletter need to be sent through to me by the 1st August 2022 or even earlier if possible.

Wrap up and keep warm
Christina Lewis – Newsletter Editor



PLEASE DIRECT ALL WEBSITE QUERIES OR SUBMISSIONS TO:

Email: duncree@xtra.co.nz • Tel: 03 317 8018

(emailed photographs to be high resolution & saved as a jpeg attachment)
(posted photographs to be high quality & include self-addressed envelope for return)

From the Registrar

New Registrations

Registration Number	Sex	Pony
1179NZ	Mare	Cotswold Millie-Anne
1180NZ	FR Colt	Cotswold Argosy
1181NZ	Mare	Cotswold Popsy
1182NZ	Gelding	Cotswold Anthem
1183NZ	Mare	Cotswold Kiltie

FR = Foal Recording for Colts until they are fully registered as a Stallion or a Gelding

Stallions/Colts Gelded - none

Foal Pre Naming - none

Transfers –

Reg. Number	Pony	Vendor	Transferred To
1021NZ	Oaklea Halliwell	B & R Woffenden, Lael Stud, Leeston	K Findlay, Rangiora
1164NZ	Cotswold Rubeena	D & J Humphries, Motukarara	A van Endhoven Plas, New Plymouth
487NZ	Duncree Harmony	C Crosado, Charing Cross	L & D Martini, Charing Cross
1114NZ	Oaklea Loletta	L & D Martini, Charing Cross	C Crosado, Charing Cross
1169NZ	Double H Saffron	S & M Harden, Rangiora	C Crosado, Charing Cross
973NZ	Burravoe Phlicka	S & M Harden, Rangiora	E Kirby, Oxford
1030NZ	Ridge View Trixie Belle	S & M Harden, Rangiora	J & S Leopold, Fernside
1178NZ	Downton Mr Bates	M Smith, Oamaru	A van Endhoven Plas, New Plymouth
322NZ	Cotswold Meshack	D Godsiff, Nelson	J Judge, Nelson

Newsletter Deadlines

- August 2022 Issue: 1st August 2022
- October 2022 Issue: 1st October 2022
- December 2022 Issue: 1st December 2022

***“The substitution of the internal combustion engine for the horse marked a very gloomy milestone in the progress of mankind”
- Sir Winston Churchill.***



Area Representative Reports:

LOWER NORTH ISLAND AREA REPORT

Ann Abernethy

With wintery conditions all around I am finding it hard to say something to write about. I didn't want to be all "doom and gloom" and mention waterlogged paddocks, slips on hillsides and roads and so on, rather I decided to share a positive story with you.

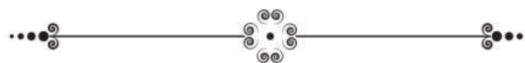
A number of years ago a very striking coloured colt, Barnsley Adonis arrived in the world—dam being Gleneagles Blossom and sire Pentland Little Master. However, when Donny started nibbling grass, I noticed a regular green nasal discharge. My son, a vet suggested I get him scoped by an overseas specialist equine vet visiting the Practice he was in at the time. I can't recall the correct name for the condition, but I remember her diagnosis clearly— *"leave him with me Ann and I will put him down now, you take the mare home"*. Not my son's advice! Both mare and foal had behaved impeccably, so good natured and calm. My response was a clear "no" I will only do so if he is suffering.

Donny struggled that first winter – a hard winter with lots of hay fed. Laurie and I went to England and the Shetland Isles for a trip in the spring. The ponies were all transported to the 'big' farm with instructions to my daughter-in-law (also a Vet) to put Donny down if he didn't pick up. However when we arrived home I knew by the cheeky comments from my son on the farm about a *"beautiful floor rug"* that Donny was still around. In fact, he had thrived on a break on the hill country. What has followed has been quite delightful—I was asked if Donny could join a staff members family (all knowledgeable horse people) for their little 3-year-old niece. Donny was an instant "hit" caught and led by the little one every-day up to and sometimes into the house, ridden immediately (at 18 months!) robbing the farm dogs biscuits, sheltering beneath the large farm hacks when the summer sun got too hot, following behind the farm hacks on musters 'up hill and down dale' travelling in an 'open' sheep crate with mane flying in the wind—he had to jump on board and literally crawl through the gate. He simply provided lots of fun times from country sports days to Polo Cross meets.

As young riders outgrew Donny, he was passed onto other family members and eventually is back with our former staff member and wife both Polo Cross players and now managing a high-country station. Their little son insisted that Donny was one of the family and so had to have "his place" on the truck and accompany their horses to all Polo Cross games He has become an identity at these having mastered the art of untying himself and cleaning up all feed bowls he can find. The players know where Donny belongs and return him safely to the correct truck. The family has now grown to three and Donny is still providing lots of fun for all. He is a delightful pony with just a touch of mischief after all he is a Shetland pony!

Best wishes to all

Ann Abernethy



*Yesterday was history,
Tomorrow is a mystery,
But today is a gift
Which is why it's called the present.*

An old saying passed down through many generations



WAIKATO/UPPER NORTH ISLAND AREA REPORT - taken from AGM report

Kathy Drake

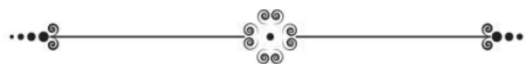
We in Pukekohe have just had one of the driest summers on record. Day after day with no hint of rain and the paddocks getting drier and dustier. Fortunately, we personally are understocked, and the Shetlands spend more time off the paddocks than on anyway, due to waistlines that tend to expand on thin air, and the ever-looming risk of laminitis. Because of our climate conditions which normally provide ample rainfall, added to volcanic soil that produces plenty of lush green grass, we normally have continual high sugar content grass on tap right through Spring, Summer, and Autumn. So, one upside to the drought was being able to give the ponies free access to several paddocks to just roam and pick at the old grasses that were available without the risk of areas of fresh green sprouts for them to snack on. But then we had a wee top up of 3mm of rain one night which sent the paddocks into a green frenzy. So back to a diet of hay they went, until more days of no rain made the grass safe again. So, I can see it will be a bit of yo'ing for a while yet until winter again gives us some respite. Oh, for a property with big rolling hills of poor soil and lower rainfall!!!

I am always taking photos of our animals—loving the new cell phone technology that gives great quality with convenience. So it was great to have an outlet with the Valentine's Day Competition which sent me searching for photos that fit the brief, and discovered so many of our photos showed the joy our Shetlands share with people as well as other animals. And they are such photographic wee animals. A fun competition, and a bonus that one of my photos was chosen as the winner—thanks to the Committee for coming up with the idea, and thanks to the sponsors, Kirsty at Zebedee Equine and Big Red's Stable Snacks. However, the latest Virtual Show competition did throw up some extra challenges. The first being the challenge of cleaning up ponies who had been living in drought conditions for weeks and had a thick layer of dust and grime through their coats—and in particular the manes and tails of my two palominos. As we are on rain-water tanks for the house and stables we have been on conservation mode for several weeks, so I couldn't justify using our precious supply to wash ponies. However, we do draw water from a creek that runs through our back paddock, for the troughs and to water the gardens, so although it's not the cleanest of water supplies, I was able to use that to do the bulk of my clean-ups with just a quick flick of tank water to rinse them off. Then it was off for walks up and down the roadsides to dry the ponies off one at a time before final touch-ups and out with the camera. Add to that having to drive into the tack box to find show halters and clean them up after something like 9 years of not having been in a showring. Next step—It's one thing standing a pony up at a show for photos, where you have plenty of interesting things happening to take their eye. It's another to try and get them looking halfway interested in life on their home patches. But eventually, over a period of almost a week, I got each pony cleaned, spruced up and photographed.

I hope a lot of our members took the opportunity to enter their ponies in this Virtual Show. A big thank you to the committee for once again taking the initiative and giving us the opportunity to participate. In these Covid times, when more and more A&P shows have been cancelled, it's a chance for us all to still compete and a chance for people throughout the country to come together on an equal footing. Virtual Shows are popping up right through the Equestrian community and they are one great new initiative to have been born through this pan-demic. Lots of fun, even if they are a lot of work! At least one of my ponies seemed to enjoy the whole experience. Wee Creamie is such a joy to work with and I don't think we got one dud photo of him, he as usual just said 'ok Mum is this what you want me to do', whereas it took lots of patience to get the two girls to co-operate—especially my old lady who never did see the point of it all.

I have been enjoying the historical articles in the Newsletter. Some really interesting history of the breed. I was always of the thought that black was the foundation colour, so was surprised to read of so many early ponies who were broken coloured, and that the blacks became dominant due to being the colour of choice for work in the coal mines. Makes sense.

Love reading articles from other areas and seeing what everyone is doing with their Shetlands. Keep up the good work everyone.



***“That hoss wasn’t built to tread the earth,
He took natural to the air,
And every time he went aloft,
He tried to leave me there.”***

- Anonymous tribute to an unmanageable horse.

CANTERBURY AREA REPORT -

Kirsty Whiting

For those who do not know me My names Kirsty Whiting and I have been in the Shetland world for 14 years now, I am the proud owner of Zeberdee Shetland pony stud standing three beautiful stallions – Domino Downs Bailey, Shelyron Napoleon and Koorootang Gumnut.

I started out showing a little mare called Llewellyn Rosie, the foundation mare of my stud and since then I have been addicted ever since. I also own Zeberdee Equine which keeps me flat out busy traveling the country selling covers, in fact as I type this, I am at a motel in Bulls hiding away from this gosh awful winter blast we are getting. So,



Llewellyn Moritz

with this being my first report I am going to focus on the AGM Weekend and what lovely weather we were blessed with for it. We started the weekend off with a visit to Lorraine Martini's beautiful new property meeting all her lovely little ponies. I must say this would have had to be the most Palomino Shetlands I have seen at one time. For me being a sucker for a coloured Shetland I was in heaven. Next was a short trip down the road to Catherine Crosado at Duncree and talk about one extreme to the next... we went from little Shetlands to the BIG Shetlands. We were all lucky to set eyes on the beautiful

Llewellyn Moritz now standing at Duncree, his beautiful LONG mane really got

some comments, but

the real show off for this visit

would have had to be the little ginger bubba Troubadour doing his land speed record laps of the paddock.



Duncree Troubadour

So, from Catherine's we headed to the Crate and Barrel in Leeston for our AGM Meeting and End of Year awards. And a big congratulations to all who managed to get out and about this season to gain points for these awards. A few of us stayed on after the awards for dinner, which was totally delicious. Sunday had us tripping across town to the fabulous Cotswold Stud, what a beautiful morning mother natured put on. As always Diana and John put on a lovely tour, we made our way around their beautiful property, meeting all the beautiful ponies whose lines grace our own stud and are the foundation lines to so many other studs around New Zealand.

I must also take this chance to whole heartedly thank Diana and John for their strong dedication to our breed. Cotswold Stud has truly set the benchmark for all of us new breeders to aspire to and we are ever so grateful for the importing of such beautiful mares and stallions into New Zealand. I always leave Cotswold feeling so much more educated about lines and the history of Shetland ponies, I really am grateful to have such a lovely person to run my ideas past and I thank you for that Diana. Nick tells me every time we leave Cotswold – *"Gosh this place is a little slice of heaven on earth a real true paradise."*

So, as we make our way into what feels like is going to be a very cold winter, I ask for you all to look and plan for the summer ahead. This year we hope for a full season of shows, these local shows will need our support after what has been an exceptionally challenging few years, so, if possible, please support your local Shetland classes.

So, keep warm and I'll have a new update later in the year
Kirsty Whiting

DIANA AND JOHN HUMPHRIES
COTSWOLD SHETLAND & DONKEY STUD
By Lorraine Martini

On the 5th April 2022, I had the pleasure of meeting up with Diana and John on their property in Motukarara for a long morning tea and lunch. After a tour of the farm and ponies, and watching John do some fencing we went back to the house for lunch. John wasn't far behind. I got to ask some questions about Diana and John's life and their passion for Shetland Ponies. This is the result:

Diana was born in the United Kingdom in a Cottage Hospital in Bexley Heath, Kent in 1949. She later went on to name one of her Shetland Ponies Cotswold Bexley Heath, he is owned by Catherine Crosado and has gone on to do some wonderful things for the Shetland breed in the Parelli world.

In November 1960, when she was eleven, Diana, her brother, and father, came to New Zealand on the passenger liner "MS Johan Van Oldenarnevelt". Diana said that it was funny that I should ask about this, because after not thinking about that ship for so long, she was on Trade me about 3-4 weeks before I came to visit and came across a photo of the liner, she went to the spare room and came back with the framed photo of the ship. Laughing she said, 'Well I had to buy it didn't I'.



I did some research on this ship and here is a little History that I don't think Diana knows about.

The Johan Van Oldenarnevelt (nick named 'JVO' by her English-speaking passengers), was named in honor of a sixteenth century Dutch Statesman who was executed after being accused of treason. It was the largest diesel-powered ship ever constructed in Holland when she was launched on 3rd August 1929. At that time, she provided accommodation for 770 passengers (in four classes) and 360 crew members. She had an unfortunate beginning – she collided with a Dutch steamer on her maiden voyage. Commandeered by the British in WWII, she made several journeys to and from Australia carrying troops to war. Her final voyage to the Pacific was in 1963 after which she was sold to Greek interests. After a total refit she was renamed 'Lakonia' – I always thought that it was bad luck to rename a ship! Tragically, only eight months after her renovation, a fire – said to have started in one of her new Beauty Salons – engulfed the entire ship, causing the loss of 132 lives. The JVO subsequently sank while being towed back to port.

The family lived in the suburb of Burwood which had some land. There were always little ponies kept there, mainly Timor crosses. Diana attended Burwood Primary School and went on to Mairehau High School and she freely admits that school was not her thing. She couldn't wait to leave and work in the country.

After she left school she worked as a shoe assistant, but the hankering for the countryside won out and she became a land girl on a hill property called Oashore in Birdlings Flat, Banks Peninsula.

In 1966 while attending the Little River Show Diana met the dashing John Humphries who was showing cattle that day. Diana was 17 and John was 18.



They were married on the 5th July 1967 at the Burwood All Saints Church and John remembers that it was a bitterly cold wet day, he goes on to say that the Church has been demolished now, probably earthquake related.

The Stud was established in 1967 and Diana's Father named the Stud 'Cotswold'. With Diana always having a keen interest in small ponies and having seen Gaye Richards with her Shetlands at a show, Diana and John went to the Kirwee Sale. It was here where Diana bought her first Shetland - a little black Shetland yearling colt named Talisman for \$130.00, - he was not registered but had been imported from overseas. Diana recalls that her children used to tow that little colt all around the place, he had such a fantastic nature. She also bought two ponies off Jean Bint in Auckland, one was "Blanair Drambuie", the other was a dapple-grey stallion that had been bred in Masterton named "Tiki". Neither ponies were registered, but as there was no Shetland Registry going then this was not unusual. Drambuie was a Palomino so he was colour registered, and Tiki had Fenwick bloodlines flowing through his veins. The ponies were kept at her father's place in Burwood and even back then her ambition was to have Purebred Shetland Ponies.

After John and Diana married they rented a cottage in Pine Avenue a suburb of South Brighton, while living there they built a house in Bexley which they sold after living there for 6 years. They moved to Forbes Road in Tai Tapu and on the 28th May 1978 the move to the 67 acre property they now have was completed – 44 years ago in May this year (2022). They have two children, both girls and 5 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Diana also had a job working for MAF (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries) at Lincoln University as a Plant and Soil Technician, mainly growing seeds for a Canadian Company. She says the job interview was so funny. *"There were about 5 of us, all waiting in a room, a man came in and asked if we were all applying for the job. When we all replied 'Yes', he said 'you're all hired'. Then he looked at me and said you look a capable person, you're in charge."* Diana had this job for 20 years, but she says that after all that time crawling around on the damp ground collecting samples and cutting grass by hand she had had enough, and it was time to leave.

While Diana was working at Lincoln, Diana and John started thinking about importing a pony from Australia to help improve the bloodlines here in New Zealand - although Diana admits that the thought of importing a pony/ies had always been in the back of her mind. Diana wrote about 8 letters to Shetland Studs throughout Australia. Mavis McConville of Thorpeville Stud was the only one to reply, so they bought 5. 1 Stallion (Thorpeville Allister NZ72), 1 colt (Thorpeville Supah NZ81), and 3 Mares (Thorpeville Diona NZ65), (Thorpeville Aislinn NZ68) and (Thorpeville Donella NZ67). Of course, in those days you could put more than one pony in the container they flew in, so it was a bit cheaper to bring in ponies from Australia.

I asked Diana and John who, in their opinion, was the most influential stallion to become a member of the Cotswold Stud breeding program. Without a doubt they both answered with the name of the same pony, and that pony was the imported Black Stallion Fenwick Aniseed (NZ73), who was first registered with the Society on 26th August 1991.

Aniseed arrived in New Zealand about 9pm in the evening. When Diana and John arrived at the airport to collect him they found that he had no halter on. It seems he had been loaded in Australia without one. As John says, *"probably because they could not get one on him"*. Between the two of them they managed to get Aniseed into the float and get a halter on him. All happy they left the airport. After they had driven awhile John heard a noise and felt the float moving. Now this bit had me laughing so much because I can just picture what happened next. You have to remember it is pitch black, and on the side of a country road.

They get out of the car and walk around to the back of the float. Aniseed had shown his displeasure at being in the float by giving the ramp numerous full force – probably both barrels – kicks. He had broken the ramp; it was dangling off. I can imagine the language. John then had Diana holding the ramp up, saying, *"Have you got it? Hold onto it. Have you got it?"*. Meanwhile Diana is standing there, arms stretched holding the ramp door closed while John hunts around in the car to find a rope or strop to tie door closed with, all the while yelling at Diana to hold the door closed. Health and Safety would have had a field day with that one. John recalls that Aniseed was the most feral of all the ponies they have ever brought into New Zealand. He goes on to say that it was not surprising as the first time they saw him he was in a very large paddock with a whole lot of other colts, Welsh, Thoroughbreds, Arabs and different cross breeds, in fact he was the smallest and the only Shetland, and he was the 'boss'.

The feral attitude that this particular Aussie arrived with did not last long, and Diana and John would have 'discussions' about which one of them was going to show him at the next show. Both Diana and John agree that he was like a cardboard cut-out. You would stand him up and most times he would just stay that way. John also goes on to say *"don't get me wrong he could have his off days when he would not stand up at all"*. He became so well-mannered that John broke him in to harness and he pulled the carriage for their daughter Rachel's wedding.



Aniseed in one of his starring rolls as carriage horse for Diana and John's daughter Rachel's wedding

Aniseed had two major roles in his lifetime apart from his stud duties. The first was pulling the carriage for Rachel's wedding, the second was a little sadder. Craig Crosado loved his wife, but his second love was a little black stallion named Fenwick Aniseed. When Craig passed away Catherine asked Diana and John if Aniseed could be part of Craig's funeral. As it was a very large funeral, it was held at the Rolleston Community Centre. Aniseed waited patiently while the service was held. When the pallbearers carried Craig out of the center, his second love Aniseed walked calmly behind him with Catherine following. He behaved impeccably, not bad for a little feral pony.

If you look through the Society Stud Books Fenwick Aniseed has been one of the most prolific sires to date. I decided to look through the stud book to see how many Aniseed progeny there have been. I found a total of 69 registered Shetlands sired by Aniseed. The Shetland Pony of the Year Award system started in 1998 and Aniseed won this award in 1999. Of his 69 progeny, four mares Cotswold Foxglove (2000), Llewellyn Holly (2001), Cotswold Thornberry (2005), and Cotswold Avantee (2012) and one Gelding Cotswold Wizard (2015), have won NZSPBS Shetland of the Year. His legacy lives on in his grandsons and granddaughters that have also won this award in 2009, 2016, 2017, 2019 and 2021. The other award Aniseed has won is Sire of the Year of which he won consecutively from 2011 until 2016 when his son Duncree Eclipse knocked him off his perch and won it in 2017, but he came back and won it again in 2020. His daughters have also won Mare of the year on numerous occasions as well, but that would be another story.

When it comes to which mare Diana and John think has contributed most to their Stud, it was a hard call. At first it was Emerald Park Unique Miss (NZ148), which according to Diana has been a prolific breeder and always produces quality stock. Then the discussion starts, *"Oh but then there is Cotswold Athena, her foals are stunning", 'what about Rosetta, she breeds nice foals as well',* of course they are both by Aniseed. In the end all three come in first, with a few more thrown in for good measure. *"It's hard to choose, all the mares have good qualities and leave lovely foals", says Diana.*

Diana was elected President of the New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders Society at the May 2003 AGM and held that office for 14 years until May 2014 but had been Vice President since 1998. As Diana does not like public speaking and gets extremely nervous, this was a job that she really did not relish, but like most clubs, it was a job that once in was very hard to get out of. She also held the office of Publicity Officer for quite a number of years, but she told me that all she really wanted to be, was a member and breed Shetlands.

When I asked Diana what her biggest thrill was to do with Shetlands, the answer was quick and surprising. Being made a Life Member of the Shetland Society at the 2011 AGM in Auckland was the reply. I reminded her of the medal she received from the Ellesmere A&P Society for Outstanding Service to the Society.

Diana recalls writing a letter to the Ellesmere A&P Society about 1988-89 asking for miniature classes to be included in their show. She received a reply back from the then President and Judge, sheep breeder, horse breeder, and farmer, Selwyn Boon, saying that they would host a couple of classes. At this time miniature ponies and Shetland ponies were all grouped together. After a couple of years, the Shetlands got their own classes and have been included in the show ever since. She has been on the Horse Committee organizing the Shetland Classes with John Stewarding for almost all of this time. Of the medal from the Ellesmere A&P, she says, *"Yes, that was a surprise, and I was honored, but the Life Membership is still first".*

The stud used to travel their ponies to shows around the country in a horse truck for a while. It seems that John felt that the truck was useless. He says *"While traveling to a show at Harwarden it was blowing so hard we were down to second gear. It had to go!" John says. "I built Di a purpose-built float back in 1998. It holds 8 Shetland's, or four Shetland's and four Donkeys, it also has a specific area up front for one stallion with another one at the back for another stallion."*

The float has been as far as Oreawha Kawakawakopakopa in the North Island, where they stayed in a magnificent Chateau with their friends Mayzie and Jack Hurst, (where Diana and John got their first donkeys), as well as down to the bottom of the South Island. John has just 'revitalized' the float and had it beautified a bit and says it should last another 20-30 years.

Cotswold Shetland Pony Stud is also known as Cotswold Shetland and Donkey Stud. Donkeys have been a part of the Stud for many years, in fact they had donkeys long before they started rescuing them. Diana and John rescue Donkeys from all over New Zealand, in fact Cotswold Stud was the first Donkey rehoming center in New Zealand long before anyone else thought about rescuing donkeys. The Stud also breeds the miniature Mediterranean donkey and the small English/Irish donkey and believe me, if you ever get the chance to meet some of the Cotswold donkeys, grasp the chance with both hands, they are such a lovely friendly animal, and the foals are so cute.



Like the Shetland Ponies, Cotswold has imported a few donkeys from Australia. They have also been shown with success here in New Zealand. McGinty was the jack donkey (stallion), along with two jennies Fluffy and Jindee and a mare (Meg) and her foal. McGinty is now deceased, but he has passed his stud duties to his son McQueen, who has proved in the show ring to be just as good, if not better, than his father, and is leaving some pretty impressive progeny. Along with a couple of jennies by McGinty the line looks set to continue at Cotswold for some time to come.

The donkey's work well with the Shetlands. Diana says, *"I keep donkeys in paddocks between the stallion paddocks. It does not matter if they are mares or jacks the Shetland stallions don't see them as a threat or something to serve so it keeps them calm and means there is no need to double fence between paddocks. Cotswold never puts donkeys and Shetland's together. Some people do but this is not a practice that is used at Cotswold. They each stay with their own breed"*.

Well, after about 3-4 hours it was finally time to go home. Both John and Diana had been very patient with me and answered a multitude of questions while we drank tea and ate cake.

My conclusion is that over my years of being in the Shetland Society, I have found both John and Diana to be the most friendly, helpful people I have met in quite some time. They remind me of my parents, must be the generation!

If you need something, they will give it to you, if there is trouble with a pony, they are there to help with advice or just support. There is always a cup of tea or coffee going if you pop in for a visit with them, although be prepared, a trip round the ponies and a cup of tea can take a few hours. Both John and Diana have helped other Shetland Breeders get their studs up and running and helped with their breeding program. They have a genuine love for our fantastic breed of equines, a love of family, and an enthusiasm and passion to help people and to promote our breed. In my opinion, they are the backbone of our Society with a knowledge of our beautiful ponies that is astounding and a willingness to share any knowledge they have with whoever cares to ask, it is an honor and a privilege to know them.



Diana & John - proud grandparents with their granddaughter Nicole.



John and Diana

Written by Lorraine Martini, JVO information supplied by Google, with a photo supplied by Diana and some sneaky ones by Rachel (daughter).

Stud Tour Report – Christina Lewis and Diana Humphries

On Saturday 28th May 2022 Shetland Society held its Annual General Meeting along with two Stud Tours a third tour was undertaken on Sunday 29th May. The first stud to be visited was Lorraine Martini's Oaklea Stud. I arrived as the tour party had viewed the breeding paddock and were heading off to the Golden Oldies in their own separate corner of paradise.

We then walked across Lorraine's paddocks, while she travelled in style on the quad bike loaded with hay, to see the rest of the herd, who came running when they realized there was hay!



Us Oldies got to stick together!



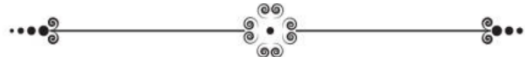
The calm before the storm....



...of ponies



...who all found hay!



We then moved on to Catherine Crosado's Duncree Stud where we met the stud stallion, Llewellyn Moritz, and DD, who we are waiting to see whether she is in foal.



DD...maybe baby? Let's hope so!

From there we ventured out to the large paddocks where Hakim (AKA the Rockstar) came trotting on over to see who mum had brought to visit him. However, it was baby Troubadour who decided to steal the show by doing zoomies all over the paddock.

*A brief moment of stillness before
Troubadour took off again...*

After all of this it was time to go to the Crate and Barrel for lunch, the AGM, and the End of Year prize giving, followed by dinner for those who were able to stay on.

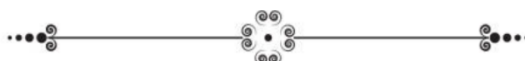


Cotswold Stud visit (Sunday morning) by Diana Humphries

Although a cool start, it was perfect weather for a stud visit and for everyone to enjoy morning tea at the stables while chatting to other members. First stop on the Shetland walk was the mares on the hill they are always keen to say hello in a friendly way, of course there is always one pony eager to get really close just in case someone has a tasty morsel hidden in a pocket. Big gold Chiffon was the pony that day who wanted to be everyone's friend and make herself known. Then we wandered down to view the waiting stallions, young stock and to see the newly imported chocolate taffy colt owned by Oakley stud. He's such an unusual colour to add to our Shetlands in NZ, with a beautiful temperament. I gather the miniature donkey foals were a highlight for some, one being only a few weeks old and loves cuddles.

Thank you for visiting our stud and supporting our AGM weekend.

Regards Diana.



Pony Tails and Mud

By Kathy Drake

Several years ago, we were lucky enough to have Steve Rendell from the Shetland Islands over to judge at our North Island Shetland Show and run a Classification Day. He was full of great information and tips. One of which was that at the end of every show season they cut the tails at hock level. This way it keeps them safe from being dragged through bushes and swamps all winter and thickens them up for the next season. A practice I have adhered to ever since. It's lovely not having long wet, muddy tails to contend with as you clean out feet and I have got used to their cute wee bob tails swinging along. Another upside is that I manage to cut the required 30cm each year which is enough for my lovely friend Sarah Williams from A Tale of a Horse to make beautiful horsehair bracelets from. Have a look at her website. She makes absolutely beautiful sterling silver jewellery which are fabulous keepsakes of our precious ponies.



Above: Gleneagles Creme de la Creme, Gleneagles Ebony, and Narrandera Sateen with a month's growth already on their bobbed tails.

Right: Before and after.

This year's bundle of tail hair from 3 Shetlands. The flat bracelet is one Sarah made for Kathy using tail hair from her favourite Highland cow (the cream), her first hack when Kathy was 14 years old, her first Warmblood mare, and the outside black is from her wee Welshie. "All precious memories."



Competing a Shetland in Australia Charli's Success

By Kathy Drake

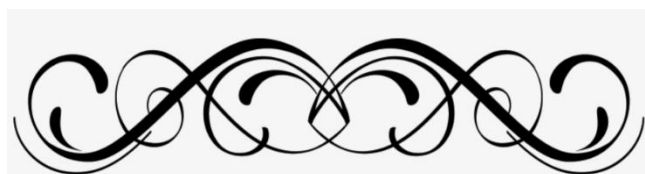
Charli is the granddaughter of one of Kathy Drake's friends...you never know where that New Zealand/Australian connection will pop up!

Eight-year-old Charli Sabine pulled off a major win when she competed at the Grand National Saddle Horse and Rider Championships in Sydney in March 2019. She won the 6-9-year-old rider class against a field of Australians who had all qualified by winning their State Championships. Charli qualified by winning her age class here in New Zealand. Mounted on a loan pony, she became the first New Zealander to win a rider class in Australia.

So, it was no surprise that she was offered more ponies to compete on her return to Australia, which was originally supposed to be 2020, then 2021, both of which were not possible, due to Covid. So, now aged 11, 2022 became Charli's next trip. This time she competed more loan ponies, including a Shetland at the Sydney Royal Show. The pony was 5yo Wahroonga Farm Umbug, by Woodview Gold Phantom out of Magnolia Vale Umbug. The pony had only been under saddle for 12 months and Charli only rode her twice before the competition, having never ridden a Shetland pony before. She placed 2nd in the Shetland Pony Mare, rider under 15 years class.



Well done, Charli!



Elliot Proof – We think not!

By Lea Hullet

Elliot foaled November 5, 1995, came to us as a seven-month-old gelding from Diana and John Humphries. He has been with us ever since and we've grown very fond of our hardy character.

I keep Dorking chickens and during an afternoon hen count I noticed one of my hens, Doris was missing. A few days later when I gave them treats Doris appeared suddenly, so I was relieved that a hawk or stoat hadn't got her. As Doris was missing when I went to shut them in at night, I realised she had gone broody, but where. The grass was rather long, and we looked everywhere, eventually finding her hidden in a clump of Californian Thistles. I moved her and her eggs to the maternity quarters.



Elliot and Bailey were called in for grass mowing duties and every morning as soon as it was light enough for me to see, I let them into the yard. The hens were not impressed but soon realised ponies didn't eat hens, so all was well. The hens' breakfast, a tray of Chook Tucker, was moved into their run and placed behind the ladder up to their coop which I had considered 'Elliot' proof. Wrong!

Later I noticed that the hen's tray was moved outside the doorway and completely cleaned, whereas there were usually a few crumbs and sparrow droppings left. Someone, I thought, had licked it.

Next morning when I let Elliot and Bailey into the hen yard first thing, Elliot walked briskly to the hens' run, leaned in and pushed very hard on the bottom door until his teeth reached the handle of the tray and pulled it out. The hens were very upset at this. Back with my phone the following morning and armed with a chop hoe I was able to push the tray well back into the run. Elliot was Flummoxed!

Two young roosters' area also needed grazing, so the Shetlands were employed there too. In the early morning Elliot would stand according to which yard he wanted to go in. This yard which I can see from the house has an automatic feeder (FeedOMatic) which he tipped over but lost interest when after several attempts the feeder didn't release any feed. The hens have a FeedOMatic also, but it now has an electric fence around it just in case.



Grass is now at an acceptable level, and I am only putting the ponies in when needed.

Lea Hullett

"Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler"
Albert Einstein

NEW ZEALAND SHETLAND PONY END OF YEAR RESULTS – 2022 22 Shetlands entered****

AWARD	PONY	OWNER / HANDLER	POINTS	ENTRIES
<u>Foal End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Rockisle Shetland Pony Stud</u>				
Foal – Runner Up	No Entries			
Foal – Winner				
<u>Yearling End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Mazline PartsWorld – The Wilson Family</u>				
Yearling Winner	Beechgrove Birdie	Andrea Price	4	1
<u>2 Year Old End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Shona & Andy Cusack, Oamaru</u>				
2 Year Old – Runner Up	Toonmals Summer Delight	April Buckingham	9	4
2 Year Old – Winner	Double H Lavender	Toby Harden	10	
<u>3 Year Old End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Beechgrove Stud, The Price Family</u>				
3 Year Old – Runner Up	Toonmals Shadow Dancer	Henry & Beth Prescott-Ballagh	14	3
3 Year Old – Winner	Lael Christmas Star	Woffenden Family	15	
<u>OVERALL YOUNGSTOCK END OF YEAR AWARD – TROPHY DONATED BY MARIAN LUSBY, NORTH CLOSE SHETLANDS, CAMBRIDGE</u>				
YOUNGSTOCK OVERALL WINNER	Lael Christmas Star	Woffenden Family	15	
<u>Gelding End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Helen Salt, Saltaire Shetland Pony Stud</u>				
Gelding – Runner Up	Duncree Salem	Catherine Crosado	7	6
Gelding – Winner	Duncree Hickory Hakim	Catherine Crosado	9	
<u>Mare End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Lesley & Paul Lewis, Llewellyn Shetland Pony Stud</u>				
Mare – Runner Up	Shelyron Cloudberry	April Buckingham	6	4
Mare – Winner	Burravoe Zesbrie	Toby Harden	25	
<u>Stallion End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Diana & John Humphries, Cotswold Shetland Pony Stud</u>				
Stallion – Runner Up	Domino Downs Bailey	Kirsty Whiting	5	2
Stallion – Winner	Owlca Philips Choice	April Buckingham	6	
<u>Paced End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Craig & Kerin Houston, Rose Eyre Shetland Pony Stud</u>				
Paced – Runner Up	Lael Christmas Star	Woffenden Family	9	13
Paced – Winner	Burravoe Zesbrie	Toby Harden	15	
<u>Mannered End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Sarah Petrie, North Canterbury</u>				
Mannered – Runner Up	Lael Christmas Star	Woffenden Family	9	10
Mannered – Winner	Burravoe Zesbrie	Toby Harden	10	
<u>Turnout End of Year Award – Maneloc Cup Donated by Catherine Crosado, Duncree Shetland Pony Stud</u>				
Turnout – Runner Up	Beechgrove Thunderbird	Woffenden Family	8	14
Turnout – Winner	Burravoe Zesbrie	Toby Harden	14	
<u>Harness End of Year Award – Trophy Donated by Lucy Giles, Halland Stables</u>				
Harness – Winner	Beechgrove Belle Bird	Andrea Price		1



SIRE RATING RESULTS – 2022

Trophy Donated by the Late Elspeth Robinson & Family

61 stallions entered

Placing	Pony	Points	Number of Progeny competing
6 th	Llewellyn Moritz	6 points	1
5 th	Laurelwood Quazar	7 points	2
4 th	Narrandera Vero	11 points	3
3 rd	Murrayfield Happy Chappie	12 points	1
2 nd	Cotswold Aristocrat	15 points	3
1 st	Duncree Eclipse	19 point	4

YOUNG EXHIBITORS AWARD RESULTS – 2022

3 Entries

Trophy Donated by Duncree Shetland Pony Stud

Placing	Handler	Pony
3 rd	Sienna Harden	Burravoe Zesbrie
2 nd	Toby Harden	Double H Lavender
1 st	Toby Harden	Burravoe Zesbrie

SOUTH ISLAND TROPHY – SOUTHERN CUP DONATED BY CATHERINE CROSADO, DUNCREE SHETLAND PONY STUD

SOUTH ISLAND TROPHY WINNER	BURRAVOE ZESBRIE	TOBY HARDEN	25	
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SHETLAND PONY OF THE YEAR TROPHY – VINCENT FAMILY TROPHY DONATED BY VINCENT FAMILY, FOXTON

SHETLAND PONY OF THE YEAR	BURRAVOE ZESBRIE	TOBY HARDEN	25 POINTS
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Congratulations Toby!