

LHASA APSO CLUB MEMBERS NEWSLETTER



2020

Table of Contents

Club Officials.....	3
President's comments	4
Hello from Victoria	6
Memories By Irene Plumstead.....	7
A poem by Irene Plumstead	10
Breed Notes at Random.....	11
Ch. and Irish Ch. Saxonsprings Hackensack.....	16
Mrs D Hesketh Williams	25
The Show Must Go On By Louise Gregson	26
Made in Tibet Continued	30
THE CLIP by Louise Gregson	35
Quick Questions with Linda Kendall Smith	36
Who we are	39

LHASA APSO CLUB

PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

(Non-voting)

Stuart Keay

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Mrs Doreen Richardson.

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6 COMMITTEE PLACES REMAIN VACANT

HONORARY SECRETARY & VICE CHAIRMAN

Sarah Hattrell

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Well what a year so far. 2020 started well, but then in February we started to get the first cases of Covid 19. It was touch and go whether Crufts would go ahead. It did with Sally Pointon taking centre stage. She found her BOB in the Bitch CC winner Diamella No Doubt 'Amberico. Owned by Mr. S Paolantoni from Italy I believe. At Crufts we launched the Sixth Book of Champions. There were a couple of complaints concerning the wrong photos of dogs being published. For this we're very sorry. We've corrected this and the mistakes have been put right. When the book is reprinted (sometime after the lockdown) we'll let everyone know and you'll be able to swap yours over for a new one.

Shortly after Crufts the government put the brakes on and all dog shows were cancelled until further notice. Therefore the LAC had to cancel both its Open Shows and AGM.

Whether the Championship Show in October goes ahead is anyone's guess. We'll have to wait and see what happens and when the ban on mass gatherings is lifted.

Terry Poole has been hosting Let's Talk Lhasa Apso's on YouTube. I've watched them all, and very interesting they have been with talks with the likes of Ken Warrington, Margaret Marsh and Sue Roberts, Sally Pointon and Peter Warby from Australia. If you haven't already done so I'd recommend having a look. Well done Terry and Eamon O'Doherty the technical wiz.

I like many of you have been in lockdown since the start. At times it's been very boring just sitting at home watching the TV or pottering in the garden, only going out once a week to get enough shopping in to keep body and soul alive. Since the 13th May fishing has been allowed. It's another of my pleasures

besides Lhasa's. I've tried to get out dangling a maggot or two at least once a week since then and it's been very pleasurable.

The lockdown has started to be eased, let's hope it won't be long till everything is back to normal, although that said I can't see that happening for another few months yet!

I hope it won't be long before the barbers shop opens again. I need a haircut badly; I'll soon be able to put a ponytail in my hair. Not me at all.

So here's asking you all to STAY SAFE and we'll see you all again when dog shows start again whenever that may be.

Stay Safe
Stuart Keay

Hello!

I don't know quite what to say as the prelude to this edition of the Newsletter! Living through a time with no shows, no get togethers at all is not something I ever imagined we would face in our lifetimes and I am not sure when (if) things will ever get back to normal. For now (Anyway) the Kennel Club has advised all shows to be cancelled until October and serious consideration to shows for the remainder of the year. I think a lot will depend on what decisions the government make about mass gathering.

A lot of breeders have postponed litters yet it seems still a good demand for puppies which seems a very odd thing to do during this time, introduce a puppy who will need to be socialised and trained etc. ! No doubt there will be some less than reputable breeders keen to fill the gap at inflated prices.

Thank you to those who have taken the time and trouble to contribute to the newsletter – let's hope we will soon be able to include dates for your diary again.

All that remains is to say is all best wishes that we come through this intact personally and financially and perhaps learn there are more important things in life than dog shows and when we do show again to enjoy more and complain less – win or lose !

Victoria

MEMORIES by Irene Plumstead

I have been taking a trip down Memory Lane of my early days in Lhasa's, would you believe that my first one was one bought in good faith from a winning kennel at that time. On-going to Norwich Show I saw some lovely Tibetan Apso's as they were known then, which belonged to Frankie of the Cheska fame later to become Frankie Sefton. I said to her that mine didn't look like hers, she insisted on coming home with me, on seeing my puppy she told me she was a throwback and that at that time lots of people had one in a litter saying you must send it back and get a refund,.

Frankie then said she would find me one and after a week or two we were off to Bath to see Miss Wild, what an interesting lady she was, her house was full of statues of horses, hundreds of them and they were everywhere, over furniture, on shelves, on the stairs, on the floor even in the loo ranging from an inch high to two foot or more.

We were wined and dined until I thought I would burst. She had on a long skirt and often a little head of a Lhasa would peep out of her, she brought out this white and gold bitch Cotswale Chuni or Betsy as she was known. Of course it was love at first sight. Frankie offered to buy her for me on breeding terms as she knew I had three young daughters to consider.

Betsy was my shadow, I idolised her. Frankie took her to her first show, the judge was Daphne Hesketh-Williams and she won a first and bet Frankie's dogs too, Daphne couldn't keep her eyes off her and asked how she was bred then found out her Brackenbury Gunga Din of Verles was her grand sire and said she was so like him in many ways.

Betsy was duly mated and had a beautiful litter of bitches all white and gold.

Frankie came from Devon where she had moved to with her two boys, she brought her friend Derick Sefton with her who she later married. Frankie couldn't make up her mind who to pick so she took her two and bought a third of which they all became champions. Bobette was one of them.

When they decided to emigrate to Australia we had the rabies scare so they couldn't take the dogs she asked me if I would have Bobette back.

So I had the pleasure of making Bobette up and after her eighth CC she was retired from the show ring. Bobette lived for 15 years and she was a great lady right up to the end.



Ch. Cheska Bobette who was the BCC winner at the first LAC championship show in 1970 when her son Ch. Cheska Endymion was BIS

Sadly so many have passed on, my good friend Frankie, Miss Wild, Beryl Harding, Colonel Prince and Thelma Morgan from who I learnt so much were all to do with the start of Lhasa's into England.

I had the pleasure of knowing Lady Freda Valentine and the Hon Mrs Bailey who I visited a few times to her lovely home in Shiffkey (?) and of course Margo Cook who I used to travel on the train with to go to the LAC meetings in London of which I was so pleased to be a member. Many years ago I used to write a few lines here is one of them

POEM by Irene

How do you pick a winner,
From A lovely litter,
To look at them and say,
You might be a champion one day
Does it really matter if they don't make the top
For there's still fun in showing
The lovely stock that you've got
They give you love and try their best
Every time you put them to the test
Grooming and bathing then grooming again
Walking, standing perfection to obtain
But if you're a puppy what fun it must be
To sit and refuse or even stop for a wee!
The long day is over
The hard work is done
The look in their eyes saying
Let's go home Mum.

Irene Plumstead

BREED NOTES AT RANDOM

Entries for The Lhasa Apso Club are a bit lower than usual, but I don't think the judge (Jan Davidson) should be disappointed with 102 exhibits making 159 entries as circumstances have been very difficult. Firstly our usual venue let us down badly in not informing our secretary we could not have the hall on the date which had been notified months ago. This meant Mrs. Margot Cook had to rush round at short notice to find another venue which brought us to Weedon, a lot further north than usual which proved unpopular with many of the Southern exhibitors, added to which two much nearer shows had scheduled and advertised classes for our breed that day and some had already entered them. Also this will be our first Sunday show, another difference to remember.

The Paish family were over the moon last weekend when their dog, Chobrang Chomo went BIS at Normidca under David Samuels. The breed judge was Bill Weller (Dewell). Chomo did quite a bit of winning in his early days for Marianne Rand and then inexplicably took a dislike to showing. Young Andrew Paish took him in hand and now he and Chomo make a great team. I know Andrew has done very well in competitions at his local training club and around the shows.

Congratulations to the whole family on their first big win and good luck in future to Andrew – one of the many junior handlers who are making their mark with Lhasa's.

After a break for refreshments members at the AGM were entertained by two most interesting films. Mr. Brownlie showed his 1967-1970 film taken at some of the championship shows originally for Mr. and Mrs. Brownlie's own pleasure, particularly as their Ch Rampa of Scarba was at his peak at that time.

However many other famous dogs appear and there are nostalgic glimpses of some of the exhibitors who have sadly left us, among them Miss Wild, handling her Ch Brackenburg Kan-Ri, Daphne Green with Ch Haylemill Katuscha and my husband with Ch Verles Nying-Chem-Po.

I personally could watch this film over and over again – maybe because my beloved Ch Verles \Tom-Tru was there looking his imperious best! Also on view were Anne Matthews's wit Ch Verles Puti of Lymbarton and Ruby Smith with Puti's litter sister Verlees Chuni who suffered a fatal back injury when she had won 2CCs.

Following this film came one that Rob Richardson had edited for our entertainment just a few hours before – in fact about 9.30 AM! This one started about 1970 so followed on the previous film. Mainly intended as a record of the Belazieth winners it showed Doreen and Rob handling an assembly of champions of which they must be very proud,

Among them Ch Hardacre Hitchcock of Belazieth, Ch B Malcom, Ch B Salt and Pepper, Ch B Honey Amber, Ch B Saucy and others. And of course other exhibitors with some famous dogs. I wish a few more of our newer exhibitors had been present to learn more of the breed history.

D M Hesketh Williams

Dog World

Those were the days and what I would not give to see those films! (VW)

I hope everyone read the tribute to Miss Wild on last week's leader page "End of an Era". That was so true, but I must add to it on behalf of Apso owners, breeders and exhibitors all over the World, who feel a keen sense of loss as Miss Wild was dear to many of us and respected by all. Our Club members knew her well, and loved to hear her talk about the well-known dogs of the past, among them her wonderful golden pair of Satru and Sona, who to this very day are regarded as some of the best Apso's ever bred. There was also her Chota (silver) Targum (red) and Satroma (golden) and many others.

After the tragic outbreak of hardpad that wiped out the original Cotsvales in the 30s, Miss Wild turned to Maltese and bred many fine dogs including several champions, but she always hankered after the Lhasa Apso, and it was a great pleasure to us she returned to her favourite breed in 1962 with one of ours. This was C Verles Droma who with C Brackenbury Lepele (bred by Miss Harding the following year) produced Ch C Meeru, the CC winning C Nima and Scan Ch C Yitru and among others.

Of course Miss Harding has handled the Cotsvales for some time, and housed them recently and she has kept Miss Wild so well on the scene in which she could no longer take part. We join in sympathy with her, she has had the heartbreak of seeing her friend going sadly down. We all have our memories of this great lady, my special one is of the night I spent at her home when I left eight week old Droma with the owner she shadowed from that day on. I had my introduction to Miss Wild's "museum" her living room full of photographs, paintings of her dogs, judges' badges, trophies, rosettes etc. As well as her beautiful possessions. We talked far into the night, and I learned so much about the breed and its history. Miss Morton tells me she also learned a lot on several teatime visits, and she too found her Cotsvale contacts unforgettable.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson have had another great win with their Ch Hardacre Hitchcock of Belazieth. He went BIS at Romford open show of 450 exhibits under Mr. R M James, winning three good classes on the way. A lovely win, his second best in show, and a splendid boost for the breed.

D M Hesketh Williams

Dog World



From left to right: "Satru" (gold), "Chora" (silver), "Sonam" (gold) and "Targum" (red), circa 1934. These Apsos come directly from the dogs Mrs. Bailey brought back from Tibet. They were owned by the late Miss Marjorie Wild, Cotsvale.

SHOW SNIPPETS FROM THE 1930S Thank you to Elizabeth Luck for this information

1935 June 7, Our Dogs, p 776 - 14 entered, Lhasa Apso's, Open, D (8), 1. Cockburn and Bingham's Dzong-Pon, 2. Dudley's Lhasa, 3. Wild's Satru, r. Lady Valentine's Changtru, B (6) 1. Wild's Sona, 2. Cockburn and Bingham's

Dorje Pamo, 3. Dudley's Litsi, r. Hon Mrs McLaren Morrison's Batta.

p.778 – Eight faced me for Open dog, where without hesitation I went for the high class black and white Dzong-Pon, heavy coat of densest quality; head is on exceptional lines, tail carriage good and movement unbeatable, Lhasa I was informed was 13 years of age, and such being the case, he is a remarkable specimen, moving well, with heavy coat and eye by no means dimmed. Satru of similar type; sound free action, Changtru, different type; larger. Sona, ideal head, splendid shape, little erratic in tail carriage; smart body. Dorje Pamo needs more bone; head I liked, also body. Litsi, on shapely lines. Batta, small shapely, capital head, but not on form, so paid forfeit. W Nichols

1935 June 14, Our Dogs, Foreign Dog Fancies, p 888 – All the Tibetan breeds turned up very well at the LKA and Apso's were particularly strong in numbers with 14 exhibits from six kennels. The leader of the eight open dogs was Major Cockburns's and Miss Bingham's well-known imported Dzong-Pon, with Mrs Dudley's Lhasa running up. The leading bitch was Miss Wild's Sona, a daughter of Lhasa, and in this sex the second best was Major Cockburns' Dorje Pamo.....

In the earlier part of the year there was a considerable amount of grumbling that award in the Tibetan breeds were not being made according to standard, and one or two people have told me that they did not exhibit because of that. On the other hand, some judges have very definitely been following or doing their best to follow the standard, and I think we are getting back whatever exhibition assurance may have been temporarily lost. Anyhow, the Apso's, Tibetan Spaniels and Tibetan Terriers, and also the general Foreign class, will be judged

at Richmond Ch. Show next month by a man who has handled more Foreign dogs in the past few years than anyone else has. I refer to Mr A C Dudley, and I look forward to the most representative entry which we have had yet. There is one class for foreign dogs, one for Apso's, one for Tibetan Spaniels, and two for Tibetan Terriers.....

Ch. and Irish Ch. Saxonsprings Hackensack

Known throughout the breed as "Hank" he was not only the first Lhasa Apso to win Best in Show at Crufts, but went on to become the joint (with Ch. Belazieth's Salt 'N' Pepper) top sire of champions in the UK as well as many others who helped the breed to progress.

He was whelped 22 May 1979 in a litter of 3 dogs, his sire was Ch. & Am Ch. Orlane's Intrepid and his dam Ch. Saxonsprings Chussekaun. At the time there was also a litter 7-8 months of age by Intrepid again, out of Chussekaun's half sister (both by Hardacre Pied Piper) named Saxonsprings Fresno, Florence, Fordyce and Flint, but a gold brindle puppy from Chussekaun's litter to be named "Saxonsprings Hackensack" was worthy of a place in such company. Jean Blyth said of him

"He was always a most promising puppy, even though in those days I was not experienced enough with the American/English cross to be sure of how the puppies would develop and I had too many Intrepid sons".



Hank won well as a puppy quickly clocking up enough points for his Junior Warrant and his first RCC from the junior class at Midland Counties under Harry Glover. A change of coat kept him at home for a few months after that, but in August 1981 he took his first CC & BOB under Anne Wynyard who had this to say of him;

“He had that arrogant head carriage I always associate with the Tibetan Breeds. He scored in overall balance and had just what I was looking for in shape of skull and length of foreface. Excellent front, the right length of neck to compliment his excellent shoulder angulation, correct tail set, level top line and a pleasure to watch moving, superbly presented in immaculate condition”

A RCC followed at Darlington under Stanley Chandler (when Fresno took her first Best In Show), quickly followed by the CC at Midland Counties (Harry Jordon) and his third CC and BOB at Driffield under Terry Thorn – a day when Hank had his first “big” win with group and Reserve Best In Show.

1982 was a relatively quiet year for Hank while Fresno was campaigned to her all Breeds “Dog of the Year”, but on 6 occasions he did the double with her (judges George Leatt, Tom Prince, Richard Cussans, Stanley Chandler, Cujeonda Koudjis and Thelma Morgan) as well as 3 RCCs.

Crufts 1983 saw Jean Blyth judging so the Saxonsprings team had to stay at home. Fresno won the final of the Pedigree Chum Champion Stakes and the Contest of Champions before producing her first litter in April – 1983 was the year Hackensack had his chance .

Previously handled by his owner it had never been the intention to do otherwise, but after Fresno was taken out of the ring it was eventually decided that Hank too should be entrusted to the handling of Geoff Corish, but only in the ring. As Jean’s personal favourite he always lived at home, in his later years very often to be found sleeping on Jean’s bed! Jean said of him

“above all his winning and success as a sire, it is his sweet nature (he has never been known to show aggression to others be they human or canine) combining all the characteristics of the true Apso temperament, faithful without being demanding of attention, playful yet aloof, intelligent and with that streak of stubbornness that can make them so annoying at times that has so endeared him to me “

He started 1983 off well with CC and BOB at Manchester (Lily Turner) and ended the year with 11 more, all, but one with BOB, judges Bobby James, Terry Young, Stanley Dangerfield, Miriam Chandler (at Leeds where he won the group) Anne Matthews (August SKC group winner again), Catherine Sutton where he won his first Best In Show at Leicester (who lost championship status some years later) ‘Bob’ Russell-Roberts (City of Birmingham and a consecutive Best In Show), Mrs Tom

Stevens (Midland Counties group again), Di Weller (BUBA) and A J Chandler (LKA where he went on to Reserve Best In Show). He also clocked up Best in Show at the Midland Lhasa Apso Association open show under Ken Woosnam, long before his later association with the kennel I hasten to add who wrote of him

“Perfect dog he is to go over, ideal Apso, perfectly shaped head, classically formed, kind of expression, super neck and top line, well angulated, must be one of the greats BIS”

Mrs Irene Plumstead (Showa) was to judge Lhasa Apso's at Crufts in 1984, her last appointment being 2 years earlier when she had given Hank RCC to the American import Ch. & Am Ch. Kinderland's Ta-Sen Neto of Parlu, obviously she must of liked him, but enough ? Neto was also entered at Crufts that year, not to mention the usual fine array of champions and future champions that Crufts always attracts. Mrs Plumstead's report reads thus;

OPEN D (14) 1 Blyth's Ch. Saxonsprings Hacksensack, he came into the ring as if he owned it, what more can be said of him that has not been said and he certainly headed a very fine class, all the owners must be very proud of these dogs 2 Luiz' Ch. & Am Ch. Kinderland's Ta-Sen Neto of Parlu rich red gold, another well up to size, but could not be denied his place here 3 Scarll's Timazinti Teddy”

Reserve CC was awarded to the young American bred future champion Belazieth's Carry-On, After some tense and hotly contested bitch classes Ch. Saxonsprings Florence of Hardacre emerged as the CC winner making her first (and last) appearance after maternal duties, with RCC going to future champion Nedlik Tender Thoughts. Best of Breed could have gone either way but it was to be Hackensack who gained the winners rosette.

The group was to be judged by Bobby James who had given Hank BOB the previous year and as the groups were called in many Apso enthusiasts rushed to the Earls Court balcony craning to see a glimpse of what we knew must be a strong contender, to be rewarded with breed's second group win at Crufts.

"Crufts, all the magic and excitement was there just as it always has been, it was a pleasure and a privilege to be part of it all. Sunday night and you could literally feel the tension and anticipation building up, this was the night. In they came the finalists for this penultimate group. Every best of breed plus the Japanese Spitz who had topped the unclassified section on the day."

This group although numerically the smallest, was of the highest standard, every exhibit was lovely quality and to use a very hackneyed phrase, a pleasure to judge. When breeders can produce such animals and judges can recognize them, then it is no wonder that this country still leads the World in the art of dog breeding and exhibiting

"Out of a star studded line up I chose seven. The Dalmatian Lorimer's Ch. Wardell Whatsizname, the Keeshnd Luckhurst's Ch. Gavimir Nighthawk, the Lhasa Apso Blyth's Ch. Saxonsprings Hackensack, the Miniature Schnauzer Radford and Clark's Travelmors US Mail, the Min Poodle Howarth's Ch. Jolda Joshua of Idadoun, the Shih Tzu Crossley's Ch. Santosha Sunking and the Tibetan Spaniel Simper and Scoates' Clydum Hopenglory. Each of them superlative breed type and teaming with quality. Round the big ring they went and the hudge ringside gave them applause which they so richly deserved. Back into me and quite frankly for me the Lhasa Apso stood away, aloof and majestic, a dog of supreme prescence. The empathy between him and his handler is

really something, each has complete confidence in the other and in passing I may say I have never handled a dog which has been better prepared or presented. For the reserve I chose the Min Poodle.....Finally may I add my own congratulations to Hackensack on his ultimate triumph. The greatest of wins for one of the greatest of dogs, to his owner/breeder Jean Blyth and to Geoff Corish who took him all the way” Bobby James

Judge for Best in Show that year was Mrs Molly Garrish, although best known for her Fleeting Whippets and Italian Greyhounds, she had also bred the top winning Shih Tzu Ch. Fleeting Yu Sing of Antarctica, so obviously had a soft spot for Tibetan breeds. The last 6 was a strong line up including previous and future Best in Show winners, but as we know it was to be Hank's day;

“When I was invited to judge Best In Show at Crufts I was very honoured and obvious of the fact it is a once in a lifetime experience to be able to select from a line-up of the six winners of the groups, all big winners and five of which were champion's. Of these I had little hesitation in choosing the Lhasa Apso Ch. Saxonsprings Hackensack, superbly handled and presented, a coat of lovely colour and texture, he moved with great experience and with an air of “I am the greatest” which in fact he proved to be. For reserve I chose the cheeky Pom Ch. Lireva's Shootings Star.....” Molly Garrish



After Crufts Hackensack was little shown in breed competition in the UK, but during 1984-85 he was not idle being campaigned on the Irish Circuits to become the first after Irish Apso champion, his wins culminating in Best In Show at the Irish Kennel Club St Patrick's Day show and in 1985 he came back at Leicester where Ken Woosnam was awarding his first set of CCs to take BOB Over his daughter Ch. Ragoosa Mitoyah followed by the group and RCC at BUBA where June Frankl also awarded CCs for the first time. Just to prove showing is never a foregone conclusion he made his last appearance in the breed ring at Crufts 1986 and could only manage a 7th in open dog!

1987 was to be a special year for Hank as at SWKA he qualified for the Pedigree Chum Veteran Stakes final and from this class (as was allowed then) went on to win the group and Best in Show under Terry Thorn, who in 1990 named Hackensack as his "dog of the decade".

“Driffield 1981 saw me judging a superb entry of Lhasa Apso’s, a breed that was then and still is a breed strong in both quality and quantity.

A young golden dog was placed on the table and upon inspection I straight away knew that what I had in front of me was something quite exceptional and out of the ordinary. He duly won his class, successfully challenged for the CC this being his third, and went on to win BOB. All day long and through my subsequent breed judging my mind kept going back to this outstanding dog and later it gave me such great pleasure to see him win the strong utility group under dear Eve Bentinck and then to further endorse my view on this fantastic dog he went RBIS under the noted American judge Mr R H Ward.

The rest is history. He went on to gain 23 CCs, 8 groups, 4 BIS including Crufts 1984, his Irish title, the first Apso to do so and BIS at the St Patricks Day Show. All this winning was achieved in the shadow of his kennel mate Ch. Saxonsprings Fresno, who has perhaps gained more glory for the breed than any other Lhasa in history.

However, this is not the end of the story as the biggest thrill was yet to come. Many years later in 1987 I was judging some groups and BIS at the South Wales show. A Lhasa Apso was placed on the table. The dog was in great condition and coat and he made an instant impression on me. He duly won the utility group and I later awarded him BIS – yes it was the same dog Eng, Irish Ch. SaxonspringsHackensack, now aged 8 years and still looking really fabulous. A great credit to his owner, handler and breeder Jean Blyh.

Hackensack has been a great ambassador of the breed and through his American bloodline of Ch. Orlane’s Intrepid who has been one of if not the most influential sires this breed has

produced since its introduction to Great Britain. He was certainly my most exciting dog of the eighties” Terry Thorn



Thereafter Hank only appeared in Veteran Stakes classes qualifying every year to win the final in 1991 (for 1990). He qualified once more for these finals in 1993 and won 3rd place behind the 7 year olds Ch. Navarres Executive (Miniature Poodle) and Ch. Potterdale Classic of Moonhill (Bearded Collie), no mean feat for any dog, let alone one that was approaching his fourteenth birthday. It was to be his last appearance in the showing and perhaps fitting that on this occasion was Terry Thorn, his most ardent admirer.

To be continued.....



DAPHNE

Mrs. D.M.Hesketh Williams

A historic picture of our Daphne and her late husband David taken after Crufts Show 1965. On the left, Verles Tom Tru, aged 15 months, winner of the 18 strong Novice Class. On the right, Brackenbury Gunga Din of Verles aged 6 winning the first C.C. and Best of Breed when Championship status was restored. The Reserve C.C. was won by Verles Yang-dup of Cheska.

The eminent judge was Bill Siggers.

Daphne became Secretary of the Lhasa Apso Club 21 years ago, when it had just 35 members. She has seen it grow to its present size of over 600. She has been a breed note correspondent for the same length of time, writing first for both papers and then handing 'Our Dogs' over to Frances Sefton in 1968. She still writes weekly for 'Dog World'. She has seen the Club progress from its first Open Show in Oxford in 1963 (Judge Clement Cluny) to its world record Championship Show in 1980 with 176 entries for Mrs.Schneider Louter from Holland.

Daphne bought her first Lhasa, the famous Ch.Brackenbury Gunga Din of Verles from Miss Beryl Harding (now Mrs.Prince) in February 1959. How you might ask did Daphne come to choose a Lhasa? Well, actually, she didn't. She was a devotee of the Stafford breed, which she has also had for many years. And it was her Stud dog, Verles Varmint, who fell in love with the Lhasa lady Brackenbury Min-nee at a training class. Which led Daphne into persuading her husband David to buy one of Min-nee's puppies by Jigme Y Tharkay of Rungit for her birthday present. Once bitten a year later another visit to Miss Harding and Brackenbury Kalu of Verles was purchased as a birthday present for son Charles. And then things really got started.

Gunga Din became the first male Champion after C.C.'s were restored to the breed in 1965. He was followed by Ch.Verles Tom-Tru, Ch.Verles Nying Chem-po, Ch.Verles Keepa, Ch.Verles Puti of Lymbarton, Ch. Verles Ja, Ch.Verles Yang-dup of Cheska, Am.& Can.Ch.Verles Jigme Y Tru, Dutch Ch. Verles Nangwa, Nord.Ch.Verles Ka-lu, all gaining their crowns for the home kennel or for lucky owners of Verles stock.

Staffords also continued to reign at Verles House, carrying on the line from the first one, Varmint, in 1945, to the newest member of the family; Fena, a grand-daughter of Daphne's last Stud dog, Verles Viceroy.

Daphne is a respected Championship Show judge of both breeds.

The Show Must Go On By Louise Gregson

When Covid 19 happened and the whole of England started to go into lockdown, I was dreading the thoughts of my boss walking in and saying 'hi Louise, I am afraid we are going to be furloughing you' the look on my face was of shock and panic. After being off work for the last 4 weeks unable to move my shoulder having calcification tendonitis. The fear and dread of spending any time at home wondering around the house feeling 'I do not have anything to do', made me feel very depressed.

I am quite a shy person really and would never have dared normally approach people, however I have always had this little voice inside my head that says 'You must face your fears'. After just buying a puppy before Christmas from Wendy Cain I was excited at the thoughts of being able to show her, I was so looking forward to her reaching 6months, as I had missed out on puppy classes with my first Lhasa. So, when one of my work colleagues said what are you going to do for the next few weeks, I surprised even myself when I said I am going to do an online dog show.

I spent the first night on furlough hardly sleeping a wink, and as I looked at the clock in the bedroom for the hundredth time that night, seeing every hour. That little voice in my head said, come on girl get your head together. You can either go into panic mode and cry or you can keep yourself busy and do something. Should I try do a dog show! Would anyone enter? Would I look silly? What would people think? As I sat eating my breakfast the next morning my husband looked at me and said what are we going to do? And I said I am going to do an online dog show.

With Noelac been my local Lhasa Club I decided it would be good to go through them and hopefully get to see some lovely pictures of the breed I love. I had seen a couple of online dog

shows popping up, however what I wanted to create was a feeling that we were all going to the show at the same time and a feeling of togetherness, a feeling of excitement and anticipation. I also knew that some dogs just take a really good photo and it is more about to see movement and structure and going over a dog. How could we create this live, without being in the ring? I created an event on Facebook and asked if anyone was interested. Nothing! No response. I thought maybe a few are struggling with the filming, I will ask, still nothing! As the deadline date came nearer, I thought to myself, what a ridiculous idea this was and why on earth had I even thought of bringing it up. I messaged around a few people and amazingly a few started saying ok I will give it a go. Friday night before the deadline date and still I was not sure if I had enough to go ahead. Saturday came the deadline day, suddenly out of the blue my phone never stopped. Ping, ping, what do I have to do? From the response I was getting everyone was a bit nervous. Oh, I do not know if I can do the filming. Oh, I do not think I can get a good photo. I do not think I have done a good job. But that was it, I had managed to get enough people to join in. 49 Entries, which was more than some shows. I was quite relieved, but now all I had to do is to carry it out.

After writing everyone's details on my note pad, I go to my laptop sit down and type it all out, and hit my first problem. My office 365 which has expired. I mess about on my laptop for a bit and decide the only option is to do it on OneDrive. I send the first draft over to Marylou for a second pair of eyes to have a look at. Except it would not send what a nightmare after hours of messing about trying to get things sent, I was wondering how I was going to do this without it being a disaster. I spoke to Noelac and Chris said it would be a nice idea to ask Madeline to Judge as she had missed out on judging the previous year. Chris had messaged Madeline and she said she would be honored to

judge. Fabulous I had an experienced judge and people wanting to attend.

The week before the show was spent bathing the dogs, walking up and down the road with Beth filming and the neighbors wondering what on earth I was doing. Trying to get the best photos. And when it came to be filming the dog on the table, oh lord I thought it was difficult in the ring, well not as tricky as filming it is on the table, I hate looking back at myself.

Finally, the day had arrived, could I pull this off? Or would I not dare to show my face ever again. Half an hour before the show Mandy had done a little test and said she was struggling to post. What had I done? This was not going to work. This is going to be a disaster that I wish I had never started. I quickly, frantically tried changing the settings on the events page. Right I got that problem out of the way. I phone Madeline just to make sure she was ok and we were on the same page, we were struggling to find the right part of the event page, but unfortunately everyone had started posting, it got a bit crazy for a bit, everyone messaging at once and all out of order. I looked at my husband and daughter and said I really need your help. We had 2 laptops out on the worktop and me on the phone. We started again, we were on a roll, things started to run smoothly, and people were having group conversations with each other and it was becoming great fun. We had messages constantly popping up on the screen and myself either on the phone or posting photos. It was only after that in all the craziness of the show I realized that I had posted a different picture to the one I had tried all week to get, and I had forgotten to post my dog walking. We had some fabulous dogs entered and being shown. Everyone had done a great job at trying their best to film what they could. Finally, the results were in. Amanda White's puppy 'Bobellam Bubbling Over' won best Puppy in her last puppy class. Jill Lock took Reserve best in

show with Littondale Replay Kutani and Best Veteran with Ch Littondale Valentino JW. Best in Show went to Michaela Hall's Ch Shenedene Miss World.

From the response I got everyone really enjoyed the day. The day after I made a film of all the dogs in the show and found a track that summed up how I was feeling. The track was called everything will be alright by Jet Jurgensmeyer. It was so much fun to feel like we were altogether with a love of the Breed. It did not make any difference what place we got. I was so pleased that we had managed to carry the show off and I beat my anxiety and fear of something not working out. And I suppose that goes for showing in general. Sometimes life brings problems, but it is how we deal with those problems that makes us the people we want to become.

Continued from last newsletter.....

MADE IN TIBET by Dr Catherine Marley

II. ALTITUDE

High altitude places unique demands on animals. Some of the adaptations seen in human populations are poorly understood even today. To live comfortably at 16,000 ft. requires not only an increased respiratory capacity, but changes in the cellular chemistry as well. All mountain populations have developed a typical physique short, stout extremities, and long torsos with enlarged thoracic cavities. Most mountain dwellers have also developed significantly higher red blood cell counts, and higher hemoglobin concentration, in order to extract more oxygen from the thin air.

The strategy for animals at high altitude, as for people, is: high respiratory capacity (large lungs, good airways), structural efficiency (elimination of nonessential excess body mass) and sometimes, chemical accommodation.

III. TERRAIN

The Tibetan terrain can be summed up in three words, "up and down". The plateau must not be

thought of as a flat, albeit high surface. Millions of years ago, the drifting subcontinent of India slowly crashed into the Asian continent, throwing up the Himalayas, and uplifting the Tibetan plateau, a geologic process that continues today. The entire uplifted area is wrinkled by innumerable smaller mountain ranges. The surface is arid, rocky and dusty, and there is not much level ground. Man and animal must have good climbing apparatus, strong and surefooted. Feet must be tough and well protected. Bodies must be built for stamina rather than speed; for walking, climbing and jumping rather than trotting or running on level ground, as plains animals do.

The terrain strategy can be characterized as: good feet, strong climbing and jumping equipment.

In summary, the adaptive strategies which lay down the prerequisites of Lhasa Apso "type" are three.

- **For cold and heat: maximize the mass (muscle), minimize the surface area (shorter extremities, compact body), and insulate (coat, fat)**
- **For altitude: high respiratory capacity (large lungs, good airways), structural efficiency (elimination of non-essential excess body mass)**

- **For terrain: good feet, strong climbing and jumping equipment.**

Let us examine the Lhasa Apso, point by point as the standard does, and try to understand, in detail, how the Lhasa Apso accommodates the biologic imperatives of Tibet.

CHARACTER: GAY AND ASSERTIVE, BUT CHARY OF STRANGERS.

To fulfill his function as a sentinel, the Lhasa Apso needs to be a calm, intelligent, alert, and independent dog. The Apso's suspicion of strangers is an attribute prized by the Tibetans. Although with his intimate friends he can be extremely sensitive, affectionate and playful, he never loses his air of self-possession. The Lhasa Apso cannot be a waster of energy, a nervous, hyperactive dog. He must not be surly, skulking or fearful. He is a naturally dignified and sensible companion, but he is not characteristically over-anxious for approval from his owners.

The ideal show dog has a somewhat different personality. He should be very dependent and tractable, eager to please, with a tendency to hyperactivity. Apso's of a typical temperament often do not make good show dogs. (What sensible person or animal spends an afternoon alternatively standing posed and running in circles in the

company of a bunch of other fools doing the same thing?) I have often heard "show breeders" assert that they are not breeding "pets", but "show dogs". But do we have the right to alter the natural physical or mental attributes of this unique little companion, the product of millennia of evolution, for no other reason than to satisfy the demands of a rather frivolous hobby?

SIZE: VARIABLE, BUT ABOUT 10 OR 11 INCHES AT THE SHOULDER FOR DOGS, BITCHES SLIGHTLY SMALLER.

A mountain animal is not of necessity any particular size. However, the Lhasa Apso's function as an indoor sentinel would suggest a handy size. In fact, the Apso is about as small as a dog could be and still be viable in the Tibetan climate. The smaller the linear dimensions of an animal, the greater the surface area is in proportion to the mass. This means that a very small animal has a much greater surface (from which to lose heat) in comparison to its mass, (which produces heat). These very little animals usually have very high metabolisms, live in protected burrows, and hibernate through unfavorable conditions. None of these adaptations are available to canines.

The outdoor show ring tends to exaggerate the length and cut the apparent height of dogs, especially small dogs. Breeders have responded to

this pressure by selecting for a taller, squarer dog. The height of most of the Lhasa Apso's in this country has increased to the point where a correct sized Apso looks abnormally small. For those Judges who have trouble keeping before them a mind's eye picture of 11 inches, I might suggest carrying an ordinary piece of typing paper around for reference.

COLORS: ALL COLORS EQUALLY ACCEPTABLE WITH OR WITHOUT DARK TIPS TO EARS AND BEARD.

No particular color confers a survival advantage to a domestic animal. The strong sunlight in Tibet does make dark eye and nose pigment favorable, as it sunburns less easily.

Too be continued.....

THE CLIP by Louise Gregson

I looked in the mirror and the lord give me strength,
Oh what a balls up, no bits the same length

She started by saying "Just a bit off"
Now she is clipping, I don't think she can stop.

When I look all around me, there just fur everywhere,
But I have no eyebrows, no whiskers and my bum hair.

She has been at it for hours and I still look a state,
If she keeps going. I'll be bald at this rate.

She looks down at me with tears and dismay.
And through both of our crying, I just heard her say.....
"You can't go outside, not looking like this! Cos humans
And dogs, will just take the p**s

QUICK QUESTIONS WITH.....

Linda Kendall Smith (Orlane)

1 How long have you been involved with the Lhasa Apso ?

My Mother Dorothy Joan Kendall got her first Lhasa in 1963. So that means I started getting involved when I was 9 years old.

2 Who or what inspired you to show the breed?

My Mother has always been my inspiration

3 Who was or is the best Lhasa Apso NOT owned by you that you have judged or been over?

There have been a few dogs who stand out in my mind that were the best. Susan Giles' Pete (Am Ch Ta-Sen Victory Peyote) is a dog I really liked. Of course there were MANY Orlane dogs that Mom bred that I loved like Intrepid

4 Who was or is the best or favourite for other reasons, Lhasa Apso owned by you?

Matthew (Am & Ir Ch Showa Fantastic with Pantulf) has to be hands down my all-time favourite male Lhasa Apso. Female will always be Of For Pete's Sake (Am Ch Orlane's Oh For Pete's Sake)



Ir & Am BIS Ch Showa Fantastic Fore Pete's Sake

Am Ch Orlane's Oh

With Pantulf pictured winning BOB

At Westminster Kennel Club

5 What is your favourite show?

I think it would be the Westchester weekend, the grounds were so pretty and so well taken care of

6 Which dog person would you bring down from heaven for a day if you could?

Roy Ayres or Frank Oberstar, both of them were outstanding judges I would bring Janet back too (Janet Lacasse – Lasacas in Canada.)

7 What piece of grooming equipment could you not live without?

Gosh there are so many, how about my Greyhound Comb

8 What is your tip for people starting out breeding or showing the Lhasa Apso?

Go to lots of dog shows, look at all the different “types” of Lhasa’s being shown. Read everything you can about the breed. Get in your mind what you think a good Lhasa should look like, not just the ones winning all the time. Take your time and just watch. Look for the dog or dogs that make your heart beat just a little bit faster. Talk to the breeders, remember every one of them will have a different opinion. Please take your time. If this is really what you want to do you will make the right decisions?

Who we are

We are a club for its members and we are only ever as good as you make it. So please keep supporting your club and breed, please get involved to make the club bigger & better

We are here for you to take an interest in a remarkable breed of dog the Lhasa Apso.

- We love to put on well attended shows
- We want to make the shows a fun and exciting day for all exhibitors
- Remember we are all only custodians of this breed at this time.
- We should all be here for the health and wellbeing of the breed.
- We all should breed to improve and carry on the traits of the breed.

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Thank you from all the
Members of the
Lhasa Apso Club

