

## A Better Life for Simon

Please be aware that some people may find the content of this story upsetting.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2010 three horses arrived at Bransby Home of Rest for Horses in a sorry state as part of an RSPCA Prosecution case that would take 11 months to finally see justice. This is Simon's story.

Simon is a 6 year old Thoroughbred gelding, although on arrival at Bransby, Lincoln in November 2010 it was difficult to judge how old he was as his poor condition had aged his look dramatically. Simon came to Bransby at the request of the RSPCA along with two other horses, Cheryl and Louis. Their story is unfortunately one that is not uncommon to us; it is one of pure neglect and unnecessary suffering. The RSPCA had been alerted to the horses' plight and what followed was a grueling 11 month battle to permanently secure the welfare and see justice for these animals. Unfortunately in vein of all the staffs' efforts the other two horses Louis and Cheryl died not long after arriving at Bransby their multitude of problems had left them too weak. Simon was the strongest of the three and thankfully he survived to tell his story.

On arrival Simon was very thin and in poor condition, his coat was dull and he looked in desperate need of a few good meals. His rehabilitation started straight away with immediate veterinary assessment and a special feeding regime which he was very grateful for. Along with dental and farrier care and a nice warm winter rug he soon started to look and feel better and started to gain weight. This summer Simon couldn't look any more different to what he did on arrival he is up to his ideal weight and his coat shines, he has turned into a very handsome boy.

His owner was found guilty of 3 charges of causing unnecessary suffering by Magistrates court in Skegness. She received one year's community service, a 5 year disqualification from keeping equines, she was deprived of ownership of Simon and she received a £500 fine.

It is thanks to the RSPCA and the hard working staff at Bransby that Simon and other horses like him can now live in peace and get the required attention that every horse deserves. If you have any equine welfare concerns please contact our welfare team in confidence on 01427 787369



Simon on arrival in 2010



Simon on arrival



Simon looking fantastic now