

Fill in the missing words

spook at moorland log overseas pining injection reckons build up stone stable

Ian So— so how's— how's the horse?

Fiona It's actually a pony, Ian!

Ian Is it?

Fiona Yes. I've actually got a New Forest pony.

Ian Have you?

Fiona Which is native to the United Kingdom. *[Right, okay.]* Yeah. 'Cos it's like a [] horse.

Ian A moorland horse – what's that?

Fiona Well, you know, like Exmoor – all the different counties we have in the United Kingdom.

Ian Right. And how long have you had her? *[Him.]* Him.

Fiona Bertie. Actually, his full name is Rushmore Bertie Wooster on his passport.

Ian He's got a passport?

Fiona All horses in England have to have passports now, by law. Proper passports, like we do for travelling []

Ian But does he travel overseas? Have you—

Fiona No. But by law you have to have a passport in the United Kingdom. *[Okay.]* And that's whereby the vet will come along, draw a picture of your horse, mar]— with all the markings. Every time you have an [] –

Ian Dra— Draw it?

Fiona Draw it.

Ian Right, okay.

Fiona So you didn't know that?

Ian I didn't know that. No, no, no.

Fiona So you've learnt something today.

Ian I have— I have learnt something, yeah. Yeah. And— and you said that Bertie was very upset when you got back from America?

Fiona Oh, yes. I went to America for a month and... um... I've had him for eleven, twelve years now *[Yeah.]* and the longest I've probably been away from him is two weeks. So you [] a relationship when you're going down five, six times a week, feeding them, riding them. Especially winter, summer, going to see them in the field. So of course I left him for over four weeks and when I got back he was in his []... um... he didn't look at me for two days, turned to the back of the stable, his back to me, and just wouldn't look at me for two days and completely sulked. And also had lost in the last two weeks— probably lost a stone, two [] in weight. And the vet [] that he was [] for me *[Mhmm.]* which kind of shocked me in a way because I wasn't used to that— that we'd built up that kind of relationship.

Ian Yeah. So are all— all horses like that? Is that normal?

Fiona I think they are, because they do rely on human beings. *[Mhmm.]* And they do trust. It's all about trust as well. They don't— For example, if I go out for a ride on the lane, and I— I might do the same route two or three times a week, and— for example, one day last week there was a massive [] just lying in the middle of the lane, which is not normally there, he— he would just [] that. It's like what— He would get agitated by it. Why is it there?

Ian How strange.

Fiona Yeah, and they remember things as well, they remember what route they go on, and what things that have annoyed them in the past, and they just— they remember things.

Ian So you can tell whether Bertie's in a good mood or a bad mood or—

farrier psycho groomed cheeky chappy feel sore blacksmith naughty unties

Fiona Oh, completely. Totally. I mean, this is the [redacted] that if he has the [redacted] coming to do his shoes— new shoes, which is ever—

Ian Sorry, what's a farrier?

Fiona A farrier is like a traditional [redacted] [*Right, okay.*] that— that— So every eight weeks they get new shoes, so they can go out on the road, [*Mhmm.*] so it doesn't get their [redacted] But...um... for example, he— he— he hates the farrier, or he's very cheeky with the farrier. So when the farrier's not looking he sometimes [redacted] the ropes of the other horses that are in line waiting to have their feet done. So he's— he's very much like a [redacted] teenager from school. [*Mhmm.*] So they do have their traits. And then other days he's like a grumpy old man, not eating his dinner. And then other days again he's just like a five-year-old child going a hundred miles an hour round the fields that you can't stop. It's just— you just don't know from one day from the next what mood he's gonna be in.

Ian So it's not to do with his diet or what the weather's like or—

Fiona No. Well it can be— it can be the change— a change in weather is a major factor definitely. [*Yeah.*] Definitely.

Ian Yeah, okay. And are they all like that— are all horses— they've all got different personalities, have they?

Fiona Yeah, they all have. But I do find that the ponies, the smaller ones, are a lot more intelligent than your big shire horse [*Right.*] in that sort of way. And we've also got a donkey on the farm that's a complete psycho so...

Ian In what way is it [redacted]?

Fiona He's just very noisy, very— just— I don't know, I just don't think— B he doesn't get ridden and you do find that the ones that are getting ridden all the time are probably got— getting more attention [*Yeah.*] 'cos they're being [redacted] they're having dinner after they come back from their ride, while the ones just left out in the field, they must just get bored. I would!