



BORDER COLLIE NEWS
ISSUE 120 – February 2011

Chairmans Report. I am pleased to write this report for the first online Newsletter, bringing the Border Collie Club of GB into the 21st Century!

With our AGM, Championship Show and Crufts looming, it's a busy time for us all. I always consider that Spring and the new fresh Show season are just around the corner and after the Winter we've had, we certainly need something to look forward to-like a little bit of sunshine, maybe! Let's hope we get it.

On the Kennel Club's favourite catchphrase for the moment – 'fit for function' I must mention that we had a successful Herding Test Day in October at Jackie Goulder's place in Pickering, North Yorkshire. Two dogs passed the test, Sue McCrilly's Littlethorn Zodiac and The Rev. Angela Hughes's Tim O'Day at Guildenmore. We hosted the event this time and I think everyone enjoyed the day – including Jackie's parrots, who know all the commands and used them frequently but not necessarily at the right moment!

Talking of Crufts, many of our Members don't know that Border Collies feature every day at the show in the 'Discover Dogs' section. A lot of hard work and planning goes into our little space over the four days, and if any of our Members feel like 'popping in' on the people who take the trouble to prepare their dogs for the general public to 'play with and poke and prod' proving that our breed is one of the main attractions – they would appreciate a visit to preserve their sanity! It's just amazing how many members of the general population prefer to have a Border Collie at their side over all other breeds.

Of course there will be many of our Members competing at Crufts in all disciplines and we wish them all the very best of luck.

A little known test exists that is open for Border Collies and provides the opportunity for owners who value the registration with the International Sheepdog Society to get their dogs qualified to be registered with the First Society to ever register sheepdogs from the early 1900's. The test is a stiff 'Working Farm Dog' procedure involving a drive, fetch, pen, inspection and pushing sheep through a race. It is not for the faint hearted. One such test was held in October on Val Powell's farm in Northamptonshire. Two dogs were to be tested, Bruce Kilsby's Littlethorn Qashqai (Eve) bred by Bob Tunnicliffe and my Cories Lachat (Dash) bred by Louise Amos. Bruce and Eve completed a classic, almost faultless run and passed, but Dash lived up to his name with me at the helm-panicking- and didn't. Dash and I will try again, but many congratulations to Bruce (who has previously taken the test successfully with Bridacre Flair - bred by Maureen and Derek Briddon) and Eve.

The Championship Show is now an established great event also incorporating the Agility Show. Plenty to see for spectators and Border Collies featured alongside other breeds in what they do best—speed and endurance as well as beauty!

I hope to meet Members old and new during the coming season. I hope you are also able to contribute to this new format Newsletter-please tell us about your Border Collie's successes, things they get up to at home, things that they can do..we'd love to hear it all.

Best wishes, Ann Jordan

Secretary's Report

2010 has seen a lot of changes and a new style newsletter. The committee have now decided not to send the newsletter by email but it will now be up to the member to download it or apply for a printed version.

This is my last report as Secretary. Due to the Government's new ideas on how I should be employed, my work is now interrupting my spare time and preventing me spending time on the Club.

I would like to thank the Committee and Membership for your support over the last few years.

Jim Collins

This is issue number one of the new style of giving news to Club members. It is available on the Club's Website and will only be issued in hard copy to those members who specifically request it. There is also a change in the editorial team. Doug and Louise Collier will produce the 'News' in the new format. There will be four editions per year – Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter and we would be pleased to receive your news/information, features and comments for the issues. It is, as I have said available on the website, which is under the control of Louise Amos, who will update the site. If you require a hard copy then phone the chairman Ann Jordan. You can contact Louise and me on 01228 672095 or email louise@collier926.orangehome.co.uk .

Your membership fee of the Club becomes due on 1st January each year. The subscription remains £7.50 single, £9.00 joint and £10.00 family or overseas. Doug Collier, the Club's treasurer, will be pleased to receive it. Cheques should be made payable to the BCC of GB and sent to his address – Beechwood House, Newtown, Blackford, CARLISLE, CA6 4ET. If you wish you can arrange a Standing Order with your bank using the section on the Membership form already displayed on the website. If you need further information then contact Doug.

The Club's first shows of the year are on Sunday 20th March at Newark. The Championship Breed Show entries close on 19th February. The judges are Kathy Frawley – dogs and Voirrey Paesler – bitches. Entries should be sent to the secretary or made online by 26th February at www.fossedata.co.uk. On the same day and at the same venue the Club runs an Open Agility show organised by Sue Morley. Contact Sue for further information.

The Club's AGM is on Sunday 27th February at Heald Green, south of Manchester. All information from the secretary Jim Collins. Any items for the Agenda, rule changes, nominations etc to Jim 28 days before the meeting. Jim, by the way, is standing down at this AGM. All members are entitled to attend and will be very welcome at this meeting. Some information about our 2010 shows – our March Champ show had a surplus of £1967, the Open Agility Show a surplus of £1999, the July Obedience Show a surplus of £635 and the September Open show made a loss of £483.62. The Herding Test on 24th October made a loss of £297 and finally the Puppy and Veteran Events in November had a surplus of £21.

The Breed Council – our Club representative is Tracey Wilkinson. The Breed Council is to have its AGM on 20th March at the Newark Show venue. Any matters which you wish to raise then contact the Club's secretary or Tracey.

Some news about the Herding Test – our Club ran the last test and the Breed Council contributed £300. A meeting was held at the KC on 29th November to consider modifications, procedure, costs, title and entitlements. All will be made known eventually by the KC, we presume, in the Kennel Gazette.

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Doug and Louise