

WINTER 2015

PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG

Merry Christmas and a

The Newsletter of the Pyrenean Sheepdog of Great Britain



The Committee of the PSD Club of GB

wish you

a

Merry Christmas

& a Happy New Year

Welcome to the winter edition of the Newsletter of the Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of Great Britain. As with most winter editions this is another bumper one. This is mainly because there has been so much happening in the club over the last few months. Hopefully you will all enjoy reading the accounts of all these activities. As usual I hope we have managed to get the right balance in the Newsletter.

As editor can I stress the importance of getting articles to me on or before the deadline otherwise they may not be published. Heather Davies has asked me to ask the membership for any topics that they would like to be included in her vet's Corner column. Please let me know and I will relay your thoughts on to her.



The star of the front cover is Friponne du Pic d'Espade Keltara awarded Best in Show at the Club's Open Show.

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VISIT THE CLUB WEB-SITE

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Disclaimer :- The newsletter contains articles and information provided by members and non-members of the PSD Club of GB. The club wishes to make it known that the inclusion of material in this newsletter does not necessarily

Bits and pieces from the Secretary

AGM

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will take place at 11.00 on Sunday 7th February 2016 at Lubenham Village Hall, Laughton Road, Lubenham Leics LE16 9TE. The committee would like to invite all those members attending the AGM to stay for lunch afterwards. It will be an informal affair, so just bring your own lunch and join us for a chat.

In accordance with the Constitution and Rules, Alain Pécoult is required to stand down as President and Chris Lewis, Klaus Senkpiehl, Vicky Wilford and Pat Wescott are required to stand down as committee members. They are all eligible for re-election without nomination and all are willing to stand again. Klaus Senkpiehl has decided to stand down as Vice Chair and Cynthia Milnes and Sheila Janson will be standing down from the committee. There are, therefore, two vacancies for the committee.

The Secretary and the Treasurer are required to stand down annually but are eligible for re-election without nomination. Liz and Carla are both willing to stand again.

Nominations for anyone wishing to stand as President, Secretary, Treasurer or a committee member, must be accompanied by a Proposer and Secunder and should be received by the Secretary by **10th January 2016**. Applicants need to have been a member of the club for at least a year to be eligible for election to the committee or an office. Nominations will be accepted by email provided they are properly worded and signed.

Any items for inclusion on the Agenda, accompanied by a Proposer and Secunder and properly worded and signed, should be received by the Secretary by the **10th January 2016**.



Points System

If you have been showing your dog this year or competing in agility or obedience, don't forget to send your points in by **20th January 2016**. If your dog has achieved something special please let Liz know as he/she may be eligible for a Certificate of Achievement.

Showing, Agility, Obedience and Junior Handler points should be sent to Liz Lewis, 10 Asquith Boulevard, Knighton, Leicester LE2 6FA or by email to riacaud@mac.com Please use the "official" forms which can be downloaded from the club website. If you have any problems please contact Liz.

A trophy is awarded for the dog with most showing, agility and obedience points and Certificates of Achievement are presented to those who come second and third.

Please do send in your points so that we can celebrate your dog's achievements.



Discover Dogs & The National Pet Show

Discover Dogs was held for the first time at ExCel on 17th/18th October. Diane Newton and John and Julie Farrar with Scrumpy manned the stand on the Saturday and Steph Grundy with Max and Chris Lewis with Geordi were there on the Sunday. Both days were busy with some genuine interest.

The PSD was represented for the first time at the National Pet Show on 9th/10th November. Jonathan Pattison with Meg and Kim Randall with Pixie manned the stand on the Saturday and Klaus and Carla Senkpiehl with Lily were there on the Sunday. This was a somewhat different experience as not only were there dogs but other small animals and even donkeys.

Thanks go to all those who gave up their time to represent our breed at these events.



Discover Dogs at Crufts

Crufts 2016 is from the 10th-13th March with Pastoral Breeds being shown on the Saturday. The Obreedience team will also be in action on the Saturday afternoon.

As usual, we need as much help as possible to help man the breed stand. We have quite a few young dogs who are doing a great job as ambassadors for the breed and we hope that they can persuade their owners to bring them along to help out.

Car park and entrance tickets are provided by the Kennel Club, as is a sum of money to be shared between the helpers each day to cover food and travel expenses. A committee member will be there each day to provide support. You don't have to be an expert on the breed to help on the stand. If you live with a Pyrenean Sheepdog you can tell other people about your experience. If you can help or need to know more about what is involved, please contact Liz Lewis.



Open Show

Our next Open Show will be held on **10th April 2016** at Bearley Village Hall, Snitterfield Road, Bearley, Nr Stratford on Avon CV37 0SR. This will be held in conjunction with the Catalan Sheepdog Club. The judge will be Zena Thorn-Andrews. A schedule is included with the Newsletter.



25th Anniversary Celebrations

In 2017 the club will have been in existence for 25 years. The committee is planning a weekend of celebrations on **5th/6th August**. The weekend will include our Open Show and the judge will be Norbert Gainche from France. Further details will be released in due course but please put this important date in your diaries.

Calendars

If you are looking for a last minute Christmas present, why not give one of our PSD calendars. They are available for Kim Randall at a cost of £5 plus p&p.



The Obreedience team competed at Stoneleigh recently in the last heat to qualify for Crufts. The team was Pauline Keable and Piri, Cynthia Milnes and Pussel, Margaret Challens and Deva, and Jeanna Gwilliams and Kheva.

Fifteen teams competed on the day. Team "Petit Pyreneans" were 4th. Only 1/4 of a point behind the Tollers in 3rd place, and only 2 point behind the winners on the day the Springers.

A slightly different team had competed in a heat earlier in the year. Pauline and Fizz, Di Newton and Piri, Jeanna and Kheva and Liz Lewis and Geordi.

The two competitions made full use of our team. We were allowed to register 6 dogs and handlers at the start of the year and four dogs and handlers compete on the day. The points gained from these heats have ensured us an entry for the second year in succession at Crufts.



MESSAGE FROM A HAPPY PRESIDENT

If you have never seen a happy judge, you should have attended the first open single breed show of the Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of Great Britain.

To be honest, I didn't go without a degree of apprehension. I had seen in the past dogs with poor pigmentation, over-groomed and all fluffed up, well, everything we French do not like! Of course I was thrilled with the number of entries and couldn't wait for the last day of my week in England of which the show was to be the highlight!

So, why was I happy judging? Because it felt like home! The procedure was different (I hope I didn't make too many slip-ups...) but the dogs looked the same, no better, no worse!

I keep complaining about the same things over and over again.

One is that our Berger is the smallest French pastoral breed, but it is not a small dog, it is not in the sheltie category. It is a dog that is light, or should I say lithe, agile, alert and those I see here, there and everywhere are too often insubstantial, too small, with spindly legs, poor coats... And watch the heads! Once you start losing width of cranium you soon end up with round ones, with round eyes, too much stop etc.

Another thing I complain about is poor movement. The Berger at the trot "scrapes the ground" with good reach and equally good drive (balance it's called!). So, watch out for that relatively long stride. It is my opinion that it comes with good shoulder angulation and a long leg. It is important to remember that the chest barely reaches the elbow and is better above the elbow than below...

Teeth do not seem to be a problem in the UK, only 2 struck me as having a bit of a problem if I remember rightly, nor does pigmentation seem to be one...

Let's remember ears may be semi erect but do not have to be, so long as they are not heavy and low set. The tails did not scare me either! They were mostly well carried, meaning carried low or a little high but not rolled up over the loin as sometimes happens and is a serious fault.

Temperament appeared to be even better than I mostly experience in France, which is very good!

Of course one thing I also enjoyed is the impeccable behavior of all the exhibitors. It is only to be expected, of course, but it's a treat not to be disappointed in that respect!

I will only add a few words about the BIS, Friponne. She is a delight to watch and judge, the perfect shape and proportions, beautiful rear-end, a remarkable coat, excellent movement... And just because I am mean, really, I only wish she had a "cleaner" nose, but that is because I have to split hairs or I do not feel hard-to-please-president of the club enough! I am not surprised she has done so much winning in France, including under non French judges. Take a good look at her, and then set out to breed to the same standard, or a little better!

I know somebody who would have loved to be there and who is seldom out of my mind: Brenda Judson who so loved the Pyrenean sheepdog.

My thanks to everybody and in particular to those who worked hard behind the scenes to put this together, Chris and Liz Lewis, Barry Denyer who briefed me by mail and on the spot, Diane Newton and Toni Wescott whom I totally relied on to do things the proper way! See you soon again I hope.

Alain Pécoult



**The Pyrenean Sheepdog Club
of Great Britain
Open Single Breed Show
Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh Park,
Warwickshire
Monday 31st August 2015
Judge Alain Pécoult (Fr)
Judge's critiques**

Dogs:

Class 2: Minor Puppy Dog, 1 entry
1st: n° 39, Larrall de la Mesta Pastores
Very lively friendly puppy of good proportions, excellent pigmentation, movement could flow more, needs to gain substance in future months.

Class 4: Postgraduate Dog, 2 entries
1st: n° 18, Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel
Excellent friendly dog in excellent show condition, excellent proportions though looks a little "close to the ground", very good movement and excellent tail carriage.

2nd: n° 12, Bon Sooty de la Belle Folie
Very friendly dog, black, of rather light build and excellent proportions, movement somewhat stilted.

Class 5: Limit Dog, 1 entry
1st, RBD n° 31, Norlyght Biassono
Rustic dog of good size, excellent fawn coat, excellent temperament, proportions, including head proportions, but rather big round eyes and could flow more when moving.

Class 6: Open Dog, 4 entries, 2 absentees
1st, best dog, BOS and RBIS: n° 6, Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel
Good size rustic brindle-grey dog in excellent show condition, excellent head proportions, eye a little round, excellent movement.

2nd: n° 45, Ned Ch Caloy de Loubajac
Tallish fawn dog, coat not in show condition, excellent proportions, excellent side gait.

Class 7: Veteran Dog, 3 entries, 1 absentee
1st: n° 45, Ned Ch Caloy de Loubajac
Seen in previous class, quite brilliant as a veteran.

2nd: n° 38, Bel Ch Foli de Pic de Pioulou
Good size rustic fawn dog with excellent head but eye too round, excellent temperament, movement could flow more.

Bitches

Class 9: Puppy Bitch, 1 entry
1st, BPIS: n° 8, Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles
Good size black puppy, coat a little soft at the moment, head a little small and eyes a little on the light side, friendly, excellent proportions and well angulated rear end, excellent movement.

Class 10: Junior Bitch, 3 entries
1st, BJ: Sandytrail Sonata
Average size, a little on the light side, light fawn goat's hair coat, excellent proportions and very nice expressive head, could do with a little ring training!

2nd: n° 4, Sandytrail Solitaire Avec Ciopar
Tall, brindle, needs to fill out, excellent expression, rear-end could be better angulated, movement is fine.

3rd: n° 37, Jolie-Joyeuse de l'Oustaou de Padel.

Class 11: Postgraduate Bitch, 10 entries, 2 absentees
1st: n° 22, Intrépide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara
Excellent head, body on the long side, excellent coat, excellent well angulated rear-end, excellent movement but tends to dip a little.

2nd: n° 14, Rozimba Cassia
Excellent size and proportions though somewhat on the short side, could do with slightly more rear angulation, nice head, nice movement.

3rd: n° 13, Norlyght Sebelas Of Amienko

Class 12: Limit Bitch, 4 entries, 1 absentee
1st: n° 9: Rozimba Piau Engaly Avec Sandytrails

Tall fawn bitch, excellent overall constructions and head, very good movement, very pleasant to look at.

2nd: n° 1, Norlyght Satu Juta
Average size, fawn, could do with slightly better rear angulation, excellent head but eye a little too round, tends to dip in movement.

3rd: n° 17, Sawara Double Trouble

Class 13: Open Bitch, 5 entries, 1 absentee
1st, Best bitch, and BIS: n° 23, Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara

In a class of her own. Excellent size and proportions, beautiful rear-end, beautiful fawn coat, excellent head, excellent flowing movement.

2nd, RBB: n° 7: Sandytrail Encorecele Bel Jnr Ch

Rustic looking grey bitch with excellent head and construction, movement could flow a little more.

3rd: Lorelei du Pic de Pioulou

Class 14: Veteran Bitch, 4 entries, 2 absentees

1st, Best veteran in show: n° 19, Rambauds Madame Mystique avec Ricaud
Excellent size, dark grey bitch with a beautiful silhouette and expression, age shows in movement that doesn't exactly flow...

2nd: n° 46, Cascade du Castelmouly avec Rambaud

On the small side, nice head, ears set a little too low, excellent fawn coat, movement is fine, excellent temperament.

Class 15: Good Citizen Bitch, 3 entries

1st: n° 19, Rambauds Madame Mystique avec Ricaud
Seen in veteran class

2nd: n° 13, Norlyght Sebelas of Amienko
Excellent size and proportions but could do with a little more substance, very nice fawn, not much coat, excellent expression.

3rd: n° 47, Rambauds Allevard Aussi



THE KENNEL CLUB

KC BREED RECORDS SUPPLEMENT IMPORTATIONS

JEWEL (IMP FRA)(SCCLOF33884/0), b.17/01/14, c.Blue Merle, br. Mr C Caussade; Diraty de Loubajac - Galy du Moulin d'Ebene; owner Ms V A Harry; origin - France.

ENTRE NOUS ROMANCE SANS PAROLES (IMP FIN)(B'tail)(FIN F119321/15), b, 05/02/15, c. Black, br. Ms S Tanka; Athos du Domaine des Elweis - Entre Nous Coriandre Bleue **Fin Ch**; owner Mr E & Mrs S Flint; origin- Finland.

GALADRIEL DU MOURIOCHE (IMP DEU)(VDH 14/08601089), b,19/12/14,c.Black, br Mrs S Lange; Jadoble Wiseacre - Brandagambar du Mourioche; owner Miss T Bennett; origin- Germany.

LARRAU DE LA MESTA PASTORES (IMP FRA) (SCCLOF34478/0), d, 23/02/15, c. Fawn, br. Mr A & Mrs P Bedu; Foehn du Pic d' Arbizon - Hilette de Loubajac; owner Mrs P J Varnes; origin- France.

LUVENNA DE LA MESTA PASTORES (IMP FRA) (SCCLOF34478/0), b 23/02/15, c. Fawn, br. Mr A & Mrs P Bedu; Foehn du Pic d' Arbizon - Hilette de Loubajac; owner Mrs L Wells; origin- France.

NEWTON JEWELS OF MOUNTAINS (IMP BEL) (LOSH1144119),d,06/04/14, c. Black, br. Mr J Cordier & Mrs P Delgutte & Miss E Cordier; Halsou du Moulin d'Ebene - Fiby de Loarwenn; owner - Ms V A Harry; origin- Belgium

NEW REGISTRATIONS

Mr C J & Mrs P M Such, 08/05/15,
Diwan de la Borde d'Ouzoum - Jazlyn du Pic de Pioulou (IMP BEL) AL4 (15/0210, 23/03/13, 2/8)
NORLYGHT LE MANS,d,c. Fawn
NORLYGHT MAGNY COURS,b,c.Fawn
NORLYGHT PAUL RICHARD,d,c. Fawn
NORLYGHT ROLIEN LES ESSARTS,d, c.Fawn

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**Results of the Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of
GB
Single Breed Open Show
Monday 31st August 2015**

Judge: Alain Pécoult

Best in Show

Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fr) Pat Phillips

Reserve Best in Show

Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) Eion and Shane Flint

Best Opposite Sex

Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) Eion and Shane Flint

Best Dog

Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) Eion and Shane Flint

Reserve Best Dog

Norlyght Biassono Chris and Tricia Such

Best Bitch

Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Pat Phillips

Reserve Best Bitch

Bel Jnr Ch Sandytrail Ensorcelé Eion and Shane Flint

Best Puppy

Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (ImpFra) Eion and Shane Flint

Best Junior

Sandytrail Sonata Mr & Mrs H Bruntwell

Best Post Graduate

Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) Liz Lewis

Best Veteran

Rambauds Madame Mystique avec Riacaud Liz Lewis

Class Results

Minor Puppy Dog or Bitch (1 entered)

1st Larrall de la Mesta Pastores Penny Varnes

Post Graduate Dog (2 entered)

1st Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) Liz Lewis

2nd Bon Sooty de la Belle Folie (Imp Deu) Jenni Gemmill

Limit Dog (1 entered)

1st Norlyght Biassono Chris and Tricia Such

Open Dog (4 entered, 2 absent)

1st Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) Eion & Shane Flint

2nd Ned Ch Caloy de Loubajac (Imp Deu) Meriel Weston

Veteran Dog (3 entered, 1 absent)

1st Ned Ch Caloy de Loubajac (Imp Deu) Meriel Weston

2nd Bel Ch Foli de Pic de Pioulou Eddy van Pelt & Veerle Vlerick

Puppy Bitch (1 entered)

1st Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (ImpFra) Eion & Shane Flint

Junior Bitch (3 entered)

1st Sandytrail Sonata Mr & Mrs H Bruntwell

2nd Sandytrail Solitaire avec Ciopar Mrs P Buchanan-Hislop

3rd Jolie Joyeuse de l'Oustaou de Padel

Postgraduate Bitch (10 entered, 2 absent)

1st Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Pat Phillips

2nd Rozimba Cassia Sarah Hawkswell

3rd Norlyght Sebelas of Amienko Jeanna Gwilliam

Res Remmiwoods Moaning Myrtle Sheila Taylor

VHC Rambauds Allevard Aussi Meriel Weston

Limit Bitch (4 entered, 1 absent)

1st Rozimba Piau Engaly avec Sandytrail Eion & Shane Flint

2nd Norlyght Satu Juta Cathy Batt & Chris & Tricia Such

3rd Sawara Double Trouble Pauline Keable

Open Bitch (5 entered, 1 absent)

1st Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Pat Phillips

2nd Bel Jnr Ch Sandytrail Ensorcelé Eion & Shane Flint

3rd Lorelei du Pic de Pioulou Marie-Anne Vercoutere

Res Cascade du Castelmouly avec Rambauds (Imp Fra)

Veteran Bitch (4 entered, 2 absent)

1st Rambauds Madame Mystique avec Riacaud Liz Lewis

2nd Cascade du Castelmouly avec Rambauds (Imp Fra) Meriel Weston

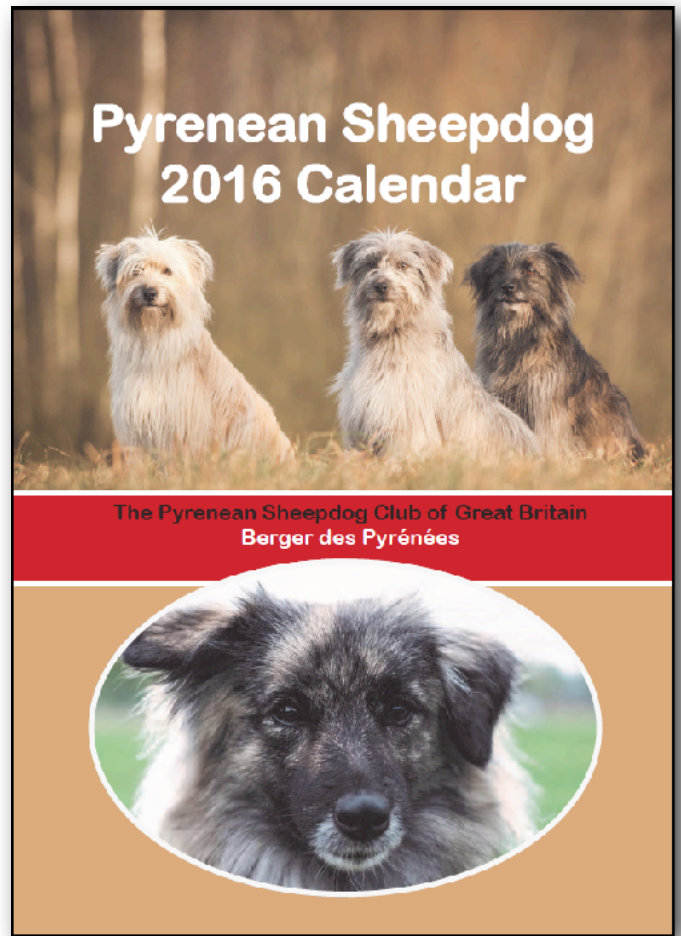
Good Citizen Bitch (3 entered)

1st Rambauds Madame Mystique avec Riacaud Liz Lewis

2nd Norlyght Sebelas of Amienko Jeanna Gwilliam

3rd Rambauds Allevard Aussi (Imp Fra) Meriel Weston

2016 club calendar is still available



Calendar is £5.00 plus postage £1.60 UK only. Postage to Europe price available on request.

Contact Kim Randall for your copy.

e-mail:- kim.randall@tesco.net

Tel :- 01733 252694



Congratulations go to Kheva for her starring role on the Front cover of the December issue of DOGS MONTHLY. Ed.



NOTE FOR DIARY
PSD CLUB OF GB
AGM
SUNDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2015
at 11.00 am
LUBENHAM VILLAGE HALL
LAUGHTON ROAD, LUBENHAM, LEICS.
LE16 9TE



VET'S CORNER



I wanted to write an article in this issue about microchipping due to the law changing in the UK in 2016. Microchipping of animals has multiple nationwide benefits including reuniting lost and stolen pets, tackling puppy farming and allowing animals to travel outside of the UK.

A microchip is a small electronic implant about the size of a grain of rice that is implanted under the skin of the dog between the shoulder blades. However, that does mean the needle required to implant the microchip is quite large; it may be uncomfortable but is not very painful, a small number of dogs may have a spot of blood on their neck afterwards but this is nothing to worry about. The procedure is quick and safe and is carried out by a vet or trained microchip implanter.

Each microchip has a unique 15 digit code which should be registered to a national database with your name, address and telephone number. When a pet is found he is scanned using a microchip scanner and the unique code is shown on the screen. Using the code your details are quickly found to reunite you with your pet. There are no batteries and the implants are extremely unlikely to fail.

From the 6th April 2016 it will be the law to have any dog (8 weeks and older) microchipped (Microchipping of dogs (England) regulations 2015). It will be the dog owners' responsibility to ensure details are registered with an authorised commercial database and the contact details are up to date. Breeders are required to have puppies microchipped and registered before 8 weeks old and before leaving to go to their new owners. The only exemption to microchipping is if a vet declares an animal unfit to microchip which would need to be reported by the attending vet. It is important to note that microchipping does not replace the 'collar and tag' law- where every dog must wear a collar and identification tag when in a public space.

Once the rules are in effect, any dog found by the authorities not to be microchipped may be issued a notice, and, if ignored may be subject to criminal prosecution and a £500 fine. A vet is not required to report any animal without a microchip, instead should recommend microchipping and highlight the changes in the law. Wales and Scotland aim to have the same legislation by Spring 2016, but the date is yet to be confirmed.

If you do not have your dog microchipped already, I urge you to do this before April 2016! Microchipping is easily done at your local vets and, in addition the dogs trust are offering free microchipping across the UK before April 2016.

If you do have your dog microchipped please check your details are up to date by calling the database your chip is registered with (found on documentation or ask your vet). If you have moved or changed telephone numbers it is your responsibility to ensure your details are correct.

Thanks for reading,

Heather.

More information:

<https://www.petlog.org.uk/pet-owners/compulsory-microchipping-faqs-for-pet-owners/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2010-to-2015-government-policy-animal-welfare/2010-to-2015-government-policy-animal-welfare#appendix-5-dog-microchipping>

<https://www.dogstrust.org.uk/help-advice/microchipping/>

Cost Effective Road to Compulsory Microchipping And Life Long Security for Kennel Club Registered Dogs

Free microchip record changes for Kennel Club registered puppies

You may have heard that compulsory microchipping for all dogs will come into force on 6th April 2016 in England and Wales. So, from April 2016, the Kennel Club and Petlog will be introducing free microchip record changes for Kennel Club registered puppies.

Once the owner changes the Kennel Club registered ownership, they will be given the opportunity to complete the requirement to transfer keepership on the Petlog database free of charge (usually £16) – this will also include an upgrade to the Petlog Premium reunification services for the life of their new puppy.

In order to receive free microchip record changes for your Kennel Club registered puppies, make sure to choose a microchip that is associated with Petlog. There are 12 microchip suppliers to choose from and you can search for your local implanter at www.findapetlogimplanter.org.uk. Not all microchips are associated with Petlog and the Kennel Club, it's important to choose the right microchip supplier www.petlog.org.uk/microchip-suppliers

Who is Petlog?

- Petlog, managed by the Kennel Club, is the UK's largest reunification database for microchipped pets
- Government compliant microchip database with ISO 9001 and 27001 certification
- Member of the European Pet Network – providing support across Europe
- Over 20 years' experience of providing 24/7 lost and found services 365 days a year
- More than 9 million pet owners trust Petlog to look after their pets

What does the law say?

- All dog owners in England and Wales have until 6 April 2016 to microchip their dog and register them with a government compliant microchip database.

From 6 April 2016:

- All puppies in England and Wales must be microchipped by the time they are 8 weeks old
- The breeder must always be the first recorded keeper of the puppies
- It will be illegal for breeders to sell a puppy that is not microchipped and recorded on a government compliant microchip database, such as Petlog
- The breeder must provide microchipping documents to the puppy buyer to ensure the new owner can update their details in order to comply with the law. Breeders must ensure that the microchip paperwork matches the puppy being sold to the new owner

It is worth noting that the microchipping regulations do not affect the requirement for collars and tags as part of the Control of Dogs Order 1992.

More information on compulsory microchipping and the free microchip record changes for Kennel Club registered puppies can be found here www.petlog.org.uk/breeders

Agility Day 2015

The second PSD Agility Day was held on 7th September at Jenni Gemmill's home in Suffolk. This is a great venue as Jenni has a full agility course laid out in a field at the farm.

Once again we had a good number of dogs and owners attending, split into three groups of Beginners, Grades 1-3 and Grades 4-7. The groups were of an ideal size meaning that the trainer, Helen Anderson, could devote a reasonable amount of time to each dog.

The Beginners were the first in action and Helen patiently encouraged them over various obstacles, eventually putting a sequence of obstacles together. It was amazing to see how much they all improved in just an hour.

Grades 1-3 were up next and Helen broke the course up into small sections so that we could focus on certain elements. All the dogs worked well.

Grades 4-7 were the last group and again Helen used the same format of working on a small section of the course. Again all the dogs worked well.

We broke for lunch after all the groups had had their session with Helen. Despite a not very promising start, it was quite hot as we all sat around discussing our various agility experiences and comparing notes.

In the afternoon, Helen set up an agility course and a jumping course for each group, which was run and judged as it would be at an agility show. Rosettes were awarded to the winners. The results are printed below.

Once again the day was very successful and it looks as though it will be a permanent fixture on the PSD calendar. Thanks go to Helen Anderson for being such a patient and sympathetic trainer. It's good to train with someone who really understands the needs and character of a Pyrenean Sheepdog. Thanks also go to Jenni and her family for allowing us to use their facilities.

Agility Day Results

Agility 1st Bobby with Jenni Gemmill
2nd Sooty with Jenni Gemmill

Jumping 1st Sooty with Jenni Gemmill
2nd Jet with Adam Stretton

Overall winners 1st Bobby
2nd Sooty

Specials were awarded to Geordi with Liz Lewis for Most Improved Since Last Year and to Noodles with Steve Rose for Most Improved On The Day.

PSD Agility Day-Thank You

It was an early start to travel across the country, but after the rainy days beforehand, the sun finally came out and continued to shine all the day long.

With lovely conditions underfoot, excellent equipment, excellent tuition, and of course First Class company- that is- all of us being PSD and Agility enthusiasts, it was the perfect combination!!

As a bonus, all the work I had been putting into my young dog started to come together and I was delighted with the way she went and the progress she made on the day.

Unfortunately I had to leave early, but it did not detract from a very enjoyable day.

Merci a vous!
Vicky & Iffa



Congratulations to Eion and Shane Flint's young home bred bitch Sandytrail Encorcele (Blue) who took her 8th CAC and 4th CACIB title at Charleroi Championship Show in October. This now qualifies her for both her Belgian and Finnish Champion titles

Registered Hip scores

Jewel (Imp Fra) RH 5/LH 7 Total:-12
Sandytrail Elegance RH 4/LH 4 Total:- 8

Registered Elbow scores

Jewel (Imp Fra) 0 (31/07/15)

A Quick Review of This Year's Nationale d'Elevage in Argeles - Gazost by Eion Flint

The weekend of 19th/20th September saw the RACP's Nationale d'Elevage(NE) take place at Argelès-Gazost in the Haute Pyrénées area of France.



As reported in previous Club Magazines the NE is very much an annual "pilgrimage" event for owners of the 4 Pyrenean breeds (PSD Long Haired/Face Rase, Pyrenean Mountain Dog, Pyrenean Mastiff and Catalan Sheepdogs) attracting exhibits from all over the world. France of course accounts for most of the dogs present but the last 10 years or so have seen a truly international representation with significant numbers coming from Scandinavia, Netherlands, Belgium, Germany Spain and of course the UK.



Representing UK PSDs this year were Pat and Steve Phillips with their 3 PSDs Friponne, Oscar and Chilli and my wife Shane and myself with Gastibelza, Blue and Roma. Also present from the UK were club members Tricia Such and Cathy Batt. This was Tricia and Cathy's first visit to the NE and their journey over to the Pyrenees wasn't without incident. Having missed their flight from Stanstead they had to take the only other last minute alternative which was a flight to Biarritz. Several taxi and train journeys and an extra 8 or so hours of travelling eventually saw them arrive in Argeles tired but pleased to get there on time for the main events of the weekend.

This year the RACP returned to their tried and trusted format with the main show event taking place on the Sunday. The last couple of years had seen the show competition take place over 2 days with male classes for the four breeds completing on the Saturday and Females classes and BIS and Ring d'Honneur events taking place on the Sunday. I think feedback about the 2 day format had been very mixed with many preferring the more lively and intense show atmosphere of the very full day on the Sunday. Also with many of the French in particular only prepared to commit for the weekend, including travel time, the 2 day format had seen some reduction in numbers where people were only coming for the Saturday or the Sunday but not both days depending on whether they only had male or female exhibits.

This year's show competition on the Sunday had a real "buzz" about it. With a total entry of 338 exhibits across the 4 breeds (198 were PSDs) a very full day's showing was the order of the day. The setting in the Parc de Casino in the centre of Argeles is a particularly beautiful setting for the show with plenty space for large rings, each of which are set far enough apart in discrete areas of the Parc allowing each of the breed competitions to progress in parallel. PSD classes were judged by 3 different judges with the adult female classes judged by Marcel Procureur, the adult male classes judged by Elina Haapaniemi and the various puppy, junior, veteran and working classes judged by

RACP President Alain Pecoult. The judging of all classes actually runs simultaneously which for those with multiple exhibits does mean a close eye needs to be kept on multiple rings as timing clashes are fairly common. The very large classes and the flexibility of the judging process is such that with a bit of juggling everything fits in. Unlike here in the UK where judges are allocated 2 minutes per exhibit, at the NE, judging times are very generous with judges flexibly allowing exhibits to enter the ring if there is a clash with another class. In addition the judging focus is very much on movement with each dog being given multiple opportunities to show what it can do over the course of judging the class. This year's open female class for example had 42 exhibits which took nearly 2 hours to complete requiring a lot of concentration and stamina by both dog and handler as the dogs are continually moved, in fairly large rings, through successive cuts before the final selections are made.

Whilst the show competition on the Sunday is the primary focus of the NE it is worth mentioning activities on the Saturday. We have been going to the NE for 8 or 9 years now and the Saturday has always been a relaxed start to the weekend as people congregate in the Parc to renew old acquaintances, make new ones, compare dogs or make contact with the various breeders that are present. The more serious business on the Saturday however is centred on the various temperament tests and herding instinct tests that are available to enter or watch and later in the afternoon the RACP hold their AGM which takes place in the cinema adjacent to the Parc. The day's activities culminate in a Grand Parade of all the dogs from the Parc up into the old town where everyone congregates in the town square for a welcome by the mayor and to enjoy a glass of wine and some traditional basque music and dancing.

So what about results at this year's NE? Well it's great to report that our UK entries had some outstanding results. Steve and Pat Phillips had a great result with their male Gazost Dit Il Oscar du Pic d'Espade Kelltara



who was graded excellent and took 4th place having come through numerous cuts in a class of 35 in Open Male.



Our own boy Bel/Fin CH Gastibelza de L'Oustaou de Padel also had a fantastic day taking 2nd place in Champion Male.

In Open Female Steve and Pat's Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara was graded excellent and made the 1st cut to the final 26 dogs.



Our own young home bred girl Sandytrail Encorcele(Blue) showed her socks off to come through successive cuts and take a final 6th

Griotte who is litter sister to Chris and Liz Lewis's Geordi and half sister to our own Gastibelza really exemplifies the unique and breed typical movement of the PSD which is a



place in a class of 42 females.

joy to watch.

Finally our young Finnish import puppy Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Roma) received a top grading of Very Promising under Alain Pecoult in some very good company in Puppy Female. We were extremely pleased with her given that this was only her 3 time in the ring and she seemed to take everything in her stride.

In terms of the culmination of this year's show it was great to see that BIS was taken by an outstanding female Long Haired PSD, Griotte de L'Oustaou de Padel.





This year's visit to Argeles coincided with our Silver Wedding anniversary and we decided to celebrate with an extended stay doing what we love best - spending time with our dogs in beautiful surroundings and enjoying some fantastic wine and food. We took a 10 day trip in all, arriving the week before the NE which this year allowed us to join our Belgian PSD Club friends on the Friday before the NE on their annual walk up in the mountains. This year about 25 PSD's and their owners met at Lac d'Estaing about 12 miles up into the mountains above Argeles. After about a 3 hour walk everyone returned to the visitor centre at Lac d'Estaing for some well earned aperitifs and a lovely lunch. A few photos capture the day.



Members Results from the Nationale d'Elevage

Face Rase

Champion Female

2nd Excellent: Ch Jadore of Nobels Kingdom owned by Ann de Clerq

Long Haired

Open Male

4th Excellent: Gazost du Pic d'Espade Keltara owned by Pat Phillips

Champion Male

2nd Excellent: Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Shane and Eion Flint

3rd Excellent: Ch Davalar de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Stan and Dora Buelens-Moortgat

Male Puppy

Very Promising: Lakha de Loubajac owned by Monica Westerberg

Veteran Male

Excellent: Foli du Pic de Pioulou owned by Veerle Vlerick and Eddy van Pelt

Open Female

6th Excellent: Sandytrail Ensorcelé owned by Shane and Eion Flint

Excellent: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Keltara owned by Pat Phillips

Excellent: Iraty des Haies de Chênes Verts owned by Ann de Clercq

Champion Female

5th Excellent: Ch Lorelei du Pic de Pioulou owned by Marie-Ann Vercoutere

Excellent: Ch Kline du Pic de Pioulou owned by Veerle Vlerick and Eddy van Pelt

Young Female

6th Excellent: Jolie-Joyeuse de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Veerle Vlerick and Eddy van Pelt

Female Puppy

Very Promising: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles owned by Shane and Eion Flint



PSD Club Club Dog Walk – Old Hunstanton



After last years epic hike through the wind and rain, this year we set out on a lovely warm sunny day. It even got as warm as 18 degrees!

We had a crew of 6 Pyrenean Sheepdogs's + 3 Honorary PSDs

The dogs were keen so we all walked for about 1 1/2 hours- all the way to the headland, and then back again.

There was lots of talk about the breed with a lovely couple that had come to learn about the breed and see the breed in action, as they are seriously considering getting one next year. It was a great way for them to learn about the breed, far better than going to a Discover Dogs stand, to see how they behave and interact with other dogs. It was very informative for them, and lovely to have a captive audience to hear about all of the positive attributes of these wonderful dogs.

The dogs were all excited to be together and proceeded to run about and cause general mayhem amongst themselves. Belting around in the water and, much to the owners displeasure, rolling about on dirty seaweed!

And a nice saunter into the café afterwards for a nice cup of tea and a bacon sandwich afterwards! Of course there was also time for a quick photo shoot before setting off home.

If anyone would be interested and would like us to consider putting on a dog walk near you, then please let me know (jonathan@hal5000.co.uk) or if you think you could organise one yourself, then please let me know and we can help by advertising in the newsletter and creating an event on Facebook to get the word out. Jonathan

Viewpoint

News and Views from the Breed Notes



With Xmas nearly upon us I am just reflecting on how fast 2015 seems to have passed, or is it just me? It doesn't seem that long ago that we were holding our AGM reviewing achievements in 2014 and looking forward to the substantial programme that the club had set for 2015. In terms of Club activities it's been a great year. Whilst it is not appropriate to review things in detail in this article it is difficult to find anything that the club didn't successfully complete on its busy 2015 programme. Activities have included supporting Discover Dogs (Crufts/Excel), membership walks (Spring/Autumn), Judging Sub-Committee formed under the chairmanship of Zena Thorn-Andrews, 1st Licensed Club Open Show with record UK entries for the breed, Agility Day in September and just recently completed, the Clubs first Breed Education Seminar with "Hands On" assessment. Under-pinning all of this has been a lot of hard work from your committee completing the myriad of administrative and financial activities required to successfully run your club.

In this viewpoint article I normally try to focus on a particular theme or issue that is either newsworthy or important to our breed and on this occasion I have decided to draw club members attention to an extract from the book

"Pyrenean Dogs" by Duconte & Sabouraud. To me this short extract gives a classic overview of our rustic little French herder and really gets to the heart of the unique character and qualities of our breed. As club members we have all decided to share our lives with this "rare breed". In fact we have all probably gone out of our way to wait for and eventually own one of these wonderful little dogs. Not the easiest breed to live with but that combination of intelligence, boundless energy, independence, wariness and distrust of all things new but incomparable loyalty to its owner makes it like no other. Whilst all of us enjoy competing and playing with our "rare breed" it is at its core a sheepdog with its working qualities largely un-spoilt. It is these working qualities, very much captured in the attached extract, that we all make use of whether we compete in Agilty, Obedience, Herding, Tracking Flyball and yes even the Show Ring. I make no apologies in reminding all our club members that it is beholden upon all of us to safeguard our breed and to make sure that its unique working qualities are not lost.

Finally let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and restful Xmas with every success to you and your little "herders" in 2016.

"On 18th March, 1923, we wrote in the canine magazine L'Eleveur (The Breeder),

This dog, whose long existence in the Pyrenees has been proved to us by evidence going back more than a century and a half, seems to be the true indigenous type. In fact it presents itself as a sheepdog exhibiting a maximum of nervous energy within a minimum of height and weight. A dense fleece, straight or gently waving, mostly fawn or grey, and of a texture midway between goats' hair and sheep's wool, conceals an eminently lean skeleton. The neck, well set off from the shoulders, carries a rather fine head, characterised by a fairly short, wedge shaped muzzle; ears placed high on a skull which is almost flat and only fairly developed; with very expressive, chestnut coloured eyes, which are both mischievous and cautious. The mucous membranes are black, or well pigmented, whatever the colour of the coat. The body is rather long in relation to its height, but always compact. The chest, which is well developed in depth, descends to the level of the elbow, rarely lower. The foot is narrow, of a slightly accentuated oval shape; the hocks often rather close, especially in dogs born

and bred in the mountains. This dog, just as it is, represents a type perfectly adapted to its surroundings: a low centre of gravity, the result of its reduced height, assures it of a maximum of stability on the steep slopes. Its narrow foot, with a thin sole, holds onto the rocks like the rope soles of our canvas shoes. Its hocks, which follow a gentle deviation from the line of its hindquarters, are necessary for climbing up the slopes. (Try walking in the mountains with your toes turned in!) The texture of its coat, woolly underneath and coarser on top, affords protection against violent downpours and the low temperatures. Its matchless nervous energy enables it to carry out its harsh job without faltering. Its small size allows its master to feed it parsimoniously. (How could it be otherwise with men who, for themselves, receive just the basic weekly food rations!)



Our mountain shepherds know quite well that for all these reasons they should choose a small dog. Besides, they can also see another advantage: the sheep, a good natured animal, has no need of a mastiff to drive it. If its size allows it to endure the fairly energetic pushing of a small dog, there is no need of a taller dog. If a large dog collides with a sheep, the result is probably disastrous, and something always to be dreaded in the mountains, where the slightest consequence can be a dislocated shoulder or a broken foot.

Small size, lightness of frame, well developed muscles, the nature of its coat; the Pyrenean Sheepdog needs all these to carry out his job high up in the mountains. Even his temperament, basically distrustful, and therefore vigilant, is useful to him. To see him at work it is difficult to imagine a temperament more suited to its purpose, or a physique more apt for its functions.

As for temperament, we are in the presence of a dog of a fairly independent nature, whose distrustfulness is the basis of his character. Not pampered very much, brought up to be hardy, he is generally unapproachable by strangers. He shows a certain amount of caution towards familiar people at home. There is one thing, however, which will make him forget his reserve: when

the shrill whistle of the shepherd tells him that it is time for action. Immediately he takes up his role. With a remarkable keenness for work, however young he is, he is captivated, literally possessed by his task! ... Attentive and silent, he darts effortlessly, with an easy and gentle movement around the long procession of animals. Alert to push a straggler with a nudge of his nose, to make one that has detached itself from the rest return to the ranks, to cross in front of the flock to make it go in the required direction, his whole wiry body is extended in rapid action. But the admirable intelligence which he has for his task, knows how to check his untirable activity at the required moment. If faced with a dangerous crossing, he knows how to put a brake on his irrepressible energy, and when required, uses his skill to lead the animals one by one to a place of safety. He excels himself in looking for a lost animal. What if a sheep is missing when they are counted? At the first command he will leave, going a long way ahead of the shepherd, searching every corner of the mountain, not leaving a corner unexplored, and using both the impulsion of a very dependable instinct and the resources of a rare intelligence.

It must be added that the Pyrenean Sheepdog is brave. I have rarely seen one of them refusing to fight something larger and taller than himself. Moreover, being generally fairly pugnacious, he is the challenger. A nimble athlete, he enters into few clinches, but proceeds by a succession of skilful dodges, and spirited and unforeseen attacks, during which a precise bite marks the adversary.

Many reasons serve as an argument in favour of those who direct their efforts towards the fixation and development of the breed.

- **the anatomical reason**, and we have explained how this dog was admirably suited to his environment,
- **reasons of utilisation**: we find him used particularly in the central region, the most mountainous area and most densely populated with flocks
- **reason of heredity**: his resemblance to his remote ancestors is very marked by his qualities as a sheepdog
- **aesthetic reasons**: it is difficult to find an animal which is more appealing and more charming.

-
Is this not ample justification for the affection for the Pyrenean Sheepdog shown by those who know him, and even more by those who use him? ... Equally qualified to be a working dog and a pet, his prime and inherent purpose remains....."

(Extract from the book "Pyrenean Dogs" by CH Duconte & J A Sabouraud 1967, translated by Diane Powell and Alan Harwood 1982)

Judges Education - Another 1st for the Club in 2015 by Eion Flint

From the early years of the club to the present day, all the enthusiasts involved have been united by a clear ethos which is centered on ensuring that the unique qualities and characteristics of our breed remain intact. Our Club constitution sets out 4 clear objectives, viz;

- to foster and promote the breed in Great Britain and to impress upon the exhibitors and judges the true type as defined by the breed standard
- to protect the interest of the breed
- to retain and encourage its working abilities
- to assist members whenever possible in matters relating to the breed.

The Club as part of its “fostering and promoting” activity introduced breed education seminars as far back as 2006. Over the last 8 or 9 years or so we have successfully run 4 seminars led by top international breed experts such as Alain Pecoult, Elina Haapaniemi and Jean-Jaques Dupas from the RACP. These seminars although extremely successful were based on a half day format where the primary aim was to provide an “educational” input to owners, exhibitors, potential breeders and those aspiring to judge the breed.

This year, based on feedback from Club Members at previous AGMs, the Club took the major step to introduce a full day seminar that included a formal “hands on” assessment and certification component for those looking to progress their judging qualifications.

This years seminar was once again led by guest speaker Alain Pecoult and took place on 25th October at Bearley Village hall, the same venue that the club uses for its Fun Day. The format for the day included a morning educational session focused on the history



and cultural origins of the breed and a detailed technical evaluation of the breed standard. In the afternoon there were ten places available to those progressing their judging career and the format for the afternoon included a formal written test on the breed standard followed by the opportunity to get “hands on” with 5 exhibits. Each judging candidate had the opportunity to go over each dog and see them move and was asked to rank them from first to last place and to provide a detailed written critique for each dog that demonstrated their rationale based on breed specific points from the breed standard. The final step was a short interview with an assessment panel where they had the opportunity to explain their critiques and decisions. This year’s assessment panel was made up of our new judging subcommittee viz, Zena Thorn-Andrews (Chair) and breed specialists Vicky Wilford and Shane Flint.

Attendance was good with 20 external participants and 10 committee members providing Alain Pecoult with a lively and attentive audience for the morning sessions. After a superb hot lunch and the opportunity for lots of informal discussion, 10 candidates remained to put themselves through the afternoon assessment process. Formal feedback from candidates confirms that the day was overwhelmingly successful.

Key positives were

- Opportunity to hear Alain Pecoult and his depth of expertise
- Interactive discussions and picture material
- Quality of seminar materials provided

- Superb hot lunch which went beyond expectations
- Friendly/welcoming atmosphere

Areas for improvement were principally around

- More use of live exhibits in the morning session to demonstrate breed specific points
- More time/clearer process and communication around the actual assessment of exhibits in the afternoon



Having taken on the roll of “Seminar Co-ordinator” for this year’s event it was a real pleasure to get such positive and constructive feedback from participants and we have lots of ideas on how to improve things next time. A lot of work went into this year’s event by the whole committee and it was really great to see things come together and the teamwork on the day. One of our objectives for the day was to ensure that we made people feel welcome and that they got a more personal experience. The Bearley location and its facilities and the decision to provide our own catering were clear winners. Well done to all the committee but particular thanks need to go to the catering team Pat Wescott, Liz Lewis and Carla Senkpiehl.

Eion Flint



KENNEL CLUB BREED HEALTH SURVEY 2014 – update Nov 2015

The KC Health Data Co-ordinator- Bonnie Wiles- has been in touch with the latest news.

She tells me she has now sorted & categorised all of the manually input data for all 43,209 live dogs and 5,612 deceased dogs.

They have now been able to use a new coding technique, which has enabled them to process the data more quickly, and also this means that together with the Breed Summary they will be able to produce Breed Tables & Graphs as well.

With this in mind they have revised the initial plan which was to release results breed by breed, and now plan to launch all of the Breed Reports together at Crufts 2016

Vicky Wilford
Breed Health Co-ordinator

HANDY HINTS

TEETH

Keeping your dogs teeth as tartar free as possible is import, but if your dog is not keen on you trying to help by brushing, it can be difficult.

My old boy would tolerate any amount of inspection but just could not cope with my trying to clean his teeth.

I tried all sorts of 'chews', but for my dog, none seemed that effective.

But recently I discovered the ' Deep Cleaning - DENTAFLEX ' sticks from pedigree.

A relatively new product from Pedigree, it states on the packet 'Revolutionary texture flexes around teeth to clean gum line', and it really seems to do that.

They come in different sizes, but I have found that one larger than you think would suit your dog, works better.

They can be expensive, but a hunt round a discount type store can prove fruitful

Vicky Wilford

LATEST NEWS FROM LILY.



I have been looking back through the calendar with Carla to see what I can tell you about, she says that she can't remember, but is going to help me and have a look to see what I have been up to since my last newsletter. We had our first Open Show in August this year and as you can imagine we were all very excited to be there. When we arrived I was surprised to see so many dogs there from our club, and also the Pyrenean Mountain Dogs as we were sharing the venue with them. When we went into the hall the Mountain Dogs had their show ring set up at the far end of the room so we sat with our Belgian friends who had brought their dogs over with them. I was glad we were sitting here because I could watch what was going on in the ring and also who was coming and going in and out of the doors. The thing that surprised me was the size of the Mountain Dogs I know that they are large but as I had not seen any close up before I was quite surprised. Carla said that she thought it might be easier looking after a Mountain Dog than me as they seem very calm and easy going, but she did wonder how much grooming would have to be done.

I don't know if it was the show that prompted Klaus to put me onto a diet but I did hear him talking about me looking overweight compared to the other Pyrenean Sheepdogs and the day after the show I heard him saying that he was going to order my new diet food. I was shocked ! What exactly

would this mean, should I be worried and also will it affect me having my usual treats? I must say, the future for a while is looking very uncertain. The next day the front door bell rang early in the morning so I ran as usual and stood there barking until a very large parcel had been delivered by the postman. You can imagine what I thought when Klaus said to me that this was my new diet food and that we all had to help and get my weight sorted out before it gets out of control. I was not happy and was even unhappier when he told me that I would not be having as many treats as usual, but it would all be for the best in the end. I thought to myself, how bad is this going to get, and how long is it going to take. I decided to have a little chat with Carla about this and she said that we are all going to help with the dieting and make sure that we do lots more running and jumping about for a while, such as, jumping over the fences around the cricket pitch in the village, it's a bit like agility but doing it Lily's way. We thought that we could extend this practice and carry on in the disused quarry now turned into a nature reserve in Markfield, but after Carla fell up the quarry steps more than once she decided it would be safer for me to do this bit on my own, and encourages me by shouting, "go on Lil that's a good girl!" at the top of her voice. I am losing weight slowly and allowed a few low fat treats each day, and up to now I have lost one and a half kilos, we are aiming for two.

In Sept I went to stay with our friends who live in Norfolk while Carla and Klaus went to France for a week. I had a great time on my own with Sue and Geoff and we all spent many hours playing on the beach at Old Hunstanton and Snettisham. Sue used her own lead when we went for a walk around the village and taught me to walk at her side without pulling on the lead. I also learned how to wait just outside of the kitchen door while Sue was cooking, she explained that kitchens are a dangerous place for dogs to be in when the hob and oven are being used. Again in the bedroom, (my bed was at the side of theirs) Sue told me not to jump onto their bed and I must sleep on my own bed while staying with them. Sue told Carla and Klaus about all of this when they came to collect me and explained that it only took two commands

and I had done everything she had asked of me. Sue was amazed how quickly I had learned and told Carla and Klaus that I was a very clever girl.

In November we went to the new Pet Show at the NEC, we arrived early in the morning and stayed until late afternoon. I went on the stand as usual and waited for some other dogs to join me but no one came, it was just me on my own with Carla and Klaus of course. I don't know why but I felt frightened and this is something that has not happened to me before at dog shows. Carla and Klaus took it in turns to sit inside the pen with me but I didn't feel any safer I just wish that I had some of my friends around me. There were lots of children that came to see me but I just backed away and barked at all of them. Carla and Klaus felt very bad about this as the children wanted to stroke me but at least there were other dogs for them to see on the day. Anyway I have been told that I won't have to go to any Pet Shows ever again and I am very happy about that

Well must get on now and start to help out with writing the Christmas Cards for everyone, you never know I might get a card back from someone or even a few Christmas treats, Surely, I will have finished my diet by then,...Merry Xmas from Lily.

Breed Stand – National Pet Show



We were a little hesitant as to what we should expect at the National Pet Show. Having worked the stands at both Discover Dogs in London, and the breed stand at Crufts, the idea of an all round pet show was still a rather daunting step into unknown territory.

From the minute we arrived at our pitch it was clear it was going to be a busy day. Everyone was so friendly and eager to come and meet the dogs that it took us quite a little while to get fully set up.

We took 2 dogs with us for the stand; Meg (5) and Pixie (22Months) Both are veterans of discover dogs and they soon seemed to realise what was expected of them. And we found ourselves chatting away to everyone about what a wonderful breed of dog they were meeting- it seemed the most natural thing in the world.

It turned out that we had a great stand Location, directly opposite one of the activity rings. And although it made it quite noisy at times, there was always something to look at, not that we ever got long to watch anything, and it meant there was a good flow of people past the stand.

The pet show itself was really interesting with all manner of pets on show. We encountered donkeys, Chickens, parrots, Snakes, Lizards, rabbits, Cats, a positive array of fish and even giant tortoises!

Of course the dogs were most interested in tempting the Food stand holders to shower them with their free dog treats!

There was almost a constant flow of people of all ages through the stand, which was good, albeit a little tiring for the dogs. All the people seemed genuinely interested in the breed, and most of the children knew how to behave around the dogs. At one point I had 6 children all petting Meg at the same time, and she still seemed quite happy!

Both dogs thoroughly enjoyed themselves, especially Pixie who seemed happy to say hello to everyone.

After we closed the stand we had the chance to take a good walk around the show to buy some well-earned sausages for the dogs, as well as a toy each to take home. What more could they want?!

Next year it would be fantastic if some more people were willing to bring their dogs to take part on the stall, to give the dogs a bit of a break. So if anyone is interested in helping out on a stand at any of the 3 events we cover then please contact Liz Lewis (Club Secretary).

Jonathan

Kennel Club Breed Health Co-ordinators Symposium 2015 - Report

Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh Park

I attended on behalf of the club, and below is a summary of the day-----

Cancer

Dr Mike Starkey Head of Molecular Oncology
(Animal Health Trust)

The Morning programme started with Dr. Starkey giving us an overview of the statistics involved in Cancer. He tells us it is the No. 1 cause of death in Dogs over 2years old.

There are around 200 different types of cancer. The main cause of death involved with cancer, is when tumours spread, Metastasis – that is when the cancer cells break away and travel in the blood to other parts of the body.

*The first 2 major cancers involve the Skin, but a lot of skin cancers are benign

In each of these cancers around 220 dogs in 100,000 are affected

The 3rd major cancer is Mammary Tumours, most of which are malignant. Around 190 dogs in 100,000 are affected. For Mast Cell Tumours around 130 in 100,000

Amongst the rarer forms of cancer – Chondrosarcoma- a 1 in 100,000 chance of being affected

The relative risk of a predisposed breed developing cancer may be 'high' but typically the 'actual risk' for an individual dog is 'low'. ... for example....

+Incidence of Lymphoma in UK Dog Breeds---

Breed odds ratio Number affected per 1000

Bullmastiff	6.79	2.79
Boxer	4.73	1.78
Bulldog	3.26	1.74

The majority of cancers are sporadic and do not involve an inherited genetic risk.

Cancer is abnormal cell growth, it is a disease of the DNA.

Unravelling the genetics of cancer is no small task. Research on Mast Cell Tumours in

Labradors has taken over 5 years, and it is calculated at the moment to probably take at least another 5 years to reach a decision. They have chosen Labradors because of the large numbers of the breed.

Another research project under way is looking into the genetics of how tumours develop.

Being able to predict more easily whether a cancer in an individual has the potential to spread will help to develop knowledge of when, and what intervention is helpful, and possibly avoid unnecessary surgery. This is an amazing project, as this is also tied into Cancer Research for Humans, and the research bodies are sharing and exchanging findings.

Understanding the genetics of how tumours develop will also assist in the development of new treatments. – Our canine companions really will be 'Mans Best Friend'.

If you feel you would like to help with cancer research, look at the Animal Health Trust website - aht.org.uk -click on 'What We Do' and then on 'Inherited Disease'. There you will find a list of research that is being done at the moment. They are looking for tissue donation, from all breeds in some cases, so if you are unfortunate enough to be having your dog investigated for possible cancer, if tissue samples are to be taken, the AHT may find them useful to add to their research programme.

It does need to be organised with your Veterinary Surgeon in advance as the samples need to be conserved in a specific way. They also need samples from healthy older dogs (cheek swabs now- and then later, tiny tissue samples at post mortem) – look at the AHT website for details to see if any of your dogs fit with any of their requirements and if so, speak with your Vet on your next visit to see if it is possible to contribute.

(* Dobson et al. 2002) (+ Edwards et al 2003)

Trends in Genetic Diversity and Effective Population Sizes

Dr Tom Lewis, Quantitative Geneticist (Kennel Club)

What does Effective Population Size of your Breed mean?

~Effective population sizes of above 100 are sustainable.

~With a population size of 50 to 100 it may imply that the genetic diversity of the breed is steadily being lost, or that the rate of inbreeding was high in previous years but is gradually slowing down

~An effective population size of less than 50 is considered to be at risk of the detrimental effects of inbreeding - known and unknown inherited disorders, reduced litter sizes, and reduced fertility.

Inbreeding & Selection

Inbreeding is defined as the mating of genetically related individuals- sharing genetic material from common ancestors, they will resemble their relatives, the good traits and the less desirable traits too.

Inbreeding is impossible to avoid – there is always some degree if you go back far enough. However – most problems associated with inbreeding come from more recent generations.

The rate of close inbreeding is slowing- although not in all breeds, some rarer breeds are conserving diversity but some are struggling.

The effect of sub population selection can be seen in some breeds. One example is where individuals that show desirable characteristic for the show ring tend to be mated to others with the same traits, and those that show good working ability tend to be mated to dogs that also work, and so the breed slowly moves into two types. This can have the effect of concentrating genes, especially in breeds with small populations, and also as a side effect, the possibilities of an undesirable health defect in one 'type' increases. One breed health co-ordinator told me this had happened in their

breed, only it has happened in both types, each type now having different problems that had not been obviously present before.

Popular Sires – the biggest contributor to Inbreeding

Popular sires are male dogs that are used to produce large numbers of puppies

Chosen as they have very desirable characteristics, they can often be used to improve a breed.

But excessive use can impact the health of a population. It can shrink the size of the gene pool as it will be in the lineage of so many of the dogs.

Genetic Diversity

It is advised before breeding that it is best to consider a minimum of 5 generations. A lot of pedigrees show 3 generations, but it is wise to look a little further back in thancestry of the individuals involved. ---Breeding is always a balancing act:---

Managing Inbreeding Vs Selection for Improvement / and to ensure Genetic Diversity

Maintenance of Important Traits

--After a very full morning of facts, figures and charts, it was good to have a break and meet other Breed Representatives over a buffet lunch.

The afternoon sessions started with group workshops, where we discussed 'Ways to help Genetic Diversity', how it affects Breeds and what we felt were the most important issues. One spokes person was nominated from each group to read out what order of importance we had felt the issues should be in, and any other points of interest or questions they had been highlighted.

We then reconvened in the lecture room for a summary of the day.

Afterwards we had a chance to chat with the Speakers and members of the KC Health Team to discuss any queries regarding the topics, and also with one another to share our experiences in our roles as Breed Health Co-ordinators.

Vicky Wilford.

SHOW RESULTS

**Bakewell Show
Pastoral AVNSC
5th & 6th August 2015
Judge: Raye Parry**

Open Dog/ Bitch:(9 Entries) Abs:1
3rd Norlyght Biassano Mr C J & Mrs PM Such

**Any Variety Pastoral
Judge: Raye Parry**

Open Dog/Bitch:(5 Entries) Abs:1
3rd Norlyght Biassano Mr C J & Mrs PM Such

**The Welsh Kennel Club 2015
Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)
21st, 22nd and 23rd August
Judge: Mr Frank Kane**

Best of Breed: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou De Padel (Imp)Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
Best Dog: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
Res Best Dog: Norlyght Biassano Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH
Best Bitch: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS
Res Best Bitch: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
Best Puppy: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
Best Veteran: Cascade Du Castlemouly Avec Rambauds (Imp) Mrs M P WESTON

Class VD (1 Entries) Abs: 0
1st: Dutch Ch Caloy De Loubajac (Imp Ger) Mrs M P WESTON

Class OD (4 Entries) Abs: 1
1st: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou De Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
2nd: Norlyght Biassano

Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH
3rd: Dutch Ch Caloy de Loubajac (Imp Ger) Mrs M P WESTON

Class VB (1 Entries) Abs: 0
1st: Cascade du Castlemouly avec Rambauds (Imp) Mrs M P WESTON

Class PB (1 Entries) Abs: 0
1st: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class PGB (3 Entries) Abs: 0
1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS

Class OB (4 Entries) Abs: 1
1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS
2nd: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
3rd:Cascade du Castlemouly avec Rambauds (Imp) Mrs M P WESTON

**City Of Birmingham Canine Association 2015
Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)
4th, 5th and 6th September
Judge: Mrs V Foss**

BEST OF BREED: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS
Best Dog: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
Best Bitch: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS
Res Best Bitch: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
Best Puppy: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class OD (1 Entries) Abs: 0
1st: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class PB (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class PGB (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS

2nd: Sawara Double Trouble Mrs P L KEABLE

Class OB (3 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS

2nd: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele

Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

3rd: Rambauds Xonville Mrs P L KEABLE

Richmond Championship Dog Show 2015
Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)
11th, 12th and 13th September
Judge: Jean Lawless (Ireland)

BEST OF BREED: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou De Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Best Dog: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou De Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Best Bitch: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Res Best Bitch: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Best Puppy: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class OD (2 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Bel Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class JB (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class OB (2 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT



Darlington Dog Show Society 2015
Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)

18th, 19th and 20th September

Judge: Mr K Baldwin

BEST OF BREED: Kimrand Pixie Belle Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

Best Bitch: Kimrand Pixie Belle Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

Class YB (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Kimrand Pixie Belle

Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

Driffield Agricultural Society 2015
Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)

1st, 2nd and 3rd October

Judge: Mr Steve Phillips

BEST OF BREED: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Best Dog: Norlyght Biassono Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

Res Best Dog: Bel Fin Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou De Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Best Bitch: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Res Best Bitch : Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Best Puppy : Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class OD (3 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Norlyght Biassono

Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

2nd: Bel Fin Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT)

Class PB (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class PGB (2 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Kimrand Pixie Belle

Mr F J & Miss K RANDALL

Class OB (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

**South Wales Kennel Association
Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)
9th-11th October
Judge: Mrs T A Cousins-Brown**

BD

Bel/Fin Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel
(Imp Fra) (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

RBD

Norlyght Serraglio (MRS S B J MAY)

BB

Friponne du Pic d'Espade Keltara (IMP FRA)
(MRS P M PHILLIPS)

RBB

Bel Jnr Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

BOB

Friponne du Pic d'Espade Keltara (IMP FRA)
(MRS P M PHILLIPS)

BP

Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Junior- Dog or Bitch (2 Entries) 1 Abs

1st Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Open - Dog (4 Entries) Abs 0

1st Bel/Fin Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

2nd Norlyght Serraglio (MRS S B J MAY)

3rd Seacourt Esprit de Troupeau
(MR S R PHILLIPS)

4th Ned.Ch Caloy de Loubajac (Imp Deu)
(MRS M P WESTON)

Open - Bitch (3 Entries) Abs 0

1st Friponne du Pic d'Espade Keltara
(MRS P M PHILLIPS)

2nd Bel Jnr Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

3rd Cascade du Castelmouly avec Rambauds
(Imp Fra) (MRS M P WESTON)



**Midland Counties Canine Society
22nd - 25th October 2015
AVNSC Pastoral
Judge: Peter Jolley**

RBB Norlyght Satu Juta
(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

Open - Dog (Entries 6) Abs 2

2nd Norlyght Biassono
(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

Post Graduate - Bitch (4 Entries) Abs 3

1ST Norlyght Satu Juta
MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

**Working & Pastoral Breeds of
Scotland
Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)
7th November 2015
Judge: Mrs T Wescott-Smith**

BD Bel/Fin Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

BB Bel Jnr Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

RBB Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

BOB Bel Jnr Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Junior - Dog/Bitch (1 Entry)

1st Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Open - Dog (1 Entry)

1st Bel/Fin Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Open - Bitch (4Entries) Abs 2

1st Bel Jnr Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

2ndEllenora du Champ d'Onix avec Louslitges
(Imp Fra) (MR A H READMAN)

Championship Dog Shows 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Show</u>	<u>Venue</u>
7 th Jan	Boston & District Canine Society	Peterborough
16 th Jan	Manchester Dog Show Society **	Stafford
12 th Mar	Crufts****	NEC Birmingham
16 th Apr	Working & Pastoral Breeds of Wales****	Builth Wells
23 rd Apr	West of England Ladies Kennel Ass	Malvern
6 th May	Birmingham Dog Show Society (The National)****	Stafford
20 th May	Scottish Kennel Club	Edinburgh
29 th May	Bath Canine Society****	Bannerdown
4 th Jun	Southern Counties	Newbury
11 th Jun	Three Counties Agricultural Show	Malvern
18 th Jun	Border Union Agricultural Society	Kelso
26 th Jun	Blackpool & District Canine Society****	Preston
30 th Jun	Windsor Dog Show Society****	Windsor
8 th Jul	East of England Agricultural Society****	Peterborough
16 th Jul	National Working & Pastoral Breeds****	Malvern
22 nd Jul	Leeds City & District Canine Society****	Harewood Estate
8 th Aug	Paignton & District Fanciers Association****	Clyst Devon
13 th Aug	Bournemouth Canine Association	Lyndhurst
20 th Aug	Welsh Kennel Club****	Builth Wells
28 th Aug	Scottish Kennel Club	Edinburgh
3 rd Sept	City of Birmingham Canine Society****	Stoneleigh
10 th Sept	Richmond Dog Show Society****	Guildford
17 th Sept	Darlington Dog Show Society****	Ripon
25 th Sept	Belfast Dog Show Society	Belfast
29 th Sept	Driffield Agricultural Society****	Wetherby
9 th Oct	South Wales Kennel Association****	Builth Wells
30 th Oct	Midland Counties Canine Association	Stafford
5 th Nov	Working & Pastoral Breeds Association of Scotland****	Edinburgh
10 th Dec	Ladies Kennel Association	NEC Birmingham

**** Indicates shows which gave us breed classes in 2015

*Manchester Dog Show Society, Classes for the first time in 2016

Open Shows which have confirmed PSD Class(es) 2016

13 th Feb	National Working & Pastoral Breeds	Sec. Mrs C Canty 01636 892310
10 th Apr	PSD Club Show	Sec. Miss K. Randle 01733 252694
17 th Apr	Sunderland & District Canine Society	Sec Mrs Morrison 0191 523 5202
1 st May	Seaham & District Canine Society	Sec. Mrs Wake 0191 520 2930
2 nd Jul	Ashington & District Canine Society	Sec. Mrs Purves 01670 503 420



IMAGES FROM THE CLUB AGILITY DAY





CLUB OPEN SHOW 2015



BEST PUPPY



BEST DOG



BEST JUNIOR



BEST IN SHOW



BEST POSTGRADUATE



BEST VETERAN