



Newsletter April 2007

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Tony Turner Ph 03 614 3770 3772 <a href="mailto:aturn@scorch.co.nz">aturn@scorch.co.nz</a>	<b>SECRETARY/TREASURER</b> Gloriann Mullen Ph 03 325 3219 <a href="mailto:wembleybrook@xtra.co.nz">wembleybrook@xtra.co.nz</a>	<b>REGISTRAR</b> Bridget Turner Ph 03 614 3770 Fax 03 614 3772 <a href="mailto:aturn@scorch.co.nz">aturn@scorch.co.nz</a>
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***From the Hot Seat***

The imminent visit of CPBS President and Inspector Tomas MacLochlainn is now an exciting fact. There have been many changes of routes, arrival times etc. over the past four or five months. The task of coordinating the four entities-Tom, CPBSA, CPSNZ and travel agent was done latterly by Vicki Plummer, CPBSA Secretary /Treasurer. We have therefore largely taken a back seat to much of this, Vicki has kept us well informed and we are thankful to her for squeezing in an extra weekend.

It has been difficult trying to make a workable itinerary for Tom which would allow him to see as many ponies as practicable in a short time frame. Tom's arrival time in NZ was finalised February 13<sup>th</sup>, the departure time to Australia was settled earlier. Special thanks must go to our Committee members, Fiona Comer and the Registrar for finding ponies and organizing their areas and transport. There will be an itinerary in this Newsletter so please contact your area coordinator to see if it is possible to be involved in some of the visit. I would also like to thank the members and pony owners who have invited Tom to their places, offered to transport ponies to sites and generally gone the extra yard to enable members and interested people to gain as much out of the visit as possible.

This visit is a rare opportunity for us as a Society to not only showcase NZ's ponies but for us all to gain knowledge about the Connemara breed from the home representative. With this gathered information we will then be able to make sound decisions for the future of our ponies and hopefully foster relations between our two countries.

The visit will finish at the Christchurch Show grounds in the RDA Pavilion at 1pm on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April. We aim to have a selection of purebred ponies there. We welcome any members to bring a pony or ponies to this. It will be a great opportunity to show our purebred ponies in one place, making it a memorable day for the Connemara in New Zealand. I look forward to seeing and meeting you there.

Members please note the letters to the editor are not placed on the website but are only published in the newsletter as posted to members. They are published at the Editor's discretion and are not censored by the President or the committee with the object of encouraging free and open discussion within the society. The committee welcomes member's views on society matters.

Tony Turner President

Please note my new email address is [aturn@scorch.co.nz](mailto:aturn@scorch.co.nz) and it seems faultless up to date.

*From the Secretary*

Dear All,

It is with some regret that I am writing to announce my resignation to the Society from my role as Secretary/Treasurer, but with ever increasing family commitments and the demands of our Stud I feel I am unable to give to the role that which it deserves.

As the AGM is looming and with it the end of my third term on Committee (for which I will not be re-standing), I would like to express my thanks to those that have given me their support and I wish the Society well.

Sincerely

Gloriann Mullen

*2007 Annual General Meeting*

It seems settled that this years AGM will be in Auckland 7th July 11.00 am, probably at Ambury Park which is near the air port. There is a nomination form included with this newsletter – now is your chance to have your say as to how your society is run for the coming year!

*CPBS President Visit- Itinerary for Tomas MacLochlainn*

- Fri 13 April** Met at Auckland Airport by committee member & Inspector Karen Garner, ph 09 420 8784 (09 only used outside Auckland area)  
email: [j.k.garner@clear.net.nz](mailto:j.k.garner@clear.net.nz)  
Call at Ambury Park Centre to see ponies and discuss with Centre Director.  
Stay the night with Karen & John Garner.
- Sat 14 April** Leave for Rotorua - staying the night. Visit ponies.
- Sun 15 April** Return to Auckland stopping at Susan O'Briens (Inspector) in Morrinsville on the way. Hope to have an inspectors meeting at Susan's. Visit ponies, then travel back to stay with Karen and John Garner.
- Mon 16 April** Leave for Northland. Karen & Mary Kelly (Inspector)  
Inspect Lonsdale Galaxy and Glenormiston Rowan- see Anne Lindesay's ponies-possibly others.  
Kerikeri Airport for flight to Auckland flt NZ8673 5.15pm  
final report time 4.30pm.  
Arrive Auckland 5.55pm depart Auck. 6.35 flt NZ 5077 to Palmerston North, arrive 7.40pm.  
Met by Committee member Liz Gillespie  
ph 06 325 8876  
email: [LGillespie@xtra.co.nz](mailto:LGillespie@xtra.co.nz)  
Motel
- Tues 17 April** Visit ponies in the area return to Palmerston North for the night, motel.
- Wed 18 April** Depart 7.10.am. Flt NZ5351 final report time 6.25 am arrive Chch 8.20am flt NZ5003 Chch-Invercargill. dept 8.40am  
10.am Arrive Invercargill met by Anne Ryan, Tony and Bridget Turner and Fiona Comer (Southland co-ordinator 03 230 4052). Travel around visiting ponies. One inspection. An open

illustrated seminar will be held in the afternoon/evening. Staying Ascot Park Hotel.

- Thurs 19 April** Drive North to Mosgiel, one inspection visit ponies. Stay with Bridget and Tony Turner in South Canterbury 03 614 3770 [aturn@scorch.co.nz](mailto:aturn@scorch.co.nz)
- Fri 20 April** Visit local ponies stay over night Anne Ryan 03 6157 068
- Sat 21 April** Drive to Christchurch Show ground. Inspection ponies, talk to Inspectors, look at and talk about ponies, illustrated talk discussion about Connemara's by Tom.  
Over night with Sharyn & Fen Greer 03 312 1775
- Sun 22 April** View local ponies, overnight with Gloriann & Paul Mullen.
- Mon 23 April** Depart Chch Flt NZ803 to Brisbane, booking time to be notified probably 3 hours prior to departure.

If there is sufficient interest, a dinner will be held following the seminar in Christchurch. Also, ponies are still needed for the Christchurch seminar if anyone is at all able to help with this. Please contact Gloriann if you are interested in either event - Ph 03 325 3219.

*From the Registrar*

**CPSNZ TRANSFERS  
7/5/ 2006 -----29/3/ 2007**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Reg.</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Location</b>
Tallyho Jester	G 81	Janine Callow	Rangiora	S.Greer	Oxford
Scarteen Doulas	G 39	Michelle Smith	Taranaki	E. Gee	Manawatu
Timaunga Bobby Dazzler	G 40	J. Wales	Otago	R. Jones	Gore
Galway Kingdom	PM 173	V.Saunders	Rangiora	M.Dewar	Blenheim
Bunratty Bridgette	M 66	S. Ramsay	ChCh	S.McGrath	Pukekohe
Hopeville Premabella	PM 165	L. Geddes	Kumeu	L. Hope	Tauranga
Tallyho Jasmine	PM 158	A. Meredith	Kaiapoi	S. Greer	Oxford
Taihoa White Frost	PM 172	B.Reed	Cust	J.Hale	Christchurch
Keltic O'Se	S 17	TJ & KV Hodge	Waipukurau	O.Johnstone	Palmerston Nth.
Ridgeway Killashee	PM 168	V. Saunders	Rangiora	T.Hore	Kurow
Glenmay Levi	PG 184	R. Newman	Ohoka	R.Parmee	Oxford
Bunratty Chieftain	S 13	P&G Mullen	Leeston	J.Stewart	Patumahoe
Liss Tara Ganty Gold	S 18	S. Greer	Oxford	T. Gore	Pukekohe
Knockrah Bridie	M 102	W. Brain	Tuakau	S. McGrath	Pukekohe
Glenardon Valencia	PM 182	R. Drummond	Timaru	J. Drummond	Oamaru
Tallyho Mystic	PM 174	S. Greer	Oxford	R. Lindsay	Ellesmere
Tallyho Cleopatra	F 046	R. Lindsay	Ellesmere	S.Greer	Oxford
Knockrah River	G 34	M. Thackwray	Northcote	M.J Bol	Auckland
Midnight of Takou Bay	G44	S.Greer	Oxford	R. Davies	Wellsford
Escondido Fools Gold	PG 138	E. Sutcliffe	Hamilton	K. Carter	Ohinewai
Kohatu Harvest Gold	PM 183	S. George	Christchurch	Kohatu Pshp	
Ridgeway Jaxon	G 59	H. Bennet	Timaru	C. Muir	Akaroa
Liss Tara Willow	PM 151	H.Fulton	Waiuku	M O'Neill	Pukekohe
Lonsdale Legend	S 20	L & M Fanning	Eire	WGH Tatham	Te Kuiti

## *Are You Feeding Your Horse Like a Cow?*

I was fortunate that one of two seminars delivered in NZ by Katy Watts at the end of January was close to home. Just 20 minutes up the road to Winton to hear her speak.

Imagine this - you have just achieved a lifetime dream of owning your own property to run your horses on. You have re-sown the pastures using the best grasses available. You turn your ponies out onto the pastures and within 30 minutes of turning them out disaster strikes and they have laminitis. This is Katy Watts' story. It started her research into grasses and laminitis in ponies.

Kathy Watts is by profession an agricultural researcher and consultant. She identified that the new varieties of grasses developed to increase livestock production are not suitable for many ponies and horses. While horses and ponies are adapted to eat grass, they are seldom eating the type of grass they originally adapted to eat. The modern varieties of pasture grass have been selected for increasing levels of non-structural carbohydrates by plant breeders.

Plant carbohydrates fall into two groups non-structural or structural.

- Structural carbohydrates are those found in the cell walls and aren't easily digestible.
- Non-structural carbohydrates (NSC) are found inside the cell and usually are easily digestible. They include sugars, starches, organic acids, and fructans.

Katy has focused on finding out what makes a grass safe to eat one day and not the next. The levels of NSC fluctuate during the day and from day to day. She has found that the following will cause stress to grasses resulting in an increase in the levels of NSC – and consequently more danger for our ponies.

1. Genetic potential of the grass to produce high levels of carbohydrate.
2. Temperature – below 5°C causes plant sugar levels to increase.
3. Time of day & sunlight – the longer the sunlight hours the higher the plant sugar levels. Likewise plant sugar levels should be lowest early around dawn and just after, and after several cloudy days.
4. Soil fertility – a lack of plant nutrients will stress the plant increasing the NSC levels.
5. Lack of water – during droughts grasses store higher levels of carbohydrates ready for the next rain (or irrigation).
6. Stage of growth – when seed heads are emerging and filling, they have very high levels of NSC. Once the seed heads have matured the NSC levels are again low. Early vegetative growth is generally lower in NSC.

An example of a really dangerous combination for a pony would be a new pasture with high ryegrass content in winter after several frosty nights and sunny days. The effects of the conditions become cumulative so the levels of NSC keep building up in the plants.

I can vouch for this combination being a problem as early last winter I had Cloudy and two others grazing behind an electric tape. Cloudy, as usual, making good use of her cover as an insulator allowing her to reach over the tape and get an extra helping of grass! The pasture had been drilled with “Feast”, a very fast growing highly palatable tetraploid Italian Ryegrass, three years before and there are patches where it shows up in early winter when it outgrows everything else. We had a run of cold nights and frosty days... When her feet were trimmed there was the start of laminitis – separation of the hoof wall from the sole. I hadn't noticed that she was sore but the signs were there. After that she was moved to more suitable grazing!

The problem of the changes in grasses is compounded by the fact that most native breeds of ponies are genetically adapted to live in regions with poor quality feed. Some ponies in these breeds are insulin resistant. They are “good doers” – prone to hard cresty necks, fat pads

above the eyes, and fat deposits along the topline and above the tail – even though they may look just right over the ribs.

So what can you do if you think your pony may be susceptible to laminitis?

1. Go to Katy Watts website <http://safergrass.org/> to get more information. Add it to your favourites.
2. Avoid grazing your pony on pastures that have a high proportion of new varieties of grasses – especially high sugar ryegrasses and clovers.
3. Avoid feeding other high sugar feeds – grains (including those based on rice or that are processed or extruded), hays made from high sugar grasses, oaten hay.
4. Restrict your pony's access to pasture by locking up and restricting time grazing or using a gazing muzzle.
5. Soak their hay for 2 hours before feeding. Tip out the water and leachate – the brown discolouration is from the water soluble plant sugars.
6. Use low NSC feeds such as sugar beet pulp that does not have molasses added e.g. "Speedi-beet".
7. Exercise the pony regularly. 30 minutes trotting 3 times a week has been shown to reduce the level of insulin in their blood significantly.

I hope that Katy comes back to New Zealand again. The topic is complex and our knowledge is limited, her research is adding a new dimension to the topic and more importantly bringing good results for horse and pony owners.

Fiona Comer

#### *Show Results*

Many thanks to Michelle Smith for the pictures and news of Scarteen Doulas (Dooley). At their first combined driving event together, they were 4th in the dressage and 3rd in presentation, but unfortunately had 3 cones down and were too slow in the marathon.



The couple are getting to know each other better – Dooley is starting to really enjoy the event, and Michelle is learning how fast they need to go. At the Tangimoana CD, the pair again placed (3<sup>rd</sup>) in the dressage. They were over time by 1 min in cones and overtime in X-Country but only because some of the course was slippery and steep, and as they are still developing his breaking strength they walked those sections of the course.

## ***Which pony is that? A brief look at Branding***

Using colour and markings to identify a pony is not always a particularly effective method – especially if your pony is grey. Because of this, a variety of different methods for marking livestock have been developed over the years, from branding and tattooing, to the more recent technique of micro-chipping.

Historically, fire branding has been the most commonly used technique for horses in NZ, but this has now largely been replaced by freeze branding. Both methods rely on using extremes of temperature to destroy selected hair follicles, but freeze branding gives an added ‘bonus’ of producing a white brand if your pony isn’t grey.

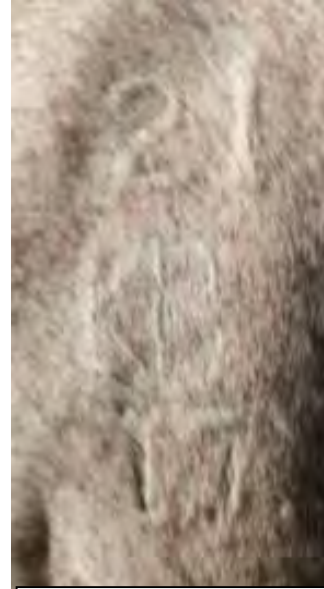
How does it work? Very simply, hair grows from a growth follicle below the skin surface. This hair is essentially a colourless hollow tube, to which colour is added by a colour follicle that sits above the growth follicle (a grey horse gradually becomes white as it gets older because the colour follicles stop adding their pigment to the hair shaft). When a super-cooled branding iron (-160° C) is applied to the skin, the cold first destroys the colour follicle, and the hair will re-grow white (or colourless). If the iron is left on longer, the cold will penetrate deeper and destroy the growth follicle as well, and the hair does not re-grow at all leaving a ‘bald’ brand.

Getting a clear, easy to read freeze brand depends on many things, including the location of the brand, the preparation of the brand site, and the branding irons themselves.

The location of the brand should be on a smooth flat muscle, like those found in the shoulder. Smaller brands make it easier to fit multiple brands on a single muscle group. Site preparation is also important - the area should be clipped as close as possible, and preferably shaved with a disposable razor and mild soap or detergent. The area is then cleaned thoroughly and well rinsed, then degreased with alcohol. The branding iron is cooled by submerging the head in liquid nitrogen until the liquid stops bubbling, and then held against the skin with an even pressure – pushing against the horse with too much force will not give a better brand as the animal is likely to move away from the pressure. Freeze branding is generally believed to be less painful than hot branding, but it does take considerably longer, especially for greys, and because of this it may be advisable to sedate the pony in order to keep it still enough to get a good brand.

The actual length of time that the iron is held on for depends on several factors:

- The brand itself – individual brands will vary in their ability to ‘hold the cold’. This varies because of the size and material the brand is made from – brass and bronze branding irons hold their coldness longer than stainless steel, and a large brand or one with a thick backing plate will keep its cool longer.
- The age of the horse – generally, the younger the pony is, the less time the brand will need to be applied.
- The colour of the horse – obviously, greys require a longer application of the branding iron in order to completely destroy the hair follicle itself, but chestnuts may require a shorter branding time than their bay or black siblings.
- The breed of the horse – ‘thin skinned’ breeds such as Thoroughbreds may require shorter branding times than if the same brands used on a Connemara.



**Figure 1. A mixture of good and bad brands on a grey horse. Top brand “21” – the 2 is ‘bald’ and visible all year round, while the 1 has re-grown white. The middle brand “KB” is bald, but only visible in summer. The lower brand “17” is also bald, but for much of the year is read as 11.**



Figure 2. Two different types of freeze branding iron. The large numbers are 3" tall, have a particularly heavy backing block. Because of their size, they are more suited to cattle or adult horses, but only need to be applied for 5-10 seconds. The smaller numbers are 1 1/2" tall, and fit into a handle with a backing plate that holds several numbers. This allows multiple numbers to be applied in a single brand application. These particular irons are applied for 12 seconds for a coloured horse, and at least 20 for a grey.

Unfortunately, the only way to work out how long to leave a branding iron on for is through trial and error, and sometimes even with known brands you may get unexpected results (or failures). To be completely correct, an identification certificate should never be completed until the brands have re-grown (or hopefully, in the case of greys, not re-grown).

After branding the frozen skin is indented, then thaws to leave a raised welt which lasts 15 to 30 minutes. Over the next few weeks, the branded skin will dry and peel. White hair will replace the original colour as the new coat grows in, a process which can take 2-3 months. 'Bald' brands should also be obvious after this time.



Figure 3. An example of a branding iron applied for the 'correct' amount of time for a grey Thoroughbred, but not long enough for this pony. It will become unreadable as the pony greys out.

So, why do we brand? Traditionally, a horse or pony is branded so it can be identified. Normally, this isn't for the benefit of the owner (unless we're talking about a large stud, most of us can easily identify our own ponies), but so that other people can identify the animal. As a visual identifier, a brand should be unique, clear, and visible even from a distance. Often though this is not the case, and some branded ponies may appear unbranded or the brands may be completely unreadable – especially in winter.

If we are only talking about identifying a particular animal, micro-chipping and DNA testing are more certain methods for being sure that the pony is who it should be. However, the biggest problem with these methods is that they aren't **visible**. Unless you are specifically looking for a microchip, you can't tell if it's there, and as micro-chipping still isn't common for most breeds in NZ, people don't usually check. Micro-chipping horses is still in its infancy in this country, and as with dog micro-chipping, an 'industry standard' has yet to emerge with multiple (and incompatible) technologies still in use. Thoroughbreds are without a doubt the largest breed society using this system (all foals from 2004 must be micro-chipped, DNA parentage verified, and branded), but other breeds, such as the Andalusian or Spanish PRE, are also moving to this new technology, and there is a certain logic to this.

DNA testing to verify the identity of a pony is more difficult again, as it requires that the pony or its parents have previously been tested. It is also expensive, and not particularly practical for routine identification.

However, identification of the individual animal is not the only reason for branding. Other breed societies have used branded logo's to 'trademark' their stock. A glance at the thigh of any well bred Warmblood will instantly reveal the horse's genetic origin – the Hannoverian 'H', the Trakehener antlers - these symbols are not just an ownership mark, but a mark of 'quality'. It has taken these breed societies many years and an enormous amount of hard work to build the 'brand' behind the symbol pressed into their horses hides - their inspection and registration systems are rigorous, and now their brands themselves have become marketing tools.

The CPSNZ and the Irish Draught Horse Society of NZ both use variations on the shamrock as a unique brand for their breeds. If we are to follow the lead of the Warmblood breeders, and use this as a marketing tool, we must ensure that the Society brand is used with care and consistency. There is little point in stamping our ponies with a mark if only we know what it means. In order to be useful as a marketing tool, the greater equestrian community must also recognise it, and have expectations of the pony that wears it, and it only becomes useful if there is enough public exposure to it (how many of our ponies currently bear it?).

Our current CPSNZ regulations state that all purebred foals must be branded before weaning, with the year of birth and a stud or vet brand. If the CPSNZ brand is used, it must be used in conjunction with the stud/vet brand. Some of the society's clover fire branding irons have been found, and a trial freeze brand iron has recently been made. Should we wish to resurrect these brands, perhaps now is a good time to consider a few questions:

- How should we use this brand, and
- What do we want it to convey to the wider equestrian world?
- Should we make the use of the Society brand compulsory for purebreds – with or without a stud brand?
- Should we leave it as an 'optional extra'?
- Where should the brand be located (shoulder, thigh)?

Most of us are pretty passionate about our ponies, but the success or failure of any such marketing scheme relies on how supportive the breeders and other enthusiasts of the Connemara Pony really are towards the attempt. This is your Society, and these are your ponies – these are the sorts of decisions that should be considered by all the members, not just the committee.

Liz Gillespie

<i>A Tribute To Ridgeway Gift 25/12/1986 – 15/03/2007</i>
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Bred by Taieri Hore in Marlborough, Ridgeway Gift was the last foal from imported Australian mare, Blandings Juliet and by Barwidgee Erriff. Gift came to South Canterbury as a 5 yr old, dappled grey with dark points and 13.2 hands. We bought her sight unseen but I liked the sound of her. She was young and we then owned Barwidgee Erriff. We liked his part-bred progeny (the Galway ponies) bred by Dinie Rutherford and ridden so successfully by her family. Although green, we hoped she would suit our 11 yr old daughter, Phoebe, which she did. Right from the beginning Gift was a truly honest, reliable no-nonsense pony and had a steady temperament. Gift moved freely and was surefooted, essential for our hill country farm. She and Phoebe explored everything together from mustering in snow, rain, wind or sun to pony club, riding and swimming with friends, hunting, trekking and their favourite competition, eventing. In those days South Canterbury area Pony Clubs hosted at least seven different ODE's a year. Gift proved to be an extremely versatile and good performance pony and she gave her best effort no matter what she was asked to do. Tony even went wallaby shooting with her. Gift featured in June Gilchrist's article, The Connemara Pony, in the March 1992 Horse and Pony magazine.

Several years later Bob Boulton broke her in to harness and they won the National Driving Championship before he took on Timaunga Bobby Dazzler, also by Barwidgee Erriff and out of Galway Jeanette, a half sister to Gift. Bob's partner, Christine Wilson took over and brushed up Gift's driven dressage skills. When Phoebe's mount became unwell she borrowed Gift to take part as a senior in the Inter-schools ODE which once again, thanks to Gift, their team won. With only a week's ridden preparation Gift hadn't forgotten although she launched over the odd jump as though she had the cart behind!

Christine sold Gift to Tom McNamara. She took part in a parade and was driven up Queen Street, Auckland. Gift was sold to Jennifer Stewart of Patumahoe. Very soon Gift became part

of their family and they also regarded her with high esteem. Unfortunately for NZ Gift apparently didn't take to breeding and only ever had one foal, a filly, Martray Rhiannan. On her last outing she won the Waterfall trophy and was Champion Connemara at the 2006 Auckland show.

Gift was a truly multi talented pony and did much to fly the flag for the Connemara pony, showing off her temperament and versatility to New Zealanders.

Bridget Turner



#### ***Bomac Lecture Series***

This years Bomac Lecture Series should be of particular interest to pony owners. Internationally renowned veterinarian Chris Pollitt, and farrier Richard Hansen are talking about laminitis – theory, prevention and treatment.

The seminars are being held in Hamilton (Te Rapa Racecourse, Sunday 20 May), Palmerston North (Awapuni Racecourse, Wednesday 23 May), and Christchurch (Riccarton Racecourse, Sunday 27 May). Further information is available from Bev Stern on 06 356 4940

*Letters to the Editor*

*Dr L.J. & Mrs C.M. Thompson,  
82 Showground Road,  
Waimate North,  
Kaikohe, R.D.2,  
Bay of Islands, 0472,  
New Zealand.*

14 February 2007

Liz Gillespie,  
Editor, CPSNZ Newsletter,  
PO Box 603,  
Palmerston North.

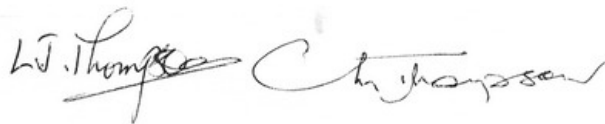
Dear Miss Gillespie,

Thank you for the CPSNZ newsletter which brought us the very sad news of the death of Waterfall Dan. As he was our most important contribution to the Society, we were disappointed that we had to learn of his death in this insensitive way. He was the result of a lot of hard work and thought and exactly the type of pony we were trying to achieve since first being inspired by Sir John and Lady Marshall at a Farm Forestry conference in Gisborne in the early 1980s. A little of their thoughtful kindness would have helped in our loss yesterday.

Another point for the committee to consider is the "Anne Hammond-Rolinson Trust Fund" which we set up for the express purpose of transporting her and others of international experience with the Breed, to guide the young Society. Miss Pat Lyne's memorable and helpful visit in 1993 was a great example. The interest from the Trust Fund was meant to accrue for future similar trips and not to be used for the routine running expenses of the Society.

As ever, we wish the Society well and trust the forthcoming visit of Mr Tom MacLochlainn every success.

Yours sincerely,



Tel: 64-9-405-9556

Mob: 021-239-4492

E-mail: l.thompson@xtra.co.nz

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Reply to Dr and Mrs. L Thompson

I have written to the Thompson's on the behalf of the Society apologising for the way they heard of the death of Waterfall Dan who they bred, leased, and later generously donated to the Society who on leased him. Dan has left some good offspring and we look forward hearing of their 'careers' in the future. Thank you Len and Colleen.

Tony Turner.

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72 Mackenzie Street, Bendigo, 3550  
Australia  
4/3/07

Dear Tony and Bridget,

How pleasant to be able to write to two office bearers at once! But I should say that I write just as fellow member. I was very impressed with what you both had to say in the recent Newsletter. ,

It is also a very healthy sign that you have an Editor who does not go overboard with the censorship. When I wrote a letter to NZ critical of the attempt to have us join the ICCPS (which I still see as a serious error), my letter was published, but I was hauled over the coals by the CPBSA president in the CPBSA Newsletter about it although as a foundation and honorary life member of the NZ Society, I consider it was not his business what I wrote to them (you).

You have a lot of interesting material about coat colour. When this Society was set up, we all felt that Australia had made mistakes which we could avoid. These were:

1. Breeding up,
2. barring BECs

3. inspections, especially as there were certainly not enough people with the necessary knowledge to make this fair or effective. 2 and 3 were abandoned when a strong Irish influence was manifest in NZ., though in Australia it was our Irish introducer of the breed who was strongly opposed to inspections, believing that the stallions would sort themselves out. His sudden death cleared the way for the Committee to have it introduced.

Pat Lyne, as you have mentioned, was quite happy about BECs, but I suppose we should remember that they did not represent the financial loss in the UK that they do in our societies, as BEC mares and geldings could be registered. This has changed now because of the ICCPS.

The birth colour of all foals born in Australia has been required to be stated for a great many years now. If any have slipped through, this is an oversight on the part of the secretary/registrar/treasurer / keeper of the sales list/ editor of the Newsletter who is a very busy woman..

It is very interesting that, just as in Australia, you seem to have suffered badly from a change in logos, apparently unauthorised. It is also sad, unless you have any means of redress.

One of the greatest barriers to having a correctly run Society is the indifference / timidity/indolence etc of its members if unfortunately a president is dictatorial, unthinking

etc. But obviously most take on the job with the best of intentions.

If you want to treat this as a letter to the editor, please do. I believe there should be nothing secretive in a society, providing there is a sufficient respect for what should be kept confidential. I don't think that is really contradictory.

I enclose my usual contribution to the budget, in gratitude,

Very best wishes to you all,

Heather Story

*From the Editors Desk*



Yahoo! Another completed newsletter!

Thanks to all those who have submitted items for publication – keep them coming. I'd still like to hear from some of our junior members – what have you all been up to with your ponies over the summer?

Remember, if you'd like to receive your news electronically, just drop me a line.

Liz

*Disclaimer*

We welcome all submissions for the newsletter – this is a publication for the members of the CPSNZ, created by its members.

Please note that all material, news and correspondence submitted for publication in this newsletter will be treated without prejudice or favour.

Please ensure that any material submitted for consideration will not violate copyright.

Reputable papers will be officially acknowledged, all other correspondence or submitted articles are the opinions of individuals and are not necessarily those of the committee or office bearers of the CPSNZ, and as such do not necessarily represent the views of the society.