

Spotlight on Garry Bosworth IHRT

How long have you been involved with horses? And how did you get involved with them?

I first became involved with horses aged about 12 or 13, about 50 years ago! As a family we went along to a riding school and pretty soon we were the owners of a shire cross. The rest is history, so they say

Why did you decide to qualify as a Recommended Trainer?

After doing the 5 Day Foundation Course I felt that if I could make people aware of the IH principles and way of working, they would make far fewer mistakes than I did with the horses we had as a family.

What is a typical day for you?

In addition to the horse work I do some garden maintenance, so my days are quite varied. I must say I tend not to stretch myself workwise. Start times can vary depending on how far I need to travel for horse visits, but generally leave home around 8am and back anytime from 4pm onwards. Quiet days and evenings are admin times, answering emails, social media posts, making phone calls etc.

What's important to you when you see an owner and their horse for the first time?

Taking time to talk about the issues they are experiencing and try to help them feel at ease about the session

What are the common challenges you face in your work as an RT?

It would be great if rural properties, yards, farms etc. had a nice clear sign/number on the roadside that's easily visible, sat. nav. doesn't always take you to the door. Sometimes managing client's expectations can be tricky, I don't magically fix horses (often), my job is to help the owner help their horse and this can take time.

If you could change one thing in the world of horses what would it be, and why?

Try to clamp down on indiscriminate breeding. There are too many horses which keeps prices low. This leads to them getting into the hands of people who then cannot afford to look after them properly.

What would be the first piece of advice you would give someone looking at buying/loaning their first horse?

Can you afford it? Take an experienced, trusted person along with you when you view the horse.

What is the most common issue you have to deal with when working with horses?

Loading is still the number one issue I am called on to help with, even after 17 years of being an IH trainer.

What are your plans for the future?

I enjoy what I am doing at present, but I'm not getting any younger so may think about doing less 1 to 1 visits and look at clinics instead. I also like organising 'horsey coffee mornings' which are informal, fun and educational. There may also be a bigger event of some sort in the future, watch this space.

What three things should everyone practice with their horses?

Occasionally just being with your horse and 'doing' nothing, backing up, standing still.

Do you have any memorable or funny stories of working with Kelly/Monty?

Not that can be shared :-)

What's the best bit of advice you've ever been given?

Not advice as such, but the following quote from Maya Angelou sticks in my mind
"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel".

What has been the proudest moment/biggest achievement in your career?

Being part of the IH demonstrations at Your Horse Live. I felt honoured to be asked to be part of the team.

What would your advice be to someone hoping to become a Recommended Trainer?

Go for it. It can be a long journey but stick with it.

How you came to be involved with Monty and Kelly?

I saw Monty in a BBC TV programme called 'The Man Who Listens to Horses', the title intrigued me. Admittedly I was a little sceptical, however after seeing him in a demo after this programme I was hooked and wanted to know more. My wife, Sue, kindly bought me a 5 Day IH course as a Christmas present in 1998 and I attended it in the summer of 1999. Due to the way it was taught and the ethos of IH I very much wanted to stay part of it.

Please check my Website or Facebook page for any events that I may organise

www.garrybosworthihrt.com

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