South West Region Report – September 2024

Our big event has been the North Devon Show at Umberleigh.  Five donkeys belonging to Sue and Bart from Hartland and Briony Wild attended.  We were asked to give a demonstration of what donkeys can do in the ring and it went off without a hitch.  The public enjoyed the excellent commentary given by Nicki Wight's husband, Alan.  Everyone watching appeared enthusiastic and lots of people came over to see us and chat before and after the display.  We had updated our display boards with new photographs of donkeys out and about and all the DBS leaflets we had on the stand quickly disappeared.  Hopefully we will get some new members wanting to join!  We were pretty lucky with the weather with just a couple of hefty showers.  Sue and Bart had set up a small ring next to our stand where they could demonstrate donkey agility.  Again lots of the public came to watch and ask questions.

More recently Sarah Stone took her donkey to a local village where a friend was selling jams raising funds for Safe Haven for Donkeys.  Her donkey Dotty drew lots of attention and it wasn't too long before all the jams and marmalades had sold out.  In total they managed to raise £140.00 for the charity.

In the last few days Sue and Bart have again been out and about with their donkeys to Exeter where they had been asked to attend the Festival of the Iberian Horse.  Again not only chatting with the public and attendees but also having a turn in the main ring.  So lovely to see people out and about with their donkeys.

Liz Barrett

Regional Delegate