

BRANCH NEWS



Herbie and Eddie

Welcome to the Summer newsletter, sorry we are all hot and bothered and this newsletter was delayed.

Keep your dogs cool!!

Some use cold coats, the coats are like shammy leather and protect against ultra violet rays they go under the chest so helps to cool the heart. ..

Cool mats can also be useful but beware that the dogs don't chew the gel ones

Contact details

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Editors this issue were Jo, Denise & Sonya



Teddy



English Shetland Sheepdog Club South Eastern Branch



When: Sunday July 27th 2025

Where: Capel Community Hall, Falmouth

Hall opens at 1pm, meeting starts 1:30pm

Place, Five Oak Green, Nr. Paddock Wood,

Guest: Maggie Foreman

Kent TN12 6RD

Our annual Garden Party and Strawberry Tea is usually our busiest meeting of the year. Although our classes are the same as those at other meetings our

Garden Party has its own set of special trophies for the winners.

We hope to be outside, weather dependant, so please bring your chairs.

As always quality items for our raffle and contributions to our bring and share tea are appreciated. If possible strawberry themed desserts are preferred.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

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Please note this is a member only club. Your subs

must be up to date. New guests may visit a

maximum of two times before becoming a

member. Cost per meeting £4

REMINDER: Subs were due in January 2025

New Branch President

Pauline Hannam - New President voted in at AGM

Some years ago Pauline reflected on her lifelong love of dogs, beginning with her first pet, Monty, a mixed-breed family dog. Her passion for dogs grew through showing a Labrador cross, Berry, at exemption shows, where she discovered a love for obedience and competition.

Pauline's first Sheltie, Shadow, marked the beginning of a deeper involvement in the breed, with Shadow earning a Stud Book number and qualifying for Crufts. Over the years, Pauline owned many Shelties—blue merles, sables, and tricolours each with a unique personality and all deeply cherished. At one time, she had as many as eight dogs, all kept as lifelong companions after retiring from the show ring. Some, like Scrumpy Jack, also enjoyed heelwork to music.

Pauline is very grateful to the breeders and mentors who supported her journey. Though she no longer owns dogs, she remains active in the dog world, sharing her experience and reminding others that every dog is “the best dog.” Pauline encourages all new owners at the Branch meetings, sharing her experience and continued love of the breed.



Carolelen crocodile rock, Davy



Good citizen dog scheme can take you to Crufts!

The Good Citizen Dog Training Scheme is the largest dog training program in the UK, established by The Kennel Club in 1992. It's designed to promote responsible dog ownership and help owners train their dogs for everyday life situations. The scheme is open to all dogs, regardless of age, breed, or whether they are registered with The Kennel Club

There are four award levels in the scheme:

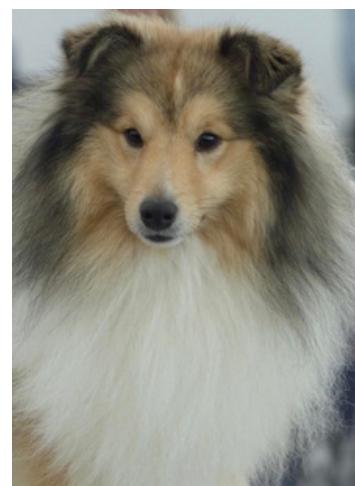
1. **Puppy Foundation**
2. **Bronze**
3. **Silver**
4. **Gold**

Each level focuses on different aspects of training and behaviour, progressively building on the skills learned in the previous level. The program is non-competitive and emphasizes achievement, making it accessible to dog owners of all fitness levels and abilities.

Now this is where it changes to competition if you would like to enter the Crufts good citizen classes. Practice at some open shows and go with your breeder or others from the Branch to that show. To qualify for Crufts you will need to then go to a Champ show.

The dog that you are competing with needs to have achieved Bronze or above. Merlot has gold, Onyx silver! The dogs must be KC registered and then you need to get them qualified in the normal way to enter Crufts; so for instance Merlot got a 2nd at the Birmingham Championship National dog show in 2024. Onyx won 1st Junior at Windsor championship show in 2024. There are also ways of qualifying for life such as achieving a stud book number. The club has done well at Crufts in all classes but especially Good Citizen, Merlot got a 2nd in Good Citizen dog and Spice, with Dot Weller won 1st Good Citizen Bitch.

Congratulations to all that have got their good citizen awards! Keep practicing and you can get to GOLD!!



Merlot

Tick season is here!

Thanks to the mild weather earlier in the season, ticks are out in force in our area! Ticks are common parasites affecting dogs in the UK, especially in grassy, wooded, or bushy areas such as the New Forest, Exmoor, and the Lake District. The most prevalent species are Ixodes ricinus (sheep or deer tick) and Ixodes hexagonus (hedgehog tick). Ticks feed on dogs' blood and can transmit diseases like Lyme disease, which causes symptoms such as lameness, fever, and swollen joints, and in rare cases, severe illness including kidney damage. Remove ticks with a tick removal tool, avoiding squeezing the body or leaving the head in. Don't burn, smother or pull the tick.



Having tools to hand to safely remove ticks is really helpful

Talking Dogs Rally

In April I organised a Talking Dogs Rally training day attended by several of our members. We were lucky enough to have Sue Coulstock and Lynn Fagg as our trainers for the day. The day went really well and we all learnt a lot. Most of us were complete beginners so we were all in it together.

So what is Talking Dogs Rally?

“Talking Dogs Rally® is the only canine rally organisation in the UK specifically devised for pet dogs and their people with a core value of allowing natural not stylised movement and maintaining balance throughout the courses where dogs work on both the left and right sides. We were the first to colour code the signs to clearly show what level of difficulty teams can expect and we were also the first to print



full descriptions of how to perform each exercise on the back of the station signs” This quote is from the Talking Dogs website <https://talkingdogsrally.co.uk>

As someone new to this activity I can tell you it is a lot of fun and a great way to enjoy time with your dog. There are a series of exercises to learn and these are all put together as a course with around 12 “stations” or exercises. Some are as simple as “right turn” or “sit” with slightly more interesting exercises such as slalom. You move at your own speed from one exercise to the next and a complete round takes just a minute or two to complete. The emphasis is on fun and connection. Unlike more serious obedience competitions the style is relaxed natural.

I recently took part in my first trial and found it warm and friendly. You are not really competing with the other teams you are aiming to gain qualifications with your dog so you are only competing with yourself. This meant the atmosphere was light and supportive. Both Taz and Vixen did really well earning two “Ace” rosettes. Lois Dowling and Bree also entered and also “Aced” it with two rosettes. Bree got the best score of the day in our trio. If this is something you would like to have a go at do check the website or have a chat with me at our next meeting. By Melody Cheal

Do you do agility or other working activities with your Sheltie? Let us know! We will be sharing more successes and stories from outside the showring in the coming issues to celebrate the versatility of the Shetland Sheepdog.

