



NEWS FROM OUR WICKLOW FARM

We are experiencing a harsh winter this year, with severe weather conditions in many parts of the country. This has seen an increase in welfare complaints to our office, with many horses being left wintering out with little or no access to sufficient forage.

This means there are a lot of horses that are in welfare compromised situations. We are liaising with ISPCA, Dept of Agriculture and local councils in many of these cases. Where necessary IHWT is providing forage and assisting with taking in the more serious animals who are suffering.

There continues to be a high level of unwanted equines in the country and this is putting pressure on our re-homing program. We are

finding it increasingly difficult to find suitable, long term homes for our rescues. We would urge horse owners looking to take on a new horse or pony to contact us first. Our aim is to match the right horse or pony to the right home. So please contact our office to see if we have something that will suit what you are looking for. We currently have almost 55 equines in our care of all types and ages.

In recent times we are focusing more and more on our education programmes (please see below for further details). We are seeing very positive results in equine welfare black spots where we have gone in and worked with horse owners on the ground. This includes education, clinics and horse projects.

IHWT is on the steering committee in the follow areas, Athy, Carlow and Dublin. In August the Dublin Region Horse Welfare task group was established to help tackle the huge problem of unregulated equines and the associated welfare problems. IHWT is part of this group and has signed up to the tasks groups to deal with education and indiscriminate breeding.

In 2015, leading animal welfare organisations (ISPCA, Dogs Trust, IHWT, Donkey Sanctuary, Irish Blue Cross and MADRA) along with representatives from the veterinary profession and websites advertising pets for sale joined forces to develop a set of minimum standards for websites to help protect the welfare of animals that are advertised online and ensure that any illegal activity is identified and investigated. The Irish Pet Advertising Advisory Group (IPAAG) was formed.

In November we attended the latest IPAAG meeting. IPAAG has been targeting unscrupulous breeders by reporting inappropriate online adverts in breach of the IPAAG minimum standards where they were acting illegally and compromising the welfare of innocent animals to make a quick profit.

Since its launch, IPAAG has used Google Ads to educate people searching for pets being advertised online. As a result over one million impressions and 22,485 clicks to the IPAAG website was reached specifically targeting people who were looking to source a pet online, but may not be aware of the risks or how to protect themselves from unscrupulous breeders. IHWT is committed to better monitoring of online sale of equines. Plans are being put in place to ensure better monitoring of online ads. PAAG is also going international with the launch of EU PAAG. For further information, please visit www.ipaag.ie.



**Irish Pet Advertising
Advisory Group**

We would like to thank Gain Equine Nutrition who continues to support the IHWT. Gain's support has been amazing over the past 5 years and it is because of this support that we have been able to help so many equines that are so desperately in need of help.

Each year Gain run an annual campaign around Christmas time and this is vital to help raise the profile of equine welfare. In December the "Give them the Gift of GAIN Campaign" was launched. For each selfie that Gain received a scoop of feed was donated to IHWT. Huge thanks to everyone who supported this campaign. Winner is to be announced.



GAIN
EQUINE NUTRITION

We have now moved to E-Newsletter to help reduce our administration costs. If you do not want to receive our E-Newsletter please either click "unsubscribe" or email our office at info@ihwt.ie and we will remove your details.

We would encourage all our supporters who have access to an online facility to follow our Facebook page and Twitter account for regular updates on day to day information.

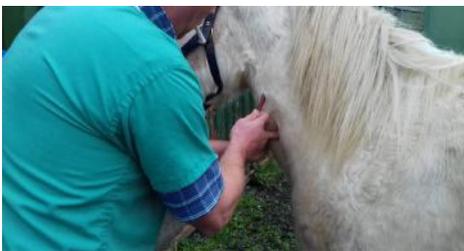
EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS



NEW ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The IHWT has developed a number of education courses in horse care and welfare aimed at horse owners from urban and disadvantaged areas. These courses cover all the essential areas of horse care, welfare and the management of equines so that participants are equipped with skills to care for their own equines and for employment within the horse industry in Ireland. Course content also covers legislation governing the keeping of equines. All of the core modules for equine care and management are delivered in sessions at the IHWT farm and at other locations. This includes sessions on sites where horse owners keep horses.

The IHWT has extended its education programme and has developed a 10 week online course which includes two full days of practical sessions. The course was launched at the ITBA Expo in Goffs on 26th & 27th January. The course is aimed at horse owners from disadvantaged areas and the travelling community and will act as a stepping stone to RACE, further education facilities and the equine industry.



CASTRATION CLINICS

In November we ran another Castration Clinic for equines in the Dublin area, 17 equines were castrated and micro-chipped. Many thanks to all those that attended and to our vets for all their hard work. There are plans for further Castration Clinics in 2018 depending on the level of interest and will be run on a case by case basis.



DUNSINK HORSE CLUB

The Dunsink Horse Club continues to work well and we are delighted to see one of the club members, Keith Donohue, complete his training at RACE. Keith is now working full time in a racing yard. We are delighted to see Keith choose his career in the equine industry and look forward to hearing more about this talented young man.

In January 2018 club members visited Clondalkin Equine Club to see the facilities. DHC will be contacting local councillors to look for their support in securing better facilities including permanent stables and a small arena to help progress the project.

RECENT RESCUE STORIES

December 2017 The IHWT was contacted by MLHR to assist with this case. These beautiful thoroughbred mares were found abandoned on woodland along with 5 others. They were left with no access to suitable forage or shelter. Thanks to MLHR who dealt with this case and ensured their safe removal with help of Department of Agriculture. Both mares, Issy and Abbie, are settling in well and happy to be in a safe place.



October 2017 Our cover star IHWT Spud was found abandoned on a local farmers land. No owner, no micro chip and no way of tracing where he came from. Spud was suffering from a severe worm infestation. Treating parasites can be very difficult and sometimes the damage done to the internal organs can be irreversible. He was treated by our vet and is getting stronger every day.



October 2017 IHWT Scout was found abandoned in the Wicklow area. Again no micro chip so no way of tracing the owner. He was very nervous and had a severe worm infestation. He is doing very well and gaining trust quickly. Scout and Spud have become best friends and they are great company for each other. Huge thanks to the person who found him and transported him to our equine centre.



September 2017 IHWT Candy Sue and May May. Both came into our equine centre following on a complaint we received from member of the public. Both are aged and were in poor body condition.

August 2017 We assisted the ISPCA in rescuing this little fella following on a complaint about a young horse being kept at a disused site with no suitable access to forage or water. There was also a concern for the horses' safety as he was caught up in a long rope when we arrived at the scene. We had to cut him free and then find a way to get him out of the site, which was completely



enclosed. Thankfully this is a very brave horse and we were able to coax him up some steps and then load him safely. He is now safe & sound. He is an inquisitive horse and seems to be getting over his ordeal. We have called him IHWT Blue Boy. Thanks to the local Gardai for their help in this rescue.



REHOMING UPDATES

IHWT Trotski and Phoenix showing what rescues can do. In September they entered the rescue horse class in the Royal Meath Show. IHWT Trotski came 2nd and IHWT Phoenix came 5th. We are so proud of them and so grateful to all those who offer a home to a rescued equine.

Gimli's Return came into the IHWT a number of years ago through our Ex Race Horse Programme. We are delighted to hear that he is doing so well and love getting updates about this smashing horse. He is in a fantastic home and we hope to see him get out to compete this year at riding club events.



REHOMING



IHWT Nollaig is a 2013 piebald Cob gelding, height 13.1hh approx. He originally came into the IHWT as a welfare case. He is unbroken to date and would need an experienced home to bring him on. He is very well handled and has a lovely temperament and should go on to make a lovely riding Cob. This stunning Cob so deserves his own forever home.



IHWT Sarah is a 13.2hh 2010 bay pony mare. She originally came into the IHWT as a welfare case as a 2 year old. She is unbroken and would need an experienced home. She has a lovely temperament and should make a lovely riding pony.

IHWT Ruby is a 2002 dark bay Thoroughbred type mare. She came into the IHWT as a welfare case with foal at foot. She is well handled but due to an injury would only be suitable as a companion horse and cannot be ridden. She has a lovely temperament and will make a wonderful companion horse. This beautiful horse so deserves her own forever home.



IHWT Kyia is a 2012 piebald Cob mare, height 13.3hh approx. Kyia is a stunning horse and has a lovely temperament. She would need an experienced home to bring her on but will make a lovely riding Cob. Please help Kyia find her own forever home.



IHWT Keano is a 2015 skewbald Cob gelding, height approx 12hh. He originally came into the IHWT as a welfare case in 2016. He was found dumped in the Wicklow area. Keano was in very poor body condition when he came into the IHWT and was suffering from a parasitic infection. However he made a full recovery. He has a lovely temperament and is very well handled. This little fella has such a great personality and we are hoping someone will fall in love with him. Contact our office for more details.



IHWT Hutch

IHWT Hutch is a 2016 piebald Cob gelding, height 12.1hh approx to date. He originally came into the IHWT as a welfare case. He is well handled and would need an experienced home to build his confidence and bring him on. He has a lovely temperament and will make a lovely riding Cob.



IHWT Hughie

IHWT Hughie was found straying on the road in the Sallygap area in January 2017. This is a very remote part of Wicklow and grazing at that time of the year was minimal. We think that Hughie was dumped there, as there is no other reason why he would be in this area. With the help of Wicklow National Parks & Wildlife Service, Hughie was transported to our centre. Hughie was in poor body condition and was also suffering from a heavy worm & lice infestation. He also had a minor leg injury but has now made a full recovery.

Hughie is now ready for re-homing. He is a 2016 skewbald Cob gelding, height 12hh approx to date. He is still only young and would need an experienced home. He has a lovely temperament and should go one to become a smashing Cob.



IHWT Hal

IHWT Hal is a 2008 grey roan pony gelding, height 11hh approx. He was born at the IHWT from a rescue mare. He is unbroken and would need an experienced home. He has a lovely temperament and lots of character. Hal could make a lovely riding pony and we really want him to find his own forever home. If you are interested in re-homing Hal please contact our office.



IHWT Amber

IHWT Amber is a 2010 liver chestnut mare, height 12.3hh approx. She came into the IHWT in 2014 after being dumped along with another pony. She is well handled and has a good temperament, but she can be a little nervous. Amber is unbroken to date but should go on to make a nice riding pony. She is a young pony and would need an experienced home.

IHWT THOROUGHBRED CLUB



In 2017 we ran the Retired Racehorse show series which was very kindly sponsored by Tattersalls and also supported by Godolphin and TRI Equestrian. The

final was held at Tattersalls Ireland in July. The Champion and reserve from the finals qualified for the Retraining of Racehorses (RoR) National Championship Show at Aintree, UK in August. This saw Rosemary Connors with Piri Wango and Alison Clancy with Un Atout travelling to the UK and both had a very successful weekend.

We saw great support for this exciting show series with more people signing up to compete. It was lovely to see so many beautiful former racehorses competing at the ROR National Championship including many Irish bred.

2018 will see the continuation of the show series and the introduction of a new series of Working Hunter qualifiers for retired racehorses. A list of dates of qualifiers for both the showing series and the working hunter series will be completed soon and available on our website. The finals of these series will take place at Tattersalls Show on 21st July.



Piri Wango & Un Atout

TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

It is now the policy of the IHWT to allow transfer of ownership of equines to Loaners after a 6 month period. We are writing to everyone that has taken out a Loan Agreement with the Irish Horse Welfare Trust (and have one of our equine (s) in their care for more than 6 months) to ask you to take the next step in horse ownership and take full ownership of your equine. This will allow us to use our limited resources in the best possible way. Please contact our office for more information.



Irish Horse Welfare Trust Equine Welfare Centre,
Ballinamona, Woodenbridge, Arklow, Co Wicklow
Tel: 0402 30773 • Mobile: 086 604 7840 • Email: info@ihwt.ie

FUNDRAISING

It is now easy to support the IHWT though our website www.ihwt.ie/supportus

- **Become a subscriber**
for just €50 per year and receive our regular newsletter and updates

- **Make a One-Off Donation** (via Paypal)

- **Set up a Regular Standing Order**

- **Organise a Fundraiser for IHWT**
Fundraising Packs are available to help you

EVENTS

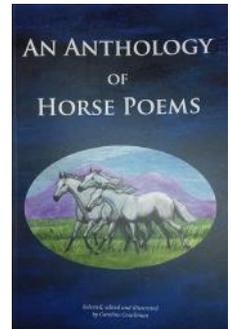
VHI Women's Mini Marathon this year will take place on Sunday 3rd June. Entries will open 7th March so make sure you enter early. Why not sign up as part of team IHWT and help raise much need funds. You can run, jog or walk the marathon and it is always a great day out. For more information please contact our office.

Huge thanks to **Dunbyrne Riding Club** who very kindly donated €159 to the IHWT in January. We are very grateful for their continued support. Thanks from all at IHWT.

The annual Knox Hall fundraising event was held again this year in November. Thanks to all those who stopped by our stand and purchased our Christmas cards which raised €146 for the IHWT. So much work goes into these events and we would like to thank **Gillian & Tom Aplin** and all those involved in organising the day.



Caroline Couchman very kindly donated proceeds from her book "An Anthology of Horse Poems" to the IHWT. Caroline raised €235 for the IHWT at the launch of her beautiful book. For each copy sold €3 will be donated to the IHWT. Books cost €15.00 each. This book makes a wonderful gift for someone special in your life. Copies are still available for sale through IHWT office. We are extremely grateful to Caroline for her support.



In September we ran the annual **Johnny Harrington Memorial Golf Classic** for the IHWT. There weather was fine for a great day's golfing followed by BBQ and auction. Thank you to the Harrington family, all of the golf teams taking part, those that donated or sponsored a Tee, those who donated items for the auction and to Rathsallagh Golf Course.



Huge thanks to **Calliaghstown Riding Club** who raised €100 for the IHWT at a fundraising event in November. We are extremely grateful for the on-going support.

Thanks to **Horseware Ireland** who very kindly donated two boxes of Hypocare Equine infection product. We currently have over 55 equines in our care and rely on donations like this to look after our rescues. Hypocare is a fantastic product that we would recommend to any equine owner and helped us to deal with infection control, a must for your vet cabinet.

For more information on the Hypocare range check on their website www.horseware.com/hypocare/

Huge thanks to **Alison Bishop** who very kindly donated a PACE feeder to the IHWT. Our rescues are well pleased. Thanks so much for your support and generosity.

Thanks to everyone for your very kind support to help **transport two horses from Cork**. We were overwhelmed with peoples' generosity. Many thanks for all the shares on Facebook and offers to help.

We would like to thank all our volunteer **Field Officers** for their help and support in carrying out home checks and field visits for the IHWT. Your support has been fantastic. We held a lunch at the farm during the summer and it was great to catch up with some of our field officers. Thanks to **Heather and Mia** who prepared a delicious lunch for us all.

Make sure to check out our website www.ihwt.ie for details of our latest news, recent rescues and horses and ponies ready for re-homing. Our new website was designed by our digital partners - Irish equestrian marketing agency **Halcyon Days**, and has been sponsored by www.HorsePlay.ie - Ireland's online equestrian resource. Huge thanks to them for all their support in helping us to promote our work of rescuing, rehabilitation and re-homing of equines.

www.facebook.com/HorsePlay.ie
www.facebook.com/HalcyonDaysMarketing
www.horseplay.ie

The IHWT would like to thank the **Dept of Agriculture, Food & Marine** for ex gratia funding received in December of €50,000. This funding will be of great assistance to our work of rescuing, re-homing and rehabilitating equines in need of our help. We are very grateful to the Department for their support.

Thanks to **Claire Goodwillie Design & Advertising** for her support in designing our newsletters. Her help enables us to keep our supporters up to date on all our news.

We would like to thank all our sponsors and patrons for their continued support throughout the year. Thanks to you we have helped so many horses in need of our help.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS SCHEME

If you have donated to the IHWT your gift may be dramatically increased simply by signing a form. If you donate €250 or more in one calendar year IHWT can claim tax back on your gift. This is at no extra cost to you. The tax refund for donations under Revenue's Charitable Donations Scheme applies to donors who are PAYE and Self Assessed.

Donors can sign the approved certificate/form to cover qualifying donations over a five year period using the CHY3 enduring form or if they prefer for one year using the CHY4 annual form. In each case they are giving the charity permission to claim a tax refund on the donation/donations of €250 or more during the period covered by the form. Each form requires that the donor fills in their PPS number and signs the declaration form.

The Tax Relief amount we receive back is proportional to your donations; the higher your donations, the more tax we can claim back.

Thanks to the generosity of donors who have already donated to the IHWT. We can claim on donations over the past 4 years and would ask donors to contact our office for a CHY3 or CHY4 form.



IHWT
IRISH HORSE WELFARE TRUST

LEGACY DONATION FORM

Charity Number: CHY 14634

THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME



Please consider helping Irish Horse Welfare Trust in their work with Ireland's most vulnerable horses and ponies.

If and when the time is right for you, perhaps you would kindly remember IHWT in your will.

To help make your life saving gift – the following is suggested;

'I give to Irish Horse Welfare Trust, all (or a fraction) of the residue of my estate whatsoever and wheresoever, and I direct that the receipt of the treasurer or other officer for the time

being of the said Organisation shall be a full and sufficient discharge of the same'

OR

'I give the sum of €/**£** to Irish Horse Welfare Trust and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or other officer for the time being of the said Organisation shall be proper and sufficient discharge for the same'

Please return completed form to:

Irish Horse Welfare Trust

Ballinamona, Woodenbridge, Co. Wicklow

Tel: 0402 30773 • Email: info@ihwt.ie •

www.ihwt.ie