

WAGGING TAILS

Issue 9

Summer 1998

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SUMMERTIME HEALTH ISSUES

It's Summer!!! We have tried to list below some of the points we should all try and remember at this season of the year.

DOGS DIE IN HOT CARS. Do not leave your dog in a car, if possible. If there is absolutely no alternative, find a shady spot (which will stay shady for the whole time the dog is left) and if possible leave the boot of the car open with a secure guard fixed. As a minimum, make sure that a window is left slightly opened. It is possible to purchase guards if you are worried about security.

Your dog is wearing a black (or liver) fur coat all summer. It is very probable that at some stage during the summer it will get overheated. A towel soaked in ice cold water on its neck and back will help cool it down. In extreme cases, if the dog has dehydrated, syringe water into its mouth to help revive it. At all times, make sure your dog has a fresh water supply. Try and persuade your dog to sit in the shade (not always as easy as it sounds if you happen to have one that loves to sunbathe!)

When you have had your dog out, please remember to check it for ticks and grass seeds that may caused aggravation. Ticks picked up by dogs can be a particular problem. If not dealt with properly they can cause serious infections. Do not try to remove the tick by pulling it off the body as . If the tick is completely covered with petroleum jelly, it will be unable to draw air in through its body and will drop off the dog on its own accord

**As an Association, we would like to take this
opportunity to congratulate**

THE FLATCOATED RETRIEVER SOCIETY

ON IT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLEAudrey Forster

It is hardly believable that is nearly three months since the A. G. M. when I took over as your Secretary. The time has passed in a blur of familiarisation with masses of detail and panic that nothing had been missed! So far so good!

We have had three events since the A. G. M.

A Working Test which was held in glorious weather near St Helens on a venue I'm sure, if it is possible, we will use again. It has great potential. Bob Kitching did one of his special lunches which was much appreciated. Results and report feature elsewhere.

The Training Day at Tatton was also a success and very enjoyable. It did rain in the afternoon and we all went home cold and a "little" wet. Nevertheless, it was a good day.

The Open Show at Worsall was held on a fine, if cold, day and went with a swing. Judges' reports and comments appear elsewhere.

We have been lucky enough, through the good offices of Kath Trevor, to have for sale Flatcoat models by Swalehall Fine Arts in bronze, black and liver (see details below). For the moment, we are the exclusive outlet. We had a stall at the Flatcoated Retriever Society's Championship Show as well as other events. If you weren't at these and are interested, contact me and I will pass your name on. Several of the models have already gone abroad so the N.E.F.R.A. name is spreading.

Just a thought on the Litter Recording. Please let me know if you have pups available; but remember, I do need to know numbers, sexes, colour, dam, sire, eye test results and hip scoring of parents. So breeders bear it in mind that without the information I cannot be of help.

Thank you all for your support. Future events are detailed on the back page of this newsletter.

Finally, remember if you do not let us know your wishes and concerns for the future we are not able to help. Please do not be shy, we are always on the look-out for items of interest for the newsletter. So, if you have any ideas or wish to write a piece for inclusion, either amusing or informative, please send it either to myself or our newsletter committee chairman, Elaine Whiting.

GUNDOG TRAINING DAY - TATTON PARK, CHESHIRE

A full day training was held at Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire on Sunday 19th April. We were a little dismayed to find on arriving our allocated ground covered with sheep and lambs but in what seemed like miraculously short order the park rangers had cleared the area. Many of the dogs were delighted to find the "presents" left by the sheep and took full advantage!

29 dogs were entered for the day split between Puppy, Beginner and two Novice classes (taken by Liz Geoghegan, Elaine Whittaker, Peter Forster and David Bellamy respectively). The morning was cool and dry and a number of spectators arrived, some with young puppies being "socialised". After lunch, informal progress tests were held with all the dogs doing each of the exercises, which were varied in difficulty according to whether they were Puppy, Beginner or Novice.

Unfortunately, the forecast on this occasion was correct and the rain arrived. Luckily, most people seemed to have taken heed of the forecast and had brought suitable clothing. However, some very wet people and dogs gathered at the end of the day. Points were awarded for each exercise and the highest overall score was from Mr. Swift with Torwood Puddleduck.

Despite the afternoon rain, everybody seemed to have a good time and hope that some of the newcomers to gundog work have been encouraged to carry on with what most Flatcoats love to do and will hopefully eventually progress to the more formal Working Tests.

Are you interested in training or working your dog?

All committee members are available to offer advice on training (especially those on the Working Sub-Committee, viz., Peter Forster, Liz Geoghegan, Denise Jury, Sheena Wells and Den Orme).

Monthly training classes are held in the west of our area on Sunday mornings for Puppy, Beginners and Novices. For further information contact Liz Geoghegan on 01772 812709.

WORKING TEST - SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 1998

Our third working test was held at St. Helen's, Lancashire for Puppy, Novice and Open. The weather went against the forecast and we had a beautiful day, with blue skies and warm sunshine, the only drawback being that this resulted in less than ideal scenting conditions.

Gaynor Bailey and Stan Morgan judged an entry of 11 in the Puppy Test whilst Terry Sparkes and John Pilling took an entry, also of 11, in Open.

The Puppy Test results were:

- 1st - Cherry Wood with Soft Breeze
- 2nd - Mr. Saunders with Coalport Celtic Charmer of Roaninish
- 3rd - Joan Hewison with Casblaidh Bridget
- 4th - David Showell handling Judy Showell's Cleovine Tresillion
- COM - Jane O'Brien with Blithdale Shadow.

The Open Test results were:

- 1st - Brian Holmes handling Cherry Wood's Lawton Julia
- 2nd - Elaine Whittaker with Falconclife Pageant
- 3rd - Monica Wood with Moatwood Prisma
- 4th - Jackie Winder with Wishful Thinker

After a superb hot lunch provided by Bob Kitching and his team of helpers, the Novice Test in the afternoon had drawn 19 entries and was judged by all 4 judges.

Two dogs drew on points after the initial test and a run off was held with the following result:

- 1st - Kelvin White with Reed of the Marshes
- 2nd - Pat Robertson with Heatherbank Chief of Warpermoss
- 3rd - Rita Aubrey with Gilduffe Morna
- COM - Mr. Swift with Torwood Puddleduck

Judges and entrants alike seemed to have a thoroughly enjoyable day on a ground which consisted of woodland and farmland and the day ended with the presentation of trophies to the winners (along with engraved glasses for them to keep as a permanent memento) and tea and biscuits all round, supplied by Audrey and her helpers.

Our next Working Test will be held at Crathorne, Cleveland on Saturday, 8th August and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there.

OPEN SHOW - 4th MAY 1998 - WORSALL

DOGS.....Judge: MARY WARD
My sincere thanks to everyone for making this such an enjoyable day. A lovely family atmosphere. (see also Mary Ward's "Northern Highlights").

Class 1 - MPD (3) - 1st Garnett's Riberot Moss Champion, 6 ms. Liked this little fellow. Close decision for BP. Nice head & quite well balanced for one so young. Would like to see him a few months time. 2nd Carroll & Ryder's Jaskar Strathmore Water, 3rd Lewins' Hillas Pigeon **Class 2** - PD (2) - 1st Eaton's Hazelmere Carya (BDP & RBPS) 8 ms. Nice fellow. Carrying enough weight. Well made with correct angulation front and rear. Good coat, 2nd H. Pigeon **Class 3** - JD (4:2) - 1st Keld's Rievaulx Esk at Daiksdale Pleasing head & expression. Level topline & good bone., 2nd Tate's Blackwood Douglas Fir **Class 4** - SYD (2) - 1st Foster's Abercairny Wild Rumour. Very pleasing profile. Nice head, good angulation front & rear but I do hope his feet improve. This applies to many of the dogs. Regular nail cutting would help. 2nd Jones' Black Elk of Montana **Class 5** - ND (3:1) - 1st B. Douglas Fir, Good bone, level topline, moved better than 2. 2nd Fowie's Mossdew Delta at Wydillan **Class 6** - GD (7:2) - 1st Geoghegan's Hightarn Rambler, Upstanding workmanlike fellow. Head not his fortune but his front & rear assembly good. Held level topline on the move. 2nd A. Wild Rumour, 3rd Stucke's Penyfelds Ardshealach, Res. Black Elk of M. **Class 7** - PGD (7:3) - 1st Allen's Darillens Wings of Song, Overall nice profile, pleasing head, would prefer better reach of neck. Proud of his tail which spoilt outline on the move. They all flew their tails in this class. 2nd Eaton's Hazelmere Benjamin, 3rd Chipperfield & Higginbotham's Biddick Butney Boy, Res. Kennedy's Biddick Forest Ranger **Class 8** - LD (6:3) - 1st Cawkwell's Rievaulx Monsoon, A pleasing but not classic head. Good overall balance with a pleasing outline. Good front. Would prefer tighter feet. 2nd Ayre's Pendlewych Penbrock, 3rd Stucke's Darillens Vagabond King at Penyfelds **Class 9** - OD (4:2) - 1st Adams' Hartshead Black Monarch (RBD), Difficult decision between these two as I preferred 2's head but for overall confirmation and movement this was my choice. Good feet and correct bone type. Close run thing for top honours so RBD. 2nd Geoghegan's Shargleam Black Lark **Class 10** - VD (3) - 1st Allen's Clowbeck Black Drake at Darillens (BD & BIS), This fellow's ring presence and showmanship was the deciding, but not only, factor. He came in and said LOOK AT ME! Unusually for me I was forgiving of the old boy's front movement. At 11½ he is amazing. Nicely balanced old fellow, just the right size. Lovely chest and unlike many of the dogs today totally free from throatiness. Good hind angulation, in super condition. 2nd Wells' Gilduffe Fiach, 3rd Whiting's Mirfield Maximillian of Spenbeck **Class 11** - SLD - All absent.

BITCHESJudge : Mike Hughes (Candese)
May I first of all take the opportunity to thank the Committee for their kind invitation to judge at this show; it was indeed an honour. Secondly, a big thank you to the exhibitors for their entries and good sportsmanship. The atmosphere at this show is something not to be missed. I thought I knew that Northern hospitality was warm and generous but I never experienced it until now. I have never had so many offers of refreshments, particularly "Bacon Butties", in all my life.

It would be difficult to thank people by name or Office for their kindness in case someone was left out. Suffice to say thank you to the two young ladies with clipboards who came round all day keeping us supplied with drinks. Also that this is a very well run show, everyone did a good job right through to the climax of judging. The big ring finish to the Dog, Bitch and Best in Show judging put a pleasing and professional finish to the day.

As to the entry itself, I am pleased to say that I was able to find a good number of bitches to the type, quality and conformation that I was looking for, some of the decisions being very close.

Two minor criticisms, the first being minor because only a few were found, were fronts and handling. One or two bitches were found to have no front at all which is rather sad, and some of the exhibits were poorly handled. I know that a quality exhibit is no less a dog if it is handled badly but where two exhibits are of fairly even quality, the one shown to a high standard will look ten times better than its rival. And for these reasons some bitches didn't do as well as expected. Just a point to some of the younger exhibitors, please do relax and talk to your dogs.

I was pleased also to be able to agree with my co-judge (Mary Ward) on the top decisions, which does make for a pleasant day.

Best In Show and Best Veteran was Mr. R. Allen's (D) Clowbeck Black Drake at Darillens. A quality dog in coat and superb condition for a Veteran. Reserve Best In Show was Miss K. Holland's (B) Heronsflight Charm of Falconcliffe. Best Puppy In Show was Mesd Carroll & Ryder's (B) Jaskar Sound of Islay.

Class 12 - MPB (4:1)-1st Carroll & Ryder's Jaskar Sound of Islay Very well presented, good feet and front, correct angulation front & back, nicely moulded head, a bitch of good type. Please to see her go BPIS, 2nd Garnett's Riberot Black Vanilla, 3rd Wright's Braidwynn Butterfly **Class 13** - PB (3:1) - 1st Kennedy's Biddick Sparkling Burn, Good type, correct front, in good coat. 2nd Walker's Biddick Black Pearl **Class 14** - JB (8:5) - 1st Wells' Gilduffe Shannagh, Shown in good coat, correct feet, pleasing head and expression, good reach of neck. 2nd B. Black Pearl, 3rd Tate's Plane Joint Pal **Class 15** - SYB (6:3) - 1st Donnelly's Eskmill Linbeck, Good type, correct confirmation, nice feet, well boned throughout. 2nd Trevor's Roseberri Perfection of Trevorsilk, 3rd Burroughs' Elmstock Bunch of Thyme **Class 16** - NB (4:1) - 1st Ayre's Pendlewych Pumpkin, In good coat, nice type, good head and correct expression, good feet and correct front. 2nd Newcombe's Maybrain Bellara, 3rd Plane Joint Pal **Class 17** - GB (9:2) 1st Bunting's Mossdew Black Magic, Shown in good condition, nice gloss to coat, nicely moulded head, moved well. 2nd Staff's Hollywebbryn a Pioneer Lady of Chancelot, 3rd White's Whiteabbey Maillezaiz Rose, Res. Tierling's Karaholme Heath Heather **Class 18** - PGB (12:3) - 1st Holland's Heronsflight Charm of Falconcliffe Correct angulation front and back. Moved straight, striding round the ring. Shown in good coat and condition, correct type, nicely moulded head, stood four square. This bitch certainly charmed me, pleased to award her BB and RBIS, 2nd Allen's Darillens Gypsy Queen, 3rd Whiting's Clowbeck Peacock Fly of Spenbeck, Res. H. a Pioneer Lady of C.

BITCHES (continued)

Class 19 - LB (7:1) - 1st Donnelly's Springburn Dreamer as Eskmill. Again another bitch shown in good coat and condition, good movement, correct type, good feet, showing good bone throughout. Pleased to award her RBB, 2nd Hedges' Roseberri Queen, 3rd Bunting's Mossdew Satin Doll, Res. Wells' Gilduffe Irish Mist **Class 20 - OB (7:2)** - 1st Ayre's Sh. Ch. Pendlewych Polka, Bitch with good conformation, displaying type, moved straight and true, in good coat. 2nd Jubb's Hasweth Evangeline at Katzenjammer, 3rd E. Bunch of Thyme, Res. Jones' Hastybank Hazel at Rockmount **Class 21 - VB (6:1)** - 1st Allen's Ebony Gleam of Darillens, 9 year old who certainly did gleam. In good coat and condition, nice type, good head. 2nd Jubb's Torwood Bizzy Lizzy back at Hasweth, 3rd Donnelly's Eskmill Intrigue, Res. Ayre's Cleovine Thyme of Pendlewych **Class 22 - SLB - (3:3)** **Class 23 - Brace** - 1st Jubb, Well matched pair for size and type. 2nd Bunting, 3rd White

MARY WARD'S "NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS!"

I was warned! "EVERYONE misses the turning!" Not this well travelled lady, oh no!! On entering Yarm, then re-crossing the dual carriageway TWICE, my confidence was failing and I hoped this was not a portent of things to come! I need not have worried. My anxieties faded as I was welcomed into the driveway of Sandhills Farm by several four legged friends of varying types AND of course Elaine! It looked like rain so we bustled into the kitchen where I was warmly welcomed by "Mum" and sat down to a most welcome cup of tea and one of the delicious sandwiches that she and Elaine were preparing. Quite obviously they were expecting five thousand for tea! It became clear that all this work was in preparation for the show the next day. Bob and Gary were slaving away down at the hall but they soon appeared and, after a short break, we all trundled off to a local pub and I was treated to a delicious meal. I tried to stick to my low fat diet but failed miserably!! My sincere thanks for a lovely evening.

THE day dawned grey and cold. Another portent I wondered! Yet again I was wrong. A warm and generous welcome greeted me and my fellow judge in the hall and then I started work. The thing that pleased me most was yet again seeing the wonderful kindness and optimistic outlook on life that is so typical of Flatcoats. I think I am right in saying that many of these dogs were first and foremost companion dogs and only shown lightly. They behaved beautifully, in a quite small hall, and showed themselves well. Breed type wasn't always there in heads and I was concerned about construction, particularly in the hind quarters. This is where the power and drive comes from and even when the basic bone structure is correct it must be muscled up and in good condition. I emphasise that these are purely personal thoughts and musings! I enjoyed every minute of it and I do thank all the exhibitors for their good humour and sportsmanship. For me it was a real pleasure.

I cannot end without thanking ALL the hard working people behind the scenes that do so much to make the day a success. It was a lovely FAMILY day and may that atmosphere long continue. Thank you.

WHY WIZARDWOOD?.....Peter and Audrey Forster

When we were looking for an affix, after many thoughts and rejections we decided on Wizardwood. This was based on the legend of the Wizard of Alderley Wood. Alderley Edge is a hill overlooking the Cheshire plain; a place where we daily exercised our dogs through the woods.

The legend has it that a Farmer from Mobberley mounted on a milk white horse was passing a place in the woods called Thieves' Hole on his way to Macclesfield Market to sell the horse when he was bade by an old man in flowing robes to stop. The old man said he knew of the Farmer's errand and asked him to sell the horse to him. The farmer, thinking of a better price, refused. With that, the old man foretold that the horse would not find a buyer and that the Farmer would return that night and sell the horse to him.

It came to pass as the old man had said. When riding back the Farmer paused by Thieves' Hole and again saw the old man who rose from where he was seated and stood by him. The old man said "Follow me" and lead him to a place in the woods where the Farmer fancied he could hear a horse neigh. The old man struck the rock with his staff and a huge pair of Iron Gates appeared which opened with a loud clang. They entered a cave with many caverns in which there were sleeping warriors each with a milk white horse. In one cave, there was treasure from which the old man told the Farmer to take his price. He explained he was one horse short and how, some day, the men and their horses would awake from their sleep to descend onto the Cheshire Plain to help win a battle and save their country.

No one has seen the gates again but the legend lives on and it did give us the idea for our Affix "Wizardwood".

Has It Ever Happened To You?.....Audrey Forster

When our three girls were small, we together with my Mother, three adult Flatcoats and an enormous amount of beach equipment were on holiday in Cornwall. After a day on the beach, Peter and I plus the dogs went to fill the car with petrol. We had previously decided that the beach paraphernalia could not be squeezed into the back of the estate with the dogs, and so it had to go on the back seat with the children, with granny sitting in the front.

After filling the car, we walked back and, without comment, I opened the back and Peter climbed in with the dogs (really rather a squash) and I got into the driving seat of an apparently empty car.

The gentleman at the next pump could not contain his amusement and came to the window saying "Madam, I have heard of being in the Dog House, but this is ridiculous. What on earth has he done?"!!!!

WHY NOT START AT THE N.E.F.R.A. OPEN SHOW?.....

If you're new to showing, remember, we are here to help, so introduce yourself to one of the committee. If you want help filling in a schedule, please ask.

Make sure the dog has been registered with the Kennel Club in your name. Your dog must be at least 6 months to be shown. Ringcraft classes, i.e. show training, are helpful to you and your dog, if available locally. Get a nice lead - ideally a plain black slip lead - that won't detract from the dog's outline or pull his neckline. Try to wear clothes that won't get in the way - skirts that blow across the dog in the wind or money and keys that rattle as you move can distract your dog (and other exhibits); wearing light coloured clothing can show off the dog's dark outline. Prepare your dog before the show, i.e. make sure he's clean (a bath if necessary a few days before the show), brushed, combed and tidied up. Some trimming can show off the shape of his ears, neck, feet and tail. Some excess feathering may need to be removed, especially on the back legs between hock and pastern, to show a nice clean line - we often have trimming demonstrations at our Fundays. Practice moving your dog on a 'loose' lead. Showing your flatcoat differs to most other breeds, there is no 'stacking', he should stand and move freely (not a lot of 'poncing' - it's easier for the men!). Get him used to strangers touching him, feeling his body, looking at his teeth and approaching him from behind.

At the show, pay attention! Be ready when your class is called. The class you enter is determined by the dog's age and show results to date. In the ring, the steward will guide you. Stand in line with the other exhibitors; the judge may initially move the entire class round the ring together. You will then be called forward individually, the dog examined and moved in turn. Usually you move in a triangle then up and down in a straight line, this helps the judge see the dog from all positions. The judge wants to see your dog - so don't put yourself between him and the judge's eye; keep him on the side that shows him off at all times, whichever direction you are moving.

Titbits can help bribe, motivate or distract him. If you use them, don't let it spoil him; some dogs get too excited and others, especially when standing, snatch at the handler's hand and it spoils their head and outline. Use titbits discreetly so you don't distract other exhibits.

Every judge interprets the Breed Standard slightly differently, so one week you may get a 'first' and another you'll be thrown out. That's the motivation we have to keep showing, seeing how different judges view our dogs. So don't despair at your first attempt, use the experience to learn. Every show attracts different exhibits, so your competition changes. If you have excellent opposition, your placing may be different from a previous show with the same judge. All dogs have their off days, they may be out of coat, affected by the heat or sometimes, especially with youngsters, just plain bored with it all. Whatever, win or not, there will be other days, other judges, other competition! But you can be assured of one thing - you will always take the "best" dog home!

SWALEHALL FLATCOAT MODEL

John Stanbridge has spent his working life with and caring for animals, starting with a part-time job at London Zoo at the age of 14. He later worked there as a full-time keeper caring for a wide variety of birds. It was during this period that he began to develop his aptitude for sculpting, inspired by the wealth of subjects that he had daily contact with.

He has been an exhibitor of Bearded Collies since 1970 and, although owning only 3 dogs in this breed over 28 years, he has made up two champions and has had considerable success in working tests. John judges Beardies at championship level and has enjoyed judging this breed in many countries. John also keeps Belgian Shepherds and had the pleasure of breeding the C.C. record holder for the breed. He now shares his house with a Beardie, a Belgian, numerous Klien German Spitz, an elderly, imperious Griffon Bruxellois and two long-suffering cats.

John decided to sculpt a Flatcoat after persistent requests from acquaintances in the breed. The piece is not based on a specific dog but is the end result of a long time spent looking at numerous Flatcoats and consulting the breed standard. The sculpture is 29 cms long and stands 18 cms high. They are cast in resin mixed with powdered bronze, a process known as Cold Cast Bronze. These pieces have a very high metal content, which gives a superior finish and are finished with a wax polish. A light buffing with a soft cloth will maintain the shine and, if necessary, further applications of wax polish may be given. All the sculptures produced by John under the 'Swalehall' name are entirely made by him, from designing and sculpting in the original clay, through the complete process of mould making, casting, finishing and painting, ensuring that each piece is totally unique.

ARE YOU A DOGAHOLIC?

Do you remember the name of the dog but have problems remembering the owner's name?

Were the colour of your trousers chosen to best show off the outline of your dog?

If you do have dresses, do they all have pockets?

Are all your pockets full of plastic bags and doggy treats?

Was your furniture and carpeting chosen to show the least dog hairs?

Do you get up before dawn to go to Dog Shows, Working Tests and Training Days?

Do you drive an estate car with a cage or a van instead of a proper car?

Is your car full of doggy stickers?

Can you anticipate the question from strangers "what breed is that?"

Do you recognise the blank look when you tell them and feel the need to explain?

If the answer to one of the above is YES, there is still hope; if you answered YES to two, you are in serious trouble and if you answered YES to three or more, you are definitely a member of the right Association with people who understand!!!!

Funday to be held at Samlesbury, Nr Preston Lancashire

Saturday 3rd October 1998

The funday will incorporate all our usual activities. It would be appreciated if you could complete the entry form as soon as you know you are going to attend.

Funday, Lancashire

Saturday 3rd October 1998

Name:

Address:

Price includes Hot Pot lunch with desert and tea and coffee on arrival and before leaving.

..... Adults @ £5.00 each, Children @ £2.50 each, Dogs @ £1.00 each

Total enclosed for fun day £..... Cheques payable to "N.E.F.R.A"

If lunch is not required, the price is £2.50 for adults and £1.00 for children. Please amend above accordingly.

As we will be using outside caterers, please indicate if a vegetarian alternative is required.

Please send Entry Form, SAE and cheque (made payable to NEFRA) to The Honorary Secretary, Mrs. A. R. Forster, Cooks Lane House, Cooks Lane, Bradnop, Leek, Staffordshire ST13 7HA

**Annual Dinner to be held at The Old Golf House, Outlane ,
Huddersfield, West Yorkshire**

Saturday 17th October 1998

We are trying something new the year and incorporating a "Murder Mystery" as the 'main event' with the possibility of other party games such as charades. Please come along and enjoy yourself.

Annual Dinner, West Yorkshire

Saturday 17th October 1998

Name:

Address:

Price includes three course dinner and coffee.....£ 17.00 per head

Total enclosed £..... Cheques payable to "N.E.F.R.A."

Please indicate if one (or more) of your party (male or female) will be willing to take a part in our Murder Mystery. Further instructions (if necessary) will be issued nearer the date.

I AM/ AM NOT HAPPY TO TAKE PART IN THE MURDER MYSTERY
..... No. of Ladies No. of Gentlemen

Please send Entry Form, SAE and cheque (made payable to NEFRA) to The Honorary Secretary, Mrs. A. R. Forster, Cooks Lane House, Cooks Lane, Bradnop, Leek, Staffordshire ST13 7HA

T A I L E N D E R S

Future Dates for your Diary

Members' Working Test, Saturday, 8th August 1998 - To be held at Crathorne, Cleveland.

Funday, Saturday, 3rd October 1998 - To be held at Samlesbury, near Preston, Lancashire (immediately off junction 31 of the M6). Usual activities and Hot Pot lunch available to order (including desert). Directions and meal tickets will be sent out on receipt of application form.

Annual Dinner, Saturday, 17th October 1998 (with NEW FORMAT) - To be held at The Old Golf House, Outlane, Near Huddersfield. This year we are planning to have a **MURDER!** Suggestions for a victim will not be accepted!!! But if you would like to take part as a 'role' player please indicate on the enclosed application form. Remember, we need your support to make this work and you can be assured of a decent meal and lots of fun on the night with the Murder Mystery and other party games. Overnight accommodation can be arranged directly with the hotel (Tel. No. 01422 379311). Remember to ask for the special rate.

Open Show, Sunday, 15th November 1998 - Advance notice - The committee are hoping to have an overseas judge for the event so please support us and keep the date free, if possible.

..... **Tip of the Tail**

When training a young dog, the easiest way to put a pup off retrieving is to be rough, i.e. snatching something from it's mouth. When your pup brings you something, let it keep it a moment or two and scratch it's chest while it holds up it's head to show what prize it has brought you. It doesn't want it's super trophy wrenched out of it's mouth. Holding it's head up also encourages a good presentation for later events.

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The Newsletter sub committee would greatly appreciate your "Letters to the Editor" or tips for the above section. These will be included in future newsletters as and when space is available. Please send them to Mrs. Elaine Whiting at the address below.

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Items received from members and included in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Association.
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