

Redwings

Horse Sanctuary



NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2022

Heroes helping horses

From new rescues to sharing expertise across the UK - how your support is changing lives

A new home for Mildred

Our special girl is loving life in her new home

PLUS

A novel tale

Find out which Adoption Stars have made their fiction debut!

A fitting legacy

Redwings has been invited to take on a very special house

And much more inside...



For the horses in our care, the summer and winter months can present different challenges. The care given to each resident adapts to the time of year and calls on different skills from our sanctuary care teams.

Turn to page 19 to read the story of Tilbury who was discovered suffering from a painful skin condition that was caused by sensitivity to sunlight. Protecting Tilbury from the damaging effects of the sun is one of the ways in which the team at Redwings Ada Cole cares for Tilbury over the course of the year...

Please donate today to help ponies like Tilbury get the care they require as their needs change with the seasons.*

Please donate today:

- 01508 505246
- www.redwings.org.uk
- Text YEAR 10* to 70085 to donate £10

(You can also opt to give any amount - whole £s only - up to £20. All texts cost the donation amount plus a standard rate message.)

*Your donation is used wherever it is needed most in the Sanctuary and will help to fund the ongoing care of all our residents, including those you read about here.

Welcome to your autumn newsletter from Redwings

I do hope you are well. Amidst the ongoing challenges of Covid and of course steeply rising prices for everything from fuel to feed, it has been a whirlwind of activity here at Redwings. Our rescue and rehoming teams have been very busy and we have welcomed a host of new horses and ponies into the Sanctuary as well as seeing many more go out into loving Guardian homes and even enjoying success at the Royal Norfolk Show (see pages 8 and 9)!

Despite the difficulties we are all facing, it has been a very special year of course for Her Majesty the Queen and we were delighted to honour her during her incredible Platinum Jubilee celebrations by naming a new arrival and her baby after her. We wrote to the Queen directly to introduce her to Majesty and Monarch, and were thrilled to receive a delightful reply just before the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend. Find out more about Majesty's incredible story and meet a few of our other recent rescues on pages 4 and 5.

In our turn we have been so honoured by you this year, our wonderful supporters, as we have been nominated for a number of awards including being one of three finalists for Charity of the Year at the Equestrian Business Awards (we find out the winner in October!), taking a silver People's Choice Award at the Charity Film Awards in March, and winning the Eastlife Award for Best Attractions and Days Out in Norfolk. Thank you so much to everyone who has nominated or voted for us. We were also honoured to be awarded a Partnership working award from South Wales Police for our part in a major rescue operation in 2020, and got a very pleasing result in a recent survey of the 100 best loved charities in the UK, see page 3 to find out more.

In this edition of our newsletter, as well as meeting our latest arrivals of course, you can also see the work we've been doing to help horses outside our Sanctuary fences on pages 6 and 7 and how we've been working in partnership wherever we can to help us achieve maximum impact for horses. This is particularly important in these troubling times, and you can read more about this on page 11, alongside an article that gives an insight into our equine behaviour training work including training 'at liberty', as the team call it, work which really is incredible to watch. And from page 12 onwards there's all the news from our centres and a fantastic array of ways you can help and support Redwings as we approach our 40th anniversary in 2024. And, appropriately enough, I must pay tribute to Betty and Mick here, two incredible fundraisers who have raised over £40,000 for our work - so far! Read more about them on page 16. Volunteering time and effort in this way is particularly generous, thank you.

We know these are hugely challenging times financially for you all, as they are for us and the whole charity sector, and I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has continued to give or support us however they could over the last few months. Your kindness and generosity make all the difference. With your support we can continue to rescue horses, ponies, donkeys and mules in desperate need and give them the life they so deserve.

Yours,

Lynn Cutress
Chief Executive and Secretary



News update...

Feeling the love...

We were delighted to discover we placed 21st in a top 100 'most loved' charities report. Redwings was a new entrant in Brandvue's 'Most Loved Charity Brands 2022', published by Savanta and based on the percentage of respondents that 'love' a given charity.

Nicola Knight, Head of Communications and Campaigns, said:

"We were absolutely thrilled to hear not only that we had placed in the report but that we had come an amazing 21st, above or alongside so many significantly larger (and brilliant!) charities across all categories.

"We definitely feel the love from you, our supporters, and we want to take this opportunity to say that the feeling is mutual. We're extremely grateful for all we're able to achieve for the horses, ponies, donkeys and mules who need us, thanks to you!"



...and the benefits of 'preloved' too!

Donating items through our preloved partner, Recycling For Good Causes, has raised over £16,000 in the last 18 months - that's enough to care for a small herd of ponies for a year! To get involved, pop your unwanted jewellery, foreign currency or mobile phones in the enclosed recycling envelope or package them up and send them to the freepost address by affixing the enclosed envelope to the parcel.

A right royal knees up!



Across Redwings we had a fabulous time celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Many of our hardworking horse care teams took some time to mark the occasion with a celebratory 'Big Lunch' with homemade cakes and treats and bunting galore!

The ponies in rehoming training at Hapton HQ also joined in the fun with a special Jubilee themed 'novel objects' training session - getting to investigate bunting and a Union Jack flag.

Elsewhere, teams at our Redwings Visitor Centres welcomed supporters with special themed cakes and decorations and a jolly good time was had by all!



Contents

- 2-3 Welcome and news update
- 4-5 Recent rescues
- 6-7 Education and campaigns
- 8-9 Rehoming
- 10-11 Sanctuary stars
- 12-15 Connect with us at Your Redwings
- 16 Fundraising
- 17 A Christmas selection
- 18 Remember us
- 19-20 Tilbury's Appeal

Strangles Awareness Week, by numbers!



SAW returned in May this year and it was bigger and better than ever! The event was truly international with organisations in Finland, Romania, Poland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Australia and the USA taking part - as well as 69 vet practices in the UK and 400 UK vets. Over 150 pieces of social media content were produced to talk about Strangles, reaching more than 600,000 people - phew, that's a lot of numbers!

Plus, we were invited to Badminton Horse Trials, one of the largest equestrian events in the UK, to encourage people to take on the 'Temp Check Challenge' (turn to page 6 to find out more!) and talk about the practical ways that owners can help avoid this nasty infectious disease.

Redwings to the rescue!

News of our frontline work from around the UK



Miracle foal born in Redwings' care after road collision



A foal whose mum was found badly injured and stuck in some railings at Tilbury Docks, Essex, after being involved in a crash, has arrived safe and well and is flourishing in Redwings' care.

Miracle foal Monarch was born to Majesty at one of Redwings' Norfolk sites on 7th April. Mother and son were named in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year.

Majesty was originally taken to a private boarding establishment and treated for a broken nose and chest injuries after the accident in November. On realising that she was also in foal, Redwings was asked to take her,

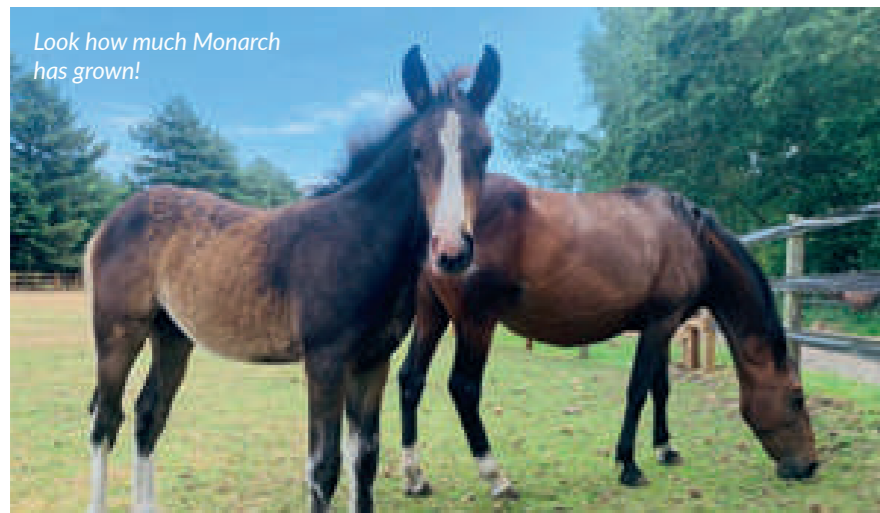
and, happily, thanks to the generous donations of our supporters, we were able to offer both of them a forever home.

Nicola Berryman, Redwings Welfare Veterinary Surgeon, said: "No one knew what the outcome would be for Majesty's unborn foal, and we were all thrilled when he arrived safely and in good health.

"We don't know who the father is but it's clear he was a big horse as Monarch is huge! It won't be much longer before he is towering over his mum."

With a little help from our vet team to get Monarch to feed, the pair were soon doing well.

At the beginning of June, they were moved to a closed site, north of Norwich, and he and Majesty were turned out on grass – just in time for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.



Look how much Monarch has grown!

Majesty and Monarch are the cover stars of this edition of the newsletter



Mariah and Carey welcome new friends

Do you remember Mariah and Carey's story from the last edition of the newsletter?

Mariah, above left, and Carey came into us in tragic circumstances in January after an incident on the A11 in Suffolk the night before. Very sadly, Carey's mum was killed after getting onto the road.

The youngsters – aged around two and six months when they arrived – were underweight and had lice and scabby skin which they were treated for. They were named after the lead police officer at the scene, who is called Mariah, and who we're grateful to.

The pair have made great friends with more recent arrivals Monarch (and mum Majesty) and Pickle (see story opposite) – who are all turned out in adjoining fields!

Pony in a 'Pickle' rescued by Redwings



Pickle in ICU after surgery with Phoenix's teddy

A pony came into Redwings' care in April after an eye injury and serious infection meant she needed urgent treatment.

'Pickle', as she has been named, was in a great amount of pain and couldn't see out of the affected eye. The piebald cob filly was just four or five months old and had a high worm burden.

She had surgery to remove the eye at our Reception Centre within 24 hours of arriving, and whilst still under quarantine conditions.

Julie Harding, Senior Field Officer and Reception Centre Manager, said:

"Unfortunately, circumstances meant her owner wasn't able to provide the veterinary attention she needed, and they agreed to sign her over to us so that her welfare could be secured.

"We think she probably scratched her eye on some fencing, causing the initial injury, followed by a serious infection.

"Sadly, her recovery was complicated by the high worm burden, but she was in the best place, receiving the best care to deal with it and some very special company – Phoenix the foal's teddy bear."

A tribute to Phoenix was in our last edition of the newsletter, after we lost him just before Christmas despite all efforts possible to help him recover from extensive burns.

Julie said: "For our dedicated nursing team, seeing her with Phoenix's favourite toy was heart-breaking and heart-warming all at the same time. We're so happy to say that she came through the operation and has adapted brilliantly."



Pickle now

Happy new life for Commons ponies

A herd of 40 former Commons ponies are living their best life and helping to increase biodiversity at conservation sites across Wales – including the habitats of rare butterflies and birds – thanks to Redwings' support.

The ponies were removed from Cefn Bryn Common in South Wales to help people with grazing rights, who had become overwhelmed by numbers after issues with ponies being abandoned at the location.



Photography Anthony Payne

They passed into the care of The Gower Pony Experience, a not-for-profit promoting best practices in grazing with ponies in the area, and they have been supported by Redwings to microchip, passport and castrate where necessary.

Jenni Nellist from The Gower Pony Experience said: "We could not have done this



without the help of Redwings. Together we've helped the people with grazing rights on the Common and given these ponies what, for them, is the perfect new home. In turn, they're helping the environment and other species to flourish."

Nic de Brauwere, Redwings Head of Welfare and Behaviour, said: "Projects like this are such an important part of us finding suitable 'roles' for the equines who need our help."

Our Education and Campaigns team have been busy leading the way on initiatives to help horses and their owners across the UK – all thanks to your support.

Rising to the Challenge!



Filming in progress with Piggy March and Sarah Hallsworth



As part of this year's Strangles Awareness Week (SAW) Redwings and the 10 other SAW collaborators invited horse owners to take part in a unique Temp Check Challenge! A raised temperature (fever) is almost always the first sign of an infectious disease like strangles, generally developing before the horse becomes contagious to others. By monitoring their horses' temperatures routinely, especially after mixing with other horses at an event or moving to a new yard, owners are better able to spot fever early and take action to stop possible infection spreading.

Owners commonly check a horse's temperature when they notice signs their horse may be unwell, but, in the case of infectious disease, by this point it's often too late to have stopped the disease in its tracks.

The Temp Check Challenge asked owners to take their horses' temperatures each day during SAW and upload the reading onto our special online Temp Checker, which automatically calculates each horse's average. Horses' temperatures can vary so knowing what is normal for an individual helps flag when something is not normal, and there may be an underlying health issue. This could be an infectious disease, other infection, colic or another illness.

The Temp Check Challenge didn't only catch the imagination of horse owners and yard managers, but almost 70 vet practices and even top GB rider Piggy March! Watch Piggy talking to Redwings Equine Behaviour Manager Sarah Hallsworth in our special video to introduce temperature checking to people who may not have done it before. You'll also meet Piggy's stunning horse Cooley Lancer (aka Swiss Roll)!

Head to redwings.org.uk/saw to find out more.

Appleby Horse Fair

Meet Lucifer! This fabulous black beauty and his owner Carl were presented with the People's Champion Award, from social media engagement, at this year's Appleby Horse Fair in June.

Chosen from 16 Best in Show winners selected by our team of welfare vets at the Fair, Lucifer was a picture of health and being handled quietly and calmly, despite being a strapping young horse taking in the sights and sounds of the busy Fair for the first time.

The Vets' Champion, voted for by the seven equine vets at the Fair, was Lucy, owned by Matt, Clare and daughter Lolly (pictured below). Our vets were impressed with the attention to detail Matt put into the fit of Lucy's harness, and young Lolly's horse care knowledge and enthusiasm to keep learning!

Redwings was also part of the team chatting to people on the National Equine Welfare Council's Information and Engagement Tent. The engagement team offer objects and curiosities, children's activities and a warm welcome to anyone at the Fair, helping to start some fascinating and inspiring conversations with horse lovers from a wide range of backgrounds.

Find out more about Appleby and the Best at Appleby awards



Calling all horse owners!

Is your tack room in need of a good sort out before winter? You can donate any unwanted or unused tack to Redwings. Email preloved@redwings.co.uk to find out more. And... don't forget you can browse our eBay shop for a bargain – especially handy when it comes to rug season!

SPILLERS Slimmers' Club

Horse feed company SPILLERS has been a fantastic Redwings supporter for many years. SPILLERS are working hard to raise awareness of equine weight as a health issue and launched a special Facebook Group for owners working to reduce their horse's weight which has proved incredibly popular and already has more than 3,000 members! This is a topic Redwings is also passionate about (find out more on page 11).

We're thrilled that as part of their campaign, SPILLERS has pledged to convert 'kilos to pounds' in aid of Redwings by pledging to donate one pound for every kilo that their Slimmers' Club equines collectively shed! Their aim is to generate an incredible £5,000 for us alongside helping many more equines (and their owners) enjoy all the benefits of being healthier, happier horses.



Redwings' very own Moses modelling for SPILLERS!





A new home for Mildred

In our last newsletter we let you know that Mildred was embarking on her next steps at Redwings – looking for a home on the Redwings Rehoming Scheme.

Mildred had well and truly found her place in all our hearts after the dedication she showed Phoenix as his foster-mum, and now we are delighted to tell you she is happily settled in her new home.

Mildred was rehomed in April to her new family in Norfolk with Guardian

"Mildred has such a lovely personality, with just the right amount of sass to tell Hugo when he's being a bit much! We have seen the pair of them playing together, and that just makes me so happy."

Rachel Angell, Head of Norfolk Equine Operations at Redwings, who heads up our rehoming scheme said: "To see Mildred being such a good friend to Hugo and pampered and loved by Gabby is wonderful, and so well deserved after she helped us care for so many youngsters. It also shows how a well-matched companion can have such an important role in their new homes, providing friendship and firmly becoming part of the family!"

It is thanks to your support that we have our wonderful Rehoming Teams and the training facilities that mean that horses like Mildred can find loving new homes. Plus, this helps us to make sure we continue to have capacity to help the horses and donkeys who desperately need us.

Gabby and her cob gelding Hugo. Having recently lost her 32-year-old gelding Hamish, Gabby did not want Hugo to be lonely. Mildred – who has always shown a truly caring nature – was the perfect fit.

Mildred's Guardian Gabby said: "I contacted Redwings because I knew they would help pick a horse that they thought would fit into mine and Hugo's life, and our experience with Mildred has felt like that - it was like she was handpicked just for us! When I came to meet Mildred at Redwings with my mum, she won us over with her love of a head rub.



Mildred and Hugo

Sharky and Amy – a true partnership

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No it's Redwings Sharky and his Guardian Amy!

Sharky was rescued by SWHP in 2009. He was one of six horses removed with the help of the Police from grounds of a hotel in South Wales. The horses all had worm burdens and were in need of farriery care.

Amy took Sharky on loan from SWHP (Society for the Welfare of Horses and Ponies, which merged with Redwings in 2019) in 2011. Recalling his days as a youngster, Amy said: "He was a cheeky and boisterous boy. 11 years later and he is just the best horse, and I look back at everything we have achieved together and it's epic - I swear I know him better than he knows himself these days!

"We showjump, event, team chase and take part in all sorts of events. Over the years we have achieved tonnes together, including winning the 'Blue Light Championship' showjumping for riders who are part of the emergency services and competing in a relay event at the Royal Welsh Show. To say I'm proud of him is an understatement."

At only 15.2hh, Sharky, a Cob gelding, is sometimes the smallest horse in the line-up for his events but he more than makes up for his lack of size with his spirit, and his partnership with Amy.

"I look back at our beginning, and the training and resilience our partnership has taken has been totally worth it. Sharks is just amazing, we are a great team and telling anyone about our achievements is a proud moment for me. It brings me to tears."



Left to right: Redwings Edward and Claire, Redwings Rocket and Natalie, Redwings Stardust and Katie and Redwings Matty and Sarah

Back in (Show) Business!

This summer we were delighted to return to the Royal Norfolk Show, as it was held in full for the first time since the start of Covid-19. It was a pleasure to be back meeting supporters, old and new, face-to-face and we were joined by two very special ponies who helped us spread the word about the Redwings Rehoming Scheme.

Redwings Rocket and Redwings Stardust were stars of the Show's 'Rescue Village' and received lots of fuss from the public, and lots of interest about offering them a loving home too!

Then they joined some already rehomed Redwings ponies in the Rescue Classes at the prestigious event, and we're delighted to say 'Team Redwings' even brought home some rosettes!

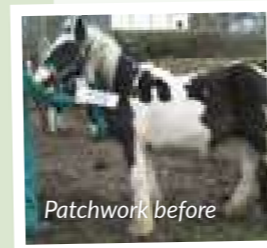
Redwings Patchwork, attending the Show with her Guardians Yvette and Victoria, triumphed in the Ridden Rescue class, and Redwings Edward came 2nd in the In-hand Rescue class. Joining Edward in the In-hand class were Redwings Matty who took 5th place and the 'Rescue Village' stars Redwings Stardust, 6th place, and Redwings Rocket, 7th place.

Patchwork, a 13.2hh, 13-year-old cob mare, came to us here at Redwings in 2009, as one of 11 horses from a site in Rickmansworth. The horses had been abandoned and were straying onto the grounds of a local school. They were in poor condition, with suspected heavy worm burdens. Patchwork's blood tests also showed she had problems with both her intestines and liver.

Yvette said: "Patchwork, or Millie as she is known to us, has done us proud today. We don't show regularly, and she spends most of the time as a happy hacker with my mum, but we love to bring her to the Norfolk Show to represent Redwings and show how great rehomed Redwings horses can be!"

Rescue classes are judged on a combination of their rescue story and transformation, and their show on the day – so they are a fantastic opportunity for people to see rescued ponies thriving in their new homes.

“Patchwork, or Millie as she is known to us, has done us proud today.”
Yvette, Guardian



Patchwork before



Patchwork now with Guardian Yvette



Edward before



Edward now with Guardian Claire



Always striving for the best for horses

Here at Redwings we are always striving for the best for the horses in our care, and that would not be possible without our incredibly talented teams or - as we like to call them - our 'Sanctuary Stars', from our team of trainers at our Behaviour centre to our vets and experts who share their expertise to help horses across the UK. Let's find out what they've been up to...

In previous editions of the newsletter we have introduced you to the team who work in our Horse Hospital, and now we are turning the spotlight on our specialist Behaviour Centre and the team of trainers and carers who work there.

Our Behaviour Centre is a unique resource – a dedicated Sanctuary farm for our residents who need extra support in their behavioural training. Often, horses that live there may have been semi-feral when rescued, meaning they had little-to-no human contact before, or have fearful associations with humans due to past mistreatment or neglect. It is the job of our team at the Behaviour Centre to support them and, through training, help them to enjoy a life at Redwings with as little stress and worry as possible.

With their knowledge of how horses learn, the team are able to be flexible with their training approach. Where possible they will use positive reinforcement, with their 'go to' tool being clicker training where, simply put, you mark a behaviour you want with a click and then deliver a food reward. Training this way gives the team the opportunity to train 'at liberty' - without any restraint e.g. headcollar and leadrope. If the horse is feeling unhappy, he can choose to leave the training session, without being forced to stay by pressure. Being able to control the situation helps build trust between the horse and trainer, and so can be particularly useful for horses that are very fearful of people.

The team are currently researching the use of 'start button' behaviours. For example, using a cone or some rubber matting that the horse can stand on or touch to indicate that a handling

procedure (such as handling their legs or an injection) can begin. At any point the horse can walk away, and training will not restart until the horse returns voluntarily to the start button. Not only does this give the horse choice, but it can also be much safer for the handler or vet.

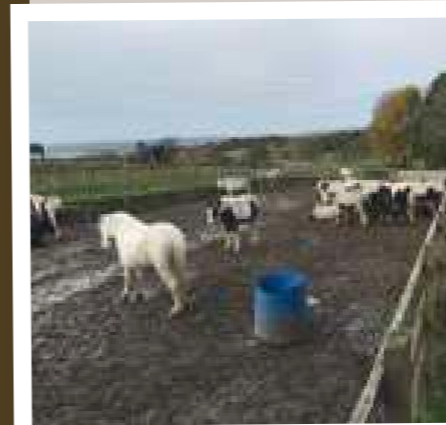
Nancy came to the Behaviour Centre from Redwings SWHP on the Welsh border as the team there knew she would benefit from some extra handling support. She was rescued in 2012 when she was found on Gelligaer Common struggling to eat because of very long teeth.

Due to Nancy being very fearful, her trainer Emma has been introducing Nancy to a start button. She will touch a cone with her nose to let Emma know she is ready to proceed with her leg handling and will move away from the cone if she is finding the training too challenging. Her training is coming on much quicker since Emma has introduced this and she is very proud of her!



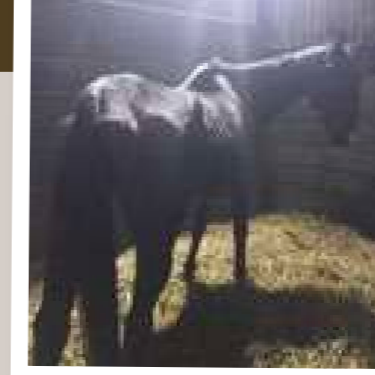
Sanctuary regulations in Wales

Remember our feature 'When is a sanctuary not a sanctuary?' in last year's autumn newsletter? Redwings has long had concerns about the regular discovery of rescue centres that aren't able to meet the basic needs of animals in their care, sometimes leading to horses living in terrible conditions and having to be rescued from their 'rescuers'.



We are pleased to be able to share our own thoughts and experiences as part of a group working with the Welsh Government to introduce regulations for animal sanctuaries operating in Wales. Legislation is already in place in Scotland and Westminster has expressed its intention to bring in English regulations in the future.

Redwings has been involved in many cases of failing rescue centres, often bringing many equines into our own care to provide the food, health care and behavioural rehabilitation so many of them have been lacking. We believe that by assisting with the introduction of effective regulations in Wales, we can better prevent serious welfare issues arising in a sanctuary setting, while the many knowledgeable, caring centres out there can continue their fantastic work and be better recognised and supported.



The need for better equine ID

A long-awaited public consultation on Equine ID regulations took place earlier this year, with Redwings being one of many equine charities submitting responses to the 48 questions. There are widely acknowledged issues with the current system, resulting in many equines not being accurately recorded on the Central Equine Database. In the first six months of this year, of the 39 horses and donkeys that came into Redwings care, 19 did not have a microchip (a legal requirement) and only seven of the 20 who did have a microchip were correctly registered as belonging to their most recent owner. Being able to link a horse to their owner is essential if we are to be able to hold owners to account when a horse is found



A vet checks for a microchip during a rescue operation

to have been neglected, abused or abandoned. Currently, many owners simply walk away with no action able to be taken against them because of lack of evidence that an equine is theirs. Up to date identification records are also vital to help reunite stolen or stray horses with their distressed owners and provide accurate information about an equine's age and vaccination status if they are sold.



Worm egg counts are simple and cheap and can reduce the number of horses being wormed by around 80%!

Working in partnership

Weight and worms are two of the biggest welfare issues facing the UK's horses. The number of horses carrying an unhealthy amount of fat is known to be almost 50%, rising to over 70% for native ponies. And while worms generally only cause serious horse health problems in large numbers, there is grave concern over growing resistance within worm populations to the anthelmintic drugs (wormers) that we use to control them.

Redwings is taking part in two collaborative groups looking at practical ways to tackle these important topics. We know that charities, researchers and other organisations coming together to speak with one voice helps us to reach far more people than working alone.

The Obesity Roundtable is looking at ways to help owners recognise when their horse would benefit from losing a few pounds, and to help them achieve this in a healthy sustainable way.

The Anthelmintic Resistance Working Group aims to reduce use of wormers by encouraging all horse owners to use regular worm egg counts to check the worm population in their equine and only use a wormer if it is really necessary.

Many new arrivals at Redwings are affected by health issues associated with being overweight or having a large worm burden. Our teams are incredibly experienced in treating these issues and ensuring individuals are managed to help protect them from becoming overweight or developing an unhealthy worm population in future.

News from around the Sanctuary -

'Your Redwings'



Visit www.redwings.org.uk for our latest opening times and information to make the most of your visit!

Ada Cole Essex, EN9 2DH



Thank you Salesforce!

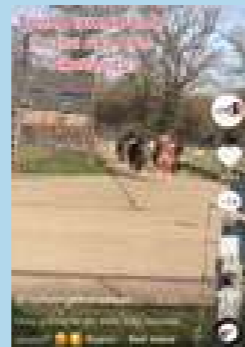


They did a fantastic job weeding the woodchip path and pergola area. They then re-treated the wooden pergola and polished the plaques in the Memorial Garden beautifully. They also weeded and tidied up the flower bed, all to help get the site looking spick and span for the summer season.

A wonderful group of volunteers from Salesforce UK&I visited Redwings Ada Cole in May with many members of the group travelling from all over, including Guildford, Derby and even Ireland!

After all their hard work the Ada Cole team gave them a tour of the site, and Adoption Star Zippy was especially delighted to get some individual attention and enjoy a scratch over the gate!

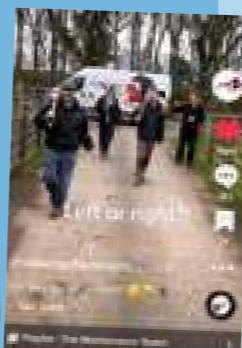
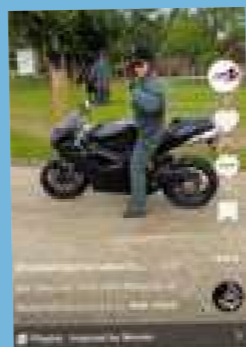
Tinkerbelle and friends take on Tik Tok!



Tiny Adoption Star Tinkerbelle and her Shetland friends at Ada Cole took TikTok by storm when we uploaded a video of them running out of their winter barn and onto Spring grass!

The video quickly accumulated in excess of 80,000 views and almost 10,000 likes with lots of lovely comments including how their hooves sounded like they were getting a round of applause and how beautiful they all are. Some of our most popular video clips on TikTok have included Tinkerbelle and her friends!

If you enjoy using the short form video platform please give us a follow over there. You can find us by searching for @RedwingsHorseSanctuary



Our teams are on TikTok too!

TikTok has become a wonderful new social media outlet for us to share our rescued residents' funny moments and rescue stories but did you know that several of our wonderful care and maintenance teams have also made appearances on the popular platform?

It all began when we thought it would be fun to make a 'I'm a Celebrity, get me out of here' style video to coincide with the ITV television show and the Redwings Maintenance Team kindly allowed us to film them at work to pop some clips together. The team decided to have a

go at doing a dance video as well and when that got posted to TikTok it proved to be extremely popular racking up over 100,000 views very quickly! There were even comments asking for more so when new dance trends came along both maintenance, and several of the farm and yard teams, got involved and filmed a video or two during their lunch breaks.

So far on TikTok our videos have received over 200,000 likes and we hope to shortly hit having 20,000 followers over there too - helping us connect with new supporters, or reconnect with some who remember us well, across the globe. You can find us and enjoy watching some of the videos yourself by searching for @RedwingsHorseSanctuary



Caldecott

Gt. Yarmouth, NR31 9EY



A delicious array at Oliver's café!



Why not try out the new menu at Caldecott Visitor Centre? There's something for everyone!!! Loaded fries and tortilla chips are a firm favourite on the menu, but if that's 'nacho' thing, there are paninis, jacket potatoes, and many more choices to satisfy your hunger!

All proceeds go directly to the Sanctuary, so every time you buy something to eat, you're helping to feed our horses and donkeys.

What a great reason to treat yourself to some cake!

In March 2022, Oliver's Café at Caldecott hosted a Mother's Day celebration with a special one-off Afternoon Tea-style menu. Thank you to everyone who attended the event and made the day so enjoyable! Keep an eye on the Redwings website for details of future events.

Top of the toppings!



This year you may have noticed your favourite horse or donkey has been tucking into some new tasty toppings on their birthday cakes, all thanks to the culinary efforts of Nicky Jarvis, Redwings Head of Veterinary and Care.

Nicky is known as somewhat of a baker extraordinaire here at Redwings and makes amazing cakes for her friends and family, and now our rescued residents too! Nicky, with the help of her some of her patients in the Horse Hospital, taste-tested some horse-friendly cake toppings and almonds, strawberries, celery and melon are now on the list.

As well as the novelty factor, toppings such as these are lower in sugar than some of the traditional toppings such as polos or carrots, meaning they are perfect for our Stars that need their weight to be carefully monitored, or have health conditions where sugar can sometimes be too much of a good thing!

A permanent vacation for the ponies of education!

Retired 'Education Ponies' Dhansak and Moses are enjoying a well-earned rest with Adoption Star Sampson and his friend Plum at Redwings Caldecott. While the four ponies may be small, there's nothing mini about their HUGE personalities.

Dhansak and Moses were both born at the Sanctuary after their mothers were rescued from the Lincolnshire commons. Having known only a happy life at Redwings, their response to

people is delightful - keen to get close and personal with everyone! As former Education Ponies, Dhansak and Moses would accompany Redwings to shows and outreach visits to meet and greet their fans! They played an important role in teaching both adults and children about horse care and the work of Redwings. So why not book your ticket to see them at Redwings Caldecott today - they'll happily 'educate' you on their preferred scratching spots!

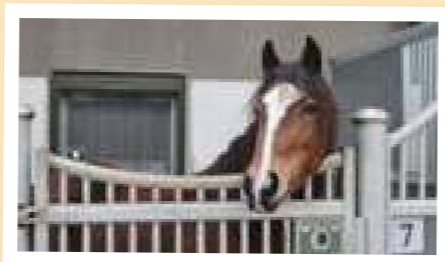


Under construction!

Our long-term project to refurbish the equine facilities at Redwings Oxhill continues. This year has seen the demolition of several dilapidated stable blocks, the development of an indoor space to temporarily house our donkeys in the rehoming barn, and the addition of a rug drying room. This paves the way for a new donkey facility, stabling for Sanctuary residents, and a quarantine area. But with challenges in the supply chain and rising costs of materials, these developments will take time.

We thank you for your patience and understanding when you visit as some areas will not be accessible (and may not look their best!).

Most importantly thank you for your continued support to help us replace our old facilities after more than 15 years at Redwings Oxhill. It is only thanks to your donations and supporters' gifts in Wills that we can invest in the future for our horses.



Gr'moo'ing Arya!

Here's a fun Adoption Star fact for you - Arya's carers groom her coat using a cattle brush to keep her tangle-free and s'moo'th! Arya is a Poitou donkey, originating from the Poitou region of France. Her coat is made up of soft hair which lays in cords, resembling the coat of a Highland cow

more than your average donkey or horse - hence the reason for using the cattle brush to keep those tangles va'moo'sed (that's the last cow pun we promise!). Of course, we think Arya is exceptional, but with less than 500 individuals worldwide, the Poitou donkey is an endangered species making her particularly special! **If you would like to sponsor Arya or learn more about the Redwings Adoption Scheme, visit redwings.org.uk/adoption for more information.**



Preloved and precious to us

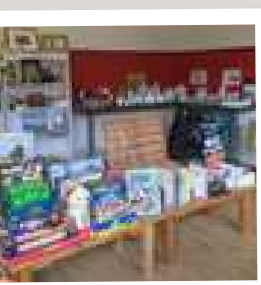
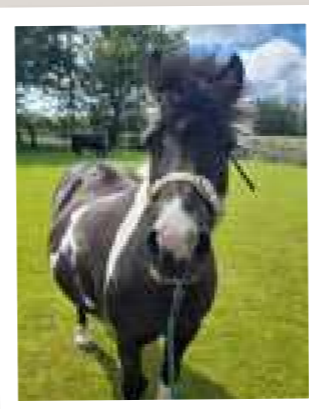
Redwings Mountains is open on selected dates throughout 2022 and they are looking for donations of homewares, gifts, collectables, toys and games, horse rugs and tack (clean useable condition) to stock their preloved shops online and at the visitor centre too. Preloved donations help us to raise extra funds that go towards the care of all our rescued residents, so next time you decide to have a clear-out of clutter at home and are also planning to visit Mountains then maybe you could bring some items to donate with you. Thank you so much!

To arrange a donation please email mountains.vc@redwings.co.uk

Rescued Shetland is firm favourite

A Shetland pony who was rescued by the Scottish SPCA has become a firm favourite at Redwings Mountains. Indy - who's 22 years old - has settled into her forever home well with a small herd, joining Fergal, Maverick and Bramble. She was amongst a herd of over 60 ponies seized in 2018 after being left to fend for themselves in a field. Their owner was prosecuted. All the mares were pregnant including Indy, who sadly lost her foal to tetanus.

Her arrival at Redwings Mountains was a nice surprise for Senior Team Leader Kirsten Macpherson, who had cared for Indy for a year at the Scottish SPCA, where she worked at the time. Kirsten said: "I worked with Indy quite closely. Like all the ponies that came in as part of the rescue, she didn't show any signs of having been handled at all. "She has come such a long way since she first arrived, and we can now catch her and lead her from the field without any issues. She is a firm favourite with our visitors as she will follow them around the fence lines, and our staff have a real soft spot for her. She is a very special little lady!"



Best-selling crime author's books on sale

Book lovers can now support Redwings whilst buying their favourite titles by Elly Griffiths, author of the Dr Ruth Galloway Mysteries and the Brighton Mysteries - one of which features a visit to Redwings Aylsham in its storyline!

Elly is a long-time supporter, and now the best-selling crime author's books are being stocked in our visitor centre shops, as well as online.

Nicola Knight, Head of Communications and Campaigns, said: "We're so grateful for Elly's support here at Redwings, and thrilled to now be stocking her work.



"Elly is an honorary adopter of donkeys Wiggins and Wacko and we also feature in a few of Elly's books, including the Stone Circle, where Nelson and Katie have a hot chocolate at Redwings Aylsham."

"We've already had a number of supporters purchase her whole collection and are hoping we might be able to host a signing in the future!"

“ Elly is an honorary adopter of donkeys Wiggins and Wacko and we also feature in a few of Elly's books, including the Stone Circle, where Nelson and Katie have a hot chocolate at Redwings Aylsham ” Nicola Knight, Head of Communications and Campaigns

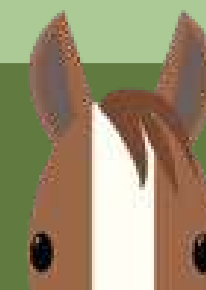


And it's easy to see why Wiggins and Wacko could offer such inspiration! This dynamic duo formed at Redwings after Wiggins was found cruelly abandoned and Wacko arrived at the Sanctuary in need of a companion. Not only was their friendship with each other a success, but they both were an immediate hit with Redwings supporters too!

Their engaging, inquisitive (and often mischievous) characters captivated so many hearts, adding them to the Redwings Adoption Scheme was the perfect next step.

Details on how you can sponsor the gregarious pair can be found on our website. Or telephone us on **01508 505246** to adopt today.

Turn to page 17 to see more gifts you can purchase to support our rescued horses and donkeys.



Fab Fundraisers!



Ollie runs for Redwings!

A young supporter has raised over £700 for Redwings after running a sponsored 60 miles! Eleven-year-old Oliver Phillips from

Essex decided he wanted to fundraise after his mum and dad sponsored Dotty the donkey, who lives at Redwings Ada Cole, for Oliver as a Christmas present. Mum Kerrie Phillips said: "We're so proud of Ollie. There were times he found it hard, some days his legs really ached, and we had a bit of scare when he got injured at a football match and we

thought he might have broken his ankle! Luckily it wasn't too serious, and he was only out for a couple of days. He was so determined and there was no way he was going to give up until he reached his goal." Ollie's challenge raised an amazing £720 in total which will go towards helping the horses, ponies, donkeys and mules in Redwings' care.

"We weren't expecting him to raise anything like that amount, but I posted about what he was doing in some local social media groups and the donations just kept coming! We had some t-shirts made for him with 'Redwings' on the front and 'Running 60 miles' on the back, and people said they'd seen him and wanted to support him. Friends from his football team all ran two

miles with Ollie after a game. We had an amazing neighbour who went out with him on quite a few occasions, and the rest either I or his dad, James, did with him. It was really brilliant," said Kerrie. Kerrie and James set up a 'finish line' for Oliver to cross, with red and black balloons, when he completed his 60 miles.



A warrior effort!

Redwings supporter Victoria, from York, has raised over £700 in memory of her sister Caroline, who passed away



when they were children. Victoria got a group of four friends together to do the Yorkshire Warrior in aid of Redwings in April. Victoria said: "My sister was passionate about Redwings. She had a horse called Amy and wanted to be an equine vet. She tragically passed away in 1992, when she was just 13 years old. "My sister's school raised money for Redwings afterwards, our mum was a teacher there, and some of them visited one of the visitor centres.

"I still have the letter from Redwings thanking them for the donation and was thrilled to hear that Caroline's memorial plaque, which I'd never seen, is still at Redwings Caldecott. I'm planning a visit with my Dad to see it. I've always wanted to raise money for Redwings in Caroline's memory and now felt like the right time." Victoria added: "I did the 10k version of the Warrior and it was so tough! My friends did the 20k and I don't know how they managed it!"

Congratulations are in order!

Huge congratulations to supporters Betty and Mick Watkins on celebrating both their 60th wedding anniversary and Betty's 80th birthday this year! The couple have been proud supporters of Redwings for decades and continue to raise over £1,000 each year for us through car boot sales. Thank you both for your incredible support and may you enjoy many more happy years together.



You can help horses by selling or donating your preloved treasure too!

Simply gift them to us and we'll sell them on our eBay store or in our Preloved shops to raise funds.

Shopping with Redwings

Purchasing from Redwings is just one way you can support our rescued residents. 100% of the profits from our gift shop help us continue rescuing horses and donkeys in need across the UK.

Where possible, Gareth, our Retail Development Manager, has a list of requirements products should ideally meet before we stock them. These include that products are locally-made, ethically-sourced, recyclable and welfare-friendly. So, you can browse our lovely range in the knowledge that products which are doing good for Redwings are doing good for the planet too.

We have gifts for all, even your four-legged friends, and you can view our whole collection at redwings.org.uk/shop or in our catalogue. If something takes your fancy, you can visit your nearest centre, browse our brand new web shop or phone 01508 505246.

Happy shopping!



Delicious artisan chocolate from Cocoa Collective, produced in North Norfolk! Festive flavoured bars £5.00 each. Four flavours of luxury hot chocolate (dark is also Vegan.) £8.50 each.



Seasonal flavours of jam, marmalade, chutney and savoury preserves from The Garden Pantry. Produced just miles from our Hapton head office, primarily using their homegrown produce, £4.50 a jar.



Pooch's crunchy baked bones. Perfect for your pooch! Produced in Norfolk using the highest quality ingredients! Seven flavours available, £4.00 a bag.



Pony in a rug soft toy £15.00. Brown Pony soft toy £15.00. Both are super soft and are made using recycled plastic to create the filling.

Dare we say it, but Christmas is not far away now so if you're looking to get cracking with your present shopping Gareth has pulled together a list of his favourites to help you get started. Gareth is known for being something of a 'Christmas Elf' at Redwings, and for the entire month of December is never seen without a Christmas jumper, so your shopping is in more than safe hands!

Wrendale Bamboo Socks, Three festive designs to choose from, £7.50 per pair.



Redwings Christmas Cards - 24 designs. Produced in the UK, fully recyclable. £4.00 a pack.

Adoption Star Maya is Redwings' very own Black Beauty



A fitting legacy

Redwings is proud to have taken on Anna Sewell House in Great Yarmouth.

The birthplace of the author of Black Beauty is owned by a Redwings supporter and horse owner, who approached Redwings, saying: "I thought it would be lovely if you could use it... your mutual work in horse welfare would be a fitting legacy to her."

The Grade 2 listed building nearly met with a different fate when several decades ago an American proposed to dismantle it and relocate it to the US. The current owner's mother, herself an advocate for animal welfare, resolved not to let that happen and convinced her husband to buy the house, preserving the historic building which has since become a place of pilgrimage for fans of the author and her famous novel. Now Redwings has

an exciting opportunity to make its mark on the property too, using it to showcase Anna Sewell's story, and share how our work addresses the horse welfare challenges of today.

Anna Sewell's Black Beauty is one of the most successful novels of all time with over 50 million copies sold worldwide. The book was one of the first to use an animal as a narrator, and the only book that Anna Sewell published. Anna didn't write the novel for children. She said that her purpose was to "induce kindness, sympathy, and an understanding treatment of horses". She died shortly after the novel was released in 1877, and never witnessed its enormous success or the influence it had on changes to horse welfare in Victorian Britain. Redwings is honoured to now use our presence at Anna Sewell House to continue her legacy.

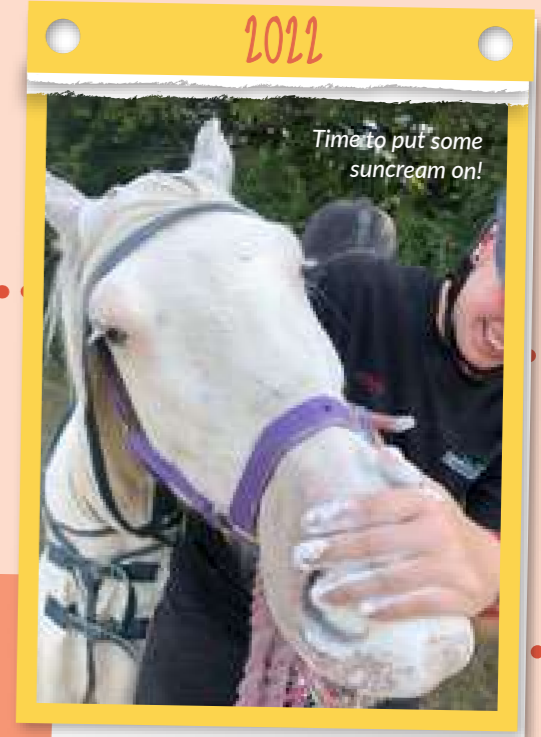


If you too would like to make a lasting difference to horse welfare in the UK, perhaps you would consider leaving a gift in your Will to Redwings?

Your gift could give a second chance to horses who suffer from cruelty or neglect and help us to create a better future for them by changing the way equines are perceived and treated in the UK.

If you have already been kind enough to remember Redwings in your Will, or if you want to find out more about leaving a gift, we'd love to hear from you on legacies@redwings.co.uk or 01508 481030.

As a Redwings supporter you can write your Will for free through our partner Farewill at <https://farewill.com/redwings> or by calling 020 8176 6708.



Year-round care

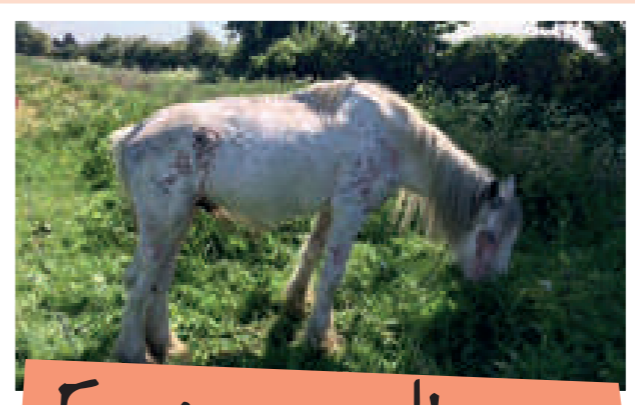
Care team members at our Sanctuary farms ensure that every resident can lead their life in a healthy and safe home, where all their needs are met. Some horses, ponies and donkeys at Redwings need treatment that changes over the course of the year. Tilbury was just a youngster when he was rescued seven years ago, his life is very different today thanks to a real team effort that adapts with the seasons.

Tilbury's skin is very sensitive to sunlight. From spring to mid-autumn he is treated daily, without which sunshine causes a painful reaction across his body and face. When the UV index is 'moderate' or stronger on any day, the team prepares him by putting on a special UV fly mask and rug. They apply sunblock around his eyes and nostrils twice a day. On the days when the sunshine is strongest, Tilbury is brought into a stable to shelter from the worst effects of the sun. The severity of his photosensitivity is just one of the reasons Tilbury was brought into Redwings' care.



How your donation helps
£20 could buy a UV fly mask for a sensitive horse like Tilbury

During the following night someone untethered Tilbury, but nobody came forward to accept responsibility for him. Under advice from a vet, he was seized and taken to a local equine vet practice where he was given immediate treatment, including tests to determine the cause of his skin condition. Tilbury arrived at Redwings Ada Cole after five days of vet treatment for his skin condition, lice infestation, checks and tests.



Finding Tilbury

Tilbury is named after the south Essex town close to where he was found. Redwings Field Officer Jo was responding to a welfare report at a site well known for the number of grazing horses and ponies, when she saw the young grey colt for the first time. He was tethered, underweight and suffering from a nasty skin condition.

“ It was a sunny day and from quite a distance I could see his skin was raw and just how serious his condition was. As I walked up to Tilbury he didn't react to me but I could see more and more clearly how uncomfortable he was. Straight away I made plans to return the next morning with an RSPCA Inspector. We'd make sure he got the care he needed, by removing him from that field if needs be. ”
Jo, Redwings Senior Field Officer

Continued on back page >

2021

Different season, new challenges

Tilbury was worryingly thin when he was rescued. With time and some TLC, he gained weight and condition which helped him to feel comfortable in his new home and to move with more freedom as part of a new herd.

Today, he still finds it difficult to retain condition during the winter months, so to make sure he does not lose too much weight, he is given hard feed as well as forage. Tilbury's diet is also supplemented with a balancer all year round which gives him the vitamins and minerals

How your donation helps
£15 could fund a month of dietary supplements for a sanctuary resident

He is given daily medication and if he needs more help with his movement, the Redwings vet team apply additional treatment to relieve the affected joint.

he needs to maintain things like good eyesight and a healthy immune system. Part of Tilbury's year-round care is the treatment he receives for arthritis in his hind legs.

2021



Tilbury and his friend Liquorice

Year-round care for all

All the steps taken to care for Tilbury have helped to bring out his curious, occasionally mischievous nature. Tilbury is one of the horses in our sanctuary whose special care needs change considerably with the seasons. As well as year-round treatment for long-term conditions our Sanctuary teams make sure our residents are cared for at the height of summer and during the harshest winter days.

“ He's definitely a character. I make a point of seeing him each day and he'll always walk over to say 'hello'. I am very lucky because I get to see the full story with a pony like Tilbury, from the condition he was in when rescued to the life he goes on to have, whether that's in sanctuary care or in a guardian home. To see so much change over all that time is a privilege. ”

Jo, Redwings Senior Field Officer



Thank you!

Please donate today
to give rescued residents like Tilbury the year-round care they need to lead a healthy life*.

- 01508 505246 • www.redwings.org.uk
- Text YEAR 10 to 70085 to donate £10**

*Your donation is used wherever it is needed most in the Sanctuary and will help to fund the ongoing care of all our residents, including those you read about here.

**You can also opt to give any amount - whole £s only - up to £20. All texts cost the donation amount plus a standard rate message.