

DBS NORTHERN REGION - THE THURSDAY BULLETIN . . .

Thursday 23rd April, 2020

Issue 3

Good morning, Happy St George's Day and . . . **Happy Birthday Olwen from all of us !!**



As we swashbuckle, although I'm not sure that St George did swashbuckling, our way into yet another newsletter of tears (yes, get your hankies out Northern Region), trivia, and terrible teasers, I hope this finds you and yours well and safe. Thank you to everyone who has written in to say how much they are enjoying the bulletin; this is much appreciated. A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to it in some way – your pictures, stories and snippets of information are welcomed with enthusiasm, please keep sending them in. You might wonder why you have received the Region's newsletter, *Just for Juniors*, with this Bulletin, but this is because I would like you to forward it to anyone you know with small people in isolation – who knows, it might fill a little time and create a new membership or two!! There is no age barrier by the way, should you wish to involve yourself in a 'Donkey Project', do go ahead!! Please forward your Bulletins to a friend too!!

These are worrying times, but do take comfort in the fact that there will be another day at a show, another training day, another lovely walk and picnic and until then, we're all thinking of one another and at the end of an email or phone, if we need a boost!

Stay safe, take care, Sarah x

📖 **The Region's news, this Thursday . . .** It's St. George's Day today, but just how much do you know about St George? English Heritage has a great site that will sort fact from fiction and give you a brilliant insight into a Saint that we also share with Venice, Genoa, Portugal and Catalonia – now I didn't know that! <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/whats-on/st-georges-day/9-things-you-didnt-know-about-st-george/>

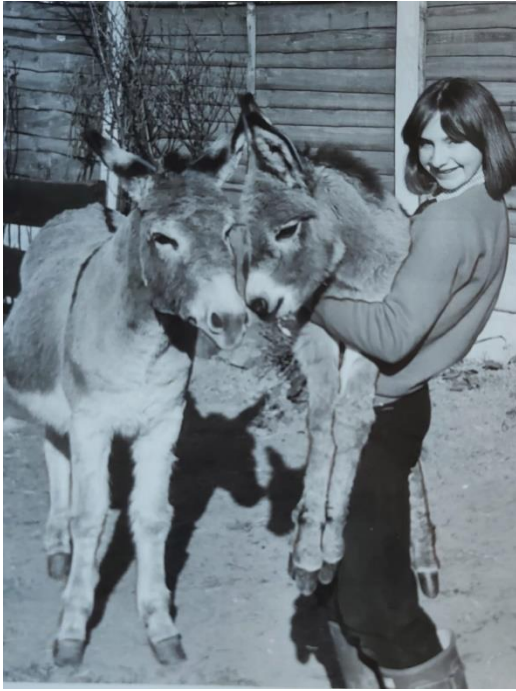
📖 Have you checked out our **DBS National website** recently? If not, I advise you to have a good browse, you might think you know every nook and cranny, but I guarantee you will find something that you have not seen before!! You must see the '**Palm Sunday pics with donkeys in lockdown**' – they are fabulous. We're now on the DBS 'national newsfeed' by the way, **we've gone global northern region(!)**, and proud to be there, thanks to all your super contributions and gorgeous donkeys!! <https://www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk/>

📖 Oh my goodness, when researching for the Junior newsletter, I came across this brilliant website – which you can read in French or English – all about Queen Victoria's French donkey Jacquot – check this out! <https://www.jacquot.online/> it is fascinating! Enjoy!

And now get ready for another very special 'happy birthday' – get those hankies out . . .

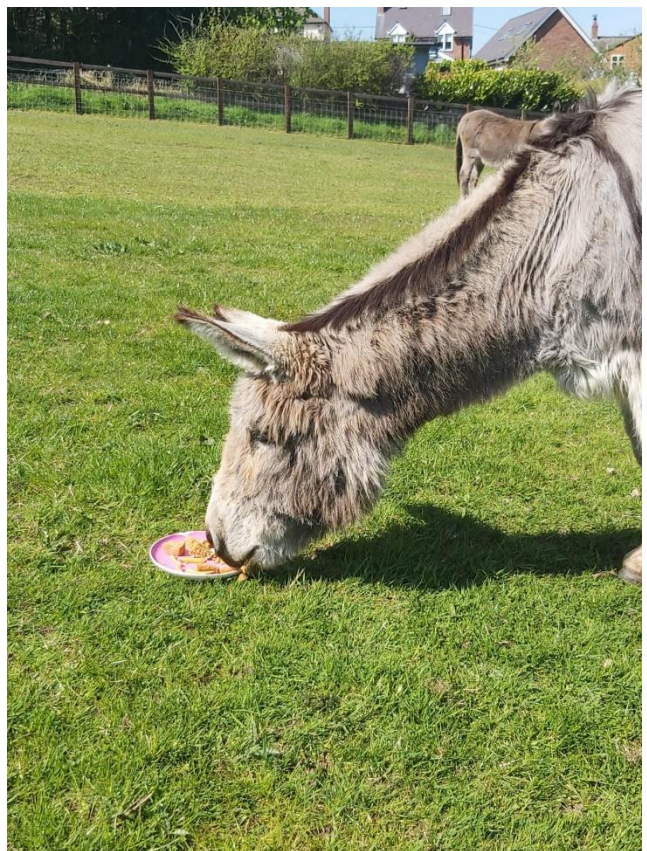
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TABO!!!

Probably one of the oldest donkeys in our Region, if not *the* oldest at 39 years old, it was Tabo Naden's birthday last week!!



Proud mums above, donkey mummy Bimbo and human mummy Helen!

Right, Tabo celebrating his birthday with a little of what he fancied!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TABO!!

A huge happy birthday from everyone in the Northern Region!!

A Reflection on positive times past and future . . .

Last week I received an email that lifted my spirits considerably and, due to her eloquent prose and obvious love of our gorgeous long ears, I must admit it made me quite emotional. Hannah wrote: 'I'm a DBS member who helped Olwen and Elizabeth Brown on their farm before the lockdown. I've written an article about it for the next Bulletin if you think it's something people would like to read [very definitely, SB]'. This is Hannah's article:

Since May of 2019 I have had the privilege of volunteering on Brown Road Farm, helping Olwen and Liz tend and train their donkeys (including the illustrious Colin); during which I endeavour to learn all there is to learn about these wonderful animals. When I first visited, I remember the whole herd galloped towards me, and Blue, bless him, rested his head on my shoulder! It speaks volumes of their nature, and needless to say I fell in love. From the very beginning I've been welcomed into the fold by teachers whose faith and encouragement has inspired a wealth of confidence, as evinced earlier in the year, tackling Introductory and Elementary Proficiency Awards. Though Covid 19 is curbing my progress, I'll be back to finish the second half of Bronze when we have the green light to travel, and I look forward to starting Silver in the maybe-not-too-distant future (studying diligently meanwhile). By then, I hope to be able to contribute to events like the Nativity I was part of last December, and venture further afield to shows: a chance to see the donkeys in action, earning their many accolades! I am immensely grateful to everyone at the farm for their kindness and support - it has given me a tremendous sense of purpose and belonging that I'm champing at the proverbial bit to return to. Once this terrible outbreak is a thing of the past I'm sure I'll have plenty of opportunities to meet my fellow Society members and ramble over a good old cup of tea. Until then, I bid everyone the safest of self isolations.

Yours truly,

Hannah Dickinson.

Hannah, a huge thank you and can I echo the sentiment and say that we are all joining you in 'champing at the proverbial bit'. SB.

And now it's time to say hello to gorgeous donks and other animals . . .

This handsome llama is one of four that live with five donkeys and two ponies. Thank you to Sarah Standing for sharing pictures of her extensive menagerie and Dylan and Elija, her super grooms!!





Nice to see Elija and Dylan getting involved in keeping the donkeys in tip top condition during the lockdown!

Helping with mucking out is always useful – keep it up boys you are brilliant helpers!



Right: Barney and Freddie Booth taking a meander through the trees by the river - practising for a 'regional walk'! Oops, forgot the picnic!!
[Headcollars by Dinky Donkey Rugs
<https://www.tackandturnout.co.uk/> they've got some fab colours!]



Harvey Moon and the girls enjoying the sunshine . . .

left: 'Harvey Prune'!



Hello Juniors!! But grown-ups please read!

Last Sunday, the Juniors received their very own, 'Just for Northern Juniors' newsletter – this will go out to our junior members, once a month. Currently, the suggested tasks are strongly linked to 'Nursery/Reception' activities and the 'KS1' curriculum – but differentiation has been included, so that they could be extended to embrace KS2. I have attached a copy should you know anyone with little people with a love of animals, as the activities could be transferred to include other animals, reptiles, birds etc. In addition, they might wish to join us as junior members! Perhaps we need to 'start at the very beginning' to grow a new membership!



Please let me have your ideas for the JFJ newsletter going forward. If you have any pictures of past juniors doing fun things with their donkeys, please do send them to me with an explanation where necessary! If you have pictures of *you* when you were younger, riding, driving, taking part in fancy dress, whatever, do send them in! Our juniors need role models! Usual email: northerndonks@gmail.com.

[The picture is of Reuben, Pam Moon's grandson and possibly our youngest member, sorting out a trailer!]

Ring up a Rep!! Your Reps are here for advice/support/a friendly chat:

Area Rep – Lancashire – Pam Moon

Pam: 07842 535993 pam.moon@talktalk.net

Area Rep – North & East Yorkshire/Cleveland – Pat Mather

Pat: 07850 584785 pat_mather@msn.com

Area Rep – Cheshire/Greater Manchester – Olwen Brown

Olwen: 01457 762336

Area Reps – West Yorkshire – John & Terri Morris

John & Terri: 01274 835520 throstlenest@hotmail.com

Area Rep – Derbyshire – Sarah Hudgins

Sarah: 07971 996817 derbyextracer@hotmail.co.uk

Area Rep – Cumbria - Ann Marie Harrison

Ann Marie: harrison.anm@hotmail.co.uk

Area Rep – South Yorkshire - Jane Bramwell

Jane: 01433 620110 I.jane.bramwell@gmail.com

Area Rep – Northumberland – Geraldine Burton

Geraldine: 01434 681335 gadburton@yahoo.co.uk

Did you know . . . ?

Ever wondered about the taxonomy of donkeys (*taxonomy meaning the classification of something – grouping/ranking etc*)

Kingdom: Animalia Subkingdom: Bilateria Infrakingdom: Deuterostomia Phylum: Chordata
Subphylum: Vertebrata Infraphylum: Gnathostomata Superclass: Tetrapoda Class:
Mammalia Subclass: Theria Infraclass: Eutheria Order: Perissodactyla Family: Equidae
Genus: *Equus* Species:

Equus asinus — burro, donkey, ass *Equus hemippus* — Syrian wild ass, achdari *Equus khur* — Indian wild ass, khur *Equus africanus* — African wild ass

Subspecies:

- *Equus africanus africanus* — Nubian wild ass
- *Equus africanus somaliensis* — Somali wild ass

Equus hemionus — Asiatic wild ass, onager, kulan

Subspecies:

- *Equus hemionus hemionus* — Mongolian wild ass
- *Equus hemionus kulan* — kulan, Turkmenistani onager
- *Equus hemionus onager* — Iranian onager

Equus kiang — Tibetan wild ass, kiang

Subspecies:

- *Equus kiang holdereri* — Eastern kiang
- *Equus kiang kiang* — Western kiang
- *Equus kiang polyodon* — Southern kiang

now you do!!

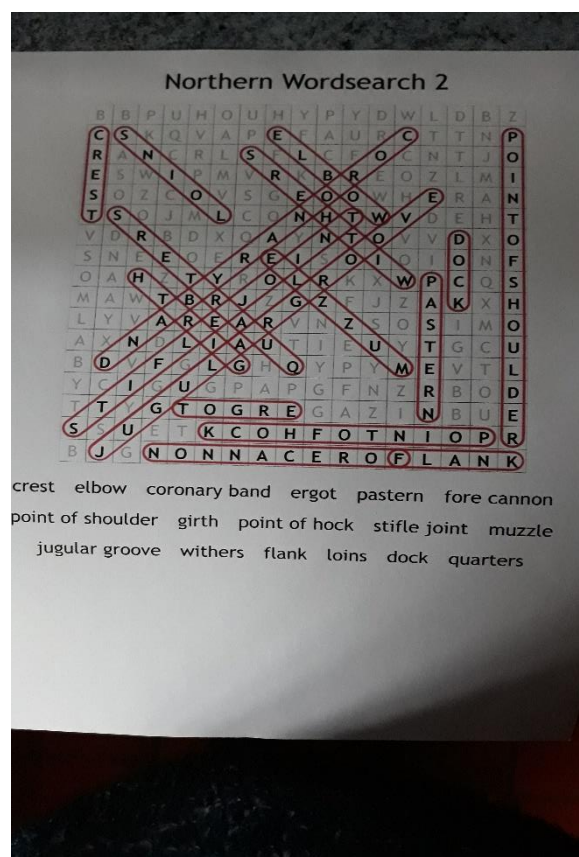
Puzzles Puzzles Puzzles Puzzles Puzzles Puzzles Puzzles Puzzles

Solution to Northern Wordsearch 2 ↘

Today's Scramble has the theme of 'Driving'

Northern Scramble 3

1. LPITELIC SGRPNI
2. DTENEN SRSINGP
3. LIGESWTERN
4. TTUIEEEQT
5. ETRRET
6. AIRTOK
7. RQIAAUDG
8. UROINNC
9. RLCIUECR ARNESSH
10. RTLNGAIEMA
11. HSMEA
12. NSIWLO EAFNFLS
13. LRCALO
14. RUPPECR



Next time, there will be more puzzles, more news, more pics and hopefully lots more contributions from *you*!! I know I promised a crossword but thinking up all the questions, keeping them donkey related is somewhat challenging! If anyone out there has lots of questions (with answers, obviously) I will happily turn it into a crossword –please help!! Don't forget to get in touch, northerndonks@gmail.com – let us know, what have you and yours been up to?

And finally . . .

A further reminder about the Bronze Award: we throw down the challenge to other areas **within the Region** . . . how many of you could be swatting up, right this minute for your Award? The Bronze is attainable guys – ring Olwen, **01457 762336** to find out more and check out the Awards section on the National DBS website. Don't forget Brown Road Group, we are going to rock this as we all get up at the next AGM, holding our certificates aloft!! **However, I wonder if there is a *Regional record* for the most Bronze awards received at an AGM? If so, can we beat it?!!**

Stay safe everyone.

