**Donkey Breed Society**

Newsletter for the Southern Region

Autumn 2021

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| j0304677 | **Committee Members**:  **Regional Delegate & Secretary**  Trudy Affleck –  07973 224537; trudyaffleck@gmail.com  **Area Representatives**  Berkshire – Judith Williams  Hampshire – Maureen Thorne  Isle of Wight – Hannah Brewer  Wiltshire – Clare Humphries  Somerset - Dizzie Maltin  Dorset - Jackie Rose  Channel Islands Lucy Belfield  **Planning Committee**  Area Representatives, Clare Strang and Craig Harris |
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Welcome to the Autumn edition of the DBS Southern Region newsletter and a big welcome to any new members that have joined us.

The South Region Committee is delighted to be able to report that it now has representatives for all Areas of the Region and welcomes Lucy Belfied as Channel Isles Area Representative and Judith Williams as Berkshire Area Representative onto the Committee. We also welcomed earlier this year 2 members onto the Planning Committee; Clare Strang who has stepped down as Berkshire Representative but wishes to stay with the Committee and a new member, Craig Harris.

The Planning Committee are keen to make sure that we meet the needs of members on the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles and will continue discussions on how that can best be done. If you have any ideas, please let us know.

The few events that we have been able to hold this year have been varied and all carried out within Covid guidelines.

Our events started with a lovely day at Tenantry Farm in Hampshire with donkey agility, long reining and driving.

Two further walks gave members a chance to get out with their donkeys through a walk in the New Forest Hampshire organised by Maureen Thorne and a walk with pub lunch in Berkshire thanks to Rosemary and Keith Arnold.

A group of people standing in a field with horses

Description automatically generated with low confidenceMembers have also been involved in an event based on the phases of Trec in Wiltshire.

Thank you, Clare Humphries, for organising this event, especially booking the rain fall for lunch time!)

A person riding a horse carriage

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA Driving Camp at Tenantry Farm, Hampshire on August Bank Holiday weekend, organised by the Southern Carriage Driving Club saw a number of members joining in with various activities with their donkeys both driven and long reined.

We are always warmly welcomed at this event and are so grateful to the organisers for including donkeys. We look forward to a similar event next year.

The Hampshire Area Miniature Horse, Shetland pony and Donkey Show in September gave Members a chance to finally get out and show their donkeys, and it was so lovely for folk that haven’t seen each other for a very long time to catch up.

A group of people walking on a path with donkeys

Description automatically generated with low confidenceFurther walks took place in September from Home Farm Shop and Tea Rooms, nr Blandford, Dorset (highly recommended for the scenic walks and fantastic lunch/ cream teas afterwards – thank you Jackie Rose for organising).

A group of people walking a horse

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Our final walk and get together was at the end of October kindly organised by Judith Williams, walking out around the Berkshire countryside.

A big thank you to all those that have been involved in organising events across the Region.

A reminder to everyone that we do have an unofficial DBS Southern Region Facebook page where we can keep in touch and share what we are all up to across the Region. Please have a look at the Southern Region DBS Facebook page and use it to share what you are doing with your donkeys, it’s always interesting to see what others are up to!

Looking for a Christmas present for a donkey loving friend? Did you know you can buy a DBS Membership as a gift for someone else, and if you buy in November you get the rest of this year plus next year all for the Membership fee?

**Your Horse Live.**

The Donkey Breed Society will be attending Your Horse Live on 12th – 14th November. If you are going do pop in and say hello to those from the Society that are on DBS stand, and if you go onto the DBS Facebook page, like the post on Your Horse Live, comment with your name and then share amongst your friends and on as many pages as you can you could win 2 tickets to the event. The winner will be announced on the 7th November 2021.

**Christmas Lunch**

We are planning to meet for Chrismas lunch at the Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury nr Reading RG& 6QJ on Sunday 5th December, meeting at 12.30. Those attending are asked to do a lateral flow test on the 5th December prior to the meal and to let Trudy Affleck have your menu choice together with a non refundable cheque deposit for £10 per person payable to Trudy Affleck by 22nd November. A copy of the menu together with order form is included with this email.

**Regional AGM – 20th November 2021 @ 11.00am**

Each Region is required to hold a local Region AGM, and as the DBS AGM in November will now be held by zoom each year, the Committee have decided to bring the Southern Region AGM forward to the Saturday after the main DBS AGM as a Zoom event. This will give the Region the chance to acknowledge the various DBS Awards that Members have achieved over the year. Please let Trudy Affleck know by email (trudyaffleck@gmail.com) if you would like to be sent a link to the Southern Region AGM Zoom meeting.

**Calpurnia Cup**

Every Region has a Calpurnia Cup which is awarded each year to a Junior member within the Region for the work that they have done with donkeys over the year. This cup will be awarded at the Southern Region AGM on 20th November and nominations are invited to be sent to Trudy Affleck by 13th November for consideration by the main Committee

**Winter Events**

**2nd January 2022**

Rosemary and Keith Arnold have kindly offered to organise a donkey drive or walk around Lower Bucklebury, Nr Reading Berkshire to start event for the New Year on 2nd January 2022. Please contact Rosemary or Keith Arnold on 01635 868937 for more information.

With the possibility of using Zoom to get together, you are invited to two Zoom events early next year.

**Saturday January 22nd 2022 @ 1900 – donkey Quiz**

A fun get together with donkey quiz questions, no prizes just a test of your donkey knowledge and a chance to meet up over zoom. Please let Trudy Affleck (trudyaffleck@gmail.com) know if you’d like the Zoom link

**Wednesday February 16th 2022 @ 1930 – donkey chat with your Area Representatives**

A chance to meet the Committee and bring your donkey questions for discussion. If we don’t know the answers then we probably will know someone who can help. Please submit any donkey related questions by email to Trudy Affleck (trudyaffleck@gmail.com) by 11th February and let Trudy know prior to the meeting if you’d like the Zoom link.

**Planning meeting for events – Sunday 20th February 2022 @ 11.00am**

Just to let everyone know that there will be a Southern Region Events planning meeting by Zoom on Sunday 20th February 2022. Please let Trudy Affleck know (trudyaffleck@gmail.com) if you want to join that meeting or if you have ideas for events next year.

If you have any items that you want included in the Spring Newsletter, please send them to Trudy Affleck by the end of February 2022.

Best wishes from us all

*Trudy, Clare, Maureen, Jackie, Hannah, Lucie, Judith and Dizzie*

Newsletter contact,

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