

Winter Magazine

Issue 72



Airedales West

West of England
and
South Wales Airedale Terrier Club



Website Address: www.airedaleclub.org.uk

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Editorial Comments

Well doesn't time fly. It only seems 5 minutes since my first attempt at producing the magazine for WESWATC and its members.

I would like to thank all those people that emailed me, wrote to me or I met at our recent Championship Show that liked the new format and contents.

As I said in my first Editors Comments the magazine is all about you, the members. I do need assistance with articles etc - so please, please help.

I am indebted to Mrs Liz Cartledge for agreeing to provide us with her full report after judging our Championship show. I hope you all enjoy her thoughts on the event.

I have been travelling around the world (from my armchair) in the last few months and we have an article from Keith Lovell who lives in Australia but seems to actually travel the globe. I have received many more articles which due to space will have to wait until our Spring edition. I am grateful to everyone who has contributed.

Our Open Show is coming up on the 20th February - see page 16 for details. Please try to attend if possible. It's a great day and easy to get to - only just off the M5 at Junction 21(literally 10 minutes)
Finally many thanks to Ann Griffiths for her article on Laddie Boy.

I have a BIG, BIG request for ALL Airedalers in Cornwall and South Devon.

Jacky Cawston has been asked to look at setting up a walk in Late April - Early May about 20 miles from Exeter near Haytor (on Dartmoor). Please, please contact her on 01395 - 514562 or email her on jccawston9@aol.com to register your interest. You don't have to be professional ramblers to take part - it's a day out for Airedales and Airedalers.

With our membership list in the process of being updated we hope to be able to email the magazine to those who have an email address rather than printing a hardcopy and posting it which is very expensive. For those who do not have an email address or have requested a hardcopy rather than by email we will continue to do this. Please let the Members Secretary know if for any reason you need a hardcopy.

Finally if you have not done so will you all let the Treasurer/Members Secretary know your up to date details- name, address and most importantly your email address if you have one. I have attached a sheet at the end of the newsletter for you to complete. Please complete and return to the Treasurer/Members Secretary with your annual subscription fee due on the 1st January 2011. His address is on the form.

New Members

A great welcome to the following people who have joined our breed club

Christine & David Bailey - Trowbridge, Wiltshire

Helen Bartz - Cross Keys, South Wales

John Hodgson & Andrew Kitchen - Kessingland, Suffolk

Diane & Malcolm Newman - Bridport, Dorset

P. Spragg - Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire

Andrew Turner - Bromsgrove, Worcestershire

Geoff & Andrea Chidley - Poole, Dorset

Chris & Jacky Day - Weymouth, Dorset

Michael & Lesley Reynolds - Stilton, Peterborough, Lincolnshire

David & Tre Worsley - Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon

We hope you enjoy being members and please feel free to send in articles, funny stories - anything you may have about your Airedales that can be enjoyed by all.

It's members that make our magazine and the club.

23rd Breed Championship Show—28th November 2010

Our Championship show was held this year at a new venue at Tewkesbury. The location was ideal and it was well attended. The show was judged by Mrs Liz Cartledge - a well known judge in U.K. and around the World. She promised to send us her full report of the show to be published in our magazine. For this we are most grateful and I hope people find it interesting.

Report of the judge—Mrs Liz Cartledge

The West of England and South Wales Airedale Terrier Club held its 23rd Championship show at Tewkesbury Sports Centre; a new venue to me and to the club.

Just right for this size breed show and even I couldn't get lost en route as it was just off Exit 9 on the M5. On a bitterly cold but bright and sunny Sunday we were warm and cosy inside. A good atmosphere prevailed throughout.

Personally I would have liked a slightly longer ring in order to see movement properly. I was disappointed there weren't any dog puppies at all; in fact males were thin on the ground right up to Limit Dog. The bitches were more plentiful – half a dozen naughty minor puppies got the girls off to a good start. JB, LB & OB were quality classes with plenty of choice.

Best in Show was Ch & Am Ch Longvue Jackpot at Saredon.

RBIS & BOS was What Comes Around via Toulseyork

BP was Saredon My Gal

The two David's were excellent stewards and everything ran smoothly. Good catering and a splendid lunch further added to my feel good factor. Breed Club shows are always special and this one had a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

JD (2,1) - 1 Brown's Oceanaire Beachcomber, 16 months, masculine outlook, well proportioned, used his neck beautifully, short back, deep chest, good bone, strong quarters, well laid shoulders. Slightly reluctant to use his ears but his gong (toy) did the trick. Front movement not 100%.

ND (1) - 1 Noyce's Black Prince, 21 mths in hard fit condition, jacket of good texture, tight feet. Movement all round needs to improve, rather loose in front. Keen expression, sympathetically handled but could show with a bit more focus.

LD (8) – Quite a shock to get 8 in a class when up to now there had only been singletons!

1 – Hampton and Hall's Mulrebrity Grandioso, 19 mths, up to size male, masculine and self assured in every way, intelligent expression, muscular neck, good bone, legs and feet, strong firm body, well fitting jacket, moved well behind, handled and presented to best advantage.

2 – Morris's Nedella A Kind of Magic, same age as 1st, handsome Airedale with good neckline and depth of body, excellent bone, crisp coat in good order, attractive head of good length, well muscled quarters. Handler had a tendency to let him stand a bit slack in topline. Failed in front movement.

3 – Toulson's Toulseyork Combat Cooper.

OD(3,1)

1 – CC & BOB, Averis's Ch & Am Ch Longvue Jackpot of Saredon, 4 yrs, excellent quality type, has that bit of style and ring presence that makes you notice him. Lovely showman and so well balanced, typical head, well carried ears, tight feet, clean neckline, tail on top & plenty behind the tail, strong quarters, moved with a purpose, really looked a picture today, well presented coat.

2 – RCC, Jackson & Swash's Ch Jokyl Captain Scarlet, nearly 5, masculine mature looking male, lovely head and expression, well turned out and fit looking, strong body, excellent bone and substance, held his topline on the move. He could have done with a bigger ring to really get into stride when moving, just not reaching out in front action here.

Two first class dogs.

V(3,2)

1 – Sallow's Willowaire Lexicon of Love, 8 yrs, bitch, obviously living the good life as she was carrying a little surplus weight, steady show girl, feminine head, ears a bit flightly but keen and interested in her surroundings especially if there was anything edible on offer! Moving a bit close behind, tailset could be better.

Championship Show—28th November 2010—continued

MPB (7) – It was a treat to see so many bitch puppies enjoying themselves.

1 – Holbrook's Matrasen A Clown On Broadway, well grown pup of 7 mths, good length of head, clean neckline, excellent coat, well bodied, just looking a bit rangy presently, full of terrier spirit, lively showgirl who moved quite well for one so young;

2 – Edington- Hall's Wendaire Jokers Angels Kiss, half sister to 1st but a month older, muscular neck, good bone and depth of body, shapely outline, steady showgirl, good coat and condition. I preferred ear set and carriage of 1st.

3 – Jackson and Swash's Jokyl Red Ribbons, real hooligan, having a good time here – I'm not sure her handler agrees! Much better to be lively and positive than a shrinking violet. Good outline and proportions, excellent body, on her toes, keen expression. Tailset could be better.

PB(5)

1 – BP, Averis's Saredon My Gal, I wish she was! Gorgeous 10 mths puppy, lovely type and size, sparkling showgirl, already knows how to impress. Quality head, flat skull, shapely body, good neck, topline and proportions, firm and fit, well presented and handled. Full of promise.

2 – Morris's Nedella Victoriana, 9 mths, good reach of neck, well coated and bodied, excellent bone and feet, well proportioned, good set on. Bit heavier in head than 1st, another with good potential.

3 – M A Clown on Broadway.

JB (3) Even class for quality.

1 – RCC Lee's Stargus Street Angel, 17 mths, quite a big girl but has everything in the right place, shapely body, used her neck well, personality plus, good length of head, intelligent expression, focused showgirl who made the most of herself both standing and moving, good quarters with plenty of power, well presented and conditioned.

2 – Keay's Jaymitch Misty Over Malvern, 15 mths, just needs more face furnishings and beard to complete the picture. Excellent coat, body and condition, good neck and shoulders, held her topline on the move, cooperative showgirl.

3 – Edward's Lytchdale Summer Twister, 15mths, good honest bitch, handler could get her going a little bit faster when moving, steady showgirl but could show with more animation. Well fitting coat of good texture, strong body, good bone, typical head, not always using her ears.

NB (2,1)

1 - Summer Twister.

DB (1)

1 – W Jokers Angels Kiss

UGB (1)

1 – Turner's Crillee Catch A Star, 18 mths, good type and size but coat let her down today. Pleasing head, good bone and ribcage, mover O.K. showed well.

PGB (8,2)

1 – Jackson and Swash's Jokyl Time to Party, 17 mths, quality youngster of excellent type, good head, well carried ears, firm topline which she held on the move, good coat texture, well proportioned, moved and showed nicely.

2 – Hampton and Hall's Muliebrity True Spirit, 19 mths, good make and shape, excellent body and coat, moved quite well, well handled. I preferred head and eye of 1st.

3 – Hacker and Jenkins's Sherifs Winter Dawn.

LB (6) Good class

1 – Hacker and Jenkins's Sherifs Winter Jasmine JW, 2yrs, fit and healthy bitch in good form, clean neckline, excellent bone and depth of body, attractive head of good length, lovely coat, strong quarters, moved well.

2 – Edwards's Smockalley Top Totty, 2yrs plus, another smart looking bitch, showed well when something took interest. Quality head, keen expression, fit body, moved O.K. handler let her stand a little slack in front.

3 – Toulson's Toulsyork Chapter Three.

OB (9,1)

1 - CC, Toulson's What Comes Around Via Toulsyork, 2 1/2yrs, I really liked this bitch, well balanced, and type, no exaggerations. Most attractive head, dark eyes, well carried ears, clean muscular neck into well placed shoulders, good body and depth, excellent coat, body and condition, sound mover, laid back character, showed well.

Championship Show—28th November 2010—continued

2 – Lee’s Ch Stargus Black Lace, 2 1/2yrs, up to size, quality head, beautifully presented, on her toes, composed showgirl, went well, strong body, used her neck to advantage. Curly tail slightly detracted from otherwise very good impression. Not quite on the ball when she came in to challenge for the RCC so had to give way to her younger stable mate.

3 – Jackson and Swash’s Ch Jokyl Star Flash, completed a splendid trio, lovely silhouette standing, good size and type, feminine head, moved well going away but failed in front action.

Liz Cartledge - Judge



From the left:

Dog CC and Best in Show Bitch CC and Reserve Best in Show Best Puppy in Show

Editors Licence

I just had to publish this photograph when I saw it. It was taken at the Championship Show.

It made me laugh thinking about what he or she was thinking.

It could be:

‘I’ve been up since 4am this morning, little to eat in case I’m sick in the car, I’ve been ’gone over’ by a stranger and now I’m told I’ve got another 5 hours in the car to get home?’

What a life I lead!!!!



Fun Day Memories!!! - continued from Autumn Magazine



I hope it's Jools Holland on the piano!!!



Who said Andrex is for Labradors only!!!



Watch my back legs please - ouch!!!



The Full Cast of the Fun Day

Laddie-Boy - The Presidential 'First Dog'

The administration of US President Warren G Harding (1921-23) was one known for its corruption and scandal. Harding may not have been a favourite President, but he did own "Laddie Boy" an Airedale Terrier of 'impeccable' reputation, a dog who snugly fitted into the title 'First Pet', who wore a Washington dog tag printed with the words 'Number One'.

Laddie Boy delivered the President's newspapers every morning, and they enjoyed many long walks together. The President also enjoyed the game of golf, and so did Laddie Boy, who would accompany him searching the bushes for lost golf balls, and retrieving them, when the President made a bad shot.

Now Laddie Boy would sit on the front steps to meet official delegations to the White House, and was so special he was given his own hand-carved chair to sit in during cabinet meetings. One piece of trivia made me smile, it was suggested that Laddie boy entertained himself at these cabinet meetings by staring at his reflection in the polished wood of the table. It is said that the press would make more of him than the President himself. They loved him, and would write tales about him, and publish his letters not only to people, but to other dogs, along with mock interviews on such subjects as prohibition, and the working hours of guard dogs.

Laddie Boy brought some fun to the Presidential administration when he arrived at the White House in 1921. He has been described as 'rambunctious' (I had to look this word up, and it means 'unruly' or 'uncontrollably exuberant, isn't that a good description of many Airedales ?) He received many gifts from his adoring fans and birthday parties were held for him at the White House, when neighbourhood dogs were invited and there were treats all round. Once a big cake made out of dog biscuits was made especially for him.

An annual event, known as the Easter Egg Roll, still takes place today at the White House, on Easter Monday. This popular fun-loving Airedale bounded around the event in 1922, mixing with the youngsters, shaking hands, performing tricks, and having his photo taken. The White House Historical Association note that " Laddie Boy hosted the White House Easter Roll in 1923 when President and Mrs Warren G Harding were away on a trip to Georgia." He really was a celebrity.

Newsreels were an integral part of the media of the 1920's, as was the 'Photo opportunity' and First Lady Florence Harding, an avid suffragette, and on the case for the welfare of WW1 veterans, was one person who knew how to manipulate the media. As his popularity grew, she may well have used Laddie Boy to promote or champion her ideas. He was most certainly involved with animal welfare campaigns, being advertised as a 'guest' at animal welfare events to sell tickets and solicit donations. On one occasion Laddie Boy was asked to lead the "Be kind to animals " parade held by the Humane Education Society, and a float was built just for him.

He became the ultimate publicity hound. However, Harding's critics suggested that he used the dog to divert attention from his official ineptitude. It is said the dog howled constantly the three days before the President died while away in California, knowing perhaps of his master's imminent demise. (President Harding died in office)

As I have said, the Press loved him and in memory of President Harding ,who had also been a newspaper editor, newsboys collected over 19,000 pennies to be melted down and sculpted into a statue of Laddie Boy which now resides in the Smithsonian Institute. Laddie Boy sat 15 times for the sculptor.

More recent media coverage has come from 'President Obama's Dog Blog' on the Internet, where Laddie Boy is considered to be the most popular Presidential dog ever ! To read much more about Laddie Boy and his activities, to see more photos, and learn about some rare collectables, and how, like today's celebrities he sometimes balked at being in the spotlight: type 'Laddie Boy' in to search, and then click on 'The Obama Dog Blog Laddie Boy: Most Popular Presidential Pet.



From our Own Foreign Correspondent

I mentioned in the Autumn Magazine that I would be trying to make contacts around the world and obtain articles of interest. I am so grateful for all the people that have responded to such an extent that I have lots of articles to be published and many others on the way. From Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A, Alaska etc. I am still trying to track down the man who wrote the book on his amazing trip through Alaska - I think he may be on one of his trips at the moment.

I apologise to people who have sent articles in but I assure you they will get published. Here is an article from a wandering Aussie to get started and a famous breeder/judge.

Amazing Travels of a Dog Man

*Keith Lovell is a terrier breeder in Australia. He and his wife Patricia have bred champion **Fox Terriers, Irish Terriers, Welsh Terriers and Airedales**. Over 100 champion Airedales. They groom and handle themselves. Keith judges over 100 breeds and has experienced some of the most amazing dog shows. He has a wander lust and travels at every opportunity. He loves judging and regards it as a responsibility and privilege. Over 40+ years in dogs he has judged in Asia, the Pacific, Australasia, South and North America, Scandinavia and Continental Europe. His *tales* describe shows like the **Dracula Show** in Romania, the Island shows of **Hawaii**, the **Lipizzaner Show** in Hungary, the **Santa Claus** show in Sweden, the UNESCO Heritage area show in beautiful **Sintra** (Portugal), the amazing **Beverly Hills Show** in California and many more. In this article Keith will take readers on his solo journey in a small camper van through eight countries after the Denmark **World Show** in June 2010.*

My trip started in Copenhagen before the **World Dog Show** after a stopover of two days in Bangkok. Travelling from Australia is dangerous (DVT) and tiring so a stop is essential. **Bangkok** is the least expensive Asian stop over and a clean air-conditioned hotel with pool can be had for as little as twelve pounds. (When travelling for over six weeks the economics of it become very relevant). The stop over allowed for a pedicure, manicure, haircut and massage. In Copenhagen I met friends who had been holidaying in our camper van in UK and Europe since March. Three Australian couples, including Trish and I, own this rather small Fiat Camper. It was chosen to fit a street parking bay. We garage it in England and take turns at holidaying.

Copenhagen was alive on the night we enjoyed together before I headed off. It was some festival where the canals were dotted with bon fires and the street restaurants booming. On my own in the van and away to Herning, the site of the world show. Within an hour I had a blow out but all went well in getting it replaced and I am pleased to say that no further incident of this sort invaded my trip. .

The World Show was a sensation. The **World Terrier Specialties** great. As a periodic writer for dog magazines and on this occasion officially for **ILIO, the Hawaiian Dog Magazine**, I was welcomed to the media hospitality of The **Danish Kennel Club**. How wonderfully they catered for the press. Indeed the whole show was both a public relations sensation and a most spectacular event. The quality of the dogs and their presentation was world class. The exhibitors' enthusiasm was right up there with my own. I almost ran from ring to ring to see the breeds I was most interested in and in some cases judges I admire and wanted to observe.

Hans Lehtinen from Finland judging **Smooth Fox Terriers**; Ingrid Borchorst (Denmark) judging **Welsh Terriers**; Espen Engh (Norway) judging **Whippets**; Damir Skok (Croatia) and Stefan Sinko (Slovenia) – **Dalmatians**; for example. The final was indeed a spectacle. The presentation, the theatre, the crowd, the media throng, the red carpet and not least of all....the dogs. The wonderful white **Toy Poodle** from Japan, Smash Jp Talk About, won the coveted **Best in Show**. While the **Affenpinscher**, Banana Joe V Tani Kazari with its American professional handler was runner up. I was hoping for the Affenpinscher but on performance the little white one was the correct choice.

Inge Rassmussen is a successful Smooth Fox Terrier breeder/exhibiter who is internationally known as the hostess of a wonderful World Show Fox Terrier Dinner. I was delighted to be invited and meet many leading **Fox Terrier** identities. Held in a small hotel this year's dinner caused the closing of the dining room to other guests. As the dinner progressed it became obvious to me that the Dog World Team were wandering about lost and hungry after a big day at the Show. Always gaunt, poor **Vince Hogan** looked ravenous and clearly upset that no food was to be had this night. However, our dear Inge saw his plight and insisted that he and his team joined the banquet where in no time at all Vince brightened the party with his repartee. Vince is a wonderful man with his tummy full.

From our Own Foreign Correspondent

After the shows I drove back to Copenhagen for a few days camping at the beach. Using the train I enjoyed an evening at the Tivoli which is certainly a must if visiting “wonderful, wonderful” Copenhagen. Then over that amazing bridge to Sweden. My trip was planned to incorporate a judging appointment in Sweden. Stopping when I felt like it I drove to Boras near Gothenburg to **judge** over two days. This National show as managed by **Robert Paust** who I first met at Peter Green’s kennel in Bowmansville Pennsylvania in 1979. It was not surprising therefore to find Peter on the panel also. Actually it was a very international affair with some judges I very much admire. **Harry O’Donahue** (Ireland), **Stefan Sinko** (Slovenia), **Andrew Brace**, **Espen Engh** (Norway), **Carl Gomes** (USA) **Goran Bodegard** (Sweden). It was a great show and the judge’s hospitality left nothing out. Fantastic. Caught up with some great friends/judges too. Also managed to greet some of my Swedish friends but in most cases pretty briefly. **Peter Green** was the Best in Show Judge and chose a stunning Swedish bred **Pharaoh Hound**, **Faouziah’s Faramir** My choice for the Terrier Group was a stunning **Irish Terrier**, **Merrimac I R A**. also bred in Sweden but from an American sire. I had planned another week in Sweden but on discovering that the Ferry (Lonely Planet recommended) from Gothenburg to Newcastle (UK) had been discontinued four years earlier. I took another ferry to Denmark (Jutland) and explored the east coast for almost a week.

Then a quick trip to Germany for a special **Terrier Show**.

The Munster Terrier Association in Germany was celebrating their centenary. This club was special to the late **Rudi Tegeler** of **Airedale** fame and as I had met Rudi a couple of times in England it seemed important to go. 218 terriers were judged in four rings. The best in show judge just happened to be **Stefan Sinko** who I had seen at the World Show and judged with in Sweden. I had judged with Stefan before in **Romania, Hungary and Croatia** so it was becoming somewhat a coincidence. He chose an Airedale, **Fiete vom Garnsee**, for best in show. This too suited my pleasure centres although I particularly liked a **Bedlington**, **Arc-en-ciel Arlequin** and a **Manchester Terrier**, **Black Bandits Jimmy**. After that I had some time on the French Coast before taking the Dunkirk Ferry to Dover.

Then to **Midland Counties Airedale Show**. Very enjoyable and I was very well treated by the club. It was lovely to be invited to lunch with the judge, **Maureen Ward** who is club president, and meet such a lovely lady who really knew her dogs. (Airedale and **Staffordshire Bull Terrier** breeder). It was great to see **Jane Turner and Elaine Johnston** who had recently been in Australia....where Elaine made my **Champion Tjuringa Razzle Dazzle** best in show and my dog **Ch Tjuringa Romper Stomper** runner up.

At Midland Counties the best in show was **Averis’ American Champion Longview Jackpot of Saredon** who was sired by the sire of my two aforementioned Tjuringa champions at home. A lovely dog. I was also taken by the Junior male of **Leslie Lee, Stargus Devil’s Joker**, who was grandsired by the same dog, **American Champion Evermay’s High Performance** who holds the breed record for all breed best in shows.

Also at Midland Counties Airedale I met **Roy and Marion Gregg** of **Bamboosa Airedales** who had also been to Australia. They are great company and kidnapped me back to N. Ireland for a week. Took me to two dog shows including one run by **Harry O’Donahue** in the South. It was great to see the Irish Breeds in Ireland. At one of the events, a fundraiser of the Corgi Club, it was both surprise and thrill to find **Liz Cartledge** the judge. Liz is a very popular judge in **Australia**.

Back to **Scotland** and then the north of England where I returned our campervan to the farm of our friends. After a night in Penrith I took the train to London and stayed in Earls Court. The hotel stairs were sheer misery with my bags which seemed too heavy for just me. Then back into care. Friends who have visited us in Australia took me on for the last days of my tour. We visited castles and gardens and listed homes etc and visited countless pubs.

After two nights in Bangkok I am in the lounge and about to fly home where Trish has been ill, busy with the dogs, busy with our grandson and busy with a plumbing disaster. It is just as well I have had a great time as I guess my life will be one of catch up and hopefully a little spoiling for Trish.

From the Wandering Aussie - Keith Lovell.

Rescue and Re-Homing Diary — ‘Tails and Stories’.

Hello again - I'm Lynda— the WESWATC Rescue and Re-Homing Coordinator.

As promised in the Autumn newsletter here are some more ‘Tails and Stories’ from a few of the people who have taken on a rescue dog. I am still very much in touch with all the people who have had an Airedale through the Rescue.

I am seeking more good Airedalers who would like to join my waiting list to re-home an Airedale so please contact me either by telephone - 01291-690590 or email - rescue@airedaleclub.org.uk.

TAILS AND STORIES OF RESCUE AND RE-HOMING

Toby ----- Adopted by Joseph and Judith -----now living Near Budleigh Salterton Devon.

Joseph should write a book about Toby's activities.

Last year I awarded Joseph a gold chocolate medal for perseverance, I really don't know of anyone else who would have coped with Toby in the early days. He had three previous owners before Joseph and Judith took him on.

At our club's fun day in September 2010 Toby won the agility class. Joseph's comments at the time were “ I am totally amazed, if Toby had two legs and was a human I am sure he would have found fame and success in life as a heavy weight boxer!!!”

Joseph writes :

Never having experienced a rescue Airedale before, but having just lost poor Henry, we were not in very good spirits and needed to get another dog fairly quickly. When Lynda rang with her news, we drove to Raglan that weekend to see Toby, who was arriving from Cheshire.

Toby duly came leaping out of their car. Not love at first sight for me I'm afraid to say. I've never seen a fatter dog, his legs looked about 4 inches long, and his coat one mass of knots. Head straight forwards like an arrow, totally unlike any other Airedale I'd ever seen before, cannoning around the garden ignoring everyone and everything.

Judith (my wife) did not appear to notice that he appeared to be “a little odd looking in both looks and behaviour. He was the ONE !!

We took him for a trial walk to Raglan Castle on his industrial strength harness and lead---which should have been a clue of some kind. As Toby jumped from the car there about 500 yards away another dog ! Well safe to say after Toby's “attack mode” kicked in, silence fell on Raglan Castle. The poor dog and surrounding people united in awe-struck horror. We of course left pretty quickly.....

Nothing if not stupid I gave in to Judith after this performance, and agreed that we would adopt him and take him home with us.

We decided to have a picnic in Monmouth on the riverbank before returning home to Devon. Our adult son was with us (who could be described as having a rugby build). He was given charge of Toby, who decided to try to exterminate a passing Labrador, spread eagling our son in mid ham sandwich.

We arrived home, Toby settling in well that first day. The next day I bathed and clipped him, a whole carrier bag full of knotted hair. He was then revealed to be a handsome chap although a little over weight.

Henry our previous Airedale had for some unknown reason made the dangerous dogs list at the local post office in spite of his nervous disposition. We were hoping to have this shameful record removed.

No such luck!! We have now graduated to a full blown ASBO. Toby does not need a reason to vent his fury it seems to be down to his mood on the day, trouble is bad moods seem to be the order of most days.

A few lines will give some idea.

Any dog near or far is fair game (he is never off the lead) a few have ventured to retaliate—a big mistake—a couple pinned down by the throat and one carried off unconscious by it's owner!!

Certain people—anyone wearing a hoodie with the hood up, any postman anywhere, a local shop keeper grabbed by the arm, a passing cyclist (on the footpath) pulled off by their foot.

Any cats, unfortunately two have been snatched from garden hedges, one pulled out backwards by the tail until he could get a better grip, swiftly carried out, to the poor cats misfortune.

Our long suffering paper boy, braving Toby throwing himself at the double glazing in a vain attempt to get at him. He still only calls due to large financial rewards and grovelling.

Then of course there is me! Bitten once and twice dragged down the road on my back.

In desperation we went on a training course with a dog whisperer, who did prove to be a great help, but in the end even he only gave us a certificate for perseverance- not success.

Continuing the saga on the next page with Toby on alert for who???

Rescue and Re-Homing Diary— ‘Tails and Stories’ ...continued

Toby - continued

He, in spite of these small failings (nobody’s perfect) is a wonderful loyal and loving dog. How his previous three owners could bear to part with him I don’t know. He is definitely their loss and our gain.



Butter wouldn’t melt in my mouth



Where’s the Postman or the paperboy

ConstanceAdopted by Liz..... now living Nr Stockbridge. Hampshire

Article from Liz as promised in the Autumn publication

Groping (Growling) for the Ivories

In offering Constance a home at the end of December 2009 I had not factored into the equation what the impact or otherwise of my learning to play the piano would have on my ‘noise sensitive’ Airedale. This life long held desire of mine is in its infancy. Only those who have ever been subjected to the efforts of a beginner, particularly this one, can know the ear shattering quality of sound one makes as the battle to master the ivories takes hold.

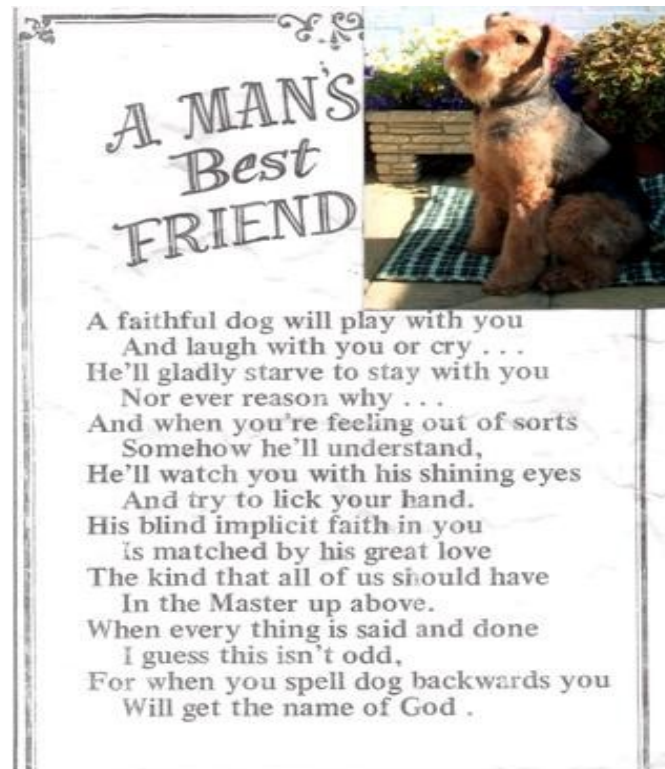
Well, Beethoven, Bach, Chopin and Mozart may not recognise their compositions but as a true and loyal companion Constance is proving to be my greatest fan even critic. Religiously she positions herself alongside my piano stool whenever I settle down to practice. Constance seems to tolerate the incessant repetition as my brain, eye and hand co-ordination perpetually mal-function. Then just occasionally when the notes flow and a recognisable tune emerges she rewards me with a deep sigh of contentment or should I say relief. She lifts her head and gives me a knowing look as if to say “quit while you’re winning”

It is perhaps though the lesson each Friday between 4 and 5pm that taxes her patience and fortitude to the full. After warmly greeting my star tutor Val she takes up her allotted position to endure the hour long session. Then come 5pm on the dot Constance rises and makes it perfectly clear to us both that enough is enough. It is time for her meal, which she obviously feels she has earned and in any case a bit of attention would not come amiss.

I don’t know if Constance is tone deaf although she definitely has selective hearing. However, although she has never growled or howled while I play I have noticed lately that she is beginning to make some interesting sounds with her squeaky soft toys. I cannot be sure she is not mimicking my efforts but that glint in her eyes suggests she might be. Anyway I continue to be grateful for her unflinching support as I grapple with the intricacies of this beguiling instrument.



Thoughts for the Day



Grateful thanks to Tony and Brenda Jackson for this poem and a picture of their beloved Airedale - Nigel who was blind for so many years

Does an Airedale have Brains!!!

I found this and thought of one of my own Airedales - I wonder if you recognise your Airedales

When your owner throws a ball, ask yourself three important questions:

- ◆ **Is it a ball you particularly want?**
- ◆ **Can you be naffed to go and get it?**
- ◆ **Does your owner look stupid enough to go and get it if you don't, only to throw it one more time in the hope that they might encourage you to get it this time?**

If you answer "No" to the first two questions and "Yes" to the third question, just lie down on the ground and watch your owner tire themselves out.

Matters of Wellbeing

A MATTER OF GROOMING

Some of you will know that for my daily bread I am a commercial dog groomer. Now I could fill this newsletter several times over with horror stories of dogs of all breeds that arrive with matted coats and very often just beyond redemption so they have to be clipped down short.

Please don't blame the dog groomer!!! This applies particularly to breeds with soft silky coats but even Airedales that are a little easier to deal with will matt severely if left for too long without grooming.

How often do I hear- "but he/she can't be knotted or matted as I brush every day." "Yeah right" I say as I roll my eyes yet again. That naughty brush just does not do the job you know.

I often hear the cry that "the vet says my Airedale has had eczema" and yes, there is the tell tale bald patch. Question is, are our breed prone to this? Or, is it because we have allowed the coat to thicken up and then irritate the dog who in turn starts to nibble and rub and cause soreness. My personal opinion is it can be the latter. Usual offending areas are the hips and rear end although it can appear elsewhere too.

I have had a number of Airedales over the years and I can honestly say that of the few incidents of "eczema" it has been where I have known that I have left them just that bit too long between grooming through. By that I mean by combing thoroughly through the coat to remove any dead thick undercoat that has built up. I am convinced that although there will of course, like people, be dogs who have a genuine skin problem that good grooming could be the saviour in many cases.

The length of the coat is not an issue but how it is kept is the key. I also say that good grooming is cleaning so your Airedale will be more pleasant to live with, (don't forget the underneath areas)

So I say, get that comb out at least once a week and hopefully you will have a dog in better condition, one that is happier when going off to the dog groomer because he or she has been educated at home and less visits to the vet in the long run.

Diane Hunter - Professional Groomer and Airedale Breeder

With Spring just around the corner I thought people may like to know something about plants in the garden that can be hazardous to your dogs

- **Clematis** (*Clematis sp.*)- Vomiting, diarrhoea, oral ulcers, ataxia irritant or vesicant action.
- **Daffodil** (*Narcissus spp*)- Severe gastrointestinal disorders, convulsions, shivering, hypotension, dermatitis, muscular tremors, and cardiac arrhythmias
- **Foxglove** (*Digitalis purpurea*)- Cardiac arrhythmias, vomiting, diarrhoea, weakness, cardiac failure, death.
- **Lily of the Valley** (*Convallaria majalis*)- Ataxia, vomiting, cardiac arrhythmias, death
- **Narcissus** (*Narcissus spp*) Severe gastrointestinal disorders, convulsions, shivering, hypotension, dermatitis, muscular tremors, and cardiac arrhythmias.
- **Azalea** (*Rhododendron spp*)- Vomiting, diarrhoea, hypersalivation, weakness, coma, hypotension, CNS depression, cardiovascular collapse and death.
- **Crocus** (*Colchicum autumnale*)- Excessive salivation, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, vomiting, gastro-intestinal disorders, lack of appetite, tremors, convulsions, seizures
- **Rhododendron** (*Rhododendron spp*)- Vomiting, diarrhoea, hypersalivation, weakness, coma, hypotension, CNS depression, cardiovascular collapse and death.
- **Morning Glory** (*Ipomoea spp*)- Seeds may cause hallucination, may cause diarrhoea.
- **Peace lily** (*Spathiphyllum spp*)- Ingestion can result in ulcers in the mouth, vomiting and diarrhoea.
- **Tiger Lily** (*Lilium tigrinum*)- Vomiting, inappetence, lethargy, kidney failure. Cats are only species known to be affected.
- **Easter Lily** (*Lilium longiflorum*)- Vomiting, inappetence, lethargy, and kidney failure. Cats are only species known to be affected.

AVETS VIEW

If Only They Could Talk...

Lumps and Bumps...

Many dogs will at some time or other develop the odd lump or bump... How significant is it? Don't bury your head in the sand! Many are easily resolved or carry no risk for your animal, so you can stop worrying. In the case of more serious problems, the sooner they are addressed the greater the chances of developing no complications. So if you have noticed a little lump, read on...

Check regularly...

Try and consciously feel over your dog for lumps every week or so, especially as they get older. Particularly check along the line of the nipples and in armpits as well as the more accessible places. These areas underneath often get forgotten - it is amazing how many lumps of significant size are hidden by long shaggy coats!

Immediate action???

Some lumps are obviously sore, inflamed or infected and require immediate action.. Get these treated!!

Long standing lumps.

..

If your dog appears well in all other respects these are not an immediate emergency but warrant investigation soon... Your vet will want to assess what the lump is and if it is benign (self limiting) or malignant (showing uncontrolled growth of cells). In the eventuality of it being malignant he or she will then attempt to 'stage' the mass i.e. find out how far the disease has spread. All this information will tell you if the lump is unlikely to cause any problems and can be left or if it really needs removing as soon as possible and if so, how radically. For the most serious tumours further medical treatment maybe recommended to help resolve the problem or reduce the chances of it coming back...

How will my vet find out what the lump is?

Depending on the size and site of the mass and the temperament of your animal, there are several options; fine needle samples (do not need an anaesthetic, not always conclusive but relatively inexpensive and a good place to start) biopsies (a section of the lump is removed and will definitely tell what the mass is but requires sedation or general anaesthetic), excisional biopsy (mass is just removed, seems sensible, but some tumours need removing with more radical surgery, so better to know what it is before you start, rather than having to do it again).

If you are monitoring a lump!

Make a note of its size (measure it with a tape measure!) and write it down so that you can objectively tell if it is growing. Go back for another recheck if:

- the mass is growing in size
- If the appearance of overlying skin changes in anyway
- If the feel of the mass changes e.g it was smooth and uniform but is becoming harder and more nodular..

The main point is, if you find a lump, don't panic!

The vast majority are harmless and easily managed but better to find out sooner rather than later. Your vet will discuss all the available options with you and help you to balance these against issues such as your animal's age, general health, potential costs etc.

This column is written by Kate Dixon BSc.MSc.MA Vet MB MRCVS Principal Vet at Elms Veterinary Surgery, Monmouth. They provide a specialist 'small animal' service to pets great and small in the Monmouth area and are always happy to discuss any matters pet related. See their website www.elmsvets.co.uk

We are grateful as a club for her contributions to our magazine.

DATES FOR YOUR 2011 DIARY

TRIMMING AND FUN DAY DATES FOR 2011

Come and learn the traditional way to groom your Airedale.

All club members welcome to the Trimming Class and Fun Day.

Non members welcome but will be asked to join on the day.

JANUARY	16th	JULY	17th
FEBRUARY	20th - NO CLASS	AUGUST	21st
MARCH	20th	SEPT	18th—NO CLASS
APRIL	17th	OCTOBER	16th
MAY	15th	NOVEMBER	20th
JUNE	19th	DECEMBER	- NO CLASS

Trimming classes are held at Winscombe Community Hall, Sandford Road, Winscombe, North Somerset BS25 1JA, starting at 2.30pm and finishing at 5.30pm, with a break for refreshments and playtime for the Airedales. Costs are trimming tuition £2.00, unlimited tea or coffee 50p and 30p per portion of cake.

On September 18th it is the annual FUN DAY held at Winscombe Community Hall from 11am until 4pm.

Further enquiries to Ruth Millar 01278 641190

OPEN SHOW

Our Open Show is being held on the 20th February 2011 at Hewish and Puxton Village Hall, Maysgreen Lane, Hewish. Nr Weston-Super-Mare. BS24 6RT. It is just off Junction 21 of the M5. Doors open 10am and starts 11am. Everyone invited. Judge Mr F.Gadd

CRUFTS - It is being held at the N.E.C. Birmingham and the Terrier Day is on Saturday 13th March 2011.

Advertising

In order to support the cost of publishing this newsletter and to assist our members we are seeking advertising.

If any member or businesses would like to advertise in our newsletter then please contact the editor by email at magazine@airedaleclub.org.uk.

We would suggest a cost of either £10 per page or £5 per half page.

AIREDALE MEMORABILIA

My wife and I collect Airedale memorabilia ; books, postcards and ceramics etc. We are especially keen on books and hope to compile as complete a collection of Airedale books as possible.

We would like any title we don't presently have ! Juvenile fiction, especially American titles would be very welcome.

We would buy for cash or swap from our list of duplicate Airedale books or other dog books we have accumulated over the years.

It would be good to chat over such things if you think we may do something.

Contact Robin Griffiths 01278 788321 or email golf788321@aol.com

UP DATING OF MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

The annual subscription was due on the 1st January 2011. In order to save unnecessary stationery and postage we would be grateful if you would enclose your subscription for 2011 when returning this form.

The form needs to be completed to ensure we have the correct information on our members together with an email address if you have one. We would hope that you will be willing to receive the magazine by PDF in future rather than by post. If you do not want the magazine by email please make a note on the form below when returning it with your subscription.

We are pleased to advise you that for yet another year our annual subscription will remain the same.

The annual subscription fee is £7.00

If you would like to make a donation in addition to the annual subscription then this will go into the Rescue and Re-Homing Fund.

Your membership and subscription is important to the continuing existence of the club and we thank you for the past and future support you provide.

Please do not miss out in the future of receiving the WESWATC magazine and what is happening in the Airedale World by not renewing your subscription. It's only £7 per annum. If you do not renew we will be unable to send you the next magazine which will be our Spring issue due out by the end of April/early May.

The form is to be returned with your subscription to our Treasurer and Membership Secretary at the address provide at the end of the form.

Many thanks in anticipation of you returning this form with your renewal membership.

Please complete and tear off and send to Phil Down at the address shown below

Members Details:

Full Name(s)

Address

Post Code

Country

Email Address:

Telephone No:.....

Annual Subscription for 2011 enclosed for £ 7 Yes/No

Please make cheques payable to WESWATC.

Please return this form to:

Mr P. Down

Treasurer and Membership Secretary of WESWATC

17 Clayton Close

Portishead

North Somerset

BS20 6YU