

Shrek

?! What the...?!

Shrek was shorn in front of the media a second time on 29 November 2006, his birthday. This time he was flown by helicopter out to one of the icebergs floating 90km off the Otago coast! A special set of crampons were tailor-made for Shrek to stop him from skidding on the ice.

Stat attack

Shrek's initial wool fibres were 380mm long – altogether that's 52,800km of wool at the end of his six years of isolation.

22kg of wool was removed from Shrek when he was first shorn.

Digging deeper...

Members of the public and the SPCA were concerned Shrek would get too cold after his first appointment with the shearer. Queenstown-based clothing brand 'Icebreaker' came to the rescue by making him a 100% Merino wool jumper.

Top of the class

Shrek now has his own wine label, Renegade, a Pinot gris and a Pinot noir produced by grapes grown at Bendigo Station. This was launched alongside a second book by the Tarras schoolchildren about this remarkable sheep!

Shrek the hermit Merino sheep became an instant celebrity when he was found in April 2004. For six years he evaded musterers, carving out a living at an altitude of 1500m on Bendigo Station, near Tarras in Central Otago, surviving both summer heat and bitter winter cold.

Shrek, with his six year long shaggy fleece, made his media debut on the front page of the ODT on Saturday 19 April 2004. The story grabbed the public interest and a worldwide media frenzy followed. He was shorn for the first time live on national TV, beamed around the world on CNN to around 1.2 billion people. His heart-warming story of survival, together with his remarkably friendly nature, made headlines on news channels in the USA, UK and Australia.

Shrek's owner, John Perriam, was quick to recognise the potential of the new media star. He generously decided to donate all money raised from Shrek's publicity to the CureKids charity – the child health research foundation. Shrek also stars in children's books written by the children of Tarras School. The first of these tells the story of Shrek through the eyes of the children who named him 'Shrek' because he looked like an ogre but was quiet and gentle.

Now living in his own special complex on Bendigo Station, Shrek takes time out to participate in many public events and fundraisers all for the benefit of CureKids. He continues to be a media darling and has featured in a wide variety of publications, including regular updates in the ODT, in the *National Business Review*, international newspapers and even a note in *Playboy*. At one time Shrek was identified as a preferred Prime Minister!



John Perriam escorts a freshly shorn Shrek across the iceberg



Shrek and a young fan

