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**Horse charity helps students by awarding welfare grants**

World Horse Welfare is delighted to announce the award of six bursaries to help veterinary and farriery students with their studies and therefore play a fundamental part in protecting horse welfare.

The awards were established to promote a greater understanding of equine welfare issues amongst the vets, and now for the first time, the farriers of tomorrow. The Bursary Scheme is designed to support veterinary and farriery students and encourage them to undertake an equine option during their degree studies, or as part of any university-approved additional studies they embark on.

This is the fourth year that the leading international horse charity has offered bursaries to undergraduates at the UK veterinary schools and University College, Dublin. However, this is the first year the charity has offered one to an honours farriery student at Myerscough College.

The bursaries are worth up to £3,000 to each successful applicant and are designed to be sufficient to support the student for 4-8 weeks.

The successful students for 2011 are: -

1. **Nadia Alnaimi** (Cambridge): £1540 to study the prevalence of equine obesity compared to owner perception of obesity in showing, dressage and eventing in North-West England;

2. **Stephanie Bullough** (Liverpool): £680 to study the effect of road conditions on the physiological response of horses during transport;

3. **Simon Curtis** (Myerscough College): £2666 to examine the association of unilateral club foot in foals with the dam’s conformation;

4. **Eithne MacCarthy** (University College, Dublin): £2950 to investigate *Streptococcus equi* var. *equi* (strangles) infection in semi-regulated and regulated horse populations in Ireland;

5. **Sara Roche** (Glasgow): £2890 to study the transportation trade wounds of working equids in the urban and agricultural areas of Senegal, West Africa;

6. **Kathryn Wale** (RVC): £1160 for an epidemiological study of SeM typing of *Streptococcus equi* subspecies *equi* outbreaks in the UK.

World Horse Welfare Chief Executive, Roly Owers said “The World Horse Welfare Undergraduate Bursary Scheme is a great way to help support students who are keen to further their knowledge of equine welfare.

“This year we are extremely pleased to see there is a new farriery award as both vets and farriers play an enormous part in protecting equine welfare across the globe and our aim is for these awards to play a small part in supporting this role.”

**ENDS**

Notes to editors:

* For further information, please contact World Horse Welfare PR Officer Lou Chapman on 01953 497248/ 07824 302640/ louchapman@worldhorsewelfare.org
* For almost a century, World Horse Welfare has given abused and neglected horses a second chance in life, at home and overseas. Formerly the ILPH, today we work tirelessly alongside our supporters, turning their passion for horses into the power to help countless more live happier, healthier, more fulfilling lives. We do this by stamping out suffering, campaigning for improved treatment, and teaching owners how to provide their horses with better care. Because it’s only together that we’ll be able to give horses the welfare - and the world - they deserve. Please visit [www.worldhorsewelfare.org](http://www.worldhorsewelfare.org).