Shining a Spotlight on the ‘Invisible Horse’

World Horse Welfare 2016 Conference
Thursday 10th November
Royal Geographical Society, London
Welcome to our 2016 Annual Conference

Horses, ponies, donkeys and mules play a myriad of roles worldwide. We are accustomed to seeing them perform on the global stage in sport, entertainment and on ceremonial duty. Many of us will have enjoyed taking part in riding events, and perhaps these days seeing our children and grandchildren follow in our footsteps. And it is rare to drive for more than a few miles through our green and pleasant land without encountering a horse.

But these are the ones that we see. In reality there are many thousands more who go unseen – the world’s invisible horses. Throughout this year and the next World Horse Welfare’s Invisible Horse campaign is shining a spotlight on the horses who are kept in the shadows by a lack of policy, poor enforcement, owner ignorance or neglect. Today, our esteemed speakers and panellists will join this conversation.

During Charity In Action, our teams will recount the job that we are doing to ensure that horses ignored by legislation, overlooked by the modern world and whose suffering is hidden from view, are seen and that they receive the care and protection they need.

The term ‘Charity In Action’ sums up everything we strive to be – an active force for sustainable, compassionate and forward-thinking change. Our work, as well as the work of so many other effective and trustworthy charities, has been questioned and undermined over the last couple of years, in part because of the irresponsible practices of a small minority within our sector. Hence today, we will also be reflecting on what role equine charities play in our society.

We look forward to hearing your views.

Barry Johnson, Chairman of World Horse Welfare
Agenda

09:00  Registration and refreshments

09:45  Welcome by the Conference Chairman: Lord de Mauley

09:55  Opening of Conference: Barry Johnson, Chairman World Horse Welfare

10:05  Introductory address: Roly Owers, Chief Executive World Horse Welfare

10:15  The Bouthieb Initiative: His Highness Sheikh Sultan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chairman Emirates Heritage Club in the UAE

10:30  Ongoing Development of Equine Health and Welfare Standards in China: Chris Riggs, Head of Veterinary Clinical Services at The Hong Kong Jockey Club

10:45  Invisible Horses of Bodmin Moor and Beyond: Will Young, singer-songwriter and actor

11:00  Q&A

11:15  Morning break

11:45  Trust in Charities: Anthony Hilton, broadcaster, journalist, author and lecturer

11:55  Rebuilding Trust: Cian Murphy, Head of Data Analysis nfpSynergy

12:05  Q&A

12:10  Discussion panel: What should be the role of charities in equine welfare in the UK? Suzanne Dando Reynolds (Chair), Barry Johnson, Louise Kittle, Harry Meade, Tim Morris and Angela Smith MP

13:10  President’s address: HRH The Princess Royal, President World Horse Welfare

13:20  Summing up: Roly Owers

13:25  Lunch

13:30  Charity in Action trade fair begins in the Education Centre:

   14:10  Making working horses visible to development organisations

   14:20  Invisible horses in the UK

   14:30  The need to shed light on welfare at slaughter

15:00  Afternoon tea

16:00  Charity in Action ends

#InvisibleHorse
Our President

HRH The Princess Royal has been a keen rider since childhood, competing successfully at a professional level, including in the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games as a member of the British Three-Day Event team. She won an individual gold medal at the European Eventing Championships at Burghley in 1971, and in the same year was voted the BBC’s Sports Personality of the Year. After five years as President of the British Olympic Association she was elected to the International Olympic Committee in 1988. Her Royal Highness is President or Patron of some 320 organisations, including the Riding for the Disabled Association and World Horse Welfare. The Princess Royal became World Horse Welfare Annie’s rehomer in 2013, saying: “Rehoming from a charity may be the best way of finding a horse because you know so much more about the animal you are getting. You get told about their quirks, how easy the horse is to manage, their physical limitations, if any, and what their needs are. All of this is important information when getting a horse that you rarely get when buying one.”
Charity in Action

Our Charity In Action trade fair and presentations, located in the Education Centre, shine a spotlight on invisible horses. You will learn more about our day-to-day work and the challenges faced by owners, charities and enforcement agencies...

International - Making working equines visible

The vital role that working equines play in the livelihoods of millions of people often goes unnoticed. Our 17 projects in 15 of the world’s poorest countries shine a spotlight on these ‘invisible’ working equines, ensuring they are on the development sector’s agenda. Prioritising working equine welfare is intrinsically linked to improving standards of food security, ensuring environmental stability, improving global health, empowering communities and minimising the risk and prevalence of disease.

UK - Invisible, hidden or unseen

Our team of Field Officers visit around 1,700 reports of suffering every year. Some of these situations just require advice; others need the horses to come into our care. The most shocking cases are often those which have been hidden from view. The suffering of these horses may have gone on for years, unseen by anyone who might care. We work hard to make these poor horses visible again and give them the care they so desperately need.

Campaigns - Welfare At Slaughter

Responsible horse ownership and welfare often focus on the aspects of care in giving horses a good life, but equally important is the responsibility to make sure they have a good death when the time comes. Every year thousands of horses die in UK slaughterhouses. Our Welfare at Slaughter campaign, which includes a call for mandatory CCTV, aims to ensure that each of these horses is visible right up until the very end of its life.
**Chairman**

**Lord de Mauley** currently serves on the EU Financial Affairs Sub-Committee. Until 2015 he was Minister for the Natural Environment, Science and Animal Welfare at Defra. While there he worked closely with World Horse Welfare and other leading animal charities. A chartered accountant and former investment banker and entrepreneur, he spent nine years working in the Far East. An army reservist, he commanded the UK’s only reserve armoured regiment. A former amateur jockey both here and in the Far East, he is a keen equestrian. He is President of SPANA and of the Council of the Reserve Forces and Cadet Associations, and a Trustee of the Horse Trust.

**Speakers**

**His Highness Sheikh Sultan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan** is a member of Abu Dhabi’s ruling Al Nahyan family, Representative of His Highness The President of the United Arab Emirates, Chairman of Emirates Heritage Club, Chairman of the Sultan Bin Zayed Media and Culture Centre and Chairman of Zayed Centre for Co-ordination and Follow-up. Through Emirates Heritage Club His Highness plays a significant role in the preservation of local culture and history and in 2015 was awarded ‘Man of the Arab Heritage’ in recognition of his efforts to preserve Arab History and Heritage. His Royal Highness takes a strong personal interest in equestrian sport and all forms of animal welfare. He established The Heritage Arabian Racing Club (HARC) to help preserve classical Arabian bloodlines through performance testing and he is behind the Bouthieb Endurance Initiative, which has developed rules aimed at the protection of the endurance horse. He is the owner of W’rsan Stables in Abu Dhabi.

**Chris Riggs** studied veterinary science at the University of Bristol, specialising in equine surgery at the Royal Veterinary College, London and was awarded a PhD for research into causes of racehorse fractures in 1991. He has worked at several equine referral centres, including the University of Liverpool. Chris has been Head of Veterinary Clinical Services at the Hong Kong Jockey Club since January 2003. He is passionate about providing opportunities in further education to colleagues in Asia and oversaw the veterinary services at the equestrian events at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Paralympic Games.
Will Young is a BRIT award-winning singer-songwriter and Laurence Olivier Award nominee. He is an active supporter of charities, including WWF, Soi Dog, Women’s Aid and Mencap amongst others. His is also Patron of Shires Holt Sanctuary on Bodmin Moor, from which he adopted a starving orphaned filly, Sheila, and a herd of Bodmin Moor ponies in June this year.

Anthony Hilton is an award-winning economics and business journalist with more than 40 years’ experience on Fleet Street and main board director of Associated Newspapers. He was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Aberdeen and is currently Senior Economics and Business Columnist for the Evening Standard and The Independent. In addition he has founded and chaired several media companies and served as a director and adviser to a management consultancy and a Lloyd’s of London insurance company. He served 17 years as a pension trustee and investment advisor, and is a visiting professor in Business and Economics at London Metropolitan University. Anthony has extensive experience in the not-for-profit sector, having served on fundraising and organising committees of the St John Ambulance national appeal and the Children’s Film Unit, amongst many others.

Cian Murphy is Head of Data Analysis at nfpSynergy, which provides research and consultancy service for charities and non-profits. A researcher by trade, Cian graduated with an MA in Social Development from Sussex University, and previously studied history and mathematics at University College Cork.

Have your say #InvisibleHorse
A healthy horse is a happy horse. Join our campaign and help keep yours and Britain's horses healthy.

www.healthyhorses.co.uk

For more information contact
MSD Animal Health,
Walton Manor,
Milton Keynes,
MK7 7AJ

We would like to thank

Horserace Betting Levy Board

Keeping Britain's Horses Healthy

Haygain

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Discussion Panel

**Suzanne Dando Reynolds (Chair)** competed at the 1979 World Gymnastics Championships, before going on to captain the British team at the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Since her retirement, she has worked as a television broadcaster and was appointed as Sky Sports Equestrian commentator for British Show Jumping. Suzanne enjoys riding her mare Lulu and became a World Horse Welfare Patron earlier this year.

**Barry Johnson** qualified as a veterinary surgeon from Liverpool University in 1969 and in 1973 opened his own practice, where he served Preston, Lancashire and the surrounding areas for over three decades. In 1993 he was appointed as President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and has since held the Chairmanship of various veterinary bodies. In 2006 he joined World Horse Welfare’s Council and was appointed Chairman of Trustees in 2012. Barry’s term as Chairman comes to an end this year but he plans to remain closely involved with the charity.

**Louise Kittle** is Editor of *Horse&Rider*, the UK’s best-selling equestrian monthly title, and Editor-in-Chief of its sister publication, *PONY*. When she’s not at her desk, she’s out interviewing top riders, on photoshoots with international trainers, or riding her own horse.

**Harry Meade** is one of Britain’s leading event riders and is a Brand Ambassador for horse feed specialist, Dodson and Horrell. Harry formed part of GB’s silver medal winning team at the 2014 World Championships in Normandy and has completed Badminton nine times, last year finishing in 3rd place. He is the youngest rider ever to have received a much sought after Armada dish, which are awarded for five Badminton completions.

**Tim Morris** is a science and welfare advisor to equine and commercial organisations, a Trustee of several not-for-profit organisations including being Vice Chair of the Rare Breed Survival Trust. He holds the equine portfolio on Defra’s Animal Health and Welfare Board for England and is a veterinary surgeon with a PhD in livestock reproduction with expertise in veterinary matters, welfare, commerce, policy and animal sport regulation.

**Angela Smith MP** read English at Nottingham University and then moved to Sheffield to pursue a career as a lecturer. In 2005 she was elected to Parliament and currently holds the seat of Penistone and Stocksbridge. She has held various positions including Shadow Minister in Defra, but in September 2015 she stood down from the front bench to concentrate on environmental issues on the EFRA Select Committee.
90 Years of Making Horses Visible

When our founder Ada Cole witnessed a procession of work-worn British horses unloaded at the docks of Antwerp and whipped for four miles to slaughter, she was determined to stop the appalling cruelty of these journeys. Ten years later our campaign succeeded and 90 years on World Horse Welfare is still driven by the same desire to stop unnecessary suffering, using a practical and evidence based approach to deliver lasting change across the full spectrum of the horse world.

Our supporters have always been the lifeblood of our charity and have enabled World Horse Welfare to achieve sustainable change for many millions of the world’s most vulnerable horses. People from all walks of life give horses a voice through volunteering, spreading the word, engaging the media, garnering support for our campaigns or by donating valuable funds. Thank you.

*Cappuccino was discovered in an emaciated state with a herd of similarly neglected horses. This year he was World Horse Welfare’s Rehomed Horse of the Year.*
Realistic, compassionate, forward-thinking

‘What Ada Cole saw on the docks at Antwerp was an indictment of the market forces which dictate that where profit rules, the first casualty is always compassion.’

Debt of Honour

Although the trade in broken and beaten horses that Ada Cole witnessed was not illegal it revolted most people so traders conducted their business under a cloak - the suffering of these horses was invisible to most. Similarly, today, many trucks carrying horses to slaughter become invisible on Europe’s unremitting highways.

Ada Cole left a legacy of compassion, which we are committed to in our attitudes, behaviour and decision-making across all of our work. From campaigning to end the long-distance transportation across Europe for slaughter, for better legislative provision for all horses, by rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming neglected and abused horses in the UK to improving the lives of working horses in the world’s poorest countries.

We mirror her realistic approach - focusing on the practical to achieve what is possible now while being mindful of the future.

And just like Ada we are forward-thinking, anticipating challenge and change, always seeking new ways of being more effective.
Together we make a great team!

With your support World Horse Welfare is able to help more vulnerable horses worldwide than ever before. This is how your donations were spent and will go on helping horses long into the future.

Of the £7.8 million we spent last year:

- 72% was directly used to help many thousands of horses in the UK, Europe and in 13 countries around the world.
- 26% was invested in fundraising and we turn every £1 devoted to raising funds into £4 to help horses.
- 2% was spent on governance to ensure World Horse Welfare is a strong, trustworthy charity poised to help vulnerable horses.

In the UK we invested...

- £2.7 million at our UK Rescue and Rehoming Centres.
- £1.1 million+ in our national network of field officers and rehoming officers.
- £310k+ in our welfare support services.

In 2015 our field officers investigated nearly 1,500 welfare concerns and 336 of the UK’s most vulnerable horses were brought into our four nationwide Rescue and Rehoming Centres.

In 2015 we rehomed 320 horses – a ten-year rehoming record.

Our welfare line staff responded to over 8,000 calls from members of the public concerned about horses by providing advice and coordinating our field officer investigations.

We invest in our expert staff so they can make your donations go further to help horses in need.

Our expert in-country teams provided advice and treatment from vets, farriers and saddlers on almost 43,000* occasions.

We exist thanks to donations from the public.

We invested £300,000 in our Campaigns in 2015 to improve the welfare of millions of horses.

Helped introduce the Control of Horses Act in England and are pressing for the law to be used more frequently.

Produced practical guidelines for the watering of equines transported by road in Europe.

Achieved stronger equine identification legislation across Europe.

Contributed to World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) standards on working equids.

We published the first report on the scope, scale and welfare challenges of Europe’s equine sector.

We invested £1.1m in our international work...

Mexico Guatemala Costa Rica Panama Haiti Honduras Nicaragua Cuba

Senegal

South Africa Lesotho

Nepal Cambodia China

We’re working in 13 countries.

Which directly helped more than 15,000 working equines.

£127k was invested in grants and bursaries to help provide the evidence base to inform our work.