# SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB of WA

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#  PRESIDENT SECRETARY TREASURER

 **Cherri Seeber Debra Simpson Anne Lacy-Herbert**

***Presidents Report***

***Shetland Sheepdog Club of WA***

***Annual General Meeting December 11th 2013***

Ladies and Gentlemen, firstly a warm welcome to you all.

Please make sure that you have signed the attendance list and taken a copy of the agenda plus the attached items.

As you can see on the treasurer’s report the clubs financial situation is looking extremely good and I know Anne your treasurer is keen to give you a full report on our current financial position.

Getting to this position wasn’t easy – it’s taken a lot of time, organisation and commitment. Thanks to hard work and dedication from the committee, some members and friends of the club we can boast this amazing figure and hopefully watch it steadily grow into the future.

Amongst the papers you have tonight you will find a list of helpers who have given us their precious spare time over various weekends through the year. I’d like you to acknowledge these people as committed club members and friends all doing their share to make our club a successful one – Because our membership is so small, each and every one of us have just that bit extra to do to help the club survive. So on behalf of the committee we thank these people for their time and efforts, we can’t do it without you!!

**Agility Trials**

Our biggest single day fund raising event of the year is clearly the Agility Trials in June.

This year’s agility trials were a huge success, the weather was good to us and thanks to a lot of planning, phone calls, stand in people at the last minute and some very committed people we pulled it off without too much drama – to all those people who came down to help, I sincerely thank you once again.

We had a couple of hick-ups with the printer but trusty Anne had it all under control. The amount of preparation that is needed by Anne to bring this altogether is considerable and I am sure everyone will agree that Anne’s the right person for the job. Steve Hesketh had the BBQ in order while Glenda Hesketh and her friend Sonja Cook did a fantastic job of the lunches for the judges and the workers to the point where leftovers went home for dinner for a lot of us, the last thing I wanted to do when I got home was cook tea and especially when I was going to be cooking snags all the next day. Well done girls! As always Deb Simpson gave us her 110% from very early in the morning to very late in the afternoon, women with a ton of commitment and energy.

I must make special mention of a young man who continuously puts his hand up to help out at the trials but not only the trials, he has saved us more than a few times when help was needed, this young man’s name is Robbie Simpson. I don’t think Robbie will be here tonight but I’m sure his proud mum Deb will relay my message onto him. It’s refreshing to see a young person these days pass up 2 days in a row with his mates to help out his mum at a trial and then all the next day at a sausage sizzle – Thanks Robbie.

I’m sure I don’t need to remind you of our previous president’s call for help over the last few AGM meetings regarding this even and nothing has changed – the call is going out again for next year

As you know this event takes place on a weekend in June free of dog shows. You are given the date well in advance and we hope you will enter the date in our diaries and put your hands up for your club when the letter goes out looking for helpers.

For those of you who have not yet done stewarding for the Agility trial, it is nothing like the stewarding at the confirmation shows – as long as you can press a timer button and write a number down, that’s it! Setting out equipment does require walking and some lifting but if that’s not an area you can do, then help with the stewarding – believe me we can certainly find something for you to do …….

The B & A Championship Show run by the SSCWA and the Spitz Club held in April this year went off well.

The Sheltie clubs contribution to this show was quite noticeable.

* Deb and the Spitz club secretary Kym had the paperwork side of it covered
* Ashlea – Julie – Liz and Glenda from our committee covered stewarding
* Cathy and husband Justin did a great job organising the food for the judges and stewards along with Glenda’s help
* I would also like to thank Sue Van Dinter – I believe Sue was on the grounds until quite late helping out in the office – your efforts were very much appreciated. Thanks Sue

Well done people

Our championship/Open Show this year was another successful day going on all the feedback I have received. A good entry for both shows. The weather was perfect, the judge had a fantastic time and she was very complementary of the exhibitors and the way she was treated and how everyone was gracious in acceptance of her decisions.

Our trophy table, I’m sure you would all agree was fantastic, thanks to Glenda Hesketh and Liz Ayre. I know how much thought and effort went into getting those trophies at the very best price possible for the club and we were impressed.

The down side of the show sadly was not enough helpers to support the available committee on the day. Again we need to call on support from a handful of members and friends from outside the club at the last minute to help with various areas of work required during the day. I’m sure these people would have also liked to have sat back and enjoyed the show.

**Sausage Sizzles**

The quickest and easiest way we have to raise money is by far the sausage sizzles. Deb secures the dates with Master’s and Bunning’s well in advance and after years of experience she has the catering pretty much spot on also.

As usual our biggest problem has been the lack of helpers. I ask you again to look at the list and take note of those few who generously gave their time on a regular basis.

Have a think about it, it’s only a couple of hours out of your day and you would be making a wonderful contribution towards the club and at the same time lightening the load for some of us who at times have spent the whole day there on site.

A letter was sent out to all members on the 29th July giving the final three sausage sizzle dates for help required – I had only one reply

These dates were very carefully chosen as days not necessarily interfering with a championship show. We all value our weekends so if you are given a date well in advance, hopefully you can spare a couple of hours once or twice a year for your club.

**Website**

Unfortunately there were some issues this year regarding the website.

Cathy, your vice president, due to her work commitments and a continuous problem with her computer has found herself trying to find time to come to my home to bring the website up to date. We have now been able to at least get the Champ/Open shows onto the site.

For many years I’ve wanted to get photos of our champ show winners from our inaugural show in **1992** onto the website and now the chances of that happening is looking good. So hopefully in the very near future we will have all our photo’s and information on the website.

**DVD Conversions**

I’m pleased to advise you all that I am in the process of converting the past years championship shows – VHS tapes to DVD

I have so far done two shows and a 1994 fun day, I plan on gradually changing all of them over when funds permit.

**National Sheltie Place Posts**

For those of you who are unaware of the significance of these place posts – briefly, they are five confirmation placing stands made by members of our club and were used for the 2003 National in Perth.

My husband Greg cut and painted the dog shapes and another committee member at the time, Perry Faulls made the wrought iron stands. These place posts were admired by many at our 2003 National and we were approached by the late Glenyse Acreman to offer them to the NSSC to be used for future Nationals.

To cut a very long story short they were used for a few years but unfortunately they had deteriorated, they appeared beyond repair and it seemed also that they had lost their popularity and were no longer in demand. Our committee made a decision this year to leave the wooden dogs in the Eastern states but return the plaques (which were attached to the back) and the stands at some point in time. I now have the plaques. After a conversation with Ian Spangler just recently, he is more than happy to keep the stands until we are able to collect them – he has assured me that they are no problem and he has them in a clean dry place. At some stage later we will recut the dogs and return them to their original stature.

**Committee**

It was very unfortunate that we lost three committee members this year. Ashlea Stanton and Julie Harris left us in June and Glenda Hesketh left us in October.

These three ladies all made a positive contribution to the club. I’m pleased to say that Ashlea and Julie along with Liz Ayre have agreed to continue with the club point score and have also offered their support where needed in the future regarding help for the club – thank you ladies

In the eleven months Glenda Hesketh was involved in the committee her enthusiasm, determination and commitment to the club was impressive – she was our liaison officer, trophy steward – the trophy table at our Championship show, I’m sure you will all agree was of a very high standard. Glenda made a significant contribution whilst on board and her efforts have not gone unnoticed.

I thank these ladies once again for their help and I would like to think that sometime in the future they may consider coming back onto the committee.

**So in conclusion:**

While the club has had a moderately successful year and raised some money this has come about due to an incredible amount of hard work from a few individuals.

The club has the same problem that it had at last year’s AGM, a few people doing all the work.

We need to see a vast change in attitude and more interest taken in the welfare of YOUR club.

The club can survive on a shoe string committee if we only hold our annual champ and open shows.

To prepare for a National takes years of planning and preparation starting NOW and we will have to see a vast change in attitude and interest if we are to host our second National show.

I think it would be heartbreaking for those people who have worked for years to have it all fade away.

Cherri Seeber

President of the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Western Australia