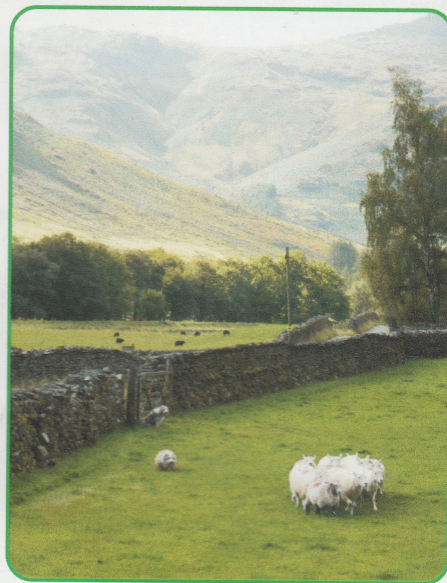


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 **WBCS - Working Bearded Collie Society**



Celebrating 20 Years !



Langdale

Issue 38

Summer 2019

HAPPY 20TH BIRTHDAY TO THE WORKING BEARDED COLLIE SOCIETY

In September 2019 the Working Bearded Collie Society will celebrate its 20th Birthday!

In a remote Cumbrian hamlet called 'Chapel Stile' a small group of Working Beardie owners sat around a table in the village hall; the result, as we all know, was the formation of the WBCS.

It has seen many ups and downs, even take-over attempts in its short life but has pulled through. This is due to the hard work of all the office holders and contributions to the 'newsletter'.

Congratulations to one and all and long may you continue.

Regards

John & Margaret Pickett

Founder Members



John



Gathering their thoughts!

Langdale 2019

The annual meet of the Society will be the 28th & 29th September 2019 from 10 am to 4 pm both days at Great Langdale. Again we will be in the field in front of the Stickle Barn, so everyone is welcome with their Beardies. Sign our visitors' book and get a voucher for 10% off food at the New Dungeon Ghyll.

Demonstrations will take place throughout both days and anyone wanting to take the Companion dog tests will be able to do so. (see enclosure).

The AGM will take place on the Saturday at 4 pm upstairs in the Stickle Barn.

Two of our post holders are standing down at the AGM so unless we get volunteers the Society will be struggling to continue. We will be looking for a new Secretary (the most important job on the committee) – and a new Treasurer. Janice will remain on the Committee, both Roly & Janice will continue to do the Calendar and Newsletter. (unless we get a volunteer!)

A raffle will be held on both days with the proceeds going to charity. Any contributions would be welcomed please.

A Blast from the Past

All Aboard for the 'Horse & Hounds'

John Pickett

At the end of a very good day at Langburnshiels a few of the WBCS stalwarts gathered in the farm yard. They chatted and analysed the day's event.

Somebody said 'Where are we eating tonight?' John Scott (Sir John Scott) said the 'Horse & Hounds' at Bonchester Bridge had a good reputation. So it was about a dozen of us ended up there at 8 pm.

There were three locals there who soon joined in the banter and all three said they would be buying Beardie pups. The food and service was excellent and the evening was one to remember with a promise to meet again soon.

Abbey, Her Puppies and Me

Neville Barlow

When Abbey gave birth to her puppies I was well prepared – a room ready, an enclosure, a water-proof electric blanket, scales, feeding bottles for emergencies, sterilising fluid and so on. However I did lack the all-important experience as I had never reared puppies before but we did have a veterinary nurse staying with us at the time – a great reassurance. However from the start Abbey showed her independence of spirit by dropping her 7 new born puppies round the room and then promptly leaving the room! She showed no interest in making a bed, licking them or providing those vital early feeds. Gradually over the next few hours, I was able to rely on my good relationship with her and coax her back into the room, lie her down and holding her there, start those essential feeds. I soon learned that if I relaxed my hold on her, she would flee the room, leaving the small blind puppies either swaying from her under-side as they frantically clung on, or left deposited round the room, all squeaking away furiously for more food. I would then patiently round up puppies, bring Abbey back in and start the process again.

As the 3-4 hourly day and night feeds developed a rhythm of their own, Abbey and I understood each other better and worked more efficiently together. She became far more relaxed, though still I needed to lie full length on the floor, propped up by my elbows, holding her gently, whilst moving the puppies along her nipples as they sometimes fell off or were pushed off by rivals. Cleaning and toileting – normally undertaken by the mum posed similar problems but with the aid of Youtube I learned what was needed, massaging their abdomens and keeping them continent.

I worried too about Abbey's milk as I had heard horrendous stories about infection, milk drying up, and the mother and puppies being lost. Powdered milk and syringes were in readiness if necessary. Thankfully Abbey kept well with extra convalescent type food supplied by our vet to replace all those calories lost through feeding the puppies – always a considerable strain on the mother's resources.

By the time the puppies had reached the weaning stage, around 6 – 8 weeks, I think Abbey and I were both relieved – with a little sleep for weeks but now a light at the end of the tunnel! By this time I had moved the puppies from the upstairs room – kept at a regular 75 degrees F, to the large kitchen downstairs with access to an enclosed yard on sunny days.

When Abbey walked into the kitchen she was always mobbed by her puppies, crowding round her like a much loved film celebrity. By this time Abbey's response had mellowed a little – she would occasionally lick one, or gently pick it up in her mouth.

All the puppies thrived – 5 went to good homes and we decided to keep two, a male and a female. Abbey actually enjoyed her two growing puppies, Badger and Diamond, for the next year, but sadly then developed a complicated immune disorder of unknown origin, and despite major treatment by our vet, she later died.

Abbey was the best dog that I have ever had, despite her difficulties in coping with mother hood. Like most dog 'owners', I always remain deeply appreciative for what she gave to our family, and her beautiful puppies, and she lives on through our shared treasured memories and through her puppies too.



The WBCS would like to send their congratulations to 2 of our members for exceptional achievements in Agility recently.



Amy Creaser won the 'Jumping' ABC (Anything But a Collie) final at Olympia in December 2018, with her working beardedie GEORGE, Choxxstart Red Satori.

Jennifer Hart won the Games World Championship at the World Agility Open Competition with her home bred Gitdoon GIGGLE beating the Americans and the Canadians, winning for Scotland!



Here is a silly story which I wrote a while back & thought of our newsletter.

I am sure that many over the years have pondered over the different collie strains – well this is the way I heard it!

In the year of our Lord, nine hundred and ninety nine a great depression formed over our land but, being British, everybody carried on as usual, including working dogs. The Beardies were up in the hills labouring away as usual, when a great storm developed – the like of which had never been felt or heard of before in our sacred isle. The sensible Beardies (yes, there are a few) fled to the safety of the valley floor but the more naughty ones remained, frolicking on the hillside. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a wind of tumultuous force commenced – it was wind so strong that it blew the beard and most of the coat clean off the poor dogs! Alarmed, they rushed down the hillside to be greeted with looks of disbelief from the sensible ones. One of the Beardies piped up 'look at the state of you lot – the way you look is bordering on ridiculous!' – whereupon the Beardies burst into laughter.

Hence this explains why some Collies are referred to as Border (as in bordering on the ridiculous) and some as Beardies. It also explains why, when you look into a Beardies face, they always seem to be smiling.

I know that a lot of you may doubt this explanation but I assure you it is true – it was laid down to me by my Grandfather, the great and celebrated pig farmer from Hanley Swan – he won numerous awards for his porky pies!

This is just a bit of fun – I am also very fond of Borders and indeed, all dogs – BUT BEARDIES ARE VERY, VERY SPECIAL!

Mike Reed



Jethro & his new bed

Tessa and Kitty May

Susan Farrington

I have previously written about Tessa, she had her most successful year in 2018 winning the Southern Counties Bearded Collie Club agility trophy and the Touchango Award both for getting the most agility points. This year she won the SCBBC trophy again and has been selected for the Agility Club Veterans Final. Tessa continues to come to work with me every day at my special school for children with profound, severe and complex needs.

A year ago Kitty May joined us at 8 weeks old, three days later she came to school having spent her first weeks on a farm. The pupils loved her and she quickly settled in, my pupils had more than a slight variation from their usual music lessons!

Kitty May adores the pupils, having her favourites. Everyday she works with the children, having timetabled sessions first thing each morning where she supports children who are reluctant to come into school and at other times when they find transitioning difficult. Then she is taken for walks or sits with pupils, adjusting to the individual child's needs. I use both Beardies to show pupils how to do basic training, as a number of children now have dogs at home.

I am extremely fortunate to have a Principal and Deputy who fully support and appreciate what we do.



Chloe & Rylie



Abbie



Euan

The Wise Bearded Collie

Neville Barlow

Long ago in times of hardship, a Beardie was looking for water and came upon a well in the middle of a small village. In trying to find water there, he lost his footing and fell into the well, landing on a small ledge at the bottom. The Beardie barked furiously, and the villagers, learning of the Beardie's plight made one or two half-hearted attempts to save him. They soon gave up, and also reasoned that the dog would soon die and its body would pollute their water supply. They decided therefore to use the well as a rubbish tip, and soon putrid waste of all kinds rained down upon the poor dog below. However, the wise Beardie soon realised that he could stand on top of the growing pile of rubbish and slowly gain height so that he became nearer to the top of the well. After many hours of patiently waiting, he was able to climb near to the top and simply jumped out to freedom.

The story of the wise Beardie teaches us three important lessons.

Firstly, even in great adversity – stuck in the well, our circumstances can change, and therefore we need to be patient and await further developments.

Secondly, even in the face of further diversity – rubbish raining down into the well, those apparently bad events may, as here, literally turn out to be stepping stones to something better.

Lastly the Beardie learned that he needed to be confident in all his explorations but that he always needed to be vigilant about his own personal safety.

And the wise Beardie lived happily ever after!

COMMITTEE ELECTED AFTER LANGDALE AGM 2018

Chairperson: Linda B Marshall 01539 432999
Linda's B & B Bunkhouse, Compston Rd, Ambleside, LA22 9DJ

Treasurer: Janice Jackson 01226 382394
200 Higham Common Road, Higham, Barnsley, Sth Yorks, S75 1PF

Secretary: Clare Green 0151 645 2764
45 Jessamine Road, Birkenhead, Merseyside, CH42 5PR

Membership Secretary: Pat Spray 01229 716196
High Cross Bungalow, Broughton-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA20 6ES

Registrations Secretary: Roly Jackson 01226 382394
As Janice, above.

Committee Member: Cas Sloan details to follow, moving house

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Region	Name	Phone Number
Leicestershire	Margaret & Stephen Budding	01162 364564
Cheshire & North West	Elaine Hopwood	01625 861569
Yorkshire & North East	Janice & Roly Jackson	01226 382394
Cumbria & Lakes	Pat Spray	01229 716196
Devon & Cornwall	Martin Summers	01822 841176
North Wales	John & Margaret Pickett	01978 860021
Hampshire	Debbie Foster	01256 381443
South Wales	Lynne Sharpe	01558 685225
North East	Neville Barlow	0191 514 5981
Northern Ireland		
South West Scotland	Pat Allsop	01465 831391
North Scotland	Kit Finlay	01575 574869
South East	Susan Farrington	07887 355729
South West	Sue Gotting	01458 274180
Germany	Christiane & Laura Grosser	0049 6204 76645
Germany	Carolyn Kuepper	0049 7614 014153

The contributed items printed within may contain personal options of the writers, which are not necessarily the opinions of the Editor or WBCS.



Anyone know when this was?

