

SUMMER 2016

# PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG

The Newsletter of the Pyrenean Sheepdog Cub of Great Britain



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Bits and Pieces  
from  
the Secretary

Future Events

**National d'Elevage**:-is organised by the RACP for the four Pyrenean Breeds. This year it will take place on the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> September in the picturesque town of Argelès-Gazost in the foothills of the Pyrenees. This is a "not to be missed" event for all lovers of the Pyrenean Sheepdog. Further information can be obtained from the RACP website.

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**Agility Day**:-Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October at Bench Barn Farm, Stoke Road, Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 8HQ. Start time 10.00. Entry form and further details can be obtained from Liz Lewis.

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**Discover Dogs and The National Pet Show**:-**Discover Dogs** will be held at ExCel, London on **22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. We will also be representing the breed again at the **National Pet Show** at the NEC, Birmingham on **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> November**. We are looking for members to help man the breed stand at both events. All expenses will be covered. Hopefully we will have enough volunteers to have two separate groups of members present at each event.

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**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations**:-The committee is working on plans for this major event which will be held on **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> August 2017**. The venue is Victoria Farm, Highcross, Claybrook Magna, Lutterworth LE17 5AU. The event will incorporate our third club Open Show judged by Norbert Gainche. There will

also be an agility show judged by Joy Brough, Heelwork to Music with Kim Lyddon and Archie, Fly ball and other activities. We will hold a BBQ on the Saturday evening. Limited camping and accommodation is available at Victoria Farm and also in Lutterworth. Further details will be announced in due course.

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The team is competing in qualifying heats in the hope that we can compete at Crufts again



in 2017. We have competed in three heats so far and are lying first in the points table. However we do not qualify on points alone as the KC is keen to have breeds from the different groups represented in the final. This year the team consists of Pauline Keable (Team Leader) with Fizz and /or Piri, Cynthia Milnes with Pussel, Margaret Challans with Deva, Liz Lewis with Geordi and our new members Carol Groves and Lulu. Diane Newton will handle Piri if both Fizz and Piri are needed.

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The star of the front cover this time is Sooty (Bon Sooty de la Folie) having a try out at Flyball at this year's Fun Day.

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Pyrenean Sheepdog hopefully you will find it interesting. Please do send in more articles for the next edition. This is your Newsletter and it does depend on your contributions. Ed.

## In Memory of Pat Phillips

When Pat phoned me last autumn to tell me that she had been diagnosed with cancer for the second time, I was both shocked and saddened. However I was also full of admiration for the way in which Pat courageously described how she was going to deal with this second battle, a battle which she knew from personal experience, that she would not win. Pat lost her battle on 6th July. This bravery was typical of Pat who met whatever life threw at her full on and she dealt with it. Pat was never afraid to stand up for what she felt was right, but she was also willing to share her vast experience and knowledge.

Pat had been involved with horses and dogs all her life. In her teens she spent all her spare time at a local kennels learning about breeding, showing and grooming and she owned her own grooming business by the time she was in her twenties. Pat had great experience in showing, breeding and judging many breeds of dog including Rottweilers, Alaskan Malamutes, Greenland Dogs and Norfolk and Norwich terriers before becoming involved with Pyrenean Sheepdogs in 2005.

The first Pyrenean Sheepdog to join the Kelltara kennel was Rosie (Merrywood Dancing Queen at Kelltara) from Mike Cafferata in 2005. Rosie is still the UK Breed Record holder with 36 BOBs to her name. Bailey (Carabrae Mad as a Hatter) followed Rosie in 2006 and became the first Pyrenean Sheepdog to win BIS at a UK show. Ever mindful of the need to lay down good foundations of the breed, Pat (in partnership with Caroline Williams) bought Cortex du Pic d'Espade from Norbert Gainche a top French breeder. Cortex went on to do well in the show ring and was top Pyrenean Sheepdog in 2011 and BOB at Crufts in 2012. Cortex also proved to be a very good stud dog. Pat imported three more dogs over the years from Norbert Gainche namely Friponne, Gazost (Oscar) and Intrepide (Chilli). All three dogs, most notably Friponne, have been and continue to be successful in the show ring. Friponne has been top Pyrenean Sheepdog from 2012 to 2015 and she has been BOB at Crufts four times. At the Nationale d'Elevage Friponne took RCACS in 2013 and 2014 and at the Championnat de France in 2014 Friponne was BOB, CACIB, CACS and second in the group.

There is no doubt that Pat dedicated her life to her dogs and she strongly believed that the show ring was the place to promote a breed. She and Steve travelled the length and breadth of the country supporting classes for the Pyrenean Sheepdog. Pat was justifiably very proud that her Pyrenean Sheepdogs achieved so many "firsts" within the breed. Pat served on the committee of the Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of GB for several years and during that time she helped to re-write the Breed Standard, bringing it into line with the French standard, but at the same time making it acceptable to the Kennel Club.

Pat's untimely death has left a void in the dog world but Pat's legacy lives on in her dogs. Pat will obviously be greatly missed by all her family and friends and the Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of GB would like to extend their condolences to them.

Liz Lewis

## News from Lily



Hi,

Just thought I would type a few words to let you all know what I have been up to. The two main things I have enjoyed immensely this summer are the Fun Day and our holiday in Sussex.

The Fun Day is always a good day out, and as it was held at a new venue, I was looking forward to exploring somewhere new. The journey to Bickenhill did not take long and as soon as we arrived and the car had been unloaded I was able to jump out and explore. I loved having a look around the hall and grounds.

Firstly I had to find the kitchen area so I could make sure that I knew where the food will be kept, also I noticed that biscuits and drinks were being put out on a table ready for people arriving, this is always a good place to hang out. I managed to perfect my pathetic face whilst waiting by the table, and I must say that this approach usually works, which means I get a treat now and again. This only happens if Carla and Klaus are not around,...watching what I'm up too. We had planned our usual walk to start at 11am, so when everyone was ready we set off along the footpath across the fields.

We walked through a couple of nice fields, but then we found ourselves looking over a stile into a field that contained around twelve horses. We entered the field by getting over the stile first, obviously at this point the horses, who were at the other end started to walk towards us. Some of them came very close even before we had all got over the stile, so it became very awkward for us dogs and people to get through and over the stile. As we carried on walking they followed, and were getting very close. We dogs kept barking and the horses became a little agitated about us being there. As we approached the end of the field we had to negotiate another stile with the same problem of the horses being close to all of us, but eventually we managed to leave the field and the horses behind us. We had planned on walking back through the horses field, but now thought it better to try to go a different way which meant walking along the road for a while.

After lunch which I always enjoy, as it involves more time hanging around the kitchen, we played games and for the first time I had a go at flyball. When it was my turn Carla let go of my collar and told me to run. She ran at the side of me, and kept shouting "get the ball", so I did and we ran back to the starting point. after doing this twice I thought to myself, Why I'm I wasting my time trying to get the ball, I can't see the point to this, after all its not as if I can keep the ball! so the last four times I did not collect the ball and only ran back to the start. Carla told Klaus that if only I would concentrate and listen a bit more I might enjoy the game of Flyball, but I had enough at this point and decided to run off and find something more interesting to do.

In July we visited Sussex and walked on the South Downs. I went last year and really enjoyed it, so I was glad to be going back there. We went with our friends Freda and John and met up with them along the way so we could have a walk before arriving at our accommodation. The walk was very nice in a wooded area which was cool for me as it was quite a hot day. We finished our walk and after I had a drink we set off again. It was not long before we arrived and pulled into the drive. I could not believe my eyes!. It looked as though the place

we were staying at was positioned in a field full of sheep, what bliss! Well!!! I couldn't wait to get out of the car. Klaus will obviously have to put my lead on so I was determined to pull as hard as I could and try to get free of him. When he opened the boot, instead of putting my lead on he just let me jump out. Fantastic I thought to myself and made a mad dash towards the unsuspecting sheep. I had to stop very quickly realising that they were safely protected by a very sturdy wire fence with no way of getting through. What a shame I thought to myself, I could have made rounding up the sheep a part of my daily exercising regime for the week, what a good work out!

The owners came out to greet us when we were looking around outside, and I got told off by Klaus for barking at them at first but they didn't mind at all as they were used to dogs. Klaus explained that it takes a while for me to get used to strangers, and that I always bark especially when people come to the door at home, but also where ever we stay on holiday. They said that it was not a problem, and that I was welcome to run around all of their garden as it was not fenced off from ours. I was very pleased to have so much freedom to roam about whilst I was there.



The weather was hot on our week away, but walking up on the downs was very pleasant as there always seemed to be a breeze that was very

cooling, and I had plenty of water taken for me. However there was one day when I had to stay with Klaus and laze around the barn because of the heat. Carla, Freda, and John went off for the day walking along a footpath that led them to Battle along a route that soldiers walked to fight at the Battle of Hastings. That evening we all had a barbeque in the garden and I was allowed to eat sausages plus other stuff that Klaus said was not good for dogs but I had it anyway. The weather



continued to be hot but we carried on walking along the downs and at the coast along the edge of the cliffs where we have walked before. The best walk was called The Seven Sisters, and got its name because there is seven high cliffs that form the walk. I had to be very careful along certain parts of the way as it is a very long drop down to the sea, Klaus put me on the lead some of the way. The other great thing about this walk that at the end of the walk there is a place where you can buy Ice Creams and if everyone has some I can usually persuade them to let me have the last bit!

Our holidays soon come to an end and we had to pack my things and get back home. I hope that when we do Carla and Klaus will soon start to plan another one for me.

Be in touch next time, love from Lily.



# VET'S CORNER



## Caring for your senior dog

One of the hardest parts of owning and loving a dog is seeing them getting older and wondering how they are feeling, or if they have any discomfort. This is a question I get asked on a daily basis so I thought I would write an article discussing a few things to keep an eye on as your canine friend gets older.

At about 7-8 years old we would consider a dog to have reached its senior years, so it is important to consider what changes should be made to help your pet have the best quality of life through this time. Often people notice dogs slowing down, getting stiff, sleeping more or developing reduced eyesight or hearing. These subtle signs that owners notice are often put down to 'oh, he's getting old' but really these changes are the tip of the iceberg to more serious health concerns that may be reducing the dogs quality of life- a lot of animals love to hide how big the problem really is! Visiting the vets for a check-up is a great way to ensure no problem goes unnoticed if you are concerned.

A frequent geriatric problem is animals starting to slow down or appear stiff and lame. Arthritis is a common issue that can affect your dogs' quality of life so it is important to recognise the early symptoms such as not wanting to go up or down stairs and looking stiff after sleeping. Depending on your dogs' activity level it may be wise to start joint supplements (glucosamine and chondroitin) before

symptoms appear. Supplements such as 'Yumove' can be used for this purpose and we recommend starting active older dogs on this to improve joint health. For dogs that already have some degree of lameness or stiffness veterinary supplements such as 'Yumove advance', 'Synoquin EFA' and 'Seraquin' may be prescribed. A full orthopaedic exam is warranted for any stiff dog, as some conditions such as cranial cruciate ligament disease may require surgery as the best possible treatment. Your dog may be prescribed with anti-inflammatory painkillers to alleviate any discomfort and a discussion on additional interventions such as hydrotherapy and acupuncture may be part of a treatment plan. Exercise modification is another aspect to consider when caring for an older stiff dog; trying to do more swimming and scent work in place of higher impact activities such as ball throwing. Treat toys and puzzle boards at home will also help with keeping the brain active and ensuring adequate enrichment with exercise modification.

Dental disease is a common problem in older animals so keeping on top of tooth brushing will hopefully prevent any significant dental decay. If a full exam should highlight any problems your dog may require extractions to ensure they do not experience chronic oral pain. Eyes should be examined fully for evidence of cataracts or lens opacity and examination of the ear canals should be performed to rule out other causes of reduced hearing such as a build up of wax.

Dogs can get lumps and bumps appearing as they get older and most are benign and nothing to worry about; however dogs can get certain cancers that require prompt treatment so it is important to examine your dog regularly and get any lumps checked. To sample most lumps is a quick and pain free procedure where a small needle is inserted to extract cells for analysis. More often than not this sample will give an idea of the type of lump and whether further investigation or surgery is needed.

At home, owners should keep a close eye on appetite, thirst, urination, faeces and general demeanour. Changes from your dogs' normal routine could be the first sign of an underlying internal or hormonal disease, e.g. an increase in thirst could be the first symptom of kidney disease or diabetes, so it is important to monitor your dog for subtle symptoms so you can act quickly.

Obesity is common in older pets as their activity level decreases as they get older and can predispose dogs to joint disease, diabetes and cancer to name a few. Most veterinary surgeries offer nurse weight clinics where you can monitor your pets weight and make an action plan to ensure optimum health. Changing to a senior dog food is important for weight management but also has less protein and salts to reduce the risk of kidney and heart disease.

In summary, all dogs age at different rates and in different ways and therefore health needs will be different from one dog to the next. If we can carefully monitor a few key things and ensure healthy weight, correct nutrition, joint support and exercise then we will have happier and healthier dogs going into their retirement years!

Heather Davies



**THE KENNEL CLUB**

## **Update from the Breed Records Supplement**

### ***New Registrations***

*Kimrand Kei, d,c. Fawn*

*Kimrand Master Bertie,d,c. Brindle*

*Kimrand Miss Pepper,b,c. Brindle*

*Mr F J & Miss K Randall 31/08/15*

*s. Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra)*

*d. Ivydale Cerise with Kimrand*

### ***Transfers of Ownership***

**Kimrand Kei**

*From Mr F J & Miss K Randall to Mr A & Mrs V March*

**Kimrand Master Bertie**

*From Mr F J & Miss K Randall to Mr J D & Mrs C J Pattison*

**Remmiwoods Moaning Myrtle**

*From Mrs S M Taylor to Mrs M Griffiths*

**Sandytrail Dona Sabine**

*From Mr E & Mrs S Flint to Mr J R & Mrs E C Slack*





## Régionale d'Élevage at Grospierres

The Régionale d'Élevage at Grospierres is held every two years and this year it was held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May. The show is organised by André and Agnès Audibert and is held in the lovely grounds of the Chateau de Bornet in the Ardèche area of France.

Events started on the Saturday afternoon with Agnès Audibert giving a demonstration of how to present your dog in the show ring. A dinner was held in the evening for those taking part in the show.

Judging started promptly at 9am on Sunday morning in two rings under judges M Marcel Procureur and M Christian Rei. There was a good entry of eighty three dogs representing the Catalan Sheepdog, the Pyrenean Mountain Dog and the Pyrenean Sheepdog both Long Haired and Face Rase. We had entered Geordi in Open Male and Ria (three weeks off her sixteenth birthday) in the Venerable class.



Several club members had made the long journey from the UK and Belgium to show their dogs and as we all set up our tents etc there was something of a party atmosphere. As with all these events, it is always a good opportunity to meet up with old friends. The Anglo/Belgian group had cause to celebrate when Toyah de l'Oustaou de Padel, aged fourteen, owned by Roland Merckx and Christel van den Bosch won the Venerable Female class and then went on to win Best Venerable. A list of members' results is printed below.

Judging of the various classes took place in the morning. Following the lunch break we turned our attention to the Ring of Honour where firstly the Groups and Couples were judged. This was followed by the selection for Best of Breed and ultimately Best in Show. Best Pyrenean Sheepdog and Best in Show went to Fouchtra de Loubajac owned by Jean-Bernard Moings.

Once again the whole occasion was extremely enjoyable, made even better by perfect weather. It was well worth the long journey to Grospierres to spend a weekend in the company of friends and enthusiasts of our lovely dogs and we are now looking forward to 2018.

Liz Lewis

### Members Results

#### Open Male Class

4<sup>th</sup> Excellent Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Liz Lewis

#### Champion Male Class

1<sup>st</sup> Excellent Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Shane and Eion Flint

#### Intermediate Female Class

1<sup>st</sup> Excellent Jolie-Joyeuse de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Veerle Vlerick and Eddy van Pelt

#### Open Female Class

4<sup>th</sup> Excellent Sandytrail Ensorcelé owned by Shane and Eion Flint

Very Good Faisse de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Roland Merckx and Christel van den Bosch

#### Champion Female Class

1<sup>st</sup> Excellent Ch Lorelei du Pic de Pioulou owned by Marie-Anne Vercoutère

2<sup>nd</sup> Excellent Ch Kaline du Pic de Pioulou owned by Veerle Vlerick and Eddy vsn Pelt

#### Young Female Class

2<sup>nd</sup> Excellent Entre Nous Sans Paroles owned by Shane and Eion Flint

#### Venerable Female Class

1<sup>st</sup> Excellent and Best Venerable Toyah de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Roland Merckx and Christel van den Bosch



## Fun Day 2016

This year the Fun Day was held at St Peter's Church Hall, Bickenhill as our usual venue at Bearley was already booked. The facilities proved to be adequate for our needs with a good sized field.

The committee arrived in good time to set everything up and soon members started arriving. After the Chairman had welcomed everyone, Di and Sheila led everyone off on the walk. Unfortunately the dogs were not able to be off lead for the walk and although Di and Sheila had "reccied" the walk the night before, an unexpected problem occurred in the form of horses. Lily will tell you all about this in her article.

Once everyone had returned from the walk and had refreshed them-selves with a cold drink, the committee took it in turns to tell the assembled company about how they came to have Pyrenean Sheepdogs. Chris Lewis outlined what the club does for the membership and Eion Flint described how the committee envisages the club moving forward.

Following the talks we all settled down to have lunch with everyone sitting in a large circle, seeking the shade, as it was quite hot.

The group photo followed lunch, with Di having more problems getting the owners to stand still than the dogs!

Margaret Challans had very kindly brought some Fly ball equipment along and after she and Deva had given us an impressive demonstration, we all had a go. Some dogs were quicker than others to get the idea of what they had to do but they all seemed to enjoy it. We held a mini competition at the end, which was very much enjoyed. Thank you Margaret for bringing the equipment.

The usual novelty classes, judged by Vicky Wilford, followed the Fly ball and then the games when Di and Sheila try to organise us in teams and stop us cheating.

All too soon afternoon tea was served and the day was over. Once again the day had gone well with

twenty members and twenty threes PSDs in attendance. We are now turning our thoughts to next year when we are holding a two-day event on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> August to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the club. Look out for more details in future Newsletters, on the PSD website and on the Face Book group. Hope to see you all there.

Liz Lewis

### Results of the Novelty Classes

Most Handsome Dog      Sooty owned by Jenni Gemmill

Prettiest Bitch      Lily owned by Carla Senkpiehl

Waggiest Tail      Geordi owned by Liz Lewis

The dog the Judge would like to take home  
Sooty owned by Jenni Gemmill

Winner of Heads and Tails      Geordi owned by Liz Lewis

Winner of Fastest Recall      Deva owned by Margaret Challans





## Junior Team GB Journey to Slovakia

I was delighted to have been selected to be part of the first ever Junior GB team to compete in the Junior European Agility championships in Slovakia on 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

490 dogs being handled by 435 juniors ranging from 13 to 18 years old and from 23 different countries including USA and Russia

The GB team had a total of 18 handlers and 24 dogs, plus the 4 management team, Paul Moore and Mark Laker (Team Coaches) , Ann Roberts and Sam Chapman (Handler Support) and the team vet and physio.

I was part of Team GB Red, which also included Belle Howlett with her dog Leia, Sammy Pegg and Blaze, Daniel Croxford with Briar and I with Jet. In the jumping team run, we were placed 24<sup>th</sup> and we won gold in the Agility team run, (The course plan for the agility team run is included) giving us an overall result that allowed us to take bronze for GB in the teams overall competition.



The venue in which the competition was being held, and where we were staying, was called the X-bionic sphere. It was huge. The place was extraordinary; it had full facilities for 27 different Olympic sports, including sprints and other track events, swimming and also three large arenas and 300 stables for horse competitions also there was also a hotel onsite, which is where most of team GB were situated, whilst a few others decided to camp just outside the venue. The venue was so big it actually took 15 minutes to walk to the arena from the hotel (and that was

only half the distance of the overall site). the walk was always paved with Granite slabs and fountains to cool the dogs off, and a few grass areas for a toilet break if the dogs desired.

It was incredibly hot when we were competing in Slovakia, with temperatures ranging from 25 degrees at night to 36 during the day, every one of the three days it was this hot, (even the Italians said that they were struggling) but surprisingly, the way the arena was designed actually kept off most of the heat, with blinds to

block the sun, and the wall panels could actually be folded underneath the roof in order to allow air through to cool us all down.

That being said, it didn't stop me from sweating like mad when doing my runs, and for about two hours afterwards. The days were very long, with us getting up at 6 am every morning, breakfast walk the dogs and then down to the arena for 7:30 course walking, we would be in the arena till 8 in the evening.

When doing my runs, I was obviously nervous, but in my head I switched into "Agility Mode" and just blocked out everything else but Jet and me. I started the competition for team GB which was a great honour, In my first 3 runs, I got 5 faults in every one, the first being a refusal in the Team jumping when Jet ran past a jump, the second fault was in the Individual Jumping when Jet had a pole down, and the 3rd run was in the team agility when the judge marked Jet on his See-saw (although he apologized for this when he was giving me my trophy on the podium). I was Eliminated in the Individual Agility, I was not surprised to get eliminated although I did do the hardest part Jet just went behind me and took a jump instead of going into the tunnel. It was a very hard course with only 12 Clear rounds from 156 dogs.

1. Team Gb Red		129,46			5,00		
<b>Croxford Daniel</b>			100,00	1	0	100,00	213.
Rosmarinus Florin (Briar)	Border Collie	Great Britain					
<b>Stretton Adam</b>			40,84	1	0	5,00	42.
Ginny De La Patonniere (Jet)	Berger des Pyrénées a face rase	Great Britain					
<b>Pegg Sammy</b>			46,76	0	0	0,00	28.
Tonkory Devil In Disguise At Raylisa (Blaze)	Border Collie	Great Britain					
<b>Howlett Belle</b>			41,86	0	0	0,00	18.
Millennium Falcon Princess (Leia)	Working Sheepdog	Great Britain					

As you can see in the picture, Team GB Red gained 1st place, Jet's time was 40.84 seconds, and he was actually faster than Sammy Pegg and Belle Howlett, who both ran fast collies. To me it shows how good Jet is and that pyrenean sheepdogs can beat collies around an agility course. In FCI rules, only the top 3 runs from a team make up the overall result, that is why Daniel Croxford elimination does not affect our amount of faults. When looking at the results, we saw that Team Gb Red (us) had a time that was 40 seconds faster than the team in second place, we were amazed at this, and we managed to hold on to our huge lead for the remainder of the class.



Team GB Red - Gold in the Team Agility

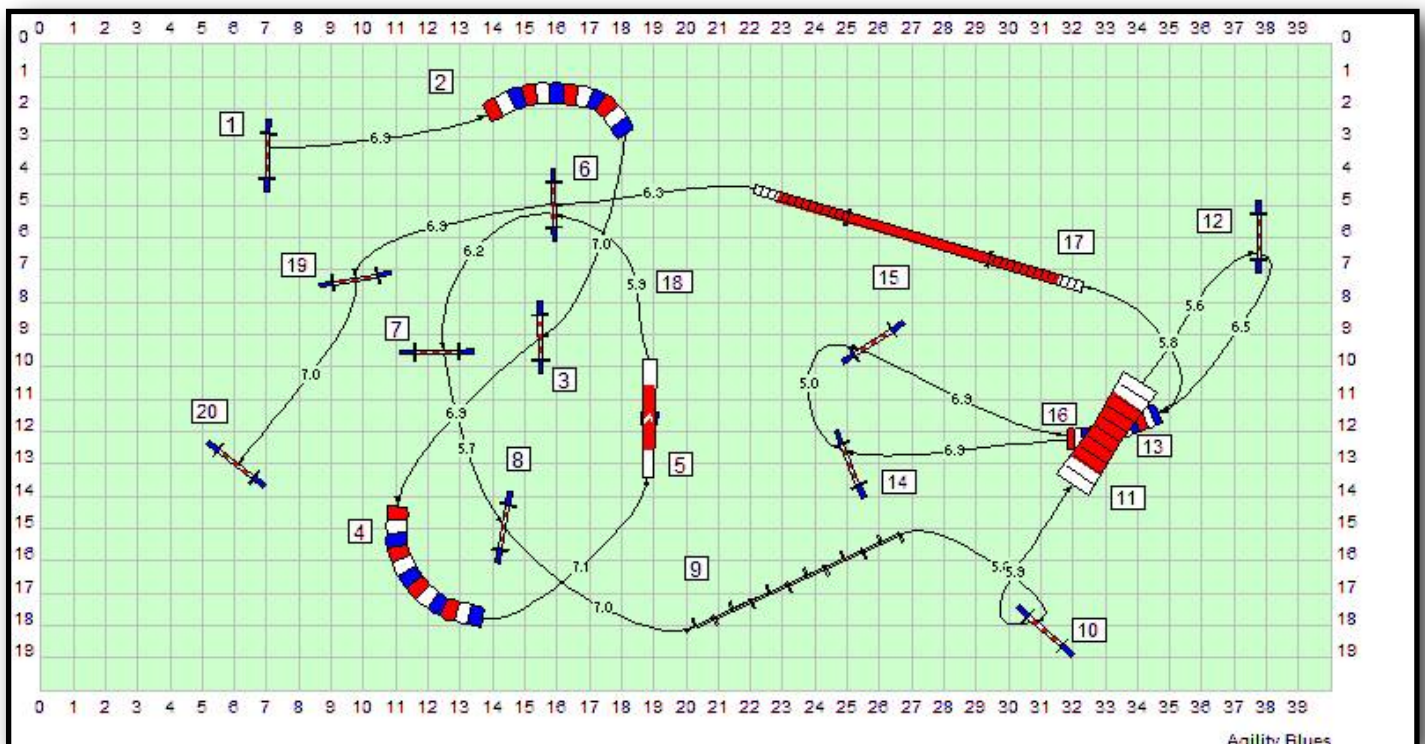
When I had finished my runs for the day, I would stay in the arena and cheer the rest of the team on, or try and cool down in the team GB group on the stands just behind the rings. I noticed when I had finished my runs for the day that there were a few long haired Pyrenean sheepdogs around, my parents and I talked to 3 owners from different countries that had Pyrenean sheepdogs either competing, or had photos of them, and they seemed to like Jet and also recognised that he was a short haired or “face rase” pyr shep.

I had to work really hard for it, but I got two trophies for my effort in Slovakia I am one happy proud Pyrenean Sheepdog owner.

Thank you all who sponsored me in helping me go to Slovakia, all my other team mates who also did extremely well and especially to my mum and dad who drove all the way to Slovakia and back so that I could compete in the very first GB Junior team, but most of all to Jetty you are a star.

Roll on Luxembourg 2017.

Adam Stretton



## In Memoriam

### Merrywood Dancing Queen at Kelltara



*Born June 2005 died April 2016*  
*Sire:-Hob-Nobs Baptiste at Carabrae (Imp Swe)*  
*Dam:- Merrywood Dark Image*

#### **Rosie**

Rosie was Pat and Steve Phillips' first Pyrenean Sheepdog, she was bred by Felicity and Mike Cafferata and achieved numerous accolades during her very fruitful life. Not only that she did so much to promote the breed in the Show Ring. Even as a very young puppy she was described as having a presence and attitude as well as being a natural in the show ring. She certainly lived up to her potential with many prestigious wins.

The Breed came off the Import Register in January 2006 and Rosie was the first Pyrenean Sheepdog to win a Puppy Group, she was also the first to win a Pastoral Group (a large Group of 20 dogs) at S.W.W&PB show where she also went RBIS.

She was Best Bitch at Crufts 2008 under Breed Specialist Mr Fred Randall, she followed this the next year by winning Best of Breed at Crufts 2009 under the highly respected All Rounder Mrs Meg Carpenter. She was also Best Bitch at Crufts 2012 and Reserve Best Bitch at Crufts in 2010 and 2011.

Throughout her showing career Rosie was awarded 34 BOBs and 40 BB awards plus numerous AVs & Rare Breeds wins and achieved the accolade of Breed Record holder. In 2008 and 2010 she was also Top PSD.



“A super dog to own full of mischief and boundless energy .”

## *Viewpoint*- News and Views from the Breed Notes



Many of you will know that one of my passions is that I like to give all my PSDs the opportunity to work sheep. I am fortunate in that close to where I live on the North York Moors I have access to a very sympathetic shepherd who is also a very good trainer and has a strong interest in working with “traditional herding” breeds such as the PSD. I have been actively herding with all the dogs over the last 8-9 years or so but a broken knee a couple of years ago and some long periods of working away from home have meant that unfortunately neither I or any of the dogs have actually managed to continue with our herding activities. A couple of months back however, things changed for the positive when I received an invitation to attend a training clinic and trial to be held quite close to home just on the

outskirts of York. The clinic was a 3 day event, involving 40 dogs, hosted by some very keen Australian Sheepdog owners who had managed to attract top “All Breeds” herding trainer Tanya Wheeler all the way from Canada to run the Clinic. I thought it might be interesting in this viewpoint article to share a bit about how we got on as well as a few perspectives about what it is like working with PSDs in a herding context.

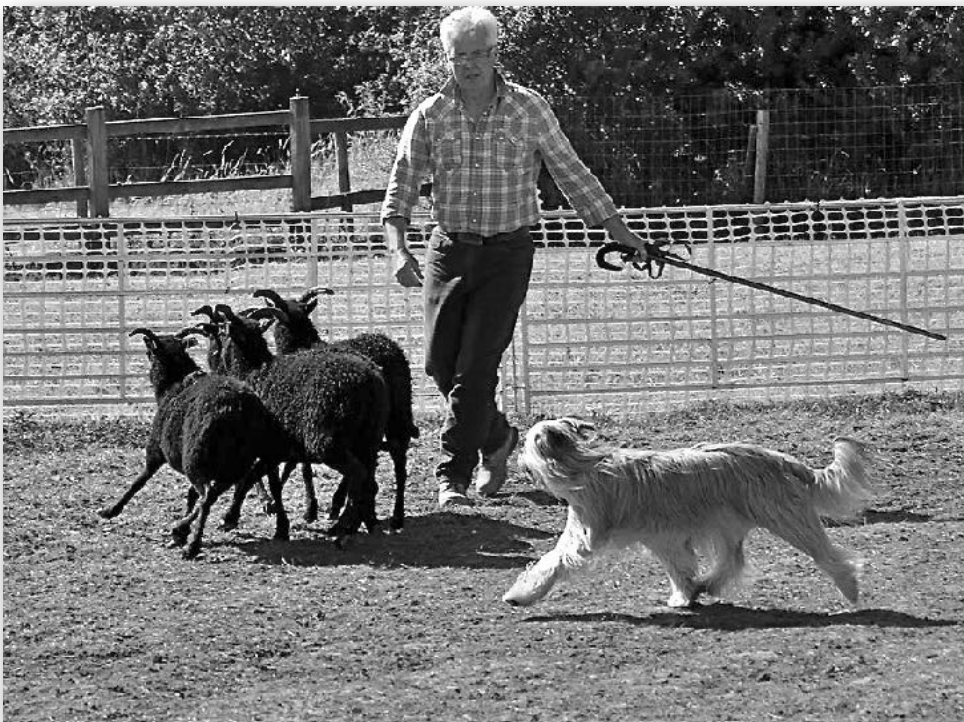
Whilst I was absolutely thrilled to be able to get along to the clinic it wasn't long before absolute panic set in as I had only 6 weeks to prepare and none of the dogs had seen sheep in two and a half years. I decided to focus on my oldest girl Celeste (Rozimba Celeste avec Sandytrail) who although 7 years now, was my most experienced dog and the one that I had previously worked most with. She was a bit out of condition and I wasn't sure how she would respond but I shouldn't have worried as a return to twice a week training with my local shepherd in the run up to the clinic showed that she had lost none of her work ethic and the fitness soon sorted itself out. There is absolutely nothing like sheep to get your dog into peak condition. It is amazing how muscle tone and fitness really develop when they have a chance to take part in the activity they were bred for. I have seen super fit looking dogs completely exhausted after only a 5 minute session with sheep as it is a complete physical and mental workout that challenges every bit of their conformation and musculature.

Before I go on it is just worth reminding ourselves of some of the PSD qualities that we all know so well. The French describe them as the maximum amount of energy in the smallest package and the old Basque shepherds say that the PSD will be a “willing partner but never your servant”. Understanding both



of these innate qualities is key to understanding how to work with PSDs in a herding context. The power and energy they possess relative to their small size means that they can really have a big impact on sheep creating a lot of pressure for movement. This “powerhouse” package really comes to the fore in their natural home in the Pyrenees where they typically are required to drive very large flocks of quite heavy sheep, really stubborn in character and fairly reluctant to move. Their high intelligence and independence of character is also required in their traditional mountain role. A dog that needs constant instruction and control would be completely useless to the mountain shepherds who have to work from dawn to dusk moving the flocks to their new grazing pastures, a task that is physically challenging in the high mountain terrain. However both these qualities make the PSD quite difficult to train and the need to get their trust and respect and to find the balance in a partnership is really key to getting them to be useful working companions. Here in the UK it is even more difficult training our PSDs to herd because we have the wrong type of sheep. Yes, I know that sounds like that old British chestnut of an excuse that “the trains can’t run because there is the wrong type of snow on the line” but it really is true. Most of our UK sheep are very light, that is to say they are very flighty and are very responsive to the least amount of pressure and when a Pyrenean arrives most of them are already in the next county. So getting your PSD to understand pressure and how to use it is one of the big challenges here in the UK.

Coming back to Celeste, in the past, we had achieved a fairly good standard of practical shepherding. She was capable of managing reasonably controlled movement of the flock, in the main she could fetch and gather the sheep balancing them to me. We could negotiate gates and generally move the sheep around a slalom course of obstacles before finishing with a successful penning or return to a holding paddock. This all might sound quite good but in hindsight this was only achieved by me constantly screaming instructions at her, generally threatening her with a stick and me running around a lot. Although I enjoyed our herding sessions, if I am honest I came away completely exhausted. Not quite the image of partnership that I have highlighted above.



On returning to training with my local shepherd 6 weeks ago she challenged me to go right back to basics and to try and build a new basis of partnership with Celeste. Although I was very reluctant I agreed to give it a try. The main principles that I agreed to were to keep a zip on my mouth, no spoken commands of any sort, not easy for me, something that those who know me well will understand (LoL). Also to let Celeste express herself more naturally, to work with what she gave me and to not react when she made mistakes. We agreed to keep the sessions short, typically 3 to

4 five minute sessions spread over an hour and to finish each session on a positive for Celeste.



I've got to say the results have been fantastic. The first couple of sessions were a bit chaotic but we soon started to develop a much stronger partnership and a calmer way of working. In principle Celeste could read the sheep better than me and knew exactly what she needed to do. For my part I started to pay attention to the sheep and less on Celeste, trusting her to do what was right. Whilst she doesn't always get things right the fact that we have removed the conflict between us means that she now fully accepts my right to be in there with her. Whilst this doesn't sound very much I have come to understand that getting to this stage is fundamental to working with a Pyrenean. By the time of the clinic we were both working with so much more control and Celeste now understands that access to sheep (her reward) is through me and not despite me, a much more satisfactory situation all round.

So the Tanya Wheeler clinic has come and gone and we have learned so much with lots of ideas on things to practice and to improve our working partnership. Tanya has worked with a number of PSDs in America and throughout Europe but I was extremely proud when she gave her appraisal of Celeste. Tanya said she was a very talented little droving dog and on a different level to the other PSD's she had come across. She loved her very strong working drive and how she responded to pressure. She thought she was a courageous little worker constantly prepared to take the sheep at the head and which gave her the power to really control sheep movement particularly in larger flocks. When singling out the 4-5 dogs that had impressed her at the clinic, Tanya said that she she would love to take Celeste back to Canada where she had a real job to do back on her ranch. This last photo from the clinic best sums up Celeste and the breed and their working style. The body language and tail carriage tell me she is comfortable with her position and doing what is natural for her, a little mountain drovers dog.

Eion Flint

Breed Notes Writer - Dog World



## ' GIVE A DOG A GENOME ' PROJECT

The Give a Dog a Genome project was launched in early 2016. Many breeds registered and quickly the number of breeds that the project wanted to take part was quickly reached. However the AHT / KC – GDG Project has now launched a Second Phase.

With the expansion of the project, they have been inviting more Breeds to take part, and for interested breeds to register. I have asked for the Pyrenean Sheepdog to be considered for inclusion, and the PSD has been put down on the GDG2 list of interested breeds.

At this stage we are not committed to take part- we will be contacted again in early 2017 to see if we wish to continue to take part, but I thought it appropriate to put the breeds name forward. To take part each breed will be asked to contribute £1000 to save a place in the Genome Bank.

As a small Club this is a large sum of money to find, however I feel that this is such a worthwhile opportunity that we should make all efforts to be able to take part.

Can I suggest as a fund raising campaign I ask people to pledge a sum of money – perhaps in memory of a much loved PSD companion – or a person who has contributed much to the canine world – or any other reason you feel is appropriate.

I myself will pledge –

£50 -in memory of Durendal Fidele- my first PSD– the first PSD to take part in a National Agility Final

£50 -in memory of Riacaud Ulric de Picors CDEx UDEx WDEx

- the first PSD to achieve a Working Trials

Qualification

If you would pledge a sum of money – small or large – it all counts – when we have reached our target and when we receive confirmation that we will be included in the project, I will call upon you to fulfil your promise and forward the money, (details of where to forward payments will be given at that time).

Please forward your pledges to the PSD Club Secretary Liz Lewis

for more information on the GDG project:--- [www.aht.org.uk](http://www.aht.org.uk)

Vicky Wilford – Breed Health Co-ordinator.

## SHOW RESULTS

**Working & Pastoral Breeds  
Association of Wales  
16th April 2016  
Judge: Mr P Simmons**

BEST OF BREED: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (ImpFra) Mr S R Phillips

Reserve Best of Breed: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Mr S R Phillips

Best Bitch: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Mr S R Phillips

**Class JD/B (2 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles  
Mr E & Mrs S Flint

**Class PD/B (4 Entries) Abs: 2**

1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra)  
Mr S R Phillips  
2nd: Sandytrail Solitaire avec Ciopar  
Ms P Buchanan-Hislop

**Class OD/B (3 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra)  
Mr S R Phillips  
2nd: Sandytrail Ensorcele Bel Jun Ch  
Mr E & Mrs S Flint

**West of England Ladies  
Kennel Society  
22nd-24th April 2016  
AVNSC Pastoral  
Judge: Mrs Lynne Salt**

Reserve Best Dog: Gazost II Dit Oscar du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Mr S R Phillips  
Reserve Best Bitch: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Mr S R Phillips

**Class OD (3 Entries) 1 Abs**

2nd: Gazost II Dit Oscar du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra) Mr S R Phillips

**Class PGB (3 Entries) 0 Abs**

1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra)  
Mr S R Phillips

3rd: Sandytrail Solitaire avec Ciopar  
Ms P Buchanan-Hislop

**Class OB (3 Entries) 1 Abs**

1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra)  
Mr S R Phillips

**National Dog Show 2016  
Birmingham  
5th, 6th, 7th, 8th May  
Judge: Mr Derek Smith**

BEST OF BREED : Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Best Dog : Multi Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT  
Res Best Dog : Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH  
Best Bitch : Friponne Du Pic D'espade Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Res Best Bitch : Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele Mrs S & Mr E FLINT  
Best Puppy : Norlyght Rolien Les Essarts  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

**Class PD/B (2 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Norlyght Rolien Les Essarts  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

**Class JD/B (1 Entries) Abs: 0**

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

**Class LD/B (4 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS  
2nd: Sawara Double Trouble Mrs P L KEABLE  
3rd: Norlyght Satu Juta Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

**Class OD (2 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Multi Ch Gastibelza de l'Oustaou De Padel (Imp) Mrs S & Mr E FLINT  
2nd: Norlyght Biassono Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

**Class OB (4 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Friponne Du Pic D'espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS

2nd: Bel Jun Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele  
Mrs S & Mr E FLINT  
3rd: Jazlyn Du Pic De Pioulou (Imp)  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH  
Res: Rambauds Xonville Mrs P L KEABLE

**Bath Canine Society  
2016  
27th, 28th, 29th, 30th May  
Judge: Mr V Salt**

BEST OF BREED : Friponne du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Best Dog : Gazost 11 Dit Oscar du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Res Best Dog : Larrau de la Mesta Pastores (Imp)  
Ms P VARNES  
Best Bitch : Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara  
(Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Res Best Bitch : Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara  
(Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS

**Class JD (1 Entries) Abs: 0**  
1st: Larrau de la Mesta Pastores (Imp)  
Ms P VARNES

**Class OD (1 Entries) Abs: 0**  
1st: Gazost 11 Dit Oscar du Pic d'Espade Kelltara  
(Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS

**Class LB (2 Entries) Abs: 0**  
1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS  
2nd: Norlyght Sebelas Of Amienko  
Miss J R GWILLIAM, & Mr & Mrs C SUCH

**Class OB (2 Entries) Abs: 0**  
1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS  
2nd: Norlyght Satu Juta  
Mrs C E BROWN & Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH



**Southern Counties Canine  
Association  
3rd-5th June  
AVNSC Pastoral  
Judge: Mrs Zena Thorne-Andrews**

BEST OF BREED: Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such  
Best Dog: Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such  
Reserve Best Bitch: Jazlyn du Pic du Pioulou  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

**Class OD (1 Entry) 0 Abs**  
1st: Norlyght Biassono Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

**Class PGB ( 2 Entries) 0 Abs**  
2nd: Norlyght Satu Juta  
Mrs C E Brown & Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

**Class OB (3 Entries) 1 Abs**  
1st: Jazlyn du Pic du Pioulou  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

**Three Counties  
Championship Show 2016  
9th, 10th, 11th, 12th June  
Judge: Mr M E Taylor**

BEST OF BREED : Friponne du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Best Dog : Gazost 11 Dit Oscar du Pic  
d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Best Bitch : Friponne du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Res Best Bitch : Intrepide du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Best Puppy : Kimrand Miss Pepper  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

**Class OD (1 Entries) Abs: 0**  
1st: Gazost 11 Dit Oscar du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS

**Class PB (1 Entries) Abs: 0**  
1st: Kimrand Miss Pepper  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

**Class PGB (2 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS  
2nd: Kimrand Pixie Belle  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

**Class OB (1 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS

**Blackpool & District Canine  
Society  
24th-26th June  
Judge: Mrs Jane Lilley**

BEST OF BREED : Friponne du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp Fra) Mr S R Phillips  
Best Dog: Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such  
Best Bitch: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp  
Fra) Mr S R Phillips  
Reserve Best Bitch: Jazlyn du Pic de Pioulou  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

**Class OD (2 Entries) Abs:1**

1st: Norlyght Biassono Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

**Class PGB (3 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra)  
Mr S R Phillips  
2nd: Sandytrail Solitaire avec Ciopar  
Ms P Buchanan-Hislop

**Class OB (2 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp Fra)  
Mr S R Phillips  
2nd: Jazlyn du Pic Pioulou Mr C J & Mrs P M Such



**Windsor Championship Dog  
Show 2016  
30th June & 1st, 2nd, 3rd July  
Judge: Mrs Bridgette Bodie**

BEST OF BREED : Friponne du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Best Dog : Kimrand Master Bertie  
Mr J PATTISON  
Best Bitch : Friponne du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Res Best Bitch : Kimrand Pixie Belle  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL  
Best Puppy : Kimrand Master Bertie  
Mr J PATTISON

**Class JD (1 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Kimrand Master Bertie Mr J PATTISON

**Class PGB (2 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Kimrand Pixie Belle  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL  
2nd: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara  
(Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS

**Class OB (1 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Friponne du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS

**East of England Agricultural  
Society  
8th-10th July  
Judge: Mr J Horswell**

BEST OF BREED: Bel/Fin Ch Gastibelza de l'  
Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra)  
Mr E & Mrs S Flint  
Best Dog: Bel/Fin Ch Gastibelza de l' Oustaou  
de Padel (Imp Fra) Mr E & Mrs S Flint  
Best Bitch: Bel/Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele  
Mr E & Mrs S Flint  
Reserve Best Dog: Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such  
Reserve Best Bitch: Entre Nous Romance  
Sans Paroles Mr E & Mrs S Flint

Best Puppy: Kimrand Miss Pepper  
Mr F J & Miss K Randall

**Class PD (1 Entry) Abs:0**

1st: Kimrand Master Bertie Mr J Pattison

**Class PGD (1 Entry) Abs:0**

1st: Bon Sooty de la Folie (Imp Deu)  
Miss J Gemmill

**Class OD (3 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Bel/Fin Ch Gastibelza de l' Oustaou de  
Padel (Imp Fra) Mr E & Mrs S Flint  
2nd: Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

**Class PB (1 Entry) Abs:0**

1st: Kimrand Miss Pepper Mr F J & Miss K Randall

**Class JB (1 Entry) Abs:0**

1st: Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles  
Mr E & Mrs S Flint

**Class PGB (3 Entries) Abs:1**

1st: Norlyght Sebelas of Amienko Miss JR Gwilliam  
2nd: Rambauds Xonville Mrs P L Keable

**Class OB (5 Entries) Abs; 2**

1st:Bel/Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele  
Mr E & Mrs S Flint  
2nd: Jazlyn du Pic de Pioulou  
Mr C J & Mrs P M Such  
3rd: Sawara Double Trouble Mrs P L Keable

**National Working & Pastoral  
Breeds Society 2016  
16th July  
Judge: Miss E Haapaniemi**

BEST OF BREED : Gazost 11 Dit Oscar du  
Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Best Dog : Gazost 11 Dit Oscar du Pic  
d'Espade Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Res Best Dog :Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH  
Best Bitch : Friponne du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS  
Res Best Bitch : Intrepide du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS

**Class OD (2 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Gazost 11 Dit Oscar du Pic d'Espade  
Kelltara (Imp) Mr S R PHILLIPS

2nd: Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

**Class PGB (3 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Intrepide du Pic d'Espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS  
2nd: Sandytrail Solitaire Avec Ciopar  
Ms P BUCHANAN-HISLOP

**Class OB (2 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Friponne Du Pic D'espade Kelltara (Imp)  
Mr S R PHILLIPS  
2nd:Jazlyn Du Pic De Pioulou (Imp)  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

**Leeds Championship Dog  
Show 2016  
23rd-24th July  
Judge: Mrs Frances Kaye**

BEST OF BREED : Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH  
Best Dog : Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH  
Res Best Dog : Ivydale Choirboy Meslabrit  
Sh.CM, Mrs R E ROBSON & Miss K L ROBSON  
Best Bitch : Jazlyn Du Pic De Pioulou (Imp)  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH  
Res Best Bitch : Kimrand Pixie Belle  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL  
Best Puppy : Kimrand Miss Pepper  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

**Class OD (3 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Norlyght Biassono  
Mr C J & Mrs PM SUCH  
2nd: Ivydale Choirboy Meslabrit Sh.CM  
Mrs R E ROBSON & Miss K L ROBSON

**Class PB (1 Entries) Abs: 0**

1st: Kimrand Miss Pepper  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

**Class PGB (3 Entries) Abs: 2**

1st: Kimrand Pixie Belle  
Mr F J RANDALL & Miss K RANDALL

**Class OB (2 Entries) Abs: 1**

1st: Jazlyn Du Pic De Pioulou (Imp)  
Mr C J & Mrs P M SUCH

Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of GB

SATURDAY **1** OCTOBER

# AGILITY DAY

Bench Farm, Stoke Road, Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk  
CO10 8HQ

Start time 10.00. Trainer: Joy Brough Cost £25

Entry form and further details can be obtained from Liz Lewis

## **25th Anniverary Celebrations**

**5th - 6 th August 2017**

*Two day event to include:-*

*Third Club Open Show to be judged by Norbert Gainche.*

*Agility Show.*

*Heelwork to music, Flyball, and many other activities.*

*Saturday night BBQ*

*Victoria Farm, Highcross, Claybrook Magna, Lutterworth LE17 5AU*

*Limited camping and accomodation is available at Victoria Farm*

*but also in Lutterworth. Further details to be announced.*



DEVA



GEORDI

FUN DAY WINNERS



GEORDI



SOOTY



LILY



SOOTY