

Bransby *Life*

AUTUMN/WINTER 2026 • BransbyHorses.co.uk • 01427 788 464



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— HORSES —

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Joanne Snell

Contact Us
Bransby Horses, Bransby,
Lincoln LN1 2PH
mail@bransbyhorses.co.uk
BransbyHorses.co.uk

Welfare Enquiries
01427 787 369

General Enquiries
01427 788 464

Find us on social media
@BransbyHorses



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Belle

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Welcome to our latest Bransby Life newsletter

This edition highlights how, with your support, we are able to be there for equines in need at every stage of their lives.

We explore an aspect of equine welfare that is sometimes less visible, but no less important: mental wellbeing. Good welfare is about far more than food, shelter and veterinary care. Horses are social, intelligent animals who need companionship, choice and opportunities to express their natural behaviours in order to thrive. Throughout this newsletter, you will see how these needs are at the heart of everything we do here at Bransby Horses.

You will read about Eddie, whose journey shows the remarkable transformation that can happen when a horse moves from isolation and uncertainty to connection, security and a better quality of life. You'll also meet Belle, whose story reminds us that effective welfare is not always about rescue. Sometimes the greatest impact comes from reaching horses and their owners at the right moment, providing practical advice, routine care and compassionate support before a situation develops into a crisis.

These stories demonstrate how your kindness and support makes every stage of our work possible. Whether providing lifelong care and rehabilitation, delivering welfare interventions, or supporting owners within their communities, every welfare journey matters. At the time of writing, we are experiencing the highest number of equine intakes for many months. This growing demand places increasing pressure on our facilities, resources and dedicated teams. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to preventative welfare work, because preventing suffering before it occurs is one of the most effective ways to improve equine welfare. Thank you for helping us be there when horses need us most. Together, we are saving lives, changing lives and creating better futures for equines and the people who care for them.

Thank You
To Snell, CEO

Three foals, two rescues, and one brighter future

The arrival of spring is often accompanied by the pitter-patter of tiny hooves, and this year was no different. Over the course of a month, we welcomed three beautiful little foals into the world, who, despite all being born at Bransby Horses, experienced very different starts to life. With one foal in particular, capturing hearts across the charity.

Belle

Born in May 2026, Belle's journey has not been an easy one. Shortly after birth, she was rejected by her mum Bonnie, who had been

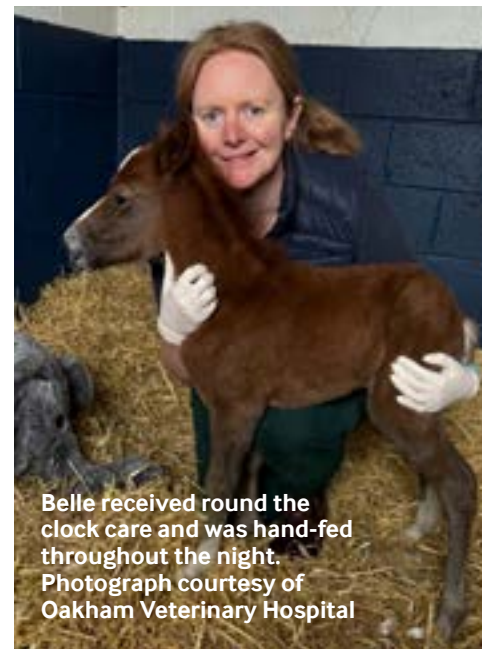
rescued from the Welsh mountains a few months prior.

Bonnie was still very young herself and, despite the best efforts from her handlers, she wasn't mentally ready to care for a foal. While this was difficult to witness, the team now had some important decisions to make, and quickly. They referred Belle to Oakham Veterinary Hospital just hours after birth, where she was provided with round the clock care and hand-fed throughout the night. The charity reached out to the

wider equine community, trying to find Belle a foster mare, but unfortunately, nothing quite matched her needs, and instead she was brought back to our site in Bransby. "She had a bit of a rocky start" explained Equine Welfare Assistant Olivia, who has been closely involved in Belle's care. "She was picking up lots of illnesses and it was setting her back. But she's actually coped really well."

The care Belle needed has been intense, not just for her but for the Animal Reception Centre team as well. When we

The care Belle needed has been intense, not just for her but for the Animal Reception Centre team as well



Belle received round the clock care and was hand-fed throughout the night. Photograph courtesy of Oakham Veterinary Hospital





Flossie and Belle



Olivia and Belle



Belle is now thriving

care for a foal in such circumstances, it really can be touch and go. Each hour is nerve wracking, each feed accepted is a relief but along the way there really are some magical moments. For the first six weeks, we fed Belle every two hours, very much like a newborn baby. Members of the equine team across the charity worked tirelessly to ensure the little filly was given the best care possible all while making sure she wasn't becoming overly reliant on humans.

"We were very mindful of her latching onto us," said Olivia. "From the start we wanted clear boundaries between milk time and human interaction. As much as you just want to cuddle her, we had to be careful we weren't over-humanising her."

Without a mother figure, the team had to take on that teaching role, for things as simple as keeping out of the sun. "Foals are not very good at regulating body temperature," Olivia explained. "She needed teaching to come out of the sun and into the shade, so we predominantly fed her in the shelter." But despite all the care and attention from the team, Belle needed a four-legged friend to ensure her needs were being met. Companionship among equines plays a huge part in their mental wellbeing, loneliness impacts on equines just like us

humans. Without another equine to interact with, Belle wouldn't be able to learn how to properly socialise and behave among other horses, which would have implications for the rest of her life. The team proposed a few options, before deciding on a well-known Bransby Horses resident, an 11-year-old Cob named Flossie.

Belle was gradually introduced to this gentle one-eyed mare, starting with over the fence interactions, before moving to supervised visits and eventually living in the same field. "It was actually quite beautiful to see," said Olivia. "Watching that relationship develop was incredible."

Today, Belle is thriving. She's gaining weight very well, learning important social skills from Flossie while still remaining her independent self and leaving a lasting impression on the team.

Mia

Shortly after, Mia was born, the second foal of the year. Her mum, Lexi, was one of five equines abandoned on private land before coming into our care. Mia had a few ups and downs, including a short period in hospital after Lexi was struggling to produce milk. But



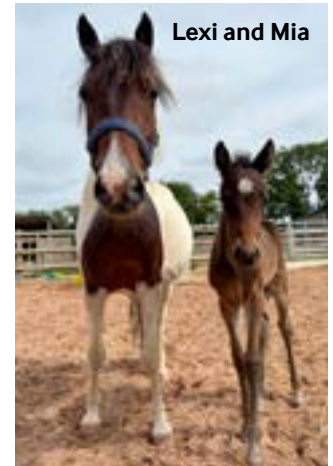
Blair and Lyric

since their return, the pair have progressed remarkably well.

Lyric

Meanwhile, from the same Welsh mountain rescue as Bonnie, fellow youngster Blair welcomed the third foal of 2026, a colt named Lyric. Like Bonnie, Blair was only two years old when she became a mum. Though she'd never been handled before arriving at Bransby Horses, she has adapted remarkably well to the increased human interaction that comes with caring for a foal. The love Blair has for her baby is clear to see and a poignant example of how diverse equine personalities can be, despite experiencing

the same start in life. In many ways, our equine friends are just like us as people – we all have different personalities, different starts in life and different experiences as a result.



Lexi and Mia

Belle, Mia and Lyric each had very different beginnings. Without Bransby Horses' intervention, Belle and Mia may not have survived. Today, all three enjoy the love, care and support they deserve. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who champions equine welfare, near and far. Thanks to supporters like you, their futures are brighter, and we hope you enjoy following their journeys as they continue to grow, thrive and flourish.

On behalf of them all, thank you

A LIFETIME OF GIVING: Choicey's Story



There are many equines we care for, each and every year and each and every one leaves an impression on our hearts.

Choicey, was a horse who had a big impact



on Natasha, our Rehoming Manager.

Speaking to Natasha, it was clear how much this particular horse meant, what began with a memory, a deep breath and a smile ended with a reminder of how much these equines give to us in their lives and why we do the work we do at Bransby Horses.

Choicey had been a racehorse in his early life and when this phase ended, he became a therapy horse. He spent many rewarding years helping people, working with those who had experienced debilitating injuries, amputations and accidents and helping them to walk again.

As Choicey grew older, a decision was made that he needed to retire and he began his life at Bransby Horses. "He wasn't getting on so well with herd life when he first arrived at Bransby Horses." Explained Natasha. "He came to the Riding Barn for a dental procedure, but as soon as he came out of the box, it was like he walked in and thought 'I'm home.' He just seemed to settle in straight away and as soon as I saw him, we had an instant connection. I just loved his whole character, his nature, and when I found out more about his story, it really touched me.

"He was a bit like my soul horse here at Bransby Horses. I just adored him."

Heartbreakingly, as we prepared for Choicey to move to his forever home with one of our fosterers, his existing painful and progressive dental disease had worsened. The condition was causing increasing damage to his teeth, nerves and gums, making it uncomfortable for him to eat and affecting his quality of life.

It would not have been fair to move this gentle soul once again when we knew his life was now limited. A decision was made to keep Choicey with us at Bransby Horses, where we could walk beside him in his final days, just like he had done for so many people as a therapy horse.



FROM SALES TO SANCTUARY: 50 Years Since the Rescue of Charlotte and Emily

With the 60th anniversary of Bransby Horses fast approaching, we're taking the time to reflect on our founder Mr. Peter Hunt, some of the equines he saved in the charity's early years, and how he's impacted the work we do today.

50 years ago, just before Christmas 1976, donkeys Charlotte and Emily were up for sale at an auction in Mansfield and destined for the slaughterhouse, with a price of 34 guineas over their heads. But before the hammer was brought down, Mr. Peter Hunt stepped in. Offering just one guinea more and paying for the two out of his own pocket, mum Charlotte and her foal Emily were successfully purchased and safely transported to Bransby. For the first time in their lives, Charlotte and Emily were forever safe.

This was not an uncommon occurrence during the infancy of Bransby Horses, when founder Mr. Hunt would attend horse sales across the UK, often rescuing those in the poorest state. He was an advocate for equine welfare and frequently spoke out about the conditions horses were kept

in, transported hours from market to market and repeatedly arriving in emaciated states. Many residents in the early years were rescued from these situations and given a second chance at life at the sanctuary in Bransby. Knowing how important equine care and wellbeing was, Mr. Peter Hunt also introduced a rule that every equine rescued by the charity would forever remain under our ownership, something that is still carried out today. While this was first implemented to ensure no horse ended up back at auction, its principle is still relevant today and prevents all of our current and future rescued equines from ever experiencing pain and suffering again.

Emily and Charlotte lived at Bransby Horses until their deaths in 2002 and 2004 respectively. They were loved by visitors and members of the team and were even part of our historic Sponsorship Star scheme. They are a key part of our history, and we're honoured to remember them, alongside our founder.

Do you have a memory of Bransby Horses you'd like to share?

Whether they're of our rescued equines or Mr. Peter Hunt himself, we'd love to hear them. Please send in your stories to memories@bransbyhorses.co.uk or you can write to us: Memories, Bransby Horses, Bransby, Lincoln, LN1 2PH.

The First Step of Every Journey

Our role is to step in and provide every equine with the highest level of care and support to help them to overcome their challenges, survive and thrive



Lorraine with Lexi

Every equine that arrives at Bransby Horses has their own story. Some may have experienced neglect, pain or suffering, others may just need a forever home, but all pass through one very important part of the charity, the Animal Reception Centre (ARC).

Led by Equine Manager Lorraine, the ARC team provides the vital first step in every equine's journey.

"On arrival, we see equines at a really low point, they may have been removed from all they have known, from a herd where they have lived their entire lives or from the only people they have known. They may be scared, in pain and hungry too. We have to build trust, whilst at the same time carrying out vital checks and monitoring."

As people, we would also struggle if we couldn't

understand what was happening. Imagine being uprooted from your home, placed in a strange place and being forced to eat a meal you've never tasted before, all whilst some stranger tries to get closer to you than you're comfortable with.

Our role is to step in and provide every equine with the highest level of care and support to help them to overcome their challenges, survive and thrive. There are moments when progress feels uncertain, and we wait anxiously for signs of improvement. When that progress comes, it's a welcome relief for everyone involved.

In a practical sense, the team is responsible for welcoming each arrival, carrying out health assessments, and ensuring each animal completes the necessary isolation period safely before joining the wider Bransby Horses community. While biosecurity and physical health checks are an important part of the team's work, the mental wellbeing of each equine is just as vital as any physical concerns. Just like us as people. The team takes time to understand every equine as an individual, monitoring behaviour and overall wellbeing throughout their stay. "Patience is key," says Lorraine. "We try not to rush progress and instead allow the equine to move at a pace that works for them."

No two cases are ever the same, meaning that each equine is provided with an individual approach to help them through this stage of their journey. By combining veterinary expertise with compassionate day-to-day care, the team ensures every animal receives a tailored plan that meets their specific needs.

At times, that support extends far beyond normal working hours. Providing round-the-clock care is one of the most demanding aspects of life in the ARC, we pull together as a team, with staff coming together from right across the charity – we exchange a hopeful glance, a tired nod, a promising update and sometimes tears – then we continue with the task in hand. Whilst it can be emotional, those days and nights can also be some of the most rewarding.

Building trust from the beginning



One example comes in the form of Olive, a seven-month-old filly who arrived with a shockingly large open wound on her withers. She required specialist medical care on a daily basis, frequent bandage changes and the administration of pain relief four times a day, including at 3am. While Olive's recovery is still ongoing, she is finally able to enjoy her life under the care of Bransby Horses.



Thanks to the compassion, expertise and dedication of the Animal Reception Centre team, every equine arriving at Bransby Horses is given the opportunity to feel safe, recover, and prepare for the next stage of their journey. Thanks to people like you, making donations, sponsoring an equine, purchasing your lottery ticket – however you choose to show your support, it matters and helps provide this vital first step for all equines arriving into our care.

Brian shared a deep and lasting connection with Bransby Horses, a place that held a very special place in his heart for around 25 years

Thank You Brian!

Support over the generations

Some of our supporters have been with us for generations and this is Brian's story

Brian's visits to the charity began as Sunday outings with his beloved mum around 25 years ago, those trips soon became cherished family visits. Over the years, he introduced his sisters, brothers-in-law, and other family members to Bransby Horses and to the joy he found there.

This is something we love at Bransby Horses, seeing relationships grow and develop, hearing about life events and sharing in the joyous moments that make us smile and make precious memories. Our visitors start to feel like extended members of the Bransby Horses family, and we look forward to regularly hearing updates.

Brian's love of horses likely began in childhood, growing up on a farm with his three sisters and brother. Above all, Brian had a particular fondness for the Shire horses, which never failed to capture his admiration.

That affection carried through generations and truly became a family affair. His sister Irene adopted donkeys for her grandchildren, while his brother John, spent time at Bransby Horses many years ago with his wife and grandchildren.

A familiar and much-loved visitor, Brian was always thoughtful and generous in his support. He often returned home from visits with a picture or puzzle, delighted to contribute to a cause that meant so much to him. He also greatly treasured his collections of ceramic Shire horses and Lilliput Lane houses.

Sadly, last December, Brian passed away, a sudden loss which has been felt profoundly by his family.

Following his passing, Brian's lifelong devotion to Bransby Horses was honoured through a collection taken at his funeral, as well as a generous gift of £5,000 left in his Will to support the care and enrichment of the horses he loved so deeply. His Shire horse collections and Lilliput Lane houses have now also been lovingly donated to Bransby Horses as part of his legacy.

As Brian's family continue to come to terms with their grief, they find comfort in knowing that his legacy will live on—bringing care and wellbeing to the horses at Bransby and offering a sense of peace and harmony to those who loved him.

At the time of writing this edition of Bransby Life, we received the sad news that Brian's sister Irene had passed away. We have the loved ones of Brian, Irene and also the late John in our thoughts and send them comfort as they navigate their grief.

Create Your Legacy

3 in 4 of our rescued horses are cared for by generous people creating a gift in their Will



In 2025, Dorothy passed away at the incredible age of 102. In her Will, she left almost all of her estate to charities, including Bransby Horses. Dorothy's kindness meant Bransby Horses was the recipient of £20,000, a legacy we were extremely grateful to receive. Her legacy will ensure equines, which Dorothy so clearly loved throughout her life, continue to be cared for as part of her lasting legacy.

Leaving a gift in your Will to Bransby Horses ensures that your love for equines lives on - contact us on 01427 788 464 for more information.

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The Incredible Journey of **Thunderbob** and his Perfect Partners



Lily and Thunderbob.
Photograph courtesy of
Top Shots Photography



Thunderbob with
his mum, Willow

The year was 2010, summer was mere hours away, and a new colt foal was being welcomed into the world. His mum, Willow, had arrived two months prior at the request of the RSPCA, heavily in foal and very underweight; team members were unsure whether she would survive the birth. But against the odds, Willow gave birth to a healthy foal named Thunderbob.

Bob was lucky; he would never know the neglect and mistreatment his mother suffered. Instead, he would grow up under the care of Bransby Horses, receiving all the training he'd need to join the Perfect Partner scheme.

And that is exactly what he did.

At four years old, after being backed as a hacking pony, Thunderbob found his new home with fosterer Katie and her two daughters, Lucy and Lily.

"Lucy has always wanted to ride and has been mad about ponies. She started at age four," explained Katie. From then onwards, there was no looking back. Lucy rode friends' ponies and loaned others as she grew, but eventually, it was time for her to have a pony of her own.

A Bransby Horses fosterer spotted them at Pony Club and told Katie about a horse called Thunderbob who was ready to find his new home.

"So, we went to have a look at him. He'd just been backed, Lucy visited two or three times, and [Bransby Horses] just made sure that he was great for hacking."

Then 12-year-old Lucy took on the project of Thunderbob, turning him from a hacking horse to a Pony Club expert. But it wasn't all smooth sailing, and the family put in years of hard work to make him the equine he is today.

"The first time we took him out, we took him to Tickhill Riding Club for show jumping, 50 centimetres. He knocked every pole down.

And then we did it again, and he knocked all 11 jumps down.

"So, we chucked him into



Team Thunderbob

Bob was lucky;
he would never
know the neglect
and mistreatment
his mother
suffered

Pony Club, and it was Lucy that did absolutely everything." She patiently put a lot of time and effort into his training, and it wasn't long before it started to pay off.

"Then Lucy won the first eventing league." Said Katie. "They did Pony Club Area 6 Evening League, went out and she absolutely wiped the floor. She won it outright by about 70 points, nobody could catch her."

Even though Lucy eventually outgrew Thunderbob, he wasn't going anywhere and instead her sister Lily, seven

years her junior, was the perfect next rider.

The family certainly have their hands full, not only with Thunderbob and their second foster pony Draco, but also with boxes and boxes of rosettes from years of achievements.

Even now with Lucy working for top eventer Caroline Powell, a role that takes her around the world, and Lily starting her A Levels, potentially leaving her with less time to focus on eventing, Thunderbob is staying exactly where he is.

"We've had him for 12 years; we'd like to see the whole story. He's part of the family."



Lucy with Draco
and Thunderbob

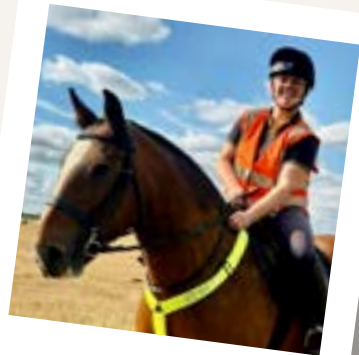
Do you or someone you know have room for an equine in your life? Why not foster an equine with Bransby Horses and find the next member of your family.



Tales from the Bransby Horses Family



Lyanna

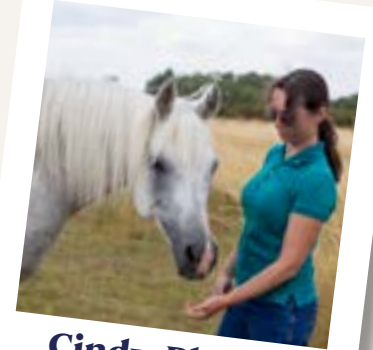


Stef & Maisey



Kerry & Vinny

“ Vinny means a great deal to me and my partner, he was the first pony my non-horsey partner showed in competition, we couldn't be without him and his cheeky ways now. ”
Photograph courtesy of Jordan Brooking Photography



Cindy, Phoebe & Amethyst

“ Our experience with Bransby Horses has been amazing, so supportive towards the family and to Amethyst. Amethyst has been a lifeline for my daughter Phoebe, they are best friends and soul mates. Life would be so different if Bransby Horses and Amethyst hadn't been in it. ”

“ Bransby Horses run a professional easy access charity through their caring and experienced staff. This has allowed Lychgate Farm to help Bransby pony Lyanna. She makes us and all our students smile daily, as only a pony can. ”

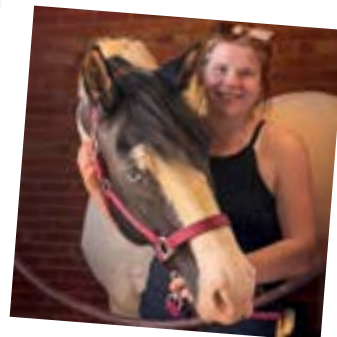
Photograph courtesy of Lychgate Farm Equestrian

“ The Bransby Horses Foster Scheme has been close to my heart for seven years and over those years I have been fortunate to foster two horses. Maisey came into my life unexpectedly and at a time when I felt I was missing having my own horse. I feel fortunate to have been the chosen one to give her a loving home, and although Maisey took some time to settle with me, we have now formed a strong bond which is really rewarding to see. I am forever thankful to the Rehoming Team for allowing me to rehome Maisey and would recommend Bransby Horses to anyone who wants to rehome a rescue equine. ”



Olivia & Sooty

“ Sooty and my daughter Olivia have been best friends for six years; Olivia was diagnosed with anxiety and panic disorder which severely impacted her mental health. Sooty has become her constant source of peace when the world around her becomes too much. They are literally inseparable we can't thank Bransby Horses enough for entrusting us with this beautiful boy who is very much part of the family. ”



Chloe & Roxy

“ Miss Roxy came to me in February after sadly losing my horse unexpectedly last year. I knew it wasn't time to hang up my boots just yet and I wanted to give my love to another like I did my boy. Roxy has certainly helped me in so many ways, her sweet little whicker when she hears my car, waiting at the gate ready to come in for a ride or a pamper, and just hearing her eating away while I poo pick. I feel very lucky to have been matched with Roxy through the Perfect Partner scheme and have been able to continue to give my love to another equine. She certainly is perfect for me. ”

“ In May 2021 Bransby Horses entrusted me with fostering Tarik, an unriden six-year-old horse. Tarik's playful nature has made many days of fun and adventure. Today I have the most amazing horse to ride, Bransby Horses have always offered support when challenges arose with their rehoming team are a call away. I am truly grateful for this opportunity. ”

Photograph courtesy of IndiePics Photography



Rachel & Tarik

More Than Just a Healthy Horse: Supporting Positive Mental Wellbeing

When we think about animal welfare, it's easy to focus on the basics: food, water, shelter and veterinary care. These are all

essential, but at Bransby Horses we believe that good welfare goes beyond meeting basic needs. While we cannot know

exactly what a horse is thinking, we can learn to recognise signs that indicate whether they are feeling comfortable and secure or anxious and distressed.

The 3 Fs: What Horses Really Want

At Bransby Horses, we use the "3 Fs", **Friends, Forage and Freedom**, as an easy way to think about positive mental wellbeing and what helps create a life worth living for horses.

Friends



Horses are naturally social animals. In the wild, they live in family groups where companionship provides safety, comfort and security. Strong social bonds allow horses to play, groom one another and spend time together while eating, resting and exploring. These positive interactions can help reduce stress, anxiety and boredom. A horse living without meaningful social contact can miss out on many of the experiences that contribute to positive wellbeing.

Forage



Horses are designed to graze for much of the day. Their digestive systems and natural behaviours are closely linked to spending hours foraging and chewing fibrous food. Access to appropriate forage does more than support physical health, it also helps horses feel satisfied, occupied and relaxed. Without enough opportunity to forage, horses can become frustrated, which may contribute to stress and unwanted behaviours.

Freedom



Freedom is about giving horses opportunities to make choices and express natural behaviours. In natural environments, horses spend much of their time moving between areas to find food, water, shelter and companions. Having the ability to move around, explore and choose where they spend their time contributes significantly to their wellbeing.



You do not need to be a horse owner to notice when something might not be right. If you are concerned about a horse's welfare, please do not ignore it. Bransby Horses is here to help.

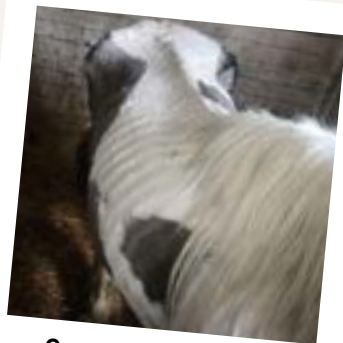
Our welfare team can provide advice, guidance and support where concerns exist. Call us on 01427 787 369 or email welfare@bransbyhorses.co.uk

Belle's Story

We always encourage members of the public to report any welfare concerns to us as soon as possible, giving us enough time to remedy a situation before it escalates. So, when concerns were raised about an underweight piebald cob mare named Belle in April 2026, Bransby Horses Field Officer Kris visited her owner to offer support and guidance.

Belle had only been with her owner for 12 weeks and she was trying her best to care for a mare who was already in a poor condition when purchased. Facing criticism online about Belle's appearance was incredibly difficult, but instead of struggling alone, the owner was open to accepting help and determined to do right by her horse.

"Kris was absolutely amazing. He was very



Concerns were raised about Belle

friendly and never judged me. He reassured me that he was here to help, I felt better knowing I had someone on my side." Said Belle's owner.

Kris worked closely with the owner to create a feeding plan and quickly identified that routine dental care was also needed, alongside veterinary and farrier care. The owner embraced every piece of advice, putting Belle's welfare first and committing herself to improving the mare's condition.

When Kris returned the following month, the difference was already visible. Belle had started to gain weight and condition, and her owner had worked hard to follow the guidance provided. By June, after moving to a new location with better grazing, Belle's transformation was even more striking. She had gained further weight, built muscle across her neck, sides and hindquarters, and was thriving.

"I just wanted to love her and give her a new start. She's my baby and she will be with me for life" explained her owner.

Belle's story is a reminder that with the right support, guidance and willingness to learn, positive change is possible. It also highlights how important members of the public are, seeking our advice and helping us prevent a more serious welfare concern from developing. "It was a fine example of positive working with an owner out in the

community to reach the same goal. I, the owner and Belle all ended up in a better and happier position" explained Kris.

Thanks to the generosity of Bransby Horses' supporters, Field Officers like Kris can help thousands of equines every year through preventative welfare work. This vital support helps owners better meet their equines' needs, improving welfare before situations reach crisis point and helping horses like Belle enjoy brighter futures.

Kris was able to work with a dedicated owner in just four visits to turn an equine's life around, an example of how our outreach work in the community is vitally important, enabling the charity to reach equines at a crucial time with heart-warming results.

Belle's transformation was striking

Eddie's Story

At just two years old, Eddie's future looked uncertain. The young stallion was living in challenging circumstances after his owner developed health and mobility issues and couldn't safely manage him. Full of energy and increasingly difficult to control, Eddie was harassing mares, causing disruption among other equines and showing destructive behaviour that raised concerns he could get out onto a main road.

Struggling to know how to cope, Eddie was confined in a

storage container for days and isolated from other horses to try and manage the situation. Aware that this wasn't suitable to keep the young cob in, a friend contacted Field Officer Kris for help. The situation was a difficult one, Eddie didn't have any of the three Fs that would allow him to have a good life, he had no companionship, no space to run around and

play, and limited access to the right nutrition.

But because the right people reached out when they did, it wasn't too late for Eddie. It was agreed that Eddie's best chance to thrive would be at Bransby Horses, and he was taken to our site in Bransby to start the next stage of his journey. "I was very happy that Eddie's owner and his friend reached out to Bransby Horses." Said Kris. "They knew we were there as a support system." A horse without friends is a horse missing one of its most basic welfare needs, but now Eddie's life will be filled with companionship. By taking Eddie under Bransby Horses' wing, the team created the opportunity for a transformation that would otherwise not have been possible.



Eddie was confined in a storage container

The situation was a difficult one, Eddie didn't have any of the three Fs that would allow him to have a good life



Eddie when he arrived



Eddie now has a companion

Your donations towards preventative and curative care help our team reach equines when it matters most; helping us to save lives, change lives and give hope to the future. You can make a donation on the form enclosed, by calling our dedicated team on 01427 788 464 or visiting the website BransbyHorses.co.uk/donate

Thank you

Meet our new Star



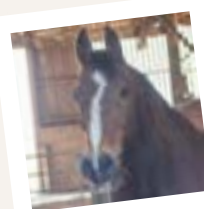
say hello to... Florence

Some of you may remember Florence's story from Bransby Life Spring/Summer 2026. At just four-months-old, she was discovered abandoned in a field, tethered with a seatbelt, extremely underweight, covered in lice and suffering from an eye ulcer. Despite no owner coming forward to claim Florence, she immediately found a new home with Bransby Horses and over the course of several months made a good recovery. She now spends her time with fellow rescued pony Olive and the two can often be found snoozing together after breakfast or enjoying walks around the farm.



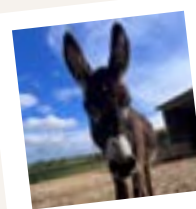
By purchasing a sponsorship from Bransby Horses, you'll become part of an ever-growing community, dedicated to improving the lives of equines in our care. For just £3 a month, or £36 a year, you'll receive a Welcome Pack, two updates from your chosen equine, alongside birthday emails and Christmas cards. Treat yourself or buy the perfect gift for a loved one by completing the enclosed form or contacting our Supporter Relations team on 01427 788 464.

Meet the rest of the gang



Woody

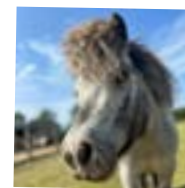
Woody arrived in 2014, severely malnourished and with painful ulcers in his mouth. Due to his past, he can be fearful of people, but the team continue to spend many hours earning his trust.



Nipper

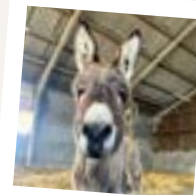
Nipper was the first donkey foal born at Bransby Horses in 13 years. He has since grown into a cheeky boy who loves stealing things out of the pockets of his handlers.

At just one-month-old, **Pecan** was taken into our care along with mum Cashew and dad Pistachio. He's a very sensible pony but still loves cuddles and scratches with his handlers.

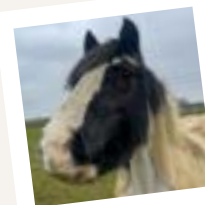


Pecan

Known as 'Mumma **Marlene**', she is a gentle presence within the donkey herd and is always up for teaching the young ones new things.



Marlene



Selene

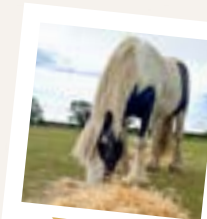
Selene is a 14hh black and white cob who is very settled in her routine. She is a sweet, quiet mare who has become confident within herself since her arrival.



Gnasha

Our oldest Sponsorship Star, **Gnasha** celebrated her 20th birthday earlier this year. She lives with daughter Matilda and best friend Marlene.

Nicknamed 'Labracob', **Frazzle** is a 13.2hh black and white cob who loves to be sociable. He is extremely friendly and enjoys playing with his herd mates.

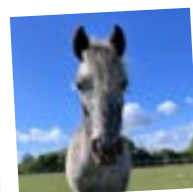


Frazzle

Matilda arrived with her mum Gnasha and two other donkeys after they were abandoned on a roadside. She loves being the centre of attention and having her voice heard.



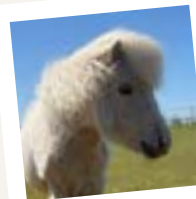
Matilda



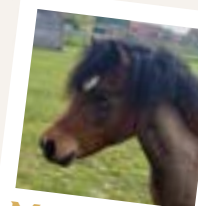
Womble

From being completely unhandled to a pony that loves scratches, **Womble** has come a long way during his time at Bransby Horses. He's an 11hh Welsh pony who is inseparable from his best friend Rodney.

Born at Bransby Horses weighing just 12 kilograms, **Pika** was a star from day one. He is a cheeky little Shetland pony and currently lives with fellow Sponsorship Star Pecan.



Pika



Master Imp

Master Imp is a 10.3hh Welsh pony who has been at the charity since 2012. He loves grabbing buckets and running away from handlers, showing off his cheeky but loveable side.

Autumn/winter GIFT GUIDE

1) A4 Calendar 2027
Featuring Bransby
Horses equines.
£11.95 - 21000463

2) Postcard Calendar 2027
Featuring Bransby
Horses equines.
32cm x 17.5cm
£7.95 - 21000462

3) Wrendale Bookmark
The perfect gift for any
bookworm or wildlife fanatic.
£2.50 - 21000458

4) Fox Shopping Pad
Measures 21cm x 9.9cm
£6.50 - 21000210

5) Wrendale Sticky Notes
Measures 8 x 8cm and
includes 250 sheets.
£4.95 - 21000209

**6) Cambridge Chrome &
Gold Ball Pen**
Luxury retractable
ball pen. 13.7cm.
£9.95 - 21000480

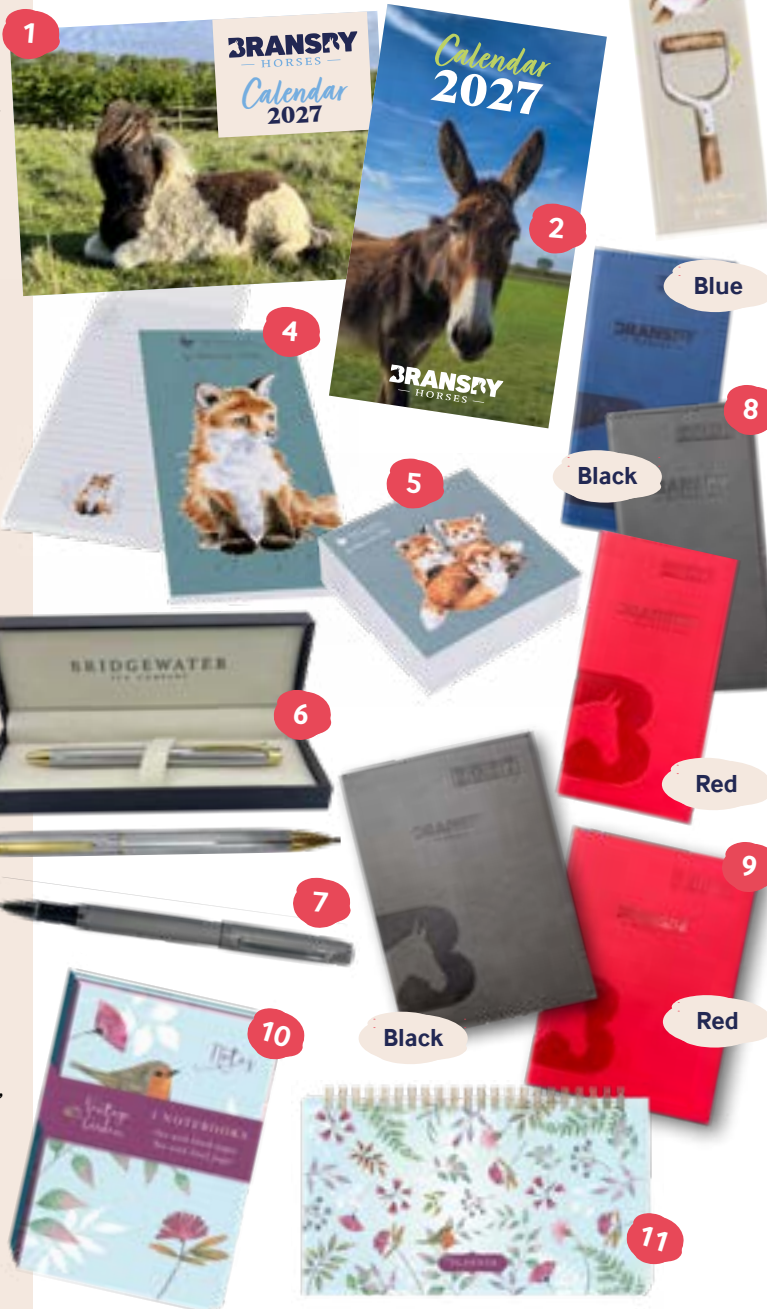
**7) Stirling Matt Grey &
Gunmetal Ball Pen**
Luxury retractable
ball pen. 13.9cm.
£9.95 - 21000479

8) 2027 Pocket Diary
Embossed, handy pocket
diary, week-to-view with
page ribbon. £4.75
Blue - 21000453
Black - 21000454
Red - 21000455

9) 2027 A5 Diary
Embossed, week-to-view
diary with page ribbon.
£10.95
Black - 21000456
Red - 21000457

**10) Vintage Garden
A6 Mini Notebooks**
3 pack, one with blank pages,
two with lined. 120 sheets.
£8.50 - 21000467

**11) Vintage Garden
Weekly Planner**
21.2cm x 21.2cm.
£9.50 - 21000469



Christmas Cards

**1) Bransby Horses
Design, 8 pack**
Four designs featuring
Bransby Horses equines.
£4.95 - 20200083

2) Muletide Greetings, 8 pack
Luxury gold foiled.
£6.95 - 21000411

3) It's Warm Inside, 12 pack
Four festive designs
of cats and dogs.
£4.95 - 20200075

4) Keeping Warm, 10 pack
Festive illustration of a donkey
and a foal. Fully recyclable.
£4.95 - 20200077

5) All Wrapped Up, 8 pack
Luxury gold foiled.
£6.95 - 21000410

6) Winter Field, 10 pack
Festive illustration of a snowy
winter scene. Fully recyclable.
£4.95 - 20200078

**7) Donkey & Friends
Christmas Wrap**
5 sheets and matching tags.
50cm x 70cm.
£4.95 - 21000448

**8) Bransby Horses
Design, 10 pack**
One design featuring a
Bransby Horses equine.
£4.95 - 20200084

**9) Donkeys & Friends,
40 pack**
Four designs of donkeys.
£8.95 - 20200076

1) Horse Head Two Tone Necklace

Crafted with a stylish silver plating. Perfect for gifting.
£14.95 - 20300310

2) Two Tone Stirrup Bracelet

8cm x 19cm. Lovely silver and gold design.
£16.95 - 20300277

3) Lucky Horseshoe Two Tone Necklace

Crafted with a stylish silver plating. Perfect for gifting.
£14.95 - 20300236

4) Lucky Horseshoe Two Tone Earrings

Crafted with a stylish silver plating. Perfect for gifting.
£9.50 - 20300309

5) Horse Head Brooch

4cm x 4cm.
Designed in the UK.
£12.95 - 20300307

6) EQ for Men Black Knitted Ribbed Gloves

Comes in box.
23cm x 9cm x 23cm.
£8.95 - 20300354

7) Savoury Garden Trug Gift Hamper

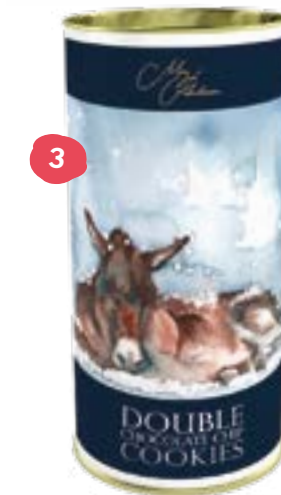
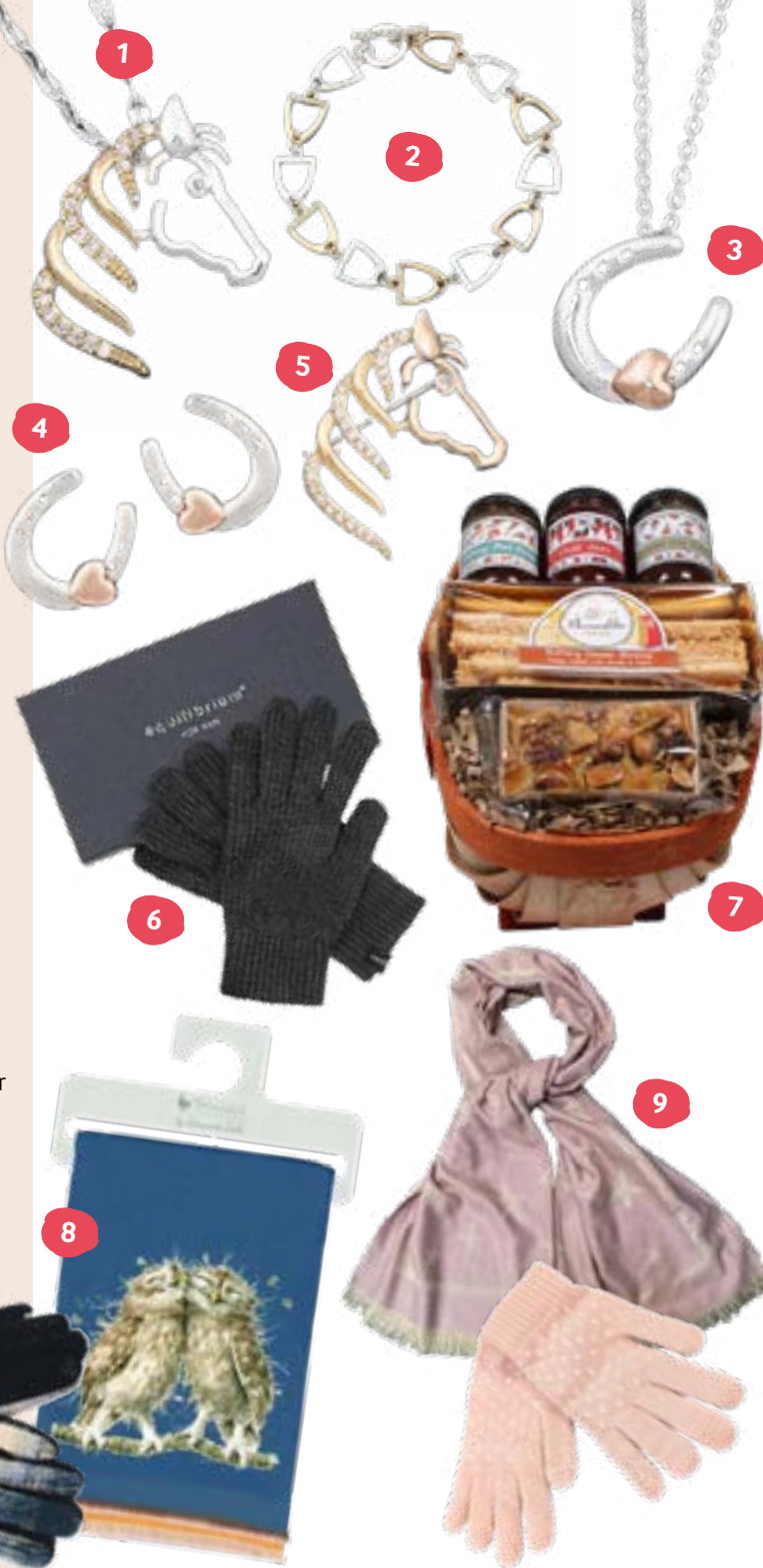
Perfect for food lovers.
Suitable for vegetarians
£24.95 - 21100358

8) Blue Owl Scarf with Blue Checked Gloves

Perfect for those cold winter mornings. Scarf measures 70cm x 190cm
£18.95 - 20300355

9) Pink Scarf with Cream Stars and Pink Knitted Gloves

Perfect for gifting.
£18.95 - 20300356



1) Jute Bag with Preserves & Choc Chip Crumbles

4oz preserves - strawberry, lemon curd and marmalade plus choc chip crumbles. 180g.
£12.95 - 21100359

2) Tin of Gingerbread People Biscuits

150g. The perfect gift or stocking filler.
£8.50 - 21100355

3) Winter Donkey Cookies

Double chocolate chip. 160g.
£5.95 - 21100246

4) Bransby Horses Choc Mint Selection

The perfect gift or stocking filler. 165g.
£9.25 - 21100106

5) Traditional Sweet Jar

The perfect gift or stocking filler. 210g
£4.25

Strawberry & Creams - 21100357
Mint Humbugs - 21100356

6) Christmas Journey Spiced Fruit Cake

The perfect stocking filler. Six slices.
£7.95 - 21100360

7) Christmas Journey Travel Sweets

Travel tin. Fruit selection. 200g.
£5.25 - 21100361

8) Danish Cookies Assorted Tin

400g. You will receive a randomly selected design.
£7.95 - 21100354

1) Jack Donkey Plush Toy
Polyester fibre stuffing.
Height 33.5cm.
£40.00 - 20100431

2) Jack Donkey Junior Plush Toy
Polyester fibre stuffing.
Height 26cm.
£30.00 - 20100432

3) Donkey Card Game
Bring the whole family together with this lively and engaging card game!
£2.95 - 20700064

4) A Little Horse Finger Puppet Book
Great way for parents to enjoy reading with their child.
£6.00 - 20100473

5) White with Bridle (Grey) Soft Toy
100% recycled filling material.
23cm x 7cm x 19cm.
£23.95 - 20100471

6) Miss Melody Pocket Stickerworld
12 illustrated pages in landscape with eight sticker pages.
£3.95 - 20100477

7) Spotty (Appaloosa) Horse Soft Toy
100% recycled filling material.
31cm x 11cm x 28cm.
£29.95 - 20100472

8) Black & White Piebald Horse Soft Toy
100% recycled filling material.
23cm x 10cm x 19cm. **£24.95**
20100470

9) Hobby Horse
Soft plush Hobby Horse, 75cm. **£14.95**
Brown - 20100463
Unicorn - 20100464

10) Miss Melody Dress Me Up Sticker Book
11 sticker sheets on 24 pages.
£5.95 - 20100483



1) Blackthorn Small Scatter Tray
39 x 17 cm, wipe clean with a damp cloth.
£6.50 - 20500476

2) Blackthorn Cotton Tea Towel
74 x 48cm, 100% cotton. Machine washable.
£7.25 - 20500475

3) Blackthorn Bone China Mug
New Bone China, 8.2 x 8.2 x 8.2cm. Dishwasher & Microwave safe.
£8.95 - 20500477

4) Tinsel Town Mug & Choc Bomb
Fine china mug in a festive design with a hot chocolate flavour bomb. **£10.75**
Blue - 20500484
White - 20500486

5) Tinsel Town Coasters
A set of four Christmassy coasters to match the Tinsel Town mugs.
£4.25 - 20500485

6) Tinsel Town Mug & Tray Set
A set of two ceramic mugs with a matching mini tray.
£13.95 - 20500483

7) Donkey Friends Jigsaw
500 piece jigsaw. Plastic-free packaging.
£14.00 - 20700056

8) Ready For Christmas Jigsaw Puzzle
1000 piece jigsaw. Plastic-free packaging.
£15.00 - 20700063

9) Winter Treats Jigsaw Puzzle
1000 piece jigsaw. Plastic-free packaging.
£15.00 - 20700062

10) Fleece Headbands
Keep yourself warm this winter.
£6.95
Ecru - 20300358
Grey - 20300357
Black - 20300344

BEHIND THE *Stable Door*

Featuring Princess Pearl



In 2025, we introduced our 'Behind the Stable Door' talks, a new activity designed to give visitors a behind the scenes view of our charity and the equines that arrive on our doorstep. We've welcomed hundreds of visitors to these talks and love meeting the many new people they bring to our charity. While we know a lot of our supporters are too far away to visit, we'd still like to bring you a taste of these events by introducing the story of Princess Pearl, a four-year-old Trotter who was recently the star of our rehoming talks.

Princess Pearl arrived in October 2025 after spending four months in the care of a veterinary hospital, following a traumatic event. Pearl had been discovered upside down in a watery ditch, where she'd been stuck for almost three days, all the while not knowing when help might be arriving. Because of the position she was in, she developed a severe, painful, open wound to her elbow, and her neck and chest had experienced a huge amount of muscle loss. While the physical impact of this event was clear to see, Princess Pearl was also internally dealing with the mental trauma. She struggled to settle at the veterinary hospital, and her surroundings and lack of companionship was causing

her a lot of stress. Bransby Horses was approached to see if we could offer her a quiet, stable environment she could recover in.

Her wound was healing well at this stage, but still required ongoing care and careful management, something the equine team had the capability and knowledge to do. Despite the pain and suffering she'd experienced, Princess Pearl was so patient and kind with her handlers, allowing them to clean and treat her wound twice a day, which has since healed remarkably well.

Just 72 hours of trauma has resulted in a recovery journey that will last years, full of physio appointments, wound monitoring and veterinary checks, to name a few. She was also paired with a consistent equine friend who has supported her through everything. Her life has been turned upside down, quite literally, but she's taken everything in her stride and is now thriving in her herd at Bransby Horses.

Pearl's story reminds us that good welfare extends beyond food, shelter and veterinary care. Some horses need ongoing support to manage health conditions, maintain a healthy weight, build confidence around routine treatments and enjoy positive social relationships. By tailoring care to Pearl's individual needs, we can help her remain comfortable, healthy and able to enjoy life alongside her friends.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS at Bransby Horses

There's always plenty going on at our Visitor Centre, and the Autumn/Winter season is no different. If you are lucky enough to visit our site near Lincoln, here's what's coming up over the next few months for you and the whole family to get involved in.

Running throughout October, our Halloween Trail is a great way to celebrate the spooky season. Take part in our thrilling activity trail and choose your perfect pumpkin at Pecan's Pumpkin Patch



Our Christmas Activity trail will definitely get you in the festive spirit. Visit Bransby Horses from the end of November onwards to see what exciting events we have planned for you.



You can view our full list of talks and activities by scanning the QR code or visiting BransbyHorses.co.uk/events



Princess Pearl's wound has healed remarkably well



A Letter to our Supporters

We'd like to take this moment to thank each and every person who supports Bransby Horses and allows us rescue, rehabilitate and provide lifelong care to equines in need. Your generosity impacts not only the hundreds of horses, donkeys, ponies and mules at our site near Lincoln, but also thousands more in the equine community across the UK.

Through your support, we're able to provide practical and hands on advice, support and guidance that helps people recognise concerns earlier, make informed decisions and improve the lives of horses before problems escalate.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

Because of people like you, in 2025, we:

**Raised
£10,147
from the
sale of
stamps**



**Generated
£64,787
from the
sale of
donated
goods in
our second-
hand shop**



**Provided advice
and support to
518 equine
owners and
members of
the public**



**Rescued
105 equines**



**Claimed
£50,000
through Gift
Aid donations**



**Received
over £2000
worth of
Amazon
wishlist
items**



**Supported
3917
equines
in the
wider
community**



**Rehomed
105
equines**



All figures accurate up to December 2025.

A Christmas WISHLIST

Another great and easy way to support Bransby Horses is by purchasing much-needed items for our equines on our Amazon Wishlist. We've listed a few products that would greatly benefit the daily lives of the horses, ponies, donkeys and mules in our care.

Haynets are used daily at Bransby Horses. They hold hay and forage, keep hay from spoiling, slow down eating and provide enrichment.



Soft Mesh Haylage Net - £15

Ruggles Horse Stable Toy - £18



With winter coming up, these would be a great buy. Keeping equines entertained when they come into the barns.

These mini buckets are great for our smaller residents, like Shetland pony and Sponsorship Star Pecan.



Mini Shallow Tubtrug 5L - £9

Relax Toy - £15



Toys are great for our younger residents to play with, those on box rest in a stable recovering from injuries, and the cheeky donkeys.

Boredom Buster - £22.50



Toys are also great for our youngsters and foals that need entertaining. Allowing mum a much-needed break.

Little Piggy Haynet - £15



This large small-holed hay net is great for our larger equines who are on a weight loss plan.

Scan the QR code to choose your gift and know you've made a difference to our rescued residents.



Give the *Gift* that gives



Looking for a unique Christmas gift for someone who has everything or want to show your support in a different way?

Our Gift Cards with A Difference help transform the lives of the equines in our care by providing funding for essentials such as feed, farriery and vet care.

How it works:

1. Pick a card
2. Purchase
3. Personalise
4. Make a difference!

Shop now at
BransbyHorses.co.uk/gcwald
or call 01427 788 464



£20



£40



£100



Charity No: 1075601

