



The Donkey Breed Society

Northern Ireland Region

Issue 24

May 2022

Hello my dears. Just a short newsletter this time, to keep you up to date with events that are happening throughout the summer. Can't wait to see you out with us again.

Northern Ireland Championship Show - Cultra

Unfortunately the NI Championship show will not take place this year.

The Ulster Folk Museum have changed the emphasis of the events that they wish to promote and therefore many of the external groups who have previously been involved are no longer to be a part of events in the museum.

Due to the relatively late notice given by the museum, the committee has had to make the sad decision to cancel the show for this year. We are working on finding a new venue and feel sure that the show will be back, bigger and better next year. We are looking to find a public venue because the hundreds of people who enjoyed the Donkey Weekend also brought us a great deal of support and approbation.

We see this as an opportunity to run our championship show without the external pressures that were often exerted by the museum. Please contact myself or any other member of the committee with suggestions for anything you would like to see becoming a part of the new, upgraded, Northern Ireland Championship Show.

Dr Yvonne Canavan

At our Walk, Ride or Drive back in March, courtesy of John and Saskia up at Portview Farm, we were finally able to catch up with Dr Yvonne Canavan. Yvonne recently resigned as Chair of the DBSNI and has also made the hard decision to resign from showing.

Current Chair, Sinead Doran presented Yvonne with a donkey sculpture by renowned County Down artist Sharon Regan as a token of our esteem.

Yvonne promptly named the statue after one of her own show donkeys, Bentley. We remain grateful for everything Yvonne has done for the Society and the support she has given to the committee. We wish her well in the next chapter and hope to see her at DBS(NI) events in the future.



Events Calendar 2022

For all of these events there will be news and updates on our Facebook page and through the Whatsapp group.

NI Big Spring Clean May 21st

We will meet at Seaforde BT30 8NT at 12.30pm and will be armed with bags and litter pickers to clean the verges and road sides around the area.

Lurgan Show June 4th

If you haven't been involved in showing before then this is an excellent place to start. DBS(NI) members will be on hand to guide you and give you all the support we can. Details online, entry on the day.

Armagh 11th June

Saintfield show 18th June

Trim Haymaking Festival 19th June

We have been invited to return to Trim and all are welcome to join us as we provide a haymaking with donkeys display. Bring your pitchforks, it's a grand day out!

Irish Game Fair 25th & 26th June

Again we will be setting up our donkey village at Shanes Castle, Antrim. As well as providing traditional displays, children's activities and access to the donkeys, we will be running a donkey show as well.

Castlewellan 16th July

Great to see the return of this DBS Affiliated Championship show
Entries must be done online before 13th June and the judge this year is Mrs Elizabeth Croskery ('A' panel judge)

That will do for starters, more events to follow as the season runs through.

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