**Wales Region report, May 2021.**

The Wales Committee has been unable to hold any meetings, either physical or virtual, since the Covid crisis began, beyond informal exchanges of thoughts and ideas, due to the work commitments and personal circumstances of Committee members.

There has been some initial discussion regarding the future composition of the Committee and some changes are likely in the course of 2021-2.

Events and activities have, inevitably, been on hold, but Committee members have now started to revisit the ideas which were on the table after the very successful 2019 event with Ben Hart. This includes a training activity centred upon the Tellington Touch technique and an introduction to donkey care and housing. There has been an increase in the number of social media posts suggesting that people are acquiring donkeys first and thinking about their needs afterwards, so some ‘light touch’ introductory events may be desirable. These could include input from the Donkey Sanctuary Welfare Officers for Wales.

An issue for the Region continues to be the logistics of accessible and suitable training venues. Contact has recently been made with the National Trust in Wales and it is hoped that a working relationship at one of its sites in south west Wales will provide an attractive and practical venue for a number of activities over the next couple of years, as well as a vehicle for raising awareness with visitors to the property.

Ann Slater, Wales Regional Delegate.