

Panther's Story

La Pantera Rosa (Panther), is an eleven year old black Irish gelding, out of American sire and Dam Tragic Role and Fortune Cookie, He started racing in 2008 as a seven year old and had numerous successes including 7 wins and 2 second places in races around the country. Unfortunately during a race at Cheltenham in October 2012 he was pulled up with a suspensory injury on his left front leg and the vet was extremely doubtful that he would recover enough to allow him to continue racing. This was made worse by the fact that he had sustained a similar injury on his right front leg two years previously but had managed to come back to work from this.

His owners had to make the decision that they had no option but to have him destroyed, however the training yard he was with, Micky Hammond's team in Middleham were very keen to try and find another option for him. This is where Gemma and Chris, at Farm View Hall Livery came in. Micky knew them well and that that they had taken on rehabilitation for ex racehorses before and contacted them to see if they were prepared to re-home him, which, of course, they did. In Autumn 2012 Panther arrived at his lovely new home at Farm View Hall.

Since then there has been a wonderful team looking after him; second Mum aka Helen Burrell who practices equine reiki was one of the first to believe that he could become sound again and played a key part in his recovery. Huge thanks also have to go to farrier Andrew Cox and Forest House Vets and also to Nicola Scott an equine physiotherapist all of whom have looked after his wellbeing. Nicola Shuttleworth at TopSpec foods for helping keep him in tip top condition and Linda Heath who emptied out her tack and rug room to donate him rugs and saddlery. Finally Lezlee-Jayne Stones of Senots who is helping bring a little 'bling' to his life with lovely over-reach and brushing boots

We are extremely happy to announce that after all the work and effort that everyone has put in Panther will be returning to work in late August so that he will be ready for the racing season in 2015. Richard Walker, who has 40 years experience of training and riding racehorses will be working with him during this time. Richard has also lots of experience in backing horses for other disciplines such as dressage for customers in the area. In the mean time he will be continuing his rehab with regular water and laser treatments

Gemma, who also has a lot of experience around racehorses having worked at Ferdie Murphy's yard, and Richard will be establishing Farm View Hall with a racing licence under rules, and will continue to not only bring on their own horses but also offer retraining of racehorses to give these wonderful creatures a chance of a second life once their racing careers are over. Gemma will be having training in administering laser treatment so that she will be able to help keep the horses sound and fit to race.

We would love it if you would follow Panther's progress, we will be posting regular updates and photos to let people know how he is getting on. Just log onto farmviewhallivery.co.uk or Facebook, look for 'Panther's Story' page for all the news.