

Mary S Moffat - died Friday 4th September 2009



It was with great sadness that the Heelwork To Music fraternity learnt of the sudden death of Mary Moffat.

Mary had entered into the world of Dancing Dogs with her beloved Papillon, Rooskie (Longcraggs Rooskie) in 2001. She lived in Dumfries and travelled the country to the HTM Competitions by train and taxi - distance and travelling was a big problem for Mary, but Mary managed to make her way to most of the competitions taking part in both Freestyle and Heelwork To Music. She loved the sport, she said it had become part of her keep fit regime and had helped enormously with her balance.

Many people within the dog sport world will remember Mary with fond memories - she competed in Open and Championship Shows with her Papillons in Working Trials against the "big dogs" and qualified two of her dogs CD Ex. Rooskie, her constant companion since 1998, had achieved both Bronze and Silver Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog certificates. She had also competed in many Obedience Competitions too.

Through her training and competition she visited many places and met with many friends. Her dogs helped her with her writing and photography. She did say that all her dogs have been great companions who had given her all their love.

Canine Freestyle GB (in conjunction with North Derbyshire Agility Club) marked the passing of Mary Moffat by dedicating their September Show held at the weekend to Mary when one minutes silence was held each day, as a mark of respect for a lady who was greatly admired for her spirit and sheer determination. A collection of over £200 was donated by all those present at the HTM Competition this will be forwarded the rescue centre run by The Papillon Club of Scotland.

Her funeral was held on Tuesday 15th September 2009 at St Marys Greyfriars Church, Dumfries.

**Mary's presence will be missed at all the events she participated in
- she will remain in our thoughts for many years.**

Following are the words gathered together from emails posted by her HTM friends on hearing about Mary's passing.

These words were read out before the one minutes silence held each day at the Canine Freestyle GB HTM Competition on 12th and 13th September 2009

- Mary was a wonderful lady. Admired for her spirit and sheer determination.
- In the time we knew her, never heard her say a bad thing about anyone.
- A lovely lady
- Both Mary and Rooskie were such characters
- She was amazing
- Mary loved her trips to the shows even though travelling was far from easy for her
- We all knew her commitment to the sport and to Rooskie, whom she spoke of with such love
- Often privately gave lots of advice and instruction
- She was an inspiration
- Such a determined lady
- The scourge of many a "I don't take dogs" taxi drivers
- Mary did not know the meaning of the words "I can't" or "You can't"
- Mary will be missed at the shows and for her determination and enthusiasm for the sport
- Mary was one amazing lady A lesson to us all
- She managed to continue doing what she enjoyed with her beloved Rooskie for so long
- Mary may have been tiny in stature but she had a huge character
- She showed her fortitude during the horrendous weather in Brentwood a few years ago. As other struggled to remove the thick mud from dogs, wheels and shoes before entering the local Travelodge, Mary was eating dinner planning the following days routine whilst others worked out the quickest way to get back to the comforts of home
- She was an inspiration to all
- She has left a big void in our club.

Dance on in the light Mary