



Dear Readers,

Here it is, the year 2024! And so, we are once again at the beginning of twelve months with endless challenges and opportunities. In particular, 2024 marks our 125th anniversary at *Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV) e.V.*

But cosy tradition and past success aren't enough for us to rest on our laurels. Nothing is forever, and we can't take anything for granted. The path to staying fit for the future is regular work and commitment.

For 125 years, countless people have done just that for the benefit of our club and, in so doing, for the benefit of the German Shepherd. These people have been and continue to be valuable and indispensable to our association.

It is worth reflecting on this at the beginning of this year. It is said that each euro invested in volunteer work doubles in value. But this also goes for each and every smile and the sincere appreciation invested in volunteering. Both pay off.

As the club's youth head, I have the great privilege of supporting our young people, acting as an advocate for them and thus taking on responsibility in a special way and being able to actively contribute to the future of our club. I would not be able to do this without our federal and local youth heads and numerous other volunteers, who sacrifice their own free time and often put the needs of the SV youth before their own. This also applies to all other volunteers in the various areas of our association.

All of these people have understood that a club is not a service provider where you can shirk your responsibilities by paying a monthly fee. In a club, members work together, as the name suggests. The club is based on the joint efforts of all members, on the idea of volunteering and on the pursuit of a goal.

With this in mind, let's look forward to a good anniversary year in 2024 with optimism, commitment and togetherness, and make the most of our opportunities.

Yours truly,

Daniela Thoring

Association Head of Youth