

New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders' Society (Inc.)

NEWSLETTER
March 2023



New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders' Society (Inc.)

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End of Year Awards Results Co-ordinator, Show Results Collector, Merchandise-Co-ordinator	Lorraine Martini	406 Courtenay Road, RD1 Christchurch 7671	027 827 2727 03 318 1328
RAS Liaison	Diana Humphries	RD 2, Motukarara	03 329 7871
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AREA REPRESENTATIVES			
<u>These members are the local points of contact in your area</u>			
NORTH ISLAND			
Lower North Island	Ann Abernethy	Taihape	06 388 9220
Waikato / Upper North Island	Kathy Drake	Auckland	09 238 5576
SOUTH ISLAND			
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

President's Report March 2023

Presidents Report March 2023

Welcome to our new members, it is wonderful to have you join our Shetland Pony family.

Thank you to everyone who supported, sponsored and contributed to our South Island Shetland Pony Breeders 25th Annual Show. It was a great day with all the ponies looking fabulous and showcasing our wonderful breed. It was great to have the return of ridden and lead-rein classes and to see the happy faces of young riders enjoying their ponies.

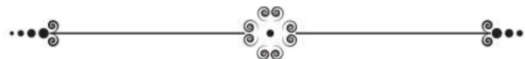
It is hard to believe how fast the year is going already. Many of our Shetlands have started growing their winter coats in response to the drop in temperature. The last few autumn shows are scheduled for March and April.

Our AGM will take place this year on Saturday 20th May in Leeston. You should have received some information about this already. It would be wonderful to have you join us for this day which includes stud tours and a shared meal in the evening if you are able to stay on.

What also takes place at the AGM is the Annual Awards prize giving. All the detailed information about how this works and the points system to work out overall performance points for the season can be found on our Shetland website under End of Year Awards.

Ngā mihi nui,

Bernadette Woffenden, Lael Shetland Pony Stud
NZSPBS President



From the Newsletter Editor

What a way to start off the first Newsletter of 2023 – packed full of wonderful member stories. Our Shetties definitely steal our hearts for a lifetime. Whether the ponies are cheeky, loyal, clever, funny (or all of the above) the one common theme is how much we love them. Not only do they sneak into our hearts, two of our Shetlands snuck into church in our Shetland Ambassador story – and of course the Minister loved them too. Continuing on from a previous story about Shetland ponies at work in the mines in the United Kingdom, Lea Hullet provides us with a local New Zealand story of how she connected with pit ponies as a child. And finally, congratulations to Toby Harden, the Champion of the New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders Society 25th Annual South Island Shetland Pony Breed and Harness Show held in January this year.

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-June 2023 so items for the next newsletter need to be sent through to me by the 1st May 2023 or even earlier if possible.

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

Transfers –

Reg. Number	Pony	Vendor	Transferred To
	Owlca Wee Showman	H Dempsey, Pegasus	Ē Davis, Loburn
975NZ	Stoney Croft Sovereign George	McBain, Ashburton	F Ahrendt, Dromore
966NZ	Birchlands High Jinx	M Cromie, Waimate	Katie De Lor, Waimate
737NZ	Duncree Hickory Hank	V Harvord, Coalgate	C Crosado, Duncree, Charing Cross
1025NZ	Duncree Harrington	V Harvord, Coalgate	C Crosado, Duncree, Charing Cross
1159NZ	Troughear Park Magnificent	A Price, Timaru	J Brown, Riverton
652NZ	Murrayfield Henrietta	Burrows Family	M Beaumont, Oamaru
673NZ	Gleneagles Penguin	S Jackson Young, Auckland	A Price, Timaru
1150NZ	Tullamore Brannagh	D & R Holst, Tuakau	A Price, Timaru
994NZ	Birchlands Custard Crème	A Melville, Port Chalmers	L Murray, Oxford

Stallions Gelded –

Oaklea Mondesa 1158NZ

Burravoe Duke 1188NZ

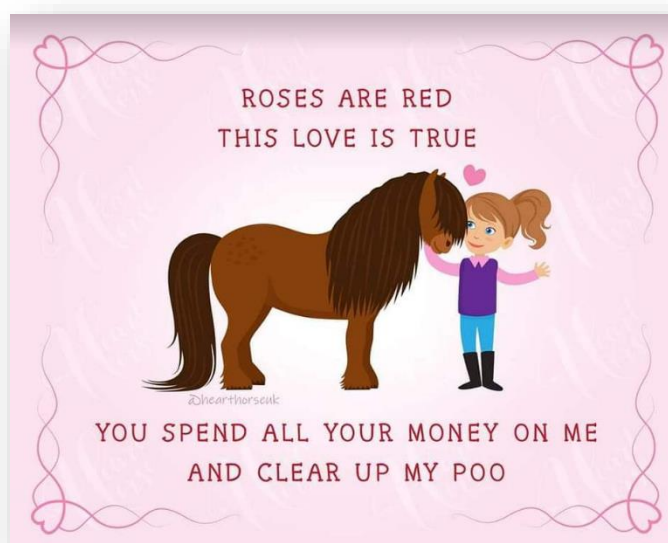
Just a quick reminder to pay your membership subs – while many have done so we still have a few to receive.

Paying by Cash – please, if at all possible, do not send cash through the mail. It is not a secure way of making payments.

End of Year Awards

There are only a few more shows left to the season, so just a reminder to send in the show results to our Show Results Co-ordinator Lorraine Martini lorraine.martini@xtra.co.nz

The rules on how we run the End of Year awards are on the website <https://www.shetlandpony.org.nz/awards> or if you have any questions, please contact Lorraine.



Area Representative Reports:

WAIKATO/UPPER NORTH ISLAND AREA REPORT

Kathy Drake

What a start to the year. As you will all know, in January Auckland was hit with an unprecedented amount of rain which caused total chaos. As time goes on, we are getting more stories of close calls which makes us realize that it could have been even worse than the four tragic deaths. It was so widespread over the Auckland area—Pukekohe has had its share of red stickered properties and horrific stories of a retirement village being evacuated in darkness (after a call out for 4-wheel drive vehicles was met with a huge response) with water waist deep washing through and everything ruined. One of Rod's friends became worried when water started seeping into his workshop, so immediately started lifting everything he could up onto shelves. Very quickly it became waist deep and he decided to retreat uphill to his house, only to be met with chest high water. He somehow made it to safety. There has been little to no reporting of stock losses—but there must have been plenty. I have heard of one owner losing two miniature horses and saving a third. All this happened so fast that people had little time to react. We personally were lucky, with our house on the top of a rise and all water flowing down through the paddocks into a creek which flooded, but no more than it has in previous years. We totalled 143mm in four days with 95.5mm on the Friday.

And then Cyclone Gabrielle! Apart from the loss of a few small/medium size trees, we escaped the worst of it. The wind was frightening at times and I spent most of the Monday night checking on my three Shetlands and my warmblood mare who were all tucked up in my big covered yard complex, with all internal gates open so they had the run of a large area and were sheltered, dry and warm. Our immediate neighbour lost a very large cottonwood tree which was over 40 years old. We were grateful that all our big shade trees withstood the storm. The West Coast of the Auckland area has been hit hard, and some communities are still cut off as of the start of March. Landslides and road subsidence is still happening in a lot of areas and will continue each time we get another downpour. The focus has been on the Hawkes Bay/Gisborne area for good reason and it was so encouraging to see the response from our area almost immediately. Several truck and helicopter (private) loads of equipment started flooding out of Auckland. The call went out for vet supplies, horse rugs, halters, horse and companion animal feed and countless other bits and pieces and the community stepped up. And this has been echoed New Zealand wide.

Our January rain records show a whopping 273mm and February 251.5mm. Needless to say, unlike previous summers, we have not been in water saving mode and our paddocks are green and lush. What does Autumn have in store for us!! I am loving getting reports from our new owners in the area of the joys they are experiencing owning a Shetland pony. We all know how special this wee breed is, and how quickly they worm their way into our affections. Once a Shetland pony enthusiast—always a Shetland pony enthusiast! And once again I am loving following Karen Wilson's amazing daily updates with incredible photos, of the Giddy Up Girls Cavalcade experience, with their team of harness Shetlands. These wee extremely fit Shetlands are certainly great ambassadors for the breed. Well done ladies.

Stay safe everyone

Kathy

MID/LOWER SOUTH ISLAND AREA REPORT

Beth and Harry Prescott-Ballagh

The Geraldine and Temuka A&P show was held on 4th March 2023
The results of the Champions and Reserves are as follows:

Champion Adult Shetland Richard Price with Cleoranee Lorenzo.
Reserve Katie De Lor with Bichlands High Jinx
Champion Young Stock Margaret Rowe with Birchlands Popsicle.
Supreme Richard Price with Cleoranee Lorenzo.

Harry Prescott Ballagh

LOWER NORTH ISLAND AREA REPORT

Ann Abernethy

While writing this on a rather bleak evening I am very aware of just how lucky we, in Taihape are, considering the devastation of Cyclone Gabrielle just over the Ranges. The loss of life, of homes, of possessions and of livestock has been catastrophic and our thoughts must be with all affected.

For my "Shetlands" life has gone on as usual—limited grazing, and a feed of hay followed by a "break" of good grass. The grass growth has been exceptional making a strict feeding regime necessary. According to my farrier he has had to deal with numerous cases of laminitis so it is certainly worth the time involved in monitoring the feed.

The ponies along with their Clydesdale friends were to make an appearance at our local Gumboot Day and Show at the end of January but unfortunately torrential rain on the day caused its cancellation. I was interested to note that both breeds are classed as "rare breeds" in New Zealand.

It was pleasing to read Kathy Drake's report in the December newsletter highlighting the increase in pony numbers in her area—all looked to be great examples of the breed and beautifully turned out. I have also noted a 'Cotswold' pony competing locally but I have yet to make contact. Unfortunately I missed an opportunity to meet as the occasion clashed with the cancellation of our local fixture. If there are other Shetland pony owners in the Lower North Island Area I would welcome a catch-up and a chat. Feel free to contact me—phone 06 388 9220, e-mail laabernethy@xtra.co.nz or text 027 223 3512 (don't phone the mobile as I rarely have it with me !!) or feel free to call in , we are less than 5 minutes off SH1 at 2 O'Taihape Road.

I will close with this excerpt from the book "*Shetland Ponies*" by Anna Hodson: "Even though they may not fully understand what they are doing, it is no surprise to find the generous-natured Shetland ponies engaged in good works of various kinds"

Stay warm and safe as winter sets in. Best wishes to all.

Ann Abernethy

CANTERBURY AREA REPORT

Kirsty Whiting

Hey team,

What a huge few months it's been, firstly I would like to extend my thoughts to all those who have been affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. Having spent a great deal of time in the Hawkes Bay over the last 10 years it breaks my heart to see the utter destruction inflicted during these extreme weather events.

As showing season is starting to wrap up with only a couple left to go, it's been great to make a couple of shows myself this season, the highlight for us was the Shetland Show.

The Shetland Show went above and beyond my expectations this season, and a huge thank you to all those who organised this event. I would say the piper was a massive surprise to EVERYONE that morning and what a nice touch to the start of the show.

We were lucky enough to also be able to get to the Summer Spectacular Show the day before the Shetland Show, it was lovely to meet some new faces that day. The Brechin Family put on amazing shows so please if you see Shetland classes at these shows do support them if you can. Bailey was lucky enough to qualify to enter for 4 sections at this show – Shetlands, Natives, Golden Horse and Coloured – He competed in 3 of these four sections taking out Champion Shetland, Champion Native and impressively a 3rd overall against a large coloured field.

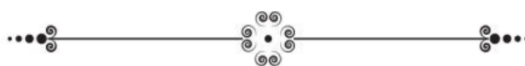
I'd like to thank all those competitors this season who went above and beyond to thank our amazing sponsors of classes and rings at shows this season. Without these people and companies, a lot of these events would not be possible

Some of our local Shetland owners have taken part in the Cavalcade this year, it's a great feat getting Shetlands fit and ready to tackle these tracks and I've been enjoying following Karen and Andrea's photos and updates via social media.

As we prepare for winter with the days becoming shorter and cooler, I look forward to catching up with as many of you as possible over the next few months.

Signing out for now

Kirsty



Barnsley Miss Maggie

Marainne Smith



Maggie was with me for three years. She always had a great nature and just wanted to please. I arranged for Maggie to be broken in (with the saddle and bridle) when she was four years old by Kelly Evans. Kelly did a great job and also enlisted the help of a neighbour's child for riding Maggie when she was being broken in. When Maggie came back home after being broken in I realised she was not a pony to just sit in a paddock. She needed to have the opportunity to utilise her calm demeanour and of course she always was happy to be going out somewhere.



Tammy Deans from the Auckland area was the perfect solution for Maggie. Tammy purchased Maggie for her daughter Ellie. Maggie and Ellie have an amazing bond as only pony mad kids understand.



At the Pakuranga Hunt Maggie and Ellie (aged 4) went up and down hills for three hours on the lead rein with her Mum, Tammy.

I could not have wished for a better home for Maggie where she is happy, loved and also helping to make a little girl's pony dreams come true.

Marianne Smith

PIT PONIES – THE LOCAL STORY

Lea Hullet

I enjoyed reading PIT PONIES By Lorraine Martini in August's issue of the New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders' Society (Inc.) Newsletter, but it is sad to know that in other parts of the world ponies and even donkeys still toil and suffer. The looks on the donkeys' faces in the photo was one of hopelessness and depression.

We definitely had ponies down mines in New Zealand. When I was a child of about 10 or 11 years I stayed during the holidays on a farm called *The Downs* at Mt Somers. I'm 76 now and have very fond memories of two Shetland types called Topsy and Tiki. I learned to trot on Topsy with Brian running alongside her as I did my best to post. As a city child being on a farm among horses and ponies was heaven. Topsy later went to live on Scarborough and had foals by Sir Philip, one of Daisy Andrews stallions at her stud in Hornby, Christchurch. While at Mt Somers we were taken down one of the coal mine shafts where ponies had been used, though at the time only one pony remained and was above ground. I have never forgotten the pony and in particular its front legs, which appeared deformed with the fetlock and feet turned inward presumably from pulling the heavy coal wagons. It was extremely well muscled and nuggety in type, its colour was of a light sorrel.

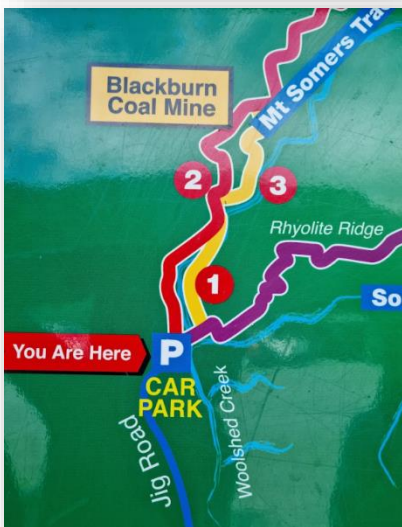


Since reading Lorraine's article, I tried to research the mine and could not find very much, but my sister Meg stayed recently and as we both like walking and I'd found out that now there are formed tracks around and up Mt Somers, I thought a trip there would be nice. As children we had climbed up to the peak of the mountain with a cousin and a local fencer as our guide. We clambered over very rough rocks and grasses. Desperate for a drink on a hot day we drank from streams, never mind hydatids which is now eradicated.

Meg and I visited the old Mt Somers Store and enjoyed a huge and very reasonably priced ice-cream and equally large coffee. A map in the window and help from the assistant had us on our way up the Ashburton Gorge Road to Jigg Road on the right as the only remaining mineshaft the public could visit was on one of the tracks and I was determined to visit. The climb



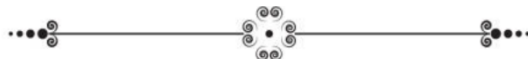
up to the Blackburn mine was rather arduous, especially for Meg who is 80 and didn't quite make it to the top. It started out as a pleasant track through beautiful Beech forest but became steeper. Other people and families passed us and some coming down warned us that the climb would get harder. I left Meg sitting, who did extremely well to make it, on a large flat rock just above the Beech trees.



I wondered if I would go on, especially during the last part when I was practically on hands and knees hoping I would not fall as I scrambled over rocks. Surprisingly, there was a flat area with mountain grasses and the shaft itself with only the entrance accessible. The words Blackburn Mining Co 1929-1931 were outlined above and within the entrance a map of the various shafts on the mountain. It was headed up "Broken Seams led to Broken Dreams – Blackburn Coal Mine – the story. Here you can read the history of the mine from 1929 through to 1968 when the mine closed. A lovely couple asked if I would take a photo of them in front of the shaft and they did the same for me.

They were going to spend two nights in the cabin further along. There were relics at the top and near the bottom of the climb a wagon that looked as if it had been a runaway by its twisted remains. Also, we noticed a smaller rusted half buried door set into a hillside, perhaps like a closed-up shaft.

It would have been a lot easier if they had preserved the mine of my childhood where I saw the pony as that was not far from the Ashburton Gorge Road as was the open cast mine where my husband and I bought trailer loads of brown coal when we lived at Geraldine. Maybe the open cast mine swallowed up my mine. Who knows, and I can't remember exactly where it was, only the pony and Stalactites or Stalagmites and two underground whitewashed stalls.

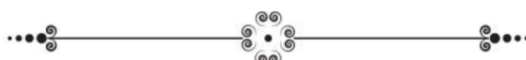
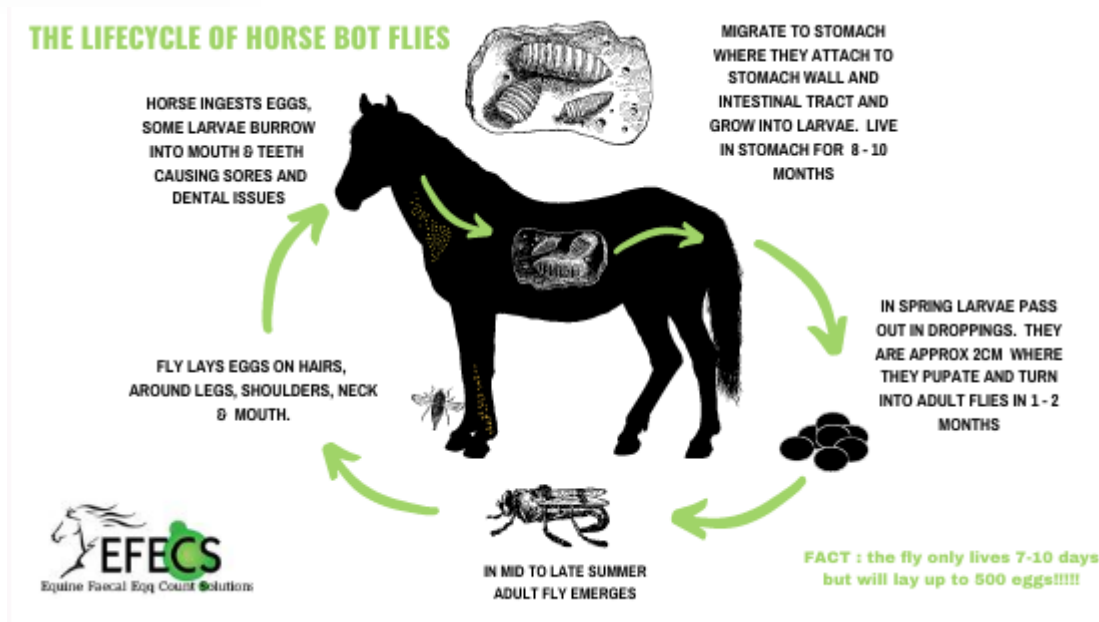


Pro Tips – Bot Flies

Jeffery Jones



It's been a struggle keeping the bot flies off my Shetlands this summer. I've found that pure citronella oil is the best deterrent. It is easy to apply, just rub on their legs. No spray bottle required. The smell of citronella takes me back to my childhood camping trips.



A LIFETIME OF LOVE FOR THE SHETLAND PONY

Catherine Crosado

Sharing your Shetland ponies with someone else is always something special. Firstly, there is the common bond of Shetland ponies, but as you get chatting great stories are revealed.

Duncree Shetland Pony Stud had a visitor from Darfield. Sylvia Smith, a resident from the Westmar Rest Home. I got to introduce Sylvia to the Herd and they did not disappoint. I was amazed at this spritely 85-year-old woman on a walking stick moving confidently amongst the ponies – a true horsewoman. Trudy (Duncree Troubadour) was a firm favourite and even got kisses.

Over afternoon tea, Sylvia & I got talking about horses. She showed me a small framed photo from of a newspaper photo. This photo is very special to her. It was Sylvia aged five years old with her Shetland pony "King" and she was the youngest horsewoman at the Ellesmere A&P Show in 1938.

Sylvia was born in Southbridge. Her father Ted Smith was the local policeman. Ted was a Cockney Londoner from Bow Bells. Sylvia's mum was a Kiwi from Whanganui. Ted was a horseman himself riding in the cavalry during World War One, so horses were in Sylvia's blood. "I only remember seeing Dad on a horse once". Horses were a part of every day. Sylvia's sister would drive the sheep to the railway station for transport. No trucks to shift stock back then and you took the train to town for the day.



"We didn't have much use for the jail and we used to keep our pony gear in the jail" said Sylvia. "The hooks with the names of our ponies are still there". The jail was later moved to the Leeston Historic Park. I asked if there was much crime and Sylvia said no. "Dad would be outside the Saturday night dances, tipping out the boy's beer and saying I know your father". We both laughed at that.

"I was a bit of a little horror", says Sylvia "as I would ride King into the pub or the grocery store to get bread and things for Mum". "We used to try and ride to the back of the property and lean over the neighbour's fence to steal apples and plums off.

Unfortunately the neighbour had a parrot and it would yell Mum! Mum! And we would get busted for stealing the fruit"

These were days when horse trucks and floats were a luxury. Sylvia would ride from Southbridge to Leeston for the Ellermere A&P Show which was around 8km. "I can remember there was a ditch at the entrance to the show grounds and Dad said to watch out for the ditch. I ended up in it and a bit wet" says Sylvia.

While still at High School, Sylvia used to ride with Christchurch Hunt. It was a two-day journey. Riding one horse and leading another, Sylvia would ride from Southbridge to Dunsandel (around 18km) and stay overnight with friends. The next day she would join the Hunt. "My 14hh pony Santa Barbara didn't jump at first but after I let her do what she wanted, we were jumping".

Sylvia went to nursing school when I was 18 years old, so horses were no longer an option, though she did write for dressage. She later married an Army officer and had 3 children. She travelled to Singapore and Malaysia with her husband as well as moving around New Zealand with the Army.

Along with that treasured photo of King, there are now photos of Trudy. I'm looking forward to Sylvia's next visit.



TIM'S TALES

As told by Tim himself, with the help of a Junior Member's mother

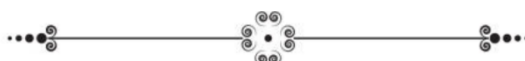
I'm Tim (Timothy when I'm naughty, which is NEvEr, and Cotswold Anthem when at shows). I am a lean, mean, Shetland machine, all 60cm of me, although I often hear words like 'grazing muzzle' and 'small man's syndrome'. I was born at the Cotswold Shetland and Donkey Stud in the South Island and made a four-day trip to my new home in Auckland when I was only 7 months old. I am now a yearling and I know EverYthinG. How to open gates. How to climb fences. Wrecking my mates' rugs is my forte, 16 minutes is my all-time record to date. My girl Eenie is my everything (after food). She spends endless hours trying to make my Shetland baby fluff lie flat and talks to me of all sorts of stuff I don't understand like 'diets' and a woman called Jenny Craig (she sounds lovely, I can't wait to meet her!).



Did I tell you I am a show Champion? Well I am. I LoVe going to shows, sometimes I have sleepovers where I spend my nights picking fights with my neighbours and trying to get as much filth in my white tail as possible. I get to meet up with my mates Pickles (Tullamore Eclipses Na Greine) – he was Supreme Shetland at the Waikato A&P, and Andy (Cotswold Andy McDougal) who was Champion Youngstock at Clevedon A&P, and all the beautiful chestnuts including the stallion Gleneagles Prince who was Supreme at Clevedon. I am having another playdate with my mates at the Northern Shetland Show next weekend. There is something called a 'fancy dress' class and I am being fitted for a costume. I must look positively debonair in my outfit because my girl falls about laughing when I wear it. I caNnoT wait!

Cotswold Anthem: Likes: All foods. **ALL** of them. Dislikes: Being washed. I am so furious when they wet me that I throw myself on the ground to try and replace the filth that I have spent weeks collecting. This only makes them wet me further, my message is not being heard!

***"They do not Judge,
They do not gossip,
They do not lie,
Horses are True Friends"
- Facebook 2022.***



PICKLES – TULLAMORE ECLIPSE NA GREINE

By Kelly Jackson



Lucy had always had a love for Shetlands ever since she was tiny and even though show ponies always had a place in our stables, the love for Shetland Ponies always lingered with Lucy. So... on a secret mission I went out to Tullamore Stud. I wanted a quiet pony with character that Lucy would be able to have fun with.

This little black scruff walked straight up to me and just wanted to make himself known and with that Pickles found us. Completely unbeknown to Lucy, Pickles became part of our family as a surprise birthday present when Lucy turned 7 after a midnight mission to sneak him home for her birthday the next day.

Over the coming year Lucy had great fun teaching Pickles to lead, jump, run with her in hand and break him in so he could be ridden. Pickles become the country version of a playground while at the same time he just lapped up all the attention. Once his most hated thing, bath time is now his favorite thing and a good groom. He has a box to stand on so he can see over his stable door and would stand on it all day just to be groomed of all his endless fluff.



Lucy then decided it would be fun to take Pickles to a few shows, so this saw us load the entire team onto the truck and head off. If Pickles isn't in the ring he is babysitting one of the show ponies at the truck. I can't count the amount of times I have walked around the side of the truck to find Pickles smothered in kids just fussing over him.

Mr Pickles as he has now become known by many people is a little professional in the ring and he thinks he is pretty special when he is out there strutting his stuff.

His biggest fan is a little 3 year old who just loves coming out to ride him and brush him, he really is the best child's pony.



TUI'S FLOAT TRAINING SESSIONS
(a story in pictures)
Sue Dunn



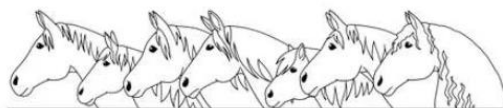
First you look up....



Then you look down



"It's OK mum, you can be brave, I've checked it all out and its safe for you to come on in."



Shetland Ambassador Series

Over the next few newsletters we are taking a look at Shetland Ponies who are Ambassadors for our breed. If you know of any in your area, please let us know.

WHEN THE PONIES CAME TO CHURCH

by Christina Lewis

It was possibly one of the wettest times on one of the wettest days we have had in Canterbury for a while. But church was calling for two plucky little Shetlands, so they answered the call. Sunday 4th March was Children's Day and at Trinity Church in Darfield, Canterbury, a morning of fun activities had been planned for any children in the area who wanted to come to church.

With the church full of local families, two rather soggy Shetland ponies stood in the shelter of the outside covered archway listening to the service. They waited patiently for the service to end and for the children to come out and feed them some Sunday carrots. But since when has either Bexley or Sir Shiloh needed an invitation to come in and see people? So, while the music was still playing and the congregation singing, Catherine Crosado brought Bexley to the door of the church proper. Naturally Sir Shiloh followed and when Auntie Lyn, as the minister is affectionately known, saw Bexley's little Shetty nose poking through the congregation she called them through.



"All God's Creatures got a place in the choir"

The ponies did themselves and Catherine proud as they carefully walked down the aisles of people who were still singing along with children who were 'playing' percussion instruments. Sir Shiloh was momentarily drawn to the healthy fruit snack tray as we wandered down the back aisle but, with a gentle reminder that he was in church and that 'borrowing' from the fruit tray without permission was probably frowned upon, he carried on following Bexley.

As the congregation realised there were ponies coming down the aisle there was a collective 'awww...' from everyone who saw them. After they arrived at the front of the church Auntie Lyn blessed both the ponies and the children and then it was time to come out.



Having made their cameo in church they settled down to await children and adults alike. Many adults told stories of their families having Shetlands. And some relived a nostalgic moment as they fed carrots to and hugged the manes of our two Shetland stars.

Left - The lovely Auntie Lyn, Catherine Crosado, and Bexley in the archway of Darfield Trinity Church.



**Tell a GELDING
Ask a STALLION
Discuss it with a MARE
PRAY if it's a PONY**

WHY DO I LIKE HORSES

Anonymous

Why do I like horses?
I reckon I must be mad,
My mother wasn't horsey
And neither was my dad
But the madness hit me early
And it hit me like a curse
And I've never gotten better
In fact, I've gotten worse
My stables are immaculate
My house is like a hovel
Last year for my birthday
I got a brand-new shovel,
I hardly read the papers
But I know who's sold their horse
And I wouldn't watch the news unless
Mr Ed was on, of course.
One eye's on the heavens,
But my washing waves in vain
As I rush to get the horses in,
In case it's gonna rain.
And though they're wearing 15 rugs
The best that you can get
I bring them in to keep them dry
While I get soaking wet,
I spend up every cent I've got
On horsey stuff for sure
I buy fancy rugs, and fancy rugs,
And then I buy some more.
I should have had that haircut,
Or bought that nice blue shirt
At least it wouldn't now be ripped to shreds
And lying in the dirt.
I can't make a damn sponge cake
I don't even damn well try
But I can back a car and trailer
In the twinkling of an eye.
It's jods and riding boots
That I live in night and day
And that smell of sweaty horses
Just doesn't wash away
Once in every now and then
I can dress up for a ball
Make up and a hairdo
With high heels shoes and all
I ache from long forgotten falls
My knees have got no skin
My toes have gone a funny shape
From being squashed again
But late at night when all is still
And I've gone to give them hay
I touch their velvet softness
And my worries float away
They give a gentle nicker
And they nuzzle through my hair
And I know it's where my heart is
More than anywhere



*A good man will take care of his horses and dogs,
Not only while they are young, but also when they are old and
past service".*
Annon.



The New Zealand Shetland Pony Breeders Society 25th Annual South Island Shetland Pony Breed and Harness Show



Judges Sandra Evers and Steve Williams with Supreme Champion Double H Citrus Liqueur with Toby Harden
(owned and bred by the Harden family)

The 25th New Zealand Shetland Pony Breed and Harness Show was held on 28th January 2023 at the Ellesmere A&P show grounds in Leeston, Canterbury. With only a few spots of rain it was a lovely day and handlers and ponies came out looking their best. Congratulations to Toby Harden with Double H Citrus Liqueur who took out the Overall Supreme Champion for the show.

Judges for the day were:

Sandra Evers: Section One – Standard Height Shetlands

Steve Williams: Section Two – Geldings and Section Three – 34" and under Shetlands

Kaylene McCormick: Section Four - Harness

Many thanks to Show Secretary, Lorraine Martini, and her team who worked tirelessly to get the show together.

	Best Presented Overall	Duncree Hickory Hakim – Catherine Crosado
Standard Height	Champion Stallion	Cotswold Andross – D&J Humphries
	Champion Mare	Cotswold Stellma – D&J Humphries
	Champion Youngstock	Cotswold Kiltie – D&J Humphries
	Champion Foal	Cotswold Squire – D&J Humphries
	Supreme Champion Pony Standard Height	Cotswold Andross – D&J Humphries
Geldings	Champion Adult Gelding 34" & Under	Beechgrove Thunderbird – Woffenden Family
	Champion Adult Gelding Overall	Beechgrove Highlander – Rochelle Castle-Wilson
	Champion Youngstock	Double H Sparkling Soda – Sarah Kennedy
	Supreme Champion Gelding	Beechgrove Highlander – Rochelle Castle-Wilson
34" and Under	Stallion	Domino Downs Baily (Imp) – Kirsty Whiting
	Mare	Lael Christmas Star – Woffenden Family
	Youngstock	Double H Citrus Liqueur – Toby Harden
	Supreme Champion 34" & Under	Double H Citrus Liqueur – Toby Harden
Harness	Champion Harness Pony	Beechgrove Capuccino – Karen Wilson
Supreme Champion	25th Annual Show	Double H Citrus Liqueur – Toby Harden

Congratulations to our rider classes: Beechgrove Highlander with Harriet White took out Rider 8-16 years, Best Ridden Shetland 5-16 years, and Fancy Dress Ridden 5-16 years.