

As the saying goes – 'no hoof, no horse', and many UK horse owners will know that hoof health is one of the most important areas of animal welfare to get right. If a horse is uncomfortable on its feet, it can lead to problems including lameness, arthritis and increased vulnerability to infections and disease. However, the issues Brooke's new Global Farriery Project hopes to resolve run deeper than a lack of education in animal handling and access to proper care. Not only is farriery an unrecognised, unregulated industry, it's also not seen as a respectable profession in the developing world. Brooke announced its new Global Farriery Project in October at The Jockey Club Rooms in Newmarket at

an event co-hosted by a long-term, highprofile supporter and her family trust and Brooke CEO Petra Ingram.

A new approach

We know that in order to truly help working equines in developing nations, it's time to really focus on regulating farriery. No other animal welfare organisation is attempting to do this important work on the same scale or in a holistic sustainable way like we are striving to do. Our new approach will see Brooke providing expert mentorship and training for community-based farriers who will themselves become skilled trainers and equine welfare advocates.

continued



The project aims to transform the farriery trade into a recognised, respected and regulated profession in low and middle income countries and make lasting improvements to animal welfare. Leading this work are Alex Ridgeway, Brooke's lead farrier and Dr Shereene Williams, Global Animal Health Advisor and Project Manager.

"Unfortunately, farriery is still unregulated in many parts of the world and countless working animals are living without access to good hoof care, leading to unnecessary suffering. I'm excited to implement this new project across Brooke's work and create lasting change for working equines and those who depend on them." Alex Ridgeway

We've already started this vital work in India and Senegal because these countries have the infrastructure to support the programme, and in Ethiopia where the need is tremendous. Our challenge is to create solutions which are bespoke to the individual country's needs and challenges. Even sourcing quality farriery tools will need to be country-specific. It's hoped that new jobs will be created employing local tradespeople to make affordable and sustainable tools, all strengthening the cycle between animal welfare and improving livelihoods.

You may recall that last June Brooke Patron, Alastair Stewart, wrote to you about his trip to Senegal where he met Fatou Toure. Fatou used to be an artistic metal worker but when she saw a farrier at work she became determined to become one herself. Fatou now helps mentor a new generation of farriers and Brooke is currently supporting efforts to have a degree in farriery introduced on a national scale in Senegal. Through the new Global Farriery Project, Brooke hopes to train more mentors like Fatou within rural communities, eventually resulting in better hoof health for millions of animals and sustainable livelihoods for millions of families. For more information about this project, please contact Karen Moon at 020 7653 5820.

Improvised farriery tools from around the world. Clockwise from top: hair comb adapted as a hoof pick; a horse bit; a branch used as a hoof pick; a tool to clean hooves; bottle tops used as a horse brush.



ASPIRATIONS FOR THE GLOBAL FARRIERY PROJECT

Equine welfare will measurably improve as a result



Improved livelihoods and employment opportunities:



Thriving equine-owning communities





Respected position Support and recognition

Meet... CARINE BAI

CARINE BAMBARA MANAGER OF BROOKE'S EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

We hope you read about Brooke's recent accreditation to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on p. 5 of Brooke News. Many of you may know that Brooke's approach is to work both top side down as well as bottom side up. UN accreditation is a prime example of working top side down as leaders of 193 countries are part of the UN which enables us to influence policies that affect working equids all around the world. In fact, this accreditation is such a tremendous result for Brooke that we wanted to introduce you to one of the team members who made it happen, Carine Bambara.





How long have you worked at Brooke and what did you do before? I've worked at Brooke for 18 months. I had a strong advocacy and campaigns background mainly with human welfare organisations.

What attracted you to Brooke? Brooke was the only organisation that was making the connection between animal health, welfare and improving livelihoods.

Why was this so important to you? My Grandfather owned a farm in Burkina Faso with one horse and one donkey. He had ten children to support, five boys and five girls. All of his children went to school. My grandfather managed this because he had been taught to look after his animals and to keep them healthy. For example he rotated which animal would take the goods to the market every day so as to not overwork either animal. Having healthy animals meant he could support a family of twelve and send all his ten children to school. At an early age I was able to understand the very practical link between healthy animals and a family's welfare.

What's the most exciting thing about your job? Getting to meet people who have no idea that animal health and welfare are essential to people's day to day lives and helping them to see the importance of the connection between improved animal welfare and livelihoods. I like to give the example of working animals helping women in villages by sharing the load and helping with chores that would otherwise have taken twice as long to complete without a horse or donkey. I like seeing the light bulb moment when people realise the connection between animal welfare and human welfare.

What are the next steps for you and your team? To continue working towards policy change – this can be an uphill battle especially in countries where government Ministers can change frequently, but what helps us is that many of the governments in the countries we work in realise the importance of these animals to communities we work with. This helps us advocate for the voices of these communities to be heard which will lead to eventual policy change. Ultimately we want working equines to be acknowledged as a livestock species in every country in the world and for protection of this species through stronger animal health and welfare laws.

To get working livestock included in the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals so that every government in the world has to put in place policies to protect these animals.

To contribute towards the goal of achieving thriving equine owning communities around the world.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Windsor Lunch at the Castle Hotel, Windsor

Thursday 20 February 2020



Guests will hear more about Brooke's work, including the latest on the donkey hide crisis and we will also have an exclusive, lunch talk and Q&A session hosted by Alastair Stewart, OBE and Professor Kate Williams. The event will begin at 12.30pm, starting with a drinks reception, followed by a two-course lunch, plus tea/coffee with petit fours. Tickets are £125 per person. Please call 020 9780 7236 to purchase tickets or for more information.

Lunch at Wasing Place, Reading Tuesday 12 May 2020



Save the date and join us for a Lunch and Learn fundraiser at the stunning Wasing Park, Reading. Please contact karen.moon@thebrooke.org to register your interest. More details to follow.

Brooke Summer Ball at Nailcote Hall, Warwickshire Saturday 4 July





Join us for a glittering summer evening of fabulous food, amazing entertainment, great company, fun-filled fundraising and a few very closely guarded surprises.

Early bird ticket sale offers available until 31 January 2020 at £65 per person. When booking two places or more, guests who have received this newsletter and quote 'Friends' at the time of booking will receive a complimentary bottle of wine at the event. Further details and prices can be found on our website, www.thebrooke.org. Search 'Summer Ball' or contact Vicky Farmer at brooke@pandv.co.uk to book or for more information.

LEGACY EVENTS

Legacy events are not just for people who have included a gift to Brooke in their Will.

The Legacy team's regional events provide an opportunity for you to come and meet our staff members and ask any questions you may have about our work. You'll also have a chance to hear about the difference gifts in Wills and your support are making to the lives of working animals in Brooke's country programmes. These free events include lunch, refreshments, access to our Virtual Reality Headsets and a tour or demonstration at the host venue. There are typically two sessions to choose from, a morning or an afternoon.

Below is the line for up for 2020 so far:

5 February Bursledon Brick Museum, Swanwick,

Southampton S0317HB

3 March Woodend Mining Museum–Smithson Farm,

Wood End, Burnley BB12 9DR

7 April Murton Park Farm, Yorkshire Museum of

Farming, York Y019 5UF

11 June Suffolk Punch Trust, Sink Farm, St Davids Lane,

Woodbridge IP12 3JR

14 July Weald and Downland Museum, Town Ln,

Chichester P018 0EU

For more information or to book your place, please contact us on legacies@thebrooke.org or 020 470 9343. Please note places are first come first served.

Keeping in touch by email



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