

SESS NEWS



WINTER 2008

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Dear Members

Wow, this year just seems to have flown by, with no summer to speak of, it seems that we were constantly in our wellies and towelling down our dogs after their wet and muddy walks. Being a long coated breed that collects water and mud I wonder if we can blame global warming for the decline in registrations of English Setters with the Kennel club!!

After many years of support Brian and Ann Hall retired from the Committee, we thank them both for hard work and input whilst on the Committee. At the AGM Anne Montell, Beryl Mumford and Colin Critchell were voted onto the committee and have already showed their worth at the Open show where we were again blessed with good weather and a visit from the KC Field Officer who graded the show "Excellent".

I mentioned in the last Newsletter, that as the number of English setter exhibits falls, we are still looking for an alternative venue where we could hold an unbenched Championship show, thereby reducing entry fees. A few venues have been investigated, one particular venue ticked all the boxes but unfortunately the lighting was that typically yellow sports hall lighting. Other suggestions have been made and are to be investigated.

I must say that I thoroughly enjoyed judging Bitches at our Championship Show this year and thought that the show management team worked very hard to ensure the smooth running of the show. My thanks go to all the Committee especially our Chairman, Jane Bishop, who took over my duties and even handled the problem of my co-judge falling ill at the last moment with ease.

By the time you read this, the Society will have again run a day of talks with Peter Cockett talking on "Orthopaedic conditions of the growing dog & Herpes- an update" with Mrs Carol Coode (Warringah) speaking on "How to breed your own Champion" both speakers are most entertaining and informative and we can only hope that Members enjoyed it. Running in parallel with the talks there was also a Module 1 Judging seminar for people aspiring to the Joint Judges "C" list. As one can appreciate, these events take a lot of organisation and effort to run, not to mention the cost of the venues these days, so it is a little dispiriting to see so few tickets have been sold as we go to press. (*Mid Sept*).

Lastly I would like to thank all the Committee for their efforts throughout the year and to Members for their support and hope you will continue to do so in the coming year.

Wishing you all every success in the New Year.

Best Wishes

Dave Lewis (Hon Secretary)

Dear Members

Another year has come and gone with Christmas looming up fast and summer holidays seeming ages ago.

We said goodbye to Brian and Ann Hall as they decided not to stand for re-election at the AGM, Brian joined the Committee approximately fifteen years ago and Ann joined shortly afterwards. I would like to thank them for all their support and hard work over the years and hopefully look forward to seeing them at our future shows.

At Discover Dogs Joyce and I with help from Val & Steve Willet setup the stand which thankfully had been repositioned in the centre of the show, this had been done over the last few years by Rita Aldridge and Jennifer Barlow, who did the Sunday instead. I did not think it was as busy as past years whether it was the Lord Mayor's show that was also on that day or that people's interest in dogs is on the wane, what with the cost and the busy lifestyle that they live nowadays. Anyway we all enjoyed the day talking to prospective new owners together with present and past owners who just wanted to talk about their Setters and any problems they have had and give ours a cuddle of course!

I took on the role as Show Secretary for the Championship Show in November and for the first time ever I was told, the dog judge, Ros Croft had to withdraw due to illness, it had to happen to me! After consulting the K.C. and scouring judging lists for the last and next twelve months I approached Elwyn Evans who was available and delighted to step in at the eleventh hour. The show ran smoothly with our usual bumper raffle, thanks to prizes donated by members and committee. There were a few moans as expected about the change of judge but these were well handled by Sue Bryant and Dave Cozens, Show and Assistant Show Manager. As we no longer have the lunchtime classes, judging went straight through enabling exhibitors to make their way home in daylight a bonus at this time of year.

We are still considering the possibility of having to go unbenched for our Championship Show, your opinions vary with a majority leaning to keep the show benched but with the credit crunch and the high cost of fuel and falling entries we need your support to sustain this.

Unfortunately due to a prior engagement I was unable to attend the Open Show at Chieveley this year, the Officers and Committee managed perfectly well without me, did they in fact miss me ?? The judge this year was Marj Burt, she pulled a good entry in today's climate of low numbers with BIS going to Jane Dennis's Mariglen Francesca Fenston. For the second year running we managed to get a K.C. Field Officer, are they passing the word around that SESS's shows have a garden party atmosphere and the food is great, however we were once again graded "Excellent".

In October 2007 we held a talk at Elstead with Peter Cockett on Canine Welfare and Obstetrics and Pauls Coward on Skin. The speakers kept the talks low key and relaxed making them both informative and enjoyable. The committee served an excellent three course lunch, much appreciated by the participants. It was disappointing to see that only approximately a third of attendees were English Setter people, it does question the viability and work involved of putting on such events in the future.

My thanks go to Vale and Dave Cozens who each year spend many hours to produce this newsletter. To be able to continue they need your articles, jokes, funny stories because without them there is no newsletter, I hope this will not be the last!

A special thanks to Officers and Committee for their support throughout the year.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Jane Bishop (Chair)

Written by a Novice, over twenty years ago, when asked at the Judging Diploma

"What is your understanding of Breed Type?"

My understanding of "Breed Type"

I was first attracted to my Breed, the English Setter, by their wonderful mild expression, because beyond that expression is a wondrous joy of life itself, never melancholy, or sulky, this expression is lost somewhat in an E.S. with a light or round eye, giving a bland, and un-typically hard expression.

The head, which should never be coarse, is carried high in an elegant manner, [scenting the game] the skull should be oval from ear to low set ear, with a well defined stop, planes of equal length, jaws of nearly equal length, with a scissor bite, and wide nostrils, the head is carried on a rather long lean muscular neck, I saw that without the correct layback and angulation of the shoulder the length of neck could never be realised, and without the long upper arm, and the elbows well let down, [elbows under withers] the reach in forehand on the move would be lacking, if the E.S. has a short upper arm, the undesired hackney action [flashy!, but incorrect] would result, therefore wasting precious energy, that without the depth of brisket, allowing heart and lung room, the animal would tire more readily, good round bone was essential for substance.

A level topline is the desired, a lively slashing tail that never goes above the level of the short back, wide loins arched slightly, strong and muscular legs the result of correct exercise, thighs long from hips to hocks, the hocks to be free to enable powerful driving, and perpendicular to the terrain, the feet should be tight with well arched toes, pasterns straight and strong, suggesting endurance and resilience.

To complete the picture of elegance the English Setter must move with a free and graceful action, covering the ground with minimum of effort, as light on their feet as thistledown, to me it would as if the E.S. could be handled on a silk thread, this to me is "True Breed Type"

Anon.

RITANOR



Sh. Ch. Hollygrove Story Teller at Ritanor

3CC's 4 Res CC's

Born 23-09-2003 Blue Belton BVA/HD 3:7

Best in Show SESS Championship Show 2007

(Bournehouse Lord of Love x Hollygrove Tall Story)

**I was over the moon when Strider Gained the all important 3rd CC this year.
My thanks to Christine Normansell, Elwyn Evans and Sue Bryant and many
thanks to everyone for all the cards and Congratulation.**

**Brenda Wells
Te-Dory
Upham Street
Upham
Southampton
SO32 1JD
Tel 01489-860455**

Don't Panic , Don't Panic.

'Histiocytoma usually goes away without intervention.'

It was Sunday evening, we were just getting ready for bed , settling our dogs for the night, when I noticed a smallish bright red lump on the side of the second toe on the right front foot of my not quite five month old puppy bitch- Lily. It hadn't been there earlier Julie had cut her nails about 4pm , she would have noticed . The lump wasn't bothering her but suspecting that it could be a seed, we took her into the vet the following day.

It wasn't my usual vet but a young woman I didn't know. She was sure it wasn't a foreign body, and as Lily was taking no notice of it suggested that she could give her anti biotics or we could wait and see what happened , we chose the latter.

The lump grew at an alarming rate!. The following Monday I took her to see my usual vet, by now it was half the length of her toe. John immediately said "It's a histiocytoma— it's quite common in puppies although usually on the leg." He didn't want to remove it as it would go on it's own, although it could take some time.



Over the next week or so it grew until it was almost as big as her toe , had a solid angry looking red lump. By now Lily had started to be aware of it and of course was licking it I was finding various bad tasting sprays , to try and keep her off it. They usually worked for a short time but not for long.

I had to take one of my other dogs to the vet and told him the state of Lily's toe and that I was getting pretty desperate about it. John still didn't want to operate, Suggested I put a cortisone cream on it and try wrapping it up. Ha Ha. The self-adhesive bandage , soaked with Bitter Bite , lasted all of one minute! However I persisted with the cortisone (before going for a walks) twice a day. Low and behold the lump started to shrink, and had gone completely within a week.

Being patient, but observant, had saved Lily the danger of an anesthetic and discomfort whilst the wound healed , and me a hole in my bank account.

Rita Aldridge



CULVERWELL FLASHMAN @ 11 Months

SHCH Bournehouse Royal Colours X Culverwell Caerenza

The last dog I owned was Oldholbans Bartie, brother to Sh Ch Oldholbans Bertram, so FLASH is the first dog I've kept in 15 years and I'm re-learning The "Boys"

His first few outings were successful and although he still won't stand still he managed:-

BP Dog SESS CH
1st Junior ESSW CH
And best of all
1st Special PD CRUFTS

Anne Montell
"Highcroft"
47 Wareham Road
Lytchett Matravers
Poole.
Dorset
BH16 6DX
01202 623390

English Setter's Cruciate Ligament Accident - My Experience.

It was really my fault, but this is being wise after the event.

Back in April of this year Honey, age six, and I went for our usual morning walk in the fields on Woodland Trust property. Ideal dog walking land. Acres of well fenced fields and woodland areas and Woodland Trust welcomes dogs! Access via a stile with a gap left for your dog. A few days before the dog gap had been closed to sheep proof the site but to most dogs the stile was a skip and a jump. Honey was nervous the first time over until she was confident she could do it and then it was fun.

But this time it was raining and she slipped and fell badly on the far side really screaming in pain. I thought she had broken her leg but I could not find no obvious fracture so it was straight home in the car. Back home she was limping and would put no weight on her right back leg. Knowing how English Setters can put on the agony I decided to see how she was the next day but no improvement so off to the vet.

My Vet, Dr Justin Day, went over her and had no doubt what was wrong; He showed me how the leg and the knee joint were not properly attached because one of the ligaments had become detached. Anterior cranial cruciate ligament rupture was the problem. There were only two options. Either he himself did the operation to reattach the ligament or she could go away to a specialist for a more advanced treatment. Justin has successfully performed a number of similar p.rocedures so I was more than happy for it to be done locally and avoid the stress of sending her away.

It is, without doubt, a major operation involving an incision about a foot long from below the knee to thigh but she came home the same afternoon feeling very uncomfortable with the whole of her back leg strapped in layers of a lurid purple strapping as rigid as plaster of paris! She was very clinging and daddyish in true English Setter style so I had to put a mattress in the sitting room for the first few nights. Just try sleeping cuddled up with an English Setter's rigid back leg stuck passionately into your intimate parts.

A couple of weeks later the stitches were out and from then on main concentration has been restraining her from chasing the bunnies in the garden. Slowly since then it has building up on moderate exercise and from the third month going swimming (hydrotherapy) twice a week to build up the muscles. So far, so good. Her rear movement and extension would not be out of place in the show ring but once in a while, perhaps after she has tweaked something , it becomes a bit of an old war wound and prompts you take care and cut back on the exercise.

Honey of course has been a severe case but by no means uncommon and various degrees of damage can occur perhaps resulting from only a short term limp to longer term arthritis.

Moral

Statistics show that categories most at risk of cruciate knee problems are spayed six year old bitches, overweight middle aged dog handlers and of course overpaid footballers.

You have been warned!

PS A dog door has now been installed at the stile.

Glyn Meredith



CHELMSET ENGLISH SETTERS



Brenholm Morning Sun at Chelmset

Jodie and Jasmine

Posing for a photo.

**Mrs D. M. Bowen
15 Peartree lane
Danbury
Chelmsford
Essex
CM3 4LS**

LEWKINS



L. Soft Roo Shuffle and L. Hooch Koochi Kanga (17/10/2002)

Kanga and Roo on their annual holiday to the sea side.

Loved and cared for by
Dave, Anne and Adam Lewis
(& Sara when she visits from Devon)
217 Hale Drive
London NW7 3EH

020 8959 2476 email:- dave@lewkins.co.uk

BROOKEDGE



Photo Viv Young

GAMBOL b/b/tan 26-11-2002

Roszarke Romantic Pursuit x Sh CH Mariglen Steals The Scene

Gambol doing what he likes best, running free on the downs as he does every day.

Swagger also runs free but decided he didn't want his photo taken.

Thanks Jane for a lovely dog who unfortunately does not like showing

Mary & Viv Young
7 Binstead Lodge Road
Ryde
Isle of Wight
PO33 3SG
01983 565314

BROOKEDGE



Photo Viv Young

Swagger Orange / Belton 17-11-2006

Sh Ch Fishwick My Guy x Mandysset Ready Steady Go to Decoverly

What a lovely young dog this is, he is doing very well in the ring and he loves to show.

Jenny thanks for letting me have him.

Mary & Viv Young
7 Binstead Lodge Road
Ryde
Isle of Wight
PO33 3SG
01983 565314

SESS Championship Show 1988

I was up in my attic clearing out as one does now and then to make room for the next lot of storage and I came across the catalogue for the SESS first Championship Show held 13th November 1988 at Maidstone. Needless to say I sat down to have a good read, the judges were dogs-Miss D.E. Jones (Grelancot, better known to many of us as Jonesy) and bitches -Miss L Allan-Scott (Iroquois), the referee and junior handling was Mrs T Fuller (Northgate), sadly they are no longer with us.

I even went as far as to total us the number of dogs entered to see how they compared against those of today, there were 93 dogs and 130 bitches, a total of 223 dogs making an entry of 300 a bit different to what we are seeing nowadays, unfortunately with the high cost of entries and fuel it has made people a lot more selective.

Scanning through the list of exhibitors there are quite a few that are still showing, some others we still see but have now moved onto another breed and some that have retired, not surprising as we are talking of twenty years ago.

The CC winners were dogs – Jillian & Ken Spencer's Sorbus Spitting Image, bitches-

Linda Madden's Crystal Cracker of Capriole (B.I.S.), RCC Sally Marsden's Sh Ch Invogue Headliner and Elle & Nick Downer's Upperwood Penny from Heaven at Wynacre, I am sure many of us can remember them well.

Looking at the list of committee members there are five people who are still on the committee today, Doreen Bowen, Sue Bryant, Joyce Dunks, Terry Cooper and Dave Lewis all have served over 20 years, should they be up for a gold watch for long service!!!

These were the days when you came for a day out to meet friends for a good natter, show your dog and hopefully go home with a card, today we seem to have lost some of the friendly relaxed atmosphere, perhaps it is because nowadays showing has become more competitive, we now live busier lives or this is just the way the trend is now. Although I don't show as often as I did twenty years ago I still enjoy my days out at the shows.

Jane Bishop



1 September 2008

Dear Breed Club Secretary

I am writing to you regarding a Kennel Club dog owners' scheme, KC Dog, which I thought may be of interest to you and your members. Launched in April 2006, you may already be aware of the group, or even be a member. As a result of the introduction of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2006, local authorities have the power to implement dog control orders in your local area and issue penalties. The Kennel Club is concerned that these provisions are very general and wide-ranging. In addition, we primarily believe that local residents should be able to voice their concerns and comment on dog control orders before they are introduced. Although local authorities are obliged to consult on the orders, they are only required to do so via their local newspapers, meaning many people will not be made aware of developments.

However once you join KC Dog the Kennel Club will keep you updated about dog control orders by acting as an intermediary between local authorities and their residents, including you! In addition to this KC Dog will keep you updated about national campaigns such as those relating to electric shock collars and dangerous dogs, and let you know how to get involved.

Membership **is completely free** as we rely on our members to keep us updated about dog control orders in their local area. If you wish to become a KC Dog member please email your name, address and email address to kcdog@thekennelclub.org.uk or call 020 7518 1020.

For further information regarding KC Dog please visit

www.kcdog.org.uk

Best wishes

Caroline Kisko Kennel Club Secretary

ENGLISH SETTERS PTS

‘Willow ‘ Fieldcroft Obsession 10yrs

‘Rufus ‘ Orion Destiny 11 yrs

‘Dillon’ Dalreavoch Irish Quest 12 yrs

So Sadly Missed

Mrs S. Van-De-Linde
The Setters
18 Brooklands Road
Bedhampton
Hants
PO9 3NT.

‘Jody’ Earldoms Mischief Maker 25-10-95 to 12-02-08

The royal one of the family.

She did not do male dogs of any breed.

She did not do puppies of any age.

Her meals were to be on time and not much exercise than you!

Val & Dave Cozens
68 Battery Hill
Bishops Waltham
Hants
SO32 1BT

Just to let you know that we are still doing things right



Southern English Setter Society

Mr D Lewis
"Lewkins"
217 Hale Drive
Mill Hill
London
NW7 3EH
13 August 2008
Dear Mr Lewis

Southern English Setter Society Open Breed Show 13 July 2008

I am delighted to inform you that the Field Officer's report on a visit to your show was excellent.

The Committee is always pleased to learn that such high standards prevail, the success of your event is indicative of the hard work and organisation of those responsible for the show.

Since the Field Officer system has been in operation the standard of shows has increased at a very gratifying pace. The Kennel Club is grateful to your Society for its contribution in ensuring that canine events are run at a level that is obviously a benefit to all participants.

Yours sincerely

Kathryn Symns
Executive - Canine Activities

1-5 Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB
Telephone 0870 606 6750 Facsimile 020 7518 1058

email info@thekennelclub.org.uk www.thekennelclub.org.uk

Dyrham



Willow

(Dyrham Wild Cherry)

15.02.1994 - 19.01.2008

Willow was a character to be reckoned with; she was a feisty old lady, very vocal and certainly let you know what she wanted. She kept all the other dogs in line but she adored puppies, even at her age she played and chased Fleur (the latest edition to the Dyrham household). Willow was taken from us suddenly without warning with us one day and gone the next but her memory will be with us always.

Owned, bred and loved

Jane & Keith Bishop

*20 Merlin Ridge, Pucklechurch, Bristol BS16 9SU
Tel: 0117 9373263 Email: janembishop@tiscali.co.uk*

CRUFTS 1979 my REPORT. By Margaret Barnes

Novice d. (10) Smith's Bleudoyenne Benedict, tri, nice head and eye, good body, bone, in full coat, little lacking in quality, shoulders slightly upright. 2. Williams Wistaston School Heartbreak, tri, neat head, perfect shoulders, well laid back, good body, little short of coat and needs to muscle up in quarters. 3 Slack's Raffas Royal Flush, neat-headed orange, good front-end body, slightly upright shoulders, lacking a little quality and a little light in eye. Junior d. (14) I Ksvansgh's Karaste Hallmark, mature orange of generally good type and soundness; lacks a little quality in skull. 2 Montgomery's Suntop Spotted Thrush, blue, head, neck, shoulders appeal, not so mature as above, sound. 3 Birney's Silvamoon Secret Storm, another promising youngster of excellent type, more backward in body than those above, and sound. Yearling d. (7) 1 Foss1 Elswood Vagabond King, high quality tri, won easily, good head, body, front and quarters, slightly throaty. 2 Dye's Origo Petrel, elegant blue? good ribs rear end; head a little exaggerated, front could be better and needs to develop in middlepiece. 3. Allan-Scott's Iroquois Concerto, typey blue, neat head, good bone; outline not perfect and rear could be stronger when he would move better.

Graduate, d (9) Baker's Mandysset Mr Holly, excellent type, good coat, good head, front & quarters, won easily although a little long in back. 2. Petrel 3 Richardson's Mindenday Mintmaster compact youngster, neat head, slightly straight in stifle. Post Graduate d. (7) 1 Child's Arnsett Alfa, perfect neck, front & shoulders won him this class, good quarters, moved well, needs to mature in body, his head is a little overdone but without serious fault. 2 Wilkinson's Hurwyn Flightmaster, lovely expression though skull a little coarse, good body and bone, little loaded in shoulder and moved lethargically today. 3. Davies Bournehouse The Waltz King, nice head and balanced overall would like a size larger. Mid Limit. (5). 1 Wiggerham's Suntop Summerfinch tri, which won easily, sound, honest and typical dog. 2 Riches' Roydina Rancher orange, slightly coarse in skull and rear movement not pleasing, 3 Riches' Sunspot of Solotown, blue, little long in back, light in bone and weak in quarters. Limit d. (10) Davies' Iroquois Sansovino of Sundeala beautifully presented blue, full coat, expression good, body & bone excellent, skull a little coarse end slightly tied in front movement and could be more positive behind. 2. Wallis & Hurst's Kenandrs Lord Helpus, tri, nice head and eye, excellent neck & shoulders, rear movement not too good. 3. Fairbairn's Suntop Dark Breeze blue of excellent quality, his total lack of coat and feathering showed up his beautiful construction. Lethargic in movement today. Open d. (14) Lieper's James James from Farmacy his beautifully chiselled skull, finish of foreface, eye and expression won him the C.C. his '3rd' I believe. Very compact, strong in quarters, good bone, carrying a bit too much weight, which made him appear loaded in shoulder. 2 Vallender's Sh.Ch. Amber Starlight, high class, elegant orange, beautifully presented, well balanced, coat of lovely texture though a little wavy. 3 Davies' Sh.Ch. Iroquois Snowstorm of Sundeala has great substance, presentation immaculate. Not so positive in rear movement as above.

Novice b. (10) Williams' Bournehouse Quickstep delightful orange, head, neck, front and shoulders appeal, needs to strengthen behind. 2. Brown's Settrende Super Serenity attractive orange of high class, needed more coat. 3 Sinfield's Silverteal Snow Gem, pretty blue, well put down, little upright in shoulder so wide in front. Junior b. (12) 1. Vallender's Bleudoyenne Ballerina yet another beautiful orange of excellence, her rear movement more positive than 2. 2. B. Quickstep. 2 Fitzgerald's Hurwyn Paper Bouquet, sound, typical tri, on the small side and her head hardly the equal of those above. Yearling b. (16) 1. Williams' Wistaston School Sunshine, another lovely orange, excellent mover, little short of coat. 2 Shrimpton's Shanriydown Pussy Willow, lovely quality tri, exquisite head and expression, could be a little taller and her outline not too certain. 3. Grimsdell's Tattersett Eyecatcher, big, strong, sound, orange in good coat, little plain in head so expression lacking. Graduate b. (10) 1. Repeat. Post Grad. 1. Holling's Gunalt Gazelle, blue, good expression and front, needs to make up in body. 2 Bexon's Oldfield Iron Maiden, orange excellent body, bone and quarters, little plain in head, shoulders slightly upright. 3. Child's Arnsett Afaya, tri, excellent head and expression, neck, front & shoulders, very lethargic. Mid Limit b. 1. Shrimpton's Shandydown High Society, beautiful head, though eye could be darker, good neck, front, shoulders & quarters, good

body & bone. I had a small doubt about her outline. 2. Jarvis' Ellisland Highland Delight, good body & bone, generally typical and moved well. 3. Fitzgerald's Mandysset Andromeda, neat head, though eye a little too round, good body & bone, moved well. Limit b. (12) 1. Upton's Weatherair MoonBreeze blue, good front, body, quarters, dork eyes, although a little too round, skull does not altogether please, her beautiful presentation won her this class. 2 Wilkinson's Hurwyn Dawn Breeze blue, preferred this lovely head with chiselled skull. She is so compact and solid that she cannot afford to carry so much weight, good bone, body & quarters. 3. Shepherd' Ashpenda Golden Osprey excellent orange of high quality, lacking feathering today. Open b. (13) 1st, C.C. & BOB Williams' Sh.Ch. Wistaston Scettabrain, very high class, elegant, strong bitch, combining quality with substance, I have never seen her look so good, a very pleasing exhibit and outstanding in today's entry. 2. Reed's Sh.Ch. Bournehouse Solo Dancer, very feminine, good body, neck & front, dark eye, a little too fine in bone. 3 Brown's Sh.6h.Hurwyn-Waterrail of Settrenda, well balanced, good body & bone for her smallish size, sweet head, good neck and front.

124 dogs, 21 absentees. It seems that the Crufts qualifying system lowers the quality of the entry. Compared to 7 or 8 years ago when I judged here. I was disappointed with the overall standard of exhibits. I wonder if other breeds suffer in the same way? (Yes, breed after breed, is criticised by judges, year after year - it is only 1st winners who can enter, generally, and Judges don't always know a good one when they see one and leave it out.

" We may have improved hindquarters but now the upright, loaded shoulder with consequent poor fronts are much too common. An astonishing fact is that among the dogs only a handful had correct bites, while I can't recall a bitch with an incorrect bite - very strange.

"We must be more careful in selecting the dogs we run on and if their mouths go wrong with maturity they must be sold as pets EVEN IF THEY HAVE WON AND ARE WINNING. There can be no good future for a breed which does not produce correct mouths continuously.

" It is not easy to be sure which dogs will be in show condition when entries close as early as they do now (2 months ahead of the date), end having qualified" it may be tempting to attend the show, but it is not really fair to a good dog to show it when it is out of condition in body or coat or short of exercise during a fearsome winter like this one.

" The sooner Crufts can again become 'open to all' the better and Central London is not the best venue, with modern traffic to contend with.

(Crufts 1991 will be at N. E.G. Birmingham, still with some restrictions regarding entry, and a very inconvenient Car Park to find the way through.)

Letter - 19.2.1979 from John Fitzgerald.

Dear Margaret,

' I hope you do not mind me writing to you, but I was very saddened to read your critique last Friday in DOG WORLD..... you cant have enjoyed your judging..... I was genuinely pleased with the placings of my two, but apart from Scatterbrain none of the dogs seem to please you.

" ...this puzzles me..... entries at today'sCh. shows....200 or more dogs, all classes appear to be very strongly contested..... the average quality of Afghans is very poor despite entries of 40 or 50. Is this

the way our breed is going (short answer in 1989, yes!M.B.).....hard to understand why it is happening. If the current crop of show dogs is inferior, if the current trend is not reversed, the next generation will be worse (Yes, upright shoulders are almost the norm now, people do not know what a good shoulder looks like. M B. 1989).

" The only other alternative is that there is a split in types.....two E. Setters have won BIS at Ch Shows in the last 2 years..... they certainly diff from your Nightingale and Suntop Dark Breeze, which I admire. No two breeders will have exactly the same idea of what the perfect setter should look like .I think we should all expect SOUNDNESS in our own and others' stock.MB.1985.

if the two types, or more than two types, become so disparate, that their advocates cannot

reconcile themselves to the differences, then the situation is serious....

" But that has not happened yet (it has been so for years, those who put up and breed unsound rears and upright shoulders have always been with us; I am rather an 'odd man out' as I do believe a gundog is of little use without sound rear and perfect laid-back shoulders upon which outline and balance depend.** MB. 1989). "

"...despite obvious differences in type you awarded one of the BIS winners a C.C (who?) So this is not the reason for the falling standard you appear to see in the f. breed..... perhaps you can afford a few moments at the next show to talk about it.

sincerely

JOHN. "

To which I replied: 20.2.79

Dear John.

Thanks for your thought-provoking letter; I prefer to rush this off between feeding puppies and walking dogs than discuss such philosophical questions at a dog show where so much else on a different plane is happening!

Sorry you were sad to read my critique (which is what it really should be, although in modern times it has tended to become like songs of praise!), I was sad to have to write it and the only two people who have mentioned it, before you, both said how they appreciated it.

I have never looked on judging as an 'enjoyment', it is always interesting and a great responsibility, it calls for intense concentration as I have to compare each dog with a picture in my mind of what a beautiful, sound, strong, and elegant E.S. the Standard describes.

Each class has to be judged ON THE DAY, and apparent merits weighed between those entered. None may please me, or all may, none may be in tiptop show condition or all may be, some may be thin or fat, lacking muscle, poor in coat or in perfect coat, short of feather or well-feathered - all these can be corrected by the efforts of the owner, or simply by passage of Lime where- coat and maturity are concerned - placings a month or two earlier or later could have been different.

" Crufts is an exception, the dogs entered are not those that would have been entered had competition been 'open to all,' as it should be. You can think of as many as I can that were not qualified so could not be present to win or be beaten. " Scattabrain ON THE DAY I thought looked the part (she could have had more feathering to advantage), she combines quality with substance which is the most difficult combination to achieve, I have seen her looking like nothing on earth but on the day she was beautifully presented.

" I don't think I used the word 'deteriorated', again remembering it was Crufts, where entry is only allowed for certain class wins, in effect every Crufts judge is judging ONLY THOSE DOGS, 30 or more judges the previous year awarded certain cards to. In effect I was judging entries that would not have been present had they not 'Qualified' and dogs absent, would have been present had there been no 'qualification'-

In fact I was judging another person's entry, which is a similar remark by another judge. Many other Crufts judges made similar comments to mine regarding their breeds, do be sure to read a great many reports, it is not only E. Setters that can be criticised. Of course one has to wonder " who on earth qualified" that one, that one and those.." such an entry does show judges up.

" Shoulders were distinctly very bad, hindquarters weak, there were long backs and some very ugly, untypical heads, altho I did not say so publicly.

" When I last judged Crufts there was none of this 'qualifying' nonsense, it is the system which is so dangerous to the breed (and maybe to others, although I have not discussed this with other judges).

I think our breed does approach the Afghan (and other breeds) state of affairs as you suggest.

There is such great danger from promiscuous breeding; while it continues at the present rate for MONETARY gain rather than for breeding purposely for the good of the breed there is little hope of improvement. I frequently hear of whole litters sold as show prospects. In my experience it is the rare litter which provides more than one or two of VERY HIGH CLASS.

" I have made no study of the parentage of my Crufts entry. The breeding, if known of an exhibit is not considered by a judge (by me, I will not speak for others! HB,198?

It is not part of his duty, any more than the identity of the owner or handler has any bearing on the situation. I wonder if your suggestion: "... that the majority have been bought from the few well-established breeders..... or at least they provided the sires...." is really so.

" Owners of bitches of not too great potential ask if they may mate them to winning dogs. Some owners use the dog next door, or some other because it is Auntie Flo's best friend, or their own, which is often times the worst mistake; bitches "crippled behind", i.e. cowhocked etc., I have always suggested should not be mated at all, to perpetuate such faults is a crime in my book. Out owners must have it explained carefully, and gently, so that they understand it is not the bitch who is at fault but her ancestry and her breeder.

A judge can only award C.C.s to the best of each sex present in the ring on a particular day; it is not necessary, or even commonplace, I guess that he 'likes' his C.C, winners or any winner of any class. He has to find, as best he can those nearest to the Standard.

I have always had a variety of types of head, we have always had unsoundness behind (which I think is slightly less obvious today), far too many upright shoulders (which, from this entry looks as though the majority of Ch.Show judges in the previous year did not know a good shoulder, or were happy to put up upright shoulders as winners! Very numerous on the day, and we have always had some with long backs. I have purposefully never bred from an animal with those three major faults.

I have never set out to obtain or retain a "type". After 30 years, the last 20 within a family, starting luckily with a prepotent male and his sons & daughters, I couldn't help producing a Family likeness. But this was the expected consequence of very strict SELECTION of breeding stock. My only aim has been to try to breed E. Setters with good shoulders (therefore good fronts, necks and outlines), strong bodies and Quarters, with well-chiselled heads, dark eyes and the expression that only a perfect E.S. can have & substance and quality - elegance with strength.

My first E. Setter won 3C.C.s and her working certificate. A famous breeder of those days, gave me the best opinion, unasked, that I have ever received "she will breed you nothing any good." How many people would appreciate being told that today? I was most grateful and set out to learn why she would be no good, she was as sound as a bell.

What that experienced breeder knew, was her PEDIGREE, he knew the dogs in real life, not as names on paper, but as lines of breeding..... it was doing research into her pedigree that led me into the highways of 100 years of E. Setter pedigree-research. The files that resulted became so complete for show dogs and Field trial dogs over 25 years that I felt greedy and selfish to keep all the information to myself- so I put it together into "English Setters Ancient & Modern" (1983).

" I made foolish purchases, as we all do, but I parted with them to good homes, when I had learned there is no need for me to "experiment". That has been done years ago. Stick to sound (fore and aft) stock, follow what other breeders have done. Pick up old blood lines before they are lost or ruined. Avoid all with bad-temper and unsoundness, then failure will not occur.

Strict selection at every point must be maintained, take no risks, don't use for breeding those with weak rears and dodgy fronts or incorrect dentition.

yrs.

M.B. 1979

Mrs Nagles's wise sayings, published in 1989, could have been mine: "Don't worry if your bitch is plain in head, as LONG AS SHE IS SOUND." - " Every time you out cross to get a good point, YOU BRING IN SOMETHING BAD." - "...hindquarters and fronts, guard them with your life once you have them," -"Breeding is an Art, not a Science." " I breed for myself, not the pet market." - "Judges care more for future judging appointments than for doing what is right."

‘ HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? ‘

With Silver Bells and Cockle Shells
OR
POISONOUS PLANTS IN A ROW ?

I love my garden and am a self confessed ‘Plantaholic’. However, I was keen to find out which plants in my own garden might or might not be poisonous to our dogs. While ‘surfing the net’ I was more than a little concerned to see just how many there are. A few I already knew but there were many surprises. We all know how dogs (and cats) like to eat grass but most (particularly young animals) will eat or chew any garden greenery if it takes their fancy. Listed below is a small example of some of the poisonous plants I have discovered.

NAME	TOXIC PARTS	SYMPTOMS
Aloe Vera (I frequently cut a leaf to use on wounds)	All	Diarrhoea
Amaryllis (house plant)	Bulbs	Upset stomach, hyperactivity, Lethargy, coma, shock
Apple seeds/pips	Seeds	Varied toxic effects, plant is cyanogenic
Apricot/peach/cherry	Kernels/leaf	Contain cyanide !
Avocado	Fruit and pith	Diarrhoea, vomiting, laboured breathing
Bleeding Heart (Dicentra spectabilis)	Foliage, roots	Poisonous in large amounts, contains convulsant, causes dermatitis
Blue Bell		Harmful if eaten in quantity
Boxwood	Entire plant	Upset stomach, heart failure, excitability OR lethargy
Christmas Rose (Hellebore)	Entire plant	Upset stomach, diarrhoea, seizures, affects cardiovascular system
Clematis	Entire plant	Gastrointestinal tract, nervous system affected by toxins
Cyclamen	Flowers	Induced vomiting-skin irritant
Daphne`	Berries and seeds, entire	Gastrointestinal tract and kidneys affected
Elderberry (Sambucus)	Shoots, bark ,leaves	Nausea, vomiting, cyanogenic
Holly	Berries	upset stomach, tremors, seizures, loss of balance
Honeysuckle	Plants,berries	Vomiting, diarrhoea, lethargy
Horse tail	Complete weed	Mainly affects horses
Horse chestnut		Harmful if eaten in quantity
Hyacinth	Bulb	Gastro tract affected by alkaloid toxins, also can cause dermatitis
IVY (all varieties)	Berries, leaves	Gastro tract affected by saponins

Oak Tree	Foliage, acorns, bark	Reference shows more relevant to horses but ?? affects dogs
Oleander - EXTREMELY TOXIC	Leaves, branches, water used for cut plants	Affects heart, severe digestive upset, cardiovascular system affected. CAN CAUSE DEATH
ONIONS	DOGS SHOULD NOT BE FED ONIONS IN ANY FORM	Causes anaemia, enlarged kidney, degeneration of liver
Oriental Lily		Especially poisonous to cats
Poinsettia	Leaves, stems and sap	Diarrhoea, abdominal cramps, delirium, Sap can cause blindness
Primroses	Leaves	Upset stomach, may cause dermatitis
Rhododendron, Azalea	Entire plant	Nausea, vomiting depression, difficulty breathing, coma
Rhubarb	Leaves	Large amounts, raw or cooked can cause convulsions, coma and in extreme cases – DEATH
Stinging nettle	Stinging hairs release active irritant	In extreme cases- trembling, Vomiting, difficulty breathing
St. Johns Wort (hypericum)	Whole plant	Lesions develop on unpigmented skin areas exposed to sunlight-photosensitization
Tomato plant	Green fruit, stem, leaves	
Wisteria	Seeds, pods, entire plant	Digestive upset, nausea, repeat vomiting, stomach pains, severe diarrhoea, dehydration, collapse
Yew	Berries, foliage Foliage more fatal, DEATH can be sudden without warning or symptoms!	Digestive disturbance, dizziness Dry mouth, dilation of pupils within one hour, abdominal cramps, salivation, vomiting,

Of course, many of us may already be familiar with the above plants but we mustn't forget other things our dogs may find it irresistible to eat - chocolate and grapes/raisins in particular. As for ONIONS - I never knew about them, my dogs steal all the vegetables they can get their paws on!

While I don't wish to frighten anyone into concreting over their garden, the above plants are only a part of a longer but probably not a complete list that I printed off (12 x A4 pages) All the above and many other can be found at 'Taking the Lead' - www.tlntl.co.uk

HAPPY GARDENING !

Cheryl Collins



Photo By FARLAP

CULVERWELL CASSANDRA @ 14 Months

SHCH Bournehouse Royal Colours X Culverwell CaerENZA

His Sister, MELBA, came out later and started the year wining well. Winning BOB at the 2 Open Shows she attended at 12 and 14 months. She also won Junior at ESSW CH and to complete the hat trick their half sister, DORA (Culverwell Summer Colours) won Graduate at the same show. We hope to breed from her later this year.

Anne Montell
"Highcroft"
47 Wareham Road
Lytchett Matravers
Poole.
Dorset
BH16 6DX
01202 623390

REFLECTION OF A LIFE WITH ENGLISH SETTERS

It all started at a Dog Show in 1964 when I was showing a Shetland Sheepdog and I watched Ann Lindley (OLDHOLBANS) win BIS with an English Setter. On my returning home I set about finding an English Setter puppy. No car in those days, so it had to be quite close to Bracknell, where we were living at that time. My luck was in and a phone call to Margaret Barnes (SUNTOP) who told me she had two litters and would let me have a bitch puppy. Some 6 weeks later SUNTOP SEA THEME, 'Lulu' came to live with us and so the OWNWAYS English Setters were founded. Lulu soon set about teaching me what English Setters were all about. My first reaction was that they were rather stupid and so obedience training was started. This turned out to be quite hilarious with a very reluctant Lulu following me round the hall, about a yard behind me and when we were told to halt, and most other 'good' dogs sat at their owners side waiting for the command to walk on, Lulu would slowly reach my side with an expression that clearly said, surely I don't have to sit when I know that you are going to start walking again so we struggled on. She really came into her own when dogs were left in the down position and all the owners walked across the hall and called their dogs. Most, without fail, jumped up and returned to their owners, with the exception of Lulu who would lie flat out, with eyebrows raised questioning the sense of crossing the hall to sit in front of me. She did, however, excel in being the very still and not moving whilst the trainer stomped all round trying to make the dogs jump up and run to their owners. We did not persist with obedience because I realised she has learning, but was not prepared to do things that she could see no reason for. I came to the conclusion that what was needed was a working relationship with English Setters rather than the usual dog and owner one. I never felt that my English Setters were ever owned by me, rather that we lived together and shared our lives together. English Setters need to know that they are wanted and loved for their unique and special ways, hence OWNWAYS as a prefix. When this is achieved you can both enjoy each other's company. I was so fortunate in the 60's as there were miles of Forest Commission and Crown land to walk in round Bracknell. With dogs free to run loose with roads far away and so much quieter than they are now all my dogs had a wonderful degree of freedom.

Granted you hardly ever saw the Setters, only occasionally at the far end of the rides between the pine trees but they would rejoin me at the point of returning home. All the Forestry Commission Land is now covered in houses. Lulu is buried somewhere in the pine trees in a place that is still a forest as is one of Margaret's old favourites SUNTOP SNOWY OWL. How different things were when Lulu was put to sleep. The gamekeeper who looked after the woods, keeping squirrels and foxes in check, offered to dig a grave for me and have it ready. When I arrived with Lulu wrapped in one of her old blankets, the grave was ready, about 6 ft deep and what touched me was that the bottom was covered with pine bows. All this was done with no desire for payment, just a wish to help fellow dog lovers as the same procedure was done again when Margaret asked if Snowy could be buried near Lulu. Such kindness cannot be repaid but the memory is never forgotten. All my Setters were descended from Lulu and I now have great pleasure in watching Julie continue the OWNWAYS.

Jean Parsons.

EARLDOMS



Earldoms Bold Forester 14/04/2005



The Boys a Man now.

**Val Cozens
68 Battery Hill
Bishops Waltham
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01489 896783**

My life with Daisy May. A genetically flawed dog

Daisy May was the most lovely orange English Setter bitch but she never lived the life a setter should. She was very beautiful but not blessed with any brain.

The first six months were almost normal - she was the usual energetic friendly puppy but so very clumsy. She tripped over her own legs as she went round the corner or she fell over the water bowl. She hated going for a walk whether it was on the lead or in the woods even with Pebbles to look after her - life was hair raising for us both. Something was not quite right.

I decided the teenage months to come and how right I was. Daisy May having overcome her fear of leaving home went for walks in the woods.

It should have been enjoyable but there was never a dull moment as you never knew if Daisy May would come when called. Failure might mean a three hour search until I found her sitting on the highest thing available i.e. tree stump, ant hill barking for me. After a while I learnt not to let her out of sight and if she did disappear to wait for her to start barking for me - my recall became very good - hers never improved.

I hoped life would calm down once she came into season. She was fourteen months old and she was still hypo-active and no signs of coming into season. By eighteen months I was desperate - her reproductive organs were scanned - nothing wrong. Daisy May was pacing around the room. She was running around the garden, getting lost in the back garden, falling into the river and she could not jump over streams or tree trunks -something was wrong. After testing kidneys, liver etc. I requested a second opinion and I was asked what I thought was wrong- the connections between her eyes . her ears and her brain. How right I was - hearing and brain scan later - I learnt to my distress and Daisy May that she had the incurable Ceroid Lipofuscinosis. No one could tell me what to expect but life got even worse.

Daisy May became very much worse - she became very confused - quacking ducks, screaming jays, squirrels running in the trees, dogs she played with would suddenly spook her and she was off to hide. Mv solution was to walk at six a.m. but worse followed she stopped walking altogether it was all too frightening for her. It was a fast slippery downhill slope as her maniacal pacing increased - she was never still except when she slept the sleep of the dead before starting all over again and she added some epileptic fits to her problems, it was very distressing for Daisy May and for me.

I eventually took the awful decision and had Daisy May put down- life is very quiet without her and Pebbles is much happier not to be responsible for a mentally disabled dog but I am still grieving for my beautiful dog.

Jennifer Meade October 2004

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1984

The Data protection Act 1984 requires that all data users, who control the content and use of personal data, register that purpose for which they hold this data.

The Southern English Setter Society holds all Members Names, Addresses and Phone Numbers on computer files to enable an accurate and up to date list of current Members (as required by the Kennel Club regulations).

We can claim exemption from registration and thus avoid a seventy-five pound fee under the category of "Un-incorporated Members Clubs" providing that we inform all Members of the data being held and the purpose of its use.

The data held enables the SESS to produce an accurate mailing list, so that Show Schedules, Newsletters etc. can be sent to each Member.

If any Member objects to this information being held by SESS, the SESS will be obliged to delete that Members details from its files.

A copy of information held on file can be seen on request.

Dave Lewis

Hon. Secretary

Tail Piece

The Invisible Man's Invisible Dog

My invisible dog is not much fun

I don't know if he's glad or glum

I don't know if, when I pat his head

I'm really patting his bum instead

Brian Patten

DISCLAIMER

Statements made or opinions expressed in the Southern English Setter Society (SESS) News Letter, or at any SESS event or meeting, do not necessarily reflect the views of the Officers and/or Committee of the Society. The Officers and Committee do not accept responsibility for any comments, views or expressions used or made in such places.

Please keep safe my memory.

The time has come to say goodbye
And in your heart you wonder why
The years we shared must end today
Yet knowing it would this way
My life is brief compared to you
But times measure just one view.

I could not have asked for more from you
The love you gave me strong and true
If I could tell you how I see
The complete life you've given me

You'd understand my time is here
And let me go now without fear
Pour out in tears the grief you feel
Keep safe my memory as you heal.

I could not have asked for more from you
The love you gave me strong and true

Look back and smile, we've had such fun
Through winter's snow and summer sun.
So as these memories of me live on
I hope that long after I am gone
You'll know that I felt your grief today
But at peace I slipped away.

Willow (Dyrham Wild Cherry)

Thought you'd find this interesting. Talk about animal intelligence and bonding with humans!

Remember that they can't do a lot of things for themselves and that they depend on you to make their life a quality life!

A PET'S TEN COMMANDMENTS.....

1. My life is likely to last 10-15 years. Any separation from you is likely to be painful.
 2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.
 3. Place your trust in me. It is crucial for my well-being.
 4. Don't be angry with me for long and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your friends, your entertainment, but I have only you.
 5. Talk to me. Even if I don't understand your words, I do understand your voice when speaking to me.
 6. Be aware that however you treat me, I will never forget it.
 7. Before you hit me, before you strike me, remember that I could hurt you, and yet, I choose not to bite you.
 8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, I have been in the sun too long, or my heart might be getting old or weak.
 9. Please take care of me when I grow old. You too, will grow old.
 10. On the ultimate difficult journey, go with me please. Never say you can't bear to watch. Don't make me face this alone. Everything is easier for me if you are there, because I love you so.
- ~Take a moment today to thank God for your pets. Enjoy and take good care of them.
Life would be a much duller, less joyful experience without God's critters.
~Now please pass this on to other pet owners. We do not have to wait for Heaven, to be surrounded by hope, love, and joyfulness. It is here on earth and has four legs!

Dogs Bedtime Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep
The Queen-size bed is soft and deep
I sleep right in the centre groove
My human can hardly move

I've trapper her legs,
She's tucked up tight
And here is where I pass the night
No-one disturbs me or dares intrude
Till morning comes and I want food

I sneak up slowly and it begins
My nibbles on the humans chin.
She wakes up slowly and smiles and shouts-
"You darling beast – just cut it out"

But mornings here and It's time to play.
I always seem to get my way.

So thank you lord for giving me
This human person I see
The one who hugs and holds me tight
And shares her bed with me at night.

what's on next year

Dates for your Diary

8th February 2009 AGM (Worplesdon)

12th July 2009 Open Show (Chieveley) .

Dogs/Bitches Ray Strudwick

Stakes Liz U'Ren

22nd November 2009 Championship show (Tidworth)

Dogs: Karen Barker Bitches: Christine Normansell

Referee: Pam Halstead

18th July 2010 Open Show (Worplesdon).

Dogs/Bitches: Andrew Brace

SINCE PUBLICATION THE VENUE FOR 2009 & 2010

CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS ARE NOW AT TADLEY

Nr Aldermaston, Berkshire