

„Jefsfire“ Shelties

by Reidun Monsholm, N

The original article was published in the Norsk Shetland Sheepdog Klubb Årbog 2002 - 2005

There are some breeders who have done more for the breed than others, and Kath and Alan Jeffries are two of them. But although they have made their mark in the Sheltie world, they have made themselves even more noticeable in the Collie world, and for that, they received the award "A Lifetime Achievement" and this sculpture from The English Collie Club:



we visit, and we visited every time we were in England. The driveway is long and is fully planted by neatly cut trees and plants, and when you arrive at the bell, it is with great excitement that you enter what is called

"Sheltieheaven".



When you come to visit "Jefsfire" it is like coming to an oasis in the middle of the jungle of English traffic jams. Although a large busy road runs just outside the gates, you forget it when you enter the garden. The entrance is so impressive that I have to stop and take pictures every time

These two lovely old people have so much knowledge about dogs, and it is always something to learn when visiting. Everywhere in the garden and inside the house there are Sheltie and Collie figures and other sculptures, and it is full of winning rosettes in glass and frame.



Remembering Kath Jeffries (colour photos by R. Monsholm)



In recent years, Kath and Allan, due to their health situation, have had to cut down on the number of dogs, and today they have three Shelties, two males and three females. They also can't go to shows anymore, which they think is very sad, but they can't imagine a life without dogs, even though they now no longer breed.

If we go all the way back to the start of their breeding career, it began with Kath buying a Rough Collie puppy as a birthday gift for Alan in 1952. They had no plans to start with showing, but they thought the puppy, in relation to the pictures they saw in the books, did not look that bad, and they took her to the secretary of the Midland Collie Club who was also a championshipshow judge, to hear what he thought. He did not think she was anything special, but they nevertheless defied his advice and showed her, and she received a first prize and two second prizes in the classes she was entered - and they were in the show game!

Kath and Alan married in 1953 and decided to register their first "Jefsfire" litter. Their first Collie champion was *GB Ch Jefsfire Strollaway*. He was born in 1958 and became the father of four champions, and was the start of many Champion Collies, including *GB Ch. Jefsfire Clean Sweep* who took Best of Breed at Crufts in 1975.

The first Sheltie to come home was *GB Ch. Heathlow Luciana*, "Lucy". She was born in 1957 and bred by Mrs.

Lowe, "Heathlow" Shelties. Lucy was actually bought for Kath's mother, and was the last choice in the litter, which Kath and Alan thought was strange. Lucy stayed at "Jefsfire", and Kath's mother eventually got a Jack Russel Terrier.

As the championshipshows became larger and it was difficult to handle two breeds, they had to choose between Collies and Shelties, and since they had also got their son Lloyd and the Shelties fit in the back seat of the car, the choice was easy.

Lucy produced only one puppy, and this became one of the best known in Sheltie history: **GB Ch Jefsfire Freelancer**. "Lancer" was born in 1966 and was the only survivor of three puppies in the litter. His sire was *Glenmist Golden Falcon*. He received his champion title at WELKS in 1968 under breed judge Mrs. Sangster. He is the sire of 12 GB champions and 3 CC winners. In addition, he sired many foreign champions and CERT winners. If you go back in the Norwegian line maps then you see what influence he has had on the Norwegian Shelties.

"Jefsfire" Shetland Sheepdog Champions (Please forgive if some may not have been included. Give us a note about a missing "Jefsfire" Champion):

GB Ch. Jefsfire Freelancer (*1966)

Int., DK Ch. Jefsfire Allanvail Gold Spark (*1968)

B Ch. Jefsfire Reluctant Scott (*1969)

N Ch Jefsfire Allensway Littleboy Robin (*1970)
GB Ch. Jefsfire Rich Reward (*1973)
GB Ch. Jefsfire Jaztime (*1977)
GB Ch. Larool Candyfloss of Jefsfire (*1978)
Int., Nord Ch. Jefsfire Honey (*1978)
Dt.Club & VDH Ch. Callart Royal Exchange of Jefsfire (*1979)
FIN Ch. Jefsfire Gold Edition (*1980)
GB Ch. Jefsfire Free Trader (*1983)
B, Dt. Ch. Jefsfire Another Sandy (*1984)
GB Ch. Jefsfire Trade Secret (*1996)
Russ. Ch. Jefsfire New Romance (*1996)



Kath Jeffries with Lancer, 11 months - Archiv SN / Feldhoff

His daughter Ch. Jefsfire Rich Reward – Archiv SN / Feldhoff

