

# ASSPIRE!

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHERN REGION OF THE  
DONKEY BREED SOCIETY



**Dear All,** Welcome to the Spring edition of *Asspire* and happy Easter! Another strange Easter, like most of you we would normally have been out and about doing Palm Sunday with the donkeys. It's been great to see that some of you have been able to continue this tradition virtually.

It was great to see some of you via Zoom for the Northern Region AGM, hopefully we can meet in person for the next one, hopefully in November. This will mark my last year as Northern Region Chair, it has been a wonderful few years that have flown by! We are looking at introducing the position of Vice Chair so that the incoming Chair has some transition into the role. If you are interested in this position, please get in touch.

Hopefully, some of our usual activities can begin to resume (safely of course), I'm looking forward to seeing people in person and having fun with our donks together again. The weather is steadily getting better and that means that the grass is starting to grow again. Be aware that this change in feed can cause problems with your donks. Colic caused by the changing sugars in the grass is common at this time of year and be aware that your donks may inadvertently put on weight as the grass grows. This might put your donkey at risk of problems such as laminitis, so it is important to keep a close eye on your donkey's weight. Familiarise yourself with body condition scoring and maybe take girth measurements so you can effectively monitor your donks. The Donkey Sanctuary have some good resources on this subject [body-scoring-chart-revised-01-2020.pdf](https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk/body-scoring-chart-revised-01-2020.pdf) ([thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk](https://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk)).

**Best regards, Liz.** (Liz Brown, Chairman, DBS Northern Region)

## IN THE NEWS . . .

### The Sign that says it all

In the last Northern Bulletin, we considered how field signs could save your donkey's life . . . we reported that users of social media had recently seen distressing photos of equines that had died needlessly due to being fed by the public and with an increase in folk taking exercise in the countryside, so too the terrible risk of losing our precious animals has increased. Signage is an incredibly positive and relatively inexpensive way forward and, after all, what price wouldn't you put on your animals' safety? Whilst horse and pony signs are easily found, not so **donkey specific signage**. I asked if we could create our own Donkey Aware posters and signs, for display in the Northern Region?

It was Bill Tetlow who rose to the challenge and swiftly came up with this eye-catching sign that you can see here.



The signs have now been printed and laminated and are readily available at just £1.00 each + pp (88p second class postage; £1.15 first class). You can pay by cheque made payable to DBS Northern Region and forwarded to Sarah Pennell, Treasurer, DBS Northern Region, Highfields House, Roston, Ashbourne, Derbys DE6 2EF or through bank transfer to 'Northern Region of the Donkey Breed Society', sort code 30-96-26, account number 59780068. Then, you will need to email me, Sarah Booth [northerndonks@gmail.com](mailto:northerndonks@gmail.com) to say how many you require and whether you are opting for first- or second-class post and I will send them to you, straightaway! Don't forget to include your address!

Grateful thanks to Bill for such an important and apt sign. The signs acknowledge the Northern Region of the DBS at the foot of the sign and give the DBS website address too. PLEASE ORDER NOW!

## BRONZE AWARDS & MORE!

Now is the time to reacquaint yourself with the DBS National Awards Scheme – get in touch with Olwen Brown (01457 762336) who can advise Northern Region members on how to work towards and take their Awards! Training Days will be forthcoming, see 'Events' for further details.



### SILVER AWARD + FIRST AID AWARD - Congratulations Georgia!

Congratulations to Student DBS Member, Georgia Davey, who has recently gained her National Silver Award and Donkey First Aid Award. This required considerable commitment, virtual exams and some brilliant assessments.

Very well done Georgia from everyone in the Northern Region!

## ADA - Active Donkey Awards!

### A Message for The Northern Region

First, many apologies to those of you still waiting to receive the Active Donkey Awards you earned in 2019/20. Last year the Covid pandemic had an impact on everything. It affected the rosette manufacturers and the places where we obtain the various other awards causing delays and, as if they had conspired to deliberately add to our problems, our printer and computer which we use to produce the ADA certificates decided to cease working at the most inopportune moment. We have now finally managed to replace these essential pieces of kit so hope, providing there are no further disasters(!), to have everything sent out to all those commendable award winners within the next few weeks.

While the United Kingdom is still subject to Covid restrictions the number of activities necessary to qualify for an ADA award will remain at 6 instead of the usual 8 and the rules on the sort of things you do are necessarily a little more flexible so it's a good time to dip a hoof into the world of the Active Donkey. Anyone interested in enrolling for this ADA year still has plenty of time to do so as anything you have done between Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 and Jul 31<sup>st</sup> 2021 will count towards your 6 activities.

Contact details (which can always be found in full in the ADA articles in both Bray Talk and The Donkey magazine) are: Terri Morris on [throstlenest@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:throstlenest@hotmail.co.uk) 01274835520

Happy Active Donkeying this summer to you all  
ADA

## Lockdown Lovely turns 1! Happy Birthday Rosie!

### Rosie Is Growing Up

It seems hardly possible that Rosie was still only a huge bulge in her mum, Cassie's, belly this time last April but she is now officially a yearling and is growing up fast.

As you can see from these recent photos she is a sturdy young lady and it probably won't be long before she's as tall as her mum. When they first started their mutual grooming sessions Rosie could



just about stretch up to Cassie's shoulder – now she can easily nibble the top of her back!

She has met the vet and the farrier and was very well behaved with both of them, although she has obviously been taking lessons from her naughty 'Uncle' William, our hooligan donkey, on how to nick any tools foolishly left within reach! She loves to race around the field and her favourite new game seems to be 'chase the pheasant'. We have several of these birds, both male and female, wandering across our land and they obviously don't object to Rosie rushing after them because they still keep coming back for more!



With her thick, almost Poitou-like dark hair – goodness knows where this has come from as neither of her parents have coats that are anything like that – we still aren't sure what her summer colour will be. If you



peer closely there is even a reddish hue amongst the black. Hopefully, by the time any shows or events are able to take place this year (fingers, hooves and everything else crossed!), Rosie's shaggy appearance will have been replaced by a smooth, glossy coat – well, we can always dream!



# Just for Juniors

## Colin's Column . . .

Dear Juniors,

I hope you have had a good Christmas with lovely presents. I had some juicy carrots and some scrumptious ginger biscuits.

Did any of you Juniors spot something funny about my last letter? I can tell you, I was hopping mad when I read it! The whole first page was missing! Did you think it was strange that I suddenly started talking about Reindeer. Olwen explained that the first page never made it to the editor! She was hopping mad as well because her name had been changed to Liz's! Olwen was the one who worked with the reindeer. We had a lovely time hopping together, she was better than me because it's VERY hard to hop when you have 4 legs.



My friends and I are getting bored with being in our yard because the field is still too wet, so we have invented some new games. For part of our day we are allowed in the horse yard. Our friends love it there. Wash is the biggest horse ever, he used to be a racehorse but wasn't very good at it, so he came to live with Liz. He has a chain across his

doorway so that his door can be left open. Wash is very friendly and likes to let us into his stable under the chain to share his hay. One night, Bluey hid behind Wash and stayed there all night! Liz was very surprised then next morning when she saw two pairs of ears over the door! Wash also loves to give us a wash- this isn't a joke, if we stand under his head he likes to lick us all over, it's very soothing.



Our other horsey friend is the smallest one, he is a miniature Shetland called Tyson. Tyson is very old for a pony, he is 42 years old, he hasn't got too many teeth left and eats special feed. We donkeys love this food and Tyson is very kind and shares it with us. He may be small but is very bossy. I would like to be like Tyson when I'm older because Olwen says that he deserves to go wherever he wants because he is so old so he can go into the barn and eat hay ALL day if he wants to, lucky Tyson!

Our best game is called 'rearranging the horse yard!' This means that we move all the wheelbarrows that are stacked against the wall and we drag them into new positions in the middle of the yard. We also move the bench and if we can, the yard brushes. If Liz has left the hay barrow in the yard then we take out the empty haynets and drape them round the yard, also the sadly empty feed buckets. To finish off we drag the hose around and decorate the yard with our droppings! Its such fun and takes us hours. Olwen isn't very pleased even though it looks nice- at least we think it looks nice and it takes her hours to put it back!

Easter is approaching and it is a very special time for donkeys. It is a solemn time, especially Palm Sunday, to remember that a donkey and rider led the procession so many years ago in Jerusalem .

Have a happy Easter and hopefully we can all meet soon,



Lots of love  
**Colin X**



## My Donkey . . .



go anywhere like into Church on Palm Sunday (only not this year) or schools and Nursery at Christmas for Nativity.

Booboo came to us when her previous owner had health problems, Booboo and her mum Esme soon settled and joined the gang. Booboo has had two foals Misty and Tilly and she is a very good Mum. Booboo is now helping Rueben to be a good rider, although she is a bit naughty and every chance she gets she tries to eat grass. Sadly, we had to let Booboo's mum go to donkey heaven, so now her best pal is Milly and they regularly charge about the field, rearing and playing. Booboo is the kindest donkey that loves cuddles, hugs and scratches.



Pam Moon.

## Rueben's special donkey Booboo

Booboo has a really posh name, she is called Elizabeth II but that got shortened to Betteboo and then Booboo and that has stuck – she really is a very special donkey that will





## Northern Juniors say hello to Henry and Tiny Tim!

Northern Juniors, with Colley Mill Donkeys, the Club in Cheshire that has just affiliated to the Donkey Breed Society, have just adopted two donkeys, Henry and Tiny Tim, who live at the Donkey Sanctuary in Manchester – this will give all our brilliant juniors an insight into donkey welfare and hopefully it will not be too long before we can all pack up some picnics and go and visit our new friends, on a day out!

Henry and Tiny Tim are the best of friends and they live together, along with lots of other donkeys at the Donkey Sanctuary in Manchester.

We have been sent these lovely pictures and adoption certificates – these are *our adopted donkeys!*



Jasmine meets Missy. Jasmine's brilliant fundraising over Christmas has helped the Northern Juniors adopt Henry and Tiny Tim. Jasmine and her family were finally able to meet up with the Colley Mill Donkeys on Easter Day!

### **This is what the Donkey Sanctuary have told us about our donkeys:**

**Henry** is an inquisitive, brave donkey who takes every new experience in his stride. Despite having some sight loss in one eye, he is a very friendly donkey who loves humans and will often come across the yard to say hello to our grooms and volunteers when they are busy looking after the rest of the herd. When they are picking out his feet, he rests his head on their back! He loves being with all the other donkeys and is often one of the first to settle down at night and curl his legs under for sleeping. But that's not until he has had a goodnight cuddle with the sanctuary warden – all part of our donkeys' bedtime routine.

**Henry's Birthday is 19.02.2008. He has two little white flecks on his nose and he arrived at the Sanctuary on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2010. He gets on with all the herd and particularly Tiny Tim! He likes lots of love from his humans and a good night's sleep!**

**Tiny Tim** was originally from Ripon in Yorkshire and has been at the Donkey Sanctuary since he was four. His owners loved him dearly but unfortunately, he didn't get on with their other donkeys so, very sadly, they had to find another home for him. They needn't have worried though because he settled in very well at The Donkey Sanctuary. The staff soon fell for this lovely, handsome fellow and when they put him forward for training to help children with additional needs, they hit the jackpot – Tiny Tim excelled.

He has become known as the Harry Houdini of the donkey world due to his mysterious ability to get out of a fully strapped-up rug when left in the stable overnight. What a talent!

Standing at an impressive 132 cms/52 inches tall, Tiny Tim isn't so tiny!

**Tiny Tim's Birthday is 01.05.2010 and he arrived at the Sanctuary on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2014. He gets on with all the donkeys in his herd and particularly Henry. He is brown with white spots. He loves meeting children at his home.**

**Our donations and fundraising help to support Henry and Tiny Tim and we believe this is very worthwhile. So, if our junior members come up with some fundraising ideas, we would love to hear from you!**  
[northerndonks@gmail.com](mailto:northerndonks@gmail.com).

## **More Junior News**

### **Amber and Missy celebrate their Pleasure Riding Award (PRA)**

**Amber has clocked up over 25 hours in the saddle and has just received her DBS PRA rosette, kindly sent all the way from Ireland by Cheryl Browning who runs the scheme!** It has been quite a challenge over the past year as lockdowns have meant that Amber hasn't been able to visit her donkey (who lives with her granny) as much as she would have liked. It was only during the second lockdown, when granny started home-schooling Amber part-time, that she was able to spend time with Missy again – a sneak half an hour here and there during 'PE' soon began to add up! This was followed by half an hour of running around and jumping (on foot!) over little jumps to fulfil the proper PE in the national curriculum!! Granny joined in too!



## Reflecting on Palm Sunday . . .



*donkeys.]*

Many of our members are missing taking their donkeys to a place of worship, at this special time of the year. It is indeed a special time for both Jews and Christians, and it is testament to the importance of both Passover and Palm Sunday that they usually fall round about the same time, each year. Indeed, Sarah and her donkeys had recently had a visit from their local Rabbi and family too.

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March, it was Palm Sunday and this marks the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem, riding into the holy city on a donkey, he was greeted with a parade of palms.

Passover (or Pesach in Hebrew) begins on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan, the first month of the Jewish calendar. This year,



It was wonderful to have a phone call from Sarah Standing informing me that Gail, a leader at the local Kegworth Baptist Church, was at that very moment filming a Palm Sunday service in the middle of a pen, surrounded by Sarah's donkeys. The service appeared on YouTube the following day. [[Go to Kegworth Baptist Church Sunday Service 2th March on YouTube to see Daisy and other](#)



Passover began on the evening of Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Passover commemorates the Jewish Exodus from Egypt after being freed from slavery.

In each festival, nature and history feature strongly and bring a message of hope that is reinforced by the beautiful season of spring.

Also in front of the camera, this time being filmed for a television programme for children that is going out over Easter, were Blackberry Donkeys from the North East of our Region. Marie sent us these lovely pictures. You can see the film crew with the donkeys and Marie in the foreground.



Marie has recently added Matthew and Maurice (above left) to her team of Sox, Bandit, Joseph, Hobo and Teddy. Here they are looking groomed and sleek and ready for filming.

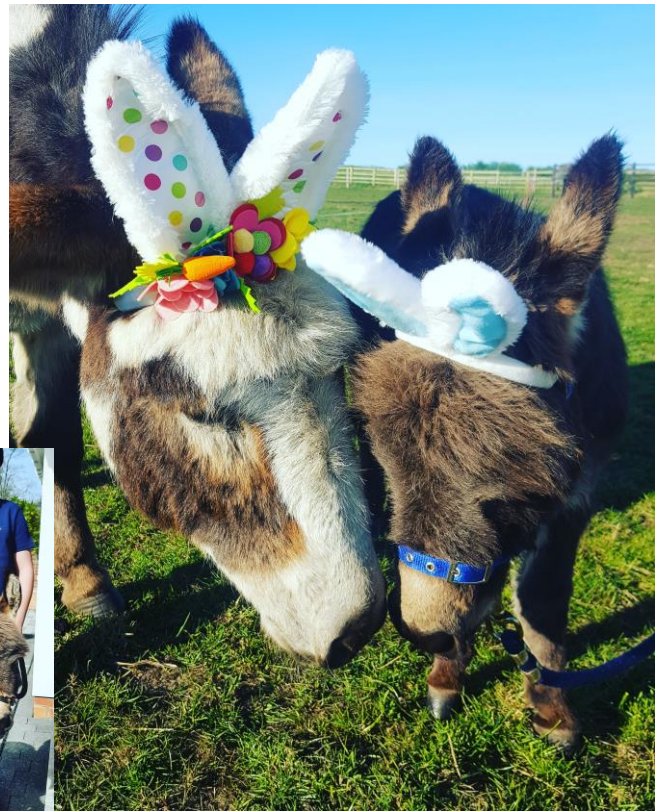


This is Teddy, Marie's miniature Mediterranean donkey distributing palm crosses at Stranton Church in Hartlepool on Palm Sunday in 2019.





And then there are daffodil deliveries and Easter bonnets . . .



Teddy, Bandit and friends from Blackberry Donkeys. Fortunately, someone remembered the ginger biscuits!



FAR LEFT, PAT AND HER LOVELY DONKEYS ENJOYING THE EASTER SUN IN YORKSHIRE, WITH HATS BY ANNIE!

## You're welcome, but please take care . . .

As more and more people ventured out into our beautiful countryside, to exercise during lockdown, it became apparent that for some, the countryside was very different to the 'access all areas' parks and open spaces of towns and cities. Some very disturbing stories started to appear on Facebook and through other media, of livestock escaping from fields, where gates had been left open, to meet a sad demise on local roads or at the very least being injured. Also, there were cases of poisonings through being fed inappropriate 'treats' and stories of livestock being savaged or worried by dogs also hit the headlines in the farming press.

Not all was doom and gloom however and, as Allison Roberts reported from her beautiful corner of the woods in Cumbria, walkers were a bit of a novelty . . .

## Walkers, walkers, everywhere.

Well now, here's a thing – we live in a remote corner of Cumbria, it's a frosty 30<sup>th</sup> of January and Britain is in lockdown, so how come today we came across – or rather had to take avoiding action from – four walkers and three bounding-loose dogs, in two unrelated parties?

The first two walkers were admiring the boys in their paddock when I went to take them out; their two dogs were on leads, so donkey scratches and chats were fine. While the walkers carried on up the fell, we set off down the fell but after an hour I spied the walkers returning, but with their dogs roaming free and approaching rapidly. Into a field we popped, closed the gate, turned round only to see the other party with a huge lolloping dog climbing up to us at the gate; rapid rethink needed – so it was into the nearby cattle pens for the boys, the nearest corralling spot till everyone had passed. Here they were safe from the hounds (or perhaps the hounds were safe from the boys).

What an adventure we had the next day! Off out onto the fell we went and there the boys found the going difficult because ice had formed on the puddled water, while the layer beneath the thin frozen crust was deceptively boggy. After a few misadventures with forelegs, they slowly worked out that noses to the ground alerted them to the potential dangers each next step signaled, till they learned to choose the highest tufts that were less trodden than the tracks of quad bikes and sheep. Off the fell into the high forest ring road we went where I let them roam free – all great; heads went down into the lank, dry grass on the forest edge so they elected to munch while I set off down the steep track to the ford: well, there I turned round to call them to me but what did I see but a stag up at the forest edge, clearly in high alert, looking at me then at the lads and back again. My calls served to send the deer off into the middle of the trees, but the boys didn't respond at all – I knew they would have taken off back up the forest track! There was nothing else I could do but trudge up what is the steepest slope we know (the app recorded the climb as 14 flights of stairs), to retrace our route back to the fell gate; there they were, seemingly unconcerned and even grazing. More than that, they were unwilling to be



head-collared to be led away. In, out and under the pines we went – try that if you dare – till I caught Hamish. Down the other, shorter half of the ring road we went, the boys succumbing eventually to the call of the browse. Imagine what happened next when into sight came four adults and three off-the-lead dogs! I kept hold of Hamish, although they both wanted to bolt, so down the track we resolutely went having sent the walkers away to our left. At last, we reached safe ground in the woods nearer home where both lads seemed calmer and there I left them browsing to recover their composure.

February arrived at last. Late this morning two more walkers with three dogs occupied the boys' attention for a good half hour, standing alert at the back gate till the strangers were out of sight!

Snow is forecast over the next three days, so it was important to get out and graze today for as long as possible; here's how we achieved it. Hamish was led down past the sheep's ring feeder to the first gate (Dougal won't let Hamish out of his sight) then, both free to roam, they followed me along the track without once stopping to graze. Suddenly their heads snapped round, ears cocked and alert. Guess what, two more walkers came into view, catching us up from behind. So, through the nearest gate we went till the walkers caught us up. They, the walkers that is, were entranced to discover the boys, so an over-the-gate donkey worship session followed – at least these walkers were welcomed unreservedly, for the scratches and attention freely bestowed.

Walkers must be like buses, I guess, even in the most remote corner of England.

Allison Roberts.



## A SPECIAL FEATURE

### Getting to know the Region's Donkeys' Canine Friends!

#### Cumbrian Canine Pals

Sheep dogs are part of the Cumbrian landscape, so Hamish and Dougal are used to meeting them; some they avoid, others they chase, while a chosen few are permitted to join their circle. Walkers with dogs – now that's another issue altogether, especially if they, the walkers that is, enter our paddock



using it as a shortcut while fell walking!

But in the elite circle are three very special canine chums. Midge, her daughter Mo, as well as the now-deaf sheepdog, Jet have shared many miles of adventures with the donkeys. The three girls belong to my close friend who trained the boys to work in harness, and she trained me too in matters donkey, if truth is told.

If we are all on parade for events like Remembrance Sunday, or famously when Hamish took a bride to her wedding in his little carriage, the girls are on a lead with the “diamonds” sparkling on their collars. Just for out and about occasions they all bound around free, sometimes exploring interesting smells but they will tackle river crossings, even boggy land – and on one memorable day – a handy pony obstacle course if that's what the donkeys are doing.



Midge and Hamish share a special bond. She makes a bee line for him when she arrives here, and, as if on command, he obediently lowers his head for a kiss (well it's more of a nose lick actually – see front page). Dougal swithers between total disdain for Midge kisses and longing to be brave enough to touch her. He is still impaled on the horns of that dilemma. Mo, on the other hand runs between the boys' feet with total disregard for the powerful kick they could deliver if they were startled.

**Allison Roberts.**

## Dogs and Donkeys.

### Sue Stead.

We have had Briards, an old French sheep dog, since 1980. We have had our donkeys since 2008. How do the two mix? When we went to collect our donkeys from Shropshire, Dolly our dog at the time, went with us. She had been used to being around the horses so did not really take much notice of the new recruits. Dolly was getting on at the time and all she was concerned about was, did the donkeys want her ball?



After we lost Dolly at aged 14, we decided to rescue a Briard in need. We collected Zara from South Wales and she was 7 at the time. Zara was frightened of everything, so I had her with me constantly explaining everything as we went along. The donkeys immediately knew it was a different dog even though she was the same colour as Dolly and looked the same. Zara soon became more confident around the

stables and the animals. She would help me in the arena walking at the side of the donkey cart, stopping when we stopped and keeping in perfect time with the donkey's movements.



We eventually rescued another black Briard girl called Elsie, she was also 7 years old and she immediately fitted into stable life. Most of the time donkeys and dogs co-existed quite happily. We had to watch Jacko when he was very young as he would chase the dogs and raise his front feet at them. He

usually reacted to a stern "No". After we lost Elsie, again at age 14 we decided to try a puppy - a Briard of course. Along came Coco our current dog. She has been hard work from the start, lively, challenging and a mind of her own however she is the perfect dog at the stables. She loves her donkeys and has a special bond with Jacko. Coco thinks she is a donkey. She tries to put her herding instincts to good use but the donkeys just ignore her and they don't seem to mind her running around like an idiot. Oh to be young and full of life! Coco also likes to help with the donkey



training, she will follow us round making sure everything is done correctly. Hope this proves that donkeys and dogs really do mix!



### All the way from Crete . . .

As you were asking for pictures of members' dogs for the next edition of Asspire I'm sending you this one of our Pip. He was rescued as a stray when he was a puppy by the kind people at the Walk with Donkeys Sanctuary in Crete who found him chained up at the roadside. We offered to adopt him after seeing his photo on Facebook and he travelled all the way from Crete to Yorkshire when he was just a few months old. He is a gorgeous little dog who has lived with us for a few years now. Sadly, he has recently developed quite bad arthritis which is curtailing his getting about although he is happy and healthy apart from that. If anyone has any suggestions for helping his movement, we'd be very grateful to hear them.



Terri Morris

**Zoe the Husky and her Blackberry Donkeys friends . . .**



**Dexter the diamond!**



Our dream boy – as a teenager the Farrier that did the donkeys feet had three Flat Coated Retrievers – I knew then I wanted one – our 1<sup>st</sup> house was too small for a big dog, so our 1<sup>st</sup> dog was a Whippet, then the 2<sup>nd</sup> a Parsons Jack Russell Terrier.



We got Dexter 6 years ago as an 11-week-old bundle of fluff with a road trip down to Devon to collect him, he was a diamond from the start, settling straight in and winning our hearts with his goofy ways. Dexter thinks he is a donkey and helps out on a daily basis with the routines. His favourite place is in water and his walks often take him to the local river for a splash and play.

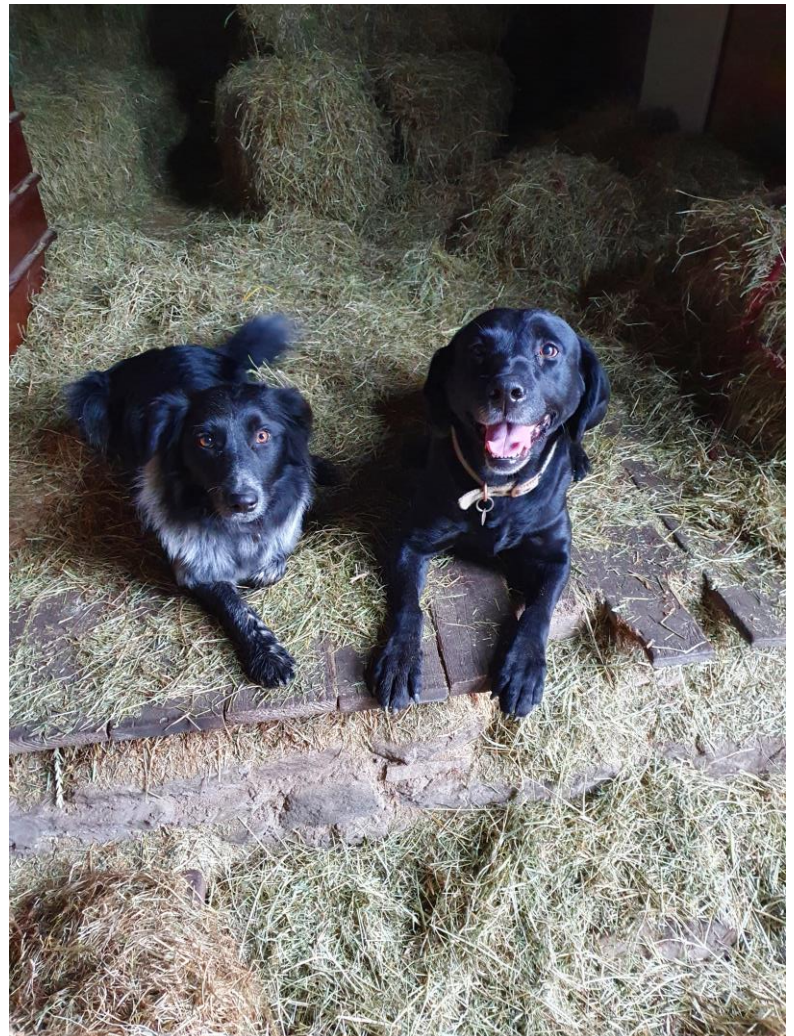
Pam Moon



### The Brown Road Dogs!

Finn, the Labrador is probably totally amazed at how big his friend Moss, the Collie, is now!

Olwen and Liz





### **Tinker, a much-loved granddog!**

This is Tinker (left), friend of Freddie Booth (provided there's a fence between them) and rescued by my daughter Sophie. Freddie loves having a Tinker wash, all over his face and particularly in his ears! (Ew!!)

Having sadly lost her canine companion Clyde, at a very old age recently, Tinker will be joined, at the end of this month all being well, by new little friend! And, when they all get together with Amber's dog Jasper - fun times ahead!

Sarah Booth

### **And in the frame elsewhere . . .**



Thank you to Shani Marshall for sending us these lovely pics of herself, Treacle and Puk foraging for brambles at South Wingfield Manor.

Wingfield Manor is the most amazing location – check it out! I've just looked it up and couldn't believe my eyes – why did I not visit it when I lived in Derbyshire?!!

A potential picnic location perhaps?!  
Thank you Shani,!



**Which brings us nicely to a spot more  
browsing and looking ahead . . .**



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Yes, possibly, hopefully!!**

### Training sessions at Brown Road Farm

**Message to members who wish to continue their training towards the DBS bronze award:**

In accordance with government COVID 19 regulations, one person can have training outside until 29<sup>th</sup> March. After this 5 people can come for training. If you wish to attend a session, please book by phoning **Olwen on 01457762336** and state which part of the syllabus you want to cover.



**Hopefully, by May, it will be like this but with social distancing!**

### Colley Mill Donkeys Junior Club (DBS Affiliated Club) Events:

- **APRIL – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April - Feeding the birds in spring** includes making treats for our feathered friends, to take home to your garden. Nature notes on birds and squirrels are included. **2.00-4.00 pm**
- **MAY - Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May – We celebrate affiliating to the Donkey Breed Society! Afternoon Tea with Miss Wickham (Missy) and her friends – donkey and human! Please let me know if you can join us!**
- **MAY - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May - Mucking-in, mucking-out and finding out about feeding** a return of the popular activity, finding out how we look after our donkeys' stables, creating clean cosy beds *and* finding out about the food they eat. **11.00 – 1.00 pm**
- **MAY - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Games in the Mini-Menage** includes making obstacle Courses and then jumping over them and crawling under them – without the donks but you can be sure they'll be watching! **2.00-4.00 pm**

**All events are free. However, donations to the Northern Region of the DBS are always welcome. *The above include some quality time with the donkeys, feeding, grooming, or just having a lovely donkey hug!* Just drop me an email ([northerndonks@gmail.com](mailto:northerndonks@gmail.com)) and let me know which dates you can make!**

**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](mailto:pam.moon@talktalk.net)

**Area Rep - North & East Yorkshire/Cleveland**

Kindly note that Pat is taking a little break at present, should you require any Area information or support, please contact Olwen (details below).

**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](mailto:throstlenest@hotmail.co.uk)

**Area Rep - Derbyshire - Sarah Hudgins**

Sarah: 07971 996817 [derbyextracer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:derbyextracer@hotmail.co.uk)

**Area Rep - Cumbria - Ann Marie Harrison**

Ann Marie: [harrison.anm@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:harrison.anm@hotmail.co.uk)

**Area Rep - South Yorkshire - Jane Bramwell**

Jane: 01433 620110 [l.jane.bramwell@gmail.com](mailto:l.jane.bramwell@gmail.com)

**Area Rep - Northumberland - Geraldine Burton**

Geraldine: 01434 681335 [gadbunton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gadbunton@yahoo.co.uk)

**Maurice dans la neige!**



## PUZZLE TIME PUZZLE TIME PUZZLE TIME PUZZLE TIME PUZZLE

Thank you to Rosemary Clarke, Passport Supremo, past Chair of the Donkey Breed Society, and the Victoria Coren-Mitchell of Donkey Quizzing (!), for inspiring some puzzles for this edition. Enjoy!

### All About Donkeys

B M O O C X K G W X N H X Q B V X E R O Y E E Q  
 R H E A M M A N G N I N I E R G N O L C G D N E  
 A U G N L I N E J L X A P X Z O G N I D E E R B  
 Y B Q K A A C S Y Y Q D O X O A Q U R E J Q T J  
 U F P G Z I N E S K T S S Q A A F G C O Z X J U  
 D H M A B H R H N A Y O T F F B Q N O F D S Y X  
 L X I T R G N J J E A U U E K Y E I M L O E H F  
 I O G K U G A D M W L K R C P R Z M P F N G I C  
 A C F C A T Y F A F C Z Q E A C C O E G K Y G I  
 T W I Y F W O N R L W H Q C K O B O T N E T C V  
 N F R R Z D I D H J C L O A I S Y R I K Y V A D  
 C L T A G X Z C A P O W Q F Q O Y G T A B L R O  
 Q N W U E L B P Y N X O D O C M N N I X R B R R  
 J D U T K I M J G G M G K D H T K L O E E D O S  
 P B G C R U G E Q I B V L J C K F X N B E J T A  
 C A X N W M A Y W J J L E L L V Z M S P D Q S L  
 Z P A A Z R U Z N O I L L A T S E L G Y S F V S  
 C P S S S L P O N O Q O Q X R O I X N J O R K T  
 E X T Y R R V E H L M P W C I S V I I F C L G R  
 Y U R E N Z O Q U Q K A F A D A A F V X I Z A I  
 H D A K D C C O G M X O R T I W N O I D E T U P  
 O M W N N I X M Y O A F W E N C E Q R X T P B E  
 A J S O Y L J T X L T Y Z N G Z J W D R Y M I U  
 Z P V D X Y Y Q M W N R U V X K R W T U R N V Z

tail straw stallion riding mare long reining long ears hay

grooming grey foal Eeyore driving dorsal stripe Donkey Sanctuary  
 Donkey Breed Society competitions carrots care breeding bray



### Unscramble 'The Bridle'

1. BTI \_\_\_\_\_
2. RIKBENSL \_\_\_\_\_
3. LIKBRNE TYSA \_\_\_\_\_
4. BADBNRWO \_\_\_\_\_
5. EICCEHEKPE \_\_\_\_\_
6. HCPEEDAEI \_\_\_\_\_
7. OSANBNDE \_\_\_\_\_
8. RNISE \_\_\_\_\_
9. RETTSEO \_\_\_\_\_
10. OTLAHATRSH \_\_\_\_\_



**And finally . . .**

**HOLD ON TO YOUR HAT!  
BACK IN THE DAY . . . WHEN THERE WERE SHOWS!**



**Olwen driving at Bakewell Show**

[Photograph kindly submitted by Bill Tetlow]

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**Have a lovely Spring everyone!**

**IF YOU HAVE ENJOYED THIS EDITION OF ASSPIRE, WHY NOT HAVE YOUR SAY IN THE NEXT ONE!!**

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*Please note that views expressed in this Newsletter are those of contributors and not necessarily representative of the Donkey Breed Society.*