

DATA PROTECTION LAWS

At the end of May, new laws regarding data protection came into force in Europe. As you know, we take our commitment to your privacy seriously and the ways in which we contact you are regulated by these laws, so we wanted to take this opportunity to keep you up to date!

You may be receiving our newsletters because you have shown an interest in our work by donating, adopting a donkey, becoming a 'Friend of Flicka' or you were bought a donkey adoption as a gift by someone else. We hope you enjoy receiving our newsletters and updates, but you do have a choice about whether or not you wish to receive information from us and you may instruct us at any time not to process your personal information for any or all purposes.

If you no longer want to receive our newsletters, you can opt out of receiving direct mail from us at any time by contacting us via email, post or on the phone. If you still want to receive our newsletters - don't worry, you don't have to do a thing!

Some of you have also signed up to receive our e-news. Under the new laws, we will no longer be allowed to contact you via email about our work unless you have given your consent to being on our mailing list. If you are not yet on our mailing list but would like to receive e-mail updates on the donkeys, our work and special campaigns, you can sign up now using this weblink: www.flickafoundation.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-e-news

If you would like to find out more about how we protect your personal details, you can view our Privacy Policy here: www.flickafoundation.org.uk/privacy-policy

Our Special Thanks To...

Jayne & Chris Keast – we are overwhelmed with your donation, this has made big inroads to our appeal for another barn, thank you so so much xxx

Esmie, Ken and Alison Richards – thinking of you all, thank you for your amazing kindness x

Trevor, Gill and Mavis Langford – once again for the amazing funds you have raised from your fabulous coffee mornings.



Scott Curnow Ran the Exeter half marathon and raised an amazing £900 for Flicka, thank you Scott very well done

Linda Beard – a fantastic coffee morning at Mawnan Smith village hall with the help of the W.I. Ladies thank you very much

Peter & Angela Scales – thank you for an amazing amount raised and having Flicka as your chosen charity.

Margaret Mason – for your wonderful constant, delicious, cake supply

Hayley Bates for the wonderful jewellery & handmade items for our Gift Cabin.

Barrie & Sharon Howell – thank you so much for your kindness.

Pauline – for the wonderful knitted donkeys & finger puppets – they are so popular.

To all our Amazing Volunteers – your help and hard work is invaluable.

The Uni Girls, Exeter University – wish you could stay forever! Thank you girls

To all our Wonderful Supporters – for all your donations, your generosity is overwhelming and Flicka would just not exist without you... thank you so very much.

THANK YOU!

Thank you everyone for being part of our big Flicka Family. We wouldn't be here without you!
Hugs from all of us to all of you. See you in December 2018 Folks. Flicka xxx

'Among the things in my life I thank God for most, is the love He gave me for animals. My heart would be emptier and life would be less without them'

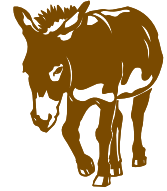


June 2018



Mary Berryman's
**The Flicka
Foundation**

Donkey Sanctuary
Registered Charity No. 1153858



Patrons – **CAROLINE QUENTIN,
PAUL O'GRADY, FELICITY KENDAL**

SUMMER'S COMING...



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Follow us on Facebook: [Flicka Foundation](https://www.facebook.com/flickafoundation)

Hello to all our Wonderful Friends and Supporters



Here we are again; six months have passed since we last 'spoke' and so much has happened within the Flicka world! Firstly we must say a very big and heartfelt thank you for your amazing generosity over the Christmas period, your donations overwhelm us, we cannot tell you enough how vital they are, thank you so much. We hopefully have written to all of you personally, if not we can only apologise or maybe we didn't have your address, but please know, and it may sound clichéd, your contributions help more than we can say... xxx

Very sadly we have had more losses which just knock us sideways, no matter how much we tell ourselves about the circle of life and we did our best for them, it really doesn't help when left with a huge ache and tears to fill an ocean. We have written about them further back in this newsletter, but before you get to them we must tell you that one of our losses was our very dear precious Marybelle, the first donkey to step onto Flicka soil. Her loss hit has hit us very badly...

We have also had several additions to the Flicka family!

Our new barn is well underway too, which, although a challenge while work has been going on, has been very exciting.

So please....read on and we hope you enjoy our news xxx

Follow us on Facebook: Flicka Foundation



HUMPHREY

**FANFARE PLEASE... Some exciting news!
'HUMPHREY' has come to Flicka!!!**

As you may know from a lot of Flicka's literature, the Baudet de Poitou is probably the most famous, oldest and most rare breed of donkey in the world. First recordings of their existence were in 54CB when the Romans discovered them in Poitiers, France

Hamerton Stud says:

'We are delighted to be able to take part in the conservation of the Baudet-du-Poitou, and have



brought a number of animals over from France to form the nucleus of our herd'

The Poitevine Mule (cross between the Poitou donkey and the Mulassier horse) was in great demand from the middle ages onward, and a stud book was established in 1884 to improve both the donkey and the mulassier horse. Large numbers of mules were used by the French army in the Congo and North Africa, and the Poitou Donkey was exported to many countries including the USA. But by the 1950s there was little demand for the mules as they had been replaced by mechanized lorries, tractors and jeeps. Thousands of them were culled including the Poitou, this was catastrophic, and when a study was undertaken in 1977 it was found that only around 40 Poitoux had survived, it was on the very verge of extinction.

A concerted rescue plan was established in France; the Asinerie Nationale was founded as was an association to preserve the breed, la SABAUD ('Save the Baudet'). A breeding programme was started with two directives, the maintenance of the original breed in one stud book (livre 'A'), and the importation of Portuguese jennies for a carefully controlled introduction of new blood (livre 'B'). The two stud books have now been combined under the control of the Haras Nationale, which issues all the pedigree certificates. Numbers have risen slowly, but today there are still only a few hundred Poitou Donkeys in France and a few other countries including England. All still have their original French papers; if a donkey does not, it is not a Poitou!

Ok - so there is the history, where does Flicka fit in, well the Stud have a Poitou gelding who is 9 months old, they would like him to stay in the UK to highlight this magnificent breed and we are thrilled to bits they have asked Flicka to be his guardians. We are honoured to welcome this young Poitou donkey here at Flicka.

**...and now the even more exciting bit.... drum roll please...
...'Humphrey' is BIG BERTIE'S BROTHER!!!!**

Humphrey arrived at Flicka on the Thursday 3rd May, after being a little bemused following a long journey and new surroundings, the following day Humphrey went into the paddock with some of the donkeys... settled in immediately, it's like he's always been here!

Penny & Paddington



Remember our appeal in December for these two gorgeous little donkeys, well after a worrying and shaky start, they are doing so very well.

It was a traumatic rescue day our donkey lorry broke down miles from home with Paddington and Penny on board. Our thanks to Claire Robinson and Rosie Treloar, for their caring, compassion and for staying calm in the face of adversity during the breakdown, thank you to Rosie's husband, Ian, who came to their aid with a trailer. Two frightened donkeys had to be swapped into the trailer by the side of a busy main road during the gales and heavy rain in the dark.

Thank you also to Fourwinds Recovery at Newquay for acting so promptly.

On arrival we thought we had lost Paddington, we couldn't rouse him, we carried this sick tiny foal into a stable, warmed him up and brought some bottled milk, he rallied, but so weak and frail, he also had severe infections in both eyes. Paddington was around seven weeks old when he arrived, he should have been suckling from his mother, whose whereabouts were unknown to us, Penny was probably almost a yearling, she was doing ok, although hungry and very worried.

After his initial collapse when he arrived over the following days 'Paddington' became a little brighter. Our vet gave him a thorough examination, we administered glucose water to keep him hydrated, plus milk formula.

Paddington received aggressive daily treatment for the infection in his eyes; the left eye was quite severe.

His woolly foal coat hid a tiny skeletal frame; we gave him one of our Labrador's coats, even that was too big for him!!

Paddington and Penny both had lice and rain-scald; we couldn't treat Paddington for this while he was so frail. They were both kept in quarantine,

young 'Penny' was becoming very motherly towards Paddington, despite her not being much more than a baby herself.

After one week at Flicka Little Paddington was still very frail and tiny and fighting a nasty infection, he was able to open his right eye and what a beautiful eye! It is blue with light coloured lashes. His left eye took considerably longer and several more vet visits. We continued to feed him throughout the day and night, little by little he got stronger and very friendly! He loved his chest being rubbed and enjoyed his face being cleaned after administering eye treatments! Penny was doing really well and quite protective towards Paddington.

Despite the weather, Hannas, our vet, braved the elements on Wednesday 3rd March (well he was originally from Austria) to come out and give Paddington and Penny their tetanus injections and general health check.

Both were doing really well, Paddington at this point could still do with a little more weight, only to be expected as he has been deprived of his Mother's milk.

We also had his eyes checked as there have been occasions when we felt he did not see as well as he should, especially when coming from light into dark and vice versa. The vet could not see anything anatomically wrong, but there is no scientific method of testing the eyesight, so we shall keep a close watch.

Now six months on Paddington is very strong and healthy, although quite small for his age, he is playful and naughty, with stunning blue eyes. Penny is a very pretty donkey, she and Paddington are best friends, but enjoy being in the paddock with the other donkeys.



Penny



Paddington



Walter

At the end of March we were alerted to a solitary donkey by a near neighbour This poor donkey has been living alone on a scrap yard and kept in a tiny, filthy corrugated 'shed' with no windows... there was no paddock, no access to water and no visible means of food.



After several weeks we secured Walter's relinquishment, sadly, Walter was not in the best of health. On arrival we got him into a stable with a good deep bed and gave him some food, hay and fresh water, it was then we could have a good look at him. He was full of lice, covered in rain scald and appeared to have an infection on his underside; his feet were overgrown and twisted so badly he was walking on his heels. The vet came to do a health check, took some bloods and put Walter on anti-biotics.



Happily only one week saw a vast improvement, he was been treated for lice, his infection started clearing up, his awful feet were done and now look perfect, he has been seen by the dentist and had some dental treatment. He goes out each day and has a healthy appetite with lots of nice extras to help his weight gain.

Walter goes in to the paddock each day and just about turns somersaults he is so happy - running in circles and galloping as fast as he can around the perimeter, full of joie de vivre. We have no idea how much of his life was spent in his tiny metal shed, but he's certainly been taking advantage of his new found freedom.



Walter, unbelievably, is a very friendly little chap and yet has every reason not to be, we think he is going to have alot of fans, us included! We're very lucky to have him at Flicka.

Sad losses at Flicka

We are sorry to bring sad news, but in the last six months since we last 'spoke' Flicka has said goodbye to five special family members. We don't want to make our newsletters sad and unhappy, but neither do we want to just print their names without telling their story. Each one of Flicka's residents are unique and special – very often their care is for the twilight years of their lives.

With an animal charity and so many beautiful souls living here it is inevitable that goodbyes are as much a part of what we do as saving them. What matters is how we get to that place. It is devastating and hurts... a lot.. but if it didn't something would be very wrong. A broken heart is the price we pay for loving them.

BANJO



Shortly after our December newsletter was sent out our dear little pony Banjo became unwell. It is always very worrying when an elderly pony develops low grade colic when they have never had it before. This was the case with Banjo; the format becomes all too familiar, the vet came out to treat the colic and a few hours later there was a degree of improvement, but once the medications wore off Banjo began to deteriorate.

We don't want to give long detailed explanations of dear Banjo's veterinary care and treatment, but we tried all we could to keep him with us, but it was not meant to be. We miss Banjo dreadfully, each afternoon his head would appear over the fence near the donkey barn where he was given a special feed, we can't look in that direction without expecting to see him – he was a truly lovely character, kept his own counsel, but always happy to mix with any of the donkeys. Banjo's special friend in life was Cara; he is buried by her side in the paddock.

Good Night Banjo, thank you for allowing us to be part of your life, we love you always xxx

ROSIE



On Friday 16th February we said goodbye to Rosie one of the Twilight Herd donkeys.

Rosie became unwell on Wednesday, her deterioration was rapid and by Friday afternoon there was nothing our vets could do for her. It was liver disease, which we knew some months ago would ultimately take our beautiful girl.

Rosie, at the time, left behind her grieving Twilight Herd, Emma, Acorn, Sable and Tinker

It is without doubt one of the hardest, most heartbreaking part of what we do here, to feel powerless to save them...

Good night dear sweet Rosie, you gave us so much joy, so much love, we loved you beyond words – God bless sweet darling soul xxxx

'Life is eternal, and love is immortal, and death is only a horizon: and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight...' Rossiter Worthington Raymond

BELLA



Bella had been with Flicka for over twenty years, she had suffered with metabolic laminitis for most of her life, firstly developing when she was just five years old. Bella had even undergone some pioneering drug treatment from Liverpool Veterinary Hospital for the condition which really helped in those early years.

The last couple of years has been a challenge for Bella, regular remedial farrier treatment, vet visits, keeping her off paddocks and monitoring her food intake very closely, despite everything it was clear Bella's feet issues

were changing from chronic, with good and bad weeks, to permanently acute. Finally x-rays confirmed what we feared, every avenue had been exhausted.

It is with deep... deep sadness that we once again had to say goodbye to Bella, our dear little black pony who had been part of the Flicka family for such a long time there are no words...

'When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight...' Kahlil Gibran

Good night Bella, sweetheart, we love you xxx

MARYBELLE



As you may remember Marybelle has suffered quite significant teeth issues through her life. She was due to have her second dental surgery in February, but when the Beast from the East arrived we could not heighten the risk by giving her sedation and anaesthetic while the temperatures were below freezing, so we waited until the warmer weather.

Marybelle is a very 'very' senior donkey, she has outlived her teeth, but the remaining ones she had were causing her pain and discomfort. It has been a great cause

of worry for us knowing that to put her through more surgery was a risk, but the bigger risk was to do nothing. Hannas Tanzer an equine dental specialist removed the rest of her teeth and stitched her gums; Marybelle then had no teeth whatsoever. The worrying aspect of this surgery was Marybelle's bones in her jaw were crumbling...

Initially she seemed very bright and wanted to eat, but after a few days we were syringing her feed every couple of hours. During this time a further health issue raised its ugly head, she became very lame on both front feet. This progressively became worse and while we were still nursing her with syringes of feed and supplements it was necessary to address her feet issues. The x-rays gave us very grave results; Marybelle's pedal bone (the hoof shaped bone in the foot) was crumbling away. Our dear special Marybelle's tired body was coming to an end.

We have truly dreaded writing these words. We make no apologies if the following seems a little over the top, we can assure you it doesn't come close to articulate how we have felt about losing her.....we said goodbye to Marybelle in the morning of Saturday 31st March, our special lady, our matriarch of Flicka, it is an understatement to say she has been a joy, a privilege and right now we cannot believe she is not with us anymore...

Marybelle came to us in 2008, just a few weeks after we lost our wonderful founder Mary Berryman. The name Marybelle was in her memory. She came at a time when we were questioning whether we really had the heart or emotional stamina to do animal welfare, the fight was dwindling and we felt jaded with all that we dealt with, then along came a little donkey so weak and frail a breeze would have knocked her off her feet, but she had something inside, an inner strength that just glowed. She was so ill; we took each hour at a time, if we ever left her side for a moment we never knew whether she was going to quietly slip away. But she didn't and she fought to be here, her acceptance

of all that had happened to her, all the treatment she endured and that wonderful stoic nature was just awe inspiring.

Marybelle reminded us why we do what we do, however much something hurts our hearts it is not about us, it's about them, it's not about our feelings it's about their welfare, their comfort and well-being and if they can take what life meets out to them, the least we can do is make it better, improve it from this point onwards and put aside how it grieves us and hurts us to see them suffer. It wasn't for us to indulge our emotional pain, it was for us to do something positive and make just the tiniest difference to one life. Marybelle's courage and character taught us so much. She epitomises Flicka and we are going to find it incredibly hard to accept the Flicka Foundation without her, but we know there is another Marybelle just around the corner and through her... no... because of her, they will find sanctuary with us...

In 2016 Marybelle lost her bonded soul-mate Primrose, it was hard and we feared how it would affect her, but what helped was having Jasper, a friend to both girls, Marybelle's attachment to Jasper grew and she seemed happy again. Then tragedy struck again in 2017, we lost Jasper, he was a very elderly boy in his late 40s... this loss was devastating for Marybelle, she went off her food and we were very worried she would not recover. Lonely was there in the wings and although she followed him everywhere, we always felt Marybelle never fully recovered from her grief, there was always an air of sadness about her.

After this latest veterinary procedure, which we had no choice, but to have carried out, it was as if she had had enough, the fight was gone, there were other physical deteriorations, her poor body was worn out. The only comfort we can take is she is now with her special soul mates Primrose and Jasper. We can never fully know how deeply they grieve, just like people, there is no time scale, but we have felt for quite some time now that Marybelle carried heartache with her every day.

You are so so special Marybelle and yes it is easy to talk about 'broken hearts', but there is an ache that will never go away, the ragged edges and rawness of loss pales, but we will carry your spirit and legacy always – if love and tears could have kept you with us, you would be here forever.

Dear darling sweetheart, God bless you and keep you safe, you deserve nothing but the best and you have surely secured a front seat in heaven. We will miss you every day – always. xxx



TINKER



More sorrow and hearts soaked in sadness to tell you we said goodbye to Tinker on Sunday 13th May.

Tinker was in his mid forties and had been suffering with liver issues, which became acute. We left no stone unturned to keep him with us, but sometimes, despite trying so hard, a chapter needs to come to an end. These are the really tough times at Flicka, when no matter how many sorrows we have, it never gets any easier, nor

would we want it to for that would mean we were getting used to it – and we never, ever will...

Tinker was a joy, a real little gentleman with such a big heart. His life before Flicka was 28 wonderful years at Freshfields Donkey Sanctuary (before closure) with John & Annie Stirling who saved him from the meat market. Tinker had done so many things in his life at Freshfields and became quite the celebrity when he appeared on television many times and had a private audience with the Queen, you can read his amazing story online

<http://www.flickafoundation.org.uk/tinkers-story.html>

Tinker is buried in the paddock next to his Twilight friends who have gone before, Bergerac, Dolly & Rosie.

Goodnight Tinker we will miss you always...

God bless you and keep you safe xxxx

'Like a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memories survive in times of sorrow....' Robert Louis Stevenson

We are sorry this newsletter has brought several sad losses, but we owe it to these beautiful souls to tell our supporters how and when they leave us. We don't want to just print their name and dates – they are just too dear to us, and we know you will feel the same x.

More Arrivals...

The Fluffettes

Meet the 'Fluffettes' Beatrice and Bunny... mother and daughter



Beatrice is classed as a Mediterranean Miniature donkey, (although that cannot be confirmed) and was shipped in via Ireland, she was 'used' for breeding; nearly always being in foal during her young 12 years. A very kind lady wanted to stop this cruel cycle, which would have undoubtedly continued until she was an 'aged' donkey. Once home it wasn't long before she discovered she was in foal again and Bunny was born.

Very sadly the girls saviour became gravely ill and asked Flicka if we could take them; the circumstances were tragic and we wanted to help. Although heartbroken when she parted with them, she takes comfort they will be loved and cherished for the rest of their lives.

Beatrice and Bunny are gorgeous, very pretty with striking markings and long fluffy coats, although a little timid, such kind and gentle girls.

Beatrice has been having some laminitis issues, this may be as a result in her change of circumstances, donkeys are very sensitive and stress can bring about laminitis. We are treating it, but if it continues we will have to get some x-rays. We will keep you posted.



Bunny



Beatrice

Nancy & Betty



We received quite a few concerns about two donkeys residing in a very unsuitable paddock, their feet were long, the paddock offered no shelter, nowhere to get out of the prevailing weather and very little grazing. Finally they were relinquished to Flicka; the two girls had originally come from across the sea. Nancy & Betty are both quite traumatised and have obviously suffered many years of neglect while they have gone from pillar to post.

We are unsure if one or both girls are in foal, certainly Nancy is beginning to show some typical clinical signs, but we shall just have to wait and see!!

Both girls received dental treatment, the first they had ever had so there was significant work to do to make them more comfortable, then of course our farrier worked his miracle with their twisted and overgrown feet. We are hopeful that these two girls can go out to a wonderful foster home in the future (perhaps with their offspring if it happens)!

FOUR MINI DONKEYS



We received a call from a lady, who once again, had a life changing condition and was worried about four mini donkeys she had rescued four years previously. Of course we have our limits for resources here at the sanctuary, land, physical and financial, but at the same time we had a wonderful home checked foster home who was keen to have a couple of mini donkeys. The task

was to persuade them to have four!! It did not take 'too' much persuasion. So four tiny 'people' had their vet screening, feet, teeth, tetanus's and passports done, were collected and transported to their new home in January.

We are delighted to say that with some initial help and guidance from Flicka, the four girls, Sonora, Mae Lilli, Dora and Bluebell are very happy and thriving; their new family love them to bits!

Fleur, Folly, Rachel, Kylie, Leona – The Five Donkeys saved



Remember in our previous newsletter we told you about the five donkeys who were being relinquished to Flicka last year, then at the 11th hour were sold to a dealer, the five girls we found and we secured their future with Flicka? Well all five are thriving in their forever homes.

Two sisters (twins) Kylie and Leona, who were very timid,

are now so friendly, they love to have fuss and cuddles. The other three Fleur, Folly and Rachel are doing so well in their five star home too (coincidentally enough the lady who has these three girls is called Fleur too)! All girls are adored by their foster families; we cannot bear to think what may have become of them. A good result!!

Losses, rescuing and rehoming are a huge expense for Flicka. Losing one of our family brings many vet visits when they first become unwell, the expense of goodbyes and burials (which we always insist on), rescuing can reach costs of up to £3000 with transport, vet screening, tetanus, dental visits, farrier care, treatment for rain scald, lice, virus's, specialist feed if underweight and quarantine for six to eight weeks, rehoming to foster homes involves extensive home-checks, and exactly the same vet mot treatment once again before they go to their new home.

You, our precious adopters and supporters are the only reason we can do, and keep doing this. Thanks to you so many animals have a good life for the rest of their life, no matter how long or short, and sometimes it may be hospice care for a couple of years or even months, but in that time they will know only care, respect, love and comfort. Thank you everyone you are amazing, please stay with us.... xxx

Dentist



We realise that it probably gets a bit boring how we always report on the equine dentist visits, but teeth can really be the difference between a donkey being here and not..... without exception, every single donkey that comes to Flicka is in need of immediate dental treatment. Overgrown, decaying teeth and infected gums are all too familiar and if left would lead to a rapid demise and ultimately death.

All Flicka's donkeys (and horses) have their teeth checked regularly, the elderly donkeys do require radical treatment more frequently and many end up with very few teeth, but at least we can address this issue with special feeds and supplements. We just cannot enforce strongly enough how crucial it is to have donkeys and horses teeth done at least twice a year and more if they have 'issues'.

Little Bertie's Little Op!



Our very senior Little Bertie went off his food, always a huge concern at his ripe old age. Our equine dentist happened to be here at the time, so to rule out teeth issues she had a look. Poor chap had a growth on his gum which must have been causing considerable discomfort. The following day we got the vet who performed a very simple procedure and cut the offending lump out. The histology, thank goodness was benign, but nevertheless we have to keep a close eye on it as with these things they is every chance it will grow back again.

Happily he was eating almost immediately after his little op!

The Activities Barn



Work started on the new barn in March, delayed originally due to the constant rain and wind, once work commenced it was once again put on hold while we sat out the freezing and heavy snowfall!



Finally towards the end of March work carried on with a vengeance, although we confess we were a little unprepared how much hard core and top soil was required to be dug out, at one point we had five 'mountains'! The barn itself seemed to go up quite quickly, it is the peripheries that takes all the time, we cannot wait for it to be ready for the donkeys to use, although one evening they did break in to view and trash their new accommodation!



At the time of writing this the landscaping has been done, the barn is now waiting for the second half to be concreted, the visitors pathway is half complete and the sweeping entrance at the rear is also waiting for concrete. Doors to go on, inside drinkers to be fitted, electricity and some post and rails at one end, then we need to concentrate on the outside fencing.....we'll

get there.....and the wonderful news is that Caroline Quentin has offered to officially open the barn, a provisional date of 1st September has been set.

The new barn is going to be called 'The Marybelle Barn' – a wonderful suggestion from many of you who follow our Facebook page; we think it is so fitting to do this in her memory.

Leaving a legacy to The Flicka Foundation - Make a Difference for Donkeys

Please consider leaving a gift in your Will to Flicka. Legacies mean we can continue to be here for the donkeys and horses that so desperately need us... now and long into the future.

You can find out more about making a Will and why it is so important on our website: www.flickafoundation.org.uk/a-gift-in-your-will

The Snow in Feb/Mar



The freezing weather and heavy snowfall in February and March was very challenging for us here.

We were under a lot of pressure at the sanctuary - most of our staff and volunteers are unable to make it in due to the dangerous state of the roads, so with just a few dedicated volunteers who walked to the sanctuary we worked hard for long hours to make sure everyone was warm, safe, well-fed and watered.

Michael Ball even read out our thanks on Radio 2!!

Thank you so much to everyone who donated and helped us through the unprecedented freezing weather we experienced. We had Red Warnings issued by the Met Office always seeming to promise 'worse to come'... it was a testing time, we are sure many of you struggled through those weeks too. It's hard to imagine as we currently bask in warm sunshine now at the end of May!

**Photo shows some of our beautiful donkeys waiting patiently to go back into the Main Barn for their lunch after it was cleaned. They were keen to go out, but not so keen on the cold white stuff, so we made sure they didn't have to wait long to come back in to get warm and dry!*

Donkey E-news!

We would love the opportunity to share more updates on our wonderful residents with you, as well as news about our charitable work, special appeals, events and more - simply visit this website link to sign up to start receiving Donkey News in your inbox! www.flickafoundation.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-e-news



Thank you, as always, for your support! X

Flicka's 2019 Calendar

We know it's early but just to let you know after the success of this year's calendars the 2019 calendars will be on sale from November! For just £8.50 (plus £1.50 p&p),

Your next newsletter

Just a quick note to let you know that your next newsletter will be due to arrive in December! As you may remember we have taken the decision to publish Flicka's newsletter twice annually. We will be able to re-direct the funds saved on printing and postage towards the care of our precious residents. We hope you understand that we've made this decision in the best interest of our charity and the animals we care for... and you won't be missing out - it will just mean that each edition will be packed with even more Flicka news and updates! Don't forget you can always follow us on Facebook, or if you have any questions about your special donkey or pony email info@flicka.org.uk and we will give you an update.

Carol Concert



Flicka's hugely popular Carol Concert was held on Saturday 9th December at 7.00 pm in the big donkey barn (with the donkeys) and our famous duo Bedlam Bess, Kate and Sue sang lots of festive songs all evening, the donkeys even joined in at one point, drowning out everyone and everything!! It was a wonderful evening – our huge

thanks to Kate and Sue, all the volunteers and everyone who came along to support Flicka. We are very sorry if some of you were too late for tickets, there are only so many cars we can pack in at the centre and so many bodies in the barn!!



Tea Bray'k

Don't forget our lovely Tea Cabin (all vegetarian with vegan options) now offering a whole range of home-made sandwiches, rolls, toasted sandwiches, cakes, scones, tea cakes, crumpets, cream teas, Barista coffee (vegan coffee too) and more.

So if you're ever passing and a bit peckish come and say hello to the donkeys and have something to eat. We should just add here that ALL proceeds from the tea room goes to the charity and is a great source of help to Flicka's survival. Thank you to everyone who has come along this year and hopefully tasted some of the delicious items on our menu ;-)

If you have any Queries or Questions

Please remember if you would like to know anything about your adopted donkey/pony or have any questions about the foundation please email us at info@flicka.org.uk, we do our best to answer all emails within three days, but do allow us up to a week. Remember if you don't read something about your special friend for sometime – rule of thumb, no news is good news! Thank you so much for your invaluable support and caring.

About Flicka's Adoptions and Adoption Packs

Monitoring our data of adopters has been no easy task over the years, due to the volume and lack of physical resources many yearly adopters membership lapses and what is worse for the charity, many of the standing order adoptions cease within a couple of months and sometimes don't even commence. It would be very helpful if you could ensure the standing orders are leaving your bank account as although we now have a super volunteer, Ruth, who is taking on the mammoth task of checking the database it will take some considerable time.

The beautiful adoption packs we send out are not subsidised, this means it is a considerable cost to the charity when standing orders don't materialise – thank you for your help and understanding.

Adoptions! Adopt a Donkey

Flicka adoptions make wonderful presents or a keepsake for yourself, presented in lovely glossy folders with a welcome letter, certificate, photo

of your chosen donkey or horse and a brief history of them, the latest newsletter, a wristband, fridge magnet, pen, members card and car sticker. It really does make a difference too.

Just visit our website to choose who you would like to adopt for yourself, family member or friend.

www.flickafoundation.org.uk/adopt-a-donkey

Note – We do not share any of your details with anyone, our adopters and supporters are 'strictly' for Flicka...

