

# SHELTIE AT WORK

No. 74

Autumn 2013



**Rosemary Seys**  
**Founder of the Working Section**

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## **Editorial**

My apologies that this issue is rather late – a while ago I dropped the long jump on my foot (dangerous sport Working Trials!) eventually resulting in an operation to repair the damage.

For the first two weeks I had to have an injection in my tummy every day to prevent Deep Vein Thrombosis. They tried to show me how to do it myself but I just couldn't. I have a needle phobia and went completely to pieces. But then I had inspiration and phoned my vet. The vet nurse called here to do it each day on her way home!

I'm now getting quite good at hopping around with my futuristic new 'Beckham Boot' and zimmer frame. But even the smallest step stops me in my tracks! I believe that the Daleks had the same problem? A bit of a reality check as far as getting to dog shows or trials is concerned. Guess I'll just have to be patient.

***Enjoy your Shelties!***

***Trisha Harding***

Thanks to Kevin Hicks for all the photographs of Sheltie Camp 2013, to Lian Knight for the photo montage of Shelties on the back cover and to everyone who has contributed to this issue of 'Sheltie at Work'.

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **Obedience Training Day**

**Sunday 17th November 2013**

Venue: Grazeley Village Hall, Reading, Berks RG7 1LD  
Trainer : Jane Martin

### **A.G.M. on Sunday 16th February 2014**

Venue: Grazeley Village Hall, Reading, Berks RG7 1LD

### **The E.S.S.C. Open Show with Obedience Classes**

**Saturday 22nd February 2014**

Venue: Brackley Leisure Centre, Springfield Way, Brackley,  
Northamptonshire NN13 6JJ

Pre-Beginner, Beginner, Novice, Test 'A' & Test 'B'

Judge : Sue Robinson

### **Sheltie Camp Training Weekend**

**Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th May 2014**

Venue: Tillingbourne School, New Road, Chilworth, Nr Guildford,  
Surrey GU4 8NB

### **The E.S.S.C. Centenary Show**

**Saturday 7th June 2014**

Venue: The Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh Park, Nr Coventry,  
Warwickshire CV8 2LZ.

Information and forms about any event can be obtained from me:

Lesley Lubbi, Hon. Secretary

Tel. no. 01784 258334

Layash, 2 Celia Crescent, Ashford, Middx. TW15 3NW

or e-mail: [info@esscworkingsection.co.uk](mailto:info@esscworkingsection.co.uk)

Download from our Website: [www.esscworkingsection.co.uk](http://www.esscworkingsection.co.uk)

Agility League link from our Website: Under "AGILITY"

Obedience League link from our Website: Under "OBEDIENCE"

## Obituary – Rosemary Seys

It is with deep regret that I have to report the sad news that one of the Section's founder members Rosemary Seys has passed away.

The English Shetland Sheepdog Club formed the Obedience and Working Trials Section in April 1970, the brain-child of Tony and Rosemary Seys, their idea was "the marriage of beauty and brains". They wanted to raise the profile of the Working Sheltie, while retaining its beauty and essential Sheltie traits. Their dream is reality each year at the club's open and championship shows, where we run the Obedience classes with the Breed and Obedience rings working side by side. The membership of the Section is different from that of the branches in that it is nationwide and not sectional on a geographical basis. Anyone, in fact who is a member of the E.S.S.C. and takes part in any of the disciplines is considered to be a member of the Working Section.

As the title would indicate in 1970 we only catered for Shelties and their handlers that did Obedience and Working Trials. The first Sheltie Camp was in 1972, this was held at the Seys Farm in Devon and lasted for five days. It included a trip to a Championship breed show, Obedience training sessions, a Working Trial training session (which included tracking) Sheltie "beauty" class and quiz night. The Camp is still held each year, but just for the weekend and includes training sessions both days for all of the disciplines. As if that is not enough on the Saturday evening we end the day with a fish and chip supper, where of course we talk about the thing we all love – our Shelties.

Not many people appreciate how difficult it is to get to the top in Obedience; the ladder of advancement is long and hard. Working Trials because of the Sheltie's size is also a very difficult discipline for them. But along came a fun discipline called Agility. As some of our members took up this exciting fun activity in 1993 we added Agility to our title making us the Obedience, Working Trials and Agility Section. This heading was too cumbersome so in 1994 with the permission of the parent body we renamed ourselves the E.S.S.C. Working Section.

Agility has continued over the years to grow in popularity, and the Section was the first breed club in England to hold a single-breed (Sheltie only) Agility Show which was in 1996. We still run our Agility

shows today with our Shelties and handlers having such a wonderful time. In 2000 the Working Section was asked to put on an Agility show in conjunction with the prestigious “Sheltie of the Year” show, this was a great honour for the Working Section.

In 2007 the E.S.S.C. awarded a new medal for members of the Working Section – The Seys Medal – in recognition of the contribution made by Tony and Rosemary Seys to the club. It is awarded to any Working Section members making up their first Champion in any of the working disciplines.

There are eleven Shelties that have reached the accolade of becoming Obedience Champions:

- Ob. Ch. Honour Bright Of Surreyhills – Mrs C C Glasse
- Ob. Ch. Yelruth Annfield – Muriel Pierce
- Ob. Ch. Master Ian – Fred Ratcliffe
- Ob. Ch. Ghillie Of Mospe – Fred Ratcliffe
- Ob. Ch. Safety First From Shiel – Mrs Macmillan
- Ob. Ch. Rory Of Lerwick – Mr C D Strachan
- Ob. Ch. Black Diamond Of Bothkennar – Joan Sharpe
- Ob. Ch. Masterpiece Of Mospe – Fred Ratcliffe
- Ob. Ch. Our Shep – Jean Harris
- Ob. Ch. Rodhill Frosted Cherry – Hazel Riley
- Ob. Ch. Stornaway Sno Wonder – Carol Trueman

In addition there have been another nine Shelties who have won C.C.'s mostly with two wins each:

- Moonen Shiel CDEx, UDEx, TDEx – Peggy Osborne
- Ch. Budlet Of Surreyhills CDEx – Mrs G C Glasse
- Katrina Skye Maiden – Edna McCrae
- Rockafella – Linda White
- Golden Gregory – Eileen Rotheram
- Rainelor Raven – Linda White
- Heavitree Hickory – Sheila Gorman
- Hebe Of Heavitree – Sheila Gorman
- Beechhurst Dixie Belle – Mavis Mills

There are seven Shelties that have reached the accolade of becoming Agility Champions:

- Ag. Ch. Myndoc Simply Teena – Mary Ray
- Ag. Ch. Torriglen Taking Steps CDex – Louise Saunders
- Ag. Ch. Obay Truly Balanced – Bernadette Bay
- Ag. Ch. Obay Truly Driven – Nicola Garrett
- Ag. Ch. Obay Truly Wicked – Bernadette Bay
- Ag. Ch. Millie On To One – Amy Lawson
- Ag. Ch. Obay Itz Got Pizzazz – Bernadette Bay

In addition there have been another six Shelties who have won an Agility C.C.:

- Chandling Idiots Charger – Miranda Frankham
- Peartbrook Dark Star – Glenys Phillips
- Obay Tiz Zensational – Nancy Hudson
- Japaro Cool Jazz At Craygill AWG – Jean Tuck
- Obay Tiz Wild – Christine Wingate Wynne
- Clanavon Misty Shadow – Louise Eden

The working disciplines have grown out of all proportion. As well as the ones I have already mentioned, there is Fly-ball, Heelwork to Music, K.C. Good Citizens and two types of Rally, all of which are extremely popular and events for them are held all over the country most weekends. This makes it hard to keep track of our members' achievements. So we do rely on members notifying us.

As we owe so much to Tony and Rosemary Seys, it is only fitting that the last paragraph from Rosemary's book 'The History of the Working Shetland Sheepdog' concludes the Section's Achievements.

*"There are no doubt many more incidents showing the working ability of our Shelties which have not been included in this history and there will be many more to add as time goes by, but I leave you with the certainty that looking into the future,*

***The Marriage of Beauty and Brains of the  
Shetland Sheepdog will have no end."***

Lesley Lubbi  
Hon. Secretary E.S.S.C. Working Section.

## Obituary – Ann Perkins

In the early seventies Ann went out to buy a Rough Collie and came home with a Shetland Sheepdog puppy, this was the start of her love and many years of showing and breeding Shelties. Ann loved showing. She became a member of The Eastern Counties Shetland Sheepdog Club, being present at the club's inaugural meeting and serving on the Committee for many years where she championed Obedience, organizing the Obedience shows and also a yearly training day for anyone interested in Obedience. Eventually she had her own Obedience dog Alnmac Delph with whom she won two Beginners and a Novice before having to retire him due to his health.

I first became involved with Ann when she joined the training group I belonged to and I decided that I wanted a Sheltie to compete in Obedience and Agility. She went with me to pick my boy and as a result of her influence he also went showing in the Breed ring. We became great friends and together we travelled many miles to shows, not only Breed and Obedience but also Agility. Ann never competed in Agility but she was ready to support the Shelties whatever they did.

One of our most memorable times together was when we attended Sheltie Camp in 2010. As we were sleeping in a tent, her husband Lloyd reckoned as soon as she saw the first 'Creepy-Crawly' Ann would be home, but we were determined that whatever happened we would remain and everyone would be told we had a marvellous time. Everything went well until the Saturday night when a storm arrived; I had never seen Ann move so quick as when she whisked her bedding into the back of my van and joined the dogs to avoid the thunder and rain. She had a relatively comfortable night in her sleeping bag while I had to crush in the front seat under the steering wheel, only to find in the morning that I had lost my bra! But truly we really enjoyed ourselves that weekend.

Ann had not been well during 2012, in November she was admitted to Peterborough Hospital and eventually she was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer, sadly she died on 5th April 2013.

Ann will be sorely missed by many she has helped, but hopefully her legacy will live on in the dogs that compete in the various rings bearing her affix Alnmac which I have the honour of being able to carry on.

Sue Robinson

## Your Letters



I attach a photo of Ella and Champ and hope that the following bit of info might be of interest:

Champ was born on the 15th April 2013 in Cwmbach, Wales and was bred by Mrs Howells of Whiterock Shelties. His kennel name is Whiterock Golden Sun.

Ella is 9 years old and really wants to do Agility and has already put her name down to join Wallingford Dog Training Club. She will be able to start in January when she is 10 years old and Champ is ten months. She looked at all the Agility dogs and she chose the Sheltie because it was such a beautiful looking breed and small enough for her to play with and train. Ella has a pony called Gracie which she show jumps, so she is familiar with competing and the hard work it takes to succeed.



Ella spends every spare moment with Champ, taking him to the stables when she sees to her pony and running him around the fields when she is turning out. They have hours of fun playing and training. He is already obedient to sit, stay, wait, fetch, go to bed, walk to heel etc. but she can not get him to stop jumping up yet!

He was named Champ by his breeder and Ella hopes that one day he will be her Champion Agility dog.

Kind regards,

Catherine (grandmother of Ella Fitch-Cook)

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Nice to catch up with Lorna a while ago at one of the Shows this year. Thomas's achievements for the year are that he started out in 'A' this season and has won out. A photo of him has also been accepted for the English Shetland Sheepdog Club Annual Calendar for 2014.

Again I would like to thank Lorna and others on the Committee for the encouragement given to us whenever we've met at the Shows. Could I also say a special Thank You to Pat Thompson, who, from our very first Pre-Beginner win has given me so much encouragement by email and has readily given advice whenever we've hit a stumbling block. It was nice to finally meet her at SATS during the summer where she proved to be just as nice and helpful in the flesh!

Bye for now,

Sadie Fairs & Thomas (Lavika Land of Love)

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At Wyre Champ Agility Show in late March 2013 my little Glen (Japaro Cool Jazz at Craygill) had the Small RCC (his 3rd green card) and at our very next Champ Show, Kingdom of Fife, in April, Scott (Myndoc Minstrel for Craygill) got the Medium RCC. His first green card, and being rather slower, though careful, I wasn't sure he could do it! Shelties are SO clever!

I only have the two dogs, pets of course, and we don't own our own Agility equipment, so it also shows that the 'ordinary' competitor is in with a chance :-)

Best wishes,

Jean Tuck

# Working News Update

## OBEDIENCE

There seems to be an increase in the number of Shelties working in Obedience this year and having success at Open and Championship shows as can be seen from the following results:

In **Pre-Beginners** Julia Carr and Dukeson Wildest Dreams won 1st place and also a 2nd.

In **Beginners** Jackie Howe and Shellthorn Blue Dazzle have had a 5th and two 3rd places.

Pat Townsend and Dellaph Skeroq Skedarcey have had a 4th place.

Vanessa Hardin and Sheltysham Miss Mayhem have had a 5th and 6th place.

In **Novice** Tracey Baudins with Carolelen Cause a Dilemma has had a 1st place.

Carol Belsten and Castlerose Thief of Time have won their first 1st place.

Caroline Le Poidevin and Condorvean Bobbin Joan won 2nd place.

Bernadette Baudins and Carolelen Causing Mischief have had two 3rd places.

Margaret Horsfield has had 5th and 3rd places with Tarasol Blue Diamond and 6th and 4th places with Tarasol Sunshine.

Janette Mitchell and Shelridge Special Diamond won two 4ths.

Jackie Howe and Shellthorn Blue Dazzle have won a 4th place.

Lilian Turner and Melcette Hello Bud have had 4th place.

Sheila Ross and Evad Magical Star have had a 4th place.

Peter Lubbi and Sandyglow Silver Shadow have had a 5th place.

Indira Helsby and Mistmere Music of The Night have had a 6th place, as have Karen Marek and Mohnesee Man on a Mission, and Vanessa Hardin with Sheltysham Miss Mayhem.

In **Class A** Sadie Fairs and Lavika Land of Love (Thomas) have had a 5th, two 4th, four 2nd and three 1st places.

Bernadette Baudins and Carolelen Causing Mischief have had two 1st places.

Janette Mitchell and Shelridge Special Diamond have gained a 5th, a 4th and two 2nd places.

Pat Daniels and Hovelt Honeysuckle at Felthorn have had a 6th, two 5ths, three 4ths and a 3rd place.

Caroline Le Poidevin and Condorvean Bobbin Joan have had a 5th and a 4th place.

In **Class B** Sue Robinson and Calambray Back Chat have had three 3rds and three 1st places, so is now 'C' only.

In **Class C** Mary Ray and Obay Caught Redhanded have had a 5th and three 1st places. Many congratulations to Mary Ray and Ozzie for qualifying to compete in the Championship Obedience classes. Here's to a successful campaign and a Sheltie winning some Tickets again at last!

Tracey Baudins and Carolelen Crystal Blue have a 2nd and a 1st place.

Pat Daniels and Azure Sky Kahlistelle have had two 6ths and one 3rd place.

This is a total of 20 handlers and 22 dogs - and these are only the ones that I know about.

## **AGILITY**

The Working Section are very pleased to be able to send congratulations to Louise Eden with Clanavon Misty Shadow (Smudge) on winning their first C.C. in the Small Championship at Chippenham. Well Done!

The Section was represented in the Kennel Club Team GB at the European Open Agility Championships, held in Belgium this summer, by Louise Eden and Smudge.

Jean Tuck has been having a good season with her two Shelties. Her young dog, Glen, Japaro Cool Jazz at Craygill, has now won two Small CC's and five Small Reserve CC's. Her older dog, Scott, Myndoc Minstrel for Craygill has won two Medium Reserve CC's and has again qualified for Crufts 2014 in his Medium Agility team. Glen's CC this year automatically qualifies him for the individual Small Agility at Crufts 2014.

Pat Wallis has written, "As many of you will realise Cali has not been able to do his Agility for almost a year now. It has been particularly difficult for him as he is very much a "doing" dog and needs to keep his mind and body active. Well I'm pleased to announce that my brave child was competing at a show last weekend. On the Saturday he was full of joy and did some very interesting rounds, showing me he was out there to have a good time. On Sunday he started to settle and actually to listen to me, this resulted in 1st place in Jumping and 2nd in Agility making him top Novice dog over the weekend. Then I received a wonderful email telling me that Cali has qualified for the BAA Open Championship final at Stoneleigh in July".

I have not heard how they got on, but that is such a heartening story for everyone who has had a dog laid up with illness or injury for a prolonged period.

## **KENNEL CLUB GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME**

The following people gained their Good Citizen awards at Sheltie Camp this summer:-

### **Bronze**

Yoshiko Tuppen and Renesons Royal Pumpkin (Coco)

Lynne Moulson and Garmarti Inspiration (Tiffany)

Lynne Moulson and Bunnychottage Cornpoppy (Jaz)

Roz Quail and Lorainien Mr Majestic (Toby)

Rowena Steady and Shaelith Autumn Sun (Freedie)

### **Silver**

Lian Knight and Shelridge Saturn (Saturn)

Valerie Cooper and Copperin Cariva (Sorrel)

Michael Cooper and Perriglen Party Girl at Copperin (Willow)

Rowena Steady and Ramavale Twist at Midnight (Ollie)

I am always pleased to receive any news or results you may send me.

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## Sheltie Camp 2013

I had been to Sheltie Camp a few years ago with my previous two dogs, so it was with great excitement that we packed up our tent one Friday morning in June and set off on the long journey to Surrey with my present pair, mum Phoebe and her four month old puppy, Dougal. We were not disappointed. The whole weekend was full of exciting activities which were thoroughly enjoyed by both people and Shelties!

There was so much to do it that was difficult to know where to start. Peter Lubbi was organising Obedience sessions where he was offering help and advice to all levels, Rhoda and Matthew Burdett and Indira Helsby were running the Agility workshops which were organised according to ability and included beginners and more advanced sessions. Jeanette Maggs was organising Heelwork to Music sessions on one day and Rally Obedience the next, whilst Trisha Harding was offering tracking and searching sessions as an introduction to Working Trials. In addition to all this, Indira was also judging the test for the Bronze and Silver Good Citizens award for those who wished to take them. To test thinking skills there was a selection of games to try including some of those from Nina Ottosson and a doggy ball pool where you could drop treats in for the dogs to find – a firm favourite with Dougal! All the trainers were kept busy during both days with a constant stream of people and Shelties either wanting to practice something they were already working on or trying a new activity altogether. The format of the camp, as usual, was very relaxed and allowed you to do as much or as little as you liked, although we found there was not much time to rest!

Over the two days Phoebe tried her paw at beginners' Agility which she thoroughly enjoyed and Peter gave me some valuable advice for improving heelwork and retrieving skills. We had a very successful tracking session with Trisha where I was amazed at how well a dog's nose can work, even proving me wrong on one occasion! Dougal was not left out either as Rhoda did some puppy Agility and core strength exercises with him. Dougal learned to be aware of his back legs with poles and wobble cushions and Rhoda gave me some lovely ideas to try at home which were fun as well as helpful for his co-ordination and strength. The chance for him to run around with a lot of other Shelties was also brilliant for his social skills.

With tired dogs snoozing in the car, Saturday evening was for the humans as we gathered for a delicious three course supper with soup, fish and chips and some rather luscious raspberries and cream, all washed down with a glass of wine. It was an opportunity to make new friends and we did not spend all evening discussing our dogs, honest! There was cause for celebration with the announcement of an engagement and champagne was poured to toast the happy couple. We all wished them well for the future.

We travelled home with happy memories and plenty of ideas for training as well as two very tired Shelties who were probably dreaming of winning rosettes for Agility, Obedience and Working Trials! All in all, Sheltie Camp is a fantastic way to have fun with your dog whilst acquiring expert advice from excellent trainers. A lot of people worked very hard to make the weekend such a success and I would like to say a great big thank you. I cannot wait to come again and shall certainly be putting next year's date on the calendar.

Jaquay Ashford

(photos by Kevin Hicks)





# **ESSC Championship & Limited Obedience Show**

**Sunday 13th October 2013**

A pleasure to be invited to judge 3 classes in the Obedience Section of the club, at the Kennel Club Building, Stoneleigh. Thank you for the hospitality and the excellent lunch in the meeting room with time to chat and relax.

A warm welcome on arrival from Lesley Lubbi, and the care and help continued throughout the day. Lesley's support team, husband Peter, Margaret and Graham were great and made it a happy and easy day. Thank you soooo much. Margaret had everything in order on the scoreboards, whilst Graham was my Chief Stay Steward. I enjoyed the opportunity to judge this breed and to appreciate their ability.

## **Pre-Beginner – 8 ran**

1st 14 Mrs W Ashby and Chelmarsh Finish-N-Touch – This lady is a positive handler which brings out the best in her two bitches. (Bella & Ellie) Well done.

2nd 127 Mrs J Herber and Franmead Fairy Story – (Isla) Well Done.

3rd 13 Mrs W Ashby and Ellenmore Lady Be Quick – (Ellie).

4th 24 Mrs L Bedford and Seavall Tri The Piper – (Piper) Heel on Lead very good, anticipation on recall.

5th 280 Mr M D & Mrs B Westerman and Clambach Irresisable Ida – (Ida) Handed by Mrs Westerman

6th 15 Miss J Ashford and Janetstown Jacinda - (Pheobe) Crooked sits lost most of the marks.

## **Novice – 18 ran**

1st 141 Mrs J Howe and Shellthorn Blue Dazzle – (Zak) A bigger boy, a merle. A steady round calmly handled. Crooked sits lost marks. Well Done.

2nd 138 Mrs M Horsfield and Marricksham Secret Dream At Tarasol This lady worked all of her 7 dogs – stays of all perfect. Dream clear on recall and retrieve. Slight drifting and jump lost marks.



3rd 134 Mrs M Horsfield and Tarasol Blue Diamond P Beg Ex (Blue)  
A neat round – won run off.

4th 256 Mrs J F Taylor and Dukeson Like Sommer Flower at  
Chelmermead (Lily) Heel free was clear, worked better off lead.  
Recall clear too.

5th 125 Mrs I H Helsby and Mistmere Music Of the Night (Jet) was  
excellent on heel lead but lost it on heel free and the retrieve.

6th 136 Mrs M Horsfield and Tarasol Sunshine (Sunny) Wides lost  
marks and off centre present on retrieve.

### **Class B**

1st With held

2nd 7 Mrs P Albrow and Shelridge Black Pearl (Beau) Produced a  
good round of heel work, extra commands in sendaway and then  
wide of the back marker lost marks. But what a lovely round. Then  
broke the sit stay.

3rd 141 Mrs J Howe and Shellthorn Blue Dazzle (Zak) Well done to  
have a go at B with Zak. A creditable round, but sendaway lost your  
marks.

I marked for all the dogs DRIFTING from their natural walking  
position, and would say to handlers – try to relax and be positive in  
your handling which will motivate your lovely dogs. Thanks to  
everyone for a happy day.

Marcia Mannings-Smith

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**The Miyrowan Salver**, presented to the dog or bitch with the highest  
percentage marks in Obedience classes having also been exhibited  
in a Breed class at this show, was won by Mrs M Horsefield's  
Marricksham Lovable Rogue at Tarasol.

The Judge's Reports for Beginner and 'A' follow on pages 20 & 21.





**ESSC  
Championship Show  
13th October 2013**

Many thanks to Lesley Lubbi and Committee for the invitation to judge at this Limit Obedience show, and for the very generous gifts which I didn't expect at all. We were indoors in the Kennel Club building at Stoneleigh which was a good job as the weather was atrocious outside. We were well looked after all day by the organisers – in fact we were well and truly spoilt, and the atmosphere within the 'Obedience' part of this Championship Breed Show was relaxed and friendly – just right for putting handlers and dogs at ease.

My thanks to Paul, my steward and stay steward, and to Graham who acted as Scoreboard steward, Chief Steward and Chief Stay Steward, and to the rest of the team who helped to keep things moving.

We started with **class 'A'** – there were 8 entries of which 7 worked (five belonging to one owner!) and we had 1 training round.

1st 125 ARO Indira Helsby and Jet (Mistmere Music of the Night) – first dog to work, and took a little while to get going – requiring an extra command to 'come' in the 'A' test recall, which was the first exercise. H/W was nice and attentive, just losing marks for drifting, but retrieve was rather costly. Watch the extended hand signal on the 'finishes' on the retrieve and in scent.

2nd 141 ARO Jackie Howe and Zak (Shellthorn Blue Dazzle) – nice positive handling helped this big boy to work at his best. Clearly a sensitive lad who needs to feel that his handler is calm and in control. His lack of confidence caused him to struggle in the scent when he was working out on his own. The more you manage to build his confidence, the better his work will get.

3rd 134 Margaret Horsfield and Blue (Tarasol Blue Diamond) – all your dogs work to a reasonable standard Margaret, but all have some features in common that I think would improve if you focused on walking more upright – looking ahead, at a quicker pace and in a straighter line – you tend to look down at your dogs bending sideways towards them, which makes you walk into them and them to work back and wide. The wider they work, the more you walk towards them, which pushes them out still further. Once you are sorted, the dogs should work beautifully because they are already focused on you and try very hard to please. I must mention Solo (Tarasol Solitaire) as he failed to get a place today – lovely H/W. I must also comment on how spectacular your management and overall control of

your dogs is – which is particularly noticeable in the Stays when you are setting up all 5 of them (or all 7 in Novice!) – well done. The comments I made about Blue on my score sheet mirror the general comments above, as they do your other dogs in 4th, 5th and 6th.

4th 136 Margaret Horsfield and Sunny (Tarasol Sunshine)

5th 137 Margaret Horsfield and Shadow (Tarasol Moonlight Shadow)

6th 139 Margaret and Tara (Shaded Lady of Oldland at Tarasol)

### **Beginners – 6 entries, 5 worked.**

1st 118 Vanessa Hardin and Tutti-Frutti (Sheltysham Miss Mayhem). Stunning round and a very well deserved win, despite the difficulty in getting the dog to sit in the heel position. A bit of winter training to get this sorted and you should have an excellent season on the ‘Open’ circuit next year. One to look out for.

2nd 14 Wendy Ashby and Becky (Chelmarsh Finish-N-Touch) – a misplaced bumbag and dumbbell caused you to start the round a little flustered, but once you’d settled, you and your dog produced a really nice round, well done.

3rd 13 Wendy Ashby and Ellie (Ellenmore Lady be Quick). With both dogs Wendy, I felt that you worked really hard to get the best out of them. Start to try and develop your skills so that you recognise when your dogs are about to lose attention so that you can keep the attention before things go wrong, rather than getting it back after the event. Both dogs have the potential to produce more.

4th 127 Judith Herbert and Isla (Franmead Fairy Story). Some excellent bits of attention and work from Isla, and we talked a bit about how you could work to extend Isla’s attention. She and you show lots of promise – so well done for your place today.

5th 280 Bessie Westerman and Ida (Clembach Irresistible Ida). Ida tended to work a little wide today so winter training should include activities to get her working closer – faster pace, walking away from the dog rather than into her, side stepping, right circles etc. Get her working closer will see you higher up the placings.

I really enjoyed my day today, so thank you all for allowing me to spend it with you.

Dawn Cox

## More Zen for Dogs

***What if your dog has a “hard mouth”? When you offer him a treat he snatches it from your hand! How do you deal with this dangerous behaviour?***

Actually this is a very good indicator of your dog’s emotional state. A dog with a hard mouth is likely to be stressed. The reason for this can vary from dog to dog and from day to day with the same dog. Perhaps he is very hungry? Afraid of being teased? Worried that another dog nearby might get his treat? Frightened of something?

If your dog has a hard mouth all the time, this is a sign that the dog is rarely calm and is in a perpetual state of arousal. If his mouth is only hard sometimes, this is an indication that there is something in his environment that is creating stress. And you have then a very good signal that you should move your dog to a safer, less threatening place before the situation worsens to the next stage when the dog is so stressed that he cannot eat any food at all. This is a signal that should never be ignored.



Whether the dog has a hard mouth all the time or only sometimes, you need to teach him to have a softer mouth – for the sake of his mental well-being as well as your fingers! Feed him a piece of food out of the palm of your hand, with your hand below his chin. If your hand is placed correctly, he will have to

tuck his chin towards his chest to get the treat. In order to have a soft mouth, he must relax his jaw. If his head is tucked, his jaw must be soft. If he backs up so that he can still snatch at the treat, just close your fingers or remove your hand so that he can’t get at the treat. Start asking for a sit or waiting for a sit before you even offer the treat. He needs to learn that the only way he can get the treat is to have a soft mouth. This can take many repetitions, but it’s well worth the wait. Gentle calm praise can help too.

Once your dog begins to relax his mouth, you can and should start to offer the treat out of your fingertips, instead of from your palm. This requires a more precise and deliberate effort on the part of your dog, and therefore more thought. He is learning self-control.

With thanks to Ali Brown for this idea.

See the Book Recommendation on page 23.

Book recommendation:

## **“Scaredy Dog!**

### **Understanding and Rehabilitating Your Reactive Dog”**

by Ali Brown

Don't despair if your previously perfect puppy starts to growl at other dogs, snap at people or **bark at everything**. This upsetting behaviour is often labelled aggression, but is usually fear-based and should be treated as such. The correct term for it is “reactivity”.

This book helps you understand what your reactive dog is doing, why he's doing it, and how to help him to change it for the better. Your reactive dog will always be a reactive dog, but the activities, suggestions and information in this book will help him to cope better with the things he encounters in his life, and will assist you in managing and training your reactive dog without making you feel a failure.

Ali Brown covers the science and theory of reactivity, but also provides useful practical solutions to dealing with a reactive dog and helping him cope with situations that he finds stressful. Her methods are based on the development of a working relationship with your dog and use only positive reinforcement and negative punishment. (This is not as bad as it sounds! – negative punishment just means making sure that the dog doesn't get what he wants as a result of his unwanted behaviour.)

Many of the training and management suggestions use food either as an indicator of the dog's state of mind (a dog can be so stressed that he is unable to eat) or as a training or management aid (for example searching for scattered titbits with a lowered head calms a dog). Taking into account how greedy (sorry, “food-motivated”) most Shelties can be, this book should be tailor-made for our breed!

This is essential reading for anyone who owns a reactive dog.

Trisha Harding

# **Sheltie Obedience Training Day**

## **Sunday 17th November 2013**

**Trainer: Jane Martin**

**Grazeley Village Hall, Church Lane, Grazeley,  
Reading, Berks., RG7 1LD**

We are fortunate to have Jane Martin as our trainer for the day. Those of you who work in Obedience will know Jane or her name very well. Jane has had dogs in her life since getting a Springer Spaniel for her 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. The only thing she wanted to do when she bought her first house was to get a dog, Sadie came from a local rescue and taking her to a local dog club introduced Jane to Obedience and Border Collies.

Jane got her first collie in 1993 and since then has had 6 more. Currently she has 2 retired, Leo works 'A', Connie works Novice and Grace, at 6 months, is a work in progress. Aston took her to 'C' only – "a dog of a lifetime".

Jane judges at all levels except Championship as well as stewarding at all the levels. Jane likes to see a motivated and happy dog when she judges and she hopes that is the sort of dog that is produced with her training.

Please bring toys or plenty of food with you to motivate your Sheltie. And we will endeavour to have a fun day with our training.

Training will cover all standards and will start at 9.00 a.m. and will last until 5.00 p.m. with an hour break for lunch. There will also be short coffee breaks during the morning and afternoon. Teas and coffees will be provided but please bring a packed lunch with you.

The cost for the training is:

Dog and Handler	£30 for Section Members	£35 for Non Members
Spectators	£15 for Section Members	£20 for Non Members



## DIRECTIONS TO THE VENUE.

The Grazeley Village Hall is easily reachable by car from A33 the Basingstoke Road / M4 J11. For sat nav use post code RG7 1LD

A map can be found on [www.grazelyvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.grazelyvillagehall.org.uk)

Please obtain and return a booking form as soon as possible, making cheques payable to: **E.S.S.C. WORKING SECTION**

Please return the booking form with your cheque to:-

Hon. Secretary Mrs Lesley Lubbi.

Layash, 2 Celia Crescent, Ashford, Middx TW15 3NW

Telephone No 01784 258334 Mobile No 07770 584854

e-mail: [info@esscworkingsection.co.uk](mailto:info@esscworkingsection.co.uk)

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## **Don't Mess with Old Dogs**

An old Sheltie starts chasing rabbits and before long discovers that he's lost. Wandering about, he notices a huge young fox heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch.

The old Sheltie thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in trouble now!"

Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching fox.

Just as the fox is about to leap, the old Sheltie exclaims loudly: "Boy, that was one delicious fox! I wonder if there are any more around here?"

Hearing this, the young fox halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees.

"Whew!" says the fox, "That was close! That old Sheltie nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the fox. So off he goes.

The squirrel soon catches up with the fox, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the fox.

The fox is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, squirrel, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old Sheltie sees the fox coming with the squirrel on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?" But instead of running, he sits down with his back to his attackers pretending he hasn't seen them yet.

Just as they get close enough to hear, the old Sheltie says "Where's that squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another fox!"

Moral of this story...Don't mess with the old dogs... age and skill will always overcome youth and treachery!

## ESSC Working Section Trophies

1. All trophies are for points gained during the calendar year **AT KENNEL CLUB LICENSED SHOWS ONLY** and will be presented at the Working Section's AGM in February. It is important for trophies to be returned for the AGM (cleaned where appropriate). If members cannot attend the AGM to collect their awards, they will not be sent the trophy, unless they pay the cost of postage.
2. Trophies are available only to paid-up members of the ESSC who subscribe to "Sheltie at Work", with the exception of the Lonicera Shield, Jarvis Plate and the Knight Trophy. If you are a parent and your children are competing, they must also be members.
3. All applications for awards must be submitted to the Trophy Secretary by **6th February** (postmark).
4. Where a dog is owned in partnership, each member of the partnership must be a member of the ESSC and the Working Section at the time of entering shows. The dog must be entered in joint names at all shows.
5. For Obedience and/or Agility classes if a dog is handled by a person other than the owner(s), each handler must separately submit their points for the dog, provided they are members of the ESSC and subscribe to "Sheltie at Work", with the exception of the Stornaway Dual Purpose Trophy.
6. Send in your points for all of the disciplines, no matter how few you have, and do not forget to include any places from Restricted Classes from shows arranged by any Shetland Sheepdog Club.

Claims for the Tony Seys Trophy are worked out by the Trophy Secretary, as everyone is eligible for this award.

**Claims will only be accepted on the proper forms (or photocopies). Please use a separate form for each Sheltie.**

**When requesting forms, please state which discipline(s) you are claiming for.**

Forms can be downloaded from the Working Section website **[www.esscworkingsection.co.uk](http://www.esscworkingsection.co.uk)** under "AGM" or by sending a S.A.E. (at least 8½" x 4½" or 22 x 11 cm) to our Trophy Secretary:

Mrs Rhoda Burdett, 33 Downedge, Redbourn, Herts., AL3 7JR

Email: [rse43@hotmail.com](mailto:rse43@hotmail.com) Phone 07746 593193

## TROPHY POINTS SYSTEM

### Agility

Agility points for **Agility and Jumping classes at KC Open and Championship shows and those restricted to Shetland Sheepdogs** (no special classes, fun classes, finals, pairs or teams count) are as follows

1st = 6 points	4th = 3 points
2nd = 5 points	5th = 2 points
3rd = 4 points	6th = 1 point

CC = 20 points, RCC = 10 points.

Placings in qualifying rounds in Championship classes score as above.

### Obedience

Obedience points for **KC Limited, Open and Championship shows and those restricted to Shetland Sheepdogs** are as follows

1st = 12 points	4th = 6 points
2nd = 10 points	5th = 4 points
3rd = 8 points	6th = 2 points

CC = 40 points, RCC = 20 points

### Working Trials

Working Trials are worth treble the Agility points, but in addition any dog competing but not placed gets one point.

### Mixed Discipline Trophies

Tony Seys Sheltie of the Year Trophy  
(Runner up - Rosemary Seys Trophy)

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Agility, Obedience and Working Trials. The Trophy Secretary will work this out for each claim submitted.

### The Moonen Shiel Trophy

(Best of Opposite Sex - The Fairmead Trophy)

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Obedience and Working Trials at Championship level only.

### The Javis Plate

For the best Junior Handler up to 18 years old on 1st January in the year points are claimed. Points from Agility, Obedience, Working Trials plus designated Junior classes count.

### The Suky Trophy (Runner up - The Stella Trophy)

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining most points in Novice and 'A' Obedience classes and/or Grades 3-5 Agility classes.

### The Stornaway Dual Purpose Shield

(Best of Opposite Sex - The Pixham Shield)

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in both Breed **and** Obedience classes. Points for placings in Breed classes will be award as per Agility classes.

### The Knight Trophy

For the Best Rescue Shetland Sheepdog gaining points in Agility and/or Obedience classes.

### Dukeson Memorial Rosette for Obedience and Breed

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler with the most points gained in Pre-Beginners and Beginners Obedience classes **and** Breed classes. If Pre-Beginners is not scheduled or the handler wins out of class, then Novice places will count. Handlers are only eligible to win this award once.

## **Agility Trophies**

### The Night Shadow Trophy (Runner Up - The 3D's Trophy)

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in any KC Agility or Jumping class including Championship level.

### The Foula Trophy (Runner Up - The Jazzie Cup)

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler still eligible for KC Grades 1 and 2 Agility on 1st January in the year the points are claimed. Points from higher classes can be counted if the dog wins out of Grade 2.

## **Obedience Trophies**

### **ESSC Obedience Section Trophy**

**(Best of Opposite Sex - The Doris Powell Memorial Trophy)**

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in any KC Obedience Show

### **The Hildarke Trophy**

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Class 'C'. Obedience Champions are eligible to claim.

### **The Expresse Trophy**

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Class 'B'.

### **The Vines Perpetual Trophy**

**(Best of Opposite Sex - The Flintstones Trophy)**

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Novice classes.

### **The Ob.Ch. Purdy Trophy**

**(Best of Opposite Sex - The Rose Bowl)**

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Pre-Beginners and Beginners.

### **The Dukeson Rosette for Obedience**

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Pre-Beginners and Beginners. If Pre-Beginners is not scheduled or the handler wins out of class, then Novice places will count. Handlers are only eligible to win this award once.

### **The Quaich Trophy**

For the Best Veteran Shetland Sheepdog (aged 8 plus on January 1st the year the points are claimed) in any level Obedience classes.

## **Working Trials**

### **The Lonicera Shield**

For the Shetland Sheepdog and handler gaining the most points in Working Trials. Dogs competing in a Working Trial but not placed will receive one point.

## Contents

Editorial	2
Dates for your Diary	3
Obituary – Rosemary Seys	4
Obituary – Ann Perkins	7
Your Letters	8
Working News Update	10
Sheltie Camp 2013	13
Championship Show Obedience Results	16
More Zen for Dogs	22
Book Review: “Scaredy Dog!”	23
Obedience Training Day November 2013	24
Don’t Mess with Old Dogs	26
ESSC Working Section Trophies	27



***Beauty and Brains***