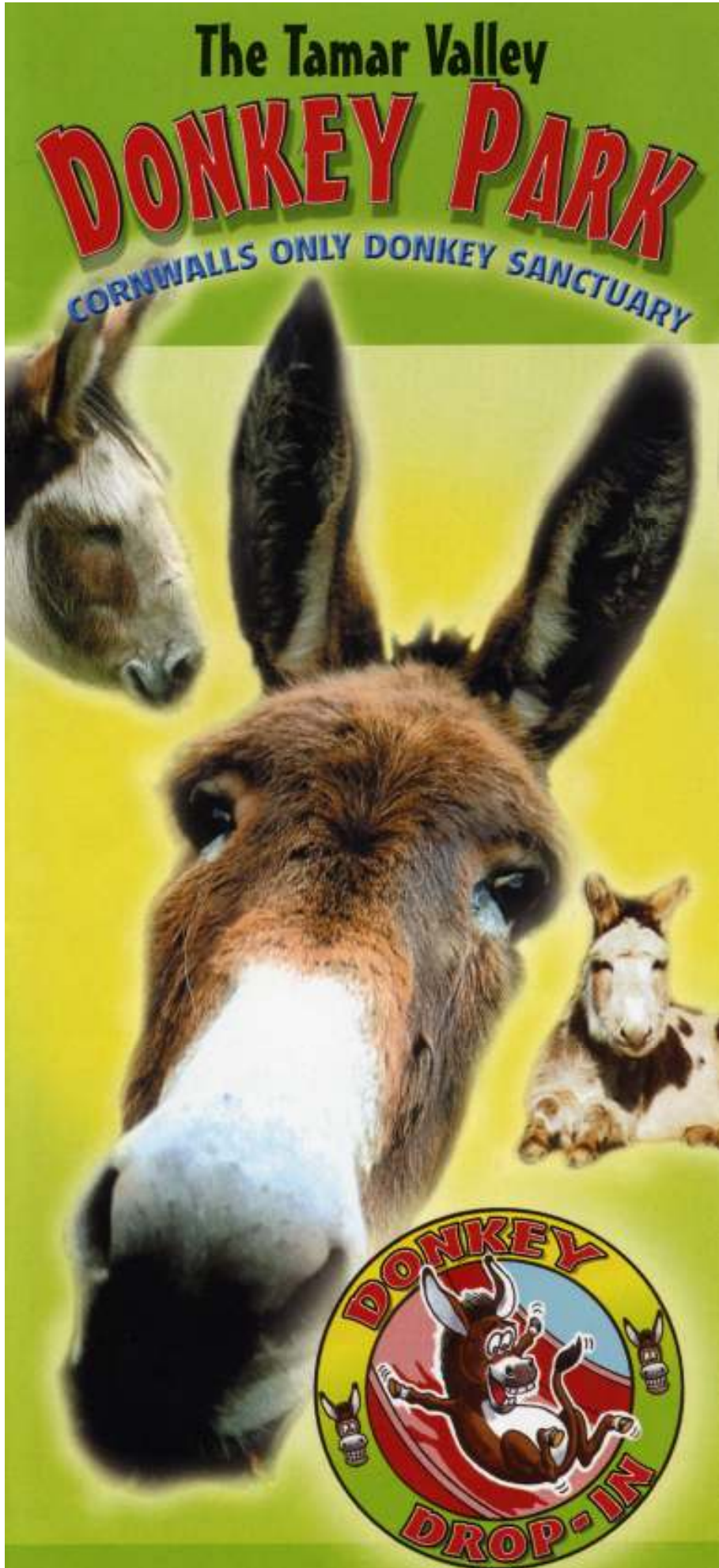


NEWSLETTER

2004



# EEYORE News 2004

**A big EEYORE HELLO from all of us donkeys. Firstly our people have asked us to apologise to all those who adopted us in 2003 and have not yet received their newsletter. Our people have been extremely busy this year building the new Donkey Drop-In indoor play barn (more later). This newsletter will cover 2003/2004, which has been a very busy and exciting time at The Donkey Park.**

**JACKO** – In the summer of 2003 we heard the loudest eeyore we had ever heard coming from somewhere near by and we found out that our people had taken in a jack (stallion) donkey. His name is Jacko and his previous owner was retiring to France and could not take him. We have now all met him, he is a lovely chocolate brown colour and the jennys (girls) think he's very handsome, so much so that Mary and Poppy spent all last winter with him

**BUSTER AND BOBBY** – These two elderly donkeys were taken in but we have not met them yet as they live at a foster home nearby. They have 3 acres of grazing and their own 16ft x 16ft field shelter and get spoilt rotten. They even join their foster carers for picnics and barbeques during the summer.



Bethany feeding Misty supervised by Annie our DogSheep

**CRACKERS AND BILLY BEAN** – Originally from Wales they lived on a Farm Park which unfortunately lost all their other animals during the foot and mouth disaster. They moved with some shetland ponies to a small holding in Somerset, but after a while their owner realised that they were missing all the attention they were used to. So during September 2004 they came to join us. They are only 9 and 11 years old and we have heard that our people are planning on training them to be riding donkeys. They are both really cheeky chappies and have settled in extremely well.

**BUSY LIZZIE** – After Poppy had spent the winter with Jacko the vet confirmed that she was expecting a foal. Our people believed her due date was early June to mid July (gestation period for a donkey is 11-13 months) they were still waiting at the end of July and wondered whether she was ever going to give birth. Then at 2.30am on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2004 we were all in the donkey house as it had been a very wet day and Poppy was in her stable when we realised she was huffing and puffing then suddenly there was a baby donkey. We all eeyored as loudly as we could, so that we woke up Tamsin one of our people who came to see what all the noise was about. Within minutes all our people were in the donkey house watching with amazement as the little donkey slowly got to its feet and started suckling. A competition was run by the Western Morning News to name her, the winner was Lucy Lund from St Austell who suggested Busy Lizzie.

**DESMOND** – As already mentioned Mary also spent the winter with Jacko, she took a little longer than Poppy to be in foal. Again our people got it wrong they expected her to give birth during October, however it wasn't until the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004 that Desmond decided to arrive. He was born at 8.15pm in the evening watched by all our people and Bridget who was keeping Mary company in the stable. Desmond was named after Tamsin's first pony who was a real character and lived to the grand old age of 43 years. He is a very dark charcoal colour and the first donkey here with a black nose. Both mother and baby are doing well.



Unfortunately it is not all good news, during 2003/2004 we lost Karina and Nelson (donkeys) and Gertie (pig) all are greatly missed by us and our people.

**BILLY, BOBBY, BUTTERCUP AND BELLA** – Four part bred pigmy goats were taken in just before Christmas 2003 from an elderly gentlemen who could no longer look after them because of health problems. They were quite shy when they first arrived but gradually week by week they are becoming less timid. Bobby has taken to jumping out of goat mountain to go and see the visitors on the park.

**LULU** – Welsh Section B pony aged 33 years. Her previous owner was moving and sadly could not take her with them. They wanted to ensure that Lulu went to a home where she would be well cared for and they decided on the Donkey Park. She is a very sweet and loving pony who is a joy to have on the park.

**PIPPA** – Norwegian Fiord pony aged 12 years. Her previous owner was moving to Scotland and it was too far to transport Pippa. No other home could be found for her so it was agreed that she would come to join us. Since then we have seen our people having lots of fun and games with her. She is a pony with attitude who thinks she's a shire, but slowly she does seem to be getting better.

**SHEEP** – The Donkey Parks flock of 7 sheep spent the summer and winter of 2003 in a rented paddock as the Donkey Park was running out of room. In May 2004 a telephone call was received saying that Stephe was having a baby lamb. This was thought to be impossible as there are no rams in the flock and then it was remembered that during the previous autumn the flock had escaped for only half an hour in to a neighbouring field, where there was a ram! Being a first time mum at such an old age Stephe rejected her lamb which therefore had to be hand reared by Tamsin. Her name is Misty after the small holding where she was born. Misty lives on the Donkey Park with Annie and Oliver our other two orphans.

**RABBITS AND GUINEA PIGS** – The Park has taken in too many to mention individually.

As usual Arkle, Colleen and Copper have been out and about visiting people and promoting the park. These outings include Palm Sunday, Fetes and Fairs, Trago Mills and Nativity/Carol Services.



Copper at Trago

**DONKEY DROP-IN** – We woke up on the 11<sup>th</sup> January this year to the loud noise of diggers and dumpers, the work on the new indoor play barn had begun. The ground quickly turned to sludge as it didn't stop raining for the first few weeks, because of this the dig took much longer than expected. Gradually though we saw the steel frame go up and then the roof go on (even though it was snowing) last was the wooden cladding. The inside was fitted out with play equipment and a donkey ride area so that we don't get wet on bad weather days. A very strange big red animal came to officially open the drop-in in June his name was Clifford The Big Red Dog, there were lots of visitors and everyone enjoyed a great day.



Roy Teddy Arkle & Punda with Clifford



**DONKEY TRIUMPHS** – Colleen was the first to excel herself this year. Whilst visiting The Yealmpton Show Old David decided to enter her in the most Versatile Donkey Class, she had to walk in-hand through gates, boxes, bending poles and over carpet, a bridge and jump a small fence. None of this phased her and as she was the only donkey to complete the course she was awarded first prize.



Colleen first at Yealmpton show

## **THE DONKEY SANCTUARY BEACH & WORKING DONKEY COMPETITION**

– In 2004 we were asked for the first time if we wanted to enter the above competition. A team of Roy, Pebbles, Connie and Punda was chosen as they are all similar in colour and are extremely good at their job. The team were judged 3 times throughout the summer. WE WON the Best Working Team in the South West and only narrowly missed out on the national title to a group of donkeys in Scarborough.



The Winning Team  
With Tamsin  
&  
Lional Ford  
Regional Welfare  
Officer of  
The  
Donkey Sanctuary

Thank you to all of you who have adopted us during 2003/2004 your donations are greatly needed to keep us fed and well. We look forward to seeing you on the park when you next visit, please don't forget your pennies for the carrots.

## **LOVE FROM**

**Pebbles Poppy Busy Lizzie Polvier Punda Ringo Roy Sasha  
Snubs Arkle Beamish Bridget Colleen Connie Copper Gemma  
Georgina Grizelda Happy Joyce Kiltie Kit Mary Desmond  
Teddy Jacko Buster Bobby Crackers and Billy Bean**

**The Tamar Valley Donkey Park St. Ann's Chapel Gunnislake Cornwall PL18 9HW  
Info@donkeypark.com www.donkeypark.com 01822 834072**

# Adoption Renewal

**ADOPT** one of the donkeys at the **Tamar Valley Donkey Park** and help with the enormous cost of keeping it for a year.

In return you will receive:

- \* Certificate of adoption
- \* Colour photograph of your chosen donkey
- \* Annual newsletter
- \* 10% discount on any purchase over £5 made in our shop
- Plus one-day entry ticket to the park to use once during the year to visit your adopted donkey.

For a minimum donation of £15 child or adult (inc. VAT).

I wish to adopt the donkey called \_\_\_\_\_ for one year,

Commencing \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print) If child age.....yrs

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person required on adoption certificate if different from the above  
\_\_\_\_\_ If child age.....yrs

I enclose my cheque/postal order for \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to:-  
"Tamar Valley Donkey Park"

Address on back page



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