

April 2019

When I first arrived at The Cottage in July I had no idea this place was going to become like a second home to me. Over the past nine months I've spent half a year here at The Cottage and I couldn't be happier about everything that has happened. From day one there were so many things to learn, and after all this time I have yet to learn so much more – however, thanks to Chris and Deborah's lifelong experience with horses, me and many others have greatly improved a variety of skills including horse and stable management, fencing, general farming, horse riding, working horses from the ground and much more.

Over weeks and months Chris and Deborah slowly allowed me more and more freedom, until they trusted me with all their horses - even their 4-year old super talented black gelding, Furstwish (Furby), as well as Tommy (Runaway Hit) and Aastaron – these 3 playful boys have enough character for 30 horses!

Speaking of playful: the two “babies”, Nova and Diva (both yearlings) have stolen a special place in my heart; seeing them grow up and going through different stages of their young lives has been amazing... sometimes a little nerve racking, but nevertheless amazing.

While sometimes it has been difficult to see so many people come and go, most people I am still in touch with and some have even come back to The Cottage for a return visit. I am very much looking forward to everything that's going to happen in my last few months here and am already looking forward to a return visit.

Lots of love and all the best,
Marlies (19, Australia/Austria)

