

# SHELTIE AT WORK

No. 80

Autumn 2016

Rowena Steady  
& Ollie (Ramavale  
Twist at Sunset)



Maryliese Happel  
& Gigi (Dukeson  
Hoosier Adagio)



Good Citizens Class finalists, Discover Dogs 2016

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## Editorial

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed towards this issue of 'Sheltie at Work'. My email is still doing strange things so apologies if you have had problems sending articles or photos to me. I will always let you know that I received your email, so if you don't hear from me, please try again and if you still don't have a reply, please phone me and hopefully we will be able to sort something out. Modern technology is great when it works, but is definitely sometimes sent to try us.

*Enjoy your Shelties!*

*Trisha Harding*

## CRUFTS 2017

Many of you will be competing at Crufts next year individually or in teams in the various activities. The Working Section likes to put the results on our website and in 'SAW', as well as publishing them in 'Dog World' and 'Our Dogs'. This is extremely difficult as the sites that show the results are not always correct and miss some things out altogether. **SO PLEASE PLEASE** let me know within a week if you have got a 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> place so our records are correct and up to date. Otherwise you could get missed off the list.

Congratulations on getting to Crufts.

Good Luck, but most of all enjoy your day.

Lesley Lubbi, Secretary

## **Dates for your Diary**

**Obedience Training Day with Liz Evans**

**Saturday 19th November 2016**

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

**Working Section A.G.M.**

**Sunday 26th February 2017**

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

**Rally Training Day with Lynne Moulson & Karen Marek**

**Saturday 1st April 2017**

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

Information and forms about any event can be obtained from me

**Lesley Lubbi, Hon. Secretary**

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**Tel: 01784 258334**

**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**”

H.T.M & Rally League link from our Website under “**RALLY/HTM**”

## **Glenda Mylchreest**

The ESSC Working Section has received a bequest from the late Glenda Mylchreest. She was a member of the ESSC for a long time and lived in Ballasalla on the Isle of Man.

The Working Section would like to set up a trophy or memorial rosette in her name and will give further details of what has been decided in the Spring issue of 'SAW'.



Glenda is the lady kneeling down with her Shelties on the right of the picture. She was a member of Isle of Man Dog Club for many years. She had quite a few Shelties over the years and as well as doing Obedience, she also enjoyed showing them. After she lost her husband Jack and her last dog, she would often call into our shop for her Sheltie fix.

Janette Mitchell

## **Obituary**

### **Derrey - Karmidale Just One Look**



This picture is of my beautiful Derrey (Karmidale Just One Look) doing Agility at our Open Show in May. Sadly he died completely out the blue in July. He was ten and we had been competing at Chadkirk at the weekend then he took ill on the Monday evening and died on the Tuesday.

He did Obedience and got my first Beginners win but he preferred Agility and got to Grade 6. We've only been going off Island for a few years so I'm sure he would have got to Grade 7 if we could have got to more shows. He had lots of places at Lisburn in June including two firsts so he was still very happy to do Agility and show the younger ones how to do it. Finlo really misses him and is not impressed at having to cope with my young collie Broc on his own.

Janette Mitchell

## **Obituary - Glen**

**Ag Ch Japaro Cool Jazz at Craygill AW(D) RL6 P-Beg Ex**

**12/12/08 – 8/09/16**



At the beginning of July the KC announced that Glen was the first dog of any breed to be awarded the new Platinum Agility Warrant (gained in late May).

The week later, following various concerns about his health, we received the devastating diagnosis that he had inoperable cancer and had only weeks left. We felt he'd enjoy the remaining time most if we carried on doing the things he liked best – shows and walks. This turned out to be the right decision as he so obviously enjoyed himself. Walks had to be shorter, so we chose the best parts of his favourite walks. Aided by the new lower Agility heights, he upgraded his Platinum Agility Warrant to Diamond with typically excellent results. In Obedience he finally found the confidence to shine, and at the two shows he was able to attend he won Pre-Beginners at the first and Beginners at the second.

Further health concerns meant he then had to retire, but he still enjoyed short walks, and was as busy as ever around the house, including daily Obedience training sessions which he adored. His last whole day with us was a busy and happy one and we had reason to hope he'd stay with us longer, but it was not to be. When my husband worked away from home Glen used to sleep on our bed and kiss my face when I woke. When Clive was home (and he is now retired) our daddy's boy kissed him instead. But on his last morning he kissed us both. By mid-morning it was obvious he'd reached the end and we said the heart-breaking goodbye to our brilliant little star.

As a handler you hope that your increased experience enables each dog to have greater skills than the last, but Glen was somehow better than that, with his understanding reaching a higher level. He learnt very quickly, remembered what he'd learnt, and as he matured did not get bored during training or distracted at shows. It was a surprise to discover just how good he was, despite his small size and the fact that his handler was a grandmother. He was never hard work to train or run, the only hard work being how to keep up with him and enable him to reach his potential. Most of all he was very accurate, careful, and totally aware that the course needed to be done the way I asked. The great highlights of his Agility career were gaining his title in 2014 (4 tickets and 6 reserves), his six appearances at Crufts (in Championship and Crufts Singles) and holding the Working Section's Tony Seys Sheltie of the Year Trophy four times.

As his kennel-mate Scott (Myndoc Minstrel for Craygill AW(G) RL6 P-Beg Ex) was close to retirement from Agility, we started Rally in early 2015. Glen had no Obedience training but gained his level 6 title within a year. He wasn't entirely convinced though, there being too many 'stationary' exercises for a speed enthusiast. Then we gave Obedience a try, with our first show being at the end of 2015. Glen loved recall, retrieve and scent, and found the heelwork suitably flowing. He really enjoyed the training but was initially nervous in the ring, with no Agility equipment, plenty of large dogs close by and a judge who followed him round. With more experience he began to show real flair and it is a particular regret that there wasn't time to see how well he developed in this new sphere.

Glen enthusiastically embraced all aspects of his life, usually loudly. I have had some splendid Shelties, and hope to have more, but to me Glen was truly exceptional and I don't expect to see his like again. I am honoured to have been his partner and we treasure every memory.

Jean Tuck, September 2016

## **Platinum & Diamond Agility Warrants**

The new level of Platinum Agility Warrant was introduced in January of this year in order to provide handlers with additional goals to aim for once they have achieved the well-established Gold Agility Warrant.

The Platinum Warrant requires 1,200 points, 400 of which must have been achieved in 2016.

An even higher level, Diamond, requiring 1,600 points, was also introduced this year.

Competitors win points from gaining clear rounds and being placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> in agility or jumping classes.

A points table is available on the Kennel Club website via the following link:

[www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/agility/new-to-agility/agility-warrant/](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/agility/new-to-agility/agility-warrant/)

# **Sheltie Obedience Training Day**

**Saturday 19th November 2016**

**Trainer: Liz Evans**

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

We are fortunate to have Liz this year who herself works in Obedience, working collies and gundogs, as well as training many of the smaller breeds.

The day will be for the pet Sheltie which has not done very much as well as the ones that have a little more experience. Please bring plenty of treats or toys that your dog loves to play with as the main thing is that you both have fun while you are learning to teach the exercises that you need to enjoy this discipline. So don't be put off when you read this by thinking that everyone will be much better than you and your dog, as they could be feeling just that way as well.

Training will cover all standards and will start at 9.30 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. Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring a packed lunch with you.

The cost of the training is

Dog and Handler £30 for Section Members £35 for Non Members

Spectators £15 for Section Members £20 for Non Members

Booking forms are available from Lesley Lubbi,  
tel. no. 01784 258334 or e-mail: [info@esscworkingsection.co.uk](mailto:info@esscworkingsection.co.uk)

## **DIRECTIONS TO THE VENUE.**

Grazeley Village Hall is easily reachable by car from A33,  
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)

## **Working News Update**

It has been a busy summer for our Shelties, not only in the existing disciplines of Obedience and Agility, but also in the newer discipline of Rally, with some teams competing in all three. I don't know how you do it. After the excitement of Crufts there has been a full complement of shows to test us. These are the successes I know about.

### **Obedience**

In the Channel Islands, Tracey Baudins and Carolelen Cause a Dilemma (Indy) have won 1<sup>st</sup> places in Class 'A' and Class 'B', this being their 3<sup>rd</sup> 'B', making Indy 'C' only. They have now won their first Class 'C'.

Also in the Channel Islands, Bernie Baudins and Carolelen Causing Mischief (Tai), have had a 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Class 'B'

Sue Robinson has four dogs working from Novice to 'B'. With Briar Rose of Alnmac (Katie) she has won a 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place in Novice; with Heidron Starlight Dream at Alnmac (Alice) she has a 6<sup>th</sup> place in Novice; with Shelridge Distant Laughter (Dilys) she has had a 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in class 'B' as well as two 5<sup>th</sup> and two 6<sup>th</sup> places, and with Sheltysham Nightsong at Alnmac, working Novice they have had two 1<sup>st</sup> places, three 2<sup>nd</sup> places, two 4<sup>th</sup>, a 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. They have also won their first Class 'A'.

Pat Daniels tells me she and Hovelt Honeysuckle at Felthorn have had four 4<sup>th</sup> places, four 5<sup>th</sup> places and four 6<sup>th</sup> places in Class 'B'.

Hayley Clayton and Afterglow Solar Powered have won 1<sup>st</sup> in Class 'A' as well as 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> places in 'A'.

Caroline Le Poidevin and Condorvean Bobbin Joan have won a 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place in Class 'A' and a 6<sup>th</sup> in Novice.

Janette Mitchell and Shelridge Special Diamond (Finlo) have gained a 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and two 6<sup>th</sup> places in Novice, and in Class 'A' they have won a 2nd, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, two 5<sup>th</sup> places a 6<sup>th</sup>.

Sue Lang and Chelmarsh All the Way (Kete) have had two 2<sup>nd</sup> places, one 3<sup>rd</sup> and two 5<sup>th</sup> places in Novice and a 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place in 'A'.

Teresa Davies and Briggsview Crazy Lady (Daisy) have had a 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Novice and I am told they have also won 1<sup>st</sup> in Novice.

Lilian Turner with Melcette Hallo Bud has gained a 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Novice.

Jenny Miller with Forestland Flute (Toonie) has won two 1<sup>st</sup>'s in Beginners and a 5<sup>th</sup> and two 6<sup>th</sup> places in Novice; and with Forestland Spring Footsteps (Tigger) she has won a 2<sup>nd</sup> place and a 3<sup>rd</sup> in Beginners, and two 6<sup>th</sup> places in Novice.

Wendy Clark and Colmae Casanova have had a 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> place in Beginners and I heard they also have gained a 1<sup>st</sup> in Beginners, but I haven't had it confirmed.

Vanessa Hardin with Shellysham Medley of Gold has won a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> place in Beginners; and with Shellysham Miss Mayhem she has won a 1<sup>st</sup> place, two 2<sup>nd</sup> places, and a 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place in Beginners.

Pat Townsend and Dellaph Skeroq Skedarcey (Darcey) have won a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> places in Beginners.

Heidi Dixon and Lightning Lily (Dizzy) have been doing well in Pre-Beginners, gaining one 1<sup>st</sup> place, four 2<sup>nd</sup> places, one 3<sup>rd</sup> place, three 4<sup>th</sup> places and one 5<sup>th</sup> place, culminating in a 6<sup>th</sup> place in Beginners.

Jean Tuck has started working her two Agility dogs in Obedience this year, winning a 1<sup>st</sup> place in Pre-Beginners with Ag.Ch. Japaro Cool Jazz (Glen), also a 2<sup>nd</sup> and two 4<sup>th</sup> places, going on to win a 1<sup>st</sup> in Beginners. With Myndoc Minstrel for Craygill AW(G) (Scott) she has won a 2<sup>nd</sup>, two 3<sup>rd</sup>, three 4<sup>th</sup>, and four 5<sup>th</sup> places in Pre-Beginners as well as a 4<sup>th</sup> place in Beginners.

Maryliese Happel and Dukeson Hoosier Adagio (Gigi) have two 1<sup>st</sup> places in Special Pre-Beginners and a 1<sup>st</sup> place in Pre-Beginners.

Dawn Wood and Janetstown Jewel Trail have won 1<sup>st</sup> place in Pre-Beginners.

Rowena Steady with Ramavale Twist at Sunset (Ollie) and Maryliese Happel with Dukeson Hoosier Adagio (Gigi) have qualified for the Special Pre-Beginners Good Citizens class at Discover Dogs in October.

## **Agility**

In July Christine Wingate-Wynne and Ag. Ch. Obay Tiz Wild (Zev) travelled to France with KC Agility Team GB to compete in the European Open Agility Championships. They are also in Spain as I write this with KC Agility Team GB for the FCI World Agility Championships, together with another two of our members, Chantal Karyta and Licosateria Mai Sunseeker (Savannah) and Lian Knight and Licosateria Mai Rising Son (Sonic).

In July Jean Tuck with Ag. Ch. Japaro Cool Jazz (Glen) became the first team in the country to be awarded the new Platinum Agility Warrant accompanied by a suitable fanfare from the Kennel Club. The following month they had gained the final points for the new Diamond Agility Warrant.

## **Rally**

As this is a new discipline, and unfamiliar to me, I am unsure how to interpret your results. So I am just reporting the titles gained at the different levels.

Jean Tuck tells me that both her dogs, Ag.Ch. Japaro Cool Jazz at Craygill (Glen), and Myndoc Minstrel For Craygill (Scott) have gained their Rally Level 6 titles.

Pat Townsend and Dellaph Skeroq Skedarcey (Darcey) are now working Level 5.

Lynne Moulson and Gamarti Inspiration (Tiffy) are now working Level 5.

Chris Graham and Shadoway Game of Chance (Perry) have their RL4Ex. title and are working level 6.

Karen Marek and Mohneses Man on a Mission (Pippin) are now working Level 6.

Rhoda Burdett and Licosatria Mai Rising Star (Brooke) have their RL1 title, while her Chandling Ebony Charge (Brodie) has his RL3 Ex. title.

Rowena Steady and Ramavale Twist at Sunset (Ollie) are now Level 3, having gained RL2Ex.

Dawn Wood and Janetstown Jewel Trail (Dee-Dee) are now RL2Ex.

Maryliese Happel's Dukeson Hoosier Adagio (Gigi) has also achieved Level 2 KCRally this year

Vanessa Hardin has gained RL1Ex. titles with both Sheltysham Miss Mayhem (Tutti Frutti) and Sheltysham Medley of Gold (Jelly Tot)

Margaret Wildsmith's Chalmoor Moon Charm with Sandiebeck (Charm) and Tachnamadra Laurencin with Sandiebeck (Jodie) have both gained their Rally 1 Excellence.

Donna Mair and Silverbrink Mac (Mac) have their RL1 title.

### **Heelwork to Music**

Jenny Knudson tells me that she and Kelgrove Man in Blue (Champ) have gained a 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Novice Freestyle HTM, which means they now move up to Intermediate classes.

I hope I haven't missed too many results as I am relying on the League tables as well as your emails. Please keep the news coming.

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### **21st FCI Agility World Championships 2016, Zaragoza, Spain**

**Medium Team** - Agility Team GB placed 7th.

The team of four included three Shelties:

- Chantal Kartya with Savannah (Licosateria Mai Sunseeker)
- Christine Wingate-Wynne with Zev (Ag Ch Obay Tiz Wild)
  - Lian Knight with Sonic (Licosateria Mai Rising Son)

**Small Team** - Agility Team GB placed 20th, including one Sheltie:

- Louise Eden with Fuze (Obay The Boyz High Voltage)

# FCI World Championships, Zaragoza 2016



Simon Peachey Photography

from left to right:

Christine Wingate Wynne with Sheltie Ag Ch OBay Tiz Wild (Zev)

Lian Knight with Sheltie Licosateria Mai Rising Son (Sonic)

Chantal Karyta with Sheltie Licosateria Mai Sunseeker (Savannah)

Kate Cook with Bonamssa Blonde Bomshell (Phoebe) reserve

Natasha Wise with Ag Ch Raenne's Flipping Heck (Dizzy)

Photo by Simon Peachey

I was very proud to be able to represent Team GB at the FCI World Championships with my homebred Sheltie Sonic. We travelled out there on a coach with the team on Monday and arrived in Zaragoza on Tuesday evening. Sonic coped very well travelling such a long distance to Spain in 20 hours each way on the coach with the Team and still trying so hard to perform at his best after losing his best mate Sizzle 10 days before.

There was not much of a rest before the competition. The team had booked an hour unofficial training for the team on Wednesday 9am which went really well, dogs and handlers were all looking good and ready to start the competition on Thursday.

There was a vet check for the team dogs and measuring for dogs that were competing at the Worlds for the first time. No dogs measured out which is always good news. We also had 8 min 45sec for the official training in the venue, running on the actual carpet and equipment. Everything went well. We got a couple of hours rest before the opening ceremony. Large Team Jumping was up and running soon after the opening ceremony on Thursday afternoon.

Sonic was running in the Medium Team event. The Medium Team Jumping was on first thing on Friday morning. We got to the venue very early to get ready to walk the course. The European courses are very different to the ones we normally run in the UK. They generally are more open space, challenging and 22 obstacles. Being part of Team GB, the dogs were well looked after by the Team Physio Maria Johnston and the handlers had the Handler Fitness Trainer Ruth MacGill. While we the handlers had our warm up routine with Ruth, the dogs were warmed up by Maria and the Team Vet Hana McNicholas.

As a team, we had to run one after another. Christine and Zev ran first, followed by me and Sonic, then Chantal and Savannah and lastly Natasha and Dizzy. Zev ran clear to start off with. I was rather calm outside but nervous inside but Sonic put in a clear with 2.15 time faults. Savannah unfortunately got eliminated but Dizzy put in a fast clear round. The team was lying 13th after the Jumping round. Team Agility was the last class on Saturday, going in the reversed order of the result from Jumping. Again Zev put in a steady clear; Sonic got 5 faults on the Dog Walk, Savannah sadly got an elimination and Dizzy ran a stunning clear. We got 7th in Team Agility and 7th overall.

This was my first time at FCI World Championships and the atmosphere was amazing, nothing like I had ever done before. Apart from watching the top handlers and dogs, the best part of the competition was the Agility Dance during the break while they were setting the new course. Most supporters and some handlers joined in the dance. I was in there as well joining the silly Agility Dance moves. It made me feel more relaxed and prevented me from getting too nervous about my run. I thoroughly enjoyed my great experience out there. The return journey didn't go too bad at the end as I think we were all too tired and spent most of the time sleeping on the way home.

Lian Knight

## **Special Pre-Beginners Good Citizens finalists**

### **Gigi – Dukeson Hoosier Adagio**



Two hat tricks in the only two shows we went to this year! How is that possible?

Although it is just the beginning of what is hoped will be continued success in Obedience, the opportunity to compete in the 2016 GCD Special Pre-Beginner semi-finals at Discover Dogs has not been a straightforward journey.

Thirty years on and I was finally able to have a dog again after my work and life commitments allowed. It was great luck that one of the first people I contacted was Betty Straw. When I found out her Dukeson Indiana JW (which is the place where I was born in the US) had a sable bitch puppy in a litter by Evad's Sommer Surprize, I knew the fates were helping me out.

Obedience has changed so much since I competed as a teenager in the USA and of course the KC is very different to American Obedience. I knew from the beginning I wanted to compete in Obedience with my pup but I didn't know where to start.

Finding an Obedience club and trainers in the London area has been difficult. Fortunately, several people recommended the new sport of Rally (both Talking Dogs and KC Rally) and it has really helped my training and confidence. At Rally trials, I was able to chat with people and learned more about UK Obedience. I've now had the good fortune to work with some wonderful trainers at the ESSC training days and with fellow Sheltie owners Lyn Fagg, Susan Coulstock, Peter Lubbi, and of course Betty Straw as well as some of the other top trainers in the sport.

Another unforeseen challenge has been simply getting to the shows. Being a Londoner I don't have a car, so Gigi is accustomed to lots of walking, tubes, trains, and buses. Who says Shelties are delicate and spoiled? We bussed, tubed, "trained" and walked miles and miles to both shows this year and little 'posh paws' proved Shelties are made of stern stuff.

We had beautiful weather for our first Obedience show at North West Kent the weekend of July 23/24. On Saturday, I was thrilled to pieces to place second in Introductory with judge Jean Poguntke (no Special Pre-Beginner GCD class that day) and on the way home thought, "That's our share of good luck for the weekend."

Up early to make the same journey Sunday July 24 and to my great surprise we placed first in both Introductory with judge Gill Winyard and the Good Citizen Dog (GCD) Special Pre-Beginner class with judge Pauline Heather. Winning first in the GCD Special Pre-Beginner class qualified us to compete at Discover Dogs at ExCel London Sunday October 23.

The only other show I could book this year was BAGSD Southern Show Sunday September 11. I had already entered and I was curious to see if our win in July was a fluke. Gigi won first place again after a run-off for GCD Special Pre-Beginner with judge Ann Cook against another lovely dog that had also already qualified for the semi-finals.

Complete shock ensued when we also placed first in Pre-Beginner with judge Val Seward. It was only the second time I had entered Pre-Beginner.

Two hat tricks in the only two shows we entered this year? We have now won out of three classes in just two shows, which is a little scary!

At least the commute for us to the London ExCel center will be easy this time and I'm really looking forward to competing at Discover Dogs. We'll do our best but, most importantly, try to savor the moment and enjoy the day.

A million thanks to everyone who has helped me and been so encouraging along the way, you are the reason we are able to be in the ring October 23.

Good luck to all the competitors!

Maryliese Happel

## Ollie – Ramavale Twist at Sunset



You can teach an old dog new tricks!

I've had Ollie – Ramavale Twist at Sunset – 6 years now. He came to me through the ESSC Rescue via Sheila Beeney. Peter Lubbi was a great help getting him registered in my name as the previous owner had died and couldn't exactly sign the transfer paperwork!

I spent a couple of years building his confidence and then we discovered Agility training and, shortly after that, the Working Section and the wonderful Sheltie Camp each May. The instructors there were so willing to share their Sheltie training secrets and Ollie passed his Bronze and Silver Good Citizens tests there.

Ollie is so willing and tries so hard for me in every way but, although he is most willing to "ping" an Agility round (especially at the new LHO) I wondered if there was something less energetic he could try. Another Sheltie friend, Judi Packett, told me about a Rally competition happening just 5 minutes from my house so I went and gave it a go and Ollie Q'd in level 1 & 2 straight off! I then went to the ESSC Rally training in March and we stayed with Peter and Lesley. I remember picking Peter's brains about the Special Pre-Beginners Good Citizens class and thought it sounded fun.

Our first attempt was in Exeter and we really enjoyed it. Our second attempt was at our club show – Burnham on Sea – and when we qualified the tears of joy just flowed!

We are all booked in at the TravelLodge at ExCel for the 23rd of October and will make the long journey from Somerset for this "once in a lifetime" opportunity.

Who says you can't teach an old dog new tricks?

Rowena Steady

*Good luck to you both.*

*Hope you have a great day at Discover Dogs.*

## **Rally Training Day**

### **Saturday 2nd April 2016**

**Trainers: Lynne Moulson & Karen Marek**

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

We were very lucky to have Lynne Moulson and Karen Marek for the ESSC Working Section Rally Training Day April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016. Both Lynne and Karen are experienced competitors and enthusiastic teachers of Rally, a new Kennel Club sport in the UK. Rally was first intended as a more relaxed and fun introduction to the stricter requirements for competitive Obedience but there are now six levels increasing in difficulty and precision as the team advances.

In the six different levels of KC Rally approximately 15 signs are placed in a ring. After the initial walk-through, the handler and dog flow through the numbered course without instruction from a steward. The judge and steward stand nearby in the ring to observe and note any faults. Close heelwork is encouraged, but in the initial levels the team's enthusiasm and attention to each other are also highly valued. Without repeating commands, you can verbally encourage your dog throughout.

There was a significant turnout of about 20 handlers for the ESSC Rally Training Day in April with lots of lovely Shelties and Shelties' people turning up first thing on the bright spring morning. While we were having our coffees, the training started with Lynne and Karen giving us a brief explanation of Rally and a demonstration of some of the first signs. It was soon "up and at 'em" for all of us with our dogs to have a go at the signs involving weaving through the cones and reading the Level 1 signs for the different kinds of weaves. Although it initially seemed daunting to everyone, by the end of the 10-minute practice everyone was weaving dizzily and the dogs were enjoying the activity and extra treats.

Before midday, Karen and Lynne then explained some of the other signs requiring the various types of turns in the beginning to intermediate levels. They organized it so that several of us could work through the different signs at the same time, keeping everyone off their seats and earning our lunch!



The day's participants ranged from the curious beginner to some experienced Obedience competitors as well as "Rally-ers" preparing for the advanced levels 5 and 6. To their credit, Lynne and Karen were able to accommodate and help everyone at the various levels. After lunch, they set up two courses and continued to teach the beginners as well as the more advanced handlers. It was ideal for those with a little more experience to have the opportunity to go between the two rooms to work.

In the afternoon, we all had fun working with the more challenging signs such as a figure 8 through the dreaded four food bowls (yes!) and the jump. At the end of the full day, we walked a course laid out by Lynne and Karen and each of us was given the chance to participate in an unscored trial course with our dog.

Shelties are such enthusiastic, versatile workers that love learning new things and it was delightful watching them enjoy the day. As we know, Shelties are easily bored with endless repetition so Rally's unpredictability seems to suit them. No two Rally courses are alike and a Sheltie likes a challenge – or is that the handler?!

Many thanks to Lynne and Karen for an informative and challenging day and a special thank you to the ESSC working team for organizing the event. Seeing everyone starting the day with cautious interest and that quickly changing to enthusiasm for the sport was encouraging. In just a few hours, the participants discovered that they not only had a good foundation and basic training in KC Rally but could, with a little more work, go on to compete in their first show.

There are more and more Rally trials now and there will be the first Rally competition at Crufts this year as well. Right now throughout the country, there are also Shetland Sheepdog Rally Obreedience teams hoping to qualify for Crufts 2017.

The following websites can help you to learn more about this inclusive and challenging sport. Through these sites you can also contact people to find a local club or have someone come and teach a class at your local training club.

Kennel Club Rally: <http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/activities/rally/>

Rally News: <http://www.rallynews.co.uk>

Facebook Rally: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rallyonews/>

Marieliese Happel



# Rally Training Day

Saturday 1st April 2017

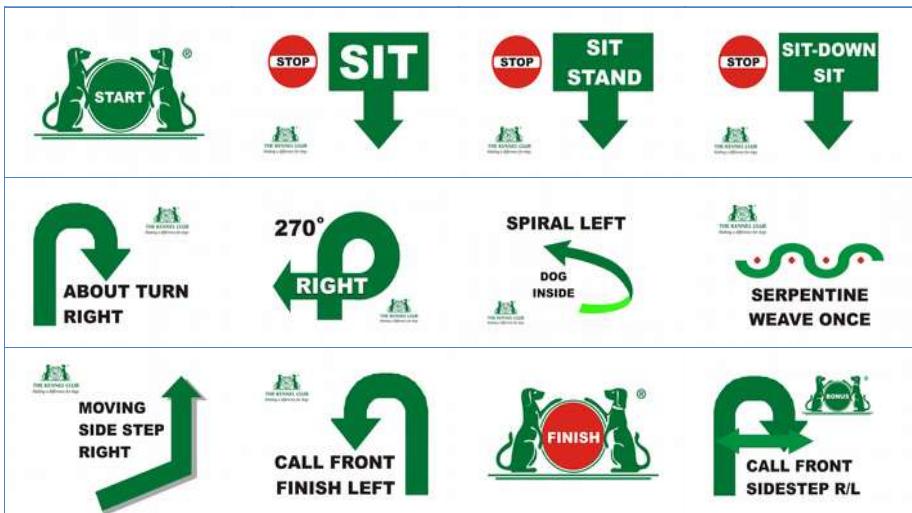
Trainers: Lynne Moulson & Karen Marek

Grazeley Village Hall, Church Lane, Grazeley, Reading, RG7 1LD

Rally is the latest discipline for dogs that has been recognised by the Kennel Club. It involves working your dog around a numbered course of obedience-based exercises. There are six levels and each dog and handler team start at Level 1, which is performed on lead. Levels 3 to 6 are performed off lead. It is designed to be fun, yet still offering challenges, especially at the higher levels.

There are 30 exercises at Level 1 and these are the foundation for progression. In competition you enter the ring with 200 points and the course is timed. Deductions are made for any faults, (e.g. tight lead) and in the event of a tie on points, the fastest time wins. A qualifying round is 170 points or more and three qualifying rounds take you up to the next level.

Some examples of exercises are shown below: -



The trainers will be Lynne Moulson and Karen Marek.

Lynne has had Shelties for nearly thirty years and has a background of Agility and Heelwork to Music. Rally was taken up to help improve the focus with one of those Shelties – Tiffy – and liking it so much, they went on to compete. Tiffy excelled herself at her first Level 3 trial and achieved first place with a perfect score. Lynne's Shelties, Katie and Tiffy, have now both achieved a Level 5 qualifying round. Lynne also teaches Rally to members of the Agility club where she trains and a few of the people have gone on to compete successfully.

Karen has had Shelties for many years and competed in Obedience with her late Sheltie Harry, and then Pippin. Rally was taken up as a change to Obedience, in which Pippin has excelled, not only qualifying but gaining first place on four consecutive Rally trials. Karen's Pippin has now achieved his Level 6 Title and just needs one more qualifier at 190 to have achieved the Rally Level 6 Ex.

Alongside learning about Rally, the training day will revolve around having fun with your Shelties. So please bring tasty treats and/or a toy for your dogs.

The training will start at 9.30 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.

Grazeley Village Hall is easily reachable by car from A33, the Basingstoke Road. M4 J11

For sat nav, use post code RG7 1LD

The cost of the training is

Dog and Handler £30 for Section Members £35 for Non Members

Spectators £15 for Section Members £20 for Non Members

Booking forms are available from Lesley Lubbi,

tel. no. 01784 258334 or e-mail: [info@esscworkingsection.co.uk](mailto:info@esscworkingsection.co.uk)

## **Book Review**

### **“Beyond the Backyard: Train Your Dog to Listen Anytime, Anywhere”**

by Denise Fenzi

Dr Ian Dunbar writes:

“This book starts where most dog training books end. Rather than describing how to teach basic manners in controlled situations, *Beyond the Backyard* assumes that your dog will usually come, sit, stay and walk nicely on leash in non-distracting settings. It then takes a quantum leap by teaching dedicated dog owners how to control their dogs when away from home, when off-leash and when in the presence of tempting alternatives and distractions. In other words *Beyond the Backyard* teaches what to do in the real world and without the crutch of a cookie in the hand. This of course is what dog owners really want to know – a training plan that works in real-life situations, when guests come to the front door, during picnics in the park, when a cat or squirrel darts across the road and when off-leash in parks or on walks. I absolutely love it!”

What more of a recommendation could you want!

The book is divided into three parts. The first part is educational – about the theory and philosophy of training, but if you prefer you can skip this bit and start straight away at the next part.

The second part is practical – the “how-to” part of the book with a plan to follow: The “two-treat method”, introducing distractions, changing locations, reducing and replacing “cookies” (you soon get used to the Americanisms in the book).

Finally, the third part is problem solving and trouble-shooting, including how to handle mistakes (human and canine) and when fear gets in the way of learning.

There is also a free companion *Instructors Guide* e-book available for professional trainers to use with their classes.

Trisha Harding

## **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, Javis 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** 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 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 awarded as per Agility classes.

### The Knight Trophy

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

## **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 Expressse 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 Quaich Trophy**

For the best Veteran Shetland Sheepdog (aged 8 plus on 1st January in 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.

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**Working Section Rally Training Day**  
**April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016**