

Spring 2019

PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG



The Newsletter of the
Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of Great Britain

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

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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

I thought I would take a moment here to abuse my position to sing the praises of just a few of my fellow committee members who routinely go above and beyond in a totally unpaid capacity in the service of the club all in the interest of this fantastic breed.

Committee members have undergone major surgery, supported their family on Hospital visits, have driven hundreds of miles to attend Committee meetings. They have spent untold hours researching aspects of the breeds from a Breed stock and Health perspective. They have organised the Rescue of PSD at risk and have given homes to those dogs.

The Committee have prepared and carried food from their homes hundreds of miles to welcome members and Committee members to AGMs.

In short I consider myself privileged to work within such a group and I am sure that you share my grateful thanks for all that they do.

Carl Stretton

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BITS n BOBS from the Secretary

DISCOVER DOGS AT CRUFTS

Thanks to all the people and their dogs who gave up their time to help out on the Discover Dogs stand at Crufts and make it a success. So many good comments from people who got to meet our wonderful Pyreneans.

If you would like try a couple of hours on a Discover Dogs stand the next one will be at the Excel Centre in London on 12th & 13th October 2019.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BREED APPRECIATION DAY

SUNDAY 31ST MARCH 2019. Bearley Village Hall, Snitterfield Road, Bearley, Stratford, CV37 0SR. Breed talk / Interactive Group Discussion. Multiple Choice Exam which meets the JCF Level 2 judging qualification. Spaces limited contact Eion Flint at Sandytrail@btinternet.com

FUN DAY

Our Fun Day this year is Sunday 30th June 2019 at Bearley Village Hall, Snitterfield Road, Bearley, Stratford, CV37 0SR. Lots to do, starting with a walk with activities during the afternoon for you to try – Hoopers, Scurry and a small Agility section plus the usual fun and games.

OPEN SHOW

Sunday 30th June 2019 also at Bearley Village Hall in the morning. Come along and have a go at showing. Schedules can be obtained from Kim.randall789@gmail.com

BEACH WALK

Our beach walk will be at Old Hunstanton Beach on Sunday 29th September 2019. Meeting in the car park. Lovely sandy beach with plenty of room for the Pyreneans to run and play in the rock pools. Afterwards at the Beach café on the cliffs for refreshments. Great time for everyone and the dogs to get together and chat.

Crufts—A First Timers account

We had an early start for Neon and Pixie's first Crufts and my first time doing breed showing there. When we arrived it was very busy as you'd expect and we had a bit of difficulty finding our benches- the scale of breed showing just for the Pastoral group alone is huge! We got set up and the dogs settled. We were anticipating being in the ring around 2 pm but the day still went really quickly. There was such a lovely atmosphere around the benches with club members from the UK and Belgium relaxing and chatting. I also took the dogs for a walk around the halls and did a bit of shopping.

About half an hour before we were due in the ring I gave both dogs a last brush down and put their new leather show leads on and we were ready to go. Neon was the first dog in and he went so well. He took it all in his stride and just loved the atmosphere. He wasn't phased by it at all. He won best junior Male and I was so pleased with him. Then it was Pixie's turn. She was a bit overwhelmed by it all but she's only 7 months so plenty of time for her to gain some more confidence at other shows. She placed third in puppy bitch.

We popped back again on Sunday to man the Discover Dogs Breed stand. It was a very busy day with a constant crowd of people at the stand really interested in meeting the dogs and chatting about the breed. Both Neon and Pixie did really well and enjoyed meeting lots of new people along with Blue and Marley. Overall we had an action packed Crufts and really enjoyed ourselves. We will definitely be back again next year.



Vikki Lucas and Sandytrail Stargazer (Neon)

Well the AGM season and Crufts are behind us and Spring is just around the corner. I am sure you are all looking forward to the year ahead with your “petit Pyreneans” and I really do hope that we can attract more of you to get out and join us in our various club activities as the year progresses. Just a few things to draw your attention to in this edition of the magazine

AGM 2019.

I would just like to thank all those members that came to our AGM in February. Along with committee I think we had 24/25 attendees this year, one of our best turnouts. We have had some great feedback and I think the delicious soup and sandwiches and gateaux/cakes went down a treat and set everybody up to enjoy the presentation focusing on our breed archives and reviewing some of the key dogs that have been around in the UK over the last 25 years or so. Sara Hawkswell also set up a merchandise table with lots of “old” stock at absolute rock bottom prices and I think everyone went home with a few bargains. The atmosphere and energy was very positive. As a committee we were keen to reach out to club members and we were so pleased with the response. A formula that I think we need to repeat

Crufts 2019

I am conscious that this edition of the magazine has included a lot of coverage of Crufts but I just wanted to add my own congratulations to Rebecca and Katie Robson who won Best of Breed in the breed showing competition with Hera (Sandytrail Scheherazade). Young Hera didn’t put a foot wrong all day, moved beautifully and did the breed proud. Equally I would like to congratulate Adam Stretton who with his Face Rase, Finn (Tottakai Von Olla Valopilku) won this year’s YKC Large ABC agility final with a fantastic performance. The grapevine also tells me that Adam has also recently received two offers to

study medicine at his desired Uni's so double congratulations to him. His star is shining pretty bright at the moment. Also big congratulations to Jenni Gemmill and Sooty (Bon Sooty de La Belle Folie) who ran two fantastic clear rounds in the ABC medium agility final and was fast enough to take a very creditable 5th place overall.

Club Fun Day and Breed Open Show

Finally just a reminder to get the 30th June into your diaries and make that commitment to get along to our two main summer events. Obviously we would like to encourage as many people as we can to come along to both events but if showing isn't for you then do make sure to come to the Fun Day, we really are planning some great "have a go" and competitive activities with prizes as well as an overall "Dog of the day" award.



If competition isn't for you then come along and enjoy the walk and picnic lunch and catch up with other Pyrenean owners, compare experiences of our wonderful breed and show your dogs off in our fun novelty classes. Either way we would love to see you and your dogs.

Eion Flint
Chairman

DISCOVER DOGS - CRUFTS

The Pyrenean Sheepdog stand at Discover Dogs was already up and running when we arrived on Thursday 7th March as Sara Hawkswell had spent the previous day putting everything together.



Scrumpy joined his sister Roue (accompanied by Cathy Batt) and Smidge (accompanied by Sara Hawkswell) on the stand, though all they wanted to do in the beginning was play rather than the important job of promoting the Pyrenean Sheepdog.



They soon settled down with only an occasional play here and there through out the day.



They all did a smashing job especially as Smidge was only 7th months old.

There was a steady stream of visitors and some seemed to be genuinely interested in the breed



but think the majority just wanted a cuddle.

We left the NEC getting on for five pm after having a very enjoyable day.

Julie and John Farrar

Well done to all that supported the Discover Dogs Stand at CRUFTS You all do a fantastic job in promoting the breed to the wider public.



Getting people out into the show ring with their Pyreneans still continues to be a bit of a struggle. It is difficult to really understand why this is as we have some really nice dogs out there that should be seen and could do really well. I know that costs and travel are a concern for many but when I talk to potential newcomers they seem daunted by the overall number of shows that are around and getting to all the major Championship shows that offer breed classes (about 18 in all) would require a small bank loan for most people. Very few if any people try to get out to all the major shows however and if you are really just starting out a more realistic plan would be to support your local Open Shows. There are lots in a short drive time for most people and getting out to 5 or 6 over the year is a great training ground and gives you a chance to decide if you and your dog enjoy it. If you can also get out to one or two Championship shows as well then you have the chance to qualify your dog for Crufts which is such a great day out and an experience not to be missed. Qualifying for Crufts only requires a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in a championship class which is very achievable given the small numbers at most shows.

The Club's own annual Open Show is also a great place to start. There are loads of classes for every age and experience with some really nice trophies and rosettes on offer and of course you are in good company with lots of other PSD owners that can offer advice and tips on competing in the show ring. This years show is on the 30th June at Bearley the same date and location as the club's Fun Day. Check out the Club's Website or Facebook page for the details.

If anyone is thinking about showing their PSD but not sure where to start then I am more than happy to help or advise. Even if you would just like to talk things through then why not give me a call on 01751432599 or e-mail me on sandytrail@btinternet.com

Just a few highlights to mention:

Really great to see Sylvia Morgan back out in the show ring after an absence of about 7 or 8 years. Sylvia and her new pup Suzie have been making their presence felt at a number of open shows in the Newark/Grantham area with some very nice placings. Sylvia and Suzie have also qualified for Crufts this year.

Club member Veerle Vlerick and her PSD Jade who live in Belgium have just represented the breed in the annual CGA Show held in Paris. This is a top French show only for French bred dogs and participation is only by invite. Jade's performance in 2018 qualified her as the top performing female PSD in Champion Classes which earned her the honour of representing the breed at this years show. Just getting there is a massive honour. Congratulations to them both.

Kim Randall and Jonathan Pattison were at Boston Champ Show in January. Although we didn't have breed classes Kim's Pixiebelle and Jonathan's Bertie really performed in some very competitive AVNSC classes. Pixie took a very creditable 2nd in Open Bitch and Jonathan's Bertie took a great 4th place in Open Dog.

Newcomer Vikki Lucas is really getting out and about with her two youngsters Neon and Pixie. Vikki really seems to have got the pyrenean bug and is shaping up to be a real all rounder. She is active with her youngsters in the show ring, early agility training and herding. They have also made a couple of trips to France for a French breed club show and the champ show at Douai in February. Both dogs have achieved really good grades and critiques from the judges and young Neon was placed Best Junior at Douai giving him his first experience of competing in the group ring. Congratulations also to young Neon who was recently awarded Top Puppy in the club's annual show points competition for 2018. Neon and Pixie have also qualified for this year's Crufts

Congratulations also to Sara Hawkswell and her new puppy Smidge who at her first outing at Manchester Champ Show in January won Best Puppy and Reserve Best Bitch qualifying her for this years Crufts. The puppy competition at Crufts is going to be really interesting and is the first time for many years that we will 3 female pups competing for the honours. Good luck to Smidge, Suzie and Pixie.

Big congratulations also go to club members Rebecca and Katie Robson and their PSD Hera who have really been setting the pace in the show ring. Hera took BOB at Manchester Champ Show in January and was awarded Top Pyrenean in the club's annual show points competition for 2018.

Just one final highlight, as I should also acknowledge that my husband Eion made the trip out to the Champ Show at Douai in February with Blue and Marley. Both dogs did really well with Marley winning Reserve Male CAC/CACIB on the Saturday and BOS and male CAC/CACIB on the Sunday. Blue went one better winning BOS and female CACIB on the Saturday and BOB and female CACIB on the Sunday. She capped off her weekend winning 3rd place in the group final.

Hope to see more of you out and about in 2019 and don't forget if you need any help just give me a call.

Shane Flint
Sandytrail Pyrenean Sheepdogs

Manchester Championship Show 2019

BEST OF BREED: 2207 ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit

Best Dog: 2198 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel (Im

Res Best Dog: 2204 LUCAS Ms V Sandytrail Stargazer

Best Bitch: 2207 ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit

Res Best Bitch: 2201 HAWKSWELL Mrs S Sandytrail Angelique

Best Puppy: 2201 HAWKSWELL Mrs S Sandytrail Angelique

Class 607 PD/B (4 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: 2201 HAWKSWELL Mrs S Sandytrail Angelique

2nd: 2205 MORGAN Mrs S J Sandytrail Suzette

3rd: 2203 LUCAS Ms V Sandytrail Starstruck

Class 608 JD/B (3 Entries) Abs: 1

1st: 2204 LUCAS Ms V Sandytrail Stargazer

Class 609 PGD/B (3 Entries) Abs: 0

1st: 2196 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Entre Nous Romance Sans Paroles (Fin Imp)

2nd: 2202 KEABLE Mrs P L Sawara Echo Beach

Class 610 OD/B (5 Entries) Abs: 2

1st: 2207 ROBSON, Mrs R E & ROBSON Miss K L Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrit

2nd: 2198 FLINT Mrs S & Mr E Bel & Fin Ch Gastibelza De L' Oustaou De Padel (Imp)

3rd: 2208 SUCH Mr C J & Mrs P M Norlyght Biassono

Boston Championship Show

AVNSC

Open - Dog

Entries: 9 Absentees: 0

1st: CH VI'SKALY'S MY WAY OR NO WAY TO CHANDLIMORE (IMP SWE) Breed: Pyrenean Mountain Dog

2nd: CH GLENCHESSE GREGORY Breed: Finnish Lapphund

3rd: STARVON CRYPTIC SPYDA Breed: Swedish Vallhund

Res: **KIMRAND MASTER BERTIE Breed: Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired) (MR J PATTISON)**

VHC: GRANCHESTER IMOULOU Breed: Pyrenean Mountain Dog

Open - Bitch

Entries: 7 Absentees: 3

1st: CH OWAINGLYNDWR AUTUMNAL BREZ Breed: German Shepherd Dog

2nd: **KIMRAND PIXIE BELLE Breed: Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired) (MR F J & MISS K RANDALL)**

3rd: SUZDANS CHRISTMAS CRACKER Breed: German Shepherd Dog

Res: KINTARO CATALONIA Breed: German Shepherd Dog

Hera Bera Bobtail's journey to Crufts BOB 2019

I don't mean to bore everyone but I must start from the beginning.

I first saw Hera when Shane and Eion posted a photo on FB. She caught my eye and looked so alert and mischievous I fell in love immediately. I asked my family and they all agreed Hera was the next PSD for us. We met her at six weeks old and she was exactly how I had expected, curious, content and independent.

After bringing Hera home she built a strong bond with our family. She is the most affectionate PSD we have ever had.

I took Hera with me everywhere so she could explore her world. She loved everything, sometimes she might be a little hesitant but I could reassure her and she would soldier on. At puppy classes she quickly became the favourite of the trainer because she was so quick to learn. At ring craft I noticed she had a real flare for being centre of attention. I have to mention York Canine Society here because their ring craft was perfect for Hera, they built up her confidence and encouraged Hera's extrovert side. Hera won a BP in Match before 6 months old, simply because the judge couldn't resist her cheeky face. Hera had a fantastic 2017 in the puppy classes, she took 11 Best Puppy awards and 6 Puppy Group places. She was given the Rozimba Cup for her achievements.

2018 went at a steady pace because Hera was out of puppy and had to show off with the 'adults'.

Hera coped admirably even after a horrible scare at Leeds Champ show when the tent appeared to come alive and try to gobble her up. Hera claimed 6 BOB, 4 at Champ shows and she got a Group 3 and a Group 1 at Open shows. Hera was really enjoying being in the limelight and now when she hears the cameras clicking she turns her head towards them with her cutest take me home face.

Hera loves to run on the beach and climb in the dunes, she races in and out of the sea at great speed and zooms into the distance then comes tearing back, this is all part of her fitness programme. Hera has learnt to follow the car down the farm track at trot but occasionally veers off to chase birds, hares and Brutus around the fields.

Hera's last show in 2018 was W&PB in Scotland, where she had another terrible scare 5 minutes before going in the breed class. This time a metal cage came alive and captured a dog then collapsed with the dog inside and made it scream, people were running and shouting, Hera was terrified and climbed onto her dad's shoulder out of harm's way. I persuaded Hera that she would be ok when we went in the ring and having mustered all her courage she stepped out beautifully. For Hera's achievements in 2018 she was awarded the Keltara Plate.

Just before Xmas we moved house which meant our showing schedule was put on hold until Manchester 2019 where her sparkle shone and she was awarded BOB.

The rest had done Hera the world of good, she was back to her usual cheeky self.

The weeks flew by and Crufts sneaked upon us. Hera must have felt the excitement as Katie and I started gathering all we would need, in fact Hera was feeling so proud of herself she would strut past Brutus (age 9) and if he didn't acknowledge her she would spin round and stab him with her bobtail, then he would chase her round the sitting room. I normally feel very anxious when getting ready for Crufts but this year I was content that I would be able to spend all day with Hera.

Crufts is an amazing event and each year when walking into the halls, I feel privileged to be there with my dogs. The atmosphere is electric, the hustle and bustle usually fuels my anxiety but this time I felt serene as Katie guided us to our benches. We chatted to friends and made new acquaintances and it felt like an eternity before our classes were called.

The chitchat dwindled, dogs were prepared and all eyes were on the ring listening for our classes. The Dogs were in first and I felt a flutter in my stomach, it was Hera's turn soon, the whole year concentrated down into about 15 minutes. I kept rummaging in my bag, I don't know what for, but it helped somehow. Hera's class was called and as we trotted in all the other PSD girls appeared and I have to say my heart sank a little. Hera couldn't have cared less, she was so easy and confident and knew her job was to enjoy herself. I didn't have any expectations, I was just thrilled to be running with my gorgeous girl on the green carpet. I see her every day either in the fields or on the beach and it's almost impossible to imagine her stepping out competitively at Crufts yet there we were. Years ago I remember feeling so proud that my dog had qualified for Crufts I wanted to shout it from the tree tops. This was another one of those days, when the judge pulled Hera out 1st I was absolutely over the moon, I couldn't stop smiling, maybe I curtsied, I don't know but Hera was so cool I had to pull myself together. Yes Hera had shown her socks off and won, now I could go and faint back at the benches. No it was not yet over, oh crumbs I thought, well something like that, the challenge for Best of Breed, against Hera's handsome brother Marley. Hera had a 50/50 chance and she managed to tip the odds in her favour this time. By now my mouth was dry and I felt like I had run a marathon but adrenaline kept me upright. The congratulations and the photos were a bit of a blur so I am extremely grateful to everyone and thank you. Hera was to go to be in the Pastoral group next and it felt surreal. Eion Flint gave me a grounded description of how, when, what, where and good luck which helped me to focus my mind.

Back stage of the main arena we had a vet check and then I sent Katie off to have the official Photos taken. When the working group came out we were asked to line up and some deafening music came on. Hera jumped out of her skin and started shaking, Katie had to walk with us to stop Hera spinning and having a panic attack. We got nearer to the 'stage' door, the music stopped and they announced the breeds, we strode out across the carpet and a camera clicked, the crowd clapped and Hera was in her element. It was the most amazing feeling, the carpet was cushioned and our movement felt smooth and light. The time flew to our turn and Hera was so willing and happy to perform that I was able to cherish every second. We stayed over night so we could spend the next morning on the Discover Dogs stand. That was a fantastic experience, Hera and Marley got lots of cuddles and strokes and Katie enjoyed talking about the breed to everyone. It was a superb weekend and we owe a huge thank to the PSD club committee and volunteers and especially Shane and Eion Flint for our wonderful Hera Bera Bobtail who has a warm heart and a truly courageous soul. **Rebecca Robson**







CRUFTS 2019

HOOPERS

Last September saw Scrumpy passing his Bronze Good Hoopers Award.

For those that have not heard of Hoopers, Hoopers is a low impact activity, a free flowing set course through hoops, round barrels and through short tunnels.



Unlike agility there are no contacts or tight turns, so ideal for the older dogs as well as the youngsters.

If you have a chance, give it a go

Julie Farrar



The Nationale d'Elevage will take place in Argelès-Gazost on 14th and 15th September 2019

The 3rd Championnat de France RACP Agility will take place on Saturday 14th Sept.

Judging of all four Pyrenean breeds will take place on Sunday 15th Sept.

More information and entry forms can be found on the RACP website www.chiens-des-pyrenees.com

BREED INFORMATION

Transfers of Ownership

SANDYTRAIL SUZETTE, From Mr M W & Mrs
M T Graham to Mrs S J Morgan



Importation

OSLO DE LA PASTORES (SCCLOF36197/0), D, 01/04/18, C. Fawn, br. Mr & Mrs
Bedu. Heas De La Devette Pastourelle – Jaout De La Mesta Pastores : ow – Mr D J
Wright, origin - France

Joint KC/BVA Hip Dysplasia Scheme

SAWARA ECHO BEACH AT4 RH 6 /LH 6 Total 12 (06/11/18)

Joint KC/BVA Elbow Dysplasia Scheme

SAWARA ECHO BEACH AT4 – 0 (06/11/18)

Quarterly KC PSD Registrations

	1 st Qtr	2 nd Qtr	3 rd Qtr	4 th Qtr	Total
2017	7	0	1	9	17
2018	0	0	5	1	6

Number of Registrations over the last 6 years

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
12	26	13	11	9	17	6

THE PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON SATURDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 2019 AT SWANNINGTON VILLAGE HALL, MAIN STREET, SWANNINGTON

The Chairman opened the meeting at 10.44am

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Peter Bacon, Jean & Steve Rose, Jono & Emma Slack, Margaret Challens, Cynthia Milnes, Jane Peacock, Mary Abbot. Mick & Mary Doherty, Alan Turner, Shane Flint, Rebecca & Katie Robson and Jenni Gemmill

MINUTES OF THE 2018 AGM

The minutes were read and agreed as a true record. Proposer Sara Hawkswell and seconded by Chris Lewis

MATTER ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Eion Flint read his report to the meeting (see pages 22 and 23)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Di Newton presented the Auditors report to the meeting. We have £2,511.69 in the bank on 22/2/2019.

Vicky Wilford acknowledged the auditor's report and thanked the treasurer for good management of the financial affairs of the club

Di mentioned that membership money was down by £161 with only 70 members but that the increased fees had helped.

Eion Flint mentioned that the funds in the bank included the rescue funds. Di added that not all members had renewed their membership yet. Liz Lewis commented that this was normal for the time of year. Carla Senkpiehl commented that is difficult to get hold of members. There was a general concern that membership was in decline and the actual number of households had declined. Eion pointed out that some of the members were judges and do not have a PSD and were therefore unlikely to attend events. There was general agreement that we need to be proactive in improving the membership in 2019.

Teresa Stretton said it was sometimes difficult to fill in forms so could they not be available on the website to complete. Eion pointed out that a signed renewal form was the only place members signed up to the Clubs constitution and rules. Eion also confirmed that the membership renewal form did include the Clubs Bank Account details which allowed members to pay by direct Bank transfer. Sara Hawkswell confirmed that online payment for membership would be included when the merchandise shop is added to the website.

John Farrar suggested writing individually letters to past members

Acceptance of accounts. Proposer Jonathan Pattison and seconded by Chris Lewis

ELECTION OF CLUB AUDITORS FOR 2019

Lorraine Phelps is prepared to continue as Auditor. This was proposed by Sara Hawkswell and seconded by Chris Lewis

ANNOUNCE THE NAMES OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

Kim Randall to remain as Secretary and Di Newton as Treasurer

A nomination to join the committee was received from Vikki Lucas. Proposed by Shane Flint and seconded by Sara Hawkswell. As no other nominations Eion welcomed Vikki onto the committee.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

The Chairman Eion Flint presented the following Trophies and Certificates

The Kelltara Trophy for the most Showing Points was won by Sandytrail Scheherazade owned by Rebecca & Katie Robson. They were unable to attend so trophy will be presented at Crufts. Sandytrail Sorcerer owned by

Eion & Shane Flint was second and third Gastibelza de L'Oustaou de Padel.

The Rozimba Cup for Best Puppy was won by Sandytrail Stargazer owned by Vikki Lucas.

The Durendal Fidele Trophy for Agility points was won by Notterts Al Fa Black Beauty owned by Teresa Stretton handled by Adam Stretton. Second was Tottakai Voin Olla Valopikku owned by Teresa Stretton, handled by Carl Stretton.

DISCOVER DOGS

Sara said we have enough help for Crufts 2019.

Eion asked if all those manning the stand had everything they required to support them in representing the breed. Generally it was discussed that it would be helpful to have a Briefing sheet available for anyone manning the stand with info such as number of members / details on other clubs and key points about the breed that could be included in a general FAQ sheet.

Klaus Senkphiel thought that taking the dogs that are most social dogs to the Discover Dogs stand is giving the wrong impression to people discovering the breed for the first time as not all dogs are the same and some are more likely to be a bit standoffish. This needed to be taken into account in considering future manning of stand and would be reflected in a new updated Breed information sheet to be available on the stand this year.

Liz Lewis pointed out that after Brexit bringing in puppies might be more difficult.

Klaus thought that the Club should be more proactive in recommending good breeders and where people might be able to get puppies from abroad. There was a general discussion around recommending breeders abroad and whether the club should make recommendations or just provide information. Eion suggested it was always a difficult position for the club to make recommendations as it potentially can be interpreted that the club is providing a guarantee or advice. Eion felt that the club should help identify breeders abroad and share relevant information but stop short of making actual recommendations. It was important that potential owners took responsibility for their own research and decisions. Teresa Stretton said that more dogs were being brought in from abroad for Agility.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and invited everyone to stay for lunch and a presentation on our breed archives. The meeting closed at 11.45

Kim Randall (Secretary)

SHOWING POINT AWARDS FOR 2018

KELTARA TROPHY

1st Sandytrail Scheherazade (Hera) 256 points – Owned by Rebecca & Katie Robson



2nd Sandytrail Sorcerer (Marley) 130 points – Owned by Shane & Eion Flint

3rd Gastibelza de L'Oustaou de Padel 98 points – Owned by Shane & Eion Flint

Rozima Trophy

1st Sandytrail Stargazer 26 points – Owned by Vikki Lucas



AGILITY POINTAWARDS FOR 2018

DURENDAL FIDELE TROPHY



1st Notterts Al Fa Black Beauty 191 points – Owned by Teresa Stretton And Joint Handled with Adam Stretton

2nd Tottakai Voin Olla Valopilkkku 128 points – Owned by Teresa Stretton Handled by Carl Stretton



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE AGM 2019

I would just like to welcome everyone to our 2019 AGM and to say that it is very pleasing to see such a positive turnout at this year's meeting.

In terms of last year, 2018 saw major changes to your committee with the retirement of our long standing Chairman and Secretary Chris and Liz Lewis and at our very first committee meeting, following last year's AGM, our immediate focus was to re-allocate a number of key activities around other committee members. Kim Randall took on the core role of Club Secretary and agreed to remain as Show Secretary of our Club Open Show. Carl Stretton agreed to take on the job of editor of the Club Magazine and Sara Hawkswell took responsibility for the Club's merchandising activity and also the organizing of Discover Dogs and the Club's Breed Stand. After many years of driving his wife Pat to committee meetings David Wescott finally agreed to join Committee, which was a very welcome addition. Fairly early on in the year Jenni Gemmill resigned from committee due to pressure of work and I would just like to thank Jenni for her past contribution. Jenni always brought good energy and challenge to our debate at committee and she will be missed.

With all the committee changes and having had a heavy year in 2017 with our 25 year Celebratory Weekend it was agreed that 2018 would be a "steady as you go" year focusing on our normal range of activities.

This Year's activities began with Crufts. Thanks to all the members and their dogs who gave up their time to man the stand. The breed was again well represented in Agility and Good Citizen Obedience activities as well as in the breed ring. This year the Best of Breed went to Sandytrail Ensorcele owned and bred by my wife Shane and myself.

Also in March the new website went live on a new modern platform that gives the club the ability to update content quickly and without requiring the input of external parties and costs. At the same time we updated the Club's Facebook page and re-wrote our facebook policy and rules. Sara Hawkswell and Jonathan Pattison have been pro-active throughout 2018 administering our Facebook Group and making sure the Club's presence has been proactive and positive.

Our Club Open Show and Annual Fun Day were held as combined events in August. The venue this year was Tollerton Canine Academy just outside Nottingham. Although attendance at both events was well down on previous years the sun shone all day and I think everyone that came enjoyed their day out. For 2019 whilst we will again hold both events together, we have decided to return to our favourite location at Bearley Village Hall. We are also returning to our normal Fun Day timing at the end of June (30th June 2019). We have agreed that both events need to be managed separately in order to ensure that both are successful. Details will be forthcoming in the Magazine

and on Facebook and the Club Website.

We also ran a successful Agility Day in September as well as our annual beach walk at Old Hunstanton, organized by Jonathan. Our final activity for the year saw us manning the Discover Dogs breed stand over both days at the Excel in London. I would just like to thank John and Julie Farrar and committee members Jonathan Pattison and Kim Randall for holding the fort and making the effort to ensure that the Club and breed were well represented at this important KC event.

The Club's Newsletter (Magazine) has continued seamlessly and continues to be produced to a high professional standard under the editorship of Carl Stretton and I would just take this opportunity to thank Carl for the energy, time and professionalism that he has brought to the task. Managing the newsletter to tight production timescales when articles and contributions arrive in different styles and quality and are frequently late requires the "patience of Job". Many thanks go to Carl for a superb job.

On a personal note I would just add that some health issues in 2018 meant that I was out of action between May and September and frustratingly I missed a number of key activities and I would like to thank the whole committee for their contribution in making sure that our summer activities continued on plan.

Finally, we have much to do in 2019. For me the top priority is to ensure we reverse the decline in Club membership. It is a complex problem that is connected to our reducing breeder base and the small number of puppies being produced but we shouldn't be losing current PSD owners and there are still many owners of the breed that we have never made contact with. It will require a personal approach and a commitment to be proactive. We have plenty to go for.

The Kennel Club's new approach to training "Breed Judges" means that we have had to overhaul the Club's breed seminar and a new format Breed Appreciation Day with Exam is planned for the 31st March. This will be the first time that this has been delivered from experience and knowledge within the club.

We are also already considering a 2 day activity and camping weekend for summer 2020 much along the lines of our successful 25 year Celebration Weekend.

I would just close by thanking all our members for their continued support in 2019.

Eion Flint
Chairman

The Olympia Horse of the Year Show

Large ABC Agility Final December 2018

What a fantastic experience it was to compete in the Large dog ABC Olympia final in December 2018. I had qualified with my Dad's Face Rase Pyrenean Sheepdog Tottakai Voin Olla Valopillku (Finn) by entering and coming 3rd in one of the 8 KC Qualifiers run throughout the year, and then getting a top 10 place at the semi Final round held as part of the Kennel Club International festival at Rockingham castle at the beginning of August 2018.



Each year the qualifying and semi-finals get harder and the amount of Anything But Collie dogs has increased year upon year so I feel very privileged to have got through to the finals with two dogs. The first time was with Jet (Ginny De La Patonniere) in 2016, and I came 6th in the final so hoped to improve in 2018. The Agility Finals at Olympia alongside CRUFTS is where all agility handlers strive to qualify for, it is the top of the sport and such an experience.

The day is long and starts bright and early as we make our way down to London arriving for a 11am briefing and a warm up jumping run for the afternoon performance crowd. The crowd was electric and the noise deafening, 10,000+ people can sure make a lot of noise! Martin Cavill was the judge and had set a really good challenging but flowing course which made for an exciting event to watch. You have just 5 minutes to walk the course and be ready to run, everything is done to a strict time schedule and we are ushered in and out by Olympia Agility organiser Laura Richardson, Mum was my groom who stood inside the arena while I walked the jumping course with my fellow competitors. 10 Finalists with a mix of breeds. This year the final included: Beardies, Kelpies, Labradors, Pointers and other crossbreeds and of course Finn the Pyrenean Sheepdog. Finn and I stood at the start, with my heart racing as the noise around us increased. Finn hasn't got a very good wait so I chose

to do a running start and try and beat her to the weaves, which were set at an awkward angle, so I needed to aid her entry. She was flying as we entered the weaves and went straight in, even though she was barking at me. I was relieved, only for her to pop out of the last weave and gain 5 faults, I made her do the last pole again and we continued on the course. Even though we had 5F I was determined to get her around the course with as much enthusiasm as possible and she didn't disappoint as we finished 4th.

Now was the wait until the main event; the Agility final. A crowd had started to gather in the stands, eager for the entertainment to start. I was running 9th in the final and again Martin had set a brilliant course. The crowd was, once again, deafening in the evening event and Finn was certainly up for running even though it had been a long day.

Running as the penultimate dog has its advantages, but as nobody had done a clear round before me, the pressure was on. She started off brilliantly and as you can see from the picture, I had to really push Finn into the weaves, something she gave me lots of verbal about. Exiting the weaves correctly this time, I stepped ahead, but we didn't quite connect, which resulted with Finn picking up a refusal at the solid pan-



elled kennel club jump. Other than that, she was spot on and finished with a blast, with a great time 45.113, and in 4th place again, which I was happy with. After the event there is a champagne reception, where I had some photographs taken. I am so proud of Finn, qualifying for Olympia, if you want a fantastic day out just before Christmas take a trip to the Olympia Horse of the year show it has everything and more, a really great day out and Christmas shopping for everyone. Finn will also be competing in the agility at CRUFTS –roll on 2019

Adam Stretton

in the news



Bon Sooty de la Belle Folie

CRUFTS Medium ABC 5th Overall

*Amazing Sooper-Sooty his first ever time in the big ring at Crufts, he was so amazing, 2 clear rounds, 6th place agility and Jumping -overall / combined result 5th place **The first of many visits to come in the big ring at CRUFTS for Jenni Gemmill and Sooty***



Ludo achieves his
scentwork level one



Mirren passes his scentwork level 5

Adam and Finn (Tottakai Voin Olla Valopiilkku) win the CRUFTS Young Kennel Club Large ABC agility



Clever boys. Magic was runner up in the 1-3 Agility points and Asti was runner up in 4-7 Agility points at our training club AGM.

Calendar



2019 Calendar



FEBRUARY 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			



www.pyreneansheepdogclub.com

CALENDAR 2019

£7.50 each (including p&p)
£14 for two (including p&p)

To order a calendar please confirm your requirement by email (to sara@dynamicdogs.uk) including the postal address and how you are paying. Payment can be made by:

- PayPal to sara@dynamicdogs.uk
- Directly to our Bank Account No: 93205053 Sort Code: 20-52-69 Please attach a screen shot of your payment confirmation so that I can mail immediately.
- By cheque – sent to Sara Hawkswell, Willowfield, Lochmaben, DG11 1SA with your cheque made payable to Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of GB

If you would like more than 2 posting please let me know how many I can confirm a total charge for you.

Crufts 2019 - Show Results

Crufts 2019 has been and gone. We had 25 dogs exhibiting in total, 8 males and 15 females made up of some quality dogs from the UK, Belgium and Czech Republic. A very international feel about the whole scene and very exciting to compete in.

Our day this year was on the Friday and activity and visitors around the benches was pretty "manic". We were last in the ring (as usual) which meant we all had a pretty long day (especially the dogs). On the upside however, it gave all of us the time to catch up with old friends and also to make some new ones. We had so many visitors wanting to meet the breed and ask questions and quite a lot of serious puppy enquiries from people that had visited last year and had come back to meet up and have a more serious discussion about potential puppies.

Our judge this year was Mr Steve Hall and he was very patient and thorough in his examination of the dogs keeping everyone on their toes. He was especially good with the puppies, giving them lots of time and I thought very gentle in his handling of the youngsters. It was so good to see, for the first time for many years, a competitive puppy class of some quality youngsters with their "newbie" handlers doing a great job. Just what the breed needs at the moment.

The Open Bitch class was a big highlight of this year's competition with 9 super quality females and those international exhibits really raising the bar. The class was very competitive with the judge asking for lots of movement from dog and handler. It was so exciting, who was going to catch the judges eye and take this important Open Bitch Class?

The judge took his time to consider all of the exhibits one more time before making his winning selections. Yes, Open Bitch went to Hera (Sandytrail Scheherazade Meslabrits) owned by Rebecca and Katie Robson. A very popular result. Hera then went on to take the Best Bitch The Dog competition had already completed and I was so pleased to win the Best Dog competition with Marley (Sandytrail Sorcerer) who fought off a strong challenge from the Junior Dog winner (Neon, Sandytrail Stargazer) and the Open Dog winner (Gastibelza de L'Oustaou de Padel, his Kennel mate from home).

So we were all set up for a great Best of Breed challenge between litter brother and sister, I couldn't have written a better script. The atmosphere was so tense and both Rebecca and myself were really feeling the pressure but the judge had no doubt and awarded his Best of Breed to young Hera who absolutely shone and demonstrated outstanding movement throughout the competition.

After a well deserved photo session and lots of advice about the Group competition and all the various KC forms to fill in Hera and Rebecca made their way to the main Arena to wait for the evening Pastoral Group final.

For the rest of us it was time to go home with lots of farewells to our international friends. A few of us did stay behind for a bite to eat and drink and to reflect on the whole exciting day before moving across to watch the big Screen in Hall 1 and to cheer on Rebecca and Hera. We all thought that they did the breed proud with young Hera looking so confident and not putting a foot wrong.

Roll on 2020! I can't wait.

Shane Flint
Sandytrail Pyrenean Sheepdogs

Crufts 2019 Results

BEST OF BREED: SANDYTRAIL SCHEHERAZADE MESLABRIT (MRS R E & MISS K L ROBSON)

Best Dog: SANDYTRAIL SORCEROR (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Res Best Dog: BEL/FIN CH GASTIBELZA DE L'OUSTAOU DE PADEL (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

Best Bitch: SANDYTRAIL SCHEHERAZADE MESLABRIT (MRS R E & MISS K L ROBSON)

Res Best Bitch: CIE CH LORELEI DU PIC DU PIOULOU [ATC AR01722BEL] (MRS M VERCOUTERE)

Best Puppy: SANDYTRAIL ANGELIQUE (MRS S HAWKSWELL)

Junior Dog

Entries: 1 Abs: 0

1st SANDYTRAIL STARGAZER (MS V L LUCAS)

Post Graduate Dog

Entries: 4 Abs: 0

1st SANDYTRAIL SORCEROR (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

2nd SANDYTRAIL COEUR DE LION (MRS J M JESSOP)

3rd KIMRAND MASTER BERTIE (MR J PATTISON)

Open Dog

Entries: 3 Abs: 0

1st BEL/FIN CH GASTIBELZA DE L'OUSTAOU DE PADEL (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

2nd INT/BEL/HOLL/SWISS/LUX CH BLUE FANG OBY-WAN [ATC AS01926BEL] (MRS CLEENWERCK)

3rd C I E CH KASPAR DE LA VIEILLE CHAPELLE [ATC AV00842AUT] (MISS K VESELA)

Veteran Bitch

1st INT/CZ/SZ CH ANTOINETTE DE L'HORIZON ETENDU [ATC AP00972DEU]

Entries: 1 Abs: 0 (MRS KOPECKA)

Puppy - Bitch

Entries: 3 Abs: 0

1st SANDYTRAIL ANGELIQUE (MRS S HAWKSWELL)

2nd SANDYTRAIL SUZETTE (MRS S MORGAN)

3rd SANDYTRAIL STARSTRUCK (MS V L LUCAS)

Junior - Bitch

1st NORLYGHT SILHOUETTE OF AMIENKO (MISS J R, MR C & MRS P

GWILLIAM & Entries: 1 Abs: 0 SUCH)

Post Graduate Bitch

Entries: 3 Abs: 1

1st ENTRE NOUS ROMANCE SANS PAROLES (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

2nd SAWARA ECHO BEACH (MRS P L KEABLE)

Open Bitch

Entries: 9 Abs: 0

1st SANDYTRAIL SCHEHERAZADE MESLABRIT (MRS R E & MISS K L ROBSON)

2nd CIE CH LORELEI DU PIC DU PIOULOU [ATC AR01722BEL] (MRS M VERCOUTERE)

3rd SWISS CH QUEEN ERICA OF NOBELÆS KINGDOM [ATC AV03092BEL] (MRS CLEENWERCK)

Res BEL/FIN CH SANDYTRAIL ENSORCELE (MR E & MRS S FLINT)

VHC CARRIE CZECH DREAMER [ATC AW00608CZE] (MRS KOPECKA)

HC BEL/NL/LUX/INT SH CH JOLIE JOYEUSE DE L'OUSTAOU DE PADEL [ATC AR01760FRA] (MR E & MRS V VAN PELT & VLERICK)

Good Citizen Dog

Scheme Bitch

Entries: 1 Abs: 0

1st NORLYGHT SEBELAS OF AMIENKO (MISS J R, MR C & MRS P

GWILLIAM & SUCH)

Pyrenean Sheepdog Club of Great Britain

Health Schemes

1. BVA / KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme

The British Veterinary Association jointly with the Kennel Club runs a scheme for X Raying and assessing Hip Structure, and recording the results for future reference.

- A Veterinary Surgeon will take X-Rays of the dogs hips, these are studied and points awarded for each of 9 aspects of the X-Rays of both hip joints.
- The points are then added up for each hip joint, and then a total combined score is arrived at. Min Score 0 - Maximum Score 106 [53 each hip]. The lower the total score number - the better.
- Each Breed has a different overall structure and so results should be compared with that Breeds Average Scores.

Pyrenean Sheepdog Long Haired - Hip Scores

It is recommended that dogs should be Hip Scored, and that individuals with results significantly above the Breed Mean should not be included in a breeding programme. [Dysplasia means abnormal development.] The ideal is to aim to breed with those around the mean score or below. The current cost for one dog scored is c.£63 plus Veterinary & X-Ray fees.

Total Tested (15 Years)	Total Tested (2018)	15 Years			5 Years	
		Mean	Range	Median	Mean	Median
89	5	12.9	3-53	11	15.3	13

2. PDA Heart Testing (Puppies)

Patent Ductus Arteriosus is when the small duct that by passes the lungs in the womb, and which becomes redundant and closes off after birth, fails to do so.

In the womb, the mothers blood supplies all nutritional and oxygen needs of the growing pup.

When it is born the lungs take over.

If the duct fails to close it decreases the efficiency of the heart.

The condition can be detected at around 4 weeks of age

The Club recommends that all puppies are tested.

For both Tests contact your Veterinary Surgeon.

Cooking for your dog – extra special treats

Liver and Garlic Bake

These are fantastic for training as your dog will adore them. They are richer than normal liver cake so cut them up really small to make them last. You will need to freeze these if you are not using them in a day or two but you can use them straight from the freezer.

Ingredients



Blended liver, garlic and gg - ready to add the flour

500g liver – use Ox or Pigs liver (lamb's liver is much dearer)

200g Flour (plain, spelt or wholemeal)

1 egg

1 clove of garlic

Method

Turn your oven on to about 180 `

Put two garlic cloves into your food mixer (no need to peel them) and blitz them up until they are finely chopped
Add the liver and chop up the liver with the garlic until you have a puree. It will go pink and smell! Try and get rid of most of the lumps but the odd one doesn't matter

Add the egg and mix again

Tip the liver mixture onto your flour and mix until all the flour has gone.

Spoon into a baking tray that you have lined with grease-proof paper and into the oven for about 20 minutes. It's ready when it has a light crust on it.

Lift out of the tray (using the greaseproof paper) and sit on a tray to cool.

Once it is cooled you need to chop into small pieces

about half a cm square. Pop them into tubs and into the freezer until you want to use it

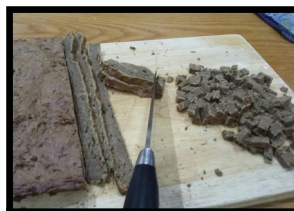
The garlic in this really makes it appetising for your dog – although poisonous in large quantities small amount like in this recipe are great for your dog. I tend to make up a double batch of this (just double all the ingredients) as it keeps for ages in the freezer. It does make your kitchen smell so open the windows when you have finished.



Liver bake batter ready to go in the oven



Liver bake - ready to cool



Chopping up liver bake into little pieces

Sara Hawkswell

Championship Show Schedule 2019

Show Dates - PSD Classes

Show	Location	Judge	Date
WPBAW	Builth Wells	R Parry	20 April
National	Stafford	J Horswell	9 May
Bath	Bath	M Purnell - Carpenter	25 May
3 Counties	Malvern	R C Kinsey	8 June
Blackpool	Blackpool	S Phillips	23 June
Windsor	Windsor	Vicky Wilford	28 June
East of England	Peterborough	TBC	5 July
NWPBS	Malvern	TBC	13 July
Leeds	Harewood	TBC	26 July
Paignton	Exeter	TBC	5 August
PSD Club show	TBC	TBC	30 June
WKC	Builth Wells	TBC	17 August
Birmingham	Stoneleigh	TBC	31 August
Richmond	Guildford	TBC	7 September
Darlington	Ripon	TBC	14 September
Driffield	Wetherby	TBC	19 September
SWKA	Builth Wells	TBC	12 October
WPBAS	Edinburgh	TBC	2 November