



# ESSC SE Branch Newsletter

## Home Corner...

### 2019 Meetings to come:

28<sup>th</sup> July (Garden Party), 15<sup>th</sup> September, 27<sup>th</sup> October,  
1st December (Christmas Party)

### Judges's Notes:

*Lauren Jackson – May Meeting*

Thank you to the club for inviting me to judge your competition.

I really enjoyed my day and getting to judge all your lovely Shelties; I think it is great that companions are included and get a chance to strut their stuff.

The food buffet for lunch was fabulous! Thank you so much for my lovely gift.

I hope you all enjoyed the day as much as I did.

## Welcome to your newsletter

Welcome to our new Branch Newsletter!

Hopefully along with the Branch website, the newsletter will provide a variety of ways to share our love for our shelties and broaden our knowledge and ideas of how to enrich their and our lives. It will be a way of keeping in touch too. We hope to have a section of 'Ask the Expert' so if you have any questions about shelties, showing, training etc send in your questions and we will try to find a few knowledgeable members to give you answers.

## Big Branch Birthdays...

Happy Birthday to the following branch members...

Rosemary Marshall – 17<sup>th</sup> July (85)

Annette Ure – 26<sup>th</sup> Aug (60)

Pauline Hannam – 31<sup>st</sup> Aug (85)

Pauline Batten-Jones – 17<sup>th</sup> Sept (85)

Denise Chaplin – 18<sup>th</sup> Sept (70)



## MY LIFE WITH SHELTIES

*By Pauline Batten-Jones*

I purchased my first sheltie, Sorrel, in 1974 with the help of Mary Davis of the Monkswood Affix. Mary was a tremendous help to me and guided me on to the right lines.

Originally I started doing Obedience and after going to classes for some time became an instructor at that club until it closed.

Sorrel was 15 months old when I mated her and I kept her daughter Heidi. It was at that time Mary decided I should start on Showing, so I was introduced to my first show, a Championship show at Olympia. As you can guess I hadn't a clue what I needed or how to go about things. I duly went to the show with Mary and Felicity Rogers (Riverhill affix). Very kindly one of Mary's friends took me in hand so we went around the show and I purchased what was necessary. I finished with a Reserve and was over the moon it being my first show - how green can you get!

Obviously after that I started going to both Open and Championship shows, achieving some good results from pups that I bred. It was an interesting and sometimes exciting experience and I discovered many things about 'showing'. I continued enjoying this until fairly recently when domestic circumstances meant things had to slow down and eventually come to an end. It was such a shame – but something I would never have missed.

During my early years with the breed, when my husband and I went to Scotland on holiday, we visited the Isle of Arran. On driving around the island I found a sign advertising spinning lessons. I went to enquire and the lady kindly told me to return the next day for my first lesson. Little did I know what would become of it.

I bought a spinning wheel and started lessons. I began with sheep fleece but after a while I thought I would try to spin sheltie coat which became pretty successful. Over the years I have appeared on TV four times with my dogs and spinning wheel. On one occasion they were showing one of my appearances early in the morning during Crufts, a day when shelties were showing, so I went around the stands to locate someone who could find the right tv channel. Luckily a gentleman was able to do it and I started watching myself only to find very large group of onlookers watching behind me- I felt like a star!

During this period Jane Diment (Peeriglen) and I appeared at Discover Dogs in London with our dogs and my spinning wheel. At one time we were asked to go to Crufts for the full 4 days – staying around the NEC.



My Life with Shelties continued...

We were very tired by the end of it and I was also showing my bitch Amber at the time. Discover Dogs was at one end of the NEC and the sheltie ring was at the other end. Trying to get across the NEC I had to carry her over my shoulder because of the crowd.. and people didn't think they had to get out of the way.

I did spin other people's sheltie coats at that time and occasionally knitted up mittens etc – some items going abroad as well. The photo shows some of my items. The best thing I made is a bedspread; you will never realise how warm and heavy it is, it is my pride and joy.

Good luck to all who go on to do obedience or showing. You will enjoy yourself. The Sheltie is a lovely breed!

## GREAT THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR SHELTIES

### Eve Martin's Cynophobia Assistance Dogs

Leo and Indi are qualified Cynophobia Assistance Dogs and indeed.....do great things! Cynophobia simply means the fear of dogs and many children and adults suffer very badly from this fear. We belong to the Kent Cynophobia Group which began in April 2015, and together with the Essex Group which has been running for 30 years, and a Group latterly started on the Surrey-Sussex border makes just three groups in Europe. The children who come to us are so afraid that they do not want to go on holiday, go to the park to play and will even jump into the road to avoid a passing dog. They suffer panic attacks, shaking and crying just to mention a few. Unfortunately this upsets the whole family, siblings become resentful and it is heartbreaking for the parents.

We meet once a week in a village hall and we are all volunteers. The classes are offered free to all. Our success rate is amazing with 90% of the children on the floor stroking the dogs in the first hour. The evening starts with a talk in the dog-free zone, making sure the parents understand that it must be the children's choice as to when or indeed if they wish to join in. They then enjoy playing games without any dogs in the hall to put them at ease. Those who wish to, will make a line in the safe area and the dogs are then brought in one at a time on the lead. They enjoy trying to remember their names and what breed they are. We have various games which include them putting leads on the dog of their choice and training them. A very large sweetie tin is brought out to reward the winners. Once again the children only choose to do what they are comfortable with.

We end the evening with our "quiet time" when the dogs are lying down and the children can stroke and brush them in a relaxed manner. This I must add is Leo's favourite time, he usually nods off!

All our dogs are quite special, they must have a totally reliable temperament and will have passed a 28 point assessment and be under complete control. There is no room for error as one sharp movement will undo hours of work. The photograph on the left shows the variety of breeds that we have working, on the right are my dogs. This is probably the most rewarding and emotional thing any of us have ever done.

## Congratulations to...

### Dot Weller with Evad Halloween Queen

Halle passed her Bronze Good Citizen Award at 5½ months. She also gained Best Puppy and Group 4 at her first Open Show and has been to 2 Championship shows and qualified for Crufts both times!

### Angela Mitchell with Valdosta Tri Ya Luck

Roo placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Yearling Bitch at East of England Championship Show.

### Dora Sendall with Sendora Songbird

Bluebell placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Graduate Bitch and Good Citizen Bitch at Windsor Championship Show.

*Let us know if you have a success!*

## Bits and Bobs...

Any Lorraine Kelly fans out there? Lilian Mettan-Ure and her puppy Quinn (Valdosta Dare to Dream) got to meet her when they participated in the Guinness Book of World Record attempt for the most dogs doing a simultaneous sit! Unfortunately the record wasn't broken but it was a great morning!



## In Memorium....

Paulhays Aaron Isle, owned by Pauline Batten-Jones. Pauline sent us this sad news:

My lovely boy has just taken steps over the Rainbow Bridge at the grand old age of 15 and a half. Aaron lived a good life and is leaving behind a very sad Leeza who can't understand where he is. This photo was taken 2 hours before he quietly passed away in his sleep. He will be greatly missed by many.

