

# Bransby *Life*

AUTUMN/WINTER 2021 • BransbyHorses.co.uk • 01427 788 464

*Little and large*

Say hello to  
Honour and  
Pecan, our  
largest and  
smallest  
Sponsorship  
Stars



*No animal left behind*  
Speaking up for those who  
have no voice of their own

*Brave mares*  
Meet our courageous  
Welsh ponies



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**BRANSBY**  
— HORSES —

## ISSUE 24

Autumn/Winter 2021

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### Cover photo

Sponsorship Stars,  
Honour and Pecan. Read  
about them on p24.

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# Welcome

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter edition of Bransby Life.

As you'll discover in this issue, your support really does make a life-changing difference to the hundreds of equines we care for every year. Despite the many challenges that we've faced over the last 18 months, our rescue work has continued in earnest. Inside we introduce you to our Game of Thrones group of ponies with complex medical conditions; their story demonstrates the level of care our equines receive, as well as the harsh realities of our rescue work. We also pay tribute to our Sponsorship Star, Ferguson, on page 9, who sadly had to be put to sleep following severe colic.

We continue to work closely with our colleagues in the animal welfare sector to improve the health and welfare of more equines. Recently we've contributed to a document highlighting how the pandemic has impacted the work of equine welfare charities, and also joined forces on the creation of a joint animal health and welfare strategy, which is being considered by DEFRA and will inform future Government policy. Our aim is that this and other work will help us to have a greater impact on equine welfare in the future.

Thanks to you, our amazing supporters, the Spring/Summer lottery raised an incredible £72,000, with some winners choosing to donate their winnings back to us, for which we are so grateful. To help increase lottery sales, many of you kindly requested additional tickets to pass on to friends and family, so we've enclosed a bumper book with 24 tickets in the hope that we can raise even more! We'd be delighted if you can split your book in half and give it to a friend or neighbour.

Whichever way you choose to support us; every little gesture really does makes a huge difference. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the inspiring people who have helped to support Bransby Horses this year.

Thank you once again for your loyal support.

Jo, pictured with new  
Sponsorship Star, Womble



## Sponsorship

# Not Wimbledon Common but Bransby Horses for new Sponsorship Star, Womble

Womble arrived at Bransby Horses along with 26 other ponies, after they were seized from a site in Wrexham. Their living conditions were considered unsuitable and Womble had been completely unhandled. Womble is a beautiful dark grey Welsh pony with a very lovable character. While he can still be a little nervous, especially in gateways and small spaces, he is gaining confidence and can be easily won round by scratching his chest. He can be a little cheeky to catch and often thinks it's good fun to get his best friend Rodney involved in running away from us. Having arrived from the same rescue, the pair are inseparable, wherever Womble is, Rodney is never far behind.

We know that you'll love him just as much as we do!



Womble loves to keep up with the latest news in 'Bransby Life'



Sponsor Womble from £3 a month via your order form enclosed, at [BransbyHorses.co.uk/sponsor](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/sponsor) or by calling our friendly team on 01427 788 464.

# Reasons for optimism

As we reflect on a challenging time for everyone, we are grateful that our four-legged friends have been generally untouched by world events here at Bransby Horses. As animal welfare issues did not stop with the rest of the world, so far this year we have rescued 83 equines: 654% up on this time last year\*.

**The Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act** came into force in June, increasing the maximum prison sentence from six months to five years. Whilst the charity welcomes the decision as a stronger deterrent to cruelty and neglect, there is still much to be done to prevent mistreatment and abuse.

Earlier this year we were pleased to add our name

alongside other leading animal welfare organisations to the **Act Now For Animals Green Paper**, requesting DEFRA take advantage of this 'once in a generation' opportunity to improve animal welfare (more on p.12).

You, our wonderful supporters continue to help in many ways, including through an overwhelming number of **rehomings** applications in the first half of 2021, resulting in 38 equines being rehomed in three months\*. Thank you



to everyone who has applied and for your patience and understanding as our teams continue to work through them all.

We were delighted to be chosen as one of seven equine charities to benefit from a fundraising horse relay set up during lockdown by horse lover, Sophie Gifford. The relay highlights the positive effects an equine can have on mental health whilst also raising money to help charities affected by the pandemic. With celebrity support, a royal patron, and the Windsor Horse Show choosing **The Great Horses For Health UK Relay** as their charity of the year, there will be lots to update you on next time.

**Thank You!**



**Heartfelt thanks to Carole Fisher for eight years of extraordinary service as Chairman of the Board. We welcome Kathryn McFee as the new Chair, with Mike Pickles stepping in as Vice Chair.**



The **Bransby Big Sing** was another project kick-started in lockdown by our very own External Welfare Officer, Tara, who as Musical Director of Lincolnshire Vocal Academy (LVA), organised a choir recording and performance of *You Will Be Found* from hit musical, Dear Evan Hanson. Tara coached eager participants from the charity, school pupils and members of LVA to sing the emotional lyrics for a video to highlight the realities of our rescue and welfare work.



Watch the video now by scanning this QR code.

In May we were proud to support Redwings Horse Sanctuary with **Strangles Awareness Week (SAW)** to encourage people to challenge the stigma attached to the UK's most prevalent equine disease. SAW provides horse owners, vets and equine

professionals with a platform to share their own stories and promote support for those affected by strangles.

Our teams shared some of the work we do to tackle this preventable disease across social media, drawing on personal experiences and providing resources, all of which can be found at [BransbyHorses.co.uk/equine-advice](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/equine-advice).

\*Figures correct at end of June 2021. Percentage change calculated with an increase of 72 rehomed equines by June 2021 compared to 11 by June 2020. Rehoming was paused Jan – Apr 2021.

## Awards and Grants 2021

- Awarded Tripadvisor's 2020 Travellers' Choice award.
- Winner of the Petplan Charitable Trust Grant to improve equine facilities.
- Our Estates Team received the Special Recognition Award at CEVA Animal Welfare Awards.
- Charity winner of the British Horse Society Welfare Award for excellent service in the cause of equine welfare.
- 'Create Your Legacy' marketing concept wins Legacy Futures Award.

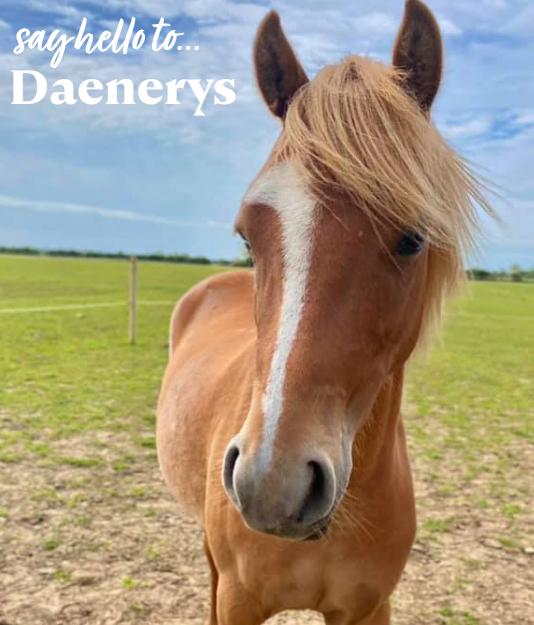


The Estates Team with their award.

To find out more detail about everything mentioned across these pages, visit the News section of our website: [BransbyHorses.co.uk/news](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/news)



*say hello to...*  
**Sansa & Lyanna**



*say hello to...*  
**Daenerys**

# The brave mares of Bransby

*say hello to...*  
**Arya**



# Welfare

After receiving a call about an ongoing RSPCA rescue situation, we took three shy but inquisitive mares into our care in August 2020. Initial inspections indicated the three Welsh ponies were mother and two daughters. They had good body weights, but overgrown feet and sadly, more complex issues were soon to become apparent.

Named the 'Game of Thrones' group after the popular television series, we have mum, Sansa (20 years old) and daughters, Daenerys (two years old) and Arya (four months old).

When new intakes arrive, we take a routine blood test which helps us look for signs of organ or hormonal diseases as well as other infections caused by parasites. All three mares were suffering from intestinal inflammation due to this burden, which if left untreated, can develop into a serious disease and prove fatal, so immediate treatment began.

Blood tests can also reveal hidden surprises, but given the ages of these ponies, the surprises we uncovered were somewhat unexpected - the tests showed that both Sansa and Daenerys were in foal!

Pregnancy can be a high-risk time for any horse, but this is heightened when the horse is elderly or very young. A female can reach sexual maturity from 12 months, at which time she can become fertile, although she may not be physically mature until the age of four to six years.

When a filly becomes pregnant at a very young age, she channels nutrients that she would usually require for her own growth, into that of her foal. This can lead to lifelong complications as she has been compromised at a vital stage of her own development.

Sansa gave birth in March 2021 following a textbook foaling experience. Although we were concerned about her age, she had been through this before with Daenerys and Arya.

Sansa and her new daughter, named Lyanna by our Friends of Bransby Horses, were checked

around the clock to ensure Mum could recover and the foal was feeding properly. After showing signs that she was uncomfortable, Sansa was immediately seen by our onsite vet team who prescribed pain relief, and she soon started to look a lot brighter. Lyanna received a thorough check-up and it was confirmed she had received enough colostrum from her mum and she was doing well.

Unfortunately, Daenerys' birth wasn't as straight forward. The inexperienced filly gave birth sometime after her mum to a colt (boy), and on arrival it was obvious that he wasn't in good shape; he couldn't support his own weight and was suffering from 'dummy foal syndrome', a term used to describe foals exhibiting abnormal behaviours and/or neurological signs during their first few days of life.

We rushed both ponies to specialist vets to give him the best chance of survival. They received 24-hour care and little Joffrey had intensive nursing and feeding. We were devastated to learn that Daenerys's little colt did not make it through the night, which despite our concerns, came as a great shock.

Daenerys returned to us seemingly unaffected and in good health, where she has remained under close monitoring. We are comforted by the fact that had we not rescued Daenerys and provided her with the swift intervention that she needed, she too could have suffered and potentially died.

By sharing our Game of Thrones family story with you we hope to raise awareness of the severe risk involved in breeding from physically immature and elderly mares. Bransby Horses encourages responsible breeding. If you are considering putting your horse in foal, please get in touch for advice on welfare, aftercare and associated costs to help decide whether this is the right course of action for you and your mare.

When new intakes arrive, we take a routine blood test which helps us look for signs of organ or hormonal diseases



# Rhubarb's first day at school

This is Rhubarb on her first day at school as she joins other friends at the Riding Barn. Barbs, as she is affectionately known, has taken to school like a pro as she started her training as a lead-rein pony! We're confident she has a bright future ahead of her, as she is super when negotiating traffic and enjoys wearing her lovely colour coordinated tack. I'm sure you'll agree

that she looks great in this photograph. This little pony takes everything in her stride and she will soon be available on our rehoming scheme.

Rhubarb's journey first started with us in 2018 following her abandonment at Seamer Horse Fair. Found in a really poor state, our vets suspected she was suffering with strangles, a highly infectious equine disease affecting the

upper respiratory system. An endoscope procedure confirmed the diagnosis and Rhubarb was isolated in our intensive care unit to prevent the spread of the disease. Fortunately, we got to Rhubarb in time and she made a full recovery from her illness.

To find out more about rehoming visit [BransbyHorses.co.uk/Rehoming](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/Rehoming)

# Sponsorship News

## A fond farewell to our handsome boy



In June, Ferguson was unexpectedly taken ill with colic and was transported to an equine hospital for 24-hour monitoring where he sadly lost his battle the following morning.

Ferguson was a relatively new Sponsorship Star but during his time with us, our teams developed a real soft spot for his mischievous ways.

Handsome Ferguson was rescued as an abandoned stallion found wandering on common land with painful overgrown hooves and severe leg sores, which were treated immediately on arrival at Bransby Horses.

Ferguson lived at our Walklands Yard with his friends Dom and Oscar where he was very much the leader of the cob herd. He knew his own mind and didn't shy away from letting everyone know about it, often giving everyone the run around

with his rebellious nature.

He had many nicknames among his handlers including: Ferg, Fer-goose and Goose, with his full name reserved for when he was causing mischief. Revered for his devilishly good looks, he was also known as 'Rock Star' - his tresses were his trademark, sporting a long flowing mane or a low maintenance, yet stylish Mohawk.

Deputy Team Leader, Louise, had a particularly strong bond with Ferguson: "He was always a bit of a brute, but a lovable one! I was leading him in from the field one day and there was a big puddle to navigate - instead of walking through it, he put in the biggest jump over it and it was at that point I was smitten!"

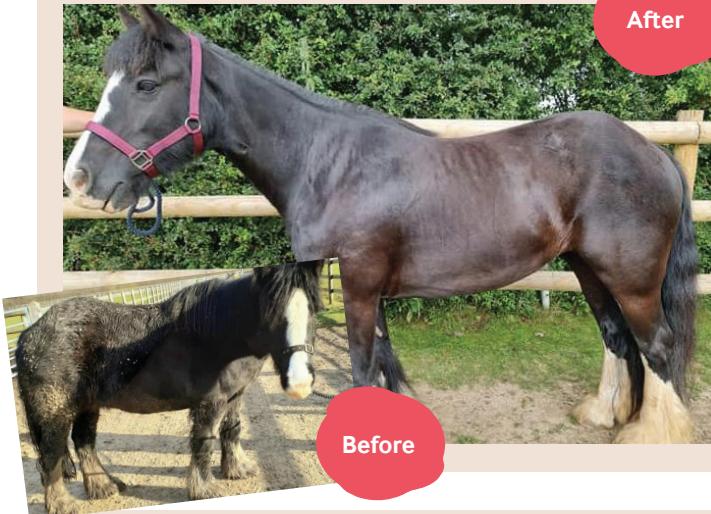
Thanks to your support, Ferguson received the ongoing leg treatment he needed and you provided

him and his friends with a happy, healthy life here at Bransby Horses.



# From Apple Bums to Toned Tums!

Meet some of the Bransby Horses' slimming club Class of 2021 who have done really well on their weight management plans this year. In the last issue of Bransby Life, we featured an update on our highly effective track grazing system, which some of our toned equines will now use to maintain their new figure!



After

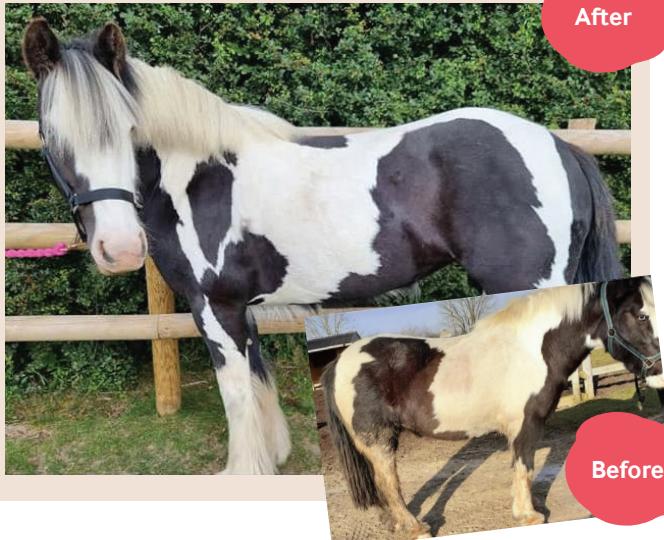
Before

## Limpopo

Limpopo arrived with a body condition score of 5, meaning she was obese. We started work monitoring her diet and implementing a daily exercise regime. In March, Limpopo lost 17kg followed by a further 30kg in May and was named Slimmer of the Month. Limpopo is now ready to leave the group and graduate to the track system to help her maintain her current weight.

## Lena

Like Limpopo, Lena arrived very overweight with a body condition score of 5. However, through a careful weight loss plan she quickly lost a massive 33kg by March and was named Slimmer of the Month. We credit Lena's weight loss with her enthusiastic approach to her walks where she likes to put on an athletic gymnastic display. Lena is now a good weight and will be joining Limpopo out on the track system.



After

Before

After



## Azalea

Azalea is a seven-year-old Trotter Cross who came to Bransby Horses in 2015 with her mum and a small group of others. Azalea is one of the Visitor Centre Yard's most successful slimmers, losing a whopping 92kg in total. Since successfully managing to trim down, Azalea was rehomed in July after finding her Perfect Partner and is now enjoying a new life in a loving foster home.

Before



After



## Robin

Robin is a beautiful Welsh Cross who has been an active ridden pony in previous homes. Since coming to Bransby Horses, he has spent most of his time on the Visitor Centre Yard. Robin is a cheeky chap who thinks it's fun to have playtime when he needs catching, but once caught is extremely affectionate. Robin loves his walks and during his time in the Toned Tums group has lost 38kgs. Nice work, Robin!

Before



# A stronger voice... Together we can achieve more

## Act Now for Animals

In May, we joined forces with 49 animal welfare organisations on the **Act Now For Animals Green Paper** – a collaborative animal health and welfare strategy described as a ‘once in a generation’ opportunity. It urged the UK Government to redefine our relationship with animals through the adoption of 40 welfare recommendations, including:

- Ensuring that equine identification legislation is enforced by making both the owner and the keeper responsible for keeping the government’s digital equine database up to date. This will ensure information held about equines is accurate, linking the owner to the horse.
- A maximum journey time of up to 12 hours for all equines being transported.

- A review of the existing fireworks legislation and their impact on animal welfare.
- Introduce licensing and inspections of sanctuaries and rescue centres in England and Wales.
- The introduction of animal welfare into the national curriculum.

In the days following its release, the Government said they would take a significant step forwards on animal welfare by formally recognising animals as sentient beings and make further reforms in a series of Bills focusing on animal sentience, kept animals in the UK and the welfare of animals.



To read more about these stories, visit

[BransbyHorses.co.uk/News](https://BransbyHorses.co.uk/News) and [BransbyHorses.co.uk/equine-advice](https://BransbyHorses.co.uk/equine-advice)



## Britain's Horse Problem

In the early stages of the pandemic, numerous charities issued warnings about the rise in animal welfare cases. In 2020, Bransby Horses, along with five other animal welfare charities, worked with World Horse Welfare to produce the '**Britain's Horse Problem**' report to highlight that more responsible ownership, wider regulation and active enforcement is needed to break the cycle of equine suffering and prevent a welfare catastrophe.

The report explains how COVID-19 impacted equine welfare charities and expected it to create significantly more welfare problems at a time when charities were least able to cope.

One of our main objectives is promoting knowledge of equine care by providing non-judgemental support and learning opportunities for horse owners. Through this, we can raise awareness and increase our knowledge of equine care to provide a better life for equines, thus reducing suffering and neglect.

As an organisation we have access to leading experts in the equine field, covering a broad range of subjects, which allows us to continually develop and improve our own standards and expertise. By sharing this information amongst our supporters, equine owners and professionals, we can work together to promote and improve equine welfare.

The Equine Advice section on our website provides a starting point for common equine issues. Here you can read and download our guidance pages; these can be used for reference or to share with fellow horse owners. We offer local authority training and regularly provide tailored sessions for local emergency services. We also host talks, tours and demonstrations for schools, colleges and universities to show the work we do as a charity, the issues we're trying to resolve and support the next generation of horse owners to understand the foundations of good equine welfare.

## Parliamentary progress

Parliament also delivered some encouraging news earlier this year with the announcement that the maximum prison sentence for animal cruelty will be raised from six months to five years. The Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Bill came into force in June and enables courts to take a firmer approach to cases we regularly bear witness to. **Thanks to the unwavering support of everyone who helped bring about these collective achievements, we have the power to speak up for animals who have no voice of their own.**

# OUR YARDS



The charity has grown significantly over the last 53 years and we now have two operational sites; Bransby which is open to the public and has six specialist yards, and Barlings, which we acquired in 2018 and is located 14 miles away. The journey of our rescue residents is very much tailor-made according to the equines' health, behaviour and needs, which may see them move between various yards during their time with us. Read more about each of them below.



## The Animal Reception Centre (ARC)

This biosecure unit is where all of our equines begin their journey and provides specialist care for all welfare intakes. Working closely with the vet department, here we ensure the needs of all welfare cases are met for any new and rescued intakes. The ARC also provides housing during their quarantine period for equines returning from a foster home. Equines stay here until their health checks are complete before moving to a sanctuary, rehoming or rehabilitation yard.

## Peter Hunt Yard

The main purpose of the Peter Hunt Yard is to help equines who have been identified as nervous or unhandled. Our rehabilitation team work closely with each individual to embed basic skills and to build trust in people. Horses leave once they have completed all handling training to either join the rehoming yards or sanctuary care yards, dependent on their needs.



## Main Yard

The Main Yard is a rehoming and handling yard, home to a variety of equines: mares with foals at foot, youngsters and rehomable equines. Horses leave to either move to the Riding Barn to start ridden training or having found their Perfect Partner as a ridden equine or companion.

## Barlings

Our Barlings Yard matches well-handled companion or ridden equines with their Perfect Partner. Those leaving this yard either move to the Riding Barn or are rehomed.



## Riding Barn

The Riding Barn's purpose is to educate our horses to excel in a ridden career and our work has been highly commended by The British Horse Society. Horses leave this yard to either be rehomed, join another yard to await a companion home or remain in sanctuary care.



## Visitor Centre Yard

The Visitor Centre Yard cares for some of our Sponsorship Stars and our two popular herds of donkeys. It is also home to sanctuary equines who are happy to be around the public and a small number of rehomable equines who leave this yard once they've found their forever home.



## Walklands Yard

Walklands Yard offers a safe haven and sanctuary care for those equines that have long term medical needs or are in their twilight years. Horses remain on this yard for lifelong care or, if they are suitable, some are rehomed.

*Rehoming*

# Rehoming through the Pandemic

Here at Bransby Horses, we believe in taking the time to find the right home for the right horse. We assess every individual rehoming application and then carry out a series of visits for the potential Perfect Partner (fosterer) to meet their matched horse or pony, get to know each other and build

a connection.

This approach has seen hundreds of our equines find themselves their forever homes where they are given a second chance at life with a loving fosterer, freeing up essential space to allow us to rescue more equines in need.

During the pandemic the charity had to adapt its rehoming process to ensure the safety of our teams, equines and applicants. Due to national lockdowns and

the restrictions implemented across the animal welfare sector by the UK government and DEFRA, rehoming stopped completely during March, April and May last year.

External visits also stopped, but support for our fosterers and new applicants continued over the phone, email and using video calls, allowing us to continue to build and maintain the incredibly important relationships we have with our extended Bransby Family.

**Rehoming restarted again earlier this year and we have seen an overwhelming influx of applications**



Ewan found his Perfect Partner in June 2021

If you think you could offer a companion pony a home, you can find your Perfect Partner by visiting [BransbyHorses.co.uk/Perfect-Partner](https://BransbyHorses.co.uk/Perfect-Partner)

Despite these restrictions and new ways of working, throughout 2020 the Rehoming Team were still able to rehome an incredible 64 horses and ponies and carry out 832 support visits for fostered equines in homes all over the UK, with 629 of these taking place virtually.

Rehoming restarted again earlier this year and we have seen an overwhelming influx of applications offering wonderful homes to our rescue residents – many more than the horses we have available to rehome. In less than eight weeks we rehomed 22 equines with another 30 currently working their way through the application process.

Thank you for all the offers of help and please bear with us while we work through the hundreds of applications received.

### Ewan and Evie's story

Ewan (left and top right) and Evie (bottom right) were rescued in February 2020 after being found loose next to a very busy road. Upon arrival their feet were very overgrown so they were seen by a farrier immediately. Potentially due to where and what they had been grazing on, they were also treated for liver issues.

With careful management, Ewan and Evie began to recover from their ordeal and their personalities started to shine through. Our teams believe Evie is Ewan's mum; Evie was very laid back whereas yearling Ewan was extremely playful.

Ewan found his Perfect Partner in June 2021 as a companion to Bransby pony, Aladdin and the fosterers own pony, Oreo, and now lives happily as part of his new family.

Our fosterer Natalie said, "Ewan took less than 24 hours to show his playful character and provides plenty of giggles.

"I'm so glad I fostered them as it helps a horse that's had a bad start to find a forever loving home. Bransby Horses came recommended and I'm so glad I enquired; they helped me every step of the way and if I have any questions, they are happy to help. I would highly recommend Bransby Horses and do so regularly when I see someone wanting to rehome."

Evie has settled in well on the Visitor Centre Yard and we hope to start her rehoming journey soon.



Evie

# Christmas Gift Idea

# Animal Crackers

Purchase a gift that makes a difference this Christmas for the animal lover in your life.

Simply take our Animal Crackers Quiz below to find out:

a) how much of an animal lover you/they really are, and

b) which of our Gift Cards With A Difference would make the perfect present!

## 1) Do you speak to your pet?

- A. Yes, I say hello, goodbye and have general chit-chat
- B. Always, and I put on my "special pet voice".
- C. Constantly, plus I check in with them regularly through my video camera app.

## 2) You run out of pet food, what do you do?

- A. Run to the corner shop.
- B. You keep an emergency supply in the garage.
- C. You might run out of milk but would NEVER run out of pet food.

## 3) You have photos of your pet

- A. Yes, as my phone background.
- B. Yes, on my bedside table.
- C. Wherever you're stood in my house you can see a photo of them!



## 4) Is your wardrobe defined by your pet?

- A. My clothes are covered in pet hair.
- B. I accessorise with animal themed scarves and jewellery.
- C. My pet and I have matching outfits.

## 5) Concerned about being out of the house for too long what do you do?

- A. Someone checks in on my pet for me.
- B. I'm the top client at my local pet day care.
- C. My pet comes with me wherever I go.



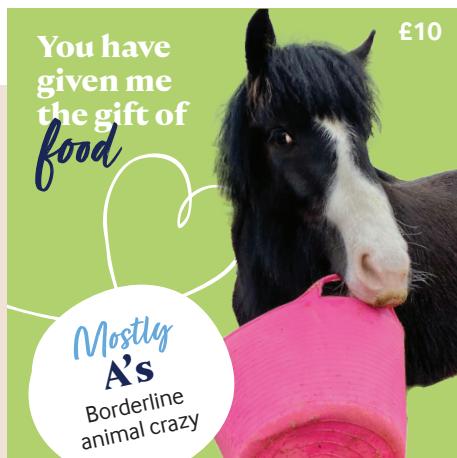
## 6) Does your pet have presents on their birthday?

- A. Yes, I'll buy them one.
- B. They get more presents than I do on my birthday.
- C. Of course, plus their own birthday party.

## Results

Add up your answers to reveal just how animal crazy you/they are and the corresponding Gift With A Difference! Are you mostly A's, B's or C's?

Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to make a difference with every purchase.





- 7) Where does your pet sleep at night?**
- They have their own bed.
  - They have their own spot on my bed.
  - My bed is their bed.
- 8) Do you sign your Christmas card from your pet?**
- Yes, but only to close friends and family.
  - I write separate cards from my pet.
  - My pet **is** my Christmas card design!
- 9) When I go out with my friends I...**
- Spend all evening talking about my pet
  - Show all of my latest videos and photographs
  - Take my pet with me
- 10) How does your pet feature in your Will?**
- I'm leaving a legacy to a charity for them.
  - To make sure they're taken care of.
  - I'm leaving my pet everything!



## **Gift Cards with a Difference**

Perhaps you're cutting back on Christmas cards and instead, would like to make a charitable donation, or perhaps you're looking for a unique gift for the person who has everything? Make a difference with our Gift Cards - simply add to your order form, call us or visit [BransbyHorses.co.uk/gcwad](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/gcwad)

Every purchase of a Gift Card with a Difference provides essential care for all of our horses, ponies, donkeys and mules.

With three to choose from (Food, Warmth or Wellbeing), there's one to suit every budget starting from only £10 and you'll receive a gift card to keep (if for yourself) or to give as a gift.

Please note: your donation is not part of a restricted fund and will be used where most needed.



# Community spirit

You continue to find amazing ways to help raise funds to support the work we do. We appreciate and love hearing about everything you do; from bake sales to skydives - you really give it your all!

## Working out for welfare

Ellie works in our Welfare Team and took time during lockdown to raise vital funds for us.

"I started the run with the aim to help not just my physical health but also my mental health. Throughout February I ran 60k and I raised £135. I was very proud of myself for raising the money knowing it was going to a worthwhile cause and helps the horses we rescue. I am very proud to work for Bransby Horses and of what we do as a charity." Great effort, Ellie!



You've raised an incredible £2,274 for Bransby Horses between January and August 2021.

## School visits

Our special Pudding character contributed to an interactive presentation at Tall Oaks Academy, Lincoln. The children thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the best way to look after a pony and seeing the important equipment you need.



**Local schools:** Would you like an educational, interactive and fun presentation at your school? Contact us for more information.

## Do you want to fundraise for Bransby Horses?

Contact our friendly team who can help you with your planning. If you're in need of inspiration, there are lots things you can do from a bake sale, 'knit-athon' or skydive, like Hárle (opposite). Don't forget to keep us updated and send us lots of pictures.



To request a fundraising pack or speak to our friendly team about your event, get in touch on **01427 2788 646** or [mail@bransbyhorses.co.uk](mailto:mail@bransbyhorses.co.uk)

## Miles of smiles



This is Trinity who completed a Bransby Horses fundraiser by walking 46.2 miles in one day! *"Doing the walk made me feel extremely happy to be fundraising for a great cause and playing a role in the community."*

Trinity raised £581 and is hoping to raise more in the future. Well done and thank you, Trinity!

## Taking the jump!

One of our incredible supporters, Hárle, is planning to do a skydive. He said, "I wanted to do this fundraiser to support an incredible charity that helps so many equines in need, including our very own foster pony, Lincoln, who has lived with us since March 2020. We wanted to give back in a huge way by raising in excess of £1,000. Something crazy like a skydive seemed the best way to raise plenty of money for the charity."

Thank you, Hárle. We can't wait to see the pictures!

## From coast to coast

Our very own Health and Safety Manager, Heather, chose to use her annual leave to walk from Tynemouth to Bowness-on-Solway to raise money for us, Target Ovarian Cancer and PAPYRUS Prevention of Young Suicide. Heather has raised an incredible £1,225 which will be split between the three charities. Well done, Heather!



Share your fundraising page and activities on social media by **tagging us @BransbyHorses** and we will help you spread the word!

# Community news



## Small but mighty!

### Sarah and Mary

Sarah and Mary have been proud supporters of Bransby Horses for more than a decade, visiting at least twice a week, every week. Not only does Sarah make items for us to sell onsite, she also snaps up bargains to help us raise more funds. Meanwhile, Mary enjoys visiting our Café whilst picking up second hand books to enjoy. We are very grateful to them both. Here they are enjoying some giggles with our donkey boys!

Despite living more than 150 miles away and having never visited us, 5-year-old Eve from Wiltshire has also been busy raising money for Bransby Horses. After reading 'Pudding's Christmas Miracle', Eve said she wants all ponies to find a lovely home like ours. She has sold bags of manure around her village and held a cake sale, raising £113.40. You're amazing, Eve - well done!



## How to help

Your support through such a difficult time has been overwhelming; from sending a letter us a letter of encouragement or a generous donation. Here's some other ways to help:

- **Sponsor a horse, pony or donkey** - find out more on page 24.
- **Become a Friend** - this VIP membership includes exclusive updates, online member's area, and sneak previews for certain events.
- **Share us with your friends** - recycle your Bransby Life by passing it on to a neighbour, share lottery tickets with friends or share our posts on social media. Why not bring them to visit for a scenic walk with the dog or for a bite to eat in our Café?
- **Treat yourself or a loved one and make a difference to equine lives at the same time** - every penny of profit from our Gift Guide sales goes to fund our rescue and welfare work.
- Set up a direct debit - whether it's £5, £15 or £25.

*Thank you!*

Whether you raise 50p, £10 or £250, we value every penny.

**Quite simply, we wouldn't be here without you and we are incredibly grateful.**

# The lost Will...

**In January 2020, Eileen contributed to our emergency response to devastating floods, allowing us to move many of our equines to safety. But Eileen passed away in November 2018, so how did she do this?**

When animal loving Eileen made her Will, along with another cause close to her heart, she very kindly created a legacy for Bransby Horses. Although Eileen made a Will, it was never lodged with a solicitor. It was only thanks to her long-time friend, Don, that Bransby Horses was notified after he stumbled across the Will amongst Eileen's paperwork. Through Don we've been able to learn more about Eileen's life and her love of animals. Eileen's love of animals inspired her to Create a Legacy for Bransby Horses, and through Don we've been able to ensure that Eileen's wishes have been carried out.

Born in 1945, Eileen spent her life working as a nurse in Gloucester and later married, but sadly lost her husband shortly after the wedding.

Some 25 years before her death, Eileen approached a Will writing service to create her Will, and during those intervening years, it appears this company ceased trading and left no trace of any archives. Eileen's paper copy was the only existing record of her wishes. We shudder to think what might have happened had she not confided in her friend, Don, or the Will had been misplaced.

Fortunately, for all the horses, ponies, donkeys and mules cared for by Bransby Horses, Eileen's generous legacy was realised through her friend and her legacy helped support us at a time of real crisis. Money from Eileen's estate was used to set up a new estate – and along with the public fundraising we were able to move 50 horses to our Barlings site, following the severe flooding in 2019.



Without these wonderful gifts, our charity would not be able to achieve all that it does, allowing us the vital capacity to act quickly and appropriately to provide unwavering care to our animals through challenging times. If you are considering writing a Will please always seek advice from a qualified legal professional; this will help ensure that no mistakes are made that you could result in unintended

consequences. Make sure to keep it in a safe place and tell someone you trust where it is.

By creating your legacy in a Will, this means that you can be happy in the knowledge that you will continue to be a highly valued part of the charity's future, and your legacy will work hard to care for our rescued equines.

If you would like to Create Your Legacy, call our friendly team on 01427 788 464 or visit our website: [BransbyHorses.co.uk/legacy](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/legacy)

Create  
your legacy  
with  
Bransby  
Horses

Updates

# Sponsorship stars

Bransby Life cover stars **Honour and Pecan** are our largest and smallest Sponsorship Stars. There is a staggering 9 hands difference in their size, and Honour eats Pecan's daily food intake for breakfast! But just because Pecan is small, it doesn't mean that he can't keep Honour on her toes! All of our equines are unique; they vary in size, breed and personality. At Bransby Horses, we tailor our care of each animal depending on their individual needs. By sponsoring one of our amazing equines from just £3 a month, you can receive regular, direct updates from your favourite Sponsorship Star, a certificate, photo and pin badge. With your support, we can provide

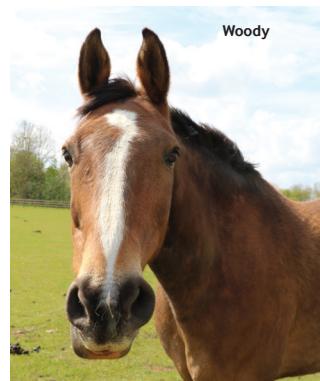
horses, donkeys, ponies and mules with a second chance at a happy, healthy life. Here is a quick update on what they have all been up to:

**Honour** continues to gain confidence with her handling and she and her friends enjoyed some extra attention in the summer by helping their two legged team and a Top Spec representative with a body conditioning training day. Honour was only too pleased to help some residents who are on restricted grazing by eating her way through a field in time for their arrival. This lady certainly loves her food!

**Pecan** is often seen playing with his dad, Pistachio, in

our Shetlands herd. He loves nothing better than a nosey around the farm and has been encouraging members of the slimming club (see p.10) to join him for regular walks to help lose some extra pounds. One of our wonderful supporters recently sent Pecan the watermelon, which he loved, as seen in the photo.

**Woody** is back at Walklands Yard for more extensive handling to prepare him for the dentist. He is still very wary of unfamiliar people, but his kind and friendly character comes out once he settles and feels safe. The team are working hard to build his trust with lots of positive associations to ease his worries, but who can blame



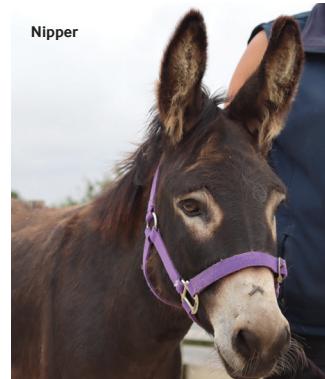
To arrange your sponsorship, simply add your chosen Sponsorship Star to your order form, **scan the QR code** or give our friendly team a call on 01427 788 464.



Domino



Matilda



Nipper

him for being scared of the dentist?

**Domino** is not a fan of wet weather so he's been through spells of being grumpy in his stable recently. He was a lot happier in the summer but as the hairiest of our donkeys, he enjoyed lots of grooming to help shed some of his thick coat to help him keep cool. Domino's been having great fun with a new hay ball kindly purchased by a supporter from our Amazon Wish List.

**Nipper** continues to be the cheeky chappy everyone loves, especially during bath time which he thinks is great fun. He continues to enjoy a wander around site to keep up with the gossip and see his friends. Nipper also led the welcome party when some new donkeys arrived, and helped them settle in well with the donkey boy herd.

**Matilda** wanted to look her best when YouTube sensation, Georgia from Lilpetchannel, came to film at Bransby

Horses. She enjoyed having a bath, being brushed and generally pampered before the cameras rolled. Like many of the donkeys, Matilda loves bottom scratches and wasn't shy about asking Georgia for some!

**Pudding** – Our virtual character visited Tall Oaks Academy to help deliver a talk on The Five Freedoms of animal welfare and included a fun, interactive Q&A session. Read more on page 20. Next year our virtual Sponsorship Star will continue to visit schools and speak to the next generation of animal guardians about responsible animal ownership.

**Saratoga** has recently moved on to a track system to watch his weight and ensure he doesn't gain any extra pounds - this helps by monitoring his grass intake and assists with his ongoing lameness. We've also put him on a vitamin and mineral supplement to help keep him in tiptop condition. He's

settled into a new herd of mostly piebald cobs and another chestnut, Terwyn, who looks just like his 'mini-me'!



Scan this QR code to find out more about our Sponsorship Stars.

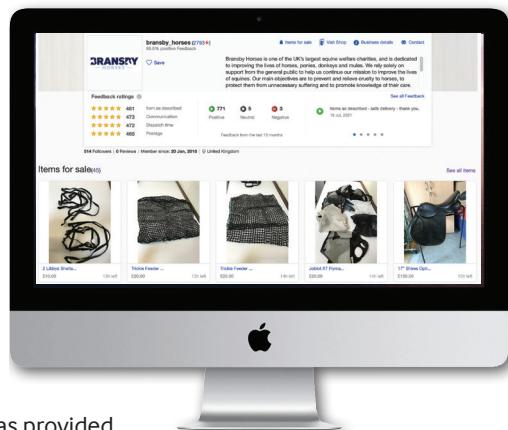


Saratoga

Why not purchase one of our equines a gift from our **Amazon Wish List**? To find out what they're looking for, follow the link on our homepage, [BransbyHorses.co.uk](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk)

# Fundraising

# Your junk is somebody else's treasure!



## Did you know we have an eBay Charity Shop?

We currently sell equine rugs and tack; however, you can also find a small selection of other items on our eBay Shop. If you've recently had a declutter and would like to donate any items to us - please see our website for details of what we can accept. During the last 12 months,

our eBay shop has provided a great source of income, particularly as we were unable to host our popular rug and tack sales onsite.

If you think you may have something special which you would like to donate, please get in touch. For larger or multiple items, we can arrange a collection service if you're not too far away.



## This October we invite you to a Special eBay Auction

Choose from a variety of items, including exclusive 'Behind the Scenes' tours, beautiful equine paintings, antique jewellery and much more!

For further information and exclusive first look access, register your interest at [BransbyHorses.co.uk/news-events](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/news-events)

## How your support helps

In 2020 we raised over £40,000, through eBay sales alone! We always welcome donations of rug and tack in a used or new condition. Along with other donated goods (see a full list on our website), they can be dropped off at the Visitor Centre, Wednesday – Sunday, 10am – 4pm. If you have more than a bag or two, then please give us a call so we can be on hand to help you unload. For more information, please visit [BransbyHorses.co.uk/donate-goods-stamps](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/donate-goods-stamps)

Head to [BransbyHorses.co.uk/bransby-ebay](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/bransby-ebay) to see some of the great items available on our eBay shop.

# Gift guide

## Prize draw

Every order placed through our web shop will be entered in to a free prize draw to win a £75 artwork voucher from the wonderfully talented Amanda Jenkins!\*

Free P&P  
and free gift on  
all orders  
over £50\*

## Welcome to the Autumn/Winter Gift Guide!

Why not get organised and start your Christmas shopping early this year? Inside you'll find special gifts for your loved ones and by shopping with us, you will be helping us rescue and rehabilitate even more equines in need. You simply don't get that warm and fuzzy feeling buying your Christmas shopping on the high street! So go on... treat yourself. Happy shopping!

Postage update: Postage is now set at £4, unless you spend over £50\* on your order. Unfortunately, over the last 12 months we've had lots of overseas parcels lost or damaged and each time we have to replace them, it takes away vital funds from our charity work; sadly, this means that we can no longer post products overseas. We can however, still send Gift Cards with a Difference, Friends memberships and Sponsorships.

# Christmas cards



All include 10 cards and envelopes with the message 'Wishing you a Happy Christmas and a joyful New Year'.

## Mistletoe Kisses

15x15cm. £3.95 - Code: CRCC0123

## Yappy Christmas

21x10cm. £3.95 - Code: CRCC0122

## Cheeky Pony

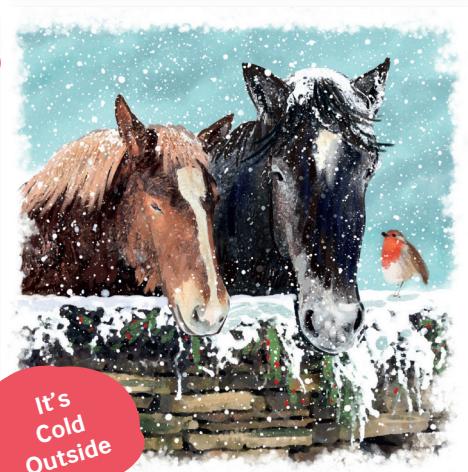
15x15cm. £3.95 - Code: CRCC0124

## Winter Wonderland

15x15cm. £3.95 - Code: CRCC0125

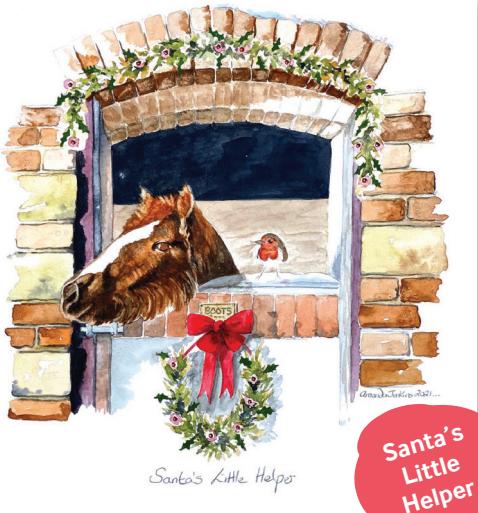
## It's Cold Outside

15x15cm. £3.95 - Code: CRCC0126

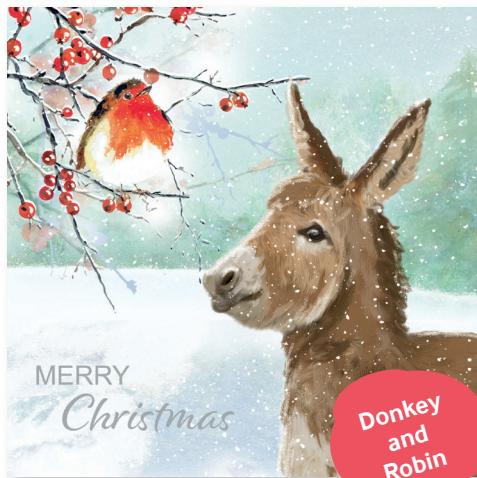




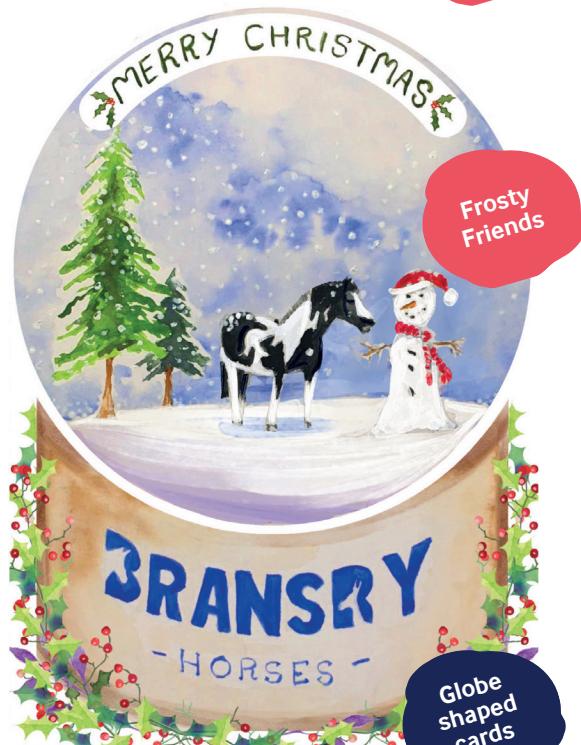
All cards  
come in  
recyclable  
wrap



Santa's  
Little  
Helper



Donkey  
and  
Robin



All include 10 cards and envelopes with the message 'Wishing you a Happy Christmas and a joyful New Year'.

#### Santa's Little Helper

15x15cm. £3.95 - Code: CRCC0127

#### Frosty Friends

12x17cm.

£3.95 - Code: CRCC0128

#### Donkey and Robin

15x15cm. £3.95 - Code: CRCC0129

Donate

Collect and trim your used **postage stamps**. When trimming, the key is to get close to the perforations without cutting them, which decreases the value. Doing this saves us much needed hours of work, so thank you.

# Christmas all wrapped up

## Four Hooves Tea Towel

Heartwarming design - an absolute must for horse lovers. 50% cotton and 50% recycled materials - quality is staff approved! 50 x 70cm.

£6.95 - HWTT0093



## Christmas Wrapping Paper

Two different designs, four sheets of wrapping paper and eight tags 70x50cm per sheet.

£4.95 - Code: STWP0006



Bespoke items



## Emerald Purse

Beautiful wallet featuring Bransby's own Emerald. Zipped with coin and card compartments.

£9.95

Code: GTGN0383



## 2022 Calendar

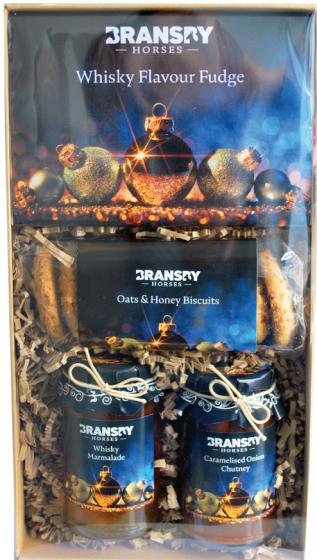
A beautiful tear-off post-card calendar featuring some of our rescued residents. 32x17.3cm.

£5.95 - Code: GTCL0018

Online

By placing your order online or by phone, you will save us vital administration time and money: [BransbyHorses.co.uk/shop](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/shop)

# Luxury Food



## Festive Delights Hamper

Contains whisky fudge, oats and honey biscuits, whisky marmalade and caramalised onion chutney.

**£21.95 - Code: GTFD0140**

Perfect  
for  
Christmas



## Clotted Cream Shortbread

Delicious shortbread melts, 150g drum.

Suitable for vegetarians.

**£5.95 - Code: GTFD0139**



## Chocolate Chip Cookies

150g drum. Suitable for vegetarians.

**£5.95 - Code: GTFD0138**



## Donkey Poop

Delicious milk chocolate covered raisins. 125g.

**£3.50 - Code: SPCH0030**



Stocking  
fillers

## Unicorn Beans

Magical unicorn jelly beans! 200g.

**£3.50 - Code: SPCH0032**



## Clotted Cream Fudge Churn

Creamy clotted cream fudge in a reusable metal churn. 170g.

**£5.95**

**Code: GTFD0137**

**amazon smile**

When you shop at **AmazonSmile** 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products will be donated to the charity of your choice so you can make a donation to us and contribute to the work we do.

# For the home



## Horse Whispers Apron

Eye-catching apron by Alex Clarke Art. 70x90cm with a 28 x 28cm pocket on the front and hanging tag. 100% cotton.

**£14.95**

Code: HWAP0025

## Horse Travel Mug

Humorous and stylish bamboo travel mug with screw lid - ideal for those cold winter days. Silicone rubber-band heat reflector. Top-shelf dishwasher safe.

13.5x6.5cm (base). Lid diameter - 9.5cm.

**£12.50** - Code: HWTW0084



## Between the Branches Tea Towel

Stunning robin design for Christmas.  
100% cotton.  
48 x 74cm.

**£6.95**

Code: HWTT0094



## Horse Whispers Shopping Bag

A reusable shopping bag with two large handles and a snap button to hold together when folded. Perfect for carrying around in your bag or pocket. 45.5 x 41cm, heavy grade polyester.

**£9.95** - Code:

GTBG0089

*Donate*

Quality **donated items** are sold in our Donated Goods and Tack Shop. Donations are gratefully received at our Visitor Centre (please be aware we no longer accept mobile phones or electrical items). Thank you.

### Pebbles and Paloma Mug

Fine china mug in stunning Pebbles and Paloma design by Bree Merryn.

**£7.50 - GTMG0056**



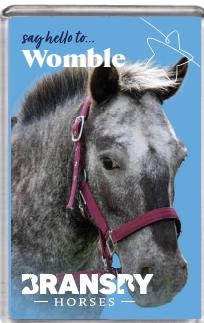
Gift  
Boxed



### Jack and Diane Mug

Delightfully decorated fine china mug featuring Jack and Diane by Bree Merryn.

**£7.50 - Code: GTMG0065**



New  
Sponsorship  
Star,  
Womble

### Sponsorship Star Magnet

Brighten up your fridge with your favourite Sponsorship Star. Please state name required.

**£2.50**

Code: GTGN0046



### Sponsorship Star Keyring

Keep your keys safe with one of our sponsorship horses, ponies or donkeys. Please write the name of the Sponsorship Star preferred.

**£2.50 - Code: GTKR0015**



### 2022 Diary

Slimline, handy week to view diary in distinguished British racing green or classic tan. 9 x 16.5cm.

**Racing Green £3.95 - Code: STDY0024**

**Tan £3.95 - Code: STDY0025**



Why not purchase one of our equines a gift from our **Amazon Wish List**? To find out what they're looking for, follow the link on our homepage, [BransbyHorses.co.uk](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk)

# Happy shopping!

## Chromium Keyring

Featuring exclusive artwork by the talented Ros Brown, these chromium keyrings are stylish and unique.  
**Mae and Bracken £4.50 - Code: GTKR0050**  
**Nipper £4.50 - Code: GTKR0051**



## Blue Horse Scarf

In bold and beautiful blue, this elegant horse print dress scarf is sure to add some colour to any ensemble.

180 x 50cm.

**£6.95**

Code: CLSC0042

Back by  
popular  
demand



**Blue Checked Gloves**  
Why choose between fashion and function? These gloves will do both! One size.  
**£9.95 - Code: CLGL0006**



## Orchard Farm Puzzle

1000pc happy farm scene jigsaw puzzle.

**£12.95**

Code: CHPZ0042

## Orange and Green Checked Scarf

Keep it bright and beautiful this winter with this stylish warm scarf.

**£12.95**

Code: CLSC0043

Donations of **rugs and tack** help us raise funds to continue the work that we do. If you have any equine items you could donate, please bring them to our Visitor Centre during opening hours. Thank you.

*Donate*

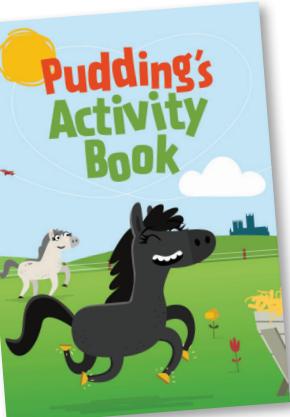
# Family gift ideas



## Eco-Travel Stationery Set

This six-piece stationery set includes a jute and cotton branded pouch, bamboo ruler, wooden sharpener, eraser, pencil and ball pen with blue ink. Perfect for when you're on the move.

**£8.95** - Code: STGN0022



## Pudding Activity Book

32 full-colour A4 pages. Join Bransby Pudding and complete her activity book, perfect for kids!

**£3.95** - Code: GTBK0063



Christmas must-have!

## Pudding's Christmas Miracle

A heartwarming children's story perfect for Christmas with 100% of proceeds helping us to rescue more equines in need. 34 pages of beautifully illustrated rhymes telling the story of Bransby Pudding's magical Christmas rescue.

**£6.95** - Code: GTBK0061



## New Holland Tractor

New Holland 1:32 scale T5.120 model Farm Tractor.  
18 x 12 x 9cm.

**£8.95** - Code: CHGN0312



## Bluebell Donkey

7" Bluebell donkey soft toy with sparkly eyes.  
Suitable for all ages!  
Hand wash and air dry.  
**£9.95** - Code: CHST0166

More choice

There are more gifts and products available online, including seasonal and childrens gift products:  
[BransbyHorses.co.uk/shop](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/shop)

# Stationery

Matching items available



## Bracken and Mae Slant Pad

Handy A6 slant pad featuring our very own Bracken and Mae.

150 leaves. 10.5 x 15cm.

**£3.95 - Code: STPD0110**

Top seller!

**BRANSBY**  
— HORSES —



## Magnetic Shopping Pad

This years magnetic shopping list pad features our beautiful foal Lyanna, born earlier this year!

9.5 x 21cm. 50 leaves.

**£3.95 - Code: STPD0111**

Bespoke items



## Electra Ball Pen

Soft touch, laser engraved ball pen in slate colour.

Black ink. Gift boxed.

**£3.95 - Code: STPN0036**

## Feline Fine Notecards

Popular Wrendale notecards printed on sustainable textured board in a presentation wallet. Four notecards, eight correspondence cards, 12 envelopes.

12 x 12cm. Blank for your message.

**£5.95 - Code: STNC0011**



## Nipper Spiral Notebooks

Elegant 200 page spiral bound notebook featuring exclusive artwork. A5 (15 x 21cm), Lined.

**£7.95 - Code: STPD0109**

# ORDER FORM

For Official Use Only:

BLAW21

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Supporter No. (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Full first name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

## BOOST YOUR DONATION BY 25P OF GIFT AID FOR EVERY £1 YOU DONATE

I can confirm that I would like to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Bransby Horses.

I, ..... am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

**Please notify the Charity if you:** Want to cancel this declaration • Change your name or home address • No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

*gift aid it*

## WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR ORDER BY FRIDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2021 TO GIVE US THE BEST POSSIBLE CHANCE OF POSTING YOUR PARCEL IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

1

### SPONSORSHIP SCHEME - PLEASE COMPLETE DIRECT DEBIT FORM OR PAY IN FULL

I wish to sponsor: (please tick)	Donation
<input type="checkbox"/> Domino	£36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Honour	£36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Matilda	£36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Nipper	£36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Pecan	£36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Saratoga	£36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Womble	£36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Woody	£36.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>

If this is to be sent to a different address, please complete the details below:

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Forename: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

The recipient is under 18

2

### FRIENDS OF BRANSBY HORSES - PLEASE COMPLETE DIRECT DEBIT FORM OR PAY IN FULL

Yes, I would like to become a Friend of Bransby Horses from £60 per year (please tick)

I do not wish to receive a FoBH badge.

3

### PLEASE TELL US HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM US IN THE FUTURE:

By SMS?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Email: _____
By email?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Telephone: _____
			Date: _____



# Discover Bransby

Come and visit our rescued horses,  
ponies, donkeys and mules!

FREE  
entry



## Take part in our family activities



### Scavenger Hunt: 1st – 30th September

Find all 25 items on the list with your very own magnifying glass.



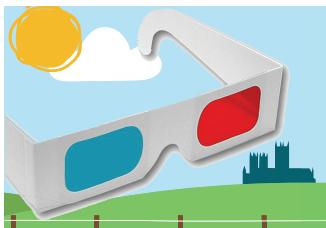
### Devilish Dragons Hunt: 1st – 31st October

Battle the dragons hiding at Bransby Horses! Complete your quest and claim your reward.



### Pecan's Pumpkin Patch: October

It's back and it's bigger and better! Pick your own pumpkin from Pecan's Pumpkin Patch.



### 3D Animal Reveal: 1st – 26th November

Solve the clues with your 3D glasses to reveal animals hiding in surprising places!



### Pudding's Reindeer Roundup: 27th November – 24th December

Santa needs Pudding's help to find his naughty reindeer and save Christmas!

For more information  
and activity prices, call,  
find us online or follow us  
on social media.

**In January 2020, Eileen contributed to our emergency response to devastating floods, allowing us to move many equines to safety.**



Eileen pictured on her wedding day.

Eileen passed away in November 2018.

Eileen kindly remembered Bransby Horses in her Will. Gifts in Wills help us rescue and care for hundreds of equines every single year.

*Create Your Legacy*

---

**BRANSBY**  
HORSES

01427 788 464   
[BransbyHorses.co.uk/legacy](http://BransbyHorses.co.uk/legacy)

Charity No: 1075601. Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England and Wales No: 3711676

Eileen's story is used with kind permission of her close friend, Don; continuing her incredible legacy.