

## **KARIN MATTSSON, NORWAY**

**Home:** Alvdal, Norway

**Occupation:** Synnøve Finden (a traditional Norwegian dairy company)

**Accomplishments:** Top ranked woman at the 2008 World Trial (7<sup>th</sup> overall); Top ranked woman at the 2009 Continental Championship; Continental Young Handler Champion 2006 and 2007

**Dog:** Sammie (SKK V1187/2001) and Lyn (NKK N01043/07)

Swedish by birth, but now calling Norway home, Karin Mattsson burst onto the international sheepdog trialling stage in 2008 when she secured two places in the semi-finals at the World Trial with her dogs Sammie and Lyn. She went on to place seventh in the final with Sammie; the only 'all-girl' team in the final. Although her results took many by surprise, Karin's rise to prominence had been years in the making.

Karin has been somewhat of a pioneer for young woman triallists on the Continent. She represented Sweden internationally from 2004-2006. Twelve years old when she ran her first sheepdog trial, it took Karin only three years to reach a standard high enough to qualify to run in the Swedish National. Since moving to Norway, Karin has been selected for the Norwegian team every year since 2007. Twice she has won the Continental Championship Young Handlers competition; all of these achievements with "super" Sammie. If there were any doubts about the skill of young women handlers, Karin has clearly laid these doubts to rest.

In 2011, Karin will once again bring her top team of girls, this time to Cumbria. It will be Sammie's swansong as she is now 10 years old and nearing retirement. The effervescent Karin will be hoping Sammie can match or better her achievements from 2008 as it would be a fitting end to a remarkable career. Lyn has proved herself as a capable successor to Sammie although she has big pawprints to fill.



Further information: The 2011 World Trials at Lowther Park Estate, near Penrith, from September 15-18, are expected to attract up to 30,000 people and inject £2m-plus into the local economy. Competitors will include trialists from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Faroes, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA. Qualifying rounds will take place on three separate fields on the first two days of the trials, with the top seven from each field on the opening days going forward to the semi-final on the Saturday. The top 16 of these qualify for the final on the Sunday, from which a world champion will emerge.

**Further info:** World Trials PRO Robin Moule, Moule Media, on 01756-794027, mobile 07976-559961, e-mail: [robin@moulemedia.com](mailto:robin@moulemedia.com)