



# **Willows Animal Sanctuary & Animal Assisted Therapy Unit**

## **Christmas Newsletter 2011**

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter. We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to those of you who have sent donations and we are now halfway to our target. We need our supporters to continue to send donations as and when they can afford to. Willows Animal Sanctuary is the largest sanctuary in Aberdeenshire and will try to help any animal in distress. We operate a strict no kill policy and only euthanize an animal on veterinary advice. We look after **over 300 animals** including around 60 horses, ponies and donkeys, approximately 60 cats and dogs and many reptiles as well as over 100 farm animals and birds. We are totally dependent on donations, legacies and grants from benevolent organizations to keep the sanctuary running.

We are entirely funded by public support and receive no government funding. Unlike larger charities we have no reserves of money and are always desperately short of funds. We specialise in helping elderly or more vulnerable animals that have already been refused help by well known large national charities, but we can only continue to help needy animals with your support!

### **Libby (a white mule) and Leea (a black Shetland Pony)**



We recently accepted Libby and her close companion Leea. Their previous owner had to find a safe home for them as she had been made redundant and could no longer afford to keep them. She told Willows "Libby was rescued from France in October 2008 she was 2 days off being sent for meat. We paid the fare for her to travel from Normandy to us here in Crudie. It took her 3 days to get here. She was very thin and her head collar had marked her face. She was scared of everyone it took us months to gain her trust." Both are now settled at the sanctuary.

### **Florence and Harriet**



We accepted two sheep from a lady who was moving abroad and could find nowhere safe for her pets. She said "Harriet and Florence are really friendly, but wary of strangers and anyone who looks like the vet! They love each other and have lived together all their lives, I have always tried to do my best for them, and I know that they will have a wonderful forever home with you at the Willows."

### **King**



King had been on loan and arrived in a rather neglected state with a damaged foot. He had torn off one of his shoes and pulled part of his hoof with it! His previous owner had just had a baby and simply could not deal with him anymore. He will need extensive remedial work on his feet and will be assessed as to his suitability for rehoming in the Spring.

### **McGill**



McGill is a young horse that has been loaned out many times and each new home has made him more and more nervous. He is literally afraid of his own shadow! His owner rang and begged us to offer him a safe lifetime home as she was at her wits end as to what to do with him! McGill is a very large horse (18.2hh) and his owner couldn't find anywhere to stable him! He is now settling in at Willows and uses one of our internal stables in a barn so has plenty of head room!

### **Stop Press Both Rehomed! Snowflake and Ruadh**



Recently we accepted Snowflake who is a five year old Alaskan Malamute bitch and Ruadh a cross bred, six year old, male, Border Collie. Their owners were moving from Oxford and having lost their jobs they had absolutely no choice but to rehome them and nowhere else between Oxford and Scotland would take them.



#### **How you can help:**

- \* Make a donation
- \* Leave us a legacy
- \* Offer to fundraise
- \* Become a volunteer
- \* Sponsor an animal



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**Closed to visitors**  
**until**  
**Easter 2012**

