

# **Famous faces get creative to help the BHS fight indiscriminate breeding in horses**

**A number of famous faces are among those supporting a new welfare campaign which was launched by The British Horse Society (BHS) earlier this month.**

**The BHS's "Drawing the Line on Indiscriminate Breeding" campaign is set to see a host of celebrities from the horse world and beyond produce original works of art that will be auctioned in support of the BHS campaign against the overproduction of horses.**

**Triple Olympic Gold Medallist Matt Ryan and Eventing legend Lucinda Green were the first to create their masterpieces when both were brave enough to draw live at Badminton Horse Trials.**

**Among the non-horsy celebrities who added their support to the campaign at Royal Windsor Horse Show were Martin Clunes and Barry Humphries. Alan Titchmarsh also visited the BHS hospitality tent to put his image down on paper.**

**Many other celebrities will produce their own piece of artwork during the coming year.**

**As one of the UK's leading horse welfare charities, The British Horse Society takes the view that most of the welfare problems in this country can be traced back to one cause: we simply have more horses and ponies than we have experienced and knowledgeable homes to care for them.**

**The issue has been brought into even sharper focus by the economic difficulties faced by many horse owners in the current recession. Equine charities have been reporting a huge increase in the number of requests for help for some time.**

**The British Horse Society, in common with other welfare organisations, responds annually to hundreds of reports of suffering and neglected horses. At some markets it is currently possible to buy a young unhandled horse for just £30, a similar price to purchasing a rabbit from a pet shop. The future faced by horses that change hands for such small sums of money has to be open to serious question.**

**Consequently the BHS, supported by South Essex Insurance Brokers, is launching this long term campaign to encourage horse owners to 'Think Before You Breed'.**

**Lee Hackett, Head of BHS Welfare said: "Putting an end to the indiscriminate breeding of low quality horses and ponies will mean a more secure future for those that are bred. Put simply, less horses**

means better welfare.”

A selection of images are available, including scans of the artwork.

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