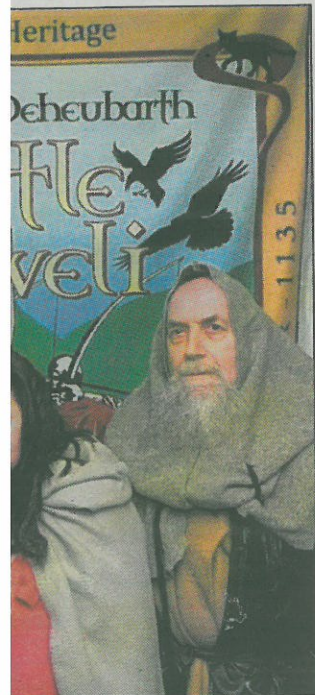


l: Gwendraeth Valley



Jon Howell-Davies, Jon member the famous Battle of

ady step ime

Dalling

Dalling
dalling@swrmedia.co.uk
45306

pants, who are encouraged to
ssed in medieval clothing, will
t Mynyddygarreg Rugby Club at
ore taking on the walk and
g to the Mason's Arms for a
festive drinks.

oup will be hoping for better
than last year, after hazardous
is meant that the group was
o cancel the walk, instead
the occasion day with indoor

re information, call 07747061849
lhanescedweli@btinternet.com

Have you done something
to remember the past?

llanellistar.co.uk

Horsing Around

MY heart has well and truly been stolen by one of our latest arrivals.

Bowie came from a local sales. He was bought for £2. Yes, you read that right, £2.

He stood at the sales all day tied up, next to his friend Imp, who has also joined us. At just a few months old these poor babies spent the whole day tied up, without water, shaking and terrified of everything in sight.

At the end of a very long day, when they had been herded through the auction, Sylvia was able to collect them.

As scared as Bowie was, dehydration and exhaustion had led him to accept his fate and he walked quietly, with his Imp to the trailer.

The following day we were better able to assess Bowie's condition and try to piece together a history.

It is highly likely that he came straight from his mum to the sales. He was covered in thick, caked on faeces and he had absolutely no muscle, like a foal who had little chance to move around.

His spine protruded, along with his hips and he had a swollen, worm ridden tummy. His eyes were thick with infection and his ears and spine were covered painful, itchy scabs.

His body looked weak, as though it might not manage to hold out.

Bowie and Imp spent three days and nights, sleeping. Every time I popped my head around the

Many Tears animal rescue worker **KATY KEAR** shares the latest news from the centre.



door of their big stable, they were flat out, nose to noes, on a thick shavings bed.

Together with Archie, our rescue donkey, they looked like the perfect, peaceful Christmas scene.

In between resting time, Bowie was treated for worms and lice and he got his first ever tetanus shot. He received medication for his eye infection and for his sore ears and spine. He was carefully introduced to a roughage diet and gradually to a vitamin supplement.

Bowie's body doesn't seem to fit together very well, yet. Maybe it's a result of his breeding or maybe it's something he will grow out of.

From a distance he looks like a scraggy foal. But what I see is so very different. I see huge inquisitive eyes that glimmer with hope.

I see a beautiful little horse, who has somehow found the strength to make his body work. I see a foal who is discovering quickly that not all humans will hurt him and

that there is something exciting in the world,

worth living for. I see his sparkle and I plan to help it fully return.

When you read the listing of horses, being sold at the sales, occasionally you will see the letters 'nfm' next to a name. This means 'not for meat'.

Out of around 700 horses, ponies and donkeys at the sales only one, had those letters next to it's name.

Every other equine could have been bought for meat, had the meat man so wished, including Bowie.

If you would like to support the work we do with these horses then please visit our website www.manytearsrescue.org to find out more.

If you would like to support us, but are financially unable to, then a fantastic gift for our horses is carrots!

They are packed full of essential vitamins and the horses love them, so if you're passing us and would like to help it will undoubtedly help to give our horses the Christmas that they deserve.

If you'd like to follow Bowie's progress along with the rest of our 12 strong equine family, find us on Facebook! Many Tears Animal Rescue Equestrian Centre



Read more articles from Many Tears Animal Rescue Centre

llanellistar.co.uk

■ Katy Kear, of Many Tears Animal Rescue Centre, pictured with Bowie.

