

ASSPIRE!

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHERN REGION OF THE
DONKEY BREED SOCIETY



SPECIAL CORONATION EDITION HOW THE DBS NORTHERN REGION CELEBRATED

The Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla



On Sunday 7th May we gathered to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Donkeys and their humans, from across our Northern Region, celebrated as only they know how . . . a tremendous Show and brilliant camaraderie!

Yes, we did it! It all came together and on a gorgeously sunny day we met up, at Pam Moon's in Lancashire, and enjoyed a very special day indeed. You can relive the day in a great video from Bill Tetlow that captures all the best bits! Watch on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/NYs0KiGUxKY>

and then enjoy this special edition of your favourite magazine!

God save the King!

Ready . . .

We all know that it takes time to prepare our donkeys for a show and this particular Show was no exception. In fact, more than a little extra elbow grease was applied to our tack and, as for washing our donkeys . . . well, what a challenge the shows early in the season always present but this one, it was like no other!



' . . . it's that time of the year again!'



(l to r) Diccon, Booboo and Missy

Steady . . .



With horseboxes and trailers resembling the tardis, packed full of carriages, costumes, carrots and of course donkeys, they sallied forth from all corners of our Region. With excitement levels higher than usual and cries of, 'have you remembered the cake?' and, 'where are the Union Jacks?' they poured onto the region's motorways with satnavs fixed on Lancashire. If you'd forgotten anything, it was too late and anyway this being the DBS, there's always someone to come up with a solution and help you out! Olwen had more to remember than most. Queen of the Pageant costumes, a plethora of capes, crowns and coronets were carefully placed in giant-sized bags awaiting the Juniors!

GO!!

Pam and family and their team of amazing volunteers had created a showground par excellence! Fab, flat and festooned in red, white and blue there was a definite sense that this was to be no ordinary show. From the very young (Sebastian (left) at almost 5 months waved his first Union Jack!) to the more mature, everyone was pitching in to make this a Show to remember and one that would honour a landmark in our Country's history.



Whilst Anna (right) pondered who had taken the wheels from Colin's carriage and Carys, (left) had a photo call, resplendent in her Beefeater costume specially crafted in DBS colours, the morning's classes took place, rosettes were won, champions were made (more of that later) and the sun continued to shine.



For some it was their first show ever. I don't know if you can remember your first show but can you imagine making your debut at your breed society's Coronation Show?! This is exactly what DBS member Eileen Barnes and her gorgeous two-year old Pandora did and nobody can fail to have been wowed by this very pretty and very brave donkey at her first show ever! Not to mention the professionalism of her owner and handler, Eileen!

Eileen has written a lovely article about this experience, read on and savour a little more of what was turning into a remarkable day . . .

Panda's First Show!

Hello everyone, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Eileen Barnes and I have a 2 year old standard coloured jenny named Rosslyn Pandora or Panda for short. I have had the privilege of owning Panda for 10 months now, acquiring her from my farrier who had been asked to find her a new home. Panda's arrival at my home was a total surprise. I arrived home from visiting my mother one Sunday afternoon in July 2022. I was in total shock to find Panda in one of my Shetland ponies stables.



I have always had a great passion for donkeys ever since a young girl helping and working for a Mrs Pam Wood (Greenbank Donkey Stud. Having said that it was over 45 years ago, and I have never owned a donkey of my own until now.

My first thoughts when I was introduced to Panda was, "what the heck am I going to do with her? I can't have this beautiful jenny as a field ornament". Then I remembered I visited the Northern Region Donkey show in Spring 2022 as a spectator and immediately thought perhaps with some training and patience we could set that as a goal for 2023!

The schedule arrived for the Spring 2023 Northern donkey show celebrating the coronation of King Charles. A thousand and one thoughts went through my head. Dare I enter? Will Panda go in the trailer and how will she travel? If I get there how will Panda cope with a show atmosphere? Will we show ourselves up causing havoc? To mention just a few anxious thoughts.

The day before the show came and it was time to give Panda her pamper day and make her look clean and beautiful.

The trailer was ready, the bridle was cleaned and polished and my show outfit packed into the car. I was entered in the first class best conditioned and turnout so everything needed to be clean and pristine. I had prepared a picnic for lunch for my husband and myself (without my husband Micks support I would not have had the courage to attend the show) I also made sure I had treats on board for Panda .

Sunday 7th May 2023 this was our goal day! I woke early and looked out of the window to see damp and foggy conditions. well ... not the best of weather conditions but that's not going to deter us.

I was nervous as to whether Panda would load into the trailer (we had been practicing for weeks). Yes!! she walked straight in. We were off to our first donkey show. This is exciting or am I being too ambitious with my very young donkey so green and novice? Well ...we have to start somewhere and I know from visiting the show last year that everyone was so friendly ...fingers crossed we will be ok .

The moment we arrived on the show field the sun came out and Pam Moon came over to me saying how excited she was that I had brought a youngster and if I needed any help just to ask. Pam introduced me to other exhibitors because I didn't know anyone being a newcomer. What a warm welcome putting me immediately at ease.

Our first class as mentioned was the best condition and turnout. There were 10 exhibitors forward for this class. My expectations for the whole of the day was to give Panda some experience amongst other donkeys and a show atmosphere. A bonus would be if she walked nicely beside me in the ring that would be more than enough for me. It was my turn to ask Panda to trot gosh we did an acceptable trot in this class and we picked a foot up for the judge although having said that our skill at standing still for the judge needs some work but I was so proud of her very first performance. I was over the moon when the judge Mrs Nicki Donaldson placed us 5th gaining a lovely orange rosette. This was Panda's very first rosette.

The next class we had entered was class 4 the yearling/2yr/3yr old class. There were two entries in this class. Panda walked nicely in this class but was more reluctant to trot. I think she was distracted by the donkeys in the back field watching what was going on . Panda's favourite past time is being extremely nosey and very inquisitive! The judge was so helpful giving me much needed advice. I was so delighted when she said that the class was judged on conformation and that she had good conformation .The judge then awarded us first place and a red rosette and to put icing on the cake we were award a DBS best 2year old rosette .

Immediately after the youngstock class it was time for the championship all 1st and 2nd prize winners were eligible to enter. It was time to try and impress the judge again. I was once more delighted and over joyed as Panda was awarded the DBS best local donkey rosette. Congratulations to the champion and reserve champion it was very well deserved.

I couldn't have anticipated our very first show going so well. The people who came and chatted and admired Panda were so friendly and helpful. Thank you, Olwen, for your tips on tails. The cake stalls and Kings coronation themed competitions were amazing and delicious. Finally, the fabulous pageant with the juniors. What a brilliant tribute to our new King Charles.

What an amazing and positive first experience Panda and I had. Thank you to everyone at Beech grove for all your hard work hosting this show. I wonder if I dare challenge Panda to another goal in 2023. Bury show or Halifax show ...who knows ?? watch this space!!

Meanwhile, back at The Show . . .



Sarah, the Treasurer, was in her counting tent!

Some people were starting to unpack their picnics.



Julie was doing 'seriously smart', seriously well!

And there were some hotly contested classes going on too . . .





Champion and Reserve Champion (below)



Results:

Condition & Turnout:

1st Donkan - Debbie Hornby

2nd Brownroad Kingcup - Elizabeth Brown

3rd Beechfield Stirling Silver - Carys Aspey

Stallions & Geldings

1st Brownroad Kingcup – Elizabeth Brown

2nd Donkan – Debbie Hornby

3rd Toadflax of Brownroad – Olwen Brown

Mares

1st Brownroad Desert Cassia – J&T Morris

2nd Romance du Bocage – Olwen Brown

3rd Wychbrook Petronella – J&T Morris

Youngstock

1st Rosslyn Pandora – Eileen Barnes

2nd Wychbrook Desert Rose – J&T Morris



**SHOW CHAMPION Brownroad
Kingcup**

RESERVE Donkan

Thank you to our Donkey Classes Judge Mrs Nicki Donaldson.

Cakes, Crafts and Photographs . . .

Winner of the Cake Competition was Joy Wilcox, with her red, white and blue sponge – yummy!

Winner of the Craft Competition was Sarah Pennell with her mini felted donkey – gorgeous!

Very well done and thank you to everyone who took part in our Competitions.

For the results of the Photographic Competition – please see pages 11-14

And so to the Coronation Pageant . . .





Where to find further photos . . . If you want to see more pictures from the Show and Pageant, Bill has kindly provided stills of pictures from the video. These can be accessed at: <https://we.tl/t-kd0PSH8SK>



And later, because you can never have too much dressing up . . . there was a fancy dress class featuring, amongst others, Harry Potter and the Ringmaster and Acrobat from *The Greatest Showman*!!



DBS Northern Region Coronation Show Photographic Competition

Judge: Bill Tetlow

We were delighted when Bill agreed to judge our Coronation Show Photographic Competition. A photographer of excellent repute and one of the original members of Masham Photographers in Yorkshire, a look at Bill's own photographs tells us a great deal about composition amongst other associated skills. Treat yourself to a look at Bill's Galleries on their website: www.mashamphotographers.com. In the meantime, here are the winners of the DBS Coronation Show Photographic Competition:

Winter

- 1st Sarah Booth
- 2nd Deborah Usher
- 3rd Debbie Hornby
- 4th Cath Kenny

Summer

- 1st Julie Connolly
- 2nd Terri Morris
- 3rd Sarah Booth
- 4th Cath Kenny

Coronation

- 1st Terri Morris
- 2nd Adele Potter

Bill's overall favourite photograph was Julie Connolly's Summer entry. Very well done to Julie and all our winners. The Winter and Summer sections were particularly strong hence Bill awarding four places. Bill tells me that, 'surprisingly, the Coronation Section was by far the weakest, so only two places were given' (perhaps folk were too busy taking part!). In addition, Bill deliberately 'did not give any one competitor two places in the same category'. We loved this competition and Bill did too. He said, 'thanks for letting me do this, I really enjoyed it'. Hopefully we can persuade Bill to judge further competitions in the future!

Winter

1st
Sarah Booth



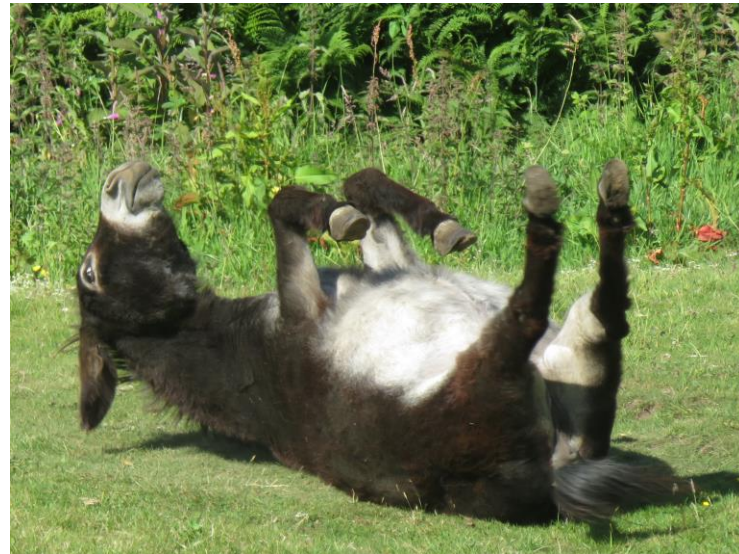
2nd Deborah Usher



3rd Debbie Hornby

Summer

1st Julie
Connolley



2nd Terri Morris

3rd Sarah Booth



The Coronation Show

1st Terri Morris



2nd Adele Potter



Having fun *and* raising funds



You may remember that in the Spring edition of *Asspire* we let you know about Deborah Usher's amazing fundraising for our chosen Charity this year, The Great North Air Ambulance. Deborah Usher is a volunteer for this charity and we were delighted that she was able to join us at the

Show. Here's a reminder of Deborah's story:

I'm Deborah Usher a member of the Northern Donkey Breed Society and a volunteer in Cumbria for The Great North Air Ambulance, during the month of May I am taking part in a sponsored event called Race to The Base, which means I'm walking 130 miles in 31 days (that's the distance from the region's major trauma Centre to base in Langwathby and back). I'll be walking 4.2 miles per day around Carlisle, which doesn't sound far but as I suffer from Rheumatoid Arthritis it's a personal challenge too.

I just hope May has good walking weather.

Thank you, Deborah.



Deborah and the Air Ambulance

We are delighted to provide an update . . .

The total that Deborah has raised so far is £364. We are delighted to be able to contribute money raised through the Show to this. In addition, Deborah's merchandise stall at the event raised over £70! Donations can still be made at: [justgiving.com/fundraising/DeborahUsher](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/DeborahUsher) . Thank you.

Deborah tells us she, 'successfully walked over the 130miles, which I completed 4 days early.' We think this is totally amazing and send our congratulations. Very well done. Deborah said she really enjoyed the Show and sent us some photos of the day, 'Donken visiting the stall and the Coronation parade by the children'. Thank you Deborah!





The Northern Region of the Donkey Breed Society
Special Commemorative Booklet – to be published in the year of
The Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla

Please help us to create, for the Region, a special commemorative booklet, celebrating your own donkeys, or those with whom you come into contact. We want to pay tribute to the donkeys that have filled, and continue to fill, lives in the Region with so much joy.

Let your donkeys be part of the celebration!

HOW: Send *good quality* pictures (up to 4) together with a short piece telling us about your donkey(s) (max. 175 words, not to worry if you go over we can edit it) to:

email northerndonks@gmail.com OR post to Sarah Booth Colley Mill House, North Rode, Nr Congleton, Cheshire CW12 2PL.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 28th July, 2023

THE PLAN IS: to create a gorgeous commemorative booklet that will go on sale in time for Christmas, raising funds for our Charity and creating a lot of smiles along the way! A brilliant present for family and friends and featuring donkeys that you know!



Let me tell you about . . .

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

[Please note that we reserve the right to edit copy and pictures in order to create a clear, professional finish.]



What's on this summer:

JUST SOME OF THE EVENTS WE ARE GOING TO IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS! Check out the Calendar May – September (includes links to schedules + Junior Events/Activities)!

Please note that all members, from all over the Region, are warmly invited to attend events across the Region – you don't have to stick to events in your area – travel a little and enjoy a lot! We will keep you posted on a variety of events/activities in the Region this Summer.

A note from Pam: New Shows for 2023

With the loss of some shows from our region, it is really encouraging to hear of two new shows in Yorkshire that have affiliated to the Donkey Breed Society – they are starting out with a few classes to see how the response and entries they get, please try and support and let's get them on the annual calendar.

Lots of our shows are on-line entries only – if you do not have access to the Internet but still want to enter, please shout up and we will do our best to ensure your entries will be accepted by post.

Ripley Show – Sunday 13th August Ripley Show is held at Ripley Castle Park, Harrogate – looking at their website it looks like a super show with lots going on – donkey classes on at a very civilised lunch time. Schedules and entry forms on their website

Keighley Show – Saturday 2nd September Held at Marley Fields, Aireworth Road – we are going to be in the main ring, again a very civilised ring time not before 12 noon.

And a quick look at the best of the rest . . .

Cumberland County - Saturday 10th June

A show needing entries otherwise we will lose it, please support this lovely show.

Bury Show - Sunday 25 Jun 2022

Classes for in hand, ridden & driven. Venue: Burrs Country Park, Woodhill Road Bury

Contacts: 28 Greenhill Road Bury, Lancashire, BL8 2LL 0161 764 7845 07808 777860

Donkeys@buryagricultural.org.uk

Notes: All exhibits need to have had their annual booster equine influenza jab 10 days prior to the show.

Honley Show – Saturday 1st July

Lovely show, we had a super time here last year!

Great Yorkshire - Wednesday 12th July

Midweek – the biggest and best Show in the Country, open to all.

Aldborough & Boroughbridge – Sunday 23rd July

Lovely show, again needing more entries.

Heckington Show - Saturday / Sunday 29th/30th July

Ringside parking, lovely village show, trophies galore, lots going on here.

Emley Show- Saturday 5th August

Lovely show, lots of trade stands to wander round before and after showing.

Halifax Agricultural Show - Saturday 12th August

Definitely the flattest showring you will ever run on, Halifax is a great show.

Donkey Championships Saturday 19th August

*Historically us up North do very well at the donkey championships – watch out for details in
Bray Talk and The Donkey*

Poynton Show - Saturday 26th August

One of the favourites, always good entries and tradition says the Champion gets the cider in!

Chatsworth Country Fair – 1st – 3rd September

Country Fair over 3 days, donkey driving class and donkeys welcome in other driving classes.

Stanhope Show – 9th /10th September

Bowes Show – 9th September

Penistone – Saturday 9th September

Penistone is celebrating its 150th show – let's support them and show them what crowd-pullers donkeys can be!

Eggleston - Saturday 16th September

Entries needed or another we will lose. Lovely little Village show.

Northern Region Autumn Show – held North Yorkshire – date tbc

Pam Moon.

For further details/information relating to all forthcoming events and if you are wanting to organise an event of any sort in your areas, please ring Olwen on: 01457 762336 we can then provide support if needed and help to let everyone know about it!

Awards Training sessions

Message to all members who wish to embark on their training towards DBS Awards: If you wish to attend a session, or to find out more about the Awards, contact **Olwen on 01457 762336**. We can suggest ways to prepare for your Awards, in your Area and then how to organise testing.

Useful Contacts

Northern Region Chair and Regional Delegate: Allison Roberts allisonroberts254@outlook.com 01697 748311

Vice Chair: Liz Brown, 07517382472

Northern Region Secretary & Hon. PR Officer UK: Sarah Booth, 07970375562 (phone signal is awful, so leave a message or text me and I will get back to you!) northerndonks@gmail.com

Northern Region Treasurer: Sarah Pennell, 01889 591497

DBS Awards Regional Link & Training: Olwen Brown 01457 762336

Colley Mill Donkeys Junior Club (DBS Affiliated Club): Sarah Booth, as above.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Introduce yourself to your Area Rep and say what you would like to see happening in your Area. Area Reps are always keen to hear your ideas and if you can volunteer some help at any time, that too would be most welcome, although not obligatory!

Area Rep – Lancashire – Pam Moon

Pam: 07842 535993 pam.moon@talktalk.net

Area Rep – North & East Yorkshire/Cleveland

Caretaker rep Allison Roberts (details as above)

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

Area Rep – Derbyshire & South Yorkshire – Janet Thornhill

Janet: 07976 556649 janet66thornhill@gmail.com

Area Rep – Cumbria - Julie Connolly

Julie: 07501 331014 julieconnolly1@aol.com

Area Rep – Northumberland – Geraldine Burton

Geraldine: 07833 602311 gadburton@yahoo.co.uk

Membership!

Don't forget to check your Membership status – have you renewed it?!

You can renew your membership on the National DBS Website:

<https://www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk/membership>

Thank you for being a member, your support is much valued.

And finally,

A huge thank you to the Moon family
for hosting this very special Coronation event.

And thank you to *everyone* that was involved - what a memorable day.



A job well done!

If you have enjoyed this edition of *ASSPIRE*, why not have your say in the next one!! Contribute to future copies of *ASSPIRE*, sharing your knowledge throughout the Region! Send pictures, articles, snippets of news from the late Spring and Summer months, to northerndonks@gmail.com to reach us by the beginning of September.

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