



TRC THE THOROUGHBRED REHABILITATION CENTRE

www.thetr.co.uk

NEWSLETTER • SPRING/SUMMER 2011

THE TRC

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Dear Supporter

We have to start this newsletter with a big thank you to everyone that donated to our autumn and Valentine's appeals. We were overwhelmed with the response and are truly grateful for every penny. Your kindness will make a huge difference to the Centre and our horses. We would also like to thank Sarah Cox, a long-term, valued supporter of the TRC. Sarah generously donated £3000 for our Autumn Appeal to cover the cost of top up surface for our indoor school.

Our final thank you goes to Louise and Michael Owen and everyone at Manor House Stables and Deva Racing for raising £500 for the TRC. A fundraising event was held with Deva Racing syndicate owners and the money raised was split between ourselves and the Alder Hey Children's Hospital. The money will be used towards the day to day operational costs of the Centre to provide feed, bedding and veterinary care for the TRC horses.

The Centre has had an exciting few months as we welcomed our new Yard Manager and Trainer Kath Pinington in November. Kath has twenty years of training and teaching experience within the equine industry. She is in the process of implementing new processes to ensure the re-training and re-homing of our horses is as effective as possible and we are already starting to see the results. With Kath's experience and expertise we are able to continue to offer advice and practical help through our schooling livery service and clinics – since the last newsletter we have successfully helped several owners with the re-training and schooling of their ex-racehorse.

We have a number of older horses desperate for a new home at the moment. These animals still have so much to give and are often more settled as a result of their maturity. Please see pages 2 & 3 for details of horses ready to be rehomed. And on page 4 we have photos of older horses who are enjoying a new life and purpose in their loan homes, along with testimonials from their loaners on the pleasures of having a TRC horse. If you think you could give one of our horses a new home please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kindest regards

Kath, Nicky & Tracey

The TRC Team



Photo courtesy of The
Chester Chronicle

OUR HORSES

Since January, we have received an unprecedented number of calls from people requiring a place for their thoroughbred. Throughout the winter the telephone hasn't stopped ringing with a steady stream of enquiries – some of them really desperate. During one week in March alone we were offered over 20 horses, some from non-racing homes and others from owners and trainers. We just can't take them all and prioritising places is always difficult, especially as we currently have a 12 month waiting list.

As the bottom continues to drop out of the horse market, we are getting more enquiries from people who just can't sell their horse privately and are financially unable to continue to care for it. We are also more frequently being offered youngstock deemed unsuitable for racing. This trend continues to compound the very real need for the TRC, which is able to secure a future for some of these horses.

On the positive side applications from potential loaners have increased threefold - this is really encouraging news and as the profile of the TRC continues to grow we hope this will carry on.

NEW ARRIVALS

Captain Sensible, Lydia's Legacy, Lord Sherlock, Super Ross, Tek a Deek, Winston's Lad, Yashkur.

RE-HOMED

Circuit Dancer, Honest Borderer, Leon, Little Nobby, Maggie, Rare Talent, Roy, Skhilling Spirit, Viper, XLNT Stealth, Yashkur.

TRC HORSES READY TO BE RE-HOMED

Greenwich Fore 15.3hh Dark Bay Gelding 16yrs

Greenwich returned to the Centre in October 2010 from his loan home of ten years due to a change in circumstances. He has a lovely temperament, has been used as a hack and is good in all traffic. He is a good doer and is a stockier build that almost looks like he has some Irish draught in him! He is good to box, clip and has no vices. He is ready for a loving home.





Leopard Rock (Rocky) 16.1hh Dark bay gelding 16yrs

Rocky has returned to the centre through no fault of his own, he needs to gain some weight and has just started work. He is a classic old stamp of thoroughbred with good balanced paces and a kind heart. Rocky has flamboyant paces and would be a strong contender for ROR classes, he is good to handle, box, clip, shoe with no vices.

Lively Blade (Blade) 16hh Bright Chestnut Gelding 5 yrs

Blade only raced a couple of times as a 2yr old but was too slow. He is very well put together, has a cheeky temperament and thrives off work. This very smart young horse has loads of talent, moves well with an active canter and loves to jump. He is good to handle, box, clip and shoe with no vices and needs an experienced, knowledgeable home to bring out his full potential. This talented horse could excel in an eventing/ riding club home.



William 16.2hh Dark Bay Gelding 14yrs

William arrived at the TRC in May 2008 from a private home. At first he was extremely nervous and spooky and very reluctant to hack alone but we have managed to overcome these problems. He is a genuinely lovely horse, who is very eager to please and always tries to do his best. William is a well schooled, mannerly ride, who has been out to dressage competitions and was spooky, but we are sure this will improve. He has been acting as school master and is good to handle in the stable, shoe and box with no vices.

Winston's Lad (Winston) 15.3hh Grey Gelding 4yrs

Winston recently arrived at the TRC from a private home, having raced under Paul Howling. He was retired as a 2yr old as he was too slow. He has clean limbs and has been shown locally and done dressage. He has a lovely temperament and needs a knowledgeable home to continue his education. Winston is good to handle, box, clip, shoe with no vices. He has the potential to go on to dressage or jumping.



WHAT OUR LOANERS SAY

As you can see, we have several older horses desperate for homes at the moment. Several of our existing loaners wanted to have their say about how much their older loan horses have to offer.

“These horses are in their prime and still have a huge amount to give. I had my TRC horse as a 12 yr old and he is now nearly 15 and I have to say he is still improving, and with his newly found confidence he has absolutely blossomed over the last few months. There isn't anything that he can't or won't do and he has definitely got better with age, he absolutely thrives on his work and regularly competes with no problems what so ever.

He is the most genuine and well mannered horse I have ever looked after and he is a wonderful example of what ex-racehorses can achieve given the opportunity. He is a credit to the TRC and the work that they do and I consider it to be a real honour to be his loaner.”

Rachel Davies, loaner of Genial Genie



“I am the proud loaner of Stravmour, he is 15 years young. He is an absolute pleasure to have, very sensible and a fantastic ride, he gets better with age, I have had him for 4 years now and he is my best buddy. Please don't be put off by their ages, they have so much to give. I have never ridden a horse that is as well behaved on the roads, even in the heaviest of traffic, and he isn't at all fresh when his feet hit grass, he is very well mannered and loves a fuss.”

Donna Stevenson, loaner of Stravmour

TRC LOAN HORSES OUT AND ABOUT



Chilli



Quinn



Magic

SPRING APPEAL

The home of the TRC is Whinney Hill, a 200 acre farm in Lancashire. Since we moved here in 2006 we have had to outsource the ongoing maintenance of the farm to local farmers and tradesmen due to the fact we do not have our own tractor.



We are launching an appeal to raise funds to enable us to purchase a second hand tractor. In the long run this will reduce our outgoings as well as making us self sufficient. We need a four wheel drive tractor and trailer with loader and spike.

The benefits to the TRC of owning our own tractor are as follows:

- We will be able to move our own muck heap. We currently pay £360 every 6 weeks for this to be taken away.
- With the transport to move our own muck heap we will be able to use this for compost to put on the land. This will significantly reduce our fertiliser costs which are currently in the region of £3K per year to till all of our land.
- At the moment we pay a local farmer £20 per hour to move haylage bales around the yard. Between the months of October and April we require approximately 7 bales per week requiring 2 hours of labour. At the rate we pay this means we could save £1120 in seven months.
- Other work that is currently outsourced such as woods, yard and field maintenance currently costs the TRC between £1000 and £1500 per year.

We need your help to raise £10K to enable us to buy our own tractor. Over just one year this will save us:

- £3000 by clearing our own muck heap
- £3000 in fertiliser costs
- £1120 by moving our own haylage
- At least £1000 in other farm maintenance

This is a total of over £8K – the tractor will have almost paid for itself after just twelve months!

Please visit www.thetrc.co.uk for the new appeal updates page and find out how the money you've donated is being used.

TRC Calendar Competition

Would you like your thoroughbred to feature in the 2012 TRC calendar?

The launch of our 2011 calendar was a great success and sold out by the beginning of December.

This year we are inviting all thoroughbred owners/ loaners to enter our free competition – there are 12 months to fill so we are looking for 12 very special horses.

To enter please email your photo to tracey@thetrc.co.uk and include the following information:

- Your name & address
- Horse's name and age
- Where the photograph was taken

The closing date is Tuesday 31 May – good luck!



Raise £100 for the TRC – May 2011

This year the TRC is once again holding “Raise £100 for the TRC” in May. The initiative launched last year and raised us over £4000 in much needed funds for the Centre. We are hoping to beat this figure in 2011.

The demand for our services is constant – our current waiting list of horses needing a place is nearly twelve months. We rely on the help of our loyal supporters and those that have benefited from the services we offer to raise the necessary funds to continue our essential work.

Please see the enclosed flyer for details on how to take part.

Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Centre Charity Raceday Haydock Park, Friday 14 October

This exciting event will be used to raise the profile of the TRC whilst raising vital funds to go towards the operational costs of the Centre. This is a brand new raceday and is the last of the flat at Haydock Park for 2011. The day is likely to attract top owners, trainers and jockeys with the best horses as they give them one last run at the course before the winter. The meeting is expected to enjoy extensive press coverage at national and local level and will be covered on Racing UK.

Hospitality from £110+vat per person

VIP and Sponsorship from £1000+vat

Contact tracey@thetrc.co.uk

We hope this will become an annual event that will help to secure the future of the Centre. We are dependent on your support to make this a success.

Committed Giving Appeal

Each time we send out our newsletter we include a committed givers form. I wanted to tell you a bit more about the importance of these monthly donations to the Centre. We currently have nearly 800 committed givers and money received from the scheme accounts for around 18% of our annual income.

A regular monthly donation is income we can count on that allows us to plan more effectively for the future of the TRC. The money received through the scheme is used towards the day-to-day operational costs of the Centre which includes feed, bedding, veterinary fees, farriery, physiotherapy and much more. These costs are constant and ever increasing, yet also the most difficult to raise funds for.

With the economic climate in trouble we have, along with most other charities, experienced a downturn in the amount of donations coming through. We know it's tough for everyone at the moment, but even a minimal donation of £3 per month – the cost of a cup of coffee - will make a huge difference to us.



So we have included a committed givers form with this newsletter once again. For everyone that signs up we will be sending out a free TRC trolley coin keyring as a thank you for your support.

And for all of our existing committed givers, thank you for your continued generosity. Our work really would not be possible without your kindness.

Retraining of Racehorses (RoR) – Racing to Riding DVD

You will see from our enclosed merchandise leaflet that we are promoting the new RoR 'Racing to Riding' DVD. For every one that is sold through the TRC we receive £11.99 from the RRP. The DVD has many useful hints and tips as Yogi Breisner and Tina Cook work with ex-racehorses. Thoroughly recommended!



The RoR website, www.ror.org.uk is a very useful source of information when considering taking on an ex-racehorse or when looking to compete your horse in the RoR Racing to Riding horse classes.

TRC EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday 8 May	Annual Open Day, Whinney Hill
Thu 9 & Fri 10 June	Schooling Clinic with Kath Pinington
Saturday 25 June	Yard Visit, Whinney Hill
Sunday 31 July	Yard Visit, Whinney Hill
Thu 11 & Fri 12 August	Schooling Clinic with Kath Pinington
Saturday 27 August	Natural Horsemanship Event, Whinney Hill
Saturday 24 September	Yard Visit, Whinney Hill
Friday 14 October	TRC Charity Raceday, Haydock Park
Sunday 30 October	Yard Visit, Whinney Hill

For details and to book tickets visit www.thetrc.co.uk or call 01524 812649

TRC Annual Open Day

Sunday 8 May, 11am – 4pm

Come along for a day of fun for all the family. You will have the opportunity to meet the TRC horses, alpacas, birds of prey and Shetland ponies, watch ridden demonstrations and visit a selection of trade stands. There will a variety of refreshments available and a bouncy castle for the children.

We will also be welcoming the Mawdesley Equine & People Trust who will be bringing their mechanical horse. They will be offering 5 or 10 minute lessons for £5 and £10 with a donation to the TRC for each one.

To pre-book your slot please call 01524 812649.

Tickets for the day will be sold on the gate

- Adults £5
- Children under 16 & concessions £3
- Ticket price includes entry to a free prize draw

We look forward to seeing you there!

The TRC Team

Kath Pinington, Yard Manager & Trainer, yard@thetrc.co.uk

Nicky McDonald, Operations Director, nicky@thetrc.co.uk

Tracey Lyons, Fundraising Development Manager, tracey@thetrc.co.uk