

THE NORTH WEST STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER CLUB
Newsletter No 1 1976

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THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

A Happy New Year to everyone. As you now all know, 1976 is an important year for us in the North West Club, for it is our 30th Anniversary. To start this newsletter, Arnold Thomas has kindly written the following article:

"The first Show of the N.W. Club was held at Bradshaw's Motor Mart, Upper Brook Street, Manchester, in March 1947, with John Marchant judging. This Show was an Open Show and very well supported, despite the fact that much snow had fallen over the North West and Midlands and even Manchester, making travelling difficult. The Catalogue for this Show, which I had, has been lent and not returned, so I cannot give details except that Brigands Bosun went B.I.S

The next Show was a Member's, held at the Athenaeum Hall, Bury, on 24th May, 1947, with Amos Smith judging, 27 dogs made 78 entries.

The third Show was a Members held at Ashton Hall, Warrington, 13th September, 1947, Albert Ainley judging, 27 dogs made 78 entries.

The fourth show was a Member's again at the Athenaeum, Bury, on 22nd November, 1947, with John T. Gorton judging, and 36 exhibits made 109 entries. Four Shows were held per year in those days.

Our first year was reasonable considering we had only about 80/90 members.

We started 1948 with a show at Cheetham Public Hall, Manchester, on 21st February with Cyril Taylor judging. Again very bad weather with snow and slush. This time it was a Limit Show and exhibits were 33, entries 104. The second Show Catalogue was also lent out and I cannot now remember anything about this Show.

I took over as Secretary from Jack Worsnop at our Annual General Meeting held at the Trafford Arms Hotel on 13th June, 1948, so the first Show I ran for the Club was an Open event at Cheetham Public Hall, Manchester, on 11th September, 1948, with Peter Abrams judging. I remember there was a slight panic because Peter fell ill and had to cancel at the last minute. A hurried gathering of the Committee appointed Cyril Shaw who was at the Show. He accepted and I think all exhibitors presented their dogs. There were 42 exhibits and 121 entries.

The last 1948 Show was a Limit held at St. George's Hall, Preston, and the judge was Joe Smith. To date this was our best effort, 44 exhibits making 133 entries. Lever's Shandy Boy going Best and Hargreave's Rochdene Britannia Best Opposite, and Challs Brindle Lad Best Puppy.

As a Club we are now on our way to success, our membership was increasing at a steady rate and we were getting the respect and admiration from other clubs for our enterprise.

Our first Show in 1949 was again at the Atheneum, Bury, on 5th March, judge Reuben Timmins of the "Edmen" prefix (he claims this was the first prefix in Staffords). Well we new little of Reuben at the time, but he drew an entry of 118 from 45 dogs. This was another Limit Show. He made his B.I.S. Hargreaves' Northern Red Rose (Brinstock Challenger x Beacon Princess) and B.O.S. was Swans' So-ooChall (Brinstock Challenger x Beacon Princess). Best Puppy at that show was Southworths' Little Thief (Brindle Mac x Brigands Beatrice). This dog was also Best Novice. The next Show was an 18 Class Open held at Cheetham Public Hall and Mr. H.N. Beilby was the judge. My catalogue was sent to the K.C. and I had not another marked one, so I've forgotton the winners at this show, but we drew an entry of 160 from 48 exhibits. We were holding our own and making a name in the ladies section with the quality of food they were putting on, also Sid Orford started to bring cake to be raffled (this continued for many years and brought a good deal of money into the kitty). The raffle and the continued efforts by the ladies nearly always succeeded in putting us on the credit side at our shows. Other Clubs were now following us which we were very pleased about, for just about this time we could travel to the Midland shows and be able to get anything to eat without going outside. This all soon changed when they found out about the revenue a "canteen" brought in.

Our next Show was a Specialist Club Members Show (today it would be called a Sanction Show) but Open Classes were allowed in those days. This one was a 14 Class again at the Cheetham Public Hall, with E.J. Merchant once again being chosen as judge. There was an entry of 152 from 42 exhibits and again I've not got the results, and up to November 1950 I've lost or mislaid the records, but on the 11th of that month we held another Open event, again at tha Cheetham Public Hall which had become a very popular venue because it was very easy access at that time. Our judge was the Club's President – Albert Ainley – and he had 135 entries from 44 dogs. A feature of this Show was our first parade of champions; they were Ashtons' CH Brindle Mac (the first N.W. Champion), Cowgills' Ch Quiz of Wyncroft and Jollys' CH Peper the Bomber. We were now really progressing and most of our good dogs were doing well elsewhere.

In 1951 we held our first Sanction Show (first time it was called that) and on the 31st March Horace Priest was the chosen judge. He was very well known at the time because he was kennelman and handler for Gerald Dudley. He had an entry of 155 from 51 exhibits in 12 Classes (note the reduction in the number of classes, this was a K.C. ruling but "open" classes had not been ruled out by then). This Show was again at Cheetham and was very successful. B.I.S. was Paynes' "Pal of Aveth" and B.O.S. Bulloughs' "Our Sally Cinders", Best Junio was Ainsleys' "Sulton of Sandycroft". One 16th June we had an Open event were Joe Dunn of Cradley Heath was chosen as the judge. It was the only Show he did for the Club, and I think we finished up on the

debit side at that show. The entries were 104 made up from 39 exhibits and 18 classes – quite a contrast to the March Show, average about 6 per Class as against 12/13 in March. I haven't a marked catalogue for this show. A further show was held on the 22nd September at the Church House, Bury; this was a Sanction Show with Gerald Dudley judging. I don't have much information about this one but I know the entries were 104 out of 41 exhibits, which was a paying entry and Fred Gill travelled from Stanmore with his "Milkers Guardsman" shortly before he emigrated to New Zealand.

We started 1952 with a Sanction Show at the Emmanuel Church Schools, Cannon Street, Bolton, on the 8th March. Our judge was Albert Rawnsley. The entries, however, were not good; I cannot now remember why, it was 84 made up from 27 dogs. The Best Puppy was "Moss's Good Taste" (Pike View Paddy x Joe's Girl), Best Junior Greenwoods' "Bellerphon Dynamite" (CH Quiz of Wyncroft x Brindle Midget). Best Novice was Heaps' "Bourhill Lass" (Challs Sone Prince x Judy of Rochdene). This one went on to B.I.S. with "Good Taste" Res. And B.O.S. Saturday 31st May brought us to Cheetham once again with a 16 Class Open Show with Harry Gregson as the chosen judge. I don't have much information about this either, except that the entries were 149 made up from 50 exhibits. There were a number of good dogs there including Altofts' "CH Goldwyns Leading Lad", "Our Sally Cinders", "Mahogany Democrat", "Lou's Willie's Pal", etc., etc., but once again I have no marked catalogue. The last one I have for 1952 and the last of all for a Sanction Show at the Church House, Bury, on 20th September shows Joe Smith of Rishton as judge. Entries were fair – 30 exhibits, 100 entries, again a number of good up and coming dogs on view, but I have not the results.

From our first Show to September 1952 I had all catalogues marked, but from time to time these have been lent to different people and not getting them back has caused me to forget who they have been lent to. This is unfortunate. I hope, however, that someone has records from here so that at least some of the Club's history can be more accurately recorded." A.D. Thomas.

I feel sure everyone will be grateful to Arnold for taking so much time and trouble to write all this, especially as he is no longer "a youngster" and is not really in the best of health at the moment.

Some years ago when Arthur Hill was in better health he began to compile information on the Club for preservation, and we are very grateful to him.



1973: CH Spotty Lady (C Whitworth)
Sire Rapparee Look Lively Dam Buccaneer Black Penny



President's Trophy NWSBTC Championship Show 1974 - Mrs M Pringle
CH Reeturns Lord Jim (Wood & Holmes) Sire CH Rapparee Threapwood Handyman
Dam Elvinor Miranda and CH Meaduns Polly Flinders (H Dunne) Sire CH
Rothersyke Vow Dam Somerset Sheila