



Sam being worked by Bobby

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 **WBCS - Working Bearded Collie Society**

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COMMITTEE AFTER LANGDALE AGM 2024

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

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LANGDALE MEET 2024

The Langdale 2024 Meet was attended by the regulars but the weather definitely would have put the ducks off. To say the end of the valley was so misty, we could barely see the dry stone walls that we parked next to.

We apologise to anyone intending to come, but got the wrong weekend, as it hadn't been changed on our website! Members had been notified in the newsletter though.

The dates for 2025 Langdale Meet are 20 & 21 September 2025, once again returning to our hosts at Stool End Farm, at the far end of the Langdale valley – fingers crossed for better weather.

The field where the sheep were was 10 paces away from our parking area, a lovely large, flat field.



Picture taken from the venue, a couple of days later!

The raffle was drawn, raising (with extra donations added into the kitty) £110 for The Maggie Fleming Animal Hospice & The Karass Sanctuary.

The AGM took place on the Saturday with the committee and visitors huddled into the large tent sheltering from the rain. It was decided that the fee for dog registrations was to increase to £5 per dog/puppy. It had never been increased for 20 years, but with postage costs we felt an increase was necessary.

Enclosed is a stock list of clothing available now.

The prices are:

Gilet & Fleece	Both £25 each	The new price will be £29.50
Polo	£13.50	The new price will be £19.50
Sweatshirt	£16.00	The new price will be £25.00

Plus postage at cost. Each order dealt with individually.

These are on a first come basis.

Contact Janice or Clare

We can order any item for you, but at new prices. They have our clothing logo on the left hand side at the top.

At a cannibal wedding in the jungle the couple were enjoying their wedding breakfast when the groom turned to his new bride and said "I don't like my mother-in-law"

She just gently patted his arm and said

"Never mind dear, just eat your vegetables"

An Old Dog's Tale

Badger was excited to be participating in his first sheep dog trial but he was very nervous about the event. He was losing sleep, and worrying about his performance, despite preparing well for the event. He wisely decided to see whether his mother, Abbey could help him, and have something to say that might help him. Badger trotted off to the nearby barn, and found his mum resting quietly in the hay. Badger explained his problem to her, and after some thought, this wise old dog told him the following story.

"In days long past, there was once a local people that were terrorised by a fierce dragon that lived nearby in a deep forest. The crisis reached such a pitch, that even the mere appearance of the dragon in the distance sent the local people fleeing in panic to their homes to hide away behind locked doors. One day, a brave knight who was passing through the area, learned of these events, and after some careful thought, decided that he would try and help the fear stricken villagers.

The knight made his way alone to the forest and waited anxiously in a place where the dragon was often to be seen. He did not have long to wait, for there in the distance, he saw the dragon – looking as terrifying and as large as the people had described. At this point, he felt a deep fear, and felt ill-equipped for the challenge ahead, with a mere sword and shield as his physical weapons. Nevertheless he resolved to do what he had planned. Breathing heavily, and with fear in his every movement, he moved forward steadily towards the dragon. As he walked forwards he gained slight relief from seeing that the dragon had not moved closer to him, apparently content to stay where it was in the open ground. Yard by yard, the knight moved forwards drawing closer to the dragon, it was now only one field away.

Despite his fears, the knight began to notice a curious effect – that the dragon seemed just a little smaller than before. Was it a trick of the light, or perhaps his eyes were not seeing things properly? He pressed on – and again noticed – more than before, that the dragon was getting smaller. By the time he cleared the field, the dragon had become very small indeed, and as he neared it, he was able to place the small creature in the cup of his two hands – and hold it firmly there. With the dragon secured the knight's task was ended".

Abbey finished her story, and gave Badger an affectionate lick. He thanked her and trotted off, giving himself time to digest the meaning of the story. Abbey went back to sleep again amongst the hay, thinking that whilst it might be difficult to teach an old dog new tricks, there was plenty of old "tricks" a wise dog could teach a young dog.

What then does this story teach us in our own "trials" of life?

1 Listening to others' conversations needs to be done with caution, as the rumours, and fears of others will exaggerate our own fears, and undermine our confidence. Sometimes, it is important to turn one's back on back-ground talk, and work out the situation for oneself.

2 Our fears and worries are often worsened by what they look like from a distance. Once we begin to engage with our worries – like the knight moving forwards – we begin to set a limit, or boundary around those fears. We then develop a better idea of what we are dealing with as the situation unfolds. As we are moving forwards we can also become more aware of our strengths and weaknesses, - and what we need to do in relation to these observations about ourselves.

3 Our fears often have the effect of making us feel that they are in control, - that they master us. The knight steadily re-gains that control so that he is the master of his own situation. He controls his fears and does so through mental attitude which leads to positive action. Today, we have no actual dragons to slay, but there are inner dragons – aspects within ourselves, which we need to control, understand and master in a kindly way.

4 There is nothing wrong about feeling fear or anxiety, and we do not need to feel ashamed of these feelings. The challenge for us all, is what we do with these fears. Bravery, as with the knight, only exists in the context of fears that have been mastered through real perseverance. It is these conquered fears that can then produce a truly courageous result!

5 Lastly – with our story within a story, Badger, despite his youth, recognised his fears and sought out guidance and support from a most trusted source. He recognised his vulnerability and acted upon it in a creative and constructive way. He turned his former “weakness” into a stepping stone towards something better, perhaps to work on in the years ahead. This is something that we can all embrace.

Neville Barlow – retired NHS hospital psychologist.

Beloved Bruce

Bruce was first seen chasing a taxi. He didn't know at that time he was called Bruce. He just wanted the taxi to stop. We stopped instead. We were on our way back from the pub, that fateful Sunday lunchtime, with loads of friends all set on partying. But no! Instead, we found ourselves in the midst of a major puppy rescue.

Scoop up the tiny puppy, go back home, ring the police (trying to sound sober), give the poor wee thing a bath (he was filthy) and something to eat. The police said we could take him to the station (a bit risky for a dozen merry men and women) or keep him. No question. So then we had to give him a name – Benjie or Bruce. He was definitely a Bruce so that's what he was called for the next 16 years.

Bruce was the kindest, gentlest animal you could ever wish to find. We were never sure if he really was a Beardie. Far too small, but apart from his size, everything else was beardie-like. He was biddable and so much fun. He was happy and jolly and affectionate.

He loved playing in water but hated things sticking to his tummy. He just came to a full stop. And as for that horrid snow making big balls under his feet. No way was he going to move until they were removed. But give him a water trough – whey hey. There was one bitterly cold day, he refused to get out. When he did, the drips from his coat formed icicles.





Bruce was so loved, he was my faith companion for so many years. He gave so much joy and lives on in my heart. And he set me on the road to being a committed beardie human. Three proper beardies later, Pandora and Cid now leave mountains of hair around the house, bark a lot and give me loads of licks and cuddles.

Margaret Dale



Choxxstart Bubble Trouble – Gertie

14.01.11 to 29.11.24, almost 14 years.

She was also known as 'The Bearded Dragon'
by many of her friends, 2 & 4 legged.



Photo taken at the Langdale Meet 2024

Another of our oldies gone to Rainbow Bridge, a sad time for all of us. She came back to live with us again when her human mum died at just 52 years young. Hopefully Pat & Gertie are re-united at 'The Bridge'. Gertie gave us a run for our money during the almost 6 years she had been back, becoming such a well-loved personality. She was a single puppy in her litter and did it make a difference to her strength of character. Hope the hole she has left will start to close over time. Sleep well Gertie

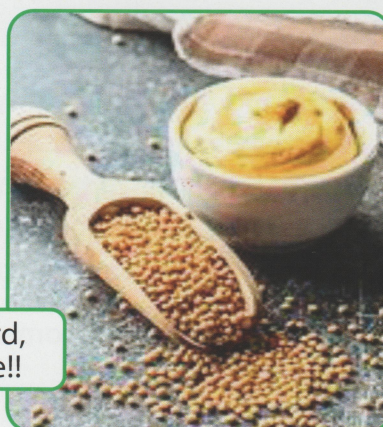
Janice & Roly Jackson



What is a Beardies favourite condiment?



I don't know, what is a Beardies favourite condiment??



Must Herd, of course!!

A New Date For Your Diary

We are hoping to arrange a 'get together' for members, friends and as many beardies as you can bring along. Details have yet to be arranged - it is hoped to be in **April 2025 in the Warwickshire area.**

It will be a meeting to enjoy the surroundings and your dogs. Logo items will be made available, along with beardie society information.

Hope that those of you who find our annual Meet in the Lakes a bit too far will make the effort and support us.

Keep your eyes on our website and Facebook page for more details.

Surprised Visitors To Langdale 2024

Having seen our posters advertising the meet in Langdale, an elderly couple came to visit us and took a trip down memory lane. They had been evacuees during the war and stayed at Stool End Farm. It wasn't owned by the current family, but they all had a good natter and catch up. The posters do get seen!

Two cannibals, father and son, were creeping through the jungle in deepest Africa when they came across a sunlit clearing. In the centre of the clearing was a beautiful jungle maiden doing a rain dance. She was completely naked. They continued to creep around when the son said to his father "What are we going to do dad?"

The older cannibal thought for a moment and then said "We will take her home and eat your mum!"