

# Skógarrönd Newsletter

[www.vikinghorse.co.nz](http://www.vikinghorse.co.nz)

Issue 1



## Demo at Gardens success

Our breeding horses are grazing on paddocks close to the beautiful

Wrights Water

Gardens in Mauku.

During the Lotus

festival on Sunday

6 February 2011,

we were there with

nearly all of our

horses. With our

gelding Biskup we

gave two short

demo's, and did

some organised

walks between the

herd with the

young horses and

the mare. The youngsters

were not bothered by all

the attention. Even

Dvalinn, the youngest

member thought it was

great. He had kids hang-

ing all over him! The people

were amazed of how

easy the horses were!

Lucky for the horses and

us it was overcast for

most of the day, and the

sun only came through



later in the afternoon. by

then it was also time to

call it a day. We were able

to catch up with some

friends and met some very

interesting people. We

are looking back on a

great day and will certainly

do it again in near future!

Thanks also to Carolyn for

all your great help.

You can combine a walk

in the Water

Gardens

with a visit

to our small

breeding

herd.

Please [con-](#)

[tact us](#) to

make an

appoint-

ment.

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## In this newsletter

In this newsletter an article on the lovely Icelandic Sheepdogs of Elizabeth Olinger, the Horses on Ice competition which was held on an ice skate ring in the Netherlands, what to do about runny noses, ground work with horses



and more.

Happy reading

Jennie Boerema

April 2011

**Skógarrönd Ltd.**

### Skógarrönd Ltd

- *Small scale breeding with excellent pedigree horses*
- *"All Black" Stallion at Stud, fully tested on spavin, AI possible*
- *Benni's Harmony Stubben range saddles special for Icelandic Horses*
- *book and DVD's on training Icelandic Horses*
- *Pre-purchase advice*
- *Trainings advice*

## Runny noses

Some weeks ago one of our horses had a bit of a runny nose. Nothing special, but quite unusual for our horses. In all the years we have had Icelandic Horses, and that is more than 25 years, we have actually never had a horse with a serious discharge from their nose. So new was this to me that I immediately looked in my study books on how to solve this problem. Apparently they had an mild infection in their upper respiratory tract, or in plain English, a runny nose or a cold. This was probably caused by the warm and humid weather being an ideal environment for bacteria to multiply.... Knowing that herbs like garlic and rosehip will boost the immune system as well as lemon. I found a recipe which contained all these goodies I had in mind to give them all at

once. In the book *The practical horse herbal* by Victoria Ferguson (Carlton Books Ltd/Australia/2000/ ISBN 1-84222-560-0) I found the following recipe, which can also be used by the whole family in case of a cold:

Ingredients:

6 whole lemons cut in quarters

6 tablespoons of freshly chopped garlic

1 knob freshly grated ginger

1 teaspoon dried or fresh Thyme leaves

pinch of cayenne pepper

Add whole lot to 3 Liter of water, bring to boil and let it simmer for 30 minutes. For horses two coffee

mugs of the cooled mixture with each feed (and 100ml directly into their mouth, optional) and add a bit of raw honey. I let it soak in for a couple of minutes and gave it twice a day. The horses loved it and even better, they recovered quite quickly and are happy as Larry again. (NB for humans a small teacup warm to hot with added raw honey 6 times a day). Afterwards I heard the runny nose symptoms were really going around and the vets actually advised to let it run their course, nothing much you could do about it. Well, not now anymore!

## Icelandic Dogs

Owning and Icelandic Horse is usually accompanied by an interest in Iceland in general. Many people with Icelandic Horses have been visiting Iceland, are interested in the culture and other native animals like the Icelandic Sheepdog. I know several people who own besides Icelandic Horses, Icelandic sheep and Icelandic Sheepdogs. Elizabeth Olinger from Hawkes Bay is one of them. She owns a lovely gelding Vinur and imported some carefully selected Icelandic Sheepdogs which whom she started breeding. As I was planning to go to the Horse of

*Icelandic sheepdogs, Iceland's only native dog, came with the Viking settlers in the 9th century*

to visit Elizabeth Olinger and her dogs during the same weekend. I was welcomed by a whole pack of happy and very friendly dogs. 'The Icelandic sheepdog is very sensitive, obedient and extremely affectionate' I have experienced this first hand. All of them were very friendly and played nicely with

each other. They are also clowns; one of them got into the horse paddock and after a lot of running decided to cool down in the trough by swimming round and round and round....

'The Icelandic sheepdog loves the whole family especially children and prefers to be with them all the time. When properly introduced they get along very well with other animals in the family.

The dogs were all very friendly with the cat as you can see on one of the pictures! At one stage we would love to own an Icelandic Sheepdog, that is for sure!



If you are interested in these friendly family dogs, please contact Elizabeth Olinger via her website [www.southstaricelandics.co.nz](http://www.southstaricelandics.co.nz) or phone 06 8577812



the Year show where Carolyn Mincham presented her book *"The horse in New Zealand" Attitude & Heart* (see article page 5), I decided

## Horses on Ice competition March 19, the Netherlands

*Cold, warm, Icelandic fire and spectacle*, these were the ingredients for the 3rd European Championships for Icelandic horses on ice.

*Cold, warm, Icelandic fire and spectacle* were what Horses On Ice offered us on Saturday the 19th March 2011.

After successful previous editions (2006, 2007 and 2009) Horses On Ice (HOI) was even bigger in 2011. The competition format was changed, a large grandstand was built in the ice rink, there was a food-square and a nice shopping 'village'.

As in 2009, Horses On Ice 2011 was once again (held under the auspices of the FEIF), the European Championship for Icelandic horses on ice, being held in Haarlem.

About 100 participants (50 national and 50 interna-

tional riders) gave their appearance on ice.

Riding contests with the Icelandic horse on ice seems to be a promising form for competition. According to experts the ice floor is ideal for the Icelandic horse. Nowhere are their gaits so explosive, their movements so impressive and the Icelandic horse so much in its own element as on the ice.



Videos can be seen on their youtube account:

[http://www.youtube.com/view\\_play\\_list?p=23A09032265501C9](http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=23A09032265501C9)

## Ground work

Working from the ground with your horse is as much important as riding. Groundwork is the foundation for communicating with your horse. Groundwork with a (rope) halter and a rope can be practiced anywhere; leading your horse to and from the

pad-dock, at open-

own method of natural horsemanship for foal handling, float and truck loading, stallion and colt handling and education of all horses at their owners' location. On the pictures she moves Þótti from one hand to the other with gentle and subtle movements. It is very important to think beforehand about what you would like to achieve. If you do not get the response you asked for,

nine times out of ten it had to do with your body language, some-

thing being lost in translation. Give the horse time to think and digest what you have taught him. Every horse is different; one needs more time than another to understand what you want of them.

Who does not want their horse to be soft and move when and where you want? Vanessa is able to teach you and your horse how to achieve this. Vanessa is based in Glenbrook, near Waiuku, North island.

Her contact details are; 09 235 3591 or 027 529 5425



ing gates, leading him towards the float etc. Just use your imagination. I have had some sessions with Vanessa Randell. Vanessa is an equine specialist. She uses her



## Eiðfaxi (advertisement)

Eiðfaxi is THE international magazine for anyone interested in the Icelandic Horse. Whether you are a breeder, trainer, competition– or leisure rider, there are interesting articles catering for all. In the latest issue articles on the history of the Icelandic horses Down Under, training, breeding and many more. Very useful information, especially for us down under and far away from where it all happens!!

Eiðfaxi now also offers an online subscription. Visit their website for more information: [www.eidfaxi.is](http://www.eidfaxi.is)

# EIÐFAXI

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## Breeding at Skógarrönd: the natural way

Þótti is a pure bred 5-gaited totally black stallion. Imported in 2003 from the Netherlands, he presents very good bloodlines from famous Icelandic stallions like Hrafn frá Holtsmúla and Sörli frá Sauðarkróki.

One of the highest assessed four gaited stallions, Trúr frá Wetsinghe (see also [www.trur.de](http://www.trur.de)) is his half brother. Their mother, Hrefna von Wiesenhof has showed she is a really good broodmare and produced several highly assessed stallions. Þótti's father is the friendly Pruður frá Wetsinghe. Pruður is praised for his high movements and supple back, which he consequently passes on to his offspring. Recently several of Pruður's daughters received awards for their confirmation and offspring.

You can imagine we are very proud to offer you Þótti for service! Þótti's offspring in New Zealand already shows he passes on his steady four beat tölt, high movement and easy going charac-

ter.

In combination with our imported mare Hugför frá Kopavógi (grand daughter to Hrafn frá Holtsmúla), he has produced three great foals; the two year old gelding Áki and the 1 year old filly-Brynja. And now the colt Dvalinn. Áki is a five gaiter with expressive and supple movements, Brynja is a supple four gaiter with high leg movements. Dvalinn will most likely develop into a five gaited horse.



*At your service Þótti frá Wetsinghe, All Black 5-gaited pure bred Icelandic Horse Stallion*

At Skógarrönd we prefer to do the serving the natural way; in the herd. The stallion is perfectly able to sort out the right time and moment for serving. Þótti will not interfere with a mare when she is not ready to receive. If for some reason you are not able to bring your mare to our stallion, we offer the possibility of AI. If you are interested in Þótti's services or would like to know more about our breeding, please [contact](#) us for more information.

## Lifland (advertisement)

The web shop of Lifland in Iceland has a good selection of gear and gifts related to Icelandic Horses. Check out their website [www.lifland.is](http://www.lifland.is) with an interesting new range of products!



## Benni's Harmony (advertisement)

At Skógarrönd we sell the Benni's Harmony range of high quality saddles and bridles specially designed for the Icelandic Horse.

Occasionally we also will have some second hand good quality saddles for sale. Please [contact us](#) for more information

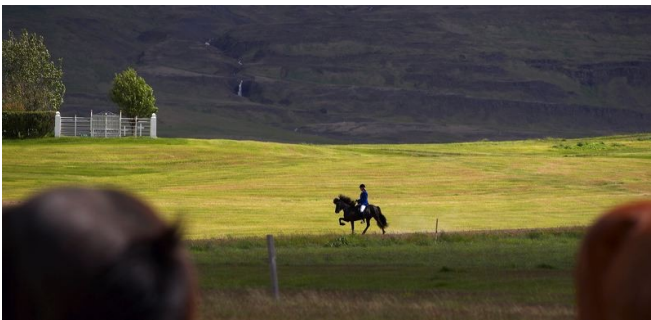


## The Landsmót: June 26– July 3 2011

The Landsmót, the biggest horse show in Iceland is held every other year. This year it will take place in in Skagafjörður, in Northwest Iceland. For more information, see [www.landsmot.is](http://www.landsmot.is)

'The history of Landsmót reaches back to 1950, when the first show was held at Þingvellir. At that show 133 horses were presented: breeding stock, first-class riding horses (gæðingar) and racing horses. At that time, there was only one category for gæðingar to compete in - a single class of all-around quality riding horses - besides races and breeding shows. Subsequently, National Horse Shows were held every four years until the Association of Riding Clubs in Iceland decided at its annual congress in 1995 to stage the national show every second year. The first show held by those rules was the Landsmót 2000, in Reykjavík. This is the 6th time that Landsmót is held at Vindheimamelar in Skagafjörður.'

'It is the middle of the night, but it is light as day. The sun refuses to set. It may hide for a moment behind a mountain or a hill, but then it swiftly returns and surrounds the night in mystical light. I sense an adventure. It's been an amazing day. I feel like I've seen all the world's greatest horses. The Icelandic horse is of course the most beautiful one. Tomorrow I am going to buy myself a filly. I am sure she will bring me luck. She will become one of the greatest and produce many great horses for me.'



I step out of the tent and into the night – into adventure. Maybe I'll meet old friends? Maybe new ones? Maybe I'll find love? The music from the big white tent is carried in the breeze through the summer night. People sit outside their tents and caravans with a dim light from their gas cooker, chatting and singing! Almost everyone is a good singer. Horses bow their heads in little pad-

docks just by, content and safe. Where am I? This must be heaven!'

## The Horse in New Zealand

Carolyn Mincham, who owns next to her Angelo Arab mare Minnie, Reykir frá Lukka, son of our stallion Þótti, released of her book "The Horse in New Zealand" at the Horse of the Year Show in March.

'... horses are not just confined to memory.

They graze our open spaces and walk on our

beaches, bush tracks and country roads. Their presence allows many New Zealanders to engage actively with horses and to experience first hand the deep connection between

human and equine that has existed in this

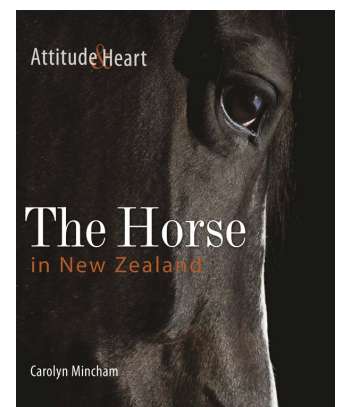
country since the first horses stepped ashore.'

'This book tells the captivating story of horses in New Zealand

and of the special place they hold in our hearts.'

Available in all bookshops, The Warehouse.

RRP: \$59.99 incl GST | 208 pages | full colour throughout | hardback with jacket



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**We are on the web;  
[www.vikinghorse.co.nz](http://www.vikinghorse.co.nz)**

**At Skógarrönd we care for our  
horses!**

Skógarrönd Ltd is dedicated to the Icelandic Horse. We are breeding quality horses on a small scale, promoting the breed Down Under, selling tack, training DVD's and books related to Icelandic Horses. If you have any questions regarding the Icelandic Horse, do not hesitate to contact us, we are happy to answer all your questions regarding the breed! You are most welcome to visit our herd. Please feel free to [contact us](#).