**DRIVING REPORT FOR THE AGM 2018**

Whilst we haven't had a driving meeting this year, the duties and matters have been dealt with very effectively through the Championship Show, Shows and Judges and Education & Youth committees.

 This hasn't stopped the huge success of many people who have been out flying the flag for driving donkeys.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Brown and Toadflax of Brownroad for taking the Supreme Driving Championship at the National Championship Show. She also won both the Best Traditional Rein handling and Concourse d'Elegance awards. In reserve was Clare Humphries and Jake and the winner of the Cleeve Driving Performance trophy was Clare Strange and Bobby.   Whilst there wasn't a huge number of participants, the quality was very high. The judge commented on how wonderfully turned out and how beautifully all the donkeys performed. She also commented on how welcome she felt. Well done to all.

Well done to all those who have been going hoof to hoof with the horses and showing all that donkeys really are as good (well, better but we can't get too big for our boots!). It is a really important that donkeys continue to play a part in as many of the open driving disciplines as available. It showcases all that donkeys can do and achieve.  It is a wonderful time in the carriage driving world with lots of new pursuits developing and lots of opportunity to get out and compete, without entering a show ring.

However it must not be forgotten the importance of pleasure driving. Out in the countryside, up the farm tracks, to the pub or supermarket. This is why we carriage drive, because its makes us and everyone we meet smile.   With schemes such as Donkey’s’miles available you can include all these drives to progress towards rosettes and awards.

Please contact us if you'd like any information on any driving disciplines and we will do our best to help.

We are also looking for members to join the committee with the hope of having two meetings in the coming year.

Happy Driving

Chelsey Bailey

Driving Chairman