**East Region AGM Report November 2018**

Firstly I would like to welcome you all to the Eastern region; we are really pleased to be hosting the AGM here at Marks Tey. I would like to thank the committee for all their hard work in organising this event for you and I hope you all enjoy the day and have fun in the evening.

The region has a lot to offer our members from showing to training days; we produce two newsletters a year and now we are running our EARS scheme, it’s free for our members to enter and all they have to do is send to us three photos of their donkey doing different things. Then they receive a beautiful rosette.

Also this year we have taken on the running of a new show, the Eastern Region Autumn donkey show to replace the Peterborough show. It was held at Skylark garden centre, March, Cambs. There was a good turnout in all the classes and everyone who went really enjoyed it. So thank you to Liz Wright, Jo Cordell and Carole Travell for all your hard work.

In the region we had our usual and well established shows , South Suffolk, Redwings, Hadleigh, Suffolk, Norfolk, Tendring, Shuttleworth, Herts County, Heckington and the East Anglian Donkey show. All the shows had good entries this year.

Carole Travell organised a demonstration at Gransden Show this year, to show the public what donkeys can do. It was a great success and enjoyed by everyone. The committee of the show has invited them back again next year as the donkeys were a great attraction. Well done Carole and team.

We only have a few juniors in our region, but they all do us proud, with Jessica Barnet winning Young handler and Harley Teale winning Young Rider at the Championship Show.

Our next event is our Christmas lunch held on the 2nd December at the Masonic Hall Huntingdon, it will be a very merry way to finish off 2018.

The Committee has already started to organise some new and different events for 2019.

I look forward to meeting members old and new out with their donkeys next year, let’s just hope the winter is not too harsh on us.

Annette Staveley, Regional Delegate