



Chairman's Letter

As I announced in my previous SSSI e-mail, there were plans to distribute a quarterly newsletter. And here it is, just before Christmas, thanks to the zeal of Herman and Ineke Mulder!

Already we have some good news to tell. Recently we met with a few friends in the Netherlands, once again at the yearly Amsterdam show and in Zandvoort, and then Ifor Williams told us the SSA has taken a positive attitude towards our request of getting affiliated to the SSA. Please see the text below for more details. Although it will be all the same for many of you, this is good news, as we can soon move forward with the SSSI in public, not being regarded as semi criminals by canine officials.

Of course, some details will have to be worked out, both in connection to the SSA and internally. So far we have always been just a loose group of people, and even paying a subscription fee by SSSI members is optional. And we are happy with that. But will we be able to keep it that way? Let us work that out at the Wales meeting next year. As I phrased it towards Ifor Williams: the SSSI should be as formal as necessary, and as informal as possible. Our aim is being a community, not an army in defence of a dog breed. A community of people who share their love for these funny, crazy but adorable dogs. It is my conviction that the breed will benefit most if we share our experiences in a pleasant and constructive atmosphere. The SSSI will be successful if it succeeds in creating a platform for such a communication, and a centre of social Sussex Spaniel activities.

We hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter, and we look forward to receive contributions from Sussex fans all over Europe and the UK. As said before, you may write in any language, and we will find a way to get it translated into English. Funny stories, love stories, sad stories, working stories, show stories... please send them in. Of course, nice pictures are always welcome. To get it started, below a few lines are dedicated to our own puppy that joined us in September, and that is cheering up our lives now.

We wish you all a merry Christmas, and a very good 2010!

Chris van Saarloos



John Fordham and one of his dogs at te Winner 2008 in Amsterdam

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Meeting at Zandvoort 2008



Buster, owned by Anne Lydekking, is showing his hunting skills.

SSSi position of the club

On November 28th Chris van Saarloos & Ineke Mulder had a meeting with Ifor Williams & Chris Wakefield, both SSA committee members, in Zandvoort. The SSA committee discussed in their last meeting the request of the SSSI to get affiliated. Good news, they are keen to have us! But we have to commit to a number of things. At first to the "Rules and Regulations" from the SSA. We will send them separately by e-mail. Secondly to make a statement which says that when the SSSI is no longer active the debts are not for the SSA. And at last to pay a symbolic amount to get us adopted by the SSA. We hope that everyone can commit to these conditions. If someone doesn't agree please let us know as soon as possible by e-mail. (before January 31st 2010) If you have any questions on this matter, please send an email to our secretary ienmulder@tiscali.nl. The next SSA meeting will be held in march 2010 and hopefully as from then we will be officially recognized. Affiliation to the SSA means that the people who are now not allowed to participate, because of the canine in their country, can join us. Further, the SSSI has it's own committee. And affiliation to the SSA doesn't mean that everyone who is a member of the SSSI is also automatically a member of the SSA.

SSSi meeting 2010

As everyone knows, the next SSSI meeting will be held in connection to Welsh Kennel Club Championship Show on Sunday the 22nd August 2010. We think everyone already knows that there are terms and conditions to take your dog into the U.K., they are mentioned in the last e-mail. Ifor Williams, committee member from the Welsh Kennel Club, & Chris Wakefield are very busy organizing activities in the days before. This is what we know so far, there will be grooming demonstrations. A seminar about the breed. Fun stuff to do in competition related to obedience & hunting. They already arranged some lovely prizes to win! They are also thinking about the children, they like to arrange some things to do for them, most likely in combination with the Young Kennel Club. There is a facility where we can have our SSSI meeting. We understand from Ifor & Chris that also Sussex owners and fans in the U.K are very interested to come to this event. Judge for the show is Mrs. Sue Alderson a renowned breed specialist and owner of the "Megganooch kennel". But there is of course also the question "were to stay during those days". There is a website of the Royal Welsh Show Ground, and on this site you find places to stay. The Royal Show Ground has also its own caravan site facilities, and Ifor is trying to arrange a special corner for the Sussex owners. Wouldn't that be great! We will let you know as soon as possible how to arrange if you want to stay on the Royal Welsh Show Ground.

Website of the Royal Welsh Show Ground:

<http://www.visitmidwales.co.uk/thedms.aspx?dms=13&feature=5&venue=1022901>

Another great website to look for dog friendly accommodation:

<http://www.dogfriendlybritain.co.uk/>

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Joyeux Noël et Bonne Anée
Frohe Weihnachten und ein Glückliches Neues Jahr

SSSi one year later

On the 29th of November 2008 we started the SSSi. We had a meeting in Zandvoort, the Netherlands in combination the next day with the Winner dog show in Amsterdam. There was an entry number of 27 Sussexes at the show, which is unknown for the Netherlands. This year there was an entry of 6 Sussexes. Nevertheless happened a lot has happened this year. Through the first meeting a lot of Sussex owners got in touch with each other. In the Netherlands that resulted in already two gatherings with a great walk on the "Loonse en Drunense Duinen" and on the beach in Noordwijk. Of course there was the meeting in Lessines, Belgium. There we spoke about health matters and was there the change of the chairman and secretary of the SSSi. Many thanks to Hannu-Pekka Saukkonen (previous chairman) & especially to Kaija Braid (previous secretary & organizer of the Lessines meeting). The last two months we focused on the meeting in Wales 2010 and the affiliation to the SSA.



Sussex history

In this column we would like to share some of the history of the Sussex Spaniel. In the UK there is a lot of documentation about the history, all gathered by Chris & Vivian Wakefield who is the official archivist of the SSA. That's why we asked Chris to write this column in the near future. If you have any information that can be helpful to build up the history of the breed in the UK or on the continent please let us know. In the Netherlands we always thought that the first Sussexes came to Holland in the early 80's, imported by Miss. Van Vliet. But recently we found out that in de early 30's, Mrs. Olive t'Hoen at Wassenaar, already imported Sussexes from the UK. This kennel is mentioned by Peggy Grayson in her standard book on the breed(p96)but she gives no further details either. We have no idea what happened with them. Of course there was WOII, if they lived all through it. We don't know, but we hope to find out and will tell you our findings.

A Winter's Tale

This is a little fairy tale about Winter, a Sussex Spaniel puppy that arrived in Holland last October.

There was much Winter didn't understand when he left his warm and cosy nest. He had no idea he made a long journey from Wales to the low and watery country at the other side of the Channel. And he hadn't the faintest idea that he had been sleeping for weeks in an old used scarf his new mistress had sent over the sea to his very litter! Winter went through all his new experiences and uncomplaining he let himself being picked up by the two arms of the Perfect Stranger who received him into the New House. He'll wait and see. But when the Perfect Stranger bowed to put him into the basket, Winter suddenly smelled the aroma of the scarf en almost exploded! He was at Home again! This was HOME! And he threw his paws around the neck of the not-a-Perfect-Stranger-anymore and licked and licked, as if he would never stop again. And now, if you happen to see him, you'll easily recognize him, becauseWinter is the dog that is licking all the time!

Ellen Krol and Chris van Saarloos

And here you see Winter with his new friend, the nine year old Newfoundland dog Jester. He loves playing with her, and licking and licking and licking her as well.



Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo
Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo
Prettige Kerstdagen en Gelukkig Nieuwjaar