

Donation form

I would like to make a donation to the Animal Health Trust.

Here is my gift of £

I enclose my cheque/postal order/CAF voucher made payable to AHT (please delete as appropriate)

Or charge my:

- Visa Mastercard American Express
 CharityCard Maestro/Switch Card Delta Card

Card No:

Valid From / Expiry Date /

Issue No. (Maestro/Switch only) Security Code

Signature _____

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Tel _____

E-mail _____

giftaid.it Make your gift worth even more by simply signing and dating below.

Please treat all donations I have made since 6 April 2002, and until further notice, as Gift Aid.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

In order for the AHT to reclaim the tax you have paid on your donation(s) you must have paid income tax or capital gains tax (in the UK) equal to the tax that will be claimed (currently 28p for every pound you give)



“As Chief Executive of the AHT I will do everything that I can to ensure that our dedicated scientists and vets continue to support Thoroughbred racing and breeding. Please help me by giving us your support”
Peter Webbon

“The Animal Health Trust is acting as an insurance policy for the Horseracing Industry”
Marcus Armytage, Racing Journalist

“With the ever increasing threat of new and existing diseases, the racing industry depends even more strongly on the Animal Health Trust and its work”
Julian Richmond Watson, Senior Steward of the Jockey Club

“The Animal Health Trust helps us all to provide better care for racehorses”
David Green, Chairman of the Association of Racecourse Veterinary Surgeons

“If the Animal Health Trust were to close, sooner or later racing could find itself in deep trouble”
Paul Dixon, President of the Racehorse Owners' Association

Animal Health Trust

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Animal Health Trust

AHT Equine

In Support of Horseracing



Photos courtesy of Trevor Jones



Peter Webbon,
Chief Executive,
Animal Health Trust

“The Animal Health Trust provides a huge amount of support to horseracing, most of which is ‘behind the scenes’ and, therefore, not always appreciated by those who benefit. I worked in the racing industry for many years and I have a thorough understanding of how the Trust’s work benefits that industry. It is my fervent hope that it will continue to do so. This leaflet explains how the expertise available at the Trust is harnessed for the benefit of horseracing – and why the Trust needs YOUR support”

Peter Webbon





Why should the racing industry support the Animal Health Trust?

The AHT is a completely independent registered charity and, as such, receives no government funding. Without adequate support, it cannot continue its clinical, research and educational activities. So just how important is the AHT to the horseracing industry?

A few facts.....

1. **Foot and Mouth Disease** threatened to bring racing to its knees in 2001 when there were many calls, not least from industry professionals, for racing to stop across the country. Only by applying the scientific information supplied by experts at the AHT was it possible to convince the authorities that racing could continue safely under agreed conditions. The experience and information gained at that time were called upon again in 2007, during a further outbreak, to limit the effect on racing and training.
2. **Equine Influenza** has crippled racing in a number of countries, including the UK in 1979. AHT is one of only three centres in the world recognised as OIE reference laboratories for equine flu. Our expert surveillance team monitors the strains of virus involved in outbreaks internationally and advises vaccine manufacturers on which protective strains should be included in vaccines.
3. During the devastating **equine flu** outbreaks in Australia and Japan we worked closely with scientists and authorities in both countries to identify the strain involved and to help contain the disease.
4. In response to these outbreaks we have carried out a challenge study and established that currently available vaccines would provide some protection against the Japanese and Australian viruses.
5. We have established **Equiflunet**, an on-line resource to facilitate rapid and effective communication between vets and scientists during epidemics.
6. We are working, in collaboration with other scientific institutes, to develop contingency plans to deal with potential new infectious disease threats, such as **West Nile Virus**.
7. We have greatly increased our understanding of the causes of **lameness and poor performance** and shared this knowledge with veterinary practitioners throughout the UK and further afield.
8. As a result of scientific research undertaken at AHT, a new series of **NH flat races** open to 3-year-old horses over shorter distances was introduced.



9. We assess new technology, such as **magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)**, and assist in its development, so that veterinarians in practice can invest in state-of-the-art equipment with confidence, knowing that information gained at the Trust will be made available to them and their clients.

10. It is likely that we will soon be able to offer **DNA screening tests** which will identify animals that may be susceptible to particular conditions, allowing them to be trained or managed in the most appropriate manner to minimise the risk.

11. We perform all **Thoroughbred parentage testing** on behalf of Weatherbys.

12. We develop new **diagnostic tests**, most recently for Strangles and Equine Viral Arteritis.

13. During the 2006 **Equine Infectious Anaemia** (Swamp Fever) outbreak in Ireland, we were instrumental in formulating conditions under which horses could be safely transported and raced across Europe.

14. The Rules of Racing demand that trainers' yards infected with **Paralytic Equine Herpesvirus** and **Strangles** are closed to all movements. When this happens our laboratories and clinicians are involved in the management and containment of the outbreaks, aiming to restore the yard to normal activity as quickly as possible.

15. We investigate (often at our own expense) and monitor **disease outbreaks** among non-Thoroughbreds, potentially a source of infection which can easily spread to the Thoroughbred population. This is just one way in which we protect the health of the Thoroughbred population.

16. We receive and examine **aborted fetuses, placentae and neonatal foals** to rapidly confirm or exclude the involvement of equine herpesvirus.

So, to put the question another way:

Can the racing industry afford NOT to support the Animal Health Trust?

How you can help

The Animal Health Trust receives no government funding and is heavily dependent on generous donations and grants, to maintain its position at the forefront of veterinary progress. There are many ways in which you can help, including:

- z Making a donation
- z Joining our Fellowship Scheme
- z Becoming a Friend of AHT
- z Attending an AHT event
- z Holding your own fundraising event
- z Leaving a gift in your Will

If you would like to make a donation towards the pioneering work we do, please complete the attached form and return it to the Fundraising Department at the address overleaf.

Thank you.