

DONKEY BREED SOCIETY

Scottish Region



Christmas Edition



December 2018

Season's Greetings from the Chairman

Hello everyone. I introduce myself again as Chairman of DBS Scotland. My thanks to Jean Flint for her time in harness as Chair. I am sure she will enjoy having more time on her hands to globe-trot!

Why donkeys? Why not? I was brought up in a light legged horse background. We always had a donkey. My family bought and sold horses and ran a riding school and livery yard.



At 15 years old it was hard to understand that selling the horses we schooled and produced put food on the table. I wanted something of my own, so I bought my first donkey when I was 17 and haven't looked back. I have shown, driven and judged these wonderful animals the length and breadth of the country and loved every minute. Making many donkey friends and contacts, there is nothing better than being among like minded folk.

The DBS is here for its members. If there is anything you would like to take part in or to organise yourself, with or without the donkeys get in touch. I don't know if you don't tell me. Two events are in the pipeline for spring 2019 so watch your email and letter box early in the new year for details.

May I wish you all a happy Christmas and I look forward to meeting many DBSS members next year. Enjoy your donkeys, as without them, where would we be?

Elma Cunningham

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Prize-winners - Scottish Championship Show

Prize-winners at the Scottish Championship Show being presented with their trophies by Jean Flint, DBSS Chairman. From top to bottom: Ailene Charleton, Elma Cunningham, Sheena McConnell-Ferrie, Nicki Donaldson.



A Special Trophy

2018 saw the introduction of a new trophy, The Flint Friendship Trophy, commissioned by Mrs Jean Flint, and presented to the Best Local Donkey at the 2018 Turriff Show. The worthy winner was Edieston Jason who belongs to Netta Sangster (featured below).

Jean, a long-standing member of the DBS, and out-going Scottish Chairman, undertook research at the beginning of her chairmanship to try to establish what it was that members wanted from their Society. She conducted a survey of members and, whilst a proportion of members were happy that their involvement was just to receive the quarterly

and annual publications from the DBS, a proportion of members felt that more social events would be welcome where they could meet other members and discuss donkey issues in an informal setting. There was some criticism that the Society was becoming more focused on “politics” rather than as a resource aimed at benefitting the donkey.

This set in process a series of social get-togethers throughout Scotland which focused on promoting the Society as a friendly and approachable club, supported by a Scottish committee and a team of local Area Representatives.

The Flint Friendship Trophy is a fitting representation of the ethos Jean aimed to achieve within DBS Scotland, and more widely, over her long relationship with the DBS.



The lovely Jason - first recipient of the Flint Friendship Trophy.

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF SYDNEY

What a fun and busy season Sydney and I have had this year. We were invited to Dunfermline Abbey to take part in the Palm Sunday Service, and what a great time we had. We were greeted with lots of excited people who were so happy to meet Sydney, even the Police presence covering the event came over to say hello, but did highlight they would turn a blind eye about Sydney walking up a one way street, as it was the only direct route from the Abbey, which had been closed to traffic for the Service. It was amazing to participate in such an event, we both had a lovely time and Sydney wallowed in the limelight and was so well behaved. We have been invited back next year and are looking forward to it.



Throughout the season Sydney has attended various drive-outs, local shows and Active Donkey Award outings, (he could do with his own P.A), gathering points, rosettes and pennies. Needless to say that will go straight into his bank as always, he won't spend a penny, not even on an ice cream for me.



In May we all gathered for a drive-out at Barskimming Estate, Ayrshire in Memory of The Honourable Miss Jean Galbraith of Barskimming, followed by a fabulous lunch. A collection raised £506 for Poppies Scotland which was Miss Jean's favourite charity. Again we all met in September for another exciting drive-out through the lovely Barskimming Estate, again followed by a yummy lunch. Despite some rain showers we all had a great time. Sydney was escorted around the estate with his pal Alistair, who has just been introduced to driving and is doing great. We look forward to seeing Alistair and Alison out and about next year.

This season Sydney has gained his Active Donkey Award and will be presented with his certificate and rosette in November by the Donkey Breed Society. He has also gained a Gold showing award and was 7th in the points table for the whole of Scotland in the British Driving Society Chairman's cup.

I am absolutely delighted and proud of what he has achieved this year. He is a great little guy, who gives us all lots of fun and hopefully, weather permitting, we look forward to the Christmas Nativity season.

Sheena Mc Connell-Ferrie





Junior Awards and Sylvia's Donkeys



Pupils from Portlethen Primary School have worked with my donkeys every week since last Easter. The first group have achieved the Introductory Award and are working towards the Elementary Award whilst assisting a younger group trying the Introductory Award. The donkeys spend all day in school on a Wednesday and are a great hit with all pupils from nursery to P7. The 'Donkey Club' runs in the afternoon but during the morning the donkeys have many visitors to groom and pet them. They love it as much as the children.

In the summer we took the donkeys to Carronhill School in Stonehaven where there are many disabled children, many in wheelchairs. Bertie pulled his cart all afternoon with happy children and wee Penny made her way along a line of wheelchairs being petted and stroked. A happy day for all.

Sylvia Kirby (All photos reproduce by kind permission of parents)



CHRISTMAS GOODIES!



Personalised donkey decoration £5.95
www.thecraftygiraffe.co.uk



Hoodie £35.45
www.spreadshirt.co.uk



Grey Donkey Christmas tree decoration £5.99
www.giftsforanimallovers.co.uk



Christmas Cards £4.75 for 10
www.shopsrspca.org.uk



Fairisle donkey scarf 14.50
www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/shop



Soft donkey baby shoes and children's slippers £20
www.notonthehighstreet.com



2019 Donkey Sanctuary Calendar £9.50



Classic Turnout Rugs from £54
www.tackandturnout.co.uk



Adopt a donkey

Help support our work by adopting a donkey. This will contribute toward our running costs.

A donkey adoption also makes a great gift.

Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary
www.donkeyrescue.co.uk



Hand Made donkey and pony gifts
www.sapart.co.uk

PHOTO GALLERY - A LOVELY DAY OUT AT TURRIFF SHOW



FOR SALE/WANTED

WANTED: Two or three donkey geldings, must be well-handled and if possible used to saddles / being ridden.
Please contact Helen Raeside 01334 880323, email helen.raeside@outlook.com





**Wishing all
members a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year**



Your local Area Representatives

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Find us on Facebook

Contacts

If you would like advice or help about any aspect of donkey care, please feel free to contact your local Donkey Breed Society Area Representative. They are experienced donkey people from a variety of backgrounds including showing, breeding and welfare.



Visit us on the web at
www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk

