

# WAGGING TAILS

Issue 27

Winter 2002

## NORTHERN ENGLAND FLATCOATED RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION Officers and Committee Members

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## THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY'S TABLE

Well, we have reached the last four weeks before Christmas arrives. By then we will all have webbed feet and will have forgotten what it feels like to wear shoes and not muddy wellies.

We have had a busy autumn with a run of our Novice Working Retriever Tests, which continue to be very successful with many dogs moving up to the Intermediate level next year. The show at Myerscough College proved a great success with a good atmosphere in an excellent sports hall. Results elsewhere in this Wagging Tails.

Our Fun Day in Cumbria in September was very well supported being run by Jennie Donnelly and friends. Thank you to them. The weather was for once kind, the views great and everyone enjoyed themselves see the write up later in this edition. If any of you feel they could put on an event in their area on behalf of NEFRA with help from the Committee please let me know and we will incorporate it in our future program. We need new ideas from you to help maintain the spontaneity that has become synonymous with NEFRA.

With all good wishes for Christmas and 2003 to you all.

Kind regards Audrey.

## 2003 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please note that the 2003 Subscriptions are now due and remain unchanged from last year namely;

**£5 for individuals**  
**£8 for joint membership.**

Please send all monies due to Mrs E Whiting, Great Gable 225 Kitson Hill Road, Mirfield, West Yorkshire, WF14 9DS

Why not save the worry and hassle of remembering your membership subscriptions, why not pay by standing order. Forms can be obtained from Mrs E Whiting.

## NORTHERN ENGLAND FLATCOATED RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the seventh Annual General Meeting of the Northern England Flatcoated Retriever Association to be held at 11am on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2003 at the Old Golf Hotel, New Hey Road, Outlane, Nr Huddersfield (tel 01422 379311).

The following Officials and Committee are due to retire this year and are willing to stand for re-election;

Hon Treasurer	Mrs E Whiting
Working Secretary	Mrs D Jury
Committee	Mrs J Ryder
	Mrs K Trevor
	Mr R Bunting

Due to pressure of work Mrs K Perry does not wish to re-stand.

Nominations for the above posts should be received in writing by the Secretary from the proposer, together with a letter from the seconder and a written agreement from the proposed, by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2003. The proposed person and either the proposer or seconder should be in attendance at the Annual General Meeting and be prepared to address the meeting.

Propositions for inclusion on the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting are also invited and should be received by the Secretary no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January 2003. Only items on the Agenda can be discussed at the Annual General Meeting.

Lunches and bar snacks will be available after the meeting. Please order on arrival.

#### Directions to the Venue.

The hotel is situated close to the M62.

**From the west** leave the motorway at **Junction 23** (you will see the hotel on your left just before the junction). Take the A640 towards Rochdale, the hotel is then on your left.

**From the east** leave the motorway at **Junction 24** (Note Junction 23 is a restricted access and will involve you in a 20 mile detour!). Again head for the A640 towards Rochdale via the A643



**NORTHERN ENGLAND FLATCOATED RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION**  
**OPEN SHOW HELD ON SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2002**

Our Autumn 'Cup' Open Show held at Myerscough College, Preston on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2003 and attracted a total of 158 entries Unfortunately Mr K. Young's critique arrived too late to be included for the last issue of Wagging Tails so it has been included for you this time.

**Keith A W Young**

I began judging Golden Retrievers in 1978 having previously owned Irish setters and with my wife June own the affix Pyngold. In 1990 I was approved by the Kennel Club to award Challenge Certificates in Golden Retrievers. I am widely recognised as a gundog specialist and I refuse to judge any breed outside the gundog group - but I will judge varieties and BIS at Open shows.

I am probably best known throughout the world of dogs as a Show Administrator. At one time I was a member of the Midland Counties, Birmingham National and City of Birmingham Championship Show Committee's at the same time. Since 1995 I have been Show Secretary of the City of Birmingham Championship Show and currently is also a Group Steward at the WELKS and LKA championship Shows. For some ten years I was Secretary of Solihull Canine Society running at that time one of the largest Open Shows in the area. I am a member of The Kennel Club and in 1997 was elected onto the General Committee. I also sit on the Show Executive Sub-Committee and the Disciplinary Sub-Committee. I was previously a member of the General & Group Championship Shows Council and a Gundog Delegate (representing Golden Retrievers) on the Kennel Club Liaison Breed Council. Within Golden Retrievers I am currently Vice-Chairman of the Midland GRC and was instrumental in forming the Golden Retriever Breed Council when I became their first Secretary. Later I became their Chairman a post that I have recently relinquished. I have judged gundogs extensively in many overseas countries, including Norway, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Germany, Holland and Malta to name a few.

**Our Bitch Judge, Keith Young, writes;**

My thanks to the Officers and Committee for their hospitality and making my day so enjoyable. It was a happy and friendly show with a relaxed atmosphere. It was a privilege and delight to go over so many quality bitches. My special thanks to all the exhibitors for the sporting manner in which they accepted the decisions.

**BIS was Geoghegan's ESKMILL OVATION FOR FENFLEET JW. RBIS was Miller's KEEPERSEND OH SO SMART with PBIS Collins' RAINSGIFT SUMMER THYME AT STEEPLEHOUSE.**

**Minor Puppy (6)**

**1. Collins' Rainsgift Summer Thyme at Steeplehouse BP and latter BPIS.** Nice type. A quality youngster presented in good coat and condition. Well balanced outline for one so young. Attractive feminine head shape with kindly eye giving a sweet expression. Straight front with good depth of chest. Clean shoulders with good reach of neck into level topline. Well developed quarters with good bend of stifle. Moved with plenty of drive. A quality young lady who should have a bright future. **2. Street's Lindisfarne Ladybird** A baby with good balance and a pleasing profile. Presented in good coat and condition. Appealing head with nice eye and a typical expression. Well angulated front with clean neck and shoulders. Level topline with strong quarters and correct bend of stifle. Moved correctly. Not the maturity or settled movement of winner. **3. Green's Verdant Simply the Best.**

**Puppy (8. 2abs)**

**1. Caunce's Rotherfield Magical Meg** Very elegant feminine young lady presented in good condition. Lovely head shape with nice eye giving an appealing expression. Straight front with clean shoulders. Good reach of neck into level topline. Correct bend of stifle with good width of quarters. Moved soundly when she settled. Won the class on her overall shape, maturity and soundness.

**2. Hedges' Trevorsilk Indian Queen** Well balanced with an attractive feminine head and kind expression. Straight front with good depth of chest. Good reach of neck into correct topline. Strong quarters with good bend of stifle. Moved with drive. **3. Greens' Verdant Simply the Best**

**Junior (2.2 abs)**

**1. Caunce's Rotherfield Magical Meg. 2. Forster's Wizardwood Tawny Tarransay** Appealing liver bitch presented in good condition. Attractive head with correct pigment and eye giving typical expression. Straight front with good depth of chest and reach of neck into level topline. Strong quarters with good bend of stifle. Moved correctly. Preferred the overall shape and maturity of the winner **Special Yearling (5. 1abs)**

**1. Colson's Eskwinds Amazing Grace of Windyhollows** Lovely type. Mature with a balanced outline. Presented in good coat and hard condition. Attractive head with a soft expression. Straight front with good depth of chest. Good reach of neck into firm level topline. Strong quarters with correct bend of stifle Won the class on her overall balance and sound movement with good driving action.

**2. Rees' Eskwinds About Time** Balanced with a pleasing profile. Presented in good coat Sweetest expression from a kindly eye. Correct front angulation with clean shoulders and neck into a level topline. Well developed quarters with good bend of stifle. Moved soundly **3. Lomas' Polesgate Magic**



**Novice(7.1abs)**

**1. Gray's Gilduffe Sava** Nice type. Very Mature with a balanced outline. Pleasing head shape with correct eye and typical expression. Good front, shoulders and reach of neck into a firm level topline. Won the class with her positive movement with plenty of drive. **2. Rees' Eskwinds About Time**

**3. Cheesbrough's Riberot Love in a Mist**

**Graduate (13.1abs)**

**1. Orme's Elmstock Everlasting Dream** Lovely type presented in good coat and hard condition. Nice head shape with kindly eye giving a sweet expression. Straight front with good depth of chest. Clean neck and shoulders into firm level topline. Correct bend of stifle. Her free flowing sound movement won her the class.

**2. Burroughs' Windyhollows My Joy of Rokaness** Lovely balanced bitch with a pleasing profile. Sweet head with nice eye and expression. Good front angulation and reach of neck into firm level topline good width of quarters with correct bend of stifle. Moved correctly but lacked the animation of winner. **3. Collins' Wizardwood Celtic Chimes**

**Post Graduate (15.3abs)**

**1. Winton's Braidwynn Beriet RBB** A pleasing youngster full of quality and very typical. Lovely balanced outline with an attractive head shape and soft expression. Good front with correct shoulders and length of neck into firm level topline. Strong hindquarters with correct bend of stifle. Very stylish movement with plenty of drive. When fully matured will certainly be one to watch for the future.

**2. Jury's Torwood Pyjama Party** Lovely type with a pleasing profile. Presented in good coat and hard condition. Appealing head with a kindly expression. Mature well ribbed body with level topline and good bend of stifle. Moved soundly but lacked the drive and confidence of winner. **3. Islstrom Farranta**

**Limit (11. 1 abs)**

**1. Watson's Rainy Days and Sundays** A quality bitch with an attractive balanced outline. Presented in good coat. Very feminine head with a nice eye. Straight front with good depth. Correct shoulders with good reach of neck into firm level topline. Strong quarters with good bend of stifle. Moved soundly with plenty of drive.

**2. Colson's Windyhollows Rosy Cheeks JW.** Mature balanced bitch with a lovely outline. Very attractive head with sweet feminine expression. Clean neck and shoulders into correct topline. Good width of quarters and bend of stifle. Preferred the powerful movement of winner. **3. Walker's Spenbeck Debutante of Myhills**

**Open (9. 3 abs)**

**1. Miller's Keepersend Oh So Smart, RBIS** A real quality bitch. Very good type and presented in lovely coat and hard condition. Balanced outline. Super feminine head with correct eye and soft expression. Good front angulation with clean neck into level topline. Well developed quarters with good bend of stifle. Lovely effortless sound movement. Unfortunately lacked the same animation when in BIS

challenge. **2. Barnett's Steeplehouse Tess.** Unfortunate to meet winner today. Another quality bitch presented in good coat and condition. Balanced outline with an attractive head and appealing expression. Good reach of neck into level topline. Correct bend of stifle. Moved correctly. Well presented. **3. Watson's Here Comes the Rain**

**Veteran (14. 5 abs)**

**1. Wells' Gilduffe Irish Mist** Very classy bitch presented in good coat and condition. Pleasing profile. Well ribbed body. Good reach of neck into firm level topline. Strong quarters and correct bend of stifle. Moved soundly with plenty of enthusiasm. **2. Gray's Castlerock Wild Mist** Attractive bitch with a balanced outline. Lovely well shaped head with dark eye and soft expression. Clean neck and shoulders into level topline. Well angulated quarters. Moved correctly.

**3. Colson's Ch. Windyhollows Gypsy Moth**

**Special Liver (3)**

**1. Trevor's Trevorsilk Galaxy Velvet** good type with balanced outline. Pleasing head shape with attractive eye and expression. Straight front with good depth of chest. Clean neck with level topline. Good bend of stifle. Moved soundly. Well presented. Preferred the overall maturity and driving movement of winner

**2. Forster's Wizardwood Tawny Tarransay** **3. Forster's Wizardwood Tawny Pebbles**

**Our Dog Judge, Pauline Cole, writes;**

I would like to thank NEFRA for inviting me to Judge at their show. I was made very welcome. Thanks also to my Stewards and the Exhibitors. I had a thoroughly enjoyable day. My co-judge and I agreed on all decisions without reservation. The Dogs were very good, but was a little concerned with one or two of the mouths, but on the whole they were correct. Some of the hind movement was a little on the close side, but I was very pleased with my final line up.

**Minor Puppy (3.2abs)**

**1. Ashcroft's and Long's Canalhouse Game Seeker.BPD** Although just six months, he was a lively puppy overall, with good dark eye and expression. Lovely reach of neck. Good bone and feet. Very balanced for one so young, and one I feel to look out for

**Puppy. (3. 1abs).**

**1. Green's Hertarns Dr. Pepper.** Pleasing head, eye colour and ear set. Good reach of neck with correct angulation front and rear. Moved well for one so young. **2. Carroll and Ryder's Jaskar Sound of Taransay.** Pleasant puppy, but I feel needs a lot more time.



**Junior (11.3abs)**

**1. Chipperfield and Higginbottom's Vbos the Tycoon.** *Lovely young dog with classical head and expression. Good reach of neck, front, bone and feet. Correct angulation throughout. Level topline, and moved well, very promising young dog.*  
**2. Forster's Wizardwood Tawny Tantalus.** *Lovely dark liver dog. Excellent eye colour and ear set, with good reach of neck, bone, feet and overall conformation. Moved true, holding level topline. Close between 1 and 2, just preferred confidence of 1.*  
**3. Ladley's Eskmill Quicksilver Moon.**

**Special Yearling (8 1abs)**

**1. Chipperfield and Higginbottom's Vbos the Tycoon.** **2. Heath's Eskwinds Aladins Boy.** *Pleasing head and expression. Good front, bone and feet. Correct turn of stifle, and moved well, holding topline.*  
**3. Townsend's Rainesgift Reiver.**

**Novice (6 2abs)**

**1. Ladley's Eskmill Quicksilver Moon.** *Kind expression, with good reach of neck. Adequate bone and turn of stifle. Held level topline on the move. Would like more drive.*  
**2. Fox's Blacktoft Imagination.** *Liver with pleasing expression. Good bone and feet. Needs time.*  
**3. Green's Hertarns Dr. Pepper.**

**Graduate (2)**

**1. Chipperfield and Higginbottom's Vbos the Tycoon.** **2. Green's Wistaston Bracken.** *Slightly stronger in the head than 1. Well balanced overall, and moved well.*

**Post Graduate (5. 1abs)**

**1. Geoghegan's Eskmill Ovation for Fenfleet. B.D. and Best in Show** *Lovely dog in beautiful condition. Pleasing head and eye colour with good reach of neck. Good bone and feet. Correct angulation throughout. Well sprung ribs, and moved with drive. Pleased to give him B.D. and Best in Show.*  
**2. Slack's Branchalwood Mactavish.** *Kind expression. Well bodied throughout, with correct turn of stifle, and moved well.*  
**3. Joyce's Stranfaer Hercules.**

**Limit (7. 2 abs)**

**1. Forster's Wizardwood Celtic Swing** *Have judged him before, and he continues to improve. Lovely head and expression, with good bone and feet. Nicely angulated, and well balanced throughout. Moved well.*  
**2. Miller's Dunctonwood Mr. Softee for Keepersend.** *Just preferred head of 1. Good reach of neck, bone and feet, with well sprung ribs. Moved true.*  
**3. Thompson's Gayplume Dare Devil of Dowlesbrook**

**Open (3)**

**1 Adam's Indigo Jim at Lathkill.** *Kind expression with dark eye. Good bone and feet. Correct spring of rib. Well bodied with correct tailset. Moved well, holding topline.*  
**2 Geoghegan's Hightarn Rambler by Fenfleet.** *Close between 1 and 2. Just preferred head of 1. Good bone and feet. Nice deep chest. Good turn of stifle and moved well.*  
**3 Colson's Windyhollows Son of a Gun.**

**Veteran (11.7 abs).**

**1 Chipperfield and Higginbottom's Biddick Butney Boy.** *Lovely veteran. Soft expression and dark eye with correct ear set. Good reach of neck, and well bodied. Moved well, holding his topline. Pleased he went Best Veteran in Show.*  
**2 Ulliyart's Heronsflight Haste.** *Again a lovely happy dog. Good head, eye and reach of neck. Moved soundly. Just preferred presence of 1.*  
**3. Cross' Hartshead Sir Lancelot.**

**Special Liver (4).**

**1. Forster's Wizardwood Tawny Tantalus BLIS.** **2. Colson's Windyhollows Tumbling Ted.** *Mature dog with gentle expression. Well bodied. Preferred pigmentation and colour of 1, moving close behind on the day.*  
**3 Fox's Blacktoft Imagination.**

**FROM THE WORKING SECRETARY'S KENNEL**

Christmas will be with us all too soon for my liking. Not that I don't like Christmas, not at all, I'm all for fairy lights, Christmas trees, candles all year round and lots to eat etc. I like the food side very much as long as I'm not preparing it all, (one can always hope or live in dreamland!) but I was looking back on my aspirations for 2002. Some things have been achieved. Our working committee have been very busy and achieved a major success with out new working proficiency certificates, more about them later. We are also planning more innovations and events for 2003, more about them later. Some things seem not to have taken off so well and we are looking into what is needed, perhaps the general membership is not as advanced as we hoped so we will start at the beginning with a seminar about working (gun work), after all Flatcoats are Gundogs and the way the country seems to be going, if some have their way, we may not need to train them as there will be no game for them to retrieve. So lets all don our Wellingtons and Barbers and climb out of the sea of mud that seems to be enveloping us, clean our whistles, dry our dummies and leaders and sally forth with a new book (did you get one for Christmas?) which we have read. Let us try out the new ideas to see if we can break through the impasse your dog seems to have met and was your stumbling block to gaining all those firsts you just missed because you got three '10's and one '0'. Let us go back to basics and repetition; repetition is the only way to make it second nature to you and your dog.

Best of luck in the New Year and a Cool Yule to you all

Denise.



#### NEFRA Working Retriever Novice Tests

This, as most of you will now know, is a set of tests devised for NEFRA members who have not trained dogs before and are not sure of the standard needed for Working Tests or who do not wish to compete against anything but a set standard. It also helps (when its been going a while) prospective purchasers of puppies to know what standard the parents etc have reached in a working capacity. To these aims your working Committee started out last year with the Novice tests. These four days were all fully subscribed which was heartening to the organisers and after four days twelve certificates were won by;

**Perry's Blithdale Lesha** by Sh.Ch. Cleovine Derrynane & Emanon Leaf handled by Kate

**Perry's Casanjay Maria** by Cleovine Tresillion & Blithdale Lesha handled by Kate

**Peake's Casanjay Wind Dancer** by Cleovine Tresillion & Blithdale Lesha handled by owner

**Hewison's Casblaidh Ballyderry** by Ch Tigermoth at Keepersend & Clowbeek Peacock Fly of Spenbeek handled by Chris

**Matthew's Eskmill Nymph** by Sh Ch Cleovine Derrynane & Ch Springbum Dreamer at Eskmill handled by owner.

**Peak's Gilduffe Moume** by Tanglebriar Torrent & Gilduffe Irish Mist handled by owner.

**Perry's Lakemere Castaway** by Sh Ch Cleovine Derrynane & Orambourn Liquorice Fizz at Lakemere handled by Bernard Perry.

**Townsend's Rainesgift Reiver** by Ch Steeplehouse Chipper & Rainy Day and Sundays handled by owner.

**Hewison's Spenbeek Circle of Life** by Ch Tigermoth at Keepersend & Clowbeek Peacock Fly of Spenbeek handled by Caroline.

**Brocklesby's Spenbeek Maggids Dream from Brocksloot** by Ch Tigermoth of Keepersend & Clowbeek Peacock Fly of Spenbeek. handled by owner.

**Marshall's Torwood Florin** by Heronsflight Moss' Design on Hasweth & Torwood Chocolate Penny. handled by owner.

**Swift's Torwood Puddleduck** by Stranfaer Trooper & Torwood Pandamonica handled by Carl

These are obviously in alphabetical order, dogs sitting on two passes, (who we hope will be able to make the new days) are Casanjay Wiliwaw, Meldorfer Mayfly & Steeplehouse Chase. There are quite a few on one pass and we are hoping to have days around the north to enable people to travel.

The twelve dogs and eight owners who now have the lovely certificates designed by Keith Aldred, we hope will go onto the intermediate tests, which are being held throughout next year. The first Novice test for next year starts with one being held at Dorothy Brooks, Wild Acres, Sandy Lane, Whirley, Macclesfield. On 26<sup>th</sup> January. Entries as usual to me. Cost still held at £3 per dog. The second day is at

Farnsfield on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February with the third day on 21<sup>st</sup> September at the Thornton's, Coventry Fm, Whitters Lane, Winmarleigh, Garstang, Preston. Other Novice test days may be put on in conjunction with the Intermediate tests. It all depends on demand etc. The first Working Test will be held at Coventry Farm on the 5<sup>th</sup> April (Nr Preston). This will be for members only unless under subscribed. The second WT will be held at Farnsfield on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. We will try a Cold Game Test again this year. It will be in sugar beat at Lincoln on 5<sup>th</sup> October. (same farm complex as this year but a different area of the farm.)

We are still trying to arrange a seminar 'An introduction to working your Flatcoat' for February and this may unavoidably clash with the Novice Training Day. Keep in touch if you are interested in either. The seminar is basically without dogs so people can concentrate on the talk and not be distracted by an untrained dog. I hope everyone will find something to do over the coming year with his or her Flatcoat. It is very difficult finding venues and dates for activities and getting the two is nearly impossible, so hope to see you all at some of the events.

Denise

#### Directional work with Guy

We now have a puppy that will retrieve from in front of you on the word 'Back' but now we need to go left or right. This is easily explained but takes longer in practise hence the winter issue for wagging tails gives you more time to perfect the manoeuvre before the spring W.T. start. Start with a puppy dummy and your pup and set off forward to heel for a few paces. Sit the dog and throw the dummy forward a short distance. Leave the pup in a sit and turn to your right and walk a short distance (about 5-10 yards to start with) then turn round to face your pup and settle yourself. With a wide sweep of your arm starting with your right hand on your chest fling your arm to the right and say clearly and firmly "Get on". The pup will, with any luck look towards the direction of your hand and see and remember the dummy you threw earlier and rush off to retrieve it and return it to you. If he does not go, try to be more positive with your body movements towards the right. Keep the distances small to start with until he has the idea very firmly in his head. Then you can try lengthening the distance you throw the dummy and also alter the distance you walk away before you send the dog. When the right hand signal is learnt. Repeat the same procedure for the left this time after throwing the dummy in front turn the dog to the left then leave the dog once again in a sit and you walk to the left and direct the dog with your left hand.

When left and right are solidly learnt you can reduce the size of the arm movements to those of the professionals who with a mere twitch of their hand can direct a dog not only left and right but also in a 1, 4, 8 & 11 o'clock direction

### **The differences between Pet and Show/ Working dogs**

#### **Pet dogs raid the dustbins**

*Show dogs are food motivated*

#### **Pet dogs moult and shed hair**

*Show dogs blow their coats*

#### **Pet dogs are in heat**

*Show dogs are in season*

#### **Pet dogs run uncontrollably round the house**

*Working dogs show drive and energy*

#### **Pet dogs stand**

*Show dogs are set up*

#### **Pet dogs get a bath and are brushed**

*Show dogs are groomed*

#### **Pet dogs beg for titbits**

*Show dogs show best for treats*

#### **Pet dogs escape over the fence**

*Working dogs demonstrate problem solving*

#### **Pet dogs bark at other dogs**

*Show dogs show animation before showing*

#### **Pet dogs are hyper**

*Working dogs have high drive*

#### **Pet dogs steal socks and laundry**

*Working dogs show natural working ability*

#### **Pet dogs find and chew their owner's shoes**

*Working dogs are practicing unseen retrieves*

### **Have you got all your Presents?**

How about a NEFRA calendar available from Sheena Wells This years is a limited edition of only 200 being printed and they are going like hot cakes at the price of £5.50 plus p&p. Contact **Mrs SJ Wells** e-mail [Tdwells@btinternet.com](mailto:Tdwells@btinternet.com) Ravensdale, 2 Albert Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire.SK9 5HT. Tel:01625 522537

### **From the Litter Secretary**

Brenda Adams would like to say a big thank you to all the members who have donated money from puppy sales a percentage of this is given to the charity Dogs for the Disabled

### **Christmas time, Flatcoats and whine!!!!**

Christmas is coming, your flatcoat is getting fat  
Please take us out and don't forget your hat  
Please take a dummy or a toy or two  
But don't let us choke on a ball that you threw  
We love to fetch and swim and play  
But don't forget to scoop the poop, don't walk away  
So Christmas is coming and we all want to be thin  
But don't let me get the cooked bones in the bin  
Santa will come and leave you treats  
Chocolate and tinsel are things that puppies like to eat  
Glass baubles look good on the tree  
But not so good if eaten by me  
So Christmas is coming, have a great time  
Take your flatcoat out in the winter sunshine

By Cori and crew (Editors family)

### **Fabulous Flatcoat Fun**

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> of September, Bootle in Cumbria was the place to be particularly if you were a Flatcoated Retriever Jenny Donnelly pulled out all the stops and organised an unbeatable fun packed day for 50 dogs (and their owners). The day kicked off with a lively obedience class run by Joan Singleton followed by a working trial talk and demonstration by Robert Slack. The dog show was judged by Ann Taylor who judged Joyce Ryder's dog Logan to be the best of breed.

Throughout the day Christine Bennett professional groomer from Fleetwood transformed several flatcoats who went home looking very proud and beautiful. Also from Fleetwood came Les Chapman with his fly-ball team to demonstrate what tremendous fun this sport can be and the flatcoats and their owners who tried this will now agree! Most flatcoats had a go at the two scurries –one against the clock and the other scoring points for picking dummies of different weights. Mid day Jenny's son Martin and his wife Stacey provided Cumberland Sausage and a super veggie chilli for lunch. Even after that there was no let up- there was a doggie quiz to complete and a photo of a demolished living room (complete with flatcoat demolition expert) to think of a caption for the winner was Christine Gray with the caption "I have had a nice morning!!- How about you???" The day was rounded off with team games – the best game from the Flatcoats perspective being



'fetch the sausage'! Would you believe, some actually did? Thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle and to the many companies who provided prizes for the games and competitions. I did hear a couple of complaints through the day. They were- "there's just too much to do and I just don't want to miss anything out".

Thank you again Jenny and let's have another soon!

by Helen Ladley

### Boar Shooting in Germany.

Thank goodness for 'airflight.com', which enables us to travel very, very cheaply, from this end David & I jetted away to Germany to stay with a friend (with Flatcoats) to help Bizmark to shoot his Boar. We arrived a day early to help us acclimatize. They are only an hour ahead of us and this was easily lost in travelling. So Friday dawned, well it hadn't really dawned, when we got up to dress suitably for a beating and shooting day in heavy forest. The weather was such that Friday never really dawned; it stayed very grey, dull and misty all day. The forest where the pigs live is dense, real Hansel & Gretel stuff, and the mist swirling round the tops of the pine trees was really beautiful and yet again eerie, every sound was muffled but the beauty was incredible with raindrops hanging from all the branches and the occasional sound coming out of the forest.

We set off and picked up more of the party on the half an hour journey to the estate and the keepers house. On reaching the outskirts of the Boar park we waited and met up with other cars before passing through the heavy iron gates. The pigs are kept in by stout fencing (iron) because people never stopped telling me how dangerous they could be. At Gustaffs house we all met up (about sixty beaters and other helpers). There were people from every country, fortunately most of them spoke English, and every one wanted to come over to England for shooting pheasants etc. It is not common to shoot pheasants in Europe. We met people who knew all our friends in other countries which only goes to show what a close knit community the shooting fraternity is.

The main party of shooters arrived and picked up, lesser mortals conferred with Gustaff and off we went. There are no dogs bigger than Jack Russell sized terriers used. They are used to harass the pigs if they won't run and also to contain them if they are wounded until a person can dispatch the pig quickly. Large dogs, pointer and HPR size were banned when the deaths became too great from pig attacks. The forest floor is so littered with fallen branches and the pigs, when angry, are so fast that the bigger dogs cannot get away easily or move quickly enough.

The day passed without incidence and by lunch only thirty pigs had been shot, so on into the afternoon, by evening the bag was respectable and by the end of the second day nearly two hundred pigs and a few deer had been shot. By that time the big guns retired to Bizmarks house and the lesser guns and helpers to Gustaffs house where there is a large community hall for the workers use. Here drink and food was being given out. As I got there the butchers were already cleaning the bag out (gutting etc) and there were five big braziers lit with flares between them. In the middle the pigs were all laid out (deer as well) in order of size. We all gathered round, and ten horns announced, with quite a musical piece the guns arrival and the host started proceedings with a speech thanking everyone (weather gods, state of the forest, pigs, for giving their lives, ancestors, for putting them in the position to have such sport, helpers, in fact everything was covered including his blood group I think) Then he proceeded to each corner and called on the spirits of the pigs & the forest to thank them for allowing such sport now & in the future, then back to the beginning where the person who shot the most pigs was honoured as "King" for the night this year it was Leopold Bizmarks brother so it was OK as it kept it in the family. Then the person who despatched the most pigs was honoured and given the pigs tails and became "King" of the beaters party that night.

When the big party left everyone looked over the pigs and went over to the hall for the night's festivities. These started when the field had been cleared, the pigs hung up and fires made safe. All the food, drink and entertainment had been provided by Bizmark and the hall, which was wooden with a thatched roof and decorated with skulls and heads of prestigious animals who had been shot was lit by candles in deer antler holders with a super central chandelier made up of quite a few large antlers. The eating and drinking was merry at first but when alcohol began to take over the party of nearly 100 began to disperse, back through the iron gate and into the fog to wait for the next Boar shoot.

Denise Jury

### NEFRA QUESTIONNAIRE

Hopefully you will find a questionnaire inserted into this edition of Wagging Tails. Please take a few minutes of your time to complete the form and return it to Audrey Forster. Without your views being made known we, the committee, cannot know if we are planning events that members wish to attend.

There will be a draw made at the AGM with the first three completed questionnaires being drawn out receiving a bottle of wine.



# T A I L E N D E R S

## Future Dates for your Diary

26<sup>th</sup> January - Novice WT - Whirley nr Macclesfield  
 23<sup>rd</sup> February - Novice WT - Farnsfield, Notts  
 3<sup>rd</sup> March - Annual General Meeting - Outlane, Huddersfield  
 5<sup>th</sup> April - Working Test - Preston  
 4<sup>th</sup> May - Open Show - Woodford  
 7<sup>th</sup> September - Working Test - Farnsfield, Notts  
 21<sup>st</sup> September - Novice WT - Garstang, Nr Preston  
 5<sup>th</sup> October - Cold Game Test - Lincs  
 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Open Show - Speedwell Rooms, Chesterfield

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## **Forthcoming Championship and Open shows in our area**

Schedules for the following shows can be obtained from the respective secretaries.

**Ashbourne and District Canine Soc**, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2002

Ms S Enticknap, 4 classes, Sec: Mr R Mosedale tel 01238 819923

**Merseyside Gundog Club**, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2003

Mr R Bunting (Mossdew), 5 classes. Sec: Mrs A E Moss tel 01704 893128

**Matlock and District Canine Soc**, Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2003

Mrs V Orme, 4 classes, Sec: Mrs R Goutorbe-Scott, tel 01629 650486

**Belper Kennel Association** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2003 Mrs L. Geoghegan (Fenfleet), 6 classes Sec: Mrs H Mitchell, tel 01773823156

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The Newsletter sub committee would greatly appreciate your 'Letters to the Editor'. These will be included in future newsletters as and when space is available. Please send them to Mrs. K Trevor at the address below or e-mail to [trevorsilk@ntlworld.com](mailto:trevorsilk@ntlworld.com). Items received from members and included in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Association.

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