



ESSC SE Branch Newsletter

Home Corner...

Hello again to all our Branch members – all the committee hope that you are keeping well and managing to keep safe and sane during the new lockdown. This newsletter brings our best wishes to you and to your dogs – please do keep in touch with us.

2020 Meetings:

Unfortunately we are unable to hold any meetings this year but perhaps keep an eye in your mail boxes...

<https://www.essc-southeast.co.uk/>

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Another Training Update...

She has done it again! I am very please to announce that Quinn has gained her Canine Conditioning and Fitness Levels 1,2,3 and 4 as well as her Championship. The titles focus on five areas the dog can improve on:

- Flexibility
- Balance
- Stamina
- Coordination
- Strength.

Next up is our Stunt Dog Titles but these may have to wait until the weather improves again.



Lilian Mettan-Ure

Bake Off is Back!

With the Great British Bake Off back on TV I hope you have all been getting into the baking spirit. The veterinary practice where I work has been holding its own competition with a new person baking every time a contestant goes out. We even have our own Paul and Pru! Below is a picture of my contribution, a home made Colin the Caterpillar cake, which I am very pleased to report got a 9.5/10.

Lilian Mettan-Ure



PETS AS THERAPY – Part 2

Poppy's Story

Hi there,

Last newsletter Bella told you about her Reading Dog work. I'm Poppy and I visit the Children's Hospital in Brighton every Wednesday afternoon for chats and cuddles to the children on the medical and surgical wards. It is great fun and everyone seems to know me, saying "Hello Poppy" and giving me a stroke and that is just the staff!! We arrive at 2.00 pm and Margaret speaks to the Nurse in Charge. After that we visit the children individually. The children usually have a parent or relation with them. Sadly we know quite well some of the children . The children's eyes light up when they see me and I see a lovely smile on their faces .

I'm allowed to sit on the bed (on a disposable pad); the children think it is wonderful and I love it. Margaret chats to the children and I'm just being stroked . Wonderful.

I usually spend about 15 minutes with each child, but I could be with a child for much longer. One Wednesday, the surgical ward was very busy, and a little girl was waiting to go to theatre having come in the previous night as an emergency. Sadly her theatre slot kept being put back because of other emergencies and when we arrived she was quite tearful and in pain. Margaret could also see the girl's mother was nearly ' climbing up the wall' with worry .

I stayed with this child for about 2 hours until she went to theatre.

About a month later, I learnt the child was back at school part time and her mum was so grateful for our visit, she had written to Pets as Therapy Head Office to tell them.

Alternate Friday mornings I visit a Care Home in Hove where the residents have different needs. Some know me and look forward to our visits and others can't my

remember me or my name. They give me lots of strokes, they love the warmth of long coat and some say I am pretty; others say nothing, but just look at me and smile. It is lovely to see people smile.

One day we visited Mary who was in her room and Margaret asked her if she would like us to visit her. "Yes, she said " so in we went and we sat on the side of the bed with me in the middle. Mary asked me my name, and Margaret told her my name was Poppy . "No no "she said, "what is her Kennel Name ? " Margaret, a little taken back , told her my Kennel Club name and asked her if she had had dogs . " No ", she said , but I know they all have a Kennel Club name."



PETS AS THERAPY – Part 2 continued

David looks forward to our visits, he always has The Times newspaper and I sit on his bed for strokes and cuddles while David and Margaret discuss current news . On warm days David sits outside and we sit with him. I also visit Sheila and Bill, a lovely couple and very musical. Sheila had been an organist . They have lived in Brighton for many years and Sheila played the organ at St. Peter's Church (parish church of Brighton) They always ask what Margaret's choir is singing and when they have done a concert we take along one of the programmes for Sheila and Bill and talk about the music.

Well , I think I had better sign off for now . If you would like to know more about PAT , please write to Denise our wonderful editor and Bella or I will answer you.

💕 Love Poppy 💕

PS . Both photos are printed by permission of the children's parent .

Contacting the Animal Poison Line

I would like even 20p for every time I have said “Coco what have you got this time?” as my little princess is a demonic excavator and nibbler of all things terrible for dogs. I check the house and garden constantly and keep an eye on her as she scuttles with yet another interesting item (leaf, twig...) to her favourite hidey-hole under my dining room table.

Her latest ‘find’ however didn’t make it to the dining room. Over the pandemic I have been semi – shielding and a friend who has been shielding has stayed at my house occasionally when we have been able to combine dog sitting for me with a lift to a hospital for bloodtests for her.

It has taken her from her 3rd floor flat to have time in my garden and with the dogs during the summer and has given me some very welcome company. Unfortunately, she must have dropped a sachet of something she takes for her digestion (ispaghula husk) under the spare bed where my intrepid Coco found it and unbeknown to me, removed it and started to demolish it on the stairs. It must taste disgusting as I think just ripping the sachet open gave her enough of a taste to put her off; however I was concerned that even a little might cause serious issues.

When I discovered it (why is it problems seem to arise always out of hours?) I knew who was the culprit and was horrified not to know how long ago this had happened and whether it was going to harm Coco. I rang my vet who advised me to contact the Animal Poison Line. Very speedily I was in touch with a lovely vet who took a history, looked up the substance and advised me the only possible problem might be diarrhoea! Their contact details are well worth noting down – but I so hope you never need to use their services!

Website: <https://www.animalpoisonline.co.uk> Phone: 01202 509000

You can also find them on Facebook and Instagram where they post useful articles.

Denise Chaplin

Leeza

This lovely bitch was born as right and on her return to our house Aaron, my older dog at the time, took over looking after her, although Flynnne knew she was his pup.

Leeza was a slow developer and when the time came to show her, unfortunately she was not impressed and therefore we turned to obedience with her at which she was reasonably good, going to classes run by Carol Trueman.

Later on, after her dad went over Rainbow Bridge, Leeza and Aaron became inseparable, with hm watching her all the time. I wish I had had puppies from her, but it never happened.

Leeza was a great dog and companion and then, when she was 12 years old, I was hoping she would last a couple of years more, but it was not to be. She had been really fine until a week before we had to have her put down, Having been to the vet, and following a blood test, it proved both her kidneys and liver were affected and I was advised that it would be better to have her put to sleep. It was a very stressful situation, but I had to do the right thing. God bless her – she will be in my heart for always.

Pauline Batten Jones



Another Quiz

1. How many foxes are there in Australia?
2. In a classic tv advert for yellow pages, what was the title of the book , elderly author J.R. Priestly was trying to track down?
3. How many points of a leaf are there from a sycamore tree?
4. In which county is the market town Barnard Castle ?
5. Who was last year's hardest member of the Royal Family attending 521 engagements?
6. In 2019 Liverpool Street, KingsCross and Waverly stations became the last stations to remove what charge?
7. Which P was introduced in USA 100 years ago?
8. Which D is the home town of Jeremy Clarkson, Lesley Garrett and inventor of the flushing toilet, Thomas Crapper .
9. What nationality was the 11th century King Canute?
10. What is Lindisfarne also known as ?

Answers in the next issue

My first dog



If you have any images of your first dogs please dog send them in.

Another first dog image for you. Our very own Angela Mitchell with Domino. She got him for her 14th birthday and worked him to Novice and A. This photo was published in the newspaper and was taken at Peckham Carnival.

In Memoriam

‘Leeza’

By Paulhays Flynnan Isle

Ex Kelross Dream Lover

Born 05/05/2020

