

Stuart Muir

NZCEF, CJF, DipWCF, APF

Stuart started his horseshoeing career in Christchurch, New Zealand. After completing a 4-year apprenticeship, Stuart started his own business in 1999 and worked towards obtaining his New Zealand certification. Once certified, Stuart continued to expand his business, working on numerous therapeutic cases and on some of New Zealand's top race and show horses. As Stuart's clientele expanded, Stuart realised the need for a higher level of education and he actively pursued many educational events throughout the Southern hemisphere and the USA. This information allowed him to apply new techniques to his work.

The exposure to new progressive information and techniques also led to Stuart working for the highly decorated and Olympic gold medal rider, Sir Mark Todd. Stuart worked on Todd's racehorses and breeding stock, and when Todd returned to the eventing platform in 2008, Stuart provided the foot care for his horse, Gandalf, when he competed in the 2008 Summer Olympics. Stuart's dedication to improving equine foot care led him to tutoring at the New Zealand Equestrian Academy from 1999 through to 2012. His involvement with the students saw him teach the fundamentals of equine hoof health and bio-mechanics.

Stuart won a scholarship from the New Zealand Research Foundation in 2010. The grant was awarded to enable a veterinarian and farrier to further their education while improving vet and farrier relations in New Zealand. Stuart attended the International Hoof Care Summit in Cincinnati, Ohio, and spent one week as an extern at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky. After returning to New Zealand, Stuart quickly put the new information he learned abroad to use. Therapeutic sport horses were now a large part of his clientele - both in New Zealand and Australia.

Stuart's thirst for knowledge drew him back to Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital, where he was hired as a full-time farrier under the guidance of Dr Scott Morrison in 2012. Working with Dr Scott Morrison at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital expedited Stuart's exposure to working on clinical therapeutic cases. Stuart's clientele at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital consists of sport horses and horses that have diagnosed pathology. Stuart enjoys the challenge of working on complex pathology and enjoys rehabilitating horses.

Stuart's passion for offering advanced hoof care while at the hospital has given him the opportunity to experience shoeing sport horses in America and South America, and racehorses in the Middle East.

Stuart gained his American Farriers Association Certified Journeyman Farrier Certificate in 2014 and his Diploma with The Worshipful Company of Farriers in 2018. Stuart's dedication to farriery has seen him lecture with Dr Scott Morrison throughout America. Stuart and Dr Scott Morrison have taught at numerous veterinary clinics and symposiums, including the North East Association of Equine Practitioners symposium in Virginia. Stuart has also given demonstrations at Keeneland Race Course in Lexington, Kentucky as part of the "Breakfast with the Stars".

Stuart has continued to offer education and lecture for organisations and veterinary clinics throughout America and Canada. Some of the organisations include The Equine Lameness Prevention Organization and the International Hoof-Care Summit. Stuart was invited to speak at the International Hoof-Care Summit in 2017 and 2019. In 2019 Stuart was awarded with the Summit's "Outstanding Presentation Award" which was based on comparative anatomy in young and mature equines.

Stuart has conducted webinars for the American Farriers Journal on topics such as Managing Horses Feet in Wet Environments, and Direct and Indirect Glue on Method Options. His written work has been published in many magazines and Farrier Journals. Some of his work can be read in the American Farriers Journals and Western Horseman Magazines.

In 2017 Stuart was elected as a board member for the North East Association of Equine Practitioners. In this position, he has chaired the membership committee, virtual symposium committee, and the symposium podiatry chair position. Stuart was then elected president for the 2021/22 year.

In Stuart's spare time, he enjoys surfing, golfing, and spending time with his family.