

Pyrenean Sheepdog



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

SUMMER 2009

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It really is surprising how time passes so quickly, yet again it is time to welcome you to this edition of the club newsletter. It never fails to amaze me how much there is to pack in. At first I begin to wonder whether there is going to be enough but I needn't worry. However at the risk of being a bit repetitive it is important that people send in articles, the more the merrier. It can be anything which you feel that the membership will find interesting.

This could be a report on a particular event, an article on a subject which would be interesting to other owners of Pyrenean sheepdogs, poems, anecdotes or even jokes.

At the same time it would be useful to have feedback regarding the newsletter and its content. If anyone has any particular ideas regarding specific subjects to be included please let me know. If there are ideas regarding future features which can be included, please don't be shy since I am only an e-mail away.

In this newsletter we have the usual features along with information supplied by Jill Moss from the Bella Moss Foundation regarding MRSA. I am sure that people will find this very informative. A talk given by Jill Moss at the club's Fun Day was very well received, and it was felt that the topic should be shared with the rest of the membership.

This front page contains a number of photographs of the Fun Day kindly provided by Diane Newton. Unfortunately the editor had a senior moment and forgot his camera. More about the Fun Day later.

[This picture shows what a wonderful setting Lewknor is for the Fun Day for all those who couldn't make it.](#)



We were very sad to hear of the death of Zillah. She was a grand old lady and a great ambassador for the breed. We will miss her "contributions" to the newsletter. There is a very poignant poem included in this newsletter which sums her up perfectly and I am sure it will strike a note with all those who have had similar experiences.

Ed.



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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE 1ST DECEMBER

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VISIT THE CLUB WEB-SITE

www.pyreneansheepdog.co.uk

Web site editor :- Charlie Stratton

He is always happy to include photographs of our Pyrenean Sheepdogs on the website. Access is via the web site.

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BITS AND PIECES FROM THE SECRETARY

Judging Seminar

We are holding our second Judging Seminar on the 7th November at The Fieldhead Hotel, Markfield, Leics. The speaker will once again be Alain Pecoult. The content and format of the Seminar will be much the same as the previous one and we are chiefly targeting those judges who were unable to attend the last one. Booking forms are available from Liz Lewis.



Discover Dogs

Discover Dogs at Earl's Court is on the 14th and 15th November. Any offers of help to man the stand will be greatly appreciated. Parking and entry tickets are provided by the Kennel Club as are vouchers towards the cost of lunch. Please let Liz Lewis know if you are able to help.



Breed Match

We are holding a Breed Match on Sunday 31st January 2010 at Yelvertoft Village Hall, Northants. The other two breeds will be the Catalan Sheepdog and the Eurasier. Entry forms will be available in the autumn. You don't have to be a regular in the show ring to enter the match. It will be a relaxed, fun day so come and join us.



Thank you

Pat Phillips wishes to thank everyone who has sent cards, emails and flowers or have phoned to wish her well and give support during her illness. We all wish Pat the very best and hope that she makes a complete recovery.

Points Forms

Forms for recording the points that you and your dog have accumulated can now be downloaded from the web site.



Results

The editor is able to download the showing results from the relevant web sites. This is not possible for agility and obedience. We know that many of you are competing in those disciplines but you don't let us know your results. Please send your results and show off your achievements with your dog.



Lost emails

Last May I received a couple of emails which I lost due to a glitch when I accessed them in a French hotel. One was from someone informing me of their email address, the other was about PSDs not liking getting wet. If you sent those emails please will you contact me again?



Dog Photographer of the Year

Once again the Kennel Club is running the above competition. There are four main categories: Dogs at Work, Dogs at Play, Dog Portrait and Man's Best Friend. There is also a special category entitled "I love dogs because..." which is open to children under the age of 16.

Entry to the competition costs £3.50 which covers up to four photos per person. Entry for the Under 16 category is free. The closing date is 31st August 2009. For more information and to download an entry form visit www.dogimages.org.uk or contact the Kennel Club Picture Library on 020 7518 1035



Website

There have been difficulties in accessing the photos in some of the galleries on the website re-

cently. Charlie thinks that he has sorted this out. If you do have problems, try refreshing the page and hopefully this will work. If not let Charlie know via his link on the website.



Calendar

Our very first calendar went on sale at the Fun Day. Apart from the front cover, the photos are black and white. Although we received a lot of photos, most of them were of not sufficiently good quality for use in colour. We now need photos for next year's calendar. Could you initially email your photos to Chris Lewis. When the photos have been selected, Chris will then ask you to send the chosen photos on CD in order to achieve the best quality.



Dog Showing and Health

A letter from the Kennel Club concerning Dog Showing and Health has been reproduced and added to the newsletter as an appendix as has a draft of a letter which could be used as a template to send to your MP should you wish. Health issues in the dog world are very high profile at the moment and you may wish to respond if you have any thoughts on the matter.

JOINT KC/BVA HIP

DYSPLASIA SCHEME

The following dogs have had their hips tested and the scores were as follows:-

RAMBAUDS SURPRISE EN BLEUE AG3 RH6/LH6
Total:-12

RAMBAUDS UMBA AH4 RH4/LH5 Total:-9

MERRYWOOD ELECTRA AT NORLYGHT RH5/LH7
Total:-12

DOGGERELS AND HOWLERS

(Seven of the worst --- Sorry!!)

Q. WHAT KIND OF DOG DOES DRACULA HAVE?

A. A BLOODHOUND

Q. WHAT IS A DOGS FAVORITE FOOD?

A. ANYTHING ON YOUR PLATE.

Q. WHY DON'T DOGS MAKE GOOD DANCERS?

A. THEY HAVE TWO LEFT FEET.

Q. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DOG WHO WENT TO THE FLEA CIRCUS?

A. HE STOLE THE SHOW.

Q. WHAT DO YOU GET IF YOU CROSS A DOG WITH A CHEETAH?

A. A DOG WHO CHASES CARS AND CATCHES THEM.

Q. WHAT DO YOU GET IF YOU CROSS A DOG WITH A LION?

A. A TERRIFIED POSTMAN

Q. WHAT DO YOU GET IF YOU CROSS A BEATLE WITH AN AUSTRALIAN DOG?

A. DINGO STARR





Helping people with pets suffering from MRSA

Honourary Patron - Peter Purves

Vice Patrons - Marc Abraham • Vince Hogan

MRSA in Front-Line Veterinary Practice

Over the last three years or so Meticillin resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) has achieved increasing prominence as a an emerging problem for veterinary practices, and The Bella Moss Foundation has taken the lead in bringing relevant, up-to-date knowledge and validated information to front-line vets.

Practical approaches to prevention of MRSA infections are really no different from those in use in human hospitals. MRSA is capable of existing on dry uncleaned surfaces for extended periods of time by surviving on the skin cells that are shed by the people in the environment. Therefore, keeping the clinical environment and equipment clean of dust and debris (and including use of an effective disinfectant) is the first step in prevention.

Hand-touch areas such as door handles, telephones, stethoscopes, thermometers etc. are a significant source of contamination and should be cleaned and disinfected regularly. Clinical items should be specialised for individual patients.

MRSA tends to be spread easily by direct contact, therefore good personal hygiene and particularly hand washing and sanitisation are vital. There are many good guides to effective hand washing, but the rule of thumb is that the hands should be washed every time they collect dirt or debris, and only sanitised if they have simply come into contact with hand-touch areas.

Skin cells constantly shed from the human body, so long sleeves and trousers should be worn at work to reduce the accumulation of dust. Hair

should always be tied back and jewellery be kept to an absolute minimum.

A clinical procedure that breaks the skin or introduces implants or indwelling items to the body significantly increases the risk of infection so good aseptic or sterile technique is vital. The wearing of gloves for all contact with animals should be made routine as should the wearing of masks gowns and gloves for all clinical procedures.

Assessing risk is also important. The major risk factors associated with infections of all types include: A patient with an impaired immune system or chronic illness treated with steroids, non-healing wounds, long hospital stays, repeated use of broad-spectrum antibiotics long surgical procedures, and an owner working in a human health setting particularly care homes and clinical areas. There are other risks factors including the possibility that veterinary staff may have a higher occupational risk of carrying MRSA and audit of infections should be made regularly but these are the main ones, and should be assessed when considering risk of infection.

It appears clear from the current research that humans represent the greatest risk of MRSA to animals because the identified rout of transmission in all but a small number of cases has been from human to animal. Assessing the biophysical vulnerability of each animal will help prevent poor practice as well as identify those animals particularly at risk.

MRSA can be treated successfully if it is identified early and treated correctly and most fatalities so far have occurred because of a failure to achieve those two conditions. Proper clinical practice, accurate risk assessment, early detection and treatment with the appropriate antibiotics are the surest way of ensuring that we do not replicate in veterinary practices the present level of infections found in human hospitals.

SIGNS OF MRSA

Any species of animals may exhibit the same signs of MRSA as in people, and the same strain of MRSA may be passed to the pet. If your pet has repeated skin infection that are not responding to broad spectrum antibiotics, ask your vet to take swabs. If the site of a surgical wound is not healing and looks red, inflamed or hot to touch, report this immediately to your vet. The carrier state may be much more difficult to detect. MRSA exhibits the same signs as any infection.

How is MRSA spread?

MRSA is spread by direct contact or by air currents or by sneezes or coughs, and can be conveyed by people going from one environment to another. Research shows that it moves from the environment to people, from person to person, person to animal, or animal to person or environment. Pets can become carriers through the close physical contact they have with people who are themselves carriers. Surgical sites can become infected by bacteria falling from the skin into the wound, from contaminated hands or instruments or by droplets from an uncovered mouth or nose.

The greatest risk from the environment seems to be from items that are handled by many people or used on more than one animal. It has been estimated that less than 10% of the population carry MRSA without knowing it and without any effects, but there is also research that shows that those who work in health settings, including vets and veterinary practice staff, may have a higher risk of carrying MRSA than the general population. If you are concerned you may be a carrier then ask your GP for a nasal swab to be taken. Many species of animals as are people are vulnerable to MRSA infections. However animals carry their own species of bacteria. MRSA is the bacteria that naturally hosts itself to dogs but has of recent become resistant to some antibiotics. MRSA (Methicillin resistant staphylococci Intermedius) is highly drug resistant bacteria more common in the US and continental Europe than the UK.

MRSA can be far more difficult to treat than MRSA in pets and risks of cross infection can occur in the same way

The greatest risk of infection of pets tends to occur in veterinary practices, and research at the Royal Veterinary College, London has found that almost 20% of veterinary staff can carry the bug. Good clinical practice can prevent infection and colonisation, and effective screening can reduce the risk further. These depend upon veterinary staff being well trained and skilled, and on pet owners under-

standing how to work with their vet in an effective and knowledgeable way. People who work in healthcare settings are likely to have a higher risk of carrying MRSA, and should take the same hygiene precautions at home that they do at work when dealing with an unwell pet. (See BMF hygiene at home information sheet)

Antibiotic or Not ?

The excessive use of broad spectrum antibiotics in humans has been acknowledged to be a major factor in the development of antibiotic-resistant "Superbugs". Now that MRSA has crossed over to pets, prudent antibiotic use is essential in reducing the spread of MRSA.

GP's and other doctors to minimize the inappropriate usage of antibiotics (such as for virus infections like the common cold and the Flu) have been successful in reducing some unnecessary antibiotic use. Veterinary teams and pet owners need to understand that every time you give your animal an unnecessary antibiotic, it is being placed in possible jeopardy for acquiring a resistant organism. It is up to the pet owner and their pet's veterinary surgeon to Reserve antibiotic use for serious infections.

Targeted treatment and early detection is the key to surviving MRSA

An antibiotic should generally not be given without knowing that it will kill the bacteria against which it is used, and repeated courses should not be given without microbiological analysis of the infection. Early identification of the bacteria and its resistance is the best way of preventing the appearance of a resistant strain.

If your vets suspect an infection: YOU MUST ask for swabs to be taken and the culture of that swab to be sent to a diagnostic laboratory for analysis. Sometimes the culture (isolate) has to be grown in the laboratory to determine resistance and this can take a few days. Lab results will identify which bacteria are present and which antibiotic is the correct one to kill those bacteria. The microbiology report will list each antibiotic as resistant or sensitive to the bacteria. When a vet swabs and cultures suspected infections they are correctly targeting the treatment if your vet is prescribing repeated courses of antibiotics without lab reports, be alarmed and question this methodology.

Good hygiene is the KEY to preventing the spread of all bugs no matter what they are called!!!!

Frequently Asked Questions

What Should I Do If I Think My Pet May Have An Infection?

Don't wait! If you suspect your pet is not recovering after an operation, the wound seems red or irritated or skin lesions are breaking out or not healing with broad spectrum antibiotics then TELL YOUR VET. Ask for a clear indication of what they think might be the problem and how they will deal with it. Ask for swabs to be taken for culture immediately. Ask your vet to be honest about what he or she does and does not know about resistant strains of bacteria. These are just some of the things you can ask; many more may occur to you. The important thing is BE INFORMED and don't be afraid to let your vet know that you are not ignorant. If he or she doesn't like that, then they are not worth staying with. Print off our information on the websites and let your vet know about our MRSA veterinary experts who will happily talk with them if need be. Never give your pet medicine prescribed for humans.

I have MRSA and my pet has licked my open wound

It is bad practice to allow a pet to lick an open wound, not just because of the risk to the pet, but also because of the risk from the bacteria that a pet may carry. However, such a scenario may result in the pet becoming colonised with MRSA, but they are unlikely to become infected unless the bacteria is able to enter the tissue.

My daughter has MRSA and our family pet ate her vomit or stained bandages – is my pet now infected?

Probably not: The action of stomach acids will probably kill any bacteria, and the greatest risk is probably from the ingestion of a long length of bandage.

Will The Infection Return After It Has Been Treated?

If the infection has been treated successfully then reoccurrence is unlikely. In the short term reoccurrence

can result from inadequate clearing of the infection, when the animal seems better but if the infection is not completely cleaned away then bacteria can start to grow again. Reoccurrence of an infection after a long time is very uncommon. However if your pet has had orthopaedic surgery and implants then pockets of bacteria can remain around the site of the wound particularly in deep joint infections. It is very important to keep an eye on your pet closely and report any concerns to your vet immediately.

Are some animals more likely to become MRSA carriers than others?

There is no clear-cut answer to which species may be more vulnerable, but current thinking is that dogs are probably less likely to become carriers than other animals because the common strain of Staphylococcus found in dogs is not Staph. Aureus, but Staph. intermedius, and this seems to make it harder for Staph. Aureus (and MRSA) to get established. Vulnerability may depend much more on issues of health than on issues of species; ill, old or very young animals may be much more at risk than healthy mature animals.

What Questions Should I ask If My Pet Has To Undergo Surgery?

Ask what antibiotic cover your pet is likely to need prior to any surgery, and what bacteria these antibiotics will kill. Ask what steps they take to minimise the possibility of an infection getting into the surgical wound (such as cleaning the area with iodine and surgical alcohol). Ask whether your vet will be fully gowned and masked and whether a trained person will be in charge of anaesthesia. Ask how much your pet will be monitored after the operation, whether the wound will be dressed or not and whether your pet will be in an area with other animals. Ask what signs will tell the vet that an infection is present in the operation wound and what action will be taken if one should occur. Ask if they are aware of any facility that is more expert or familiar with the operation your pet has to undergo, and ask what the policy on referring to specialist centres is. Ask what the normal recovery period is and what signs might indicate a post-operative infection.

What Can I Do To Ensure My Pet Is Safe For The Future?

Talk to your vet about your concerns, especially if your pet is to undergo surgery, particularly if you or anyone in your household has close contact with a

risk area such as a hospital. Avoid keeping your pet any longer than necessary in a veterinary hospital as this may increase the likelihood of it becoming colonised, and don't allow your pet to be exposed to known carriers of MRSA. Ask if your vet is aware of the guidelines issued by the RCVS and whether the practice adheres to them. If your vet admits to not knowing much about MRSA or they are dealing with a first case, we offer team of MRSA veterinary experts to liaise with your vet (there is no charge for this) or your vet could contact the nearest veterinary teaching hospital for specialist advice. The Bella Moss Foundation will put veterinarians in touch with experts whenever it is necessary to ensure the best outcome for animal health.

What Can I do to protect my pet from MRSA?

Remember healthy animals are at minimal risk but if your pet is to undergo surgery, make sure the vet is up to date with MRSA and understands how to reduce the risk of transmission. If they would like more information, ask them to get in touch with the Bella Moss Foundation and contact one of our liaison officers. You can keep your pet healthy and less vulnerable to infection with a good diet and a healthy immune system. Avoid unnecessary hospitalisations as this increases the risk of transmission. Please also talk with your veterinarian to ensure that they have good infection control protocol in place. Prudent measures for your vet include the use of gloves when handling animals, washing hands correctly, working under high aseptic conditions and keeping veterinary surgeries clean.

What should I do about cleaning the house and bedding; if my pet is infected how often do I wash bedding and at what temperature to kill the bacteria

It is unlikely that MRSA germs will survive a standard washing cycle in a laundry machine when adequate detergent is applied. Any regular items in close contact with the infected pet should be laundered. Pet toys and other non-permeable materials can be scrubbed with a household disinfectant.

How long can MRSA live on a dry surface?

Various reference sources described MRSA strains being able to survive on dry surface for as long as weeks to months to even a full year. Topical ger-

micidal solutions can easily kill MRSA strains on the surfaces very readily, however.

Holistic veterinary medicine and the role it can play in supporting weak immune systems and help wound healing.

The emergence of bacteria resistant to modern medicines has made doctors and vets look for other ways of dealing with these infections. The owners of pets with chronic infections frequently look to complementary therapies to help them but often find their vet has little interest or knowledge beyond conventional medicine and owners find the information available to them sketchy and confusing.

Several non-antibiotic wound dressings have shown good effect against MRSA. Honey (and not only Manuka) has been shown to kill MRSA, several essential oil containing herbs (such as thyme, tea-tree and lavender) have worked well in MRSA colonised wounds and silver impregnated dressings are commonly used. Such dressings are very useful, but should be used under veterinary supervision. Essential oils should be avoided in cats as they are toxic to them.

Holistic Medicine offers more than just wound dressings. By improving your pet's immune system through good nutrition, attending to his mental wellbeing and using herbal medicines known to improve immune function he has the best chance of recovery.

Before treating your pet with essential oils or alternative medicine always consult with a professional holistic vet. For more information on registered holistic vets contact the Bella Moss Foundation.

www.veterinarynursetrainingonline.org for more information on infection control

www.thebellamosfoundation.com Charity website

www.pets-mrsa.com blog

Ed. Permission for the use of these articles has been given by Jill Moss, President of the Bella Moss Foundation who kindly gave a talk on the subject at the club's Fun Day.



Fun Day 2009

Lewknor Village Hall and its grounds is such a wonderful venue for the Fun Day, that once again we had hired it for the occasion. The weather forecast was pretty good too, so all was set for a perfect day. Once again Diane and Sheila spent the night on the car park and so were able to start to set things up before the rest of us arrived. Camping on the car park isn't as bad as it sounds! They watch a bit of cricket, check out the walk and watch the red kites. They also have a couple of other club members to keep them company.

As the rest of the committee arrived we soon got things sorted out in the kitchen and set out the raffle prizes. Kim was busy setting out the merchandise for the shop.

People started arriving at around 10.30 and were served tea/coffee and biscuits. At 11.00 the Chairman welcomed everyone and then most people and their dogs set out on the walk. When everybody was back from the walk they were able to sit down for a well deserved rest to listen to our speaker. Jill Moss from the Bella Moss Foundation gave a concise but interesting and informative talk on MRSA in animals. She started the foundation after her Samoyed Bella died after contracting MRSA. In normal circumstances a healthy dog should not be vulnerable to MRSA but just as for humans in hospitals, care should be taken to restrict the spread of the disease. The most important factor is basic hygiene. Jill suggested that we should make sure that our vets are aware and using basic hygiene techniques. We were left wondering whether or not we would be brave enough to challenge our vets on this issue. Jill gave out some information for us to take home. For those of you who were unable to come to the Fun Day, the editor has reproduced some of the information on MRSA.

Lunch followed Jill's talk. As usual, members had been very generous with their contributions, although there was a lot of cake! During lunch Pat Wescott sold raffle tickets, Steve Phillips sold squares to win a bottle of whisky and Liz Lewis gave out a quiz. (There were the usual complaints that it was too hard!) The shop was open all day and as well as the usual merchandise, our new calendar was on sale. Kim is trying to

clear existing stock so that we can order a new range. She had brochures available so that people could see a variety of items and give feedback as to what sort of items they would like to



buy.

Once lunch had been digested, those members who do agility with their dogs gave a short demonstration. Then those who wanted to learn a little bit about agility were able to have a go. Wendy Botto and her family organised this and it proved popular. Thank you to Wendy and her mum and dad for helping with this and for bringing and setting up the agility equipment. Sheila did her usual fastest recall competition, which



was won by Jean Rawlings and Gypsy.

The Novelty Classes followed and everyone joined in with enthusiasm. Various members were persuaded to judge the different classes. The results are printed below. The group photo followed. Trying to get the dogs and their owners organised was not easy but Diane managed to get us all lined up eventually! Last but not least were the team games organised by Diane and Sheila who have a knack of press-ganging enough

people to make up two teams! I think that most people secretly enjoy the games but won't admit it!

Afternoon tea was served at 4.00 before everyone started their journeys home. The weather had been kind, only one short shower during the walk. The committee is pleased that the Fun Day was so well attended. It's a great chance for PSD owners to get together and compare notes about their beloved dogs. The dogs certainly enjoy meeting each other and being able to run free together. We will be setting the date for the next Fun Day soon so keep a look out on the web site and in the next Newsletter for the date. If you haven't managed to come to a Fun Day yet do try to come next time, Hopefully next year it won't clash with the Wimbledon final, but I missed one of the best finals ever this year so I'm told. Such is my dedication to the Pyrenean Sheepdog mmm!

Liz Lewis

Look for the photos on the website

Results of the Novelty Classes

Most Handsome Dog .	Monty owned by Peter Titterton
Prettiest Bitch .	Wispa owned by Jean Rawlings
Waggiest Tail .	Siggy owned by Joan Snelling
Best Trick .	Bobby owned by Jenni Gemmill
Best Child Handler .	Fleur handled by Louise Potter
Best in Show .	Monty owned by Peter Titterton

All winners were presented with a certificate and a rosette



ZILLAH, CARABRAE COLETTE



Her name was Carebrae Colette and she was born on the 1st January 1994. But when we met her name was Zillah. Over the years we called her so many names that we had almost forgotten what her real name was. You know! (I am sure you do this with your dog) it starts off with Zillah, then Zill, then Zilly, then Zilly Billy, which then turned into Zilly Billy Bob, and, then into a country and western style name, Zilly Billy Bob, Rae, and so it goes on turning at the end into something unrecognisable from the name which you started with. This is a bit like Zillah's life, changing from one lifestyle to something completely different from the previous one she had known before.

Her first owner, so I was told, kept her in a kitchen, she didn't go anywhere or do anything, was not socialised, she spent the first two years of her life like this, and developed into a very nervous dog. One day a friend of Irene's (Zillah's second owner) asked her to go with her to look at some puppies, I think that her old dog had died sometime before. After looking at the puppies they were taken into the kitchen to discuss the puppy that had been chosen, this is when Irene first noticed Zillah. She was sitting in the corner of the room, shaking, and looking very scared and nervous. Irene told us that all of the rest of that day and night she could not stop thinking about Zillah, she just could not get her out of her mind. The following morning Irene went back and asked if she could buy Zillah for herself. She told me that she didn't really want a dog but she just could, not leave Zillah there. Irene looked after Zillah very well for the next six years of her life; she overcame her nervousness and enjoyed her life. When Zillah was eight years old Irene went to live in South Africa, she didn't want to take Zillah because she was going to travel around and Irene thought that it would be too much for Zillah to cope with. Irene contacted the PSD Club and told us that she was looking for a new home for Zillah, and that is how she came to live with us.

We have loved every minute of every day that we spent with Zillah she was one of the most intelligent dogs I have ever known. She was clever, kind, happy, and a joy to look after, we miss her and no other dog will ever be like her, we always told her that she was the best dog in the world and to us she was just that.

Sadly we had to have Zillah put to sleep on the 12th May, and we miss her very much.

*Zillah has been a joy to us
For reasons I'll explain
She loved us for ourselves alone
And always made it plain.*

*She'd round us up when need be
As YOU all know they can
Looking at us sideways
There had to be a plan.*

*Not fussed on things impromptu
A sense of order must prevail
What would she do I wonder
If the house went up for sale. !!*

*In days gone by we'd walk for miles
Sea and sand a special treat
The beach would hold no boundaries
For areas designate.*

*She'd run and jump, chase us around
Enjoying the excitement
Loved children who would say "Hello"
Made life for us contentment.*

*Her playfulness, her sense of fun
Especially taking part
In everything around her
Not included, she would bark*

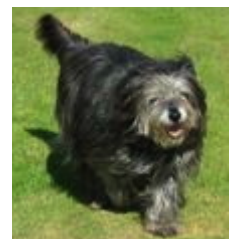
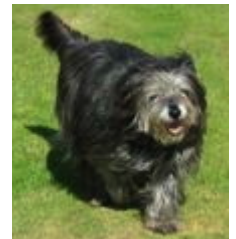
*to let us know "I'm here too"
Ignore me if you dare
But always in a loving way
Could you resist that stare?*

*Content to sit beside me
On Wednesdays weekly lesson
She'd sit right there, tucked underneath
Our Happy piano session.*

*Alas she's with us no more
In body if not in mind
How do you say "so long girl"
And leave all thoughts behind.*

*The simple answer is you can't
And so here are my lines
To help recall the splendid things
That made our dog so fine.*

*Happy thoughts, happy times
Must now be underlined
Locked in our hearts for evermore
Is Zillah who walks behind.*



The Jersey Agility Festival



The eleventh Jersey Agility Festival took place on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th May at the Beauvelande Campsite. This is a lovely campsite and makes a really good venue for the Agility Festival. The show is organised by club member Sally Rees and her son André, helped by Tony Griffin who deals with all the entries.

We crossed on the ferry from Weymouth to St Helier on Friday 1st May. After giving Ria and Meg a well deserved run in the sand dunes (they had been shut in the car during the crossing), we went up to the campsite to help set up the two rings for the following day

Many hands made light work and everything was quickly set up.

On Saturday morning we were up bright and early to get up to the campsite to walk the courses before the judging began. I recognised some faces from when we went to the festival two years ago. The festival has a dedicated group of people who go every year. Two of the four runs, one jumping and one agility, on Saturday and Sunday, were qualifiers for the finals on Monday. Points from the qualifying runs were added together and a small number from each height went through to the final.

Four Pyrenean Sheepdogs were competing, Ria and Meg and Sally's Coco and her new dog Tag. This was Tag's first show. At the end of each day everyone gathers round for the presentation of rosettes for clear rounds and places. The winners of each class are presented with one of the coveted teddy bears.

On Sunday the format of the day was pretty much the same as Saturday with two more qualifying runs for the final. As well as the presentations at the end of the day, everyone was eager to look at the results board to see who had qualified for the finals on Monday afternoon.

It was good to see that two Pyrenean Sheepdogs had qualified for the Medium dogs final-Sally and Coco and myself and Ria.

On Monday there were more runs for everyone before the finals took place in the afternoon. The course for the finals was set up and we all had the chance to walk it. I was very nervous as I walked the course in front of all the other competitors who were sitting round the ring watching. The small dogs ran first. Four dogs were in the medium dog final and Ria and I ran first. We got five faults so had to wait to see how the other three did. Sadly Sally and Coco and one of the other competitors were eliminated and the last dog also got five faults but in a faster time than Ria so were placed second. We were then able to relax and watch the finals for the large dogs and the ABC (anything but collies).

At the end of the afternoon the presentations



took place once more and also the raffle draw, which takes a long time as there are so many prizes. Quite a few people were catching the boat back to Weymouth that evening so time was tight.

Once again we thoroughly enjoyed our weekend at the Festival. The atmosphere is very relaxed and friendly. It was nice to see some competitors from France there and also a very charming French judge Francis Chevalier. I think that we may well become one of the dedicated group who go every year. Finally thanks must go to Sally and André for all their incredible hard work to make the show such a great success.

Liz Lewis

Jersey Agility Festival Results

Rambauds Chamarre (Coco) Owned by Sally Rees

Class 2 Medium Agility 2nd

Class 6 Medium Jumping Clear Round

Class 10 Medium Agility 3rd

Class 21 Medium Jumping 3rd

Class 30 Medium Agility Clear Round

Class 39 Medium Agility 3rd

Class 43 Medium Helter Skelter Clear Round

Rambauds Urepel (Tag) Owned by Sally Rees

Class 21 Medium Jumping Clear Round

Class 43 Medium Helter Skelter Clear Round

Sally also won the prize for the competitor who had gained the most points.

Riacaud Ria (Ria) Owned by Liz Lewis

Class 2 Medium Agility 3rd

Class 10 Medium Agility 2nd

Class 26 Medium Agility 2nd

Agility Dog of the Year Medium 2nd

Riacaud Meg (Meg) Owned by Liz Lewis

Sadly Meg didn't have a single clear round as the smells in and around the rings proved to be too much of a distraction!

Hello everyone,

Just a quick boast – Bobby (Parbrook Yaron) went clear in 2 classes at Norfolk Easter show at the w/e – and won both of them! 1 Jumping and 1 Agility, he has now moved from grade 3 to grade 4. Videos and details on his webpage – <http://www.bobby-gemmill.piczo.com> . A good start to the agility season :-)



Jenni Gemmill's Bobby

Agility Results

Liz Lewis and Ria

EMDAC 25/4/09
4th in Primary Agility

EMDAC 28/6/09
7th in Primary Agility

EMDAC 17/7/09
4th in Primary Power and Speed

EMDAC 18/7/09
8th Primary Snakes and Ladders

Canicross- the half marathon

The canix season has come to an end with the last race at Cheltenham racecourse. The championship was decided here and it was disappointing for me and Tyler to come 4th, loosing 3rd place by 3 points. Never mind there is always next year.

Our best achievement this season was completing the canix half marathon held on Salisbury Plain. we had trained to build up my stamina and Ty-lers' concentration because 13 miles is a long way for a dog to "stay in the zone" as the athletes say!

We were taken to the start by coach, a 40 minute journey, during which all the dogs were on their best behaviour. When the race started I was concerned about the heat but at every water stop there were paddling pools and water sprays for the dogs and 6 miles in the sky clouded over and all was well with the world. Tyler was brilliant, never once did I have to urge him on and when I went through a bad patch he wouldn't let me slow down, I had no option but to match his pace. The last 2 miles were the worst, so I kept my eyes fixed on his tail until we crossed the finish line.

As we (I) recovered My thoughts were never again, but after we shared a pizza together and chatted to other runners I started to think that maybe next year we could beat our time of 2hrs 21 mins. Yes I know I must be mad!

We ran to raise money for Pyrenean Sheepdog welfare so that if a dog needs the Clubs help in the future there will be money available to assist. Thank you to all those that sponsored myself and Tyler and if anyone else would like to contribute please send a cheque to the Club treasurer, Carla Senkpiehl. Diane raised a magnificent £115 for the rescue fund.



And Peggy Came Too

The half marathon was the show case for the stamina of 2 PSD's because Sheila and Peggy walked the 13 miles. This was a great achievement for both of them as Sheila was limited by the training she could do and Peggy is not very sporting. Peggy didn't look like she had done more than her usual walk but I think when Sheila said never again she meant it! They were also sponsored and walked for cancer research, finishing in a time of just over 3 hours.



PAW NOTE



The next day Sheila and myself were hobbling round but Tyler and Peggy showed no after effects at all, proof that this breed definitely doesn't have an off switch.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

There are now 117 members which includes 6 junior members.

Welcome back to:-

Rachel Martel

Alan Thomes

Welcome to new members :-

Dr Jane Hill

Sarah Potter

Welcome to junior members :- Kyle, Louise & Natalie Potter.

CONGRATULATIONS

ROZIMBA CELESTE avec SANDYTRAIL (Celeste) owned by Mrs S & Mr Flint after achieving her Bronze Good Citizen Award at 6 months has been awarded her Silver Good Citizen Award at 10 months of age.



SHOW RESULTS

Working & Pastoral Breeds Association of Wales 18.04.09

AVNSC PASTORAL

Judge(s) MISS D SPAVIN

BD
MERRYWOOD EFREN AT SANDYTRAIL
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

BB
MERRYWOOD RISING STAR AVEC CHIKARAMOR
(MRS S A & MRS A MORLEY & ROGERSON)

RBB
ROZIMBA CELESTE AVEC SANDYTRAIL
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

BOB
MERRYWOOD RISING STAR AVEC CHIKARAMOR
(MRS S A & MRS A MORLEY & ROGERSON)

JUNIOR - Dog or Bitch

Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1st
ROZIMBA CELESTE AVEC SANDYTRAIL
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

OPEN - Dog

Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1st
MERRYWOOD EFREN AT SANDYTRAIL
(MR E & MRS S FLINT)

OPEN - Bitch

Entries: 2 Absentees: 0

1st
MERRYWOOD RISING STAR AVEC CHIKARAMOR
(MRS S A & MRS A MORLEY & ROGERSON)

2nd
MERRYWOOD GOLD DUST OF JENTILIMA
(MRS C M MILNES)

West of England Ladies' Kennel Society

24-26.04.09

AVNSC PASTORAL

Judge(s) MRS ANN ARCH

BD
DOMANI DELLA PERLA MAREMMANA
(MR R CIMA)

BB
MERRYWOOD DANCING QUEEN AT KELLTARA
(MRS P PHILLIPS)

RBB
YARRAMAN DARE TO ROCK AT CORIGHT
(MRS L WRIGHT)

BOB
MERRYWOOD DANCING QUEEN AT KELLTARA
(MRS P PHILLIPS)

BP
YARRAMAN BLU KOALA IN KOFYN
(MR M & MISS M PRESLAND & VINCENT)

OPEN - Bitch

Entries: 2 Absentees: 0

1st
MERRYWOOD DANCING QUEEN AT KELLTARA
(MRS P PHILLIPS)

2nd
YARRAMAN DARE TO ROCK AT CORIGHT
(MRS L WRIGHT)



National Dog Show 2009

7-10th May

Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)

Judge: Mr Frank Kane

BEST OF BREED : Carabrae Mad As A Hatter
at Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS

Best Dog : Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at
Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS

Res Best Dog : Riacaud Ultra Paree Match
avec Rozimba Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

Best Bitch : Merrywood Dancing Queen at
Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS

Res Best Bitch : Ivydale Nightjar
Mrs R ROBSON

Best Puppy : Rozimba Cosmo
Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

Best Breeder : Cafferata

Class 1499 JD/B (3 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Rozimba Cosmo
Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

2nd: Merrywood Foxglove
Mr M L & Mrs F A CAFFERATA

3rd: Rozimba Celeste Avec Sandytrail
Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class 1500 OD (4 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS

2nd: Riacaud Ultra Paree Match avec
Rozimba Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

3rd: Merrywood Efren At Sandytrail
Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Res: Merrywood Essien,
Mrs M DEUCHAR & Miss D DEUCHAR

Class 1501 OB (8 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Merrywood Dancing Queen at Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS

2nd: Ivydale Nightjar Mrs R ROBSON

3rd: Merrywood Rising Star Avec Chikaramor,
Mrs S A MORLEY & Mrs A ROGERSON

Res: Merrywood Gold Dust of Jentilima
Mrs C M MILNES

VHC: Merrywood Eshana

Mr M L & Mrs F A CAFFERATA

Southern Counties Canine Association 5-7.06.09

AVNSC PASTORAL

Judge(s) MRS KARINA LE MARE

BD

CH SALVENIK SECRET AGENT OF ELMSMERE
SHCM (MRS R G & MR B M ELLWOOD &
GARDINER)

RBD

CH GOWERSTON JAZZ SINGER FOR PEMCA-
DER (MR A, I, K & S TAYLOR, JONES, DOVER &
WILMER)

BB

MERRYWOOD ELEKTRA AT NORLYGHT
(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

RBB

BYMIL STRIKE ME PINK FOR ESTELAMAY
(MESSRS J & J SKULL & SHARPE)

BOB

MERRYWOOD ELEKTRA AT NORLYGHT
(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

POST GRADUATE - Dog

Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1st

MERRYWOOD ESSIEN
(MRS M & MISS D DEUCHAR)

POST GRADUATE - Bitch

Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1st

CARABRAE PINK PETUNIA WITH THYMEWINDS
(MRS W A SMITH)

OPEN - Bitch

Entries: 3 Absentees: 1

1st
MERRYWOOD ELEKTRA AT NORLYGHT
(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)
2nd
CH BYMIL PICTURE THIS (MISS S E TAYLOR)



Blackpool Championship Show
26-28 June 2009

Border Union Agricultural Society 20-21.06.09

AVNSC PASTORAL

Judge(s) MR TOM MATHER

Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)

Judge: Mr D Smith

JUNIOR - Bitch

Entries: 3 Absentees: 0

1st
CORDANTE BLACK MASQUERADE
(MR W & MRS T A FULTON)
2nd
SHULUNE IMPERIAL MOONLITE
(MISS L D WILLIAMS)
3rd
IVYDALE AAMUTAHTI
(MRS C A WILLIAMS)

BEST OF BREED : Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS
Best Dog : Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS
Res Best Dog : Rozimba Cosmo MRS T WESCOTT-SMITH
Best Bitch : Merrywood Rising Star Avec Chikaramor, Mrs S A MORLEY & Mrs A ROGERSON
Res Best Bitch : Carabrae Pink Petunia With Thymewinds Mrs W A SMITH
Best Puppy : Rozimba Cosmo Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

LIMIT - Bitch

Entries: 4 Absentees: 1

1st
MERRYWOOD RISING STAR AVEC CHIKARAMOR
(MRS S A & MRS A MORLEY & ROGERSON)
2nd
GOWERSTON JUST JENNY WITH ARANGATH SHCM (MISS F SNEDDEN)
3rd
CARABRAE KATRIONA OF IVYDALE
(MRS C A WILLIAMS)

Class 1665 PD (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Rozimba Cosmo Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

Class 1667 PGD (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Merrywood Efren At Sandytrail Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class 1668 OD (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS

2nd: Riacaud Ultra Pareae Match avec Rozimba Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

Class 1669 PB (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Rozimba Cassia Mrs S HAWKSWELL
2nd: Rozimba Celeste Avec Sandytrail Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

Class 1671 PGB (4 Entries) Abs: 2

1st: Carabrae Pink Petunia With Thymewinds Mrs W A SMITH

2nd: Carabrae Katriona Of Ivydale
Mrs C A WILLIAMS

Class 1672 OB (5 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Merrywood Rising Star Avec Chikaramor
Mrs S A MORLEY & Mrs A ROGERSON
2nd: Ivydale Nightjar Mrs R ROBSON
3rd: Merrywood Dancing Queen at Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS
Res: Merrywood Gold Dust of Jentilima
Mrs C M MILNES
VHC: Merrywood Elektra At Norlyght
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

**East Of England Agricultural
Society 10-12.07.09**

**PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG
(LONG HAISED)**

Judge(s) MR A WIGHT

BD
CARABRAE MAD AS A HATTER AT KELLTARA
(MRS P PHILLIPS)
RBD
ROZIMBA COSMO (MRS T WESCOTT-SMITH)
BB
KIMRAND BONNE AMIE
(MR F J & MISS K RANDALL)
RBB
MERRYWOOD ESHANA
(MR M & MRS F CAFFERATA)
BOB
CARABRAE MAD AS A HATTER AT KELLTARA
(MRS P PHILLIPS)
BP
ROZIMBA COSMO (MRS T WESCOTT-SMITH)

JUNIOR - Dog or Bitch

Entries: 3 Absentees: 2

1st
ROZIMBA COSMO (MRS T WESCOTT-SMITH)

POST GRADUATE - Dog or Bitch

Entries: 6 Absentees: 2

1st

CARABRAE MAD AS A HATTER AT KELLTARA
(MRS P PHILLIPS)

2nd
MERRYWOOD ESHANA
(MR M & MRS F CAFFERATA)

3rd
IVYDALE NIGHTJAR (MRS R E ROBSON)

Res
CARABRAE PINK PETUNIA WITH THYMEWINDS
(MRS W A SMITH)

OPEN - Dog or Bitch

Entries: 3 Absentees: 0

1st
KIMRAND BONNE AMIE
(MR F J & MISS K RANDALL)

2nd
MERRYWOOD GOLD DUST OF JENTILIMA
(MRS C M MILNES)

3rd
MERRYWOOD DANCING QUEEN AT KELLTARA
(MRS P PHILLIPS)

**National Working & Pastoral
Breeds 2009 18.07.09**

**Pyrenean Sheepdog
(Long Haired)**

Judge: Mrs P Chadwick

BEST OF BREED : Carabrae Mad As A Hatter
at Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS

Best Dog : Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at
Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS

Res Best Dog : Rambauds Qui Vive
Mrs M P WESTON

Best Bitch : Merrywood Dancing Queen at
Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS

Res Best Bitch : Merrywood Foxglove
Mr M L & Mrs F A CAFFERATA

Class 225 PGD (2 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: 1170 WESTON Mrs M P
Rambauds Qui Vive

Class 226 OD (3 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS
2nd: Rambauds Qui Vive
Mrs M P WESTON
3rd: Riacaud Ulric De Picors CDex UDex WDex
Mrs V G WILFORD

Class 227 JB (2 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Merrywood Foxglove
Mr M L & Mrs F A CAFFERATA

Class 228 PGB (5 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Merrywood Eshana
Mr M L & Mrs F A CAFFERATA
2nd: Cascade Du Castlemouly Avec Rambauds
(imp Fra) Mrs M P WESTON
3rd: Ivydale Nightjar Mrs R I ROBSON
Res: Carabrae Pink Petunia With Thymewind
Mrs W A SMITH

Class 229 OB (4 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Merrywood Dancing Queen at Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS
2nd: Merrywood Gold Dust of Jentilima
Mrs C M MILNES
3rd: Cascade Du Castlemouly Avec Rambauds
(imp Fra) 1171 Mrs M P WESTON
Res: Kimrand Bonne Amie
Mr F J & RANDALL Miss K RANDALL

**Leeds City & District Canine
Society 26th July 2009**

**AV Not Separately Classi-
fied (Pastoral)**

Judge: Mr M Sanders

BEST OF BREED : Merrywood Dancing
Queen at Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS
Best Dog : Ch Arnscroft Di Claudius
Mrs D STIRLING
Res Best Dog : Ailort Just The Ticket
Miss B HALL
Best Bitch : Merrywood Dancing Queen at
Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS
Res Best Bitch : Selvaspina Desiderata At
Silvermere Mrs J ATKINS
Best Puppy : Selvaspina Desiderata At
Silvermere Mrs J ATKINS

Class 1882 PD (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Ailort Just The Ticket Miss B HALL
2nd: Rozimba Cosmo
Mrs T WESCOTT-SMITH

Class 1884 OD (6 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Ch Arnscroft Di Claudius
Mrs D STIRLING
2nd: Seacop Kadirga Mr T GLOVER
3rd: Ch Tamlin King George The First Sh.CM
Mrs T TAYLOR
Res: Carabrae Mad As A Hatter at Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS
VHC: Carabrae Daniel Deronda at Nidasha
Miss D NEWTON, & Miss S JANSON

Class 1886 PGB (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Ivydale Nightjar Mrs R ROBSON
2nd: Carabrae Over The Rainbow Of Ivydale
Mrs C A WILLIAMS

Class 1887 OB (7 Entries) Abs: 3

1st: Merrywood Dancing Queen at Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS
2nd: Arnscroft Di Di Di Delilah
STIRLING, CROSS, HOUSTON, & EVANS
3rd: Seacop Selena Mr T GLOVER
Res: Carabrae Katriona Of Ivydale
Mrs C A WILLIAMS



NEWS FLASH

Bailey (Carabrae Mad as a Hatter at Kelltara)
is the half way leader in the Dog World Top
Dog Competition.



Sad News

*Lorna and Michael Lappert have had to say
"Goodbye" to Bruno aged 13 years.
Sandy and Jane Readman lost Nem (who
they had recently imported from Belgium) in
a tragic accident. Our thoughts are with
them.*

EUROPEAN WINNERS DOG SHOW DUBLIN 31st MAY

PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG LONG HAIRED

Breed Judge: Mr D. Kuzel

Award Dog

Green Star Dog RIBARROUY DU VAL SOANNAN
(Joel Kuhlmann)

Res Green Star Dog MERRYWOOD EFREN AT
SANDYTRAIL (Mr E & Mrs S Flint)

CACIB Dog MERRYWOOD EFREN AT SANDY-
TRAIL (Mr E & Mrs S Flint)

Green Star Bitch MERRYWOOD ELEKTRA AT
NORLYGHT (Mr C J & Mrs P M Such)

CACIB Bitch MERRYWOOD ELEKTRA AT
NORLYGHT (Mr C J & Mrs P M Such)

Res Green Star Bitch MERRYWOOD RISING
STAR AVEC CHIKARAMOR (Mrs S A &
Mrs A Morley & Rogerson)

Res CACIB Bitch MERRYWOOD RISING STAR
AVEC CHIKARAMOR (Mrs S A & Mrs A
Morley & Rogerson)

Best Of Breed MERRYWOOD ELEKTRA AT
NORLYGHT (Mr C J & Mrs P M Such)

Reserve Best Of Breed RIBARROUY DU VAL SO-
ANNAN (Joel Kuhlmann)

Best Puppy ROZIMBA CELESTE AVEC SANDY-
TRAIL (Mr E & Mrs S Flint)

Best Veteran RIBARROUY DU VAL SOANNAN
(Joel Kuhlmann)

Class Results

Class Placing Dog

Intermediate Dog 1 MERRYWOOD EFREN AT
SANDYTRAIL (Mr E & Mrs S Flint)

Veteran Dog 1 RIBARROUY DU VAL SOANNAN
(Joel Kuhlmann)

Puppy Bitch (Int) 1 ROZIMBA CELESTE AVEC
SANDYTRAIL (Mr E & Mrs S Flint)

Intermediate Bitch 1 MERRYWOOD ELEKTRA AT
NORLYGHT (Mr C J & Mrs P M Such)

Open Bitch 1 MERRYWOOD RISING STAR AVEC
CHIKARAMOR (Mrs S A & Mrs A Morley &
Rogerson)

DOUAI FRANCE 12th JULY

Club Member results

LONG HAIRED

Open Male:- 1. Ex. RCACS Riacaud Ulric de Picors
Mrs Vicky Wilford

Champion Male:- 1. Exc. RCACIB Tintin de
l'Oustaou de Padel Veerle Vlerick
3. Exc. Foli du Pic de Pioulou Eddy Van Pelt
and Veerle Vlerick

Intermediate Female:-

4. Exc. Merrywood Electra at Norlight Mr C J &
Mrs PM Such

Open Female:-

4. TB Fleche du Pic de Pioulou Eddy Van Pelt
and Veerle Vlerick

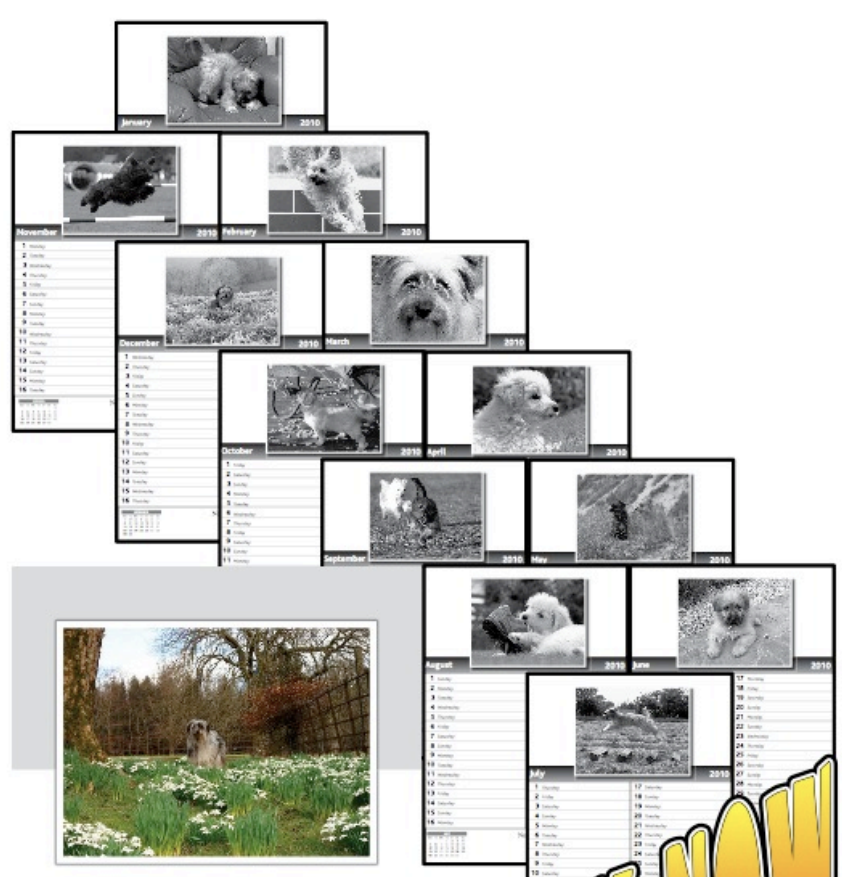
FACE RASE

CHAMPION FEMALE, 1st EXC. CACIB, BEST PSD
BEST OF BREED

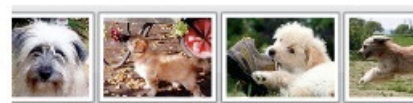
Saphir Bleu de Loubajac

Ann de Clerq

2010 CALENDAR NOW ON SALE



Pyrenean Sheepdog
2010 Calendar



The Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of Great Britain
Berger des Pyrénées

BUY NOW

CONTACT KIM RANDALL email kim.randall@tesco.net or Telephone 01733 252694

PRICE £5 plus post and package £1.30 Total £6.30

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Small Grey T-Shirt £5
Small White T-Shirt £5

Large Grey Sweatshirt £7
Small Grey Sweatshirt £7

Fridge Magnet with Fawn or Grey Head £1 each
Thimbles with Fawn or Grey Head £1 each
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**Other items available:-Wind chimes, Tax Disc Holders,
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Large and Small Car Stickers, Coasters,
Key Rings and Baseball Caps.**

Postage and packing extra.

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email: kim.randall@tesco.net Tel:-01733 252694



YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT THE BREED AND THE CLUB

Appendix I KC Letter



THE KENNEL CLUB

Making a difference for dogs

Secretary
Mrs C. R. Kisko

1st June 2009

Dear Breed Club Secretary

Dog showing & health

As someone with a strong interest and involvement in dog showing I thought you would like to know what the Kennel Club is doing to promote the healthy breeding and showing of dogs.

The Kennel Club has always maintained that the vast majority of dogs bred and exhibited at shows are healthy. However, you will doubtless be aware that dog showing has been heavily criticised recently on the basis of claims that it is responsible for producing unhealthy dogs. For many years the Kennel Club and the Kennel Club Charitable Trust have been taking steps to understand and resolve these problems where possible, for instance providing grants for scientific research, training judges to spot unhealthy dogs during competition and issuing revised breed standards.

The Kennel Club is of the firm belief that dog showing is not only a fun hobby for those who take part, but is also the best forum in which to resolve any health problems related to a dog's conformation. As those who show dogs are well aware competitive dog showing is not only one of several means of promoting the breeding of healthy, happy dogs; it is also one of the best ways in which to eradicate the very distressing diseases that blight some dogs' lives because it is in this forum alone (i.e. the world of dog shows) that breed standards hold the authority to achieve progress. By their very nature dog shows reward excellent health and a good temperament - the results of the highest standards of breeding.

The Kennel Club will be making this issue a key focus of our campaigning activities over the coming months. I would be very grateful if you could help us by asking your members to contact their local Member of Parliament in Scotland and the UK or Assembly Member in Wales to support this campaign. I have enclosed a suggested letter to assist you. For further information on this campaign please visit our website <http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/item/2164> . Should you require any further help or information please do not hesitate to contact the Kennel Club's Senior Public Affairs Officer Emily Jeffrey on 020 7518 1020 or Emily.jeffrey@thekennelclub.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Kisko

Kennel Club Secretary

1-5 Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB
Telephone 020 7518 1056 Facsimile 020 7518 1028
www.thekennelclub.org.uk

APPENDIX 2 Proposed Letter to MP

X MP

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA

dd/mm/yyyy

Dear X MP

Dog Showing & Health

As a dog breeder / person who shows their dogs I am concerned about recent suggestions that the hobby of dog showing is responsible for a number of canine health problems. These suggestions seem to have been made without recourse to scientific evidence to establish the facts.

A number of actions have been taken to improve dog health by organisations such as the Kennel Club, including working with a number of breeders to improve the health of their breed, a full review of the breed standards, banning of close matings and significant levels of investment into science and research.

In January 2009 the Kennel Club published revised breed standards. Dogs at dog shows are judged against these standards which describe the breed's defining appearance, characteristics and temperament, and these were created with the dog's original function in mind. Judges are instructed to remove any dog they deem to be unhealthy from the ring and officials at shows have the responsibility to ensure that any dog not so removed by the judge, but which they suspect of being unhealthy, is examined by a vet. Thus, unhealthy dogs will not be rewarded in the show ring and their owners are further incentivised to breed with health in mind. This rigorous discipline cannot be achieved with non registered dogs or dogs that do not compete in the show ring.

Dog shows encourage healthy breeding practices. At Crufts 2009 a large number of winning dogs were bred by KC Accredited Breeders - KCABs are required to make use of health screening schemes relevant to their breed on all breeding stock. The attention to health and welfare shown by these breeders is in marked contrast to the kind of breeding carried out by puppy farmers, who breed purely for profit or fashion with no concern for health and welfare.

Dog shows are also a vital means by which to educate both dog breeders and potential puppy buyers about dog health and other welfare issues.

I hope you will agree that far from having a negative effect on dog health, shows are an important way to ensure that dogs' health improves. As my representative I am asking you to write to the Minister to echo your support for a minimum set of standards to be brought in which would apply to the breeding of all dogs.

I look forward to your prompt reply regarding this issue.

Yours sincerely,