



June 2020

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



**Trenoweth Lane, Mabe Burnthouse, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 9JB  
[info@flicka.org.uk](mailto:info@flicka.org.uk) tel 01326 373601 [www.flickafoundation.org.uk](http://www.flickafoundation.org.uk)**

**Follow us on Facebook: Flicka Foundation**

## Greetings to all our Flickaholics!

It's Springtime and it is Flicka's Silver Jubilee year, started in 1995 we have now reached a milestone 25 happy, sad, euphoric, devastating, emotional and so rewarding years of saving animals.

We thought we were going to start our newsletter with reports about the dreadful weather conditions that lasted from September through to, at least, March, however that has all paled into insignificance when the Coronavirus unleashed its devastating impact on the world and has been the topic on everyone's lips.

Just before lockdown at Flicka, visitor numbers took a nose dive and many of Flicka's volunteers stayed away. On Friday March 20th the Flicka Foundation closed... just before our special Mother's Day. Covid-19 had suddenly become very real.

Everyone, globally, has felt the negative affects of this pandemic, our deepest sympathy and thoughts go out to all those who have lost loved ones. It is, and has been, a very surreal and worrying time while we have all faced something we have never encountered before... and on such a scale.

From a personal perspective, we have so far been very fortunate and as yet, no-one here has gone down with the virus. For the charity, it has been very difficult, not only closing to visitors and Flicka's main income source, but also that this year being Flicka's Silver Jubilee, all our big events that were organised had to be cancelled.

It is our aim that 2021 will be Flicka's Silver Jubilee Plus One, we are hopeful that all the events can be rescheduled, if permitted, according to government guidelines.

During 'lockdown' we also suffered some extremely sad losses which have been utterly heart-breaking, Fabrice, Peter pony, Tulip and Chester, precious souls who have left us.

We have been very busy with more welfare situations and donkeys coming into Flicka and being saved on the continent. We will tell you more in the pages of this newsletter. Apologies in advance, but when we read our news back, it did seem to be a bit of an 'ailments newsletter'!! Sorry, but we want to give you the 'real' news!

**Follow us on Facebook: Flicka Foundation**

# SO, LET'S GO - FLICKA NEWS SINCE DECEMBER 2019...

## HEALTH & WELFARE

### Sophia & Archie

Remember Sophia who arrived at Flicka last June and had her foal in July? Well happy to report that Mum and son Archie are doing really well, Archie is such a big donkey, he has huge ears and a huge personality. We introduced Sophia and Archie (after significant time following his 'little op) to the main herd, they slotted right in as if they'd always been there!!



L-R: Sophie and Archie.

### Cinders



You will remember Cinders, from our December news when she came into Flicka with her friends, Meg, Pebbles and Betty (we sadly lost Betty after just a few weeks). Cinders teeth were in a very bad way, her face was bulging where she had (deliberately) packed grass to ease the pain of her sharp teeth digging into the soft flesh of her cheeks. Poor Cinders required extensive treatment, this in itself was a risk having lost her friend and then enduring major teeth work, but with a situation we have found ourselves in before, without treatment she would die and there was a possibility she still could following dental work. Cinders came through with flying colours, she had six major extractions which straight away made her more comfortable.

Following this a couple of weeks later Cinders became dull and depressed she stopped eating, our vet came out twice, first time for a health screen and to administer medication and pain relief and to take bloods. The blood did look 'milky' which is often an indication of hyperlipaemia, a very dangerous disease of too much fat in the blood. Without filling the page with the science of hyperlipaemia, donkeys will get this when



they stop eating, which can be for any number of reasons, Cinders lost her friend a short time ago and could possibly be grieving, it could have been the wake of her specialist dental work, or it may be the weather or her change in circumstances, or maybe some underlying sinister cause. Whatever the reason it can be a fatal disease. The second time we had the vet IV fluids were administered intravenously – this helped at the time, but Cinders relapsed again very soon after.

Cinders was hyperlipaemic, her symptoms were relieved whilst she was on the drip, but then seemed to reverse when she was taken off, she was eating so very little.

Late on Monday night 24th November she took a turn for the worse so at around midnight she was rushed to the veterinary hospital, Penmellyn at Wadebridge arriving in the early hours where once again she was put on round the clock IV drip and monitored. More bloods were taken and sent for specialist screening, it is concluded as suspected that Cinders had been hyperlipaemic, we say 'had been' as thankfully due to getting her to the hospital so quickly, being on IV fluids around the clock and for the wonderful care at Penmellyn veterinary hospital from Julie, Karen and Louise, Cinders blood results in terms of hyperlipaemia were improving although her liver has been compromised. If we could get her over this, the liver damage could be managed with high quality supplements, but before she could come home, she had to be eating on her own.

It was decided that Cinders had improved enough to be brought home. We collected her Friday night (29th November), she was 'ok' but definitely not 'right'.



We kept her in a separate barn next to Sophia & Archie and brought Iris to keep her company. Iris has never bonded with anyone since she lost her friend Diva last year. Cinders and Iris are similar in their personalities and both mature, wise, friendly and stoic ladies.

Throughout Friday night we monitored her, hand fed her with every tempting bit of food we could find and things Charlie went out to buy specially. Cinders took feed reluctantly, we carried this on throughout Saturday and Saturday night, always worrying things may decline again, she seemed totally disinterested in life. At one point she lay down, flat out and gave us the feeling she was giving up.

We were beginning to fear we were losing the battle that the hyperlipaemia, depression and anorexia had gone too far.

...then early Monday morning... a bright eyed, alert, ears forward face greeted us!! Cinders was asking for breakfast, she ate heartily, on her own, she went out with her new friend Iris and grazed all afternoon, (even cheekily ran away when it was time to come in), came back and ate more tea; in just a few short hours Cinders had rallied and seems to be nearly back to the donkey she was, we don't know what did it, but in a spiritual kind of way we like to think that Iris helped her, perhaps that is fluffy and unscientific, but donkeys are very emotional and sensitive... if we can tell you we were elated is an understatement, Cinders coming back from the brink was quite remarkable, she has remained fit, healthy and well ever since, she still has special feeds and demands them every evening!!

---

## Sky

Both our Cypriot bonded boys, Sky & Paphos, have been having some health issues. Sky has been suffering from recurring foot abscesses in one foot which have been crippling for him, he has been having remedial foot trimming



regularly. Following x-rays which showed poor Sky had developed an infection of the bone in the offending foot (pedal bone) which required long term anti biotics.

A further x-ray will be required to confirm

the infection has cleared. Working with the previous x-rays, our super farrier took away the infected horn and debris from the hoof, this will allow healthy new horn and tissue to generate, the removal of this section has destabilised the hoof, so the farrier has built it up with temporary synthetic materials while the new horn begins to grow. We can flush the foot each day to cleanse it through a channel left open through the synthetic hoof material.

It was all very intricate and took two hours to do, Sky was so good and wasn't even sedated. Following the procedure, he seemed a lot more comfortable, but he cannot venture outside and remains on a deep shaving bed (with Paphos) and rubber mats. posting the surgical Recovery will be a long process, but so far, we are optimistic and Sky has been the perfect patient.

He is on Bute plus 12 paracetamols in the am and 12 in the pm – yes really! After extensive research by specialist donkey vets this has shown to work really well for donkeys combined with Bute. That is going to be a lot of paracetamol!!!

(Please folks, do not attempt to medicate your equines with this regime without definitive instructions from an expert vet).

Sky he is so accepting of his situation, this has been extremely painful for him, but he remains very stoic (typical donkey) and has been a model patient throughout.

What a lovely boy.



## **Paphos**

Poor Paphos, while he has been nurse-maiding his friend Sky.....Paphos developed his own issues with suspected asthma or as it was always known - COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder, a bit like having chronic allergies) this has not been helped due some of the poor quality straw we were having to use. Last year, because of the wet autumn weather, conditions for baling was a challenge, when it was dry, as a consequence, the straw is often musty and has a lot of dust allergens.

Some donkeys can become allergic to these allergens. Paphos has been quite badly affected, we have now put him in a dust free environment, as much as it is possible, he is under the care of our vet

and having medication. As can so often happen, on top of what we thought was asthma he developed a bacterial lung infection which he received aggressive treatment for; the problem continued without much sign of improvement, Paphos then had an endoscopy and lung wash for biopsies. The results showed inflammation of the lungs, fortunately it was caught early and with continued, intensive treatment happily Paphos is much much better, although we may always have to ensure he remains in a dust free environment.

---

## Harry



Our dear lovely Harry who has been a wonderful ambassador for Flicka with care home visits, school visits and cathedral processions, a beautiful gentle boy who loves visiting places and meeting people, he even walked straight into a lift to be taken up to the bedroom of a dear lady who was bed bound! The mirror in the lift was especially fascinating for him

Harry is getting on in years so he has now retired from public life, he is getting a little arthritic so now lives with the Twilight Herd enjoying sedate, peaceful days and special feed. He has however been plagued with foot abscesses – just like Sky - so once again we had x-rays done. It has shown

a ‘possible/suspect’ infection in one side of the pedal bone, he is now on antibiotics for this and will also have to be re x-rayed in several weeks’ time.

---



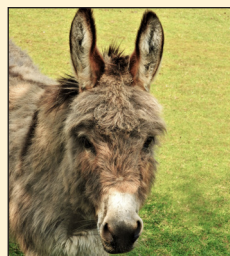
## Barney

Barney has been having some breathing issues, when ‘lockdown’ allows it, he too will be having an endoscope and lung wash.

---

## Milo

Received a vet check, as occasionally we hear him cough, in light of the other donkeys we felt it prudent to have his lungs listened to. All was ok, but obviously we will keep a close eye on him.





## Toby



Toby as you may remember, was diagnosed with asthma last year following lung and breathing issues, he was taken to the veterinary hospital for investigations, endoscope, lung wash and a scan, he returned home to be treated with months of intensive steroid meds which vastly helped him to improve, in fact he returned to normal, he remained fit and well until February, when his problems flared up again.

He became very unwell, so much so we thought we were going to lose him, his breathing was erratic and gums were very pale and red at the top of his teeth indicating a struggling heart, he received meds and round the clock monitoring, but the 28th February brought a return emergency hospital stay when he developed pneumonia.

Toby received IV fluids, IV antibiotics, and a chest drain, he was a very sick donkey, we really thought we would not be bringing him home

Last week his breathing became slightly laboured again, the vet administered steroids once more, however over the last couple of days it has become much, worryingly, worse with very serious symptoms – so poor Toby is right now (29th Feb) on his way to the hospital where he will have iv fluids, iv anti biotics and possibly a scan, he is a very poorly donkey.

Please once again send your love and healing thoughts to Toby. We desperately need our hospital... yesterday!

**TOBY UPDATE** – After taking a very sick Toby to the hospital on Friday, with his friend Jeremy, Toby received iv fluids immediately, steroids and anti-biotics; over the weekend his condition improved and his vital signs were brought back to their normal parameters. Yesterday when Fiona our welfare manager went to visit him, he was bright and alert, both Jeremy and Toby called a very loud greeting when they saw her.

Jeremy was not so relaxed about going with his friend, he was initially very worried and anxious, but has now settled. He hasn't let us down with his naughtiest Flicka donkey crown, he has been giving the vets and nurses a really hard time with his antics.... that's Jeremy for you!!

At the time of writing this we are waiting for Toby to have his scan; this will give an indication of any damage to his lungs; so once again he will have his

***\* Miraculously he improved and has continued to do so each day. Toby currently has his own paddock and open stable, with his friend Jeremy, this keeps him out in the fresh air, it is helping and his breathing is a lot better.***



The ongoing health issues further highlights our desperate need for an on-site hospital. As well as Cinders, Sky, Paphos, Toby, Marla, we also have Honey, on medication and observation for stifle lock and arthritis, Buttercup who is being tested for Cushings, we have several residents who have Cushings who receive Praasend drug therapy (many of you will be familiar with this) and she has a long-standing benign lump on her side which she has knocked and now caused a stubborn infection, in fact at any one time we have at least ten donkeys/ponies in need of veterinary attention and care.

Unfortunately, some of the health problems are not helped by the UK climate, especially in Cornwall which has a damp atmosphere; being a county that juts well and truly out into the sea! Then of course, the donkey's previous lives and the bad start they have had is another overriding factor for ailments that manifest themselves over the years.

We have also had an unprecedented amount of donkeys and ponies with breathing issues, and it would seem, according to our vets, we are not alone, there has been a huge number of cases within this county, we don't know if it is general around the UK, but high pollen levels and hot weather throughout April and May seemed to initiate a broad spectrum of asthma and lung problems. The weather also impacts on their feet, which you would imagine donkeys originating from hot arid conditions, would not fall victim to so many foot issues. During hot, dry weather the ground goes rock hard in this country, unlike their origins of sandy soil and varying terrain, as with the breathing, all the grasses and trees we have send out so much pollen, many of you have probably been suffering too, asthma, allergies etc.

Our vets have been inundated with breathing issues among equines this year, they have had more numbers than ever before from around the county. We are having one of our original barns refurbished with the intention of having as a dust free environment with special bedding for our 'suspect breathing issue' residents, Paphos has shown us that being off the straw has helped him enormously.

We received a phone call the other day, someone asking to foster one donkey as a companion for their horse, a donkey because 'I can chuck it in a field and forget about it'... as you can see, nothing could be further from the truth... for any animal and we have a duty of care for them all.

Send all your positive vibes for our poorly girls and boys

Rescue is just the beginning of a long road, and that's why we're here. Of course, as most of you know, there is nothing we wouldn't do for them, a lifetime of care and commitment, is just that, for their lives... and we couldn't do it without you, thank you xxx

# New Arrivals and Rescues



## Marla & Peaches

Back in November you, our wonderful Flickaholics, helped us get two donkeys, Mum Marla and daughter Peaches to safety from the continent, just in time before an horrendous journey to Italy for slaughter.

Mother and daughter arrived on 21st November, all seemed to be progressing well, their feet were in desperate need of attention which was addressed a few days after arrival. We even had an amazing 10\* foster home lined up for the girls....

We noticed Marla seemed to have difficulty eating, after the equine dentist saw her all became (initially) clear, poor Marla probably never had her teeth and mouth attended to or treated in her life. The teeth were severely out of alignment and sharp, with packed diastemas (gaps between the teeth) there was significant decay. As well as treatment from our dentist, initial findings suggested she would need surgical intervention from our vet as well.

The equine dentist made things more comfortable for Marla, but as well as teeth and feet issues, Marla was becoming very depressed and stopped eating.

The vet has seen Marla on many occasions now, she has had blood screening, some teeth gaps widened. We decided to have her jaw x-rayed in case there was something else going on in her mouth. Thankfully all was clear.

But Marla just wouldn't eat, was losing weight and became more depressed.

We began syringe feeding Marla, buying her very tasty, highly flavoured prepacked rabbit orchard grass, and giving her all kinds of tempting feeds, we maintained this for many weeks and on occasions we thought it was time to take her to the veterinary hospital to go on a drip with the fear she was becoming hyperlipaemic just like Cinders. To encourage her to eat and lift her spirits we began taking her and Peaches out each day to different paddocks with lots of grass. This initially tempted her to eat.

Encouragingly Marla began to eat hard feed on her own and her demeanour seemed to be getting brighter. We thought we had turned a corner.

Then Marla suddenly crashed, we rushed her to the veterinary hospital with her daughter Peaches. Marla needed a plasma transfusion and had an abdominal scan. Marla's blood screening results were very grave, critically low protein levels, colitis, raised liver enzymes and anaemia

So many tests, so many vet visits, all now pointing to the fact she may have been suffering with an acute redworm infestation. Many of you will know this has a very guarded and often poor prognosis, with usually a 50% chance of survival. Redworms are the deadliest of all the parasitic worms and at certain stages of their life cycle they cannot – as yet – be detected in equines. The damage they do to the gut and intestines can be fatal.

Marla remained at the hospital for a week, we brought her home knowing she was not completely out of the woods, but everything that could be done, had been done. Since that time Marla has improved very slowly, she had suffered a shocking amount of weight loss, and she does have very high liver parameters, but after nearly seven months, her demeanour is that of a normal donkey, she is still very thin, but has actually gained a little bit of weight.

Dear Marla she has come all this way to find sanctuary.... we want her to have life here with her daughter, she is such a beautiful kind and gentle lady;

We don't know how long she may have with us, it may well be palliative care, but we will do everything we can for her, she certainly will never be short of love.

Brief update – Marla had further blood screening, her parameters have greatly improved and she continues to, slowly, gain weight. Dare we hope for a good longer life for her than we thought?



L-R: Marla, Marla & Peaches.





## FRIDA & RUPERT

Frida and Rupert are mother and son who initially came to us from Dordogne in France. Their owner had passed away and nobody wanted them, so they were destined for the horrific meat trade in Italy., as so often happens on the continent, a request goes out to the meatman to pick up animals who can either no longer be cared for or they themselves are sick. Euthanasia is not something widely carried out in desperate circumstances. In this instance Flicka was still in the midst of focusing on Marla and Peaches, and with other donkeys arriving we were really too full.



There was no sanctuary support nearby, so we knew we had to get involved to save them from certain death. We organised their rescue and got them safely to our sanctuary, where they received all the veterinary care, medical tests and attention they needed, whilst they underwent their quarantine period. We simply didn't have the space to offer them a permanent home however, so we asked our good friends at Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary if they could take

the pair and they were delighted and only too happy to help!

We are delighted to have a wonderful relationship with Derek, Carol and the folk at Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary - they also care passionately about donkeys and their rescued residents live in luxury with their every need catered for. We not only work together with them to save donkeys, but take pride in sharing our knowledge, expertise and ideas to ultimately improve the care and welfare of the donkeys at both our sanctuaries. Staff and volunteers from Flicka have been lucky enough to visit the Isle of Wight donkeys on several occasions and we have welcomed Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary team members to our sanctuary too.

Mum and son left Flicka on 15th March to travel to the Isle of Wight... lucky donkeys!

Frida and Rupert have settled in wonderfully at their new home on the Isle of Wight – we know they will be so loved and happy there!

Here is the amusing media statement from Derek at the IOWDS:

*'Bonjour Frida and Rupert!*

*Meet our two newest arrivals – Frida and Rupert. They have come from Dordogne in France, via Cornwall, to find a permanent home here in the Isle of Wight. As with everything at the Sanctuary, it has been quite a story.*

*This story begins with the lovely people at the Flicka Foundation in Cornwall, who we are really proud to call our friends. Like us, they are an independent donkey sanctuary, and like us their overwhelming passion is to provide the very best care for their rescued donkeys. They have a beautiful sanctuary, with first class barns and buildings, and their donkeys are lucky to be living in such*

beautiful surroundings with such caring people to look after them.

Our friendship with Flicka means that we share all of our knowledge, expertise, ideas, but also our worries, uncertainties and concerns. We are very open with each other, we respect each other's work, and staff and volunteers visit each other's sanctuaries so that we can learn what we each do.

We received a phone call from Flicka to say they were involved in the rescue of two donkeys from France, whose owner had passed away. There was no sanctuary to support them, and the donkeys were destined for the meat trade in nearby Italy. Laurie and Judy at Flicka organized their rescue and got them safely to our shores. However, Flicka had a problem...they were absolutely full and had no space. They asked if we could take the donkeys instead, and we were only too pleased to help.

Frida and her son Rupert came to the Island yesterday (March 16th 2020). They are fluent French speakers, but have a smattering of English, albeit with a Cornish accent! We housed them in a double stable overnight, where they had a view of the 'ladies' in Poppy's Place. Twiggy, Jackie, Myra et al ee-awed to them, but the initial communication may have got lost in translation.

We did the obvious thing – we introduced them to Busby who will act as their interpreter through their first few days of transition. Busby had come from the Pyrenees and still remembers enough French to get by. He told them all the useful information; petit déjeuner is called breakfast over here, meals were served at huit heures, douze heures and seize heures.

Meals are served by les serveurs, and Sandra and Nick are les Maitres d'hotel. Dembrasser meant a stroke or a cuddle, therapie was...therapy, visite de l'école is visit of a school, Mathieu Le Marechal Ferrant is...Matt the Farrier, whilst Veterinaire is... well, Kate, Alex and Jane!

Frida and Rupert will soon settle in. Rupert is already swapping stories through the window with the youngsters about how to play Boule, though he struggled to understand Wilfie's description of cricket. (Each donkey that's in the side that's in goes out, and when he's out he comes in and the next donkey in goes out, so that he's in until he's out) ...Rupert was bemused. He'll learn!

Mon dieu!

We welcome you Frida and Rupert'.

We are delighted that Frida & Rupert have settled in so well, we have regular updates and the donkeys are hugely popular with all staff and visitors. Thank you, Derek, Carol and everyone at IOWDS.



Above top to bottom: Frida and Rupert

## ANGELINA, BUTTERCUP AND TEDDY

As you know Flicka often sources loving 5\* foster homes for some of our rescue donkeys, this enables us to help more. Very occasionally a foster home finds themselves in a position where they have to ask to return their donkeys to Flicka, this was sadly the situation for Teddy, Buttercup and Angelina.

Their wonderful foster carers with heavy hearts and very reluctantly asked us to bring them back to the sanctuary due to a change in their circumstances. It was an emotional time for everyone. So, we thought we would introduce you to the trio, one at a time...

This is tiny 'Teddy' – a very small, cuddly, friendly donkey. It is an overwhelming opinion from all of us here that Teddy, should indeed, be a teddy on someone's bed!!!

Teddy was unloved and unwanted when he was originally relinquished into our care, having lived most of his life in solitude in a tiny paddock miles from anywhere in the north east of the UK. Once at the sanctuary we introduced Teddy to another recently saved donkey – Buttercup they bonded instantly and have remained so ever since.

Buttercup was saved at the 11th hour just before she was being loaded onto a meat lorry bound for France, sadly her friend had already gone. Buttercup was so thin and depressed, when she arrived at Flicka, she had to be isolated and at that time Teddy wasn't here. Luckily, he arrived just two days later so we were able to quarantine them together. They formed an attachment instantly - two lonely souls, their personalities flourished.

At the time of Buttercup's arrival, we did not know she was in foal, in fact she showed no clinical signs whatsoever and when she and Teddy went to their foster home...

Imagine the shock (& delight) when going into the paddock early one May morning 2017 and finding, Teddy, Buttercup and another??

Yes, Buttercup gave birth to a beautiful little girl – Angelina, and what a stunner she has grown into with enormous velvet ears!

Angelina is just gorgeous and such an unexpected, beautiful package!!



Above: (L-R): Angelina, Buttercup & Teddy.

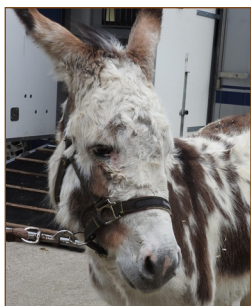


---

## Tinsel & Sparkle

Two tiny miniatures, due to the failing health of their owners, pampered Tinsel and Sparkle (yes those are really their names) or as we call them 'The Sparkles' were relinquished into Flicka's care. Two sweet, very independent girls, Mum and daughter, who love to be pampered!

---



## Buttons

Buttons life was not a good one, living alone in a shed on some derelict land when we were alerted to his plight. On arrival he seemed quite depressed and had very sore eyes, maybe from having been shut in the dark for such a long time. Our driver couldn't believe Buttons living conditions when he collected him. What a dear little chap, very friendly and just, unbelievably, loves people. He is settling in really well, gaining confidence and putting on weight.

## Nutmeg

Another situation similar to Buttons, living alone in the most appalling conditions, poor Nutmeg's feet made it so hard for her to walk and yet despite being unloved, uncared for and unwanted she craves the company of people, such a gentle sweet soul.

Why is that? Whatever animals endure, they are accepting and forgiving of all things, we often find that those who come from the worst place, in the worst condition are the most affectionate and loving, which makes their story even harder to know...



## Peggy & Dolly

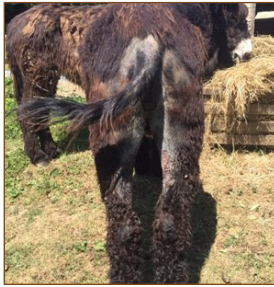
Two aged little ladies needed some assistance when their housebound, elderly owner was unable to care for them. Such sweet natured, gentle girls who did have some seriously neglected feet which was making it difficult for them to walk. Peggy was the worst.

After x-rays, to ensure nothing internally had been compromised, our farrier set to work, what he removed looked like two complete sets of hooves! They were so good and happily are now getting used to their new shoes and being able to get around comfortably.

## Hemine & Danette



At the time of writing, we have also just stepped in to save Hemine and Danette (one pure bred and one part bred Poitou donkeys) at the 11th hour. They were also with the meat man and about to make the journey to Italy for slaughter. After hours of frantic calling, corresponding and organising, Flicka (along with two small sanctuaries in France and our friends at Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary) secured their future. They are now travelling to safety at "Pour l'amour des ânes 29" ("For the love of donkeys 29") sanctuary near Brittany, before moving to their future home for life on the Isle of Wight. Flicka are sharing the costs of their rescue with Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary.



When the girls arrived at the French sanctuary with Tracey Barford who runs this small amazing rescue centre, the girls' condition was shocking, we were all unprepared for their condition. Apart from the superficial matted, dirty

coats and Arabian slipper feet, they were emaciated and even more shocking and worrying, Hemine has a sarcoid on her udder which is approximately 5/6 inches in diameter! We will keep you posted about the course of action that will be taken to deal with this. This explains why a pure-bred jenny Poitou was discarded for meat.

It is a relief to know that two more innocent souls have been saved through another collaboration of caring!

## Blanchette, Lily and Three Little Boys



An urgent shout went out for a Mother her new born daughter, Blanchette and Lily, and three young 'entire' boys who were in a holding pen ready for Italy. Once again through Eve Kalichem (who is the first to know about these poor animals), Tracey Barford at 'Pour l'amour des ânes 29' and Flicka, we orchestrated their removal and transport from the South of France to Brittany, homes have been sourced for the three boys and Tracey will keep Blanchette and Lily at her sanctuary.

There are just so many, too many to save, it is a hole too big to plug, for every two saved a dozen more come along behind, but all we can do is ensure a good, safe life of love and care for those we can help.

# Very Sad Losses



*This is the part of the newsletter we dread writing. With all the animals that have sanctuary at Flicka there will always be some who are unwell, being treated for chronic conditions, some who receive urgent treatment for an acute illness and some we have to say heart wrenching goodbye's to. Sadly, it is all part of what we do, part of life.*

## Fabrice



For such a long time dear sweet Fabrice has suffered from chronic and acute asthma, he had been at the veterinary hospital and was on a long-term recipe of medications. He never really became a healthy fit donkey, but we managed his condition and he seemed happy. Regular vet visits ensured we were always on top of things. In the middle of March Fabrice began to deteriorate quite significantly, his lungs were just not coping. More vet visits, more medication.

On the 5th April, Palm Sunday we said goodbye to Fabrice, he fought so hard for so long, his tiny body couldn't manage any more. It is so sad; he was just a baby at nine years old.



## Peter Pony

Goodnight Peter, we love and miss you forever...

Peter pony, who was well into his 30s (and had lived at Flicka for at least 25 of those) – three years ago we nearly lost him, but such was his will to live and fight he survived.

Three weeks ago, Peter became suddenly very ill, our vet visited on four occasions for tests and medications, he received round the clock care from our girls who barely left his side, we thought we were winning at one point, but our elation was short lived. Sometimes, our friends tell us when they have had enough, they stop trying, stop eating and have no interest in all the things they loved, Peter stopped being Peter. We said goodnight to Peter on Easter Monday – we did not tell you our special Flicka friends, we needed time to accept losing such a long-term family member. We could use all the usual words about being devastated, heartbroken and crying oceans of tears, but you all know that.

We cannot thank you enough Peter, for sharing your precious life with us, for bringing us such joy and fun and for being such a special little chap who has left an enormous hole at Flicka and in our hearts. These beautiful souls who arrive at Flicka remind us it is not about us or how we feel, it is all about them, their care, comfort and safety.

This is why Flicka, and thousands of animal charities across the globe must survive this crisis, we must keep going and be a small oasis of hope for the voiceless.

God bless you Peter and keep you safe.... always... xxxxx



## Tulip



We have been utterly shocked and devastated to lose Tulip.... Tulip who was fit and well, even pushing the big Poitous out of the way around the feeders the evening before, and then passed away unexpectedly during the night.

Poor Tulip, we had no idea why this happened, so felt we owed it to her and all the others to find out; we made the difficult decision to have a post mortem, it has taken a week for results. Tulip had a sudden and acute respiratory arrest, knowing there was nothing we could have done and no clinical signs of what was to come, has not really helped us deal with this devastating loss.

...and now following on from this, grief has taken its toll on Tulip's friend Barney who is depressed and has stopped eating, we called the vet yesterday morning. We are monitoring him closely – this only goes to show, once again, what emotional, sensitive souls they are.

'God Bless you Tulip, you were an absolute joy, we love you and will miss you always, we are so sorry you didn't have more time...'

---

## Chester



Our lovely, long term resident Chester and such a popular boy with so many people across so many years. Chester had Cushings which we had been managing for some time, but recently his health was declining, his bloods revealed extremely high parameters for Cushings. Chester had also developed inflammation of the pleura (membrane lining the lungs).

We tried so hard to help Chester get well doing everything humanly possible, his decline was slow initially, then we reached a point of no return. A huge chapter closed to lose this wonderful character, such an integral part of Flicka's history, he is etched within hearts forever. Thank you, Chester... for everything xxx

***'The song is ended, but the melody lingers on...' Irving Berlin***

***'I don't care if animals are capable of thinking; all I care about is that they are capable of suffering' Jeremy Bentham 1748-1832***

## The Lonely & Primrose Hospital



On the 31st August 2019 we officially launched our fund-raising appeal for the Lonely and Primrose Hospital, Flicka was founded in August 1995, the 31st August is our late founder, Mary Berryman's birthday, so it seems perfect to name such a date as Flicka's official birthday too!

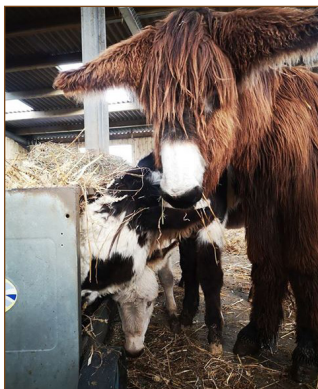
Flicka started in 1995 by Mary with a pony called Mickey following closely behind with a pony called Flicka which is when the Flicka Foundation was born; Flicka has rescued and rehabilitated hundreds of animals since it's early beginnings.

The Lonely & Primrose Hospital will be in memory of two special iconic donkeys who lived at Flicka in their twilight years after lives of misery and suffering. Two beautiful souls who will never be forgotten. You can read all about our hospital launch here: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hospitalappeal>

So, 2020 is Flicka's Silver Jubilee, we did have lots planned this year to mark the occasion sadly, as with every person around the globe, events have been cancelled and postponed, it is our intention, if the situation does return to any kind of normality, to have a Silver Jubilee Plus One in 2021

So, throughout 2021 we will be going 'all out', to raise funds for the hospital, with so many donkeys who arrive in need of treatment, so many ailing and elderly residents it is a natural progression to be equipped to give even more medical care and round the clock observation.

'Lonely & Primrose', their legacy will live on, two very special donkeys who touched the lives and hearts of everyone who knew them.



We did have a bit of fun during lockdown with a few online activities. A competition was held to vote for donkeys' people would most like to see 'let loose' around the centre, of course it had to be Humphrey, Bunny & Paddington!!

We posted several videos of happy donkeys racing around the paddocks braying their heads off!! Always funny to see, donkeys are not really built for speed, or very graceful, but they can shift!!

## We also had 'Judy's Lockdown Marathon'



### From the press release

'The Director of The Flicka Foundation Penryn is attempting an epic marathon challenge to raise vital funds for the charity's work.

Judy Giles, runs The Flicka Foundation Donkey Sanctuary and is hoping to complete the challenge this coming, Sunday 26th April, when the London Marathon was due to take place. She will finish the 26.2 miles by completing 78 laps of one of the large paddocks on site at the sanctuary.

Judy set herself this challenge last minute and said: "I hope to raise at least £100 for every mile I complete. I ran the London Marathon 11 years ago, but had the idea to do this one last minute, so it will definitely be a real challenge for me,

but we need all the help we can get to continue to care for our residents during the current global pandemic. With the lock-down extended and zero support being offered to animal charities by the government, we are very anxious as to what the future may hold."

As for so many other charities, the Covid-19 crisis is a worrying time for The Flicka Foundation financially, which is losing £1000's in vital funding during this time. This would normally be one of the sanctuary's busiest times of the year for visitors and fundraising events, but with lock-down extended for at least another three weeks and a lack of clarity on restrictions after that, the charity says they just cannot predict what is going to happen'.

Judy went on to say: "I may be crawling around the paddock for the last miles of my marathon and have to be carried home, but I am determined to do it for our precious donkeys! They have suffered so much before we rescued them and deserve to live out the rest of their lives with loving care in a sanctuary. They need us to continue to be there for them, now and into the future, so we simply have to keep those vital funds coming in somehow."

Judy completed her marathon, and thanks to you, she raised a staggering £7,000 for Flicka, thank you to everyone who donated and helped us through these most difficult times!



## **Your Next Newsletter**

Just a quick note to let you know that your next newsletter will be due to arrive in December 2020!



You can follow us on Facebook, or if you have any questions about your special donkey or pony email [info@flicka.org.uk](mailto:info@flicka.org.uk) and we will give you and update.

You can now also follow our donkeys on Instagram!  
[instagram.com/flickadonkey](https://www.instagram.com/flickadonkey)

...2020, Flicka's Silver Jubilee, 25 years ago when Mary Berryman, not realising in those early beginnings, where her love and compassion for all creatures great and small, would lead.

## **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](http://www.flickafoundation.org.uk/a-gift-in-your-will)

## **Don't Forget to sign up for Donk 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](http://www.flickafoundation.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-e-news)

Thank you, as always, for your support! X





## Flicka's 2021 Calendar

The Flicka Foundation Calendars 2021 will be on sale from the end of August. Pages saturated with donkeys. The calendars are £9.50. They are on sale in our Gift Cabin and Tea Room (when open) or if you prefer to have one sent to you it is £1.50 p&p - so £11.00 total. All proceeds this year will go towards the 'Lonely and Primrose Hospital' Appeal.



If you would like to purchase one to be sent you can forward a cheque made payable to The Flicka Foundation with your name and address to: The Flicka Foundation, Penty Noweth Farm, Trenoweth Lane, Mabe Burnthouse, PENRYN, Cornwall TR10 9JB.

Please mark the envelope with **Silver Jubilee Calendar Plus One!**

Or you can do a BACS transfer to Flicka:

Sort code: 09-01-28 Acc No 63344234 - don't forget to

email: [info@flicka.org.uk](mailto:info@flicka.org.uk) if you do it this way, with your details for postage.

THERE WILL BE, AS EVER, A LIMITED NUMBER FOLKS ;-) xxx

**Don't forget, they are not available until the end of August.**

**CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT**

7pm, Friday  
in the donkey barn with Bedlam Bess

**Tickets: Adults £5, Children £3**  
to include a mince pie and glass of mulled wine.

Vegetable, Vegan and Cheese & Onion pasties, tea & coffee for sale in the interval.

Warm clothing recommended. Tickets available from:  
tel 01326 373601 [info@flicka.org.uk](mailto:info@flicka.org.uk)  
[www.flickafoundation.org.uk](http://www.flickafoundation.org.uk)

Penty Noweth Farm, Trenoweth Lane,  
Mabe Burnthouse, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 9JB

## CAROL CONCERT

Our two Carol Concerts in 2019 were a huge success, as always, Sue & Kate, Bedlam Bess, were amazing as they sang their way through the evening with everyone's favourite carols and some new ones too. At the time of writing this, we have no idea if there will be a Carol Concert this year – as with all things we are following the government guidelines.

## 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.



For Flicka's Silver Jubilee we are doing extra special packs, along with the adoption you can pay just £10 extra and receive a beautiful limited edition 40mm Silver Jubilee Flicka Coin – and a jubilee pen 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](http://www.flickafoundation.org.uk/adopt-a-donkey)**

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

## 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](mailto: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 some time – rule of thumb, no news is good news! Thank you so much for your invaluable support and caring.

## AMAZON WISH LIST

We just wanted to say a huge thank you so much to all those of you who have ordered gifts for the donkeys off our new Amazon Wishlist... We're sorry we couldn't thank you all individually (some items arrived without a note), but it's been like Christmas here at our sanctuary over the past couple of weeks and we are so hugely grateful for your support.

It costs us a staggering £4000 a month just to feed our residents, so your support really, really is making a big difference right now. You are all wonderful and we honestly could never thank you enough for your kindness and caring and loyalty to Flicka. We couldn't do what we do for the donkeys without you, so, on their behalf, THANK YOU again! ❤️❤️❤️

**<https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2GEBFYJ7XZPAG?>**

## Our Special Thanks to...

Normally we like to list our deepest and heartfelt thanks to all of our wonderful Flickaholics who have helped us, but there were just so many of you who came to our aid at this difficult time, and still are, we felt we cannot list you all.... and we would be mortified if we left someone out!

We would also like to say a huge, unreserved, heartfelt thank you to all of you who left carrots, apples, ginger nuts and other goodies at our gate. Not only are these lovely treats for the donkeys and ponies, but also vital for administering medications.

You are amazing and we have been overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of so many. We hope we have thanked you all individually and personally, if not we can only apologise, we are working with skeleton help with all our staff furloughed and scattered to the winds, being organised is a real challenge! We really cannot thank you enough, your help has allowed us to continue caring for the animals we all love so dearly. THANK YOU!

To all our Flickaholics, stay safe and well, take great care.

We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and generosity

And helping us through these dark times.

Love and Hugs from all of us to all of you

Thank you xxx

See you in December 2020

Flicka xxx

*"Saving an animal won't change the world, but for that one animal, the world will change forever..."*

## Data Protection Laws

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](http://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](http://www.flickafoundation.org.uk/privacy-policy)**