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**Island Farm  
Donkey Sanctuary**

Summer 2018



# NEWS

Registered Charity No. 1121697



**How our new hospital will  
help keep donkeys healthy**

**Donkeys needing homes!**

# Welcome to the Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary

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**Dear supporters and friends,  
Welcome to our Summer Newsletter**

We've had further arrivals in recent weeks, a young foal and mother as well as a group of three donkeys who are now spending the summer months at Millet's Farm, Frilford near Abingdon. I'm often asked whether there is still a need for donkey sanctuary in today's Britain – but we still have a steady stream of animals coming to us for much needed care and attention – so we will continue to rely on your donations and support to help us look after them!

Island Farm donkeys, staff and volunteers go into over-drive at certain times of year – particularly before Christmas and on Palm Sunday, this last year being no exception. Many of our donkeys are invited to visit churches, schools and even local supermarkets, spreading the word of the sanctuary far and wide and helping to raise money needed for



the day-to-day running of Island Farm. There will be plenty of further opportunities to see us out and about – such as the National Pet Show (NEC Birmingham 3-4 Nov); Royal Berkshire Show (Newbury Showground 15-16 Sept) and the Wallingford Carnival – or of course right here at our Country Show! (26-27 May).

We would like to thank everyone that helps us do so much, from the events to the behind-the-scenes work which we cannot continue without, we rely completely on your time, effort and of course your generous donations that keep the donkeys we all love safe and cared for.

**John**





There has been lots going on lately but the most exciting is the progress of our Donkey Hospital. Thanks to all our wonderful supporters donating to the Hospital Appeal we are now at the stage where we can use this much needed facility. Most of the basic requirements such as the shower and toilet has been installed. The Veterinary Preparation Room is 75% complete but we still need to kit it out with equipment such as a sterilising unit and all the surgical tools the vet uses including dressings. We were very fortunate to receive a donation towards the cost of a portable X-Ray machine. We would also like to thank the Western Region of the Donkey Breed Society for a donation to purchase donkey platform scales.

The Operating Theatre is now fitted with rubber flooring and walls to

protect the donkey once they have been anaesthetised during surgery and while they recover. Some electrical items are still to be fitted followed by the installation of the hoist. The recovery boxes are now in use but are in need of a coat of paint so if there are any volunteers able to help please get in touch. We will supply the paint! The fencing and gates for the outside yards has been installed allowing the donkeys to have a safe area to be outside after their surgery.

Any donations towards the cost of finishing and equipping the Hospital would be very much appreciated by the donkeys. We have found already that this facility is saving the sanctuary money by being able to treat donkeys on site. Thank you again for all your support.

## Our donkeys love visitors!

Every year we receive hundreds of visitors to Island Farm. Families, couples and individuals all come to see and be with our donkeys. Here's just a few of the people that have been in the last 6 months.

The sanctuary is open every day 11-4pm and you are welcome to come along. We have an education centre and tea room open at weekends too.

### Share your photos with us!

Post your pictures on our Facebook, Pinterest and Instagram pages.

-  @islandfarmdonkeysanctuary
-  Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary
-  @islandfarmdonks



## Rehoming

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Many of our rescued donkeys have arrived into the sanctuary in desperate need of love and care after being unwanted and neglected. Once they are here specialist veterinary, hoof and dental treatments can cost around £600 and their recovery back to health can take many months.

Given the right environment and remedy donkeys can respond well and are very forgiving animals. After recovery and rehabilitation, pairs of donkeys can be considered to go to a foster home. Through our Rehoming Programme we know donkeys get more love and attention and it enables us to help more donkeys at the sanctuary.

If you consider you may like to rehome two of our donkeys please get in touch. You will need the following requirements:

- At least half an acre of good, well fenced grazing land.
- A suitable shelter. A size of 10 by 12 feet will house two donkeys.
- Time to care for the donkeys (at least two hours per day)
- Money to cover farriers, dentists and any necessary vets bills.

## Didcot Runners gave a donation of £1,500

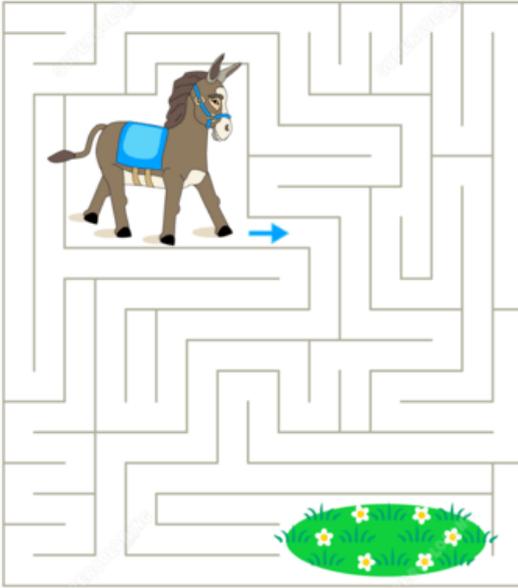
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Pictured: Race Director: Sian Loveless, Chair of trustees of Island Farm Sanctuary: Judy Gibbons, Race organiser: Theresa Lambie Club President Geoffrey Jackson, (EarthTrust Charity Naomi Douglas) Race Director: Katie Willets

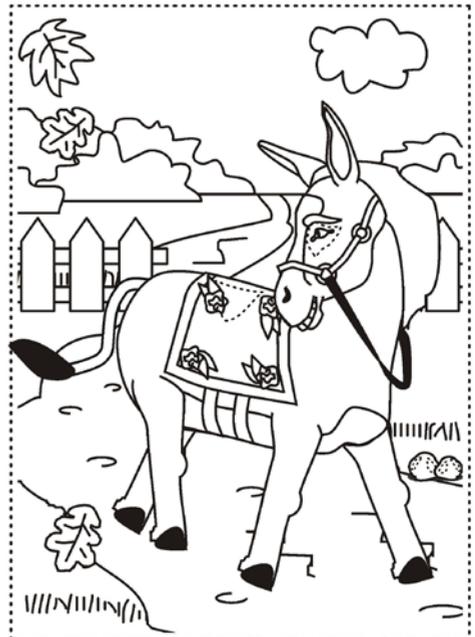
# Fun for Foals!

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Find the ten differences between the two pictures

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# Monty's Ramblings

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## Now that I am a donkey on the adoption list I don't go out to many activities.

At first I really missed going out, but I understood that I must be here in case my kind adopters come to visit. We have had some very interesting visitors lately. We have had troupes of Brownies and Cubs and Beavers. At first I found it hard to understand why young lions and Beavers should want to visit us and I thought that Brownies were rather delicious cakes. Jack admitted that he had been confused too. However when they arrived they were very smart young people, wearing uniforms and saluting and being very attentive to their leaders and learning about us.

Spring is in the air and there has been much frolicking in the sunshine particularly, from the younger generation. Jack and Charlie moan a bit about these youngsters but secretly I think that they are really as pleased to see their antics as our visitors are! We really had only had the occasional foal here at Island Farm but over the last year or so (I only know seasons so I cannot be too precise. about time!) our average age must have dropped

significantly! Charlie is quite pleased about this because he is getting on a bit now, although he doesn't like to admit it! It all started when young George, but George is now two years old. Everybody was delighted with George but he was usurped In January 2017 when Bentley was born and then in March Wendy was born and before we knew it in the autumn little rejected Lucas arrived. It seemed in 2017 we were starting a nursery! There was a bit of grumbling in the yard, the foals needed bottle feeding and the yard was busy. It had just began to settle down and the foals were all growing up, Wendy had turned one in March and then Storm arrived. Storm is another unwanted foal and he had hardly unpacked when a pretty mare with her tiny foal arrived. Some of our older residents are worried this is not a nursery but an epidemic.!

## Adopt a Donkey

Donkeys love being adopted here at Island Farm. Not only does it make them feel special, but it also helps us fund our work in feeding, homing and providing the care they need.

Just £20 for a whole year and you will receive a picture, your donkeys story so far and a certificate.

### Adopted Donkey this month is

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# ZARA

Zara was born in 2003 and is 10.0 hands high.

Zara arrived in Island Farm in 2017 due to her previous owner losing her grazing Land.



### Come and visit us here at the **Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary**

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Address: Didcot Rd, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Wallingford OX10 0SW

Phone: 01491 833938

Email: [mail@donkeyrescue.org.uk](mailto:mail@donkeyrescue.org.uk)



## Diary Dates

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### Island Farm Donkey Show and Fun Dog Show - Sunday 3rd June 2018

Our regular events at Island Farm	When	When
Flea Market	1st Sunday of the month	10:00 am
Craft Sale	3rd Sunday of the month	11:00 am
Table Top Sales	2nd and 4th Saturday of the month	11:00 am

Call us on 01491 833938 for more details.