**Wales Region report, February 2019.**

The new Wales Committee’s efforts to meet in the autumn and early winter were thwarted by weather and members’ other commitments, but they corresponded by email to develop ideas for future activities. The Committee worked hard to distribute DBS posters to vets, equine stores and feed suppliers. Two newsletters were produced in 2018 and another is planned, to keep members informed. An event was held near Llandeilo in late October 2018, with a focus on seasonal donkey care advice. Participation was somewhat disappointing, especially as far more members had indicated an intention to attend. Nonetheless, further activities will take place in 2019. A Pembrokeshire equine veterinary practice has agreed to host an evening ‘What to do if….’ Session in late February and DBS will be promoted at that event.

The Committee seeks to foster support and encouragement to all donkey owners in the region and its events are also open to non-DBS guests, although it is always hoped that guests will, in time, become members! It is anticipated that Ben Hart will be leading a day school on donkey behaviour in October 2019, which will be of value to new and seasoned donkey carers. Further events and visits to members’ donkeys are in the planning stage.

The region has long benefitted from a very strong relationship with Welfare Advisers in Wales for The Donkey Sanctuary. There have been some staff changes at the Sanctuary, but a new Adviser for north Wales is now in post and the rôle for south Wales will be filled during the spring of 2019.

Ann Slater, Wales Regional Delegate.