

# The Inner Picture

## Specialising in Equine Thermography



### Benefits of an Infrared Inspection

#### Preventative

- ◆ Pre Purchase Inspection
- ◆ Check Saddle Fitting and Rider Balance
- ◆ Monitor competition horses during training

#### Diagnosis

- ◆ Lameness, Damaged tendons & Ligaments
- ◆ Musculoskeletal Injuries
- ◆ Tooth and Jaw Problems
- ◆ Miscellaneous Strains, Sprains & Inflammation

#### Treatment

- ◆ Monitor Navicular/Laminitis/Foot Problems
- ◆ Monitor Hoof Maintenance and Balance

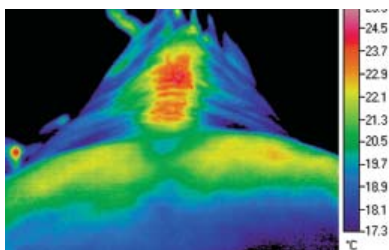
## Training of Performance & Competition Horses

As a form of "preventative medicine", thermography can prove invaluable in the fitness training of performance and competition horses. Regular inspections can be used to monitor performance throughout their training schedule. This can identify any undue stress or strain being placed upon the horse which may affect its performance or cause a potential injury before it becomes physically apparent.

For horses involved in jumping activities including Showjumpers, Hunters, Eventers and Racehorses, a regular thermal inspection will assist the trainer and farrier to identify how the horse is landing, whether weight is being distributed evenly or if strain is being placed continually on one leg.

## Does your Saddle fit your horse perfectly?

Are you sure the saddle is a correct fit, is the rider balanced or is the horse moving crooked? Even though the saddle may have originally been fitted to the horse at the time of purchase, as the horse's body develops and changes through training and conditioning, so the fit of the saddle will change.



A thermal inspection will show the effects of the saddle on the horse's back, and will also show the effect of the rider's balance on the saddle. Use the inspection to work with your saddler to ensure your horse receives the best fitting saddle.

## Pre Purchase / Pre Sale Inspection

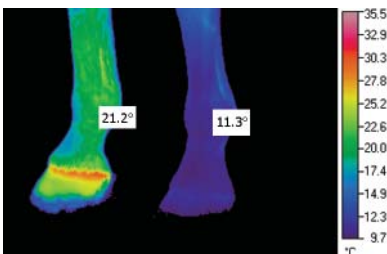
Any owner or trainer considering making the investment to purchase a horse can benefit from an infrared inspection. Even if the history of the horse is known, the thermal camera will provide impartial information on the horse's overall condition and highlight any areas of

concern or potential problems. The camera will also identify any existing problems that are effectively “masked” by anti inflammatory drugs.

Alternatively, if you are selling a horse, the inspection can show the prospective buyers that the horse is in perfect condition.

## Non Specific Lameness / Hoof Problems

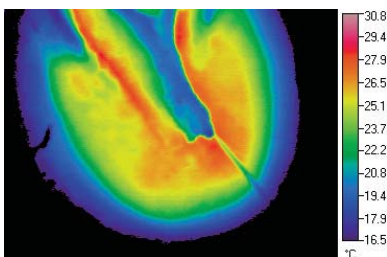
Infrared imaging is particularly helpful with difficult to detect problems such as non specific lameness. Because there are so many different diagnoses to be made, finding the source of a problem, ensures that the correct treatment can take place from the start.



The camera can confirm whether there are heat anomalies in the leg or hoof, whether there is excessive heat possibly indicating an abscess, or cooler areas, often the symptoms of poor blood flow

## Monitoring ongoing Hoof Treatment

A thermal inspection can also be a valuable aid for your farrier. Ongoing treatment and its effects can be regularly checked providing the farrier with a visual method of monitoring the effectiveness of treatment and allowing changes to be made as the case progresses.



## How much does it cost?

The Inner Picture will always try and remain competitive on pricing and keep charges to a reasonable level. Inspections range from:

Inspection whole horse £75 (plus travel expenses)

We also operate a number of discount schemes - ongoing treatment or condition monitoring scans, and groups (minimum of 3) will all receive a discount. Travel within the Staffordshire area is included in the above price. Our thermographer is happy to travel throughout the country to visit your yard, with travelling costs dependant upon the time, distance and number of horses to be examined agreed before the visit.

## What do I need to do to prepare?

A thermal inspection doesn't require any special preparation, however a clean horse, free from mud, with clean hooves, will produce a better result. Please also remove any blankets and boots / bandages in advance of our visit so that the horse's body temperature can normalise. The inspection can be carried out in the horse's own stable, or in an enclosed area, regardless of the light levels, however, if necessary the inspection can also take place outside.

## Will you give me a diagnosis?

The Inner Picture will visit and examine your horse thoroughly using the thermal camera which will identify any areas of heat anomalies that may require further investigation. Our objective is not to replace your vet or farrier, but to assist and work with them, providing a visual image of areas of concern.

Our thermographer will leave you with a full visit report and the images that have been taken, both thermal and digital (for easy identification), and we will recommend on our report areas that require further investigation.

Further information on The Inner Picture and the benefits of Equine Thermography can be found on our website: [www.theinnerpicture.com](http://www.theinnerpicture.com).

Don't forget to visit our other website to find out about the equine therapy and manipulation services that we also offer: [www.theequinetherapist.co.uk](http://www.theequinetherapist.co.uk)

## What is Thermography & how does it work?

Although most experienced horse owners are able to identify heat in a leg or foot, usually indicating inflammation, a pulled tendon or an abscess, there are often symptoms of discomfort or poor performance where the horse is showing no physical signs of injury. A human touch cannot identify changes in temperature of less than 2 degrees, however, a thermal camera can "see" and detect changes of less than 0.5 degree, making it easy to identify problem areas, where heat is not obvious to the touch. This is displayed as an instant, clear image enabling a diagnosis to be made and treatment carried out.

A thermal inspection is a non contact technique that provides a pictorial representation of the surface temperature of the horse's body. Both sides of the horse's body should have the same thermal patterns or "symmetry". Hot or cold areas can be abnormal, indicating inflammation or neurological injury.



The procedure only takes a few minutes, during which time the Thermographer examines the horse thoroughly through the camera lens. The horse is not touched during the inspection, making it ideal for young or nervous horses. The results of the inspection are instant, and the thermal images are left with the owner so that a full diagnosis can be made.

Used extensively since 1996 and approved by veterinary practices as an invaluable aid to assist diagnosis, the infrared inspection is carried out at the yard where the horse is kept. This ensures that the horse is relaxed and eliminates any stress which might be incurred during travel.

## About "The Inner Picture"

The Inner Picture is owned by Clare Ellam who has had an extensive involvement with horses from an early age. Her experience is broad and covers a variety of disciplines including Eventing, Show Jumping and Racing, both Thoroughbred and Arab, as a trainer and Jockey.

In the early stages of her career, Clare developed a strong interest in the locomotive of the horse and realised that to get the best possible results the horses had to be in peak physical condition, both mentally and physically. This interest was furthered with additional research into blood circulation, equine massage and thermal imaging.

Having worked on a yard that specialised in rehabilitation for racehorses, and horses that were not performing to their optimum level, Clare realised that thermal imaging provided an excellent way to identify heat anomalies within the horse's anatomy, areas that often had symptoms but showed no visible sign of injury. Coupled with her knowledge of blood circulation, the infrared images provided a useful tool that signified areas where the blood flow was poor, or the area inflamed, usually indicating a problem requiring treatment.

Clare has now taken this interest further and set up her own company, "The Inner Picture". Her objective is to work closely with both performance and individually owned horses that are experiencing problems, providing the owners with an instant visual aid enabling them to provide the most appropriate treatment to restore the horse back to optimum performance.



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