



## Meet Kula and Twinkle Star

If you're looking for a socially distanced activity and some inspiration, head out to South River (between Cupids and Clarke's Beach), where you'll come across a pasture with Newfoundland Ponies who spend the summer there grazing.

The pasture is run and maintained (yes they drove all the stakes in the ground themselves and did all their fencing) by a volunteer group in the area called the "Newfoundland Pony Pals Project." They run events, including pony rides for children, to educate people about the Newfoundland Pony and its importance in the history of the province. This year, due to Covid, they had to cancel all their events, which is also their main source of fundraising.

On the pasture in South River, two special girls can be seen – always close together. Newfoundland Pony mare, 'Kula' was born in Whitebourne in 2001 as part of Newfoundland Pony breeding program. In 2001, she was adopted by the Hierlihy family of South River after her owner moved to the US. She has

been an important part of the Hierlihy family ever since. In 2013, with the help of NL Pony expert, Liz Chafe, Kula was bred with Newfoundland Pony stallion 'Dawson Star' and the following spring on May 21, 2014, a beautiful foal named 'Hierlihy's Twinkle Star' was born.

Both these ponies are owned by Byron Hierlihy and his family who do all they can to preserve the breed, which is listed as Critically Endangered by Rare Breeds Canada.

To find out more about the Newfoundland Pony Pals Project, you can follow them on Facebook. You can also reach Byron Hierlihy at [byronhierlihy@yahoo.ca](mailto:byronhierlihy@yahoo.ca).

For more information please visit

[www.newfoundlandpony.com](http://www.newfoundlandpony.com)

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