

DBS NORTHERN REGION - THE THURSDAY BULLETIN . . .

Issue No.10 11.02.2021



Good morning and Happy February!

Here we are, another Bulletin, another month of lockdown and another grimace as we consider the things that are probably not going to happen in at least the first few months of this year. But wait a moment, there are snowdrops, daffodils and other gorgeous little flowery fighters pushing up through the snow and flood water, the days are lengthening and even as we splosh across waterlogged pasture, we know that spring will happen and things will come good once again.

We have a plethora of happenings from around the Region to delight you this morning, with events to look forward to – yes, Northern Region member Allison Roberts has ‘created’ an opportunity to meet up!!! - and some lovely pics sent in by Northern Region friends.

Please keep sending me your pics, anecdotes and golden gobbets of good advice as they are very much appreciated. This Bulletin is, ‘by the Northern Region, for the Northern Region’ and please do not underestimate the smiles that it puts on people’s faces! With a spring edition of *Asspire* on the horizon too, please get contributing, let’s share the donkey love!

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this week’s Bulletin.

Stay safe, Sarah x



The Region’s news, this Thursday . . .

Northern Region AGM - it’s on the way folks! This time it will be done, as are so many other things these days, by Zoom. With this newsletter you will have received official notification that the Northern Region’s AGM will take place on **Saturday 13th March at 11.00 am**. This will hopefully give you time to do any outside jobs prior to the meeting. You will also be asked to register your intent to attend by emailing northerndonks@gmail.com . A Zoom invite will then be sent to you nearer the time. If there is anything that you would wish to raise at the AGM, kindly contact me by 3.30 pm on Friday 5th March.

And you will not want to miss this either!

Get Creative with the Northern Region this September – over to Allison:

Now here's an idea if you'd enjoy sharing a day with other donkey-besotted people – making your own ceramic donkey out of clay.

We'd be taught by an experienced sculptor, Richard Hedges of Twisted Earth Ceramics (<https://twistedearthceramics.com>), who is also a donkey aficionado.

Pam Moon near Preston is offering us one of her barns where Richard will guide us. He says, "The ceramic animal workshop is perfect for complete beginners and even for anyone who has no experience of handling clay! Using a step-by-step approach, I will teach you some of the key sculpting skills needed, and in the process you will create your very own masterpiece to be proud of! I work with up to eight participants normally. I will bring all materials and tools and the day would be 9.30 for a 10 am start and finished before 4 pm. I would need to return the finished pieces once fired and glazed."

Here to tempt you is an image of one of Richard's own pieces:



Fancy a go?

It's on Wednesday 22 September and will cost £75 which includes the postage to send your fired and glazed masterpiece back to you. If you want to book your place email allisonroberts254@outlook.com as soon as you can – there are only eight places!

[This is fantastic, what fun! Thank you Allison for organising and Pam for hosting, brilliant!]

Also in the news, more FAB FARRIERS!!

Huge thanks Northern Region – we have spearheaded the 'Fab Farriers' Awards Certificates and the scheme is now being extended *across the whole country!* From Jersey to Ireland and all over our other DBS Regions, decent donkey farriers are getting the true recognition they deserve. If you haven't yet nominated your farrier and they meet the following criteria, drop me an email

northerndonks@gmail.com and we will consider your nomination.



Darren Slater from Cheshire receives his certificate from Barney and Freddie Booth! Darren is also Olwen and Liz's farrier and attends to all the donkeys at the Donkey Sanctuary in Buxton.

Criteria for 'fab farriers':

- 🐴 This farrier has a very real and distinct knowledge of donkey farriery.
- 🐴 This farrier is well informed and on point regarding all things 'donkey'.
- 🐴 He/she knows that donkeys are different from horses and ponies.
- 🐴 He/she goes out of their way to practice with empathy.
- 🐴 He/she has gone the extra mile for members' donkeys – anecdotal evidence please!

If you are reading this and you are in another Region, please send your nomination to your DBS Regional Delegate. If you are reading this and you are not yet a member (the benefits of joining are huge by the way!), please join us, you can do so very easily via the website, and then nominate your 'fab farrier'!!



This is Josh Milburn from Penrith, Cumbria and he was nominated by Allison Roberts.

Useful advice . . .



Pam dropped me an email to say that, 'during these wet days that the donks don't go out for days on end, they get a warm fibre beet mash to help keep the bowels active. It is essential to monitor their intake of water, making it tepid does encourage them to drink more.'

Thank you.

As we approach St. Valentine's Day, Love is in the Air! Readers sharing their love of donkeys and other animals this Valentine's Day . . .



There's a whole lot of loving going on at the Standing's home – what with donkeys, llamas, ponies, to name but a few.



Of course, loving one's donks extends to all those other very important jobs too – having their teeth done and, keeping everywhere clean and tidy. This gorgeous donkey on the right, whilst being a minor embarrassment to the friend in the background, has decided to take advantage of the 'Standing's Spa facilities'!!!



And from Pam Moon . . .

Lots of lovely photos taken last summer - remember sunshine and blue skies and less fluffy donks! Dexter cleaning Tillys ears, Harvey having cuddles, one with Philip, one with Rueben.

Ahhh . . . gorgeous [Ed.].



Sue Stead



Lovely pictures on the theme of
'love is in the air'.





Hamish and Dougal Roberts



Whatever the state of the path, togetherness is a nice trek! Below, in the summer and right, as the path is now.



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.co.uk

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 l.jane.bramwell@gmail.com

Area Rep – Northumberland – Geraldine Burton

Geraldine: 01434 681335 gadbarton@yahoo.co.uk

And finally,

It's a mystery . . .

Can you spot the mystery object that appeared in Dougal Roberts' palate?

Allison Roberts sent the following:

In January Dougal was put on a six days course of antibiotics for a snotty nostril but the problem remained so I thought it worth asking the dentist to take a look and here is what he found last week wedged in the poor lad's palate by one of the back teeth; out it was manoeuvred, so all should be well again. The dentist wonders if it was a fragment of a baby tooth that has only just erupted/dropped. Thank goodness we avoided another hospital trip!



Your thoughts Readers?

**Stay safe everyone and thank you for supporting the Northern Region's
*Thursday Bulletin!***



Kindly note that all views and comments contained in this Bulletin are those of individuals and not necessarily of the Donkey Breed Society. Thank you.