



# The Animal Healing Trust and Horse Rescue

Winter Newsletter 2011



French Horses, Dodger and Dune with their good friend Louie

Hello lovely people!  
**H**Tank you for your continued interest and support for us and what we are doing. Here are some updates on recent events!

**W**ell our last newsletter showed you the touching story of our little Louie who we rescued and he was incredibly thin, back in April, well WOW what an adventure he has had since then!!! He is not only happy, healthy (some would say chubby!) and with the herd now with lots of horsey friends he has been on the telly!! Yes the telly!! Somehow the world's largest animal charity The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) got to hear about what we have been doing and rang me up for a chat! They have been so impressed with all the healing work and use of complementary therapies we use they wanted to present us with a SPECIAL CARE FOR ANIMALS AWARD. WOW!!! AND WOW AGAIN!! And yes I did cry on the phone when the nice lady told me!! After that ITV news rang me up and Central TV came down to do a feature on us for the

Central Evening News and especially about how we had helped Louie! SO Louie was filmed having some Reiki from me!! .....and boy did he enjoy the stardom!! He was a true professional! His best mate 'Baby Michael' was NOT impressed and came over while I was being interviewed and tried to drag me away by the sleeve of my coat! SO funny,

unfortunately they didn't show that on the TV!! Ha ha, on a serious note, we have been overjoyed and excited by what this means for us, Richard and I went to London to The House of Lords to pick up the award and took some dear friends with us, Gary Oakes (we love you Gary) who was with us back in 2008 when we started the charity and used to help us with just Billy & Daisy then, and also Sue Orchard (we love you Sue) who has been such a dear friend and supporter of ours since the start as well as Pam Holiday & Jill & John Smith who have all been regularly volunteering at the farm helping us for over a year now. We had such an amazing day and I was presented with the award by Brian May (what a lovely Man!) and Baroness Gale and met loads of amazing people doing amazing selfless work with and for animals around the UK. It was an uplifting and humbling experience and one we will treasure for ever.

**W**hat has also been going on very quietly behind the scenes for the last few months has been our commitment to help our newest edition, little black pony May to get well, which has been a very emotional experiences for all of us at the charity.



Our trip to the House of Lords to receive our 'Special Care for Animals' award, Gary, Me (Sue) and Richard.



Beautiful Pony May

Little May came into us poorly and under very sad circumstances. Her owners had only had her less than 2 years but very sadly their youngest child, their little baby had developed cancer and they were not allowed to be around animals due to his on going treatment. Richard and I really didn't have the money or time to take on another pony but when I met May and her human family my heart went out to them all. May wasn't looking too well at all (this was back in the summer) she was elderly, in her mid twenties and the heat was really affecting her, and she was having difficulty breathing. The family were obviously going through a very sad time (and they have allowed me to share their story with you) and this was made worse because they didn't feel she was receiving the care she needed at the place she was staying. I really FELT we had to act quickly to help May and within a week lovely Graham & Bev (Westie's Mom & Dad) helped us transport May back to our farm. Very sadly she went down hill rapidly, she lost A LOT of weight, her breathing became a lot worse and she wasn't responding to anything we were doing for her and she was VERY depressed. The vet came twice and said he wouldn't come a third time unless it was to put her down!!! And worst than that my trusted bio chemist said there was nothing she could do either, she had checked and tested for everything and there was nothing May needed chemically or nutritionally that could help her!! She had even tested for cranial sacral therapy, bowen, reiki etc

none of these would help either, which was interesting as May didn't like to be touched when you did Reiki on her. I then remembered a reading I had had a year previously that had said that some horses would come to us as a final resting place to help them have a peaceful and happy transition, oh no we all loved May so much. I told the volunteers everything and there were a lot of tears, everyone had really fallen in love with May and we would be so sad to see her go.

I went home and meditated and asked for guidance on what to do, I needed to be strong to help everyone and to help May, in whatever way that meant. What I got was quite a surprise and I feel quite emotional even writing this, I was given that there was one thing that no body had tested for...no one had tested for LOVE!!!! Love!! Love was what May needed and Love would be what could heal her!! Oh my goodness me! I was elated! I did know from May's passport that she had had a lot of homes and had had 5 homes in 6 years!! So perhaps she had needed

to know she WAS LOVED!! Richard and I went straight back to the farm to tell May how much we loved her and how we would always love her! We told all the others too and they constantly re-affirmed this to her daily and would hug her too (if she allowed it!) especially Jill and John Smith who have hugged and loved little May every day, love you both xxxx Lets fast forward to now, November and beautiful May has made a miraculously recovery!!!! She has put LOTS of weight on, her breathing issues have COMPLETELY GONE and she is incredibly happy with her 2 elderly horse lady friends Maddie and Springy and she lets all of us hug her and tickle her and she even lets us do hands on healing now!! WE LOVE MAY!!! And how pleased we are that she is still with us and what a huge lesson for all of us, THANK YOU!

The other horses have been hilarious and they continue to provide joy and entertainment to each other and us, Billy's herd is incredibly mellow, Billy is now married to beautiful Miracle, Daisy is married to Alfie, then there is Inka and Oscar who are both rather posh, Pearl, our unicorn, Bailey who is a gentle giant and our Cobb Bobby who continues to keep us busy by frequently trashing fences!!! Naughty Bobby! (And thank you Simon Whitehouse for continually coming to our rescue and helping us erect even better and stronger electric & wooden fences) In the other herd is the handsome Westie (Mr Lover Lover) with his 2 wives Ruby and Illyanne (from France) also the 2 other French horses Dodger and Dune, as well as Cottie and Charlie who have also tied the knot and are inseparable (such a lot of weddings this year!) cheeky little Spirit (she may be the smallest but she is fearless)



Our resident horse whisperer John Smith with Baby Michael and his Mom Faith

and her best mate Louie (TV star!) and then Baby Michael and his Mom Faith who decided they didn't want to live with Billy's herd anymore so have defected to live with Westie's lot but still chat over the fence to Bailey & Bobby!

**T**hen just when we thought things were going smoothly and balanced, horses all happy and well, fundraising planned, all the field shelters built for the winter and we won an award & appeared on TV.....we received a phone call.....a horse needing help! .....I went to meet Harvey a stunning 17 hands high dark brown beautiful boy, from Ireland, an ex racehorse from Ireland to be precise. His current owners had bought him 3 weeks after he came off the race track and had owned him for 18 months but in that short time he had had a couple of freak accidents and had a strong reaction to some drugs from the vet and had become incredibly depressed and no longer wanted to be ridden. His owners could no longer afford to keep him as their circumstances had changed and they were concerned what would become of him. Well when I met him I was surprised at how depressed he was, he hung his head quite low down and his whole body language was that of sadness and no joy at all. I noticed he had really strange markings on his 2 front legs, identical ridges, prominent and was told that while he had been racing in Ireland he had been fired. Fired, what's that? Well I looked on the internet and it isn't pleasant! In the UK, Europe & other parts of the world it's illegal to have horses 'fired' but in Ireland they still do it. It started in AD 500 (surely we have moved on since then!) And I quote 'Firstly the horse's leg is clipped, the horse is sedated, then, subjected to a red-hot firing iron placed against the lower leg. The iron will either be used to burn lines around the leg (known as line or bar firing) or punched into the leg to actually penetrate the tendon itself (pin firing)' This is meant to and I quote, 'stimulate tendon repair by counter irritation' Which translated means lets get these race horses back working and earning humans money as quick as possible!! And let's ignore the long term implications on the horse's physical, mental or emotional health and well being!! Well one of the Reiki



Our Newest Rescue Harvey the ex-race horse from Ireland

Principles says to "To honour your teachers" and seriously all the horses I have met ALWAYS teach me something and I have definitely learnt something from Harvey, and it was to educate me that this barbaric act is done to such gentle creatures! I never knew this happened and I have been shocked, seriously shocked, no wonder Harvey is depressed!!

**S**o within a week Harvey arrived at the farm (12th November 2011 to be exact) and as the winter food and hay bills have now doubled I have agreed to personally pay for Harvey's bills so not to stretch the funds anymore. I will say he has affected me as soon as I met him as he is the image of 'my Billy' the first boy horse we ever took on, and he was off the race track too, I wonder if they are brothers!!!

**W**e decided that the 2 herds would be too much for such a troubled individual so we FELT that the best option for Harvey would be to pop him in with the 3 older ladies, Maddie, Springy and May. I had a word with them the night before and told them Harvey was coming and that he had been through a tough time and could they be kind to him and make him feel welcome. I also sent healing to Harvey and explained there would be some changes happening and that they would all be good and that he would be making new friends and would be safe. The whole thing went incred-

ibly smoothly, Harvey arrived and the ladies fell instantly and I mean instantly in love with him!! They followed him around all day mothering him and making sure he was Ok. I had to work that day so couldn't be there but you can imagine the conversations, 'Is there anything you need dear' 'You will like it here dear' 'We get tea with carrots at about 4pm' 'And we get breakfast too' 'Oh you will like it here' SO funny!!! The next morning I saw Maddie asleep on the grass and Harvey standing over her guarding her!!! Well wow they have bonded already!!! And as for lovely little May it's such a beautiful time for her as I think not only is she surrounded in love but also she has fallen in love! The way she looks at Harvey makes your heart melt. She is only small, about 13 hands high, and so she has to look UP at him, and then he tenderly leans down and looks at her and then in that moment you can feel the energy between them..... its LOVE .....and as the song says 'ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE' .....and its so special and my heart sings with joy for I am so happy for them both. This time last year we didn't have either of these horses and to see them both together and happy is lovely, I know we will have a journey ahead of us with Harvey, we will take it slow though, at his pace and with all this LOVE around him I trust Harvey's life will now be happy, healthy, healed and safe.

Which leads to on to ask if any of you would like to get involved and help us??? You can help in many ways, perhaps volunteering at the farm, becoming a practitioner, helping at fundraising events, or come and support us at fundraising events and spend your money! Or would you like to make a donation or even sponsor a horse and help pay for their monthly bills? Each horse costs us approx. £100 per month to keep and we have 24 so we are ALWAYS GRATEFUL FOR ANY DONATION At the moment we need some new horse coats too so if anyone has any good quality ones (of various sizes from miniature pony size to 7 foot) let me know, or if anyone wants to donate to buy a particular horse a coat or buy it themselves, I can tell you who is what size! (Bobby by the way is bigger than last year! Don't tell him I told you but he is carrying a little extra weight at the moment! LOVE BOBBY)

And this weekend is our CHRISTMAS FAIR!! Saturday 19th November at The Bonded Warehouse, Canal Street, Stourbridge 11am till 4pm LOTS of stalls, gifts to buy, crystals, CDs, books, or treat yourself to a massage, Bowen therapy or reiki healing (just like the horses have) or have a reading, as well as tea and home made cake! (do feel free to make some and bring some too if you wish) ALSO our stunning charity 2012 calendar will be on sale and our awesome Charity Christmas all have our beautiful horses on them, all looking so happy! This is our main fundraiser to help with the winter food bills so we would love you to support us! THANK YOU xx

Another fantastic fundraising idea is the 50/50 club. It's great! Basically you buy a number for £20 and £10 goes to the horses and the other £10 goes in a pot, then each month one number is drawn and the winner wins what's in the pot which hopefully will be £50 each month, at the moment it's proving very successful and we need as many numbers sold as possible so we can start on 1st January 2012. If you would like to be part of this exciting scheme let me or Kim know (Its Kim's baby and she will be doing ALL THE WORK Thanks Kim xx)

We have some exciting plans for next year and I will leave that for the next

newsletter! I will be running lots of Animal Healing courses, and Reiki for Animals courses next year as a way of raising money for the Charity and to help people work with the energy to help Animals! So let me know if you would be interested in receiving information.

So finally I would like to say a huge THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU who have supported us this year WE REALLY ARE VERY GRATEFUL xxx Thank you to all that come to the fundraising events, open days, sponsor horses, and donate we really appreciate all the love and kindness that you shower the horses in (and they know it!) Also a personal thank you to all those that help with the horses too, at the farm, with therapies, and other help too, so many lovely people, Kim McCabe, Pam Holliday, Jill &

John Smith, Martin Cheatle, Carrie Eddins, Phil & Ellie Hopkins (&Max their Collie) Maria Bromfield, Simon Whitehouse(fence saviour) 'Bowen Louise' Harris, Jayne Bills, Rob Brain, Deb Wooten, Amy Wooten & 'Grandad' John Wooten, Hana & Debbie Dalton & Stephanie Alexander, Jennie Emily Smith, Jo Skitt (I hope I haven't missed anyone out) and thanks to Richard too for constantly being my wonderful man and hopefully next year my husband! (need to make time to plan our wedding!)

LOVE TO ALL HORSES, ANIMALS LAND HUMANS, PEACE AND BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL AND OF COURSE LOVE XXXXXX Sue xxx

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Herd Leader Westie and Little pony Cottie, one of our Christmas cards for this year.