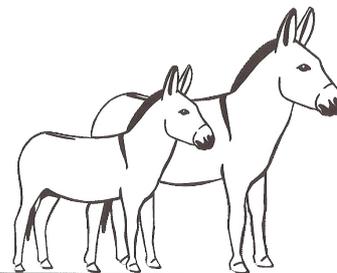


No. 25, September 2019

TRUST NEWS



**Donkey and Mule
Protection Trust NZ**

NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANISATION INCORPORATED #1638328

The Donkey and Mule Protection Trust Newsletter

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Editorial

This is the second of our new style newsletters intended to inform and educate donkey lovers who support the Trust. In compiling the newsletter, I was quite moved by the unique nature of our rescued donkeys who, despite having lived with such hardship for so long, really just want companionship, a bit of affection, a cuddle or two and a warm place to call home. I am reminded that this special quality, that makes them so endearing to us, is not unlike our own special needs, and is certainly something worth providing for them.

Our feature in this issue is all about how you can do that through the sponsorship program the Trust has established; why it's needed, how it works and how you can get involved. We get to meet some of the donkeys already receiving some level of support from a sponsor, as well as those in dire need of one. We have our regular reports on what's happening at the Rescue and Rehoming Centres, profiles on two more of our Trustees and a report from our new chair, Pru Hunter.

Finally there's a really interesting piece adapted from a checklist published by the Donkey & Mule Society of NZ, which we've reprinted with their kind permission.

It's a great place to start if you are considering acquiring a donkey. Thanks to everyone who contributed this quarter, it's a great read. And if you haven't already got one, there's still time to purchase a 2020 Calendar before they all go. It's a great way to help a donkey.

Lesley

Lesley Catterall, *Editor*

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/DonkeyMuleProtectionNZ/>

Keep in touch with us more regularly by Liking our Facebook page. Follow the stories of our donkeys as they move onto pastures anew and learn new tips and tricks about donkey care.

Encourage your kids and grandkids to get involved with donkeys by following our page. If you or they have any questions about the work we do or the donkeys in our care or just generally about donkeys, then send us a message or contact us and we'll have our donkey experts get back to you with an answer.

To Navigate the Newsletter or to Contact us:

Click on the links (anything underlined) to move around the newsletter, to learn more about what we do, to send an email or go to our website: www.donkey-mule-trust.org.nz

Click on the donkey shelter on each page to return home:



Clevedon Fudge of Brightwater—a lovely donkey in need with a sad neglected past

DONKEY SPONSERSHIP

*Bringing quality of life to donkeys
unable to be rehomed*

The Donkey and Mule Protection Trust is an incorporated charity established with a three-fold purpose to (1) provide assistance and advice to owners and potential owners of donkeys and mules in NZ, (2) prevent cruelty to donkeys and mules; and (3) provide care and rescue services to donkeys and mules where needed.



Ester of Mamaku

With particular reference to the care and rescue of donkeys and mules, the Trust financially supports a number of Rescue and Rehoming Centres (RRCs) throughout New Zealand: three in the North—Mamaku in the Bay of Plenty, Motukawa in Taranaki and Ikaroa covering the lower Northland; and three in the South—Brightwater in Nelson, the Canterbury RRC, and Fernhill in Southland. The RRCs rescue injured, neglected, maltreated, or aging donkeys that can no longer be looked after by their owners. The Trust covers the costs of veterinary, dental and farrier care needed to treat each rescued donkey and the volunteers at the RRC administer the social and emotional care needed to rehabilitate as many as possible so they can be rehomed in new happy forever homes.

Sadly though, a number of donkeys are unable to be rehomed (like Ester of Mamaku) due to ongoing health or behavioural issues, or sometimes because they are just too old.

ESTER of MAMAKU

Ester, one of our sponsored donkeys at Mamaku, has been very busy lately entertaining the many school children who have been coming to visit Mamaku Donkey Rescue, Rehoming and Sanctuary. She likes nothing better than to graze alongside her buddies Suzy, Chester and Nibby and does a good job of keeping the two young boys (Chester and Nibby) in line and teaching them manners.

On cold days Ester wears her nice warm winter cover. It has though acquired a few tiny rips on her neck cover and this would be from that naughty teenager Chester who insists on grabbing Ester's cover and wanting her to play. Luckily Ester has a spare cover, so if the rips get any bigger, she has that to wear while the other one gets repaired.

While Ester is generally in great health, she has quite bad hooves which have "seedy toe" that eats out the hoof wall. To stop this, the holes need to be packed with copper sulphate and Vaseline. If this is done every time Ester has her hooves trimmed, it makes a huge difference.

To keep her healthy Ester needs to be wormed/drenched. She hates the worming pastes unless they are in a sandwich then she just gobbles it up which makes life a lot easier for everyone. As the weather lately has been very wet Ester and buddies spend a lot of time in their two shelters, of course Ester being pushy decides which is the better shelter of the day and the other donkeys have to make way for her.

Every morning and every night Ester and friends get a wheelbarrow full of sweet baleage which they love, and this helps retain their weight during winter. Ester always looks forward to seeing the Girl Guide Rangers when they come to the Centre as they spoil her with carrots and give her a good brush and walk around. So, let's hope the weather settles down.

If you would like to contribute to Ester's care and treatment, she will continue to bring enjoyment to the many visitors she receives and will be able to age gracefully in her retirement at Mamaku.



Ester awaiting her breakfast early one morning in the rain...she was not happy as Pauline was late...



[Continued on page 3](#)

Donkey Sponsorship, continued

The fate of these donkeys relies heavily on the kindness and support of the RRC owners who volunteer their time and expertise to care for the donkeys who come into their care. To help the RRCs keep these donkeys safe, happy and healthy for as long as they can, the Trust is looking for people willing to adopt or sponsor a donkey-in-need through a regular financial contribution.

This financial support contributes toward the costs of the farrier, worming, medication, feed, rugs, and vet bills for the donkeys. In return the Rehoming Centre provides regular reports to both the Sponsor and the Trust on how well the donkey is doing and any further needs they might have.



Theresa of Motukawa—needs a sponsor!

Some of sponsors are past owners of the donkeys unable to provide the day to day care, but are willing to cover the costs.

Can you help sponsor a donkey?

The Donkey and Mule Protection Trust currently has six donkeys who for medical, behavioural or age-related reasons are unable to be fostered or rehomed away from the Rescue and Rehoming Centre where they currently reside.

These donkeys can still lead happy and productive lives and add pleasure to the lives of others. They make great companion donkeys for new rescues as they seem to have an empathy borne of their own past suffering but they do need financial support to cover the costs of their medication and/or special care arrangements.

This is where sponsorship can really make a difference.

Can you help?

Rehoming Centre Reports

Mamaku Rehoming Centre, (Bay of Plenty):

No new donkeys at the Centre over the winter but there are four who are already receiving some sponsorship: Ester, Suzy, Nibby and Rosie, and another three: Mintie, Neddy and Chester in need of financial support. Look for their stories in this issue.

Motukawa Rehoming Centre (Taranaki):

Lots of enquiries and some really successful rehoming: eleven donkeys who were found homes via three advertisements put on the Trading Post.

Georgie and Moses of Motukawa, were surrendered as geldings, but it was later discovered that Moses was still entire so the Trust paid to get him gelded. Both donkeys had only minimal hoof work done over the years and not a lot of handling so after spending four months at the RRC they now have a fabulous home in Whanganui.

Windy Ridge Oatis found a home with a vet near Woodville. One of her elderly donkeys had passed on and the other was fretting so Oatis(22) filled the gap and both are quite happy.

Biskit and Milo of Motukawa were both surrendered along with Oatis as the owners didn't realise how much time was involved with caring for donkeys. They have since been found a great home in Hamilton with a family who spend lots of time with them. The owner actually built two sheds for them and one lean-to – they are indeed spoilt.

Barnaby and Tommy Quickstep of Motukawa came from the same place as Andrea's Eeyore (last month's newsletter). The owner had died from cancer and the husband couldn't cope with the donkeys. These were two that had been rehomed to her previously. They had been abandoned on a lifestyle block along with a pig and 12 dorper sheep. They were entire and unhandled. The Trust paid to get them gelded. Now they are two very nice donkeys and Andrea said that Tommy was championship quality. They have both been placed in a forever home in Kumeu.

Owen and Guy of Motukawa also came from the same place. Both are elderly, and have been rehomed with two vets who have likened them to a pair of gay hairstylists. They were terribly underweight, especially Guy, when they were rescued. Being rehomed with vets is a great outcome for the pair, as both vets are British and had worked at the Donkey Sanctuary in the UK.

Turbo and Daisey Mae of Motukawa were two lovely well socialised donkeys when they arrived and have now been found a home in Whangarei.

Otherwise it's been a very quiet winter at the Rescue and Rehoming Centre at Motukawa in Taranaki with no recent rescues, though, there is one donkey in residence who is in need of sponsorship—Theresa of Motukawa.

Continued on page 4



SUZY OF MAMAKU



Suzy waiting for breakfast in the early morning rain...with her mates.

Suzy has found this winter a challenge, she became very slow moving when coming out of her shelter in the mornings for her breakfast. Even though dressed in her cosy winter cover, she still was not her normal bossy self. Celia, her vet, was called and took a blood sample which showed a mild case of hyperlipaemia.

So, Suzy, and her best friend Ester, were moved up close to the house into the stable paddock where it was easier to administer her arthritis medication as well as the prescribed anti-inflammatory and medication for her stomach. Her stomach medication has now finished, but she continues to enjoy being pampered.

Because of her age, Suzy has three hard feeds a day which are made up of lucerne—a filler, gum nuts—for digestion, coolade and copra—for weight, mineral vitamins, salt—to increase water intake, husk—a natural laxative, Grand Senior Flex—for arthritis and baleage—as a snack. Then of course she gets every now and again a treat of apple and carrots.

Suzy has a great appetite and really guards her hard feeds with a passion, no other donkey can even get near her bowl of food...she turns into a scary monster and even her carers take a step back.

Now that she is on flat ground with an open stable and on her arthritis medication, she is coping really well with winter and is still a character with attitude.

If you are able to contribute to Suzy's care and treatment, you would be making her last few years more comfortable and allow her to age with dignity.

Suzy, Ester and Nibby are the three partly sponsored donkeys at Mamaku Rescue and Rehoming Centre. The Trust very much appreciates the support it receives for each. There are another three: Mintie, Neddy and Chester at Mamaku in need of sponsorship, one, Theresa, at Motukawa and two at Brightwater—Soldier and Fudge. Any contribution you can make to help support these donkeys will make life easier for them and enable the trust to continue.

Rehoming Centre Reports, *continued*

Ikaroa Rehoming Centre, (Lower North Island):

There is currently only one rescue in residence at Ikaroa, Freddy of Ikaroa, a nearly 27 year old grey dun gelding, has had laminitis but is good now he's on Prasepd daily and Devils Claw twice daily. Because he needs daily medication and high-levels of care, Freddy needs an experienced home, particularly as he is now on his own as he lost his sister last year.

Freddy is too fragile to go in with other donkeys as he gets pushed around badly no matter how gentle the other donkeys might be, they soon twig he is a pushover. He is though happy to fraternise over the fence with the other donkeys. He has his sawdust stable and goes in and out and roundabout. Because Freddy is old and fragile and has now settled into a happy routine, Andrea has decided not to rehome him. She is also happy to report that though the rescue work continues, fortunately in the lower North Island the need has significantly reduced.

Brightwater (Nelson):

There are 27 donkeys in residence at Brightwater Rescue and Rehoming Centre. The latest resident, Clevedon Fudge of Brightwater (thought to be about 20 years old), arrived mid-year. All those that could be rehomed, have been. Those that remain at Brightwater are typically old and therefore not suitable for rehoming.



Chocolate Soldier of Brightwater

Only two donkeys at Brightwater have received Trust support, recently, Chocolate Soldier and Fudge, and both are up for sponsorship.

Canterbury Donkey Rehoming Centre at Motukarara:

We currently have three donkeys that have come into our care in the last 2 months. Beth was in a really bad way when we picked her up, as she was grieving the death of her donkey companion. She had stopped eating and showed all the signs of hyperlipaemia which is usually fatal in donkeys.



ROSIE OF MAMAKU



Rosie of Mamaku at 38yrs old...with her front hoof bandaged because she had a poultice on as she was lame

Rosie, a 38 year old grey donkey, is the only fully sponsored donkey at Mamaku. A couple of months ago Rosie went lame on her back hoof and found it very hard to walk. She was treated with pain relief and her hoof was cleaned out and soaked it in a bucket of warm water with dissolved Epsom Salts. The dried hoof was then administered a Tuffrock poultice and wrapped with a waterproof bandage. This procedure was done every day, then on day four she stopped limping, the abscess burst, and she fully recovery.

Rosie has her lovely thick cover to keep her warm through the winter and grazes in a paddock next to the house at Mamaku. At night she goes into her deer shed which she loves and it appears that she thinks it's a palace for as she peers out she really looks royal.

Last month Rosie met six Intermediate school children who came to visit her and the rest of Rosie's donkey friends. These children had never patted a donkey or even seen one up close. Rosie obliged by patiently standing and let the children gain enough confidence to be able to pat her.

Two weeks ago, Rosie had a visit from eight Girl Guide Rangers, these girls were all over Rosie, feeding her carrots and giving her lots of cuddles.

Rosie just lapped it all up even posing for photos with the girls. She was most upset when the girls left, standing at the gate giving them a squeaky bray as they drove away. The good news for Rosie is that they are coming back to visit her in the school holidays.

Through the winter, Rosie receives 3 hard feed meals a day and she has an opened bale wrap that she can dine on whenever she wants.

Unfortunately, she does have a bad habit of pulling the baleage out, spreading it all about picking out the best bits, then standing on the bits she doesn't want.

Rosie gets arthritis medicine once a day at lunch time, this is definitely helping her joints in this cold weather. So Rosie's life is full of visitors spoiling her, enjoying her deer shed and tucking into her bale wrap for snacks.

Many thanks to Rosie's sponsor for the very generous contribution to her care and treatment.

Rehoming Centre Reports, continued

Beth had 24 hour care over a number of days, and is now fully recovered and back to being a very happy and healthy donkey.

It was very sad for the owners the day we collected Tom Tom and McKyver as they were much loved donkeys. However, due to the owners' health issues and their property sale, these beautiful boy have come to stay with us for a while. We hope to find them a lovely home again in the future which will once again provide them all the care and attention they were used to at their previous home.



McKyver and Tom Tom at Motukarara

Fernhill (Southland):

The Rescue and Rehoming Centre at Fernhill in Southland has only two rescues in residence. A couple of big jennies, mother and daughter, Nellie (1995) and Lucca (2005). Both came to Fernhill because their previous owner could not give them the attention they needed as she was shifting from her home in Dunedin to Mosgiel. Since the two have been at Fernhill, they have continued to be supported by their previous owner, who is covering the costs of any vet care and treatment. Recently, the previous owners sold up again and moved to Invercargill so she could be closer to Nellie and Lucca who are enjoying their forever home along with all the other donkeys at Fernhill.



Nellie (mother, in the front) and Lucca (darker one) of Fernhill



SIX DONKEYS IN NEED OF SPONSORSHIP

Theresa of Motukawa – *needs a sponsor, can you help her?*

Theresa, (picture on Page 3) is a quiet jenny of 12 years with arthritic changes in one shoulder. Because she is not sound, she is therefore on a daily supplement of 4CYTE – a joint treatment to protect and actively maintain joint health. Theresa also has hoof issues and needs a Bute sachet, for pain and inflammation treatment, before any farrier work. She has a lovely nature and has bonded well with Barbara's jenny and also gets on well with Barbara's horse and mule. Theresa needs the Bute only when Barbara does her front feet as it's too painful to weight bear on the leg with the arthritis. She has a lot of good years left, and needs a sponsor.

Mintie of Ikaroa – *needs a sponsor, can you help?*

Mintie, a 16 year old ponui gelding, is unable to be rehomed due to his shyness with humans and hoof issues. Originally rescued through the Ikaroa RRC, Mintie was previously rehomed with another donkey but things didn't work out and he was brought to Mamaku. Mintie enjoys hanging out with his mates – a group of four other geldings – and was quickly put in his place by Nibby, a youngster a quarter of his age, who refused to be bullied by Mintie. They since get on very well.

Neddy of Mamaku – *are you able to help cover the costs of Neddy's keep?*

Neddy is a 7 year old chocolate black gelding who is incredibly shy. The RRC tried to rehome him with another donkey but it didn't work out as the new owner could not get near him so he was returned to Mamaku. He is nervous and very flighty and hangs out with his mates, Monty and Mintie. A sponsor would enable Neddy to stay at Mamaku as his forever home.

Chester of Mamaku – *can you help financially support his rehabilitation?*

Chester is a 4 year old chocolate gelding and is a very needy donkey. He is flighty and needs lots of handling work. If he were ever to be rehomed he would need to go with Nibby, who is his first cousin but also his best mate. Until then he is up for sponsorship for his keep and rehabilitation work.

Chocolate Soldier of Brightwater – *can you help?*

Soldier is nearly 22 and hasn't picked a donkey from the group of 21 to be his friend. His early life was spent as a companion for another jack that attacked him. He then spent many years by himself without any lady friends, but loved his human cuddles and sheep nuts. His owner died so he came to Brightwater very overweight and with lice. The Trust paid for his gelding but due to his fear, he's still very timid, he won't be rehomed. He also has white feet which need a lot of attention.

Clevedon Fudge of Brightwater – *needs a sponsor, can you help? (photo on front page)*

Fudge came from a neglected herd of inbred donkeys ferried to Marlborough. She went through the Kaikoura earthquake with her friend Fonz. They had several homes but then Fonz had a stroke. Fudge arrived with really sore feet which will require frequent attention. She has been on a diet so looks much better now and is around 19 years old. She loves human cuddles and is now at her forever home. The Trust paid for her teeth filing and micro-chipping. Can you sponsor her?

NIBBY OF MAMAKU

Nibby, a 4 year old chocolate, part miniature is another partly sponsored donkey at Mamaku and he has a big attitude for a little donkey. He and his best mate Chester (who is up for sponsorship) usually graze with two elderly donkeys, Ester and Suzy, so they can watch them and learn manners.

When Suzy became unwell, it was decided that the young boys would join the other geldings: Neddy, Mintie (both up for sponsorship) and Monty. It was thought that by now Nibby and Chester would have learned some manners and would benefit from being with donkeys their own age so they could play together. While with Ester and Suzy, they had tired the elderly jennies out with wanting to run and play all the time.

When Nibby and Chester were introduced to the "boys", Mintie took an immediate dislike to the pair, he snorted and ran at them with his ears back. Little Nibby stood his ground and ran at Mintie to which Mintie decided "this little guy means business" and backed off. By day three, all five of the boys were grazing together and had become friends, though Nibby still watches out for Chester and looks after him.

Out of the five, Nibby has become the boss. There is no mucking about as he calls the shots. It is so funny to see this little donkey rule over the others.

All five boys are given baleage twice a day and graze in a big paddock with two shelters. Nibby and Chester shelter in one whilst the other three shelter in the other one. In the mornings the first one to bray "hey we are waiting for you to feed us" is Nibby.

Once the weather settles down, one of Nibby's jobs will be to visit the local Kindergarten where he has been before but this time he will be filmed for a TV documentary.

This little big donkey is one loveable Nibby...

If you would like to contribute to Nibby's care and training, he is learning to be a good donkey ambassador and visits kindergartens, churches and partakes in educational programmes. It is hoped that Nibby will make an excellent visitor to rest-homes as he is at wheelchair level.



Report from Chair PRU HUNTER

September 2019

It has been a real learning curve over the last couple of months since I was made chair of the Donkey and Mule Protection Trust. The work our Rehoming Centres do for donkeys and mules around NZ is wonderful. Their dedication is admirable as all their work is voluntary and they often contribute financially to the care of these animals.

Our climate and lush pastures are not suited to donkeys and they require carefully considered care even when they are well and healthy. So when they have suffered neglect and hardship, the time needed to encourage their recuperation is considerable. Often we are successful but sometimes not and when one of these donkeys passes we can take comfort in that they went peacefully knowing someone cared.

It has been fairly quiet on the rescue front over the last two months. The Canterbury Rehoming Centre has taken in three donkeys recently but things do change quickly and the Mamaku Centre is expecting two more shortly with another three on the horizon. This edition of our newsletter has put the spotlight on the opportunities to sponsor donkeys that have to remain under the watchful care of the Rehoming Centre due to their particular circumstances. We hope some of you may consider this a way of providing support for the Rehoming Centres.

We submitted to the Ministry of Primary Industry on the proposed changes to the Animal Welfare Act which you will be able to see on the Ministry's website once it is made available.

I would like to mention my considerable thanks to Neil Cook our past chair who has done an excellent job and continues to assist me. Again his commitment is voluntary as it is for all trustees. I would also like to recognise Andrea Thompson our inaugural chair who also owns the Ikaroa rehoming centre and continues her commitment to donkeys and mules who need our help.

And of course thank all of you, our supporters without whom the Trust could not continue. We (and the donkeys and mules) are so appreciative of your contributions and support. Any donation is gratefully received.

Kind regards,
Pru Hunter

Introducing—RRC Brightwater and Trustee: SHARON PARKYN

Colin and I live on 25 hectares just out of Brightwater, near Nelson. We have 27 donkeys, one mini horse, 28 cattle, 31 boer cross goats and 48 sheep; and lease 3 neighbouring farms as well and use contractors to make our own hay and /or baleage.

I have been associated with donkeys since the 1970s when my parents Bill and Ivy Clark bought their first little jack from Karamea in 1970. Jennies were hard to get so my parents imported 6 from Australia arriving at Port Nelson (it made the Nelson Mail) and the Heslington Donkey Stud was established in Brightwater. My parents bred donkeys for many years. When they both died in 2004, I inherited their donkeys as Colin and I had managed their stud for several years before they died.

We established the Longridge Donkey Stud in 1991 to breed donkeys. We merged both studs but stopped breeding in 2005 as the need for donkey rehoming became our biggest worry. We started buying back or taking unwanted donkeys from around the area. Collecting 2 from as far south as Oamaru and 3 from Seddon. We also had 3 delivered to us by the donkeys' caring owners from Nightcaps. They wanted their treasured pets to come to a warmer climate. Another was delivered recently from Blenheim as her gelding friend had died.

Luckily Colin can still clip donkeys feet if urgently needed. He went to the Donkey Sanctuary in England and spent a day with their farrier learning the finer points of foot care. I now employ a farrier to come and trim feet on a regular basis. Our vet comes regularly to file teeth.

We don't show or train donkeys to carts. We have 4 groups, one mob of 21, one entire jack running with a barren jenny, another old jack who has sheep as company and 3 others. We have become a forever home for many donkeys, as once they get here I don't want to move them on.

[Continued on page 8](#)

Rescue & Rehoming Centres

Supported by the Donkey and Mule Protection Trust www.donkey-mule-trust.org.nz

North Island

<u>Mamaku</u> (Bay of Plenty)	Pauline Sainsbury	07 357 5435
Motukawa (Taranaki)	Barbara Jones	06 756 5844
<u>Ikaroa</u> <u>(lower North Island)</u>	Andrea Thomson	06 328 9812
	Nancy Neal	06 856 6020

South Island

Brightwater (Nelson)	Sharon Parkyn	03 542 3096
<u>Canterbury</u>	Diana & John Humphries	03 329 7871
	Margaret Salkeld	03 326 5072
	Jan Wright	03 384 6902
	Lea Hullett	027 686 0735
Fernhill (Southland)	Joan Rabbitte	03 236 0765



Sharon Parkyn, continued



Sharon and her donkeys—Brightwater RRC

Colin and I try to keep track of donkey movements in our area. We follow up on phone calls, pass on our knowledge when asked and involve the vets when necessary. Hopefully we will outlive all our donkeys as they can live into their forties and none of ours are very young.

I am the Nelson-Tasman area representative for the Donkey & Mule Society and a committee member. I am also the area representative for the Donkey & Mule Protection Trust and a Trustee.

Brightwater is not owned by the Donkey & Mule Protection Trust just affiliated to it and we are one of six RRCs in NZ. If we have any major expense, like having to geld a jack, then we can apply to the Trust for financial assistance. The Trust does not cover day to day running costs, we foot the bill for those. The Trust has set up a sponsorship scheme where the public can sponsor an individual donkey. It costs over \$1 a day to keep a donkey so some people give the trust \$30 to \$50 a month to sponsor their choice. Others may wish to give a monthly donation to a particular RRC via the Trust. The Trust is always looking for donations and you can become a "Friend of the Trust" by donating as often as you wish. All donations are tax deductible if you request a receipt.

Sharon Parkyn



*Andrea with a group of her much loved donkeys
— Ikaroa Donkey Rehoming Centre*

Introducing—RRC Ikaroa ANDREA THOMSON

I have had equines for over 60 years. Since my teens I've been involved in showing horses, show jumping, eventing and hunting as well as breeding. I also worked on a large sport horse stud in the weekends while at university in Canterbury. My first introduction to donkeys was over 30 years ago when I borrowed the neighbours' jack to keep my lonely horse company. We had just moved up from Wellington and my Thoroughbred was alone and fretting. They became great friends. Hector was a beautiful donkey and I took him to the local A & P show. He came home champion! As I bred sport horses, I thought, "Why not breed donkeys seeing as I have this lovely jack!" That was the start of Pemberton Stud. Hector was a pure Teamster; both his parents were imported from Australia (and his sire was taken back to Australia.)

My focus was on breeding larger donkeys suitable for carriage driving and riding. In 2004, I imported three pure Teamster donkeys from the Blithe Moon Stud in South Australia. It was not long before I realised there was a need to rehome and rehabilitate donkeys and I started doing this work in 1990. In 2007, I established the Ikaroa Donkey Rehoming Centre with Nancy Neal. We've rescued some very sad cases, some which were so traumatised that they could not be rehomed, and others were well loved pets needing to find new homes as their owners were no longer able to look after them. One of the worst cases was a donkey jack who trembled so much in fear when I went into the yard, I thought he was going to fall over. He had been beaten with a plank. Miraculously he was not nasty and over time he came to trust me and he eventually went to a home where he is very happy and much loved.

I have not bred donkeys for about 10 years as I realised I need to outlive the donkeys I have and I was aware that there were always some donkeys, I'd bred and sold that were being rehomed so I bought them back. I currently have 17 donkeys most of whom I have bred. Several of them are trained harness donkeys as I competed in serious carriage driving competitions with them for many years. I now compete in carriage driving trials and dressage with my Welsh pony and the donkeys enjoy just looking on.

I was involved in setting up the Trust to provide a support structure for those rescuing donkeys and was a Trustee until last year and I am on the committee of the Donkey & Mule Society.

Andrea Thomson



SO YOU WANT A DONKEY...

Adapted from the Donkey & Mule Society of NZ:
 “CHECKLIST... before you get a donkey”



Do your hours of work and lifestyle leave you time to check your donkeys daily?

Can you afford to have two donkeys as they prefer their own kind as company?

Do you have at least one acre per donkey, so you can spell areas as needed?

Can you provide an electric fence unit, stakes and tape to break larger feed areas?

Are your paddocks well fenced, with no barbed wire, and do they drain well?

Do your neighbours have shrubs overhanging their boundary fences that the donkeys could eat, which may possibly be poisonous?

Can you provide a dry shed for shelter and large trees for shade?

Are you prepared to buy covers if your donkeys require them (i.e., when they get older)?

Can you provide a trough of reliable fresh water?

Can you always provide a multi-mineral salt lick?

Can you afford to buy meadow hay and / or barley straw, as your donkeys need roughage every day?

Are you prepared to feed them fresh fodder every day?

Can you afford to call the vet when one of your donkeys is unwell?

Can you afford to have your donkeys' teeth filed every 1-2 years?

Can you afford to pay for a farrier to trim your donkeys' feet every 6 to 8 weeks?

Can you afford to pay for worm drench and lice treatment every quarter?

Do you have time to “muck out” the paddock where your donkeys are if the area is small?

Do you have time to brush them and lift their feet to pick out dirt and small stones at least weekly?

Can you afford the halter, lead rope, hoof pick and brushes you will need to do this work?

Do you have someone who will check on them regularly should you be away or unwell?

Can you care for your donkeys, or arrange for their on-going care, for as many years as your donkeys are likely to live (a donkey's lifespan can be 25-35 years and beyond)?

Many thanks to the Donkey and Mule Society of NZ for permission to reprint.

Further information is available from:

www.donkey-mule.org.nz and
www.donkey-mule.trust.org.nz



ASK ANDREA...

In this issue, we introduced you to Andrea Thomson, a founding Trustee and previous editor of the Donkey and Mule Protection Trust Newsletter. Andrea has a wealth of knowledge on the care and welfare of donkeys and is able to assist any new or potential donkey owner in the selection of their donkeys or in addressing any special needs they might have.

As one of the core objectives of the Trust is to inform and educate the public about donkeys and mules, we've asked Andrea to help us do that. If you have a question about the donkeys you currently own or one you are thinking about offering a home to, feel free to **ASK ANDREA...** (simply click on the link to open your mail server.)

As our Newsletter is compiled quarterly, Andrea will send you the answers directly and then we'll publish them in the next issue of the Newsletter so we can all benefit from the shared wisdom.



Our donkeys depend on your donations

Please, if you have not already made a donation this year or you are thinking about sponsoring a donkey, take a moment to complete the form below and **donate today**. Help us help the donkeys in our care.

Complete the following information and email to j.a.weild@gmail.com or post to the **Treasurer** with your cheque:

Name:

Donation Amount

- \$30
 \$20
 \$10
 Other \$ _____

If you require a receipt, please provide your address:

Email:

Postal Address:

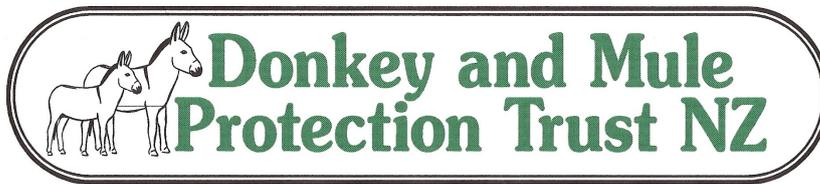
All donations of \$5 and over are tax deductible within allowable limits. NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE ORG. INC. #1638328

- I would like to be a Friend of the Trust and therefore agree to my contact details being held by the Donkey and Mule Protection Trust NZ for the purposes of future communications
- I would like to sponsor a donkey for a portion or all of its monthly keep. Please send me the details. I have included my contact details above.

Internet banking:

03 0633 0136784 00 (D&M Trust)

Please enter your name as the code and DON as ref.



NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANISATION INCORPORATED #1638328

2020 Calendar

Support the Donkey and Mule Protection Trust

The same size and layout with nice big squares to write stuff. Public holidays, anniversaries, school holidays, moons etc.



Price (including postage within NZ): **One calendar \$20.15. Two calendars \$32.15. Three Calendars \$46.15.** Ask Andrea about price for more calendars.

A great gift for family and friends and support donkeys and mules in need.

We still have 2020 Calendars for sale. If you don't already have one, please consider purchasing one to support the work we do. Click [here](#) to order.

Donkey and Mule Protection Trust NZ

TRUSTEES

Pru Hunter, Chair (Wairarapa)
 Judy Weild, Treasurer (South Otago)
 Rebecca Kent, Public Relations (Wairarapa)
 Pauline Sainsbury, RRC (Bay of Plenty)
 Barbara Jones, RRC (Taranaki)
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 Lesley Catterall, editor (Southland)
 Neil Cook (Northland)
 Alan Baguley (Bay of Plenty)
 Nick Page (Canterbury)
 (one vacancy)



Orders are being taken by Andrea Thomson, 'Pemberley' 2113 Kimbolton Rd., KIWITEA, RD 7, FEILDING 4777. Phone 06 328 9812 or email pemberley2113@farmside.co.nz

There will not be a reprint so order early

January 2021

