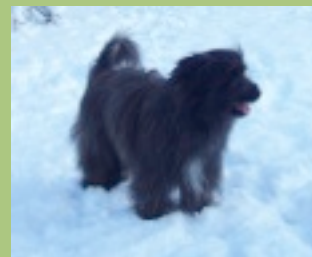
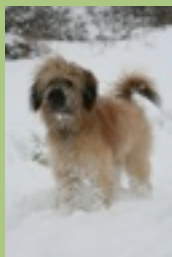


Pyrenean Sheepdog

Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

December 2012

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of Great Britain. Can we take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year



Why not make a New Years resolution to write an article for the Newsletter so that others in the Pyrenean Sheepdog world can hear about what you are doing with your dogs?



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www.pyreneansheepdog.co.uk

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BITS AND PIECES FROM THE SECRETARY

AGM

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will take place at 11.00 on Sunday 17th February 2013 at Swannington Village Hall, Swannington, Leics LE67 8QL. The hall is in the main street and has a notice board outside it. There is parking behind the hall. The committee would like all those attending the AGM to stay on 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 Pecoult is required to stand down as President but is eligible for re-election. Alain has agreed to stand again proposed by Pat Phillips and seconded by Wendy Smith.

The Secretary and the Treasurer are required to retire 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, or as a committee member should be received by the Secretary by 16th January 2013. Applicants need to have been a member of the club for at least a year to be eligible for election to the committee.

Any items for inclusion on the AGM Agenda should be received by the Secretary by 16th January.



Points System

If you have been showing your dog this year or competing in Agility or Obedience, don't forget to send in your points by 20th January. Showing points should be sent to Pat Phillips, Cockett Farm, Ferryhill, Basford, Nr Leek, Staffs ST13 7ET or by email to kelltara@btinternet.com Agility and Obedience points should be sent to Liz Lewis, 10

Asquith Boulevard, Knighton, Leicester LE2 6FA or by email to riacaud@mac.com Junior Handling results should be sent to Toni Wescott-Smith, 24 Beech Avenue, Thongsbridge, Holmfirth HD9 7SX Please use the "official" forms which can be downloaded from the club website. If you have any problems with this please contact Liz.



Discover Dogs at Crufts

Crufts is from 7th to 10th March 2013 with Pastoral Breeds being shown on the Sunday. As usual we need as much as help as possible to help man the breed stand. We desperately need people with younger dogs to help out as several of the dogs who have been great ambassadors for the breed are now too old and are taking a well earned rest. Car park and entry tickets are provided by the Kennel Club as is a sum of money to be shared between helpers each day. A committee member will be there each day to provide support. If you live with a Pyrenean Sheepdog you can talk to other people about it. If you can help or need to know more about what it involves please contact Liz Lewis.



Website

We are hoping that a live Newsfeed will be added very soon. This means that we will be able to provide news and information as it comes in. Look out for it on the website.



Fun Day

The next Fun Day will be held on Sunday 30th June at Bearley Village Hall, Snitterfield Road, Bearley, Nr Stratford on Avon CV37 0SR. Please make a note of the date in your diary. Further details will be in the next Newsletter.



THE BRITISH AND THEIR DOGS

I was recently invited to take part in a unique experience.

The KC and Manchester Museum jointly organised an exhibition. The theme was "The British and Their Dogs." The exhibition runs until next April, but for the opening day only "live" dogs took centre stage.

It was a great celebration of dogs, and for the public to meet, and touch the dogs. Yes, there were also a few stuffed dogs in glass cases, which did cause Pussel to take a step back in trepidation when he first spotted one. I think he thought Mum had gone a step too far this time in her expectations of him!

On arrival we were greeted by very helpful museum staff and we were directed to our appropriate alcove, which was set out with historical artefacts of the breed. The other breeds invited were the Bulldog, Borzoi, Irish Wolfhound, Bloodhound, Peke and Great Dane. I was told that the museum was anticipating approximately 2000 visitors. I don't know what the final figure was, but we were certainly kept very busy.

There were no barriers between the dogs and the public, although we were offered one when we first arrived, as the visitors were a little too enthusiastic to stroke the dogs. Things soon settled down and I was pleased that the barrier hadn't been required.

The visitors were lovely. Although many of them did not own a dog their questions were very sensible. There were a lot of very young children, absolutely thrilled to be able to stroke the dogs and get so close to them. They were all delightful. There was no running around, squealing, or teasing the dogs, they were super.

Later in the afternoon my dogs were taking advantage of a quiet time, lying flat out relaxing. Three or four little girls arrived and sat on the floor with them. They had a wonderful time plaiting their hair!

It was definitely a memorable doggy day out and I was very proud of all my dogs, but in particular it highlighted Pussel's wonderful temperament which makes him such a super P.A.T. dog.

Cynthia Milnes and Pussel (Swe & Nor CH Hob-Nob's Soleil of Jentilima) assisted by the Beardies



CONGRATULATIONS

Rosie continued to fly the flag for our Breed and in her first Veteran Stakes which had an entry of 38 was placed 4th and won prize money of £25. !

Well done to Katie Robson who took first place in the YKC Junior Handling competition for the 12-16 years category with Ivydale Nightjar at the Easton and Barnaby Canine Society Show. This qualifies Katie for Crufts which is first time she has qualified at this age group.



SUOMEN PYRENELÄISET RY



PYRENEAN DOGS IN FINLAND

It is always hard to begin – there is a lot to say and little room to say it. We will try our best to describe our club; its history and current happenings. Suomen Pyreneläiset ry is a club that joins together three breeds: the Pyrenean Shepherds, poil long and face race, and the Pyrenean Mountain Dogs. Since your club is a Berger club, we'll focus our article on our common breed.

A short history

The year 1979 was the most significant year in our clubs history. That is when Finlands Pyrenean Dog division was founded under SSKY. Our club magazine was first published in 1981 and since then it has appeared four times a year. Our club also publishes a yearbook, which entails all show results and judgements of Finnish dogs along with test and health results. We followed the example of the French Pyrenean Dog club in 1993, when Pyrenean Mountain Dogs and Pyrenean Shepherds joined forces and formed one big club. Now we represent all three breeds. Our club has a target program for breeding, which dictates the events, training and publications, that our club must execute yearly.

The history of the long haired Pyrenean Sheepdog in Finland goes back to the year 1986 when the first dogs were imported from France. At the end of the 80's the strict quarantine regulations were revoked and the borders to the middle Europe opened allowing both importation of dogs and showing aboard. The very first Finnish Pyrenean Sheepdog litters were born in 1989. Not one of the early breeders - Kennel Tamarixin, Kennel Hanumanin and Kennel Cassandran to mention some - has continued with the breed to these days, but you can find many dogs bred by these kennels from the pedigrees of the present dogs. There are also a few dedicated breeders and breed lovers that have quite a long history with these magnificent little herding

dogs and that are still involved: Lea Riihimaeki (Kennel Drole d'Oiseau) bred her first litter exactly 20 years ago in 1992. Other long time breeders are Kirsi Nieminen (Kennel Fusain) who had her first litter in 1995 and is after a break starting to breed again. Soile Tankka (Kennel Entre Nous) started her breeding work in 1997 and Jaana Viinikka (Kennel Casse-Noisettes) a year later.

There are also many that have had only one of two litters over the years, but also they have produced dogs that have had a huge impact to the breed in the country. Also there are new and enthusiastic breeders, so the breed will be in good hands in the future too. It is not possible to mention all by name, unfortunately, but in a small breed every litter counts. All in all there have been 779 dogs of the long haired variation registered to the Finnish Kennel Club. During the last five years the yearly registration numbers have been between 25 and 35 individuals, born puppies and importations counted together.

The first face race shepherd was Desire du Champ Bonnin (Riku), who was registered in Finland in 1989. Riku had four litters and most puppies were born poil long. A few face race shepherds were born or imported in the 1990's, but all in all face race dogs were rarities. The first kennel to begin breeding short haired Pyrenean Shepherds was kennel Tottakai, owned by Seija and Osmo Vikman, which is still the only face race breeder in Finland. The first litter with both parents being face race was born in 2005. In the last six years there has been seven litters, with a total of 32 puppies. In this same amount of time we have imported 25 face race dogs. Out of our three breeds the face race has by far the smallest amount of dogs.

Pyrenean Sheepdogs at home and at work

Pyrenean Sheepdog is not a dog for everyone, so it is good that the breed has never become popular. In a country of only 5,4 million people and 600 000 dogs out of which 450 000 are pure bred and representing well over 300 breeds, it is not always easy to find suitable homes for these highly intelligent, lively and sometimes reserved little dogs. Still, the

same fact has saved the breed from ending up in the hands of breeders that are not interested in preserving it.

In Finland dog owners tend to look at dogs as family members first and foremost, which is why a lot of effort has to be put into character and health issues. Many owners are active in dog sports, agility being the most popular one, but there are also quite many Pyrenean Sheepdogs that have been competing in obedience. A quick count shows that well over 40 long haired Pyrenean Sheepdogs have been competing in agility over the years, some at the very highest level. Of course, face race dogs are no strangers to agility either. Pyrenean Shepherds also have a right to compete in Nordic sports, originally created for working and service breeds, such as tracking (tracking humans in the woods) and rescue search (finding lost humans in the woods) and European IPO (Schutzhund), but for some reason there hasn't been a lot of participants in tests over the years. Some dogs are however training in voluntary rescue groups.

In Finland there are very few sheep farms and those that are using herding dogs have been into either Border Collies or Australian Kelpies. There hasn't been many possibilities for training, nor any trials for the other herding breeds. Lately herding as a hobby has become increasingly popular. There are farms that are arranging herding courses and finally last year, 2011, Pyrenean Sheepdogs, along with other breeds, received the right to take part to the A.H. B. A (The American Herding Breed Association) herding tests and trials. The first titles have already been won and the owners have been very proud of the herding instincts and capabilities of their dogs. Most Pyrenean Sheepdogs have been eager to herd although there may be several generations of dogs in the pedigree that have not seen sheep in their lives. It is wonderful that this breed has not been divided into working and showing lines as has happened to so many other herding breeds, BC's included. The same dog can well be a good working dog and a beautiful specimen of the breed.

Although dog showing is not the most popular hobby of Pyrenean Sheepdog owners, quite many

dogs have been shown and some have been gaining merits also internationally. Ear cropping and tail docking has been banned for a long time in Finland and in early days it was hard to gain any success, while competing in the same ring with cropped and docked dogs, but lately - after the cropping and docking was banned in the rest of Europe as well - Finnish dogs have been valued quite highly in the breed rings abroad. Some Finnish dogs have been shown in the specialty show "National d'Elevage" in the country of origin with quite nice judge reviews and placements. French judges have also visited Finland judging our specialty shows. Naturally they find a lot to improve, but the critiques have mostly been positive.

Although there are and have been many successful dogs, one of our greatest show stars deserves a special mention: C.I.E FI CH SE CH EE CH JWW-08 BALTW-09 W-09 HeW-11 V-11 EEJW-08 WW-11 TLNW-12 Calins Nounours Nuage de Pluie (bred by Tiina Honkanen and owned by Hanna Tikka) earned her world winner title last year in the country of origin, France!

Health and breeding

In Finland it is allowed to mix poil long and face race dogs, just as in France. Puppies are registered according to their dams fur type. The breed can be later altered in an official dog show by an expert judge, if necessary. There are far fewer face race dogs in Finland – the situation being the same as it is world wide. We find it important to keep our small gene pool as healthy as we can by mixing both fur types. The health concerns of the breed are common in all parts of the world as all the dogs are related one way or another. We strive to work for our endangered breed by discussing problems openly, testing as many dogs as possible and so, collecting health data from our breed. In early days there were many dogs that suffered from epilepsy, but over the years and partly thanks to avoiding further breeding of strongly epileptic lines it seems that the problem has now become rare. From the very start many breeding dogs in Finland have been hip x-rayed and nowadays it is recommended to check also knees, elbows and eyes from the breed-

ing stock. The breeders are following the recommendation voluntarily and almost 100% of the dogs used for breeding are at least hip x-rayed.

Unfortunately the results are not as clear as one would want them to be in the long haired shepherds: out of the 210 dogs that have been hip x-rayed during the 21st century 45% are dysplastic - 30% has a mild hip dysplasia, 14% has moderate dysplasia and 2% has severe hip dysplasia. The hip statistics are better in the short hared variation. Fortunately the dogs with mild dysplasia are rarely showing any signs of pain during their lifetime, but that is of course all depending on an individual and the amount of arthritis developing in the joint. From the breeding point of view in a breed with a very narrow genetic base like Pyrenean Sheepdog it is impossible to rule out all the dysplastic dogs. The very severe cases are not used for breeding, but in milder cases it is up to the breeder to decide.

Over the years there have been a handful of dogs with a patella luxation or elbow dysplasia, so these are not wide spread problems. Also after official eye examinations were started around ten years ago there have been some cases of inherited cataracts found. What mostly concerns breeders are however the immune related problems. All sorts of autoimmune based health problems have been diagnosed over the years and although the amount of affected dogs is limited, this group of health problems is the most difficult to treat and also avoid.

All in all Pyrenean Sheepdog is a relatively healthy breed with a long lifespan. The genetic variation however is so small that breeders are facing huge problems trying to keep the inbreeding coefficient low and finding suitable breeding pairs. It is recommended that the coefficient should not be higher than 6,25% counted in five generations. Dogs are imported all the time from France and also other parts of Europe and the international co-operation of the breeders is highly needed and necessary.

Our Club

As for Suomen Pyreneläiset ry, we arrange a day for breeders every other year, where we distribute

information on health issues, hereditary diseases, and how they can be prevented by breeding. Usually we have a professional lecture on health, breeding or heredity. Every other year we arrange a breeding inspection, where our breeds are checked appearance wise. In addition to this our club has a breeding committee that has members from each breed. Their job is to collect and analyse data from all three breeds, and distribute this information to breeders of the Pyrenean breeds and private dog owners. The Finnish Kennel Club maintains a breeding database, [HYPERLINK "http://jalostus.kennelliitto.fi/frmEtusivu.aspx"](http://jalostus.kennelliitto.fi/frmEtusivu.aspx) <http://jalostus.kennelliitto.fi/frmEtusivu.aspx>, which makes gathering data much simpler. This is also a website, where you can easily find information about Finnish dogs.

Perhaps our most important event is our club show. We arrange a show every second year, and we always try to get a judge from our breeds' country of origin, France. We also attempt to organise more informal gatherings, "summer meets", where we hope to see as many owners of Pyrenean breeds as possible. These are an opportunity for us people to come together and talk about what we love so much – dogs from the Pyrenees – fur length or breed aside.

We hope this brief overview gives you an idea of our club and the Finnish Pyrenean Sheepdogs. All in all we Finns are very passionate about our beloved little dogs and love to hike with them in the woods and lake shores, watch them climb on the rocks and run in the snow, sharing our whole lives with these little rascals, that can't be compared to any other breed of dogs!

Satu Hattunen, chairman

Soile Tankka, kennel Entre Nous

Seija Vikman, kennel Tottakai

Hillevi Koivusalo, kennel Blaireau Noire

Edited by Elisa Hurmerinta, editor of Pyrriposti



THE NATIONALE D'ELEVAGE 2012



This year the Nationale d'Élevage was held on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th September. The lovely Parc de Casino in the pretty town of Argelès-Gazost was the venue once again. This year the RACP had decided to change the format of the weekend. The AGM, which usually takes place on the Saturday afternoon, took place on Friday 14th.

The weather for the weekend was almost too good. Saturday was hot but Sunday was even hotter and we had to eventually move from our usual to camp to find some shade. There was a good contingent of club members present, some showing their dogs and some just spectating and taking in the ambience.

On Saturday morning, those people wanting to do the Test de Comportement with their female dogs could do so from 8am until 9.30. Those who had registered to do the CSAU

and the CANT could take the tests between 9.00 and 12.00. Only the females were judged on Saturday. In the past there has been no judging on the Saturday. The parade of exhibitors from countries other than France took place at 3.00 on Saturday afternoon. There were exhibitors from the following countries-Belgium, Spain, Italy, Great Britain, Germany, Holland, Finland, Sweden, USA, Portugal, Switzerland, Russia, Luxembourg, Hungary and Norway. This was followed by the Ring of Honour for the females and the selection of best female in each breed. Best female Pyrenean Sheepdog and Best in Breed was Calypso du Pic d'Espade. Sadly no Pyrenean Mastiffs either male or female were entered at all this year.

At 6.30 on Saturday evening, many of the dogs entered in the show, assembled with their owners, to take part in the parade which wends its way from the Parc de Casino up through the town to one of the squares in the town. The Maire of Argelès-Gazost welcomes everyone to the town and Alain Pécoult, President of the RACP responds. A representative of the Tourist Information Office also gives a short speech. This year, the RACP presented the Maire, with a statue, which had been specially commissioned. The statue showed a Mountain Dog emerging from a mountain. All those assembled were then invited to have a drink before being entertained by some local dancers.

On Sunday morning the male dogs could take the Test de Comportement before judging began. Once again at 3.00 the parade of exhibitors from overseas took place followed again by the Ring of Honour with the best male of each breed being decided and ultimately the Best in Show. The best male Pyrenean Sheepdog was Ch Drole d'Oiseau d'Ici Peu Chenu. The honour of Best in Show went to a Catalan Sheepdog Ch Buyezo de Pastors del Pas Loe.

The Nationale is a permanent fixture on our calendar. We enjoy the weekend very much. There is always such a friendly relaxed atmosphere. It's a great occasion for meeting

up with old friends and for making new ones. I think the jury is out at the moment as to whether the new format was a success or not, although it's likely to be the same next year. Whatever happens we will be there and we hope that you will be too.

Liz Lewis

Members Results from the Nationale

CSAU

Excellent Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel

Très Bon Kesha du Pic de Pioulou
Kline du Pic de Pioulou

CANT

Ajourné (Adjourned)
Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel
Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel
Kesha du Pic de Pioulou
Refusé Kline du Pic de Pioulou

Pyrenean Sheepdog Face Rase

Intermediate Female Class
1st Excellent Jadore of Nobel's Kingdom owned
by Ann de Clercq

Female Puppy Class

1st Promising Lours of Nobel's Kingdom owned
by Ann de Clercq

Veteran Female Class

1st Excellent Saphir Bleu de Loubajac owned
by Ann de Clercq

Pyrenean Sheepdog Long Haired

Open Male Class
Excellent Davalar de l'Oustaou de Padel
owned by Stan & Dora Buelens Moortgat

Champion Male Class

4th Excellent Foli du Pic de Pioulou owned by
Eddy van Pelt & Veerle Vlerick

Young Male Class

3rd Very Good Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de
Padel owned by Eion and Shane Flint
Very Good Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel
owned by Liz Lewis

Very Young Male Class

Excellent Gazost dit Oscar du Pic d'Espade
Kelltara owned by Pat Phillips

Veteran Male Class

2nd Excellent Ch Tintin de l'Oustaou de Padel
owned by Eddy van Pelt and Veerle Vlerick

Open Female Class

Excellent Cascade du Castelmouly owned by
Meriel Weston
Excellent Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara
owned by Pat Phillips
Very Good Rozimba Celeste avec Sandytrail
owned by Eion and Shane Flint

Young Female Class

3rd Excellent Kline du Pic de Pioulou owned
by Eddy van Pelt and Veerle Vlerick
Very Good Kesha du Pic de Pioulou owned by
Eddy van Pelt and Veerle Vlerick



LILY



After quite a few years without having a dog of our own, we now, at last, have a new puppy living with us, and her name is Lily. She was twelve weeks old when we collected her in September; she was a bit shy at first but soon became very playful and inquisitive when she felt more confident with us. We had of course forgotten what it was like to have a puppy in the house and found it a bit of a shock at first. Before she arrived we were busy getting things ready for her and making sure that we had not forgotten anything she might need. We had so many toys and comforting things, even a hot water bottle to make her feel safe and warm because she was still living with her brother Louis, and we knew that she would miss him very much when we took her away to our home. Hopefully she will be able to meet up with Louis and they will be able to have some fun time playing together, like they used to do! The day before we collected her, I enrolled her in Puppy School, this is a six week course and it is as much about socialisation and play as it is basic obedience. The first time we went she was very nervous, and sat all of the time on Klaus's knee, and would not get down onto the floor, gradually she joined in and started to make new friends. Anyway we are going to let Lily tell you her story, and her adventures, as she grows up with her new family and friends.

Well, I did wonder what was happening when one day, whilst playing with my brother Louis; I was introduced to two strangers who were waiting in the kitchen to meet me. As soon as I noticed them I screamed very loudly, frightened my brother and we both ran out of the room."Oh" I heard Pat say, "she has never done that before, we will go and bring her back into the room" Steve picked me up and carried me back to the kitchen, I felt OK as Steve was with me, and decided that I would not make such a fuss again. Gradually, I got more used to these two strangers being in my kitchen, and I walked around looking at them and wondered what they were doing there. They stayed for a while, talked to me and Louis and held me on their knees. We went out into our garden that was the best bit that day, we explored and picked up stones and twigs, and I decided to have a little walk on my own for a while. I was glad when they had gone, Louis and I could return to playing our game again and I didn't have to worry if they were watching me. About a week later the two people who Pat and Steve called Carla and Klaus came back to see Louis and myself and after some time we left Louis, Pat and Steve and I went with them into their car.

They took me and my blanket home with them and I had to leave Louis behind. I sat in the back of the car with Carla, and we seemed to be travelling for a long time before the car stopped and Carla said "your home now Lily!" she carried me into their bungalow. After having a drink in the kitchen we walked out into the garden and I jumped up the steps and started to look round. There were quite a lot of birds and flowers to look at and I soon discovered a good game of running after birds in spite of not being able to get anywhere near them. After I got bored with this game I turned my attention to the flowers, and enjoyed biting them and pulling them until they came right out of the ground. Oh this is such a good game, look at that big pink one I must have a go at that! I tugged and tugged, it was very large and eventually it all came out of the ground, I was so pleased with myself that I just had to do a lap of honour around the garden so they could see just how good I was! Round and round I went getting faster and faster until sadly

I stood on the roof and fell down the steps and landed with a bit of a bump. I jumped up as quickly as possible pretending that this was all in my plan, and carried on again this time looking for a new plant to pull up. "I think that that is enough for now" Klaus said lets go inside and you can have a rest.

I was enjoying exploring this new place, the garden was nice, and I noticed that when we got into the kitchen there was a large dog cage waiting with it's door open so I went over to have a look. Oh! There's my own blanket inside, and a bowl of water and a chew, think I would quite like to have a sit down now for a little while. Carla and Klaus sat in chairs at the side of me and after a while I began to feel a bit sleepy, all the excitement I expect, anyway I do like to have a little snooze in the day. As soon as I woke up Carla took me out into the garden again to see if I needed to do a toilet, she calls it a "Hurry Up". We stayed outside for the rest of the afternoon until it was tea-time then we went inside and had our meal together. I think I'm going to like living here I thought to myself, but, I'm just a bit worried about this Puppy School they keep talking about. I don't know what I might have to try to do, I have never been to school before I didn't know that puppies went to school I thought that we just played around all of the time and had fun, I hope that I will be able to understand what they want me to do, I haven't got Louis with me anymore so I can't ask him about it. Later on that evening we went into the lounge and they took my blanket for me to sit on, I had some chews, toys and my water, we settled down and the TV was switched on for a little while. I must say I quite enjoyed watching some of the things on TV, there was a programme with dogs on that I found interesting for a while but mainly I concentrated on my new chew and a small cuddly toy that was called rabbit. Just before it was time to go to bed I went into the kitchen with Carla and she gave me my biscuits and drink, and we played with toys that they told me were mine. Klaus and Carla carried my new cage into their bedroom, and they made a hot water bottle for me to take to bed, it's a comforting thing they said. I wasn't sure about getting into the new cage

that night, it was not like my old one that I shared with Louis and the hot water bottle was not as comforting as he had been, I do hope that I can get used to this new bed. And another thing that I am still thinking about a lot, is this puppy school thing, I don't know what to expect! Will there be lots of puppies there, will they all be friendly, and will I feel stupid if I can't understand what I have to learn! surely it won't be that bad though' I can't imagine they would take me somewhere I would not like as they seem to care about me very much already. This is all very strange, no Louis to talk to no other dogs running around, I hope I can make some new friends so that they can help me and I can help them when we need to be good at the school. It's been a long day and lots of different things have happened, it is a lot for a little puppy to cope with I thought to myself, I hope that can get to sleep soon and stop all of this worrying. Well... of course I did go to sleep, and I will tell you in the next Newsletter how I got on with Puppy School, and meeting new friends around the village I now live in.....Bye for now Lily.

HIP SCORES

Jazlyn du Pic de Pioulou (Imp Belgium)
RH 4 / LH 6 Total 10 (04/07/12)

Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp France)
RH 8 / LH 7 Total 7 (11/09/12)



BREED SEMINAR

Our recent Judging Seminar was held on the 20th October and proved to be a great success. I am grateful to Eion Flint for allowing us to reprint his account of the day which was previously published in the Breed Notes of Dog World. Ed.

"The PSD club of GB held their annual judging seminar last weekend at the Markfield Hotel in Leicestershire. The seminar speaker was internationally renowned Finnish judge Elina Haapaniemi. The day was very well attended and proved to be yet another fascinating insight to understanding our rustic little herding breed. Elina's qualifications to comment on our breed are impeccable. She founded the Finnish Pyrenean Mountain Dog Club which later took the PSD under its wing and with qualifications to judge over 250 FCI breeds as well as awarding CC's in 19 breeds it soon became very clear, as she got into her presentation, that we had someone of real experience and stature with significant insights to share about our breed.

Elina had prepared well, with a very professionally put together audio-visual presentation that included many fascinating photographs of top class dogs from around the world as well as some less desirable examples which served well to illustrate some of the things breeders and judges needed to look out for. The quality of the material and Elina's fluent English ensured the day really flowed, which for many I am sure was over all too quickly. A really nice touch was the seminar packs given to all participants that included a CD of all of Elina's presentation material. Many thanks to Chris and Liz Lewis who I know were up pretty late the night before making CD copies from Elina's master copy.

Although setting out an interesting background to the history and evolution of the breed particularly in France Elina's primary task was to complete a thorough explanation of the conformation and technical evaluation of the PSD breed standard. Whilst it is not possible or appropriate to cover all the detail in this breed note it is worth highlighting some of her key messages.

One of Elina's over-arching messages was in relation to the unique character and personality of the PSD. High energy, lively, alert and constantly inquisitive were core traits of the breed character and these should not be lost at any price. Turning the breed into just another boring show dog would be a tragedy. She hated to see the PSD strung up on a tight lead. Presentation on a loose lead that

allowed the dog to demonstrate his natural character was very important. The high energy and inquisitiveness meant that the PSD was unlikely to be a "static exhibit" and judges needed to be prepared to give the dog the opportunity to show off its qualities.

Elina also highlighted the unique movement of the PSD which was very efficient, really covers the ground but with the feet virtually not leaving the ground. Judges were really encouraged to make sure they got to see top dogs moving even if this meant visiting the continent.

One concern was that dogs were getting too small. Although the breed standard allowed for a wide variation in height, which reflected the types that have evolved in the mountainous valleys of the Pyrenees, there was concern that dogs were getting towards the bottom end of the height range, especially bitches. There are some very good dogs at either end of the height range, should these be penalised? Elina recommended that bigger dogs that were also good specimens were not really a problem. After all the breed is a working breed. She felt that judges should be more concerned with really small exhibits, particularly bitches.

In terms of temperament, Elina did acknowledge that the breed can be difficult to judge, particularly "hands on". Judging requires a confident and assertive but never a "heavy handed" approach. If the PSD detects any lack of confidence then he will lead you a merry dance. Wariness is a natural and desired quality but the PSD should never be aggressive or show fear or an unsound temperament.

Elina also wanted to reinforce that the coat should not be over-groomed or fully brushed out. It should be left for a fairly rustic windswept look. Natural cords (called "Cadenettes" in France) are the traditional form of coat presentation and are very popular in France and Scandinavia, however, the over manufactured presentation of the coat whether in cords or overly brushed out was equally undesirable.

Well done to all of the committee for organising a very effective seminar."

Eion Flint





Orla (Winnie) de l'Oustaou de Padel (25/07/1998 – 27/11/2012)

If you look up to the nightly sky, you can find a new brightly little star.
It's a small, cheerful little star that shines as beautiful as Winnie shined in our life.
Her place at home is empty now, but she will live on in our hearts.
She has given us so much, lots of love and pleasure.
She opened so many doors to friendship.
Everybody who came to know her was conquered by her charms...
but she really knew what she wanted
.... To be happy !!! ...
We could do nothing else than let her go with love...

From all of us
Christel, Roland, Toyah and Faysse

Lulu (Carabrae Annabella at Kimrand)

It was with great sadness that we suddenly lost Lulu (Carabrae Annabella at Kimrand) on 30th November 2012 the day before her 12th Birthday

Some of you will remember her from the shows and her 100% enthusiasm for everything she did especially emptying bags in search of food. She enjoyed her times on the Discover Dogs stand and would wait for unsuspecting passersby wagging her tail and looking very sweet but as ever it was just a ploy to get to their bags of goodies and squeaky toys !



She has left her two daughters with us who share her zeal for food although not the squeaky toys!
Life will be a lot quieter without our 'Little Lulu'

Kim Randall

COUNTRYFILE COVERAGE AND CHARITABLE TRUST HELP DOG OWNERS STAY ALERT FOR MYSTERY DOG ILLNESS

The Kennel Club has welcomed the awareness raised about work being done to combat Seasonal Canine Illness, funded by the Kennel Club Charitable Trust, on Countryfile on the BBC on the 21st October.

The item explored the research being undertaken by the Animal Health Trust, with funding from the Kennel Club Charitable Trust, into Seasonal Canine Illness (SCI), which claimed the lives of several dogs during autumn 2009, 2010 and 2011.

The continuing investigation into the mystery illness aims to find the causes of the illness, which usually comes on within 24 to 72 hours of dogs walking in woodland in autumn, causes vomiting, diarrhoea and lethargy. These clinical signs are common and non-specific, but it is their onset within only a few hours of dogs walking in woodlands that is distinctive.

Thanks to funding from the Kennel Club Charitable Trust, the AHT has been able to step up its SCI investigation in 2012 and employ a dedicated SCI investigator. With the help of dog owners, the AHT hopes to get closer to pinpointing the cause of SCI during 2012.

Caroline Kisko, Kennel Club Secretary, said: "It is essential that people are aware about Seasonal Canine Illness and know how to spot the signs. The Kennel Club Charitable Trust has given funding to the Animal Health Trust to enable it to continue its investigation into this illness, with the aim of pinpointing its cause."

Dr Richard Newton, of the AHT, said: "Our SCI investigation has been ongoing since we were first alerted to the illness in the autumn of 2010. Since then we have had more and more cases reported to us each autumn, but thankfully the number of dogs which are surviving has increased. We hope this is due to more owners being aware of the signs of SCI and accessing veterinary help as soon as possible.

"We want to arm dog owners with as much infor-

mation as we can. Unfortunately we are looking for a small needle in a very large hay stack, but information gleaned in 2011 has helped us to narrow this search area."

The AHT's investigation continues at five previously affected sites across the UK:

- Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire
- Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk
- Sandringham Estate, Norfolk
- Sherwood Forest*, Nottinghamshire
- Thetford Forest, Norfolk.

As part of its investigation, the AHT has visited one of the study sites, Sandringham Estate, with experts from the Natural History Museum and the Institute of Zoology. Both visits were designed to identify any changes in flora or fauna that could be occurring at this particular site in the run up to, and at the time of, cases occurring.

The AHT is continuing to work with these organisations now that cases have been reported to it in 2012. It is also calling on dog owners to continue to help with information.

Dog owners who have walked at any of the five sites are asked to complete an online questionnaire at www.aht.org.uk/sci.

Dr Newton, said: "We desperately need information about dogs who have been walked at any of our study sites, even if they did not become ill. The information we can glean from owners of dogs who walked at the sites and didn't show clinical signs of SCI is just as important to our investigation, as information about affected dogs."

Whilst the AHT's investigation focusses on five study sites, the veterinary charity is quick to highlight that dogs could be at risk of SCI walking in any woodland during autumn, so it advises dog owners to remain vigilant and seek veterinary advice immediately if they suspect their dog has SCI.

An information video about SCI is available to view at www.youtube.com/ahttv.

SHOW RESULTS

City of Birmingham 2012

AV Pastoral Not Separately Classified

Judge: Miss Jean Lanning

31st August - 2nd September 2012

BEST OF BREED : Merrywood Dancing
Queen At Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS
Best Dog : Norlyght Biassono
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH
Best Bitch : Merrywood Dancing
Queen At Kelltara Mrs P PHILLIPS
Best Puppy : Gazost LI Dit Oscar Du Pic
D'espade Kelltara (Imp F) Mrs P PHILLIPS

PD (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Gazost LI Dit Oscar Du Pic D'espade
Kelltara (Imp F) Mrs P PHILLIPS
2nd: Gastibelza De L'oustaou De Padel (imp
Fra) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT

PGD (3 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Norlyght Biassono
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH
2nd: Ivydale Choirboy Mrs R ROBSON

OD (5 Entries) Abs: 1

2nd: Swed Ch Norw Ch Hob-nob's Soleil Of
Jentilima (Imp) Mrs C MILNES
Res: Cortex Du Pic D'espade (imp Fra)
Mrs P PHILLIPS & Mrs C WILLIAMS

PGB (4 Entries) Abs: 1

2nd: Jazlyn Du Pic De Pioulou (imp)
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH & Dr J HILL

OB (7 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Merrywood Dancing Queen At Kelltara
Mrs P PHILLIPS
3rd: Merrywood Rising Star Avec Chikaramor AW
Mrs S A MORLEY & Mrs A ROGERSON
Res: Rozimba Celeste Avec Sandytrail
Mrs S & Mr E FLINT
VHC: Ivydale Nightjar Sh.CM Mrs R ROBSON

Richmond 2012

Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)

Judge: Richard C Kinsey (Kitarn)

7th-9th September 2012

BEST OF BREED : Friponne Du Pic D'espade
Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS
Best Dog : Cortex Du Pic D'espade (imp Fra)
Mrs P PHILLIPS & Mrs C WILLIAMS
Res Best Dog : Norlyght Biassono
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH
Best Bitch : Friponne Du Pic D'espade Kell-
tara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS
Res Best Bitch : Ivydale Cerise With Kimrand
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL
Best Puppy : Gazost LI Dit Oscar Du Pic
D'espade Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS

PD/B (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Gazost LI Dit Oscar Du Pic D'espade
Kelltara (Imp) Mrs P PHILLIPS

PGD/B (4 Entries) Abs: 2

1st: Ivydale Cerise With Kimrand
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL
2nd: Norlyght Biassono
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

OD (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Cortex Du Pic D'espade (imp Fra)
Mrs P PHILLIPS & Mrs C WILLIAMS

OB (6 Entries) Abs: 2

1st: Friponne Du Pic D'espade Kelltara (Imp)
Mrs P PHILLIPS
2nd: Ivydale Nightjar Sh.CM
Mrs R ROBSON
3rd: Jazlyn Du Pic De Pioulou (imp)
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH & Dr J HILL
Res: Carabrae Pink Petunia With Thymewinds
Mrs W A SMITH



Darlington 2012

Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired)

Judge: Mrs P Chadwick

14th- 16th September 2012

BEST OF BREED : Swed
Ch Norw Ch Hob-nob's Soleil Of Jentilima (Imp)
Mrs C MILNES
Best Dog : Swed Ch Norw Ch Hob-nob's
Soleil Of Jentilima (Imp) Mrs C MILNES
Res Best Dog : Norlyght Biassono
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH
Best Bitch : Ivydale Nightjar Sh.CM
Mrs R ROBSON
Res Best Bitch : Ivydale Sauterelle
Mrs C A WILLIAMS

VD/B (2 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: Kimrand Bonne Amie
Mr F J RANDALL, & Miss K RANDALL

PGD (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Norlyght Biassono
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH
2nd: Ivydale Choirboy Mrs R ROBSON

OD (1 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Swed Ch Norw Ch Hob-nob's Soleil Of
Jentilima (Imp) Mrs C MILNES

PGB (2 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: Ivydale Sauterelle Mrs C A WILLIAMS
2nd: Jazlyn Du Pic De Pioulou (imp)
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH & Dr J HILL

OB (5 Entries) Abs: 2

1st: Ivydale Nightjar Sh.CM Mrs R ROBSON
2nd: Ivydale Cerise With Kimrand
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL
3rd: Carabrae Over The Rainbow Of Ivydale
Mrs C A WILLIAMS



Driffield 2012

AV Not Separately Classi- fied Working & Pastoral

Judge: Mr Robin Searle

20th-23rd September 2012

LD (4 Entries) Abs: 1

3rd: Ivydale Aamukaste
Mr S STANLEY & Miss N STANLEY

OB (3 Entries) Abs: 1

2nd: Ivydale Nightjar Sh.CM
Mrs R ROBSON

GCB (3 Entries) Abs: 0

2nd: Ivydale Nightjar Sh.CM
Mrs R ROBSON

South Wales Kennel Association

12th - 14th October 2012

Royal Welsh Showground, Llanwedd, Builth Wells,

AVNSC

Judge(s): RODNEY OLDHAM

RBD

CORTEX DU PIC D'ESPADE IMP FRA
(MRS P M & MRS C PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS)

BB

FRIPONNE DU PIC D'ESPADE KELLTARA (IMP
FRA) (MRS P M PHILLIPS)

Open - Dog

Entries: 2 Absentees: 0

2ND CORTEX DU PIC D'ESPADE IMP FRA
(MRS P M & MRS C PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS)

Post Graduate - Bitch

Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1ST FRIPONNE DU PIC D'ESPADE KELLTARA
(IMP FRA) (MRS P M PHILLIPS)

Midland Counties Canine Society

25th - 28th October 2012

New Bingley Hall, County Showground, Stafford.

Judge(s): WINIFRED MEE

Post Graduate - Dog

Entries: 6 Absentees: 2

2ND NORLYGHT BIASSONO
(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

RES GEORDI DE L'OUSTAOU DE PADEL
(MRS E M LEWIS)

Open - Dog

Entries: 12 Absentees: 2

3RD CORTEX DU PIC D'ESPADE IMP FRA
(MRS P M & MRS C PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS)

Post Graduate - Bitch

Entries: 4 Absentees: 0

2ND JAZLYN DU PIC DE PIOULOU (IMP)
(MR C & MRS P & DR J SUCH & HILL)

Open - Bitch

Entries: 10 Absentees: 2

RES FRIPONNE DU PIC D'ESPADE KELLTARA
IMP FRA (MRS P M PHILLIPS)

Working & Pastoral Breeds of Scotland

3rd November 2012

Royal Highland Showground, Ingliston, Edinburgh.

Judge(s): MRS JANET LEWIS (POTTERDALE)

BD

CORTEX DU PIC D'ESPADE IMP FRA
(MRS P M & MRS C PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS)

RBD

NORLYGHT BIASSONO
(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

BB

CARABRAE PINK PETUNIA WITH THYMEWINDS
(MRS W A SMITH)

RBB

FRIPONNE DU PIC D'ESPADE KELLTARA (IMP
FRA) (MRS P M PHILLIPS)

BOB

CORTEX DU PIC D'ESPADE IMP FRA
(MRS P M & MRS C PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS)

Junior - Dog Or Bitch

Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1ST GASTIBELZA DE L'OUSTAOU DE PADEL
(IMP FRA) (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Post Graduate - Dog Or Bitch

Entries: 6 Absentees: 0

1ST NORLYGHT BIASSONO

(MR C J & MRS P M SUCH)

2ND FRIPONNE DU PIC D'ESPADE KELLTARA
(IMP FRA) (MRS P M PHILLIPS)

3RD ELLENORA DU CHAMP D'ONIX AVEC
LOUSLITGES (IMP FRA) (MR A H READMAN)

RES ROZIMBA CASSIA (MRS S HAWKSWELL)

VHC ROZIMBA PIAU ENGALY AVEC SANDY-
TRAIL (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Open - Dog Or Bitch

Entries: 7 Absentees: 1

1ST CORTEX DU PIC D'ESPADE IMP FRA
(MRS P M & MRS C PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS)

2ND CARABRAE PINK PETUNIA WITH THY-
MEWINDS (MRS W A SMITH)

3RD MERRYWOOD RISING STAR AVEC CHIKARAMOR
AW (MRS S A & MRS A MORLEY & ROGERSON)

RES JAZLYN DU PIC DE PIOULOU (IMP)
(MR C & MRS P & DR J SUCH & HILL)

VHC IVYDALE NIGHTJAR SH CM
(MRS R E ROBSON)

APOLOGIES

We are very sorry but unfortunately we omitted to report that Champion Tintin de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by club members Veerle Vlerick and Eddy van Pelt was 1st in the class veteran male at the Régional d'Élevage at Grospierres on the 29th April 2012.



Show Dates 2013

Boston & District Canine Society	6-8 January	Newark
Manchester	19-22 January	Stafford
Crufts	8-11 March	NEC, Birmingham
Scottish Breeds Canine Club	31 March	Edinburgh
Working & Pastoral Breeds Association of Wales	21 April	Builth Wells
West of England Ladies Kennel Society	27-29 April	Malvern
Birmingham Dog Show Society	10-13 May	Stafford
Scottish Kennel Club	18-20 May	Edinburgh
Bath Canine Society	25-28 May	Bath
Southern Counties Canine Association	1-3 June	Newbury
Three Counties	7-10 June	Malvern
Border Union Agricultural Society	16-17 June	Kelso
Blackpool & District Canine Society	22-24 June	Blackpool
Windsor Dog Show	28 June - 1 July	Windsor
East of England Agricultural Society	6-8 July	Peterborough
National Working and Pastoral Breeds	14 July	Malvern
Leeds and District Dog Show	27-29 July	Harewood
Paignton and District Fanciers Association	5-8 August	Exeter
Bournemouth Dog Show	11-13 August	Poole
Welsh Kennel Club	17-19 August	Builth Wells
Scottish Kennel Club	25-26 August	Edinburgh
City of Birmingham	30 August - 2 September	Stoneleigh
Richmond Dog Show	7-9 September	Guildford
Darlington Dog Show	14-16 September	Ripon
Driffield Dog Show	20-23 September	Wetherby
Belfast Dog Show Society	29-30 September	Belfast
South Wales Kennel Association	12-14 October	Builth Wells
Midland Counties Canine Society	25-28 October	Stafford
Working & Pastoral Breeds Association of Scotland	3 November	Edinburgh
Ladies Kennel Association	15-16 December	NEC, Birmingham



2013 Calendar

still on sale

ONLY £5

plus £1.25 post and package

Contact Kim Randall