



Behind the Stable Door Autumn/Winter 2018

LLUEST



Merry Christmas &
a Happy New Year

from all of us at Lluest Horse and Pony Trust

A huge welcome to our autumn/winter newsletter

It has been a busy summer here at Beili Bedw farm with the hot weather bringing plenty of beautiful sunshine enjoyed by



both ponies and staff. However blazing sun over a prolonged period of time also results in a lack of grass and water sources running dry causing particular problems for ponies grazing the local mountains and commons. We worked hard throughout the season not only to ensure our own equines were fed and watered but to closely monitor the welfare of herds of mountain ponies nearby. Our founder Ginny was widely respected and renowned for her work with hill ponies and we are proud to be carrying on her legacy of work.

Earlier in the year we rescued tiny foal Nala who is now thriving with her surrogate mother Penny, the cute mare who welcomed her with open 'arms' when she was brought to Lluest.

Equine training over the summer has resulted in several of our wonderful horses finding loving new loan and foster homes. In 2018 we rescued 15 ponies and rehomed 32 at a time when we were also faced with the challenge of 17 ponies being returned to us through no fault of their own. More ponies means increased demand on our resources and we recently launched a crowdfunding appeal to raise much needed funds to see us through what we believe will be a very harsh winter.

<https://www.gofundme.com/our-rescue-centre-is-in-crisis>

Lots of supporters have already donated to our winter crisis fund but we are still short of our target of £16,500.

If you'd like to give a Christmas gift to a Lluest pony like little Nala please take a look at our 'Gofundme' site shown above. Every penny of your donation will make a real difference. Alternatively choosing to donate a small amount every month is immensely valuable and enables us to plan for the future. If you'd like to set up a direct debit you'll find a form on the back of your Gift Guide. Just £3 a month won't change the world but it could change the world for that one pony.

Thank you to all our supporters, volunteers and trustees. We couldn't do it without you!

From all the staff at Lluest

Market Report 2018 Llanybydder

Lluest is campaigning for an end to the separate sale of foals in markets when they have not yet been weaned from their mothers. This report comes after a visit to Llanybydder market by Lluest welfare staff and follows up on a complaint from a member of the public.

Staff visited the September market to monitor the conditions. Mares with foals still suckling were being brought to the sale together and then sold to separate homes. This undoubtedly causes a huge amount of unnecessary stress to both mare and foal. A member of staff from Lluest said: "Foals at the foot of their mother's were sold separately meaning they were forcibly separated at the end of what would have already been a stressful day. This, in our opinion, is causing unnecessary suffering".

Lluest would like to see an end to the separate sale of foals accompanying their mothers to the market all together. She added: "Frightened, unhandled equines going through the ring were being poked and hit with sticks and hands and we also saw that many of the horses and donkeys were standing all day without any water, including mares with foals at foot".

In addition, not all of the foals had bedding and this is a requirement by law. It is also the market operator's duty to ensure that adequate facilities, such as troughs, buckets or drinking bowls are available for watering horses. ▶ ▶

A Very Big Thank You to Wetnose

Wetnose Animal Aid is a small, not-for-profit organisation that has very kindly made a huge donation to us by paying £1000 off our vet's bill. Thank you so much for your donation Wetnose. (www.wetnoseanimalaid.com)

Rug Season and New Cleaning Service



Lluest has launched its new rugwashing and reproofing service. All sorts of animal clothing can be brought back to life, including fly rugs, fleeces, saddle cloths,

numnahs, travel boots and dog beds. Prices are very competitive; a standard turnout rug without neck and over the size of five feet will cost £15 to wash and fully reproof. A detailed price list can be found on Lluest's website and Facebook page.

If you're passing Beili Bedw Farm, why not call into The Tack Shop for second-hand bargain rugs, saddles, bridles, bits and more. ●



Young and terrified. Two 'wild' ponies at Llanybydder Market

The treatment of 'wild' mountain ponies and foals was always of great concern to Lluest's founder Ginny Hajdukiewicz. She published an article in the press in the late 1980s which led to the placement of slip-proof floor coverings at the market. Standards appear to have slipped in recent years so Lluest is now visiting monthly. Please join us in our campaign to urge market operators to provide better conditions for hill ponies going through their sales. Lluest is committed to improving the welfare of all equines. Make your voice heard on our Facebook page: facebook.com/lluest. ●

Training and Rehoming News

Our Welfare Assistants have worked hard with our young horses this summer and we are delighted that most of the ponies have now found loving homes. One of the them is the lovely Nutmeg, pictured left with her groom and trainer, Welfare Assistant, Lauren. Nutmeg was rescued in 2015 in foal and very nervous. With some careful handling and training she has become a well-balanced and willing riding mare.



Topaz and Nutmeg

Little Welsh mare, Topaz, has just started her education and it's looking like she will become a wonderful driving pony. If you are looking for your next best friend, see our Facebook page or website for details of available ponies. Not all horses are suitable for riding as many are just too scarred by their past experiences, but with some time and TLC they can still make wonderful companions for other horses. ●

Rainy Open Day but Bright Spirits

Despite wet weather, our annual Open Day on the 16th September went ahead as planned. We are very grateful to everyone who supported us and got very wet. The horses were under cover in the barn so there was some respite for visitors in the stables and it was dry in the Vintage Tea Tent. Despite the weather, there was a good turnout and, all in all, it was an enjoyable day.

Demonstrations went ahead as planned. Joanna Lowes, who works with Monty Roberts when he is on tour, worked with two of our rescue ponies.

The parade of Lluest horses took place after that. Organised Kaos were busy with circus tricks in the children's activities area proving that the show must go on even in the wettest weather. Children [and adults]



Even adults enjoy a hug with a unicorn!

were able to meet our resident 'unicorns' and have their photos taken with them. Bobby (above) was one of the unicorns for the day and stood quietly to be dressed up and photographed.

Raffles were drawn at the end of the day and the winner of the horse painting by Tony O'Connor was announced. We are very grateful to Tony for donating it to us and young supporter, Eva Davies, was in charge of pressing the button to draw the winning number 647. ●

Halloween Pumpkin Trail and Party

On 28th October, strange things happened at Beili Bedw farm. Dozens of pumpkins were hidden around the woodland for visitors to find. There was a carving area in the barn, a BBQ, tea and cakes, tombola, games and facepainting. Surprisingly, the horses didn't seem to mind that there were ghouls and ghosts wandering around the farm that day.





Eva Davies plaits Little John's mane at her birthday party

Pony Party Pilot Proves Positive

Our first children's party on a sunny Sunday in October was a big success. Rescue ponies John and Bobby got a makeover and the partygoers enjoyed leaping jumps in the arena. There was party food and games. A good time was had by all. To book your party with a difference call us on 01550 740 661.

Sarabi's Dental Work Appeal

Sarabi, a cute Welsh pony rescued this summer, has a massive swelling on the left side of her face which extends up to her eye.

An examination by the vet revealed that a tooth and some bone was missing leaving a large hole leading up into her sinuses. The vet gave her an anaesthetic and flushed out food debris that had collected in the hole. It was then packed with the hope that granulation tissue would form to seal it, but sadly the pack loosened allowing food back in again.



Sarabi needs dental work

This is just one example of some of the costs we regularly need to meet. If you can donate even a small amount towards the cost of treating Sarabi or to help in other ways, please look at our 'Ways to Help' section of our website. Thank you. ●

Equine Assisted Learning Workshops

Ina Thomson, Equine Learning Facilitator, has been holding Equine Assisted Learning and Holistic Bodywork workshops for adults and children at Lluest and more are planned for next year, 2019. Ina's workshops teach relaxation and body language control in a calm and controlled manner. They help with building confidence and self esteem. "Communication with horses can be valuable in helping people with mental health issues gain confidence. They can teach us so much," she adds. For more information, please visit our website or email us: equine@lluesthorseandponytrust.co.uk. ●

Gift Aid It to Boost your Donation

Gift Aid means we can claim an extra 25p from the Government for every pound you donate. Even if you have filled in a Gift Aid form in the past, please update us. A form can be found in the Gift Guide or downloaded from our website.

Other Easy Ways to Help our Rescues

Check out Give as you Live: www.giveasyoulive.com It's a free and easy way to raise money for charity just by shopping online. There's also our Amazon Wishlist. Simply search for Lluest on Amazon.

Sad Goodbye to Superstar Pony Llwyd



RIP Llwyd

This summer we said a very sad goodbye to Llwyd. Sweet Llwyd has been a Therapy Pony and on our sponsorship scheme for several years. Although only 15 years old, he had suffered from mild arthritis for some time, but his pain was under control with pain relief. Sadly though, his condition deteriorated and his pain could no longer be controlled. Rest in peace Llwyd we miss you. ●

Dates for the Diary

There will be a talk on equine behaviour by Jenni Nellist to be held at the Cottage Inn near Llandeilo at 7pm on 18th December 2018. Mince pies and mulled wine will be available.

For information and tickets please check our Facebook page or website. Also watch out for info on our Valentine's Day Sponsored Dog Walk. ●

Success with Worms – The Importance of Control

A lot of effort goes into controlling intestinal, parasitic worms at Lluest and care needs to be taken to ensure that worm resistance does not become a problem. New arrivals may have all sorts of parasites and some may have never been wormed so it is essential that they are isolated upon arrival, assessed by the vet and wormed with a broad-spectrum wormer. A worm egg count is then performed to ensure that the wormer has done its job. Only then can the animal graze with the rest of the herd. "Worming is taken very seriously at Lluest", says Dionne Schuurman, Equine Manager. "Without a strict programme in place, we would not enjoy the zero egg counts we are currently getting and of which we are very proud."