

# DIARY



Remember these dates for your diary!

## Forthcoming events from September 2006

Come and support the Brooke at one of the regional events listed below. To find out more about an event, please contact the relevant group (see list to the right). If you have an event that you would like included in our next newsletter, please contact Marilyn of Mar on 020 7968 0826.

### SEPTEMBER

#### 10TH SEPTEMBER

**Witherslack Horse Show**  
Cartmel Racecourse  
(Cumbria)

#### 23RD SEPTEMBER

**Street Collection**  
(Jersey)

#### 23RD- 24TH SEPTEMBER

**Kingsfold County Show**  
(Sussex)

### OCTOBER

#### 4TH OCTOBER

**Brooke Supporter Conference**  
British Library (Call Brooke office on 020 7930 0210)

#### 4TH OCTOBER

**Talk**  
Brit Valley Rotary Club  
Bridport  
(Dorset)

#### 4TH - 8TH OCTOBER

**Horse of the Year Show**  
NEC Birmingham  
(London)

#### 6TH OCTOBER

**Bowling Evening**  
Bexley Heath  
(Medway)

#### 6TH OCTOBER

**Dog Agility Demonstration & Buffet**  
Conquest Centre, Taunton  
(Exmoor)

#### 14TH - 16TH OCTOBER

**BVNA Conference**  
(Yorkshire)

#### 15TH OCTOBER

**Sussex Society Pony Show**  
(Sussex)

#### 21ST OCTOBER

**Guide Dogs for the Blind Book Fair Stall**  
RJA&HS (Jersey)

#### 26TH OCTOBER

**Lingfield Halloween**  
(Sussex)

### NOVEMBER

#### 2ND NOVEMBER

**Fashion Show and Grand Auction**  
Bayfield Hall, Holt  
(East Anglia)

#### 4TH NOVEMBER

**Trowbridge Collection**  
Contact Roger Challoner-Green 01225 755974

#### 10TH NOVEMBER

**Pamper Night**  
(Medway)

#### 11TH NOVEMBER

**Chelsea Animals' Fair**  
Chelsea Town Hall  
(London)

#### 14TH NOVEMBER

**Chinese Auction and Raffle**  
The Bottle Inn,  
Marshwood, Bridport  
(Dorset)

#### 13TH-18TH NOVEMBER

**Collection**  
Outside Checkers  
Supermarket (Jersey)

#### 19TH NOVEMBER

**Crystal Palace Dog Show**  
(Sussex)

#### 21ST NOVEMBER

**Quiz Night**  
The Feathers Pub  
(Lichfield)

#### 25TH NOVEMBER

**Christmas Fair**  
Cartmel Village Hall  
(Cumbria)

#### 27TH NOVEMBER - 2ND DECEMBER

**Brooke Stall**  
Central Market  
(Jersey)

### DECEMBER

#### 9TH DECEMBER

**Christmas Fair**  
Minehead Methodist Hall  
(Exmoor)

#### 9TH DECEMBER

**Supporters' Party**  
(Medway)

#### 10TH DECEMBER

**Christmas Town**  
East Grinstead  
(Sussex)

#### 13TH DECEMBER

**Christmas Dinner**  
Mid Mar Inn  
(Aberdeen)

#### DECEMBER

**Manor House Christmas Fair**  
(Surrey)

### Local group contacts

#### Aberdeen

Mrs Margot Kennedy  
01330 833487  
Mrs Lynda Keeler  
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#### Bracknell

Miss Dolly Langton  
01344 423435  
Mrs Eileen Baggs  
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#### Bristol

Mrs Mavis Richings  
01454 413499

#### Cheshire

Mr Peter Swain  
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#### Cumbria

Miss Geraldine  
Braithwaite (after 1pm)  
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#### Derbyshire

Mrs Penny Thornton  
01335 370962

#### Dorset

Mrs Philippa Sanders  
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#### East Anglia

Mrs Liz Bennett  
01692 536608

#### Exmoor

Mrs Rita Tremain  
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Mrs Mary Sheppard  
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#### Isle of Wight

Mrs Patsy Firth  
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#### Jersey

Mrs Margaret Mallet  
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#### Kettering

Mr Tim Stephenson  
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Dr Alex Rees  
01446 781286

#### Wiltshire

Mrs Pauline Bridgen  
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#### Yorkshire

Miss Denise Arksey  
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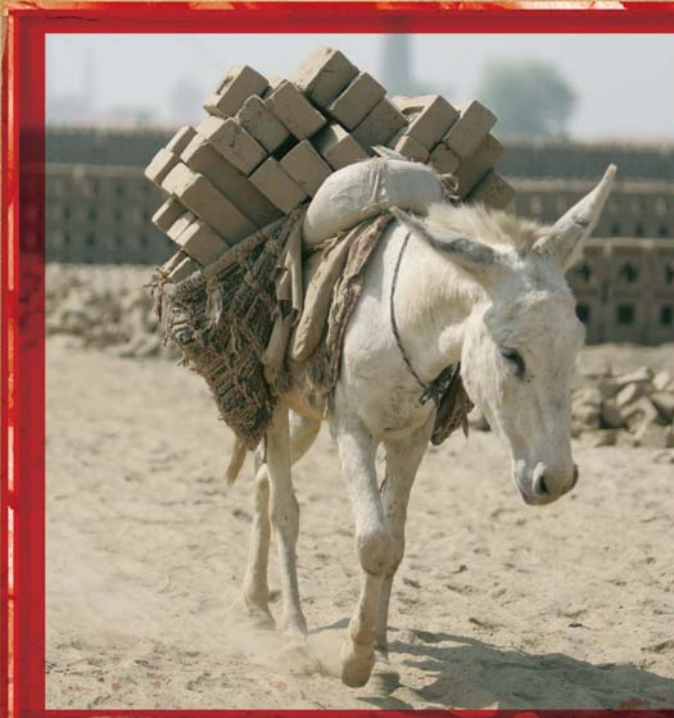


healthy working animals  
for the world's poorest communities

# BROOKE NEWS

Charity Registration No. 1085760

AUTUMN 2006



## Let us remember how we started...



These tired old friends were rescued in Mrs. Brooke's Old War Horse Campaign. At the end of WW1, the British Government sold Army horses to local Egyptians. By 1931, there were over 5,000 ex-army horses in Egypt, many of which were in a terrible way. These animals were bought by Dorothy Brooke to end their days in her Hospital. The two old friends pictured had become so deeply attached to each other that they had to be stabled side by side for their last few days.

We welcome volunteers in our London office to help our fundraising and supporter services teams. To find out more please contact Marilyn of Mar on 020 7968 0826.

## BRICK KILNS – THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

## NEW ETHIOPIA PROJECT PAGE 3

## COURSES FOR HORSES 2006 PAGE 13

## CONTENTS

- 1 **INTRODUCTION: BRICK KILNS – THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES**  
Across the developing world, countless horses and donkeys toil day after day in brick kilns
- 3 **NEWS FROM THE FIELD**  
Latest updates from the Brooke's operations overseas
- 7 **UNDERSTANDING THE BRICK-MAKING PROCESS**  
From clay to construction – how bricks are made and the crucial role of working horses and donkeys
- 9 **THE BROOKE IN BRICK KILNS**  
How the Brooke is tackling the suffering of animals in kilns across our countries of operation
- 13 **FUNDRAISING NEWS**  
Join the Real Jordan Riding Challenge, Brooke supporter groups, and much more...
- 16 **MY DEAR READER**  
Remembering the Brooke in your Will
- 17 **COURSES FOR HORSES 2006**  
A round-up of this year's inspiring fundraising events
- 19 **DIARY**  
Forthcoming events across the UK

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Reg. Charity No. 1085760

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**India** The Brooke, F-86 Preet Vihar, Delhi 110092, India.

**Jordan** The Brooke, Princess Alia Clinic, Petra, Wadi Musa, Jordan.

**Pakistan** The Brooke, 9/295 Sarwar Road, Lahore Cantt, Pakistan.

### Brooke News – only 18p an issue!

The Brooke is very careful with the funds it receives. This issue of Brooke News has been produced at a cost of 18p. Please do pass this copy on to a friend after you have read it.

Chief Executive: Mike Baker  
Director of International Development: Bill Swann MRCVS  
Director of Fundraising and Communications: John Trampleasure  
Director of Resources: Richard Lackmann  
Brooke News Editor: Meriel Armonson

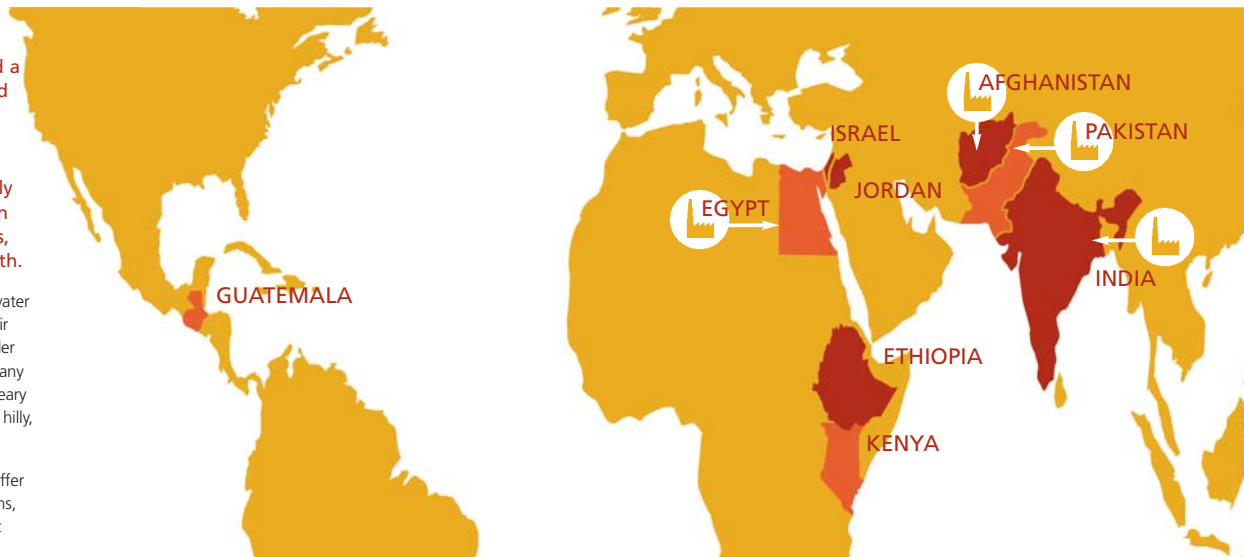
# Brick kilns – the struggle continues

Across the developing world, thousands of brick kilns in poor villages and towns are churning out millions of bricks to feed a growing demand for houses, hospitals and schools. These blisteringly hot open-air factories are relentless brick-making machines. Desperately poor workers and their horses, mules and donkeys are merely part of that machine. For the workers, kiln life is tough enough, but for their animals, these can be the worst workplaces on earth.

Temperatures can hit 50°C, yet often there is little water or shade. Uneducated owners don't understand their animals' needs and work them hard as they are under tremendous pressure to meet production targets. Many animals are denied rest on 12-hour shifts that see weary donkeys and horses hauling bricks by the ton across hilly, pot-holed terrain.

Donkeys, horses and mules working in brick kilns suffer dehydration, exhaustion, hoof, skin and eye problems, and a catalogue of other illnesses. They bear horrific wounds from beatings and from falling down, and struggle with filthy, ill-fitting harnesses and saddlepacks. Sadly, many who fall never get up again. Life expectancy for kiln animals can be dreadfully short.

The suffering in the kilns is amongst the worst we encounter overseas. That is why kilns are some of the prime targets of the Brooke's dynamic equine care and owner education projects. This newsletter focuses on our work at kilns, and explains how your thoughtful generosity can transform the lives of these loyal equine workers – but also how many more animals, and the poor people who rely on them, need our help. **BROOKE**



## AFGHANISTAN

Kilns we reach: **65**

Animals per kiln: up to **20**, mainly carrying packs

Animals reached by Brooke veterinary and education teams: **1,300**

## EGYPT

Kilns we reach: **140**

Number of animals per kiln: up to **20**, mainly pulling carts

Animals reached by Brooke veterinary and education teams: **2,800**

## INDIA

Kilns we reach: **600\***

Animals per kiln: up to **60**, mainly carrying packs

Animals reached by Brooke veterinary and education teams: **36,000\*\***

## PAKISTAN

Kilns we reach: **94**

Animals per kiln: up to **20**, pulling carts and carrying packs

Animals reached by Brooke veterinary and education teams: **1,880**

## How you can help

**£16** could pay for treating the wounds of three horses and donkeys toiling in brick kilns

**£31** could pay for ten horses and donkeys suffering from dehydration to be treated

**£50** could pay for the installation of a hand-driven water pump in a brick kiln in Pakistan

**£105** could pay for a Brooke mobile veterinary team to visit a brick kiln for two days, where they will treat exhausted and wounded animals, and educate their owners on better welfare

**£205** could pay for a Brooke Community Worker for a month, who will build good working relationships with owners and run vital education sessions



Brooke brick kiln projects

\*350 of which are reached through our Community Animal Health Programme \*\*21,000 of which are reached through our Community Animal Health Programme

# NEWS FROM THE FIELD

## New Ethiopia project: a million reasons for hope

It is our biggest-ever project: a mission of mercy in Ethiopia to free some of the world's most miserable working equines from suffering. By 2009 it aims to reach one million horses and donkeys bearing the scars of Ethiopia's poverty and sweltering heat.

By April 2007 we aim to have six mobile veterinary teams operating: in Gonder (north Ethiopia)\*, Harar (east) and the SNNP Region (south). They face an enormous challenge. Ethiopia has five million working horses, donkeys and mules – the largest equine population in Africa – with 98 per cent of rural families owning at least one donkey. They keep Ethiopia going by carrying, transporting and even ploughing. Yet respect for these hardworking animals is almost non-existent.

Prone to illness and heat stress, horses and donkeys are often treated appallingly: beaten, and over-worked, and often left abandoned when sick, injured or too old, to face a painful and lonely death. Hobbling – cruelly tying the legs to prevent wandering – is also prevalent. There is almost no veterinary care for equine animals. Not surprisingly, the efficiency and life expectancy of Ethiopian horses and donkeys is often a third of the world average.

Our work on the ground began this summer, with teams now being recruited and vehicles purchased. They will give treatments, but most crucially they will work with communities, teaching that well-cared-for animals work longer and more efficiently, and in so doing, increasing their owners' income.

In July we made an appeal to meet the project's huge launch costs. Your amazing generosity so far has given us a great start, and we are still fundraising to make sure that our teams can reach all the animals in desperate need of care, whilst securing the livelihood of their impoverished owners at the same time. **BROOKE**

*\*additional funding for this region kindly given by the World Society for the Protection of Animals*



*A donkey tied by the front legs is left in the blistering sun in Ethiopia*

## TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall visit Cairo clinic



*TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall during their visit to Brooke's Cairo clinic earlier this year*

This March, Brooke was both honoured and delighted when TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall visited our Cairo clinic during their Egypt tour. Here, Their Royal Highnesses came face to face with some of Egypt's long-suffering working horses and donkeys, who work so hard for their poor owners.

During the two-hour visit to our Egypt headquarters in the Zein El-Abdein district of Old Cairo, Their Royal Highnesses were given a tour of the clinic, fed carrots to some recuperating horses and donkeys, and heard about how a Brooke mobile veterinary team operates.

Mike Baker, the Brooke's Chief Executive, said of the visit: "We were delighted Their Royal Highnesses had the time to visit our operations in Cairo, and see first-hand how our dedicated teams of vets help working equine animals in the region – animals which are the lifeline for so many poor people in Egypt. They also met with Fawzy, an animal owner, and his draught horse. Fawzy has been taking his horses to the Brooke since he was a boy. The visit by Their Royal Highnesses was a great boost for both our staff and the animal owners." **BROOKE**

## PAKISTAN QUAKE UPDATE

The Brooke's relief operation following Pakistan's devastating earthquake in 2005 saw our mobile vet teams treat more than 36,000 working animals in the worst-hit areas, and build 354 shelters, to keep thousands of animals alive last winter.

Now the Brooke is working with disaster relief charity Mercy Corps to help animals help people rebuild their lives in 30 badly hit villages. This vital project is training women as Community Animal Health Workers who will ensure rural animals are healthy and well cared for. Brooke mobile vet teams are also visiting the villages regularly to carry out treatments and working with them to construct community animal shelters. Around 13,000 people and their animals will benefit from the six-month project. **BROOKE**

## NEW PARTNERSHIP HELPS HOLY LAND DONKEYS

The borderlands between Israel and the Palestinian Territories are among the world's most troubled. But a new partnership between the Brooke and the charity Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land will make this a happier place for its many working equine animals.

Safe Haven is the only charity caring for donkeys in these areas. Brooke's vital funding will enable it to expand its veterinary outreach and equine education programme, which currently covers only a few border communities. Led by a vet, local people will be trained as Community Animal Health Workers to offer basic veterinary treatment and animal welfare advice.

The project is urgently needed: many of the region's donkeys are badly treated by poor, uneducated owners, which is made worse by a lack of affordable veterinary care. **BROOKE**



**PLEASE REMEMBER THE BROOKE IN YOUR WILL**

# NEWS FROM THE FIELD

## Lip lesion agony to be drastically reduced

Lip lesions mean misery for working horses and donkeys. These painful open sores around the mouth area make eating and drinking extremely difficult and, in some areas, affect as many as 70% of the equine population. Now, groundbreaking observational research by the Brooke has identified the causes of lip lesions in many of Pakistan's working animals – and made a key finding that could surprise many British horse owners.

In Britain jointed bits are often seen as the kindest available and are commonly used for riding activities. Yet the Brooke study, carried out on 374 working horses, donkeys and mules in Mardan and Gujranwala, in

Pakistan, revealed that this type of bit is a major cause of lip lesion problems for animals who work all day hauling carts and heavy loads.

Our expert study team found that when used on animals pulling a load, jointed bits lead to more rubbing on the lips, as well as pinching and uneven pressure. Jointed bits are also more prone to wear and tear, which can result in sharp edges. And those with moving rings were found to increase yet further the likelihood and size of wounds.

But the bits were only one cause of these lesions: the assessment identified many more problems, most

crucially the everyday driving habits of the owners. Even small changes in their behaviour could have a huge impact on welfare.

Our research has shown that for these painful sores to be reduced, animal owners must be educated to see the wounds as a problem – which many currently do not – and encouraged to use bits with straight bars. A trial is to be carried out in Mardan to test the effect of these, and other recommendations made by the team. If successful, the solutions will be used to spare countless more working horses and donkeys from the agony of lip lesions. **BROOKE**



The Brooke is determined to reduce the agony caused by lip lesions



The jointed bit which Brooke has found significantly contributes to lip lesions in many cart animals

## Reaching suffering animals the fair way



Brooke teams in India are focusing on equine trading fairs, which draw thousands of owners and their animals

A record number of suffering donkeys and horses were treated by Brooke India vets earlier this year, when they attended three equine trading fairs in Ghaziabad. Spending a day at each of the fairs, the two teams managed to administer treatments to an astonishing 4,860 donkeys and horses!

Equine trading fairs are among India's great spectacles, drawing thousands of owners and animals from rural communities – sometimes as far as 70 miles away. But this river of visitors brings a tide of equine woe, making these colourful events among the most important destinations for Brooke vets and their teams.

The queues of animals facing our teams in Ghaziabad clearly illustrated the desperate need for veterinary care and education – cases of firing,

saddle wounds and hoof problems were all extremely common. And, as at all fairs we attend, the Brooke's own Community Animal Health Workers proved vital, instructing throngs of owners about good welfare, and warning of the suffering caused by firing and other quack remedies.

Attending these equine fairs is now a new major focus for our teams in India, and we are making sure that Brooke will visit as many as our resources allow throughout the year. Such huge gatherings enable us to reach suffering animals from remote communities that may otherwise never receive treatment. And once educated in good husbandry, their owners can return home to pass on compassionate care to their neighbours. **BROOKE**

## CERTIFICATE SCHEME: HELP FOR PETRA'S DONKEYS

They suffer dehydration, lameness, sores, and joint and muscle damage. They are often overloaded, overworked and beaten. But the donkeys of Petra, Jordan, who carry tourists through this ancient city, may soon have their suffering eased by a new Brooke welfare scheme.

Petra's 700 donkeys are owned by young boys who work the animals desperately hard, frequently pulling, dragging and hitting them, and denying them sufficient rest, shade or water in the searing heat.

Now, the Brooke along with veterinary experts at Bristol University are planning the Petra Welfare Certification Scheme to vastly improve the donkeys' treatment. Boys joining the scheme will agree to a code of conduct, pledging to give the donkeys proper rests and to avoid hitting them. Their animals will also be regularly checked by Brooke vets (based at the ancient site's clinic) to ensure they are well treated and in good health.

Once established, donkeys within the scheme would be clearly identifiable to tourists, who would be asked to make it a condition of hire that the boys treat the animals kindly. In return the boys would receive a fair price. It is hoped that this simple scheme will make a lasting improvement to the lives of the loyal, undervalued donkeys working so hard in the region. **BROOKE**



PLEASE REMEMBER THE BROOKE IN YOUR WILL

In many kilns, animals and workers have to start work as early as 1am to avoid the blistering heat in the middle of the day



**2** Every person works at just one task. They do this over and over, all day every day in the scorching heat. Here, wet clay is being made into bricks, which then lie out in the sun to bake. The worker will stay in this crouching position moving up and down the rows of bricks for hours without standing.



**3** The bricks are left out in the sun for two or more days to dry. The workers dread the rain – sometimes it will rain overnight, and all the hard work will be lost. If this happens the people and animals have to work even harder over the next few days to make it up.



**4** Once the bricks have dried in the sun, they are loaded into the packsaddles of the patient horses and donkeys to be taken to the kiln. Their poverty stricken owners are paid by the number of bricks delivered, so it is tempting to overload the packsaddles.



**5** Mules are much stronger than donkeys or horses, and so in some kilns, they are used to pull carts of bricks. As mules are much more expensive than donkeys, the majority of families cannot afford to have one.

In many kilns, owners will not give their hardworking animals a drink all day, believing it will be bad for them



**1** Wet clay is dug from the ground surrounding the kiln for making the bricks, and wheeled over to where the bricks are made. It's muddy and tiring work for boys like these.

The young boys working in the Egyptian kilns – some as young as 7 years old – earn as little as 95p per day

Each journey, donkeys will carry 45-60 bricks – a backbreaking load of up to 150kg in total (that's 7 heavily laden suitcases)



**6** Pack animals are sociable creatures, and prefer to work in pairs as they transport the sun-dried bricks to the kilns. As the ground is constantly being dug up for more clay, they must stumble over pot-holed hilly terrain – and the older the kiln, the further they have to walk.

# Understanding the brick making process



**7** The animals walk to the unloading area within the kiln itself where men will stack the sun-dried bricks, ready to be fired so they can be used for building in towns and cities across the region.

**8** Once unloaded, donkeys must run back to the loading area to begin the gruelling process again. They will do the same journey over and over again, with no rests or variation to their route, in temperatures reaching 50°C.



Over the course of a day, a cart animal will typically pull 25 tons of bricks

**11** Each brick is 'stamped' with the name of the brick kiln where it was made. The baked bricks are now ready to be sold to contractors who use them for construction in nearby towns.



**9** The kilns are a circular structure dug out of the ground with the tall smoking chimney in the centre. On the left hand side of the photo, the lighter-coloured, sun-dried bricks are stacked ready to be fired. Hot coals, straw and fire are pushed into the gaps, and covered with sand. The bricks will bake for 5 days until they are fully fired. Everyday, the labourers put more than 60,000 bricks in the kiln to bake. People working in this section of the kiln face the hottest and most punishing job.



**10** Once fired, the bricks, now deep orange in colour, are hauled out by cart animals or by women who work in the kiln.

It takes over 150,000 bricks to build a 3-storey school

In India, brick kiln workers will only get two days off per month. The animals may get none

# Different countries, different problems



The searing heat and dust make brick kilns difficult places for people and animals to work in, no matter where they are. But we also know that the different working practices in kilns vary from region to region and country to country, and some practices in particular can have a very damaging impact on the animals.

For instance, Egypt's kiln donkeys are owned not by the workers who handle them, but by kiln owners. 'So there's no incentive for the workers to treat the donkeys with respect,' says Brooke Head of Animal Welfare, Joy Pritchard. 'If one dies it will simply be replaced.'

Worse, most Egyptian kiln workers are only boys – often as young as seven – with little understanding of the animals that work so hard for them. 'If the boys don't meet production targets, they are shouted at and even beaten by the kiln operators. So they beat the donkeys to work them ever harder.'

Egypt's bricks are machine-made: Helwan's 130 kilns alone produce 3.5 billion over the course of 12 months. With bricks pouring relentlessly off conveyors, the donkeys are forced to keep up. 'If their cart's not there in time the bricks fall off the conveyors,'

says Joy. 'It means that if our vets hospitalise a donkey the others have to work even harder, causing more suffering. It's an awful Catch-22.'

In India and Pakistan, animals working in brick kilns are generally owned and looked after by individual families – a beneficial working practice which encourages owner-animal bonds to develop. However, animals are forced to carry bricks in packsaddles, which typically weigh 150kg. Ferrying 2.5-3 tons daily, it's not surprising that many suffer horrific wounds or collapse.

Unlike those in Egypt, Indian kilns operate only seven months a year. 'This break in production does not always lead to better welfare however,' says Joy. 'To tide the workers over, kilns loan them money, which they must work frantically to re-pay when brickmaking season re-starts. It's a practice that perpetuates suffering.'

The Brooke can't change these systems entirely. But our teams make a huge difference. As well as treating sick animals and helping communities to provide necessities like water supplies and shade shelters, they build relationships with kiln communities and owners, teaching good welfare, disease awareness and prevention, so that animals can have better lives in the kilns.

In Egypt Brooke teams have reduced the number of donkeys being beaten by persuading workers to rattle stones in cans instead. Harness wounds have been greatly reduced by a hygiene and maintenance project... kilns are being persuaded to supply extra donkeys to lighten the animals' load. Our India teams' work includes a campaign to sensitise young workers to their animals - and setting carrying limits for pack animals.

**BROOKE**

## The unkindest of cuts

'A friend told me that donkeys with slit nostrils breathe more easily and work better,' says Allah Ditta, a kiln worker at Multan, Pakistan. So he took his donkey to a quack doctor. The quack slit open the poor animal's nostrils with a knife. 'It was horrible - blood was everywhere, my donkey was in terrible pain.'

Allah's donkey had fallen victim to a cruel and ancient myth, one that's still the scourge of working equines in many developing nations – and one that the Brooke fights relentlessly to eradicate. Distressed at his donkey's agony, Allah rushed it to a Brooke wayside station that serves many surrounding brick kilns.

Dr Rab Nawaz gave the donkey emergency treatment and pain relief, telling Allah that all nostril slitting achieved was needless pain. 'My fellow workers have followed this practice for years,' Allah told him. 'I'll tell them they must stop doing it immediately.' **BROOKE**



## Saving Pellu's horse

All too often, the combination of illness and ignorance at brick kilns causes misery for working horses and donkeys. When his horse developed the life-threatening parasitic disease surra, Indian kiln worker Pellu tried to help, but made the mistake of taking it to a quack 'healer'. He injected the sick animal: the procedure went wrong, causing a festering wound.

When Brooke vets saw the horse at Muzaffarnagar brick kiln it was in agony, by then also suffering pneumonia. They gave emergency treatments, and then examined other animals owned by a watching crowd of workers: two others also had surra.

Treating these animals too, our team taught the gathered crowd about

surra symptoms and prevention, giving the owners of the sick animals drugs to administer themselves. All the equine patients recovered. 'The owners eagerly embraced our advice,' says Brooke vet Dr Naresh. 'It renewed our hope of achieving our goal of sustainable equine welfare here.'

Meanwhile, a Brooke team at Ghaziabad, India, has been running surra awareness camps after an outbreak of the dangerous disease there (which killed five animals and affected a further 22) – successfully reaching owners from several hundred kilns. **BROOKE**



## From animal machines to family members: the miracle of Peshawar

In the 1990's Brooke mobile teams began visiting some of the many kilns in Peshawar, Pakistan. Those visits still haunt vet Dr. Shahabat Khan: 'Conditions for the workers were appalling enough. But for their animals it was hell on earth.'

From dawn to dusk donkeys, mules and horses were forced to carry 100-200kg loads of bricks in baking heat with no rest whatsoever. There was no water for them, no shade, no shelter, no respite. 'Their owners treated them as machines,' says Dr Shahabat.

'They were beaten, overloaded and overworked. Even sick animals were denied rest – crippled ones abandoned to die. Most were in terrible condition: lame, dehydrated, starving, riddled with disease and maggot-infested wounds. **Animals were collapsing and dying on the spot from exhaustion.**' **The mortality rate: a terrifying 90 per cent.**

Dr Shahabat and his teams began treating the animals, establishing a field clinic for the severely sick. Brooke teams started teaching kiln owners and workers about good



welfare, slowly at first by word of mouth, and then from 2002 through a major animal welfare programme featuring regular meetings with kiln communities.

Their determination has brought about a minor miracle. By befriending the communities, making them aware of their welfare responsibilities – and encouraging them with 'healthiest animal competitions' – they have transformed the lives of donkeys and horses at 37 kilns.

Animals at all these kilns now get plenty of rest, water and shade. They have clean stables with troughs and water pumps, many with fans. And

they are treated well by owners who understand their needs. 'A powerful bond has developed between them,' says Dr Shahabat. 'Many owners now see their animal as a family member.'

**The result: disease, injuries and abuse have reduced drastically. The mortality rate at these kilns today? Just five per cent.**

The change is so profound that it has given our teams great confidence as they start to work in other brick kiln sites in the Peshawar area which still need the care and compassion that the Brooke can bring. **BROOKE**



## A lesson learned

Mahmoud, a young worker at one of Egypt's Helwan kilns, had tied a fine plastic thread round his new donkey's nose. He was guiding it about by pulling left or right on the thread, a practice carried out by other boys at the kiln to familiarise new donkeys with the terrain.

But the thread had bitten into the animal's flesh, causing painful wounds...just like the other boys' donkeys. Brooke vets Dr Salah and Dr Nabih saw the distressed animal while visiting the kiln and explained to Mahmoud the suffering the thread was causing – like many boys working at kilns, Mahmoud believed that donkeys felt no pain.

Mahmoud promised never to do it again – and helped our vets remove all the other nose threads at the kiln. **BROOKE**



## Gladly paying the penalty

Owners at a brick kiln in Baghpat, India, who fail to water their horses and donkeys properly face a stiff penalty: a 20 rupee fine. The penalty was devised by the owners themselves after Brooke vets drew their attention to the terrible dehydration their animals were being forced to endure at the kiln.

The fine, about 23p, is around a tenth of many workers' daily income and has proved a powerful incentive, greatly reducing dehydration. Better still, the owners are spending the collected fines on their hardworking animals. It really is inspiring for our vets to see owners taking responsibility themselves.

## Taking the long road to compassion

We hardly need say that the Brooke is committed to reaching many more animals at even more kilns. We plan to target the suffering we encounter by carrying out more scientific assessments of welfare problems. And we will continue to befriend more kiln communities, helping them to make compassionate care self-sustainable.

To this end, we have started training kiln workers as Community Animal Health Workers to spread our caring message among fellow workers. 'They'll be able to improve conditions at their kilns without relying on us,' explains Joy Pritchard, Brooke's Head of Animal Welfare. 'This will free our veterinary teams to reach new kilns.'

The scale of the problem can seem overwhelming. There are thousands of kilns across the countries where we work, and so many desperate animals are resigned to a life blighted by ignorance and heat. However, we are inspired by the greatly improved welfare of the animals in the kilns that the Brooke mobile teams have been able to reach so far. And so we are confident that with our new and growing Community Animal Health Worker network, the dedication of our Brooke mobile vet teams, and the continuing kindness of our supporters, there is real hope for **all** the horses, donkeys and mules toiling in brick kilns in the poorest communities overseas. **BROOKE**

# FUNDRAISING NEWS

## Join the Real Jordan Riding Challenge April 2007



Riding beautiful Arab mares through the dramatic red sands of Wadi Rum, sleeping under the stars in Bedouin tents, seeing the vital work of the Brooke in Petra...

Sounds interesting? You could be part of this incredible experience by joining the 'Real Jordan Riding Challenge' in April next year. By raising sponsorship money to fund our essential work overseas, you will be rewarded with seeing the 'real' Jordan with our dedicated and charming local vet, Dr Ali. From seeing 4000-year-old inscriptions in the ancient area of Wadi Rum, to watching Brooke vets hard at work treating sick and injured animals and training the boys who work with them in Petra, we know that this will be an unforgettable adventure for all who take part.

We will also be running a second Riding Challenge later on next year, through the magnificent landscapes of Rajasthan, India. This very popular ride is back due to the incredible demand we have had in previous years. It is planned to take place in September 2007. **BROOKE**

If you are interested in taking up the challenge of one of our overseas sponsored rides, please get in touch with Natasha Allchurch on 020 7968 0832 or email [info@thebrooke.org](mailto:info@thebrooke.org) for further information.



Take in the breathtaking scenery of Petra on Brooke's April 2007 Ride

## Thank you to all racecourses

Racecourses around the country are supporting **Courses for Horses 2006** by holding their own events and allowing Brooke to fundraise on race days. We'd like to say a big thank you to every racecourse involved. And a big thank you to Betfair for matching thousands of pounds to help our work with horses and donkeys. **BROOKE**



## Buy and sell for the Brooke!

The Brooke is now registered with Ebay for Charity. It's an easy way to support us while buying and selling on Ebay. So if you need to clear out your loft, why not sell on Ebay and help raise money and awareness for the Brooke? **BROOKE**



## For our USA supporters...

We are delighted to have a new member of staff to work with our growing number of supporters in the USA. Based in New York, Kristin Levinson will be fundraising and building support for the Brooke in the States – please do get in touch with her on 001 646 784 2562 or [kristin@thebrooke.org](mailto:kristin@thebrooke.org)

## Take the donkey-work out of Christmas shopping

The Brooke Shop is back! This year's new catalogue is packed full of great gift ideas to help hardworking horses and donkeys in developing countries and the poor people who depend on them. It's a wonderfully different way to show people you've thought about them – and that you've bought something really useful at the same time. You could say it takes the donkey-work out of Christmas shopping!



The catalogue also contains our great new range of Brooke Christmas cards. You should receive one through the post in October – if not, or you would like to order additional copies, just give us a ring on 020 7930 0210, and we will pop one straight in the post. Or why not visit our website – [www.thebrooke.org](http://www.thebrooke.org) – where you can see our full range and order online. **BROOKE**

## Supporter Groups keep Brooke teams motoring

Last year, Diane Price and her dedicated group of helpers raised a fantastic £16,000 from their local Sussex community to pay for a new mobile vehicle in Afghanistan. An article in Brooke News regarding the plight of the animals and their owners, inspired them to really make a difference.

Diane said, 'Although it was hard work, we really enjoyed it. We have loads of fun while we are 'Brooking'. I have seen the work of the Brooke first hand in Egypt, it's just so wonderful, we all just wanted to do our little bit to help the animals.'

Diane is one of many group volunteers who work tirelessly, come rain or shine, to help the Brooke raise vital funds. Our Jersey group recently raised enough funds to buy a new mobile vehicle for the brick kilns in Pakistan. Our Surrey group are

continuing to fund the team after paying for a vehicle in Edfu, Egypt. Not to mention the East Anglia group who are funding three vets. The Cheshire group are currently fundraising to sponsor Dr. Manilal Vallyiate in India to name but a few!

Our heartfelt thanks go out to these and the many other groups and individuals for their incredible contribution to the Brooke's ongoing work.

If you can help the Brooke by joining a group or even starting a group in your local area – please do! For more information call Marilyn on 020 7968 0826. **BROOKE**

Diane Price and the Sussex Supporter Group present a cheque to Brooke's Chief Executive, Mike Baker



## DATE FOR THE DIARY: BROOKE SUPPORTER CONFERENCE 2006

At the time of writing, we still have a limited number of places left at our Supporter Conference in October. This is a chance for our valued supporters to gain a deeper insight into the vital work of the Brooke, and our plans to reach 5 million working horses donkeys and mules, and the many millions of poor people they support, by 2016. You will be able to meet some of our dedicated and hardworking vets from overseas, listen to presentations and take part in stimulating discussions. This is an opportunity not to be missed.

The Brooke Supporter Conference is to be held on Wednesday 4th October at the British Library, London.

Entrance to the event is by INVITATION ONLY, so please do get in touch if you are interested in coming along.

Call us on 020 7930 0210 or email [info@thebrooke.org](mailto:info@thebrooke.org)

Details for the conference sessions will be available on our website from 4th October for those supporters unable to attend.

## Brooke tribute funds

Yolanda Alexander  
Babe  
William Bouchier Barlow  
Marianne Bowden  
Ivy Bowie  
Celtic Serenade  
John Brian Crossfield  
Diana Cumberlege  
Bob Cunningham  
Daisy Soppitt  
Christopher Kenneth Davies  
Mary Dawson  
George Edward and Frances  
Drummond  
Jane Eames  
Stanley John Ebsary  
Joan Gibbons

Gordon Hall  
Denis and Eileen Hanbury  
Sylvia Hartley  
Michael Hogan  
Glyn Holroyd  
Madeleine Irvine (Mrs I)  
John Jackson  
Jess, Spot, Tiger and Bunny  
Pat and Peter Johnson  
Mary Johnston  
Philip Brynmor Jones  
Josh  
Kelpie  
Gerry King  
Kilimurry (in memory of  
Doreen Archer-Houblon  
and Joan Keene)

Nancy Lambden  
John Geoffrey Lloyd-Davies  
Luka  
Audrey and Donald  
McClaren  
Margaret Mercer  
Elsie Oldfield  
Sue Peall  
Pepper  
Perigord, Monty and Banner  
Dora Phillips  
Puzzky  
Leslie Albert Quirk  
Phyllis Reece  
Harold Reeve  
David and Isabel Reid  
Judith and Neil Ross

Rowan of Dykes  
Simon Ryan  
Jacqueline Scurrah  
Inez See  
Serenade  
Shane  
Solomon  
Jessie Stretton  
Hazel Strudwick  
Cynthia Swallow  
Talenta, Condesa and Fleur  
Joyce Thompson  
Betty Thorpe  
Betty Lucy Troughton  
Trudy  
Anne Williamson  
YY

## In memoriam gifts

Adrian  
Rafi Alam  
Alistair  
Audrey  
Kathleen Baker  
Sybil Barlow  
Elizabeth Barltrof  
Barnes  
Mary Barras  
Sylvia Bell  
Beloved Old Man Galty  
Mrs B Beugnies  
Jim Blackman  
Fiona Brown  
Lionel Brown  
Elizabeth Bruce  
Daphne Buchan  
Henry Burrows  
Mr & Mrs Burton  
Audrey Butcher  
Byron  
Mrs B Caddick  
Beatrice Cameron  
Clive Caple  
Valerie Charnley  
Barry Chedlow  
Peter Cheesewright  
Ruth Chester  
Deborah Chevis  
Frederick Childs  
Frances Clark  
Joyce Clark  
Mary Clark  
Betty Conibear  
Joyce Coughlan  
Granville Crossley  
Freny Dadabhoy  
Trevor Daintith  
Dance  
Daughter  
Mrs C De Paula  
Violet Dendy  
Elsie Dole  
Dolly  
Laurence Dorey

Luise Dreiseitl  
John Dudley  
Ebony  
Anne Catherine Edwards  
Kathleen Edwards  
Mrs D Ellison  
Elvis  
Emmy  
George Ennor  
Jo Everett  
John Farrow  
Father  
Rose Fisher  
George Flack  
Elizabeth Frew  
Helen Gahagan  
Howard  
Gaunt  
Gitane  
Dorothy Goda  
Peter Gourley  
Mrs Gower  
Margaret Douglas Graham  
Grandson  
Eileen Griffith  
Gulamalaica  
Gypsy  
Mrs Hamilton  
Harry Cat  
Sylvia Hartley  
Henry Hawker  
Mike Hawthorne  
Elsie Hayton  
Mrs M Hewitt  
Mrs V Higginbottom  
Kenneth Hill  
Mr W R Hill  
David Hobbs  
Honey  
Terence Hooper  
Lily Hough  
Eileen Howell  
Miss M A Hulatt  
Mr Hurman  
Mrs Hutton

Alice (Penny) Hynd  
Jennifer  
Major General James  
Johnston CB CBE  
Judith  
Judy  
Barbara Keogh  
Lilian Lakey  
Nicola Lambden  
Lass  
Jack Lee  
Victor Lewis  
Mac  
Betty Mackenzie  
Ian Norman MacLeod  
Maggie  
Alison Mallender  
Mrs M E Martin  
Sylvia Martin  
Barbara McHugh  
Mary McSherry  
Mr B Meningen  
Mr Milne  
Minto  
Muriel Morgan  
Cynthia Mortimer  
Nedda  
Lindsay Neill  
Mr & Mrs Newbold  
Betty Newell  
Nicky  
James Nolan  
Jean Norris  
Eileen Northcott  
Jessie Orum  
Pagliachi  
Iris Parkes  
Patrick  
Marian Pearson  
Rosemary Perrott  
Harold Pickles  
Mrs J Piper  
Pippa  
Harry Plant  
Michael Pointer

Christine Popescu  
Muriel Proctor  
John Ratcliffe  
Pamela Reason-Challiner  
Alf Rees  
Edwina Roberts  
Mr A L Robinson  
William Sage  
John Sanford  
Jack Savin  
Betty Sayer  
Astrid Schweizer  
Semelina  
Mr B Shroff  
Sheila Sibbald  
Simon  
Sylvia Small  
Mrs J Smith  
Rowena Smith  
George Stiles  
Susan Sulzer  
Emma Sutton  
Desmond Swaby  
Les Talliss  
Mrs A Tate  
Mabel Terrey  
Thomas  
Mary Thompson  
Peggy Thorp  
Brigadier Timbrell  
Tinker  
Ursula Tremlett  
Anne Trevor-Roper  
David Tschakowsky  
Peter Rodney Turner OBE  
Lady Eileen Unsworth  
John Walker  
Susan Walsh  
Oliver Hugh Wayman  
Oliver John Webber  
Mr Whiteley  
Ursula Whyte  
Anne Wood  
Lady Iona Wright

## MY DEAR READER

Heaven and Hell sit quite aptly in this column! The Brooke is all about heaven and hell. Everyone has his or her own idea of what each is like. A change in our personal attitude can change our perception of any situation we encounter – we can put ourselves in heaven or hell. And that is what the Brooke tries to achieve – and succeeds. It transforms what could only be described as hell into a kind of heaven by changing attitudes.

Since this edition of the Newsletter has been about brick kilns, I cannot but recall my experience last year of a Pakistani brick kiln. I wrote about it saying I had been to heaven, and where was I but in a Pakistani brick kiln!!

Where there had been disinterest, distress and death, now there was commitment, compassion and life. Where there had been relentless heat and a dirty stream, now there was adequate shade, shelter and pure running water. Where there had been overwork and dry, empty-of-goodness food, now there was regular rest and fresh green fodder. Where there had been fear, ignorance and no hope, now there was confidence, teamwork, relaxation, encouragement, involvement, generosity and even fun (for the children playing in the running water).

All brought about by a Brooke presence at a neighbouring brick kiln, noticed by the animal owner of my brick kiln (this heaven is definitely mine!). So heaven also spreads.

Whilst we cannot, unfortunately, make life a perfect heaven for every

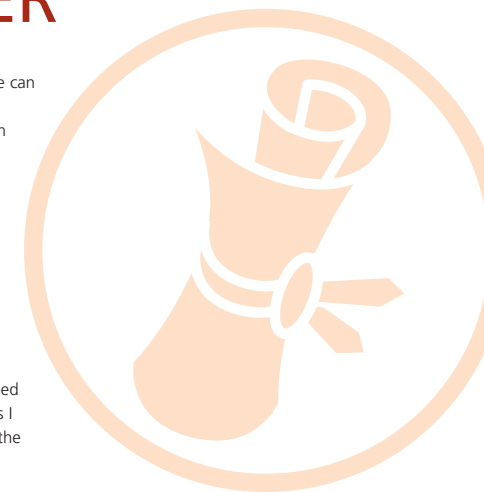
working animal we reach, we can make sure that their owners learn and understand enough to give their horse or donkey a much improved working day, and a happier and healthier life.

Heaven for me is quite simple – it is where I am now! Working with an organisation full of people dedicated to the kind of transformation I have described above. And over the 24 years I have been here, I have seen the wonderful difference our teams make.

If you would like a copy of my visit report, please ask. I sent it to those fortunate enough to be on my list of 'legacy supporters'. After all, when someone does something special like leaving a legacy, I want to find ways to do something special back (which doesn't cost an arm and a leg). Giving people a taste of heaven seemed pretty special.

And so... quite naturally onto my favourite subject – legacies!

If you haven't yet done so, do please consider leaving a legacy to the Brooke in your next Will update. No doubt you revise your Will regularly to take account of the changes in your life or in that of your beneficiaries. That is the optimal time to think about legacies to charity. Make a statement! Make a tax-saving! Make a difference! Make the world a bit more heavenly for those poor animals and the families who rely on them.....



Lynne Nesbit, Legacy Manager

Make time to fill in the tick boxes for information, or make a call to me on 020 7968 0807 or to Lesley Cockburn on 020 7968 0816.

God bless!

Lynne Nesbit  
020 7968 0807  
lynne@thebrooke.org



PLEASE REMEMBER THE BROOKE IN YOUR WILL

# Yes! Of course, you helped a horse

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this year's **Courses for Horses** a record-breaking success.

This summer saw the return of **Courses for Horses** – Brooke's special fundraising initiative. At the time of going to print **Courses for Horses 2006** has raised over £150,000 so far – which means we can reach 28,000 horses and donkeys working so hard in poor communities overseas.

## A round up of Courses for Horses 2006

Raising money for working horses and donkeys in need overseas – in so many ways...

**the 'bit of everything' way** – holding a sponsored read, washing cars, doing chores around the house and chipping in with pocket money, Ballyclare, Northern Ireland

**the 'riding' way** – sponsored ride, Montgomery, Powys

**the 'passionate' way** – Flamenco dancing evening, Bristol

**the 'hungry' way** – 24 hour famine, Bradford, Yorkshire

**the 'watery' way** – Swimathon, Morpeth, Northumberland

**the 'bumpy' way** – Camel racing at Musselburgh racecourse, Edinburgh



**the 'dog-tastic' way** – Vet Clinic Fun Day, Upminster, Essex



**the 'baking' way** – baking cakes and selling them at school or at cake sales, nationwide. This participant sold well over 600 cakes and biscuits at her school! New Milton, Hampshire



**the 'literary' way** – Lorna Doone ride, Exmoor, Devon

**the 'showy' way** – a weekend of showing, dressage, showjumping, fun and games, BBQ and a mass camp out – 1st fundraising event ever, raising £1074! Ewhurst, Surrey



**the 'jumble' way** – Jumble sale, Kirkby-in-Furness, Cumbria

**Courses for Horses 2006** – Over 1000 events have been held around the country – a Brooke record!



Picture courtesy of Yorkshire Post Newspaper

### OUR YOUNGEST COURSES FOR HORSES EVENT ORGANISER

Dedicated fundraiser Scott Pymer broke Brooke records by raising an incredible £216 at the very tender age of four! Young Scott has been truly devoted, and not only did he undertake a sponsored ride around the perimeter of a 12-acre farm on his beloved pony Queenie, but also baked cakes to sell to his sweet-toothed chums at the mini pony day he held to raise yet more funds!



**Courses for Horses 2006** – Over 4000 Abbla fairy cakes have been baked!

## HOBBY HORSE GRAND NATIONALS

One of the most popular ways of raising money for **Courses for Horses** this year has been through Hobby Horse Grand Nationals. Hundreds of children (and some adults too!) designed and made their own hobby horses, raised sponsorship, and raced around their specially designed courses.



**the 'sizzling' way** – Barbeque, showjumping and gymkhana games, Beverley, East Yorkshire

**the 'quieter' way** – 24 hour silence, Bristol, Worcester & Carmarthen

**the 'flowery' way** – Open Gardens, Paddock Wood, Kent

**the 'birthday wishes' way** – donations in lieu of birthday pressies, Melksham, Wiltshire

**the 'booty' way** – carboot sale, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

**the 'fashionable' way** – Non-uniform World Cup Day at school, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire

**the 'bubbly' way** – champagne cocktail raffle, Stockport

**Courses for Horses 2006** – Over 1850 Brooke rosettes have been awarded!



Please do go to our website for details and pics of lots more fantastic **Courses for Horses** events.

**'Thank you'** for helping my fellow working horses and donkeys by taking part in **Courses for Horses** – see you next year!

