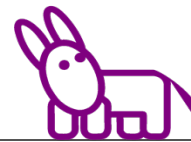


Issue No 61 Spring 2021



Newsletter of the SOUTH EAST REGION of the
DONKEY BREED SOCIETY

www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk

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WELCOME TO LongEars the newsletter of the South East Region of the Donkey Breed Society available by email or post. If you would like issues to be emailed please email southeastregion9@yahoo.com

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CHAIRMANS MESSAGE

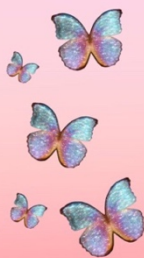
Dear members, yet again I write hoping you are all keeping well and safe along with your four legged families. Not a lot has changed in the last few months since Christmas but it now looks like the light at the end of the tunnel is on its way. We are hesitant to put any events in place at the present time, but perhaps we could do a get together in the first instance or a donkey walk. There is also the worry of the horrible equine herpes virus which is currently doing the rounds so will let you know in due course what has been decided. Please send in any suggestions to the Communication Officer or by letter if you have any special subjects you wish us to try to cover when we do get back to running training days etc. Please also let us know if you wish to hold our Christmas lunch at the end of November (if we are able) there is no point in organising this event if you the members do not wish to attend this year. Here at Battleoaks life has just plodded on as with all of you coping with snow, mud and rain and more rain as Spring arrives. We have missed Palm Sunday again which was sad. We plan to get on with our training programme, our young donkeys have so much to catch up on. They have not been to a show or an outing so have not experienced strange surroundings or meeting new people, they have only been in their familiar surroundings and people along with the farrier and the vet. I must take this opportunity to tell you all that John Porter one of our South East long standing Committee members has been granted the honour of taking up the reigns as our new President of the DBS. Barbara Rodger has joined our committee once again and is our new Regional Delegate and Opal Weaver our Communications Officer has been made a National Council member. Congratulations to them all, I hope you will enjoy your new roles within the Society. I now ask you all our South East members if you would let us know if you have any skills that you could bring to our region. Are you an artist etc? Do you own your own business that you could offer equipment or products at a small discount to our other members, get in touch and let us know. I finish with a warm welcome to several new members, please get in touch if you need any help or questions answered. We will try to help out where we can. Look forward to meeting up with you all soon. *Coral Weaver*

REGIONAL DELEGATE REPORT

Hello everyone, so we have nearly made it to the summer of 2021! Let's hope the weather will be kind to us and life will get back to normal. Whatever that may be. Thank you to everyone who completed and returned the questionnaire sent to you in March. The main information gleaned from the answers is just how much you enjoy your donkeys and how much they mean to you. And a number of people who replied have offered to help with events when we can organise outings again. The loyalty of members who no longer own donkeys usually due to the inevitable ageing process of animals and humans is remarkable. Here in the South East we have members who first joined the DBS in the 1970's and 80's. It was good to hear from you. Thank you. While we have been inconvenienced in many ways by the pandemic, I wonder if the donkeys have noticed any changes in our behaviour? They may have been taken out for walks more often, they may have received more training than usual or missed going to shows and meeting people up close, whatever has happened I am sure they have been well cared for. Well fed and watered, well mucked out, well groomed and hopefully had their feet attended to. Do you have an excellent farrier? Would you like their expertise recognised? The Donkey Breed Society has an award for excellent farriers. A Fab Farriers Award. You can read all about it in the last Bray Talk (Winter 2021 No 163) on page 10. If you would like to nominate your farrier please send me their details and explain how they meet the criteria. (barbara24@fastmail.fm or 11 Rill Walk, West Sussex, RH193XR. Something else you might want to look at are some very interesting recorded Donkey health videos produced by other DBS regions. They cover subjects such as feeding, worming, vaccination and skin conditions. You can get to them via www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk. Look at the latest news page. Hopefully we will be out and about again soon. Best wishes *Barbara Roger*

From Committee

Recently moved to a more manageable house. Just a little mention to Val Newton one of our long standing Committee members who chose to give up a while ago on Committee business, but is still very into all things donkey. We hope you feel safe & happy in your new home



EVENT DATES

May 8th World Donkey Day

7th/8th August Cranleigh Show

21/22 August DBS Championship Show

Still planning

29th-30th Planning Edenbridge & Oxted Show

Sunday 5th September Cranleigh Show

Hopefully a beach walk in the Autumn

December Christmas Lunch hopefully



D B S Shop

Don't forget we have lots of donkey themed items for sale in the DBS shop. You can call 01293 885080 if you are looking for inspiration!



FOR SALE



We can advertise equipment etc in our newsletter for a small fee.

Sell your surplus tack, ornaments and other equipment to other members





WIN

WORLD DONKEY DAY MAY 8th

COMPETITION

DONKEYS GO GLOBE TROTTING



To help celebrate World Donkey Day there is a competition where you can win a Steiff Issey the donkey soft toy, donkey notebook and donkey colouring book. All you have to do is guess from the 5 images what countries the donkeys are visiting. You can email the answers to Donna at blue1donna@aol.com or post answers to Newstead Lodge, Brighton Road, Tadworth, Surrey, KT206AL. Please include name and address on email or posted answer. Closing date for the competition is 30th May 21. Correct answers will be placed into a draw. Good luck, let's go donkey globe trotting! *Donna Newstead*

1



look lala!

What country is Ebony in?

2



What country are Rosebud & Darcey Visiting?

3



What country Did Loki visit?

4



What country Did Jet visit?

5



What country Did Banjo Visit?

World Donkey Day May 8th

It was the idea of scientist Raziq Ark who has an interest in desert animals. In 2018, World Donkey Day was established, in recognition of the efforts of the humble donkey in helping people all over the world improve their quality of life. According to Days of the Year, World Donkey Day is a day of respect for one of the most enduring and respectable animals in the Equidae family. Throughout history, it has served throughout the world as both a mount and a beast of burden in some of the most challenging terrains and forbidding climates, and has done so with pride and endurance. Without the help of donkeys, it is hard to imagine that the modern world could ever have come into existence. These hardy pack animals provided civilisation with the motive energy needed to generate wealth, well before the advent of steam power or electricity. For that reason, many people consider donkeys fundamental to our society. World Donkey Day is all about celebrating the donkey and their extraordinary spirit and individual charm. These creatures are not afraid of a hard day's work. In fact they more or less invented the concept. Ark says that they are 'a precious genetic resource and a great gift of nature'. Donkeys will always have a special place in our hearts. The best way to celebrate World Donkey Day is merely to research these incredible animals and the role they had to play in the world and share with others.

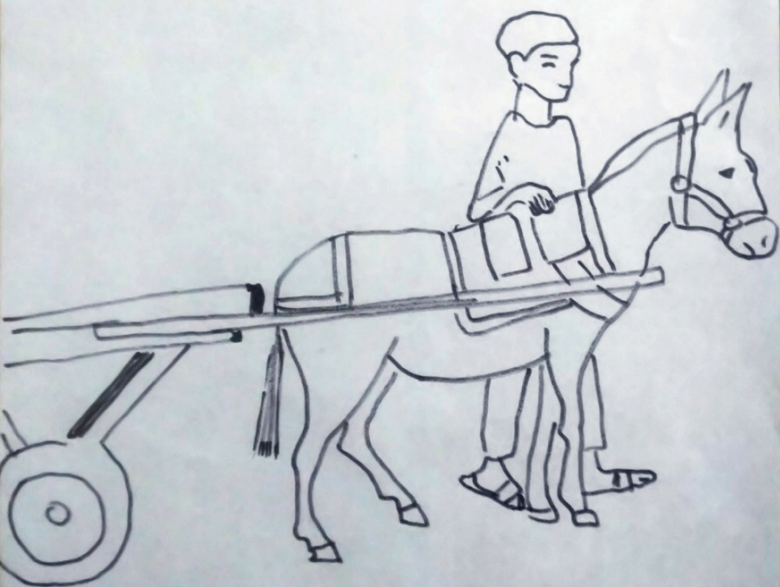
Also a quick reminder, we in our area keep a book to help rehome donkeys that may be in need of a new home for sale or loan. You can also leave your details if you are looking for donkeys, a certain breed, colour, height, experience etc. We have managed to successfully home quite a few donkeys not just in our region but within the DBS.

Gambian Donkeys

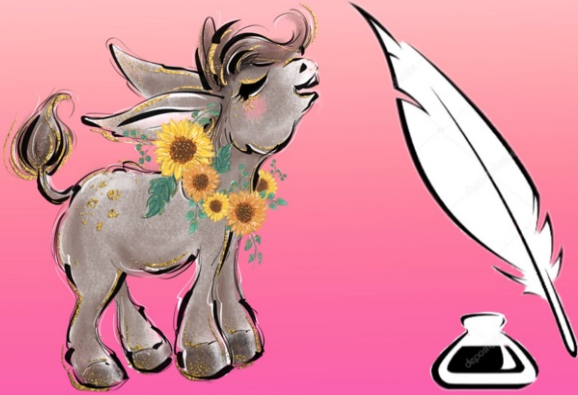
News of our sponsoring of two Gambia donkeys. We have paid for one year's keep etc of two donkeys and will soon be given updates of them. Here are some pictures to colour from the Gambian colouring book which we have kindly been given permission to use by Heather Armstrong, don't forget you could sponsor a donkey for a family or for work with disabled children as a gift for a loved one. Look up Gambia Horse and Donkey.org UK.



IF HE IS WELL HE WILL
LIVE LONGER AND WORK
HARDER FOR YOUR FAMILY



HAVE WE ANY POETS IN OUR REGION? PUT PEN TO PAPER AND SEND THEM IN



WHAT YOU THINK

- 1) If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you like to win but you think you can't
It is almost certain you won't
- 2) If you think you'll lose, you've lost
For out in the world we find
Success begins with a fellows will
It's all in the state of mind
- 3) If you think you are out classed, you are
You have to think high to rise
You have to be sure of yourself before
You even win a prize
- 4) Life's battles don't always go
to the strongest or the fastest man
But sooner or later, the man who wins
is the one who thinks he can

Unknown author

I bought some polyanthus, all colourful and
bright,
Then an army of slugs came and ate them in
the night,
So I waged war on the blighters and put
beer pots on the ground,
Mr Robin was delighted, said 'I'm glad it was
your round,
the gardener puts them pellets down that
gives me indigestion'
Then little Jenny Wren came up with a
suggestion,
That if I put down my pots of beer,
Regardless of the time of year,
Then she can guarantee her song,
Will last at least 3 times as long,
Her home of course is in the wall,
If drunk, she won't have far to fall.....

Marion
Lavender



A DONKEYS NEEDS

Please remember everyday
Your donkey needs a little hay
Clean water in his bucket too
Is something else he needs from you
A shelter is a must you know
To keep him dry from rain and snow
If you think the world of him
then make sure he is neither fat or slim
Please remember everyday
your donkeys wish is still to bray!

By Angus & James Nenton



PUZZLE TIME

Competition

This competition may take a little more time than usual, you may need to do some research. Below are the names of DBS members stud names both past and present. Can you pair them off correctly with their correct owner? Send your answers in to us.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Castlecrete | 7. Happy Valley |
| 2. Wickcroft | 8. Danceabray |
| 3. Downland | 9. Peppercorn |
| 4. Folly Oak | 10. Perehill |
| 5. Highbury | 11. Gamlingay |
| 6. Solway | 12. Crampmoor |

QUIZ RESULTS

10 Sporting numbers



WINNERS

Kim & Jim Weir



RUNNER UP SUE WOOD

SOLVE THE WORD SCRAMBLE :

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. WARTS | 3. A PET |
| 2. LABREY | 4. HINGSAVS |
| 5. LOOPS | 6. ROTSARC |

What key will never unlock a door? A donkey !!!!

A WORD SEARCH BY ERICA RANDALL

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

ASS	APPLES
BRAY	BRIDLE
BRUSH	CARROT
DONKEY	FEED
FOAL	HAY
HOOF	HEADCOLLAR
JACK	JENNY
KICK	MANE
REAR	SUGAR
TAIL	



I have been thrilled with my new Artic Muck boots. I am pleased to report they kept my feet very warm and cosy throughout the winter. They did make chores a lot more manageable and were very comfortable. It was a huge relief to find some boots that finally kept my feet warm. Although I could not wear them in warm temperatures or my feet would cook! I conducted a small survey online asking people what wellingtons they would recommend, 26 people responded and they all voted that Muck boots were their favourite boots. They do a huge range for different conditions. They definitely have my seal of approval. The Weaver family have kindly sent in their wellie recommendation. Last year they took a chance on some Wellington boots from Aldi which looked very similar to Muck Boots but only came in the colours black or olive green. Priced at £20 a pair they wanted to see how they would hold up on the Farm. They did, the boots got them through the winter. They did feel that your feet would get too hot in warm weather. They would highly recommend the Aldi boots. Well done girls for finding such a bargain and thank you for your wellie update.

Donna Newstead



I hope everyone is safe and well. Unfortunately we still will not be doing any open days this year. I have been busy when not at work starting to do some much needed maintenance to the stables, shelters. Some of the donkeys decided to have a little chew on the wood. It was another horrible wet winter. I have just started doing the varnishing, I do hate that job. I am hoping my plants come back to life everything seems a bit behind with the fluctuations in temperature and some very cold nights. My work asked me to do a raffle for charity so I decided to raffle a donkey goodie hamper for The Donkey Sanctuary. I took Herbert in and lit him up! Hopefully we raise some money. My 11 donkeys are all doing well. Does anyone else have a donkey that purrs like a cat? I have 2 donkeys that do Rosebud & Darcey both sisters. Their mum Dolly does not do it. Some people think they are growling it is funny. I am not a cook, I do not have a clue or much patience, but I did have a go at making ginger bread donkey biscuits. Honestly they were actually edible, they don't look very good I have got to work on that. Barbara is right the ears are not long enough but that is not my fault it is the donkey cookie cutter! I have also been making lavender short bread donkeys with mum. If anyone has any donkey cake or biscuit recipes please share. Pictures would also be great, you could really put mine to shame and believe me that's not hard! I am hoping to do some donkey craft in the future, that will be interesting! I will leave you with some pictures of some of my donkey family. Please have a go at the donkey globe trotting competition. *Donna Newstead*

