



# LLUEST

BEHIND THE STABLE DOOR



SUMMER  
2019

# MEET THE FOALS OF 2019



Lluest rescued four ponies early in the year, three mares and a foal called Sebastian. Two of the mares have now foaled and Sebastian (above left) is proving to be a wonderful 'big brother' to the youngsters.

**Can you spare  
£1 per week?  
You won't miss it!**

Doesn't sound much does it? One pound a week is an amount that many of us would not notice. And for the horses and ponies of Lluest it's a lifeline. If all of our supporters sign up to a direct debit it will really make a difference. A regular income means that we are free to concentrate on rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming equines that have been abused, abandoned or neglected. If you are able to give an amount of less than the cost of a cup of coffee per month, please contact us on 01550 740 661 and we will send you a form or you can visit the 'Downloads' section of our website:

[www.llesthorseandponytrust.co.uk](http://www.llesthorseandponytrust.co.uk)

We have had three foals born on the farm this spring and all are growing well and full of fun. Their mothers, mares Melody, Sarabi and Ariel were all rescued over the last 18 months. Ariel foaled first and produced Eric (pictured above right). Sarabi foaled the very next day. The staff named Sarabi's boy Zazu (above centre). A few weeks later Melody's baby arrived - a filly we've called Morgana. The grooms began to notice that another of our recently rescued mares, pretty dun Alana (front cover), was getting 'fatter'

so a blood sample was taken for a pregnancy test. It was confirmed that she is indeed in foal. Unsure of her due date, we are keeping an eye on her. Foals need regular worming, vaccinating and feeding, and the boys will need to be castrated in due course. All these costs can mount up. If you can spare a little money every month please consider setting up a direct debit. It needn't be much, just a pound or two. Or if you have some space perhaps you can foster in the future? If so give us a call on 01550 740 661.●



## Welcome to our Newsletter

We have been as busy as ever since our last newsletter. Foals have been born, ponies rescued and others have been returned from their guardian homes. But, most significantly for us, our monthly donation from Bransby Horses has come to an end. We are immensely grateful for their support over the last 5 years but now, more than ever, we need our supporters to help us. We are asking you to donate just £4 per month (more if you can). That's only £1 per week, you won't miss it. Lluest been rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming ponies for 34 years and has made a difference to the lives of hundreds of equines. We can't do it alone! A huge thank you everyone who has supported us in any way. We really do appreciate all your help.

Dionne Shuurman – Equine Manager

# GWEN'S STORY

## Off the beaten track

Little Gwen was discovered trapped in a gorge in the Brecon Beacons by two hikers, Axel and Sarah. They had lost their way but, fortunately for Gwen, they found her, pulled her free and left her to return to the herd of ponies grazing nearby. The following morning they went back to the same spot to see how she was doing, but they were worried about her they called us.

Lluest Welfare Assistants Rhian and Shannon drove the ambulance to the area, travelling the last bit of the way in a 4x4 as the foal was deep in the mountains. They arrived armed with a bottle of mare's replacement milk and were met by the sight of a desperately thin and hungry foal with very scurfy skin and rain scald. The other ponies were still nearby, but they moved away disinterested when our Welfare Assistants arrived. There was sadly no sign of the foal's mother. The hungry foal accepted the milk straight away and, after her meal, was placed in the back of the 4x4 to take her to the waiting Lluest equine ambulance. The grooms named her Gwen in the back seat of that 4x4.

## Against the odds

As soon as Gwen arrived at the farm our vets arrived to examine her. She was severely underweight so was immediately started on a diet of powdered mare's milk and fed hourly throughout the day and every three hours during the night. For the first few nights, because she was so weak and underweight, Gwen was brought into the house. A small pen was erected in the corner of the living room by the radiator and a soft bed of shavings made for her. It was in the same place in the house back in November 1991 that Lluest's founder Ginny Hajdukiewicz cared for stunted little foal Gwilym. He was in such terrible condition at a local sale that Ginny knew she could not leave without him. Despite his tough start Gwilym lived to the good age of 24 only passing away in 2015.



Although Gwen is now putting on weight, we continue to carefully monitor her health.

She has had to deal with a very high worm burden as well as ulcers in her digestive tract - which is common in horses that have been without food for a long period of time. But Gwen is a fighter and, like Gwilym before her, is surviving 'against the odds'. ●

## Do something fabulous today – volunteer...

Do you have some spare time and would like to get involved? We'd love to hear from you. It needn't be an outside job - there is plenty to do in our office. Volunteering is rewarding and, whatever your skills, there will be something for you to do. Whether it be a helping hand at events and shows, such as our annual Open Day. Or can you offer regular help on the yard mucking out?

Whatever your skills, you are very welcome to join our team. So are you ready to roll your sleeves up? Call us on 01550 740 661.

## ...or fundraise for Lluest!

There are plenty of ways you can raise money for us. For ideas, look at our website or Just Giving page.

## Star sponsor pony Bobby

Bobby is a very sweet pony. He is great with children and will happily stand for hours to be brushed or have his mane plaited. He came to the Trust having suffered from laminitis so we keep a careful eye on his weight. You can sponsor Bobby and others like him by visiting our website [www.lluesthorseandponytrust.co.uk](http://www.lluesthorseandponytrust.co.uk) A sponsorship pack makes a great last-minute gift!



**Top:** Welfare Assistants Rhian and Shannon giving Gwen her first feed on the mountain where she was found.

**Middle:** Gwen installed in the corner of the living room.

**Bottom:** Gwilym in the same corner of the living room years ago.

**Left:** Axel carrying Gwen to the waiting 4x4 on her way to Lluest.



## HEALTH: OBESITY & LAMINITIS

Obesity is becoming the number one cause of ill health in equines. Native ponies have evolved to live on rough grazing and quickly become fat on fertilised cattle or sheep pasture. Watching a pony's weight and learning how to body score is crucial, as is checking regularly with a weigh tape to monitor those extra kilos. It's surprising how quickly a healthy body condition score 3 can change to a very fat score of 5. Excess weight adds an increased strain on the vital organs as well as the limbs. Some horses do not



lose weight over the winter months, so are going into spring already too fat. This can predispose an animal to laminitis, a crippling disease that usually affects the front feet. The sensitive laminae inside the hoof wall become inflamed and very painful. In severe cases, the pedal bone in the foot can become detached from the hoof wall and rotate downwards. If you suspect laminitis, ring your vet immediately and get in touch with us if you need any advice about keeping off the pounds - your horse that is! ●

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### LLUEST ANNUAL OPEN DAY

Sunday 15th September 2019

Gate opens at 11am

### COME AND VISIT OUR STAND

The Big Cwtch - 30-31st August 2019

Sennybridge Show - 6th September 2019

## NEWS SNIPPETS

### Million to one Chance

We are very proud of these two. Less than a fortnight before this photo was taken yearling colt Chance was completely unhandled. He had been abandoned in a field with his mother, Lucky, and no one had been able to get near him. Recently the pair came to Llust and Chance



was placed in the care of Welfare Assistant Rhian. She has started handling him gently and has introduced him to the headcollar. He is now learning to lead.

### Seren finds a home

After seven years at Llust Seren has found a home. She came to the Trust at a year old from a council pound after being found wandering on the road. She has taken a long time to learn to trust humans, but she got there. We are over the moon for her.



## COULD YOU FOSTER A PONY ?

We are always looking for experienced and dedicated horse handlers with some spare grazing to join our list of equine Foster Carers. Our Foster Carers are very important to us. They typically look after young and older horses and ponies until they find permanent guardian homes.

For example, you could foster a youngster until it is old enough to come back to us for training. Apply for one pony as a companion to your existing horse or, if you don't already have an resident equine, foster two as companions for each other.

### Loving life – Du's peaceful new home

Remember Du? He was featured in our Winter 2018 newsletter and was waiting for a peaceful guardian home. Poor Du was finding the busy pace on our yard a bit much. Well, we are pleased to report that he is now having the quiet life he desired at the home of Llust Trustee Susan.



### Our founder Ginny's own words

“ If you own a pony don't sell him through a market when he is too small, too slow or old. Find him a loan home or retire him quietly at home. He has given you hours of pleasure. Surely he deserves a secure loving home in return. ”