News from the Marsh Winter 2026

Sadly we said final goodbyes to two of our valued members earlier in the year.
Memories of Rob Moore go back to long conversations held at Nationals and Internationals, long before Rob had his own dogs. He always had a keen interest in the sport, and he went on to achieve his ambition becoming a respected competitor.
Jill Bastable was a key member of our committee and an accomplished traillist. Always ready to lend a hand, setting up trials, towing a trailer, letting out, nothing was too much trouble. An opinion held by all who knew her.
The hot weather, lack of grass and "lively" sheep led to some challenging runs throughout the season. Trials at Lynsted, courtesy of Stewart Wood and Ellen, and our new venue, Kingsnorth, courtesy of David Thompson were well received and much appreciated. The long lot summer led to problems at Snargate where lack of forward grazing proved problematic and working the ewes difficult. Few runs were completed. We thank Ed Lovejoy for his support under difficult circumstances.
Kevin, Doug and Janet Reed hosted a 2 day trial. Wendy Cole judged the Saturday trial for Romney Marsh with brilliant results for Kevin. Sunday's trial was a fundraiser in aid of The Pancreatic Cancer Society in memory of Jill Bastable. Kevin and Hazel worked hard and secured plenty of sponsorship. Triallists and spectators all chipped in raising £1357.82 for the charity. A fitting tribute to Jill.
We are fortunate to be returning to Olantigh in 2027 by invitation of Peter Francesconi and to Kingsnorth (thanks David) for the Kent Championship. We thank all our land owners for their continued support and look forward to 2027.

Past, Present, Future

In 6 years' time Romney Marsh and District Sheepdog Society will be 100 years old. In order to mark this milestone Terry is proposing to "put pen to paper" once again and produce a sequel to his previous work. If you wish to be included please write a few words about your involvement in any capacity, with the Society. Your trialling highs and lows, anything that you think might be of interest and forward to them to Terry Stevens.
I know its forward planning but there is a lot to think about! Thank you.

2027 TRIAL DATES and VENUES

June 13th at Lynsted

July 18th at Kingsnorth

August 15th at Kingsnorth (Kent Championship)

September 12th at Olantigh

Summer 2026 Results

LYNSTED
Sunday 14th June 2026
Judge: John Marsh
Open:
1. Paul Griffiths, Sussex, Duchy, 73
2. Sarah Walker, Stelling Minnis, Cleit Taw, 71
3. Graeme Eusden, Mist 67 OLF
4. Hazel Long, Canterbury, Ted, 67
5. Mark Banham, Surrey, Foxridge Brooke, 66
6. Kevin Reed, Horam, Nan, 60
Novice:
1. Kevin Reed, Horam, Nan, 60
2. Kevin Reed, Horam, Ella
3. Wendy Cole, Essex, Ollie
Starter class:
Judge: Hazel Long
1. Jackie Marsh, Golden Cross, Jazz, 46/60
Best OLF (Godmersham cup): Mark Banham, Brooke

KINGSNORTH
Sunday 12th July 2026
Judge: Rae Lutman
36 ran
OPEN
1. Mark Banham, Surrey, Foxridge Brooke, 85olf
2. Wendy Cole, Tillingham, Ollie, 85
3. Paul Griffiths, Sussex, Duchy, 81olf
4. John Marsh, Golden Cross, Dale, 81
5. Sarah Walker, Stelling Minnis, Cleit Taw, 79
6. Mike Dowden, Glastonbury, Nap, 77

NOVICE
1. Hazel Long, Canterbury, Peg, 73
2. Mike Dowden, Glastonbury, Gyp, 64
3. Mike Dowden, Glastonbury, Jack, 63
4. Kevin Reed, Horam, Gray, 62
5. Matt Hooper, Worcs, Dot, 51

STARTER CLASS
1. Jackie Marsh, Golden Cross, Jazz

Open winner: Hocky Hoare Memorial Cup-Mark Banham, Foxridge Brooke
Kathmick Shepherds Cup-Paul Griffiths, Duchy
Highest placed lady:KMG trophy-Wendy Cole
Best Drive:Maurice and Joan Upton Cup-Mike Dowden, Nap
Novice winner:Hocky Hoare Shield-Hazel Long, Peg
Starter class cup-Jackie Marsh, Jazz

Kent Championship-SNARGATE
Sunday August 2nd 2026
29 ran
Judge: Elaine Anstey
Open
1. John James, Cumbria, Cindy, 74
2. Mark Banham, Surrey, Jon, 70 OLF
3. Paul Griffiths, Sussex, Duchy, 70
4. Jackie Marsh, Golden Cross, Rose, 68
5. John James, Cumbria, Belle, 65
6. Hazel Long, Canterbury, Ted, 60

Novice
1. Kevin Reed, Horam, Gray, 59
2. Hazel Long, Canterbury, Peg, 41
3. Kevin Reed, Horam, Ella, 35

Young handler aggregate: Grace Gower
Ernest Finn Shield-winner of Open: John James, Cindy
Presidents Cup: Mark Banham, Jon
John Jones Coursing Cup: John James, Cindy
Kathmick Tray, Best lady: Jackie Marsh, Rose
Cooper Cup: Kevin Reed, Gray
Dave Thompson Anniversary tray-best pen: Mark Banham, Jon
Silence is Golden (least commands on OLF): Sarah Walker, Taw

Saturday 22nd August 2026-HORAM
Judge: Wendy Cole
39 ran
Open:
1. Kevin Reed, Horam, Ella, 80
2. Jackie Marsh, Golden Cross, Rose, 77
3. Sarah Walker, Stelling Minnis, Cleit Taw, 76
4. Grace Gower, Lydden, Ben, 75 OLF
5. Ian Wheeler, IOW, Tot, 75
6. Elaine Anstey, Kirdford, Ben, 74 OLF

Novice:
1. Kevin Reed, Horam, Ella, 80
2. Hazel Long, Canterbury, Peg, 70
3. Ian Wheeler, IOW, Tweed, 67
4. Tim Foster, Creaton, Skye, 64
5. Kevin Reed, Horam, Gray, 59
6. Mike Dowden, Glastonbury, Gyp, 58 OLF

Starter:
Judge: Kevin Reed
1. Jackie Marsh, Golden Cross, Jazz, 59
2. Amanda Gower, Jim
3. Cathy Cassie, Rio
4. Georgia Jackson, Pad
5. Ann Baden, Maj
6. Paul Bilton, Freya

Sunday August 23rd 2026
Jill Bastable "Simply the best" Memorial trial-HORAM
Judge: Mark Paice
41 ran
Open:
1. John Marsh, Golden Cross, Dale, 91
2. Ian Wheeler, IOW, Stripe, 89 OLF
3. Bob Watson, Dartmoor, Tom, 89
4. Grace Gower, Lydden, Sweep, 87
5. Mike Dowden, Glastonbury, Nap, 86
6. Grace Gower, Lydden, Ben, 83

Novice:
1. Mike Dowden, Glastonbury, Jack, 76
2. Jackie Marsh, Golden Cross, Haze, 60
3. Hazel Long, Canterbury, Peg, 57
4. Grace Gower, Lydden, Ayesha, 49

"Simply the best" Memorial Cup open winner: John Marsh, Dale
Jill Bastable Memorial shield novice winner: Mike Dowden, Jack
Best pen memorial crook for best pen of Romney Marsh and District Society member: Grace Gower, Sweep