

Winter 2019

PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG

Merry Christmas



**The Newsletter of the
Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of Great Britain**

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

20th March 2020

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Disclaimer

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

From the Editor

Well as I write this at the end of November another year is drawing to an end.

I really can't believe the amount of things that have happened in my own family and within my friends on the Committee.

For all that have had trials and tribulations I can only hope that you have found support within the Pyrie community that has helped a little.

It sounds like quite a few made their way down to Argeles this year and it is certainly on the cards for the Family Stretton in the next couple of years.

There is also (I am informed by my better half) a plan that all being well there will be the patter of tiny Pyrie feet in 2020 so that will be exciting if it goes according to plan.

So it doesn't sound like 2020 will be dull—but that is life with our little friends isn't it?

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and hope to see you all in the New Year.

Carl Stretton

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BITS n BOBS from the Secretary

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice Is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will take place at 11.00 on Saturday 22nd February 2020 at Swannington Village Hall, Leicestershire LE67 8QL

The committee would like invite members attending the AGM to stay for lunch provided by the committee. Further details are available later on in the Newsletter.

Carl Stretton and Sara Hawkswell are required to stand down as a committee member but are eligible for re-election without nomination. Both are willing to stand again.

The Secretary and the Treasurer are required to stand down annually but are eligible for re-election without nomination. Diane Newton and Kim Randall are resigning from the position of Treasurer and Secretary thus creating vacancies for both roles

Nominations for anyone wishing to stand as Secretary, Treasurer or a committee member must be accompanied by a Proposer and a Seconder by **25th January 2020**. Applicants need to have been a member of the club for at least a year to be eligible for election to the committee or an office. Nominations will be accepted by email provided they are properly worded and signed electronically.

Any items to be included on the Agenda should be properly worded and signed and accompanied by a Proposer and Seconder and should be received by the Secretary by the **25th January 2020**.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

In accordance with the Constitution and Rules membership should be renewed by the 31st January 2020. If you have not renewed your membership by then you are deemed to no longer be a member of the club.

Please try to renew your membership by the end of January. Membership renewal form will be included with this Newsletter. Payment can be made by cheque, bank transfer or direct debit. If you have any questions please contact Di Newton.

ANNUAL POINTS COMPETITION

If you have been competing with your dog during 2019 in the Show ring, Agility or Obedience don't forget to send in your points by 2nd February 2020. If your dog has achieved something special this year, please let Kim know as he/she may be eligible for a Certificate of Achievement.

Please visit the Club Website downloads area at <https://www.pyreneansheepdogclub.com/downloads-docs> to find the Club Points forms.

Showing and Junior Handling points should sent to Shane Flint, The Aspens, Marton, Sinnington, York, YO62 6RD. Sandytrail@btinternet.com

Agility and Obedience points should be sent to Kim Randall, Woodcroft Villas, Waterworks Lane, Glington, Peterborough, PE3 6JY. Kim.randall789@gmail.com

A trophy is awarded to the dogs with most points in each discipline and Certificates of Achievement are presented to those who come second and third.



The Pyrenean Sheepdog Club
of Great Britain
Berger des Pyrénées

THE PYRENEAN SHEPDOG CLUB OF GB ANNUAL POINTS COMPETITION (AGILITY)

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



The Pyrenean Sheepdog Club
of Great Britain
Berger des Pyrénées

THE PYRENEAN SHEPDOG CLUB OF GB ANNUAL POINTS COMPETITION (OBEDIENCE)

Name:	
Address:	

the Pyrenean Sheepdog Club

for example if the show was placing to 5th and the dog were all heights are competing but places are given for example if a dog is placed 9th overall but is placed first in its class it is easier for the competitor to keep track of what is as to whether they are agility or jumping based e.g.

10th 1

13, 9th 12, 10th 11 etc

be sent to Kim Randall (email: kimr@barnstable.com)
a trophy at the AGM 2nd and 3rd dogs will be



The Pyrenean Sheepdog Club
of Great Britain
Berger des Pyrénées

THE PYRENEAN SHEPDOG CLUB OF GB ANNUAL POINTS COMPETITION (SHOWING)

Name:	
Address:	
Dog's name:	

Breed/AV classes:- 1st-6, 2nd-5, 3rd-4, 4th-3, 5th-2 BOB 12, RBB/BOS 8
Res Best Dog/Bitch 4, Best Puppy 4
Group 1-20, Group-2 15, Group 3-10, Group 4-5
Puppy Group 1-10, Group 2-8, Group 3-6, Group 4-3
BIS-25, Res BIS-20, BPIS-10, Res BPIS-6

Stakes Classes: Puppy, Junior, Open, Veteran 1st-10, 2nd-8, 3rd-6, 4th-4, 5th-2
Best Overall-10 (Champ Stakes, YKC & Members Stakes are not included)

If a dog is being shown in more than one class at a show, points will only count for the class in which the dog achieved its best placing.

NB-Points can only be claimed for shows in the UK

Start 1st January 20..... Finish 31st December 20.....

The responsibility for sending the results in remains with each competitor and should be sent to Mrs Shane Flint, The Aspens, Marton, Sinnington, York, YO62 6RD or e-mail to sandytrail@btinternet.com. The winner will be presented with a Trophy at the AGM. 2nd and 3rd dogs will be presented with rosettes/certificates.

Date	Venue	Champ/Open Class	Breed/AV	Class Placing	Overall Placing	Points

placings.

ent to Kim Randall by 2 February, e-mail
and 3rd dogs will be presented with

Points	Total

Continued overleaf

[illegible]

www.pyreneansheepdog.co.uk

im Randall
789@gmail.com
252694

Hon Treasurer: Diane Newton
email: nidasha@btinternet.com
Tel: 01777 818954

FROM THE CHAIR

Xmas will soon be upon us and I would just like to take this opportunity on behalf of all of your Committee to send you our very best wishes for the Xmas season and every success with your “petit bergers” in 2020. We would also like to thank everyone for their continued support and membership, without which we would not be able to function as a club. In addition I would personally like to thank all my fellow Committee members for all their efforts in attending to club business during what has been particularly difficult year with a significant number of committee members dealing with poor health, family bereavements, new additions to the family and other pressures. We all give our time voluntary for the love of our special little French breed and the contributions made to the running of the club are greatly appreciated.

Just a few highlights from me to draw to your attention:

The first and most important date for your diary is the 22nd February 2020 when we will be holding our AGM. We had very positive feedback on the format of last year’s AGM and we have decided to stick with this for our 2020 meeting. We will be providing everyone with a hot soup and sandwich lunch courtesy of your committee. We will also be making a presentation that we have titled “ Sheep Herding -the working style of the PSD”. Similar to last year the presentation will take place over a relaxing lunch and we hope to engage you in exploring the origins and working style of our little French herders with the opportunity to see photographs of Pyrenean’s actually working in the mountains as well as photos and short video clips of members dogs herding here in the UK. Our AGM will start at 10.30 am prompt and last for about an hour. We are then allowing about 1.5 -2 hours for lunch and our presentation, with time to discuss our breed and spend time informally talking with committee. Please do try and come along you would be very welcome. All we ask is that you let us know whether you will be coming or not by telephoning/emailing Kim Randall or myself. (Contact details are in the front of this magazine).

We have just had our last committee meeting of the year on the 10th November. This is the meeting in the year when we look back

at what we have achieved and to set out our plans for activities in the year ahead. A major area of discussion has been around our annual Fun Day and the Club's Breed Open Show which for the last couple of year's we have co-located together. We are concerned that both events need to be well organised and have their own focus and whilst our 2018 Show and Fun Day was not a success with a particularly poor venue we do think that our 2019 Show and Fun Day was a big improvement with a return to Bearley and an increase in numbers of around 26 attendees (27 dogs) including committee. For 2020 we will keep the events together although we plan to re-focus the balance, timings and content of the day. The date for your diary for the 2020 Fun Day and Show will be Sunday 14th June. Full details will be on the website and Club Facebook page early in the new Year.

A few other planned activities to highlight include a herding day open to club members, plus a commitment to establish club organised walks as a regular feature of what we do. We aim to have a Spring, Summer and Autumn walk with exact timings/locations still to be decided. Hopefully we can attract some of you to meet us for a day out in a location that works for you. Finally pressures didn't allow us to organise our usual Agility day this year but this will definitely return next year and work is currently underway to possibly offer an additional Agility training event aimed at those club members actively competing with their PSD. More details in the new year.

Finally I would just share the sad news that Fred Randall father of Kim Randall, our current club secretary and long term club member, passed away peacefully in hospital on the 11th November. All our love and thoughts are with Kim at this sad time. Fred was a larger than life character and one of the true "personalities" in the world of dog showing and breeding. Fred and wife Pat formed the KIMRAND breeding kennel back in the 70's which became one of the major breeding kennels in Bearded Collies producing many champions throughout the 70's, 80's and 90's. Kimrand moved their focus to Pyrenean Sheepdogs in the early 2000's with a first litter in 2004. Fred himself had the honour of judging Pyrenean Sheepdogs at Crufts in 2007, the first UK judge/breeder to do so. Fred had a good "eye for a dog" and he knew what he liked and was never afraid to share his views, a real character with a wicked sense of humour. Hopefully, the story of Kimrand and Fred can be more appropriately shared in a future edition of the magazine.

Eion Flint
Chairman

Well the 2019 showing year is nearly over for another year with the last show offering PSD classes, the Scottish Working and Pastoral Breeds, having taken place at the beginning of November up in Edinburgh. The last Championship show of the year will be LKA at Birmingham's NEC and although there will be no breed classes we will have a reasonable entry in the Variety Classes as well as a breed team in the Breeders competition.

It will not be long until Crufts is upon us with Pastoral Day and breed classes on the 7th March 2020. Manchester Champ Show on the 17 January is normally the last qualifying show with breed classes for Crufts but Boston Champ show on the 9th January are also offering PSD classes for the first time which means we have another opportunity to qualify our PSD's for Crufts 2020. As I write I am aware that by the time you get this magazine, entries for Manchester and Boston will have closed but I will make sure that these shows and their closing dates are flagged on the Club's Facebook group before they close.

Getting PSD 's into the show ring continues to be a problem however a small hardy group of around 6-8 dogs have kept the flag flying for the breed in 2019 but it really would be nice to see a few more. I must confess I have commented on this before and we do have a specific problem as a breed with so few new puppies being bred and those that are around not going into show homes, which is a real shame. However it was nice to see that Cathy Batt had a very nice litter of 3 pups in August and I am looking forward to hopefully seeing these out at a few shows next year. Hopefully, we can encourage more of you with PSD's to get out to a few shows even if it's only two or three to help keep the flag flying for the breed here in the UK in 2020.

KC Breeders Competition

In 2019 the Kennel Club re-launched their "Breeders Competition" with every Championship Show (about 26 in 2019) supporting the new competition. The competition is for all breeds of dog and allows each breeder to enter a team of 3 or 4 dogs that they have bred (but not necessarily own). More than 120 breeds have taken part in 2019, points are awarded for the first 4 teams at each show (1st 30 pts, 2nd 15 pts and 3rd 10 pts, 4th 5 pts.). The top 40 teams scoring the most points over the year will qualify to compete for the top breeder team at Crufts 2020.

My own Sandytrail Kennel have entered a team this year and we have done brilliantly well and are currently lying in 12th place overall and with one more competition left at LKA in December, we should qualify for the televised final at Crufts. Rebecca Robson's "Hera" (Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrits), Vikki Lucas's Neon (Sandytrail Stargazer) and my own

"Blue" (Sandytrail Ensorcele) and "Madge" (Sandytrail Magie Noir) have been the backbone of the team with an occasional cameo performance by "Marley" (Sandytrail Sorcerer). Massive thanks to Vikki, Rebecca and Katie Robson for being at so many shows and especially Katie for handling "Madge so beautifully.



The competition which normally takes place in the Group ring has given us a chance to really showcase the breed and we have been really pleased with the very positive comments and genuine interest in the breed from top show judges and exhibitors. I really think we have raised the profile of the breed this year, perhaps more so than at any time. It is just so disappointing that we cannot get more of our lovely breed out there at the moment.

I am conscious that I didn't manage to include our normal show results in the Summer Magazine so by way of catch up a full summary of shows since the Spring Magazine are listed below as well as a list of the 2020 Shows offering breed classes.

I know we have some really nice PSD's out there in club member's homes and it would be really lovely to see some of these in the show ring. If you would like to try a show but are feeling a bit daunted and don't know how to go about it or even if you just wanted to find out a bit more and have an informal chat then please do give me a call (01751432599) or alternatively email me (sandytrail@btinternet.com) and I will do my best to help.

Finally I would just like to wish everyone a very Merry Xmas and a great year with your PSD's next year.

Shane Flint (Mrs)
Sandytrail

SHOW RESULTS

National Dog Show (Judge J Horswell)

Open Dog

1st: 1762 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Sandytrail Sorceror - **(BD)**

Veteran Dog

1st: 1763 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel - **(RBD & BV)**

2nd: 1769 MILNES Mrs C M Swed & Nor Ch Hob-nob's Soleil Of Jentilima (Imp)

Puppy Bitch

1st: 1766 HAWKSWELL Mrs S Sandytrail Angelique - **(BP)**

Limit Bitch

1st: 1770 ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit - **(RBB)**

2nd: 1764 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp)

Open Bitch

1st: 1765 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Bel & Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele **(BB, BOB & Pastoral Group 3)**

Bath Championship Show (Meg Purnell Carpenter)

Post Graduate Dog

1st: 3088 LUCAS Ms V Sandytrail Stargazer **(BD)**

Limit Dog

1st: 3092 VARNES Mrs P J Larrau De La Mesta Pastores (Imp) **(RBD)**

Puppy Bitch

1st: 3089 LUCAS Ms V Sandytrail Starstruck **(BP & RBB)**

Open Bitch

1st: 3090 ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit **(BB & BOB)**

Three Counties Championship Show (Richard Kinsey)

Open Dog

1st: 4104 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Sandytrail Sorcerer (BD)

Veteran Dog

1st: 4105 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel (Imp) (VD)

Post Graduate Bitch

1st: 4106 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp)

Open Bitch

1st: 4109 ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit (BB & BOB)

2nd: 4108 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Bel & Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele (RBB)

Blackpool Championship Show (Ben Reynolds Frost)

Post Graduate Dog

1st (MS V L LUCAS) Sandytrail Stargazer (BD)

Puppy - Bitch

1st (MRS S HAWKSWELL) Sandytrail Angelique (BP & RBB)

2nd (MS V L LUCAS) Sandytrail Starstruck

Open - Bitch

1st (MRS R E & MISS K L ROBSON) Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrits (BB & BOB)

East Of England Championship Show (Zena Thorne Andrews)

Post Graduate - Dog

1st (MS V L LUCAS) Sandytrail Stargazer

Open Dog

1st (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Sandytrail Sorcerer (RBD)

Veteran Dog

1st (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Bel/Fin CH Gastibelza de L' Oustaou de Padel (Imp Fra) (BD & BV)

Puppy Bitch

1st (MS V L LUCAS) Sandytrail Starstruck (BP)

2nd (MRS S MORGAN) Sandytrail Suzette

Junior Bitch

1st (MRS S MORGAN) Sandytrail Suzette

Limit Bitch

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

2nd (MR F J & MISS K RANDALL) Kimrand Pixiebelle

Open Bitch

1st (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Bel/Fin CH Sandytrail Ensorcele (BB, BOB & Pastoral

Group Shortlist)

2nd (MRS R E & MISS K L ROBSON) Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrits (RBB)

National Working and Pastoral Breeds Show (Kevin Young)

Junior Dog/Bitch

1st: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Starstruck (BP)

Open Dog/Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele (BB, BOB & Pastoral Group Shortlist)

2nd: (ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L) Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit (RBB)

3rd: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Stargazer

Veteran Dog/Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel (Imp) **(BD & BV)**

Leeds Championship Show (Sue Hewart Chambers)

Post Graduate Dog

1st: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Stargazer

Open Dog

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Sandytrail Sorcerer **(RBD)**

Veteran Dog

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel (Imp) **(BD & BV)**

Junior Bitch

1st: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Starstruck

Post Graduate Bitch

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

2nd: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Sandytrail Magie Noire

Open Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele **(BB & BOB)**

2nd: (ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L) Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit **(RBB)**

Welsh Kennel Club Show (K S Wilberg)

Post Graduate Dog

1st: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Stargazer **(RBD)**

Open Dog

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Sandytrail Sorcerer **(BD)**

Junior Bitch

1st: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Starstruck **(RBB)**

Open Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele **(BB & BOB)**

City of Birmingham Show (Frank Kane)

Veteran Dog

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel (Imp) **(BD & BV)**

2nd: (ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L) Ivydale Choirboy Meslabrit Sh.CM

Post Graduate Dog

1st: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Stargazer

Open Dog

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Sandytrail Sorcerer **(RBD)**

Junior Bitch

1st: (LUCAS Ms V) Sandytrail Starstruck **(BJ)**

Post Graduate Bitch

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

Open Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele **(BB & BOB)**

2nd: (ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L) Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit **(RBB)**

Richmond Championship Show (Terri Cousins Brown)

Veteran Dog/Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel (Imp) (**RBD & BV**)

Open Dog/Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Sandytrail Sorcerer (**BD**)

Post Graduate Dog/Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Sandytrail Magie Noire

Open Bitch

1st: (FLINT Mrs S & Mr E) Bel & Fin Ch Sandytrail Ensorcele (**BB, BOB & Pastoral Group 2**)

2nd: (ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L) Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit (**RBB**)

Darlington Championship Show (Jill Peak)

Junior Dog/Bitch

1st: (HAWKSWELL Mrs S) Sandytrail Angelique (**BB & BOB**)

South Wales Kennel Association Show (Allyson King)

Open Dog

1st (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Bel/Fin CH Gastibelza de L' Oustaou de Padel (Imp) (**BD**)

2nd (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Sandytrail Sorcerer (**RBD**)

Open - Bitch

1st (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Bel/Fin CH Sandytrail Ensorcele (**BB, BOB & Pastoral Group Shortlist**)

2nd (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (**RBB**)

3rd (MRS R E & MISS K L ROBSON) Sandytrail Sheherazade Meslabrits

Working and Pastoral Breeds of Scotland Show (Mick Taylor)

Junior - Dog Or Bitch

1st (MRS S HAWKSWELL) Sandytrail Angelique

Open - Dog

1st (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Sandytrail Sorcerer

Open - Bitch

1st (MR E & MRS S FLINT) Bel/Fin CH Sandytrail Ensorcele

2nd (MRS R E & MISS K L ROBSON) Sandytrail Sheherazade Meslabrits

Shane Flint



**Consortium to
Research
Inherited Eye
Diseases in Dogs**



Invitation to participate in a new initiative to tackle inherited eye disease in dogs

Inherited eye diseases cause pain and blindness in thousands of purebred and crossbred dogs every year. Funded by Dogs Trust, a new interdisciplinary Consortium to Research Inherited Eye Diseases in Dogs (CRIEDD) has been established.

This group, comprised of geneticists from the Animal Health Trust and veterinary ophthalmologists, aims to identify, investigate and help eliminate these diseases.

We are developing a laboratory work flow that will allow us to screen DNA samples from ANY affected dog for ALL the currently known mutations associated with inherited eye disease in dogs.

By screening dogs of all breeds for all reported mutations we will identify individuals that are clinically affected but that do not carry the disease mutation(s) associated with their specific breed.

Identifying genetically distinct forms of inherited eye disease will enable us to fast-track investigations aimed at identifying the underlying mutations and developing DNA tests for these new, 'emerging' diseases.

We would value your help

As an expert in your field you can contribute to this research by supplying us with DNA samples taken from ANY dog of ANY breed exhibiting clinical signs of inherited eye disease that you examine.

We can supply you with swab kits, free of charge, which you can use to collect DNA from affected dogs. We will screen DNA from all dogs for disease mutations and let you know the results.

We will of course acknowledge your involvement in any publications that arise from our investigations, either as a co-author or an acknowledgement as appropriate.

For more details please contact criedd@aht.org.uk



Argeles - Gazost 2019



We had the good fortune to get down to the Pyrenees for the National D' El-evage (NE) in September and I have got to say we had a brilliant time with superb company, outstanding weather, fantastic food and of course some great competition and results on the Saturday and Sunday.

Going to the Nationale has very much been our annual "Mecca trip" every September, since about 2006, when we first went to research the breed and build a relationship with some of the French breeders. Elderly parent duties meant that we were unable to go in 2017 and 2018 so this year we were especially looking forward to our return to the Pyrenees to see so many great examples of the breed and to soak up that unique "Basque" culture and stunning scenery.

This year we had a really strong presence with 15 UK based club members and their dogs attending. First time visitors were Vikki Lucas and her husband James with their two PSD's "Neon" and "Pixie" as well as Bea Newman and partner Alex and their PSD "Tabi". Rebecca and Mark Robson and daughter Katie also made a first visit but sadly without their PSD's, the priority this year being to research the event and meet a few breeders.

Regulars Chris and Liz Lewis with "Geordi" and Vicky Wilford with her Face Rase "Iffa" were there and another first timer Lyn Graham with two of her Face

Rase was also there. Finally my wife Shane and myself shared the journey over with fellow club members Pat and David Wescott and our 4 PSD's "Blue", "Gasti", "Marley" and "Madge".



It's a pretty long haul

down to the Pyrenees from home in North Yorkshire (about 22 hours on a straight drive) so we tend to break the journey up with an overnight stop. Fortunately, like previous years we were able to plan a 10 day break which really allows a few days before the serious competitions begin on the Saturday and Sunday and also gives us a few days after to relax and have a few trips up into the mountains before the long journey home.

One of the highlights of the trip is the reunion with all of our Belgian friends up in the mountains on the Friday before the weekend of competition. The Belgian Club organise their annual gathering and walk up in one of the high mountain valleys at Lac D'Estaing about 8 miles north of Argeles Gazost and of course all of the UK contingent are always welcome.



Just to explain, there is a long-standing camaraderie and friendship between the UK and Belgian club's with many PSD owners actually members of both clubs and this special relationship contin-

ues over the weekend with both club's setting up their UK/ Belgian "Camp" in the Parc de Casino in Argeles during the Saturday and Sunday competitions.

If you have heard of "Henman Hill" at Wimbledon



then you will get the idea of the "camp" at Argeles. A real focal point and strategically placed to watch all of the activity in the various rings throughout the Parc.

However, back to the re-union at Lac D'Estaing. Everyone arrived for around 11 am and after lots of greetings and traditional embraces a group of about 30 or so set off for about an hour walk, climbing the valley path to a rendezvous point at a small waterfall before descending back down the valley.

The scenery at D'Estaing is stunning and there is nothing quite like seeing 35-40 PSD's free running and enjoying the opportunity to explore the mountain terrain of their origin. On return it was "Apero" time with everyone catching up



and swapping stories over a few glasses of wine and nibbles.

An hour or so passed and then the majority of the gathering retired to the restaurant attached to the visitor

centre at D'Estaing for a great lunch and a few more wines, more stories and swapping of jokes - absolute bliss.

The main purpose of the trip of course was to take part in the various competitions on the Saturday and Sunday. Sat-



urday was dedicated to an all-day Championnat d'Agility for Pyrenean Breeds (principally PSD), the Test de Comportement (French Temperament Tests) as well as herding instinct testing which this year was the NHAT (Natural Herding Aptitude Test) an FCI based test open to dogs of all ages. This replaced the French traditional CANT test which only tests dogs between the ages of 9 - 18 months. Highlights of the Saturday were Lynn Graham's performance in the Agility competition taking a 4th and 9th place in the Category B competitions.

Vikki Lucas with "Neon" and Bea Newman with Tabi both passed their NHAT tests with Neon graded Excellent + which was exceptional. Well done to Vicky Wilford and "Iffa" for a perfect score of 20/20 and graded excellent in the Test de Comportement.

The Sunday saw a full day of showing for each of the four breeds represented by the RACP the French Breed Club (Pyrenean Sheepdogs, Catalans, Pyrenean Mountain Dogs and Mastiffs). There were good entries from all of the UK contingent and with some very respectable results in very good company. Full results for Club members dogs are listed below.

With my hands full during the showing it was difficult to get any photos of the various UK dogs entered and I must confess time just shot by and it wasn't long before the final stages of the show arrived with the final line ups and top places being decided in the ring d'Honneur. From a personal perspective I was so pleased to win Meillure Champion Female with "Blue" (Sandytrail Ensorcele). She has had an absolutely great year in competition in the UK this year with 8 Pastoral Group Shortlists and 4 Group places so to see her come through in the Champion class and compete in the Ring d'Honneur for best Female was just great.

Also, our “Gasti” (Gastibelza de L'Oustaou de Padel) took a very nice 3rd excellent in Champion Male and later we were invited by Agnes Audibert (his breeder) to be one of the 4 dogs to represent her breeding in the Lot d'Elevage (Breeder's competition) which we won.

Liz Lewis and “Geordi”, a half-brother to Gasti was also invited to be part of the team and I know Liz was also very proud to be asked to take part.

We enjoyed our final couple of days visiting the local village markets and stocking up on the local mountain honey (which is like no other), as well as having a couple of picnics up in the mountains with David and Pat and the dogs, just chilling out in the warm September sun and thinking about our return next year.



**Eion Flint
(Sandytrail Pyrenean Sheepdogs)**

Side note from Vicky Wilford

A really big 'Thank You' must go to Lynn Graham who spent a lot of time and effort taking lots of lovely photographs of our dogs over the whole weekend. Cheers, lots of nice memories for us all.....



PSD Club of GB

Members Results

Argeles Gazost 2019

Saturday 14th September 2019 (Tests/Agility)

1.NHAT (Natural Herding Aptitude Test – M. Jaunin)

Sandytrail Chimene (Tabi) owned by Benne Newman
Pass

Sandytrail Stargazer (Neon) owned by Vikki Lucas
Pass Excellent +

Oonagh de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Roland & Christel Merckx
Van Den Bosch
Pass

Sandytrail Starstruck (Pixie) owned by Vikki Lucas
Adjourned

Sandytrail Sorceror (Marley) owned by Eion & Shane Flint
Adjourned

Sandytrail Magic Noire (Madge) owned by Eion & Shane Flint
Adjourned

2. Championnat d'Agility

Nimbus Blue des Monts du Nord owned by Lynn Graham
4th Categorie B

Ignations des Forges de Thor owned by Lynn Graham
9th Categorie B

3. Test de Comportement (M. Pecoult)

Iffa Noire des Forges de Thor at Cavronscourt owned by Vicky Wilford
20/20 pass Excellent

Sunday 15th September 2019 (Breed Show)

Pyrenean Sheepdogs (Poil Long)

Intermediate Males (Mme. Reilhac)

Sandytrail Stargazer (Vikki Lucas)

Tres Bon

Open Males (Mme. Reilhac)

Sandytrail Sorceror (Eion & Shane Flint)

Tres Bon

Champion Males (Mme. Reilhac)

Gastibelza de l'Oustaou de Padel (Eion & Shane Flint)

3rd Excellent

Veteran Males (M. Capel)

Geordi de l'Oustaou de Padel (Liz Lewis)

Excellent

Junior Females (M. Cape)

Sandytrail Starstruck (Vikki Lucas)

Excellent

Oonagh de l'Oustaou de Padel (Christel & Roland Merckx – Van Den Bosch)

Excellent

Travail Females (M. Moings)

Jolie-Joyeuse de l'Oustaou de Padel (Veerle Vlerick)

Excellent

Champion Females (M. Moings)

Sandytrail Ensorcele (Eion & Shane Flint)

1st Excellent

Queen Erica of Nobel's Kingdom (Carmen Cleenwerck, Severino Verscheure)

3rd Excellent

Pyrenean Sheepdogs (Face-Rase)

Champion Females (M. Moings)

Iffa Noire des Forges de Thor at Cavrancourt (Vicky Wilford)

1st Excellent



Your Club Needs You !

“Sheep Herding - the working Style of the PSD” & Club AGM.

Following on from our successful 2019 AGM format your Club Committee cordially invites you to a review and presentation on “Sheep Herding and the working style of the PSD”. This is an opportunity to come along and hear about the working origins of the breed and to understand how the unique temperament, size and physical qualities have evolved to work sheep in the mountains of the Pyrenees. The presentation will include photographs and video clips of dogs working.

We are keen to encourage as many members as possible to come along to our AGM on the 22nd February 2020 but we do appreciate that for many it is a long journey to make for what is typically about an hour's AGM meeting. We hope that the addition of our presentation and the opportunity to meet your committee, who will be providing a complimentary hot soup and sandwich lunch, will encourage you to come along on the 22nd.

As planning for numbers will be important. All we ask is that you let us know if you will or will not be joining us. Hope to see you there.

Contact Kim Randall or Eion Flint to confirm.]

Date and Venue:

Saturday 22nd February 2020

10.30am - 1.30 pm approx.

At Swannington Village Hall

Swannington, Leics, LE67 8QL

KC BREED RECORDS SUPPLEMENT

IMPORTATIONS

SAVENTE DU PIC DE PIOULOU (IMP BEL) (LOSH1287546). b.
26/03/19. c. Fawn. Br. Veerle Vlerick & Eddy Van Pelt; Des Haies De
Chens Verts – Kesha Du Pic De Pioulou (ATCAP00736BEL): ow. Ms J
Stevens; origin Belgium

TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

NORLYGHT SATU JUTA, AQ3. From Mrs C E Brown & Mr C J & Mrs P
M Such to Mr C J & Mrs P M Such

JOINT KC/BVA HIP DYSPLASIA SCHEME

LOTHIRIEL DU MOURIOCHE (IMP DEU) (Fidget)

AU4 RH5 /LH 4

Total : 9 (06/09/2019)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OPEN SHOW – Next year's show will be in Normanton on Soar Village Hall ,
Leics, LE12 5HB on Sunday 14th June 2020. Judge Bridgette Bodle

DISCOVER DOGS Many thanks to everyone who helped man the breed booth at
Discover Dogs in October at the Excel Centre, London. Two very busy days.

Crufts 2020 is from 5th -8th March. Pastoral breeds being shown on Saturday 7th
March 2020. As usual we need as much help as possible to man the breed booth over
the four days. Lets show everyone how wonderful our dogs.

Car Park and entrance tickets are provided each day by the Kennel Club as is a sum of
money to be shared between helpers to cover food and drinks etc. At least one com-
mittee member will be present each day to provide support.

If you can help, or would like further information about what is involved please con-
tact Sara Hawkswell sara@dynamicdogs.uk

My weekend in Argelès-Gazost

Bonjour my name is Geordi and I would like to tell you about my weekend in Argelès-Gazost. On Thursday 12th September I drove with Liz and Chris from our house in France to Argelès-Gazost. After we had checked into our hotel, we walked up into the centre of town to have a beer. We were soon joined by Aunty Christel and Uncle Roland and their dogs, my good friend Faysse and their new dog Oonagh. I was so pleased to see them all as I hadn't seen them for a long time and it was good to meet Oonagh.

After catching up with all the news, we went back to the hotel for dinner. The lady at the hotel said that I could go into the restaurant. I usually stay in the car while Liz and Chris eat, but they said that as long as I didn't get too excited I could go with them.

Sitting at the table next to us was an old lady, Régine, who was on her own. Being a polite dog, I had to say "Hello" to her. She seemed to like me and she stroked me a lot. Régine was interested to know that I am French but live in England. She said that it must be unusual for a dog to speak two languages. When Liz explained that I also speak Flemish, the old lady thought this was really funny and she started to giggle. Liz also spoke to some French people in the restaurant who also had Pyrenean Sheepdogs



with them.

The next morning we went up to Lac d'Estaing, which is one of my favourite places, to do a walk organised by the Belgian club. A lot of people had gathered to do the walk and we met up with quite a few members of the British club and also more of our Belgian friends. We chose to do the longer walk. There were lots of Pyrenean Sheepdogs around, but somehow we seem to recognise our own breed and we all got on well together. After the walk, Stan had opened his bar and we all had drinks and nibbles before having lunch at the café. When we got back to Argelès, Chris met Eion and David in the park to reserve some space for the Anglo/Belgian camp. In the evening, we went to Stan and Dora's gîte for more drinks and nibbles before going back to the hotel. We sat next to Régine again and she was pleased to see me.



Saturday was the first day of the Nationale d'Elévage events. The third Championnat d'Agility was taking place all day. The Test de Comportement (which is a test of a dog's sociability) and the NHAT (National Herding Aptitude Test) were taking place throughout the day. As we were not participating in any of those we had a fairly relaxed day. Liz used the opportunity to catch up with the many people that she has got to know over the years. While we were walking round the park, a boy with special needs came up to me to stroke me. When he sat on the grass, I sat on his knee and he really enjoyed that.

Towards the end of the afternoon, Uncle Roland, Aunty Christel and their dogs came back to our hotel for a beer. At about 6pm we went back to the park to wait for the parade to start. The parade takes place every year, when the owners and dogs participating in the show, walk from the Parc de Casino up to a square in the town where they are welcomed by the Mayor of Argeles and a representative of the Tourist Board. The parade was supposed to start at 6.30 and we waited and waited but there was no

sign of anything happening. Eventually we decided to walk up to the town. On the way, we met some fellow club members who told us that the parade had started at 5.30! This was disappointing to say the least. At dinner we sat next to Régine again and she enjoyed stroking me.



We had to be up quite early on Sunday morning as it was the day of the show. However, Liz was quite worried about me, as I didn't seem to want to walk. We went for a short walk but I still wasn't moving properly. Liz was concerned as I was in Veteran Male class, which was one of the first classes. When we went back to the park after breakfast, Liz walked me up and down and massaged and stretched my leg and it seemed to get better. I had also made friends

with a very nice American couple called Beth and John and they were very interested to watch my progress in the show. All four Pyrenean Breeds are represented at the Nationale. These are the Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired and Face Rase), the Pyrenean Mountain Dog and their Spanish equivalents, the Catalan Sheepdog and the Pyrenean Mastiff.

Our judge was M Richard Capel. Before he started judging he told the public round the ring that he was always honoured to judge a Veteran class. He told them that in our breed, even though we are classed as Veteran at the age of eight, that in no way would

we behave like old dogs and that we would remain active until at least the age of twelve. There were just four of us in the class. Liz was pleased with the way I behaved in the ring as I don't do much showing. They only place to first in the Veteran class and the class was won by Fidji de l'Oustaou de Padel owned by Severine Chomant. I was graded Excellent.



Having done our work we could then relax, but all around us in the Anglo/Belgian camp, people were coming and going as they took dogs in the ring and brought them back again before taking another dog. As is the custom in France, everything stopped for lunch. During this time, Agnès Audibert, my breeder, came to ask if Liz would take me into the Ring d'Honneur in the afternoon as part of a Lot d'Elevage (a breeders group). This was to be a group of de l'Oustaou de Padel dogs who all have the same father, that being Courtal-Caussou. Liz was very honoured that we had been asked to do this.

The first event in the Ring d'Honneur when proceedings recommenced, was the parade of people who had come from abroad. I think this must have been the biggest number of British people that I've seen in the parade and Jean-Bernard Moings commented that it must be an exodus! Soon after the parade, we were in the ring, with Agnès handling





Labitarelle, Eion with Gastibelza, Christel with Oonagh and Liz and myself. We did win, but we were the only group!

Once the groups, pairs and couples had been judged, we got down to the serious business of the afternoon, starting the process of finding the Best in Show. This year that honour went Mignon du Pic d'Espade bred and owned by Norbert Gainche.

That evening we didn't sit at the table next to Régine as Agnès, Uncle Roland, Aunty Christel, Marie-Anne and Rudy were eating with us. I did go to say Bonsoir to Régine before Chris put me in the car while they all ate.

Once again everyone agreed that the Nationale had been a great success. The weather was good, if a little too hot on Sunday afternoon, friendships were made and renewed and most importantly we celebrated our lovely Pyrenean breeds. I'm sure Liz and Chris will take me again next year.

One strange thing is that normally dogs are not allowed in the Parc de Casino, but for two days every year the Parc is full of dogs and the local people take full advantage of being able to walk their dogs in the Parc.

A la prochaine,

Geordi

From our friends Overseas ...

I have sent you some pictures of my female who competed at the National show in Argelès, France in September.

Her full name is : Jolie-Jouyeuse De L'Oustaou De Padel . She became first in working class.



In the news

**Etta Achieves her KC bronze puppy
Award -owned by Jen Stephens**



**Welcome Wicket
owned by Hannah Beardshall**



Notterts Raven



Pixie

**Best Puppy at Birmingham Championship
show**



**Congratulations to all that attended the National d'élevage of
Pyrenean breeds in Argeles gazost in September including one
of our overseas members**

**Severino Verscheure with Queen Erica of nobel's kingdom 3exc
champion females**



Notterts Meeko continues to impress with his winning agility and flyball

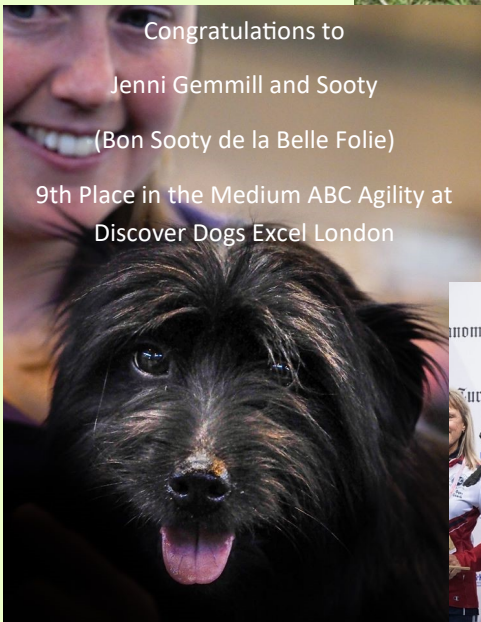


Smidge Best Puppy at Blackpool Championship show



Happy 2nd Birthday

Norlyght Silhouette of Amienko



Congratulations to Jenni Gemmill and Sooty (Bon Sooty de la Belle Folie)

9th Place in the Medium ABC Agility at Discover Dogs Excel London

Czech Republic Medium Team take overall silver at the FCI Agility World Championships



Championship Show Schedule 2020

Show Dates - PSD Classes

Show	Location	Judge	Date
Boston	Peterborough	Sue Bird	9 January
Manchester	Stafford	Alan Mease	17 January
Crufts	NEC	Dr T Jakkel	7 March
WPBAW	Builth Wells	TBC	18 April
National	Stafford	Barry Blunden	8 May
Bath	Bath	TBC	22 May
3 Counties	Malvern	TBC	4 June
Blackpool	Blackpool	TBC	28 June
Windsor	Windsor	TBC	2 July
East of England	Peterborough	TBC	12 July
NWPBS	Malvern	TBC	11 July
Leeds	Harewood	TBC	25 July
Paignton	Exeter	TBC	3 August
PSD Club show	Normanton on Soar	Bridgette Bodle	14 June
WKC	Builth Wells	TBC	22 August
Birmingham	Stoneleigh	TBC	5 September
Richmond	Guildford	TBC	13 September
Darlington	Ripon	TBC	20 September
SWKA	Builth Wells	TBC	11 October
WPBAS	Edinburgh	TBC	7 November