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**Bransby, Lincoln LN1 2PH  
01427 788 464**

## Dear Valued Friend of Bransby Horses

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Time is flying this year and we are so grateful to have you with us. As we go full steam ahead towards the end of 2021, we want to thank you for your ongoing, generous contributions. You help to care for over 320 horses that live across our two sites in Bransby and Barlings. We definitely couldn't continue what we do without you.

As you may know, we recently welcomed 38 of our wonderful Friends of Bransby members to site for our 2021 VIP Day. A lovely day was had by everyone and all of the Bransby Horses team who were involved on the day loved getting the chance to see you and tell you more about the work we do and how you help to make that happen. It's been a long time since we have been able to gather together and we all loved it! You'll see overleaf we have included a roundup of the day for you. So those who couldn't make it can read all about what we got up to, and those that were there can re-live what an amazing day we all had!

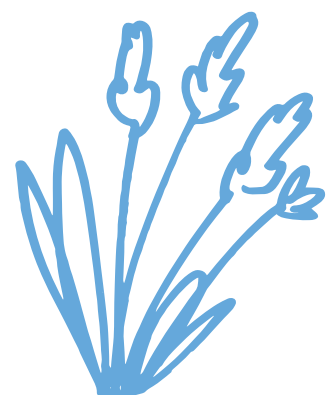
We would love to see you there next year, on our 2022 VIP Day. It will be taking place on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th September 2022, so if you'd like to get involved and reserve your place(s) please email us at [mail@bransbyhorses.co.uk](mailto:mail@bransbyhorses.co.uk) or call us on 01427 788 464.

Best Wishes

*Hannah Ghest*

On behalf of the Fundraising Team

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Charity Registration Number: 1075601



# VIP Day Round Up



The attendees got an opportunity to ask the team members questions.



The Riding Barn team gave us a really interesting talk and demonstration.



One of the ponies that some of the groups met, was Rhone.

"Thank you for a wonderful day we really enjoyed it!"  
Mr & Mrs Stamper

On Friday 17th and Saturday 18th we welcomed, for the first time in over 18 months, 38 of our valued supporters on site for our 2021 VIP day event.

After everyone had gathered together (whilst still following social distancing measures) in our Memorial Garden, Jo Snell; CEO, welcomed everyone with a short introductory talk of what to expect during the day. Once the attendees were split into three small, more intimate groups to encourage question asking and equal interaction with team members, we began the day with each group separating off to a different activity.



We visited the riding arena where we got to see their brand new jumps!

The wonderful team in the Riding Barn gave us a really interesting talk and demonstration on how they work with a horse or pony to get them ready for their ridden home. We began in the Riding Barn where the team members talked through each stage of the backing process, giving us a whistle stop tour of what can be a very long process. For each of the sessions, the team also gave us a demonstration with a different pony so we could see a brief glimpse of each stage they were describing. One of the ponies that some of the groups met, was Rhone (pictured on the left).

Rhone had only been backed for a couple of weeks at the time of the VIP Day but she enjoyed the attention and happily gave the group a perfect demonstration. Rhone will hopefully be ready to find her perfect partner in a couple of months' time. After this, the Riding Barn team then guided us up Memory Lane, whilst telling us about any ponies we saw along the way, to the riding arena where we got to see their brand new jumps!



"All in all, a truly memorable day. A total joy from start to finish."  
Mr & Mrs Panczak

The Riding Barn team told us about any ponies we saw along the way.

The groups also got to spend some time over at the Peter Hunt Yard, our handling yard. The team create an individual handling plan to help equines who have been identified as nervous or unhandled. The team work





tirelessly to embed basic skills and to build trust in people. Team Leader, Laura, began by giving us a tour around the yard, telling us more about each of the ponies who were in the stables. We then followed Laura to where our two semi-feral ponies, Buttercup and Lilac, are currently living. Laura told us a lot more about their handling journey and how far they've come since arriving to the charity in 2016 as completely feral and unhandled ponies. Although Buttercup and Lilac are still classed as semi feral, the team has worked so hard with them so they can have all of their basic needs met e.g. their hooves trimmed by the farrier, regular dentist check-ups, and so they can be seen safely by the vet. After meeting Buttercup and Lilac, we got the chance to see some of the handling methods the Peter Hunt Yard use. Jemma, Equine Welfare Assistant, talked us through some of the handling methods including clicker training, join up and the use of the hand and hook, which we use to get some of the ponies used to the feeling of being touched.

I enjoyed the afternoon tea, what a treat!  
Miss Morrison

The third session that the groups rotated round, was an informal session in the Conference Room, where Jo Snell; CEO, Sally Crawford; Director of Engagement and Income Generation, Emma Carter; director of Equine Welfare, Kathryn McFee; Trustee Chairperson, Mike Pickles; Trustee, Carole Fisher; Trustee, Hayley Hill; Main Yard Team Leader, Sally Reed and Alison Baxter; Peter Hunt Yard Team Members, were based ready to talk to the attendees about the work they do at the Charity and also answer any questions the groups had.

Finally, once again, we gathered together in the Memorial Garden to finish the day. The Main Yard team very kindly brought Sansa and Lyanna out to the top yard on Main Yard so we could finally get to meet Lyanna after hearing about her for so long! Sansa and Lyanna both loved the attention and the team members were also able to give us an update on them. You can read their update below. Once we had said our goodbyes to Sansa and Lyanna, each group, one by one,

made their way down to the café for the delicious afternoon tea provided by the Feedroom Café.

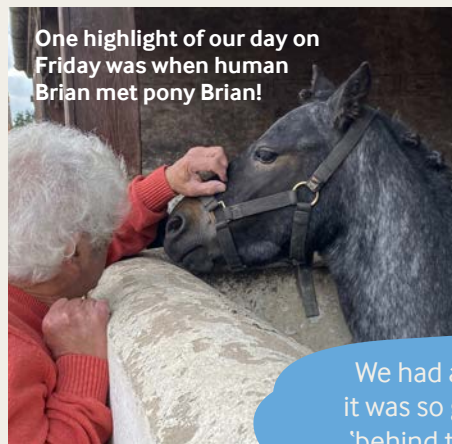
We really enjoyed welcoming some of our valued supporters back on site after what has been a very challenging 18 months. All of the Bransby Horses team who were involved on the day loved getting the chance tell the groups more about the work we do and how they help to make that happen.

**We would love to see you there next year, on our 2022 VIP Day! It will be taking place on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th September 2022, so if you'd like to get to involved and reserve your place(s) please email us at [mail@bransbyhorses.co.uk](mailto:mail@bransbyhorses.co.uk) or call us on 01427 788 464.**

You all work so hard and do a wonderful job. We felt the small groups were ideal, as it gave more opportunities to ask questions.  
Mr and Mrs Hanson



One of the horses we met in the Riding Barn was Carriad, who is currently looking for her perfect ridden partner.



One highlight of our day on Friday was when human Brian met pony Brian!

We had a great day it was so good to see 'behind the scenes'.  
Mr & Mrs Reed



Peter Hunt Yard Team Leader, Laura, began by giving us a tour.



Equine Welfare Assistant, Jemma Waller, talked us through some of the handling methods.



Handling methods include clicker training, join up and the use of the hand and hook



Mr & Mrs Panczak enjoying the delicious afternoon tea.



# Lyanna Update

You may remember in our update in June, Lyanna had moved out of the foal slip and into the smallest head collar. She has now grown so much she has now outgrown that too! Lyanna recently has been spending some time around the farrier for 'farrier socials', the main aim for these socials is to get Lyanna used to the farrier and to help her not see having her hooves trimmed as a negative experience. After a little bit of patience, Lyanna's first hoof trim went very successfully. Lyanna is also really progressing with her behaviour when being led, and is now being happily lead by all the Main Yard team.

Now Lyanna has reached 6 months old the Main Yard team has started thinking about the weaning process. They've begun by bringing Lyanna away from Sansa for short periods of time so they begin to get used to being away from each other. Hayley, Main Yard Team Leader, says "Neither of them are bothered, Sansa is desperate for a rest from Lyanna and Lyanna is Miss Independent so she's loving it!". As the weaning process progresses, the Main Yard team will start some

trailer training with Lyanna, to get her comfortable with loading and travelling in a trailer. This is because when Lyanna is completely weaned she will be moving to a field further away from the yard and will be taken there in a trailer.

Lyanna has recently made 2 new friends, Whisper and Raccoon, who will be in Lyanna's new field when she makes the big move. By introducing Lyanna to her new friends now it makes it easier for Lyanna to settle into her new field.

Lyanna stands happily to be groomed and at the moment is getting used to having a nice warm bath. Teaching them to enjoy a bath is helpful for the future, in case they ever need bathing due to itching, skin irritation or similar. The team are also teaching Lyanna with clicker training. Lyanna has never been happy having around her ear area touched, so the team are hoping to use clicker training to make this a happier experience for Lyanna.

The Main Yard Team say that "She's still very sassy and doesn't like being told what to do!"

