



mare & foal **SANCTUARY** *Kindness, Care and Knowledge*

Press Release

Monday, January 16

CHOCOLATE-COLOURED BUTTONS GETS HIS CHRISTMAS WISH

BUTTONS' Christmas wish came true when, only days into the New Year, he was given the best present a rescue pony could ever wish for – a new home!

The cheeky-faced Shetland had become a favourite with staff at the Mare & Foal Sanctuary ever since his arrival in May 2009, partly because he adores fuss and attention. It was with mixed emotions, therefore, that they said goodbye to him - albeit delighted that he has now been found a loving home with carer Jane Schofield of Crediton, with whom he will be able to begin an exciting new life ahead.

Mare & Foal Sanctuary Equine Manager Sally Burton said: "Buttons really could not have had a better present this Christmas. He is a lovely pony and has given ourselves at the Sanctuary much pleasure and plenty of laughter over the years.

"Once he gets to know and trust you, he is a little gem and is quite happy to stay on his own in a stable while another horse is being ridden. Because he has such a lovely nature, here at the Sanctuary he has helped to wean and look after orphan foals.

"It is nice to think he is going to now have a family of his own to look after him and we are all thrilled to bits. Of course, every time a horse or pony is rehomed, it makes room for us here at the Sanctuary to take in another one in need of rescue so, by taking in Buttons, Jane is helping us in this respect too."

Jane added: "Buttons travelled really well and has settled in with his new friend Kipper, also from the Mare & Foal Sanctuary, and a couple of elderly sheep. He is still quite nervous of me but getting braver every day and will sometimes take a tit-bit from my hand. He comes when he is called at 'bucket time' and enjoys his food and I don't think it will be very long before we can cuddle him! He's such a sweetie and already has a bit of an international following on my Facebook page. Taking on a pony from the Mare & Foal Sanctuary is such a worthwhile experience, and they are always there if you need help or support."

Buttons is one of the many horses and ponies that the Mare & Foal Sanctuary has rehomed with experienced carers across the South West over the years since it was established by Rosemary Kind back in 1988. A further 18 are now ready for rehoming as soon as possible. If you are interested in rehoming, please visit www.mareandfoal.org/rehoming or call 01626 355969.

EDITOR'S NOTES: *For further information, please contact Publicity Officer Tamzin Hindmarch on: 01626 355969. Mare & Foal Sanctuary is a Registered Charity in England No. 1141831 in England and Wales. Ltd Co. No. 7584914.*